

**26.—Average Annual, Weekly and Hourly Earnings of All Wage-Earners in the Manufacturing Industries, by Industrial Groups, 1946**

Industrial Group	Average Annual Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Hours Worked per Week
	\$	\$	cents	No.
Vegetable products.....	1,359	29.34	65.9	44.0
Animal products.....	1,371	28.97	66.2	43.4
Textiles and textile products.....	1,212	24.73	58.6	42.2
Wood and paper products.....	1,543	33.68	74.8	44.8
Iron and its products.....	1,803	38.11	87.2	43.7
Non-ferrous metal products.....	1,618	35.51	80.7	44.0
Non-metallic mineral products.....	1,654	33.84	75.5	44.7
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,563	32.46	73.1	44.4
Miscellaneous industries.....	1,295	26.69	62.0	42.8

**Real Earnings of Employees.**—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 1937 to 1946 are given in Table 27. In 1933, the lowest point of the depression, real wages were 88.3 on the 1935-39 base. From then they rose steadily and stood at 141.1 in 1944, an increase of about 60 p.c. In 1946 real wages dropped to 131.6.

**27.—Average Yearly Earnings and Index Numbers of Earnings, Cost of Living and Real Wages of Wage-Earners in Manufacturing Industries, 1937-46**

NOTE.—Figures for 1931-36 are given at p. 581 of the 1948-49 Year Book.

Year	Wages Paid	Average Wage-Earners	Average Yearly Earnings	Index Numbers (1935-39=100)		
				Average Yearly Earnings	Cost of Living	Real Value of Average Yearly Earnings
	\$	No.	\$			
1937.....	525,743,562	544,624	965	103.5	101.2	102.3
1938.....	498,282,208	521,427	956	102.6	102.2	100.4
1939.....	519,971,819	533,342	975	104.6	101.5	103.1
1940.....	679,273,104	626,484	1,084	116.3	105.6	110.1
1941.....	978,525,782	802,234	1,220	130.9	111.7	117.2
1942.....	1,347,934,049	974,904	1,383	148.4	117.0	126.8
1943.....	1,598,434,879	1,047,873	1,525	163.6	118.4	138.2
1944.....	1,611,555,776	1,030,324	1,564	167.8	118.9	141.1
1945.....	1,427,915,830	928,665	1,538	165.0	119.5	138.1
1946.....	1,329,811,478	877,150	1,516	162.7	123.6	131.6

**Percentages of Salaries and Wages to Net Value of Products.**—Table 28 shows the relation between salaries and wages paid by manufacturers and the total net value of production. Figures of gross production are often used in such calculations, but the values out of which the wages of employees must come in the long run are the values added to the raw materials while they are in the factory. Such added values constitute the real production of the manufacturing plant and are alone available for payment of salaries and wages, interest, rent, taxes, repairs, and all other overhead charges that ordinarily must be met. The percentage declined steadily with the increasing manufacturing production from 1924 to 1929, while from 1931 to 1935 and again in 1938 and 1939, due to decreased industrial activity, the percentage of salaries to value added was above normal. It should be borne in mind, however, that salaried employees increased 159 p.c. during the period 1924-46