

# PROPERTY TAXES IN DAVISS COUNTY, INDIANA, 2007-2008



Legislative Services Agency

August 2008

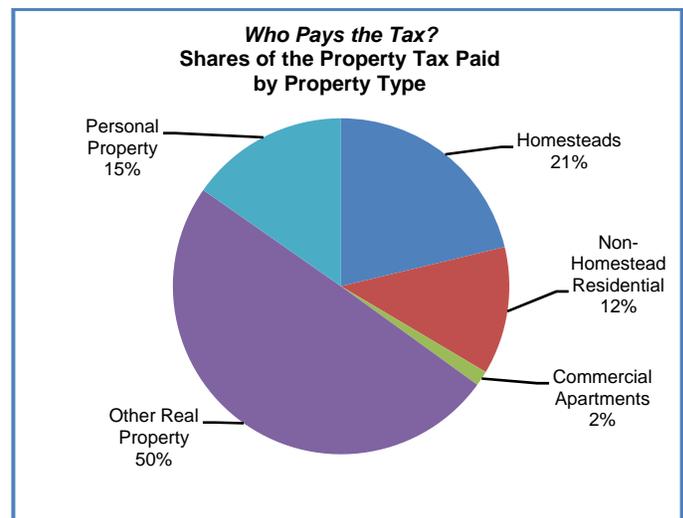
The Indiana General Assembly enacted major property tax reforms in 2008. These reforms are intended to provide substantial tax relief to homeowners. Starting in 2009, property taxes for the school general fund, county welfare funds, and several other funds will be eliminated, and their costs taken over by the state. Homeowners will also receive a substantial new deduction from their home assessments. And “circuit breakers” will limit homeowner tax bills to a fixed percentage of their assessments, 1.5% in 2009 and 1% beginning in 2010. The circuit breaker for homeowners is 2% in 2008.

In 2008, substantial tax relief is provided through an added homestead credit. The credit will be financed with payments from the new race track casinos and from the added sales tax. Statewide, this amounts to added property tax relief of \$870 million. Homeowner taxes should fall by about one-third. Each county is different, however. Homeowner tax bills depend on changes in the homestead’s assessment and the assessments of other property, on changes in local government tax collections, on new local income tax adoptions, as well as on added state credits. Daviess County did not adopt a new local option income tax for 2008.

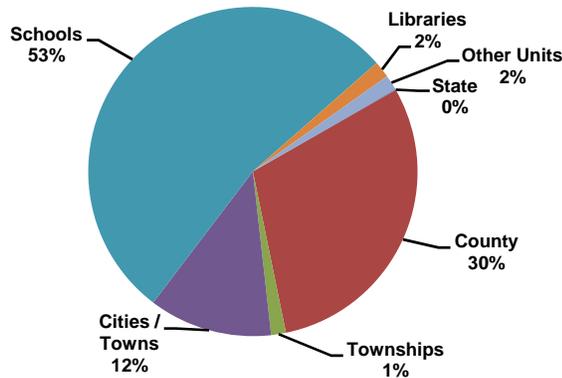
In Daviess County, the average homeowner saw their tax bill decrease by 36.3% for 2008, with 94.9% of homeowners seeing decreases. Without the added homestead credit, the average tax bill would have increased by 3.4%, and 71.0% of homeowners would have seen tax bill increases.

In Daviess County, 21% of property taxes are paid by homeowners (homesteads are primary residences, occupied by their owners); 12% are paid by owners of smaller rental housing units or owners of second homes (non-homestead residential); 2% are paid by owners of larger rental housing units (commercial apartments); and 65% are paid by other agricultural, commercial, industrial, or utility businesses on their real property (land and buildings) or on their personal property (equipment).

Change in Tax Bill	With Added 2008 Homestead Credit		Illustrated Without Added 2008 Homestead Credit	
	Number of Homesteads	% Share of Total	Number of Homesteads	% Share of Total
20% or more	217	2.7%	715	8.9%
10% to 19%	31	0.4%	1,352	16.9%
1% to 9%	57	0.7%	3,622	45.2%
0%	107	1.3%	112	1.4%
-1% to -9%	126	1.6%	1,556	19.4%
-10% to -19%	277	3.5%	206	2.6%
-20% to -29%	800	10.0%	56	0.7%
-30% to -39%	2,572	32.1%	61	0.8%
-40% to -49%	2,959	36.9%	60	0.7%
-50% to -59%	507	6.3%	82	1.0%
-60% to -69%	92	1.1%	83	1.0%
-70% to -79%	137	1.7%	20	0.2%
-80% to -89%	49	0.6%	13	0.2%
-90% to -99%	14	0.2%	7	0.1%
-100%	72	0.9%	72	0.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,017</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8,017</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Higher Tax Bill	305	3.8%	5,689	71.0%
No Change	107	1.3%	112	1.4%
Lower Tax Bill	7,605	94.9%	2,216	27.6%
<b>Average Change in Tax Bill</b>	<b>-36.3%</b>		<b>3.4%</b>	



**Who Gets the Revenue?**  
**Property Tax Levies by Government Type**



On average, Daviess County property tax levies increased 9.6% from 2007 to 2008. This is higher than the expected statewide average increase of 5%. The property tax levy for county welfare increased significantly, as did the general fund levies for all three school corporations and the debt service levy for Washington Community Schools.

In Daviess County, school corporations receive 53% of all property taxes. The county, the city, and the towns receive most of the rest. Townships, library districts, special districts, and the state receive a small share of property taxes.

In 2009 the school and county shares of property tax revenue will decrease significantly when the state takes over the school general fund and county welfare levies.

**Changes in Property Tax Levies from 2007 to 2008**  
**by Governmental Units in Daviess County**

Taxing Unit	2007 Levy	2008 Levy	Change
<b>County Total</b>	<b>\$29,547,322</b>	<b>\$32,385,071</b>	<b>9.6%</b>
State Unit	25,602	27,885	8.9%
Daviess County	9,145,403	9,725,088	6.3%
Barr Township	49,144	50,872	3.5%
Bogard Township	21,860	22,543	3.1%
Elmore Township	25,846	26,056	0.8%
Harrison Township	3,457	3,592	3.9%
Madison Township	48,695	50,652	4.0%
Reeve Township	11,989	12,732	6.2%
Steele Township	23,713	31,921	34.6%
Van Buren Township	21,230	21,819	2.8%
Veale Township	23,267	24,305	4.5%
Washington Township	215,237	221,180	2.8%
Washington Civil City	3,457,291	3,559,318	3.0%
Alfordsville Civil Town	4,268	5,312	24.5%
Cannelburg Civil Town	9,090	9,472	4.2%
Elnora Civil Town	71,613	76,734	7.2%
Montgomery Civil Town	48,435	51,497	6.3%
Odon Civil Town	159,044	168,934	6.2%
Plainville Civil Town	50,758	54,527	7.4%
Barr-Reeve Community School Corporation	3,051,338	3,416,871	12.0%
North Daviess County School Corporation	4,662,709	5,258,582	12.8%
Washington Community School Corporation	7,481,162	8,549,461	14.3%
Odon-Winkelpleck Public Library	28,174	29,515	4.8%
Washington Carnegie Public Library	481,679	504,496	4.7%
Veale Fire District	21,850	56,282	157.6%
Southeast Daviess Fire Protection District	66,303	71,046	7.2%
Daviess County Solid Waste District	338,165	354,379	4.8%