

# Fractions, Decimals, and Percents

## Focus on...

After this lesson, you will be able to...

- convert between fractions, decimals, and percents



The period was not bad with 90% of the shots saved by the home team goalie. The second period saw 150% as many shots on goal, yet an amazing 0.9333 save performance held the home team in the game. But, how many ways can you spell disaster? In the third period, the home team goaltender let in two easy goals for a dismal  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$  of shots on goal stopped.

Sports commentators often use statistics to report on the performance of a goalie. Commentators often change the way the information is presented to make it sound more interesting.

How did the sports commentator use the information from the following table in the report on the goalie's performance?

Goalie Statistics				
Period	Shots on Goal	Saves	Goals Against	Save Percent
1	10	9	1	90%
2	15	14	1	$93\frac{1}{3}\%$
3	6	4	2	$66\frac{2}{3}\%$

## Explore the Math

### How are percents related to fractions and decimals?

1. a) What fraction of this figure is shaded?  
 b) Rewrite your fraction with a denominator of 100.  
 c) Express the fraction shaded as a decimal.  
 d) What percent of the figure is shaded?



2. Suppose you want to shade one half as many sections as in #1. Show the area that will be shaded on a new diagram. How much of the diagram will you shade? Express your answer as a fraction, a decimal, and a percent.

3. Suppose you want to shade three times as many sections as in #1. If one large square represents one whole, how many squares will you need to draw to show this situation? How many squares will you shade? Express your answer as a fraction, a decimal, and a percent.

### Reflect on Your Findings

4. a) How are the decimal, percent, and fraction representations of a number the same? How are they different?  
 b) Which representations do you prefer to work with? Why?

### Example 1: Convert Fractions to Decimals and Percents

Convert each fraction to a decimal and a percent.

- a)  $\frac{1}{20}$       b)  $\frac{71}{200}$       c)  $\frac{9}{8}$

#### Solution

- a) To convert to a decimal, divide the numerator by the denominator.

$$1 \div 20 = 0.05$$

To convert to a percent, multiply the decimal by 100 and add a percent symbol.

$$0.05 \times 100 = 5$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{1}{20} = 5\%.$$

Recall that percent means *out of 100*.

You could write  $\frac{1}{20}$  as a fraction with a denominator of 100.

$$\frac{1}{20} = \frac{5}{100} = 5\%$$

- b) Divide the numerator by the denominator.

$$71 \div 200 = 0.355$$

Multiply by 100 and add the percent symbol.

$$0.355 \times 100 = 35.5\%$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{71}{200} = 35.5\%.$$

$$\frac{71}{200} = \frac{35.5}{100} = 35.5\%$$

- c) Divide the numerator by the denominator.

$$9 \div 8 = 1.125$$

Multiply by 100 and add the percent symbol.

$$1.125 \times 100 = 112.5\%$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{9}{8} = 112.5\%.$$

### Show You Know

Convert each fraction to a decimal and a percent.

- a)  $\frac{3}{40}$       b)  $\frac{171}{300}$       c)  $\frac{88}{50}$

## Example 2: Convert Decimals to Percents and Fractions

Convert each decimal to a percent and a fraction.

- a) 0.0032      b) 0.125      c) 3.26

### Solution

- a) To write 0.0032 as a percent, multiply by 100 and add a percent symbol.

$$0.0032 \times 100 = 0.32$$

So,  $0.0032 = 0.32\%$ .

How does the location of the decimal point change when you multiply by 100?

To write 0.0032 as a fraction, look at the last digit to determine its place value. The 2 is in the ten thousandths place.

$$0.0032 = \frac{32}{10\,000}$$

$$\frac{32}{10\,000} \text{ can be written in lowest terms as } \frac{2}{625}.$$

$$\frac{32}{10\,000} = \frac{2}{625}$$

$\div 16$   
 $\div 16$

- b) To write 0.125 as a percent, multiply by 100 and add a percent symbol.

$$0.125 \times 100 = 12.5$$

So,  $0.125 = 12.5\%$ .

12.5% is the same as  $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ .

To write 0.125 as a fraction, look at the last digit to determine its place value. The 5 is in the thousandths place.

$$0.125 = \frac{125}{1000}$$

$$\frac{125}{1000} \text{ can be written in lowest terms as } \frac{1}{8}.$$

$$\frac{125}{1000} = \frac{1}{8}$$

$\div 125$   
 $\div 125$

- c) To write 3.26 as a percent, multiply by 100 and add a percent symbol.

$$3.26 \times 100 = 326$$

So,  $3.26 = 326\%$ .

To write 3.26 as a fraction, look at the last digit to determine its place value. The 6 is in the hundredths place.

$$3.26 = \frac{326}{100}$$

$$\frac{326}{100} \text{ can be written in lowest terms as } \frac{163}{50}.$$

$$\frac{326}{100} = \frac{163}{50}$$

$\div 2$   
 $\div 2$

### Show You Know

Convert each decimal to a percent and a fraction.

- a) 0.0064      b) 0.268      c) 5.98

### Example 3: Determine a Percent

For the past century, the north magnetic pole has been drifting across the Canadian Arctic. Prior to the 1970s, the magnetic pole was drifting at an average speed of 10 km/year. Since the 1970s, the speed at which the magnetic pole has been drifting has increased to about 50 km/year. The circumference of Earth is approximately 40 000 km.

- What percent is the current speed of the original speed?
- The circumference of Earth is approximately 40 000 km. At 50 km/year, what percent of Earth's circumference will the pole drift in one year?

#### Solution

- The current speed is 50 km/year.  
The original speed is 10 km/year.  
Divide to find what percent the current speed is of the original speed.  
$$\frac{50}{10} = 5$$
$$5 \times 100 = 500 \quad \text{Multiply by 100 to convert to a percent.}$$
So,  $5 = 500\%$   
The current speed is 500% of the original speed.

- The circumference of Earth is 40 000 km.  
The distance the pole drifts in one year is 50 km.  
The amount of Earth's circumference travelled in one year is represented by  
$$\frac{50}{40\,000} = \frac{1}{800}$$
$$= 0.001\,25$$
$$0.00125 = 0.125\% \quad \text{Multiply by 100 to convert to a percent.}$$
At 50 km/year, the pole will drift 0.125% or  $\frac{1}{8}\%$  of Earth's circumference in one year.

0.125 is equivalent to the fraction  $\frac{1}{8}$ .

#### Show You Know

Suppose that the speed at which the pole is drifting increased to 75 km/year.

- What percent is 75 km/year of the original speed?
- At 75 km/year, what percent of 40 000 km would the pole drift in one year?

7. Change each decimal to a percent and a fraction.

- a) 0.256      b) 0.0005      c) 6.5

8. Convert each percent to a decimal and a fraction.

- a)  $75\frac{3}{4}\%$       b) 0.56%      c) 248%

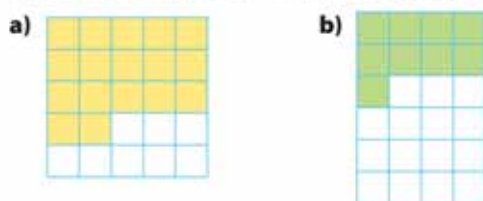
9. Express each percent as a decimal and a fraction.

- a)  $5\frac{9}{10}\%$       b) 550%      c) 0.8%

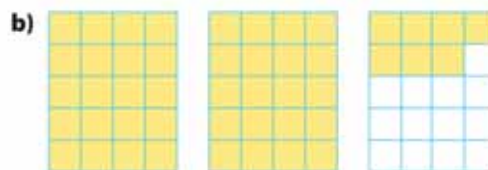
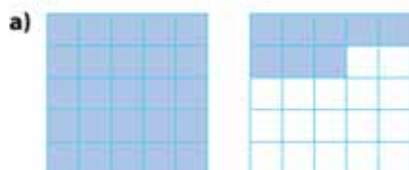
10. Copy and complete the following table. The first row is completed for you.

Percent	Fraction	Decimal
165%	$\frac{165}{100}$	1.65
a) 230%		
b) 0.38%		
c) 19.9%		

11. Express the shaded portion of each diagram as a fraction, a decimal, and a percent.



12. If one completely shaded grid represents one whole, express the shaded portion of each diagram as a fraction, a decimal, and a percent.



### Apply

For help with #13 and #14, refer to Example 3

13. Several years ago Claire bought the first issue of a popular comic book for \$10. At a recent auction, it sold for \$200. What percent is the new value of the comic book of the price several years ago?
14. A snack contains 0.9 g of fat. Suppose that in one day, Shaun consumed a total of 40 g of fat, including the snack. What percent of Shaun's total fat consumption does the snack represent? What is this percent as a decimal and as a fraction?
15. Use hundred grids to help place the following numbers in ascending order.  $145\%$ ,  $\frac{5}{8}\%$ , 1.32, 0.65, 33.5%, 0.6%
16. A miner found 12 g of gold in a 2700-g sample of ore. What percent of the sample is gold, to the nearest tenth of a percent? What is the percent as a repeating decimal and as a fraction in lowest terms?

### Literacy Link

A repeating decimal contains a digit or group of digits that repeat forever. You can write a repeating decimal using bar notation.

$$0.33333\dots = 0.\overline{3} \quad 0.454545\dots = 0.\overline{45}$$

17. A fundraising coordinator is preparing an advertising flyer for an upcoming event. She wants to use either a fraction or a decimal number to represent each of the percents in the following statements. Decide whether a fraction or a decimal number is better and rewrite each statement using your chosen representation. Justify your choices.

- a) Ticket sales are 130% of what they were at this time last year.
- b) We are already at  $60\frac{1}{2}\%$  of our target and we just started!
- c) We have managed to cut our costs by 0.75%.

18. A fisheries worker recorded the following species and numbers of fish passing by a fish counter. Copy and complete the following table.

Species	Number	Percent of Total	Fraction of Total	Decimal Equivalent
Chinook	143			
Coho	122			
Steelhead	2			

19. Over five years, the circulation of a magazine increased from 25 000 copies to 150 000 copies. What percent is the new circulation of the circulation five years ago? What is this percent as a decimal and as a fraction?

20. Kim's resting heart rate was 75 beats per minute. A trainer advised Kim to have a portion of her workout at 90 beats per minute and a portion at 125 beats per minute, but not to exceed 150 beats per minute. Express each heart rate compared to the resting heart rate as a percent, a fraction, and a decimal.



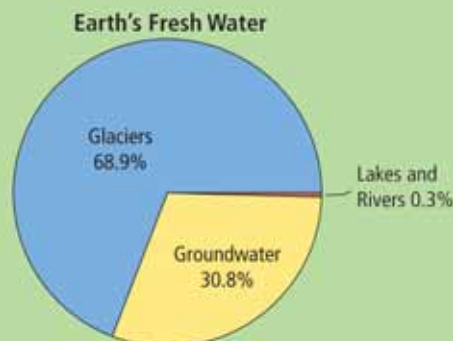
### Extend

21. Copy and complete the first three rows of the table. Use the patterns in the first three rows to complete the last two rows.

Percent	Decimal	Fraction
a) 1000		
b)	5.00	
c)		$\frac{5}{2}$
d)		
e)		

## MATH LINK

Represent the percents shown in the circle graph in two other ways.



### Did You Know?

In 2002, NASA launched two satellites to measure groundwater amounts from space! These satellites use gravity to *weigh* Earth's groundwater.