



HEADLINES

Ohio ranks 6th on *Site Selection Magazine's* list of top business climates (November 2010).

Brookings Institution ranks Columbus as having the 32nd best economy for exports (July 2010).

InBound Logistics Magazine ranks Columbus as one of the nation's logistics hotspots (May 2010).

GenPak Solutions, LLC received a 50% Job Creation Tax Credit worth \$88,002, creating 50 jobs and \$650,000 in project investment.

Exel, Inc. received a 50% Job Creation Tax Credit worth \$522,130, creating 228 jobs and \$16.9 million in project investment.

Genco I Inc. received a 45% Job Creation Tax Credit worth \$191,015, creating 80 jobs and \$3.5 million in project investment.

NGL Warehouse LLC received a 40% Job Creation Tax Credit worth \$41,921, creating 31 jobs and \$850,000 in project investment.

Logistics

The Columbus Region is a thriving metropolitan area with a population of 1.8 million in eight counties—Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Morrow, Pickaway, and Union.

The region's optimal geographic location, quality workforce, and economic diversity make it the ideal location to expand or relocate operations.

The Columbus Region is home to the headquarters of 15 Fortune 1000 companies, six of which are Fortune 500 companies. An additional 17 Fortune 1000 companies are among the region's 100 largest employers.

MAJOR COMPANIES

Abbott Nutrition
Big Lots
Calypso Logistics
Cardinal Health Inc.
DB Schenker Logistics
Exel, Inc.
FST Logistics
Hyperlogistics Group
Kraft
Limited Brands
McGraw Hill
Mettlet-Toledo International Inc.
ODW Logistics
Pacer International
RSV II Logistics
Sterling Commerce/IBM
Spartan Logistics
Vista Industrial Packaging

ASSETS

Crossroads of I-70 and I-71 connects the region to the U.S. Interstate grid.

Port Columbus flies to 33 destination airports with 150 daily flights. In 2009, it served more than 6.2 million passengers.

Over 144 million Americans are accessible within a 10-hour drive from Columbus, representing 46.8 percent of the national population.

Rickenbacker: a dynamic, international logistics center home to a tremendous base of air, rail and road transport companies. Handles more than 300,000 lifts a year and offers \$660 million in transportation cost savings to shippers.

- Home to Foreign-Trade Zone No. 138, which encompasses nearly 5,000 acres.
- Has seen a 273% increase in air cargo when comparing the same months in 2009 and 2010.

Two national and one regional rail carriers:

- Norfolk Southern
- CSX Transportation
- Ohio Central

Four intermodal yards capable of more than 600,000 lifts per year.

The Columbus Region has the most competitive corporate tax climate in the Midwest.

MARKET/INDUSTRY

- A concerted effort by industry and government leaders has led to major growth in the logistics sector. Employment in transportation, warehousing and utilities increased by 57% from 1998 to 2007, compared to 9% nationwide (BLS, 2008).
- The Columbus Region is within a one-day truck drive or one-hour flight of 51% of the U.S. population and 53% of the U.S. manufacturing capacity.
- The Columbus Region is part of a growing supply chain:
 - The new Heartland Corridor allows double-stacked freight trains to travel directly from the Port of Virginia to a state of the art intermodal facility located at Rickenbacker International Airport, in Franklin County.
 - Columbus is connected to Virginia ports that will increase their capacity in anticipation of the Panama Canal's expansion in 2014.

WORKFORCE

- 3,218 logistics establishments with nearly 80,000 employees, yielding a location quotient for employment at 1.18 of the U.S. (Census, CBP 2008).
- 22.1% growth projected in 2006-2016 for the transportation and warehousing employment sector (Ohio LMI 2010).
- Average wage of \$54,214 (QCEW 2009).
- Annual average wage of \$46,547, 9% lower than the national average of \$51,045 (Census, CBP 2008).
- 5.2% private sector workforce unionization rate; below the national average of 6.9% and 14th lowest among the 62 Midwest metro areas with at least 50,000 employees (Unionstats, 2010).

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

- Job Creation Tax Credit provides a credit to companies who create new jobs and \$660,00 in new payroll.
- Workforce Guarantee Program provides 100% reimbursable training grants to employers in the logistics sector that are creating at least 20 job positions. Projects can be funded up to \$750,000.
- Enterprise Zones/Community Reinvestment Areas provide property tax abatements for businesses that invest in designated areas of Ohio.

- The new business taxation model has reduced operating costs and enhanced Productivity by eliminating tax on inventory, corporate income, and investments in machinery and equipment.

COST

- Electricity costs less in Ohio; 6.19 cents per kilowatt-hour, compared to the national average of 6.81 (U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2008).

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES

- The Ohio State University:
 - Enrolls over 55,000 students and ranks 2nd among universities nationwide in industry sponsored research.
 - Fisher College of Business is ranked 8th best among supply chain/logistics programs nationwide (U.S. News & World Report 2010).
- Columbus State Community College:
 - CSCC's Center for Workforce Development is focused on developing an entry- to mid-level workforce for the region's logistics businesses.
 - In February 2010, the U.S. Department of Labor awarded CSCC \$4.6 million for its Logistics Industry—Attracting and Retaining Talent program.
- Battelle is the world's largest contract research and development organization, brings a unique blend of science and technology disciplines to solve significant logistics challenges for its clients.
- Columbus Region Logistics Council is an industry-led group focused on the needs of businesses for growth.
- Columbus Regional Airport Authority oversees the operations of Port Columbus, Rickenbacker and Bolton field airports.
- Rickenbacker Employment Assistant Network, a volunteer network of human resource professionals and area business owners interested in leveraging each other's resources and strengths to further develop and grow the Rickenbacker area.