

A Look at Indiana Agriculture



Capital: Indianapolis

Population: 6,423,113

Founded: December 11, 1816 (19th)

State Bird: Cardinal

State Tree: Tulip tree

State Flower: Peony

Number of Counties: 92

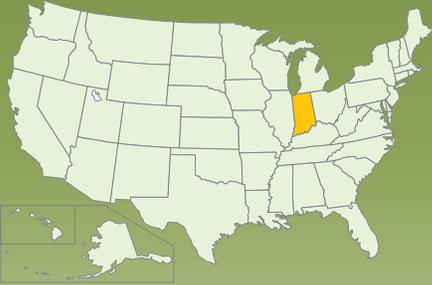
Largest City: Indianapolis - 807,584

Nickname: Hoosier State

Number of Farms: 61,000

Average Farm Size: 242 acres

Total Farmland: 14.7 million acres



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Climate & Soil

- Indiana's growing season ranges from 160 to 190 days.
- The state's average annual rainfall ranges from 36" in the north to 46" in the south.
- Indiana's normal temperature ranges from 70 to 80° F in the summer and 25 to 35° F in the winter.
- Altitude varies from a high of 1,257 feet above sea level in east central Wayne County to a low of 320 feet in southwestern Posey County.
- The flat areas of Miami soils are used mainly for corn, soybeans, or winter wheat.
- The steeper areas are used as pasture, hayland, or woodland.
- There are 794,994 acres of Miami soils in Indiana.
- Indiana is nationally ranked for agricultural production because of the highly productive Miami soils along with other prime farmland soils in the State.

Crops & Livestock

- Indiana ranks 5th nationally in the production of corn; producing 960 million bushels in 2007.
- Indiana ranks 4th in the production of soybeans with 211 million bushels produced in 2007.
- Indiana is the 2nd largest producer of popcorn in the nation.
- Indiana ranks 2nd in tomatoes for processing 249,000 tons.
- Indiana ranks 4th in peppermint producing 293,000 lbs. and 5th in spearmint producing 81,000 pounds.
- Indiana ranks 2nd in the number of layer chickens. The state is also 3rd in the nation for total number of eggs.
- Indiana produces more ducks than any other state in the nation.
- Indiana ranks 2nd in the production of both regular and fat free ice cream.

General

- Agriculture plays a vital role in the economic stability of Indiana. In 2008, farmers had cash receipts from the sale of all commodities (crops and livestock) totaling \$10.9 billion.
- In 2009 Indiana ranked 15th nationally for total farm sales in the United States.
- The average age for an Indiana farmer is 55 years old.