

New Mexico:

Trailer Summary:

Dimensions: Dimensions shall not exceed: a total length of 65 feet, a trailer length of 40 feet, a total width of 102 inches, and a total height of 14 feet.

Brakes: Trailers must be equipped with brakes if they have a gross weight of 3,000 lbs. or greater. In any combination of motordrawn vehicles, means shall be provided for applying the rearmost trailer brakes of any trailer equipped with brakes in approximate synchronism with the brakes on the towing vehicle.

Lighting/Reflectors: Every full trailer eighty inches or more in overall width shall be equipped with: on the front: two amber clearance lamps, one at each side; on the rear: one red tail lamp; one red or amber stop lamp; two red clearance lamps, one at each side; two red reflectors, one at each side; and on each side: one amber side marker lamp, located at or near the front; one red sidemarker lamp, located at or near the rear; one amber reflector, located at or near the front; one red reflector, located at or near the rear.

Any trailer shall be equipped with the following signal lamps or devices:

- (1) stop lamp or stop lamps on the rear which shall emit a red, amber or yellow light and which shall be actuated upon application of the service brakes and which may but need not be incorporated with one or more other rear lamps; and
- (2) lamp or lamps or mechanical signal device capable of clearly indicating any intention to turn either to the right or to the left and which shall be visible both from the front and rear.

Hitch/Signals: When one vehicle is towing another the drawbar or other connection shall be of sufficient strength to pull all weight towed thereby.

Mirrors: Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of such vehicle.

Speed Limits: As posted.

Towing: When one vehicle is towing another and the connection consists of a chain, rope or cable, there shall be displayed upon such connection a white flag or cloth not less than twelve inches square.

Other: N/A

Vehicle Procedures Manual

Chapter 13 - Trailer

[Chapter 13 – Trailer | Motor Vehicle Division NM \(newmexico.gov\)](#)

§ 66-7-402. Width of vehicles.

The total outside width of any vehicle or its load, excepting mirrors, shall not exceed eight feet six inches. Safety devices up to three inches on either side of the vehicle and recreational vehicle

appurtenances, including retracting awnings, up to six inches on either side of the vehicle are also excepted.

§ 66-7-404. Height and length of vehicles and loads.

A. A vehicle shall not exceed a height of fourteen feet.

B. A vehicle shall not exceed a length of forty feet extreme overall dimension and no motor home shall exceed a length of forty-five feet extreme overall dimension, exclusive of front and rear bumpers, except when operated in combination with another vehicle as provided in this section. A bus may exceed a length of forty-five feet when operating on national network highways. A combination of vehicles, unless otherwise exempted in this section, shall not exceed an overall length of sixty-five feet, exclusive of front and rear bumpers.

C. A combination of vehicles coupled together shall not consist of more than two units, except:

(1) a truck tractor and semitrailer shall be permitted to pull one trailer;

(2) a vehicle shall be permitted to pull two units, provided that the middle unit is equipped with brakes and has a weight equal to or greater than the last unit and the total combined gross weight of the towed units does not exceed the manufacturer's stated gross weight of the towing units;

(3) a double or triple saddle-mount or fifth wheel mount of vehicles in transit by driveaway-towaway methods shall be permitted;

(4) vehicles and trailers operated by or under contract for municipal refuse systems;

(5) farm trailers, implements of husbandry and fertilizer trailers operated by or under contract to a farmer or rancher in farming or ranching operations; and

(6) as provided in Subsections D through G of this section.

D. Exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices, refrigeration units and other devices such as coupling devices, vehicles operating a truck tractor semitrailer or truck tractor semitrailer-trailer combinations on the interstate highway system and those qualifying federal aid primary system highways designated by the secretary of the United States department of transportation, pursuant to the federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982,¹ Public Law 97-424, Section 411, and on those highways designated by the department of transportation by rule may exceed an overall length limitation of sixty-five feet, provided that the length of the semitrailer in a truck tractor semitrailer combination does not exceed fifty-seven feet six inches and the length of the semitrailer or trailer in a truck tractor semitrailer-trailer combination does not exceed twenty-eight feet six inches. The department of transportation shall adopt rules and regulations granting reasonable access to terminals, facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest and points of loading and unloading for household goods carriers to vehicles operating in combination pursuant to this subsection. As used in this subsection, "truck tractor" means a non-cargo carrying power unit designed to operate in combination with a semitrailer or trailer, except

that a truck tractor and semitrailer engaged in the transportation of automobiles may transport motor vehicles on part of the truck tractor.

E. The following combination vehicles are specialized equipment and may exceed an overall length of sixty-five feet pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 658.13:

- (1) automobile transporters;
- (2) boat transporters;
- (3) beverage semitrailers; and
- (4) munitions carriers using dromedary equipment.

F. A saddle-mount vehicle is specialized equipment and may not exceed an overall length of ninety-seven feet pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 658.13.

G. Notwithstanding any other subsection of this section, a trailer or semitrailer combination of such dimensions as those that were in actual and lawful use in this state on December 1, 1982 may be lawfully operated on the highways of this state.

New Jersey Vehicle Statues:

§ 66-7-408. Trailers and towed vehicles.

A. When one vehicle is towing another the drawbar or other connection shall be of sufficient strength to pull all weight towed thereby. When a combination of vehicles are engaged in transporting poles, pipe, machinery or other objects of structural nature which cannot readily be dismembered, the load shall be distributed so as to equalize the weights on the axle of each vehicle insofar as possible.

B. When one vehicle is towing another and the connection consists of a chain, rope or cable, there shall be displayed upon such connection a white flag or cloth not less than twelve inches square.

§ 66-3-840. Brakes.

A. Brake equipment is required as follows:

- (1) every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the vehicle, including two separate means of applying the brakes, each of which is effective to apply thebrakes to at least two wheels. If these two separate means of applying the brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part of the operating mechanism does not leave the motor vehicle without brakes on at least two wheels;

(2) every motorcycle when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with at least two brakes that may be operated by hand or foot;

(3) every bus, truck, truck tractor, road tractor, trailer and semitrailer and pole trailer shall be equipped with brakes on all wheels in contact with road surfaces except:

(a) trailers, semitrailers and pole trailers of a gross vehicle weight of less than three thousand pounds;

(b) any vehicle being towed in a driveaway-towaway operation; provided, the combination of vehicles is capable of complying with the performance requirements of Subsection B of this section;

(c) trucks, truck tractors and road tractors having three or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels except when the vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one axle need not be equipped with brakes;

(d) house-moving dollies subject to regulations adopted by the secretary of transportation under the Motor Transportation Act [65-1-1 NMSA 1978]; and

(e) motor vehicles of the types named in Paragraphs (1) through (3) of this subsection manufactured prior to July 1, 1963;

(4) every house trailer of a gross vehicle weight in excess of three thousand pounds registered in this state shall be equipped with brakes on at least two wheels in contact with road surfaces. Every house trailer of a gross vehicle weight of three thousand pounds or more when operated upon a highway or roadway shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and to hold the vehicle and so designed as to be applied by the driver of the towing motor vehicle;

(5) every bus, truck, road tractor or truck tractor shall be equipped with parking brakes capable of locking the rear driving wheels and adequate under any condition of loading to hold, to the limit of traction of the braked wheels, the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which the motor vehicle may be attached. The operating controls of the parking brakes shall be independent of the operating controls of the servicebrakes;

(6) in any combination of motor-drawn vehicles, means shall be provided for applying the rearmost trailer brakes of any trailer equipped with brakes in approximate synchronism with the brakes on the towing vehicle and developing the required braking effort on the rearmost wheels at the fastest rate, or means shall be provided for applying braking effort first on the rearmost trailer equipped

with brakes, or both of the above means capable of being used alternatively may be employed; and

- (7) the brake shoes operating within or upon the drums on the vehicle wheels of any motor vehicle may be used for both service and hand operation.

B. Every motor vehicle or combination of motor-drawn vehicles shall be capable at all times, and under all conditions of loading, of being stopped on a dry, smooth, level road, free from loose material, upon application of the service brake within the distance specified in this subsection or shall be capable of being decelerated at a sustained rate corresponding to these distances:

Feet to stop from	Deceleration	
20 miles per hour	in feet per second	
Vehicles or combinations of vehicles havingbrakes on all wheels . . .	30	14
Vehicles or combinations of vehicles not havingbrakes on all wheels . . .	40	10.7.

- C. All brakes shall be maintained in good working order and shall be so adjusted as to operate as equally as practicable with respect to the wheels on opposite sides of the vehicle.

§ 66-3-812. Lamps and reflectors; large semitrailers, full trailers and house trailers.

A. Every semitrailer, full trailer or house trailer eighty inches or more in overall width shall be equipped as follows:

- (1) on the front: two amber clearance lamps, one at each side;
- (2) on the rear: one red tail lamp; one red or amber stop lamp; two red clearance lamps, one at each side; two red reflectors, one at each side; and
- (3) on each side: one amber side-marker lamp, located at or near the front; one red side-marker lamp, located at or near the rear; one amber reflector, located at or near the front; one red reflector, located at or near the rear.

B. Side-marker lamps may be in combination with clearance lamps and may use the same light source.

§ 66-3-845. Mirrors.

Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of such vehicle.

§ 66-3-828. Signal lamps and signal devices

A. Any motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer and house trailer may be equipped and when required under Sections 66-3-801 through 66-3-887 NMSA 1978 shall be equipped with the following signal lamps or devices:

(1) stop lamp or stop lamps on the rear which shall emit a red, amber or yellow light and which shall be actuated upon application of the service brakes and which may but need not be incorporated with one or more other rear lamps; and

(2) lamp or lamps or mechanical signal device capable of clearly indicating any intention to turn either to the right or to the left and which shall be visible both from the front and rear.

B. Every stop lamp shall be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of one hundred feet to the rear both during normal sunlight and at nighttime and a signal lamp or lamps indicating intention to turn shall be visible and understandable during daytime and nighttime from a distance of one hundred feet both to the front and rear.

When a vehicle is equipped with a stop lamp or other signal lamps, such lamp or lamps shall at all times be maintained in good working condition. No stop lamp or signal lamp shall project a glaring or dazzling light.

C. All mechanical signal devices shall be self-illuminated when in use at the times mentioned in Section 66-3-802 NMSA 1978.