

Facts



Information

www.consumer.tas.gov.au

Hotline : 1300 65 44 99



Guide to Trade Measurement Legislation and the Sale of Meat

Accurate weights and measures are a vital for fairness and equity in trade. They ensure consumers get exactly what they pay for and that business competes on an equitable basis.

The law requires that suppliers such as butchers, supermarkets, fishmongers and poultry retailers sell their uncooked meat, fish and poultry by weight, rather than charging a set price for individual items (without a reference to the weight of the item). This allows consumers to compare prices (value) and therefore make informed choices.

The Trade Measurement Act 1999

The *Trade Measurement Act 1999* has special provisions relating to the sale of meat.

The following information should be read in conjunction with the Act.

Meat, which includes poultry and fish, means so much of a slaughtered animal as is ordinarily sold for human consumption (whether or not after being subjected to a process of any kind), but does not include:

- (a) the whole or any part of rabbit or shellfish
- (b) heads, feet, hearts, lights, kidneys, brains or sweetbread
- (c) pre-packed meat *
- (d) meat sold at retail that was cooked on the premises.

Key measurement requirements for the sale of non pre-packed meat

- All sales of meat must be at a price determined by reference to the net weight of the meat.
- The customer is entitled to view the weighing of the meat and any indications made by the measuring instrument.
- The weight must be that of the meat without any wrapping or packaging.
- If a quantity of meat is offered at a marked price for that quantity, the weight of the meat and the price per kilogram must be shown with equal prominence.
- Alternatively, the price per kilogram can be on a sign in letters and figures at least 10 mm high that clearly refers to the meat.

Measurement and Standards Branch Offices

56A Gormanston Road
MOONAH TAS 7009

Telephone: (03) 6233 7698

Fax: (03) 6272 7852

287 Wellington Street

LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Telephone: (03) 6336 2213

Fax: (03) 6336 2257

Cnr Spring St & Marine Tce
BURNIE TAS 7320

Telephone: (03) 6434 6393

E-mail: measurement.standards@justice.tas.gov.au



Tasmania

Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading

Maintaining a fair, safe and equitable marketplace