

Chapter Trans 251

VEHICLE WEIGHT AUTHORIZED BY MULTIPLE TRIP PERMITS

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**Note:** Chapter Trans 251 was created as an emergency rule effective October 3, 1981.

**Trans 251.01 Definitions.** (1) Words and phrases defined in ss. 340.01, 348.01, and 348.15 (1), Stats., are used in the same sense in this chapter unless a different definition is specifically provided.

(2) "Axle-group" means one or more axles which support one end of a vehicle.

**Note:** Normally a motor vehicle or a trailer will have 2 axle-groups and a semi-trailer only one axle-group under this definition, but a trailer may also have only one axle-group if it is located near the center of the trailer with the trailer and load balanced over it.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1982, No. 313, eff. 2-1-82.

**Trans 251.02 Vehicle weight authorized by annual permits.** (1) Unless otherwise provided in the approved permit, the gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any axle-group or by any axle or combination of 2 or more consecutive axles within an axle-group on a vehicle or combination

of vehicles being operated under an annual permit issued under s. 348.27 (2), Stats., may not exceed:

| NUMBER OF AXLES IN AXLE-GROUP | WEIGHT IN POUNDS | LIMITATIONS                          |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1                             | 20,000           | If the axle has less than 4 tires    |
| 1                             | 30,000           | If the axle has 4 or more tires      |
| 2                             | 55,000           | If axle-group has less than 16 tires |
| 2                             | 60,000           | If axle-group has 16 tires or more   |
| 3                             | 70,000           |                                      |
| 4 or more                     | 80,000           |                                      |

(2) Unless otherwise provided in the approved permit, the gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any 2 consecutive axle-groups on a vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under an annual permit issued under s. 348.27 (2), Stats., may not exceed the gross weights in the following table for each of the respective distances between axle-groups and the respective numbers of axles in each axle-group when the distance between the axle-groups is measured between the centers of the nearest axles of the 2 axle-groups:

Figure 1: Maximum Gross Weight in Pounds on Two Consecutive Axle-Groups of:

| Number of axles in one axle-group<br>Number of axles in the next axle-group | 1      | 1                          | 1                         | 1       | 1         | 2 (with 15 or fewer tires) | 2 (with 15 or fewer tires) |
|---|--------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | 1      | 2 (with 15 or fewer tires) | 2 (with 16 or more tires) | 3       | 4 or more | 2 (with 15 or fewer tires) | 2 (with 16 or more tires)  |
| 18 or more  | 60,000 | 85,000                     | 90,000                    | 100,000 | 110,000   | 110,000                    | 115,000                    |
| 17  | 59,500 | 84,000                     | 89,000                    | 98,500  | 108,500   | 107,500                    | 112,500                    |
| 16  | 59,000 | 82,500                     | 87,500                    | 97,000  | 107,000   | 105,500                    | 109,400                    |
| 15  | 59,000 | 81,500                     | 86,500                    | 95,500  | 105,500   | 103,000                    | 107,000                    |
| 14  | 58,500 | 80,500                     | 85,500                    | 94,000  | 104,000   | 101,000                    | 104,500                    |
| 13  | 58,000 | 79,000                     | 84,000                    | 92,500  | 102,500   | 98,500                     | 101,500                    |
| 12  | 57,500 | 78,000                     | 83,000                    | 91,000  | 101,500   | 96,000                     | 99,000                     |
| 11  | 57,500 | 77,000                     | 82,000                    | 89,000  | 99,500    | 94,000                     | 96,000                     |
| 10  | 57,000 | 76,000                     | 81,000                    | 87,500  | 97,500    | 91,500                     | 93,500                     |
| 9   | 56,500 | 74,500                     | 79,500                    | 86,000  | 96,000    | 89,000                     | 91,000                     |
| 8   | 56,000 | 73,500                     | 78,500                    | 84,500  | 94,500    | 87,000                     | 88,000                     |
| 7   | 56,000 | 72,500                     | 77,500                    | 83,000  | 93,000    | 84,500                     | 85,500                     |
| 6   | 55,500 | 71,000                     | 76,000                    | 81,500  | 91,500    | 82,500                     | 82,500                     |
| 5 or less   | 55,000 | 70,000                     | 75,000                    | 80,000  | 90,000    | 80,000                     | 80,000                     |

Continued—Figure 1: Maximum Gross Weight in Pounds on Two Consecutive Axle-Groups of:

| Number of axles in one axle-group<br>Number of axles in the next axle-group | 2 (with 15 or fewer tires) | 2 (with 15 or fewer tires) | 2 (with 16 or more tires) | 2 (with 16 or more tires) | 2 (with 16 or more tires) | 3       | 4 or more |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------|
|   | 3                          | 4 or more                  | 2 (with 16 or more tires) | 3                         | 4 or more                 | 3       | 4 or more |
| 18 or more  | 125,000                    | 135,000                    | 120,000                   | 130,000                   | 140,000                   | 140,000 | 150,000   |
| 17  | 122,500                    | 132,500                    | 117,000                   | 127,000                   | 137,000                   | 137,000 | 146,000   |
| 16  | 119,500                    | 129,500                    | 114,000                   | 124,000                   | 134,000                   | 134,000 | 142,500   |
| 15  | 117,000                    | 127,000                    | 111,000                   | 121,000                   | 131,000                   | 131,000 | 138,500   |
| 14  | 114,000                    | 124,000                    | 107,500                   | 117,500                   | 127,500                   | 127,500 | 134,500   |
| 13  | 111,500                    | 121,500                    | 104,500                   | 114,500                   | 124,500                   | 124,500 | 131,000   |
| 12  | 109,000                    | 119,000                    | 101,500                   | 111,500                   | 121,500                   | 121,500 | 127,000   |
| 11  | 106,000                    | 116,000                    | 98,500                    | 108,500                   | 118,500                   | 118,500 | 123,000   |
| 10  | 103,500                    | 113,500                    | 95,500                    | 105,500                   | 115,500                   | 115,500 | 119,000   |
| 9   | 101,500                    | 111,500                    | 92,500                    | 102,500                   | 112,500                   | 112,500 | 115,500   |
| 8   | 98,000                     | 108,000                    | 89,000                    | 99,000                    | 109,000                   | 109,000 | 111,500   |
| 7   | 95,500                     | 105,500                    | 86,000                    | 96,000                    | 106,000                   | 106,000 | 107,500   |
| 6   | 92,500                     | 102,500                    | 83,000                    | 93,000                    | 103,000                   | 103,000 | 104,000   |
| 5 or less   | 90,000                     | 100,000                    | 80,000                    | 90,000                    | 100,000                   | 100,000 | 100,000   |

(3) The overall gross weight imposed on the highway by all of the wheels on a vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under an annual permit issued under s. 348.27 (2), Stats., may not exceed the maximum gross weight shown on the face of the permit.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1982, No. 313, eff. 2-1-82.

**Trans 251.03 Vehicle weight authorized by pole length and pulpwood permits and by transportation of coal permits. (1)** In this section:

(a) “Tandem axle” means 2 axles not less than 42 inches apart but less than 108 inches apart articulated from a common point provided there is no other axle closer than 108 inches to either of them.

(b) “Single axle” means one axle not less than 108 inches from any other axle.

(2) The gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any axle of an overweight vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under a pole length and pulpwood permit issued under s. 348.27 (9), Stats., or a transportation of coal permit issued under s. 348.27 (10), Stats., may not exceed:

(a) 18,000 pounds for a single axle;

(b) 16,000 pounds for each axle of a tandem axle, except that, on a vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight of more than 73,280 pounds, only one tandem axle may have axle weights of 16,000 pounds each and any additional tandem axles may have axle weights of not more than 13,000 pounds for each axle;

(c) 13,000 pounds for any other axle.

(3) The gross weight imposed on the highway by all of the wheels of an overweight vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under a pole length and pulpwood permit issued under s. 348.27 (9), Stats., or a transportation of coal permit issued under s. 348.27 (10), Stats., may not exceed whichever of the following is the least:

(a) The maximum gross weight shown on the face of the permit;

(b) The sum of the weights authorized on the axles of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, calculated in accordance with sub. (2); or,

(c) 154,000 pounds.

**Note:** This section adopts Michigan law to apply to the special commodity permits allowed by the statutes referred to. By statute, permits are only valid within 5 (for coal) or 11 miles of the Michigan-Wisconsin boundary.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1982, No. 313, eff. 2-1-82.

**Trans 251.04 Vehicle weight authorized by other multiple trip permits.** The axle, axle-group, and gross weights authorized by a general permit, an industrial interplant permit, or an emergency energy conservation permit shall be as stated in the permit.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1982, No. 313, eff. 2-1-82.

**Trans 251.05 Vehicle weight authorized by transportation of garbage or refuse permits and by the transportation of scrap permits. (1)** Unless otherwise provided in the approved permit, the gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any axle group or by any axle or combi-

nation of 2 or more consecutive axles within an axle group on a vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under a transportation of garbage or refuse permit issued under s. 348.27 (12), Stats., or under a transportation of scrap permit issued under s. 348.27 (9r), Stats., may not exceed the lowest of the following weights:

(a) The sum of the manufacturer’s rated weight-carrying capacity of the tires on the axle, combination of axles, or axle-group;

(b) The sum of the manufacturer’s rated weight-carrying capacity of the axle or axles in the combination of axles or axle-group; or

(c) The weights shown in the following table:

| NUMBER OF AXLES<br>IN AXLE-GROUP | WEIGHT IN POUNDS       |                        | LIMITATIONS                       |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                  | ON CLASS A<br>HIGHWAYS | ON CLASS B<br>HIGHWAYS |                                   |
| 1                                | 20,000                 | 14,000                 | If the axle has less than 4 tires |
| 1                                | 25,000                 | 17,000                 | If the axle has 4 or more tires   |
| 2                                | 42,000                 | 28,400                 |                                   |
| 3 or more                        | 55,000                 | 38,200                 |                                   |

(2) Unless otherwise provided in the approved permit, the gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any 2 consecutive axle-groups on a vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under a transportation of garbage or refuse permit issued under s. 348.27 (12), Stats., or under a transportation of scrap permit issued under s. 348.27 (9r), Stats., may not exceed the sum of the weights authorized on the individual axle-groups under sub. (1).

(3) The overall gross weight imposed on the highway by all of the wheels on a vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under a transportation of garbage or refuse permit issued under s. 348.27 (12), Stats., or under a transportation of scrap permit issued under s. 348.27 (9r), Stats., may not exceed the maximum gross weight shown on the face of the permit or the sum of weights authorized on the individual axle-groups on the vehicle or combination of vehicles under sub. (1), whichever is less.

**History:** Emerg. cr. eff. 5-10-82; cr. Register, January, 1983, No. 325, eff. 2-1-83; am. (1) (intro.), (2) and (3), Register, December, 1990, No. 420, eff. 1-1-91.

**Trans 251.06 Vehicle weight authorized by transportation of raw forest and agricultural products permits. (1)** Unless otherwise provided in the approved permit, the gross weight imposed on the highway by any wheel, axle, or any group of 2 or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under a transportation of raw forest and agricultural products permit issued under s. 348.27 (9m), Stats., may not exceed the weights authorized in s. 348.15 (3), Stats., by more than 12.5%.

(2) The overall gross weight imposed on the highway by all of the wheels on a vehicle or combination of vehicles being operated under a transportation of raw forest and agricultural products permit issued under s. 348.27 (9m), Stats., may not exceed the maximum gross weight shown on the face of the permit or 90,000 pounds, whichever is less.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1982, No. 313, eff. 2-1-82; renum. from Trans 251.05, Register, January, 1983, No. 325, eff. 2-1-83; r. and recr. Register, December, 1990, No. 420, eff. 1-1-91.