

# Estimate Sums and Differences



To estimate a sum or difference, you can round the numbers to make it easier to add or subtract mentally.

## Method 1

Round to the greatest place in the greater number.

Find the greater number. Circle the number in the greatest place. Round each number to that place. Then add or subtract.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,732 \rightarrow 3,000 \\ + \quad 941 \rightarrow + 1,000 \\ \hline 4,000 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 13.7 \rightarrow 20 \\ - \quad 4.2 \rightarrow - 0 \\ \hline 20 \end{array}$$

## Method 2

Round to the greatest place in the lesser number.

Find the lesser number. Circle the number in the greatest place. Round each number to that place. Then add or subtract.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,732 \rightarrow 2,700 \\ + \quad 941 \rightarrow + \quad 900 \\ \hline 3,600 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 18.7 \rightarrow 19 \\ - \quad 4.2 \rightarrow - \quad 4 \\ \hline 15 \end{array}$$

Round to the greatest place in the greater number to estimate each sum or difference.

1. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 4,204 \rightarrow \\ + 2,779 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \$189 \rightarrow \\ - \quad 53 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

3. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 4,567 \rightarrow \\ - \quad 788 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

4. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \$31.53 \rightarrow \\ + \quad 2.07 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

5. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 15.497 \rightarrow \\ + \quad 8.38 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

6. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 47.1 \rightarrow \\ - 11.66 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Round to the greatest place in the lesser number to estimate each sum or difference.

7. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 5,087 \rightarrow \\ + \quad 615 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

8. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 794 \rightarrow \\ + 3,157 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

9. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 4,780 \rightarrow \\ - \quad 103 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

10. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \$42.469 \rightarrow \\ + \quad 8.23 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

11. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 58.9 \rightarrow \\ - \quad 7.1 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$

12. 
$$\begin{array}{r} 32.78 \rightarrow \\ - \quad 6.6 \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$$