1 THE RESULT

One in three U.S. freight brokers is in just three states.

FMCSA lists 25,081 active freight broker authorities. We matched every one to the business address on its record and counted them by state and city, using the same FMCSA open data as our freight broker authority study. Texas, California and Florida hold a third of the U.S.-based total, Illinois has the most brokers per resident of the ten biggest states, and a Texas border city has more registered brokers than Houston.

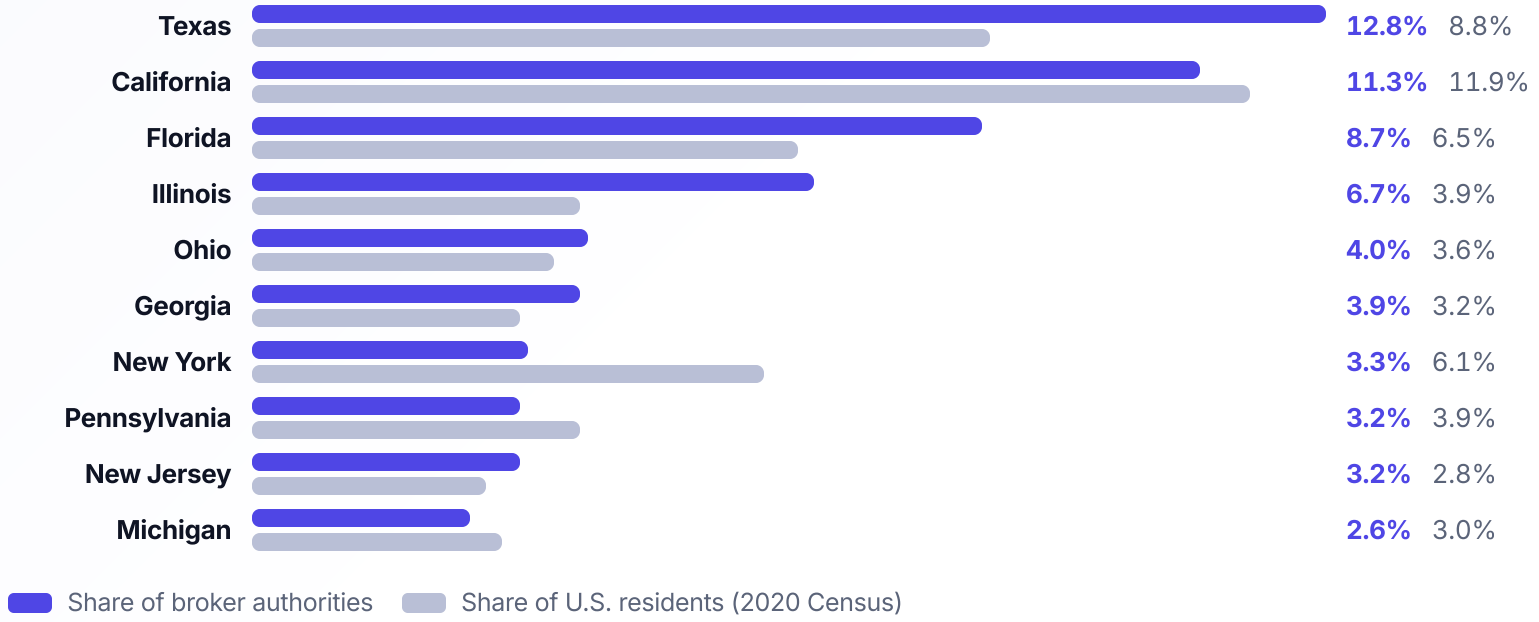
32.8% of U.S.-based broker authorities are in Texas, California and Florida

421 authorities list Laredo, Texas, more than Houston (402)

12.5 per 100,000 residents in Illinois, the highest rate among the ten states with the most brokers (U.S.: 7.2)

1 in 3

U.S.-based freight broker authorities is in Texas, California or Florida (32.8%). The ten biggest states hold 59.7%.



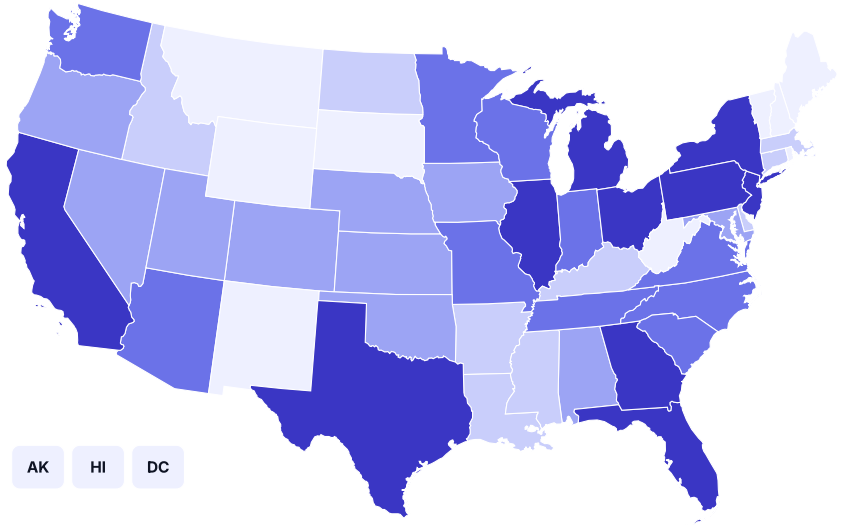
transportli.com/blog/freight-brokers-by-state/ · FMCSA open data (Nov 2026) and 2020 Census · one authority = one MC number

2 PICK A NUMBER, CLICK A STATE

The map: how many, how dense, how new

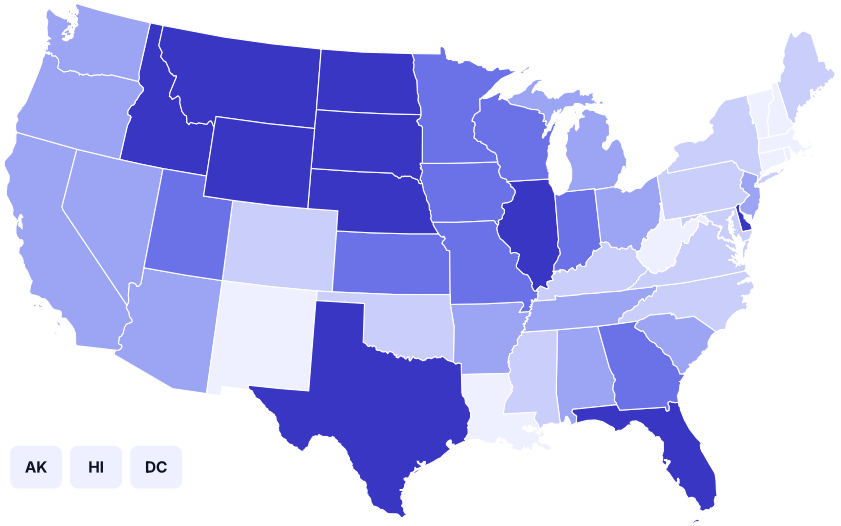
Switch between the number of brokers, brokers per 100,000 residents, how new they are and how often they had a revocation notice. Click a state for its card, a ready-to-use sentence and a share image.

Number of broker authorities



broker authorities 8–103 106–220 225–330 331–594 617–3,057

Broker authorities per 100,000 residents



per 100,000 residents 0.5–3.7 3.9–5.9 6.1–8.1 8.3–8.8 9.5–15.4

Most per resident: Wyoming 15.4, North Dakota 14.6, Illinois 12.5, Nebraska 12.5, South Dakota 11.6. **Fewest:** Hawaii 0.5, District of Columbia 1.3, West Virginia 1.6, Vermont 2.3, Alaska 2.5. U.S. average 7.2. **Most brokers:** Texas 3,057, California 2,688, Florida 2,069, Illinois 1,597, Ohio 949.

3 EVERY STATE

All 50 states and DC in one table

Sort by any column or search for a state. Counts are broker authorities (MC numbers) with an active status and a U.S. business address in FMCSA's records.

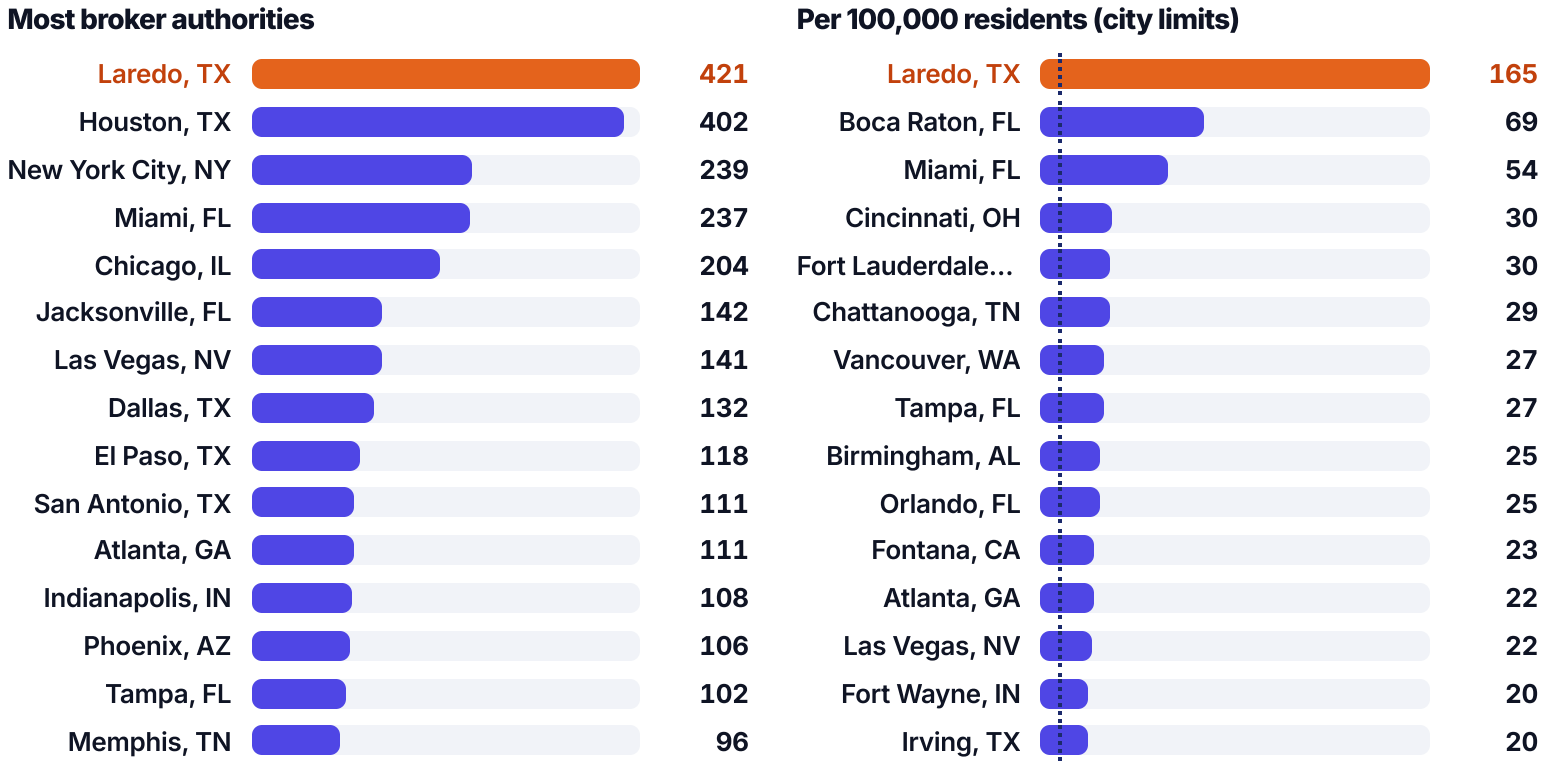
#	STATE	BROKERS	PER 100K
1	Texas	3,057	10.5
2	California	2,688	6.8
3	Florida	2,069	9.6
4	Illinois	1,597	12.5
5	Ohio	949	8.0
6	Georgia	929	8.7
7	New York	787	3.9
8	Pennsylvania	768	5.9
9	New Jersey	750	8.1
10	Michigan	617	6.1
11	North Carolina	594	5.7
12	Indiana	574	8.5
13	Tennessee	557	8.1
14	Wisconsin	521	8.8
15	Missouri	511	8.3
16	Washington	499	6.5
17	Minnesota	493	8.6
18	Arizona	457	6.4
19	Virginia	346	4.0
20	South Carolina	331	6.5
21	Alabama	330	6.6
22	Colorado	298	5.2
23	Oregon	284	6.7
24	Iowa	282	8.8
25	Utah	274	8.4
26	Maryland	265	4.3
27	Nevada	253	8.1
28	Kansas	252	8.6
29	Nebraska	245	12.5
30	Oklahoma	225	5.7
31	Massachusetts	220	3.1
32	Kentucky	204	4.5
33	Arkansas	200	6.6
34	Idaho	175	9.5
35	Louisiana	172	3.7
36	Mississippi	148	5.0
37	North Dakota	114	14.6
38	Connecticut	107	3.0
39	Delaware	106	10.7
40	Montana	103	9.5
41	South Dakota	103	11.6
42	Wyoming	89	15.4
43	New Mexico	59	2.8
44	Maine	53	3.9
45	New Hampshire	36	2.6
46	Rhode Island	29	2.6
47	West Virginia	28	1.6
48	Alaska	18	2.5
49	Vermont	15	2.3
50	District of Columbia	9	1.3
51	Hawaii	8	0.5

Ranked by number of broker authorities. DC is included; per 100,000 residents uses 2020 Census counts. U.S. average 7.2.

4 CITY BY CITY

Laredo has more registered brokers than Houston

Counted by the city listed on each authority. Laredo, a major truck crossing on the Mexican border, lists 421 authorities, about 165 per 100,000 residents. Laredo and El Paso together hold 539, 18% of Texas's total, and Las Vegas holds 56% of Nevada's. City limits only, so suburbs count separately.



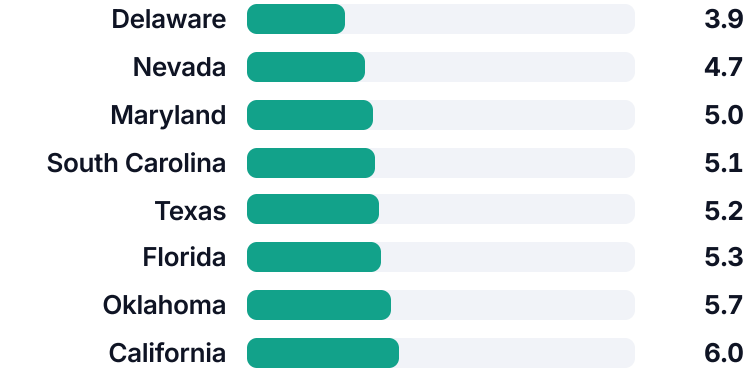
Listed business city; New York City is the five boroughs combined (ZIP-based). Dotted tick: U.S. average of 7.2. Of the 40 cities with the most brokers, those with a 2020 Census population are ranked per resident.

5 NEW AND OLD

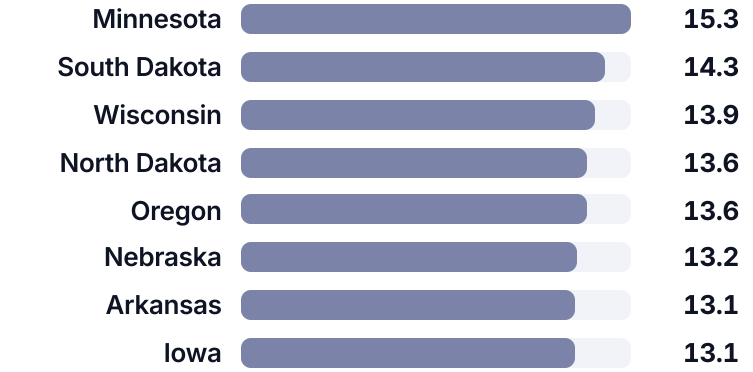
The newest brokers are in the Sun Belt and Mid-Atlantic

The median authority is 3.9 years old in Delaware and 5.2 in Texas, but 15.3 in Minnesota and 14.3 in South Dakota. The oldest authorities are mostly in the Upper Midwest. Only states with at least 100 broker authorities are ranked.

Youngest median authority (years)



Oldest median authority (years)



DELAWARE
38%
of its authorities are under 3 years old

SOUTH CAROLINA
35%
of its authorities are under 3 years old

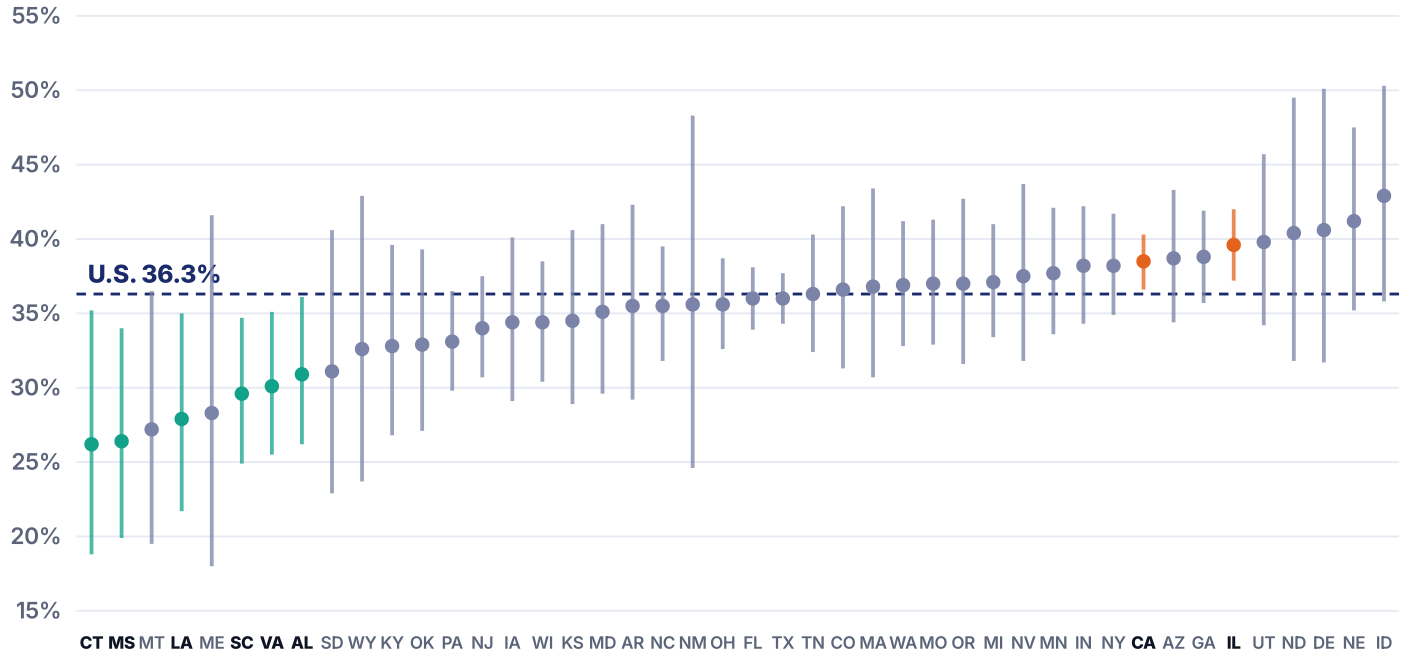
CONNECTICUT
34%
of its authorities are under 3 years old

Authority age is measured from the earliest grant date in FMCSA's history file, as of 2026-11-04. Only the 41 states with at least 100 broker authorities are ranked.

6 REVOCATION NOTICES

Most states look alike on revocation notices

36.3% of U.S.-based brokers had at least one involuntary revocation notice or final revocation in the five years to October 2025. Only California (38.5%) and Illinois (39.6%) sit clearly above that, and Alabama, Connecticut, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Virginia clearly below. With 51 comparisons, a few will differ by luck alone.



Illinois 39.6% of 1,597 authorities 95% range 37–42% clearly above the U.S. rate

Above the U.S. rate beyond chance · Below the U.S. rate beyond chance · Within chance

Each dot is a state's share, each line its 95% range (Wilson interval). 44 states with at least 50 broker authorities. With 51 comparisons, one or two states would land outside the range by chance.

7 FOR SHIPPERS

Four things the data says about choosing a broker

1

Check the authority and its date, not just the name.

Look the broker up by USDOT or MC number on FMCSA, or use our free checker. An active status today can sit on top of an earlier gap.

2

An address is not a track record.

A broker in a big state is not better or worse for it. The share with a recent revocation notice is similar across most states.

3

One notice is not a red flag by itself.

About a third of active brokers had one in five years, and nearly all were cured within weeks. Repeated notices deserve questions.

4

Know whether you are hiring a broker or a carrier.

About a quarter of active broker authorities were granted less than three years ago. Ask who will actually move the freight and what insurance covers it.

8 METHOD

How we counted, and what this does not show

FMCSA open data for active broker authorities, matched to ten years of authority history, with 2020 Census resident populations. A business address is where an authority is registered, not proof of where it operates.

25,081
active broker authorities (MC numbers)

23,798
with a U.S. address, counted by state

1,273
list a Canadian address, not counted

Nov 4
2026 FMCSA snapshot

- Source: FMCSA open data on data.transportation.gov, the carrier file (active broker authorities) and the authority history file. One authority is one MC number, so a company with several MC numbers appears several times.
- State and city are the business address on file. They show where an authority is registered, not where it operates. Fewer than 1% of authorities share an address with four or more others, so shared office addresses do not drive the totals.
- Per-resident figures use 2020 Census resident populations. Revocation events are involuntary revocation notices or final revocations from Nov 2020 to Oct 2025, counted once per authority and only for authorities that are still active.
- FMCSA records state that a notice happened, not why, so we make no claim about any company and name none.

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