

For Washington, D.C., no "Surveys" have been published by BLS. The salary for the lowest civil service grade, transformed to an hourly rate was used.

When data for a year was missing, the gap was filled by interpolating between years. If more than 1 year was missing, the movement of manufacturing wages was used as a guide.

Unskilled wage data was interpolated for the following cities and years:

Baltimore: 1953-54, 1956.
 Boston: 1958.
 Cleveland: 1953, 1955, 1957.
 Detroit: 1952, 1954, 1956, 1957.
 Minneapolis: 1956.
 Portland: 1954.
 St. Louis: 1958.
 Seattle: 1952-55.

No unskilled wage data at all was available for Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Houston, Kansas City, and Scranton. These cities were removed from all analyses involving wages.

D. MANUFACTURING WAGES AND INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

Manufacturing wage rates were supplied by the BLS and are published in its regular periodical, "Employment and Earnings." The May 1954 and May 1959 editions contain annual data which covers the entire period.

Employment is reported for the major nonagricultural divisions: manufacturing, construction, trade, finance, service, government. The manufacturing wage data was not published for the following cities and years: Cincinnati, 1952; Houston, 1952-54; Washington, D.C., 1952-54; Chicago and Cleveland, 1951.

E. LABOR MARKET CONDITION

Major labor markets are classified using a system which takes into account the level of unemployment, the current labor supply and demand situation, expected short-run requirements for labor, and seasonal factors.

Over the period, the classification scale has been changed; however, since this analysis was based on cross-section data only, the noncomparability of the two scales over time is of no importance.

The labor-market condition is reported bimonthly. The Labor Department's ranking scheme was translated into numbers and the arithmetic mean of the 6 bimonthly rankings was used to represent the annual labor-market condition for each city and year.

The data may be found in the periodical "Area Labor Market Trends" (and its predecessor, "The Bimonthly Summary of Labor Market Developments in Major Areas") published by the BLS Bureau of Employment Security.

F. POPULATION

Population estimates were taken from the annual May "Survey of Buying Power" issue of *Sale Management Magazine*.

G. PRICE LEVEL

Since the Consumer Price Index is a measure of the change in prices in relation to the base period 1947-49, divergences of the index reported for individual cities can show only differential changes in prices. They do not necessarily show differences which may exist in the level of prices among the cities.

To transform the price index from a measure of change only, into a measure of price level, it is necessary to adjust the base-period level to reflect differences in cost among the cities.

In 1946, the BLS conducted a study in which the cost in each city of a standard bill of goods and services (similar in scope to the coverage of the CPI) was determined.

BLS Bulletin No. 927, "Workers' Budgets in the United States: City Families and Single Persons, 1946 and 1947," reports the results of the study. (See table 6, pp. 28-30 of the Bulletin.) The mean cost of the budget in the 20-city sample was computed. The cost of the budget in each of the cities was then converted