The maps and tables in this publication were prepared using PCensus 7.06 for MapInfo and MapInfo Professional 7.0.
Spencer County is located on the Kentucky border and is bordered by the following counties: Warrick to the west, Dubois to the north, and Perry to the east. U.S. Highway 231, State Highway 162 and Interstate 64 cross the county. Elevation is 400 to 650 feet.

The landscape is mainly slightly sloping in the south and west; it becomes gradually steeper in the center and east; and very steep near the Anderson River and very level at the River. The landscape features hickory and oak trees. Most of the county pertains to the Kentucky and Indiana Sandstone and Shale Hills and Valleys land resource area, except the southwest corner, which is in the Central Mississippi Valley Wooded Slopes land resource area.

Spencer county is in the Central Time Zone and observes DST. Average daily temperatures are 24°/42° in January and 66°/89° in July. Annual precipitation is 43 and snowfall about 10-15 inches. The first freeze in the north is usually between October 20-25 and in the south between October 25-30. The last freeze in the southern third is between April 5-10, in the central third April 10-15, and in the northern third April 15-20. The growing season lasts about 183-203 days.

Agricultural activity is mainly corn for grain, soybean, and livestock. Additional main crops are hay and winter wheat. Livestock include cattle/calves, hogs/pigs, and turkeys. About two-thirds of the land is in farms and two-thirds of that is in cash crops. Important natural resources include coal, construction sand and gravel, petroleum and forestland. Water resources include lake/reservoirs (Chrisney, Christmas, Holly, Lincoln, Noel, and Santa Claus lakes); the Ohio and Anderson rivers; and the Crooked and Little Pigeon creeks.

Communities include the city of Rockport, the county seat, and the towns of Chrisney, Dale, Gentryville, Grandview and Santa Claus.
Spencer 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, Spencer County ranks 11th in the State for the percent of all farms that produce tobacco (12.4%). As of 1997, a total of 433 acres in Shelby County were devoted to tobacco production on 79 farms. For those 79 farms, tobacco income per farm ($23,286) expressed as a percentage of the Average Household Income for the county ($38,960) was 59.8% in 1997.

Latest figures (from 1997 USDA Census):
- Rank for acres in tobacco production: 6th
- Acres in tobacco production: 433
- Number of farms producing tobacco: 79
- As a Percent of all farms: 12.4%
- Rank in IN for percent of all farms: 11th
- Tobacco income per farm producing: $23,286
- Percent of County’s Ave. Household Income: 59.8%

[See appendices for more information.]