

28.—The Forty Leading Industries Employing the Greatest Numbers of Female Wage-Earners, Ranked According to the Average Annual, Weekly and Hourly Earnings, 1943.

NOTE.—For the rank of these industries as regards the annual employment of female wage-earners, see Table 22.

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Hourly Earnings		Average Annual Earnings		Average Hours Worked per Week
	Amount	Rank	Amount	Rank	Amount	Rank	
	\$		Cents		\$		
1 Aircraft.....	32.04	1	65.4	2	1,587	2	49.0
2 Shipbuilding and repairs.....	31.59	2	70.5	1	1,598	1	44.8
3 Miscellaneous iron and steel products.....	27.83	3	58.8	4	1,460	3	47.3
4 Scientific and professional equipment.....	27.47	4	59.1	3	1,330	4	46.5
5 Brass and copper products.....	26.34	5	55.5	5	1,318	5	47.5
6 Agricultural implements.....	26.06	6	54.6	6	1,281	6	47.7
7 Automobile supplies.....	24.67	7	53.9	7	1,230	7	45.8
8 Machinery.....	22.15	8	46.4	9	1,132	8	47.7
9 Electrical apparatus and supplies.....	21.63	9	46.2	10	1,089	9	47.0
10 Hardware and tools.....	21.40	10	45.4	14	1,080	11	47.1
11 Slaughtering and meat packing.....	21.07	11	46.6	8	1,071	12	45.2
12 Fur goods.....	20.27	12	45.8	12	979	15	44.3
13 Sheet metal products.....	20.24	13	45.5	13	1,026	14	44.5
14 Miscellaneous chemical products.....	19.72	14	41.9	18	1,069	13	47.1
15 Rubber goods, including rubber footwear.....	19.66	15	45.9	11	1,081	10	42.8
16 Furniture.....	18.55	16	42.4	17	902	17	43.7
17 Clothing, women's factory.....	18.04	17	43.3	15	863	21	41.7
18 Glass products.....	17.91	18	40.5	19	929	16	44.2
19 Hats and caps.....	17.62	19	42.5	16	852	22	41.5
20 Woollen cloth.....	17.56	20	37.1	23	898	18	47.3
21 Cotton yarn and cloth.....	17.34	21	35.8	25	897	19	48.4
22 Clothing, men's factory.....	17.03	22	39.1	20	840	24	43.6
23 Narrow fabrics, laces, etc.....	16.65	23	37.5	22	864	20	44.4
24 Hosiery and knitted goods.....	15.88	24	35.3	27	764	29	45.0
25 Medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations.....	15.67	25	38.2	21	852	23	41.0
26 Silk and artificial silk.....	16.26	26	33.3	33	794	27	45.8
27 Woollen yarn.....	15.25	27	33.8	32	803	26	45.1
28 Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes.....	15.25	28	36.5	24	807	25	41.8
29 Miscellaneous paper products.....	15.19	29	35.4	26	785	28	42.9
30 Boots and shoes, leather.....	15.04	30	33.2	35	719	32	45.3
31 Miscellaneous leather goods.....	14.80	31	34.8	28	723	31	42.5
32 Boxes and bags, paper.....	14.75	32	34.5	29	752	30	42.8
33 Gloves and mittens, leather.....	14.50	33	33.0	36	718	33	44.0
34 Fruit and vegetable preparations.....	14.27	34	32.7	37	710	36	43.6
35 Printing and bookbinding.....	14.20	35	34.4	30	715	34	41.3
36 Miscellaneous food products.....	14.15	36	33.3	34	700	37	42.5
37 Printing and publishing.....	13.90	37	34.1	31	711	35	40.8
38 Corsets.....	13.46	38	30.0	40	681	40	44.9
39 Bread and other bakery products.....	13.23	39	30.3	39	687	39	43.6
40 Biscuits, confectionery, cocoa, etc.....	13.14	40	32.0	38	690	38	41.0
Averages, Forty Leading Industries.....	19.50		43.2	-	993	-	45.1
Averages, All Industries¹.....	19.33		43.1	-	987	-	44.8

¹ Exclusive of "butter and cheese" and "fish-curing and -packing" plants.

Real Earnings of Employees in Recent Years.—When the index number representing the average yearly wages is divided by the index number of the cost of living, on the same base, a measure of "real" wages is obtained. Index numbers for 1931 to 1943 are given in Table 29. In 1933, the height of the depression, real wages were 88.3 on the 1935-39 base. From then on they rose steadily and stood at 139.0 in 1943, an increase of about 57 p.c