

What Is the Difference Between LTL and FTL Freight Shipping?

 fslgroup.com/what-is-the-difference-between-ltl-and-ftl-freight-shipping

March 25, 2025



When it comes to freight, choosing the right shipping method can make or break your logistics budget. For small and midsize businesses, the decision between LTL and FTL shipping comes down to size, speed, and cost.

At , we help clients navigate this choice with confidence. Let's break it down:



What Does LTL Shipping Mean?

LTL (Less Than Truckload) shipping is ideal for shipments that don't fill a full truck—typically 1 to 6 pallets. With LTL, your freight shares space on a truck with goods from other businesses.

Benefits of LTL Shipping:

- ✓ Cost-effective for small loads
- ✓ Pay only for the space you use
- ✓ Lower environmental impact

LTL is perfect for businesses that ship smaller quantities more frequently. Our team helps optimize these loads so you get the best carrier match and rates.



What Is FTL Shipping?

FTL (Full Truckload) shipping is used when your freight fills an entire truck or you want exclusive use of a trailer.

Benefits of FTL Shipping:

- ✓ Faster transit times
- ✓ Less handling = lower damage risk
- ✓ Ideal for large or sensitive shipments

FTL is best when speed, safety, or size is a concern. If you're unsure which method fits your freight, **contact our experts** for personalized advice.

LTL vs FTL: Key Differences at a Glance

Feature	LTL Shipping	FTL Shipping
---------	--------------	--------------

Load Size	Small (1–6 pallets)	Full truck
Cost	Shared (lower)	Fixed (higher per trip)
Speed	Slower	Faster
Handling	More frequent	Minimal
Ideal For	Regular small shipments	Large or time-sensitive freight

Which Freight Option Is Right for Your Business?

The answer depends on your shipping frequency, volume, and delivery requirements. Many companies use a **mix of LTL and FTL**, depending on seasonality or specific customer needs.

At , we analyze your freight patterns and recommend the smartest, most cost-effective mix. From **freight audit and pay** to **carrier management**, we help you save time and money—while boosting visibility and control.

Want to Simplify the Entire Shipping Process?

We've been helping businesses like yours make smarter freight decisions since 1996. Whether you're dealing with inconsistent carriers, confusing invoices, or shipping delays—we've got solutions that make logistics easier.

Already a partner? Access your systems through our [Technology Logins portal](#).

New here? Learn more about who we are on our [About Us](#) page—or reach out to get started.

Ready to Choose the Right Freight Option?

Let's take the guesswork out of LTL vs FTL shipping.

Based in Stockbridge, GA | Serving businesses nationwide

Call us at **800-758-4290** or [get in touch today](#).