

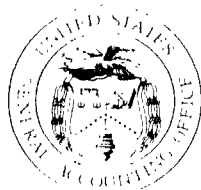
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Fact Sheet for the Honorable
Peter J. Visclosky, House of
Representatives

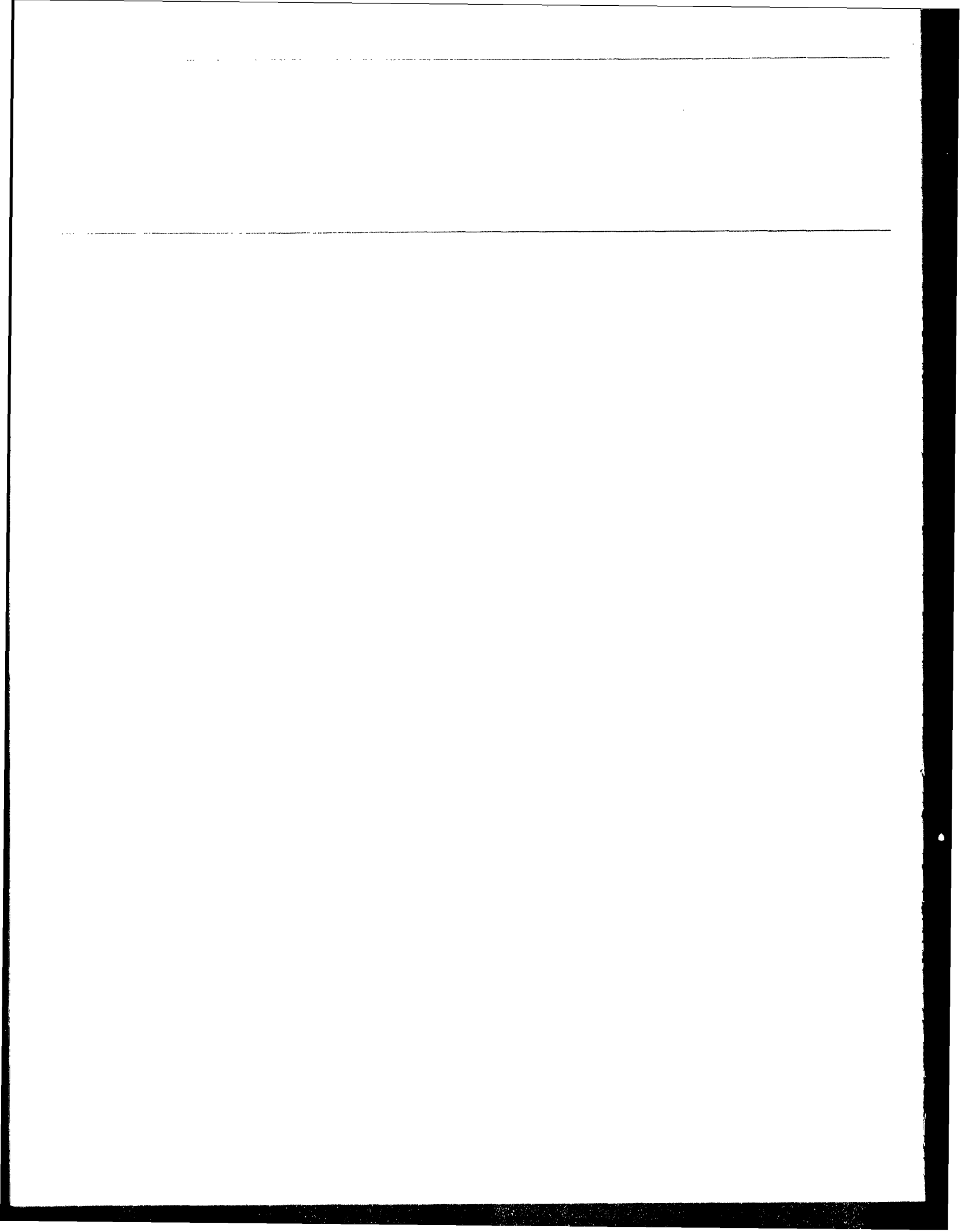
January 1992

IMMIGRANTS IN INDIANA

Northwest Indiana Compared to Other Parts of the State



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General Government Division

B-246883.1

January 10, 1992

The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Visclosky:

This fact sheet responds to your request for data comparing the percentages of immigrants in the Northwest region of Indiana to the percentages in other regions of the state. Specifically, we agreed to provide information on both immigrants who live in Indiana and naturalization petitions filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana. Immigrants are individuals who come to the United States for the purpose of becoming permanent residents. Immigrants who want to become U.S. citizens file naturalization petitions with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

INS data show that from 1983 through 1990, 20,712 immigrants applied for legal permanent residency in the state of Indiana. Of this total, 5,701 immigrants (27.5 percent) claimed to reside in the Northwest region of Indiana. Bureau of the Census data show that 17.3 percent of the state's population resided in this region in 1990. From November 1990 through June 1991, 224 naturalization petitions were filed by residents of the Northwest region. This number represents 55 percent of the 406 naturalization petitions that were filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana during this period. The Northwest region is made up of Lake County, LaPorte County, Porter County, and St. Joseph County. (See app. I for a map of Indiana and its counties, identifying the four regions discussed in this fact sheet.)

Appendix II provides information comparing the number of immigrants in the Northwest region with three other geographic regions that you identified--Evansville, Fort Wayne, and Indianapolis. These 4 regions account for 21 of the 92 counties in Indiana but contain 66 percent of the immigrants who applied for legal residency in the state of Indiana from 1983 through 1990. According to the Bureau of the Census, 52 percent of the state's population resided in these counties in 1990. Appendix III contains the data you requested on immigrants in Indiana from Eastern European and

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Spanish speaking countries.¹ These data show that about 50 percent of these two immigrant groups chose to reside in the Northwest region. Appendix IV contains the data on naturalization petitions filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.

To determine the percentages of immigrants in the four regions, we used INS data that identified immigrants from Eastern European and Spanish speaking countries from 1983 through 1990. To determine the Spanish speaking population in Indiana in 1990, we used Bureau of the Census data. We used U.S. District Court data from the Northern District of Indiana to determine the number of naturalization petitions that were filed from November 1990 through June 1991. We did not independently verify the data provided. We discussed these data with INS officials, Bureau of the Census officials, and the Clerk of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana who said they represent the best data available for responding to your request.

As agreed with your office, unless you publicly announce the contents of this fact sheet earlier, we will not distribute it until 30 days after the date of this letter. At that time, we will send copies to the Commissioner of INS. Copies will also be made available to others on request.

If you or your staff have any questions regarding this information, please call me on (202) 275-8389. Major contributors to this fact sheet are listed in appendix V.

Sincerely yours,



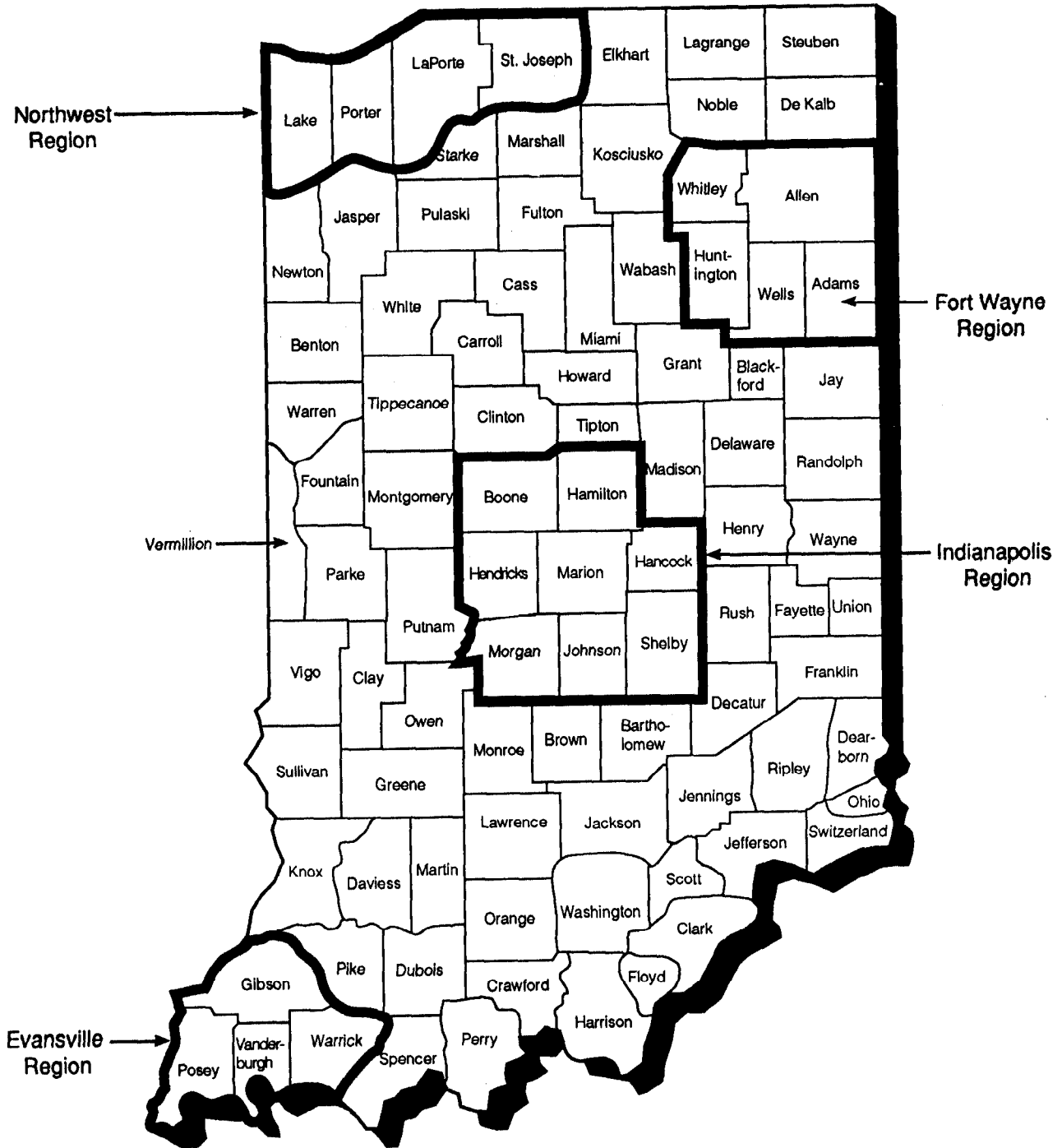
Lowell Dodge
Director, Administration
of Justice Issues

¹The Eastern European countries: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Soviet Union, and Yugoslavia; the Spanish speaking countries: Spain, Mexico, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Columbia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

C O N T E N T S

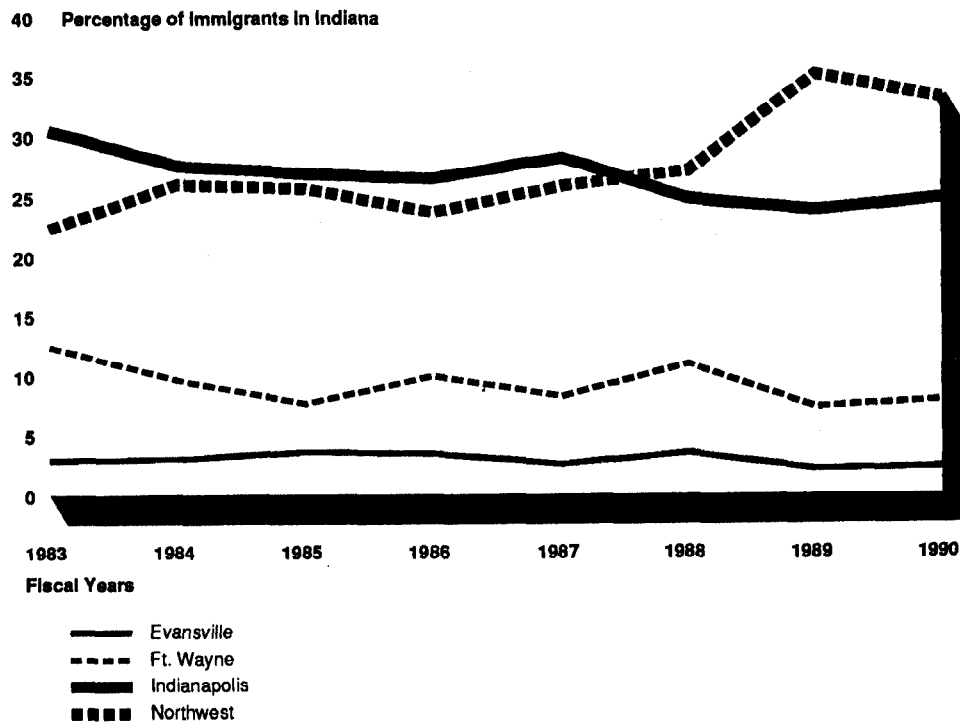
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INDIANA



Note: The only INS facility in the state is located in the Indianapolis region.

IMMIGRANTS IN INDIANA FROM 1983 THROUGH 1990
BY SELECTED REGION

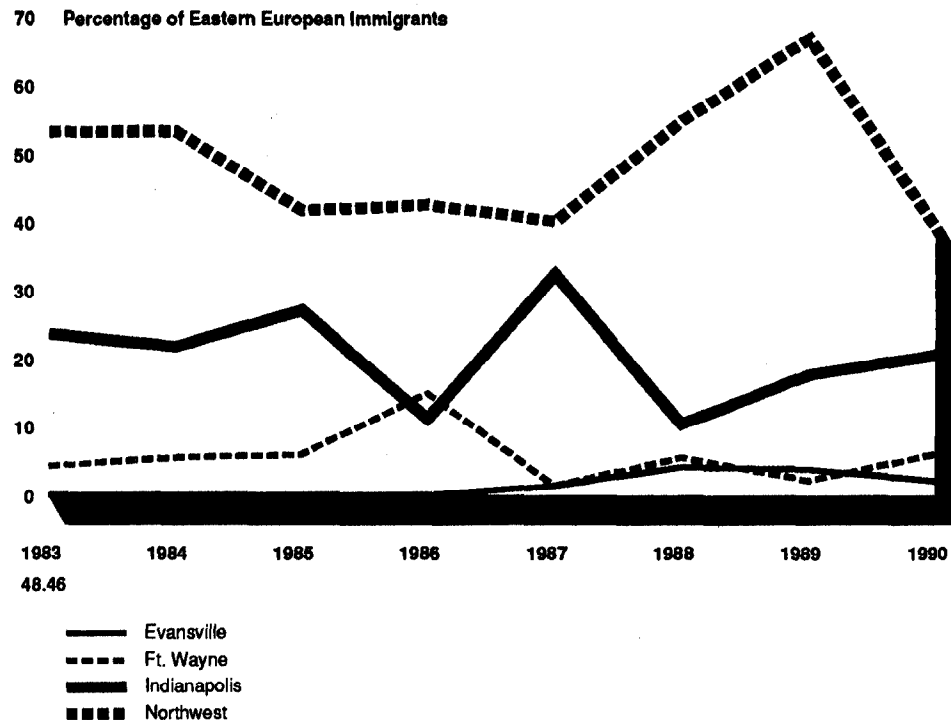


Source: Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The data show that the percentage of immigrants in the Northwest region of Indiana increased 11 percent, from 22 to 33 percent, from 1983 through 1990. During this same 7-year span, the percentage of immigrants dropped 6 percent in the Indianapolis region, and 5 percent in the Fort Wayne region. Immigration activity remained about the same in Evansville and the other counties.

IMMIGRANTS IN INDIANA BY SELECTED REGION

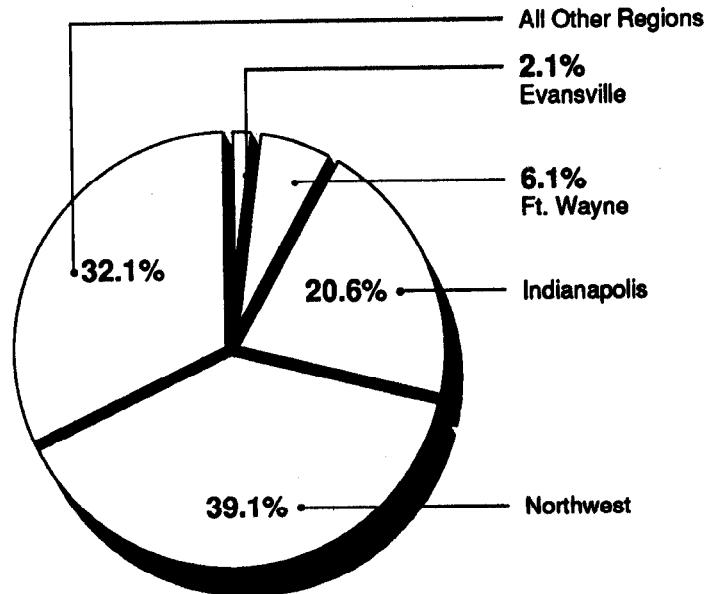
Figure III.1: Eastern European Immigrants in Indiana From 1983 Through 1990 by Selected Region



Source: Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The data show that over 40 percent of the Eastern European immigrants who lived in Indiana from 1983 through 1990 chose to reside in the Northwest region. The number of Eastern European immigrants in the Northwest region peaked in 1989 at 66.9 percent.

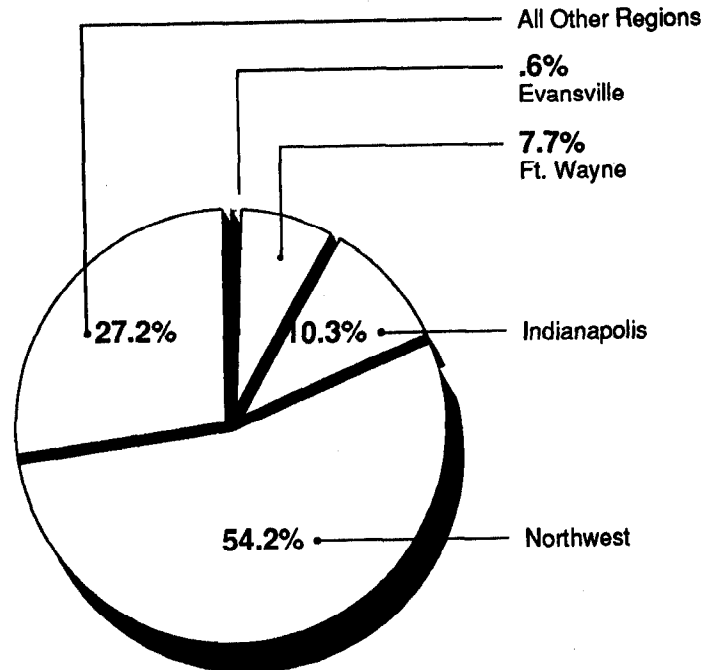
Figure III.2: Eastern European Immigrants in Indiana in 1990 by Selected Region



Source: Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The data show that 39.1 percent of the Eastern European immigrants entering Indiana in 1990 chose to reside in the Northwest region. Only 20.6 percent of the Eastern European immigrants lived in the Indianapolis region, 6.1 percent lived in the Fort Wayne region, and 2.1 percent lived in the Evansville region. The other 32.1 percent resided in the other 71 counties.

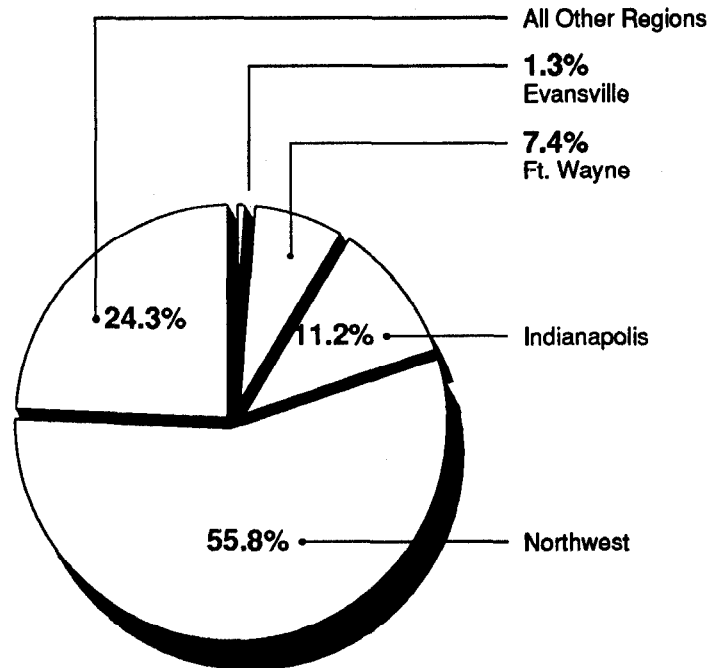
Figure III.3: Spanish Speaking Immigrants in Indiana in 1990 by Selected Region



Source: Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The data show that 54.2 percent of the Spanish speaking immigrants entering Indiana in 1990 chose to reside in the Northwest region. Comparatively, 10.3 percent of the Spanish speaking immigrants resided in the Indianapolis region, 7.7 percent resided in the Fort Wayne region, and .6 percent resided in the Evansville region. The other 27.2 percent was scattered in the other 71 counties.

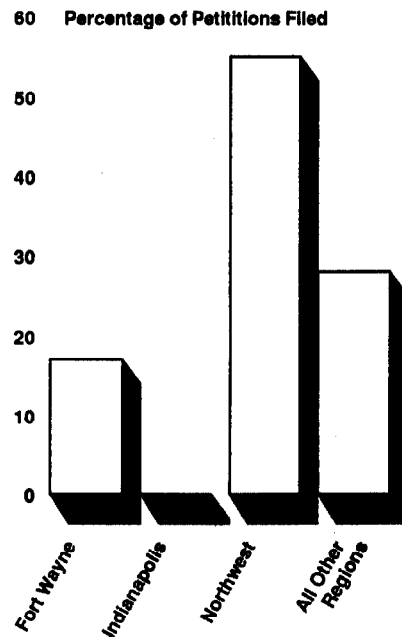
Figure III.4: The Spanish Speaking Population in Indiana in 1990 by Selected Region



Source: Bureau of the Census.

According to 1990 Bureau of the Census data, 55.8 percent of the state's Spanish speaking population resided in the Northwest region. Comparatively 11.2 percent of Indiana's Spanish speaking population resided in the Indianapolis region, 7.4 percent resided in the Fort Wayne region, and 1.3 percent in the Evansville region. The other 24.3 percent lived in the other 71 counties.

NATURALIZATION PETITIONS FILED IN THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA FROM
NOVEMBER 1990 THROUGH JUNE 1991



Source: U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.

According to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, 55.2 percent of the 406 petitions filed from November 1990 through June 1991 were from Northwest Indiana residents. The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana includes Marion County and every county north of Indianapolis. No petitions were filed from the Indianapolis region residents during this period of time. Evansville is not included because similar data were not available for the Southern District in which Evansville is located.

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