

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Borough of Carnegie, Allegheny County

REGIONAL SETTING

The Borough of Carnegie, with a population of approximately 8,389, is located approximately 8 miles southwest of Pittsburgh in the County of Allegheny and 14 miles southeast of Pittsburgh International Airport. The Borough of Carnegie, covering a land area of 1.3 square miles, is geographically in the area called the Chartiers Valley and borders Rosslyn Farms on the North, Heidelberg on the South, and on the West, Oakdale and Green Tree and Mount Lebanon on the East.

A BRIEF HISTORY

Allegheny County

(Team Pennsylvania Foundation Web Site)

Allegheny County is the home to 139 municipalities and the history of Carnegie (as well as its future) is closely tied to history of Allegheny County. The County was once the steelmaking capital of the world; a position which has eroded with economic changes. Now only about 4 percent of the labor force is employed in primary and fabricated metals. Currently, however, the economic base of the County is health care, education, high technology, light manufacturing, professional services along with retail and wholesale trade. Employment for some of the residents of Carnegie is found in these industries. Allegheny County is considered an international leader in the fields of chemical, plastic and nuclear research. Nearly 1,000 high technology companies are located in the Greater Pittsburgh area. Filmmakers have chosen the area for moviemaking because of varied topography, unique architecture, strong ethnic neighborhoods, cooperative government officials, low costs and friendly environment. The Pittsburgh International Airport is the largest airport complex built since the construction of the Dallas-Fort Worth airport in 1974. The airport is dubbed the “airport of the future” because of its advanced operational functions and built-in expansion capabilities. Allegheny County has more than 50 hospitals, many of which are recognized nationally as high-quality medical research and teaching hospitals, including a leadership position in organ transplantation. The health care industry is one of the County’s economic strengths; providing also employment for county residents.

The County houses many local performing groups, orchestras, such as the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Ballet Theater and the Civic Light Opera. The region also maintains more than 100 art galleries, historical landmarks and museums including the Carnegie’s Museum of National History, Art Museum, Music Hall, Library and Science Center, the Pittsburgh Zoo and the Pittsburgh Aviary. The Three Rivers Regatta, The Three Rivers Arts Festival and the Pittsburgh Marathon are major cultural and recreational events; attracting thousands of residents throughout the County.

Carnegie

(Condensed from the History of Carnegie Borough, by Larry Ciptak, A Brief History of Carnegie, by Bernadette Kazmarski, and BCI Community Application)

In 1765, Major William Lea, an English Army officer, built the Old St Luke's Episcopal Church the oldest church west of the Allegheny Mountains - in Woodville – not far from Carnegie. The first white pioneers to settle in what is now known as Carnegie was John and James Bell from Virginia in 1768, in the following year they constructed permanent cabins. The first post office was established in 1853. In 1852, the first church, First Presbyterian Church, was erected. Mansfield and Chartiers were incorporated into boroughs on September 6, 1872. Large employers at that time were Mansfield Coal and Coke Co., Steen and Sons Colliery and Grant Mining Co. In 1883 J C Kirkpatrick and Company built the Chartiers Iron and Steel Co, bringing many new families in to Mansfield and surrounding areas. February 20, 1894 residents voted to consolidate the two boroughs by a vote of 670 to 125.

The new Carnegie government consisted of a Burgess and a six-person council. Andrew Carnegie allowed the new town to be named in his honor and in return he donated \$200,000 to build the Andrew Carnegie Free Library, which opened May 1, 1901. The first high school built in Carnegie was erected in 1899. Carnegie continued to grow and by World War II most of the land within the borough was developed.

Without much assistance, Carnegie's economy remained strong and Main Street was filled with small business providing products and services required by residents. Visitors came for shopping and entertainment from surrounding rural communities, swelling Carnegie's weekend population and helping support the town's business district.

Along with most other communities in the country, the 1970s brought the idea of redevelopment of older downtown areas through revitalization of older buildings and infrastructure and creating a downtown area that was welcoming to people shopping and recreating in their leisure time. Unfortunately, it was nearly a death sentence for Carnegie's downtown. While the Main Street was being paved to become a pedestrian mall and buildings were removed for parking, strip malls and enclosed malls with popular chain stores were becoming the preferred places to shop and gather, leaving the newly-paved mall and small family-owned businesses with fewer patrons. Shortly thereafter, the steel mills began closing, and those who lost jobs in the mills and the ripple effect of supporting businesses closing left many unemployed, further stressing Carnegie's business district. In addition, the housing trend was to move out of the downtown areas to residential developments in suburban and rural areas, leaving Carnegie with a declining population.

Carnegie's industries never fully recovered, and the business and residential areas struggled for decades until the economy began to expand in the 1990s. A Main Street organization, along with the county and the state, funded the removal of the paved area of Main Street, and storefronts, fixtures and the streets were updated to welcome a

revitalization of business and residents. This process suffered a setback as a result of the devastating flood of 2004.

In addition to its well-situated location which provides easy access to two major Interstate highways (I79 and I279), some of the other attractive features of Carnegie is that the Borough possesses all of the characteristics of a small town – a walkable Main Street that is in the process of being beautified, small restaurants, ethnic grocery stores and churches. While currently there is no formal community plan with executable components in place, a number of development initiatives are, however, underway to make the Borough both an attractive and thriving place to live and work, as well as engage in business and commercial activity.

DEMOGRAPHICS

In order to enable an assessment of the present and future needs of Carnegie Borough and its residents, a broad analysis of demographic factors is presented in this profile. Reviewing population trends and estimates, age distribution, and employment enables the Borough to better understand the needs and concerns of the community. This examination also helps to enable planning to occur relative to, for example, the amount and type of services that may be required. The data also provides an understanding of the Borough's future position within the County. All following data used in the profile is extracted from 1980, 1990 and 2000 Census. (U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau).

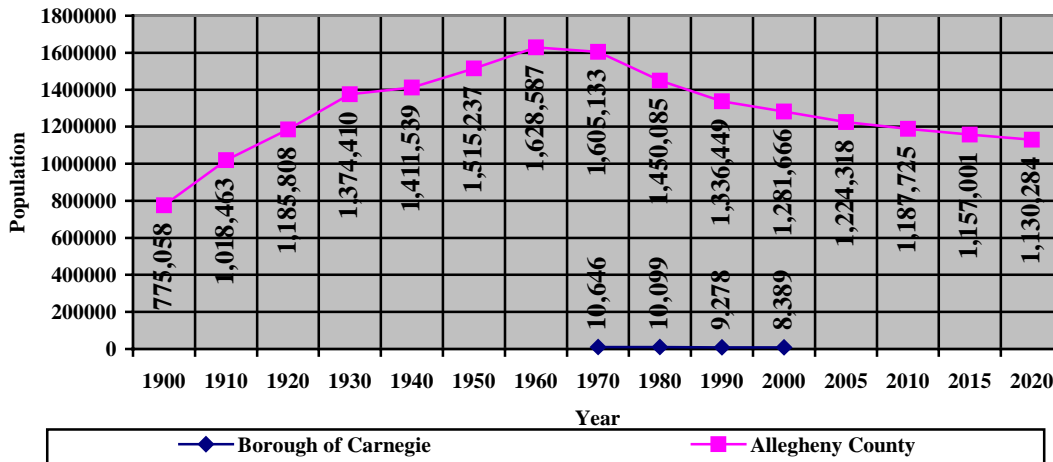
Population

Trends and Forecasts

Over the past hundred years, the populations of Allegheny County and the Borough of Carnegie have changed significantly. These changes have followed the same pattern as other many other metropolitan areas of the United States. For example, Allegheny County's population grew steadily, increasing from 1900 to 1950 by 48.8 percent, peaking in the 1960s. Starting in the 1970's, Allegheny County's population began to decline as the population sprawled to suburbia past the county borders. From 1970 to 2000, there was a population decline of 25.2% in Allegheny County. Currently Allegheny County's population is predicted to decrease another 13.4% from 2000 to 2020.

Similar to Allegheny County, Carnegie Borough's population has also declined over the past thirty years. Having peaked in the mid 1900's, from 1970 to 2000, the population of Carnegie Borough declined by 26.9%, from 10,646 to 8,389 – a rate similar to Allegheny County as a whole. (See figure 2-1 – Population Trends and Forecasts). Although there is no empirical evidence to suggest that future population trends in Carnegie will follow the predicted pattern for Allegheny County, if it does, this would put Carnegie's population in 2020 at approximately 7,265.

Figure 2-1 - POPULATION TRENDS AND FORECASTS



Racial Composition

Despite a 5 % decline in the White population of Carnegie Borough, an increase of 3.2% in the Black population and an increase of 2.2% in the Latino and Other populations since 1980, Carnegie continues to remain a predominantly White community (91%). To a slightly lesser degree, the changes in the racial composition of Carnegie are similar to Allegheny County. For example, the County experienced a 4.5 percent decline in the White population, a 2% increase in the Black population of Allegheny County and a 2.4 percent increase in the Latino population from 1980 to 2000. Similarly, the percent change from 1980-2000 of “Other” populations in Carnegie and Allegheny County remained very small.

TABLE 2-1
RACIAL COMPOSITION, 1980-2000

	White	Black	Latino	Other
Borough of Carnegie				
1980%	96.0%	2.3%	0.6%	1.1%
1990%	95.4%	3.2%	0.6%	0.8%
2000%	91.0%	5.5%	1.0%	2.9%
Percent Change 1980-2000	-5.0%	3.2%	0.4%	1.8%
Allegheny County				
1980%	88.3%	10.3%	0.6%	0.8%
1990%	86.6%	11.0%	0.6%	1.7%
2000%	83.8%	12.3%	3.0%	0.1%
Percent Change 1980-2000	-4.5%	2.0%	2.4%	-0.7%

Age Distribution

The age distribution of a community can suggest the levels of service and infrastructure necessary to meet the future needs of the various age groups. It can help to forecast future educational, recreational, and elderly facilities that may be needed. Table 2-2 compares the age distribution of Carnegie Borough and Allegheny County between 1990 and 2000. Based upon the aggregate data, the age distribution of the population of Carnegie Borough and Allegheny County has remained fairly stable overall, with little evidence of any dramatic shifts from 1990 and 2000. However, when those under the age of 45 are considered, data for 2000 indicates that Carnegie has a significantly higher percentage of people within this group (58%), compared to Allegheny County as a whole which is 48.9 percent. This younger cohort population in Carnegie is also matched with a decline in Carnegie from 29.2 percent in 1990 to 21 percent in 2000 in the age groups of those sixty (60) and over. The median age of Carnegie's population in 2000 was 40.0 compared to the median age in Pennsylvania of 32.1

Though the non-white population in Carnegie is small, it should be noted that what is missing from this analysis is data relative to changes in the age distribution based upon race.

**TABLE 2-2
AGE DISTRIBUTION, 1990 AND 2000**

	Borough of Carnegie					Allegheny County				
	1990 Pop.	Percent of Pop.	2000 Pop.	Percent of Pop.	Percent Change	1990 Pop.	Percent of Pop.	2000 Pop.	Percent of Pop.	Percent Change
00-04	527	5.7	515	6.1	0.4	84,113	6.3	71,081	5.5	-0.8
05-09	452	4.9	407	4.9	0.0	80,090	6.0	79,385	6.2	0.2
10-14	452	4.9	443	5.3	0.4	73,684	5.5	82,688	6.5	1.0
15-19	472	5.1	443	5.3	0.2	81,420	6.1	81,721	6.4	0.3
20-24	571	6.2	500	6.0	-0.2	92,746	6.9	75,792	5.9	-1.0
25-34	1,616	17.5	1,214	14.5	-3.0	220,125	16	161,277	12.6	-3.4
35-44	1,285	13.9	1,337	15.9	2.0	196,559	15	201,974	5.8	-9.2
45-54	819	8.9	1,162	13.9	5.0	133,938	10	181,542	14.2	4.2
55-59	378	4.1	375	4.5	0.4	64,860	4.9	63,512	5.0	0.1
60-64	566	6.1	306	3.6	-2.5	76,963	5.8	4,278	4.2	-1.6
65-74	1,289	13.9	735	8.8	-5.1	137,054	10	112,549	8.8	-1.2
75-84	700	7.6	748	8.9	1.63	74,238	6.0	87,724	6.8	0.8
85+	151	1.6	204	2.4	0.8	20,619	1.5	28,143	2.2	0.7
Total	9,278	100	8,389	100		1,336,449	100	1,281,666	100	

Economics

Income and Education

The U.S. Census Bureau records income in two categories. Household income is defined as the yearly earnings of a group of unrelated people or one person living alone. Family income comprises a group of two or more people residing together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption. As more residents obtain diplomas and degrees, their income earning potential improves, creating a direct positive correlation between the two. Table 2-3 shows that educational attainment in Carnegie increased in every category, except for high school graduate category which declined 4.9 percent since 1980. Year 2000 data indicates that 22.1 percent of Carnegie's population had attained a Bachelor's degree or higher compared to 39.3 percent in Allegheny County as a whole.

Consistent with educational attainment increases, the data indicates that the median family income in Carnegie also has risen over the past twenty years at rate similar to Allegheny County, even though it remains approximately 16% below that of the Allegheny County as a whole. In terms of median household income in Carnegie was \$32,589, compared to Pennsylvania median household income of \$40,106.

In terms of the poverty, 9.7% of families in Carnegie fall below the level, which is higher than the 7.8 percent level in Pennsylvania and higher than the national level of 9.2 percent.

**TABLE 2-3
INCOME AND EDUCATION, 1980-2000**

Income and Education	Borough of Carnegie	Allegheny County
1980		
Median Household Income	\$15,213	\$17,944
Median Family Income	\$19,298	\$21,643
NO DEGREE	39.7%	31.0%
High School Graduate	41.5%	40.4%
Some higher education	9.2%	12.1%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	9.5%	16.5%
Graduate or Professional Degree	N/a	n/a
1990		
Median Household Income	\$21,684	\$28,136
Median Family Income	\$30,774	\$35,338
NO DEGREE	26.6%	35.7%
High School Graduate	39.2%	36.0%
Some higher education	19.4%	15.0%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	14.8%	23.0%
Graduate or Professional Degree	4.4%	9.0%
2000		
Median Household Income	\$32,589	\$38,329
Median Family Income	\$41,371	\$49,815
NO DEGREE	18.2%	30.7%
High School Graduate	36.6%	33.9%
Some higher education	27.7%	52.4%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	17.4%	28.3%
Graduate or Professional Degree	4.7%	11.0%
Percent Change from 1980-2000		
Median Household Income	53.3%	53.2%
Median Family Income	53.4%	56.6%
NO DEGREE	-21.5%	-0.3%
High School Graduate	-4.9%	-6.5%
Some higher education	18.5%	40.3%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	7.8%	11.8%
Graduate or Professional Degree	n/a	n/a

Employment

Based upon the analysis of Table 2-4, several employment characteristics are evident. In 2000, the percent of Carnegie Borough's population that is in the labor force increased by 7.3% from 1980, even though the employable age group, i.e., persons 16 years old and over decreased by 20.1% in Carnegie. On the critical indicator of employment, it is

significant to note that the unemployment rate in Carnegie has –over the past twenty years – remained somewhat low at an average of 3.2 percent which was comparable to the County as a whole. What these employment statistics do not know show, however, are those who have “dropped out” of the labor market and who are no longer actively seeking employment.

**TABLE 2-4
EMPLOYMENT, 1980-2000**

	Borough of Carnegie		Allegheny County	
	No. of Persons	%	No. of Persons	%
1980				
Persons 16 years and Over	8,313	100.0%	1,155,409	100.0%
In labor Force	4,774	57.4%	665,467	57.6%
Civilian Labor Force	4,762	57.3%	664,678	57.5%
Employed	4,470	53.8%	617,018	53.4%
Unemployed	292	3.5%	47,660	4.1%
Armed Forces	12	0.1%	789	0.0%
Not in Labor Force	3,539	42.6%	489,942	42.4%
1990				
Persons 16 years and Over	7,730	100.0%	1,084,508	100.0%
In labor Force	4,456	57.6%	647,028	59.7%
Civilian Labor Force	4,452	57.6%	645,399	59.5%
Employed	4,206	54.4%	604,923	55.8%
Unemployed	246	3.2%	40,476	3.7%
Armed Forces	4	0.1%	1,629	0.2%
Not in Labor Force	3,274	42.4%	437,480	40.3%
2000				
Persons 16 years and Over	6,920	100.0%	1,032,364	100.0%
In labor Force	4,475	64.7%	630,964	61.1%
Civilian Labor Force	4,469	64.6%	630,293	61.1%
Employed	4,170	60.3%	591,905	57.3%
Unemployed	299	4.3%	38,388	3.7%
Armed Forces	6	0.1%	671	0.1%
Not in Labor Force	2,445	35.3%	401,400	38.9%
Percent Change from 1980-2000				
Persons 16 years and Over	-20.1%	n/a	-11.9%	n/a
In labor Force	7.3%	n/a	3.6%	n/a
Civilian Labor Force	7.3%	n/a	3.6%	n/a
Employed	6.5%	n/a	3.9%	n/a
Unemployed	0.8%	n/a	-0.4%	n/a
Armed Forces	0.0%	n/a	0.1%	n/a
Not in Labor Force	-7.3%	n/a	-3.5%	n/a

Housing and Real Estate

Not unlike many older urban areas, the proportion of housing 30 years or older (68.8%) in Carnegie is high, indicating that there has been relatively little new housing built in the last ten years (See figure 2-2 – Age of Structure, 1990 and 2000). The data further suggest that the level of occupancy of existing housing has remained constant at around 94% over the past two decades, which is indicative of what might be considered a “good” housing market. What is not known, however, is the quality of the occupied housing units. It is also significant to note that over the past decade, the number of units valued at over \$100,000 has increased by 14.2%; a characteristic that might reflect the general increasing value of housing in the area (See figure 2-3 – Value of Structure, 1990 and 2000). While the exact level of affordability of rental housing cannot be fully determined, the data suggest that approximately 34.2% of the families spend 30 percent (the generally accepted threshold of affordability) or more their household income for rent.

Figure 2-2 - AGE OF STRUCTURE, 1990 AND 2000

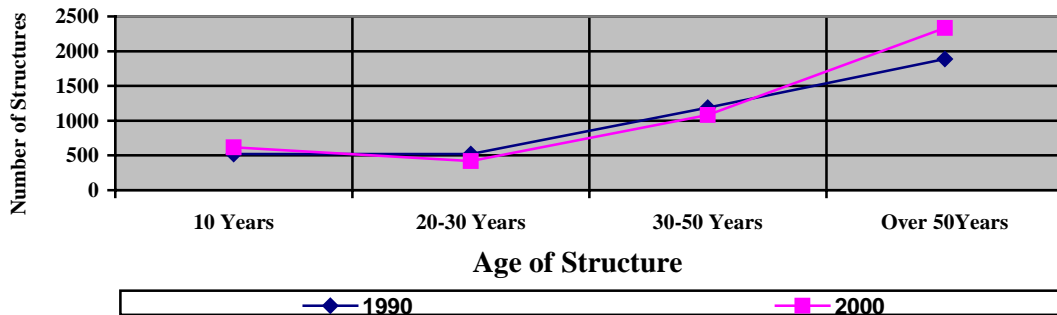


Figure 2-3 - VALUE OF STRUCTURE, 1990 AND 2000

