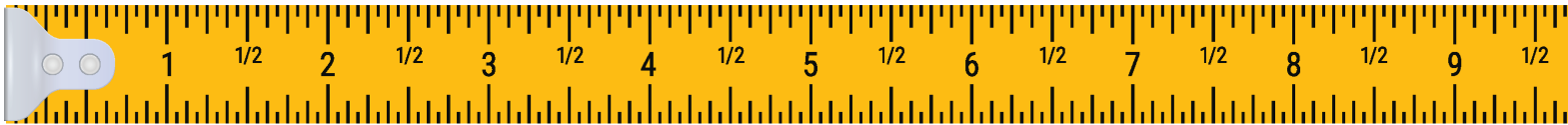
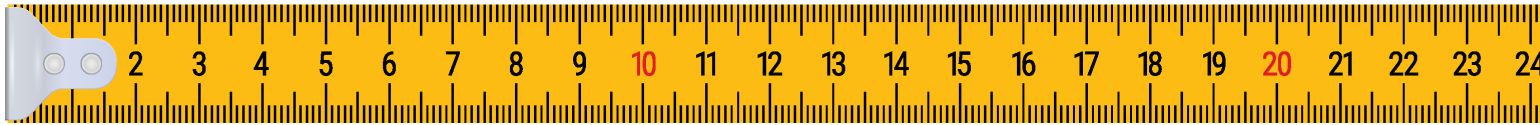


**CONCEPT** The United States is one of three nations that do not use the metric system. We use mostly the English system of measurement. Because so much of the world uses the metric system, there is a big need to know how to convert metric to English. When you weigh in at the doctor's office, the scale shows your weight in kilograms.

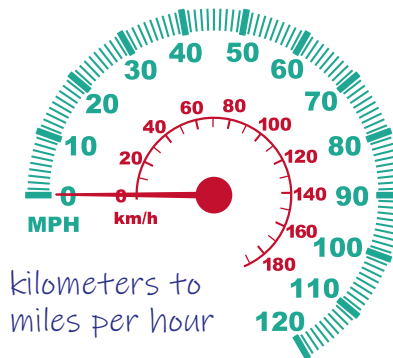


## REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS

Many occupations in the US use the metric system everyday, pharmaceuticals, US military, photographers, and businesses whose home office is in a country that uses metric. When shopping you may notice most products have metric units on the labels.

## EXAMPLES

- 1 meter = 3.3 feet
- 1 kilometer = 3.3 miles
- 1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds
- 1 liter = .26 gallons



## BACKGROUND

In 1790 English bishop John Wilkins invented the first part of the decimal metric system. Benjamin Franklin, one of the US founding fathers, developed part of the metric system also. In fact, Benjamin Franklin, along with Thomas Jefferson and French Marquis de Condorcet, and Sir John Riggs-Miller from England proposed their three nations, the US, France, and England should cooperate and jointly introduce the decimal metric system.