

# Champaign County, Illinois

Coordinates: 40.14°N 88.20°W﻿ / ﻿

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**Champaign County** is a county located in the U.S. state of Illinois. According to the 2010 census, it has a population of 201,081, which is an increase of 11.9% from 179,669 in 2000.<sup>[1]</sup> It is the 10th most populous county in Illinois. Its county seat is Urbana.<sup>[2]</sup>

Champaign County is part of the Champaign–Urbana Metropolitan Statistical Area.

## Champaign County, Illinois



Seal



Location in the state of Illinois



Illinois's location in the U.S.

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## History

Champaign County was organized in 1833, having been previously a part of Vermilion County. The county and county seat were named for Champaign County, Ohio and Urbana, Ohio respectively, the homeplace of the Illinois legislator who sponsored the bill to create the county. The development of the county was greatly furthered by the arrival of the Chicago Branch of the Illinois Central Railroad, and even more by the establishment of the land-grant university. Later, the county also got an airport

<b>Founded</b>	1833
<b>Seat</b>	Urbana
<b>Largest city</b>	Champaign
<b>Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Total</b></li> <li><b>Land</b></li> <li><b>Water</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>998.39 sq mi (2,586 km<sup>2</sup>)</li> <li>996.27 sq mi (2,580 km<sup>2</sup>)</li> <li>2.13 sq mi (6 km<sup>2</sup>), 0.21%</li></ul>
<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Total</b></li> <li><b>Density</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>201,081</li> <li>191/sq mi (74/km<sup>2</sup>)</li></ul>
<b>Time zone</b>	Central: UTC-6/-5

and a mass transit district. The northern part of the county experienced an economic and demographic setback with the closing of Chanute Air Training Center in the 1990s.

In the 2004 Presidential election, it was one of only 15 of the 102 Illinois counties where John Kerry received a majority of the vote (50.98%).<sup>[3]</sup>

<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.co.champaign.il.us">www.co.champaign.il.us</a> ( <a href="http://www.co.champaign.il.us">http://www.co.champaign.il.us</a> )
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Champaign County at the time of its creation in 1833

## Geography

According to the 2010 census, the county has a total area of 998.39 square miles (2,585.8 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 996.27 square miles (2,580.3 km<sup>2</sup>) (or 99.79%) is land and 2.13 square miles (5.5 km<sup>2</sup>) (or 0.21%) is water.<sup>[4]</sup>

Because Champaign County is situated on a large and very flat plateau, it had virtually no natural drainage, so that much of the County consisted of wetlands until drainage ditches were built, beginning in the 1870s. This was an example of an upland marsh, which resulted in a high incidence of malaria before the late nineteenth century.

The topography of Champaign County was formed by the Wisconsin Glacier about 20,000 years before the present. Lobes of ice from what is now Lake Michigan crossed the county, creating a deep pile of glacial soil, up to 300 feet thick, topped by numerous moraines forming small, flat watersheds with no outlets.

Champaign County is situated on the divide between the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Rivers flow out of Champaign County to the east, west, and south. The Kaskaskia River has its origin to the northwest of Champaign, draining the western side of that City. The Kaskaskia flows toward the southwest, joining the Mississippi south of St. Louis, Missouri.

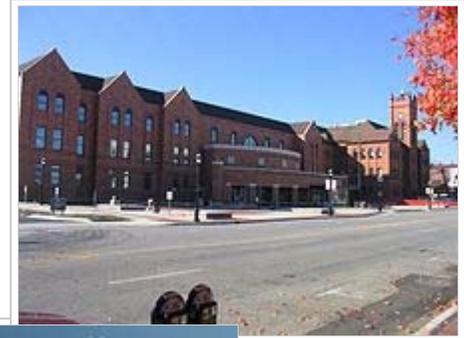
The Embarras River, on the other hand, drains the south-central portion of the Champaign-Urbana Metropolitan Area, originating in southeastern Champaign and flowing through the experimental fields on the southern part of the campus of the University of Illinois. The Embarras is a tributary to the Wabash River and Ohio River systems. The northeast corner of Champaign, the central portion of the University campus, and the northern part of Urbana are drained by the Boneyard Creek, which flows into the Saline Ditch, a tributary of the Vermilion and Wabash Rivers.

## Adjacent counties

- Ford County - north

- Vermilion County - east
- Edgar County - southeast (at a single point)
- Douglas County - south
- Piatt County - west
- McLean County - northwest

## Transportation



Courthouse in



Corn and soybean fields dominate the rural parts of Champaign County

## Major highways

-  Interstate 57
-  Interstate 72
-  Interstate 74
-  US Route 45
-  US Route 136
-  US Route 150
-  Illinois Route 10
-  Illinois Route 47
-  Illinois Route 49
-  Illinois Route 54
-  Illinois Route 130

## Airports

The following public-use airports are located in the county:<sup>[5]</sup>

- University of Illinois Willard Airport (CMI) - Champaign-Urbana
- Rantoul National Aviation Center (Frank Elliott Field) (TIP) - Rantoul
- Frasca Field (C16) - Urbana

## Political subdivisions

### Cities

- Champaign

- Urbana

## Villages

- |              |            |              |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| ■ Bondville  | ■ Longview | ■ Royal      |
| ■ Broadlands | ■ Ludlow   | ■ Sadorus    |
| ■ Fisher     | ■ Mahomet  | ■ Savoy      |
| ■ Foosland   | ■ Ogden    | ■ Sidney     |
| ■ Gifford    | ■ Pesotum  | ■ St. Joseph |
| ■ Homer      | ■ Philo    | ■ Thomasboro |
| ■ Ivesdale   | ■ Rantoul  | ■ Tolono     |

## Townships

- |              |           |               |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| ■ Ayers      | ■ Hensley | ■ Sadorus     |
| ■ Brown      | ■ Kerr    | ■ Scott       |
| ■ Champaign  | ■ Ludlow  | ■ Sidney      |
| ■ Colfax     | ■ Mahomet | ■ Somer       |
| ■ Compromise | ■ Newcomb | ■ South Homer |
| ■ Condit     | ■ Ogden   | ■ St. Joseph  |
| ■ Crittenden | ■ Pesotum | ■ Stanton     |
| ■ Cunningham | ■ Philo   | ■ Tolono      |
| ■ East Bend  | ■ Rantoul | ■ Urbana      |
| ■ Harwood    | ■ Raymond |               |

## Unincorporated communities

- Lake of the Woods

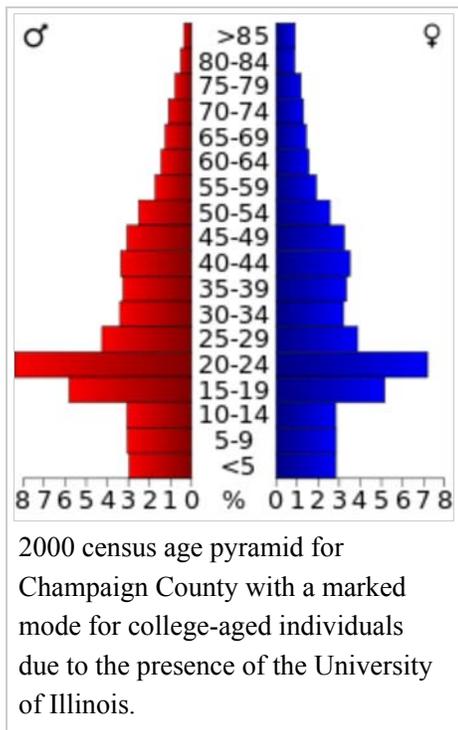
## Demographics

As of the census<sup>[8]</sup> of 2000, there were 179,669 people, 70,597 households, and 39,322 families residing in the county. The population density was 180 people per square mile (70/km<sup>2</sup>). There were 75,280 housing units at an average density of 76 per square mile (29/km<sup>2</sup>). The racial makeup of the county was 78.78% White, 11.16% Black or African American, 0.24% Native American, 6.45% Asian, 0.04% Pacific Islander, 1.34% from other races, and 1.99% from two or more races. 2.90% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race. 23.9% were of German, 9.6% Irish, 8.9% English and 7.4% American ancestry according to Census 2000. 88.7% spoke only English, 2.9% Spanish at home, while 1.7% spoke Chinese or Mandarin and 1.3% Korean.

There were 70,597 households out of which 27.20% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 43.60% were married couples living together, 9.20% had a female householder with no husband present, and 44.30% were non-families. 31.40% of all households were made up of individuals and 7.80% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.33 and the average family size was 2.96.



Map of Champaign County Illinois.



In the county the population was spread out with 21.00% under the age of 18, 23.10% from 18 to 24, 28.20% from 25 to 44, 18.00% from 45 to 64, and 9.70% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 29 years. For every 100 females there were 101.10 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 99.70 males.

The median income for a household in the county was \$37,780, and the median income for a family was \$52,591. Males had a median income of \$36,844 versus \$26,421 for females. The per capita income for the county was \$19,708. About 6.90% of families and 16.10% of the population were below the poverty line, including 11.80% of those under age 18 and 4.90% of those age 65 or over.

### Historical populations

Census	Pop.	%±
<b>1840</b>	1,475	—
<b>1850</b>	2,649	79.6%
<b>1860</b>	14,629	452.2%
<b>1870</b>	32,737	123.8%
<b>1880</b>	40,863	24.8%
<b>1890</b>	42,159	3.2%
<b>1900</b>	47,622	13.0%
<b>1910</b>	51,829	8.8%
<b>1920</b>	56,959	9.9%
<b>1930</b>	64,273	12.8%
<b>1940</b>	70,578	9.8%
<b>1950</b>	106,100	50.3%
<b>1960</b>	132,436	24.8%
<b>1970</b>	163,281	23.3%
<b>1980</b>	168,392	3.1%
<b>1990</b>	173,025	2.8%
<b>2000</b>	179,669	3.8%
<b>2010</b>	201,081	11.9%
<b>Est. 2012</b>	203,276	1.1%

U.S. Decennial Census<sup>[6]</sup>  
2012 Estimate<sup>[7]</sup>

The Champaign County Economic Development Corporation (CHCEDC) produced a 2009 County Demographic Profile which includes information on the population, labor, housing, cost of living, education, taxes, retail sales, transportation, quality of life, utilities.<sup>[9]</sup> CHCEDC also conducts labor force studies every two years and labor shed studies every few years.<sup>[10]</sup>

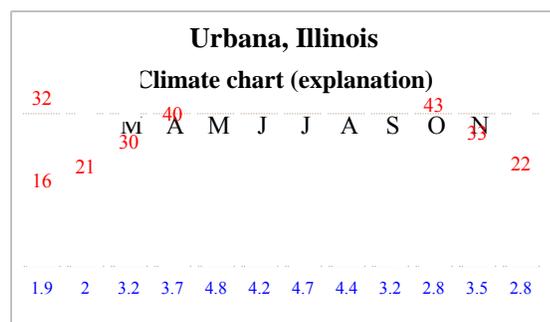
## Economy

Supported by the University of Illinois, through such backings like Research Park, and Champaign County leaders, the area has shown even more growth in Information Technology, Micro/Nanotechnology, Bio-Imaging, Healthcare, Logistics, Distribution and Agribusiness in recent years.<sup>[11]</sup>

The Top 2009 Employers of the county are the University of Illinois, Carle Clinic Association, Carle Foundation Hospital, Champaign Schools Unit 4, Kraft Foods, Provena Covenant Medical, Parkland College, Kirby Foods, Christie Clinic Association, Urbana Schools District and Hobbico.<sup>[12]</sup>

## Climate and weather

In recent years, average temperatures in the county seat of Urbana have ranged from a low of 16 °F (−9 °C) in January to a high of 85 °F (29 °C) in July, although a record low of −25 °F (−32 °C) was recorded in January 1999 and a record high of 109 °F (43 °C) was recorded in July 1954. Average monthly precipitation ranged from 1.90 inches (48 mm) in January to 4.80 inches (122 mm) in May.<sup>[13]</sup>





Publishing Company. pp. 631–1060. Retrieved 2010-11-29.

## External links

- Champaign County Official Page (<http://www.visitchampaigncounty.org>)
- United States Census Bureau 2007 TIGER/Line Shapefiles (<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/tgrshp2007/tgrshp2007.html>)
- United States Board on Geographic Names (GNIS) (<http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/>)
- United States National Atlas (<http://www.nationalatlas.gov/>)
- Book of the Champaign County Courthouse dedication from 1901 (<http://www.archive.org/stream/dedicationofcham00cham#page/n0/mode/2up>)
- *Champaign Democrat*, (<http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=nnVijz9KPVYC>) Google news archive. —PDFs of 1,286 issues, dating from 1887 through 1916.

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Categories: Illinois counties | 1833 establishments in Illinois | Populated places established in 1833

| Champaign County, Illinois

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