

Historically, central Ohio has been a major freight transportation hub. The same is true today. Central Ohio is located within a one day truck drive from 58% of the US population, and 61% of US manufacturers. The logistical industry is currently responsible for over 1 in 10 jobs in the region.

One reason for the success of this industry has been the location of many intermodal yards within central Ohio. An intermodal lift is when an intermodal container is “lifted” off a train car and placed on a truck to transport goods to their destinations. The chart below shows the number of intermodal lifts at each of the intermodal yards in the region.

The future is bright for the intermodal freight industry in Central Ohio. In March 2008, Norfolk Southern’s Rickenbacker Intermodal Facility opened for business in northern Pickaway County. This facility is currently capable of 200,000 lifts per year, and there are plans to expand that capacity to 400,000. CSX is working to convert Parsons Yard into an intermodal yard as part of their National Gateway plan. When Parsons Yard is complete it will be capable of 450,000 to 500,000 lifts per year (CSX estimate).

	Approximate Number of Intermodal Lifts (Number of Containers Transferred)							
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Buckeye Yard	92,748	100,700	120,000	151,152	129,798	131,518	N/A	121,000
Discovery Yard	113,000	138,000	140,000	168,588	170,478	185,108	N/A	N/A
Marysville Yard	13,481	13,212	12,275	12,628	16,650	18,034	N/A	15,000
Rickenbacker	(New facility opened March 2008)							90,000

Source: MORPC contacts the individual facilities.

