



# The I-80 / I-35 Corridor

## Crossroads of America and Emerging Transportation Hub

Interstate 80 (I-80) and Interstate 35 (I-35) intersect in Des Moines, Iowa, forming a major transportation corridor that serves as a hub for distribution centers and logistics operations in the Midwest. This area offers several benefits for companies looking to establish or expand their distribution networks.





## Truck Transport Volume

According to Iowa DOT, up to 14,000 trucks per day traverse the 300-mile Iowa I-80 corridor, with an annual TVM (total vehicle miles) of over one billion, making it the most traveled Midwest East/West corridor, the gateway to the west.

Similarly, Iowa's 220-mile I-35 North/South corridor handles up to 9,000 trucks per day and an annual TVM of 461 million miles.

These massive transportation flows meet at the I-80/I-35 junction, producing unique distribution benefits. Coupled with the many other benefits of the region, the I-80/I-35.

<b>Iowa I-80</b>	
14,000 Trucks/Day	
1 Billion Miles/Year	
<b>Iowa I-35</b>	
9,000 Trucks/Day	
461 Million Miles/Year	

## Strategic Distribution Center Location

The I-80 / I-35 corridor is experiencing compound growth as a distribution center and warehouse hub based on commerce flows, cost of doing business, infrastructure, and more. The area offers access to a large market, with nearly one million businesses and thirty-six million people within a seven-state radius.

Companies operating distribution centers in Des Moines benefit from the city's central geographic location, allowing for efficient transportation of goods to domestic and international markets.

The junction is one day or less to major US markets, including Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, and St. Louis.



## Infrastructure and Transportation Networks

The I-80/I-35 corridor provides companies with access to a robust transportation infrastructure, including:

- Three interstates (I-80, I-35, and I-29), providing coast-to-coast border-to-border access
- 4,000 miles of freight rail operated by 18 railroad companies, And five major national carriers
- 60 commercial barge terminals (Mississippi and Missouri Rivers)
- Des Moines International Airport cargo terminal minutes from the I-80 / I-35 junction.

## Economic Benefits and Incentives

Distribution centers in Iowa have many economic advantages, including:

- Lower cost of doing business compared to other regions and most Midwest hubs
- Competitive state and local tax incentives and commercial assistance programs
- A skilled and productive labor pool; Iowa's workforce consistently ranks among the most productive in the nation.



*The I-80/I-35 is a vital link in regional and national connectivity, mobility, freight movement, and economic well-being.*

*— DOT, 2023*





*The I-80 / I-35 Corridor is one of the Nation's fastest growing transportation hubs*

## A growing roster of leading firms

More national and regional leaders are discovering the economic and logistical advantages of the I-80/I-35 corridor, driving the region's growth and a leading national crossroads.

JT Logistics	Facebook
Amazon	Keystone Electrical
Midland Paper	Helena Industries Dee
Brown Warehouse Corp.	Zee
Door One Logistics	UPS
Atlantic Coca-Cola Bottling	Express
Merchants Distribution	Centennial
PDM Distribution Services	PDM Company Lineage
Hy-Vee	Logistics Excell
Target	Marketing Rockfarm
Nordstrom	Supply Chain Ruan
PDI	Transportation XPO
John Deere	Logistics
Iowa Pack	more...
Microsoft	

## Des Moines lower cost of doing business:

### Lower Operating Costs

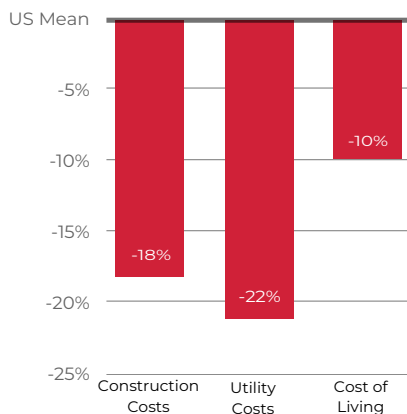
Des Moines offers a cost of operation significantly below the national average. According to GDP statistics, the cost of doing business in Des Moines is 15% below than the national average.

- Construction costs is 18% below the national average
- Industrial space is 15% below the national average
- Utility rates that are 22% below the national average

These lower operating costs allow businesses to allocate more resources towards growth, innovation, and profitability.



### Iowa Benefits



### Additional Benefits:

Lower Taxes  
R&D Credits

## Competitive Tax Environment

Iowa's business-friendly tax environment helps companies maximize earnings. Tax advantages include:

- No income tax on profits on sales made outside of Iowa
- No property tax on industrial machinery, equipment, and computers
- No sales tax on purchases of industrial electricity and natural gas
- Tax credits for R&D and development activities

These tax incentives, combined with the lower operating costs, make Des Moines an attractive location for businesses looking to expand or relocate.

## Affordable Cost of Living

In addition to the lower cost of doing business, Des Moines boasts a lower cost of living compared to other major metropolitan areas. The Des Moines cost of living is 10% below the national average, making it an affordable place to live for employees. This lower cost of living allows businesses to attract and retain talented workers without needing to offer significantly higher salaries to compensate for higher living expenses.



## Labor edge

The lower cost of doing business in Des Moines, combined with its competitive tax environment and affordable cost of living, makes it an attractive location for businesses across various industries. By taking advantage of these cost savings, companies can focus on growth, innovation, and long-term success in a business-friendly environment.

### Below the National Average and Other Midwest Hubs

- According to the U.S. BLS (Bureau of Labor Statistics), the mean hourly wage for Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers nationally in May 2023 was \$18.10.
- In Des Moines, IA the average salary for a Warehouse Worker is \$34,360 or ~\$16.50/HR, compared to \$18.22 in Minneapolis and \$18.18 in Chicago.
- This is also 10% below the national average for these positions.



## The People

"Iowa Nice" is more than a slogan. Known for our hospitality, the neighborly people and welcoming culture of the Des Moines area are deeply rooted in our Midwest values. Des Moines is a great place to raise a family, build a career, or grow your business.

## Summary

The I-80 / I-35 corridor offers many economic benefits and competitive advantages, making it an ideal distribution hub. The strategic location, skilled workforce, and business-friendly environment help businesses thrive. JT Logistics is the leading DC provider in this emerging corridor. Discover how our solutions team can help your business capitalize on these advantages. We will show you why Des Moines is the new crossroads of America and the right place for your next distribution center. ●