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What is Trade Measurement?

Trade measurement refers to buying and selling of goods and services where the value is determined by measurement.

Studies in Australia, the USA and Canada have estimated that the total value of trade transactions involving measurement (including packaged goods and utility metering) accounts for at least 50% of Gross National Income¹. Of this amount, around a quarter is accounted for by retail transactions with the remaining three quarters being business to business transactions. Based on these estimates, the total value of trade transactions involving measurement in Australia is currently more than \$970 billion a year.

Consistency and certainty in measurement supports fair and open competition. It provides a level playing field for business by ensuring that all market participants, irrespective of their size or financial strength, follow the same rules and have equal opportunity to compete.

Reliable representations of measurements help consumers and businesses make informed purchasing decisions. More broadly, they support the efficient operation of the market.

Regulation of Trade Measurement

The National Measurement Institute (NMI), a division of the Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, administers the [National Measurement Act 1960](#) and associated regulations to ensure that for trade purposes:

- measuring instruments are fit for purpose
- measurements are made correctly
- representations about measurements are accurate.

To help businesses comply with their legal obligations, NMI's trade measurement inspectors:

- test measuring instruments, inspect packaged goods and review business practices
- provide advice on meeting compliance obligations
- take enforcement action when necessary.

Inspectors usually wear branded clothing and show an ID card to the business owner/operator at the commencement of an audit. However, inspectors can also make incognito 'trial purchases' to assess whether businesses are, for example, correctly operating scales and allowing for the weight of packaging during over-the-counter transactions.

NMI takes a risk-based approach when targeting compliance activities and determining the appropriate and proportionate regulatory response where non-compliance is identified.

We measure risk in terms of the harm and likelihood of regulatory non-compliance. Some of the factors used to determine harm include:

- impact on confidence in the measurement system
- extent of financial detriment to consumers or industry
- impact on maintaining a level playing field for business competition
- ability of consumers to make informed purchasing decisions.

¹ Birch, J (2003) 'Benefit of Legal Metrology for the Economy and Society', International Committee of Legal Metrology.

A Note about Compliance

Non-compliance can take many forms, from inappropriate measurement practices (for example, not adjusting shop scales to account for the weight of packaging in over the counter transactions) and measurement labels that do not meet regulatory requirements, to short measure in packaged goods and using measuring instruments that are unapproved or inaccurate.

Not all instances of non-compliance necessarily affect the integrity of measurement-based transactions. Where measurement errors are found they are usually relatively minor and large errors are quite rare.

Where non-compliance is assessed as resulting in a low level of harm and there is minimal likelihood of continued non-compliance an inspector will issue a non-compliance notice, and may provide advice if appropriate. A follow-up visit will check that any issues identified have been corrected. This is the most common enforcement action.

However, even minor measurement errors can have a significant impact on competition and consumer detriment when considered in aggregate.

Summary of 2020–21 Compliance Activity and Outcomes

COVID-19 Response

In order to comply with various movement restrictions and to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission to our staff and within the community, trade measurement field audit activity was suspended or restricted for significant periods in many parts of the country during 2020–21.

Where a return to fieldwork has been possible, NMI has carefully assessed risks for each industry sector and followed safe work method statements to mitigate these risks. We will continue to follow social distancing and hygiene practices as an integral part of our COVID-Safe fieldwork. We remain committed to ensuring staff and clients stay safe.

NMI has also been conscious of the need to show flexibility in its regulatory approach during this time, allowing businesses to continue to operate under difficult circumstances while still ensuring that consumers are protected. This has included, after appropriate risk assessments:

- reviewing enforcement actions for non-compliance where traders are suffering financial hardship as a result of the contraction in business activity
- extending Regulation 13 Certificates where access to trade measurement laboratories or verifying authorities has been affected by travel restrictions
- considering payment terms for regulatory administration fees.

Trader Audits

In 2020–21, NMI's trade measurement inspectors:

- audited over 4800 business premises (includes initial and follow-up audits)
- tested around 14 000 measuring instruments
- inspected almost 600 weighbridges
- inspected almost 26 000 lines of packaged goods (over 100 000 individual packages) for correct measure and measurement labelling.

Year	Trader audits	Measuring instruments	Weighbridges	Packaged lines	Individual packages
2015–16	10 123	15 240	960	80 163	319 616
2016–17	10 218	17 037	1154	87 812	355 294
2017–18	9633	14 918	965	71 799	271 375
2018–19	7586	15 887	614	70 183	256 507
2019–20	7600	13 588	479	78 290	203 320
2020–21	4842	14 049	594	25 990	100 139

As noted above, the most common enforcement response is for inspectors to provide advice and conduct follow-up inspections to ensure non-compliance is rectified. Most businesses are keen to do the right thing and promptly rectify trade measurement breaches once they are made aware of them. The success of this approach is demonstrated by 90.8 per cent of all businesses inspected found to be complying with the law after follow-up audits were undertaken, up from 65.9 per cent of 3587 traders found to be fully compliant after an initial audit, in 2020–21.

Year	Initial audits	Initial non-compliance	Follow-up audits	Follow-up non-compliance	Estimated final non-compliance
2015–16	7634	2558 (33.5%)	2489	380 (15.3%)	5.1%
2016–17	7761	2732 (35.2%)	2257	382 (16.9%)	5.9%
2017–18	7282	2545 (34.9%)	2351	422 (17.9%)	6.3%
2018–19	6357	2127 (33.5%)	1229	237 (19.3%)	6.5%
2019–20	5736	1932 (33.7%)	1864	470 (25.2%)	8.5%
2020–21	3587	1222 (34.1%)	1255	337 (26.9%)	9.2%

While much non-compliance is relatively minor and usually quickly addressed when identified by trade measurement inspectors, trader types with a greater incidence of non-compliance requiring more serious enforcement action in 2020–21 included:

- Supermarkets
- Meat Retail
- Freight
- Seafood Retail
- Mining and Resources.

Measuring Instruments

Australia's trade measurement laws require that measuring instruments used for trade are of an approved type, have been verified by a licensed technician before use, and are accurate at all times while in use. NMI authorises servicing licensees to undertake verifications.

14 049 measuring instruments were tested in 2020–21, with only 2.4 per cent found to be inaccurate to consumer disadvantage. During the year, 3.4 per cent of instruments tested were found to be inaccurate in consumers' favour.

In 2020–21, instrument categories with the greatest proportion of instruments tested found to be inaccurate to consumer disadvantage included:

- retail fuel dispensers (petrol and diesel) – with 3.9 per cent of 6258 tested inaccurate to consumer disadvantage
- beverage dispensers – with 4.0 per cent of 152 tested inaccurate to consumer disadvantage
- weighing instruments (30 kg to 3 tonnes) – with 7.4 per cent of 54 tested inaccurate to consumer disadvantage.

Packaged Goods

Of the 25 990 lines of packaged goods tested in 2020–21, 4.6 per cent were found to contain less product than stated on the label, with most discrepancies relatively small. Packaged goods product types with the greatest proportion of incorrect measure in 2020–21 included:

- fuel (solid) – 17.1 per cent of 170 packaged lines
- meat (processed) – 9.1 per cent of 1057 packaged lines
- seafood (frozen) – 6.5 per cent of 309 packaged lines
- health foods – 5.9 per cent of 289 packaged lines
- meat (fresh) – 5.7 per cent of 6448 packaged lines
- dairy (cheese) – 5.6 per cent of 2223 packaged lines.

Further details on compliance and enforcement activity and outcomes in 2020–21 are provided below.

The results outlined in this report were used in developing NMI's inspection priorities for trade measurement compliance activity in 2021–22. A copy of the 2021–22 [National Compliance Plan](#)² is available on the NMI website.

² <https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/national-measurement-institute-national-compliance-plan>

Concentrated National Audits

After an initial trial in 2018–19, NMI has adopted concentrated national audits as an integral part of our compliance and enforcement strategy. Under this program type, all trade measurement inspection activity nationally is focused on a single industry sector over a specific time period.

Two major factors determining which traders are targeted in these national audits are:

- previously identified non-compliance
- relative market shares of industry participants.

Three concentrated national audit programs were undertaken in 2020–21:

- supermarkets
- fruit and vegetable retail
- meat, fish and poultry retail.

The data in this section of the report specifically refers to inspection outcomes from concentrated audits. In the remainder of the report this data is aggregated with data from inspections conducted over all of 2020–21.

Supermarkets

As supermarket purchases represent a significant proportion of daily consumer measurement-related transactions, NMI closely monitors compliance in this sector. A concentrated audit of major supermarkets and independent grocery stores was undertaken from 30 November to 11 December 2020.

As part of the audit NMI's trade measurement inspectors:

- visited 315 business premises
- tested 1585 measuring instruments
- checked 7676 packaged article lines
- conducted 36 trial purchases

Non-compliance was found at 78 (25 per cent) of the 315 business premises audited, including:

- 3 measuring instruments not verified
- 36 measuring instruments inaccurate outside MPE to consumer advantage
- 3 measuring instruments inaccurate outside MPE to consumer disadvantage
- 83 packaged article lines with short measure
- 30 packaged article lines with non-compliant labelling
- 6 failed trial purchases.

A total of 103 non-compliance notices were issued, for the following breaches: 60 related to measuring instruments; 113 related to packaged goods; and 29 for failure of trading practice (shortfall offences from trial purchases). Some stores were issued with more than one notice or a notice covering more than one breach.

Trade measurement compliance of major supermarkets will continue to be monitored as part of NMI's 2021–22 [National Compliance Plan](#)³.

³ <https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/national-measurement-institute-national-compliance-plan>

Fruit and Vegetable Retail

In response to above average levels of non-compliance detected in this industry sector across packaged articles, instruments and trading practices, a concentrated national audit was undertaken from 15–21 March 2021.

As part of the audit NMI's trade measurement inspectors:

- visited 442 business premises
- tested 979 measuring instruments
- checked 5212 packaged article lines
- conducted 386 trial purchases

Non-compliance was found at 389 (88 per cent) of the 442 business premises audited, including:

- 98 measuring instruments not verified
- 49 measuring instruments inaccurate outside MPE to consumer advantage
- 23 measuring instruments inaccurate outside MPE to consumer disadvantage
- 369 packaged article lines with short measure
- 637 packaged article lines with non-compliant labelling
- 171 failed trial purchases.

While most non-compliance detected was relatively minor and corrected by traders on advice from inspectors, NMI issued the following enforcement actions:

- 10 warning letters
- 3 infringement notices of \$1110 each.

Meat, Fish and Poultry Retail

To check whether businesses previously found to be non-compliant had appropriately amended their business practices, a concentrated national audit was undertaken from 30 November to 11 December 2020.

As part of the audit NMI's trade measurement inspectors:

- visited 200 business premises
- tested 392 measuring instruments
- checked 1670 packaged article lines
- conducted 88 trial purchases

Non-compliance was found at 84 (42 per cent) of the 200 business premises audited, including:

- 14 measuring instruments not verified
- 20 measuring instruments inaccurate outside MPE to consumer advantage
- 3 measuring instruments inaccurate outside MPE to consumer disadvantage
- 150 packaged article lines with short measure
- 50 packaged article lines with non-compliant labelling
- 27 failed trial purchases.

While most non-compliance detected was relatively minor and corrected by traders on advice from inspectors, NMI issued the following enforcement actions:

- 16 warning letters
- 2 infringement notices of \$1110 each.

Enforcement Actions

NMI inspectors issue non-compliance notices whenever any breaches of trade measurement law are identified during trader audits.

Enforcement action of a more serious nature is taken when:

- continued non-compliance is detected after a notice has been previously issued
- a breach detected in an initial audit is particularly severe
- contraventions are of high public interest/impact.

Potential enforcement actions include:

- warning letters
- infringement notices with associated fines
- enforceable undertakings
- referral to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) for injunction or potential prosecution.

Any enforcement action, such as a warning letter or infringement notice, may cover more than one breach of trade measurement law.

The value of fines associated with infringement notices in 2020–21 was \$1110 per offence. NMI issued 12 infringement notices with \$18 510 in associated fines.

2020–21 was the second year that NMI entered into enforceable undertakings. NMI entered into enforceable undertakings with two food importers and one retail fuel company in 2020–21.

It should be noted that the CDPP determines whether to take forward a referral to prosecution. Prosecutions may also conclude in the year subsequent to any referral.

Year	Non-compliance notice	Warning letter	Infringement notice	Enforceable Undertaking	Referral to CDPP	Conviction
2015–16	2938	207	87 (\$85 100)	0	7	1
2016–17	3687	306	74 (\$69 300)	0	3	3
2017–18	3614	239	58 (\$65 250)	0	1	0
2018–19	2753	74	37 (\$43 050)	0	3	1
2019–20	2234	188	100 (\$123 900)	2	0	1
2020–21	1787	40	12 (\$18 510)	3	1	0

As shown in the table below, in 2020–21 the most common breaches subject to a warning letter were short measure in packaged goods and trading practices, while the most common breaches subject to an infringement notice were short measure in packaged goods and inaccurate measurement instrument. Trading practices breaches include not correctly operating scales and not allowing for the weight of packaging during over-the-counter transactions. As noted above, an enforcement action may cover more than one breach.

Breaches by enforcement action 2020–21

Enforcement action	Inaccurate measuring instrument	Packaged goods (short measure)	Packaged goods (labelling)	Trading Practices
Warning letter	14	57	6	21
Infringement notice	3	11	0	1

Convictions

No convictions were recorded in 2020–21.

Compliance and Enforcement by Trader Type

As noted above, more serious enforcement actions are imposed where severe and continued non-compliance is detected. Certain trader types continued to have relatively higher rates of more serious non-compliance during 2020–21, reflecting ongoing issues in those sectors.

Higher rates of serious non-compliance detected among some trader types in 2020–21 also reflected our risk-based focus on investigation through concentrated national audit programs.

The data in this section aggregates results from all inspections conducted throughout 2020–21, including those from concentrated audit programs.

Meat Retail

Year	Initial audits	Non-compliant	Follow-up audits	Non-compliant	Warning letters	Infringement notices
2017–18	856	418 (49%)	414	61 (15%)	41	4 (\$3900)
2018–19	467	176 (38%)	161	28 (17%)	8	6 (\$7350)
2019–20	610	309 (51%)	193	47 (24%)	74	14 (\$15 750)
2020–21	176	68 (39%)	187	65 (35%)	9	2 (\$2220)

Breaches by enforcement action 2020–21

Enforcement action	Inaccurate measuring instrument	Packaged goods (short measure)	Packaged goods (labelling)	Trading Practices
Warning letter	0	10	0	7
Infringement notice	0	2	0	0

Supermarkets

Year	Initial audits	Non-compliant	Follow-up audits	Non-compliant	Warning letters	Infringement notices
2017–18	1547	593 (38%)	545	101 (19%)	54	13 (\$17 550)
2018–19	2062	881 (43%)	298	59 (20%)	16	11 (\$12 600)
2019–20	1186	304 (26%)	317	74 (23%)	10	9 (\$9450)
2020–21	757	152 (20%)	305	72 (24%)	8	3 (\$3330)

Breaches by enforcement action 2020–21

Enforcement action	Inaccurate measuring instrument	Packaged goods (short measure)	Packaged goods (labelling)	Trading Practices
Warning letter	0	18	0	1
Infringement notice	0	3	0	0

Freight

Year	Initial audits	Non-compliant	Follow-up audits	Non-compliant	Warning letters	Infringement notices
2017–18	60	11 (18%)	7	1 (14%)	1	1 (\$900)
2018–19	46	8 (17%)	8	2 (25%)	0	0
2019–20	28	15 (54%)	6	1 (17%)	0	0
2020–21	36	15 (42%)	2	1 (50%)	0	2 (\$4200)

Breaches by enforcement action 2020–21

Enforcement action	Inaccurate measuring instrument	Packaged goods (short measure)	Packaged goods (labelling)	Trading Practices
Warning letter	0	0	0	0
Infringement notice	0	2	0	0

Mining and Resources

Year	Initial audits	Non-compliant	Follow-up audits	Non-compliant	Warning letters	Infringement notices
2017–18	101	27 (27%)	23	5 (22%)	0	1 (\$1050)
2018–19	59	19 (32%)	13	0 (0%)	1	1 (\$2100)
2019–20	76	47 (62%)	9	2 (22%)	0	0
2020–21	61	26 (43%)	4	0 (0%)	1	1 (\$3330)

Breaches by enforcement action 2020–21

Enforcement action	Inaccurate measuring instrument	Packaged goods (short measure)	Packaged goods (labelling)	Trading Practices
Warning letter	0	3	0	0
Infringement notice	0	3	0	0

Seafood Retail

Year	Initial audits	Non-compliant	Follow-up audits	Non-compliant	Warning letters	Infringement notices
2017–18	191	101 (53%)	92	20 (22%)	5	0
2018–19	116	53 (46%)	48	6 (13%)	5	1 (\$1050)
2019–20	158	79 (50%)	54	21 (39%)	21	4 (\$5250)
2020–21	32	13 (41%)	48	16 (33%)	5	1 (\$1110)

Breaches by enforcement action 2020–21

Enforcement action	Inaccurate measuring instrument	Packaged goods (short measure)	Packaged goods (labelling)	Trading Practices
Warning letter	1	1	0	6
Infringement notice	0	0	0	1

Compliance by Instrument Type

The basis of any trade measurement transaction is an accurate measuring instrument. As in previous years, in 2020–21 more than 80 per cent of instruments tested were found to be fully compliant with legislative requirements. Only a relatively small proportion (2.4 per cent) of measuring instruments were found to be inaccurate to consumer disadvantage, outweighed by the 3.4 per cent of instruments found to be inaccurate in favour of the consumer.

An instrument was deemed non-compliant if one or more of the following was found:

- not verified by an authorised servicing licensee (or without a verification mark)
- failed to measure accurately – regardless of whether the inaccuracy was in favour of the consumer or resulted in short measure
- did not meet other standards necessary to comply with legislation, such as display issues; eccentricity; inadequate sealing; or data plate irregularities.

Year	Instruments tested	Compliant	Not verified	Inaccurate (consumer advantage)	Inaccurate (consumer disadvantage)	Other non-compliance
2015–16	15 240	12 623 (82.8%)	587 (3.9%)	563 (3.7%)	261 (1.7%)	1206 (8.0%)
2016–17	17 093	14 664 (85.8%)	829 (4.8%)	571 (3.3%)	309 (1.8%)	720 (4.3%)
2017–18	14 906	12 605 (84.6%)	872 (5.9%)	557 (3.7%)	339 (2.3%)	533 (3.5%)
2018–19	15 887	13 184 (83.0%)	611 (3.9%)	1144 (7.2%)	385 (2.4%)	750 (4.7%)
2019–20	13 588	11 753 (86.5%)	415 (3.1%)	505 (3.7%)	342 (2.5%)	773 (5.7%)
2020–21	14 049	12 104 (86.2%)	413 (2.9%)	473 (3.4%)	341 (2.4%)	718 (5.1%)

The instrument types with an above average proportion found to be inaccurate to consumer disadvantage have been relatively consistent over recent years.

Instrument type	Year	Instruments tested	Inaccurate (consumer disadvantage)
Fuel dispensers (petrol and diesel)	2015–16	2923	85 (2.9%)
	2016–17	1260	54 (4.3%)
	2017–18	1434	91 (6.3%)
	2018–19	3883	211 (5.4%)
	2019–20	3699	193 (5.2%)
	2020–21	6258	245 (3.9%)
Weighing instruments (30 kg to 3 tonnes)	2015–16	364	16 (4.4%)
	2016–17	475	23 (4.8%)
	2017–18	346	18 (5.2%)
	2018–19	298	13 (4.4%)
	2019–20	179	5 (2.8%)
	2020–21	54	4 (7.4%)
Beverage dispensers	2015–16	865	35 (4.0%)
	2016–17	945	62 (6.6%)
	2017–18	1113	34 (3.1%)
	2018–19	401	16 (4.0%)
	2019–20	1486	61 (4.1%)
	2020–21	152	6 (4.0%)

Compliance of Retail Fuel Dispensers

Of 6258 fuel dispensers tested in 2020–21, 221 (3.5 per cent) were delivering more fuel than indicated on the display to the benefit of consumers while 245 (3.9 per cent) were delivering less fuel. This represents a significant improvement on inaccuracy levels detected in recent years.

The great majority of dispensers inaccurate to consumer disadvantage were inaccurate in the range of one to three times the maximum permissible error of 0.3 per cent. This equates to between 30 cents and 90 cents for every \$100 of fuel delivered. While this is a relatively small sum for an individual consumer, if applied to 3.9 per cent of all fuel sales in the year it amounts to between \$3m and \$9m in aggregate detriment for the community.

NMI will continue to closely assess trade measurement compliance at retail fuel sites as part of its [National Compliance Plan for 2021–22](#)⁴.

Year	Petrol and diesel dispensers tested	Inaccurate (consumer advantage)	Inaccurate (consumer disadvantage)
2015–16	2923	140 (4.8%)	85 (2.9%)
2016–17	1260	51 (4.0%)	54 (4.3%)
2017–18	1434	31 (2.2%)	91 (6.3%)
2018–19	3883	157 (4.0%)	211 (5.4%)
2019–20	3699	191 (5.2%)	193 (5.2%)
2020–21	6258	221 (3.5%)	245 (3.9%)

Consumer complaints

Consumer concern about this issue is reflected in complaints to NMI about potential breaches of trade measurement law, of which almost two thirds relate to allegations of short measure from fuel dispensers (liquid and gas). Only 17 (6.5 per cent) of 260 fuel related complaints received in 2020–21 were found to be justified when investigated, consistent with results in previous years.

Year	Total complaints received	Fuel (liquid and gas) complaints	Fuel complaints justified (consumer disadvantage)
2015–16	724	459 (63%)	10 (2.2%)
2016–17	672	411 (61%)	18 (4.4%)
2017–18	782	511 (65%)	16 (3.1%)
2018–19	767	494 (64%)	31 (6.3%)
2019–20	651	403 (62%)	14 (3.5%)
2020–21	449	260 (58%)	17 (6.5%)

⁴ <https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/national-measurement-institute-national-compliance-plan>

Public Weighbridge and Servicing Licensee Compliance

Businesses across Australia rely on the capability of licensed third-party organisations in order to comply with the requirements of the Act and to help maintain the metrological infrastructure for trade measurement. NMI appoints organisations called Servicing Licensees to verify the accuracy of trade measuring instruments before first use or after repair. NMI also appoints Public Weighbridge Licensees to ensure weighbridges made available to the public are operated in accordance with regulatory requirements.

Compliance activities to help ensure the integrity of the licensing system, include:

- quality management audits of Servicing Licensees and Public Weighbridge Licensees, including through the Weighbridge Testing program
- audits of recently verified measuring instruments to ensure that verification is being undertaken correctly.

We also monitor Servicing Licensee compliance through a number of metrics, such as:

- appropriate and timely reporting of measuring instrument verifications
- auditing of test reports submitted for complex instrument verifications
- Licensees being authorised to verify relevant instrument subclasses
- verifications being performed by verifiers holding appropriate competency for specific instrument types.

Licensing enforcement actions 2020–21

Enforcement action	2020–21
Non-compliance advice email	269
Warning letter	2
Infringement notice	1

Compliance of Packaged Goods

In 2020–21, trade measurement inspectors examined 25 990 lines of packaged goods (100 139 individual packages) to check whether they:

- contained the correct amount (weight, volume or units) as displayed on the label
- displayed sufficient measurement marking (e.g. weight, price per kilogram and total price for the article) in the correct format and position
- included correct packer identification (name and street address of packer if packed within Australia or name and address of importer or seller).

Most discrepancies detected in packaged goods are usually relatively small and can be corrected following advice from a trade measurement inspector.

Year	Packaged lines inspected	Individual packages	Lines with short measure	Lines with non-compliant labelling
2015–16	80 163	319 616	2155 (2.7%)	1615 (2.0%)
2016–17	87 964	355 438	3111 (3.5%)	4589 (5.2%)
2017–18	71 733	271 243	3464 (4.8%)	3691 (5.2%)
2018–19	70 183	256 507	1621 (2.3%)	1606 (2.3%)
2019–20	78 290	203 320	1269 (1.6%)	2243 (2.9%)
2020–21	25 990	100 139	1194 (4.6%)	1125 (4.3%)

While meat and seafood consistently appear among the categories of packaged goods with the greatest proportion found to contain short measure, there has been considerable variation among other categories over recent years.

Packaged goods short measure 2020–21

Product type	Packaged lines inspected	Individual packages	Lines with short measure
Fuel (Solid)	170	802	29 (17.1%)
Meat (Processed)	1057	3801	96 (9.1%)
Seafood (Frozen)	309	1358	20 (6.5%)
Health Foods	289	1110	17 (5.9%)
Meat (Fresh)	6448	21 359	369 (5.7%)
Dairy (Cheese)	2223	8972	124 (5.6%)

Fuel Quality Compliance

Following Machinery of Government changes in early 2020, NMI was responsible for administering compliance with the *Fuel Quality Standards Act 2000* in 2020–21. Under this program, NMI undertook sampling and testing to help maintain the integrity of liquid fuel composition throughout Australia.

In 2020–21, NMI:

- visited 346 retail sites for fuel quality compliance audits
- undertook onsite screening of 1138 samples
- submitted 157 samples for testing by NATA accredited laboratories.

Seven samples submitted for testing were found to be non-compliant:

- 3 with ethanol content greater than 85%
- 2 with olefin levels over 18%
- 1 with sulphur content over 50 ppm
- 1 with Research Octane Number (RON) less than 95.

It should be noted that each of the samples found to be non-compliant were only marginally outside limits required under legislation and deficiencies were corrected after advice from NMI inspectors.