

Retail Goods Movement in Indiana

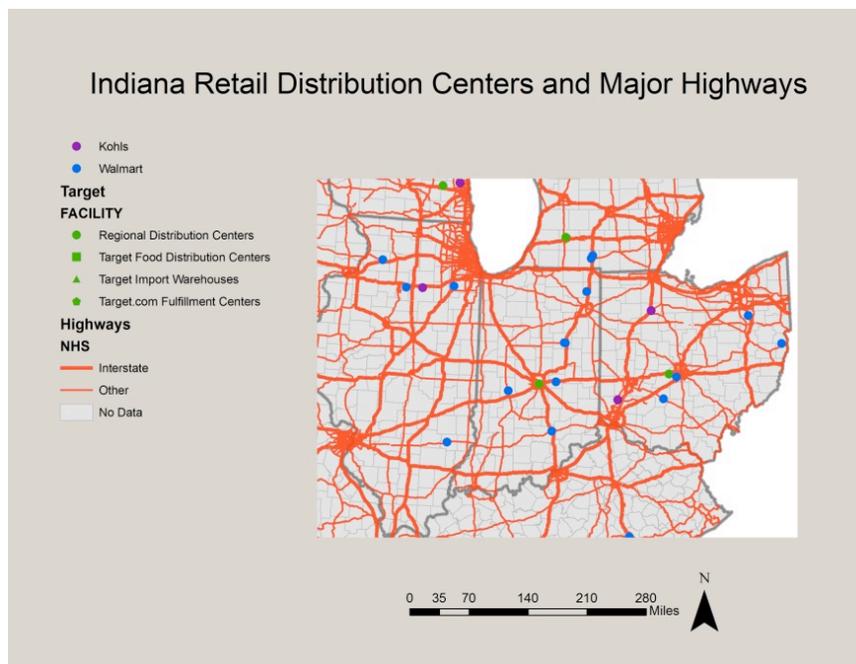
Indiana is home to major distribution centers of some of the largest US retailers including Walmart, Target and CVS. Target and CVS both have distribution centers located in Indianapolis. Walmart has several centers scattered throughout Indiana. Grant Monahan of the Indiana Retail Council answered questions regarding the movement of retail goods throughout the state.

According to Mr. Monahan, Indianapolis is the major retail distribution node for the entire state. In addition to its status as a major node in distribution networks, it is home to the largest consumer base in the state, as expected. Indianapolis also has a major FedEx distribution facility.

Mr. Monahan felt that the Interstate Highway System was the most critical component of retail transportation. The state has a strong network of highways and rail appears to be less significant for moving retail goods. According to Mr. Monahan's recollection, none of the distribution centers that he was familiar with (Target, Walmart or CVS) were located on a rail line. Thus, retail goods are probably entering the state by truck and proceeding to their final destination by truck as well.

General Story about Retail Shipments in Indiana

A shipment of cargo arrives at Target's Suffolk, VA import warehouse and is transferred to a truck. The truck travels via Interstate to Indianapolis and delivers the goods to the Target distribution center located near Indianapolis International Airport located on the Southwest side of the city. From the distribution center, the goods are loaded on a truck to be sent to the Super Target store in Fisher, IN, a Northeastern suburban of Indianapolis. The truck travels North on I-465 and then on I-69, finally reaching Fisher, delivering the goods to the Target store located just off the freeway.



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