







# THE MONTHLY MILER

December 2022



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DRT Logistics hauls freight for a multitude of companies. With locations in Pennsylvania, Minnesota, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Nevada, and Illinois, our team works around the clock to ensure that shipments are delivered safely and on time. Dispatch and Safety are available 24\*7 to assist or answer any questions or concerns you may have.



# THE MONTHLY MILER

December 2022

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!**

**Darnnel Flute**  
December 29  
Chicago Driver

**Ruben Lopez**  
December 28  
MA Driver

**Bruce Nedza**  
December 10  
Regional Driver

**HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY!**

**Kerry Lott**  
2 Years  
Chicago Driver

**WE  
ARE  
GROWING!**

Do you know someone interested in a career with a trusted logistics partner?

**DRT Logistics**

is looking for customer-oriented, dedicated and experienced truck drivers

**WE ARE ADDING MORE REGIONAL DRIVERS!**

**WWW.DRIVE4DRT.COM**  
850 HELEN DRIVE LEBANON, PA 17042



## 401k Recap

### Are you in the Correct Target Date Fund?

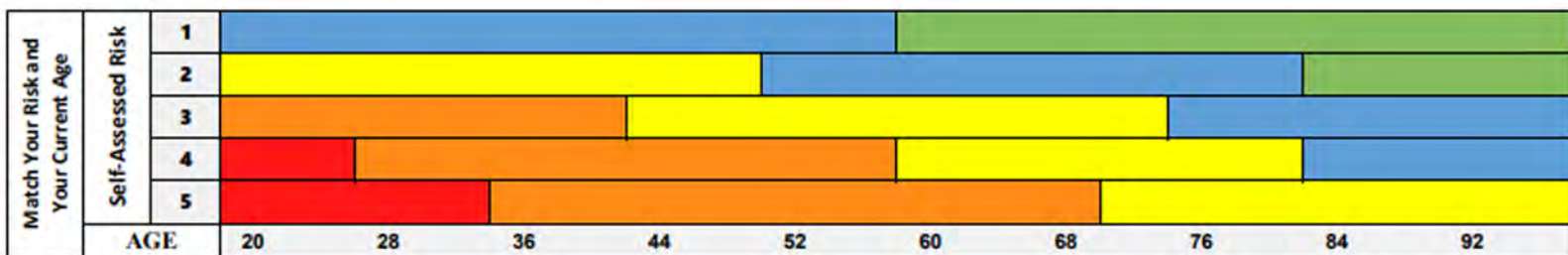
Target Date Funds were created to make life easier for individuals to invest their retirement assets. You simply need to determine what year you are planning to retire and select the Target Date Fund closest to your retirement year. The problem with Target Date Funds is they assume everyone has the same Risk Tolerance.

Below is an exercise to help you determine your personal Risk Tolerance.

### What Best Describes your Risk Tolerance?

#### Self-Assessed Risk

1	Conservative	Safety of Principal is the dominant concern Risk must be kept to an absolute minimum
2	Moderately Conservative	Safety of principal is primary concern, but a secondary goal is growth of capital Some risk is acceptable where growth opportunities exist
3	Moderate	Safety of principal and growth of capital are of equal importance A small amount of risk is acceptable
4	Moderately Aggressive	Growth of capital is primary concern, but safety of principal is also important A moderate amount of risk is acceptable
5	Aggressive	Growth of capital is the dominant concern Reasonably high risk is acceptable



### How much should you invest in Stocks, Bonds, and Cash?

Strategy	Aggressive	Moderately Aggressive	Moderate	Moderately Conservative	Conservative
Definition	Long-term, above-average growth is the target. You should be willing to accept a very high risk of investment loss.	Building wealth over time, rather than current income, is the goal. You should be willing to accept a higher risk of investment loss.	Balancing current income and growth is the goal. You should be willing to accept moderate risk of investment loss.	Getting a steady income stream is the goal of this mix. You should be willing to accept some risk of investment loss.	Keeping what you have is the goal. In some years, earnings may be very low, or even negative, and may not keep up with the rate of inflation.
Equities	85%	75%	65%	45%	25%
Fixed Income	10%	20%	30%	45%	55%
Cash	5%	5%	5%	10%	20%



## 401k Recap

### Your Target Date Fund's Asset Allocation (as of 6/21/2022)

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Equities	40%	44%	47%	53%	62%	74%
Fixed Income	48%	46%	44%	38%	29%	19%
Cash	12%	10%	9%	9%	9%	7%

	2040	2045	2050	2055	2060	2065
Equities	83%	85%	87%	87%	87%	87%
Fixed Income	12%	10%	8%	8%	8%	8%
Cash	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%

### Does Your Target Date Fund's Asset Allocation align with your personal Risk Tolerance?

**YES** -- Excellent -- you are correctly invested!!

**NO** -- Perhaps you should consider changing your investment choice.

Are you OK with the recent devaluation of your retirement account because you understand you have time until you will retire and potentially recoup losses?

**YES** -- Excellent -- even though you are more aggressively invested than your Risk Tolerance, you are in the fund that is continuously managed to coincide with you and your retirement year.

**NO** -- potentially consider one of the following options:

- 1) After the markets recover and your account value approaches your previously highest account value, consider changing to a Target Date Fund with a current Asset Allocation that coincides with your personal Risk Tolerance and Asset Allocation.
- 2) If you are 10 years or less from retirement -- consider changing to a Target Date Fund with a current Asset Allocation that coincides with your personal Risk Tolerance and Asset Allocation.

**\*\*Consult with your Investment Professional to determine your most appropriate course of action**



## #FREEMONEY

Remember - If you contribute 5% - DRT will match at 4%!

The earlier you start investing, the more time your money has to grow. One of the biggest advantages of investing in a 401(k) early is compound interest. Compound interest is when you earn interest on the principal amount of an investment plus any accumulated interest.



## DEFENDING AGAINST WINTER DRIVING HAZARDS

Winter driving can be dangerous. The possibility of losing control of one's vehicle and the need to drive defensively to protect against other drivers requires alertness and readiness to react to hazards. Read the information below, and ask yourself how you can improve your driving style in any of the hazard categories.

### Recognize the Hazards



#### ENVIRONMENT

Lanes may narrow due to snow accumulation while road surfaces can become slippery from freezing rain, ice, sand, or ice melt. Sun glare, blowing snow, and fog and ice on windows also reduce visibility in winter.



#### EQUIPMENT

Insufficient tread depth on tires or brakes that are out of adjustment reduces the ability to stop the truck safely. An inoperable window defroster or ice on the mirrors affects visibility.



#### PERSONAL BEHAVIORS

Driving too fast or using cruise control in adverse road conditions increases the risk of a jackknife or losing control of the vehicle. Driving while ill or fatigued or not wearing cold weather clothing can be distracting.

INFORMATION FROM GREAT WEST CASUALTY COMPANY WEBSITE



## DEFENDING AGAINST WINTER DRIVING HAZARDS

### Know the Defense



#### VEHICLE INSPECTIONS

Ensure window defrosters and the heater work properly. Check tires for proper tread depth. Clean snow and ice off the tractor and trailer during stops, especially on the lights, turn signals, and reflectors.



#### AVOID DISTRACTIONS

Do not drive if taking any medication that can cause drowsiness. Get plenty of rest, stay hydrated, and avoid heavy meals to reduce fatigue. Wear sunglasses and use the visor to reduce sun glare.



#### OBSERVE PROPER SPEED FOR CONDITION

In adverse conditions, reduce speed by at least 2-3 mph below the flow of traffic, not to exceed the posted speed limit. Make accelerations gradually. Before entering ramps, curves, and turns, reduce speed by at least 10-15 mph below the posted speed limit or more based on conditions to avoid a rollover.



#### REACT PROPERLY TO HAZARDS

Do not use the engine brake or cruise control in slippery conditions. Be cautious of ice on bridges and pavement that looks wet but could be black ice. If driving conditions worsen, find a safe location to pull over and wait.



#### MAINTAIN PROPER FOLLOWING DISTANCE

Keep a minimum of six seconds behind the vehicle in front, but add one second more for each additional hazard that is present, like snow, freezing rain, sun glare, or black ice.

INFORMATION FROM GREAT WEST CASUALTY COMPANY WEBSITE



## Transport Topics Top News

### **East Coast Ports Continue to Gain Business Amid Concerns Over West Coast Labor Talks**

Ongoing concern about labor and management talks regarding two separate contract negotiations and a slowing U.S. economy resulted in a significant drop in container volume at two of the nation's most significant ports on the Pacific Coast.

Year-over-year cargo numbers were down 25% at the Port of Los Angeles. In October, the port processed 678,429 20-foot-equivalent units compared with 902,643 a year ago. Through the first ten months of 2022, Los Angeles officials say volume is down 6% from 2021's record pace.

"With cargo owners bringing goods in early this year, our peak season was in June and July instead of September and October," Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Gene Seroka said during a media briefing. "Additionally, cargo has shifted away from the West Coast as some shippers await the conclusion of labor contract negotiations. We'll do everything we can to get that cargo back because the best route between Asia and the United States is straight through the Port of Los Angeles."

In San Francisco, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the Pacific Maritime Association — the management group representing 29 ports and warehouse complexes on the West Coast — are negotiating to reach a new contract.

Meanwhile, a dispute over jurisdictional issues between unions at the Port of Seattle has bogged down the talks. The National Labor Relations Board is reviewing the matter.

ILWU has been working without a contract since June, and Seroka said uncertainty over the status of labor talks had led many shippers to move their cargo from the West Coast to East Coast to make sure it is processed.

The adjacent Port of Long Beach also saw a double-digit decline in TEU volume in October. Volume fell 16.7% to 658,428 containers compared with 789,716 year-over-year.

### **Catching a Glimpse of Trucking's Future**

American Trucking Associations Chief Economist Bob Costello said Oct. 25 the trucking industry should. The exhibit hall at American Trucking Associations' Management Conference & Exhibition has long served as a major venue for truck manufacturers, industry suppliers and technology vendors to showcase their latest products and share their vision for the future of freight transportation.

This year's event, which ran Oct. 22-25 at the San Diego Convention Center, was no exception. The exhibits at MCE 2022 stood out as a clear example of how emerging technologies — once seen as futuristic or mere fantasy — are beginning to make their way into the trucking industry.



## Transport Topics Top News of 2022

### **ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS GETS \$14 BILLION TO HELP EASE SUPPLY CHAINS**

The Biden administration on Jan. 19 announced the release of \$14 billion to the Army Corps of Engineers to fund 500 projects, with a focus on easing supply chain problems and addressing climate change.

The spending stems largely from President Joe Biden's \$1 trillion infrastructure deal, and the administration is trying to show how the projects will improve supply chain backlogs.

There are three specific projects tied to reducing supply bottlenecks by making it easier to transport goods, according to a White House fact sheet. U.S. ports have struggled to manage the inflow of container ships and move containers onto trucks as the economy recovered from the pandemic, resulting in delays in sending goods to consumers and higher prices.

Among the projects being funded for the Army Corps of Engineers is \$858 million to replace locks on the Ohio River so that water levels are high enough for large cargo ships. Locks are enclosures that help to raise and lower water levels and make it easier to navigate waterways on uneven terrain.

### **FOREIGN TRUCKERS MUST BE VACCINATED TO ENTER US STARTING JAN. 22**

Starting Jan. 22, travelers entering the United States at land ports of entry — notably along the Canadian and Mexican borders — and ferry points who are not U.S. citizens must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, the Department of Homeland Security announced.

The requirement, which takes effect at 12 a.m. ET that day, does not apply to U.S. drivers. However, Canada and Mexico have similar regulations in place that do impact U.S. drivers — including truck drivers — who make cross-border runs.

The DHS announcement was released late on Jan. 20, and was one that the trucking industry had been anticipating, noted American Trucking Associations Chief Economist Bob Costello.

"It applies to all Canadian and Mexican drivers," he said. "I'm not too concerned about the Mexican drivers — the Mexican drayage drivers — they're vaccinated at a pretty high rate. For the Canadian drivers, they now have to be fully vaccinated to get back into their country to go home. So they're not going to come here if they're not vaccinated."

On Jan. 15 Canada began enforcing a vaccine mandate at its border crossings directed at foreign truck drivers seeking to enter that country. Unvaccinated Canadian drivers are being allowed to return to their home country, but they must abide by a strict reentry protocol that includes a mandatory 14-day quarantine period.

### **FREIGHT COSTS EXPECTED TO REMAIN HIGH IN 2022**

Elevated freight rates are likely to remain through much of this year because of market turmoil, according to experts. "We probably peaked in December but for the first quarter and probably even potentially into the second quarter we're really not going to see any deterioration at all in the rate environment," Avery Vise, vice president of trucking research at FTR Transportation Intelligence, told Transport Topics.

FTR data shows total truckload rates year-over-year are holding around 12% higher. They are forecast to grow 2.5% to 3% throughout the year. (That compares with a 29% rate increase in the spot market and 14% rate increase for contracts in 2021.) But year-over-year results could start stabilizing later in the year because of a surge in rates last year.



## Transport Topics Top News of 2022

### PORTS TO GET \$450 MILLION TO SPEED FLOW OF GOODS

As cargo volumes continued to surge at the nation's ports in January, the Biden administration on Feb. 23rd announced plans to make \$450 million available in new grant funding as part of the Department of Transportation's Port Infrastructure Development Program.

Administration officials said the funding is the largest investment in this program in history, and the money will help improve the movement of goods through the ports.

"We're proud to announce this funding to help ports improve their infrastructure — to get goods moving more efficiently and help keep costs under control for American families," Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said in a statement. "President Biden is leading the largest ever federal investment in modernizing our country's ports, which will improve our supply chains and the lives of Americans who depend on them."

The new infrastructure law calls for spending \$17 billion over the next several years to upgrade ports.

The PIDP grants will be awarded on a competitive basis. Meanwhile, January was a strong month.

Led by a surge of imports, the nation's busiest port, Los Angeles, processed 865,595 20-foot-equivalent unit containers. That's a 3.6% increase over the same month a year ago, when workers moved 835,516 TEUs. It's also a record for January.

The Port of Long Beach also had a record January, moving 4.8% more containers than a year ago. All told, 800,943 TEUs were processed compared with 764,006 in 2021.

### SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTIONS LIKELY TO CONTINUE IN NEAR FUTURE

Continued from Rob interview....Economists and industry experts widely believe supply chain disruptions will continue to greatly impact the transportation industry for the first half of the year, and possibly into 2023. Stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, the logistical bottleneck continues to reverberate around the world as carriers, shippers and third-party logistics providers attempt to deal with the impact on their operations.

Although AP Moller-Maersk reported record revenue and profits earlier this month, the shipping line said it expected supply chain problems to persist into the second quarter.

"We spent tremendous efforts in mitigating bottlenecks by expanding capacity across ocean [freight], improving productivity in terminals and growing our global logistics footprint," said CEO Soren Skou. "We will continue these efforts as we see the current market situation persist into Q2."

Despite the supply chain woes, high consumer demand continues to fuel record sales growth and profits for several major retailers. Amazon reported a 22% increase in net sales in 2021. Late last year, Kroger and Walmart also reported strong sales as they prepared for the approaching holiday season.



## Transport Topics Top News of 2022

### **White House Eyes Emissions, Fuel Prices as Congress Finalizes Supply Chain Bill**

The Biden administration continues to pursue initiatives meant to ease the impact of fuel prices on industries as congressional leaders finalize legislation to enhance supply chain connectivity.

A \$6.4 billion multiyear program the U.S. Department of Transportation unveiled on April 21 aims to assist states with developing carbon reduction strategies, an effort by the administration to respond to climate change amid rising fuel prices.

Under the comprehensive funding program established by the \$1 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, or IIJA, state departments of transportation would be able to utilize such funds for myriad emissions mitigation programs.

These include projects linked to congestion pricing, truck stop and parking projects, port electrification systems, charging infrastructure, biking or micro-mobility options, or Bus Rapid Transit.

### **FMCSA Drops Two CDL Streamlining Proposals**

Federal trucking regulators have withdrawn two proposals intended to streamline credentialing and testing processes for aspiring truck drivers to obtain their commercial driver licenses.

One proposal would have allowed states to permit third-party test examiners to administer the CDL skills test to applicants to whom the examiners also have provided skills training, a practice that will now continue to be prohibited under Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration regulations.

The agency originally argued that allowing states to permit the third-party practice may alleviate CDL skill testing delays, and reduce inconvenience and cost for third-party testers and CDL applicants without negatively impacting safety.

The second proposal would have allowed applicants to take the CDL general and specialized knowledge tests in a state other than the applicant's state of domicile. The NPRM also proposed that the applicant's state of domicile would be required to accept knowledge test results from the testing state. In separate Federal Register notices, FMCSA said that public comments persuaded the agency to withdraw both proposed rulemakings.

### **White House Requests Budget Increase for FMCSA**

The White House's \$5.8 trillion fiscal 2023 budget proposal aims to increase funding for federal trucking regulators.

In President Joe Biden's latest budget request, unveiled March 28th, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's main accounts would see a slight increase over the most recent enacted budget. For FMCSA's safety operations and programs, the White House is requesting \$367.5 million for fiscal 2023. The budget proposal for the agency's safety grants division is \$506.1 million.



## Merry Christmas

May your Christmas holiday be filled with cheer, warm memories, and happiness. Happy Holidays on behalf of management. Sincere thanks for your commitment! We wish you and your family a heartwarming, relaxing, fantastic Christmas holiday.



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## Topics welcomed!

If you would like to see a topic discussed in the newsletter that will bring value to the other drivers and the company please submit to  
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BKINGSBURY@DRTTRANSPORTATION.COM