

DuPage County, Illinois

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DuPage County (/ˌduːˈpeɪdʒ/) is a county in the U.S. state of Illinois, and one of the collar counties of the Chicago metropolitan area. As of the 2010 census, the population was 916,924,^[2] making it Illinois' second-most populous county. Its county seat is Wheaton.^[3]

With a population nearing one million, DuPage County has become mostly developed and suburbanized, although some pockets of farmland remain in the county's western and northern parts. The county has a vast socioeconomic profile; residents of Hinsdale, Naperville, and Oak Brook include some of the wealthiest people in the Midwest. In 2010, *Midwest Living* voted Hinsdale the Midwest's second-wealthiest town, the first being Fairway, Kansas. In stark contrast, the large unincorporated area of Downers Grove Township is very blue collar, with many residents below the poverty line.^[4]

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History

DuPage County was formed on 9 February 1839 out of Cook County.^[5] The county took its name from the DuPage River, which was, in turn, named after a French fur trapper, DuPage.^[6] The first written history to address the name, the *1882 History of DuPage County, Illinois*, by Rufus Blanchard, relates:^[7]

DuPage County, Illinois	
County	
County of DuPage	
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<div><div><div></div><div>Seal</div></div></div>	
Motto: The Magnificent Miles West of Chicago	
<div><div><div><div><div></div><div><div>Location in the U.S. state of Illinois</div></div></div></div><div><div><div></div><div><div>Illinois's location in the U.S.</div></div></div></div></div></div>	
Founded	February 9, 1839
Named for	DuPage River
Seat	Wheaton
Largest city	Naperville
Area <div></div>	
 • Total	336 sq mi (870 km ²)
 • Land	327 sq mi (847 km ²)
 • Water	8.9 sq mi (23 km ²), 2.6%
Population <div></div>	
 • (2010)	916,924
 • Density	2,800/sq mi (1,081/km ²)
Area code(s)	630 and 331
Congressional districts	3rd, 5th, 6th, 8th, 11th, 14th
Time zone	Central: UTC-6/-5
Website	www.dupageco.org (http://www.dupageco.org)
Footnotes: ^[1]	



DuPage County at the time of its creation in 1839

The Theosophical Society in America in Wheaton, the North American headquarters of the Theosophical Society Adyar, provides lectures and classes on theosophy, meditation, yoga, Eastern and New Age spirituality. Islamic mosques are located in Villa Park, Naperville (two mosques), Glendale Heights, Willowbrook, Westmont, Lombard, Bolingbrook, Addison, Woodale, West Chicago, and unincorporated Glen Ellyn.^[19] There are Hindu temples in Bartlett, Bensenville, Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Itasca and Medinah, and an Arya Samaj center in West Chicago. There is a Nichiren Shōshū Zen Buddhist temple in West Chicago^[20] and a Theravada Buddhist Temple, called the Buddha-Dharma Meditation Center, in Willowbrook.^[21] There is also a Reform synagogue, Congregation Etz Chaim, in Lombard and an unaffiliated one in Naperville.

Economy

DuPage County is the primary location of the Illinois Technology and Research Corridor. It is home to many large corporations, including:

- Ace Hardware (Oak Brook)
- Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Itasca) (Fortune 1000)
- BP (formerly British Petroleum) (Warrenville)
- DeVry Inc. (Oakbrook Terrace) (NYSE)
- Dover Corporation (Downers Grove) (Fortune 500)
- Eby-Brown (Naperville)
- Hub Group (Oak Brook) (Fortune 1000)
- McDonald's Corporation (Oak Brook) (Fortune 500)
- Molex (Lisle) (Fortune 1000)
- Nalco Holding Company (Naperville) (Fortune 1000)
- Namco Cybertainment (Bensenville)
- Navistar International (Warrenville) (Fortune Global 500)
- Nicor (Naperville) (Fortune 1000)
- OfficeMax (Naperville) (Fortune 500)
- Sara Lee Corporation (Downers Grove) (Fortune 500)
- Tellabs (Naperville) (Fortune 1000)
- Ty Warner (Beanie Babies) (Westmont)

Shopping malls in DuPage County include Oakbrook Center, which is the largest open-air mall in the nation, Westfield Fox Valley, Yorktown Center, Town Square Wheaton, and Stratford Square Mall. In addition, many of DuPage County's towns have prosperous and quaint downtown areas, especially in Naperville, Glen Ellyn, Elmhurst, Wheaton, Downers Grove and Hinsdale, which are mixed with boutiques, upscale chain stores and restaurants.

National Laboratories

Fermilab, which has the world's second-highest-energy particle accelerator,^[22] is in Batavia, where it straddles the border between Kane and DuPage counties.^[23] Argonne National Laboratory, one of the United States government's oldest and largest science and engineering research laboratories,^[24] is in unincorporated, southeast DuPage County.^[25] Both laboratories conduct tours of their facilities.

Arts and culture

Architecture

The 31-story Oakbrook Terrace Tower in Oakbrook Terrace, designed by Helmut Jahn, is the tallest building in Illinois outside of Chicago.^[26] The Elmhurst Art Museum is housed in a Mies Van Der Rohe building. There is a Frank Lloyd Wright house in Elmhurst. Bochasanwasi Shri Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha, a conservative Hindu sect, has built BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Chicago, a large, intricately carved, marble temple in Bartlett. There are some Sears Catalog Homes in Downers Grove and Villa Park. The Byzantine-style clubhouse of the Medinah Country Club is also an architectural highlight of the county. Lombard is home to over thirty Lustron prefabricated steel homes.^[27]

Museums and historical sites

DuPage museums include: the Naper Settlement and DuPage Children's Museum in Naperville; Wheaton College's Billy Graham Center, the Cantigny Estate and First Division Museum, on the former estate of *Chicago Tribune* magnate Robert R. McCormick, and the DuPage County Historical Museum in Wheaton; Elmhurst's Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art and Elmhurst Art Museum, which includes Mies Van Der Rohe's McCormick House;^[28] Oak Brook's Mayslake Peabody Estate and Graue Mill; Glen Ellyn's Stacy's Tavern; West Chicago's City Museum; Westmont's Gregg House Museum; and Villa Park's Villa Park Historical Society Museum.

Music and theater

DuPage also plays host to a rich, local music scene. Some of the better-known bands to come out of the area include The Hush Sound, Lucky Boys Confusion, and Spitalfield.

Oakbrook Terrace's Drury Lane Theatre is an important live theatre in DuPage County. The Tivoli Theatre, one of the first theaters in the United States to be equipped with sound, is still in use in Downers Grove.^[29] In addition to showing movies, the Tivoli is home to several local performing arts groups.^[30]

Parks and recreation

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County owns and manages 25,000 acres (10,000 ha) of prairies, woodlands and wetlands. More than 4 million visitors each year enjoy 60 forest preserves, 145 miles of trails, and five education centers.^[31]

Local urban parks include Lombard's Lilacia Park, Naperville's Centennial Beach, Woodridge's Cypress Cove Family Aquatic Park and Wheaton's Cosley Zoo. Privately funded attractions include Lisle's Morton Arboretum.

In the 1980s, DuPage County also had another major attraction, Ebenezer Floppen Slopper's Wonderful Water slides in Oakbrook Terrace, which today, stands abandoned and neglected.

The Illinois Prairie Path, a 61-mile (98 km) rail-to-trail multi-use path, runs through Cook, DuPage and Kane Counties. It intersects with the Great Western Trail at several points, as well as the Fox River Trail at a few points.

U.S. Decennial Census^[12]
 1790-1960^[13] 1900-1990^[14]
 1990-2000^[15] 2010-2013^[2]



The First Church of Lombard is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Aerial view of the Tevatron particle accelerator at the Fermilab site.



A woodland ecosystem in the Morton Arboretum

DuPage golf courses include: Wheaton's Chicago Golf Club, Arrowhead Golf Club and Cantigny Golf courses; the Medinah Country Club; the Village Links and Glen Oak Country Club of Glen Ellyn; Addison's Oak Meadows; Oak Brook's Oak Brook Golf Club, Butler National Golf Club, and Butterfield Country Club; Wood Dale's Maple Meadows; Westmont's Green Meadows; Lisle's River Bend (9 holes); West Chicago's St. Andrews Golf & Country Club and Winfield's Klein Creek Golf Club, among others.

Government and politics

Government

The powers of the County Board include managing county funds and business, levying taxes, and appropriating funds. The County Board exercises powers not assigned to other elected officials or other boards.^[32]

The county is divided into six districts. Each district elects three members to the County Board in staggered two-year and four-year terms. The Chairman of the County Board is the chief executive officer of DuPage County, and is elected countywide every four years.

District	Board Member	Party
Chairman	Daniel Cronin	Republican
1	Paul Fichtner	Republican
1	Donald Puchalski	Republican
1	Sam Tornatore	Republican
2	Elizabeth Chaplin	Democratic
2	Pete DiCianni	Republican
2	Sean Noonan	Republican
3	John Curran	Republican
3	Gary Grasso	Republican
3	Brian Krajewski	Republican
4	Grant Eckhoff	Republican
4	Amy Grant	Republican
4	Tim Elliott	Republican
5	James Healy	Republican
5	Tonia Khouri	Republican
5	Janice Anderson	Republican
6	Robert Larsen	Republican
6	Kevin Wiley	Republican
6	James Zay	Republican

Politics

Historically, DuPage County was a stronghold of the Republican Party, and was reckoned as a classic bastion of suburban conservatism, but like many suburban counties has trended Democratic in presidential years.

National Politics

The county supported Democrat Barack Obama, a Chicago resident, in 2008 and 2012 (albeit narrowly in 2012). Obama was the first Democratic presidential nominee to win the county since Franklin Pierce in 1852. The only time prior to 2008 that a Republican had failed to win the county was in 1912, when the GOP was mortally divided and former President and Progressive Party nominee Theodore Roosevelt won over half the county's vote.

In the U.S. House of Representatives, DuPage County is in the 5th, 6th, 8th, 11th and 14th districts.

Local politics

Republicans have controlled local politics in DuPage County since the nineteenth century. Democrats have only held countywide office twice. In 1934 William Robinson was elected Circuit Clerk and Arthur Hellyer was elected Treasurer. That year also saw the only Democratic majority county board in DuPage history.^{[34][35]} Robinson and Hellyer each served one term; Robinson lost his bid for a full term in 1936 and Hellyer left the Treasurer's office to make a failed bid for probate judge in 1938.^[36]

Democrats were sporadically elected at the county and township levels. In 1972, Don Carroll was elected to the County Board. In the Democratic wave of 1974, Jane Spigel, Mary Eleanor Wall, and Elaine Libovicz were elected. All four were from the northeastern portion of DuPage, which at that time was the most Democratic.^[37] Republicans regained all seats on the board when Jane Spigel ran for Illinois Secretary of State with Adlai Stevenson III under the Solidarity Party banner.^[38] In 2000, Linda J. Bourke Hilbert was elected. Like her 1970s counterparts, she was from the northeastern portion of the county.^[39] During the 2008 Democratic wave, three Democrats were elected to the board.^[40] As of 2016, Democrats hold only one of eighteen board seats.

Presidential Elections Results ^[33]			
Year	Republican	Democratic	Third Parties
2016	38.6% 166,415	53.1% 228,622	8.3% 35,637
2012	48.6% 195,046	49.7% 199,460	1.6% 6,575
2008	43.9% 183,626	54.7% 228,698	1.4% 5,649
2004	54.4% 218,902	44.8% 180,097	0.9% 3,447
2000	55.2% 201,037	41.9% 152,550	3.0% 10,775
1996	50.7% 164,630	40.0% 129,709	9.3% 30,147
1992	48.1% 178,271	30.9% 114,564	21.1% 78,152
1988	69.4% 217,907	30.0% 94,285	0.6% 1,862
1984	75.7% 227,141	23.8% 71,430	0.6% 1,644
1980	64.0% 182,308	24.2% 68,991	11.8% 33,450
1976	68.8% 175,055	28.3% 72,137	2.9% 7,355
1972	75.0% 172,341	24.8% 57,043	0.2% 355
1968	66.6% 124,893	25.9% 48,492	7.5% 14,111
1964	59.9% 98,871	40.1% 66,229	
1960	69.5% 101,014	30.4% 44,263	0.1% 168
1956	79.8% 91,834	20.1% 23,103	0.2% 207
1952	75.8% 71,134	24.0% 22,489	0.2% 217
1948	73.6% 45,794	25.0% 15,528	1.5% 916
1944	68.9% 41,890	30.8% 18,711	0.3% 174
1940	67.9% 40,746	31.5% 18,923	0.6% 380
1936	55.0% 28,380	42.0% 21,684	3.0% 1,568

In 1973, a slate of Democrats took eight of nine offices in Addison Township. This feat would not be replicated until 2015 when Democratic candidates won a majority of offices in Naperville and Lisle townships.^[41] Between these two victories, Democrats only held two township offices. Mark Starkovich served as York Township Supervisor from 1989-1993 and Martin McManamon has served as Wayne Township Highway Commissioner since 2013.^{[42][43]}

Education

Colleges and universities



Blanchard Hall at Wheaton College is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The College of DuPage, in Glen Ellyn, is one of the largest community colleges in the United States. Wheaton College is one of the most well-known and respected evangelical Christian colleges in the country. Benedictine University, Elmhurst College and North Central College also have long and respected histories in their communities.

Other prominent colleges and universities include: Midwestern University in Downers Grove; National University of Health Sciences and Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Lombard; the Addison, Naperville and Oak Brook campuses of DeVry University; the Aurora campus of Robert Morris University; the Lisle campus of National–Louis University; the Naperville campuses of DePaul University and Northern Illinois University; the Wheaton campus of Illinois Institute of Technology; and the DuPage campus of Westwood College in Woodridge. Hamburger University, McDonald's global training facility, is located at its corporate headquarters in Oak Brook, on an 80-acre (32 ha) campus.

1932	56.2% 25,758	40.5% 18,547	3.3% 1,504
1928	72.4% 28,016	27.1% 10,479	0.6% 217
1924	72.8% 16,917	8.2% 1,893	19.0% 4,423
1920	82.0% 12,280	13.9% 2,084	4.1% 612
1916	62.8% 9,610	31.5% 4,816	5.7% 868
1912	14.3% 1,136	28.1% 2,236	57.6% 4,589
1908	64.0% 4,530	27.9% 1,975	8.1% 575
1904	68.1% 4,078	23.5% 1,407	8.5% 506
1900	63.9% 3,869	32.2% 1,947	3.9% 237
1896	68.9% 4,115	26.6% 1,588	4.5% 268
1892	50.4% 2,478	43.8% 2,154	5.9% 290

Secondary schools

Dupage County is home to many academically and athletically successful public high schools, such as:

- Addison Trail High School
- Bartlett High School
- Downers Grove North High School
- Downers Grove South High School
- Fenton High School
- Glenbard East High School
- Glenbard North High School
- Glenbard South High School
- Glenbard West High School
- Hinsdale Central High School
- Hinsdale South High School
- Lake Park High School
- Lisle High School
- Metea Valley High School
- Naperville North High School
- Naperville Central High School
- Waubonsie Valley High School
- West Chicago Community High School
- Westmont High School
- Wheaton North High School
- Wheaton Warrenville South High School
- Willowbrook High School
- York Community High School

Additionally, DuPage County is home to several private high schools, including:

- Benet Academy
- Clapham School
- College Preparatory School of America^[44]
- Driscoll Catholic High School (closed 2009)
- Immaculate Conception High School
- Islamic Foundation School
- Montini Catholic High School
- St. Francis High School
- Timothy Christian School
- Wheaton Academy

School districts

The DuPage County Regional Office of Education provides regulatory and compliance oversight, quality services and support, and a variety of other services and information to the public schools within the forty-two school districts of the county that provide education to over 161,000 students in 245 schools.^[45]

Infrastructure



Health care

DuPage hospitals include: Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield; Edward Hospital in Naperville; Elmhurst Memorial Hospital in Elmhurst; Adventist Hinsdale Hospital in Hinsdale; Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove; Adventist GlenOaks Hospital in Glendale Heights; and Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital and Clinics in Wheaton.

Transportation

Aside from the part of O'Hare International Airport that is located inside the county, DuPage also has many railroads and several small airports, including DuPage Airport. DuPage is served by the Pace bus system.

DuPage County is served by four Interstate Highways, three US Highways, and nine Illinois Routes.

-  I-55
-  I-88
-  I-290
-  I-355
-  US 6
-  US 20
-  US 34
-  IL 19
-  IL 38
-  IL 53
-  IL 56
-  IL 59
-  IL 64
-  IL 83
-  IL 110
-  IL 390

North–south roads (from west to east) include: IL 59 (Sutton Road), IL 53 (Rohlwing Road), I-355 (Veterans Memorial Tollway) and IL 83 (Kingery Highway). East–west roads (from south to north) include: I-55 (Stevenson Expressway) I-88 (Ronald Reagan Memorial Tollway), US 34 (Ogden Avenue), IL 56 (Butterfield Road), IL 38 (Roosevelt Road), IL 64 (North Avenue), Army Trail Road, US 20 (Lake Street), IL 19 (Irving Park Road) and IL 390 (Elgin–O'Hare Expressway), which begins at the Thorndale Avenue exit on I-290 and ends on Lake Street, in Hanover Park. I-294 partially enters DuPage County on its eastern border between Westchester, in Cook County, and Oak Brook, in DuPage County. Only the southbound lanes enter the county though.

Communities

Cities

- Aurora (mostly)
- Batavia (part)
- Chicago (part)
- Darien
- Elmhurst (mostly)
- Naperville (mostly)
- Oakbrook Terrace
- St. Charles (part)
- Warrenville
- West Chicago
- Wheaton
- Wood Dale

Villages

- Addison
- Bartlett (mostly)
- Bensenville (mostly)
- Bloomingtondale
- Bolingbrook (part)
- Burr Ridge (part)
- Carol Stream
- Clarendon Hills
- Downers Grove
- Elk Grove Village (part)
- Glendale Heights
- Glen Ellyn
- Hanover Park (part)
- Hinsdale (mostly)
- Itasca
- Lemont (part)
- Lisle
- Lombard
- Oak Brook (mostly)
- Roselle (mostly)
- Schaumburg (part)
- Villa Park
- Wayne (part)
- Westmont
- Willowbrook
- Willow Springs
- Winfield
- Woodridge (mostly)

Unincorporated communities

- Belmont
- Cloverdale
- Eola
- Flowerfield
- Fullersburg
- Gostyn
- Keeneyville
- Lakewood
- Mammoth Springs
- Medinah
- Munger
- North Glen Ellyn
- Palisades
- South Addison
- South Elmhurst
- Swift
- York Center

Townships

DuPage County has nine townships:

- Addison Township
- Bloomingtondale Township
- Downers Grove Township
- Lisle Township
- Milton Township
- Naperville Township
- Wayne Township
- Winfield Township
- York Township

Ghost towns

- Tedens
- Weston

See also

- List of counties in Illinois
- List of Illinois townships
- National Register of Historic Places listings in DuPage County, Illinois

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External links

- Official website (<http://www.dupageco.org/>)
- DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau (<http://www.discoverdupage.com>)
- DuPage County Fair Grounds (<http://www.dupagecountyfair.org>) in Wheaton
- DuPage County Historical Society (<http://www.dupagehistory.org>)
- Forest Preserve District of DuPage County (<http://www.dupageforest.com>)
- Forest Preserve District of DuPage County Golf Facilities (<http://www.dupagegolf.com/>)

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