Weight data collection guide

Alongside the HFH tonnage diversion calculator, our team has provided a data collection tool in the form of an Excel spreadsheet (Weight data helper.xlsx). This tool is intended to aid in the collection of customer purchase information and item weight samples, and will calculate per-department weight averages automatically.

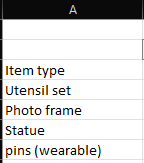
The spreadsheet looks like this:

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

The first sheet in the file is labeled “EXAMPLE”, contains sample data, and is intended to be used as a reference. When collecting customer purchase information, begin with the blank sheets (Department 1, department 2, etc.). These are intended to be renamed to reflect the departments one is tracking purchase information for.

When recording customer purchase information, enter purchased item types (glass cup, plates, baskets, etc) in column A of the sheet representing the relevant department, starting with cell 4 under “Item type”:



Enter the total number of items of that type purchased over the period of observation in column B, directly next to the item type:

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

Fields with orange characters are intended to be auto-calculated, and should generally be left untouched. The one potential exception to this is the column labeled “avg weigh (lbs, calculated)”: A screenshot of a calculator

Description automatically generated

While this field is intended to be calculated from samples of inventory of similar items, one may remove the equation in a cell in this column, and replace it with a known weight. This may be useful in the event that an item is unique, and no other similar items exist in inventory. If this is the case, and it is possible to weigh the item before the customer purchases it, simply replace the contents of the relevant cell with the weight of the item. For example:



Generally, however, item weight is intended to be calculated from inventory samples. Simply weigh a number of items of similar type, and enter each item’s weight in the same row as the other information for that item type, starting with column E, labeled “Sample weights (lbs)”:

A number on a white surface

Description automatically generated

When sample weights are added into a row, the document will auto-calculate the average wight of that item, and the average weight of all items sold from the department. Weighing more samples of each item category will increase the accuracy of the calculation- some items may require data collection over a period of several weeks, if not many of them are in stock at a given time. This data can be safely updated at any time, simply by weighing more samples and adding the data to the spreadsheet.

Final departmental averages are auto-calculated and displayed in cell F2, colored green, under the label “FINAL AVERAGE DEPARTMENT WEIGHT”:



This number is the department average weight, which can be used to update the values in the HFH tonnage diversion calculator.

More information regarding the design of this process can be found in the technical paper, delivered alongside this documentation.