Adams County

The maps and tables in this publication were prepared using PCensus 7.06 for MapInfo and MapInfo Professional 7.0.
3. Geographic and Historical Notes

Adams County is located in northeastern Indiana on the Ohio border, south of Allen County, north of Jay County, and east of Wells County. Adams County is crossed by U.S. Highways 27 and 244.

Adams County is part of the Indiana and Ohio Till Plain resource area. The area is characterized by hardwood forest vegetation. Major tree species are oak, ash, elm, hickory, and cottonwood. The landscape of Adams County is nearly level except in the north along St. Mary’s River and in the south along the Wabash River.

This County is in the Eastern Time Zone and observes DST. Temperatures range from about 17°-33° in January and from about 63°-85° in July. Average annual precipitation is 36-38 inches and snowfall from 30-35 inches.

The first freeze of the season typically is around October 5-10 and the last freeze around May 5-10th, so there are around 148-158 growing days.

Main crops include corn for grain, hay, soybeans, winter wheat and oats. Main vegetables are Irish potatoes, sweet corn and tomatoes. The County is important in Indiana for milk and milk products. Main natural resources include construction sand and gravel, crushed stone, and petroleum.

Cities include the county seat, Decatur, and Berne. Townships include Blue Creek, French, Harford, Jefferson, Kirkland, Monroe, Preble, Root, St. Marys, Union, Wabash, and Washington.

Sources: Map from PCensus for MapInfo; Indiana Facts: Flying the Colors by John Clements, 1995.
3. Location and Historical Notes

A famous son of Adams County is movie director David Anspaugh (1946-) of Decatur, whose films include *Hoosiers*, *Rudy*, and *Moonlight and Valentino*, and *Fresh Horses*. Though during high school he was a member of the high school basketball team, David was better known as a successful quarterback on the varsity football team. He was also a record-setting pole vaulter. A graduate of Indiana University, he won two Emmys for episodes of *Hill Street Blues*. David says he was inspired by his father, Lawrence Anspaugh, of Decatur, who is a past president of the Professional Photographers of America. (Nelson Price, *Indiana Legends*, Carmel: Guild Press of Indiana, Inc., 1997, p. 195)

Adams County is not a tobacco-producing county, according to the Strategic Development Group’s “Alternative Agricultural Strategy” (Bloomington, March 15, 2001) report, which is part of Governor Joseph E. Kernan’s “Recipient Final Reports for Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture Grant Programs” (http://www.in.gov/oca/grants/valueadd/VAFinalReports.html):