

Fact Sheet: Measurement Adjustment

What is the Measurement Adjustment (MA)?

Under the national compliance and enforcement reforms (C&E), the existing system of administrative tolerances for mass and dimension limits will be replaced with a measurement adjustment (MA) on 1 July 2006.

- The MA is to account for any potential inaccuracies in measuring equipment, differences in site characteristics, different measuring methods and the conditions under which the measurements are made.
- The MA ensures that allowance is made for these factors before a determination is made on whether an offence has actually occurred.
- The procedures for the application of the MA, and the MA limits themselves, are contained in the Austroads guidelines for heavy vehicle dimension and mass.
- The Austroads guidelines have been developed to ensure greater consistency in on-road enforcement between jurisdictions. These guidelines can be downloaded from the Austroads website at www.austroads.com.au.

How will it work?

Enforcement action may be taken when a vehicle's **assessed mass/dimension** exceeds the legal limit. The assessed mass/dimension equals the **measured mass/dimension**, as shown on the measuring equipment, minus the relevant **MA**.

The assessed mass/dimension will be used to determine the occurrence and severity of any breach for enforcement action.

What will the MA apply to?

All vehicles will have the MA applied when being weighed or measured for compliance purposes.

Who will it impact?

Drivers, operators, loaders, packers, consignors or any other responsible person who, through their act or omission influences the loading or dimension of the vehicle or its load.

What should you do to comply?

Take every reasonable step to ensure that your acts or omissions do not cause a breach of vehicle mass and dimension legal limits.

Will this affect regulation mass or dimension limits?

No changes are being made to the existing regulated mass and dimension limits.

For more information?

For further clarification about the MA, email Queensland Transport at qtceproject@transport.qld.gov.au.

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New Measurement Adjustment (MA) – Dimension

	Current Administrative Tolerances	New MA
Length	2% of legal limit (by load) 100mm (by construction)	Category 1 – 100mm (up to 26m B-Double) Category 2 – 300mm (larger than 26m B-Double)
Width	2% of legal limit (by load) 50mm (by construction)	20mm
Height	50mm	Category 1 – 30mm Category 2 – 100mm

Note: The categories for measuring vehicle height are based on the characteristics of the measuring site. Category 1 sites have an even surface, the highest point of the vehicle is easily visible, and the measuring equipment meets the standards outlined in the guidelines. All other sites are Category 2.

New Measurement Adjustment (MA) – Gross Mass

Legal Vehicle Mass	Current Administrative Tolerance (tonnes)	MA (tonnes)		
		Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
4.5t – 5.0t	10%	0.25	0.5	1.0
5.0t – 10.0t	.5	0.25	0.5	1.0
10.0t – 42.5t	1.0	0.25	0.5	1.0
42.5t – 55.0t	1.5	0.25	0.5	1.0
55.0t – 85.0t	2.0	0.25	0.5	1.0
85.0t – 120t	3.0	0.25	0.5	1.0
Up to 3 axle groups on weighbridge	0.25	0.25	-	-

Note: The MA is applied for each weighing step when determining gross vehicle mass. That is, the MA is applied for each movement of the vehicle onto the scales that is needed to weigh all of the axles. Therefore, multiple MAs may be applied for some gross mass calculations.

New Measurement Adjustment (MA) – Axle Mass

Axle Group	Current Administrative Tolerance (tonnes)	MA (tonnes)		
		Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Single (single tyres)	0.25	0.3	0.3	0.4
Twin steer * or tandem axle (single tyres or combination of single & dual tyres)	1.0	0.3	0.4	0.5
Single (dual tyre)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
Tandem (dual tyres)	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.0
Tri-axle or Quad-axle	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.0

* 1.0t administrative tolerance currently applies to a load sharing twin steer. A non-load sharing twin steer currently attracts a 0.5t administrative tolerance.

Category 1 – a weighbridge or weighing platform and portable scales on a concrete surface.

Category 2 – anything that does not fall under Category 1 and that has a bitumen surface.

Category 3 – anything that does not fall under Category 1 or Category 2.