

= History of Indiana =

The history of human activity in Indiana , a US state in the Midwest , began with migratory tribes of Native Americans who inhabited Indiana as early as 8000 BC . Tribes succeeded one another in dominance for several thousand years and reached their peak of development during the period of Mississippian culture . The region entered recorded history in the 1670s when the first Europeans came to Indiana and claimed the territory for the Kingdom of France . After France ruled for 100 years (with little settlement in this area) , it was defeated by Great Britain in the French and Indian War (Seven Years ' War) and ceded its territory east of the Mississippi . Britain held the land for more than twenty years , until after its defeat in the American Revolutionary War . At that time , Britain ceded the entire trans @-@ Allegheny region , including what is now Indiana , to the new United States .

The United States government divided the trans @-@ Allegheny region into several new territories . The largest of these was the Northwest Territory , which was progressively divided into several smaller territories by the United States Congress . In 1800 , the Indiana Territory was the first new territory established from a portion of the Northwest Territory . The territory grew in population and development until it was admitted to the Union in 1816 as the nineteenth state , Indiana . Following statehood , the newly established state government laid out on an ambitious plan to transform Indiana from a segment of the frontier into a developed , well populated , and thriving state . The state 's founders initiated a program that led to the construction of roads , canals , railroads , and state @-@ funded public schools . Despite the noble aims of the project , profligate spending ruined the state 's credit . By 1841 the state was near bankruptcy and forced to liquidate most of its public works . By its new constitution of 1851 , it restricted rights of free blacks and excluded them from the suffrage . During the 1850s , the state 's population grew to exceed one million . The ambitious program of its founders was realized as Indiana became the fourth @-@ largest state in terms of population , as measured by the 1860 census .

Indiana became politically influential and played an important role in the Union during the American Civil War . Indiana was the first western state to mobilize for the war , and its soldiers participated in almost every engagement during the war . Following the Civil War , Indiana remained politically important as it became a critical swing state in U.S. Presidential elections . It helped decide control of the presidency for three decades . During the Indiana Gas Boom of the late 19th century , industry began to develop rapidly in the state . The state 's Golden Age of Literature began in the same time period , increasing its cultural influence . By the early 20th century , Indiana developed into a strong manufacturing state and attracted numerous immigrants and internal migrants to its industries . It experienced setbacks during the Great Depression of the 1930s . Construction of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway , expansion of the auto industry , urban development , and two wars contributed to the state 's industrial growth . During the second half of the 20th century , Indiana became a leader in the pharmaceutical industry due to the innovations of companies such as Eli Lilly .

= = Early civilizations = =

Following the end of the last glacial period , Indiana 's topography was dominated by spruce and pine forests and was home to mastodon , caribou , and saber @-@ toothed cats . While Northern Indiana had been covered by glaciers , Southern Indiana remained unaltered by the ice 's advance , leaving plants and animals that could sustain human communities . Indiana 's earliest known inhabitants were Paleo @-@ Indians . Evidence exists that humans were in Indiana as early as the Archaic stage (8000 ? 6000 BC) . Hunting camps of the nomadic Clovis culture have been found in Indiana . Carbon dating of artifacts found in the Wyandotte Caves of Southern Indiana shows humans mined flint there as early 2000 BC . These nomads ate quantities of freshwater mussels from local streams , as shown by their shell mounds found throughout southern Indiana .

The Early Woodland period in Indiana came between 1000 BC and 200 AD and produced the Adena culture . It domesticated wild squash and made pottery , which were large cultural advances

over the Clovis culture . The natives built burial mounds ; one of this type has been dated as the oldest earthwork in Anderson 's Mounds State Park .

Natives in the Middle Woodland period developed the Hopewell culture and may have been in Indiana as early as 200 BC . The Hopewells were the first culture to create permanent settlements in Indiana . About 1 AD , the Hopewells mastered agriculture and grew crops of sunflowers and squash . Around 200 AD , the Hopewells began to construct mounds used for ceremonies and burials . The Hopewells in Indiana were connected by trade to other native tribes as far away as Central America . For unknown reasons , the Hopewell culture went into decline around 400 and completely disappeared by 500 .

The Late Woodland era is generally considered to have begun about 600 AD and lasted until the arrival of Europeans in Indiana . It was a period of rapid cultural change . One of the new developments ? which has yet to be explained ? was the introduction of masonry , shown by the construction of large , stone forts , many of which overlook the Ohio River . Romantic legend used to attribute the forts to Welsh Indians who supposedly arrived centuries before Christopher Columbus reached the Caribbean . Archaeologists and other scholars have found no evidence for that theory and believe that the cultural development was engendered by the Mississippian culture .

= = = Mississippians = = =

Evidence suggests that after the collapse of the Hopewell , Indiana had a low population until the rise of the Fort Ancient and Mississippian culture around 900 AD . The Ohio River Valley was densely populated by the Mississippians from about 1100 to 1450 AD . Their settlements , like those of the Hopewell , were known for their ceremonial earthwork mounds . Some of these remain visible at locations near the Ohio River . The Mississippian mounds were constructed on a grander scale than the mounds built by the Hopewell . The agrarian Mississippian culture was the first to grow maize in the region . The people also developed the bow and arrow and copper working during this time period .

Mississippian society was complex , dense , and highly developed ; the largest Mississippian city of Cahokia (in Illinois) contained as many as 30 @,@ 000 inhabitants . They had a class society with certain groups specializing as artisans . The elite held related political and religious positions . Their cities were typically sited near rivers . Representing their cosmology , the central developments were dominated by a large central mound , several smaller mounds , and a large open plaza . Wooden palisades were built later around the complex , apparently for defensive purposes . The remains of a major settlement known as Angel Mounds lie east of present @-@ day Evansville . Mississippian houses were generally square @-@ shaped with plastered walls and thatched roofs . For reasons that remain unclear , the Mississippians disappeared in the middle of the 15th century , about 200 years before the Europeans first entered what would become modern Indiana . Mississippian culture marked the high point of native development in Indiana .

It was during this period that American Bison began a periodic east ? west trek through Indiana , crossing the Falls of the Ohio and the Wabash River near modern @-@ day Vincennes . These herds became important to civilizations in southern Indiana and created a well @-@ established Buffalo Trace , later used by European @-@ American pioneers moving west .

Before 1600 , a major war broke out in eastern North America among Native Americans ; it was later called the Beaver Wars . Five American Indian Iroquois tribes confederated to battle against their neighbors . The Iroquois were opposed by a confederation of primarily Algonquian tribes including the Shawnee , Miami , Wea , Pottawatomie , and the Illinois . These tribes were significantly less advanced than the Mississippian culture that had preceded them . The tribes were semi @-@ nomadic , used stone tools rather than copper , and did not create the large @-@ scale construction and farming works of their Mississippian predecessors . The war continued with sporadic fighting for at least a century as the Iroquois sought to dominate the expanding fur trade with the Europeans . They achieved this goal for several decades . During the war , the Iroquois drove the tribes from the Ohio Valley to the south and west . They kept control of the area for hunting grounds .

As a result of the war , several tribes , including the Shawnee , migrated into Indiana , where they attempted to resettle in land belonging to the Miami . The Iroquois gained the military advantage after they were supplied with firearms by the Europeans . With their superior weapons , the Iroquois subjugated at least thirty tribes and nearly destroyed several others in northern Indiana .

= = = European contact = = =

When the first Europeans entered Indiana during the 1670s , the region was in the final years of the Beaver Wars . The French attempted to trade with the Algonquian tribes in Indiana , selling them firearms in exchange for furs . This incurred the wrath of the Iroquois , who destroyed a French outpost in Indiana in retaliation . Appalled by the Iroquois , the French continued to supply the western tribes with firearms and openly allied with the Algonquian tribes . A major battle ? and a turning point in the conflict ? occurred near modern South Bend when the Miami and their allies repulsed a large Iroquois force in an ambush . With the firearms they received from the French , the odds were evened . The war finally ended in 1701 with the Great Peace of Montreal . Both Indian confederacies were left exhausted , having suffered heavy casualties . Much of Ohio , Michigan and Indiana was left depopulated as many tribes fled west to escape the fighting .

The Miami and Pottawatomie nations returned to Indiana following the war . Other tribes , such as the Algonquian Lenape , were pushed westward into the Midwest from the East Coast by encroachment of European colonists . Around 1770 the Miami invited the Lenape to settle on the White River . The Shawnee arrived in present @-@ day Indiana after the three other nations . These four nations were later to be participants in the Sixty Years ' War , a struggle between native nations and European settlers for control of the Great Lakes region . Hostilities with the tribes began early . The Piankeshaw killed five French fur traders in 1752 near the Vermilion River . But the tribes also traded successfully with the French for decades .

= = Colonial period = =

French fur traders from Canada were the first Europeans to enter Indiana , beginning in the 1670s . The quickest route connecting the New France districts of Canada and Louisiana ran along Indiana 's Wabash River . The Terre Haute highlands were once considered the border between the two French districts . This made Indiana a vital part of French lines of communication and trade routes . The French established Vincennes as a permanent settlement in Indiana during European rule , but the population of the area remained primarily Native American . As French influence grew in the region , Great Britain , competing with France for control of North America , came to believe that control of Indiana was important to halt French expansion on the continent .

= = = France = = =

The first European outpost within modern Indiana was Tassinong , a French trading post established in 1673 near the Kankakee River . French explorer René @-@ Robert Cavelier , Sieur de La Salle came to the area in 1679 , claiming it for King Louis the XIV of France . La Salle came to explore a portage between the St. Joseph and Kankakee rivers , and Father Ribourde , who traveled with La Salle , marked trees along the way . The marks survived to be photographed in the 19th century . In 1681 , La Salle negotiated a common defense treaty between the Illinois and Miami nations against the Iroquois .

Further exploration of Indiana led to the French establishing an important trade route between Canada and Louisiana via the Maumee and Wabash rivers . The French built a series of forts and outposts in Indiana as a hedge against the westward expansion of the British colonies from the east coast of North America and to encourage trade with the native tribes . The tribes were able to procure metal tools , cooking utensils , and other manufactured items in exchange for animal pelts . The French built Fort Miamis in the Miami town of Kekionga (modern Fort Wayne , Indiana) . France assigned Jean Baptiste Bissot , Sieur de Vincennes , as the first agent to the Miami at

Kekionga .

In 1717 , François @-@ Marie Picoté de Belestre established the post of Ouiatenon (modern Lafayette , Indiana) to discourage the Wea from coming under British influence . In 1732 , François @-@ Marie Bissot , Sieur de Vincennes , established a similar post near the Piankeshaw in the town that still bears his name . Although the forts were garrisoned by men from New France , Fort Vincennes was the only outpost to maintain a permanent European presence until the modern day . Jesuit priests accompanied many of the French soldiers into Indiana in an attempt to convert the natives to Christianity . The Jesuits conducted missionary activities , lived among the natives and learned their languages , and accompanied them on hunts and migrations . Gabriel Marest , one of the first missionaries in Indiana , taught among the Kaskaskia as early as 1712 . The missionaries came to have great influence among the natives and played an important role in keeping the native tribes allied with the French .

During the French and Indian War , the North American front of the Seven Years ' War in Europe , the British directly challenged France for control of the region . Although no pitched battles occurred in Indiana , the native tribes of the region supported the French . At the beginning of the war , the tribes sent large groups of warriors to support the French in resisting the British advance and to raid British colonies . Using Fort Pitt as a forward base , British commander Robert Rogers overcame the native resistance and drove deep into the frontier to capture Fort Detroit . The rangers moved south from Detroit and captured many of the key French outposts in Indiana , including Fort Miamis and Fort Vincennes . As the war progressed , the French lost control of Canada after the fall of Montreal . No longer able to effectively fight the British in interior North America , they lost Indiana to British forces . By 1761 the French were entirely forced out of Indiana . Following the French expulsion , the native tribes , led by Chief Pontiac , confederated in an attempt to rebel against the British without French assistance . While Pontiac was besieging British @-@ held Fort Detroit , other tribes in Indiana rose up against the British . They were forced to surrender Fort Miamis and Fort Ouiatenon . In 1763 , while Pontiac was fighting the British , the French signed the Treaty of Paris and ceded control of Indiana to the British .

= = = Great Britain = = =

When the British gained control of Indiana , the entire region was in the middle of Pontiac 's Rebellion . During the next year , British officials negotiated with the various tribes , splitting them from their alliance with Pontiac . Eventually , Pontiac lost most of his allies , forcing him to make peace with the British on July 25 , 1766 . As a concession to Pontiac , Great Britain issued a proclamation that the territory west of the Appalachian Mountains was to be reserved for Native Americans . Despite the treaty , Pontiac was still considered a threat to British interests , but after he was murdered on April 20 , 1769 , the region saw several years of peace .

After Britain established peace with the natives , many of the former French trading posts and forts in the region were abandoned . Fort Miamis was maintained for several years because it was considered to be " of great importance " , but even it was eventually abandoned . The Jesuit priests were expelled , and no provisional government was established ; the British hoped the French in the area would leave . Many did leave , but the British gradually became more accommodating to the French who remained and continued the fur trade with the Native American nations .

In 1768 , a treaty was negotiated between several of the British colonies and the Iroquois . The Iroquois sold their territorial claims to the colonies as part of the treaty . The company created to hold that claim was named the Indiana Land Company , the first recorded use of the word Indiana . The claim was disputed by the colony of Virginia , which did not participate in the treaty because it already laid claim to the land through its royal charter . In 1773 , the territory of Indiana was brought under the administration of Province of Quebec to appease its French population . The Quebec Act was listed as one of the Intolerable Acts the Thirteen Colonies cited as a reason for the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War . The thirteen colonies thought themselves entitled to the territory for their support of Great Britain during the French and Indian War , and were incensed that it was given to the enemy the colonies had been fighting .

Although the United States gained official possession of the region following the conclusion of the American Revolution , British influence on its Native American allies in the region remained strong , especially near Fort Detroit . This influence caused the Northwest Indian War , which began when British @-@ influenced native tribes refused to recognize American authority and were backed in their resistance by British merchants in the area . American military victories in the region and the ratification of the Jay Treaty , which called for British withdrawal from the region 's forts , caused a formal evacuation , but the British were not fully expelled from the area until the conclusion of the War of 1812 .

= = = United States = = =

After the outbreak of the American Revolution , George Rogers Clark was sent from Virginia to enforce its claim to much of the land in the Great Lakes region . In July 1778 , Clark and about 175 men crossed the Ohio River and took control of Kaskaskia , Vincennes , and several other villages in British Indiana . The occupation was accomplished without firing a shot because Clark carried letters from the French ambassador stating that France supported the Americans . These letters made most of the French and Native American inhabitants of the area unwilling to support the British .

The fort at Vincennes , renamed Fort Sackville by the British , had been abandoned years earlier and no garrison was present when the Americans occupied it . Captain Leonard Helm became the first American commandant at Vincennes . To counter Clark 's advance , the British under Lieutenant Governor Henry Hamilton reoccupied Vincennes with a small force . In February 1779 , Clark arrived at Vincennes in a surprise winter expedition and retook the town , capturing Hamilton in the process . This expedition secured most of southern Indiana for the United States .

In 1780 , emulating Clark 's success at Vincennes , French officer Augustin de La Balme organized a militia force of French residents to capture Fort Detroit . While marching to Detroit , the force stopped to sack Kekionga . The delay proved fatal when the expedition met the warriors of the Miami tribe under Miami Chief Little Turtle along the Eel River , and the entire force was killed or captured . Clark organized another assault on Fort Detroit in 1781 , but it was aborted when Chief Joseph Brant captured a significant part of Clark 's army at a battle known as Lochry 's Defeat , near present @-@ day Aurora , Indiana .

Other minor skirmishes occurred in Indiana , including the battle at Petit Fort in 1780 . In 1783 , when the war came to an end , Britain ceded the entire trans @-@ Allegheny region to the United States ? including Indiana ? in the peace treaty negotiated in Paris .

Clark 's militia was under the authority of the state of Virginia , and although a continental flag was flown over Fort Sackville , the area was governed as Virginia territory until the state gave it to the United States federal government in 1784 . Clark was awarded large tracts of land in southern Indiana for his service in the war and modern Clark County is named in his honor .

= = Indiana Territory = =

In 1785 , the Northwest Indian War began . In an attempt to end the native rebellion , the Miami town of Kekionga was attacked unsuccessfully by General Josiah Harmar and Northwest Territory Governor Arthur St. Clair . St. Clair 's Defeat is the worst defeat of the U.S. Army by Native Americans in history , leaving almost the entire army dead or captured . The defeat led to the appointment of General " Mad Anthony " Wayne who organized the Legion of the United States and defeated a Native American force at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 . In 1795 , the Treaty of Greenville was signed and a small part of eastern Indiana was opened for settlement . Fort Miami at Kekionga was occupied by the United States , who rebuilt it as Fort Wayne . After the treaty , the powerful Miami nation considered themselves allies with the United States . The war ended hostilities with the Native Americans , leaving them victorious in 31 of the 37 recorded incidents involving white settlers during the 18th century .

The Northwest Territory was formed by the Congress of the Confederation on July 13 , 1787 , and

included all land between the Appalachian Mountains , the Mississippi River , the Great Lakes and the Ohio River . This single territory became the states of Ohio , Michigan , Indiana , Illinois , Wisconsin , and part of eastern Minnesota . The act established an administration to oversee the territory and had the land surveyed in accordance with The Land Ordinance of 1785 . At the time the territory was created , there were only two American settlements in what would become Indiana : Vincennes and Clark 's Grant . The population of the northwest included fewer than 5 @,@ 000 Europeans . The Native American population was estimated to be near 20 @,@ 000 , but may have been as high as 75 @,@ 000 .

On July 4 , 1800 , the Indiana Territory was established out of Northwest Territory in preparation for Ohio 's statehood . The Indiana Land Company , which still held claim to Indiana , had been dissolved by a United States Supreme Court decision in 1798 . The name Indiana meant " Land of the Indians " , and referred to the fact that most of the area north of the Ohio River was still inhabited by Native Americans . (Kentucky , South of the Ohio River , had been a traditional hunting ground for tribes that resided north of the river , and early American settlers in Kentucky referred to the North bank as the land of the Indians .) Although the company 's claim was extinguished , Congress used their name for the new territory . The Indiana Territory contained present day Indiana , Illinois , Michigan , Wisconsin and part of Minnesota . Those areas were separated out in 1805 and 1809 . The first Governor of the Territory was William Henry Harrison , who served from 1800 until 1813 . Harrison County was named in honor of Harrison , who later become the ninth President of The United States . He was succeeded by Thomas Posey who served from 1813 until 1816 .

The first capital was established in Vincennes where it remained for thirteen years . After the territory was reorganized in 1809 , the legislature made plans to move the capital to Corydon to be more centralized with the population . Corydon was established in 1808 on land donated by William Henry Harrison . The new capitol building was finished in 1813 and the government quickly relocated following the outbreak of war on the frontier .

As the population of the territory grew , so did the people 's exercising of their freedoms . In 1809 , the territory was granted permission to fully elect its own legislature for the first time . Before that , Governor Harrison appointed the legislature . Although Article 6 of the Northwest Ordinance had prohibited slavery , it had existed in the region since French rule . In addition , settlers from the Upper South occupied areas along the Ohio River , bringing slaves with them . They wanted to have it be legal in the territory , but others from the northern states opposed the expansion of slavery into this region . The anti @-@ slavery party won a strong majority in the first election . Governor Harrison was at odds with the new legislature , which proceeded to overturn the indenturing and pro @-@ slavery laws he had enacted . Slavery remained the defining issue in the state for the decades to follow . In these early decades , although the legislature did not encourage free blacks to settle here , it extended suffrage to them .

= = = War of 1812 = = =

The first major event in the territory was the resumption of hostilities with the Indians . Unhappy with their treatment since the peace of 1795 , the native tribes , led by the Shawnee Chief Tecumseh and his brother Tenskwatawa , formed a coalition against the Americans . Tecumseh 's War started in 1811 when General William Henry Harrison led his army to rebuff aggressive movements of Tecumseh 's confederation . The war continued until the Battle of Tippecanoe which firmly ended the Native American uprising and allowed the Americans to take full control of all of Indiana . The Battle earned Harrison national fame , and the nickname " Old Tippecanoe " .

The war between Tecumseh and Harrison merged with the War of 1812 when the remnants of the Indian Confederation allied with the British in Canada . The Siege of Fort Harrison is considered to be the United States ' first land victory during the war . Other battles that occurred in the modern state of Indiana include the Siege of Fort Wayne , the Pigeon Roost Massacre and the Battle of the Mississinewa . The Treaty of Ghent , signed in 1814 , ended the war and relieved American settlers from their fears of the nearby British and their Indian allies . This marked the end of hostilities with the Native Americans in Indiana . Of the 58 recorded incidents between Native Americans and the

United States in Indiana during the 19th century , 43 were Indian victories .

= = Statehood = =

In 1812 , Jonathan Jennings defeated Harrison 's chosen candidate and became the territory 's representative to Congress . Jennings immediately introduced legislation to grant Indiana statehood , even though the population of the entire territory was under 25 @,@ 000 , but no action was taken on the legislation because of the outbreak of the War of 1812 .

Posey had created a rift in the politics of the territory by supporting slavery , much to the chagrin of opponents like Jennings , Dennis Pennington , and others who dominated the Territorial Legislature and who sought to use the bid for statehood to permanently end slavery in the territory .

= = = Founding = = =

In early 1816 , the Territory approved a census and Pennington was named to be the census enumerator . The population of the territory was found to be 63 @,@ 897 , above the cutoff required for statehood . A constitutional convention met on June 10 , 1816 , in Corydon . Because of the heat of the season , the delegation moved outdoors on many days and wrote the constitution beneath the shade of a giant elm tree . The state 's first constitution was completed on June 29 , and elections were held in August to fill the offices of the new state government . In November Congress approved statehood .

Jennings and his supporters had control of the convention and Jennings was elected its president . Other notable delegates at the convention included Dennis Pennington , Davis Floyd , and William Hendricks . Pennington and Jennings were at the forefront of the effort to prevent slavery from entering Indiana and sought to create a constitutional ban on it . Pennington was quoted as saying " Let us be on our guard when our convention men are chosen that they be men opposed to slavery " . They succeeded in their goal and a ban was placed in the new constitution . But , persons already held in bondage stayed in that status for some time . That same year Indiana statehood was approved by Congress . While settlers did not want slavery , they also wanted to exclude free blacks , and established barriers to their immigration to the state .

Jonathan Jennings , whose motto was " No slavery in Indiana " , was elected governor of the state , defeating Thomas Posey 5 @,@ 211 to 3 @,@ 934 votes . Jennings served two terms as governor and then went on to represent the state in congress for another 18 years . Upon election , Jennings declared Indiana a free state . The abolitionists won a key victory in the 1820 Indiana Supreme Court case of Polly v. Lasselle ; slavery was finally extinct by 1830 .

As the northern tribal lands gradually opened to white settlement , Indiana 's population rapidly increased and the center of population shifted continually northward . Indianapolis was selected to be the site of the new state capital in 1820 because of its central position within the state . The city founders assumed the White River would serve as a major transportation artery ; however , the waterway was too sandy for navigation . In 1825 , Indianapolis replaced Corydon as the seat of government . The government became established in the Marion County Courthouse as the second state capital building .

= = = Early development = = =

The National Road reached Indianapolis in 1829 , connecting Indiana to the Eastern United States . It was also about this time that citizens of Indiana became known as Hoosiers and the state took on the motto " Crossroads of America " . In 1832 , construction began on the Wabash and Erie Canal , a project connecting the waterways of the Great Lakes to the Ohio River . Railroads soon made the canal system obsolete . These developments in transportation served to economically connect Indiana to the Northern East Coast , rather than relying solely on the natural waterways which connected Indiana to the Mississippi River and Gulf Coast states .

In 1831 , construction on the third state capitol building began . This building , designed by the firm

of Ithiel Town and Alexander Jackson Davis , had a design inspired by the Greek Parthenon and opened in 1841 . It was the first statehouse that was built and used exclusively by the state government .

The state suffered from financial difficulties during its first three decades . Jonathan Jennings attempted to begin a period of internal improvements . Among his projects , the Indiana Canal Company was reestablished to build a canal around the Falls of the Ohio . The Panic of 1819 caused the state 's only two banks to fold . This hurt Indiana 's credit , halted the projects , and hampered the start of new projects until the 1830s , after the repair of the state 's finances during the terms of William Hendricks and Noah Noble . Beginning in 1831 , large scale plans for statewide improvements were set into motion . Overspending on the internal improvements led to a large deficit that had to be funded by state bonds through the newly created Bank of Indiana and sale of over nine million acres (36 @, @ 000 km ²) of public land . By 1841 the debt had become unmanageable . Having borrowed over \$ 13 million , the equivalent to the state 's first fifteen years of tax revenue , the government could not even pay interest on the debt . The state narrowly avoided bankruptcy by negotiating the liquidation of the public works , transferring them to the state 's creditors in exchange for a 50 % reduction in the state 's debt . The internal improvements began under Jennings paid off as the state began to experience rapid population growth that slowly remedied the state 's funding problems . The improvements led to a fourfold increase in land value , and an even larger increase in farm produce .

During the 1840s , Indiana completed the removal of the Native American tribes . The majority of the Potawatomi voluntarily relocated to Kansas in 1838 . Those who did not leave were forced to travel to Kansas in what came to be called the Potawatomi Trail of Death , leaving only the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians in the Indiana area . The majority of the Miami tribe left in 1846 , although many members of the tribe were permitted to remain in the state on lands they held privately under the terms of the 1818 Treaty of St. Mary 's . The other tribes were also convinced to leave the state voluntarily through the payment of subsidies and land grants further west . The Shawnee migrated westward to settle in Missouri , and the Lenape migrated into Canada . The other minor tribes in the state , including the Wea , moved westward , mostly to Kansas .

By the 1850s , Indiana had undergone major changes : what was once a frontier with sparse population had become a developing state with several cities . In 1816 , Indiana 's population was around 65 @, @ 000 , and in less than 50 years , it had increased to more than 1 @, @ 000 @, @ 000 inhabitants .

Because of the rapidly changing state , the constitution of 1816 began to be criticized . Opponents claimed the constitution had too many appointed positions , the terms established were inadequate , and some of the clauses were too easily manipulated by the political parties that did not exist when then constitution was written . The first constitution had not been put to a vote by the general public , and following the great population growth in the state , it was seen as inadequate . A constitutional convention was called in January 1851 to create a new one . The new constitution was approved by the convention on February 10 , 1851 , and submitted for a vote to the electorate that year . It was approved and has since been the official constitution .

= = = Religion = = =

Frontier Indiana was prime ground missionary for the Second Great Awakening , with a never @-@ ending parade of camp meetings and revivals . Baptist church records show an intense interest in private moral behavior at the weekly meetings , including drinking and proper child @-@ rearing practices . The most contentious issue was antission controversy , in which the more traditional elements denounced missionary societies as unbiblical .

Eastern Presbyterian and Congregational denominations funded an aggressive missionary program , 1826 ? 55 , through the American Home Missionary Society (AHMS) . It sought to bring sinners to Christ and also to modernize society promoted middle class values , mutual trust among the members , and tried to minimize violence and drinking . The frontierspeople were the reformees and they displayed their annoyance at the new morality being imposed on society . The political crisis

came in 1854 @-@ 55 over a pietistic campaign to enact " dry " prohibition of liquor sales . They were strongly opposed by the " wets , " especially non @-@ churched , the Catholics , Episcopalians , the antimissionary elements , and the German recent arrivals . Prohibition failed in 1855 and the moralistic pietistic Protestants switched to a new , equally moralistic cause , the anti @-@ slavery crusade led by the new Republican Party .

= = Education = =

For a list of institutions , see Category : Universities and colleges in Indiana .

The earliest institutions of education in Indiana were missions , established by French Jesuit priests to convert local Native American nations . The Jefferson Academy was founded in 1801 as a public university for the Indiana Territory , and was reincorporated as Vincennes University in 1806 , the first in the state .

The 1816 constitution required that Indiana 's state legislature create a " general system of education , ascending in a regular gradation , from township schools to a state university , wherein tuition shall be gratis , and equally open to all " . It took several years for the legislature to fulfill its promise , partly because of a debate about whether a new public university should be founded to replace the territorial university . The 1820s saw the start of free public township schools . During the administration of William Hendricks , a plot of ground was set aside in each township for the construction of a schoolhouse .

The state government chartered Indiana University in Bloomington in 1820 as the State Seminary . Construction began in 1822 , the first professor was hired in 1823 , and classes were offered in 1824 .

Other state colleges were established for specialized needs . They included Indiana State University , established in Terre Haute in 1865 as the state normal school for training teachers . Purdue University was founded in 1869 as the state 's land @-@ grant university , a school of science and agriculture . Ball State University was founded as a normal school in the early 20th century and given to the state in 1918 .

Public colleges lagged behind the private religious colleges in both size and educational standards until the 1890s . Asbury College (now Depauw University) was Methodist . Wabash College was Presbyterian ; they led the Protestant schools . The University of Notre Dame , founded by Rev Edward Sorin in 1842 , proclaims itself as a prominent Catholic college . Indiana lagged the rest of the Midwest with the lowest literacy and education rates into the early 20th century .

= = Transportation = =

In the early 19th century , most transportation of goods in Indiana was done by river . Most of the state 's estuaries drained into the Wabash River or the Ohio River , ultimately meeting up with the Mississippi River , where goods were transported to and sold in St. Louis or New Orleans .

The first road in the region was the Buffalo Trace , an old bison trail that ran from the Falls of the Ohio to Vincennes . After the capitol was relocated to Corydon , several local roads were created to connect the new capitol to the Ohio River at Mauckport and to New Albany . The first major road in the state was the National Road , a project funded by the federal government . The road entered Indiana in 1829 , connecting Richmond , Indianapolis , and Terre Haute with the eastern states and eventually Illinois and Missouri in the west . The state adopted the advanced methods used to build the national road on a statewide basis and began to build a new road network that was usable year @-@ round . The North @-@ South Michigan Road was built in the 1830s , connecting Michigan and Kentucky and passing through Indianapolis in the middle . These two new roads were roughly perpendicular within the state and served as the foundation for a road system to encompass all of Indiana .

In 1832 , the state began construction on the Wabash and Erie Canal . The canal was started at Lake Erie , passed through Fort Wayne , and connected to the Wabash River . This new canal made water transport possible from New Orleans to Lake Erie on an internal route rather than

sailing around the whole of the Eastern United States and entering through Canada . Other canal projects were started , but all were abandoned before completion due to the state 's foundering credit after the devaluation of the bonds .

The first railroad in Indiana was built in Shelbyville in the late 1830s . The first major line was completed in 1847 , connecting Madison with Indianapolis . By the 1850s , the railroad began to become popular in Indiana . The railroad brought major changes to Indiana and enhanced the state 's economic growth . Although Indiana 's natural waterways connected it to the South via cities such as St. Louis and New Orleans , the new rail lines ran East @-@ West , and connected Indiana with the economies of the northern states . As late as mid @-@ 1859 , no rail line yet bridged the Ohio or Mississippi rivers . Because of an increased demand on the state 's resources and the embargo against the Confederacy , the rail system was mostly completed by the end of the American Civil War .

= = Suffrage and racial discrimination = =

Indiana put further restrictions on blacks , prohibiting them from testifying in court in a case against a white man . The new constitution of 1851 expanded suffrage for white males , but excluded blacks from suffrage . While the state did not have legal segregation , it excluded black children from public schools as a matter of custom .

= = = Temperance movement = = =

Temperance became a part of the evangelical Protestant initiative during Indiana 's pioneer era and early statehood . Many Hoosiers freely indulged in drinking locally distilled whiskey on a daily basis , with binges on election days and holidays , and during community celebrations . Reformers announced that the devil was at work and must be repudiated . A state temperance society formed in 1829 and local temperance societies soon organized in Indianapolis , Fort Wayne , and Logansport . By the 1830s pietistic (evangelical) Protestants and community leaders had joined forces to curb consumption of alcohol . In 1847 the Indiana General Assembly passed a local option bill that allowed a vote on whether to prohibit alcohol sales in a township . The liquor issue pitted wets and dries in stable uncompromising coalitions that formed a main theme of Hoosier politics into the 1930s .

By the 1850s Indiana 's Republican party , whose adherents tended to favor the temperance movement , began challenging the state 's Democrats , who supported personal freedom and a limited federal government , for political power . Early temperance legislation in Indiana earned only limited and temporary success . In 1853 Republicans persuaded the state legislature to pass a local option law that would allow township voters to declare their township dry , but it was later deemed unconstitutional . In 1855 a statewide prohibition law was passed , but it met the same fate as the local option . In the decades to come Protestant churches , especially the Methodists , Baptists , Presbyterians , Disciples of Christ , Quakers , and women 's groups would continue to support temperance efforts and gave strong support to the mostly dry Republican Party . The Catholics , Episcopalians and Lutherans stood opposed and gave strong support to the wet Democratic Party .

= = Civil War = =

Indiana , a free state and the boyhood home of Abraham Lincoln , remained a member of the Union during the American Civil War . Indiana regiments were involved in all the major engagements of the war and almost all the engagements in the western theater . Hoosiers were present in the first and last battles of the war . During the war , Indiana provided 126 infantry regiments , 26 batteries of artillery , and 13 regiments of cavalry to the cause of the Union .

In the initial call to arms issued in 1861 , Indiana was assigned a quota of 7 @, @ 500 men ? a tenth of the amount called ? to join the Union Army in putting down the rebellion . So many volunteered in the first call that thousands had to be turned away . Before the war ended , Indiana contributed 208

@, @ 367 men to fight and serve in the war . Casualties were over 35 % among these men : 24 @, @ 416 lost their lives in the conflict and over 50 @, @ 000 more were wounded .

At the outbreak of the war , Indiana was run by a Democratic and southern sympathetic majority in the state legislature . It was by the actions of Governor Oliver Morton , who illegally borrowed millions of dollars to finance the army , that Indiana could contribute so greatly to the war effort . Morton suppressed the state legislature with the help of the Republican minority to prevent it from assembling during 1861 and 1862 . This prevented any chance the Democrats might have had to interfere with the war effort or to attempt to secede from the Union .

= = = Raids = = =

Two raids on Indiana soil during the war caused a brief panic in Indianapolis and southern Indiana . The Newburgh Raid on July 18 , 1862 , occurred when Confederate officer Adam Johnson briefly captured Newburgh by convincing the Union troops garrisoning the town that he had cannon on the surrounding hills , when in fact they were merely camouflaged stovepipes . The raid convinced the federal government that it was necessary to supply Indiana with a permanent force of regular Union Army soldiers to counter future raids .

The most significant Civil War battle fought in Indiana was a small skirmish during Morgan 's Raid . On the morning of July 9 , 1863 , Morgan attempted to cross the Ohio River into Indiana with his force of 2 @, @ 400 Confederate cavalry . After his crossing was briefly contested , he marched north to Corydon where he fought the Indiana Legion in the short Battle of Corydon . Morgan took command of the heights south of Corydon and shot two shells from his batteries into the town , which promptly surrendered . The battle left 15 dead and 40 wounded . Morgan 's main body of troopers briefly raided New Salisbury , Crandall , Palmyra , and Salem . Fear gripped the capitol , and the militia began to form there to contest Morgan 's advance . After Salem , however , Morgan turned east , raiding and skirmishing along this path and leaving Indiana through West Harrison on July 13 into Ohio , where he was captured .

= = = Aftermath = = =

The Civil War had a major effect on the development of Indiana . Before the war , the population was generally in the south of the state , where many had entered via the Ohio River , which provided a cheap and convenient means to export products and agriculture to New Orleans to be sold . The war closed the Mississippi River to traffic for nearly four years , forcing Indiana to find other means to export its produce . This led to a population shift to the north where the state came to rely more on the Great Lakes and the railroad for exports .

Before the war , New Albany was the largest city in the state , mainly because of its river contacts and extensive trade with the South . Over half of Hoosiers with over \$ 100 @, @ 000 lived in New Albany . During the war , the trade with the South came to a halt , and many residents considered those of New Albany as too friendly to the South . The city never regained its stature . It was stilled as a city of 40 @, @ 000 with its early @-@ Victorian Mansion @-@ Row buildings remaining from the boom period .

= = Post @-@ Civil War era = =

= = = Economic growth = = =

Ohio River ports had been stifled by an embargo on the Confederate South and never fully recovered their economic prominence , leading the south into an economic decline . By contrast , northern Indiana experienced an economic boom when natural gas was discovered in the 1880s , which directly contributed to the rapid growth of cities such as Gas City , Hartford City , and Muncie where a glass industry developed to utilize the cheap fuel . The Indiana gas field was then the

largest known in the world . The boom lasted until the early 20th century , when the gas supplies ran low . This began northern Indiana 's industrialization .

The development of heavy industry attracted thousands of European immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries , as well as internal migrants , both black and white , from the rural and small town South . These developments dramatically altered the demographics of the state . Indiana industrial cities were among the destinations of the Great Migration . After World War II , industrial restructuring and the shifts in heavy industry resulted in Indiana 's becoming part of the Rust Belt .

In 1876 , chemist Eli Lilly , a Union colonel during the Civil War , founded Eli Lilly and Company , a pharmaceutical company . His initial innovation of gelatin @-@ coating for pills led to a rapid growth of the company that eventually developed as Indiana 's largest corporation , and one of the largest corporations in the world . Over the years , the corporation developed many widely used drugs , including insulin , and it became the first company to mass @-@ produce penicillin . The company 's many advances made Indiana the leading state in the production and development of medicines .

Charles Conn returned to Elkhart after the Civil War and established C.G. Conn Ltd . , a manufacturer of musical instruments . The company 's innovation in band instruments made Elkhart an important center of the music world , and it became a base of Elkhart 's economy for decades . Nearby South Bend experienced continued growth following the Civil War , and became a large manufacturing city centered around the Oliver Farm Equipment Company , the nation 's leading plow producer . Gary was founded in 1906 by the United States Steel Corporation as the home for its new plant .

The administration of Governor James D. Williams proposed the construction of the fourth state capitol building in 1878 . The third state capitol building was razed and the new one was constructed on the same site . Two million dollars was appropriated for construction and the new building was completed in 1888 . The building was still in use in 2008 .

The Panic of 1893 had a severely negative effect on the Hoosier economy when many factories closed and several railroads declared bankruptcy . The Pullman Strike of 1894 hurt the Chicago area and coal miners in southern Indiana participated in a national strike . Hard times were not limited to industry ; farmers also felt a financial pinch from falling prices . The economy began to recover when World War I broke out in Europe , creating a higher demand for American goods . Despite economic setbacks , advances in industrial technology continued throughout the last years of the 19th and into the 20th century . On July 4 , 1894 , Elwood Haynes successfully road tested his first automobile , and opened the Haynes @-@ Apperson auto company in 1896 . In 1895 , William Johnson invented a process for casting aluminum .

= = = Political battleground = = =

During the postwar era , Indiana became a critical swing state that often helped decide which party controlled the presidency . Elections were very close , and became the center of frenzied attention with many parades , speeches and rallies as election day approached ; voter turnout ranging over 90 % to near 100 % in such elections as 1888 and 1896 . In remote areas , both sides paid their supporters to vote , and occasionally paid supporters of the opposition not to vote . Despite allegations , historians have found very little fraud in national elections .

To win the electoral vote , both national parties looked for Indiana candidates for the national tickets ; a Hoosier was included in all but one presidential election between 1880 and 1924 .

In 1888 , Indiana Senator Benjamin Harrison , grandson of territorial Governor William Henry Harrison , was elected President after an intense battle that attracted more than 300 @,@ 000 partisans to Indianapolis to hear him speak from his famous front porch . Fort Benjamin Harrison was named in his honor . Five Hoosiers were elected as Vice @-@ President . The most recent was Dan Quayle , elected in 1988 .

= = = High culture = = =

The last decades of the 19th century began what is known as the " golden age of Indiana literature "

, a period that lasted until the 1920s . Edward Eggleston wrote *The Hoosier Schoolmaster* (1871) , the first best seller to originate in the state . Many other followed , including Maurice Thompson 's *Hoosier Mosaics* (1875) , and Lew Wallace 's *Ben @-@ Hur* (1880) . Indiana developed a reputation as the " American heartland " following several widely read novels beginning with Booth Tarkington 's *The Gentleman from Indiana* (1899) , Meredith Nicholson 's *The Hoosiers* (1900) , and Thompson 's second famous novel , *Alice of Old Vincennes* (1900) . James Whitcomb Riley , known as the " Hoosier Poet " and the most popular poet of his age , wrote hundreds of poems celebrating Hoosier themes , including *Little Orphant Annie* . A unique art culture also began developing in the late 19th century , beginning the Hoosier School of landscape painting and the Richmond Group of impressionist painters . The painters were known for their use of vivid colors and artists including T. C. Steele , whose work was influenced by the colorful hills of southern Indiana . Prominent musicians and composers from Indiana also reached national acclaim during the time , including Paul Dresser whose most popular song , " On the Banks of the Wabash , Far Away " , was later adopted as the official state song .

= = = Prohibition and woman suffrage = = =

By the late nineteenth and early twentieth century , prohibition and woman suffrage had become the major reform issues in the state . Although supporters and their opponents closely linked the two movements , temperance received a broader hearing than the efforts toward equal suffrage . While the congregations of Protestant churches in Indiana supported temperance , few provided a forum for discussions on women 's voting rights .

The drive for woman suffrage began in the 1870s , and was sponsored by the leaders of the prohibition movement , especially the Woman 's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) . The Indiana chapter of the WCTU was formed in 1874 with Zerelda G. Wallace as its first president . The Indiana branch of the American Woman Suffrage Association was re @-@ established in 1869 . In 1878 May Wright Sewall founded the Indianapolis Equal Suffrage Society , and fought for world peace before the nation plunged into World War I. Several Indiana women also became temperance leaders and took an active role in the movement .

The first major effort to give women the right to vote in all non @-@ federal elections attempted to amend the state constitution . It passed by both houses of the state legislature in 1881 ; however , the bill failed to pass in the next legislative session in 1883 as state law required . Temperance efforts fared little better . In 1881 the Indiana chapter of the WCTU , along with organizations participating in the Indiana Grand Council of Temperance , successfully lobbied the Indiana General Assembly to pass an amendment to the state constitution to prohibit the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages in the state , but the Indiana Liquor League and a Democratic majority in the state legislature killed the bill in the legislative session in 1883 . Following these legislative defeats woman suffrage and prohibition became sensitive issues in local politics as the Democrats rallied the opposition . In German strongholds such as Fort Wayne , opposition to prohibition and woman suffrage was strong until World War I. As one historian notes , " within German workingclass family traditions , women in particular were sharply defined in terms of family responsibilities . Suffrage and women 's rights ran counter to deep social and religious traditions that placed women in a subservient relationship to men . " Renewed interest in woman suffrage did not occur until the end of the century , while prohibition crusaders continued to press for legislative action .

To gain political power in favor of prohibition legislation , a state Prohibition Party was formed in 1884 ; however , it was never able to effectively mobilize a significant force of voters within the state . Many temperance advocates continued to work within the more established political parties . One legislative success occurred in 1895 , when the state legislature passed the Nicholson law , a local option law authored by S. E. Nicholson , a Quaker minister who served in the state legislature and was a leader of the national Anti @-@ Saloon League . The League became a political powerhouse , mobilizing pietistic Protestant voters (that is , members of the major denominations except Lutherans and Episcopalians) to support dry legislation . The Nicholson law allowed voters in a city or township to file a remonstrance that would prevent an individual saloon owner from acquiring a

liquor license . Additional legislative efforts to extend the Nicholson law and achieve statewide prohibition in Indiana would not occur until the early twentieth century .

In May , 1906 , in Kokomo , a meeting was called to try to revive the defunct Indiana suffragist movement . An Indiana Auxiliary of the National American Woman Suffrage Association was formed and officers were elected . The officers included : Sarah Davis , President ; Laura Schofield , first vice @-@ president ; Anna Dunn Noland , second vice @-@ president ; Mrs. E. M. Wood , secretary ; Marion Harvie Barnard , treasurer ; and Jane Pond and Judge Samuel Artman , auditors .

= = = High profile crime = = =

Hoosiers were fascinated with crime and criminals . Some historians have argued that the popularity of bandits and their exploits in robbing banks and getting away with murder derived from working class resentment against the excesses of the Gilded Age . A group of brothers from Seymour , who had served in the Civil War , formed the Reno Gang , the first outlaw gang in the United States . The Reno Gang , named for the brothers , terrorized Indiana and the region for several years . They were responsible for the first train robbery in the United States which occurred near Seymour in 1866 . Their actions inspired a host of other outlaw gangs who copied their work , beginning several decades of high @-@ profile train robberies . Pursued by detectives from the Pinkerton Detective Agency , most of the gang was captured in 1868 and lynched by vigilantes . Other notorious Hoosiers also flourished in the post @-@ war years , including Belle Gunness , an infamous " black widow " serial killer . She killed more than twenty people , most of them men , between 1881 and her own murder in 1908 .

In response to the Reno Gang and other criminals , several white cap groups began operating in the state , primarily in the southern counties . They began carrying out lynchings against suspected criminals , leading the state to attempt to crack down on their practices . By the turn of the 20th century , they had become so notorious that anti @-@ lynching laws were passed and in one incident the governor called out the militia to protect a prisoner . When the white caps showed up to lynch him , the militia opened fire , killing one and wounding eleven . Vigilante activity decreased following the incident , and remained low until the rise of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s .

Crime stories grabbed the headlines in the 1920s and 1930s . After Prohibition took effect in 1920 until its demise in 1933 , it opened up a financial bonanza for criminal activity , especially underground bootlegging and the smuggling of liquor into Chicago , Gary , South Bend , Fort Wayne , Indianapolis , Evansville and other thirsty cities . Enforcement was haphazard ; the Anti @-@ Saloon League was more of a lobbying agency and never rallied community support for enforcement . The KKK called for punishment of bootleggers and set up the " Horse Thief Detective Association " (HTDA) to make extra @-@ legal raids on speakeasies and gambling joints . It seldom cooperated with law enforcement or the state or federal courts . Instead gave enforcement a bad name . Arthur Gillom , a Republican elected state attorney general over Klan opposition in 1924 , did not tolerate its extra @-@ legal operations . Instead , " He stressed the dangers of citizens relinquishing their constitutional rights and personal freedoms , and emphasized the importance of representative government (at all levels) , states ' rights , and the concept of separation of church and state . " When Rev. Shumaker proposed that " personal liberty had to be sacrificed in order to save people , " Gilliom replied that surrendering power and individual freedoms was a slippery slope to centralized government and tyranny .

John Dillinger , a native of Indianapolis , began his streak of bank robberies in Indiana and the Midwest during the 1920s . He was in prison 1924 to 1933 . After a return to crime , Dillinger was returned to prison the same year , but escaped with the help of his gang . His gang was responsible for multiple murders and the theft of over \$ 300 @,@ 000 . Dillinger was killed by the FBI in a shootout in Chicago in 1934 .

= = Twentieth century = =

== Economic modernization ==

Although industry was rapidly expanding throughout the northern part of the state, Indiana remained largely rural at the turn of the 20th century with a growing population of 2 @.@ 5 million. Like much of the rest of the American Midwest, Indiana's exports and job providers remained largely agricultural until after World War I. Indiana's developing industry, backed by inexpensive natural gas from the large Trenton Gas Field, an educated population, low taxes, easy access to transportation, and business @-@ friendly government, led Indiana to grow into one of the leading manufacturing states by the mid @-@ 1920s.

The state's central location gave it a dense network of railroads. The line most identified with the state was the Monon Line. It provided passenger service for students en route to Purdue, Indiana U. and numerous small colleges, painted its cars in school colors, and was especially popular on football weekends. The Monon was merged into larger lines in 1971, closed its passenger service, and lost its identity. Entrepreneurs built an elaborate "interurban" network of light rails to connect rural areas to shopping opportunities in the cities. They began operation in 1892, and by 1908 there were 2 @,@ 300 miles of track in 62 counties. The automobile made the lines unprofitable unless the destination was Chicago. By 2001 the "South Shore" was the last one; it still operating from South Bend to Chicago.

In 1907, Indiana became the first state to adopt eugenics legislation, that allowed the involuntary sterilization of dangerous male criminals and the mentally defectives. It was never put in effect and in 1921 Indiana became the first state to rule such legislation unconstitutional when the Supreme Court of Indiana acted. A revised eugenics law was passed in 1927, and it remained in effect until 1974.

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway complex was built in 1909, inaugurating a new era in history. Most Indiana cities within 200 miles of Detroit became part of the giant automobile industry after 1910. The Indianapolis speedway was a venue for auto companies to show off their products. The Indianapolis 500 quickly became the standard in auto racing as European and American companies competed to build the fastest automobile and win at the track. Industrial and technological industries thrived during this era, George Kingston developed an early carburetor in 1902; in 1912, Elwood Haynes received a patent for stainless steel.

== Statewide prohibition ==

In the first two decades of the twentieth century the Indiana Anti @-@ Saloon League (IASL), formed in 1898 as a state auxiliary of the national Anti @-@ Saloon League, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union successfully organized pressure on Indiana politicians, especially members of the Republican party, to support the dry cause. The IASL, although not the first organization to take up the dry crusade in Indiana, became a key force behind efforts at attaining passage of statewide prohibition in early 1917, and rallied state support for ratification of the Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1919. The IASL's success, under the leadership of Edward S. Shumaker, an ordained Methodist minister, made it a model for the League's other state organizations. Shumaker made clear to politicians he did not care whether they drank, but insisted they vote for dry laws or face defeated in the next election by dry voters.

In 1905 passage of the Moore amendment expanded the state's Nicholson local option law to apply to all liquor license applicants within a local township or city ward. The next step was to seek countywide prohibition. The IASL appealed to the general public, holding large rallies in Indianapolis and elsewhere, to support a county option law that would provide a more restrictive ban on alcohol. In September 1908 Indiana governor J. Frank Hanly, a Methodist, Republican, and teetotaler, called for a special legislative session to establish a county option that would allow county voters to prohibit alcohol sales throughout their county. The state legislature passed the bill with only a narrow margin. By November 1909 seventy of Indiana's ninety @-@ two counties were dry. In 1911 a Democratic legislative majority replaced the county option with the Proctor law, a

less @-@ geographically restrictive local option , and the number of dry counties was reduced to twenty @-@ six . Despite the setback prohibition advocates continued to lobby legislators for support . In December 1917 several temperance organizations formed the Indiana Dry Federation to fight the politically powerful liquor interests , with the IASL joining the group a short time later . The Federation and the League vigorously campaigned for statewide prohibition , which the Indiana General Assembly adopted in February 1917 . Subsequent legal challenges delayed implementation of statewide prohibition until 1918 , when a court ruled in June that Indiana 's prohibition law was constitutionally valid .

On January 14 , 1919 , Indiana became the twenty @-@ fifth state to ratify the Eighteenth Amendment , which mandated nationwide prohibition . Three days later Nebraska became the thirty @-@ sixth state to ratify the amendment , providing the two @-@ thirds majority of states required to amend the U.S. Constitution . With the beginning of nationwide Prohibition on January 17 , 1920 , after formal ratification of the Eighteenth Amendment the previous day , efforts turned to enforcement of the new law . Protestant support for Prohibition remained intense in Indiana in the 1920s . Shumaker and the IASL lead a statewide grassroots campaign that successfully passed a new prohibition law for the state . Sponsored by Indiana representative Frank Wright and known as the Wright bone @-@ dry law , it was enacted in 1925 . The Wright law was part of a national trend toward stricter prohibition legislation and imposed severe penalties for alcohol possession .

The Great Depression and the election of Democratic party candidates in 1932 ended widespread national support for Prohibition . Franklin D. Roosevelt , who included repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment as a major issue of his presidential campaign in 1932 , made good on his promise to American voters . On December 5 , 1933 , the Twenty @-@ first Amendment repealed the Eighteenth Amendment and ended nationwide Prohibition . However , Indiana 's legislature continued to regulate alcohol within the state through allocation of state liquor licenses and prohibition of sales on Sunday .

= = = Women 's activism = = =

Middle @-@ class Indiana women learned organizational skills through the suffrage and temperance movements . By the 1890s they were applying their new skills to the needs of their home communities , by organizing women 's clubs , the combined literary activity with social activism focused on such needs as public health , sanitation , and good schools . The women increasingly learn to focus their energies on obtainable objectives through specialized local organizations . In Lafayette , for example , the suffragists concentrated in the Lafayette Franchise League , while those oriented toward social concerns worked through the Lafayette Charity Organization Society (LCOS) , the Free Kindergarten and Industrial School Association (FKISA) , and the Martha Home .

Middle class black women activists were organized through their Baptist and Methodist churches , and under the leadership of Hallie Quinn Brown formed a statewide umbrella group , the Indiana Association of Colored Women 's Clubs . They sponsored 56 clubs in 46 cities in the state , with 2000 members by 1933 , and a budget of over \$ 20 @, @ 000 . Most members were public school teachers or hairdressers , as well as women active and local business in the black community , and in government positions . They affiliated with the National Federation of Afro @-@ American Women , headed by Mrs. Booker T. Washington , and became part of her husband 's powerful network of black activists . One of the most prominent member in Indiana was Madame C. J. Walker of Indianapolis , who owned a nationally successful business selling beauty and hair products for black women . Club meetings focused on home @-@ making classes , research and statistics regarding the status of blacks in Indiana and nationwide , suffrage , and anti @-@ lynching activism . The local clubs operated rescue missions , nursery schools , and educational programs .

= = = Floods = = =

Between March 23 and March 27 , 1913 , Indiana and more than a dozen other states experienced

major flooding during the Great Flood of 1913 ; it was Indiana 's worst flood disaster up to that time . The weather system that created the unprecedented flooding arrived in Indiana on Sunday , March 23 , with a major tornado at Terre Haute . In four days , rainfall topped nine inches in southern Indiana , more than half of it falling within a twenty @-@ four @-@ hour period on March 25 . Heavy rains , runoff , and rising rivers resulted in extensive flooding in northeast , central , and southern Indiana . Indiana 's flood @-@ related deaths were estimated at 100 to 200 , with flood damage estimated at \$ 25 million (in 1913 dollars) . State and local communities handled their own disaster response and relief . The American Red Cross , still a small organization at that time , established a temporary headquarters in Indianapolis and served the six hardest @-@ hit Indiana counties . Indiana governor Samuel M. Ralston appealed to Indiana cities and other states for relief assistance and appointed a trustee to receive relief funds and arrange for distribution of supplies . Independent organizations , such as the Rotary Club of Indianapolis and others , helped with local relief efforts .

= = = World War I = = =

Hoosiers were divided about entering World War I. Before Germany resumed unrestricted submarine warfare and tried to enlist Mexico as a military ally in 1917 , most Hoosiers wanted the U.S. to be neutral in the war . Support for Britain came from professions and businessmen . Opposition came from churchmen , women , farmers and Irish Catholics and German @-@ American elements . They called for neutrality and strongly opposed going to war to rescue the British Empire . Influential Hoosiers who opposed involvement in the war included Democratic Senator John W. Kern , and Vice President Thomas R. Marshall . Supporters of military preparedness included James Whitcomb Riley and George Ade . Most of the opposition dissipated when the United States officially declared war against Germany in April 1917 , but some teachers lost their jobs on suspicion of disloyalty , and public schools could no longer teach in German . Socialist leader Eugene V. Debs , from Terre Haute , went to federal prison for encouraging young men to evade the draft .

The Indiana National Guard was federalized during WWI ; many units were sent to Europe . A separate organization , the Liberty Guard , had been formed in 1910 , primarily for social purposes : members marched in parades and at patriotic events . Governor Samuel Ralston had to call out the Liberty Guard in November 1913 to put down a growing workers strike in Indianapolis . By 1920 , the state decided to formalize this group , renaming it the Indiana Civil Defense Force and supplying it with equipment and training . In 1941 , the unit was named the Indiana Guard Reserve ; it effectively became a state militia . During World War II , it was again federalized and members were called up by the federal government .

Indiana provided 130 @, @ 670 troops during the war ; a majority of them were drafted . Over 3 @, @ 000 men died , many from influenza and pneumonia . To honor the Hoosier veterans of the war , the state began construction of the Indiana World War Memorial .

= = = Twenties and the Great Depression = = =

The war @-@ time economy provided a boom to Indiana 's industry and agriculture , which led to more urbanization throughout the 1920s . By 1925 , more workers were employed in industry than in agriculture in Indiana . Indiana 's greatest industries were steel production , iron , automobiles , and railroad cars .

Scandal erupted across the state in 1925 when it was discovered that over half the seats in the General Assembly were controlled by the Indiana Ku Klux Klan , including members of three political parties . The Klan pushed an anti @-@ Catholic legislative agenda , including a ban on parochial education . During the 1925 General Assembly session , Grand Dragon D. C. Stephenson boasted , " I am the law in Indiana . " Stephenson was convicted for the murder of Madge Oberholtzer that year and sentenced to life in prison . After Governor Edward L. Jackson , whom Stephenson helped elect , refused to pardon him , Stephenson began to name many of his co @-@ conspirators . This led the state 's making a string of arrests and indictments against political leaders , including the

governor , mayor of Indianapolis , the attorney general , and many others . The crackdown effectively rendered the Klan powerless .

During the 1930s , Indiana , like the rest of the nation , was affected by the Great Depression . The economic downturn had a wide @-@ ranging negative impact on Indiana . Urbanization declined . Governor Paul V. McNutt 's administration struggled to build from scratch a state @-@ funded welfare system to help the overwhelmed private charities . During his administration , spending and taxes were cut drastically in response to the Depression . The state government was completely reorganized . McNutt also enacted the state 's first income tax . On several occasions , he declared martial law to put an end to worker strikes .

During the Great Depression , unemployment exceeded 25 % statewide . Southern Indiana was hard hit , and unemployment topped 50 % during the worst years . The federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) began operations in Indiana in July 1935 . By October of that year , the agency had put 74 @, 708 Hoosiers to work . In 1940 , there were still 64 @, 700 people working for agency . The majority of these workers were employed to improve the state 's infrastructure : roads , bridges , flood control projects , and water treatment plants . Some helped index collections of libraries , and artists were employed to create murals for post offices and libraries . Nearly every community had a project to work on .

During the 1930s , many local businesses collapsed , several railroads went bankrupt , and numerous small rural banks folded . Manufacturing came to an abrupt halt or was severely cut back due the dwindling demand for products . The Depression continued to negatively affect Indiana until the buildup for World War II . The effects continued to be felt for many years thereafter .

= = = World War II = = =

The economy began to recover in 1933 , but unemployment remained high among youth and older workers until 1940 , when the federal government built up supplies and armaments going into World War II .

Indiana participated in the mobilization of the nation 's economy and resources . Domestically , the state produced munitions in an army plant near Sellersburg . The P @-@ 47 fighter @-@ plane was manufactured in Evansville at Republic Aviation . The steel produced in northern Indiana was used in tanks , battleships , and submarines . Other war @-@ related materials were produced throughout the state . Indiana 's military bases were activated , with areas such as Camp Atterbury reaching historical peaks in activity .

The population was highly supportive of the war efforts . The political left supported the war (unlike World War I , which Socialists opposed .) The churches showed much less pacifism than in 1914 . The Church of God , based in Anderson , had a strong pacifist element , reaching a high point in the late 1930s . The Church regarded World War II as a just war because America was attacked . Anti @-@ Communist sentiment has since kept strong pacifism from developing in the Church of God . Likewise the Quakers , with a strong base near Richmond , generally regarded World War II as a just war and about 90 % served , although there were some conscientious objectors . The Mennonites and Brethren continued their pacifism , but the federal government was much less hostile than before . The churches helped their young men to both become conscientious objectors and to provide valuable service to the nation . Goshen College set up a training program for unpaid Civilian Public Service jobs . Although the young women pacifists were not liable to the draft , they volunteered for unpaid Civilian Public Service jobs to demonstrate their patriotism ; many worked in mental hospitals .

The state sent nearly 400 @, 000 Hoosiers who enlisted or were drafted . More than 11 @, 783 Hoosiers died in the conflict and another 17 @, 000 were wounded . Hoosiers served in all the major theaters of the war . Their sacrifice was honored by additions to the World War Memorial in Indianapolis , which was not finished until 1965 .

Tens of thousands of women volunteered for war service , through agencies such as the Red Cross . Representative was Elizabeth Richardson of Mishawaka . She served coffee and doughnuts to combat soldiers in England and France from a Red Cross clubmobile . She died in a plane crash in

1945 in France .

= = 21st century = =

Central Indiana was struck by a major flood in 2008 , leading to widespread damage and the evacuations of hundreds of thousands of residents . It was the costliest disaster in the history of the state , with early damage estimates topping \$ 1 billion .

In 2012 , Indiana 's exports totaled US \$ 34 @. @ 4 billion , a record high for the state . The rate of export growth in 2012 was faster in Indiana than it was for the Nation .