

# BUSINESSSAFE

*BusinessSafe is designed to aid businesses in protecting the safety and well-being of Florida's residents and visitors from threats. BusinessSafe provides private sector partners with open source information, analysis and resources to help protect their businesses and communities.*

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## BusinessSafe Highlight: Highway and Motor Carrier Subsector

The U.S. highway and motor carrier subsector consists of more than 4 million miles of roadway, more than 600,000 bridges, and more than 350 tunnels throughout the country. This subsector is tasked with aiding in the transportation of goods and people. The highway and motor carrier subsector assists and also depends on other sectors such as the energy, emergency services, and water sectors.

### Criminal Activity

Due to the vastness of the highway and motor carrier subsector, criminal activity is ever-present. This can range from traffic violations to transportation of illicit goods to cyber or violent attacks. Criminal activity can pose significant threats leading to potential disruptions, shutdowns, or repairs to transportation infrastructure or systems, ultimately hindering safety and travel.

1. **Cyberattacks** – The highway and motor carrier subsectors include various aspects that are potentially vulnerable to cyberattacks. While security systems are in place to protect against cyberattacks, roadway signs or signals, and transportation or management systems that are dependent on information technology may still be vulnerable.
  - [Texas Government Agencies Hacked for Second Time In Week](#)
  - [Colorado Hack Offers Larger Lessons for Cybersafety](#)
  
2. **Physical Attacks** –While this subsector is heavily regulated and monitored, criminal actors may use it to carry out physical attacks either to cause major disruptions to the subsector or to target motorists.
  - [Man Arrested for Concord Highway Brick Throwing, Including Deadly 2020 Incident](#)
  - [Pickup Driver Shot Out Car Windows On 101 Freeway with Slingshot and Marbles, Authorities Say](#)



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### Other Threats and Hazards

The highway and motor carrier subsector is vital to the timely transport of people and goods. Goods transported can range from passengers to hazardous materials. Natural threats such as aging infrastructure, hurricanes, sinkholes, and flooding can have a negative impact on highway infrastructure, leading to a disruption in the transportation operations.

1. **Natural Threats** – Severe weather conditions including hurricanes and flooding can cause damage to roadway infrastructure. Weather damage to roads, road signs, or traffic signals can lead to dangerous travel conditions or road closures.  
[Sinkhole in Florida Opens Up Along Roadway, Taking Down Traffic Lights and Causing Crash](#)  
[Lightning Sends Chunk Of I-10 Pavement Through Truck's Windshield in Florida](#)
2. **Hazardous Materials** – The highway and motor carrier subsectors are commonly used to transport hazardous materials. While security measures are in place, transportation accidents can still occur. These incidents can delay highway operations for extended periods of time.  
[I-75 reopened after 13 hours for hazardous materials spill in Charlotte County](#)
3. **Aging Infrastructure** – Infrastructure requires continuous maintenance and monitoring to ensure continued integrity. Weather conditions, stress of repetitive use, and natural aging of the infrastructure's material can lead to damage to transportation systems like roads and bridges. These damages can pose risks to travelers and disrupt operations.  
[Coast Guard Reopens Waterways Underneath Closed I-40 Bridge in Memphis](#)

### Resources

- The Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) provides information and resources on transporting hazardous materials on their [website](#).
- The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) provides security training programs for the transportation sector on their [Intermodal Security Training and Exercise Program website](#).
- The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides information and resources in response with the COVID-19 pandemic on their [website](#).

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