

Tolerable negative error

It is not always necessary for a package to contain exactly the nominal quantity (the quantity stated on the package). Some variations are allowed, provided that the mean value of the net contents is not less than the nominal quantity.

But only a small number of packages in a batch may contain less than what a certain tolerance allows, and no package must contain less than what two times the tolerance would allow. The tolerances for different sizes of prepackages are defined by the tolerable negative errors in this table:

Nominal quantity	Tolerable negative error
5 - 50 g (or ml)	9 % av of the
50 - 100 g (or ml)	4,5 g (or ml)
100 - 200 g (or ml)	4,5 % of the
200 - 300 g (or ml)	9 g (or ml)
300 - 500 g (or ml)	3 % of the nominal
500 - 1 000 g (or ml)	15 g (or ml)
1 000 - 10 000 g (or ml)	1,5 % of the

The European Directives for e-marking cover only prepackages within the range 5 g to 10 kg (or 5 ml to 10 l). However, there are international recommendations (OIML R87) that go a little further:

Nominal quantity	Tolerable negative error
10 000 - 15 000 g (or ml)	150 g (or ml)
15 000 - 50 000 g (or ml)	1,0 % of the nominal quantity