

It is pleasing to record a substantial drop in short time in factories. This figure shows a recession of 22·47 per cent. at 1,259,610 hours, of which number the sawmilling industry contributed 314,697 hours, or 24·9 per cent. of the total.

The increases shown by the table below have been distributed fairly evenly over the four manufacturing districts. The greatest increases in “added value”—*i.e.*, the difference between the cost of materials and the value of products—occurred in Group 4, as shown on the following page.

	Year ended 31st March,		Differences, 1928-29.	
	1928.	1929.	Absolute.	Relative per Cent.
Establishments (number) .. ..	5,166	5,136	—30	—0·58
Persons engaged—				
Males (number) .. ..	66,000	67,174	1,174	1·78
Females (number) .. ..	15,756	16,506	750	4·76
Total .. ..	81,756	83,680	1,924	2·36
Salaries and wages paid—	£	£	£	£
To males .. ..	15,300,988	15,413,399	112,411	0·73
To females .. ..	1,576,790	1,675,346	98,556	6·25
Total .. ..	16,877,778	17,088,745	210,967	1·25
Motive power (horse-power) .. ..	417,105	463,666	46,561	11·16
Cost of materials used .. ..	£	£	£	£
Value of products .. ..	55,308,197	59,870,570	4,562,373	8·25
Added value .. ..	87,732,003	93,172,222	5,440,219	6·20
Value of—	£	£	£	£
Land and buildings .. ..	32,423,806	33,301,652	877,846	2·71
Plant and machinery .. ..	£	£	£	£
Land and buildings .. ..	23,301,449	24,118,549	817,100	3·51
Plant and machinery .. ..	41,372,701	43,401,031	2,028,330	4·90
Total .. ..	64,674,150	67,519,580	2,845,430	4·40

NOTE.—The minus sign (—) denotes decrease.

In the following table a summary is given of the position of industry, under three main headings, in each of the four provinces indicated. It will be noted that Auckland and Wellington run very closely so far as value of production is concerned, and that in both of these provinces the figures exceed the value of products of both Canterbury and its allied districts and of Otago and Southland. This is mainly due, of course, to the high value of output from the semi-primary, dairying, and allied industries in the North Island. In the purely manufacturing field both the Canterbury and neighbouring districts, and Otago and Southland, occupy a very important place.

*Summary by Districts.*

	Persons engaged.		Salaries and Wages.		Value of Products.	
	1927-28	1928-29.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1927-28.	1928-29.
			£	£	£	£
Auckland .. ..	26,815	27,007	5,682,534	5,626,188	30,780,743	32,401,445
Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Wellington ..	23,386	24,601	5,032,582	5,149,087	28,345,219	30,334,218
Marlborough, Nelson, Westland, Canterbury	17,478	17,644	3,492,945	3,544,134	16,864,705	17,861,940
Otago, Southland .. ..	14,077	14,428	2,669,717	2,769,336	11,741,336	12,574,619
Totals .. ..	81,756	83,680	16,877,778	17,088,745	87,732,003	93,172,222

In the following tables the various classes of industries contributing to the factory production of the Dominion have been grouped according to general character :—