



Southern Illinois Regional Assessment Project

Wabash County Fact Sheet

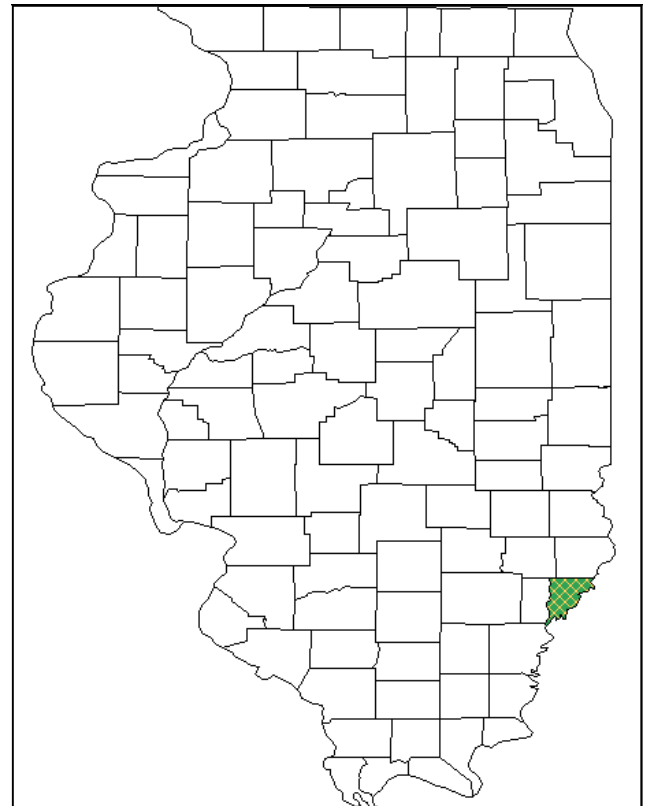
Dr. Courtney Flint and Dr. Stephen Gasteyer, Principle Investigators
Joanna Ganning, Hua Qin and Michelle Downs, Graduate Assistants

Wabash County:

Wabash County was formed in 1824 from Edwards County after an armed confrontation between the militias of Albion and Mt. Carmel. It is named for the Wabash River, which forms its border on the east.

County Seat: Mt. Carmel

2005 Population Estimate: 12,570



Economic Indicators

Income and Poverty

2004 Per Capita Personal Income¹: \$25,390
(Region: \$23,753)

1999 Median Household Income²: \$34,473
(Region, calculated: \$30,845)

1999 Median Household Income where householder is black or African American alone²: \$28,750 (Region, calculated: \$18,340)

2000 Poverty Level²: 14.1% (Region: 15.8%)

2000 Poverty Level Among Blacks or African Americans alone²: 32.4%
(Region: 39.3%)

Households with Public Assistance Income in 2000 (percentage)²: 159 (3.1%)
(Region: 3.5%)

Unemployment Rate in 2005³: 5.7%

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	Gibson, IN	315
2	Edwards, IL	173
3	Lawrence, IL	143

Top 3 Counties to which Workers Out-Commute

1	Gibson, IN	639
2	Edwards, IL	480
3	Vanderburgh, IN	413

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

Total number in-commuting: 1,077
Total number out-commuting: 2,349
Net commuting: -1,272
Total county workforce: 6,152
Net commuting as % of county workforce: -20.7%

Top Industries for Employment

Rank	NAICS Code	Industry Name	Employment
1	62	Health Care and Social Assistance	726
	623	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	237
	621	Ambulatory Health Care Services	185
2	21	Mining	397
	212112	Bituminous Coal Underground Mining	190
3	332	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	335
	332212	Hand and Edge Tool Manufacturing	317
4	72	Accommodation and Food Services	268
	722	Food Services and Drinking Places	266
5	81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	245

Note: NAICS is the North American Industry Classification System. Source: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns

Agricultural Indicators

Crop	Acreage	Percent
	1999-2000	1999-2000
Corn	54,619	46.3%
Soy	45,305	38.4%
Winter wheat	420	0.4%
Other small grains/ Hay	760	0.6%
Winter wheat/ Soybeans	11,539	9.8%
Other Agriculture	104	0.1%
Rural grassland	5,268	4.5%
Total	118,015	100.0%

2002 Market value of agricultural crop products sold (in \$1,000):
19,762 (Region average: 18669)

2002 Market value of livestock and poultry products sold (in \$1,000):
2,763 (Region average: 5768)

2002 Market value of total agricultural products sold (in \$1000):
22,525 (Region average: 23361)

2002 Market value of agricultural products sold average per farm (in dollars):
113,189 (Region average: 50680)

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	74	46	-38	3,300	3,237	-2
Hogs	21	7	-67	22,230	2,636	-88
Horses	21	13	-38	76	70	-8

Source: USDA, 1997 and 2002 Census of Agriculture

Soil Type	Acreage	Percent
Prime farmland soils (not eroded)	110,041	78.2%
Prime farmland soils (eroded)	16,218	11.5%
Non-prime farmland soils (all erosion classes)	14,510	10.3%
Total	140,769	100.0%

Irrigation	1997	2002
Acres Land in Irrigated Farms	7,450	D
Total Acres Farmland	122,957	110,560
% Farmland Irrigated	6.1%	—

Source: USDA, 1997 and 2002 Census of Agriculture

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

Source: National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Web Soil Survey, and Wabash Soil Survey Report (1964)

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%.

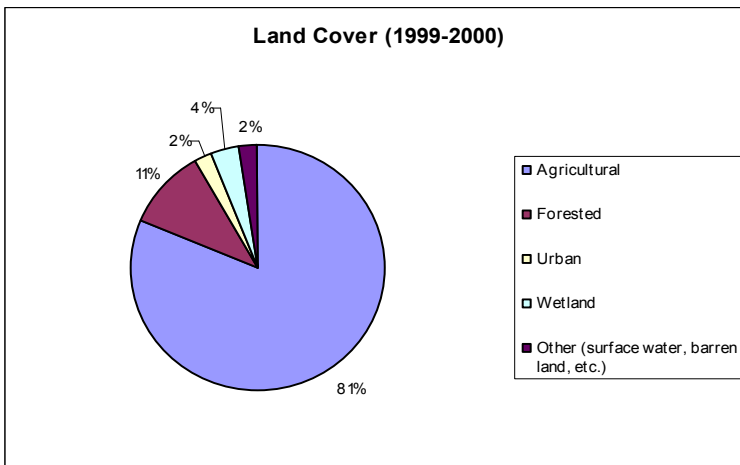
Environmental Indicators

Land

Land Cover (1999-2000)	Acreages	Percent (County)	Percent (Region)	Percent (State)
Agricultural	118,015	81.1%	64.6%	76.3%
Forested	15,834	10.9%	21.0%	11.5%
Urban	3,023	2.1%	3.0%	6.4%
Wetland	5,398	3.7%	8.5%	3.9%
Other	3,236	2.2%	2.8%	1.8%
Total	145,506	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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

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



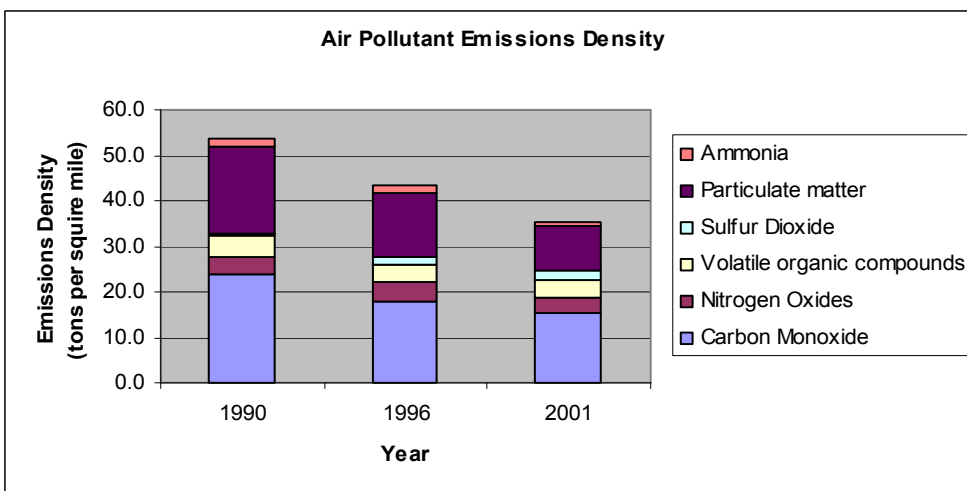
Timberland Ownership Classes	Acreages	Percent
National Forest	—	—
Other Public	—	—
Corporate	—	—
Private	—	—
Total	35,500	100.0%

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.
	53.5	43.6	35.4	59.6



Note: EPA collects emissions data for three criteria air pollutants: Carbon monoxide (CO), Sulfur dioxide (SO₂), Particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}), and three precursors/promoters of criteria air pollutants: Volatile organic compounds (VOC), Nitrogen oxides (NO_x), Ammonia (NH₃).

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

Water

Number of public water systems: 12
Number of water health based violation (since 1993): 3
Number of impaired or threatened water bodies: 5
Percentage of surface water areas with impaired or threatened uses: 18%

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.

Estimated Use of Water (in million gallons per day)	1990	1995	2000
	3.82	7.83	2.16

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

Toxics and Wastes

	Number
Facilities producing air emissions	29
Companies with wastewater discharging permits	27
Facilities having toxic chemical releases	2
Potential waste sites in Superfund	0
Hazardous waste generating facilities	32
Radiation regulated facilities	0

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

Outdoor Recreation Areas

Beall Woods State Natural Area
Wabash River

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)	58.7	57.9	56.2
Population	13,111	12,937	12,570
Dependency Ratio	61.2	57.4	—
Inmate Population	0	0	—

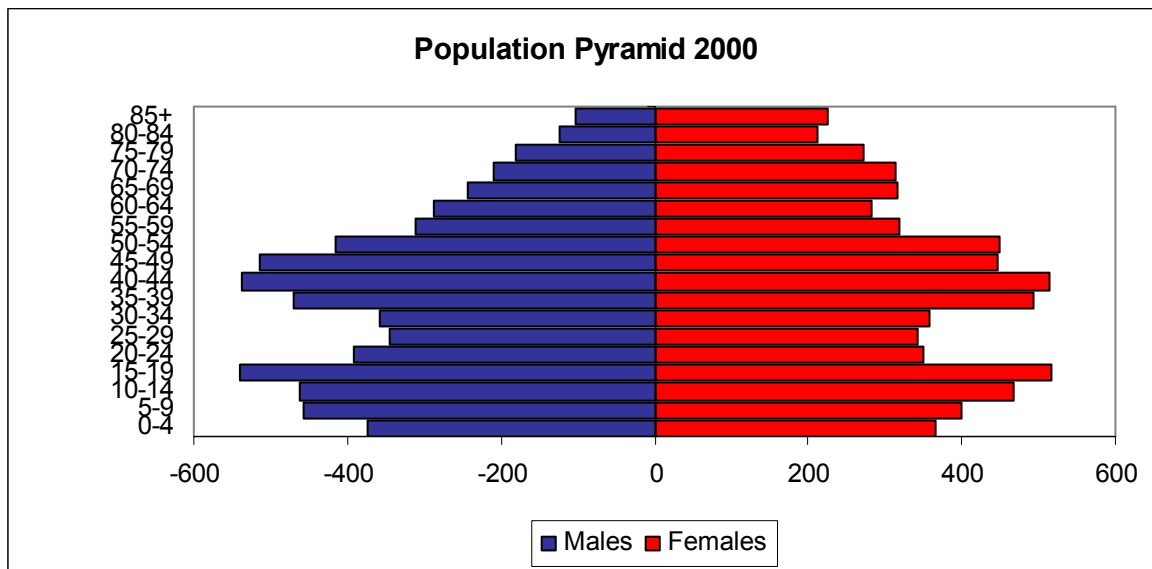
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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)	10.9	11.2	14.9
Average Crude Death Rate (1990-2004)	10.7	12.5	8.6
Average Percent of Birth of Low Birth Weight to Total Birth (1995-2001)	8.2%	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
German	3,504	31.4%
US/American	1,919	17.2%
Irish	1,393	12.5%
English	1,358	12.2%
Other groups	1,158	10.4%
French (except Basque)	428	3.8%
Dutch	266	2.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000

Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
White alone	12,660	97.9%
Black or African American alone	51	0.4%
Hispanic or Latino		
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	22	0.2%
Asian alone	58	0.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	6	0.0%
Some other race alone	33	0.3%
Two or more races	107	0.8%
Total Population	12,937	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	406	415	-9
Median adjusted gross income of migrants	\$19,317	\$17,343	—
Total US migration	406	415	-9
Total migration to/from the same state	195	205	-10
Total migration to/from a different state	211	210	1
Non-migrants	10,085	10,085	—
#1 County migrants move from/to	Edwards, IL (51)	Gibson, IN (66)	—
#2 County migrants move from/to	Lawrence, IL (43)	Edwards, IL (52)	—
#3 County migrants move from/to	Gibson, IN (35)	Vanderburgh, IN (31)	—

Source: 2003 IRS Migration Files

Note: There was practically no net redistribution of population caused by migration for Wabash County between 2002 and 2003. Though the population size was not affected, migration did work to increase incomes in Wabash slightly. Vanderburgh County, IN also sent 35 migrants into Wabash County.

Social Indicators

Education

	Number	% Change 2004-2005
2005-2006 K-12 Enrollment	1,876	+0.3%
2005-2006 Total Housed Student Enrollment	1,998	+0.2%
Projected 2007-2008 Enrollment (K-12)	1,688	-9.8%
Projected 2012-2013 Enrollment (K-12)	1,475	-21.2%

Race/Ethnicity (2005-2006)	Number	Percent
White	1,919	96.0%
Black	3	0.2%
American Indian	4	0.2%
Asian	10	0.5%
Hispanic	11	0.6%
Multi-racial	51	2.6%
Total	1,998	100.0%

Selected School Report Statistics	County	Region Avg.	State
Average Low-income-family Student Rate in 2005	30.6	45.5	40.0
Average High School Dropout Rate in 2005	4.1	3.2	4.0
Average High School Graduation Rate in 2005	86.1	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.

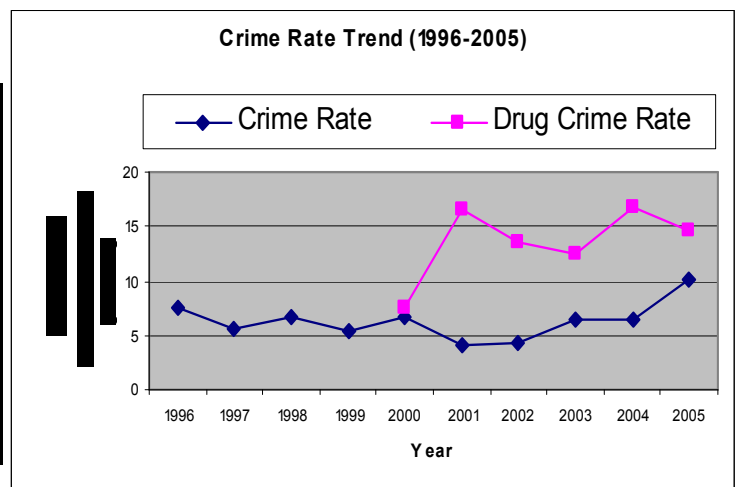
Educational Attainment (Percent, Population 25 years and over)	1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
High School Graduate or Higher	6,379	74.9%	7,091	82.2%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	1,077	12.6%	1,078	12.5%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000.

Crime

	Number in 2005
Total Crimes	128
Crime Rate (crimes per 1,000 persons)	10
Drug Arrests	184
Drug Crime Arrest Rate (arrests per 1,000 persons)	15

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
	85.0%	83.0%	84.8%

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

Housing

	Percent	Region
Mobile homes that are rented	15.3%	24.6%
Owner-occupied units with housing problems	14.9%	18.7%
Renter-occupied units with housing problems	28.8%	35.6%
Homeownership	75.2%	73.6%
Homeownership among blacks/African Americans*	29.4%	41.4%
Vacant housing units for seasonal or recreational use	2.3% (130)	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 17 households in Wabash County in which the householder is black or African American alone. Statistical significance may be questionable.

<p>Housing Permits in 2005: 16 Houses Sold in the First Quarter of 2006: 0 Median House Sale Price in the First Quarter of 2006: N/A</p>
--

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 or gasteyer@uiuc.edu.