

Calculating Percent Error And Percent Difference

Each calculation yields a fraction that should be expressed as a percent.

Percent Error

Used when there is a value believed to be correct.

$$\frac{\text{measured} - \text{accepted}}{\text{accepted}}$$

Percent Difference

Used when two values must be compared and neither is known to be correct.

$$\frac{|a - b|}{|a + b|}$$