



# Southern Illinois Regional Assessment Project

## Edwards County Fact Sheet

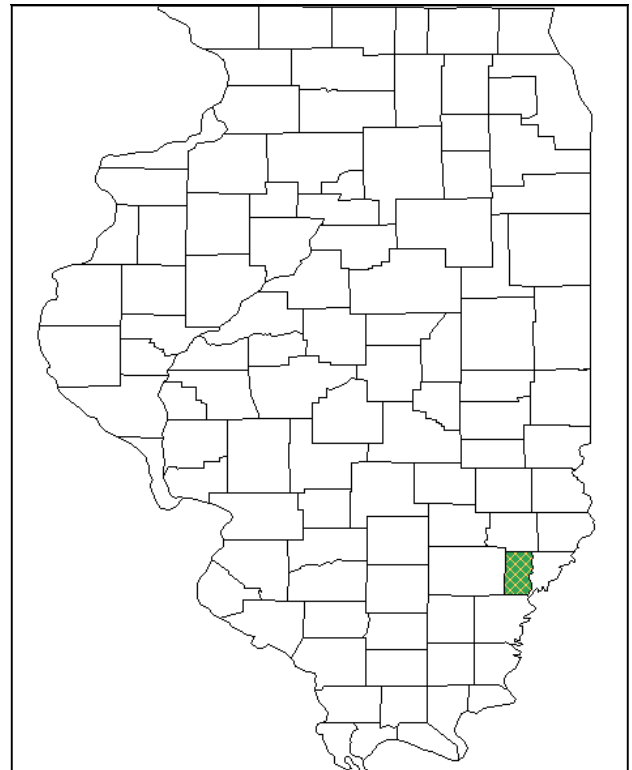
**Dr. Courtney Flint and Dr. Stephen Gasteyer, Principle Investigators**  
**Joanna Ganning, Hua Qin and Michelle Downs, Graduate Assistants**

### **Edwards County:**

Named for Ninian Edwards, Illinois' third governor, Edwards County was formed in 1815. When formed, it comprised almost half the state. In 1824, it took on its present form. Today, the county is one of the smallest counties in the state.

County Seat: Albion

2005 Population Estimate: 6,784



# Economic Indicators

## Income and Poverty

**2004 Per Capita Personal Income<sup>1</sup>:** \$26,395  
(Region: \$23,753)

**1999 Median Household Income<sup>2</sup>:** \$31,816  
(Region, calculated: \$30,845)

**1999 Median Household Income where householder is black or African American alone<sup>2</sup>:** \$16,250 (Region, calculated: \$18,340)

**2000 Poverty Level<sup>2</sup>:** 9.8% (Region: 15.8%)

**2000 Poverty Level Among Blacks or African Americans alone<sup>2</sup>:** 0.0%  
(Region: 39.3%)

**Households with Public Assistance Income in 2000 (percentage)<sup>2</sup>:** 82 (2.8%)  
(Region: 3.5%)

**Unemployment Rate in 2005<sup>3</sup>:** 4.6%

Sources: 1: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; 2: U.S. Census Bureau; 3: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Commuting in 2000

### *Top 3 Counties from which Workers In-Commute*

1	Wabash, IL	480
2	Wayne, IL	395
3	White, IL	291

### *Top 3 Counties to which Workers Out-Commute*

1	Richland, IL	247
2	White, IL	176
3	Wabash, IL	173

Source: U.S. Census 2000, Journey to Work

Total number in-commuting: 1,514

Total number out-commuting: 1,152

Net commuting: 362

Total county workforce: 3,296

Net commuting as % of county workforce: 11.0%

## Top Industries for Employment

Rank	NAICS Code	Industry Name	Employment
1	336399	All other Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing	1,825
2	42	Wholesale Trade	141
3	722	Food Services and Drinking Places	120
	722211	Limited-Service Restaurants	113
4	62	Health Care and Social Assistance	97
	623110	Nursing Care Facilities	42
5	81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	71
	813110	Religious Organizations	34

# Agricultural Indicators

Crop	Acreage	Percent
	1999-2000	1999-2000
Corn	44,296	38.7%
Soy	43,160	37.7%
Winter wheat	943	0.8%
Other small grains/ Hay	2,340	2.0%
Winter wheat/ Soybeans	11,823	10.3%
Other Agriculture	101	0.1%
Rural grassland	11,907	10.4%
Total	114,570	100.0%

**2002 Market value of agricultural crop products sold (in \$1,000):**

15,099 (Region average: 18,669)

**2002 Market value of livestock and poultry products sold (in \$1,000):**

6,907 (Region average: 5,768)

**2002 Market value of total agricultural products sold (in \$1000):**

22,006 (Region average: 23,361)

**2002 Market value of agricultural products sold average per farm (in dollars):**

58,064 (Region average: 50,680)

Source: USDA, 2002 Census of Agriculture

Source: USDA, IDA and IDNR, 2002 Illinois Interagency Landscape Classification Project

Livestock	Number of Farms with Animals			Number of Animals		
	1997	2002	% Change	1997	2002	% Change
Cattle	146	116	-21	6,175	7,655	+24
Hogs	59	33	-44	37,193	18,708	-50
Sheep	9	10	+11	510	675	+32

Source: USDA, 1997 and 2002 Census of Agriculture

Soil Type	Acreage	Percent
Prime farmland soils (not eroded)	96,278	68.0%
Prime farmland soils (eroded)	22,334	15.8%
Non-prime farmland soils (all erosion classes)	23,031	16.3%
Total	141,643	100.0%

Source: National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Web Soil Survey, and Edwards Soil Survey Report (1972)

Note: Prime farmlands soils include those soil types with 0-10% slope; non-prime farmland soils are all other soil types with slope greater than 10%.

Irrigation	1997	2002
Acres Land in Irrigated Farms	84	D
Total Acres Farmland	113,421	123,026
% Farmland Irrigated	0.1%	—

Source: USDA, 1997 and 2002 Census of Agriculture

Note: "D" indicates this information was not disclosed.

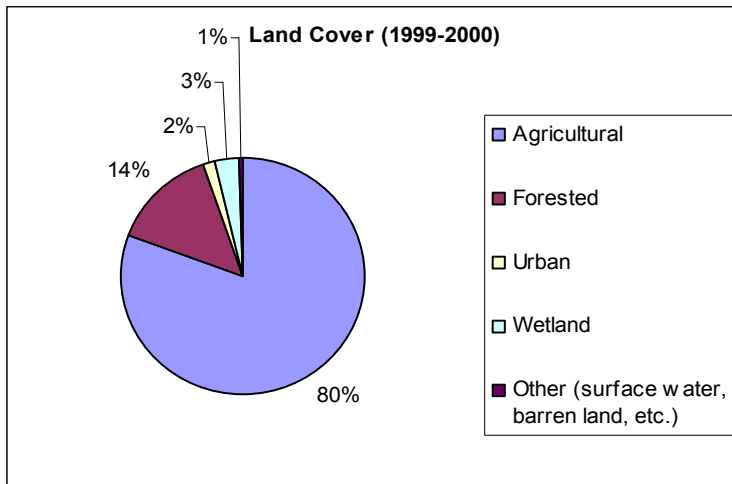
# Environmental Indicators

## Land

Land Cover (1999-2000)	Acres	Percent (County)	Percent (Region)	Percent (State)
Agricultural	114,570	80.4%	64.6%	76.3%
Forested	20,265	14.2%	21.0%	11.5%
Urban	2,269	1.6%	3.0%	6.4%
Wetland	4,590	3.2%	8.5%	3.9%
Other	746	0.5%	2.8%	1.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>142,440</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Note: "Other" includes surface water, barren land, etc.

Source: USDA, IDA and IDNR, 2002 Illinois Interagency Landscape Classification Project



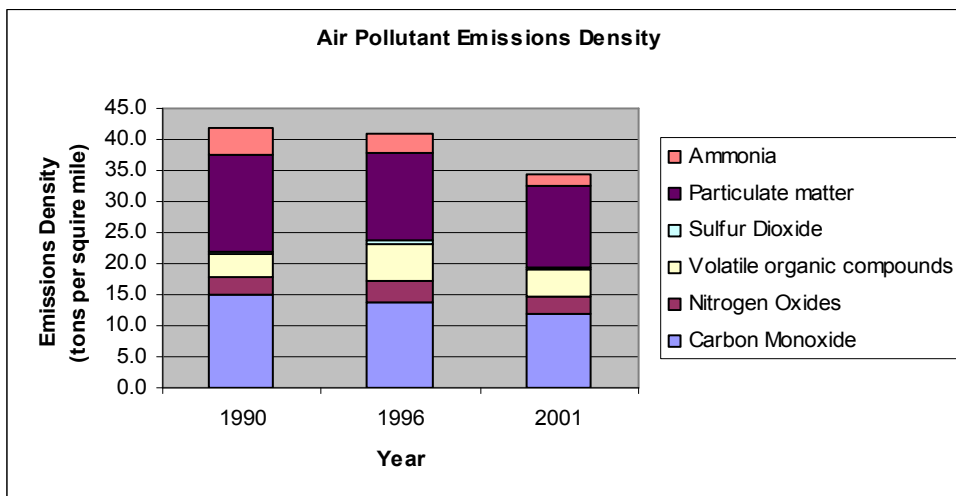
Timberland Ownership Classes	Acres	Percent
National Forest	—	—
Other Public	—	—
Corporate	—	—
Private	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,500</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Note: "Other Public" includes other federal, state, county and municipal; the total figure is for Edwards and Wabash together.

Source: Schmidt, T. L., M. H. Hansen, and J. A. Solomakos. 2000. Illinois' forests in 1998 (Resource Bulletin NC-198). St. Paul, MN: USDA Forest Service North Central Research Station.

## Air

Total Air Pollutant Emissions Density (tons per square mile)	1990	1996	2001	2001 Region Avg.
	41.9	41.0	34.3	59.6



Note: EPA collects emissions data for three criteria air pollutants: Carbon monoxide (CO), Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>), and three precursors/promoters of criteria air pollutants: Volatile organic compounds (VOC), Nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>).

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Emission Inventory NEI database and Air Quality System (AQS) database

## Water

Number of public water systems: 6  
Number of water health based violation (since 1993): 4  
Number of impaired or threatened water bodies: 36  
Percentage of surface water areas with impaired or threatened uses: 8%

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Envirofacts Databases; Scorecard-the Pollution Information Site <http://www.scorecard.org>

Note: Scorecard's county-level data on impaired waterbodies are derived from two U.S. EPA sources: the 1998 TMDL Tracking System and the 1998 National Water Quality Inventory.

<b>Estimated Use of Water</b> (in million gallons per day)	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>
	1.39	1.67	0.50

Source: National Water-Use Information Program, U.S. Geological Survey

## Toxics and Wastes

	<b>Number</b>
Facilities producing air emissions	28
Companies with wastewater discharging permits	14
Facilities having toxic chemical releases	1
Potential waste sites in Superfund	0
Hazardous waste generating facilities	18
Radiation regulated facilities	0

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Envirofacts Databases

## Outdoor Recreation Areas

None listed on the state map.

Sources: Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Highway Map 2005-2006; USDA Forest Service, Shawnee National Forest Map

# Demographic Indicators

	1990	2000	2005
Population Density (population per square mile land area)	33.5	31.4	30.5
Population	7,440	6,971	6,784
Dependency Ratio	68.8	59.8	—
Inmate Population	0	0	—

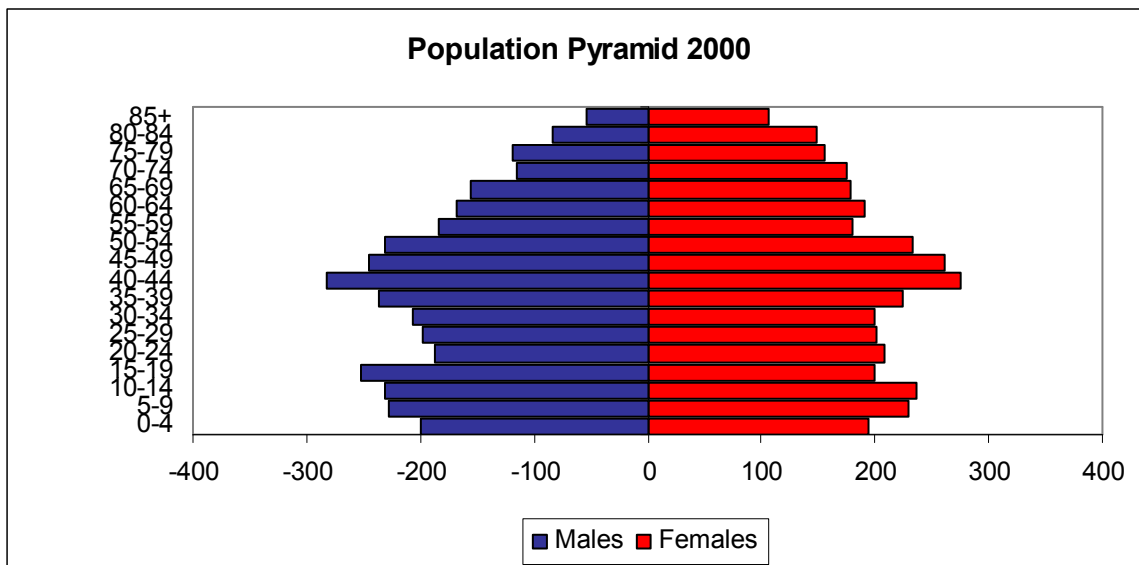
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Dependency ratio is the ratio of the population under age 15 and over age 64 to the working age population (ages 15-64). Higher values imply a greater dependent population.

Selected Vital Statistics	County	Region Avg.	State
Average Crude Birth Rate (1990-2004)	10.8	11.2	14.9
Average Crude Death Rate (1990-2004)	12.6	12.5	8.6
Average Percent of Birth of Low Birth Weight to Total Birth (1995-2001)	6.6%	7.7%	8.0%
Percent of People with Disability in the 16 to 64 Age Group (2000)	17.6%	20.3%	16.6%

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Birth Statistics

Note: Crude birth/death rate is the number of births/deaths per 1000 population.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Ancestry

Ancestry	Number	Percent
English	1,648	28.1%
German	1,359	23.2%
US/American	1,265	21.6%
Irish	533	9.1%
Other groups	409	7.0%
French (except Basque)	122	2.1%
Dutch	112	1.9%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
White alone	6,892	98.9%
Black or African American alone	10	0.1%
Hispanic or Latino		
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	6	0.1%
Asian alone	28	0.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	3	0.0%
Some other race alone	6	0.1%
Two or more races	26	0.4%
Total Population	6,971	100%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000

Note: The Hispanic / Latino figures may be included in other race categories.

## 2002-2003 County-to-County

	In-migrants	Out-migrants	Net migrants
Total migration: US and Foreign	317	301	16
Median adjusted gross income of migrants	\$21,295	\$18,471	—
Total US migration	317	301	16
Total migration to/from the same state	240	217	23
Total migration to/from a different state	77	84	-7
Non-migrants	6,010	6,010	—
#1 County migrants move from/to	Wayne, IL (57)	Wabash, IL (51)	—
#2 County migrants move from/to	Wabash, IL (52)	White, IL (47)	—
#3 County migrants move from/to	Richland, IL (23)	Wayne, IL (30)	—

Source: 2003 IRS Migration Files

Note: This table shows that between 2002 and 2003, Edwards County had very little net migration. In-migrants had higher incomes than out-migrants. The bulk of migration was within Illinois. Edwards County trades residents heavily with Wayne, Wabash, and White Counties. White County tied Richland for the #3 county from which migrants move to Edwards.

# Social Indicators

## Education

	Number	% Change 2004-2005
2005-2006 K-12 Enrollment	932	-2.5%
2005-2006 Total Housed Student Enrollment	974	-1.8%
Projected 2007-2008 Enrollment (K-12)	892	-6.7%
Projected 2012-2013 Enrollment (K-12)	803	-16.0%

Race/Ethnicity (2005-2006)	Number	Percent
White	943	96.8%
Black	8	0.8%
American Indian	0	0.0%
Asian	6	0.6%
Hispanic	8	0.8%
Multi-racial	9	0.9%
Total	974	100.0%

Selected School Report Statistics	County	Region Avg.	State
Average Low-income-family Student Rate in 2005	31.1	45.5	40.0
Average High School Dropout Rate in 2005	2.0	3.2	4.0
Average High School Graduation Rate in 2005	93.2	90.7	87.4

Source: Illinois State Board of Education, Data Analysis & Process Reporting

Note: Total housed student enrollment includes pre-K through post secondary students. All rates in school report statistics are numbers per 100 students.

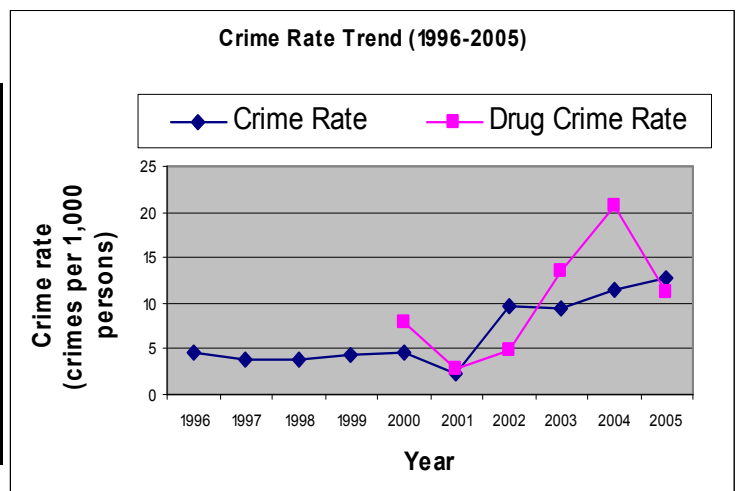
Educational Attainment (Percent, Population 25 years and over)	1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
High School Graduate or Higher	3,497	69.7%	3,963	82.3%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	420	8.4%	472	9.8%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000.

## Crime

	Number in 2005
Total Crimes	87
Crime Rate (crimes per 1,000 persons)	13
Drug Arrests	76
Drug Crime Arrest Rate (arrests per 1,000 persons)	11

Source: Illinois State Police, Crime in Illinois, 2006



Note: The Illinois State Police calculated crime rate as the number of crimes per 100,000 persons. We adjusted the rate to the number of crimes per 1000 persons here due to relatively small populations of most southern Illinois counties.

## Health Care Coverage

Percent of persons having some kind of health care coverage (including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans such as Medicare)	2003	2003 Region Avg.	2004 State
	86.2%	83.0%	84.8%

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

## Housing

	Percent	Region
Mobile homes that are rented	20.5%	24.6%
Owner-occupied units with housing problems	15.2%	18.7%
Renter-occupied units with housing problems	22.0%	35.6%
Homeownership	81.2%	73.6%
Homeownership among blacks/African Americans*	0%	41.4%
Vacant housing units for seasonal or recreational use	2.3% (75)	2.0%

Source: US Census 2000 and HUD (2000)

Note: Housing problems, according to HUD, include incomplete plumbing, incomplete kitchen facilities, over-crowding or non-affordability.

\* There are 2 households in Edwards County in which the householder is black or African American alone.

<p>Housing Permits in 2005: Not Reported  Houses Sold in the First Quarter of 2006: Not Reported  Median House Sale Price in the First Quarter of 2006: Not Reported</p>
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Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development; IL Association of Realtors

For more information, contact the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, W-503 Turner Hall, 1201 S. Goodwin, Urbana, IL 61801, 217-333-2770, [cflint@uiuc.edu](mailto:cflint@uiuc.edu) or [gasteyer@uiuc.edu](mailto:gasteyer@uiuc.edu).