## Rational number



A *rational number* is one which can be written as  $\frac{m}{n}$  where *m* and *n* are integers with  $n \neq 0$ . That is, it can be written as a *ratio*, hence the name.

For example, -17,  $\frac{2}{5}$  and  $-\frac{1013}{12}$  are rational, but none of  $\pi$ , e or  $\sqrt{2}$  is.

We use the symbol  $\mathbb{Q}$  for the set of rational numbers.