



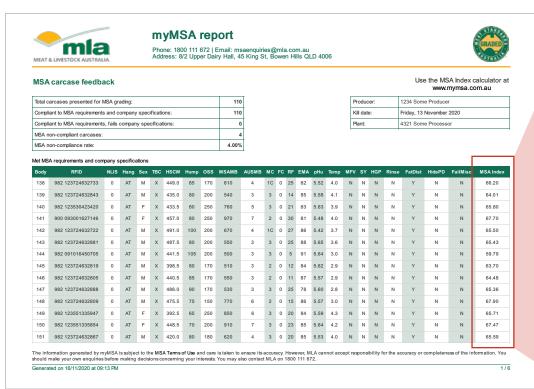
# Reading MSA feedback reports

As an MSA-registered producer you can view and download carcase feedback reports at mymsa.com.au

Further information about grading measurements and their impact on eating quality and grading outcomes can be found at mla.com.au/msa.

#### Beef carcase feedback report

The MSA beef carcase feedback report provides a summary of the total number of compliant vs. non-compliant carcases in a consignment and how individual carcases performed for each trait measured in the MSA grading and AUS-MEAT chiller assessment processes.



isc	MSA Index
	66.20
	64.01
	65.80
	67.70
	65.50
	65.43
	59.79
	63.70
	64.48
	65.36
	67.90
	65.71
	67.47
	65.59

#### What is the MSA Index?

The MSA Index is a single number and standard national measure of the predicted eating quality and potential merit of a carcase.

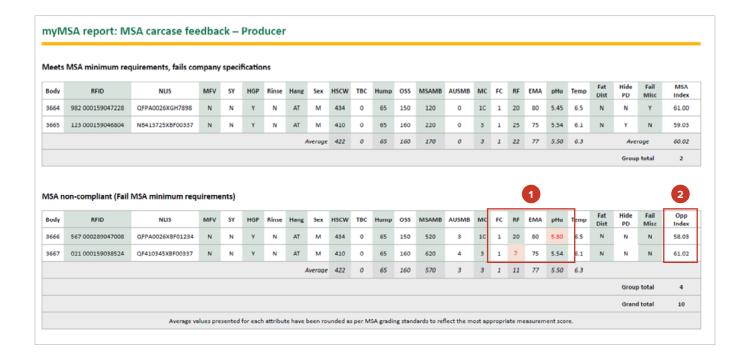
The MSA Index is a number between 30 and 80, expressed to two decimal places (e.g. 54.62). It is a weighted average of the predicted MSA eating quality scores of 39 MSA cuts in a carcase.

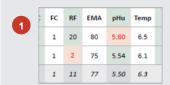
The MSA Index is independent of any processing inputs and is calculated using only attributes influenced by pre-slaughter production. It is a consistent benchmark, which can be used across all processors, geographic regions and over time. It reflects the impact on eating quality of management, environmental and genetic differences between cattle at the point of slaughter.

The MSA Index is calculated in myMSA once grading data is received from the processor.

The MSA Index is calculated for all carcases that meet minimum MSA requirements.

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## What does the red shading mean?

The red shading indicates that this trait is the reason this specific carcase failed MSA minimum requirements.



### What is the MSA Opportunity Index?

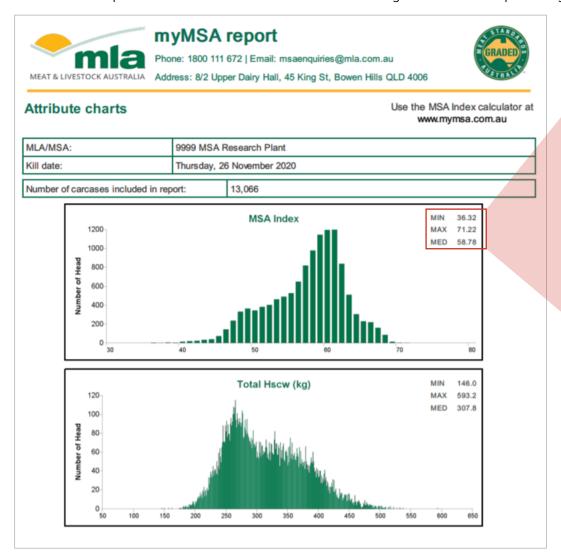
The MSA Opportunity Index helps producers focus their attention on where financial gains can be made and it helps benchmark carcase attribute performance.

It tells producers what their Index would have been if non-compliant carcases had met MSA minimum requirements.

The MSA Opportunity Index is calculated for all carcases that <u>don't</u> meet the minimum MSA requirements.

### **Beef attribute charts report**

The beef attribute charts report is found under the 'MSA graphs' option in myMSA. It provides distribution breakdowns of specific carcase attributes for an individual consignment or for multiple consignments over time.



MIN 36.32 MAX 71.22 MED 58.78

These numbers represent the lowest, highest and median MSA Index scores in this consignment or time period.

# **Explained: glossary of terms and acronyms**

Term/acronym	Meaning	
<b>MSA minimum requirements</b> – are the minimum specifications a carcase must meet to be eligible for an MSA eating quality outcome.		
pHu	Ultimate pH is recorded once the carcase has passed through rigor mortis (transformation of muscle to meat). The MSA grader uses a meter and protocol specifically developed for meat grading. Meat with optimal eating quality will have a pH lower than 5.70. Any carcase with a pH greater than 5.70 is not eligible for an MSA eating quality outcome.	
RF	Rib fat measures the thickness of subcutaneous fat at the quartering site. It is measured in millimetres. The minimum rib fat measurement for MSA eligibility is 3mm.	
Fat Dist	Fat distribution identifies whether the carcase has an even distribution of fat over the loin, rump and butt in particular.	

Other terms and acronyms		
Kill date	The slaughter date recorded for each consignment of cattle.	
Total carcases presented for MSA grading	The total number of animals declared as eligible for MSA grading on the MSA Vendor Declaration for each consignment.	
Compliant to MSA requirements and company specifications	The total number of carcases that met both MSA and company specifications for MSA compliance.	
Compliant to MSA requirements, fails company specifications	The total number of carcases that met MSA minimum requirements, but failed to meet company imposed specifications. Contact your processor directly to discuss company specifications.	
MSA non- compliant carcases	The total number of carcases that did not meet MSA minimum requirements.	
Lot	A lot number is assigned to each group of cattle consigned to slaughter. The processing plant assigns this number and is used for identification purposes.	
Total	The total number of carcases in this lot number.	
Body	The body number is the number assigned by the processor for identification purposes.	
RFID	The Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) number is also referred to as the electronic number and is the number scanned by a reader.	
NLIS	The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) number is printed on the electronic ear tag or on the management ear tag matching an NLIS rumen bolus. The NLIS ID indicates the property where the animal was identified and whether that was the property of birth or not. It also identifies the manufacturer of the device, the year of manufacture, whether it is an electronic ear tag or rumen bolus, and an individual animal identification number.	
MFV	Milk Fed Vealers (MFV) identifies whether the cattle were still suckling on mothers at the time of consignment. This information is recorded on the MSA Vendor Declaration.	
SY	Saleyard (SY) identifies whether the cattle were sold through an MSA licensed saleyard. This information is recorded on the MSA Vendor Declaration.	
HGP	Hormonal Growth Promotants (HGPs) states whether the cattle consigned were treated with HGPs. This information is recorded on the MSA Vendor Declaration.	
Rinse	Rinse identifies whether the cattle were rinsed with a chilled electrolyte solution after slaughter to rinse blood out of the carcase.	
Sex	Sex of the animal (male or female).	
HSCW	Hot Standard Carcase Weight (HSCW) of the carcase is calculated from the carcase side assessed by the MSA grader. Due to the siding process at processing plants, both sides of a carcase may not weigh the same.	
ТВС	Tropical Breed Content (TBC) is the amount of tropical breed content the live animal possesses. This information is declared on the MSA Vendor Declaration. If 'yes' this is represented on the carcase feedback report with an 'X' and 'no' is represented on the report with a '0'.	
Hump	Hump height measures the hump muscle in millimetres in increments of five. The lower the score the better the eating quality outcome.	
Oss	Ossification is a measure of the physiological maturity of an animal. The scores range from 100-590 and is scored in increments of 10. The lower the score, the better the eating quality outcome.	

#### **MSA MB** MSA graders use MSA marbling standards (MSA MB). These standards reflect the amount, distribution and fineness of marbling in the eye muscle. The scores range from 100-1190, scored in increments of 10. The higher the score, the better the eating quality outcome. **AUS MB** AUS-MEAT marbling reflects the amount of intramuscular fat present in the eye muscle at the assessment site and is scored from 0-9. The AUS MB score does not influence MSA eating quality outcomes. MC Meat colour is the colour of eye muscle at the time of grading. AUS-MEAT standards (scores ranging from 1a, 1b, 1c, 2-7) are used. FC Fat colour is the colour of intermuscular fat lateral to the eye muscle. The AUS-MEAT fat colour standards (scores ranging from 0-9) are used. **EMA** Eye muscle area (EMA) is the area of the eye muscle (longissimus dorsi) measured in square centimetres. MSA graders use an AUS-MEAT approved grid to measure the muscle area. **FailMisc** This identifies whether a carcase is ungraded due to miscellaneous reasons not previously recorded. Examples of this would be ecchymosis or excessive bruising. **HidePD** Hide puller damage is recorded as YES or NO if area damage is greater than 10cm2. The MSA Index is a single number and standard national measure of the predicted eating **MSA** Index quality and potential merit of a carcase. The MSA Index is a number between 30 and 80, expressed to two decimal places (e.g. 54.62). It is a weighted average of the predicted MSA eating quality scores of 39 MSA cuts in a carcase. The MSA Index is independent of any processing inputs and is calculated using only attributes influenced by pre-slaughter production. It is a consistent benchmark, which can be used across all processors, geographic regions and over time. It reflects the impact on eating quality of management, environmental and genetic differences between cattle at the point of slaughter. The MSA Index is calculated in myMSA once grading data is received from the processor. The MSA Index is calculated for all carcases that meet minimum MSA requirements.

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can be made and it helps benchmark carcase attribute performance. It tells producers what their Index would have been if non-compliant carcases had met MSA minimum requirements. The MSA Opportunity Index is calculated for all carcases that don't meet the

Fact sheet current as at February 2021

**Opp Index** 

minimum MSA requirements.

