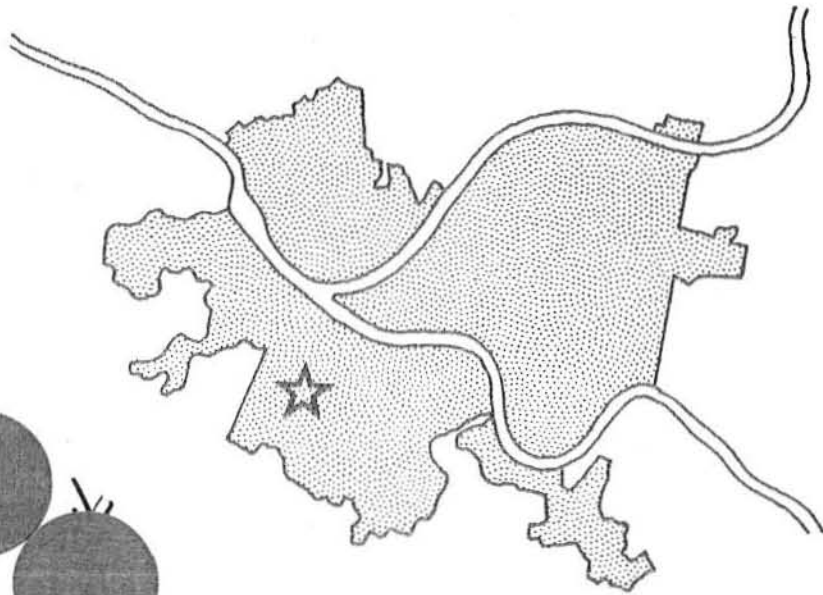


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a community profile of *beechview*



prepared by
the department of city planning
pittsburgh, pa. august 1974

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PREFACE

One thing that citizens need if they are to take part in planning for their neighborhoods is up-to-date information about their neighborhoods. This booklet is an attempt by the Pittsburgh Department of City Planning to present information, primarily from the United States Census of Population and Housing, for use by citizens and community groups. Unfortunately, census material is not perfect; it may not have all the information that you need and it may not be in the most useful form for your purposes. It is, however, the best that is available.

Where possible, comparisons have been made between 1960 and 1970 characteristics, and between neighborhood and city-wide values, in order to better understand present neighborhood conditions.

The material has been divided into four sections, Population, Housing, Socio-Economic characteristics and Community Facilities. Although most of the information comes from the 1970 Census of Population and Housing, the statistics on building permits (new, and alterations) come from the city's Bureau of Building Inspection; the crime data was compiled by the Bureau of Police; and the welfare data was provided by the Allegheny County Board of Public Assistance. The summary tapes from which much of the census information was extracted were provided by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Regional Planning Commission.

BEECHVIEW

The Broadway-Beechview Avenue ridgetop forms the "spine" of the Beechview community. Nearly all its commercial establishments and churches are along this corridor, together with a trolley line giving quick access to downtown or the South Hills.

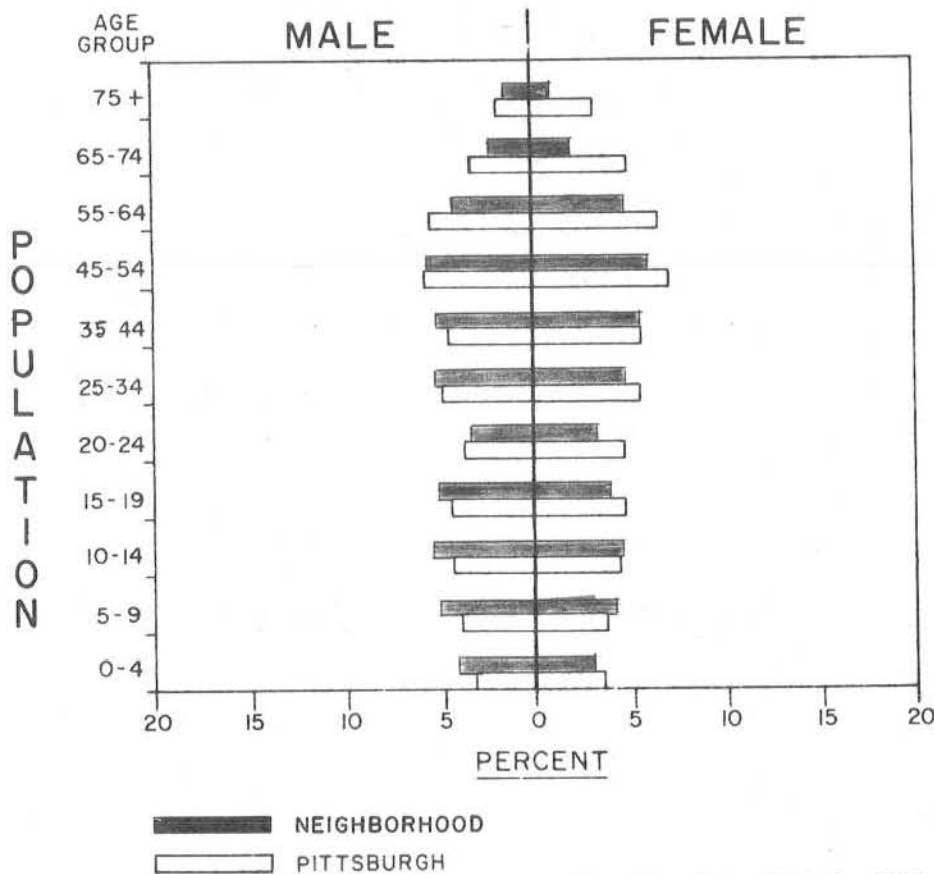
Beechview is a middle-income community with a rich mixture of family sizes and age groups. Its child population has been decreasing at a significant rate, though at a slightly slower pace than in many nearby communities.

The community was settled originally by predominantly German families, but for the past 40 years the largest ethnic group has been Italian. This is mainly a Catholic community.

The hilly topography is criss-crossed by cobblestone streets lined with single and two-family houses, built in the years around the turn of the century. In addition to the present school and recreation complex on the northern slope of the community, a new 2700-pupil high school is under construction there.

The community is bounded by Saw Mill Run Boulevard, West Liberty Avenue, Wenzell Avenue and Banksville Road. It includes Census Tracts 1906, 1907 and 2012.

AGE - SEX COMPOSITION



AGE-SEX COMPOSITION, 1970

According to the 1970 Census, the greatest portion of Beechview's population falls in the age 45-54 category, the smallest being the 75 & over age group. Citywide, more people are found in the age 45-54 group than in any other; the age 75 and older category is the smallest.

POPULATION CHANGE, 1960-1970

The population of Beechview has changed from 13,380 in 1960 to 12,965 in 1970, representing a -3.1% change. This compares to an average citywide change of -13.9%, where population declined from 604,332 in 1960 to 520,117 in 1970.

FAMILIES BY TYPE AND PRESENCE OF CHILDREN LESS THAN 18 YEARS OLD

The predominant family-type in this neighborhood is the husband-wife-family-children less than 18 category. The highest portion of families with incomes below poverty level is the female head - children less than 18 group.

MEDIAN AGE, 1970

The median age for the neighborhood is 29.3 years; for the city it is 33.6 years.

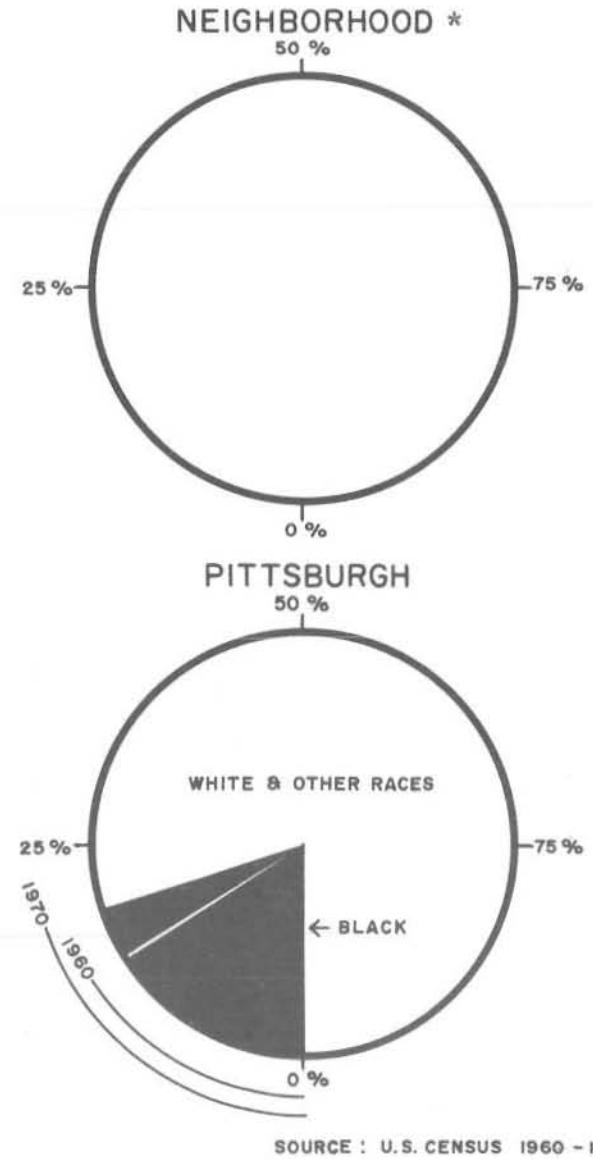
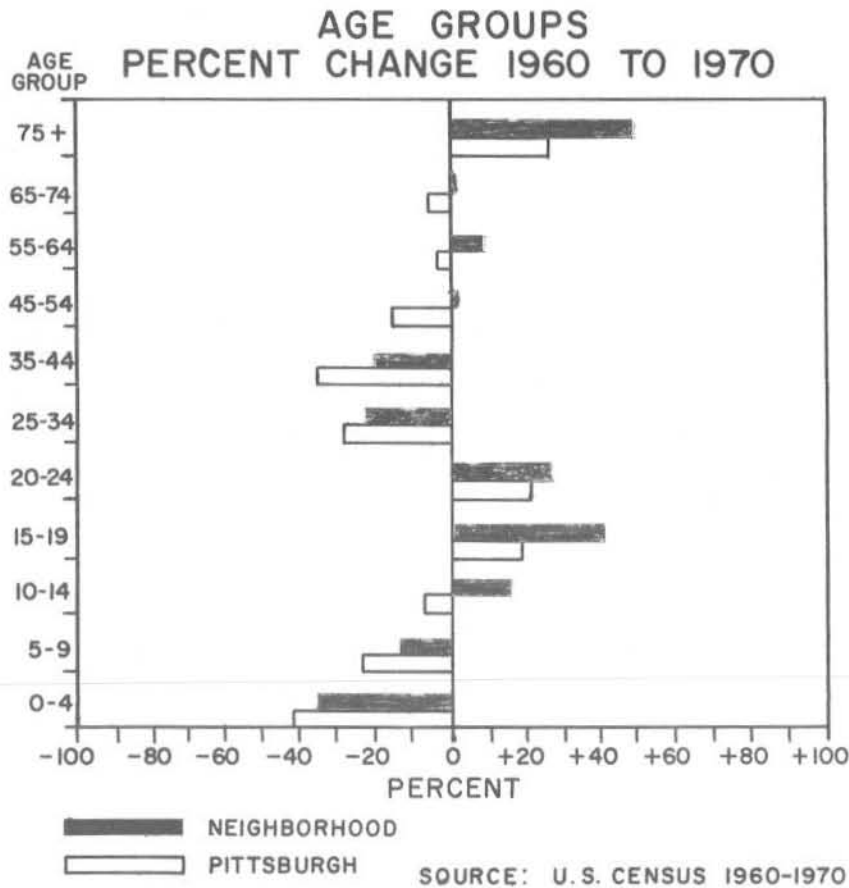
AGE-GROUP CHANGE, 1960-1970

Seven age brackets increased in population between 1960 and 1970 in the neighborhood. For the city, population in the 15-19, 20-24, and the 75 years and older age groups increased.

RACE

Black population in Beechview constituted .5% of its 1960 population, and 1.9% of its 1970 population. For Pittsburgh, the Black population increased from 16.7% in 1960, to 20.2% in 1970.

BLACK POPULATION, 1960 - 1970



POPULATION

* Black population less than 2% in 1960 and 1970

EDUCATION: YEAR

25 YEARS AND OV

The 1970 Census indicate

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NO SCHOOLING

ELEMENTARY (1-8 YRS.)

HIGH SCHOOL (1-3 YRS.)

HIGH SCHOOL (4 YRS.)

COLLEGE (1-3 YRS.)

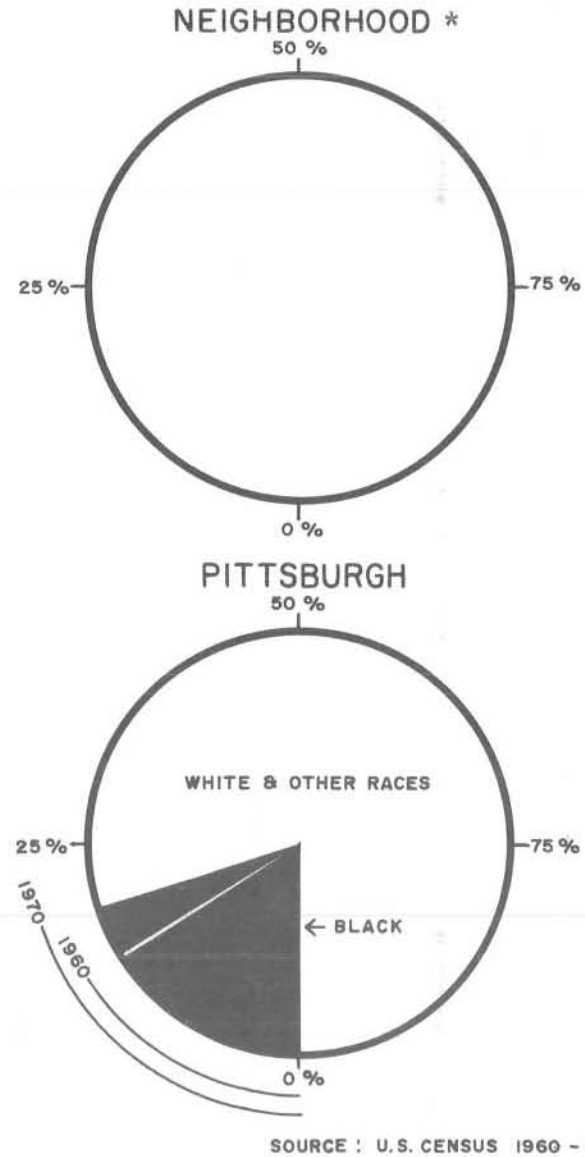
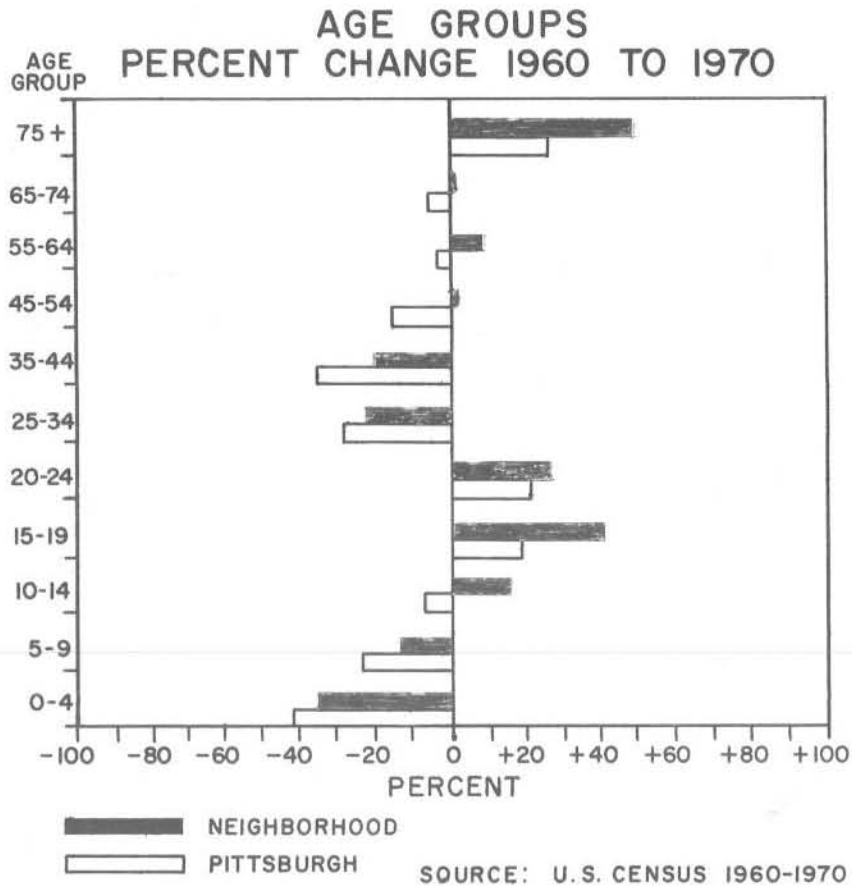
COLLEGE (4 YRS.)

TOTAL

RACE

Black population in Beechview constituted .5% of its 1960 population, and 1.9% of its 1970 population. For Pittsburgh, the Black population increased from 16.7% in 1960, to 20.2% in 1970.

BLACK POPULATION, 1960 - 1970



POPULATION

* Black population less than 2% in 1960 and 1970

OCCUPANCY STATUS 1960 - 1970

OCCUPANCY STATUS

In 1960, total housing units numbered 3,809; in 1970, 3,876, representing a +1.7% change. A total of 70.3% were owner-occupied in 1970, compared to 47.2% citywide. In 1960, 102 units were vacant, as compared to 80 vacancies in 1970. This represents a 2.0% vacancy rate for 1970 as compared to the city's 6.2%. Overcrowded units comprised 7.5% of the 1960, and 6.8% of the 1970 neighborhood housing stock.

MOBILITY

For the neighborhood, 3,192 people over five years of age have changed their place of residence between 1965 and 1970. This represents 27% of its population. For the city, 159,774 changed their place of residency during those years, which is 33% of the total population.

	1960	1970	PERCENT CHANGE
TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	3809	3876	+ 1.7
TOTAL OCCUPIED UNITS	3707	3796	+ 2.4
OWNER OCCUPIED	2662	2726	+ 2.4
PERCENT OWNER OCCUPIED	69.8	70.3	
RENTER OCCUPIED	1045	1070	+ 2.3
PERCENT RENTER OCCUPIED	27.4	27.6	
VACANT UNITS	102	80	- 21.5
PERCENT VACANT	2.6	2.0	
MEDIAN MARKET VALUE	\$12,315	\$13,520	+ 9.7
MEDIAN GROSS RENT	\$ 79	\$ 113	+ 43.0
PERCENT OVERCROWDED UNITS	7.5	6.8	

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960 - 1970

BUILDING ACTIVITY, 1972

In 1972, there were 70 building permit applications in this neighborhood, at an estimated construction cost of \$116,495 . For the entire city, 4,002 permits were issued, accounting for construction in excess of \$53 million.

Also in 1972, there were 0.5 new housing units constructed per 1,000 existing units, and 14.94 alterations per 1,000 units in the neighborhood. City-wide 3.6 new housing units and 16.2 alterations were undertaken per every 1,000 existing units.

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED IN 1972

	NUMBER OF PERMITS	ESTIMATED COST
NEW HOUSING UNITS	2	\$ 31,000
OTHER NEW STRUCTURES	1	1,500
EXTENSIONS & ADDITIONS	9	13,905
ALTERATIONS	58	70,090
TOTAL	70	\$ 116,495

SOURCE : BUREAU OF BUILDING INSPECTION

**EDUCATION: YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY PERSONS
25 YEARS AND OVER, 1960-1970**

The 1970 Census indicates that, of those local residents, aged 25 and over, the largest percentage have attained a high school education. In 1960, the largest percentage had attained a elementary education.

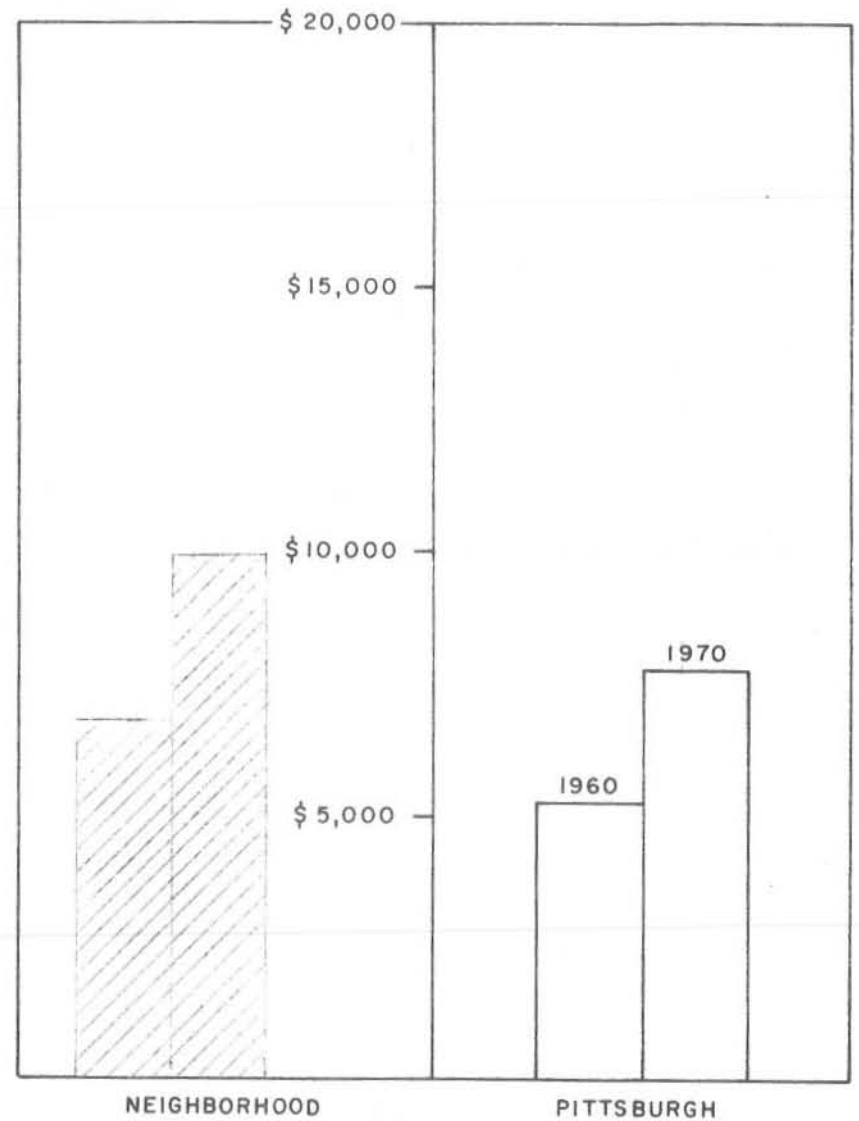
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**SCHOOL YEARS
COMPLETED BY PERSONS
25 YEARS & OVER
1960-1970**

	1960	PERCENT OF TOTAL	1970	PERCENT OF TOTAL
NO SCHOOLING	126	1.7	126	1.8
ELEMENTARY (1-8 YRS.)	2527	33.2	1544	21.6
HIGH SCHOOL (1-3 YRS.)	2029	26.6	1937	27.1
HIGH SCHOOL (4 YRS.)	2266	29.7	2935	41.1
COLLEGE (1-3 YRS.)	407	5.3	315	4.4
COLLEGE (4 YRS.)	265	3.5	286	4.0
TOTAL	7620	100.0	7143	100.0

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960-1970

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, 1960 - 1970

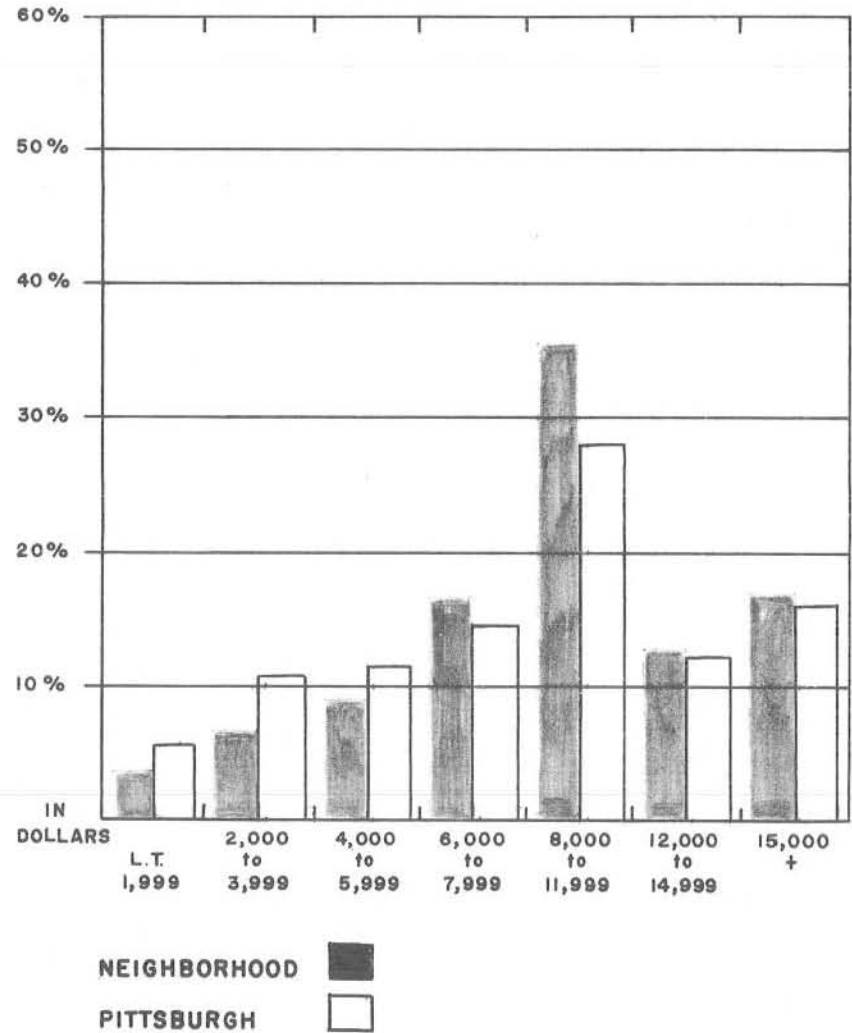


SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960-1970

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION
OF FAMILY INCOME
BY INCOME RANGES
(IN DOLLARS)**

INCOME, MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, 1960-1970

The median income for Beechview families was \$6,327 in 1960. In 1970, the median family income was \$9,666, representing a ten year change of 52.7%. Citywide, the median family income rose from \$5,605 in 1960, to \$8,800 in 1970, a 57% change.



SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

S O C I O - E C O N O M I C

**OCCUPATION: MAJOR OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATIONS
OF PERSONS 14 YEARS AND OVER, 1970**

The largest percentage of people in this neighborhood work in sales & clerical positions. This group constitutes 33% of the employed population. The largest percentage of people in the city work in sales & clerical positions, which represents 28% of the total population.

**MAJOR OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATIONS
OF PERSONS 14 YEARS AND OVER, 1970**

	PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, MANAGERIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE	SALES AND CLERICAL	CRAFTSMEN, OPERATIVES, FOREMEN	LABORERS, SERVICES, HOUSEHOLD WORKERS	TOTAL EMPLOYED
MALE	521	602	1354	747	3224
FEMALE	195	1040	123	429	1787
TOTAL	716	1642	1477	1176	5011
PERCENT OF TOTAL	14.28	32.75	29.45	23.45	100.00

SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

**PERSONS RECEIVING
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN 1972**

ASSISTANCE TYPE	NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS	PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION
OLD AGE	26	.20
BLIND	6	.04
AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN	629	4.85
GENERAL	93	.71
AID TO DISABLED	16	.12
TOTAL	770	5.92

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
ALLEGHENY COUNTY
BOARD OF ASSISTANCE
MARCH 2, 1973

ARRESTS FOR MAJOR CRIMES
IN 1972

CRIME	NUMBER OF ARRESTS	CRIME RATE
MURDER	1	.01
RAPE	1	.01
ROBBERY	26	.20
ASSAULT	43	.33
BURGLARY	84	.65
LARCENY	101	.78
TOTAL	256	1.98

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 1972

Of the neighborhood's total population, 6% received public assistance in 1972. Citywide, 14% of the population received some kind of assistance in the same year.

ARRESTS FOR MAJOR CRIMES, 1972

The crime rate listed here represents the number of arrests that were made for major crimes in 1972 as a ratio of the total population of the area. Major crimes are defined as murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, and larceny. In 1972, the crime rate for this neighborhood was 1.98; for Pittsburgh, the rate was 4.71.

SOURCE: ANNUAL REPORT OF MAJOR CRIMES
CITY OF PITTSBURGH
POLICE DEPARTMENT, 1972

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community facilities which serve Beechview are not limited to those located within the confines of Beechview. Although there are many community facilities in the general vicinity, this list is limited to police and fire stations, public libraries, public schools, City of Pittsburgh recreational facilities (indoor and outdoor), major hospitals, and major colleges and universities.

Community facilities for this neighborhood include:

Beechview

Public Facilities

Police District No. 8
Fire Station No. 60

Recreation

Beechview Playground
Pauline Avenue Parklet
Alton Field
Beechwood Parklet
Tropical Parklet

Schools

Beechwood Elementary
Lee Elementary
Brashear High (under construction)
South Hills High

Health

Southwest Pittsburgh Mental Health

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