

## Jay County 2009 Trending

### Overview

Jay County is a rural farming community with a small number of industrial properties located mainly in the city of Portland. The commercial properties are scattered throughout the small towns in the County, with the majority being located in the city of Portland.

Each ratio study is contained on a worksheet in the enclosed Excel spreadsheet. The tabs are self explanatory. The tab marked “Summary” lists the results of the study on a Township basis. There are separate tabs for each of the 7 property classes to be reviewed – residential vacant, residential improved, commercial vacant, commercial improved, industrial vacant, industrial improved and agriculture. All spreadsheets contain the thirteen entries required by 50 IAC 14-5-3 as well as the Median, COD and PRD.

In order to have an adequate amount of sales for a meaningful and reflective analysis, 2006 sales were included in the ratio study. A 1.50% per year (applied by month) time adjustment was applied to all of the 2006 sales.

A spreadsheet titled “Jay 2009 Trending Sales Reconciliation” is attached with this document along with the County’s Ratio Study and “Workbook”. The sales reconciliation spreadsheet includes a list of the sales that were marked valid in the sales file but were omitted from the study and why. It also includes any sales where the assessed values or sale prices were adjusted and why.

### Residential Improved and Vacant Analysis

Due to limited number of vacant sales in Bearcreek, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Madison, Noble, Penn, Pike, Richland and Wabash, these townships were grouped together to assure they are being fairly assessed. Wayne Township (which includes the city of Portland) has sufficient vacant residential sales to be evaluated on an individual basis.

The residential improved sales of Bearcreek, Jackson and Wabash were combined due to the limited number of sales. These three Townships border one another and are very similar economically. For the same reasons Madison and Pike Townships were also combined. The remainder of the townships had sufficient residential improved sales to be evaluated on an individual basis.

The ratio study for the residential improved and vacant sales shows that all Townships meet the State requirements for the Median, COD and PRD.

## Commercial Improved and Vacant Analysis

Due to the limited number of valid sales in any given township and the fact that the county is fairly consistent, the townships were grouped together for the commercial vacant and improved ratio studies. There were no commercial vacant sales. Therefore an analysis of the commercial land was completed and in all cases this land value was equal to or greater than the corresponding residential neighborhoods.

The Commercial Improved sales Median, COD and PRD fall with the state requirements on a countywide basis.

## Industrial Improved and Vacant Analysis

There was one industrial vacant sale. This sale fell with in the state requirements but an analysis of the industrial land was also completed to ensure that in all cases the industrial land value was equal to or greater than a corresponding residential land value.

There were only two valid industrial improved sales that occurred within the timeframe of this ratio study. Therefore an alternative method was also used.

As indicated by the rule “If assessing officials determine that there are insufficient sales of commercial or industrial property in a township or county to determine an annual adjustment factor, the county shall use one (1) or more of the following to derive annual adjustment factors or modify the values of commercial and industrial property . . .” Since there were only two sales, Marshall and Swift cost analysis was used. Using the Comparative Cost Multipliers and the Fort Wayne area along with the 3 building classes most predominate in the county from Marshall and Swift, a cost factor of 1.0084 was calculated. This factor was the increase from January 1, 2007 to January 1, 2008. The factor was then applied to all of the industrial building improvements in the county. An additional year of depreciation was applied to these buildings. The total previous building values were then compared to an updated building value based on the Marshall and Swift factor resulting in the annual adjustment factor of 0.972. An annual adjustment factor of 1.00 will be applied to all the improvements of industrial properties.

With the factor applied to the two industrial sales, this class of property meets the state requirements for Median, COD and PRD.

## Agricultural Vacant Ground Analysis

### Assessment to Assessment Study

Thirty-five agricultural parcels were randomly selected from various townships within the County. These parcels were sorted by soil ID and soil type. The productivity factor of each entry was then multiplied by \$1,250 (Agriculture ground base rate set by State) and then multiplied by the entry acreage. This amount was then divided by the acreage amount to produce a per acre price.

This assessment to assessment analysis shows that entries with the same soil type and soil productivity are priced at the same per acre rate.