

Georgia Weight Laws for Ready Mix Concrete Hauling

County Roads

The weight limitation for county roads is 56,000 pounds. You may exceed the county road limitation only if you are making a pickup or delivery on a county road. A county road may not be used as a cut through for the purpose of efficiency.

State Roads & Non Interstate Federal Highways

The weight limit per axle on a state route is 18,000 pounds plus 13%. That gives us a total per axle of 20,340 pounds. The weight limit for a tandem axle is 40,680 pounds.

The state of Georgia has exempted certain products from the above weight. Ready mix concrete is an exempt product. The limitations for exempt products are 23,000 per single axle and 46,000 pounds for tandem axle.

There is an additional variance allowed of 5% if you are hauling an exempt product within 250 miles of your point of origin. Ready mix concrete is hauled within 250 miles of the plant. So that would theoretically give you a max allowable weight of 24,150 pounds on a single axle, 48,300 pounds on a tandem axle, and 72,450 pounds gross weight.

It is important to note that if any of those three weights are exceeded, you will be fined for your weight over the original legal weight. For example, if your tandem axle weighs in at 48,400 pounds, you will not be fined for being 100 pounds over the allowable variance weight of 48,300 pounds. You will actually be fined for being 7,720 pounds over the original, legal tandem axle weight.

Based on most truck configurations with which I am familiar, most producers in Georgia can carry somewhere around 9 ½ yards, give or take a few pounds. Again, this is for state routes only.

Federal Interstate Highways

Interstate highways are subject to the federal bridge formula. For most standard truck configurations in Georgia, this allows producers to haul about 5 ½ yards on interstate highways.

Weight Laws Applicable to Tandem Axle Concrete Trucks

Tandem Axle Trucks (3 axles) Traveling on State and Federal Highways in Georgia, regardless of the distance between the steering axle and the rear-most axle, are allowed to haul gross weights as shown in the following table, provided that the gross weight of the truck does not exceed the manufacturer's "truck weight rating" i.e. (G.V.W.R).*

Gross Tandem Truck Weight*

Tandem Axle	40,680 Lbs.
Front Axle	+20,340 Lbs.
Total Gross Weight	61,020 Lbs.

Table 1

Weight Variances

Currently, Georgia law allows for an exemption on trucks carrying construction aggregates. No trucker will be fined as long as they **do not exceed** a front axle weight of 23,000 lbs, a tandem axle weight of 46,000 lbs or a total gross weight of 69,000 lbs. In addition to this exemption, a variance of 5% is permitted for shipments being made within a 100 mile radius from the point of origin.

No citations will be issued as long as you do not exceed this new variance.

Overweight Fines

All fines are assessed at \$0.05 per pound over the weights in Table 1. Restated, **the amount of your fine is not based on how much you are over the exempted weight plus the variance**, but on the weights shown in Table 1.

Federal Bridge Formula

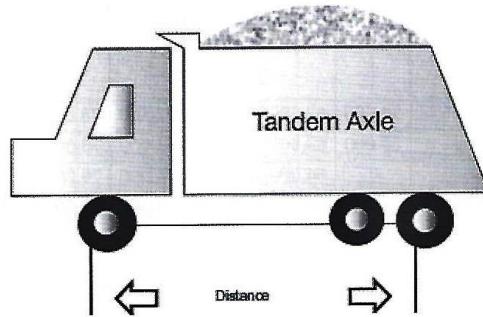
This chart provides Gross Weight Limits for Federal, State and Interstate Highways.

Gross Weight Limits								
Distance in ft. between the extremes of any group of 2 or more axles	Maximum load in pounds carried on any group of 2 or more axles							
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4	34,000							
5	34,000							
6	34,000							
7	34,000							
8 and less	34,000	34,000						
more than 8	38,000	42,000						
9	39,000	42,500						
10	40,000	43,500						
11		44,000						
12		45,000	50,000					
13		45,500	50,500					
14		46,500	51,500					
15		47,000	52,000					
16		48,000	52,500	58,000				
17		48,500	53,500	58,500				
18		49,500	54,000	59,000				
19		50,000	54,500	60,000				
20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000			
21		51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500			
22		52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000			
23		53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000			
24		54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500	74,000		
25		54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000	74,500		
26		55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500	75,000		
27		56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000	75,500		
28		57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000	76,500	82,000	
29		57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500	77,000	82,500	
30		58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000	77,500	83,000	

Gross Weight Limits								
Maximum load in pounds carried on any group of 2 or more axles								
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
31		59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500	78,000	83,500	
32		60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000	78,500	84,500	90,000
33			64,000	68,500	74,000	79,000	85,000	90,500
34			64,500	69,000	74,500	80,000	85,500	91,000
35			65,500	70,000	75,000	80,500	86,000	91,500
36			66,000	70,500	75,500	81,000	86,500	92,000
37			66,500	71,000	76,000	81,500	87,000	93,000
38			67,500	71,500	77,000	82,000	87,500	93,500
39			68,000	72,500	77,500	82,500	88,500	94,000
40			68,500	73,000	78,000	83,500	89,000	94,500
41			69,500	73,500	78,500	84,000	89,500	95,000

42			70,000	74,000	79,000	84,500	90,000	95,500
43			70,500	75,000	80,000	85,000	90,500	96,000
44			71,500	75,500	80,500	85,500	91,000	96,500
45			72,000	76,000	81,000	86,000	91,500	97,500
46			72,500	76,500	81,500	87,000	92,500	98,000
47			73,500	77,500	82,000	87,500	93,000	98,500
48			74,000	78,000	83,000	88,000	93,500	99,000
49			74,500	78,500	83,500	88,500	94,000	99,500
50			75,500	79,000	84,000	89,000	94,500	100,000
51			76,000	80,000	84,500	89,500	95,000	100,500
52			76,500	80,500	85,000	90,500	95,500	101,000
53			77,500	81,000	86,000	91,000	96,500	102,000
54			78,000	81,500	86,500	91,500	97,000	102,500
55			78,500	82,500	87,000	92,000	97,500	103,000
56			79,500	83,000	87,500	92,500	98,000	103,500
57			80,000	83,500	88,000	93,000	98,500	104,000
58				84,000	89,000	94,000	99,000	104,500
59				85,000	89,500	94,500	99,500	105,000
60				85,500	90,000	95,000	100,500	105,500

Legal Loads for Tandem Axle Trucks Traveling on the
Interstate Highways Are as Follows:

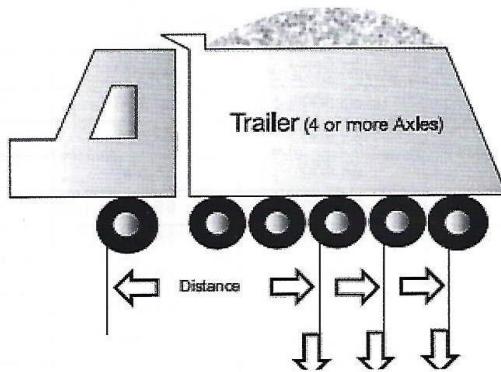


- ❖ Distance Defined: Distance in feet between the extreme of any group of two or more consecutive axles.
- ❖ Weight Formula as follows: Permissible gross loads for vehicles in regular operation based on weight formula:

$$W = 500 (LN/N-1 + 12N + 36)$$

Distance/Axes (in feet)	3 Axles	Distance (in feet)	3 Axles
8 and less	34,000 Lb.	20	51,000 Lb.
More than 8	42,000 Lb.	21	51,500 Lb.
9	42,500 Lb.	22	52,500 Lb.
10	43,500 Lb.	23	53,000 Lb.
11	44,000 Lb.	24	54,000 Lb.
12	45,000 Lb.	25	54,500 Lb.
13	45,500 Lb.	26	55,500 Lb.
14	46,500 Lb.	27	56,000 Lb.
15	47,000 Lb.	28	57,000 Lb.
16	48,000 Lb.	29	57,500 Lb.
17	48,500 Lb.	30	58,500 Lb.
18	49,500 Lb.	31	59,000 Lb.
19	50,000 Lb.	32	60,000 Lb.

Legal Loads for Tandem Axle Trucks Traveling on the
Interstate Highways Are as Follows:



Distance/Axles (in feet)	3 Axles	5 Axles	3 Axles
12	50,000 Lb.	—	—
13	50,500 Lb.	—	—
14	51,500 Lb.	—	—
15	52,000 Lb.	—	—
16	52,500 Lb.	58,000 Lb.	—
17	53,500 Lb.	58,500 Lb.	—
18	54,000 Lb.	59,000 Lb.	—
19	54,500 Lb.	60,000 Lb.	—
20	55,500 Lb.	60,500 Lb.	66,000 Lb.
21	56,000 Lb.	61,000 Lb.	66,500 Lb.
22	56,500 Lb.	61,500 Lb.	67,000 Lb.
23	57,500 Lb.	62,500 Lb.	68,000 Lb.
24	58,000 Lb.	63,000 Lb.	68,500 Lb.
25	58,500 Lb.	63,500 Lb.	69,000 Lb.
26	59,500 Lb.	64,000 Lb.	69,500 Lb.
27	60,000 Lb.	65,000 Lb.	70,000 Lb.
28	60,500 Lb.	65,500 Lb.	71,000 Lb.

TRAILERS

Gross Weight for Four or More Axle Trucks (continued)
When traveling on State and Federal Highways

Feet	4 Axles	5 Axles	6 Axles
29	61,500	66,000	71,500
30	62,000	66,500	72,000
31	62,500	67,500	72,500
32	63,500	68,000	73,000
33	64,000	68,500	74,000
34	64,500	69,000	74,500
35	65,500	70,000	75,000
36	66,000	70,500	75,500
37	66,500	71,000	76,000
38	67,500	71,500	77,000
39	68,000	72,500	77,500
40	68,500	73,000	78,000
41	69,500	73,500	78,500
42	70,000	74,000	79,000
43	70,500	75,000	80,000
44	70,500	75,500	—
45	71,500	76,000	—
46	72,000	76,500	—
47	72,500	77,500	—
48	73,500	78,000	—
49	74,000	78,500	—
50	74,500	79,000	—
51	75,500	80,000	—
52	76,500	—	—
53	77,500	—	—
54	78,000	—	—
55	78,500	—	—
56	79,500	—	—
57	80,000	—	—

*** Current Through the 2016 Regular Session ***

TITLE 32. HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES, AND FERRIES
CHAPTER 6. REGULATION OF MAINTENANCE AND USE OF PUBLIC ROADS GENERALLY
ARTICLE 2. DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT OF VEHICLES AND LOADS

O.C.G.A. § 32-6-26 (2016)

§ 32-6-26. Weight of vehicle and load

(a) As used in this Code section, the term:

(1) "Federal bridge formula" means:

Where W = the overall gross weight on any group of two or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, L = the distance in feet between the extreme of any group of two or more consecutive axles, and N = the number of axles in the group under consideration.

(2) "Lift axle" means any axle on any vehicle manufactured after July 1, 1978, which axle may be raised or lowered with respect to the horizontal plane of the vehicle.

(3) "Single axle" means all the wheels whose centers may be included between two parallel transverse vertical planes 40 inches apart.

(4) "State bridge formula" means:

Where W = the maximum allowable gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles to the nearest 500 pounds, L = the distance in feet between the first and last axles of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, and N = the number of axles on the vehicle or combination of vehicles.

(5) "Tandem axle" means two or more consecutive axles, excluding the steering axle, which extend across the full width of the vehicle and whose centers may be included between parallel vertical planes spaced more than 40 inches apart but not more than 216 inches apart.

(b) Except when authorized by a permit issued pursuant to Code Section 32-6-28 and except as otherwise provided in this Code section:

(1) No vehicle equipped with high pressure pneumatic, solid rubber, or cushion tires and operated upon any public road of this state shall carry a load on any wheel which exceeds 8,000 pounds by more than 13 percent or a load on any single axle which exceeds 16,000 pounds by more than 13 percent; and

(2) No vehicle equipped with low pressure pneumatic tires and operated upon any public road of this state shall carry a load on any wheel which exceeds 9,000 pounds by more than

13 percent or a load on any single axle which exceeds 18,000 pounds by more than 13 percent.

(c) (1) (A) On all highways within this state which are not interstate highways, the maximum total gross weight authorized for any vehicle and load shall not exceed 80,000 pounds; the maximum load authorized on any single axle shall be as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section; the maximum load on any tandem axle shall be 40,680 pounds; and subject to subparagraph (B) and subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, the maximum total gross weight authorized for any vehicle and load shall be the maximum load authorized on any single axle multiplied by the number of axles with which the vehicle is equipped.

(B) For vehicles and loads with an actual total gross weight between 73,280 pounds and 80,000 pounds, the maximum total gross weight authorized for the vehicle and load shall be determined by applying the state bridge formula.

(C) For any vehicle equipped with four axles, the maximum total gross weight authorized for the vehicle and load shall be 70,000 pounds.

(2) Reserved.

(3) No lift axle may be used in computing the maximum total gross weight authorized for any vehicle or load.

(d) (1) (A) On all highways within this state which are interstate highways, the maximum total gross weight authorized for any vehicle and load shall not exceed 80,000 pounds; the maximum load authorized on any single axle shall be as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section; and, except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the maximum overall gross weight in pounds on a group of two or more consecutive axles shall be determined by applying the federal bridge formula. In applying the formula, no lift axle shall be counted as an individual or additional axle when determining the maximum overall gross weight.

(B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, the maximum load authorized on any tandem axle shall be 34,000 pounds, and any two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more; however, except for vehicles and combinations of vehicles exceeding 55 feet in length, the maximum gross weight authorized on a tandem axle for a vehicle or combination of vehicles carrying a gross weight of less than 73,280 pounds shall be 40,680 pounds.

(2) If at any time federal law authorizes any weight greater than that authorized by this subsection, such greater weight under federal law shall be authorized on the interstate highways within this state.

(e) Subject to the provisions of this article, the department shall be authorized, on behalf of the state, to enter into agreements with the United States Secretary of Transportation as provided in Section 127 of Title 23 of the United States Code, relating to the control of vehicle weight and width limitations, which agreements shall exempt certain vehicles from the requirements of subsection (d) of this Code section. The department shall be authorized to take action in the name of the state to comply with the terms of any such agreement and to promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to ensure the department's compliance with federal laws and to provide for the issuance of the special permits required by this

Code section.

(f) On any public road of a county road system, the maximum total gross weight of a vehicle and load shall not exceed 56,000 pounds unless the vehicle is making a pickup or delivery on such road; except that if a county road is constructed to the same standards as those highways of this state which are interstate highways and is authorized as a designated local truck route pursuant to official resolution of the county, the maximum weight limits for such designated local truck route shall be the same as those for highways in this state which are not interstate highways as provided by paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of this Code section. The county shall notify the department of any roads designated by the county as a local truck route within 90 days of such designation.

(g) (1) The weight limitations provided for in this Code section, except the limitation in subsections (f) and (h) of this Code section, may be exceeded on any public road within this state which is not an interstate highway, or when making a pickup or delivery on any public road of a county road system, without a permit only when the load on any single axle does not exceed 23,000 pounds, the load on any tandem axle does not exceed 46,000 pounds, and the maximum total gross weight of the vehicle and load does not exceed 80,000 pounds when:

(A) Hauling forest products from the forest where cut to the first point of marketing or processing;

(B) Hauling live poultry or cotton from a farm to a processing plant;

(C) Hauling feed from a feed mill to a farm;

(D) Hauling granite, either block or sawed, or any other naturally occurring raw ore or mineral for further processing, from the quarry or stockpile area to a processing plant located in the same or an adjoining county and construction aggregates hauled to any point, unless otherwise prohibited;

(E) Hauling solid waste or recovered materials from points of generation to a solid waste handling facility or other processing facility;

(F) Hauling concrete that is in a freshly mixed and unhardened state for delivery to a customer; or

(G) Hauling poultry waste from the point of origin to a farm.

No lift axle may be used in computing the maximum total gross weight authorized for any vehicle or load under this paragraph.

(2) A vehicle which is hauling the products listed in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of paragraph (1) of this subsection or which is hauling any other agricultural or farm product from a farm to the first point of marketing or processing shall be permitted a 5 percent variance from the weight limitations in paragraph (1) of this subsection within a 100 mile radius of the farm or point of origin. Any person who violates the load limitations provided for in this paragraph by exceeding the 5 percent variance per single axle, tandem axle, or maximum total gross weight shall be fined on the basis of the weight limitations of paragraph (1) of this subsection, including the variance allowed by this paragraph.

(3) A vehicle which is hauling the products listed in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of

this subsection shall be permitted a 5 percent variance from the weight limitations in paragraph (1) of this subsection within a 250 mile radius of the farm or point of origin. Any person who violates the load limitations provided for in this paragraph by exceeding the 5 percent variance per single axle, tandem axle, or maximum total gross weight shall be fined on the basis of the weight limitations of paragraph (1) of this subsection and not on the basis of the variance allowed by this paragraph.

(4) Any vehicle carrying a load as authorized in this subsection at night shall be equipped with lights clearly visible for a distance of not less than 300 feet from the front and rear of the vehicle.

(h) Notwithstanding any provision of this Code section to the contrary, no vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be operated over any bridge with a posted limit which is less than the total gross weight of the vehicle and its load.

(i) (1) Any vehicle which can be made to comply with the requirements of this Code section by shifting the load and which is then loaded to comply with this Code section shall not be held to be in violation of this Code section.

(2) On all highways within this state which are not interstate highways:

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, for all vehicles, fines for violations of the total gross weight limitations provided for in subsection (c) of this Code section shall be based on the amount by which the actual weight of the vehicle and load exceeds the allowable maximum weight determined under subsection (c) of this Code section.

(B) For vehicles equipped with four axles, fines for violations of the total gross weight limitations provided for in subsection (c) of this Code section shall be based on the amount by which the actual weight of the vehicle and load exceeds 70,000 pounds.

(j) Except as provided in subsections (f) and (h) of this Code section, weight limits and axle definitions for any bimodal semitrailer, semitrailers, and trailers operated on highways and public roads within this state shall be weight limits and axle definitions authorized by federal law governing interstate highways.