

Subsection 2.—Hours and Earnings of Hourly Rated Wage-Earners

Toward the end of 1944, the monthly survey of employment and payrolls was extended to cover statistics of hours of work and paid absence of those wage-earners for whom records of hours are maintained, together with the corresponding totals of gross wages paid. These wage-earners are mainly hourly rated production workers; information on hours is frequently not kept by employers for ancillary workers, nor in many industries and establishments, for any wage-earners. Salaried employees are excluded by definition from the series. As a result of these exclusions, data are available for fewer industries and workers than are covered in the employment and average weekly wage and salary statistics.

In the 18 years of the record, average hours have fallen in nearly all the industries and areas covered by the survey, reflecting widespread reductions in the standard work week and in the overtime work that was still prevalent in many industries in the final year of the War. The smallest decline in hours since 1945 (less than 1 p.c.) has taken place in building and structures; this group had been severely affected by wartime shortages of labour and materials and during the War generally curtailed operations. The 18-year decrease in hours of work in manufacturing approximated 8 p.c.

During this period, average hourly and weekly wages have risen substantially. Upward wage-rate revisions have been the main cause of these advances, but other factors have contributed. Important among these, especially in the earlier postwar years, were progressive increases in cost-of-living allowances, now largely absorbed in wage rates. Technological changes, frequently involving the employment of more highly skilled workers at the expense of lower paid jobs, have also tended to raise wage levels, as has the relatively greater expansion over the years in industries in which pay rates usually exceed the general level. From 1945 to 1962, average weekly wages rose 151 p.c. in manufacturing, 138 p.c. in mining and 191 p.c. in construction. Average hourly earnings increased 172 p.c. in manufacturing, 156 p.c. in mining and 178 p.c. in construction. In manufacturing the 1962 average hourly earnings stood at \$1.88, 2.7 p.c. above the 1961 average, while the average weekly wage at \$76.55 was 3.1 p.c. higher than in 1961. This difference in percentage changes was attributable mainly to a slight increase in average weekly hours in durable goods manufacturing in 1962.

12.—Annual Average Weekly Hours and Earnings of Hourly Rated Wage-Earners in Specified Industries, 1945-62 and Monthly Averages 1962

Year	All Manufactures			Mining			Building and Structures		
	Average Weekly Hours	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Wages	Average Weekly Hours	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Wages	Average Weekly Hours	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Wages
	No.	\$	\$	No.	\$	\$	No.	\$	\$
Averages—									
1945.....	44.1	0.69	30.47	43.9	0.85	38.40	40.2	0.81	32.60
1949.....	42.2	0.99	41.74	42.7	1.18	50.22	40.0	1.08	43.28
1950.....	42.3	1.04	44.03	43.0	1.22	52.46	39.5	1.14	45.07
1953.....	41.3	1.36	56.25	42.6	1.54	65.69	40.7	1.58	64.31
1954.....	40.7	1.41	57.43	42.6	1.58	67.14	39.9	1.61	64.08
1955.....	41.0	1.45	59.45	43.2	1.61	69.68	39.5	1.63	64.46
1956.....	41.0	1.52	62.40	42.8	1.73	73.92	41.0	1.77	72.73
1957.....	40.4	1.61	64.96	42.3	1.88	79.35	41.3	1.90	78.47
1958.....	40.2	1.66	66.77	41.5	1.96	81.30	40.5	1.94	78.37
1959.....	40.7	1.72	70.16	41.5	2.04	84.80	39.6	2.01	79.59
1960.....	40.4	1.78	71.96	41.7	2.09	87.26	40.1	2.12	84.85
1961.....	40.6	1.83	74.27	41.8	2.13	89.08	39.9	2.17	86.39
1962.....	40.7	1.88	76.55	41.7	2.18	91.22	39.7	2.25	89.37