

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Division of Measurement Standards
8500 Fruitridge Road
Sacramento, CA 95826-4808

DMS NOTICE
QC – 03 – 1

January 22, 2003

Discard: Retain

TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICIALS

SUBJECT: Statewide Hardware and Building Materials Survey

The statewide survey of hardware and building materials was completed in August 2002. Participating counties randomly selected and tested 862 items throughout the State.

The surveyed items had an average overfill of 0.99%. Of the 862 items tested, 95 were found to be underfilled. Sixteen of the 22 subcategories surveyed had an average overfill. Underfilled products found during the survey were followed up with official lot inspections and any underfilled lots were removed from sale.

The following attachments outline the survey procedures and results for individual subcategories as well as the category as a whole.

If you have any questions regarding this or other surveys, please contact Ken Lake, Program Supervisor, at (916) 229-3047.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Cleary".

Mike Cleary
Director
(916) 229-3000

Attachments

Statewide Hardware and Building Materials Survey

County Weights and Measures Officials collected information for this survey during June, July, and August 2002.

SAMPLE

Thirty retail items were assigned in each of the following subcategories:

- 12.01 Nails, tacks, brads, and rivets**
- 12.02 Bolts, Nuts, Washers, and Screws**
- 12.04 Builder's Hardware**
- 12.05 Other Hardware**
- 12.06 Electrical Equipment and Supplies**
- 12.07 Plumbing Equipment and Supplies**
- 12.08 Tile and Tile Supplies**
- 12.10 Cement and Cement Color; Stucco, Plaster**
- 12.11 Mortar and Concrete**
- 12.12 Flooring Products except Linoleum, carpet, and rugs**
- 12.13 Linoleum and similar floor coverings**
- 12.15 Molding and Lumber**
- 12.16 Paneling, and Other Wall Sheeting**
- 12.17 Building Paper, Felt, and Plastic Covering**
- 12.18 Composition Shingles and Rolled Roofing**
- 12.19 Wood Shingles, Shakes, and Accessory Supplies**
- 12.20 Metal Roofing Products**
- 12.21 Fiberglass Roofing, Sheets, and Rolls**
- 12.22 Fencing, Flashings, Wire Products, and Posts**
- 12.40 Hardware and Building Materials (Other)**

At least 150 retail items were assigned for the following category:

12.50 Hardware and Building Materials At Packaging Locations

The samples from individual packers consisted of five randomly selected items of any type or types in the 12.00 category. The total sample size, retail and point of pack was to consist of at least 780 randomly selected individual items.

To insure all regions of the State were evaluated, counties were divided into four regional groups of approximately equivalent populations. Each group of counties selected and tested one quarter of the total sample.

SELECTION

Establishments visited for purchases were selected randomly by participating counties. No more than three items from a single subcategory and not more than 15 items overall were selected from a single retail establishment. All retail stores selling hardware and building products were considered for selection.

Packagers (sub-category 12.50) were defined as any establishment packaging and labeling products for retail sale. Packagers were also chosen using random numbers.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE

After purchase, packages were either checked on-site or taken to the local county quantity control laboratory for testing. Each package was opened to determine actual net content. Errors were recorded by comparing actual contents to the labeled net content.

Hardware and Building Materials 01/24/03

Category	Description	Number Tested	Number Overfilled	% Compliance	Number No Error	Number Underfilled	Ave % Error	Std Deviation
12.01	Nails, tacks, brads, and rivets	37	20	89.19	13	4	1.03	3.13
12.02	Bolts, Nuts, Washers, and Screws	36	15	91.67	18	3	1.36	3.05
12.04	Builder's Hardware	35	8	94.29	25	2	1.22	5.36
12.05	Other Hardware	34	3	91.18	28	3	-0.36	1.59
12.06	Electrical Equipment and Supplies	35	20	94.29	13	2	1.46	2.64
12.07	Plumbing Equipment and Supplies	33	15	93.94	16	2	1.05	1.75
12.08	Tile and Tile Supplies	36	13	75.00	14	9	0.85	3.05
12.10	Cement and Cement Color; Stucco, Plaster	34	26	76.47	0	8	2.79	4.56
12.11	Mortar and Concrete	36	28	77.78	0	8	1.89	5.76
12.12	Flooring Products except Linoleum, carpet, and rugs	29	8	96.55	20	1	0.57	1.73
12.13	Linoleum and similar floor coverings	31	6	96.77	24	1	0.32	0.98
12.15	Molding and Lumber	36	12	91.67	21	3	-0.24	2.21
12.16	Paneling, and Other Wall Sheeting	36	6	86.11	25	5	-0.60	6.13
12.17	Building Paper, Felt, and Plastic Covering	38	11	73.68	17	10	-0.64	3.83
12.18	Composition Shingles and Rolled Roofing	34	13	100.00	21	0	2.29	6.51
12.19	Wood Shingles, Shakes, and Accessory Supplies	32	10	84.38	17	5	0.25	1.54
12.20	Metal Roofing Products	36	5	88.89	27	4	-0.09	1.01
12.21	Fiberglass Roofing, Sheets, and Rolls	33	11	87.88	18	4	0.27	0.96
12.22	Fencing Flashings, Wire Products, and Posts	36	17	94.44	17	2	1.42	4.63
12.40	Hardware and Building Materials NEC	31	11	100.00	20	0	0.84	2.32
12.50	Hardware and Building Materials At Packing Location	174	99	89.08	56	19	1.82	3.68
	Totals	862	357	88.98	410	95	0.99	3.72