

The following charts track average hourly pay-rates for a variety of major labor categories from as early as 1913 to as late as 1950.

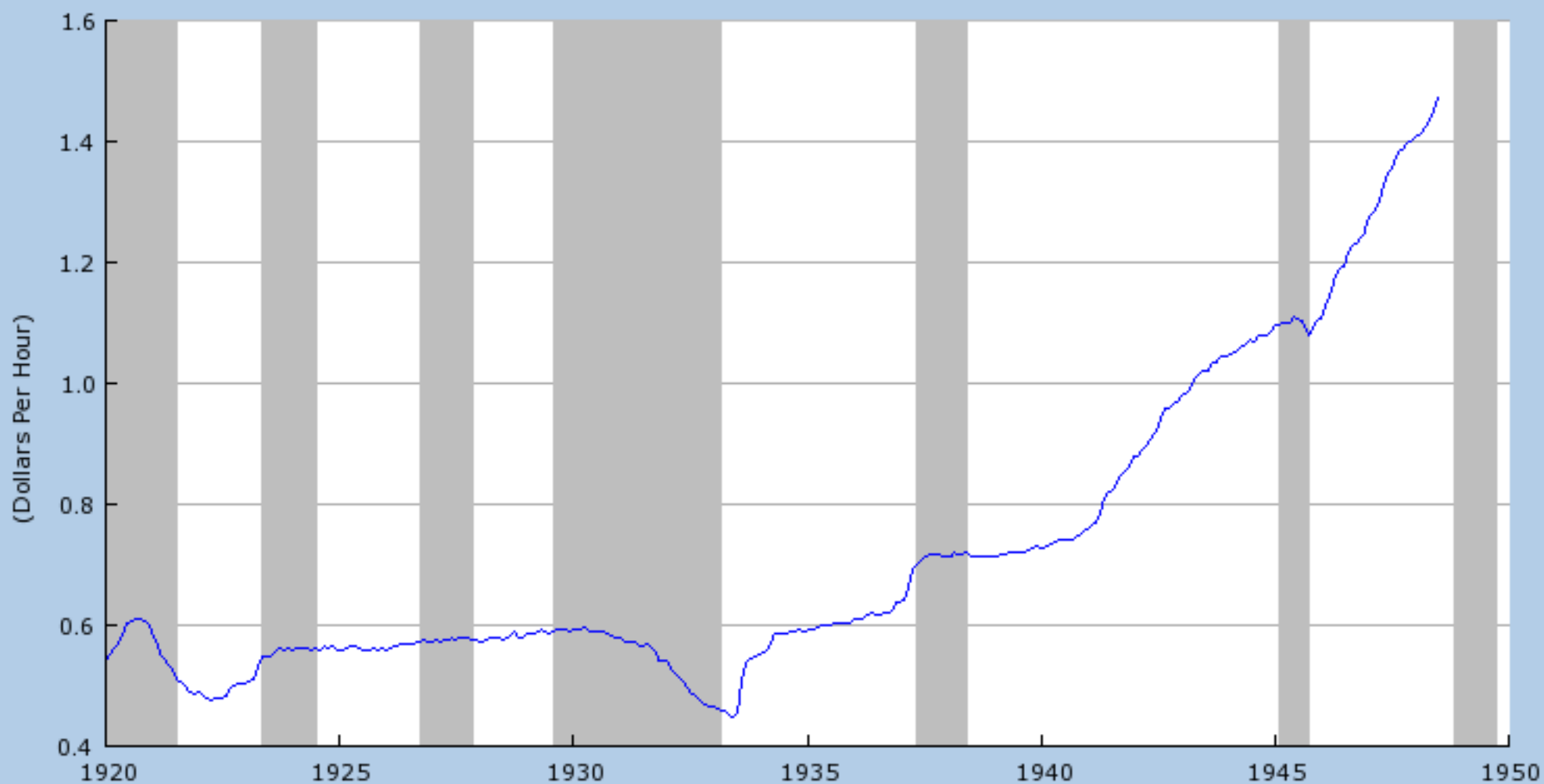
NOTE: The reported pay-rates are tracked in contemporaneous figures, and not corrected to any constant. That is, where average automobile manufacturing workers are shown at an average of 72 or 73 cents per hour in 1920, that is the literal pay rate at the time: 72 or 73 cents per hour (keep in mind that the further back you go, the more buying power a penny had...).

NOTE II: Based on a 40-hour work week (actually a shorter work-week than was the norm until the late 1930s) and only a fifty-paid-week year, a pay-rate of 50 cents per hour yielded annual earnings of \$1,000-- the exemption amount for a single American from 1917 through 1924, and from 1932 through 1939.

A pay-rate of 75 cents per hour yielded annual earnings of \$1,500-- the exemption amount from 1925 through 1931.

Average Hourly Earnings, Twenty-Five Manufacturing Industries for United States (M08142USM055NNBR)

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research

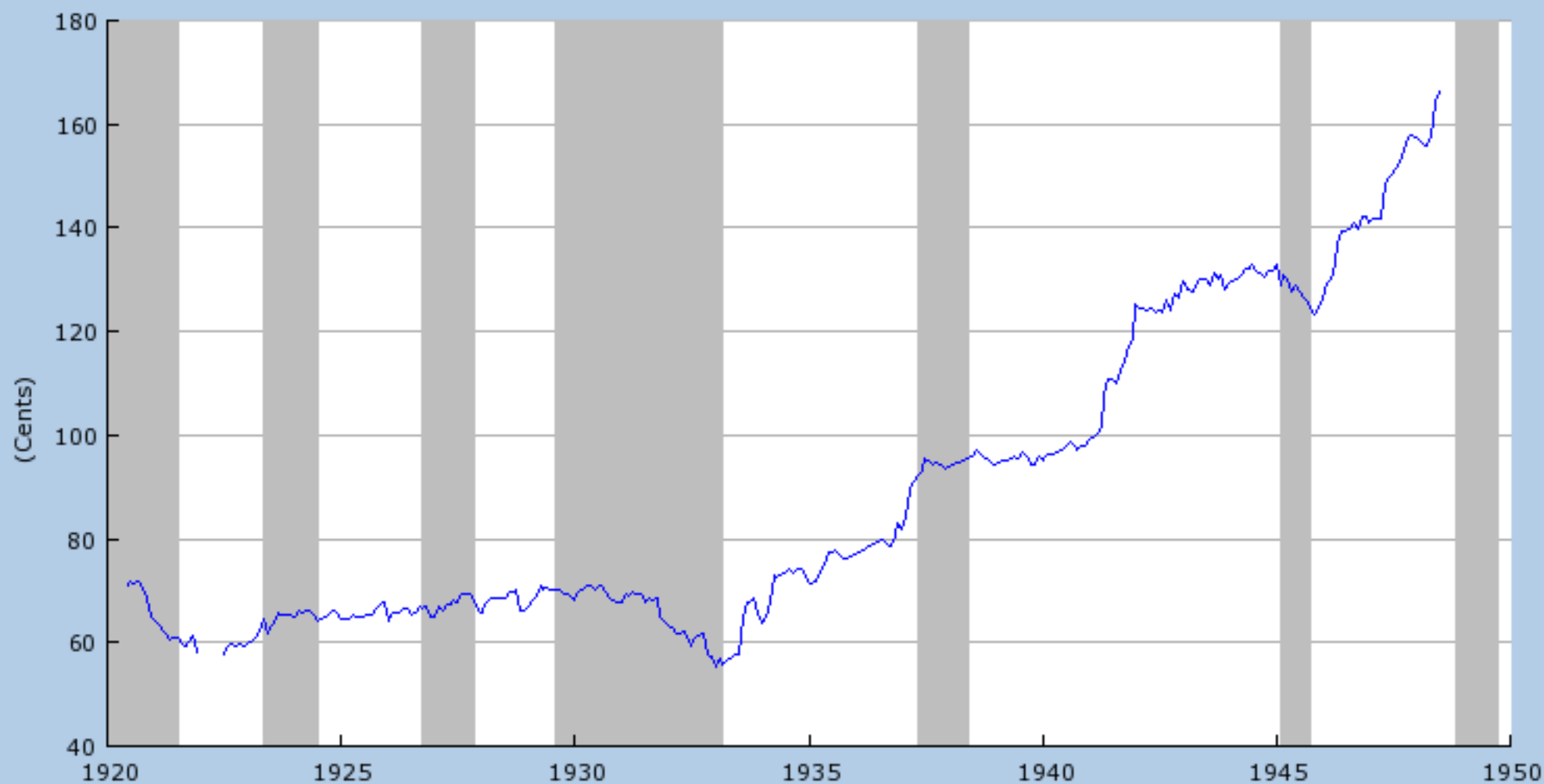


Shaded areas indicate US recessions.

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Average Hourly Earnings, Automobile Manufacturing for United States (M0807AUSM259NNBR)

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research

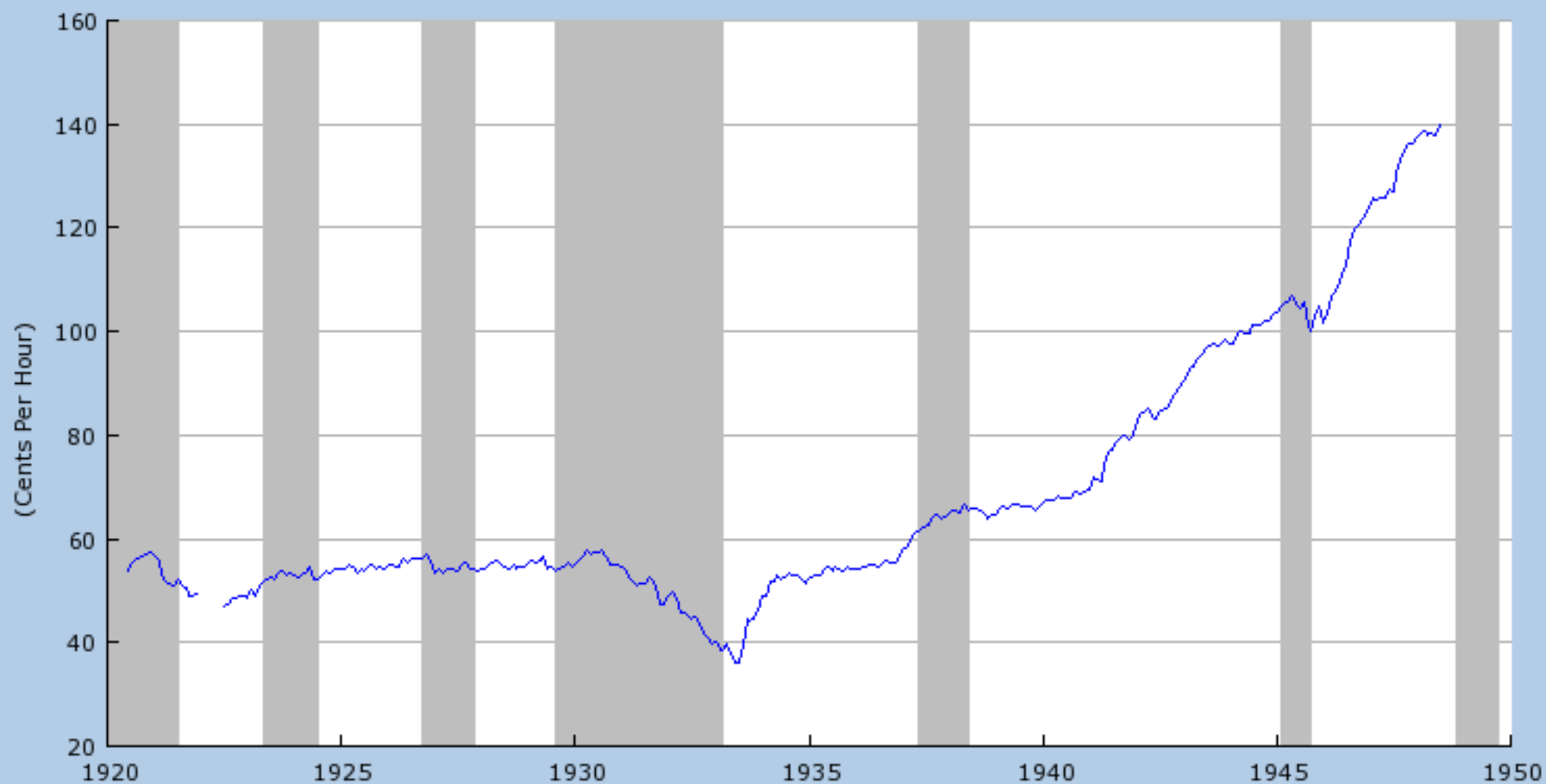


Shaded areas indicate US recessions.

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Average Hourly Earnings, Furniture Manufacturing for United States (M0806AUSM265NNBR)

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research

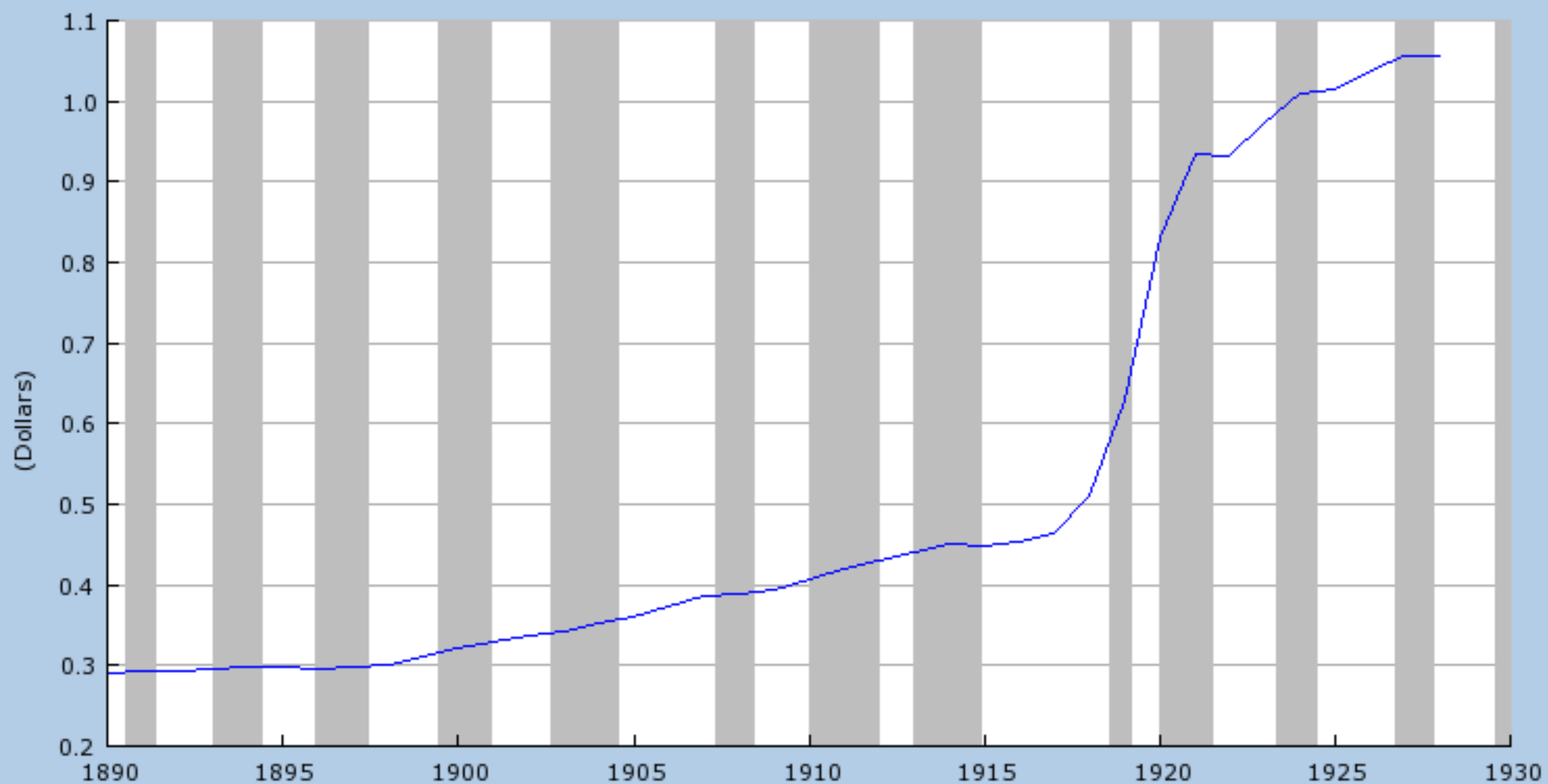


Shaded areas indicate US recessions.

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Average Hourly Money Earnings In Book and Job Printing for United States (A0851AUSA052NNBR)

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research

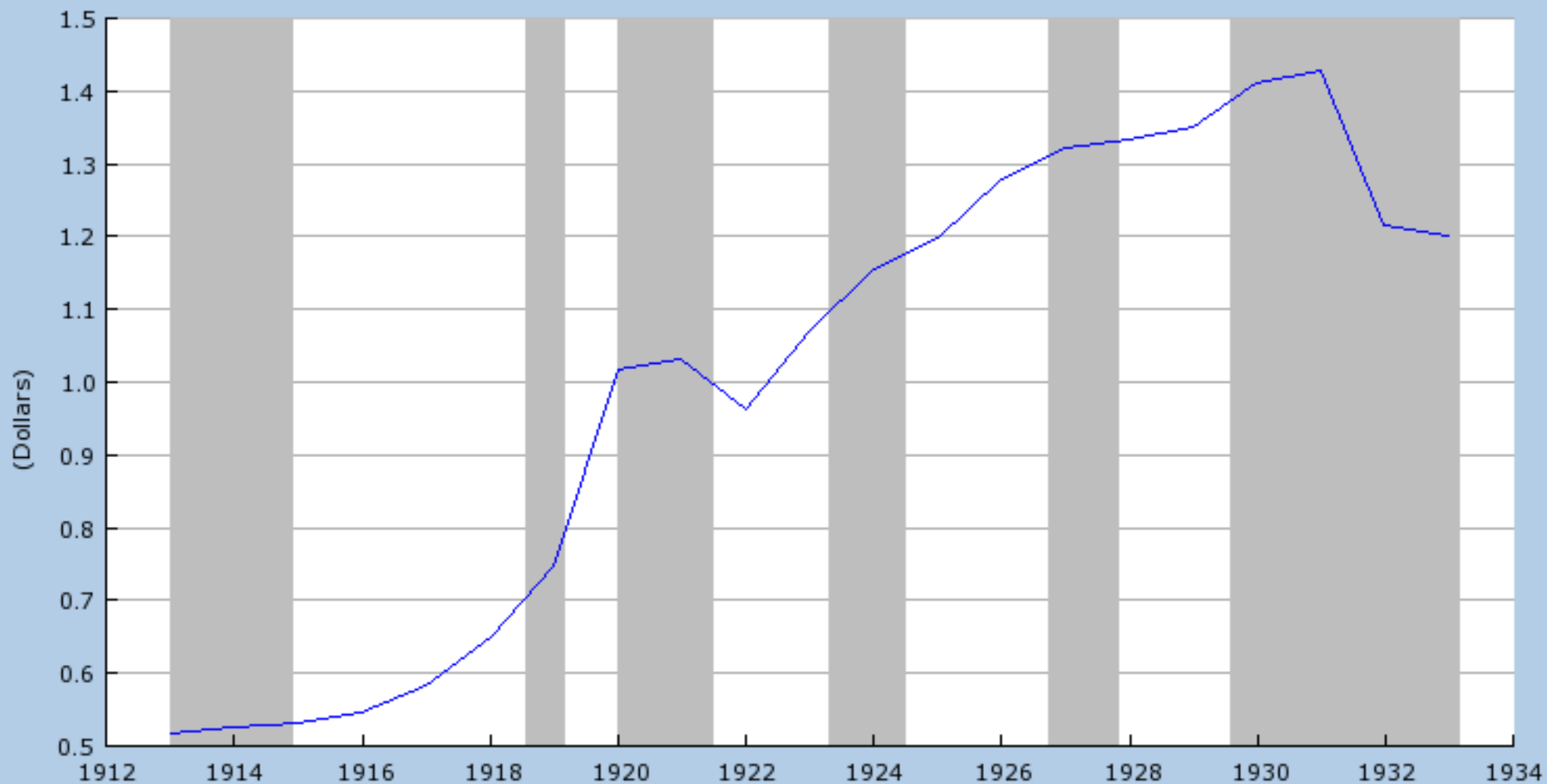


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Average Union Hourly Earnings In Building Trades for United States (A0854BUSA052NNBR)

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research



Shaded areas indicate US recessions.

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