

Spike in Tire Blowouts on I-10 Raises Safety Concerns for New Orleans Drivers

Local expert urges motorists to address a growing roadside hazard before holiday travel ramps up



New Orleans, Louisiana Nov 19, 2025 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - A recent surge in tire blowouts along the I-10 corridor has prompted renewed concern among traffic authorities, with unofficial estimates showing a noticeable uptick in emergency roadside incidents during the fall travel season. According to regional traffic monitors, higher temperatures, under-inflated tires, and aging road surfaces are contributing to the rise — creating dangerous conditions for drivers who find themselves stranded on narrow shoulders or high-speed stretches of interstate.

Industry professionals warn that many of these incidents are preventable with basic tire maintenance, yet most drivers overlook early warning signs. The ripple effect includes lane closures, secondary accidents, and extended congestion during peak commute hours.

Walter Raymond, President and CEO of [Baby Kaitlyn Towing Service](#), says the trend isn't surprising — and it's becoming one of the most avoidable causes of emergency roadside calls in Southeast Louisiana.

“Too many tires fail long before their time simply because drivers don't check pressure or tread,”

Raymond said. “A tire doesn’t usually ‘blow’ out of the blue. It fails in stages — and the earlier a driver spots the warning signs, the better chance they have of avoiding a dangerous roadside situation.”

Raymond notes that the most common factors behind recent blowouts include:

- **Under-inflation** from dropping fall temperatures
- **Aging or dry-rotted rubber** on vehicles rarely serviced
- **Overloaded cars and trucks** during holiday travel
- **High speeds on older stretches of interstate**, especially near the New Orleans–Kenner leg of I-10

He adds that Louisiana’s humid climate accelerates tire wear compared to cooler regions, making routine inspections even more important.

Safety advocates recommend that drivers take a few preventative steps before the holiday travel season:

- **Check tire pressure weekly**, especially as temperatures fluctuate
- **Inspect tread depth and sidewalls** for cracking or bulging
- **Verify the age of your tires** — many experts recommend replacement at six years, regardless of mileage
- **Ensure the spare tire is inflated and accessible**
- **Avoid overloading the vehicle**, particularly during long-distance travel

Raymond suggests that small habits can dramatically reduce the number of hazardous roadside situations.

“A ten-second tire check at the gas station can prevent a two-hour highway shutdown,” he said. “Drivers have more control over this issue than they realize.”

Local transportation officials expect interstate volume to rise sharply between Thanksgiving and Mardi Gras, increasing the likelihood of additional blowout-related incidents.

As New Orleans prepares for one of the busiest travel seasons of the year, experts are urging motorists to treat tire maintenance as a simple — but critical — safety measure.

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