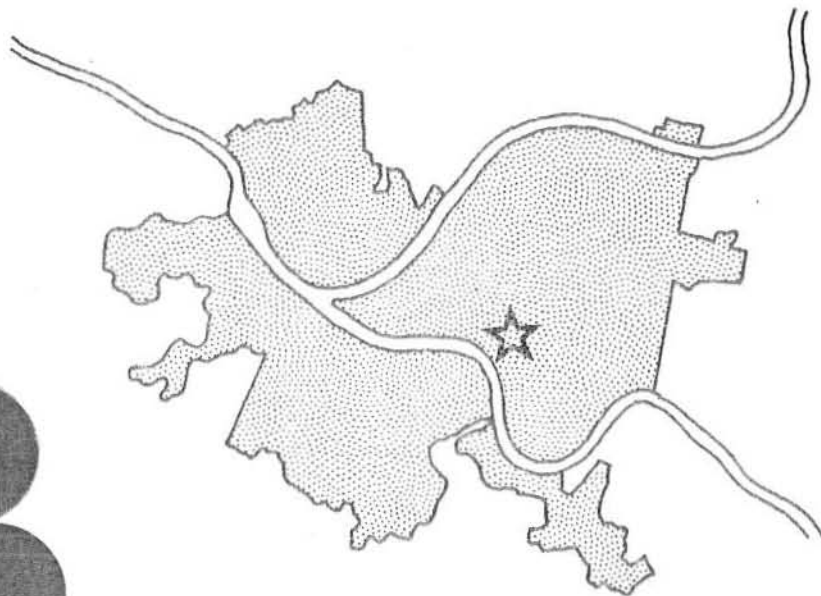


a community profile of *south* *oakland*



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

0600

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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.

SOUTH OAKLAND

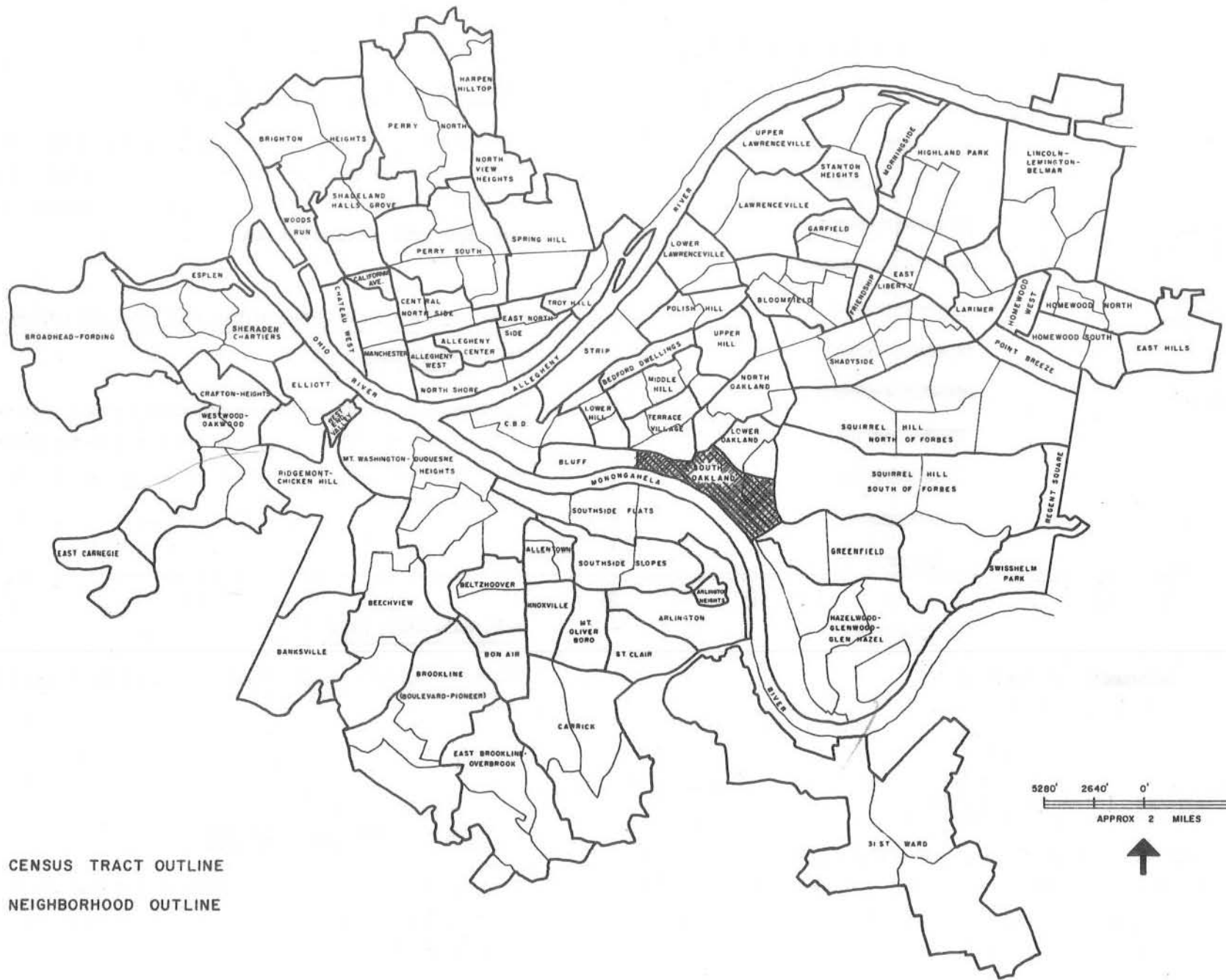
In contrast to the rest of Oakland, South Oakland consisting of Census Tracts 407 and 408 cannot be considered an institutional or bedroom community serving University or Hospital uses. Its major northern boundary, the Boulevard of the Allies, has so far insulated this neighborhood from such uses.

South Oakland is a residential district with a good percentage of home ownership. The area is a rich blend of racial and ethnic groups with many activities developing around the newly formed Community Human Services Corporation.

There are two distinct geographical areas within South Oakland as the neighborhood is divided by a major ravine, Bates Hollow, that contains the ingress and egress ramping system for the Penn-Lincoln Parkway.

The southwest edge of South Oakland is adjacent to and on a ridge above the Pittsburgh Works of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company, creating pollution problems. To complicate matters, the construction of the Parkway in the 1940's and 1950's tore out sections of earth for hillside cuts. Hence there has been a long term problem with abandonment in this edge area of South Oakland.

Nevertheless other sections of South Oakland have seen some rehabilitation, and a few new homes have been constructed. Residents have been extremely active in maintaining support for their local facilities, including schools, community centers, and playgrounds.

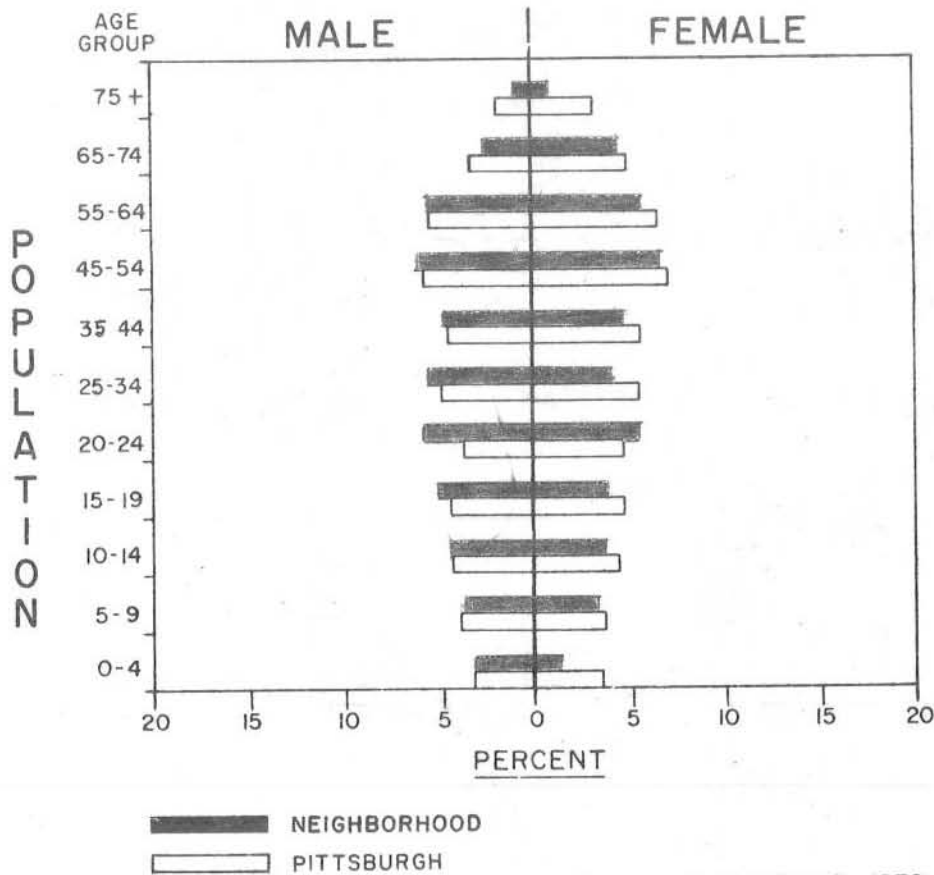


— CENSUS TRACT OUTLINE
 — NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLINE

5280' 2640' 0' 5280'
 APPROX 2 MILES



AGE - SEX COMPOSITION



Source: U. S. CENSUS 1970

AGE-SEX COMPOSITION, 1970

According to the 1970 Census, the greatest portion of South Oakland'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 South Oakland has changed from 6,394 in 1960 to 5,058 in 1970, representing a 20.9% 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 - no 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 41.7 years; for the city it is 33.6 years.

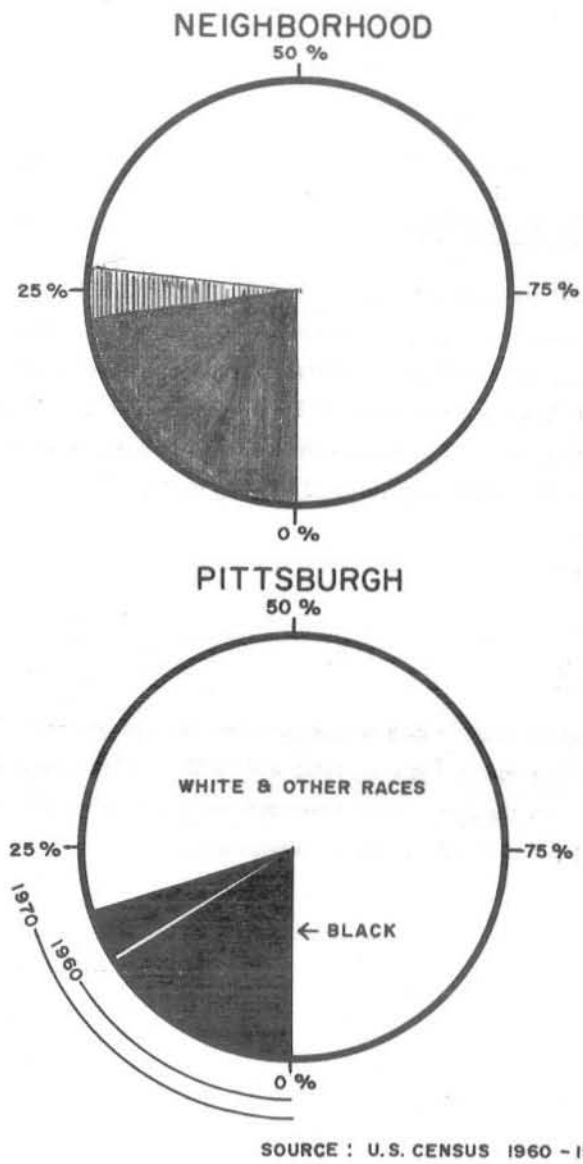
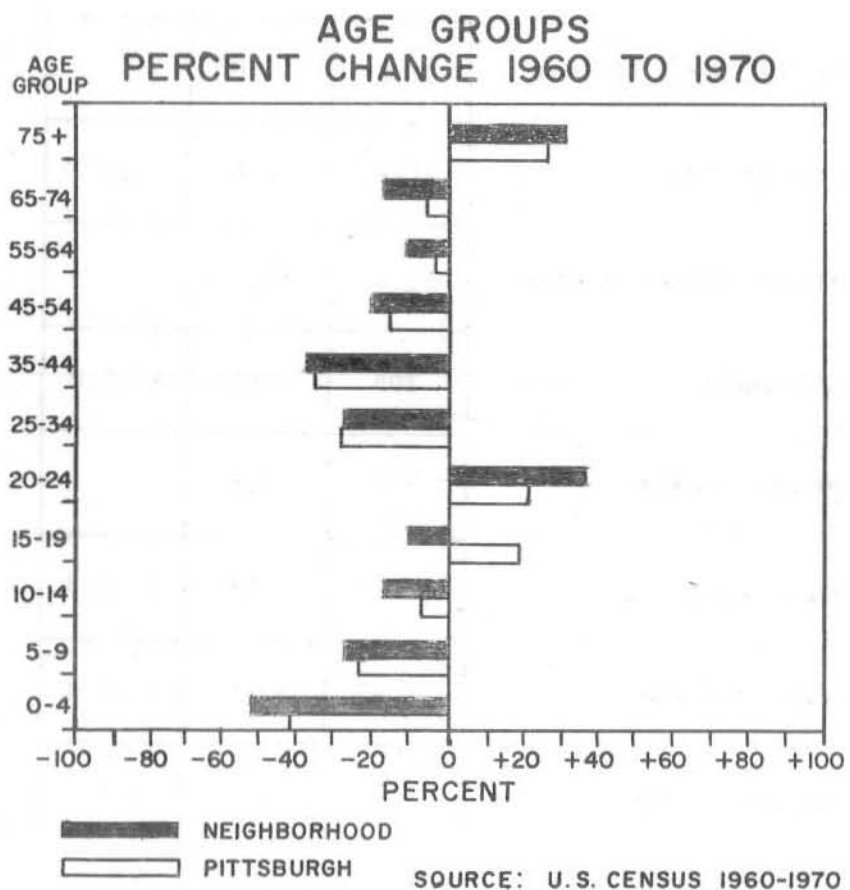
AGE-GROUP CHANGE, 1960-1970

Two 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 South Oakland constituted 21.0% of its 1960 population, and 27.3% 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

OCCUPANCY STATUS

In 1960, total housing units numbered 2,072 in 1970, 1,881, representing a -9.2% change. A total of 42.0% were owner-occupied in 1970, compared to 47.2% citywide. In 1960, 105 units were vacant, as compared to 142 vacancies in 1970. This represents a 7.5% vacancy rate for 1970 as compared to the city's 6.2%. Overcrowded units comprised 11.9% of the 1960, and 6.9% of the 1970 neighborhood housing stock.

MOBILITY

For the neighborhood, 1,625 people over five years of age have changed their place of residence between 1965 and 1970. This represents 33% of its population. For the city, 159,774 changed their place of residency during those years, which is 33% of the total population.

OCCUPANCY STATUS 1960 - 1970

	1960	1970	PERCENT CHANGE
TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	2072	1881	- 9.2
TOTAL OCCUPIED UNITS	1967	1739	- 11.6
OWNER OCCUPIED	855	791	- 7.5
PERCENT OWNER OCCUPIED	41.2	42.0	
RENTER OCCUPIED	1112	948	- 14.7
PERCENT RENTER OCCUPIED	53.6	50.3	
VACANT UNITS	105	142	+ 35.2
PERCENT VACANT	5.0	7.5	
MEDIAN MARKET VALUE	\$ 8955	\$ 9965	+ 11.3
MEDIAN GROSS RENT	\$ 65	\$ 104	+ 60.0
PERCENT OVERCROWDED UNITS	11.9	6.9	

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960 - 1970

BUILDING ACTIVITY, 1972

In 1972, there were 26 building permit applications in this neighborhood, at an estimated construction cost of \$230,865 . For the entire city, 4,002 permits were issued, accounting for construction in excess of \$53 million.

Also in 1972, there were 0.00 new housing units constructed per 1,000 existing units, and 12.75 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		
OTHER NEW STRUCTURES	1	\$ 140,000
EXTENSIONS & ADDITIONS	1	12,000
ALTERATIONS	24	78,865
TOTAL	26	\$ 230,865

SOURCE : BUREAU OF BUILDING INSPECTION

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

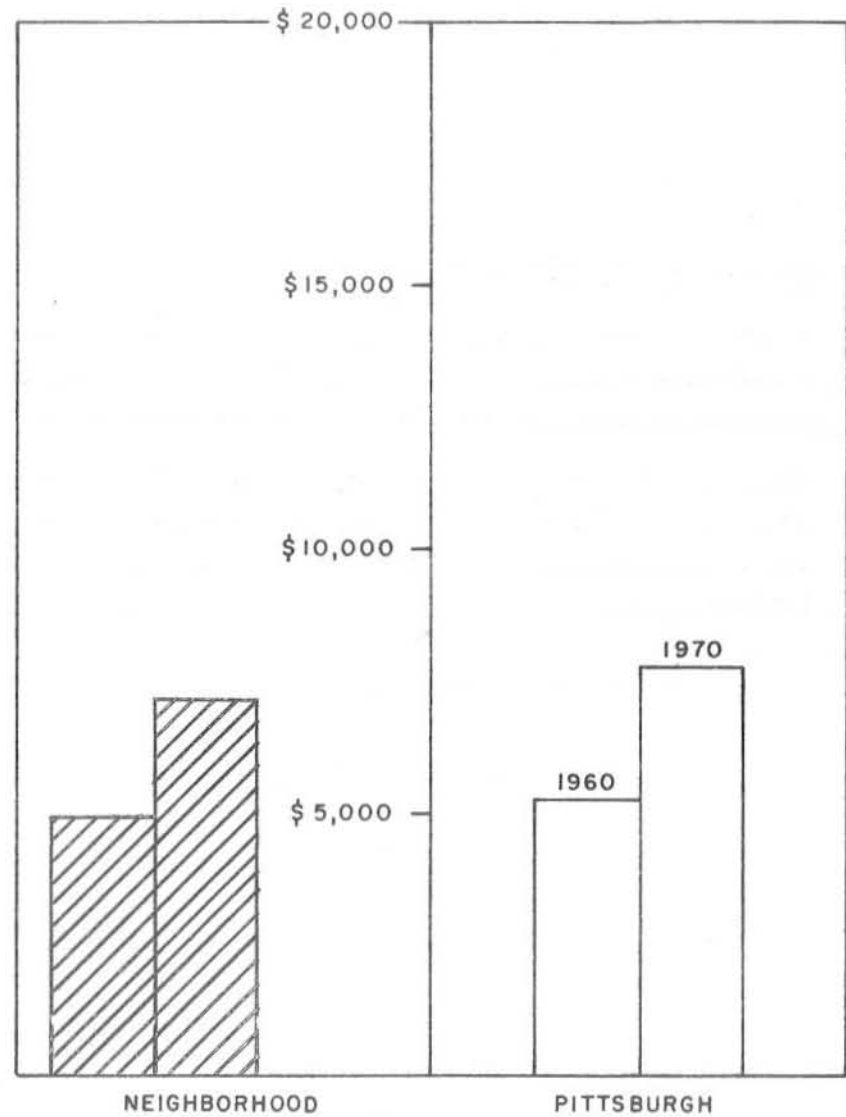
The 1970 Census indicates that, of those local residents, aged 25 and over, the largest percentage have attained a elementary education. In 1960, the largest percentage had attained a elementary education.

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

	1960	PERCENT OF TOTAL	1970	PERCENT OF TOTAL
NO SCHOOLING	268	7.2	88	3.0
ELEMENTARY (1-8 YRS.)	1633	43.9	982	33.0
HIGH SCHOOL (1-3 YRS.)	770	20.7	681	22.9
HIGH SCHOOL (4 YRS.)	847	22.8	878	29.5
COLLEGE (1-3 YRS.)	93	2.5	136	4.6
COLLEGE (4 YRS.)	110	3.0	210	7.1
TOTAL	3721	100.0	2975	100.0

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960-1970

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, 1960 - 1970

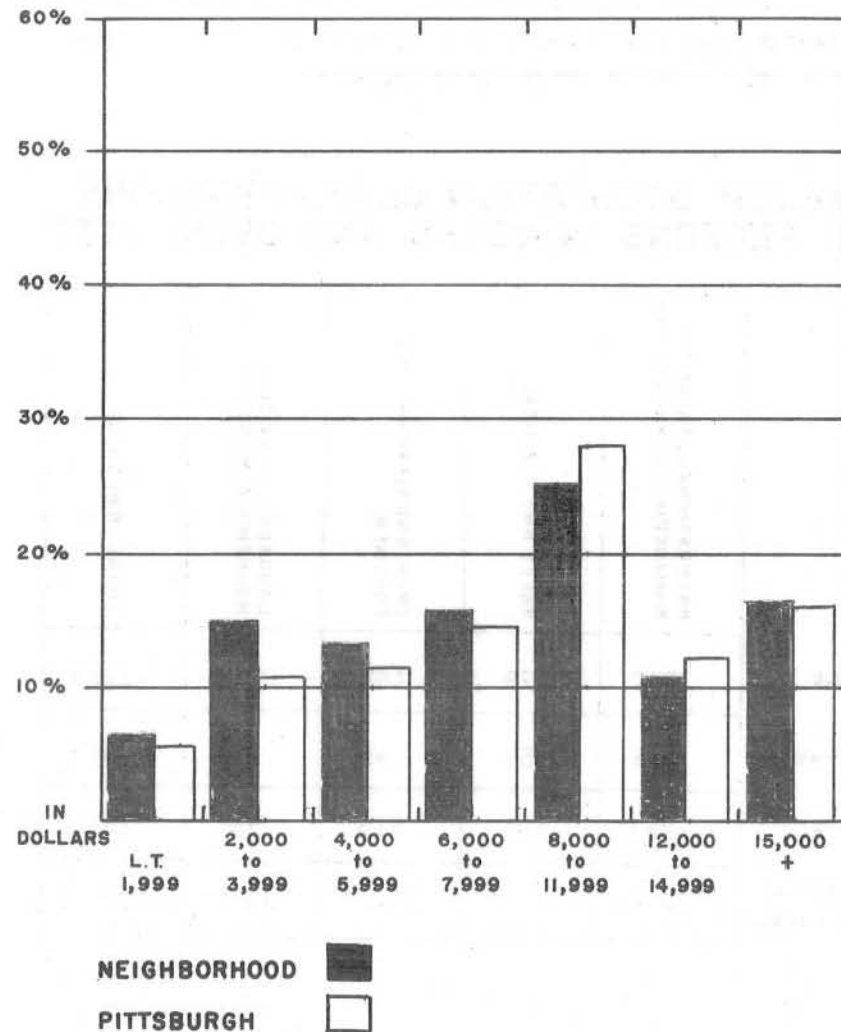


SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 1960-1970

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

INCOME, MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, 1960-1970

The median income for South Oakland families was \$5,099 in 1960. In 1970, the median family income was \$8,104, representing a ten year change of 58.9%. Citywide, the median family income rose from \$5,605 in 1960, to \$8,800 in 1970, a 57% change.



SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

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

The largest percentage of people in this neighborhood work in labor & service positions. This group constitutes 29% 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	217	179	468	309	1173
FEMALE	166	357	45	275	843
TOTAL	383	536	513	584	2016
PERCENT OF TOTAL	18.98	26.57	25.43	28.95	100.00

SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS 1970

**PERSONS RECEIVING
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN 1972**

ASSISTANCE TYPE	NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS	PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION
OLD AGE	41	.81
BLIND	10	.19
AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN	475	9.39
GENERAL	153	3.02
AID TO DISABLED	44	.86
TOTAL	723	14.27

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	0	.00
RAPE	2	.04
ROBBERY	30	.59
ASSAULT	40	.79
BURGLARY	81	1.60
LARCENY	104	2.06
TOTAL	257	5.08

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 1972

Of the neighborhood's total population, 14% 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 5.08 ; 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 South Oakland are not limited to those located within the confines of South Oakland . 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:

South Oakland

Public Facilities

Police District No. 4

Fire Engine & Truck Company No. 14, Engine Company No. 24

Carnegie Library, Main division

Public Schools

Schenley High School

Holmes Elementary

Recreational Facilities

Holmes Playground

Niagara Tot Lot

Frazier Field

Charles Anderson Playground

Lawn and Ophelia Parklet

Schenley Park

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