

3 Top Trucking Ops Costs and How to Lower Yours

In 2021, operating costs for trucking hit their highest levels since the American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) began tracking 15 years ago. Take a look at three critical, rising costs—and what your fleet can do about them, now.

Operating cost per mile	\$1.646 2020	\$1.855 2021
Operating cost per hour	\$66.47 2020	\$74.65 2021

1. Fuel costs

Highest marginal cost

↑35.4%

What you can do: Fuel tracking & analytics

- Monitor efficiency based on real-world trip, route, vehicle and driver metrics
- Inform practical fuel-saving strategies, and reduce fuel waste.

2. Repair & maintenance

Second-fastest growing marginal cost

↑18.2%

- 5.7

Average age of unit highest in over a decade
- 79,808

Average miles driven per year down almost 11%
- 594,373

Average number of miles a truck-tractor is driven until it's replaced

What you can do: Fleet health solutions and deep diagnostics

- Extend vehicle lifespan with a more proactive maintenance program.
- Diagnose issues sooner, and avoid progressive engine damage.
- Reduce service costs and downtime with over-the-air engine updates.

3. Driver turnover

Currently 22.5%, up from an average of 14%

↑8.5%

What you can do: Data-based performance evaluations

- Evaluate driver performance based on vehicle data to level the playing field.
- Develop a fleetwide gamification program to encourage friendly competition.
- Implement smart fleet technology that scores driver performance based on data and real-world conditions.

More than MPG Score drivers fairly based on real-world efficiency. Look at trip & vehicle details, not just MPG. Measure factors within driver control.	Real-world performance Score drivers fairly based on data & footage. Alert drivers to self-correct in the moment. Exonerate falsely accused drivers.
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You can find the data presented here in the ATRI's An Analysis of the Operational Costs of Trucking: August 2022. The ATRI had no participation, endorsement or input into this infographic.

For more information and context, access the ATRI's full study [here](#).