

Do RVs Have to Stop at Weigh Stations?

A 50-State Quick Reference for Privately Owned RVs

Research updated August 2026

Most weigh stations are designed for commercial vehicles, but state wording is not uniform. Some states use weight-based language broad enough to include a privately owned pickup and RV combination. This guide summarizes what was found in current official federal and state material.

Quick Rule of Thumb

- If the sign says Commercial Vehicles or Commercial Trucks, a privately used RV will usually continue past.
- If the sign describes your vehicle by weight or vehicle type, follow the posted instruction.
- If an officer or electronic sign directs you into the station, enter.
- Weight limits still apply even if you are not required to enter a weigh station.

States That Deserve Extra Attention

Georgia: Georgia DPS says a vehicle or combination at 10,001 lb GVWR or actual gross weight or more must enter all open weight and inspection stations. The FAQ does not state a private-RV exception.

Iowa: Iowa DOT weigh-station signing uses 'All Trucks Over 10,000 lbs Must Weigh.' A pickup towing an RV can fit that wording, so follow the posted sign.

Maine: Maine guidance says any vehicle or combination over 10,000 lb GVW or GVWR must stop at an open weigh station. State law also requires buses or trucks over 10,000 lb to stop when weigh-point signs are operating.

Maryland: Maryland's Motor Carrier Handbook says signs before weigh stations direct all vehicles with GVWR or GCWR over 10,000 lb to enter.

Minnesota: Minnesota law says a truck or combination of vehicles over 10,000 lb must proceed to a posted truck-weight enforcement scale site.

Montana: Montana DOT says all vehicles or combinations with actual gross vehicle weight over 26,000 lb are required to stop at weigh stations.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does a private RV count as a commercial vehicle? Generally not under federal motor-carrier rules when used strictly for personal, nonbusiness travel. States can still impose their own requirements.

What if I am unsure when approaching a scale? Read the actual sign and follow any officer or electronic instructions.

Should I use a highway weigh station just to check my RV weight? Usually no. A CAT Scale or RV-specific weighing service is a better choice.

Does this apply to an RV being delivered for pay or used in a business? No. Commercial use can trigger different rules.

50-State Reference

Green = no specific private-RV stop rule found in official material reviewed. Yellow/red = extra attention.

State	Finding	Research summary
Alabama	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Alaska	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Arizona	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Arkansas	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
California	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Colorado	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Connecticut	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Delaware	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Florida	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Georgia	Weight-based rule may apply	10,001 lb+ vehicle/combination: enter open stations.
Hawaii	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Idaho	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Illinois	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Indiana	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Iowa	Read signs carefully	Signs say 'All Trucks Over 10,000 lbs Must Weigh.'
Kansas	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Kentucky	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Louisiana	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Maine	Weight-based rule may apply	Over 10,000 lb: open weigh stations may apply.
Maryland	Weight-based rule may apply	Posted stations: over 10,000 lb GVWR/GCWR.
Massachusetts	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Michigan	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Minnesota	Weight-based rule may apply	Truck/combination over 10,000 lb at posted scale site.
Mississippi	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Missouri	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.

State	Finding	Research summary
Montana	Weight-based rule may apply	Actual GVW over 26,000 lb: stop.
Nebraska	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Nevada	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
New Hampshire	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
New Jersey	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
New Mexico	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
New York	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
North Carolina	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
North Dakota	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Ohio	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Oklahoma	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Oregon	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Pennsylvania	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Rhode Island	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
South Carolina	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
South Dakota	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Tennessee	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Texas	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Utah	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Vermont	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Virginia	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Washington	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
West Virginia	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Wisconsin	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.
Wyoming	No specific private-RV stop rule found	No specific private-RV stop requirement found in official material reviewed. Obey posted signs.

Research Basis

The federal baseline was checked against current Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration guidance on personal, nonbusiness transportation. The highlighted states were checked against current official material from the Georgia Department of Public Safety, Iowa Department of Transportation, Maine Legislature and Maine state agencies, Maryland State Highway Administration, Minnesota Revisor of Statutes, and Montana Department of Transportation.

Disclaimer

This guide is for general informational purposes only and is not legal advice. Laws, regulations, enforcement practices and highway signage can change. Always verify current requirements before travel and obey posted signs and law-enforcement instructions.

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