The maps and tables in this publication were prepared using PCensus 7.06 for MapInfo and MapInfo Professional 7.0.
Newton County is located in Northern Indiana and is bordered by the State of Illinois to the west and by the following Indiana counties: Lake to the north, Jasper to the east, and Benton to the south. U.S. Highways 41 and 24, and State Highway 55 cross the county. Elevation is 650-750 feet. The county’s landscape is nearly level and features oak and hickory trees. The northern part of the county pertains to the Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana Drift Plain land resource area, and the southern part of the county pertains to Northern Illinois and Indiana Heavy Till Plain land resource area.

Newton county is in the Ceantral Time Zone and observes DST. Average daily temperatures are $12\degree/32\degree$ in January and $60\degree/86\degree$ in July. Annual precipitation is about 37 and snowfall about 20-26 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 tip. The last freeze varies from May 1-5 in the southern half of the county to May 5-10 in northern Newton County. The growing season lasts about 148-168 days.

Agricultural activity is mainly in soybeans and corn for grain. About four-fifths of the land is in farms and a little over four-fifths of that land is in cash crops. Another important crop is hay. Popcorn is a special crop. Livestock are include cattle/calves and hogs/pigs. Main natural resources include crushed stone and forestland. Water resources include the Goose Pond Swamp and J.C. Murphy Lake, the Kankakee and Iroquois Rivers, and several streams (Curtis Creek, Beaver Lake Ditch, Knight Ditch, Hunter Ditch, and Montgomery Ditch).

Communities include the towns of Kentland, which is the county seat, Brook, Goodland, Kentland, Morocco, and Mount Ayr.
Newton 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):