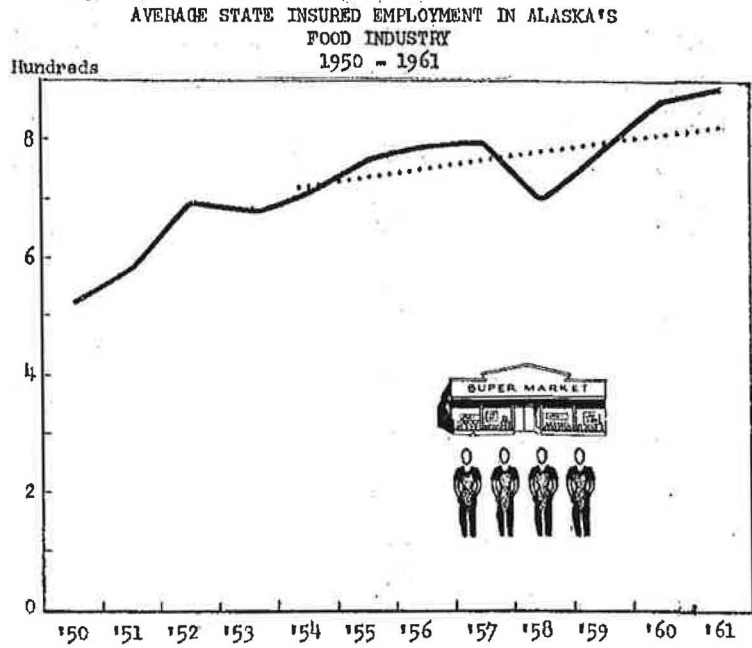


age weekly hours, while that in wholesale trade was caused by a sizeable drop in the length of workweeks and occurred in spite of a rise in hourly earnings. Although hours in the workweek were lower this year than last in retail trade, hourly earnings were enough higher to effect an increase in weekly earnings. This was also the situation in manufacturing industries.

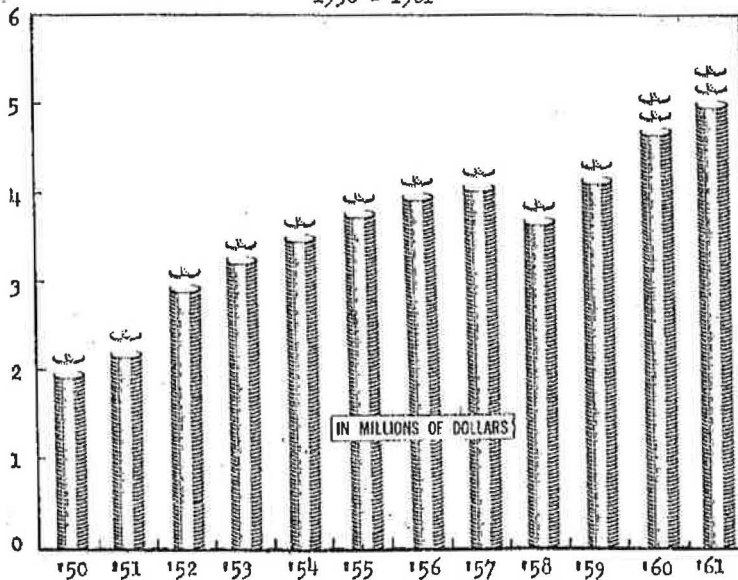
SPECIAL STUDY

Retail Food Industry

Employment: In the 12 month period ending December 1961, average monthly insured employment in Alaska retail food distribution establishment was 883 jobs. This is a new peak for this industry which has had consistent growth from one year to the next since 1950 with the exception of two years, 1953 and 1958. Generally employment has moved in conformity with cyclical movements in the rest of the economy. From a straight line fitted to the post Korean War historical data, 1954-1960, it was estimated that there has been an average increase of 15 jobs per year. Employment in the industry is expected to advance step by step with population expansion. However, there may be economies to scale as a result of the change from small retail units to supermarkets which may cause employment to increase at a slightly lower rate than population.



YEARLY PAYROLL FOR STATE INSURED EMPLOYMENT IN ALASKA'S FOOD INDUSTRY 1950 - 1961



Payrolls: Total 1961 payrolls of food store establishments were \$5.4 million, which is an average of nearly one-half million per month and a new high for total payrolls. Payrolls have tended to rise steadily since 1950 with the largest year-to-year increase occurring from 1959 to 1960 when they rose from \$4.4 million to \$5.2 million. Reflecting recession conditions 1958 was the only year that total payrolls did not either stay the same or advance from one year to the next. In 1961 the average monthly wage of workers in the industry was \$512 per month, an increase of \$15 per month, and higher than it had been in any prior year.

AVERAGE INSURED EMPLOYMENT, YEARLY PAYROLL, AND  
AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME IN ALASKA'S RETAIL FOOD INDUSTRY  
1938 - 1961

Year	Average Employment	Yearly Payroll (Millions of \$)	Average Monthly Income (\$)
1961	883	5.4	512
1960	869	5.2	497
1959	780	4.4	472
1958	698	3.8	459
1957	791	4.4	460
1956	789	4.3	452
1955	768	4.0	437
1954	708	3.7	441
1953	686	3.5	426
1952	693	3.2	382
1951	585	2.5	356
1950	522	2.2	342
1949	484	1.9	326
1948	458	1.6	287
1947	435	1.4	260
1946	392	1.1	238
1945	281	.7	209
1944	163	.3	145
1943	168	.3	139
1942	160	.3	143
1941	162	.2	120
1940	135	.2	105
1939	103	.1	104
1938	116	.1	109