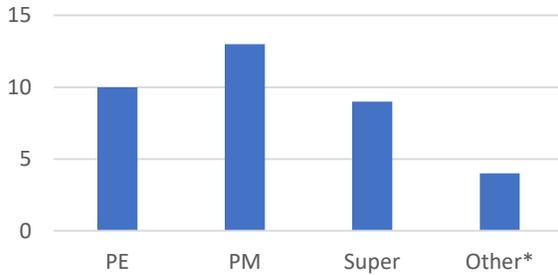




Industry Perspectives on the 40-hour Work Week as it Relates to Overtime in the Pacific Northwest

OVERTIME

Industry Representation by Job Title

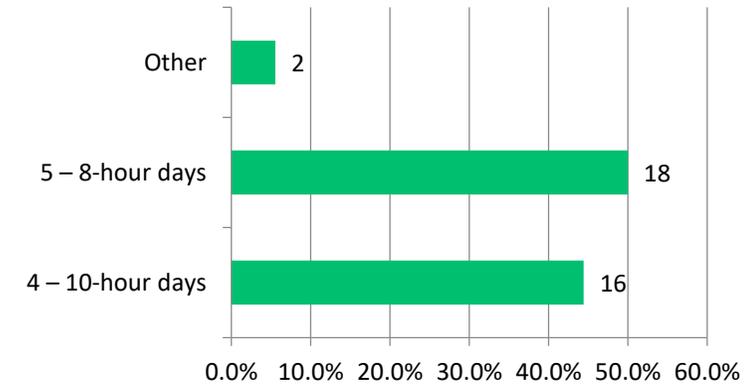


*Other includes a Vice-President, Safety Director, Project Executive, and a general foreman

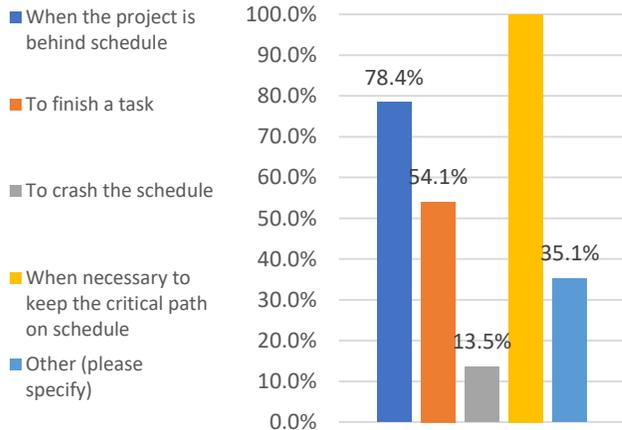
Many construction projects often find themselves behind schedule and will utilize overtime to make up for the lost time. However, a number of published studies shows evidence that extended overtime produces a decrease in labor productivity. Does the structure of the 40-hour work week have an affect on this loss of production with overtime? This study explores the perspectives of industry professionals, working in commercial construction in the Northwest, on the 40-hour workweek structure and overtime. A survey was created to analyze what the industry believes to be the best structure of the 40-hour work week with regards to working overtime.

Key Words: 40-hour workweek, Overtime, Overtime Productivity, Construction Management

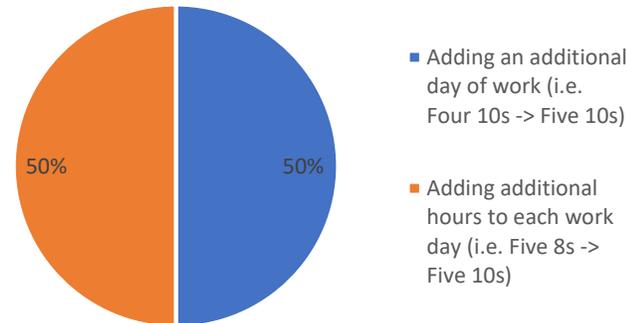
Ideal 40-hour work week for a construction project



When is overtime work acceptable?



What is the more productive transition to an overtime schedule?



Transitioning from 4-10s to 5-10s:

- “There is a better chance crews are available to work OT on a weekday.”

Transitioning from 5-8s to 5-10s:

- “Going to 5 x 10's from 5 x 8's is easy to implement on a daily or weekly basis”



Industry Professionals in favor of 4-10s:

- “4-10 hour days are more efficient than 5-8 hour days... Potential cost savings for the project”
- “Having 40 hours in 4 days allows Friday to be your make up weather day (or behind schedule make additional hours day) in lieu of taking away the weekends.”
- “Long weekends, one less commute day”

Industry Professionals in favor of 5-8s:

- “5 hour days normally follows the customer's business hours.”
- “It is a typical, reasonable work week. Industry standard.”
- “Its what we do. No way 4-10's will cut it. Only elevator installers work 4-10's and that's why elevators are always late on projects.”

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