Mapping the Crossroads:
Indiana Automobile History

Indiana has more interstate highways than any state comparable in size, sometimes called “the Crossroads of America.”
In its history, more than fifty communities in Indiana produced over 200 makes of cars.

**Evansville:**
Graham Brothers built a truck factory here in 1919, later merging with Dodge and then Chrysler.

**South Bend:**
The Auburn Automobile Company produced cars from 1900 through 1936, including the first car with front-wheel drive and hidden headlamps; home of the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum today.

**Fort Wayne:**
The first gasoline pump that could accurately dispense gas was invented by Sylvanus Bowser in 1885, later adding a hose for automobiles.

**Auburn:**
The Auburn Automobile Company produced cars from 1900 through 1936, including the first car with front-wheel drive and hidden headlamps; home of the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum today.

**Lafayette:**
Subaru of Indiana Automotive began manufacturing cars here in 1989.

**Terre Haute:**
Home of Tony Hulman (1901), who revolutionized the use of billboards for advertising to drivers. Hulman bought the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, improving and restoring the race in 1946.

**Union City:**
Made the Union automobile and the Le Grande custom bodies.

**Greenwood:**

**Muncie:**
Home of the Inter-State Automobile Company in 1909. Warner Gear (1901) and later Borg-Warner (1928) manufactured transmissions through 2009.

**Richmond:**
In 1919 Westcott Motor Car Company introduced bumpers as standard equipment.

**Connersville:**
Eight makes of cars were manufactured here, including the luxury McFarlan.

**Elkhart:**
Two dozen makes of cars were manufactured here, including the popular Elcar.

**Fore Wayne:**
The first gasoline pump that could accurately dispense gas was invented by Sylvanus Bowser in 1885, later adding a hose for automobiles.

**Indianapolis:**
Dozens of makes of cars were manufactured here from 1900 through the 1930's. The Cole Motor Car Company produced the first automobile for a U.S. President, William Taft in 1910.

**Columbus:**
Short-lived Reeves automobiles were produced here from 1908-1912. Cummins Engine Company was founded in 1919.

**New Castle:**
Maxwell-Briscoe built the world’s largest automobile factory in 1907, later a Chrysler plant.

**Evansville:**
Graham Brothers built a truck factory here in 1919, later merging with Dodge and then Chrysler.

**Princeton:**
Toyota Motor Manufacturing was built here in 1996 to produce trucks, vans, and utility vehicles.

**Greensburg:**

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