



Although this was originally a port of entry for Irish and German immigrants in the 1800s, it wasn't until the second wave of immigrants, a majority of them Czech, that Pilsen received its name. These new residents named the neighborhood after Plzen, one of the largest cities in the modern-day Czech Republic, and from the "neo-bohemian baroque style architecture" to the numerous ornate and fascinating churches, they immediately began putting their "Old World" stamp on the area.

Pilsen remained a predominantly Eastern European neighborhood until 1960s, when, displaced by the construction of the University of Illinois at Chicago campus, a "sizeable Mexican population drifted south to the neighborhood." Mexican-Americans have dominated the area since this time, and the neighborhood, with its countless number of Mexican restaurants, grocers, bakeries, and shops, as well as the National Museum of Mexican Art, has grown into one Chicago's centers of Mexican culture.

Population Demographics

- **Total Population: 32,789**
- **Median Age: 32.5**
- **Black: 3.5%**
- **Hispanic or Latinx: 74.0%**
- **Asian: 3.3%**
- **White: 18.0%**

Economic Profile

- **Owner Occupied: 37.2%**
- **Renter Occupied: 62.8%**
- **Median Household Income: \$35,179**

Education Statistics

- **No Highschool: 16.8%**
- **Highschool: 23.0%**
- **Associate's Degree: 5.3%**
- **Bachelor's Degree: 20.4%**
- **Graduate Degree: 10.9%**

THALIA HALL

Housed in a historic bohemian public hall dating back to 1892, Thalia Hall reopened in 2014 as a music venue with the help of the team behind local rock club the Empty Bottle.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART

One of the largest Latino cultural orgs in the U.S., where Mexican artists from both sides of the border are represented throughout a series of galleries..

16 STREET MURAL

Stretching from the Chicago River to Western Avenue, the walls host a vibrant and evolving outdoor gallery of murals by prominent artists.