

PORTAGE COUNTY FACT SHEET

For more information, contact:

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Population & Size

Portage County spans 806 square miles, 515,840 acres and currently has a population of approximately 67,358. The county is comprised of seventeen towns, nine villages and one city.

Location

Portage County is conveniently located in the center of the state. With major highways I-39, Hwy 10, Hwy 54, and Hwy 66, travel is easy to navigate. Waterways like the Wisconsin River, once a major portal for industry, now offer endless recreational opportunities.

Eau Claire, WI.....	115 miles
Green Bay, WI.....	86 miles
Madison, WI.....	113 miles
Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN.....	201 miles
Duluth, MN.....	262 miles
Chicago, IL.....	244 miles
Dubuque, IA.....	190 miles

Climate

Portage County has four distinct seasons. Average temperatures are 82 in the summer and 23 in the winter, with an average of 31.96 inches of precipitation annually.

Tourism

In 2005, travelers spent an estimated \$125 Million in Portage County, which has increased over 40 percent since 1994. Portage County currently ranks 26 out of the 72 counties in the state of Wisconsin, in respect to traveler expenditures. Tourism in Portage County supported nearly 2,000 full-time job equivalents and contributed nearly \$16 million in state revenues.

Number of Hotel Rooms Available in and around Stevens Point & Plover

1,434

Major Attractions

Beth Israel Synagogue/Portage County Historical Museum
Carlsten Art Gallery
Central Wisconsin Children's Museum
Central Wisconsin Environmental Station
Farmer's Market
George W. Mead Wildlife Area
Green Circle Trail
Heritage Park
Korean War Memorial of Wisconsin
Locomotive No. 2713
Museum of Natural History
Polish Heritage Trail
ReNew the Earth Institute

Riverfront Arts Center
Riverman Mural
Schmeeckle Reserve
SentryWorld Golf Course
Smith Scarabocchio Art Museum
Stevens Point Brewery
University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point
Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame

Interesting Area Information

Once known for trading posts and the lumber industry, the area now has a diverse economy, home to many world headquarters, such as Delta Dental, Sentry Insurance, the Noel Group, and Herrschners. An area proud of its history and traditions and its strong Polish heritage, it is home to Wisconsin's first Polish American settlements. The area is known for its miles of beautiful scenery for hiking and biking with an abundance of well maintained trails and parks such as; Schmeekle Reserve, Green Circle Trail, and the Ice Age Trail. The Wisconsin River and area lakes offer miles of serene settings for unlimited recreational opportunities. Stevens Point is also home to the Stevens Point Brewery, established in 1857. Today it is one of the longest continuously ran breweries in the nation. The University is home to the world's largest trivia contest each April and many other cultural events throughout the year.

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