

ABSTRACT

This thesis explores the spacial distribution of retail chains within Prague; concentrating on 1) spatial patterns and retail distribution 2) transport accessibility within the vicinity of the store and 3) their proximity to food units. I have discussed the conditions that have shaped the changing face of retail to what it is today. Spatial configuration strategies were used to analyse the distribution of the retail environment. Following this, analysis was conducted at the levels of group, category and individual chains. The results showed retail in Prague was concentrated. However, significant differences were observed within categories and chains. Although food unit coverage is good throughout the city, pockets of areas exist that are not served by a particular store within a preferential distance.

Keywords: location strategies, spatial patterns, retail, average nearest neighbor, availability of food outlets