

TABLE 28.—*Employment in unskilled service industries, 1947-58*

[In thousands]

Year	Laundries	Dryclean- ing	Hotels	Year	Laundries	Dryclean- ing	Hotels
1947.....	364.8	153.7	380.0	1954.....	331.4	162.9	494.2
1948.....	353.7	151.9	486.0	1955.....	332.1	163.4	498.7
1949.....	345.4	152.4	476.0	1956.....	332.3	165.8	515.4
1950.....	342.1	156.7	471.0	1957.....	326.3	169.8	531.0
1951.....	342.7	165.2	479.7	1958.....	312.6	167.4	511.3
1952.....	340.2	166.0	493.3	Percent change.....	-14.3	8.9	34.5
1953.....	339.2	166.2	504.3				

Source: BLS, "Employment and Earnings."

 TABLE 29.—*Average hourly earnings: Unskilled service industries, 1947-58*

Year	Manu- factur- ing	Laun- dry	Clean- ing	Hotels	Year	Manu- factur- ing	Laun- dry	Clean- ing	Hotels
1947.....	1.22	.77	.90	.66	1954.....	1.81	1.00	1.19	.96
1948.....	1.38	.82	.96	.71	1955.....	1.88	1.01	1.20	.99
1949.....	1.47	.84	.99	.74	1956.....	1.98	1.03	1.26	1.03
1950.....	1.55	.86	1.01	.77	1957.....	2.07	1.08	1.30	1.08
1951.....	1.59	.92	1.06	.82	1958.....	2.13	1.13	1.32	1.13
1952.....	1.67	.94	1.10	.87	Percent change..	74.6	46.7	46.7	71.2
1953.....	1.77	.98	1.14	.91					

Source: BLS, "Employment and Earnings."

Data on the incomes of partnerships in this group is tabulated in table 16 above. Income per partnership showed declines from levels achieved in 1953; laundry and drycleaning declined 12.8 percent, barber and beauty shops by 2.9 percent.²⁴

PART 3: CITY CROSS SECTION ANALYSIS

I. INTRODUCTION

One approach taken in this study of employment, prices, and wages in the services industries was an analysis based upon a cross section of large cities. Data were collected for a number of economic variables for the period 1951-58. Since average price data is available for most cities only after 1954, some of the analysis was limited to the 4 years, 1955-58.

The rationale upon which the cross section approach was based includes the following considerations:

1. The service sector, perhaps more than in any other sector, is local in nature and orientation. Typically, there are many small firms, often owned and operated by a single individual.

2. Wage rates are not typically set as the result of nationwide bargains between national unions and industrial associations. There are few, if any, regional or national chains, such as there are in retail groceries. Even in those trades which may have guild-type price and wage setting, there is probably little direct coordination between cities.

3. In the professional services where national associations are powerful and where entry is difficult because of training requirements and licensing laws, fee schedules are not uniform in level.

²⁴ See footnote to table 16 for sources and cautions about the data.