This does not apply to public utility trucks transporting poles which cannot be shortened, or to trucks transporting pole length pulpwod. No single trailer may exceed a length of 45 feet including the tow bar assembly. Any single semi-trailer may have an overall length greater than 53 feet, exclusive of non-cargo carrying accessories, such as refrigeration units or air compressors mounted or located on the front end of the semi-trailer. However, semi-trailers greater than 48 feet in length shall not exceed a distance of 43 feet measured from the kingpin to the center of the rear axle group. A trailer or semi-trailer used in a three vehicle combination shall not exceed 28 1/2 feet from kingpin to center of rear axle group.

On all paved routes, no vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires shall exceed:
- 10,000 pounds on any wheel, whether single or dual;
- 20,000 pounds on any single axle;
- 80,000 pounds maximum gross vehicle weight on one vehicle or combination having five or more axles of proper spacing;
- any weight specified in the Gross Weight Table for groups of two or more consecutive axles.

On all unpaved routes, no vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires shall exceed:
- 9,000 pounds on any wheel, whether single or dual;
- 18,000 pounds on any single axle;
- 80,000 pounds gross vehicle weight when the vehicle or combination is equipped with five or more axles of proper spacing.

On all routes, statewide, the maximum wheel load allowed on the foremost and rearmost steering axles is 600 pounds per inch of tire width or the manufacturer’s rated load, whichever is less. On all axles other than the foremost and rearmost steering axles, the maximum wheel load is 500 pounds per inch of tire width, or the manufacturer’s rated load, whichever is less. All weight limits are reduced by 40 percent for vehicles not equipped with pneumatic tires.

**IMPpLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY:** An implement of husbandry that is not self-propelled and is equipped with pneumatic tires may not be operated on a public highway with a maximum wheel load that exceeds 500 pounds per inch of tire width. A person operating or towing an implement of husbandry must comply with all weight limits when operating on a bridge, including any posted maximum weight.

**SPECIAL PERMITS:** Subject to Department of Transportation requirements, special permits may be issued to move loads exceeding maximum specified size and weight limitations upon public highways. Contact MnDOT’s permit office at (651)296-6000 for permit requirements and information.

**SEASONAL WEIGHT INCREASE:** Minnesota highways are at their strongest during the winter months. During the dates set by the Commissioner of Transportation each winter, the weight limitations are increased by 10 percent in each frost zone as shown below.

- **Weight limits are also increased by 10 percent from the beginning of harvest to November 30, each year, for the movement of sugar beets, carrots, and potatoes from the field of harvest to the first point of unloading. A permit is required.**

**WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS:** In the Spring of each year, all unpaved routes are restricted to 10,000 pounds on single axles and 5/9 of the weights specified for unpaved routes in the Gross Weight Table for groups of two or more consecutive axles, unless otherwise posted. Paved routes remain at 10-ton maximums unless signs are posted restricting the axles.

**DROPPING OR LEAKING LOADS:** No vehicle shall be driven or moved upon any highway unless it is so constructed, loaded, or the load covered to prevent any of its load from shifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping. Drivers of vehicles transporting sand, gravel, rock, or similar materials are required to ensure that the cargo is securely covered if: (1) the vertical distance from the top of an exterior wall of the cargo compartment to the load, when measured downward along the inside of the wall, is less than six inches; or (2) the horizontal distance measured from the top of an exterior wall to the load is less than two feet. In addition, the driver must clean the vehicle of any loose sand, gravel, rock, or similar material before the vehicle is moved on a street or highway following loading or unloading. Firewood less than 36 inches long must be securely covered when transported by vehicles with no rear wall or tailgate.
## Restricted Weight Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Axles</th>
<th>9-ton</th>
<th>8-ton</th>
<th>7-ton</th>
<th>6-ton</th>
<th>5-ton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>18000</td>
<td>16000</td>
<td>14000</td>
<td>12000</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>34000</td>
<td>30222</td>
<td>26444</td>
<td>22667</td>
<td>18889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>43000</td>
<td>38222</td>
<td>33444</td>
<td>28667</td>
<td>23889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>51500</td>
<td>45778</td>
<td>40056</td>
<td>34333</td>
<td>28611</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Gross Weights in excess of those shown in this table are allowed only with a special permit. Contact Permit Office at 651-296-6000 for more information.