

is subject to Ministerial consent and conditions. Moreover, an Inspector will grant an extension beyond 90 hours only if he is fully satisfied that it is necessary in the interests of essential production and an unsatisfied market. Occupiers of factories in each district have been informed of the need to plan their schedules of production in advance to meet these provisions.

(2) The following table of overtime authorized beyond the statutory limits compares each year from 1942. (NOTE.—Prior to the Factories Act of 1946, boys and girls under sixteen years of age could work overtime by permission. Since the new Act this is entirely prohibited. There is no restriction on the working of overtime by men):

Year.	Number of Women.	Number of Boys.	Hours Worked in Excess of 90-hour Limit.
1942	3,902	34	235,212
1943	4,983	42	455,934
1944	4,298	22	392,493
1945	2,672	22	207,421
1946	2,703	15	197,642
1947	2,006	..	126,585
1948	1,935	..	103,398

The above table reflects the decrease in the number of women employed in factories, the cessation of war contracts, general easing of demand, and the tightening-up on the issue of overtime warrants. Considerable overtime is still necessary in some industries, notably food-processing, clothing, tobacco, and woollen and knitting mills. In the past year many applications for extended hours have been applied for on the grounds of a grave shortage of women operatives on whose output male workers have been dependent. This is still the case.

(3) Hours beyond the 90-hour limit were authorized in some of the leading industries as follows:

	Hours.
Clothing and textiles	31,745
Tobacco-manufacture	28,553
Engineering and metals (Auckland, Wellington, and Lower Hutt only)	9,036
Printing (main centres and Lower Hutt only)	6,527
Food groups (mainly Auckland)	5,978
Footwear-manufacture	5,441
Soap-manufacture (Lower Hutt only)	5,190

These industries between them account for nearly 90 per cent. of the extra overtime authorized.

(4) The following table shows the geographical distribution of overtime worked in 1948:

District.	Number of Women for Whom Overtime Authorized.	Total Hours Overtime Worked.	Number of Women for Whom Extra Overtime Authorized.	Hours Worked in Excess of Statutory Limit of 90 Hours.
Auckland	4,064	187,932	765	20,969
Lower Hutt	1,310	83,951	313	28,254
Wellington	1,612	130,951	335	37,354
Christchurch	2,020	58,632	170	5,201
Dunedin	1,849	60,983	180	6,605
All other centres	2,683	88,121	172	5,015