

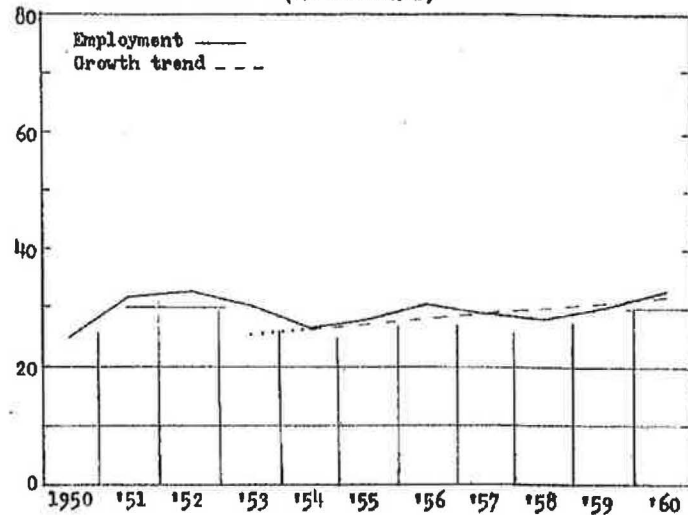
SPECIAL STUDY

State Insured Employment:

It is estimated that average monthly State Insured employment in Alaska reached a new peak in the calendar year ending December 1960. For the first time the average number of jobs exceeded 33,000. The previous high was attained in 1952 when the Korean war and good fish runs stimulated the economy to provide jobs for an average of 32,911 workers. After 1952, employment declined to a low of 27,281 jobs in 1954 from which it quickly recovered as construction activity on the early warning system and initiation of pulp production provided the impetus for boosting employment to a level of 30,493 jobs in 1956. From 1956 to 1958, a drop in expenditures for new construction in conjunction with poor fish runs and progressively lessened mining activity caused the economy and the number of jobs to decline.

The high employment level attained in 1960 was the result of relatively large expenditures for military construction and increased employment in logging, lumber and pulp stemming from the first full year of production of a new pulp mill and expanded trade in lumber. A straight line fitted to the post-Korean historical data, 1954-1960, shows that average employment in 1960 was above the growth trend described. The annual increase of insured employment growth in the Alaska economy derived from the 1954-1960 straight-line trend is 685 jobs a year.

AVERAGE MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)



State Insured Payrolls:

Preliminary estimates place average payrolls of employers subject to the State unemployment insurance laws at \$21.4 million per month in calendar year 1960. This is \$3.4 million above average monthly payrolls in 1959, and is the highest subject employer payroll level ever attained in Alaska. The previous high was a monthly average payroll of \$18.1 million in 1956. Generally, the level of payrolls has increased or declined concomitantly with the employment level. However, payrolls have had a stronger upward movement through the 1950-1960 period which reflects the increase in wage rates. In both 1956 and 1960 payrolls had relatively greater increases from the preceding year than occurred in the employment level.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PAYROLL
(in millions)

