



Southern Illinois Regional Assessment Project

White County Fact Sheet

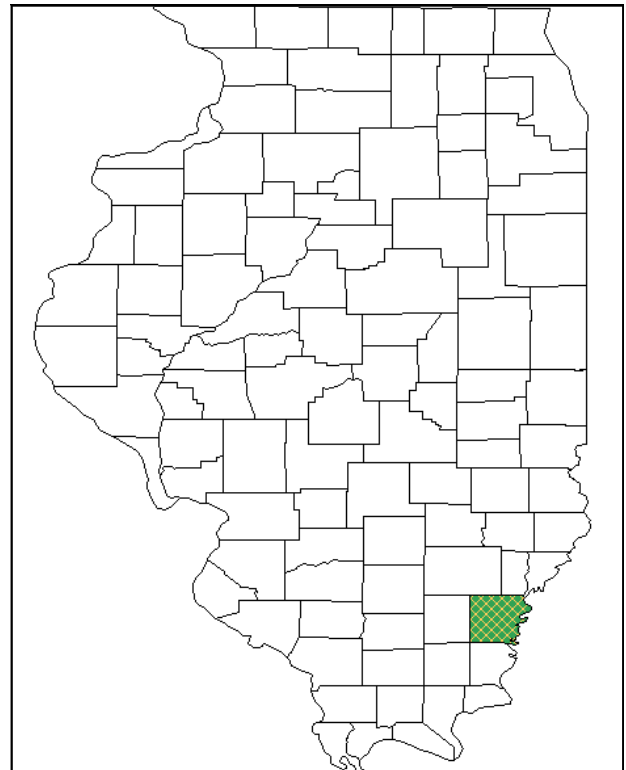
Dr. Courtney Flint and Dr. Stephen Gasteyer, Principle Investigators
Joanna Ganning, Hua Qin and Michelle Downs, Graduate Assistants

White County:

White County was organized from Gallatin County in 1815 and was named for Leonard White, a veteran of the War of 1812 and a state senator. The first settlers came from the Carolinas, Tennessee or Kentucky and were mainly of Scotch-Irish descent.

County Seat: Carmi

2005 Population Estimate: 15,284



Economic Indicators

Income and Poverty

2004 Per Capita Personal Income¹: \$26,366
(Region: \$23,753)

1999 Median Household Income²: \$29,601
(Region, calculated: \$30,845)

1999 Median Household Income where householder is black or African American alone²: \$40,781 (Region, calculated: \$18,340)

2000 Poverty Level²: 12.5% (Region: 15.8%)

2000 Poverty Level Among Blacks or African Americans alone²: 27.3%
(Region: 39.3%)

Households with Public Assistance Income in 2000 (percentage)²: 151 (2.4%)
(Region: 3.5%)

Unemployment Rate in 2005³: 4.8%

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	Hamilton, IL	251
2	Saline, IL	196
3	Edwards, IL	176

Top 3 Counties to which Workers Out-Commute

1	Posey, IN	539
2	Vanderburgh, IN	455
3	Edwards, IL	291

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

Total number in-commuting: 1,377

Total number out-commuting: 2,400

Net commuting: -1,023

Total county workforce: 6,678

Net commuting as % of county workforce: -15.3%

Top Industries for Employment

Rank	NAICS Code	Industry Name	Employment
1	62	Health Care and Social Assistance	681
	623110	Nursing Care Facilities	247
	621491	HMO Medical Centers	163
2	21	Mining	319
	212112	Bituminous Coal Underground Mining	213
3	72	Accommodation and Food Services	319
	722	Food Services and Drinking Places	317
	722211	Limited-Service Restaurants	195
4	81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	260
5	42	Wholesale Trade	234

Source: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns

Note: NAICS is the North American Industry Classification System.

Agricultural Indicators

Crop	Acreage	Percent
	1999-2000	1999-2000
Corn	90,509	35.1%
Soy	110,160	42.7%
Winter wheat	17,287	6.7%
Other small grains/ Hay	45	0.0%
Winter wheat/ Soybeans	6,123	2.4%
Other Agriculture	578	0.2%
Rural grassland	33,487	13.0%
Total	258,189	100.0%

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

38,742 (Region average: 18669)

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

5,145 (Region average: 5768)

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

43,887 (Region average: 23361)

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

91,052 (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	150	110	-27	6,625	6,447	-3
Hogs	34	16	-53	21,357	14,021	-34
Horses	52	61	17	426	457	7

Source: USDA, 1997 and 2002 Census of Agriculture

Soil Type	Acreage	Percent
Prime farmland soils (not eroded)	236,785	75.0%
Prime farmland soils (eroded)	57,930	18.3%
Non-prime farmland soils (all erosion classes)	21,052	6.7%
Total	315,767	100.0%

Irrigation	1997	2002
Acres Land in Irrigated Farms	39,484	59,346
Total Acres Farmland	260,199	280,827
% Farmland Irrigated	15.2%	21.1%

Source: USDA, 1997 and 2002 Census of Agriculture

Source: National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Web Soil Survey, and White Soil Survey Report (1997)

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%.

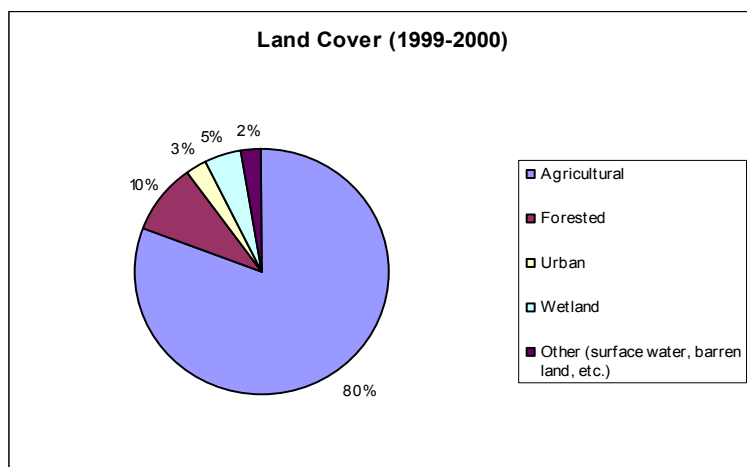
Environmental Indicators

Land

Land Cover (1999-2000)	Acreages	Percent (County)	Percent (Region)	Percent (State)
Agricultural	258,189	80.4%	64.6%	76.3%
Forested	31,022	9.7%	21.0%	11.5%
Urban	8,301	2.6%	3.0%	6.4%
Wetland	15,758	4.9%	8.5%	3.9%
Other	7,732	2.4%	2.8%	1.8%
Total	321,002	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



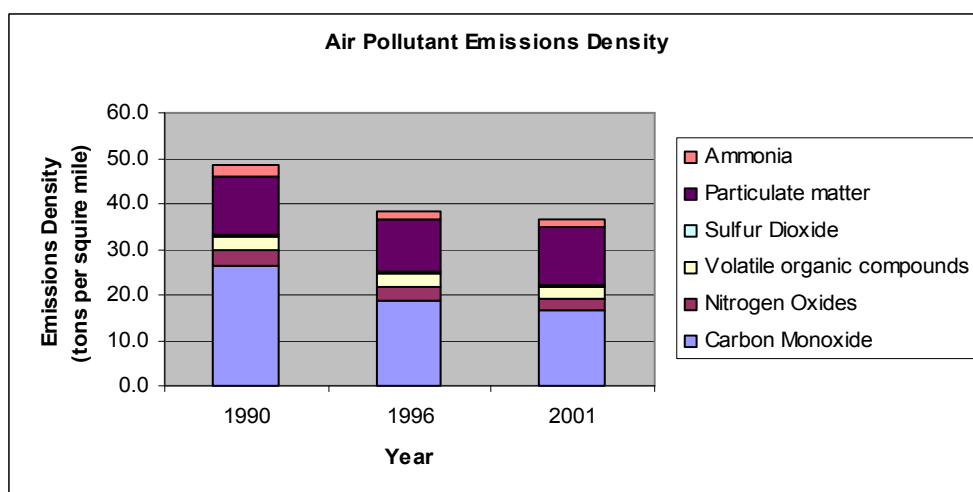
Timberland Ownership Classes	Acreages	Percent
National Forest	0	0.0%
Other Public	0	0.0%
Corporate	2,900	6.7%
Private	40,500	93.3%
Total	43,400	100.0%

Note: "Other Public" includes other federal, state, county and municipal.

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.
	48.5	38.3	36.8	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): 0
Number of impaired or threatened water bodies: 93
Percentage of surface water areas with impaired or threatened uses: 9%

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
	9.34	6.44	4.23

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

Toxics and Wastes

	Number
Facilities producing air emissions	61
Companies with wastewater discharging permits	31
Facilities having toxic chemical releases	3
Potential waste sites in Superfund	1
Hazardous waste generating facilities	78
Radiation regulated facilities	0

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

Outdoor Recreation Areas

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)	33.4	31.1	30.9
Population	16,522	15,371	15,284
Dependency Ratio	69.0	61.4	—
Inmate Population	20	58	—

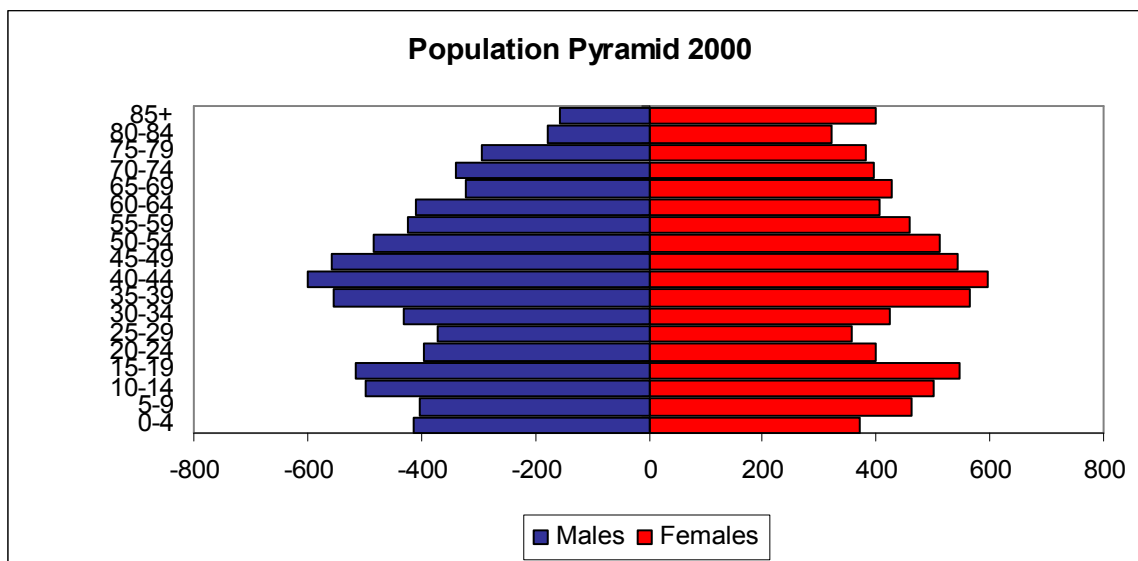
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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)	14.9	12.5	8.6
Average Percent of Birth of Low Birth Weight to Total Birth (1995-2001)	9.6%	7.7%	8.0%
Percent of People with Disability in the 16 to 64 Age Group (2000)	18.4%	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	2,612	22.7%
US/American	2,191	19.1%
Other groups	1,976	17.2%
Irish	1,730	15.1%
English	1,171	10.2%
Norwegian	358	3.1%
Scotch-Irish	269	2.3%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000

Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
White alone	15,097	98.2%
Black or African American alone	40	0.3%
Hispanic or Latino		
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	53	0.3%
Asian alone	25	0.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	1	0.0%
Some other race alone	24	0.2%
Two or more races	131	0.9%
Total Population	15,371	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	570	640	-70
Median adjusted gross income of migrants	\$18,547	\$19,883	—
Total US migration	570	640	-70
Total migration to/from the same state	331	332	-1
Total migration to/from a different state	239	308	-69
Non-migrants	11,749	11,749	—
#1 County migrants move from/to	Edwards, IL (47)	Wayne, IL (68)	—
#2 County migrants move from/to	Saline, IL (46)	Vanderburgh, IN (39)	—
#3 County migrants move from/to	Wayne, IL (43)	Saline, IL (32)	—

Source: 2003 IRS Migration Files

Note: This table shows that between 2002 and 2003, White County lost population via migration. Those who out-migrated had higher incomes than the new in-migrants, which may merit further investigations of structural changes in the employment base. Migration was split fairly evenly between Illinois counties and other states. The total net migration rate is very low.

Social Indicators

Education

	Number	% Change 2004-2005
2005-2006 K-12 Enrollment	2,408	-5.6%
2005-2006 Total Housed Student Enrollment	2,542	-4.4%
Projected 2007-2008 Enrollment (K-12)	2,268	-6.6%
Projected 2012-2013 Enrollment (K-12)	2,017	-16.9%

Race/Ethnicity (2005-2006)	Number	Percent
White	2,483	97.7%
Black	19	0.7%
American Indian	2	0.1%
Asian	9	0.4%
Hispanic	15	0.6%
Multi-racial	14	0.6%
Total	2,542	100.0%

Selected School Report Statistics	County	Region Avg.	State
Average Low-income-family Student Rate in 2005	34.8	45.5	40.0
Average High School Dropout Rate in 2005	4.4	3.2	4.0
Average High School Graduation Rate in 2005	84.8	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.

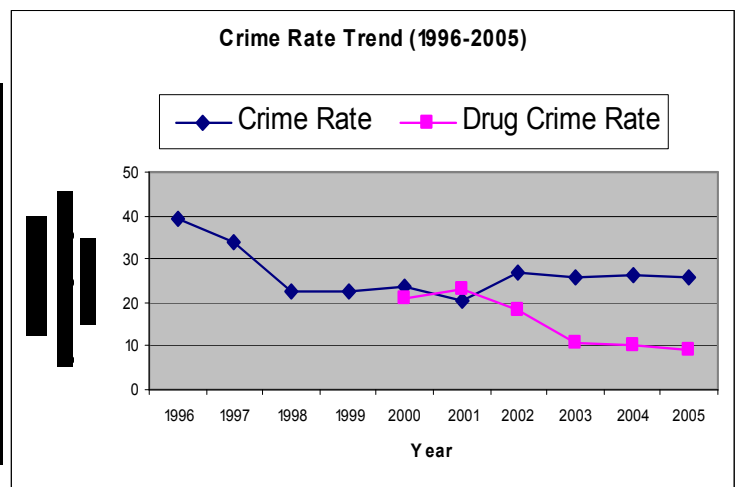
Educational Attainment (Percent, Population 25 years and over)	1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
High School Graduate or Higher	7,583	66.2%	8,105	74.6 %
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	1,088	9.5%	1,134	10.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000.

Crime

	Number in 2005
Total Crimes	396
Crime Rate (crimes per 1,000 persons)	26
Drug Arrests	137
Drug Crime Arrest Rate (arrests per 1,000 persons)	9

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
	80.8%	83.0%	84.8%

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

Housing

	Percent	Region
Mobile homes that are rented	23.8%	24.6%
Owner-occupied units with housing problems	17.4%	18.7%
Renter-occupied units with housing problems	25.3%	35.6%
Homeownership	78.0%	73.6%
Homeownership among blacks/African Americans*	25.0%	41.4%
Vacant housing units for seasonal or recreational use	3.1% (229)	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 8 households in White County in which the householder is black or African American alone, which lowers the reliability of this statistic.

<p>Housing Permits in 2005: 2 Houses Sold in the First Quarter of 2006: 7 Median House Sale Price in the First Quarter of 2006: \$37,000</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 or gasteyer@uiuc.edu.