



SKILL 3: Comparing and Ordering Numbers

You know that if two numbers have a different number of digits, the number with more digits is the larger number.

To compare two numbers with the same number of digits, start at the left and find the first place-value position that has different digits. The number with the larger digit is the larger number. The symbols $>$ and $<$ are used to compare numbers.

The symbol $>$ means "is greater than."

The symbol $<$ means "is less than."

Example

Compare 87,812 and 87,349.

The numbers have the same number of digits.

Start with the digit at the left.

Step 1: $\boxed{8}$ 7 8 1 2 Compare the ten-thousands digits. They are equal.
 $\boxed{8}$ 7 3 4 9

Step 2: 8 $\boxed{7}$ 8 1 2 Next compare the thousands digits. They are equal.
 8 $\boxed{7}$ 3 4 9

Step 3: 8 7 $\boxed{8}$ 1 2 Then compare the hundreds digits. 8 is greater than 3.
 8 7 $\boxed{3}$ 4 9

So, 87,812 is greater than 87,349, or $87,812 > 87,349$.

Guided Practice

1. Compare 21,009 and 21,090.

a. Compare the digits, starting at the left.

In which place-value positions are the digits the same?

b. For the first two digits that are not the same, which digit is greater? _____

c. Which is greater: 21,009 or 21,090? _____

d. Compare 6,802 and 6,820. Which is greater? _____

Compare the numbers, using $>$ or $<$.

2. $45 \bigcirc 54$

3. $932 \bigcirc 923$

4. $5,676 \bigcirc 5,675$

5. $6,321 \bigcirc 6,279$

6. $11,122 \bigcirc 11,211$

7. $707,213 \bigcirc 778,689$

SKILL 3: Practice

Order each group of numbers from least to greatest.

1. 3,000; 20,000; 400; 50 _____
2. 38,000; 37,940; 38,010 _____
3. 6,748; 6,847; 6,487; 6,874 _____
4. 78,321; 873,210; 783,210 _____
5. 1,243; 1,342; 1,324; 1,234 _____
6. 99,909; 99,000; 99,900; 90,000 _____
7. 82,270; 83,100; 82,200; 82,170 _____
8. 48,380; 48,376; 48,408; 48,480 _____
9. 63,821; 63,900; 63,800; 64,000 _____
10. 1,675; 15 hundred; 2 thousand _____
11. 19 million; 2 million; 30 thousand _____
12. 18 thousand; 18 million; 180,000 _____

Solve.

13. In 1996, 1,490,400 Americans were employed in printing and publishing, 1,421,648 were employed in real estate, and 1,600,846 were employed in hotels and other lodging places. Rank these industries from the fewest employees to the most employees.



14. Which number is less than 5,308?

Skill 3

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|----------------|----------------|
| A 3,508 | C 5,380 |
| B 5,803 | D 8,035 |

15. Round 86,991 to the nearest hundred.

Skill 2

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| F 86,100 | H 86,900 |
| G 86,800 | J 87,000 |