

responsible for the increase of miners' income. Lower weekly earnings in construction, and wholesale and retail trades were principally due to a shorter work week. Also, lower hourly rates contributed to the drop in retail trade average earnings.

When compared with last year, weekly earnings in construction and retail trade were down while all other industries had increases. A shorter work week was primarily responsible for the lower pay in construction and retail trade. Higher weekly earnings in mining and wholesale trade may be attributed to longer hours this year which more than offset a drop in average hourly wages. An increase of average hourly earnings in logging-lumber-pulp and food processing caused the higher weekly income in those industries this year.

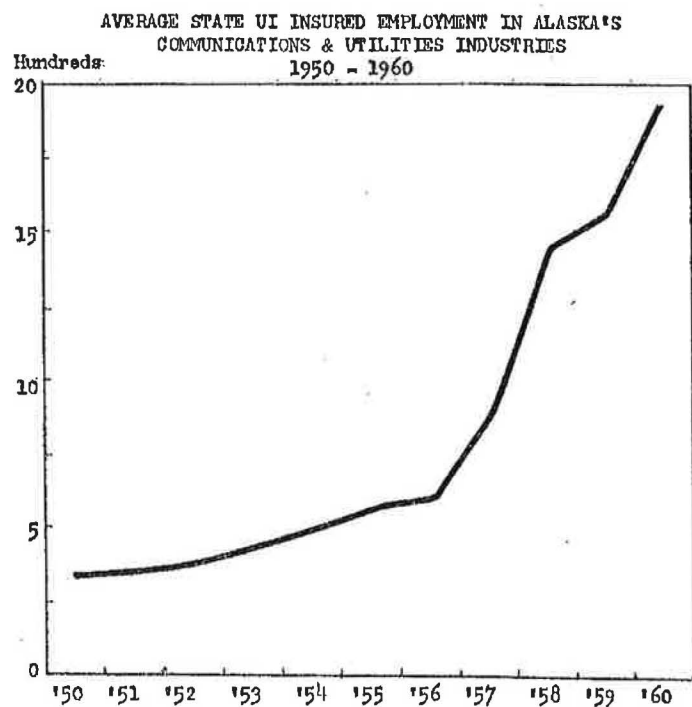
SPECIAL STUDY

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC UTILITIES INDUSTRIES

Employment: During 1960 the average monthly employment in the communications and utilities industries was 1,777 jobs. This figure is up 199 from the 1959 average. From 1938, the earliest year for which data are available, there was a fairly steady growth in employment until 1956 when an upswing occurred which continued through 1960. Average employment increased 300 percent from 1956 to 1960, while in the previous five-year period, 1951-55, the rate of increase was 63 percent.

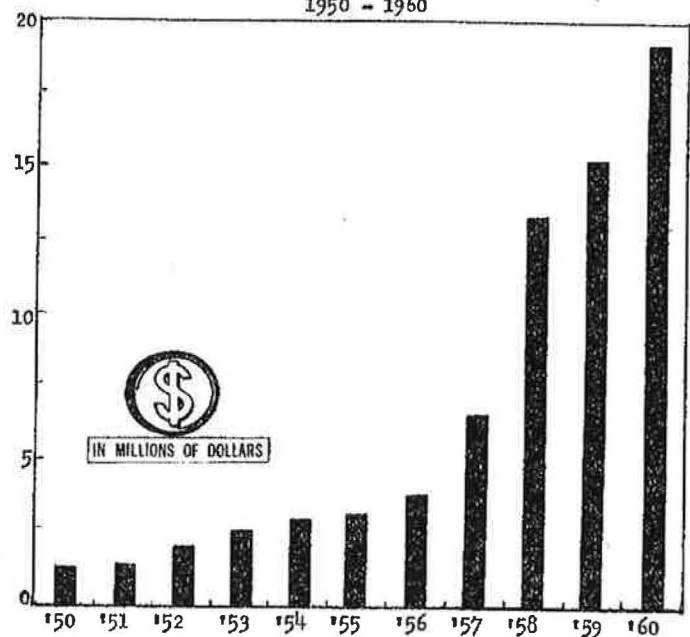
This sharp rise in employment represents the manpower effect engendered by installation of the White Alice, Dew Line, and BMEWS communications systems. Private firms operating under maintenance and operation contracts let by the Alaskan air command have been responsible for this work. The coordinated system developed includes dozens of stations and thousands of miles of network, a major portion of which use large antennas and over-the-horizon transmission. These communications projects serve the radar and ballistic missile early warning systems, and provide Alaska with voice and teletype circuits. It is unlikely that the growth in communications of the recent past will continue. Instead it is probable that the jobs will stabilize at the new level and employment advances will keep pace with the growth needs of the domestic economy.

Payrolls: The total payrolls of the communications and utilities industries of Alaska in 1960 amounted to \$19.2 million. There has been a regular increase in payroll figures from 1938 through 1956 with a sharper



Increase occurring during the years of the Korean conflict. From 1956 to 1957 the figure almost doubled in one year and more than doubled again the next year, 1957-1958. The increase from 1958 to 1959 was \$2 million, and the 1960 payroll was \$4 million greater than 1959. The average monthly income in the communications and utilities industries for 1960 was \$901, up \$101 from the previous year.

YEARLY PAYROLL FOR STATE-UI INSURED EMPLOYMENT IN ALASKA'S COMMUNICATIONS & UTILITIES INDUSTRIES 1950 - 1960



AVERAGE INSURED EMPLOYMENT, YEARLY PAYROLL, AND AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME IN ALASKA'S COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES INDUSTRIES 1938 - 1960

Year	Average Employment	Yearly Payroll (Millions of \$)	Average Monthly Income (\$)
1960	1,777	19.2	901
1959	1,578	15.2	800
1958	1,426	13.3	777
1957	844	6.6	648
1956	593	3.7	525
1955	564	3.1	450
1954	503	2.9	473
1953	431	2.5	473
1952	375	2.0	446
1951	346	1.5	362
1950	341	1.4	345
1949	301	1.2	317
1948	224	.8	303
1947	211	.7	259
1946	219	.6	229
1945	179	.4	207
1944	142	.3	195
1943	158	.3	182
1942	131	.3	171
1941	124	.3	182
1940	133	.3	159
1939	115	.2	147
1938	83	.2	147