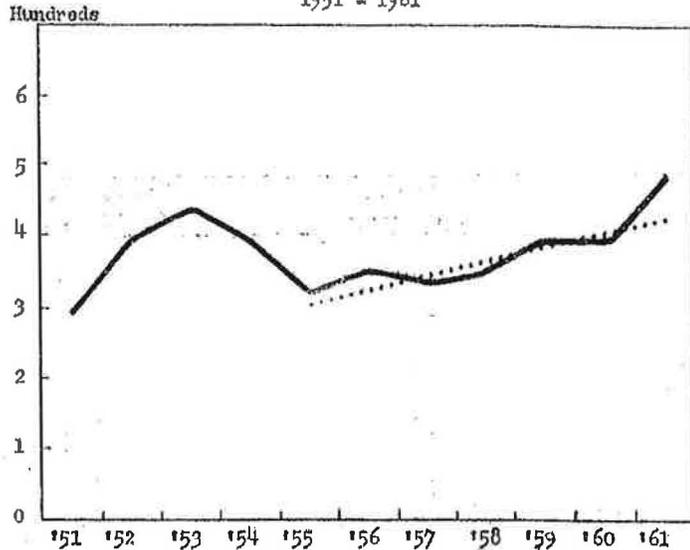


SPECIAL STUDY

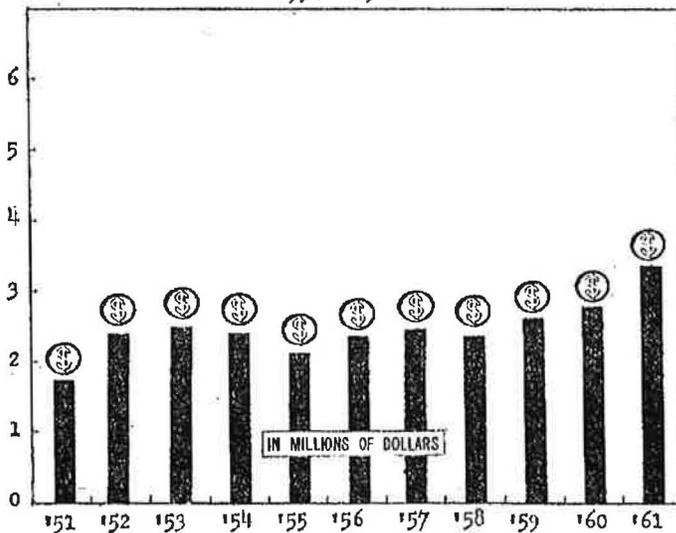
Building Materials and Home Furnishings

**Employment:** In the twelve-month period ending December 1961 the average monthly insured employment of establishments selling building materials, hardware, furniture and home furnishings was 472 jobs. This industry, with 136 employees in 1942, the earliest year for which data are available, tripled its employment by 1948, a peak year in which 413 persons were working. The next year employment dropped to 229, but rose to a new peak of 425 in 1953 with the stimulation of business activity associated with the Korean conflict. This level was not reached again until 1961. A straight line fitted to post-Korean War historical data, 1955-1961, describes an average yearly increase of 19 employees in the building supplies and furnishings industry.

AVERAGE STATE INSURED EMPLOYMENT FOR BUILDING MATERIALS, HARDWARE, FURNITURE, & HOME FURNISHINGS ESTABLISHMENTS. 1951 - 1961



YEARLY PAYROLL FOR STATE INSURED EMPLOYMENT FOR BUILDING MATERIALS, HARDWARE, FURNITURE, AND HOME FURNISHINGS ESTABLISHMENTS 1951 - 1961



**Payrolls:** Payrolls in industries selling building materials and home furnishings amounted to \$3.4 million in 1961, a peak for the industry. Total yearly earnings have increased quite steadily since 1942 with two notable jumps, one from 1951 to 1952 due to the Korean War construction activity, and the other from 1960 to 1961. The 1961 average monthly income was \$596, a \$2 drop from the previous year. Monthly wages increased from \$153 per month in 1942 to \$620 in 1957, a peak which has not again been reached.

AVERAGE INSURED EMPLOYMENT, YEARLY PAYROLLS, AND  
 AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME FOR BUILDING MATERIALS, HARDWARE, FURNITURE  
 AND HOME FURNISHINGS  
 1942 - 1961

Year	Average Employment	Yearly Payroll (Millions of \$)	Average Monthly Income (\$)
1961	472	3.4	596
1960	382	2.7	598
1959	380	2.6	577
1958	350	2.4	568
1957	331	2.5	620
1956	356	2.4	555
1955	326	2.2	564
1954	393	2.4	504
1953	425	2.5	488
1952	387	2.4	510
1951	296	1.7	483
1950	349	1.7	412
1949	229	1.1	392
1948	413	1.6	327
1947	383	1.4	311
1946	257	.9	279
1945	263	.7	220
1944	197	.4	232
1943	128	.3	200
1942	136	.2	153