

STATISTICS ON GALESBURG

From the files of
Dr. J. Howell Atwood

POPULATION

Galesburg Population: In 1836.....	173	
1850.....	882	
1900.....	18,607	
1940.....	28,876	} (Knox Co. 52,250 54,150)
1950.....	31,425	
		(8.8%)

Table of Galesburg's Population

Year	Number	
1836	173	
1837	232	
1840	272	
1850	800 (or less)	Dunn, Arthur W., <u>The Social Structure of a Western Town</u> p. 34.
1853	1400	
1855	2916	
1856	4000	
1857	5455	
1866	8000	
1876	10158	
1880	11437	
1890	15264	
1895	18000 to 20000	

Rates of Population Changes in Galesburg

Year	% of increase	
1850		
1860	461.5	
1870	105.0	
1880	12.6	
1890	33.4	} U.S. grew 16.1% U.S. grew 7.2% U.S. grew 14.5% in 40's
1900	21.2	
1910	18.7	
1920	7.9	
1930	21.0	
1940	00.2	
1950	8.8	

*There are some contradictions of % growth in these figures from those above.

Rates of Population Changes in Galesburg

Year	% of increase
1850-60	1433.4
1860-70	105.1
70-80	12.6
80-90	33.5
90-00	21.9
00-10	18.7
10-20	7.9
20-30	21.0
30-40	00.2

Knox County births -- (County Clerk)

Year	Number	Year	Number
1924	985	1931	822
1925	947	1932	782
1926	865	1933	833 (613 deaths)
1927	767	1934	713 (622 deaths)
1928	809	1935	710 (630 deaths)
1929	782	1936	824
1930	785	1937	886
		1938	924
		1939	923

In 1920 Negroes constituted 3.6% (now 3.1%) of the total population. Foreign-born white 12.3% (now 7.7%). Thus the proportion size of each of these groups has declined. The community is less diverse -- more homogeneous than it was in 1920.

The average number of persons per family in Galesburg in 1920 was 3.7 and in 1930 it was 3.5.

Galesburg's population per family -- 3.56 in 1930
3.29 in 1940

This has been a national trend to decline in family size.

There were 8104 families in 1930 in Galesburg. The median size for all Galesburg families was 2.99
 For native whites 3.01
 For.-born white 2.91
 Negro 2.43

In Galesburg 82.7% of families in 1930 were native white -- about 4/5ths; 13.2% were foreign born white -- about 1/8th; 3.3% were Negro.

Negroes in 1930 -- 891 (My canvass in 1936 showed 352 Negro households and the total number of persons slightly over 900).

Galesburg had in 1930 2213 foreign born whites.

From Sweden	1410
Germany	125
England	112
Ireland	90
Italian	72

Galesburg had in 1930:

Chinese	15
Japanese	1
Mexican	252

In 1930 we had in Galesburg a population between 7 and 20 years old totaling 6270 of which 5176 were in school. Thus 17% of the TOTAL population was in school.

According to Pedro Rios there were 48 families of Mexicans in Galesburg and at the Tie Plant in 1935. This and a few unattached Mexicans totaled 276 persons. (5.7 persons per family).

In 1949 there were 66 Mexican family units. All were living in the S.W. quadrant of the city.

Mexican men work on the r.r. tracks and right of way -- also in handling freight at depot -- a few tie handlers

Mexican women and girls -- a very few have worked at dime stores, waitresses at hotel, one trained nurse, (grad. of Cottage) employed at St. Mary's.

Farm population in Knox County declined 638 between April 1, 1930 and January 1, 1935. This was 5.4% (from 11,815). There were in 1935 2627 farms in the county. They had then 81 unoccupied farm dwellings. By 1940 there were 2000 farms in the county.

Galesburg 1940 -- Total Male	13,989	
Female	14,887	Sex ratio of 94
Foreign born male	836	
female	789	
	<u>1625</u>	5.6%
Negro total	903	3.1%
Native white	26,336	91.2 %

1940 Of all Galesburg "families" the 1,2 to 3 person groups made up 65% or nearly 2/3rds of the total.

While the whole country 1930-1940 was growing 7 % and the Midwest 5%, Galesburg was standing practically still. However, several of the large cities declined.

HOUSING

Galesburg Housing -- Age

Year built

1935-40	233	23.6%	35.9% built before 1900
30-34	402		
25-30	711		
20-24	525		
1910-19	1176	40.5%	23.6% built in 20 years 1920 to 1940
1900-09	2038		
1890-99	1562	35.9%	40.5% built in 20 years 1900 to 1920
1880-89	713		
1860-79	458		
1859 or earlier	115		
Total	7933	buildings for residence	

In 1934 housing survey 52% of Negro homes as against 56% of all homes in Galesburg were owned by occupants.

&, 7.6% of Negro homes to 1.3% of all homes were unfit for use.

Real property Inventor

Galesburg 1940 - Total housing units: 9,020

Owner occupied housing unit 4573 (50.7%)

Tenant occupied 4211

Total 8784

57% of the native white families in Galesburg in 1930 owned their own homes.

56.7% of Negro families in Galesburg in 1930 owned their own homes.

18.7% of Galesburg's foreign-born white families in 1930 owned their own home.

Knox County median value of all homes -- \$4,384.

The median rental was \$26.13.

The difference between the median value of native white to foreign born white homes was less than \$100.00. The difference in rent was \$1.23.

Median rental for all renters of dwellings in Galesburg in 1930 was \$30.35.

Native white was \$31.65

Foreign born white \$28.21 or a difference of \$3.44.

1930 70.2% of the families lived in 1 family dwellings. There were 556 two family dwellings and 131 of more than two family dwellings.

The median value of the native white house is about \$500 higher than that of the foreign born white house in Galesburg -- \$5292 and \$4794 respectively.

Housing Galesburg 1940

Total dwelling units	9020
Total structures	7412
Owner occupied	4573
Tenant occupied	4211
Vacant for sale or rent	207
Vacant not for sale or rent	29
 Total occupied	 8784
Occupied - non-white	301
Needing major repairs	611
No private bath	2405

*Figures check out**Fred Pauls**28 Feb. '61*

Galesburg 1940

No. of persons in household

Owner occupied		Tenant occupied
1 person	374	373
2 persons	1431	1309
3 "	1168	1064
4 "	785	696
5 "	419	399
6 "	208	191
7 "	96	77
8 "	41	42
9 "	25	23
10 "	16	21
11+ "	10	16

In 1940 there were 8788 "families" or households in Galesburg according to the U.S. Census.

Galesburg 1940

Negro households 293 In Knox County but outside Galesburg 62
For a total of 355 "Families".

SANITATION

Galesburg's outside toilets in 1940 numbered 1227 (15% of the number of dwellings).

By 1950 this was reduced to between 400 to 500 outdoor toilets.

The health commissioner has reported that there are 1106 outside toilets in Galesburg. Peoria with over three (3) times the population has only 300. This means that there is always the possibility of the Typhoid fever epidemic hitting the city. (DATE PROBABLY AROUND 1945).

MISC. CONCERNING McKNIGHT HOME AND TRANSIENTS

Number at McKnight Home in February 1942 were 7.

Number in Free Kindergarten as of February 6, 1942 was 44.

Transients sleeping in the jail (apparently 1107 Main a Mr. Gunther is the source on this)

Year	Number
1932	13417 (average 36.8)
1933	5456 (average 15)
1934	5987
1935	5121
1936	5717
1937	6615 (18.+)
<hr/>	
1938}	
1939}	about 4800
1940}	to 5400
1941	5000+

*footnote to side had date Jan. 27th and number 345 circled.

Census of transients during the depression:

March 1933 showed 320 in one 24 hour period.
They can sleep in jail if they register with the police headquarters.
Totals about 4800 to 5200 a year.

About 5000 a year at the Rescue Mission.

MOBILITY

Residential mobility

Sampled by P.O. changes of address in November 1932 to April 1933 and they averaged 350 a month, i.e. 4200 in a year. Mostly near the center of the city.

Received at the Post Office were Changes of Address

Date	Number
Nov. 1-15, 1932	168
Nov. 16-30, 1932	166
Total for Nov.	<u>334</u>

Of the 206 total moves in May, 1933, 24 moved into Galesburg, 26 moved out. Of these 26, 4 went to Lake Rice, Bracken and Storey. From this can be deducted the fact that Galesburg gained 2 people or families in May.

Most of the moves center around the central business district, in the area of transition.

Many of the moves were from one street to another in the same vicinity. It was only seldom that I found a move from one part of town to another.

Change of Address Received at Post Office

Date	Number
April 1-15, 1933	190
April 15-30, 1933	175
Total for April	<u>365</u>

In Galesburg in 1933 There were approximately 60 moves a week. Likewise there are about 3120 moves per year.

SCHOOL POPULATION AND ILLITERACY

Enrollment St. Joseph's Academy

Year	Elementary	High
1927	312	67
1928	288	68
1929	272	69
1930	296	80
1931	292	80
1932	294	72
1933	312	70
1934	313	70
1935	313	70
1936	298	75
1937	325	76

Total school population jumped upward about 277 pupils in the first year of the Depression, 1930-31. Then the next year it began to decline and did so consistently with the exception of one year (1933-34) to 1938-39.

GALESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2/13/39

Total Enrollment for Year - Month ending January 20, 1939.

Grade 1	466	Crippled Children	13
" 2	419	Open Air	14
" 3	381	Ungraded	39
" 4	376		
" 5	400		
" 6	409	Grades 1-6 •	2451
Grade 7	408		
" 8	455		
" 9	465	Grades 7-9 =	1328
Grade 10	470		
" 11	337		
" 12	345		
Spec. & P.G.	9	Grades 10-12=	1161
		TOTAL	5006

1939	Public Schools	5000+
	St. Josephs	400
	Corpus Christi	120
	Total	<u>5520+</u>

Attendance in Galesburg's Public Schools 1951
 Elementary, Junior High & Senior High 5075
 Attendance at Corpus Christi 202
 Attendance at St. Joseph's (none provided)

Tarver's
 Inset at bottom - 5490 figures

Galesburg's illiteracy was 1% according to the census. However, when I worked it out, it was less than this. (They had 242 and I could only find 182 in their record.) Illiteracy for the entire country was 4%. (NO DATE).

Children in elementary schools north and south of Main Street

North	1486
South	1663

There are 5700 school children in Galesburg or 20% of the total population. (NO DATE).

DELINQUENCY AND CRIME

Study of the costs of criminal justice in 1930, made by 6 of my students for the Wickersham Committee, showed a total cost in the city of \$26,929.86 or \$.934¢ per capita. This was 3.05% of the total governmental costs of the city in that year.

In 1934 there were 35 cases of juvenile delinquency handled by our county judge and probation officer. Of this number 5 boys were sent to St. Charles, 1 girl to Geneva. Closing of the Detention Home has saved some money, but has increased our youth problem. Most of the 35 are of school age - under 16 - but lack of proper clothing prevents attendance.

The Juvenile Court deals with both delinquent and pre-delinquent children. Treatment ranges from admonition to informal warning of child and parents to commitment to Geneva or St. Charles. In the last 10 years the number of cases has ranged from a low of 24 to a high of 59. Average is about 40 a year. 3/4 of all cases dealt with are put on probation; i.e. no formal record is made. 1/10 go to correctional homes or schools. 1/5 are put on probation (goes on record). The pre-delinquents are the most numerous of all. They require a great deal of the judge's time and it is here where a preventive program with professional case working procedures might be instituted.

Both cash and direct relief are give. WPA projects are also sponsored, one of which is the sewing project in Knoxville where much of the clothing given to relief clients is made./ The relief staff for the township besides Miss Hund, comprises two case workers, two stenographers, one accountant and one person in charge of the clothing depot./ Provision is also made for relief clients to have medical attention and in some cases the clients have been rehabilitated physically so as to return to private employment. In the speaker's opinion many relief clients get more medical care and hospitalization than many families making their own way, particularly what is known as the middle class families./ Breaking down the causes for relief Miss Hund says that the township has 103 cases due to illness, 38 due purely to unemployment who are able to work if they can find it, 19 women with dependent children, five women because of desertion, 25 families who can make a partial living, 42 men and women that are heads of families who will never be able to adjust themselves to make their own way, 49 men that are heads of families but past 40 years of age who find it very difficult to get gainful employment, nine on WPA who need additional help and a score or more for other reasons. Kellogg D. McClelland was chairman of the program.

W.P.A. (Phone 2495 Main)

In January 1939 about 550 Galesburg workers. Projects in operation:
1. Sanitary District - Fremont Street, 2. Transplanting Trees,
3. County Road Work, 4. Knoxville Sewing, 5. Shoes and Furniture Repair, 6. Home service, 7. Book Binding (Tompkins Street)

In January 1941 there were 344 cases of direct relief (unemployment); 130 cases classed as "welfare cases" (with no employable person) and about 350 WPA workers in the city. That is a total of 824.

Cost of Galesbug relief in year April 1, 1939 to April 1, 1940 was \$160,000. The previous year it had been \$170,074. Of this sum only \$58,000 was from township tax funds -- the remainder (nearly \$112,000) was from state and federal funds.

October 1941 there were 315 unemployment relief cases (885 persons). Aid was \$25.32 per family.

By the fall of 1942 (NOV.-DEC.) there were only 150 relief cases. Employment was so good that the Empty Stocking Club did not operate to collect money for toys for poor children in 1942.

Illinois has provided financial aid to dependent children since October 1941.

In 1944 about 244 ADC cases in Galesburg or about 70% of the Knox County total of 349 cases.

The two sexes are about equally divided among recipients.

In November 1947 there were 279 children (ADC cases) in Knox County. \$31.60 was the average amount of aid given.

Old Age pensioners in the County in November 1947 -- 1258. Average pension for the month \$41.23. In 1951 the maximum was \$65.00

Relief in Galesburg for February 1951: 100 cases involving 285 persons.

Miss Dorothy Hund, Township Relief Worker