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

Tipton County is located in Central Indiana and is bordered by the following Indiana counties: Howard to the north and northwest, Grant to the northeast, Madison to the east and southeast, Hamilton to the south, and Clinton to the west and southwest. U.S. Highway 31 and State Highways 28 and 19 cross the county. Elevation is 750 to 900 feet.

The terrain is near level except for along some of the creeks near the border in the south and northeast, where the land slopes slightly along the edges of the creeks. The landscape features cottonwood, elm, ash, hickory and oak trees. The county pertains to the Indiana and Ohio Till Plain land resource area.

Tipton county is in the Eastern Time Zone and observes DST. Average daily temperatures are \(15^\circ\)/\(33^\circ\) in January and \(62^\circ\)/\(85^\circ\) in July. Annual precipitation is about 39 and snowfall about 23 inches. The first freeze occurs October 10-15; and the last freeze occurs typically between May 1 and May 5. The growing season lasts about 163-173 days.

Agricultural activity is mainly in corn for grain, soybeans and hogs/pigs. Additional crops include hay and winter wheat. Cucumbers and tomatoes are an important vegetables. Popcorn is a special crop. Livestock are mainly cattle/calves and hogs/pigs. About 95% of the land is in farms and about 90% of that land is in cash crops. Important natural resources include petroleum and forestland. Water resources include several streams: Dixon, Mud, Irwin, Turkey, Buck, Cicero, Prairie, and Polywog Creeks.

Communities include the cities of Tipton, which is the county seat, and Elwood (which extends into Madison County); and the towns of Kempton, Sharpsville, and Windfall City.

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