

# FLOODING DISRUPTS CORRIDORS MIDWEST & SOUTH ALERTS

Widespread flood warnings across TX, OK, MO, IL, and IN threaten freight flow; expect delays and reroutes this week.

## FUEL MARKETS

### DIESEL PRICES DIP SLIGHTLY AMID FLOOD DISRUPTIONS

National diesel prices have edged down this week, with the average falling **3.5 cents to \$5.608 per gallon**. This modest decline follows a period of relative stability, offering a small reprieve for freight budgets amid ongoing weather challenges.

Flood advisories and warnings across key freight corridors in Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana are creating localized disruptions that could affect fuel consumption patterns. Drivers may face longer routes or idling times, potentially offsetting some benefits of lower fuel prices.

Looking ahead, fuel markets remain sensitive to broader economic signals and geopolitical risks, but for now, shippers can expect slightly reduced diesel costs to help absorb some weather-related operational expenses.

**\$5.608 PER GALLON IS THE CURRENT NATIONAL DIESEL AVERAGE, DOWN 3.5 CENTS WOW**

— EIA · APRIL 20, 2026

For shippers, the fuel surcharge math has fundamentally changed. Every active lane is now operating under a surcharge table that was written for a different market. If your FSC schedule was set in 2025 or early 2026, it almost certainly does not reflect where diesel is today — or where it is likely to go if the Strait remains restricted.

## FREIGHT MARKET CONDITIONS

### FLOOD WARNINGS TIGHTEN CAPACITY ON KEY ROUTES

Severe flood warnings issued this week across the Midwest and South are impacting freight flows on major interstate corridors including I-35, I-44, and I-70. These conditions are expected to reduce available capacity as carriers reroute or delay loads.

Spot market rates are showing early signs of upward pressure in affected regions, with tender rejection rates climbing as driver availability tightens. While national dry van and reefer demand remain steady, localized disruptions are creating pinch points that require proactive planning.

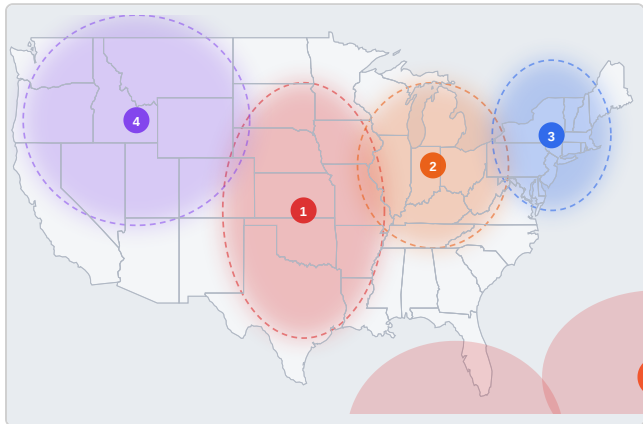
Your HOPLITE rep is monitoring these developments closely to help navigate capacity challenges and avoid costly delays. Early communication and flexible scheduling will be key to maintaining supply chain resilience this week.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

<p><b>01 URGENT</b></p> <p><b>COMMUNICATE EARLY WITH CARRIERS</b></p> <p>Inform your HOPLITE rep of any shipment flexibility or critical deadlines immediately to adjust for flood-related delays and capacity constraints.</p>	<p><b>02 URGENT</b></p> <p><b>PLAN FOR ROUTE DISRUPTIONS</b></p> <p>Expect reroutes or longer transit times on I-35, I-44, and I-70 corridors. Build extra lead time into your freight schedules to mitigate impact.</p>	<p><b>03 WATCH</b></p> <p><b>MONITOR WEATHER ALERTS DAILY</b></p> <p>Flood warnings are evolving rapidly; stay updated via your HOPLITE rep and NWS sources to anticipate changes that affect your lanes.</p>	<p><b>04 WATCH</b></p> <p><b>REVIEW CONTINGENCY PLANS</b></p> <p>Evaluate alternative routing and backup carriers now to maintain supply chain continuity if flood impacts worsen.</p>
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## 7-DAY CORRIDOR WATCH

APR 20 - APR 26, 2026



- 1 FLOOD WARNING**  
TX · I-35 · I-10  
Flash Flood Warnings in Austin/San Antonio area could cause short-term closures and delays through April 20 evening.
- 2 FLOOD WARNING**  
MO · I-44 · I-70  
Flood warnings through April 24 in St. Louis region may disrupt freight movement and reduce capacity on key east-west routes.
- 3 FLOOD WARNING**  
IN · I-65 · I-69  
Extended flood warnings until April 26 in Northern Indiana require close monitoring for potential lane closures and detours.

- 2 THUNDERSTORM RISK CONTINUES**  
MIDWEST / OHIO VALLEY · I-70 · I-74 · I-80 · I-90  
Residual severe weather from April 13-15 lingers through IL, IN, OH. Allow for east-west delays through mid-week.
- 3 COASTAL RAIN & WIND**  
NORTHEAST CORRIDOR · I-95 · I-78 · I-84  
Periodic rain along the Boston-DC corridor. Allow 1-2 hr transit buffer on Northeast deliveries.
- 4 MOUNTAIN SNOW & PASS RESTRICTIONS**  
WEST / ROCKIES · I-80 · I-84 · I-70  
Chain controls possible on CA-UT-CO passes. Check CDOT and Caltrans advisories before dispatching OTR freight.

<p>MARKET</p> <h2>OUTLOOK Q2 2026</h2>	<p><b>Energy markets</b> face moderate volatility in Q2 2026 as global supply balances stabilize but weather disruptions add localized fuel demand uncertainty.</p>	<p><b>Tender rejection rates</b> are expected to rise in flood-impacted regions, tightening capacity and pushing spot rates higher in the near term.</p>	<p><b>Flood-related freight disruptions</b> in the Midwest and South remain the tightest signal this week, requiring shippers to stay agile and informed.</p>
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<p>[01] DIESEL NAT'L AVG</p> <p><b>\$5.608</b></p> <p>PER GALLON</p> <p>▼ 3.5¢ WoW</p>	<p>[02] DRY VAN SPOT</p> <p><b>\$2.45</b></p> <p>PER MILE</p> <p>▲ +45¢ YoY (estimate)</p>	<p>[03] REEFER SPOT</p> <p><b>\$2.85</b></p> <p>PER MILE</p> <p>▲ +50¢ YoY (estimate)</p>	<p>[04] REEFER L/T RATIO</p> <p><b>17.2</b></p> <p>LOAD-TO-TRUCK</p> <p>▲ 1.9x vs. 2025</p>	<p>[05] TENDER REJECTION</p> <p><b>14-15%</b></p> <p>NATIONAL RATE</p> <p>▲ Trending Higher</p>	<p>[06] TRANSPORT CAPACITY</p> <p><b>39.2</b></p> <p>LMI INDEX</p> <p>▼ 4th Mo. Contraction</p>
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<p><b>\$5.61</b></p> <p>PER GALLON</p> <p>▲ +50% since Feb 28</p>	<p>[02] DRY VAN SPOT</p> <p><b>\$2.52</b></p> <p>PER MILE</p> <p>▲ +53¢ YoY</p>	<p>[03] REEFER SPOT</p> <p><b>\$2.97</b></p> <p>PER MILE</p> <p>▲ +70¢ YoY</p>	<p>[04] REEFER L/T RATIO</p> <p><b>17.5</b></p> <p>LOAD-TO-TRUCK</p> <p>▲ 2x vs. 2025</p>	<p>[05] TENDER REJECTION</p> <p><b>14-15%</b></p> <p>NATIONAL RATE</p> <p>▲ Trending Higher</p>	<p>[06] TRANSPORT CAPACITY</p> <p><b>39.2</b></p> <p>LMI INDEX</p> <p>▼ 4th Mo. Contraction</p>
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