

# Part 3 Decimals, Ratios, Rates, Proportions, and Percentages

## Unit 14 Introduction to Decimals

1. Decimals are similar to fractions with denominators of 10, 100, 1,000, etc.

$\frac{1}{10}$  and .1 are read **one tenth**.

$\frac{11}{100}$  and .11 are read **eleven hundredths**.

$\frac{111}{1,000}$  and .111 are read **one hundred eleven thousandths**.

2. Decimals can be used with whole numbers. Read the decimal point as "and."

The diagram shows the number 24.374586. Arrows point from the digits to their respective place values: 2 (tens), 4 (ones), 3 (tenths), 7 (hundredths), 4 (thousandths), 5 (ten thousandths), 8 (hundred thousandths), and 6 (millionths). The decimal point is labeled as 'decimal point'. The digits to the left of the decimal point are labeled as 'whole numbers'.

**Note:** The number 24.3 would be read twenty-four and three tenths.  
The number 24.37 would be read twenty-four and thirty-seven hundredths.

3. Place value is important with decimals.

To the left of the decimal point,  
place values are 10 times larger.

$$70 = (7)(10)$$

$$700 = (70)(10)$$

$$7,000 = (700)(10)$$

To the right of the decimal,  
place values are  $\frac{1}{10}$  as large.

$$.7 = (7)\left(\frac{1}{10}\right)$$

$$.07 = (.7)\left(\frac{1}{10}\right)$$

$$.007 = (.07)\left(\frac{1}{10}\right)$$

Adding zeros between a  
decimal and a number will  
make the number smaller.

$$.7 \rightarrow .07 \rightarrow .007$$

$$\frac{7}{10} > \frac{7}{100} > \frac{7}{1,000}$$

Adding zeros to the right of  
a number will not change  
the value of the number.

$$.7 \rightarrow .70 \rightarrow .700$$

$$\frac{7}{10} = \frac{70}{100} = \frac{700}{1,000}$$