

NA02 – Percentage, Ratio & Proportion

 Numerical Ability – NA02

AFCAT Level

★ High Priority

✦ **AFCAT Focus:** NA02 is the **highest-weightage chapter** in Numerical Ability (3–5 questions). Master **percentage conversions** (fraction ↔ % ↔ decimal), **successive % change formula**, and **ratio shortcuts**. Also feeds Profit/Loss and SI/CI. Average students who memorise the % fraction table can solve most AFCAT questions in under 30 seconds.

1. Percentage

FIG. 1.1 – PERCENTAGE ↔ FRACTION ↔ DECIMAL: MASTER CONVERSION TABLE

PERCENTAGE ↔ FRACTION ↔ DECIMAL CONVERSIONS

PERCENTAGE	FRACTION	DECIMAL
10%	1/10	0.1
20%	1/5	0.2
25%	1/4	0.25
33.33%	1/3	0.333̄
50%	1/2	0.5
66.67%	2/3	0.667
75%	3/4	0.75

Memorise these! AFCAT uses these fractions directly in questions.

Key Percentage Formulas:

- $x\%$ of $y = x \times y / 100$
- % increase = $(\text{Increase} / \text{Original}) \times 100$
- % decrease = $(\text{Decrease} / \text{Original}) \times 100$

- If A is $x\%$ more than B, then B is $x/(100+x) \times 100\%$ less than A
- Successive change: $x\%$ then $y\% \rightarrow \text{Net } \% = x + y + xy/100$

✂ Worked Example – Successive Percentage Change

A salary is increased by 20% and then decreased by 10%. What is the net % change?

Use: $\text{Net} = x + y + xy/100$ (here $x = +20$, $y = -10$)

$\text{Net} = 20 + (-10) + (20 \times -10)/100 = 20 - 10 - 2 = +8\%$ (net increase)

✓ Net increase = 8%

RATIO & PROPORTION

2. Ratio & Proportion

FIG. 2.1 – RATIO & PROPORTION: CONCEPTS & PROPERTIES

RATIO (a : b)

$a : b = a/b$ (a = antecedent, b = consequent)

Properties:

- Multiply/divide both terms by same number
- $a:b = ka:kb$ (equivalent ratios)

Comparison: a/b vs c/d

Cross multiply: ad vs bc

Types:

Compounded ratio: $(a:b) \times (c:d) = ac:bd$

Duplicate ratio: $a^2:b^2$ Sub-duplicate: $\sqrt{a}:\sqrt{b}$

PROPORTION (a:b = c:d)

a, b, c, d in proportion: **ad = bc**
(Product of extremes = Product of means)

Key Rules:

Componendo: $(a+b)/b = (c+d)/d$

Dividendo: $(a-b)/b = (c-d)/d$

Componendo-Dividendo: $(a+b)/(a-b) = (c+d)/(c-d)$

Types:

Continued: $a:b:c = a/b = b/c$ ($b = \sqrt{ac}$)

Direct: $y \uparrow$ when $x \uparrow$ Inverse: $y \downarrow$ when $x \uparrow$

Topic C

Partnership (Profit Sharing)

AFCAT Direct

Simple

Equal time: Profit divided in ratio of investments. If A invests Rs 3,000 and B invests Rs 5,000, ratio = 3:5. A gets 3/8 of profit, B gets 5/8.

Compound

Different time: Profit ratio = Capital × Time. If A invests Rs 3,000 for 6 months and B invests Rs 5,000 for 8 months, $A:B = (3,000 \times 6):(5,000 \times 8) = 18,000:40,000 = 9:20$.

Working Partner

A working partner may receive a salary/commission from profits *before* the remaining profit is split in the investment ratio.

✂ Worked Example — Ratio & Partnership

A, B and C invest Rs 20,000; Rs 25,000 and Rs 15,000 respectively. Total profit = Rs 9,600. Find each person's share.

Ratio: 20,000 : 25,000 : 15,000 = **4 : 5 : 3** (divide by 5,000)

Total parts = 4+5+3 = 12

A = $(4/12) \times 9,600 =$ **Rs 3,200**

B = $(5/12) \times 9,600 =$ **Rs 4,000**

C = $(3/12) \times 9,600 =$ **Rs 2,400**

✓ **A: Rs 3,200 B: Rs 4,000 C: Rs 2,400**

✂ Worked Example — Election Results (% Application)

In an election between two candidates, the winner gets 65% of total votes and wins by 900 votes. Find total votes and votes for each candidate.

Winner: 65% Loser: 35% Difference: 30%

30% of total = 900 → Total votes = $900 \times 100/30 =$ **3,000**

Winner: 65% of 3,000 = **1,950 votes**

Loser: 35% of 3,000 = **1,050 votes**

✓ **Total = 3,000 | Winner = 1,950 | Loser = 1,050**

Topic B

Componendo, Dividendo, Alternendo & Invertendo

AFCAT Theory

Setup

If $a/b = c/d$ (i.e., $a:b = c:d$), then the following transformations all hold true:

Invertendo

$b/a = d/c$ — flip both fractions. (Invert both sides simultaneously.) E.g. if $3/4 = 6/8 \rightarrow 4/3 = 8/6$ ✓

Alternendo

$a/c = b/d$ — swap the means (b and c swap positions). E.g. if $3/4 = 6/8 \rightarrow 3/6 = 4/8 \rightarrow 1/2 = 1/2$ ✓

Componendo

$(a+b)/b = (c+d)/d$ — add denominator to numerator on both sides. E.g.
 $a/b=c/d \rightarrow (a+b)/b=(c+d)/d$

Dividendo

$(a-b)/b = (c-d)/d$ — subtract denominator from numerator on both sides.

Componendo–Dividendo

$(a+b)/(a-b) = (c+d)/(c-d)$ — the most used rule in AFCAT. Apply when given a ratio and asked to find $(x+y)/(x-y)$ type expressions.

Example: If $x/y = 3/2$, find $(x+y)/(x-y)$.

Apply C-D: $(3+2)/(3-2) = 5/1 = 5$

Formula Sheet — NAO2

Core % Formulas

x% of y = $xy/100$

% increase = $(\text{increase/original}) \times 100$

Successive: $x+y+xy/100$

A more than B by x%: B less than A by $x/(100+x)\%$

Ratio Key Facts

a:b::c:d $\rightarrow ad = bc$

Compounded: ac:bd

Duplicate: $a^2:b^2$

Componendo–Dividendo: $(a+b)/(a-b) = (c+d)/(c-d)$

Proportion Types

Mean proportion of a,b: \sqrt{ab}

Third proportion to a,b: b^2/a

Fourth proportion to a,b,c: bc/a

Direct: $y = kx$ Inverse: $y = k/x$

% Fraction Table (Key)

$1/8 = 12.5\%$ $1/6 = 16.67\%$

$2/5 = 40\%$ $3/8 = 37.5\%$

$5/8 = 62.5\%$ $7/8 = 87.5\%$

$1/9 = 11.11\%$ $1/11 = 9.09\%$

Partnership

Simple: Profit \propto **Capital**

Compound: Profit \propto **Capital \times Time**

Working partner gets salary first, then split

Population / Growth

After n years: $P \times (1 + r/100)^n$

% change on original: **use net formula**

If population falls: $P \times (1 - r/100)^n$

Q1. 35% of 280 is: AFCAT PYQ

- (a) 91 (b) 96 (c) 98 (d) 105

✓ Answer: (c) 98

$35\% \text{ of } 280 = (35/100) \times 280 = 35 \times 2.8 = 98$. Shortcut: $35\% = 25\% + 10\% = 70 + 28 = 98$.

Q2. A number is increased by 20% and then decreased by 20%. The net change is: AFCAT PYQ

- (a) 0% change (b) 4% decrease (c) 4% increase (d) 2% decrease

✓ Answer: (b) 4% decrease

Net = $x + y + xy/100 = 20 + (-20) + (20 \times -20)/100 = 0 - 4 = -4\%$. A 4% decrease. This is a classic AFCAT trap – students assume 0% change.

Q3. If A:B = 2:3 and B:C = 4:5, then A:B:C = ? AFCAT PYQ

- (a) 8:12:15 (b) 2:3:5 (c) 6:8:10 (d) 4:6:10

✓ Answer: (a) 8:12:15

Make B common: A:B = 2:3 = 8:12; B:C = 4:5 = 12:15. So A:B:C = 8:12:15.

Q4. In an election, candidate A gets 55% of total votes. If he wins by 2,400 votes, find total votes: ⚡ Tricky

- (a) 20,000 (b) 24,000 (c) 30,000 (d) 12,000

✓ Answer: (b) 24,000

A gets 55%, B gets 45%. Difference = 10%. 10% of total = 2,400 → Total = 24,000.

Q5. A and B invest Rs 4,000 and Rs 6,000. If total profit = Rs 5,500, B's share is: AFCAT PYQ

- (a) Rs 2,000 (b) Rs 3,000 (c) Rs 3,300 (d) Rs 2,500

✓ Answer: (c) Rs 3,300

Ratio = 4:6 = 2:3. B's share = $(3/5) \times 5,500 = \text{Rs } 3,300$.

Quick Memory Chart — NA02

% Conversions

- ◆ 10% = $\frac{1}{10}$
- ◆ 25% = $\frac{1}{4}$
- ◆ 33.33% = $\frac{1}{3}$
- ◆ 50% = $\frac{1}{2}$
- ◆ 12.5% = $\frac{1}{8}$
- ◆ 16.67% = $\frac{1}{6}$

% Formulas

- ◆ Successive:
 $x+y+xy/100$
- ◆ Both same sign: **net increases**
- ◆ Opposite signs: may decrease
- ◆ $+r\%$ then $-r\% = -r^2/100\%$
- ◆ A 20% more than B \rightarrow B is **16.67% less**

Ratio & Partnership

- ◆ $ad = bc$ (proportion)
- ◆ C-D: $(a+b)/(a-b) = (c+d)/(c-d)$
- ◆ Mean proportion: \sqrt{ab}
- ◆ Simple partnership: **Capital ratio**
- ◆ Compound: **Capital \times Time**

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