



Abundant Waterways and Ports Facilitate Cost-Effective Freight Shipping

Ohio is a Midwestern state that borders the Great Lakes and the Ohio River. Due to the lakeside location, Ohio freight often moves by river or canal, as well as through several busy seaports. Ohio shipping rates are very affordable year-round due to the moderate weather, heavy industrial areas and amount of manufacturing in the state.

- Ohio is truly a maritime state with 716 miles of navigable waterways surrounding the state on three sides.
- Ohio is 8th in the nation for total water tonnage moved.
- Ohio's maritime ports and river terminals handle more than 103 million tons of commodities valued at \$11 billion worth of cargo per year.

Ohio River System

- It has 451 miles of coastline.
- It is responsible for 63 million tons of commodities valued at \$7.4 billion moving to, from and within Ohio (2008).
- Ohio River traffic in Ohio is dominated by the electric utility industry that relies on waterways to ship coal to more than 19 water-served power plants.
- Ohio's river terminals also provide access to the Gulf of Mexico, markets in Central and South America and the Atlantic Ocean, as well as the Pacific Ocean and Asian markets via the Panama Canal.

Lake Erie System

- Has 265 miles of coastline.
- Is responsible for 40.6 million tons of commodities valued at \$3.6 Billion moving to, from and within Ohio (2008).
- Lake Erie traffic in Ohio is dominated by electric utility, steel and manufacturing industries which rely on waterways to ship coal, limestone and iron ore.
- Canada and Europe, Ohio's two largest trade partners, are accessible via the Lake Erie System. Via the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway, Ohio's northern ports have direct access to the Atlantic Ocean to the east, Canada's industrial heartland to the north and Minnesota's iron ranges to the west.

