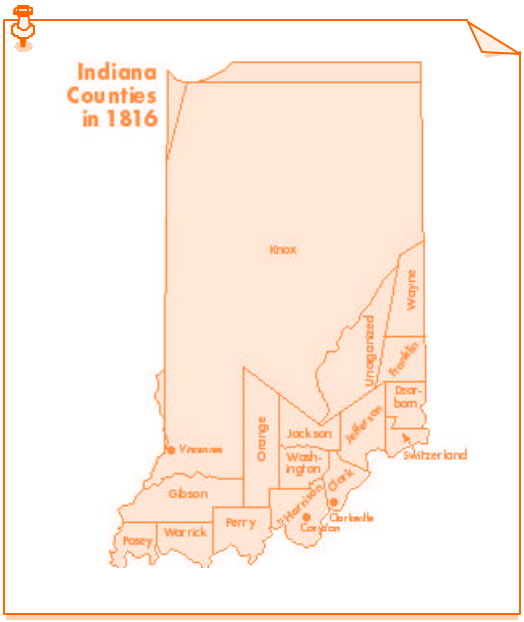
INDIANA FACTS BOOKLET FOR STUDENTS

The U.S. Congress coined the name "Indiana" in 1800, when the Indiana Territory was carved from the Northwest Territory. The name, which means "the land of the Indians," was retained when Indiana joined the Union as the 19th state on December 11, 1816.



This map shows Indiana in 1816, with a handful of counties in the south and southeast, and one large county in the remainder of the state.

In 1816, native Americans were officially the owners of about two-thirds of Indiana. In 1818 the federal government purchased land from several Indiana tribes, including the Miami and Delaware. This "New Purchase" was then resold in small pieces, and central and northern Indiana were officially opened for settlement early in 1820.

Later in 1820, a site near the geographic center of the state was chosen as the future state capital. In 1824, state government was moved from the old capital at Corydon, and in January 1825 the legislature convened in Indianapolis.

Find more interesting facts about Indiana's history at ***www.IN.gov/ai/state/history.html.***

WHO (OR WHAT) IS A HOOSIER?

The nickname "Hoosier" became widely known in the 1830s when John Finley's poem, "The Hoosier's Nest," was published. Where did "hoosier" come from? Here are six theories, not all of them serious:

1. "Hoozer" in the English Cumberland dialect means anything large, like a hill, or even people who live in the hills, and it referred to southern Indiana emigrants from the Cumberland Mountains.
2. "Hoosa" was an Indian word for corn, and people taking corn from Indiana to New Orleans were called "hoosa men."
3. "Hoosier" was the name of a contractor on the Louisville and Portland Canal, and his hired laborers from Indiana were called "Hoosier's men."
4. "Hushers" were Indiana rivermen who were very effective in beating up their enemies.
5. "Who's yere?" is what Indiana pioneers would holler when someone knocked on their door.
6. "Whose ear?" is what a visitor to an Indiana tavern would say when he arrived after a fight and found a bitten-off ear on the floor.

Find out more about "hoosier" at www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/ihb/faq.html.

STATE FLAG

What does our state flag mean?

The torch in the center stands for liberty and enlightenment; the rays represent their far-reaching influence.

The outer circle of stars stands for the original thirteen states, and the inner circle for the next five states to be admitted to the U.S. The larger star represents Indiana, the 19th state.

We did not have this flag until 1917. The Daughters of the American Revolution sponsored a competition for flag design and awarded the prize to Paul Hadly of Mooresville.

The state flag is always carried or displayed to the audience's right of the United States flag.

Use accessIndiana to compare Indiana's flag to other flags.

1. *Go to www.IN.gov.*
2. *Click on "Government."*
3. *Click on "Federal Government."*
4. *Click on "First Gov–Your first click to the U. S. Government."*
5. *In the "Browse Government by Topic" box, select "Library and Reference."*
6. *In the "Search Government Web site" box, type in "state flags."*
7. *Select one of the "State Flags" sites.*

STATE SEAL

The State Seal has been in use – in variations of the current form – since territorial days. It is found on official papers as early as 1801. Both the 1816 and the 1851 Constitutions provide that "there shall be a Seal of state…" In 1963 the General Assembly gave legal sanction to the current design.

There are many interpretations of the meaning of the seal. One interpretation is that the sun rises on a new commonwealth, west of the Allegheny Mountains. The woodsman represents civilization subduing the wilderness and the buffalo, fleeing to the West, represents primitive life retiring in that direction.

Another version describes a sun setting in the West, a woodsman felling a tree, and a buffalo leaving the forest and fleeing through the plain to a distant forest in the East.

Find out more about the state seal at ***accessIndiana.***

1. *Go to* ***www.IN.gov.***
2. *Click on "About Indiana."*
3. *Click on "General Information."*
4. *Click on "Indiana Emblems."*

FILM INDUSTRY & ENTERTAINERS

What do A League of Their Own, Eight Men Out, and Rudy have in common?

They were all filmed in Indiana. Our vintage stadiums and modern sports facilities have made Indiana the sports movie capital of the nation, and our scenery has become famous in movies like Breaking Away and Falling from Grace.

The economic impact of the film industry, which includes feature movies, television programs, and music videos, is growing. A large-budget film working in the state for three months can spend over $10 million on Hoosier services. Just as significant are the dozens of smaller productions that provide steady employment to local companies and professionals.

Indiana is not just the home of James Dean and David Letterman. Our music tradition includes people like Hoagy Carmichael and Cole Porter. Current greats are Michael Jackson and Janet Jackson, John Mellencamp, and Babyface. From the bluegrass festival in Beanblossom to the jazz festival in Indianapolis, we nourish a wide range of musical styles.

Find a list of all the movies made in Indiana, and see what is currently being filmed here. Go to www.state.in.us/film/filmography2.html.

To learn more about famous Hoosiers, visit www.50states.com.

1. *Click on "Indiana."*
2. *Click on "Biographies: Famous Hoosiers."*

SPORTS

When Kenesaw Mountain Landis of Logansport became the first single U.S. Baseball Commissioner in 1920, Hoosiers were put in the center of national sports. We have been there ever since. Indianapolis is home to several professional sports teams: Indiana Pacers (men's basketball), Indianapolis Colts (football), Indianapolis Ice (hockey), Indianapolis Indians (baseball), Indiana Blast (soccer), and Indiana Fever (women's basketball). The Fort Wayne Wizards and the South Bend Silver Hawks join the Indians in the baseball minor league.

Indiana is also famous for racing. The Indy 500, the Brickyard 400, and the U.S. Grand Prix are international auto racing events that bring huge crowds into the state. Just as important to midwestern racers are the facilities at Indianapolis Raceway Park and the Sportsdrome. Horse racing has its home at Hoosier Park in Anderson.

Several Olympic sports organizations have their national headquarters in Indiana. USA Track and Field, Gymnastics, Diving, Rowing, and Synchronized Swimming are in Indianapolis. The IUPUI Natatorium hosted the 2000 U.S. Olympic tryouts in diving. The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFSHSA) is headquartered in Indianapolis, as well as the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

Find out more about Indiana's professional teams, raceways, and the new NCAA Hall of Champions through accessIndiana.

1. *Go to* www.IN.gov.
2. *At the "I want . . ." scroll box in the bottom left of the screen, click on "Just For Fun."*

AGRICULTURE

Indiana agriculture is probably not what you think it is.

1. Indiana leads the United States in the production of:

   A. soybeans B. hogs C. ducks

2. Every year, Indiana produces more than 254,000,000 pounds of:

   A Blueberries B. mint C. popcorn

3. Since 1917, Indiana's forestland has:

   A. become smaller B. stayed the same C. expanded

In 1999, Indiana exported to foreign countries more than $1,430,000,000 in bulk agricultural commodities. Not included in this figure are value-added products (grains, fruits, vegetables, and meats that have been processed) or commodities sold within the U.S.

Hardwood manufacturing contributes more than $2,500,000,000 a year to Indiana's economy. Landscaping, horticulture, and ethanol production businesses are expanding rapidly within the state.

The Lieutenant Governor of Indiana is also the Commissioner of Agriculture. Under this umbrella are more than 30 state boards and associations that oversee various sectors of the agriculture business. Purdue, our land grant university, pioneers research in genomics and biotechnology, and it maintains 92 Extension Offices throughout the state.

If you answered "c" to all of the above questions, you were right.

STATE TREE & STATE FLOWER

Tulip Tree (Yellow Poplar) & Peony

The State Tree is the tulip tree, also known as the yellow poplar. Monarch of the great forests that covered most of Indiana in pioneer times, the tulip tree has since become comparatively rare.

In recent years, it has been extensively used in ornamental planting, as its shape, the size it attains and its distinctive blossom make it a feature in any landscape.

It should be planted in the early spring. The lovely bell-shaped greenish-yellow flowers appear in May or June. The soft white wood is used for many purposes.

The State Flower is the peony. It blooms in late May and early June in white and various shades of red and pink. It appears in single and double forms.

The peony is cultivated widely throughout the state. It is started from roots planted between the first of September and the time the ground freezes. It does not require rich soil but should have the full sun.

Go to www.yahoo.com and search for peony. Examine all the entries. What poems can you find about peonies? Where can you find pictures of peonies? What medicinal uses are there for peonies? Where in the world can you still find wild peonies?

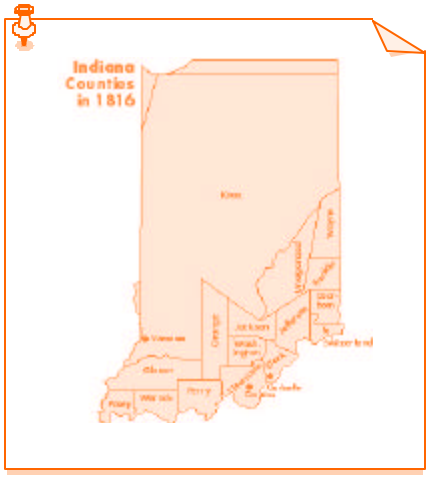
POPULATION

The 2000 census shows that Indiana's population increased by almost 3.5 million people over the last century. In 1900, our population was 2,516,462. In 2000, the state had 6,080,485 people.

The fastest-growing county over the last century was Lake County, which had a growth rate of 1178.8%. Lake County went from 37,892 people in 1900 to 484,564 people in 2000.

In the last decade, Hamilton County was the fastest-growing county. Hamilton County had only 29,914 people in 1900. Its population was 108,935 in 1990. There were 182,740 people in 2000.

According to the 2000 census, the 10 counties with the largest populations are Marion, Lake, Allen, St. Joseph, Elkhart, Hamilton, Tippecanoe, Vanderburgh, Porter, and Madison.



A. *Look at the 1816 map (copied here and also on the front page of this booklet). Which of those 14 original counties are on the "top 10" list today? What are some of the reasons for this? Look at a modern map for help with your answer.*

B. *Use* accessIndiana *to find out how your county has changed.*

   1. *Go to* www.IN.gov.
   2. *Click on "About Indiana."*
   3. *Click on "Statistics."*
   4. *Click on "Population."*
   5. *On the right of the screen, scroll down to your county.*

STATE POEM

"Indiana" by Arthur Franklin Mapes

God crowned her hills with beauty,
Gave her lakes and winding streams.
Then He edged them all with woodlands
As the settings for our dreams.

Lovely are her moonlit rivers,
Shadowed by the sycamores,
Where the fragrant winds of Summer
Play along the willowed shores.

I must roam those wooded hillsides,
I must heed the native call,
For a Pagan voice within me
Seems to answer to it all.

I must walk where squirrels scamper
Down a rustic old rail fence,
Where a choir of birds is singing
In the woodland...green and dense.

I must learn more of my homeland
For it's paradise to me,
There's no haven quite as peaceful,
There's no place I'd rather be.

Indiana...is a garden
Where the seeds of peace have grown,
Where each tree, and vine, and flower
Has a beauty...all its own.

Lovely are the fields and meadows
That reach out to hills that rise
Where the dreamy Wabash River
Wanders on...through paradise.

*Use **accessIndiana** to find out how much of Indiana "the dreamy Wabash" wanders through.*

1. *Go to **www.IN.gov**.*
2. *Click on "Visiting Indiana."*
3. *Click on "Maps."*
4. *Click on "Wabash River Corridor Map."*

STATE SONG

"On The Banks Of The Wabash, Far Away" by Paul Dresser

Round my Indiana homesteads wave the cornfields,
In the distance loom the woodlands clear and cool.
Oftentimes my thoughts revert to scenes of childhood,
Where I first received my lessons, nature's school.
But one thing there is missing in the picture,
Without her face it seems so incomplete.
I long to see my mother in the doorway,
As she stood there years ago, her boy to greet.

CHORUS

Oh, the moonlight's fair tonight along the Wabash,
From the fields there comes the breath of newmown hay.
Through the sycamores the candle lights are gleaming,
On the banks of the Wabash, far away.
Many years have passed since I strolled by the river.
Arm in arm, with sweetheart Mary by my side.
It was there I tried to tell her that I loved her,
It was there I begged of her to be my bride.
Long years have passed since I strolled thro' the churchyard.
She's sleeping there, my angel, Mary dear.
I loved her, but she thought I didn't mean it,
Still I'd give my future were she only here.

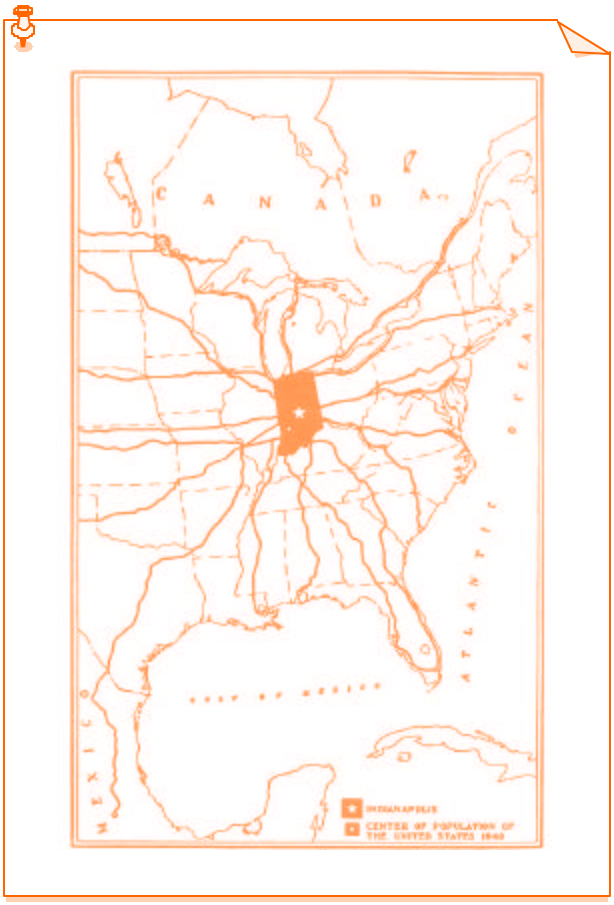
The Wabash River is the official river of the State of Indiana. In which year did the General Assembly make this happen?

STATE MOTTO

"The Crossroads of America"

The State Motto was adopted by the 1937 General Assembly. "The Crossroads of America" signifies the importance of waterways, railroads, highways and other transportation facilities in the state, viewed by many as some of the finest in the nation.

The accompanying picture is from a 1940 map. The star in the middle of the state signifies Indianapolis. There is a small white dot west and south of the star. This dot signifies the center of the population of the United States as of 1940.



Is the motto, "Crossroads of America," appropriate for Indiana? Why or why not?

Name some of the following transportation routes that go through Indiana:

1. *Waterways.*
2. *Railroads.*
3. *Highways.*
4. *Airports.*

STATE STONE

Indiana Limestone

The 1971 General Assembly named the "regal type rock...which is found and quarried in south and central Indiana...named the Salem Limestone" as the official stone of the State of Indiana.

Limestone is Indiana's most famous and important souvenir of ancient seas. It might be thought of as Indiana's official fossil.

Limestone is made of the remains of countless marine animals, but mostly from the shells of tiny animals. It is made of a mineral called calcium that is used to make bones and shells. Fossils of larger animals that sank to the seafloor after they died are also found in limestone.

To see beautiful carvings of Indiana Limestone, and to find out about the Indiana companies that sell these products, go to www.yahoo.com and type in "Indiana limestone."

Use accessIndiana to see limestone caves.

1. *Go to www.IN.gov.*
2. *Click on "Government."*
3. *Click on "State Government."*
4. *Click on "State Agencies Index."*
5. *Click on "Natural Resources, Department of."*
6. *In the "Search DNR" box, type "Indiana limestone."*
7. *Then choose "News and Views – Outdoor Indiana."*

STATE FAIR

In 1851, the Indiana General Assembly passed an act "to encourage agriculture," which also included the formation of a State Board of Agriculture. Their primary goal was to create the first Indiana State Fair.

In 1852, Indiana became the 6th state to begin holding a state agricultural fair. The first Fair, held in what is now Military Park in downtown Indianapolis, was an amazing success. It was a landmark in the agricultural history of Indiana. The Fair was held in response to the aspirations of those who believed that, "to make two blades of grass grow where one had formerly grown, to increase the crop yields, to preserve the soil fertility was a very worthy thing and almost a sacred duty."

The State Fair has been located in Indianapolis for the majority of its existence, but other Indiana cities hosted the event in the 1800s. Lafayette (1853), Madison (1854), New Albany (1859), Fort Wayne (1865), and Terre Haute (1867) hosted the Fair before it was moved to the site of the former Voss Farm in Indianapolis. The gates opened at the Indiana State Fairgrounds on East 38th Street for the first time on September 19, 1892.

See what year-round events take place at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis. Use accessIndiana.

1. *Go to www.IN.gov.*
2. *Click on "Government."*
3. *Click on "State Government."*
4. *Click on "State Agencies Index."*
5. *Go to "Agriculture."*
6. *Go to "Fair, Indiana State" for a calendar of events at the fairgrounds.*

STATE BIRD

Cardinal

The State Bird is the cardinal. The 1933 General Assembly made this official designation.

Males are various shades of red and have a black "mask" from the eyes to the throat. Females and young are brown, with touches of red on the crest, wings, tail and breast.

Their nests are bulky masses of twigs, rootlets, and strips of bark, lined with grasses and other finer material.

Cardinals do not migrate; their song may be heard on the first sunny days of late winter. The Cardinal's song is at first loud and clear and gradually descends into more marked and continued cadences, until it dies away in the air. During the love-season the song is emitted with increased emphasis by the male who swells his throat, spreads his tail, droops his wings, and leans alternately to the right and left.

The Cardinal is the official State Bird of Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia.

To learn more about the Cardinal, visit www.50states.com.

1. *Click on "Indiana."*
2. *Click on "Bird: Cardinal."*

STATE INFORMATION CENTER

A Division of the Indiana Department of Administration

402 West Washington Street, Room W160A, Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 233-0800

(800) 45-STATE or (800) 457-8283

TDD: Use RELAY INDIANA: (800) 743-3333

Spanish-Speaking: (317) 234-0225

Spanish Speaking: (800) 855-3838

Fax: (317) 233-5740

stinfo@sic.state.in.us

www.IN.gov/sic

The State Information Center provides a single point of entry into state government, making state programs and services more easily accessible. Information Counselors are trained in all aspects of state government operations in order to assess the caller's needs and to match the needs to the appropriate programs or services. Counselors also direct callers to appropriate federal and local government agencies. (October 2001)

For additional information on Indiana and Indiana history visit:

Indiana Historical Society: www.indianahistory.org

Indiana Historical Bureau: www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/ihb/ihb.html

The official web site of the State of Indiana, accessIndiana , provides links to state agencies and local, regional and federal sites: www.IN.gov.