Daytime Population in the Pittsburgh Region
By Christopher Briem

The U.S. Census Bureau provides estimates of the “daytime” population for cities and counties in the country. Daytime population refers to the number of people who are present in an area during normal business hours, including workers, as well as residents. This population is in contrast to the “resident only” population present during the evening and nighttime hours and what we typically think of as a city or county’s population.

Daytime population estimates are calculated by combining resident and workplace population estimates. Information on the expansion and contraction experienced by different communities between nighttime and daytime populations is important for many planning purposes, including those dealing with transportation, land use, disaster, and relief planning and operations.

Daytime population estimates produced by the Census Bureau through American Community Survey estimates only account for changes in population due to commuting. Commuting refers to a worker’s travel from home to workplace location. Place of work refers to the geographic location of the worker’s job. A worker is defined as a person 16 years old and over, who was employed and at work during a reference period.

The city of Pittsburgh experiences one of the biggest proportional increases in daytime population due to commuting among cities in the United States. The American Community Survey (ACS, 2007-2011) estimated Pittsburgh’s total population at 307,498 residents. However, during “daytime” hours, the number of people in the city of Pittsburgh expands with commuters.

The ACS data on commuting estimates that 292,021 workers had jobs located within the city of Pittsburgh. Of these workers, nearly one-third, or 94,464, were city residents, while 197,556 workers, or 67.6 percent, immigrants settled in Hazelwood to make a living in the neighborhood’s coke mill and nearby steel plants, and shaped the character of the neighborhood in the first half of the 20th century.

Hazelwood was originally developed as housing for defense workers in the 1940s, and has been subsequently redeveloped several times as a public housing community by the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh. As in many parts of the Pittsburgh region, Hazelwood’s manufacturing base has nearly vanished, and the neighborhood lost population over decades. Between 2000 and 2010, Hazelwood lost over 1,000 residents, or 18 percent of its population. The neighborhood also has experienced considerable physical abandonment and housing deterioration.

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Daytime Population in the Pittsburgh Region

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commuted into the city from other municipalities. Additionally, an estimated 41,273 city of Pittsburgh residents were “reverse commuters,” residents who live in the city of Pittsburgh but are employed at job locations outside the city’s borders.

In total, the city of Pittsburgh’s “daytime population” is estimated to be 463,781, or 64 percent higher than the city’s residential population.

These estimates likely understate the true daytime population in the city of Pittsburgh. The Census Bureau data shown here only includes population changes from workforce commuting. Over the course of the day, a city or county’s daytime population changes for a number of other reasons, including the movement of college and university students, shoppers, patients to hospitals and doctors’ offices, those traveling for other business or social services, and other visitors.

In 1963, the Economic Study of the Pittsburgh Region, a series of reports produced by the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Agency (PRPA), estimated that 294,000 workers in 1958 were employed in jobs located within the city of Pittsburgh. Despite significant loss of residential population in the decades since 1960, the number of jobs located in the city of Pittsburgh remains nearly unchanged in the latest estimates available through the ACS program.

Daytime population impacts are not even across the Pittsburgh region. According to ACS estimates, Allegheny County had a net gain of 95,899 people due to net commuters, for an estimated daytime population of 1.3 million people, or 7.8 percent more than its resident population.

Among the ten counties in southwestern Pennsylvania, only Allegheny County gained in population with commuting. The other nine counties in southwestern Pennsylvania have a “decrease” in their daytime populations, as more people commute out of those counties to work elsewhere—often to Allegheny County—than workers commuting into those counties for jobs.

From the estimates of commuting, Butler County is now the second largest employer county in the southwestern Pennsylvania region, with 84,510 workers. More than one quarter of Butler County employees were working in Cranberry Township, now the third largest concentration of employment by municipality in the region behind the city of Pittsburgh and Monroeville. Nonetheless, Butler County has negative population from commuting, with slightly more residents commuting out of the county for jobs than commuting into the county.

For more information on daytime commuting, visit The PUB—the Pittsburgh Urban Blog—at www.ucsur.pitt.edu.

UCSR Celebrates its 40th Anniversary

April 30, 2013

The University of Pittsburgh’s University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) celebrated its 40th anniversary on April 30 with a reception at Pitt’s University Club.

The 40th anniversary event opened with remarks by UCSUR Director and Pitt Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry Richard Schulz. He discussed the center’s history and achievements during the past 40 years. Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg remarked on UCSUR’s history and important role within the University of Pittsburgh and the community.

Chancellor Nordenberg then introduced former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and former Alcoa Chief Executive Officer Paul O’Neill. Mr. O’Neill presented a keynote address titled “Re-Booting the New Federalism.” He focused his attention on urban social needs and development over the decades in the United States.

Reflecting on the creation and expansion of scientific bases in making social and urban policy decisions, Mr. O’Neill found that “facts and analysis are the best friends in civilization.” He challenged UCSUR to expand its
Each year, the University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) awards the Steven D. Manners Faculty Development Award for promising research and infrastructure projects at the University of Pittsburgh. These awards honor the memory of Steve Manners, a sociologist who began working at the center in 1974 and served as its assistant director from 1989 until his death in September 2000. In research and service to the center and the University community, Steve Manners was dedicated to improving social conditions in the urban environment.

UCSUR made the first Steve Manners awards in 2001. The 2013 winners are:

**Brian Beaton**, PhD, assistant professor, School of Information Sciences, and **Rosta Farzan**, PhD, assistant professor, School of Information Sciences, “Information Needs in the Local Nonprofit Sector: The Challenge of Measuring and Reporting Impact.”

This project will focus on the difficulties and challenges that community organizations and agencies experience in trying to manage and present data that capture their positive impact on Pittsburgh’s neighborhoods. In the 3rd Annual PNCIS User Conference, held on June 8, 2012, a recurring theme across presentations was a culture of assessment called for by funding agencies and a key responsibility and challenge facing community organizations to document measurable impact. This project will conduct pilot research that focuses on how local nonprofits currently manage and present data related to their impact. The pilot study will build on preliminary studies currently underway at the School of Information Sciences and will lead to the development and implementation of new tools and systems that will enable community organizations to more effectively document their success at mission-related initiatives.

**Kathryn Monahan**, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Psychology, “Risks that Reward: Positive Risk-Taking in Adolescence.”

Adolescence is marked by increases in the prevalence of risk-taking compared to earlier and later developmental periods. While substantial research has focused on negative types of risk-taking, such as delinquency, substance use, risky driving behavior, and risky sexual behavior, no research has examined positive types of risk-taking, such as asking somebody out on a date, trying out for a team, or sharing personal information. This research will conduct a pilot data collection of 100 adolescents to provide validation for a newly developed measure of positive risk-taking, to test the association between positive and negative risk-taking, to examine how adolescent’s evaluate the benefits and costs of positive and negative risk-taking, and to illuminate how risk and protective factors for negative risk-taking are associated with positive risk-taking. Using a combination of behavioral tasks and self-reported assessments, this work extends current theoretical explanations of adolescent risk-taking to positive forms of risk-taking. The results of the present study will have implications for prevention and intervention efforts that seek to promote positive risk-taking and prevent negative risk-taking.


Enhancing student engagement is the key to addressing problems of low achievement, high levels of student boredom, alienation, and high dropout rates in urban schools. This project will develop easily administered diagnostic instruments for assessing student engagement in school, and the school engagement measures will be helpful for researchers and teachers in identifying students at risk for academic failures and problem behaviors. This project will develop reliable and valid measures of school engagement and pilot test and validate the measures and examine whether school engagement is associated with adolescent educational and behavioral outcomes and whether these associations differ by demographic characteristics.

*For more information about the Steven D. Manners Faculty Development Awards, contact UCSUR at 412-624-5442 or Don Musa at dmuc@pitt.edu.*
Hazelwood’s 5,000 residents have lower levels of educational attainment than residents in the city of Pittsburgh, and children in the neighborhood are more likely to live in poverty. In the neighborhood, 13 percent of residents between the ages of 25 and 64 had less than a high school education in the 2006-2010 period, compared to seven percent in the city of Pittsburgh. Twenty-two percent of Hazelwood residents had a bachelor’s degree or higher in that period, compared to 38 percent in the city (see Figure 2).

Hazelwood residents generally had lower incomes than the average city resident. Between 2006 and 2010, 52 percent of Hazelwood households earned less than $30,000 per year on average compared to 43 percent of city households. For children in Hazelwood, 41 percent of the population under age 18 lives in poverty, compared to 30 percent of the city of Pittsburgh population (see Figure 3).

Despite having nearly 1,200 residents under age 19, no schools are currently open in the neighborhood. The Pittsburgh Public Schools closed the Gladstone Middle School in 2001 and the Burgwin Elementary School in 2006 as part of its “right-sizing” plan. St. Stephen Catholic School closed in 2005 after enrollment fell to 56 students in grades K-8. The buildings of all three schools remain vacant. Hazelwood’s students in grades K-8 are now assigned to four different schools, including three elementary schools, with long trips on public transit for parents attending an after-school event or meeting with a teacher. The Propel Charter School hopes to gain approval to open a new K-6 school in the neighborhood in 2014.

The changes in Hazelwood extend to housing and homeownership. In the neighborhood, the homeownership rate has fallen to 50 percent in 2010 from 60 percent in 1980,

Hazelwood Neighborhood in Pittsburgh

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Figure 1: Hazelwood and Glen Hazel

Figure 2: Highest Educational Level Completed, Ages 25-64, Hazelwood and City of Pittsburgh, 2006-10

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-10 American Community Survey

Figure 3: Poverty Rates, by Age, Hazelwood and the City of Pittsburgh, 2006-10

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-10 American Community Survey
with 58 percent of these homeowners age 55 and over.

These demographic shifts in the homeownership profile in Hazelwood also reveal other changes. Between 2008 and 2010, there were 259 residential properties sold in Hazelwood. Of these sales, only 17 percent had a mortgage, compared to 45 percent of home sales with a mortgage in the city of Pittsburgh. These comparatively low levels of mortgage originations to house sales and falling homeownership rates in Hazelwood suggest that much of the neighborhood’s market activity is being driven by investors purchasing properties with cash.

A number of other indicators included in this report strongly suggest Hazelwood’s housing market suffers from low demand. Prices in parts of the neighborhood are relatively low compared to the city. In 2010, the median residential sales price in the neighborhood was $5,700, with an average price of $26,129, compared to median and average prices in the city of $55,000 and $95,000, respectively.

The low levels of demand for residential housing units can also be seen in comparatively higher levels of vacant land and rising numbers of unoccupied housing units. Over one in four of Hazelwood’s total parcels are now vacant land, and one in five housing units in the neighborhood are empty. Most housing in Hazelwood is also over a century old, with many units in need of upgrades.

Fiscal abandonment is also a problem in Hazelwood, as measured by property tax delinquency. We compare tax delinquency in Hazelwood to the city of Pittsburgh using two delinquency measures: unpaid Allegheny County property taxes and unpaid joint City of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Public Schools property taxes, available through the Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS). In 2011, the owners of 41 percent of Hazelwood’s taxable property did not pay their city and school property taxes, compared to 22 percent on average in the city of Pittsburgh. Hazelwood’s tax delinquent rate is also higher than the city average for Allegheny County property taxes. In both cases, however, tax delinquency is higher for city and school district property taxes than for Allegheny County property taxes in the years shown.

“The Hazelwood Neighborhood, 2010” report includes a series of maps and over 50 indicators describing current conditions in the neighborhood. It can serve as a valuable resource for Hazelwood’s stakeholders and presents an example of how data can be used in community planning and evaluation. The report is available on www.ucsur.pitt.edu/files/nrep/2010/Hazelwood%20Neighborhood%20Profile%202010.pdf.

### Table 1. Housing Market, Hazelwood and City of Pittsburgh, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator*</th>
<th>Hazelwood</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median house sales price</td>
<td>$5,700</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average house sales price</td>
<td>$26,129</td>
<td>$95,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of residential sales with a mortgage (2008-10)</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>44.5%</td>
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Source: Allegheny County Property Assessment, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council; Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System.

### Table 2. City of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Public Schools, and Allegheny County Tax Delinquent Property, Hazelwood and the City of Pittsburgh*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taxing body, year</th>
<th>Hazelwood</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delinquent</td>
<td>Taxable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Public Schools, 2011</td>
<td>1,168</td>
<td>2,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allegheny County, 2012</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>2,954</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Tax delinquency measured in the fall of the tax year; different years for each taxing body shown
Sources: City of Pittsburgh Department of Finance; Allegheny County Treasurer’s Office.
The Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS) held its fourth annual Users’ Conference on Friday, June 7 at the University Club on the University of Pittsburgh campus. Over 130 people attended for an afternoon of strategies and projects aimed at understanding how better to create, share, and analyze information to foster neighborhood improvement in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. PNCIS is a project in the Urban and Regional Analysis program at UCSUR.

A major theme of the conference centered on “open data.” Open data refers to publicly available information that is freely accessible to all users. In communities where information is openly available, residents and community partners can come together to develop new and innovative applications of data for community engagement and revitalization.

Greg Sanders, information architect of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the conference’s featured speaker, discussed “Open Data in the Chicago Region: Leaders, Geeks and Grassroots,” a presentation that provided the audience with a broad understanding of government’s role in promoting open data use, from its roots in the founding of the country to what Mr. Sanders called the “explosion” of open data in places like Chicago. Benefits of open data are rooted in technological changes, foundation support for civic applications, and, what ultimately turned the movement into a revolution—political leadership.

President Barack Obama on his first full day in office signed the Open Government Directive, to make data from the federal government open and accessible through an open portal (data.gov). State and local governments across the United States followed, and in Chicago and Cook County, local, county, and state elected officials established open data platforms and portals.

Mr. Sanders then focused on efforts to scale open data to smaller jurisdictions in a region, including MetroChicagoData and Illinois’s open data challenge. He also discussed the role that universities play in research applications of open data and concluded with a discussion of the critical component of local residents’ involvement in open data in community improvements.

A response panel then engaged in a discussion of transparency and open data issues from the Pittsburgh and Allegheny County perspective. Amanda Settlemaier, executive director of the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Government, and Chris Blackwell, principal planner in Penn Hills, addressed open data issues from the standpoint of suburban locales and what challenges lie in integration for smaller communities. Dave Passmore, webmaster for the City of Pittsburgh, and Brady Hunsaker, software engineer at Google, discussed changes to expect within government information systems with more open data and how to develop strategies for leveraging skills of the software development community.

The conference benefitted from a poster session with participants from the Steel City Codefest, held in February and sponsored by UCSUR, the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh, the City of Pittsburgh, Google, Bakery Square, Traffic 21, and Maya Design.

From left to right, Greg Sanders, Chris Blackwell, David Passmore, Amanda Settlemaier, and Brady Hunsaker.

Terry Doloughty and Rob Pfaffman discuss their Plan Pittsburgh application from the Steel City Codefest.

Juan Castellanos, Evelyn Brooks, and Pat Clark.
Students Working on Urban and Regional Analysis Projects

The Urban and Regional Analysis program at UCSUR is pleased to host the following students working with us on our projects.

**Rashawna Chapman** is a Master of International Development (MID) student in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, with a concentration in NGO and civil societies. She obtained a BA in international development studies from Point Loma Nazarene University in 2009 and served in the U.S. Peace Corps as an NGO developer from 2010 to 2012. Rashawna is working at UCSUR on The Heinz Endowment’s revitalization project in Hazelwood.

**Julie Collins** is completing work on the Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System Users’ Conference and also assisted on the economic and community impacts of the University of Pittsburgh project. Julie graduated from Pitt in April with a BA in urban studies, with minors in historic preservation and Italian. This summer, she is working through the Local Government Academy’s internship program in Bellevue borough to collect information on vacant property in the community.

**Evan Miller** will be a senior at Penn State University this fall, majoring in human geography, with a minor in geographic information systems. Evan is working on the Southwestern Pennsylvania Community Profiles project, conducted with the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, where he is identifying and assembling indicators to measure a wide range of human and community conditions in the region. He is also an intern at the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh. A Pittsburgh native, Evan graduated from Taylor Allderdice High School in 2010.

**Rick Hopkinson** is a spring 2013 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a major in Urban Studies. This fall, he’ll begin his studies in the Master of Public Administration program at Pitt’s Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, majoring in public and nonprofit management. This winter and spring, Rick worked on an assessment of the Hilltop’s housing market for the Hilltop Alliance. This summer, he’s busy working at Mt. Oliver Borough on economic development and governance initiatives. Rick also serves on the board of the Hilltop Economic Development Corporation and is on the advisory committee of Economic Development South.

**Abigail Stark** received her Master of Public Administration degree from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh this spring, with a major in Urban and Regional Affairs. This winter and spring, Abby worked on an assessment of the Hilltop’s housing market for the Hilltop Alliance. She will use her skills in a position at the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, beginning this summer.
fact-based analysis of what we do in Pittsburgh and our surrounding areas to make our region a better place to live. He has been a supporter of the center’s regional indicators project, PittsburghTODAY, which is an in-depth assessment of Greater Pittsburgh with 14 other regions on 10 key indicators.

UCSUR would like to thank Mr. Paul O’Neill, Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, and all of our guests for their support and participation in our special anniversary event. We were proud and honored to have such distinguished speakers, guests, and friends join us in celebrating our 40th anniversary.

Richard Schulz, Paul O’Neill, and Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg

A link to the remarks made by UCSUR Director and Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry Richard Schulz, Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, and Mr. Paul O’Neill is available at: www.ucsur.pitt.edu/ucsur_radio.php?pl=430.