DuPage County, Illinois
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

DuPage County (/dəˈpɛd/ or /djuːˈpeɪd/) 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, making it Illinois' second-most populous county. Its county seat is Wheaton.

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.

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History

DuPage County was formed on 9 February 1839 out of Cook County. The county took its name from the DuPage River, which was, in turn, named after a French fur trapper, DuPage. The first written history to address the name, the 1882 History of DuPage County, Illinois, by Rufus Blanchard, relates:
The DuPage River had, from time immemorial, been a stream well known. It took its name from a French trader who settled on this stream below the fork previous to 1800. Hon. H. W. Blodgett, of Waukegan, informs the writer that J. B. Beaubien had often spoken to him of the old Frenchman, Du Page, whose station was on the bank of the river, down toward its mouth, and stated that the river took its name from him. The county name must have the same origin. Col Gurden S. Hubbard, who came into the country in 1818, informs the writer that the name DuPage, as applied to the river then, was universally known, but the trader for whom it was named lived there before his time. Mr. Beaubien says it is pronounced Du Pazhe (a having the sound of ah, and that P should be a capital). This was in reply to Mr. Blodgett’s inquiry of him concerning the matter.

Geography

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 336 square miles (870 km²), of which 327 square miles (850 km²) is land and 8.9 square miles (23 km²) (2.6%) is water.[9] The DuPage River and the Salt Creek flow through DuPage County. According to the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, the highest point in the county is located at the Mallard Lake Landfill, which at its highest point is 982 feet (299 m) above mean sea level.[9]

Climate

In recent years, average temperatures in the county seat of Wheaton have ranged from a low of 14 °F (−10 °C) in January to a high of 87 °F (31 °C) in July, although a record low of −26 °F (−32 °C) was recorded in January 1985 and a record high of 105 °F (41 °C) was recorded in July 1995. Average monthly precipitation ranged from 1.56 inches (40 mm) in February to 4.60 inches (117 mm) in August.[10]

Adjacent counties

Counties that are adjacent to DuPage include:

- Cook County (east and north)
- Will County (south)
- Kendall County (southwest; counties meet at a corner)
- Kane County (west)

Demographics

DuPage County's population's distribution by race and ethnicity in the 2010 census was as follows:[18]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race / Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage of county population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>77.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more races</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, not Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>70.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DuPage County has become more diverse. The population of foreign-born residents increased from about 71,300 in 1990 to 171,000 by 2009 estimates.[17]

There were 325,601 households, out of which 37.0% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 60.9% were married couples living together, 7.9% had a female householder with no husband present and 28.0% were non-families. 22.9% of all households were made up of individuals and 6.8% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.73 and the average family size was 3.27.

In the county, the population was spread out with 26.7% under the age of 18, 8.2% from 18 to 24, 32.4% from 25 to 44, 22.8% from 45 to 64 and 9.8% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 35 years. For every 100 females, there were 97.2 males.

The median income for a household in the county was $98,441 and the median income for a family was $113,086.[18] Males had a median income of $60,909 versus $41,346 for females. The mean or average income for a family in DuPage County is $121,009, according to the 2005 census. The per capita income for the county was $38,458. About 2.4% of families and 3.6% of the population were below the poverty line, including 3.9% of those under age 18 and 4.3% of those age 65 or over.[18]

Religion

DuPage County has several hundred Christian churches. Well-known churches include Community Christian Church of Naperville, College Church of Wheaton, Wheaton Bible Church, and First Baptist Church of Wheaton. There is also a large Catholic contingency, part of the Diocese of Joliet, and a Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Glendale Heights.

Historical population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Census</th>
<th>Pop.</th>
<th>%±</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>3,535</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>9,290</td>
<td>162.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>14,701</td>
<td>58.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>16,685</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>19,161</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>22,551</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>28,196</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>33,432</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>42,120</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>91,998</td>
<td>118.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>103,480</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>154,599</td>
<td>49.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>313,459</td>
<td>102.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>491,882</td>
<td>56.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>658,835</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>781,666</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>904,161</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>916,924</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


visited on 8/7/2017

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, Wood Dale, West Chicago, and unincorporated Glen Ellyn.[15] 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)
- Moles (Lisle) (Fortune 1000)
- Nalco Holding Company (Naperville) (Fortune 1000)
- Namco Cybertainment (Bensenville)
- Navistar International (Warrenville) (Fortune Global 500)
- Niceo (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. The First Church of Lombard is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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;[27] 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 Spatialfield.

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.[28] In addition to showing movies, the Tivoli is home to several local performing arts groups.[29]

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.[30]

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.


8/7/2017
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.

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

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. 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 Spirgel, 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. Republicans regained all seats on the board when Jane Spiegel ran for Illinois Secretary of State with Adlai Stevenson III under the Solidarity Party banner. In 2000, Linda J. Bourke Hilbert was elected. Like her 1970s counterparts, she was from the northeastern portion of the county. During the 2008 Democratic wave, three Democrats were elected to the board. As of 2016, Democrats hold only one of eighteen board seats.

Presidental Elections Results[220]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Democratic</th>
<th>Third Parties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>49.7%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>54.7%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>50.7%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>69.4%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>75.7%</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>64.0%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
<td>24.8%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>66.6%</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>59.9%</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>69.5%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>79.8%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>73.6%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>68.9%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>67.9%</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>55.0%</td>
<td>42.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. 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.

**Transportation**

DuPage County is served by the Pace bus system.

**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.

**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.

**Infrastructure**

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**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.

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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 Thromdale 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)
- Bloomingdale
- 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
- Keeneville
- Lakewood
- Mammoth Springs
- Medinah
- Munger
- North Glen Ellyn
- Palisades
- South Addison
- South Elmhurst
- Swift
- York Center

### Townships

DuPage County has nine townships:
- Addison Township
- Bloomingdale 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

### References
