Lesson 14 Summary

Percent error can be used to describe any situation where there is a correct value and an incorrect value, and we want to describe the relative difference between them. For example, if a milk carton is supposed to contain 16 fluid ounces and it only contains 15 fluid ounces:

- the measurement error is 1 oz, and
- the percent error is 6.25% because \( \frac{1}{16} = 0.0625 \).

We can also use percent error when talking about estimates. For example, a teacher estimates there are about 600 students at their school. If there are actually 625 students, then the percent error for this estimate was 4%, because \( \frac{625 - 600}{625} = \frac{25}{625} = 0.04 \).

Lesson 14 Glossary Terms

- percent error