Bartholomew County

The maps and tables in this publication were prepared using PCensus 7.06 for MapInfo and MapInfo Professional 7.0.
Bartholomew County is located in south central Indiana. It is bordered by Decatur to the east, Jennings to the southeast, Jackson to the southwest, Brown to the west, Johnson to the northeast, and Shelby to the north. U.S. Highway 31 and Interstate Highway 65 cross Allen County. The landscape features oak, maple, hickory, birch and beech trees. This county contains parts of three land resource areas: the Indiana and Ohio Till Plain (north and east), the Indiana Thin Loess and Till Plain (south and central), and the Kentucky and Indiana Sandstone and Shale Hills and Valleys area (western border region). The land is nearly flat in many areas along the White River and its tributaries, but begins to slope slightly to the east and west, then graduates to a steep slope in the border areas to the east and to very steep in the west.

This county is in Eastern Time Zone and observes DST. Average daily January temperatures are 18°/37° in January are 63°/86° in July. Annual precipitation is 40-42 and snowfall 15-17 inches.

Typically the first freeze of the season is around October 15-20 (except in the southern third, October 10-15) and the last freeze is around April 25-30 (except the in the southeast, April 20-25). The growing season lasts about 165-170 days.

Main crops include corn for grain, soybeans, and winter wheat. Nuts, strawberries and apples are grown. Main vegetable crops are sweet corn, pumpkins and snap beans. A special crops include popcorn and tobacco (see next page). Main natural resources include construction sand and gravel, and crushed stone.

Cities include the Columbus, the county seat. Towns include Clifford, Edinburgh (which extends into Johnson County), Elizabethtown, Hartsville, Hope, and Jonesville. Townships include Clay, Clifty, Columbus, Flat Rock, German, Harrison, Haw Creek, Jackson, Ohio, Rock Creek, Sand Creek, and Wayne.
Bartholomew County Tobacco Production & Revenue:

Source: 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):

According to the most recent data available, although Bartholomew County was 12th in the State in number of acres (139) devoted to tobacco production, it was first, by far, in the cash value of the crop. Average tobacco income was $45,219 for those ten farms producing tobacco. These ten farms represent only 1.7% of all farms in the county. Tobacco income, for each farm producing tobacco ($45,219), represented 104.1% of the figure for average household income ($43,444) in the county that year (1997).

Latest figures (from 1997 USDA Census):
Rank for tobacco production: 12th
Acres in tobacco production: 139
Number of farms producing tobacco: 10
As a Percent of all farms: 1.7%
Rank in IN for percent of all farms:
Tobacco income per farm producing: $45,219
Percent of County’s Ave. Household Income: 104.1%

A famous son of Bartholomew County is Joseph Irwin Miller of Columbus, whose philanthropic generosity and business and civic interests led to the transformation of the city. CEO for over fifty years of Cummins Engine diesel manufacturing company and enthusiastic supporter of local architecture, Miller was born in Columbus in 1909.