

TABLE D-24.—Average gross hourly earnings in selected industries, 1929–59

Period	Manufacturing			Bituminous coal mining	Building construction	Class I railroads	Telephone ²	Wholesale trade	Retail trade (except eating and drinking places)	Laundries	Agriculture ³
	Total	Durable goods	Non-durable goods								
1929.....	\$0.566	(⁴)	(⁴)	\$0.681	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	\$0.241
1930.....	.552	(⁴)	(⁴)	.684	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	.226
1931.....	.515	(⁴)	(⁴)	.647	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	.172
1932.....	.446	\$0.497	\$0.420	.520	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	.129
1933.....	.442	.472	.427	.501	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	.115
1934.....	.532	.556	.515	.673	\$0.795	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	\$0.378	.129
1935.....	.550	.577	.530	.745	.815	(⁴)	(⁴)	\$0.648	(⁴)	.376	.142
1936.....	.556	.586	.529	.794	.824	(⁴)	(⁴)	.667	(⁴)	.378	.152
1937.....	.624	.674	.577	.856	.903	(⁴)	\$0.774	.698	(⁴)	.395	.172
1938.....	.627	.686	.584	.878	.908	(⁴)	.816	\$.700	(⁴)	.414	.166
1939.....	.633	.698	.582	.886	.932	\$0.730	.822	.715	\$0.542	.422	.166
1940.....	.661	.724	.602	.883	.958	.733	.827	.739	.553	.429	.169
1941.....	.729	.808	.640	.993	1.010	.743	.820	.793	.580	.444	.206
1942.....	.853	.947	.723	1.059	1.148	.837	.843	.860	.626	.482	.268
1943.....	.961	1.059	.803	1.139	1.252	.852	.870	.933	.679	.538	.353
1944.....	1.019	1.117	.861	1.186	1.319	.948	.911	.985	.731	.605	.423
1945.....	1.023	1.111	.904	1.240	1.379	.955	\$.962	1.029	.783	.648	.472
1946.....	1.086	1.156	1.015	1.401	1.478	1.087	1.124	1.150	.893	.704	.515
1947.....	1.237	1.292	1.171	1.636	1.681	1.186	1.197	1.268	1.009	.767	.547
1948.....	1.350	1.410	1.278	1.898	\$ 1.848	1.301	1.248	1.359	1.088	.817	.580
1949.....	1.401	1.469	1.325	1.941	1.935	1.427	1.345	1.414	1.137	.843	.559
1950.....	1.465	1.537	1.378	2.010	2.031	1.572	1.398	1.483	1.176	.861	.561
1951.....	1.59	1.67	1.48	2.21	2.19	1.73	1.49	1.58	1.26	.92	.625
1952.....	1.67	1.77	1.64	2.29	2.31	1.83	1.59	1.67	1.32	.94	.661
1953.....	1.77	1.87	1.61	2.48	2.48	1.88	1.68	1.77	1.40	.98	.672
1954.....	1.81	1.92	1.66	2.48	2.60	1.93	1.76	1.83	1.45	1.00	.661
1955.....	1.88	2.01	1.71	2.56	2.66	1.96	1.82	1.90	1.50	1.01	.675
1956.....	1.98	2.10	1.80	2.81	2.80	2.12	1.86	2.01	1.57	1.05	.705
1957.....	2.07	2.20	1.88	3.02	2.96	2.26	1.95	2.10	1.64	1.09	.728
1958.....	2.13	2.28	1.94	3.02	3.10	2.44	2.05	2.17	1.70	1.13	.757
1959 ⁷	2.22	2.38	2.01	3.24	3.21	2.54	2.17	2.24	1.76	1.17	.798
1958: January.....	2.11	2.24	1.92	3.04	3.07	2.38	2.01	2.13	1.68	1.12	.804
February.....	2.10	2.24	1.92	3.04	3.08	2.44	2.01	2.15	1.68	1.12	-----
March.....	2.11	2.25	1.93	3.04	3.06	2.40	2.02	2.15	1.67	1.12	-----
April.....	2.11	2.25	1.94	3.02	3.06	2.39	2.03	2.15	1.68	1.13	.657
May.....	2.12	2.26	1.94	3.00	3.06	2.43	2.04	2.16	1.69	1.13	-----
June.....	2.12	2.27	1.94	3.02	3.06	2.45	2.05	2.18	1.70	1.14	-----
July.....	2.13	2.28	1.94	3.02	3.09	2.43	2.06	2.19	1.71	1.14	.728
August.....	2.13	2.29	1.93	3.00	3.09	2.45	2.07	2.18	1.71	1.14	-----
September.....	2.14	2.30	1.95	3.01	3.13	2.45	2.08	2.20	1.71	1.14	-----
October.....	2.14	2.29	1.95	3.01	3.13	2.43	2.09	2.18	1.71	1.14	.795
November.....	2.17	2.34	1.96	3.04	3.14	2.56	2.09	2.20	1.71	1.14	-----
December.....	2.19	2.36	1.97	3.04	3.19	2.52	2.10	2.19	1.68	1.14	-----
1959: January.....	2.19	2.35	1.98	3.16	3.19	2.54	2.11	2.20	1.74	1.15	.865
February.....	2.20	2.36	1.98	3.17	3.18	2.58	2.12	2.20	1.74	1.15	-----
March.....	2.22	2.38	2.00	3.19	3.17	2.53	2.13	2.22	1.74	1.16	-----
April.....	2.23	2.39	2.00	3.26	3.17	2.52	2.15	2.23	1.75	1.16	.718
May.....	2.23	2.40	2.00	3.27	3.17	2.54	2.17	2.24	1.76	1.17	-----
June.....	2.24	2.40	2.00	3.26	3.17	2.53	2.18	2.25	1.77	1.17	-----
July.....	2.23	2.39	2.01	3.23	3.20	2.52	2.19	2.26	1.77	1.17	.796
August.....	2.19	2.35	2.00	3.29	3.23	2.54	2.19	2.26	1.77	1.17	-----
September.....	2.22	2.37	2.03	3.29	3.26	2.54	2.20	2.27	1.78	1.18	-----
October.....	2.21	2.36	2.02	3.26	3.27	2.54	2.22	2.26	1.78	1.18	.806
November ⁷	2.23	2.38	2.03	3.29	3.28	(⁴)	2.21	2.27	1.77	1.18	-----
December ⁷	2.26	2.42	2.04	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)

¹ Averages are based upon monthly data (exclusive of switching and terminal companies) summarized in the M-300 report by the ICC and relate to all employees who received pay during the month, except executives, officials, and staff assistants (ICC group I). Beginning September 1949, data reflect a wage rate increase and reduction in the basic workweek from 48 to 40 hours.

² Prior to April 1945, data relate to all employees except executives; from April 1945 to May 1949, mainly to employees subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act; and beginning June 1949, to nonsupervisory employees only.

³ Weighted average of all farm wage rates on a per hour basis.

⁴ Not available.

⁵ Data beginning with January of year noted are not comparable with those for earlier periods.

⁶ Nine-month average, April through December, because of new series started in April 1945.

⁷ Preliminary.

NOTE.—Data are for production workers in manufacturing and mining, construction workers in building construction, and for all nonsupervisory employees in other industries (except as noted). Data are for pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month.

The annual figures for 1959 are simple arithmetic averages of the monthly figures shown and are not strictly comparable with the averages for earlier years, which have been weighted by data on man-hours.

Sources: Department of Labor and Department of Agriculture.