Top 12 distribution center metrics

According to the 2022 Warehousing Education and Research Council (WERC) DC Measures Report, here are the top 12 metrics and best-in-class scores. How does your operation compare?



Average warehouse capacity used

Average amount of warehouse space used over a specific interval, such as a monthly or yearly window.

Best-in-class operations, on average, utilize more than 95% of available warehouse capacity.



Order picking accuracy

Measures the accuracy of the order picking process, helping prevent errors prior to shipment.

Best-in-class operations achieve more than 99.85% order picking accuracy.



On-time shipments

Percent of orders shipped at the planned time, meaning off the dock and in transit to its final destination.

Best-in-class operations ship more than 99.8% of orders on time.



On-time ready to ship

Percent of orders ready for shipment at the planned time, meaning with completed packaging and shipping documents and ready for pickup.

Best-in-class operations have more than 99.9% of orders ready to ship on time.



Amount of warehouse capacity used during designated peak seasons.

Best-in-class operations use 100% of warehouse



Dock-to-stock cycle time

Time elapsed between the arrival of goods and when they are put away and recorded into inventory management systems.

capacity during peaks.

Best-in-class operations achieve a dock-to-stock cycle time of less than 3 hours.

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Number of orders that are processed damage free as a percentage of total orders.

Best-in-class operations receive over 99.1% of their supplier orders damage free.



Percent of orders filled according to customer request.

Best-in-class operations fill more than 99.63% of orders according to customer requests.

Orders with on-time delivery

Percent of orders that arrive at their final destination at the agreed upon time.

Best-in-class operations deliver more than 98.8% of orders on time.

Shipped damage free (outbound)

Percent of customer orders shipped in good and usable condition. Orders damaged in transit are not considered here.

Best-in-class operations ship over 99.6% of orders without damage.



Percent of order lines filled according to customer request.

Best-in-class operations fill more than 99.02% of order lines according to customer requests.

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Shipped complete per customer order

Percent of orders which shipped completely, meaning that all line/units ship with the order per agreement between the customer and shipper.

Best-in-class operations ship completed orders more than 99.6% of the time.

Want to reach best-in-class status?

Learn how to leverage lift truck fleets to increase warehouse capacity, on-time shipments and dock-to-stock cycle time performance.

Read the white paper

2022 survey respondents compromised of warehouse professional across a range of industries. Top industries represented include wholesales/distributors, manufacturing, third-party logistics and retail. A best-in-class operation exhibits a level of performance that falls within the top 20% of respondents.

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