Marshall 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

Marshall County is located in Northern Indiana and is bordered by the following counties: St. Joseph to the north, Elkhart to the northeast, Kosciusko to the east and southeast, Fulton to the south, Pulaski to the southwest, and Starke to the west. U.S. Highways 31, 6, and 30 cross the county. Elevation is 700-850 feet. The county's landscape is nearly level except for slightly sloping terrain in the west-central, southern and eastern areas. The landscape features oak and hickory trees. The county pertains to the Indiana and Ohio Till Plain land resource area.

Marshall County is in the Eastern Time Zone and observes DST. Average daily temperatures are 16°/33° in January and 61°/86° in July. Annual precipitation is about 37 and snowfall about 36 inches. Typically the first freeze of the season occurs October 5-10 through most of the county, and a few days later (October 10-15) in the southeast corner. The last freeze varies from May 1-5 in Southeastern Marshall County to May 5-10 in Northwestern Marshall County. The growing season lasts about 153-168 days.

Agricultural activity is diversified with grain, soybeans, winter wheat and hay. About three-quarters of the land is in farms and about three-fourths of that land in cash crops. Strawberries are a primary fruit, and sweet corn is a primary vegetable crop. Livestock are varied and include cattle/calves/milk cows, hogs/pigs, and sheep/pullets. Main natural resources include construction sand and gravel, petroleum, and forestland. Water resources include numerous lakes/reservoirs (Cook, Dixon, Gilbert, Holem, Koontz, Latonka, Maxinkuckee, Lawrence, Lost, Mill, Myers, Pretty, and Lake of the Woods), Pine Creek, and the Tippecanoe and Yellow Rivers.

Communities include the city of Alexandria, which is also the county seat; and the towns of Argos, Bourbon, Bremen, Culver, and LaPaz.

Sources: Map from PCensus for MapInfo; Geographic Notes from Indiana Facts: Flying the Colors by John Clements, 1995.
Marshall 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):