



SKILL 19: PROBLEM SOLVING: Percent of Increase and Decrease

To find the **percent of increase**, compare the amount of increase to the original amount

$$\frac{\text{amount of increase}}{\text{original amount}} = \frac{n}{100}$$

To find the **percent of decrease**, compare the amount of the decrease to the original amount.

$$\frac{\text{amount of decrease}}{\text{original amount}} = \frac{n}{100}$$

Example

Last year the Luna family paid \$900 a month for rent. This year the rent increased to \$972 a month. By what percent did their rent increase from last year to this year?

Read The rent increased from \$900 to \$972.

Plan Subtract to find the amount of the increase: $\$972 - \$900 = \$72$.
Write a proportion to find what percent \$72 is of \$900.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{amount of increase} \longrightarrow \frac{72}{900} = \frac{n}{100} \\ \text{original amount} \longrightarrow \end{array}$$

Solve Find the cross products. $900n = 7200$
Divide by 900. $n = 8$

The percent of increase is 8%.

Look Back Is 8% of \$900 equal to \$72? Since $0.08 \times 900 = 72$, it checks.

Guided Practice

1. The original price of a pair of jeans was \$30. The sale price is \$24. What is the percent of discount? (*Discount* is a decrease in price.)

a. Find the amount of the discount. $\$30 - \$24 = \$$ _____.

b. Write a proportion to find the percent of discount. $\frac{\text{amount of decrease}}{\text{original amount}} \rightarrow \frac{\square}{\square} = \frac{n}{100}$

c. Solve the proportion. What is the percent of discount? _____

2. Michael bought a baseball card for \$5. He later sold it for \$10. By what percent did the price of the card increase?

a. Write a proportion to find the percent of increase. $\frac{\text{amount of increase}}{\text{original amount}} \rightarrow \frac{\square}{\square} = \frac{n}{100}$

b. By what percent did the price of the card increase? _____