

Why Techs Matter: *When Techs Rock, America Rolls*SM



So you're thinking about what you want to do with your future. You're exploring all the possibilities. Weighing all the options. What will the job pay? How many hours will I be expected to work? Will I have enough time outside of work to pursue my other interests? And maybe most importantly, does this job matter to anyone?

Well you're not the first to ask these questions. Most people want to invest their time, energy and effort into work that is not only meaningful for themselves but also to others. No one wants to feel stuck in a mindless, meaningless job where they cannot see the impact of their role on others. If you are wondering why techs matter, then read on!

- In 2016 there were 264 million cars and light trucks on the road.
- Over 17 million new cars and trucks were sold in the US in 2017.
- There are about 480,000 school buses in the US that transport approximately 25 million kids.
- In 2016 there were nearly 182,000 public buses making up the fleets of nearly 6,800 public transportation systems across the country.
- In 2016, the last year for which statistics are available, Americans drove a whopping 3.22 TRILLION miles in passenger cars and light trucks!
- The average passenger car has approximately 30 onboard computers while a luxury vehicle can easily have up to 100.



Technicians are the highly-skilled workers who keep these millions of pieces of complex people-moving equipment working safely and efficiently so that Americans can go about their daily lives.

Let's look at another huge sector of the transportation industry for some more interesting facts... the shipping of goods.

- According to the Federal Highway Administration, in 2015, more than \$19.7 trillion dollars of goods were shipped in the US. Of that total, 72% was shipped exclusively by trucks and another 12.1 percent was moved in part by truck. That makes a total of 85% of all freight moved. But that's not all, the FHA estimates that "the volume of freight shipments will almost double between 2015 and 2040" with 87% involving trucks.
- Pepsi, the largest trucking fleet in the world, owns 8,000 tractors and 15,000 straight trucks.

- UPS and FedEx combined have 258,210 delivery vehicles and they average 33 million shipments per day. UPS, the larger of the two companies, reportedly makes an amazing 324 drop-offs a second!
- Online grocery shopping with delivery is presently used by 31% of all consumers, buying all or some groceries on line. But this way of shopping is forecasted to increase by 79% over the next five years!

Many other products are conveniently delivered to our homes by vehicles maintained by technicians. That cheesy pizza for Sunday's game. The ice cream truck that rolls through the neighborhood on hot, summer days. The beautiful floral bouquet for mom on Mother's Day. These and so many other delivered products have become part of our daily lives.



But technicians are not only central in moving people and goods; they also play an important

role in the safety and well-being of our communities. Think of all the emergency vehicles like the 69,150 fire pumpers, police cars that service our 421,459 police officers, ambulances, snow plows and tow trucks nationwide. Skilled technicians keep these complex pieces of equipment operating at peak performance to better our lives, keep us safe and come to our rescue if and when we need help. Oh, and while we are looking at the well-being of our communities, let's not forget the 180,000 trash collection trucks. Just imagine life without them!



On a lighter note, what about recreation and fun? Technicians are indispensable here as well.

- In 2016 there were 9 million households in America that owned a recreational vehicle.
- Recreational boats registered in the US totaled over 12 million.
- In 2016 there were about 4,000 food trucks that show up at sporting events, community activities, weddings,

just about anywhere people gather. They are increasingly more popular and are the fastest growing segment of the food industry.

So after reading all these amazing facts and information isn't it clear ...tech's ABSOLUTELY matter! Without them America and our way of life...stops in its tracks!

And that is why we say ... **When Techs Rock, America Rolls!**[™]

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