

CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH • BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

# Indiana Community Asset Inventory and Rankings 2012





## PURPOSE

This report outlines the first Indiana Community Asset Inventory and Rankings (CAIR), a new analysis featuring an interactive website produced by Ball State University. The purpose of this inventory and ranking is to provide policy makers and residents within Indiana's counties an objective, data-focused assessment of the factors that influence the quality of life and the economic conditions within each county.

## METHODOLOGY

The CAIR provides a detailed asset inventory of variables that describe the educational attainment and health of Hoosier citizens, the performance of K-12 education and local government efficiency and cost, the availability of natural resource and cultural amenities, the level to which these have been augmented by local public investment and private recreational and arts activities.

All of these data sets have been carefully selected from secondary sources and are based on existing research of the factors<sup>1</sup> that contribute to the quality of life of residents through educational attainment and resources, the government, and the assets and activities that make communities livable, vibrant places.

These data sets have been aggregated to the county level for each of Indiana's 92 counties, with local scores adjusted for population within sub-jurisdictions in each county. A grade has been assigned to each county for those factors that are realistically within the control of public or private entities within a county. Each county is then graded in several areas, with grades ranging from A to F. We grade on a curve; an equal number of A and F grades are given, an equal number of B and D grades are given, and average performers receive C grades. For areas in which a community has no short-term control, such as the presence of naturally occurring assets (e.g. lakes and rivers) we assign an index number with average being 100 points.

## IMPACT

This is the first such attempt at this ranking, and will inevitably see more refinement in later updates. Nonetheless, we are confident that we have described those very factors that make places more attractive to residents and draw business investment. To illustrate this relationship, we provide comparisons of county economic performance by overall grades, and grades on educational attainment. The correlation between economic performance and grades is startlingly strong. See *Figure 1 and Figure 2*.

It is our hope that this index be used for a frank and honest self-assessment, and that without regard to individual grades communities can use this CAIR to motivate positive and lasting improvement in Indiana.

1. We have not weighted individual data elements because there is not yet an objective ranking process. Because most data elements within each major category are covariates (they tend to vary in the same direction in each county), the inclusion of more variables reduces problems associated with unweighted data.

FIGURE 1: POPULATION CHANGE BY COUNTY GRADES FOR HUMAN CAPITAL, 2000-2009

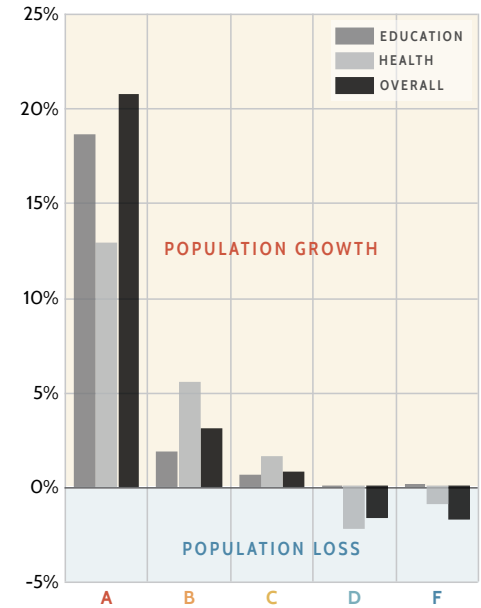
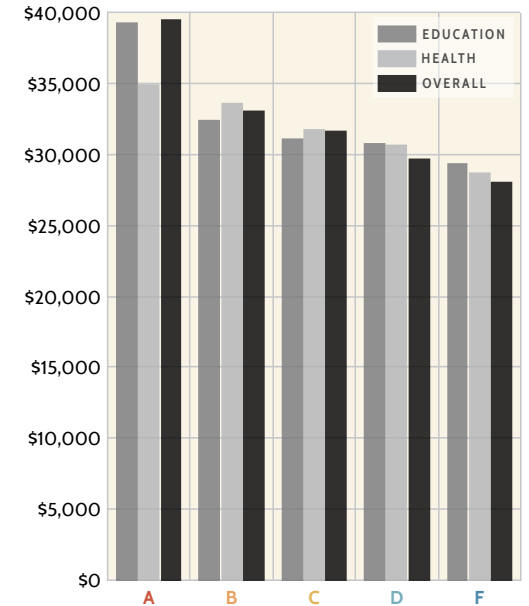
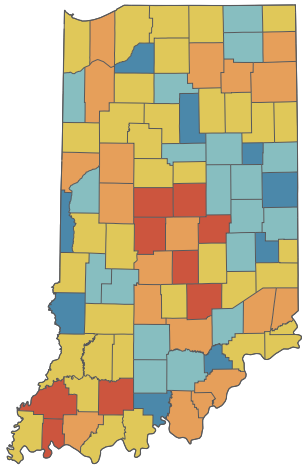


FIGURE 2: PER CAPITA INCOME BY COUNTY GRADES FOR HUMAN CAPITAL, 2009

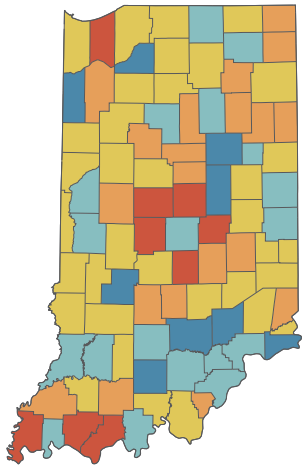




## PEOPLE

This category considers the conditions of the people within a community.

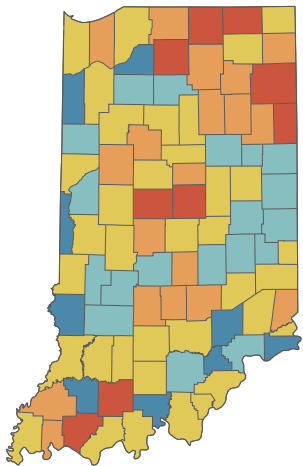
Factors include population growth, poverty rate, unemployment rate, private foundations revenue per capita, and other nonprofit revenue per capita.



## HUMAN CAPITAL: EDUCATION

When businesses consider an expansion or relocation, the education of a community's workforce plays a key role.

Factors include percent of students who passed the ISTEP English section, percent of students who passed the ISTEP math section, educational attainment (highest degree earned), and high school graduation rate.



## HUMAN CAPITAL: HEALTH

This category focuses on the well being of the human capital in a community. The healthier the workforce, the less expensive it is to insure.

Factors include fertility rate, death rate, premature death rate, poor and fair health rate, poor physical and mental health days, motor vehicle crash death rate, cancer incidence rate, lung and bronchus incidence rate, asthma rate; number of primary care providers; and access to healthy food (presence of food deserts).

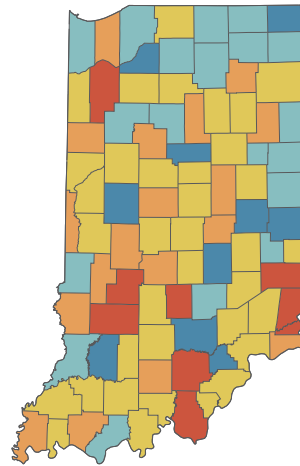
# INDIANA COMMUNITY ASSET INVENTORY AND RANKINGS 2012

We grade on a curve; an equal number of A and F grades are given, an equal number of B and D grades are given, and average performers receive C grades. Public amenities receive an index number with average being 100 points.

An interactive version of this data assessment can be found online. The website includes a FAQ section and a full report profile for each county.

Community Asset Inventory and Rankings online: [asset.cberdata.org](http://asset.cberdata.org)

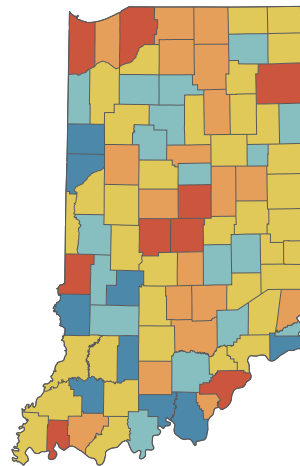
GRADES	POINTS
A	115.0-129.9
B	105.0-114.9
C	95.0-104.9
D	85.0-94.9
F	70.0-84.9



## GOVERNMENT IMPACT AND ECONOMY

Government influences and economic conditions affect the likelihood that a business will settle in a community.

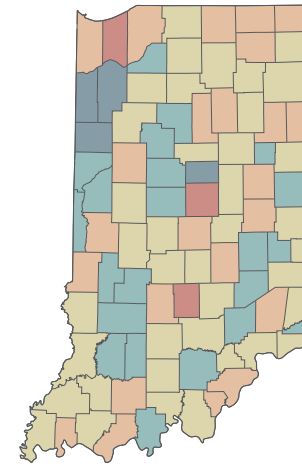
Factors include crime rate, effective tax rate, main street rate, and metropolitan development.



## ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION

Visitors and residents alike enjoy the quality of a place through its offerings in the arts, entertainment, and recreation. These offerings are often private, that is, not owned by the county.

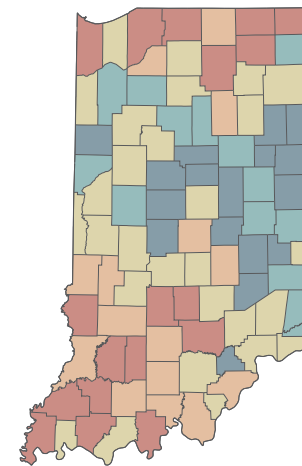
Factors include per capita personal income, employment per 1,000 people, and average compensation per employee; number of marinas, fairgrounds, athletic fields, and golf courses; and accommodation and food services per capita income.



## PUBLIC AMENITIES: CHANGEABLE

Some public amenities can be changed by a community through voting, grants, initiatives, etc. These features may be created, expanded, or downsized as the needs of the community change.

Changeable public amenities include public parks, historic and cultural sites, fishing and boating areas, camping or RV parks, hiking/walking trails, beaches, and school grounds. *Amenities use an index with 100 points as average.*



## PUBLIC AMENITIES: STATIC

Some public amenities are relatively static, that is, they are not easily changed.

Static public amenities (often natural features) include forests, fish and wildlife areas, dedicated nature preserves, bodies of water, and shore lines. *Amenities use an index with 100 points as average.*

**TABLE 1: COMMUNITY ASSET INVENTORY GRADES AND INDEX POINTS**

FIPS Code and County	People	Human Capital: Education	Human Capital: Health	Government Impact and Economy	Public Amenities: Changeable	Public Amenities: Static	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
18001 Adams	C- 50.0	B 70.5	A 79.8	D+ 62.8	107.4	79.6	D 46.9
18003 Allen	B 69.8	C 59.0	A 75.8	C- 64.3	104.5	101.4	A 87.9
18005 Bartholomew	A 82.4	C 44.5	B 63.1	D+ 62.0	95.4	97.6	B 73.6
18007 Benton	C 51.4	C 50.8	D 41.7	B 78.5	82.1	80.2	F 36.4
18009 Blackford	F 20.0	D 36.0	D- 37.8	D- 56.3	85.2	76.4	D 45.6
18011 Boone	A 81.0	A 96.3	A 78.8	B 78.8	93.8	77.4	B- 70.1
18013 Brown	C 57.4	B 71.5	B 62.3	A 86.8	116.1	115.8	B 70.9
18015 Carroll	C 54.8	B 68.8	B- 62.0	B- 75.8	89.5	100.6	D 46.6
18017 Cass	C- 47.0	D 33.5	C 56.1	D 56.5	94.6	87.4	D+ 50.0
18019 Clark	B 68.6	D+ 40.8	C 53.7	C 69.8	110.2	106.0	A 81.3
18021 Clay	D 40.8	C 44.5	D 40.0	B 82.3	86.8	107.0	D 42.6
18023 Clinton	C- 47.2	C- 42.5	C+ 60.0	C- 63.0	88.9	74.8	C 54.9
18025 Crawford	F 26.6	C 49.8	F 29.8	C+ 74.3	101.4	114.0	F 32.9
18027 Daviess	C 59.4	D 37.3	C 52.3	F 53.3	90.9	124.4	C 59.3
18029 Dearborn	B 68.2	B- 67.8	B 62.3	A 84.0	99.5	93.8	B 74.9
18031 Decatur	C 54.4	C+ 62.8	C+ 60.8	C+ 73.8	91.5	79.8	C+ 64.5
18033 DeKalb	B- 64.6	B 73.0	B 64.8	D 57.3	102.4	88.2	C 61.5
18035 Delaware	D+ 45.4	C 61.3	C- 49.4	C 71.8	106.8	86.0	B+ 80.1
18037 Dubois	A 87.6	B+ 81.8	A 84.1	C 70.0	105.9	114.2	C 64.3
18039 Elkhart	C+ 60.0	D+ 40.0	A 77.3	D 57.5	109.8	105.2	B 75.8

FIPS Code and County	People	Human Capital: Education	Human Capital: Health	Government Impact and Economy	Public Amenities: Changeable	Public Amenities: Static	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
18041 Fayette	F 26.2	C- 42.8	D+ 46.2	D- 56.0	89.4	78.4	C 56.6
18043 Floyd	B 69.4	B 72.3	C 50.8	C 73.0	107.2	104.6	B- 69.0
18045 Fountain	D- 37.2	D 34.3	D 43.9	C+ 74.5	92.4	101.0	C- 51.5
18047 Franklin	C 53.4	C 47.8	C 58.0	A 89.3	104.9	93.6	C- 52.1
18049 Fulton	D 41.8	C 47.8	D 45.5	C 70.5	97.1	98.0	D- 40.1
18051 Gibson	A 76.6	B 76.5	B 64.0	C 72.3	99.6	117.0	C- 54.4
18053 Grant	D 41.8	F 30.8	D 44.8	C- 64.0	97.6	87.0	C 61.8
18055 Greene	C- 48.6	C 47.8	D 41.1	A 93.3	94.5	108.4	D 43.5
18057 Hamilton	A 94.6	A 96.5	A 86.7	C 70.8	120.1	96.4	A 84.8
18059 Hancock	A 78.8	A 83.0	C+ 60.9	B 79.8	104.9	76.6	C 64.0
18061 Harrison	B+ 70.8	C+ 62.5	C- 50.3	A 84.0	97.1	108.6	F 33.3
18063 Hendricks	A 78.8	A 96.8	B+ 72.8	C 65.8	97.5	83.2	A 82.6
18065 Henry	D- 33.4	C- 41.3	D 42.7	F 55.3	108.6	92.6	C 55.1
18067 Howard	D- 34.6	B 68.0	C 51.8	F 55.8	104.6	79.4	B 71.4
18069 Huntington	C 52.4	B+ 79.5	B 66.2	C- 63.5	103.8	102.6	C 62.0
18071 Jackson	B- 62.6	F 29.3	C- 47.5	F 51.0	97.6	116.8	B 72.6
18073 Jasper	B+ 74.4	B- 65.8	C 57.7	A 88.0	80.2	94.4	C- 53.3
18075 Jay	D 39.2	C 46.0	D 45.4	D- 56.3	99.2	84.8	C- 51.8
18077 Jefferson	C+ 60.0	D- 31.3	D 43.3	C 69.5	102.1	103.2	C 64.3
18079 Jennings	D 40.6	F 15.3	F 32.3	C 72.0	89.6	102.0	D- 41.6

FIPS Code and County	People	Human Capital: Education	Human Capital: Health	Government Impact and Economy	Public Amenities: Changeable	Public Amenities: Static	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
18081 Johnson	A 81.2	A 89.0	B 68.4	C 70.3	97.6	95.8	B+ 77.6
18083 Knox	C 53.8	D 36.0	C 54.3	D+ 62.8	96.9	112.0	C- 50.5
18085 Kosciusko	B+ 71.0	C 58.3	B 63.7	D 56.5	104.5	122.4	B+ 78.5
18087 LaGrange	D+ 44.2	C 50.8	A 75.4	D 59.3	108.9	122.0	D+ 49.3
18089 Lake	C 50.8	C- 42.5	C 56.1	D 57.8	109.8	120.8	A 93.3
18091 LaPorte	C- 50.2	C 50.5	C 56.4	D 60.3	108.6	115.6	A 84.1
18093 Lawrence	D 38.0	D 39.8	C- 48.2	C 66.5	96.6	107.4	C 59.9
18095 Madison	D 42.2	F 31.0	C 52.7	B- 76.3	103.6	78.0	B 76.8
18097 Marion	B 70.4	D- 32.8	C+ 61.0	C- 64.3	106.4	109.6	A 95.4
18099 Marshall	C+ 60.0	C+ 61.8	A 73.2	D 56.8	101.8	101.4	B- 69.6
18101 Martin	C 58.4	C 53.0	C 51.8	C+ 74.5	87.1	116.0	F 34.6
18103 Miami	F 28.8	B 70.0	C- 50.7	B 78.3	111.2	89.2	C 55.5
18105 Monroe	B 67.4	B 73.3	B+ 69.8	C 70.5	113.9	122.0	C+ 65.1
18107 Montgomery	B- 61.4	B+ 81.0	C 51.7	F 54.0	100.2	86.0	C 60.8
18109 Morgan	B 67.6	C- 41.8	D+ 46.8	B+ 83.8	101.6	104.2	C 56.5
18111 Newton	D 44.0	F 18.0	F 36.4	C- 63.8	84.5	103.4	D 41.9
18113 Noble	D 38.6	D+ 40.0	C+ 60.8	D+ 62.0	113.1	118.6	D+ 49.5
18115 Ohio	C 52.4	C 55.0	C- 49.1	A 94.0	94.8	88.8	D- 38.9
18117 Orange	D 44.0	F 27.5	C 53.7	B 78.0	104.9	113.0	B 70.9
18119 Owen	D- 36.4	F 19.0	D- 37.5	A 94.0	92.8	102.4	F 34.6

## (CONT.) TABLE 1: COMMUNITY ASSET INVENTORY GRADES AND INDEX POINTS

FIPS Code and County	People	Human Capital: Education	Human Capital: Health	Government Impact and Economy	Public Amenities: Changeable	Public Amenities: Static	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
18121 Parke	C- 46.0	D 35.0	C- 47.1	C 67.8	108.1	100.2	D+ 50.0
18123 Perry	C 57.0	D+ 40.0	C- 47.1	C 71.0	94.4	116.4	D 43.0
18125 Pike	C 51.2	C 48.3	F 32.4	C- 63.0	99.1	120.0	F 37.1
18127 Porter	B 70.4	A 87.3	B- 61.5	B- 77.3	118.8	102.8	B+ 79.3
18129 Posey	C 58.2	A 89.3	C 51.8	B 79.5	102.6	127.8	C 60.1
18131 Pulaski	C 55.2	C- 42.8	D 43.3	C- 65.3	103.6	93.2	D 42.4
18133 Putnam	C+ 60.8	C 50.3	C 51.6	B+ 82.8	98.8	100.2	C- 52.1
18135 Randolph	F 27.2	D 39.3	D- 39.6	D 61.0	91.9	82.8	C+ 64.5
18137 Ripley	B 66.8	C+ 61.5	C 57.7	C 68.5	111.1	96.8	C 58.0
18139 Rush	D+ 44.2	B- 66.0	D+ 45.9	C 67.0	86.5	75.2	D 45.8
18141 St. Joseph	C 59.4	C- 42.8	B+ 71.7	C+ 74.3	97.5	117.6	B 72.6
18143 Scott	F 32.2	D- 31.8	F 34.9	F 52.3	97.1	76.4	C 55.1
18145 Shelby	C- 49.6	B- 64.0	D 40.2	A 85.8	110.5	109.2	D 44.8
18147 Spencer	C 54.6	A 86.0	C 58.8	D+ 62.5	111.6	104.2	C 55.0
18149 Starke	F 27.6	F 16.5	F 30.9	F 50.8	91.1	105.6	C 56.9
18151 Steuben	C 50.6	B- 64.0	C 54.7	F 47.5	109.1	126.8	C+ 66.4
18153 Sullivan	F 31.4	C 50.0	F 36.8	B 80.8	96.4	122.8	F 36.1
18155 Switzerland	C+ 60.2	F 30.5	F 28.8	B- 77.8	99.5	103.4	F 36.9
18157 Tippecanoe	B- 62.0	C 55.8	B 69.4	C 66.0	112.6	97.2	B 73.9
18159 Tipton	C- 48.4	B+ 80.3	B 68.3	C 66.5	83.2	72.4	D 46.0

FIPS Code and County	People	Human Capital: Education	Human Capital: Health	Government Impact and Economy	Public Amenities: Changeable	Public Amenities: Static	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
18161 Union	C 55.4	C 54.8	C 52.4	C- 64.3	96.9	95.0	C 62.4
18163 Vanderburgh	A 76.4	D 35.3	B- 61.7	C 71.0	114.1	100.8	A 95.8
18165 Vermillion	F 23.4	C 60.3	F 30.3	B+ 82.8	87.6	100.4	C- 52.9
18167 Vigo	C 55.0	C- 42.3	C- 49.6	D 59.0	112.8	113.2	A 84.9
18169 Wabash	C 52.6	D 35.5	B 64.6	C 71.3	108.5	109.6	B- 68.6
18171 Warren	B 65.2	C 55.5	C 52.5	C 66.3	89.5	90.4	F 32.9
18173 Warrick	B 70.2	A 83.5	A 73.2	B+ 82.8	103.9	115.6	B 73.9
18175 Washington	D+ 45.6	D- 31.3	D- 37.8	A 90.5	93.1	102.0	D- 40.1
18177 Wayne	D+ 45.6	D 35.8	D+ 46.4	F 50.5	98.4	87.4	C 64.1
18179 Wells	C 55.2	B 75.3	B+ 69.8	B 79.0	105.4	83.2	C- 50.1
18181 White	C- 50.4	C 45.8	C 55.3	D 57.8	95.2	97.4	C+ 67.0
18183 Whitley	B+ 72.2	B 76.0	B 66.2	B 81.0	100.4	98.4	C 56.6

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The Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) is an economic policy and forecasting research center housed within Ball State University's Miller College of Business. CBER research encompasses health care, public finance, regional economics, transportation, and energy sector studies.

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In addition to research and data delivery, the center serves as the business forecasting authority in the Muncie area—holding the annual Indiana Economic Outlook luncheon and quarterly meetings of the Ball State University Business Roundtable.

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