

OPERATION	New York State	New York City	Outside New York City
All workers.....	\$14 76	\$14 72	\$14 86
Flat work operator.....	14 25	14 32	13 99
Hand ironer.....	16 42	16 88	15 86
Press operator.....	15 73	16 29	15 44
Classifier and packer.....	15 78	17 00	15 30
Starcher.....	16 28	18 00	14 67
Collar operator.....	15 30	14 67	15 75
Forelady.....	25 20	25 79	20 50

RATES IN RELATION TO PLANT HOURS¹

Much discussion has taken place as to the possible loss in women's earnings which would follow a reduction in the number of hours which women are permitted to work by law. In the laundry industry as in the factory industries studied in 1923,² plants with shorter hours were not found to pay lower wages. Rather, shorter hours and higher wages were likely to be found together. The following comparison shows median weekly rates in laundries operating under long and short schedules (Appendix Table XII, p. 52):

New York State

\$15.42 in laundries with scheduled hours of 48 or less.

\$14.60 in laundries with scheduled hours in excess of 48

New York City

\$15.11 in laundries with scheduled hours of 48 or less

\$14.66 in laundries with scheduled hours in excess of 48

Outside New York City

\$15.77 in laundries with scheduled hours of 48 or less

\$14.42 in laundries with scheduled hours in excess of 48

EARNINGS IN ONE WEEK³

The foregoing figures represent what the worker would earn if she worked the regular plant hours. The figures considered in this section represent what the worker actually earned in the week studied. They are based, therefore, not only on earnings of women who worked their exact schedule but on earnings of women who either worked more than regular hours because of more work than plant hours could take care of, or who worked less than regular hours due to lack of work or personal reasons such as illness. They also include earnings of piece workers who are not included in a study of rates. Insofar as it was possible,

¹ See footnote 2, page 26, for number of laundries and women reporting.

² Three out of four factory industries in New York City, two out of four up-State showed earnings to be as high or higher in short hour plants. (New York State Department of Labor, Bulletin No. 121, Hours and Earnings of Women in Five Industries.)

³ Based on 64 laundries reporting earnings in one week, 34 in New York City and 30 up-State, and upon 3,216 workers, 2,212 in New York City, 1,004 up-State.