

Indiana:

Trailer Summary:

Dimensions: Dimensions shall not exceed: a trailer length of 57 feet; the maximum distance between the kingpin and the rearmost axle of the semitrailer operating in the combination is 46 feet a height of 13 feet 6 inches; a width of 102 inches.

Brakes: A trailer or semitrailer that weighs at least 3,000 lbs. must be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and to hold the towing vehicle and trailer or semitrailer.

These brakes must be designed so that the driver of the towing vehicle can apply the brakes from the towing vehicle itself and adequately stop both the towing vehicle and the trailer or semitrailer

Lighting/Reflectors: Trailers weighing more than 3,000 pounds need 2 clearance lamps in the front, one at each side. On each side, two (2) side marker lamps, one (1) at or near the front and one (1) at or near the rear. On each side, two (2) reflectors, one (1) at or near the front and one (1) at or near the rear. On the rear, two (2) clearance lamps, one (1) at each side. On the rear, two (2) reflectors, one (1) at each side. On the rear, one (1) stoplight.

Hitch/Signals: Each trailer and semitrailer hauled by a motor propelled vehicle must be attached to the vehicle and to each other with the forms of coupling devices that will prevent the trailer or semitrailer from being deflected more than 6 inches from the path of the towing vehicle or to each other, by suitable safety chains or devices, 1 on each side of the coupling and at the extreme outer edge of the vehicle.

Mirrors: A motor vehicle that is constructed or loaded in a manner that obstructs the Driver's rear view must be equipped with a mirror located in place where it is able to reflect the Driver's view of the highway for a distance of at least 200 feet.

Speed Limits: As posted.

Towing: The draw bar or other connection between any two (2) vehicles, one (1) of which is towing or drawing the other upon a highway, may not exceed fifteen (15) feet in length from one (1) vehicle to the other.

Other: N/A

Indiana Code > Title 9 – Motor Vehicles

Definitions: IC 9-13-2-109.3 "Motorsports"

Sec. 109.3. "Motorsports" means the group of sports that are sanctioned by one (1) or more member clubs of the Automobile Competition Committee for the United States. As added by P.L.12-2013, SEC.1.

IC 9-13-2-184 "Trailer"

Sec. 184. (a) "Trailer" means, except as otherwise provided in this section, a vehicle: (1) without motive power; (2) designed for carrying persons or property; (3) designed for being drawn by a

motor vehicle; and (4) so constructed that no part of the weight of the trailer rests upon the towing vehicle. The term includes pole trailers and two (2) wheeled homemade trailers. (b) "Trailer", for purposes of IC 9-21, means a vehicle: (1) with or without motive power; (2) designed for carrying persons or property; Indiana Code 2015 (3) designed for being drawn by a motor vehicle; and (4) so constructed that no part of the weight of the trailer rests upon the towing vehicle. The term does not include pole trailers or special machinery. (c) "Trailer", for purposes of IC 9-21-8-12 through IC 9-21-8-13, means the combination of any motor vehicle towing another vehicle or trailer.

IC 9-20-9-1 "Drive away or tow away" defined; combinations of two vehicles; length limitations; exemptions

Sec. 1. (a) As used in this section, "drive away or tow away" means the delivery service performed by a transport operator by which motor vehicles in transit are delivered by driving singly or in combination by the towbar, saddlemount, or fullmount methods or any lawful combination of those methods, including coupling equipment or where a truck or tractor draws or tows a semitrailer or trailer in transit.

(b) A combination of two (2) vehicles coupled together, including load, may not exceed a total length of sixty (60) feet, except for the following:

(1) A combination of two (2) vehicles coupled together that are especially constructed to transport other vehicles or boats. This exception includes any combination of a truck, tractor, semitrailer, and trailer if the combination is used exclusively or primarily in connection with motorsports.

(2) A combination of two (2) vehicles coupled together being transported in a drive away or tow away service.

(3) A pole trailer owned by or operated for a public utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1), while the pole trailer is being used in connection with the utility services of the public utility.

(4) Trailers used in transporting oil field equipment or pipe for the transmission of oil or gas. As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.12-2013, SEC.2

IC 9-20-13-2 Maximum length limitation; truck-tractor, semitrailer, truck-tractor-semi-trailer, or truck-tractor-semi-trailer-trailer combinations

Sec. 2. (a) Notwithstanding IC 9-20-3 and IC 9-20-9, and except for length exclusive devices in accordance with 23 CFR 658.13, the following are the maximum limitations on length of a truck-tractor, semitrailer, truck-tractor-semi-trailer combination, or truck-tractor-semi-trailer-trailer combination:

(1) The maximum length of the semitrailer unit operating in a truck-tractor-semi-trailer combination is fifty-three (53) feet, including the vehicle and the load.

(2) The maximum length of the semitrailer unit or trailer operating in a truck-tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination is twenty-eight (28) feet, six (6) inches.

(3) A maximum overall length limit is not imposed on a truck-tractor-semitrailer or truck-tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination.

(4) The maximum length of a maxi-cube vehicle combination is sixty-five (65) feet, and the maximum length of the separable cargo carrying unit is thirty-four (34) feet.

(5) If the combination is used exclusively or primarily in connection with motorsports:

(A) the maximum distance between the kingpin and the rearmost axle of the semitrailer operating in the combination is forty-six (46) feet; and

(B) the maximum length of the semitrailer is fifty-seven (57) feet.

(b) This section does not prohibit the transportation of a motor vehicle or boat on part of a truck-tractor. As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.216-2001, SEC.2; P.L.12-2013, SEC.3.

IC 9-20-13-4 Semitrailers in excess of 48 feet, 6 inches; restrictions on operation

Sec. 4. Notwithstanding section 2 of this chapter, a semitrailer longer than forty-eight (48) feet, six (6) inches, may be operated on a highway designated as part of the state highway system under IC 8-23-4 only if the distance between the kingpin and the rearmost axle of the semitrailer is not more than:

(1) forty-six (46) feet, if the semitrailer is used exclusively or primarily in connection with motorsports; or

(2) for all other semitrailers, forty-three (43) feet. As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.157-2001, SEC.6; P.L.12-2013, SEC.4.

Sec. 14-81. Brake equipment of trailers.

(a) Each trailer or semitrailer having a gross vehicle weight rating of three thousand pounds or more shall, when operated on any public highway, be equipped with a braking system operating on all wheels. The braking system shall be adequate to safely control the movement of the trailer or semitrailer and, when set, to safely hold the trailer or semitrailer stationary. The brakes shall, at all times, be maintained in good and sufficient working order and shall be capable of being controlled or operated from the driver's seat of the towing vehicle by either the hand or the foot, except that brakes on trailers having a gross vehicle weight rating of eight thousand pounds or less need not be capable of being controlled or operated from the driver's seat by either the hand or the foot. Except with respect to pole trailers and boat trailers, the commissioner may make regulations concerning the performance of such brakes when the trailer or semitrailer is operated in combination with a towing vehicle. The regulations shall designate the stopping distance, in feet, of the combination of trailer or semitrailer and shall

include such other conditions as may be necessary to ensure brake performance adequate to safely control the movement of the vehicles.

(b) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be deemed to have committed an infraction and be fined fifty dollars for each offense.

9-20-9-8. Draw bar or other coupler; length limitations; safety devices; compliance requirements.

(a) This section does not apply to farm wagons. However, a farm wagon (as defined in IC 9-13-2-60(a)(2)) that is operated on a highway may not be used to tow another vehicle.

(b) The draw bar or other connection between any two (2) vehicles, one (1) of which is towing or drawing the other upon a highway, may not exceed fifteen (15) feet in length from one (1) vehicle to the other.

(c) Each trailer and semitrailer hauled by a motor propelled vehicle must be attached to the vehicle and to each other with the forms of coupling devices that will prevent the trailer or semitrailer from being deflected more than six (6) inches from the path of the towing vehicle or to each other, by suitable safety chains or devices, one (1) on each side of the coupling and at the extreme outer edge of the vehicle. Each chain or device and connection used must be of sufficient strength to haul the trailer when loaded.

(d) A vehicle, including a combination of vehicles engaged in interstate commerce, and any safety equipment on the vehicle, including safety chains, cables, or other devices, that is otherwise in compliance with:

(1) the United States Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration motor carrier safety regulations;

(2) the motor vehicle safety standards of the National Highway Safety Bureau of the United States Department of Transportation; or

(3) the successor of either or both of those agencies;

is considered to be in compliance with this section.

9-19-6-8. Clearance and marker lamps and reflectors; color displayed or reflected

(a) A front clearance lamp, marker lamp, and reflector mounted on the front or on the side near the front of a vehicle must display or reflect an amber color.

(b) A rear clearance lamp, marker lamp, and reflector mounted on the rear or on the sides near the rear of a vehicle must display or reflect a red color.

(c) A reflector mounted on the rear of a vehicle must display or reflect a red color.

9-19-12-1 Safety requirements

Sec. 1. A motor vehicle that is constructed or loaded so as to obstruct the driver's view to the rear from the driver's position must be equipped with a mirror located so as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least two hundred (200) feet to the rear of the vehicle.

9-20-3-3 Maximum height limitations

Sec. 3. (a) A vehicle may not exceed a total maximum height of thirteen (13) feet, six (6) inches.

(b) The height limitations in subsection (a) do not require a clearance of that height and do not relieve the owners of vehicles not exceeding the limitations from liability for damage.

9-19-6-4 Tail lamps

Sec. 4. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section:

- (1) a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer; and
- (2) any other vehicle that is drawn at the end of a train of vehicles;

must be equipped with at least one (1) tail lamp mounted on the rear that when lighted as required in this chapter, emits a red light plainly visible from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the rear.

(b) Only the tail lamp on the rear-most vehicle of a train of vehicles is required to be seen from the distance specified.

(c) Excluding a truck-tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination equipped with a B-train assembly (as defined in IC 9-13-2-13) governed by section 7 of this chapter, truck-tractor, motorcycle, or motor driven cycle:

- (1) a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer; and
- (2) any other vehicle drawn at the end of a train of vehicles;

that is registered in Indiana and manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1956, must be equipped with at least two (2) tail lamps mounted on the rear that, when lighted, complies with this section.

(d) A tail lamp upon a vehicle shall be located at a height of not less than twenty (20) inches and not more than seventy-two (72) inches.

(e) Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp must be placed and constructed so as to illuminate the rear registration plate with a white light and make the plate clearly legible from a distance of fifty (50) feet to the rear. A tail lamp or tail lamps, together with a separate lamp for illuminating the rear registration plate, must be wired so as to be lighted whenever the head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.

9-19-6-7 Buses, trucks, truck-tractors, trailers and semitrailers

Sec. 7. In addition to other equipment required in this chapter, the following vehicles must be equipped as follows, under the conditions stated in IC 9-21-7-2(b):

- (1) On a bus or truck the following:
 - (A) On the rear, two (2) reflectors, one (1) at each side.
 - (B) On the rear, one (1) stoplight.
- (2) On a bus or truck that is at least eighty (80) inches in overall width, in addition to the requirements in subdivision (1), the following:
 - (A) On the front, two (2) clearance lamps, one (1) at each side.
 - (B) On the rear, two (2) clearance lamps, one (1) at each side.
 - (C) On each side, two (2) side marker lamps, one (1) at or near the front end and one (1) at or near the rear.
 - (D) On each side, two (2) reflectors, one (1) at or near the front and one (1) at or near the rear.
- (3) On a truck-tractor, the following:
 - (A) On the front, two (2) clearance lamps, one (1) at each side.
 - (B) On the rear, one (1) stoplight.
- (4) On a trailer or semitrailer having a gross weight greater than three thousand (3,000) pounds, the following:
 - (A) On the front, two (2) clearance lamps, one (1) at each side.
 - (B) On each side, two (2) side marker lamps, one (1) at or near the front and one (1) at or near the rear.
 - (C) On each side, two (2) reflectors, one (1) at or near the front and one (1) at or near the rear.
 - (D) On the rear, two (2) clearance lamps, one (1) at each side.
 - (E) On the rear, two (2) reflectors, one (1) at each side.
 - (F) On the rear, one (1) stoplight.
- (5) On a pole trailer greater than three thousand (3,000) pounds gross weight, the following:
 - (A) On each side, one (1) side marker lamp and one (1) clearance lamp, which may be in combination, to show to the front, side, and rear.
 - (B) On the rear of the pole trailer or load, two (2) reflectors, one (1) at each side.
- (6) On a trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer weighing not more than three thousand (3,000) pounds gross weight, the following:
 - (A) On the rear, two (2) reflectors, one (1) on each side.
 - (B) If a trailer or semitrailer is loaded or is of the dimensions that obscure the stoplight on the towing vehicle, one (1) stoplight.
- (7) On a truck-tractor semitrailer-semi-trailer combination equipped with a B-train assembly (as defined in IC 9-13-2-13), the assembly must have at least the following:
 - (A) On the rear, two (2) reflectors.
 - (B) On the rear, one (1) operable tail lamp.
 - (C) On the rear, one (1) operable brake lamp.