Glossary of Key Terms

Chicago Truck Data Portal (chicagotruckcounts.cnt.org)

Cargo	Physical goods or materials carried in bulk by a mode of transportation (ship, aircraft, rail, or truck). Traditionally refers to goods carried over water or air, only referring to the transportation of goods. Source: Trans Logistics Incorporated
Class I railroad	U.S. railways are one of three categories or classes: Class I, Class II, or Class III. Each class is categorized by the amount of revenue its carrier earns. Class I railroads have a revenue greater than $250M/year (the most expensive category). Chicagoland is home to all 6 freight-carrying Class I railroads and is the only place in the Western Hemisphere with this junction.
Cumulative impacts	The totality of exposures to combinations of chemical and nonchemical stressors and their effects on health, well-being, and quality of life outcomes. Source: U.S. EPA
Diesel	A type of transportation fuel made from refining crude oil— a raw fossil fuel— and/or biomass materials. Gasoline is also refined from crude oil, but unlike gas, diesel is less refined and more energy-dense.
Diesel truck or bus	A medium- or heavy-duty on-road vehicle powered by a diesel engine. Trucks are grouped in the Chicago Truck Data Portal as: **Articulated truck**: Heavy-duty trucks with a tractor & trailer categorized as classes 8 to 13 by the Federal Highway Administration **Single-unit truck**: Medium-duty trucks categorized as classes 5, 6, and 7 by the Federal Highway Administration

Diesel truck pollution	A variety of environmental contaminants are released by the exhaust of diesel-powered on-road vehicles including wear of tires and brakes, road dust, open cargo, and sound contamination.
Distribution center	A type of warehouse that is designed to receive, store, and distribute large volumes of products to customers. Typically associated with faster goods movement from business-to-consumer or business-to-business. Source: Advanced Manufacturing Solutions
Electric truck/bus	A medium- or heavy-duty on-road vehicle with no tailpipe, powered by a rechargeable battery, and supplying energy from an electricity grid. In Illinois, the Clean and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) has a legally binding provision for clean and renewable energy to power 100% of electricity from grids in-state by 2025.
Environmental justice	The just treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of income, race, gender, color, national origin, Tribal affiliation, disability, documentation status, or occupation, in agency decision-making and other Federal activities that affect human health and the environment, so that people: ● are fully protected from disproportionate and adverse human health and environmental effects (including risks) and hazards, including those related to climate change, the cumulative impacts of environmental and other burdens, and the legacy of racism or other structural or systemic barriers; ● have equitable access to a healthy, sustainable, and resilient environment to live, play, work, learn, grow, worship, and engage in cultural and subsistence practices. Source: Chicago Environmental Justice Network

Environmental racism	Any policy, practice, or directive that differentially affects or disadvantages (where intended or unintended) individuals, groups, or communities based on race. Oftentimes, this manifests as governments and corporations siting polluting industries in overburdened working-class, immigrant, and/or communities of color. Source: Inspired by sociologist Robert Bullard
Freight	Physical goods or materials carried in bulk by a mode of transportation (ship, aircraft, rail, truck); traditionally refers to goods carried over land. Can also refer to the payment for transportation services. Source: Trans Logistics Incorporated
Freight train	A train that carries physical goods or materials rather than human passengers.
Industrial corridor	A designated geographic area, usually planned along waterways and railways, that concentrates industrial or manufacturing activity and limits land uses to these activities. Source: Chicago Department of Planning and Development
Inland port	A large-scale shipping and trade center with easy highway access, located away from an ocean coast (unlike traditional 'ports' next to an ocean coast). Many large intermodal rail yards are examples of an inland port, also known as a 'dry port'. Source(s): InTek Logistics
Intermodal rail yard	A hub where many railroad tracks meet for workers to transfer goods between multiple modes of transportation (i.e., rail to truck transfers) and includes space for storing containers.

	Synonyms: intermodal terminal, dry port*, inland port* **if intermodal rail yard is very large in size*
Intermodal shipping center	A hub where cargo is transferred between multiple modes of transportation (i.e., rail to truck transfers) and includes space for storing containers.
Intermodal train	A type of freight train that transfers trailers from rail to truck, vice versa, or between other modes of transportation like ships. Source: Union Pacific
Just Transition	A vision-led, unifying, and place-based set of principles, processes, and practices that build economic and political power to shift from an extractive economy to a regenerative economy. If the process of transition is not just, the outcome will never be. Describes both where we are going and how we get there. Source: Climate Justice Alliance
Rail yard	A place where many railroad tracks meet for workers to assemble, take apart, sort, and store freight cars and trains. Sources: Commtrex; Trains Magazine
Sacrifice zones	Geographic areas— often "fenceline"or "frontline" communities of color, immigrant communities, and/or lower-income areas— characterized by industrial facilities unregulated practices which subject the communities to high levels of environmental hazards, cause long-term health risks, and local environmental damage. Residents of these communities tend to suffer from respiratory diseases, cancer, and other illnesses due to toxic chemicals in the air, land, and water.

According to The Climate Reality Project, these areas are called *sacrifice zones* because the health and safety of people in these communities is being effectively sacrificed for the economic gains and prosperity of others.

Sources: Bullard RD. Sacrifice Zones: The Front Lines of Toxic Chemical Exposure in the United States. Environ Health Perspect; The Climate Reality Project

Tailpipe pollution	Exhaust released into the surrounding air from a vehicle engine's combustion. This exhaust contaminates the air by releasing harmful particles, carcinogens, other toxins, and greenhouse gases.
Truck terminal	A place where goods carried by trucks are being loaded or unloaded onto other trucks. Examples are distribution centers, intermodal rail yards, and warehouses.
Truck-intensive facility	Any commercial or industrial building, related to logistics or not, that relies on high volumes of truck trips to function as a business. Most truck terminals, like distribution centers and warehouses, can also be examples of truck-intensive facilities.
Warehouse	A large building where raw materials or manufactured goods are stored in bulk before their export or distribution for commercial sale.
Zero-emission	No waste byproduct (e.g., air pollution) leaching into the surrounding environment from the use of a product that relies on an energy source (e.g., trucks). *Note: Zero-emission vehicles are only zero-emission at their tailpipe and do emit air and other emissions further up in supply chains (mining and manufacturing).*

Definitions with no listed source are written by CNT.

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