Noisy Garage

- **Diagnosing Noisy Garage Door Operation**
  Diagnosing Noisy Garage Door Operation Fixing Doors That Ride Off Track Resolving Sensor Misalignment Errors Interpreting Opener LED Blink Codes Addressing Slow or Jerky Door Movement Eliminating Mid Travel Door Reversal Quieting Squeaky Rollers with Proper Lubrication Identifying Cable Fraying and Safety Risks Correcting Uneven Door Closing Gaps Resetting Remote Controls After Power Outage Detecting Spring Fatigue Before Failure Occurs Choosing When to Call a Professional for Repairs
- **Setting Up Z Wave Connectivity for Your Garage Door**
  Setting Up Z Wave Connectivity for Your Garage Door Linking Garage Doors to Apple HomeKit Scenes Voice Control Tips with Google Home Assistants Using Amazon Alexa Routines for Door Automation Security Considerations for Cloud Based Door Access Updating Firmware on Smart Garage Controllers Troubleshooting WiFi Signal Issues in the Garage Integrating Door Status into Home Security Dashboards Battery Backup Management for Connected Openers IFTTT Recipes to Automate Garage Door Functions Data Privacy Practices for Smart Garage Devices Future Trends in Connected Garage Door Technology
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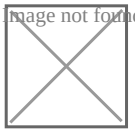
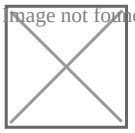
time it opens or closes. Diagnosing noisy garage door operation? Thats a project many homeowners face, and honestly, its often easier than you think. Think of yourself as a garage door detective, ready to unravel the mystery of the racket.

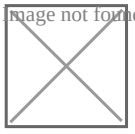
First, forget about complex theories. Start with the obvious. Grab a can of lubricant, preferably one specifically formulated for garage doors (its stickier and lasts longer than WD-40 for this purpose), and get ready to explore. The first suspects are usually the rollers. These little guys are responsible for guiding the door smoothly along the tracks. If theyre dry, worn, or even cracked, theyll scream bloody murder. Liberally spray each roller with lubricant, paying attention to the bearings inside. Run the door up and down a few times to work the lubricant in. Did the noise improve? Success! If not, keep investigating.



Next, focus on the hinges. These are the joints that connect the different sections of your garage door. Theyre also prime candidates for squeaking and groaning. Give each hinge a good shot of lubricant, again working the door to distribute it. Dont forget the hinge pins – those little metal rods that hold the hinges together. A little lubricant there can work wonders.



Now, lets move on to the track. Check for any debris that might be causing friction. Small stones, twigs, or even hardened grease can create a surprising amount of noise. Clean the tracks thoroughly, and then apply a light coat of lubricant. Pay special attention to any areas where the rollers seem to be sticking or binding.



If the noise persists, its time to consider the opener. The chain or belt that drives the door can become dry and noisy over time. Lubricate the chain or belt according to the manufacturers instructions. Also, check the sprockets and pulleys for any signs of wear or

damage. Sometimes, a worn sprocket can cause the chain to skip, creating a loud clanging sound.

Still no luck? Okay, this is where things might get a little more involved. Check the springs. These powerful components are responsible for counterbalancing the weight of the door. While you shouldnt attempt to adjust or repair the springs yourself (theyre under immense tension and can be dangerous), you can visually inspect them for signs of damage, such as rust or cracks. If you see anything suspicious, call a professional immediately.

Finally, consider the possibility of loose hardware. Over time, the bolts and screws that hold your garage door together can loosen, creating rattles and vibrations. Carefully inspect all the hardware and tighten anything that seems loose.

Diagnosing a noisy garage door isnt rocket science. Its mostly about methodical observation and liberal application of lubricant. If youve tried all of these steps and the noise persists, its probably time to call in a professional. They have the experience and equipment to diagnose more complex problems and ensure your garage door is operating safely and quietly. Just remember, a little preventative maintenance can go a long way in keeping your garage door happy and silent. And thats something we can all appreciate.

Diagnosing Noisy Garage Door Operation

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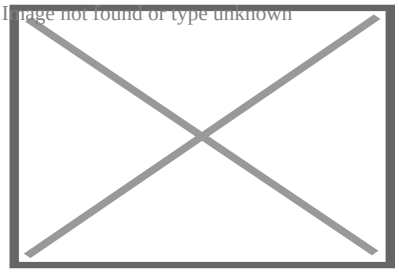
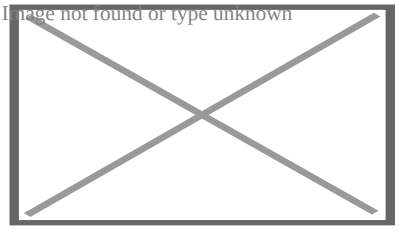
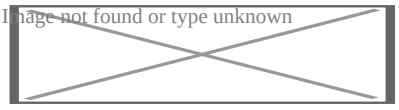
About Spring (device)



Helical coil springs designed for tension



A heavy-duty coil spring designed for compression and tension



The English longbow – a simple but very powerful spring made of yew, measuring 2 m (6 ft 7 in) long, with a 470 N (105 lbf) draw weight, with each limb functionally a cantilever spring.

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Force (F) vs extension (s).[*citation needed*] Spring characteristics: (1) progressive, (2) linear, (3) degressive, (4) almost constant, (5) progressive with knee

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A machined spring incorporates several features into one piece of bar stock

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Military booby trap firing device from USSR (normally connected to a tripwire) showing spring-loaded firing pin

A **spring** is a device consisting of an elastic but largely rigid material (typically metal) bent or molded into a form (especially a coil) that can return into shape after being compressed or extended.[1] Springs can store energy when compressed. In everyday use, the term most often refers to coil springs, but there are many different spring designs. Modern springs are typically manufactured from spring steel. An example of a non-metallic spring is the bow, made traditionally of flexible yew wood, which when drawn stores energy to propel an arrow.

When a conventional spring, without stiffness variability features, is compressed or stretched from its resting position, it exerts an opposing force approximately proportional to its change in length (this approximation breaks down for larger deflections). The *rate* or *spring constant* of a spring is the change in the force it exerts, divided by the change in deflection of the spring.

That is, it is the gradient of the force versus deflection curve. An extension or compression spring's rate is expressed in units of force divided by distance, for example or N/m or lbf/in. A torsion spring is a spring that works by twisting; when it is twisted about its axis by an angle, it produces a torque proportional to the angle. A torsion spring's rate is in units of torque divided by angle, such as N·m/rad or ft·lbf/degree. The inverse of spring rate is compliance, that is: if a spring has a rate of 10 N/mm, it has a compliance of 0.1 mm/N. The stiffness (or rate) of springs in parallel is additive, as is the compliance of springs in series.

Springs are made from a variety of elastic materials, the most common being spring steel. Small springs can be wound from pre-hardened stock, while larger ones are made from annealed steel and hardened after manufacture. Some non-ferrous metals are also used, including phosphor bronze and titanium for parts requiring corrosion resistance, and low-resistance beryllium copper for springs carrying electric current.

History

[edit]

Simple non-coiled springs have been used throughout human history, e.g. the bow (and arrow). In the Bronze Age more sophisticated spring devices were used, as shown by the spread of tweezers in many cultures. Ctesibius of Alexandria developed a method for making springs out of an alloy of bronze with an increased proportion of tin, hardened by hammering after it was cast.

Coiled springs appeared early in the 15th century,[2] in door locks.[3] The first spring powered-clocks appeared in that century[3][4][5] and evolved into the first large watches by the 16th century.

In 1676 British physicist Robert Hooke postulated Hooke's law, which states that the force a spring exerts is proportional to its extension.

On March 8, 1850, John Evans, Founder of John Evans' Sons, Incorporated, opened his business in New Haven, Connecticut, manufacturing flat springs for carriages and other vehicles, as well as the machinery to manufacture the springs. Evans was a Welsh blacksmith and springmaker who emigrated to the United States in 1847, John Evans' Sons became "America's oldest springmaker" which continues to operate today.[6]

Types

[edit]

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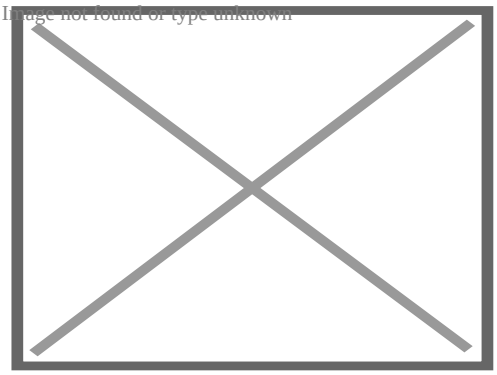

A spiral torsion spring, or hairspring, in an alarm clock.

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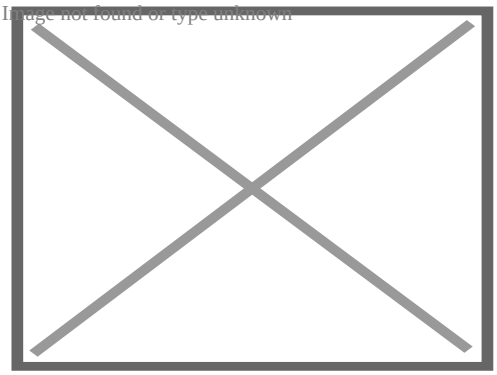

Battery contacts often have a variable spring

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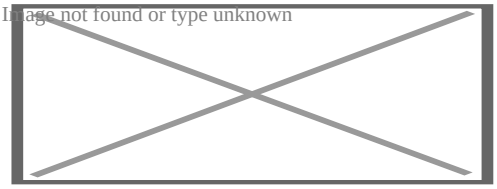

A volute spring. Under compression the coils slide over each other, so affording longer travel.

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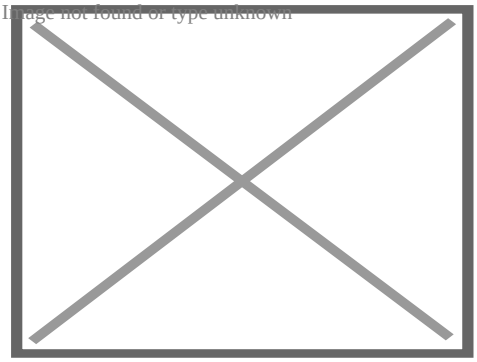

Vertical volute springs of Stuart tank

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Selection of various arc springs and arc spring systems (systems consisting of inner and outer arc springs).

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Tension springs in a folded line reverberation device.

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A torsion bar twisted under load

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Leaf spring on a truck

Classification

[edit]

Springs can be classified depending on how the load force is applied to them:

Tension/extension spring
: The spring is designed to operate with a tension load, so the spring stretches as the load is applied to it.

Compression spring
: Designed to operate with a compression load, so the spring gets shorter as the load is applied to it.

Torsion spring
: Unlike the above types in which the load is an axial force, the load applied to a torsion spring is a torque or twisting force, and the end of the spring rotates through an angle as the load is applied.

Constant spring
: Supported load remains the same throughout deflection cycle[7]

Variable spring
: Resistance of the coil to load varies during compression[8]

Variable stiffness spring
: Resistance of the coil to load can be dynamically varied for example by the control system, some types of these springs also vary their length thereby providing actuation capability as well [9]

They can also be classified based on their shape:

Flat spring
: Made of a flat spring steel.

Machined spring
: Manufactured by machining bar stock with a lathe and/or milling operation rather than a coiling operation. Since it is machined, the spring may incorporate features in addition to the elastic element. Machined springs can be made in the typical load cases of compression/extension, torsion, etc.

Serpentine spring
: A zig-zag of thick wire, often used in modern upholstery/furniture.

Garter spring
: A coiled steel spring that is connected at each end to create a circular shape.

Common types

[edit]

The most common types of spring are:

Cantilever spring

A flat spring fixed only at one end like a cantilever, while the free-hanging end takes the load.

Coil spring
: Also known as a helical spring. A spring (made by winding a wire around a cylinder) is of two types:

  - *Tension* or *extension springs* are designed to become longer under load. Their turns (loops) are normally touching in the unloaded position, and they have a hook, eye or some other means of attachment at each end.
  - *Compression springs* are designed to become shorter when loaded. Their turns (loops) are not touching in the unloaded position, and they need no attachment points.
  - *Hollow tubing springs* can be either extension springs or compression springs. Hollow tubing is filled with oil and the means of changing hydrostatic pressure inside the tubing such as a membrane or miniature piston etc. to harden or relax the spring, much like it happens with water pressure inside a garden hose. Alternatively tubing's cross-section is chosen of a shape that it changes its area when tubing is subjected to torsional deformation: change of the cross-section area translates into change of tubing's inside volume and the flow of oil in/out of the spring that can be controlled by valve thereby controlling stiffness. There are many other designs of springs of hollow tubing which can change stiffness with any desired frequency, change stiffness by a multiple or move like a linear actuator in addition to its spring qualities.

Arc spring
: A pre-curved or arc-shaped helical compression spring, which is able to transmit a torque around an axis.

Volute spring
: A compression coil spring in the form of a cone so that under compression the coils are not forced against each other, thus permitting longer travel.

Balance spring
: Also known as a hairspring. A delicate spiral spring used in watches, galvanometers, and places where electricity must be carried to partially rotating devices such as steering wheels without hindering the rotation.

Leaf spring
: A flat spring used in vehicle suspensions, electrical switches, and bows.

V-spring
: Used in antique firearm mechanisms such as the wheellock, flintlock and percussion cap locks. Also door-lock spring, as used in antique door latch mechanisms.[10]

Other types

[edit]

Other types include:

Belleville washer
: A disc shaped spring commonly used to apply tension to a bolt (and also in the initiation mechanism of pressure-activated landmines)

Constant-force spring
: A tightly rolled ribbon that exerts a nearly constant force as it is unrolled

Gas spring
: A volume of compressed gas.

Ideal spring
: An idealised perfect spring with no weight, mass, damping losses, or limits, a concept used in physics. The force an ideal spring would exert is exactly proportional to its extension or compression.[11]

Mainspring
: A spiral ribbon-shaped spring used as a power store of clockwork mechanisms: watches, clocks, music boxes, windup toys, and mechanically powered flashlights

Negator spring
: A thin metal band slightly concave in cross-section. When coiled it adopts a flat cross-section but when unrolled it returns to its former curve, thus producing a constant force throughout the displacement and *negating* any tendency to re-wind. The most common application is the retracting steel tape rule.[12]

Progressive rate coil springs
: A coil spring with a variable rate, usually achieved by having unequal distance between turns so that as the spring is compressed one or more coils rests against its neighbour.

Rubber band
: A tension spring where energy is stored by stretching the material.

Spring washer
: Used to apply a constant tensile force along the axis of a fastener.

Torsion spring
: Any spring designed to be twisted rather than compressed or extended.[13] Used in torsion bar vehicle suspension systems.

Wave spring
: various types of spring made compact by using waves to give a spring effect.

Main article: Wave spring

Physics

[edit]

Hooke's law

[edit]

Main article: Hooke's law

An ideal spring acts in accordance with Hooke's law, which states that the force with which the spring pushes back is linearly proportional to the distance from its equilibrium length:

$$\displaystyle F=-kx$$

where

- $\displaystyle x$ is the displacement vector – the distance from its equilibrium length.
- $\displaystyle F$ is the restoring force vector – the magnitude and direction of the restoring force the spring exerts
- $\displaystyle k$ is the **spring constant** or **force constant** of the spring, a constant that depends on the spring's material and construction. The negative sign indicates that the force the spring exerts is in the opposite direction from its displacement

Most real springs approximately follow Hooke's law if not stretched or compressed beyond their elastic limit.

Coil springs and other common springs typically obey Hooke's law. There are useful springs that don't: springs based on beam bending can for example produce forces that vary nonlinearly with displacement.

If made with constant pitch (wire thickness), conical springs have a variable rate. However, a conical spring can be made to have a constant rate by creating the spring with a variable pitch. A larger pitch in the larger-diameter coils and a smaller pitch in the smaller-diameter coils forces the spring to collapse or extend all the coils at the same rate when deformed.

Simple harmonic motion

[edit]
Main article: Harmonic oscillator

Since force is equal to mass, *m*, times acceleration, *a*, the force equation for a spring obeying Hooke's law looks like:

$$\displaystyle F=ma\quad \Rightarrow \quad -kx=ma.\,$$

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The displacement, *x*, as a function of time. The amount of time that passes between peaks is called the period.

The mass of the spring is small in comparison to the mass of the attached mass and is ignored. Since acceleration is simply the second derivative of x with respect to time,

$$\displaystyle -kx=m\frac d^2xdt^2.\,$$

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This is a second order linear differential equation for the displacement $\displaystyle x$ as a function of time. Rearranging:

$$\displaystyle \frac d^2xdt^2+\frac kmx=0,\,$$

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the solution of which is the sum of a sine and cosine:

$$\displaystyle x(t)=A\sin \left(t\sqrt \frac km\right)+B\cos \left(t\sqrt \frac km\right).\,$$

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$\displaystyle A$ and $\displaystyle B$ are arbitrary constants that may be found by considering the initial displacement and velocity of the mass. The graph of this function with $\displaystyle B=0$ (zero initial position with some positive initial velocity) is displayed in the image on the right.

Energy dynamics

[edit]

In simple harmonic motion of a spring-mass system, energy will fluctuate between kinetic energy and potential energy, but the total energy of the system remains the same. A spring that obeys Hooke's law with spring constant *k* will have a total system energy *E* of:[14]

\displaystyle E=\left(\frac 12\right)kA^2

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Here, A is the amplitude of the wave-like motion that is produced by the oscillating behavior of the spring.

The potential energy *U* of such a system can be determined through the spring constant *k* and its displacement *x*:[14]

\displaystyle U=\left(\frac 12\right)kx^2

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The kinetic energy *K* of an object in simple harmonic motion can be found using the mass of the attached object *m* and the velocity at which the object oscillates *v*:[14]

\displaystyle K=\left(\frac 12\right)mv^2

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Since there is no energy loss in such a system, energy is always conserved and thus:[14]

\displaystyle E=K+U

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Frequency & period

[edit]

The angular frequency ? of an object in simple harmonic motion, given in radians per second, is found using the spring constant *k* and the mass of the oscillating object *m*[15]*:*
\displaystyle \omega =\sqrt \frac km

Image not found or type unknown [14]

The period *T*, the amount of time for the spring-mass system to complete one full cycle, of such harmonic motion is given by:[16]
\displaystyle T=\frac 2\pi \omega =2\pi \sqrt \frac mk

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The frequency *f*, the number of oscillations per unit time, of something in simple harmonic motion is found by taking the inverse of the period:[14]

\displaystyle f=\frac 1T=\frac \omega 2\pi =\frac 12\pi \sqrt \frac km

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Theory

[edit]

In classical physics, a spring can be seen as a device that stores potential energy, specifically elastic potential energy, by straining the bonds between the atoms of an elastic material.

Hooke's law of elasticity states that the extension of an elastic rod (its distended length minus its relaxed length) is linearly proportional to its tension, the force used to stretch it. Similarly, the contraction (negative extension) is proportional to the compression (negative tension).

This law actually holds only approximately, and only when the deformation (extension or contraction) is small compared to the rod's overall length. For deformations beyond the elastic limit, atomic bonds get broken or rearranged, and a spring may snap, buckle, or permanently deform. Many materials have no clearly defined elastic limit, and Hooke's law can not be meaningfully applied to these materials. Moreover, for the superelastic materials, the linear relationship between force and displacement is appropriate only in the low-strain region.

Hooke's law is a mathematical consequence of the fact that the potential energy of the rod is a minimum when it has its relaxed length. Any smooth function of one variable approximates a quadratic function when examined near enough to its minimum point as can be seen by examining the Taylor series. Therefore, the force – which is the derivative of energy with respect to displacement – approximates a linear function.

The force of a fully compressed spring is:

\displaystyle F_max=\frac Ed^4(L-nd)16(1+\nu)(D-d)^3n\

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where

E – Young's modulus
d – spring wire diameter
L – free length of spring
n – number of active windings
\displaystyle \nu Image not found or type unknown – Poisson ratio
D – spring outer diameter.

Zero-length springs

[edit]

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Simplified LaCoste suspension using a zero-length spring

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Spring length L vs force F graph of ordinary (+), zero-length (0) and negative-length (?) springs with the same minimum length L_0 and spring constant

Zero-length spring is a term for a specially designed coil spring that would exert zero force if it had zero length. That is, in a line graph of the spring's force versus its length, the line passes through the origin. A real coil spring will not contract to zero length because at some point the coils touch each other. "Length" here is defined as the distance between the axes of the pivots at each end of the spring, regardless of any inelastic portion in-between.

Zero-length springs are made by manufacturing a coil spring with built-in tension (A twist is introduced into the wire as it is coiled during manufacture; this works because a coiled spring *unwinds* as it stretches), so if it *could* contract further, the equilibrium point of the spring, the point at which its restoring force is zero, occurs at a length of zero. In practice, the manufacture of springs is typically not accurate enough to produce springs with tension consistent enough for applications that use zero length springs, so they are made by combining a *negative length* spring, made with even more tension so its equilibrium point would be at a *negative* length, with a piece of inelastic material of the proper length so the zero force point would occur at zero length.

A zero-length spring can be attached to a mass on a hinged boom in such a way that the force on the mass is almost exactly balanced by the vertical component of the force from the spring, whatever the position of the boom. This creates a horizontal pendulum with very long oscillation period. Long-period pendulums enable seismometers to sense the slowest waves from earthquakes. The LaCoste suspension with zero-length springs is also used in gravimeters because it is very sensitive to changes in gravity. Springs for closing doors are often made to have roughly zero length, so that they exert force even when the door is almost closed, so they can hold it closed firmly.

Uses

[edit]

- Airsoft gun
- Aerospace
- Retractable ballpoint pens
- Buckling spring keyboards
- Clockwork clocks, watches, and other things
- Firearms
- Forward or aft spring, a method of mooring a vessel to a shore fixture
- Gravimeters
- Industrial Equipment
- Jewelry: Clasp mechanisms
- Most folding knives, and switchblades
- Lock mechanisms: Key-recognition and for coordinating the movements of various parts of the lock.
- Spring mattresses
- Medical Devices[17]
- Pogo Stick
- Pop-open devices: CD players, tape recorders, toasters, etc.
- Spring reverb
- Toys; the Slinky toy is just a spring
- Trampoline
- Upholstery coil springs
- Vehicle suspension, Leaf springs

See also

[edit]

- Shock absorber
- Slinky, helical spring toy
- Volute spring

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Further reading

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External links

[edit]

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Wikimedia Commons has media related to ***Spring (device)***.

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- Smart Springs and their Combinations (patent)

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Machines

Classical simple machines	○ Inclined plane ○ Lever ○ Pulley ○ Screw ○ Wedge ○ Wheel and axle
Clocks	○ Atomic clock ○ Chronometer ○ Pendulum clock ○ Quartz clock

Compressors and pumps	○ Archimedes' screw ○ Eductor-jet pump ○ Hydraulic ram ○ Pump ○ Trompe ○ Vacuum pump
External combustion engines	○ Steam engine ○ Stirling engine
Internal combustion engines	○ Gas turbine ○ Reciprocating engine ○ Rotary engine ○ Nutating disc engine
Linkages	○ Pantograph ○ Peaucellier-Lipkin
Turbine	○ Gas turbine ○ Jet engine ○ Steam turbine ○ Water turbine ○ Wind generator ○ Windmill
Aerofoil	○ Sail ○ Wing ○ Rudder ○ Flap ○ Propeller
Electronics	○ Vacuum tube ○ Transistor ○ Diode ○ Resistor ○ Capacitor ○ Inductor

Vehicles	○ Automobile
Miscellaneous	○ Mecha ○ Robot ○ Agricultural ○ Seed-counting machine ○ Vending machine ○ Wind tunnel ○ Check weighing machines ○ Riveting machines
Springs	○ Spring (device)

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International	○ FAST
National	○ Germany ○ United States ○ France ○ BnF data ○ Japan ○ Czech Republic ○ Israel

About Lake County, Indiana

Not to be confused with Lake County, Illinois.

Lake County, Indiana

County

Former Lake County Courthouse in Crown Point, Indiana

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Former Lake County Courthouse
in Crown Point, Indiana

Official seal of Lake County, Indiana

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Seal

Location in the state of Indiana

Image not found or type unknown

Location in the state of Indiana

Indiana's location in the U.S.

Image not found or type unknown

Indiana's location in the U.S.

Coordinates: 41°25?N 87°22?WÃ¯Â»Â¿ / Ã¯Â»Â¿41.417°N 87.367°W

Country	Image not found or type unknown United States
State	Image not found or type unknown Indiana
Region	Northwest Indiana
Metro area	Chicago Metropolitan
Settled	October 1834[1]
Established	February 16, 1837[2]

Named after	Lake Michigan
County seat	Crown Point
Largest city	Hammond (population) Gary (total area)
Incorporated municipalities	**19 cities and towns** Cedar Lake (town) Crown Point (city) Dyer (town) East Chicago (city) Gary (city) Griffith (town) Hammond (city) Highland (town) Hobart (city) Lake Station (city) Lowell (town) Merrillville (town) Munster (town) New Chicago (town) Schererville (town) Schneider (town) St. John (town) Whiting (city) Winfield (town)
	Government [3]
• **Type**	County
• **Body**	Board of Commissioners
• **Commissioner**	Kyle W. Allen, Sr. (D, 1st)
• **Commissioner**	Jerry J. Tippy (R, 2nd)
• **Commissioner**	Michael C. Repay (D, 3rd)
• **County Council**	**Members** David Hamm (D, 1st) Clorius Lay (D, 2nd) Charlie Brown (D, 3rd) Pete Lindemulder (R, 4th) Christine Cid (D, 5th) Ted F. Bilski (D, 6th) Randy Niemeyer (R, 7th)

Area	
• **County**	626.5 sq mi (1,623 km^2)
• **Land**	498.9 sq mi (1,292 km^2)
• **Water**	127.6 sq mi (330 km^2)
• **Metro**	10,874 sq mi (28,160 km^2)
• **Rank**	12th largest county in Indiana
• **Region**	2,726 sq mi (7,060 km^2)
Dimensions [4]	
• **Length**	36 mi (58 km)
• **Width**	16 mi (26 km)
Elevation [5] *(mean)*	663 ft (202 m)
Highest elevation [6]—*NE Winfield Twp*	801 ft (244 m)
Lowest elevation [7]—*at Lake Michigan*	585 ft (178 m)
Population (2020)	
• **County**	498,700
• **Estimate (2023)**	500,598 Increase Image not found or type unknown
• **Rank**	2nd largest county in Indiana 131st largest county in U.S.[8]
• **Density**	800/sq mi (310/km^2)
• **Metro**	9,522,434
• **Region**	819,537
Time zone	UTC?6 (Central)
• **Summer (DST)**	UTC?5 (Central)
ZIP Codes	46303, 46307–08, 46311–12, 46319–25, 46327, 46341–42, 46355–56, 46373, 46375–77, 46394, 46401–11
Area code	219
Congressional district	1st
Indiana Senate districts	1st, 2nd, 3rd and 6th

Indiana House of Representatives districts	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th and 19th
FIPS code	18-089
GNIS feature ID	0450495
Interstates	Image not found or type unknown
U.S. Routes	Image not found or type unknown Image not found or type unknown
State Routes	Image not found or type unknown Image not found or type unknown
Airports	Gary/Chicago International Griffith-Merrillville
Waterways	Grand Calumet River Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal Kankakee River Lake Michigan
Amtrak stations	Dyer – Hammond-Whiting
South Shore Line stations	Hammond Gateway – East Chicago Adam Benjamin Metro Center Gary/Chicago Airport – Miller
Public transit	East Chicago Transit Gary Public Transportation *Broadway Metro Express*
Website	www.lakecountyin.org

- Indiana county number 45
- Second most-populous county in Indiana

Lake County is a county located in the U.S. state of Indiana. In 2020, its population was 498,700,[9] making it Indiana's second-most populous county. The county seat is Crown Point.[10] The county is part of Northwest Indiana and the Chicago metropolitan area, and contains a mix of urban, suburban and rural areas. It is bordered on the north by Lake Michigan and contains a portion of the Indiana Dunes.[11][12] It includes Marktown, Clayton Mark's planned worker community in East Chicago.[13]

History

[edit]

Early settlement

[edit]

Originally inhabited by the Potawatomi and generations of indigenous ancestors, Lake County was established by European Americans on February 16, 1837.[2] From 1832 to 1836 the area that was to become Lake County was part of La Porte County.[14] From 1836 to 1837 it was part of Porter County.[14] It was named for its location on Lake Michigan.[15] The original county seat was Liverpool, but in 1840 Lake Court House, later renamed as Crown Point, was chosen.[16]

Lake County's population grew slowly before the 1850s. Construction of railroads to link Chicago to the rest of the country stimulated rapid development, and tens of thousands of settlers and immigrants bought land in the region. Small-scale industrialization began, but was primarily relegated to the northern coast of the county, where it could take advantage of the railroads along the coast and shipping on the Great Lakes. The 1900 Census gives a population of 37,892 residents.

Industrialization and immigration

[edit]

Inland Steel Company established a plant in East Chicago in 1903 and U.S. Steel founded one in Gary in 1906; with industrial jobs the demand for labor associated with industrial jobs, the county's population exploded. Immigrants poured into the area from all over Central and Eastern Europe (there was also a smaller Mexican immigrant community). In addition, both black and white migrants came from many regions of the United States, particularly Appalachia and the South. Mostly rural blacks went north in the Great Migration, seeking both industrial jobs and escape from Jim Crow violence and disenfranchisement in the South.

By 1930, Lake County's population surpassed 260,000, with first- and second-generation Americans constituting a majority of the population. The second wave of the Ku Klux Klan gained a large following here in the 1920s, as it did for a time in the rest of Indiana. The KKK organized against the numerous European immigrants, who were mostly Catholic. While the steel industry reigned supreme, other industries also found the county to be an ideal location

for cheap land and well-developed transportation networks, such as automobiles, oil, chemicals, consumer goods, food processing, and construction supply companies.[17]

The Great Depression was devastating to Lake County, as it was to other areas with economies based on heavy industry. The Depression, combined with industrial strife, changing demographics, and unionization, caused a realignment of politics in Lake County. It became a stronghold of the Democratic Party; Lake County has supported the Democratic nominee for president in every election since 1932 (exceptions occurred in 1956 and 1972). Indiana's 1st congressional district has elected Democratic candidates in every election since 1930.

World War II restored prosperity, as industry revived to support the war effort. Good economic times continued into the 1970s. During this period, unions helped industrial workers gain middle-class wages. In addition to attracting refugees and immigrants from Europe, black Americans and Mexicans migrated here in the postwar period in even higher numbers than in the 1910-1930 period. As minority populations exploded in such industrial cities as East Chicago and Gary, racial tensions surfaced again. Following construction of state and federal highways, development of cheaper land provided newer housing to middle-class people who could afford it. Both whites and established black families moved out of the aging industrial cities.[17]

Recent history

[edit]

Lake County's population peaked at 546,000 in 1970. Severe industrial decline took place during the 1973-1991 period, brought on by foreign competition, new management philosophies that called for major workforce reductions, and productivity gains from technology. The decline was particularly intense in the steel industry: steel employment exceeded 60,000 in the 1960s, and declined progressively to just 18,000 by 2015. Lake County's population declined 13% to bottom out at 475,000 in 1990.

The industrial decline of the 1980s cast a long shadow over Lake County: the county did not regain the level of employment it had in 1980 until 1996, after which the employment level roughly flatlined. The county's economic output peaked in 1978, and has not since recovered, remaining 15-20% below the peak after adjusting for inflation. As prosperity declined, so did the immigration that powered the county's explosive population growth before 1950: per the 2000 census, only 5.3% of Lake County's residents were foreign-born, compared to over 11% for the United States as a whole.[18]

The population recovered somewhat during the 1990s and 2000s, as the local economy adjusted. Suburban growth has also been driven by commuter populations of workers who are employed in Chicago and commute via expressways or the South Shore Line. In 2007, it was

estimated that 44,000 workers commuted from Lake County, Indiana, to Chicago for work.[18] The decline of industrial cities and growth of suburbs has been so sharp, that by 1990 a majority of the county's population lived outside of the four traditional industrial cities. Lake County still continues to struggle with urban decline and poverty, suburban sprawl and traffic jams, and a stagnating population.[17]

Geography

[edit]

According to the 2010 census, the county has a total area of 626.56 square miles (1,622.8 km^2), of which 498.96 square miles (1,292.3 km^2) (or 79.63%) is land and 127.60 square miles (330.5 km^2) (or 20.37%) is water. It is the second-largest county in total area in Indiana, but has the largest water area of all 92 counties.[19]

The northern and southern portions of the county (north of U.S. 30 and south of Lowell) are mainly low and flat, except for a few sand ridges and dunes and were both once very marshy and had to be drained. The lowest point, at 585 feet (178 m),[7] is along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

The central part of the county is higher and hillier. As you travel south from the low and relatively flat lake plain in the northern part of the county, the land gradually rises in elevation until the peak of the Valparaiso Moraine. The highest point, at 801 feet (244 m),[6] is in northeastern Winfield Township near 109th Street and North Lakeshore Drive in Lakes of the Four Seasons. From here the land descends south into the Kankakee Outwash Plain until the Kankakee River is reached.

The geographic center of Lake County is approximately 200 feet (60 m) northwest of Burr Street and West 113th Avenue in Center Township

41°24?53.8?N 87°24?14.3?WÃ¯Â»Â¿ / Ã¯Â»Â¿41.414944°N 87.403972°W.

Adjacent counties

[edit]

- Cook County, Illinois (northwest)
- Will County, Illinois (west)
- Kankakee County, Illinois (southwest)
- Porter County (east)
- Jasper County (southeast)

- Newton County (south)

National protected area

- Indiana Dunes National Park – *also in LaPorte and Porter counties*

Transit

- East Chicago Transit
- Gary Public Transportation Corporation (*Broadway Metro Express*)

Airports

- Gary/Chicago International Airport
- Griffith-Merrillville Airport

Major highways

Interstate 65 in Lake County is called the Casimir Pulaski Memorial Highway. Interstate 80/94/US 6 is the Frank Borman Expressway from the Illinois state line east to the Indiana Toll Road interchange in the eastern portion of the county. Interstate 94 has been referred to as the Chicago-Detroit Industrial Freeway. US 6 is part of the Grand Army of the Republic Highway. Broadway (Indiana 53) is also the Carolyn Mosby Memorial Highway. Indiana 51 is known for its entire length as the Adam Benjamin Memorial Highway. US 30 is part of the historic Lincoln Highway. US 12 from Gary eastward is part of Dunes Highway. Cline Avenue (Indiana 912) from US 12 north and westward is known as the Highway Construction Workers Memorial Highway.

- Image not found or type unknown Interstate 65
- Image not found or type unknown Interstate 80
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- Image not found or type unknown Interstate 94
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- Image not found or type unknown U.S. Route 12

- Image not found or type unknown U.S. Route 20
- Image not found or type unknown U.S. Route 30
- Image not found or type unknown U.S. Route 41
- Image not found or type unknown U.S. Route 231
- Image not found or type unknown State Road 2
- Image not found or type unknown State Road 51
- Image not found or type unknown State Road 53
- Image not found or type unknown State Road 55
- Image not found or type unknown State Road 130
- Image not found or type unknown State Road 152
- Image not found or type unknown State Road 312
- Image not found or type unknown State Road 912

Railroads

- Amtrak
- Canadian National Railway
- Chicago, Fort Wayne and Eastern Railroad
- Chicago South Shore and South Bend Railroad
- CSX Transportation
- Gary Railway
- Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad
- Norfolk Southern Railway
- South Shore Line

Municipalities

[edit]

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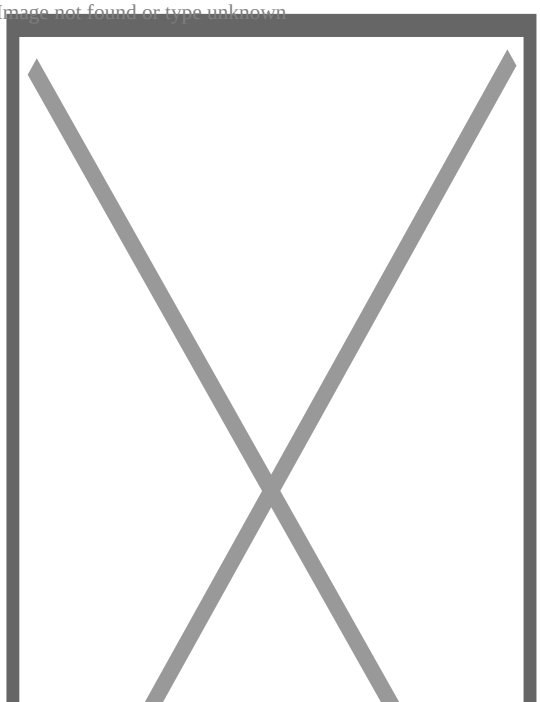

The municipalities in Lake County, and their populations as of the 2020 Census, are:

Cities

[edit]

- Crown Point – 33,899
- East Chicago – 26,370
- Gary – 69,093
- Hammond – 77,879
- Hobart – 29,752
- Lake Station – 13,235
- Whiting – 4,559

Towns

[edit]

- Cedar Lake – 14,106
- Dyer – 16,517
- Griffith – 16,528
- Highland – 23,984
- Lowell – 10,680
- Merrillville – 36,444
- Munster – 23,894
- New Chicago – 1,999
- Schererville – 29,646
- Schneider – 269
- St. John – 20,303
- Winfield – 7,181

Census-designated places

[edit]

- Lake Dalecarlia – 1,332
- Lakes of the Four Seasons – 3,936
  (7,091 including portion in Porter County)
- Shelby – 453

Unincorporated communities

[edit]

- Ainsworth
- Belshaw
- Brunswick
- Creston
- Deep River
- Deer Creek
- Dinwiddie
- Green Acres
- Klaasville
- Kreitzburg
- Leroy
- Liverpool
- New Elliott
- Orchard Grove
- Palmer
- Range Line
- Ross
- Southeast Grove

Townships

[edit]

The 11 townships of Lake County, with their populations as of the 2020 Census, are:

- Calumet – 91,970
- Cedar Creek – 12,725
- Center – 38,630
- Eagle Creek – 1,719
- Hanover – 18,214

- Hobart – 40,652
- North – 156,686
- Ross – 48,529
- St. John – 68,972
- West Creek – 7,676
- Winfield – 12,927

Economy

[edit]

Despite the decline of heavy industry, manufacturing was still the largest employment sector in Lake County in 2010 with over 45,000 workers employed, followed closely by healthcare and social assistance at 44,000 workers, public administration at 40,000 workers, retail trade at 37,000 workers, accommodation and food services at 25,000 workers, and construction at 15,000 workers.[18]

Lake County's GDP in 2010 was measured at nearly $25 billion. Manufacturing was also the largest sector of the economy in economic terms, contributing over $5.8 billion to the county's GDP in 2010. It was followed by healthcare and social assistance at $2.6 billion, public administration at $2.5 billion, and retail trade at $1.9 billion. While Lake County's average income was approximately 24% higher than the national average in 1978, in 2010 Lake County had fallen significantly behind the United States as a whole, with average income being approximately 12.9% lower. The national average surpassed Lake County sometime around 1986.

Businesses with the largest number of employees in the county are: [20]

- Americall Group, Inc. – Hobart
- Ameristar Casino – East Chicago
- BP Whiting Refinery – Whiting
- Canadian National Railway – Whiting
- Cargill – Hammond
- Cleveland-Cliffs Indiana Harbor Works – East Chicago
- Community Hospital – Munster
- Franciscan Alliance, Inc. – *locations throughout the region*
- Franciscan Health Hammond – Hammond *(closed)*
- Hard Rock Casino Northern Indiana – Gary
- Horseshoe Casino – Hammond
- Majestic Star Casino – Gary *(closed)*
- Methodist Hospitals Northlake Campus – Merrillville
- NiSource – Merrillville
- Radisson Hotel at Star Plaza – Merrillville *(closed)*
- St. Catherine Hospital – East Chicago

- St. Mary Medical Center – Hobart
- Times Media Company – Munster
- Unilever – Whiting
- U.S. Steel Gary Works – Gary

Education

[edit]

Public school districts

[edit]

The administration of public schools in Lake County is divided among 16 corporations and governing bodies,[21] more than any other Indiana county.[22]

- Crown Point Community School Corporation – Center and Winfield townships
- Gary Community School Corporation – City of Gary
- Griffith Public Schools – Town of Griffith
- Hanover Community School Corporation – Hanover Township
- Lake Central School Corporation – St. John Township
- Lake Ridge Schools Corporation – unincorporated Calumet Township
- Lake Station Community Schools – City of Lake Station
- Merrillville Community School Corporation – Ross Township
- River Forest Community School Corporation – Town of New Chicago and some portions of adjacent communities
- School City of East Chicago – City of East Chicago
- School City of Hammond – City of Hammond
- School City of Hobart – City of Hobart within Hobart Township
- School City of Whiting – City of Whiting
- School Town of Highland – Town of Highland
- School Town of Munster – Town of Munster
- Tri-Creek School Corporation – Cedar Creek, Eagle Creek and West Creek townships

Private schools

[edit]

Elementary and secondary schools operated by the Diocese of Gary:

- Andrean High School, Merrillville (9–12)
- Aquinas School at St. Andrew's, Merrillville (PK–8)
- Bishop Noll Institute, Hammond (9–12)
- Our Lady of Grace, Highland (PK–8)
- St. Casimir, Hammond (PK–8)
- St. John Bosco, Hammond (PK–8)
- St. John the Baptist, Whiting (PK–8)
- St. John the Evangelist, St. John (PK–8)
- St. Mary, Crown Point (PK–8)
- St. Mary, Griffith (PK–8)
- St. Michael, Schererville (PK–8)
- St. Stanislaus, East Chicago (PK–8)
- St. Thomas More, Munster (PK–8)

Other parochial and private schools:

- St. Paul's Lutheran School, Munster (PK–8)
- Trinity Lutheran School, Crown Point (PK–8)
- Trinity Lutheran School, Hobart (PK–8)

Colleges and universities

[edit]

- Calumet College of St. Joseph
- Hyles–Anderson College
- Indiana University Northwest
- Ivy Tech Community College
- Purdue University Northwest[23]
- University of Phoenix
- Indiana Wesleyan University

Public libraries

[edit]

The county is served by seven different public library systems:

- Crown Point Community Library has its main location with a branch in Winfield.[24]
- East Chicago Public Library has its main location and the Robart A. Pastrick branch.[25]

- Gary Public Library has its main location, the Gary Public Library and Cultural Center, and the Kennedy and Woodson branches.[26]
- Hammond Public Library[27]
- Lake County Public Library has its main location in Merrillville as well as Cedar Lake, Dyer-Schererville, Griffith-Calumet Township, Highland, Hobart, Lake Station-New Chicago, Munster and St. John branches.[28]
- Lowell Public Library has its main location with branches in Schneider and Shelby.[29]
- Whiting Public Library[30]

Hospitals

[edit]

- Community Hospital, Munster – 454 beds[31]
- Franciscan Health Crown Point, Crown Point – 203 beds *(Level III Trauma Center)*[31][32][33]
- Franciscan Health Dyer, Dyer – 223 beds[31][32]
- Franciscan Health Munster, Munster – 63 beds[31][32]
- Methodist Hospitals – 536 beds[31]
  - Northlake Campus, Gary
  - Southlake Campus, Merrillville
- NW Indiana ER and Hospital, Hammond – 6 beds[31]
- St. Catherine Hospital, East Chicago – 216 beds[31]
- St. Mary Medical Center, Hobart – 215 beds[31]
- UChicago Medicine Crown Point, Crown Point – 8 beds *(opening April 2024)*[34]

Media

[edit]

The Times, based in Munster, is the largest daily newspaper in Lake County and Northwest Indiana and the second largest in the state. Lake County is also served by the *Post-Tribune*, a daily newspaper based in Merrillville.

Lakeshore Public Television operates WYIN-TV Gary on channel 56 and is the local PBS station in the Chicago television market.

These eight broadcast radio stations serve Lake County and are part of the Chicago market:

- WJOB (1230 AM) – Hammond
- WWCA (1270 AM) – Gary
- WLTH (1370 AM) – Gary
- WLPR (89.1 FM) – Lowell
- WRTW (90.5 FM) – Crown Point

- WPWX (92.3 FM) – Hammond
- WXRD (103.9 FM) – Crown Point
- WZVN (107.1 FM) – Lowell

Climate and weather

[edit]

Climate data for Lowell, Indiana (1981-2010 normals, extremes 1963-present)

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °F (°C)	66 (19)	73 (23)	85 (29)	91 (33)	95 (35)	104 (40)	101 (38)	104 (40)	98 (37)	92 (33)	77 (25)	70 (21)	104 (40)
Mean daily maximum °F (°C)	31.2 (?0.4)	35.8 (2.1)	47.5 (8.6)	60.8 (16.0)	71.3 (21.8)	80.7 (27.1)	83.8 (28.8)	82.0 (27.8)	76.4 (24.7)	63.6 (17.6)	49.4 (9.7)	35.1 (1.7)	59.8 (15.5)
Daily mean °F (°C)	22.8 (?5.1)	26.7 (?2.9)	37.4 (3.0)	49.3 (9.6)	59.8 (15.4)	69.7 (20.9)	73.1 (22.8)	71.1 (21.7)	64.2 (17.9)	51.9 (11.1)	40.2 (4.6)	27.1 (?2.7)	49.4 (9.7)
Mean daily minimum °F (°C)	14.4 (?9.8)	17.7 (?7.9)	27.4 (?2.6)	37.9 (3.3)	48.2 (9.0)	58.7 (14.8)	62.4 (16.9)	60.3 (15.7)	52.0 (11.1)	40.2 (4.6)	31.0 (?0.6)	19.1 (?7.2)	39.1 (3.9)
Record low °F (°C)	?28 (?33)	?23 (?31)	?9 (?23)	7 (?14)	26 (?3)	33 (1)	41 (5)	38 (3)	28 (?2)	18 (?8)	2 (?17)	?29 (?34)	?29 (?34)
Average precipitation inches (mm)	1.96 (50)	1.75 (44)	2.57 (65)	3.78 (96)	4.38 (111)	4.69 (119)	4 (100)	3.98 (101)	3.14 (80)	3.44 (87)	3.43 (87)	2.34 (59)	39.46 (999)
Average snowfall inches (cm)	8.8 (22)	8.2 (21)	3.4 (8.6)	0.3 (0.76)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.2 (0.51)	0.7 (1.8)	7.7 (20)	29.3 (74.67)

Source: NOAA (normals, 1981–2010)[35]

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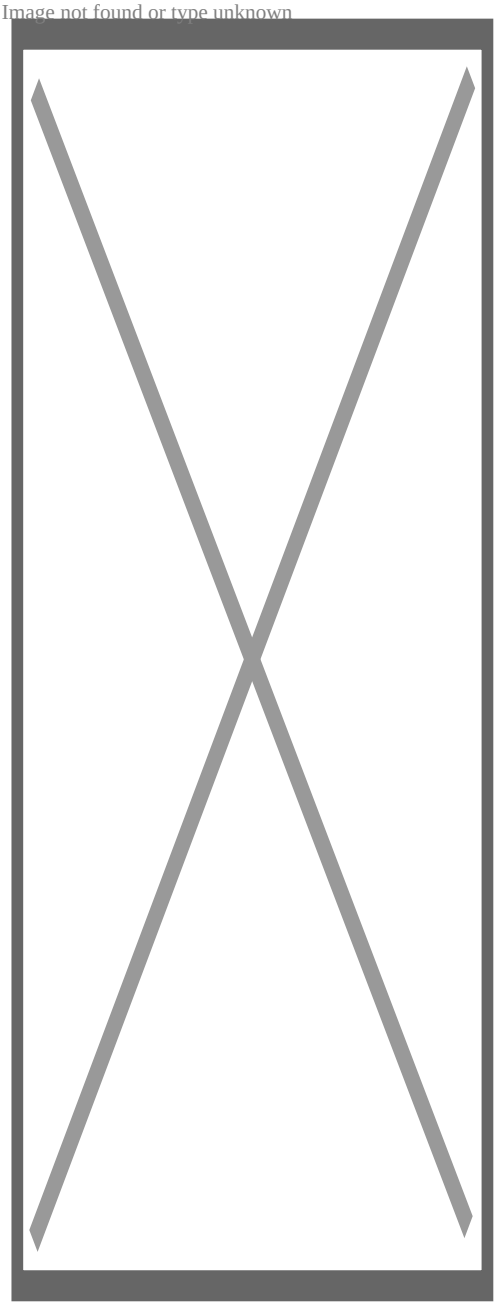

Satellite imagery of Lake County, IN

In recent years, average temperatures in Lowell have ranged from a low of 14.4 °F (?9.8 °C) in January to a high of 83.8 °F (28.8 °C) in July, although a record low of ?29 °F (?34 °C) was recorded in December 1989 and a record high of 104 °F (40 °C) was recorded in June 1988. Average monthly precipitation ranged from 1.75 inches (44 mm) in February to 4.69 inches (119 mm) in June. Temperatures at or below 0 °F (?18 °C) occur on average 11 days annually and exceed 90 °F (32 °C) degrees on 14 days.[35] In winter, lake-effect snow increases snowfall totals compared to the areas to the west.[36] In spring and early summer, the immediate shoreline areas sometimes experience lake-breeze that can drop temperatures by several degrees compared to areas further inland.[37] In summer, thunderstorms are common, occurring an average 40–50 days every year,[38] and on about 13 days, these thunderstorms

produce severe winds.[39]

Government

[edit]
See also: Government of Indiana

The county government is a constitutional body, and is granted specific powers by the Constitution of Indiana, and by the Indiana Code.

County Council: The county council is the legislative branch of the county government and controls all the spending and revenue collection in the county. Representatives are elected from county districts. The council members serve four-year terms. They are responsible for setting salaries, the annual budget, and special spending. The council also has limited authority to impose local taxes, in the form of an income and property tax that is subject to state level approval, excise taxes, and service taxes.[40][41]

Board of Commissioners: The executive body of the county is made of a board of commissioners. The commissioners are elected county-wide, in staggered terms, and each serves a four-year term. One of the commissioners, typically the most senior, serves as president. The commissioners are charged with executing the acts legislated by the council, collecting revenue, and managing the day-to-day functions of the county government.[40][41]

Court: The county maintains a small claims court that can handle some civil cases. The judge on the court is elected to a term of four years and must be a member of the Indiana Bar Association. The judge is assisted by a constable who is also elected to a four-year term. In some cases, court decisions can be appealed to the state level circuit court.[41]

County Officials: The county has several other elected offices, including sheriff, coroner, auditor, treasurer, recorder, surveyor, and circuit court clerk Each of these elected officers serves a term of four years and oversees a different part of county government. Members elected to county government positions are required to declare party affiliations and to be residents of the county.[41]

County elected officials

[edit]

Board of Commissioners:[3]

- Kyle W. Allen, Sr. (D, 1st)†
- Jerry J. Tippy (R, 2nd)
- Michael C. Repay (D, 3rd)

County Council:[3]

- David Hamm (D, 1st)
- Ronald Brewer (D, 2nd)
- Charlie Brown (D, 3rd)
- Pete Lindemulder (R, 4th)
- Christine Cid (D, 5th)
- Ted F. Bilski (D, 6th)†
- Randy Niemeyer (R, 7th)

Elected Officials:[3]

- Assessor: LaTonya Spearman (D)
- Auditor: Peggy Katona (D)
- Clerk: Michael Brown (D)
- Coroner: David Pastrick (D)
- Prosecutor: Bernard A. Carter (D)
- Recorder: Gina Pimentel (D)
- Sheriff: Oscar Martinez, Jr. (D)[42]
- Surveyor: Bill Emerson, Jr. (D)
- Treasurer: John Petalas (D)

† *President*

Politics

[edit]

While the state of Indiana is strongly Republican, having voted Republican in every election since 1964 (except in 2008), Lake County has long been a Democratic stronghold due to being part of the Chicago metropolitan area. It has given pluralities or majorities to Democrats in every presidential election since 1932 with the exceptions of 1956 and 1972. Like the rest of the Rust Belt, however, Lake County has recently trended Republican, with Donald Trump scoring the highest percentage of the vote since 1972 in the 2024 presidential election.

Lake is part of Indiana's 1st congressional district, which is held by Democrat Frank J. Mrvan.[43] In the State Senate, Lake is part of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 6th districts, which are held by three Democrats and one Republican. In the Indiana House of Representatives, Lake is part of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th and 19th districts, which are held by four Democrats and four Republicans.

United States presidential election results for Lake County, Indiana[44]

Year	Republican		Democratic		Third party(ies)	
	No.Ã¢â‚¬Â¯	%	No.Ã¢â‚¬Â¯	%	No.Ã¢â‚¬Â¯	%
2024	97,270	46.30%	109,086	**51.92%**	3,746	1.78%
2020	91,760	41.65%	124,870	**56.67%**	3,700	1.68%
2016	75,625	37.29%	116,935	**57.66%**	10,241	5.05%
2012	68,431	33.85%	130,897	**64.75%**	2,819	1.39%
2008	67,742	32.41%	139,301	**66.64%**	1,996	0.95%
2004	71,903	38.24%	114,743	**61.03%**	1,376	0.73%
2000	63,389	36.02%	109,078	**61.98%**	3,527	2.00%

1996	47,873	29.22%	100,198	**61.15%**	15,789	9.64%
1992	53,867	28.91%	102,778	**55.17%**	29,653	15.92%
1988	79,929	43.03%	105,026	**56.55%**	780	0.42%
1984	94,870	44.30%	117,984	**55.10%**	1,289	0.60%
1980	95,408	46.02%	101,145	**48.78%**	10,786	5.20%
1976	90,119	42.36%	120,700	**56.74%**	1,922	0.90%
1972	115,480	**56.24%**	88,510	43.10%	1,352	0.66%
1968	77,911	36.48%	99,897	**46.77%**	35,766	16.75%
1964	73,722	35.19%	134,978	**64.42%**	823	0.39%
1960	78,278	37.04%	132,554	**62.72%**	526	0.25%
1956	92,803	**52.00%**	85,000	47.63%	657	0.37%
1952	74,073	44.66%	90,721	**54.70%**	1,051	0.63%
1948	51,413	38.77%	77,025	**58.09%**	4,157	3.14%
1944	48,147	38.84%	75,066	**60.56%**	737	0.59%
1940	45,898	38.79%	71,985	**60.83%**	447	0.38%
1936	33,689	32.47%	68,551	**66.07%**	1,510	1.46%
1932	42,596	46.56%	46,060	**50.34%**	2,836	3.10%
1928	48,768	**59.68%**	32,321	39.55%	630	0.77%
1924	30,990	**64.61%**	10,918	22.76%	6,060	12.63%
1920	26,296	**69.15%**	7,136	18.77%	4,596	12.09%
1916	13,262	**55.00%**	9,946	41.25%	903	3.75%
1912	5,176	29.61%	5,136	29.38%	7,171	**41.02%**
1908	9,499	**60.97%**	5,502	35.32%	578	3.71%
1904	6,429	**64.11%**	2,933	29.25%	666	6.64%
1900	5,337	**58.00%**	3,733	40.57%	131	1.42%
1896	4,883	**58.11%**	3,418	40.68%	102	1.21%
1892	2,958	48.02%	3,010	**48.86%**	192	3.12%
1888	2,543	**54.21%**	2,068	44.08%	80	1.71%

2008 presidential primary

[edit]

In the 2008 Democratic presidential primary on May 6, 2008, Lake County was one of the last counties to report results.[45] Lake County had reported no results at 11 p.m. ET,[46] and at midnight ET, only 28% of Lake County's vote had been reported.[47] A large number of absentee ballots and a record turnout delayed the tallies, and polls closed an hour later than

much of the state because Lake County is in the Central Time Zone.[46] Early returns showed Senator Barack Obama leading by a potentially lead-changing margin, leaving the race between Senator Hillary Clinton and Obama "too close to call" until final tallies were reported.

Crime

The NWI Times reported that over 800 registered sex offenders live in Lake and Porter Counties of Indiana in 2021.[48]

Culture and contemporary life

[edit]

Entertainment and the arts

[edit]

- Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, concerts held at Living Hope Church – Merrillville
- Theatre at the Center, located at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts – Munster

Major attractions

[edit]

- Ameristar Casino – East Chicago
- Horseshoe Casino – Hammond
- Majestic Star Casino – Gary
- Majestic Star Casino II – Gary
- Pierogi Fest – Whiting
- Southlake Mall – Hobart
- Three Floyds Brewing – Munster

Professional sports teams

[edit]

- Gary SouthShore RailCats, an American Association professional baseball team, play their games at U.S. Steel Yard in Gary.

Recreation

[edit]

List of parks and recreational facilities – Lake County Parks and Recreation

- Bellaboo's Play and Discovery Center – Lake Station
- Buckley Homestead – Lowell
- Cedar Creek Family Golf Center – Cedar Lake
- Deep River County Park – Hobart
- Deep River Waterpark – Crown Point
- Gibson Woods Nature Preserve – Hammond
- Grand Kankakee Marsh – Hebron
- Lake Etta – Gary
- Lemon Lake – Crown Point
- Oak Ridge Prairie & Oak Savannah Trail – Griffith
- Stoney Run County Park – Hebron
- Three Rivers County Park – Lake Station
- Turkey Creek Golf Course – Merrillville
- Whihala Beach – Whiting

List of recreational facilities – Indiana Dunes National Park

- Calumet Prairie State Nature Preserve – Lake Station
- Hobart Prairie Grove – Hobart
- Hoosier Prairie State Nature Preserve – Griffith
- Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education – Gary

Demographics

[edit]

Historical population

Census	Pop.	Note	%±
1840	1,468		—
1850	3,991		171.9%
1860	9,145		129.1%
1870	12,339		34.9%
1880	15,091		22.3%
1890	23,886		58.3%

1900	37,892	58.6%
1910	82,864	118.7%
1920	159,957	93.0%
1930	261,310	63.4%
1940	293,195	12.2%
1950	368,152	25.6%
1960	513,269	39.4%
1970	546,253	6.4%
1980	522,965	?4.3%
1990	475,594	?9.1%
2000	484,564	1.9%
2010	496,005	2.4%
2020	498,700	0.5%
2023 (est.)	500,598 [49]	0.4%

U.S. Decennial Census[50]
1790-1960[51] 1900-1990[52]
1990-2000[53] 2010-2019[9]

2020 census

[edit]

Lake County, Indiana – Racial and ethnic composition

Note: the US Census treats Hispanic/Latino as an ethnic category. This table excludes Latinos from the racial categories and assigns them to a separate category. Hispanics/Latinos may be of any race.

Race / Ethnicity (*NH = Non-Hispanic*)	Pop 2000[54]	Pop 2010[55]	Pop 2020[56]	% 2000	% 2010	% 2020
White alone (NH)	293,457	274,162	251,106	60.56%	55.27%	50.35%
Black or African American alone (NH)	121,372	125,506	121,048	25.05%	25.30%	24.27%
Native American or Alaska Native alone (NH)	854	913	691	0.18%	0.18%	0.14%
Asian alone (NH)	3,862	5,981	7,334	0.80%	1.21%	1.47%
Pacific Islander alone (NH)	106	63	95	0.02%	0.01%	0.02%
Other race alone (NH)	450	463	1,682	0.09%	0.09%	0.34%
Mixed race or Multiracial (NH)	5,335	6,254	16,817	1.10%	1.26%	3.37%
Hispanic or Latino (any race)	59,128	82,663	99,927	12.20%	16.67%	20.04%

Total	**484,564**	**496,005**	**498,700**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**

As of the 2010 United States Census, there were 496,005 people, 188,157 households, and 127,647 families residing in the county.[57] The population density was 994.1 inhabitants per square mile (383.8/km^2). There were 208,750 housing units at an average density of 418.4 per square mile (161.5/km^2).[19] The racial makeup of the county was 64.4% white, 25.9% black or African American, 1.2% Asian, 0.3% American Indian, 5.8% from other races, and 2.4% from two or more races. Those of Hispanic or Latino origin made up 16.7% of the population.[57] In terms of ancestry, 16.1% were German, 11.1% were Irish, 9.6% were Polish, 5.4% were English, 4.8% were Italian and 3.7% were American.[58]

Of the 188,157 households, 34.3% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 44.7% were married couples living together, 17.4% had a female householder with no husband present, 32.2% were non-families, and 27.4% of all households were made up of individuals. The average household size was 2.60 and the average family size was 3.19. The median age was 37.4 years.[57]

The median income for a household in the county was $47,697 and the median income for a family was $58,931. Males had a median income of $50,137 versus $33,264 for females. The per capita income for the county was $23,142. About 12.2% of families and 16.1% of the population were below the poverty line, including 25.3% of those under age 18 and 8.4% of those age 65 or over.[59]

Places by population and race[60]

Place	Population (2010)	White	Black or African American	Asian	Other [note 1]	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
Lake County	496,005	64.4%	25.9%	1.2%	8.5%	16.7%
Cedar Lake, *town*	11,560	94.9%	0.5%	0.4%	4.2%	6.5%
Crown Point, *city*	27,317	88.2%	6.3%	1.8%	3.7%	8.1%
Dyer, *town*	16,390	90.1%	2.5%	2.9%	4.5%	9.3%
East Chicago, *city*	29,698	35.5%	42.9%	0.1%	21.5%	50.9%
Gary, *city*	80,294	10.7%	84.8%	0.2%	4.3%	5.1%
Griffith, *town*	16,893	75.8%	16.9%	0.8%	6.5%	13.3%
Hammond, *city*	80,830	59.4%	22.5%	1.0%	17.1%	34.1%
Highland, *town*	23,727	88.6%	4.2%	1.6%	5.6%	12.8%
Hobart, *city*	29,059	85.3%	7.0%	1.0%	6.7%	13.9%
Lake Dalecarlia, *CDP*	1,355	97.3%	0.2%	0.1%	2.4%	3.4%
Lake Station, *city*	12,572	79.7%	3.6%	0.3%	16.4%	28.0%
Lakes of the Four Seasons, *CDP*[note 2]	7,033	93.4%	1.2%	1.0%	4.4%	8.5%
Lowell, *town*	9,276	95.9%	0.5%	0.3%	3.3%	6.9%

Merrillville, *town*	35,246	46.4%	44.5%	1.2%	7.9%	12.9%
Munster, *town*	23,603	85.6%	3.5%	5.8%	5.1%	10.2%
New Chicago, *town*	2,035	81.0%	2.2%	0.7%	16.1%	27.4%
St. John, *town*	14,850	93.5%	1.3%	1.3%	3.9%	8.2%
Schererville, *town*	29,243	86.8%	5.4%	2.8%	5.0%	10.6%
Schneider, *town*	277	97.1%	0.0%	1.1%	1.8%	2.5%
Shelby, *CDP*	539	95.5%	1.7%	0.2%	2.6%	0.9%
Whiting, *city*	4,997	76.3%	3.5%	0.7%	19.5%	40.7%
Winfield, *town*	4,383	88.5%	3.7%	3.5%	4.3%	8.9%

Places by population and standard of living[61][62]

Place	Population (2010)	Per capita income	Median household income	Median home value
Lake County	496,005	$23,792	$49,315	$137,400
Cedar Lake, *town*	11,560	$25,477	$59,090	$151,400
Crown Point, *city*	27,317	$31,454	$64,876	$174,900
Dyer, *town*	16,390	$35,020	$78,881	$197,500
East Chicago, *city*	29,698	$13,457	$27,171	$86,800
Gary, *city*	80,294	$15,764	$26,956	$66,900
Griffith, *town*	16,893	$26,548	$53,225	$141,600
Hammond, *city*	80,830	$18,148	$38,677	$94,800
Highland, *town*	23,727	$30,036	$61,930	$155,200
Hobart, *city*	29,059	$24,740	$54,468	$134,400
Lake Dalecarlia, *CDP*	1,355	$25,035	$52,321	$165,400
Lake Station, *city*	12,572	$16,953	$36,955	$82,400
Lakes of the Four Seasons, *CDP*[note 2]	7,033	$32,908	$84,242	$182,600
Lowell, *town*	9,276	$23,619	$60,549	$146,500
Merrillville, *town*	35,246	$23,605	$53,470	$132,600
Munster, *town*	23,603	$34,735	$70,708	$197,600
New Chicago, *town*	2,035	$18,083	$38,672	$97,700
St. John, *town*	14,850	$36,490	$97,868	$254,600
Schererville, *town*	29,243	$33,984	$68,004	$204,300
Schneider, *town*	277	$18,774	$50,972	$89,500
Shelby, *CDP*	539	$29,700	$61,667	$89,700
Whiting, *city*	4,997	$21,427	$44,368	$111,500
Winfield, *town*	4,383	$23,792	$49,315	$137,400

See also

[edit]

- Lake County Indiana Sheriff's Department
- List of public art in Lake County, Indiana
- National Register of Historic Places listings in Lake County, Indiana

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Wikimedia Commons has media related to ***Lake County, Indiana***.

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Notes

[edit]

1. **^** Other = Combined percentages for American Indian or Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; other races; and two or more races
2. ^ ***a b*** Population is 3,936 within Lake County; 3,097 reside in Porter County

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External links

[edit]

- Lake County official website
- Lake County Parks
- South Shore Convention & Visitors Authority

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Places adjacent to Lake County, Indiana

Cook County, Illinois | Lake Michigan

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Will County, Illinois | **Lake County, Indiana** | Porter County

Image not found or type unknown Image not found or type unknown

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Kankakee County, Illinois | Newton County | Jasper County

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Municipalities and communities of Lake County, Indiana, United States

County seat: **Crown Point**

Cities

- Crown Point
- East Chicago
- Gary
- Hammond
- Hobart
- Lake Station
- Whiting

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Map of Indiana highlighting Lake County

Towns	○ Cedar Lake ○ Dyer ○ Griffith ○ Highland ○ Lowell ○ Merrillville ○ Munster ○ New Chicago ○ St. John ○ Schererville ○ Schneider ○ Winfield
Townships	○ Calumet ○ Cedar Creek ○ Center ○ Eagle Creek ○ Hanover ○ Hobart ○ North ○ Ross ○ St. John ○ West Creek ○ Winfield
CDPs	○ Lake Dalecarlia ○ Lakes of the Four Seasons‡ ○ Leroy ○ Ross ○ Shelby

Other communities	○ Ainsworth ○ Belshaw ○ Brunswick ○ Creston ○ Deep River ○ Deer Creek ○ Dinwiddie ○ Green Acres ○ Klaasville ○ Kreitzburg ○ Liverpool ○ New Elliott ○ Orchard Grove ○ Palmer ○ Range Line ○ Southeast Grove
Ghost town	○ Indiana City
Footnotes	‡This populated place also has portions in an adjacent county or counties.

- Indiana portal
- United States portal

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Chicago metropolitan area

Chicago landsat image

Major city	○ **Chicago**

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Cities (over 30,000 in 2020)	○ Aurora ○ Berwyn ○ Calumet City ○ Crown Point ○ Crystal Lake ○ DeKalb ○ Des Plaines ○ Elgin ○ Elmhurst ○ Evanston ○ Gary ○ Hammond ○ Highland Park ○ Joliet ○ Kenosha ○ Naperville ○ North Chicago ○ Park Ridge ○ Portage ○ St. Charles ○ Valparaiso ○ Waukegan ○ Wheaton

Towns and villages (over 30,000 in 2020)	○ Addison ○ Arlington Heights ○ Bartlett ○ Bolingbrook ○ Buffalo Grove ○ Carol Stream ○ Carpentersville ○ Cicero ○ Downers Grove ○ Elk Grove Village ○ Glendale Heights ○ Glenview ○ Grayslake ○ Gurnee ○ Hanover Park ○ Hoffman Estates ○ Lombard ○ Merrillville ○ Mount Prospect ○ Mundelein ○ Niles ○ Northbrook ○ Oak Lawn ○ Oak Park ○ Orland Park ○ Oswego ○ Palatine ○ Plainfield ○ Romeoville ○ Schaumburg ○ Skokie ○ Streamwood ○ Tinley Park ○ Wheeling ○ Wonder Lake ○ Woodridge

Counties	○ Cook ○ DeKalb ○ DuPage ○ Grundy ○ Jasper ○ Kane ○ Kankakee ○ Kendall ○ Kenosha ○ Lake, IL ○ Lake, IN ○ McHenry ○ Newton ○ Porter ○ Will
Regions	○ Great Lakes ○ Northern Illinois ○ Northern Indiana
Sub-regions	○ Chicago Southland ○ Eastern Ridges and Lowlands ○ Fox Valley (Illinois River) ○ Golden Corridor ○ Illinois Technology and Research Corridor ○ North Shore (Chicago) ○ Northwest Indiana

Illinois, United States

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State of Indiana

Indianapolis (capital)

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Largest cities	○ Anderson ○ Bloomington ○ Carmel ○ Columbus ○ Crown Point ○ Elkhart ○ Evansville ○ Fishers ○ Fort Wayne ○ Gary ○ Goshen ○ Greenwood ○ Hammond ○ Indianapolis ○ Jeffersonville ○ Kokomo ○ Lafayette ○ Lawrence ○ Michigan City ○ Mishawaka ○ Muncie ○ New Albany ○ Noblesville ○ Portage ○ Richmond ○ South Bend ○ Terre Haute ○ Valparaiso ○ Westfield ○ West Lafayette

Largest towns	○ Avon ○ Brownsburg ○ Clarksville ○ Highland ○ Merrillville ○ Munster ○ Plainfield ○ Saint John ○ Schererville ○ Zionsville

Counties	○ Adams ○ Allen ○ Bartholomew ○ Benton ○ Blackford ○ Boone ○ Brown ○ Carroll ○ Cass ○ Clark ○ Clay ○ Clinton ○ Crawford ○ Daviess ○ Dearborn ○ Decatur ○ DeKalb ○ Delaware ○ Dubois ○ Elkhart ○ Fayette ○ Floyd ○ Fountain ○ Franklin ○ Fulton ○ Gibson ○ Grant ○ Greene ○ Hamilton ○ Hancock ○ Harrison ○ Hendricks ○ Henry ○ Howard ○ Huntington ○ Jackson ○ Jasper ○ Jay ○ Jefferson ○ Jennings ○ Johnson ○ Knox ○ Kosciusko ○ LaGrange ○ Lake ○ LaPorte ○ Lawrence

Regions	○ Central Indiana ○ East Central Indiana ○ Wabash Valley ○ Northern Indiana ○ Northwest Indiana ○ Chicago metropolitan area ○ Michiana ○ Southern Indiana ○ Indiana Uplands ○ Kentuckiana ○ Southwestern Indiana

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About Lake County

Driving Directions in Lake County

Driving Directions From 41.366510327857, -87.3408646 to

Driving Directions From 41.408057240601, -87.343798613815 to

Driving Directions From 41.391735468419, -87.318200587644 to

Driving Directions From 41.428981281465, -87.421575428085 to

Driving Directions From 41.453568220733, -87.320568421442 to

Driving Directions From 41.443437503917, -87.311638642998 to

Driving Directions From 41.466348423063, -87.291394997875 to

Driving Directions From 41.387196050936, -87.400947816503 to

Driving Directions From 41.382799094677, -87.347560275608 to

Driving Directions From 41.450223110903, -87.428508635102 to

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last):!8m2!3d41.4237151!4d-87.3408645999999!16s%2F

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Higgins Overhead Door

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