

percent vs. percentage

1. In normal usage, "percent" should always be accompanied by a number. Otherwise, use "percentage."

A large percent of the population likes chocolate.
Approximately 47 percent of the customers ordered dessert.

2. The rule for using percent and percentage is straightforward. The word percent (or the symbol %) accompanies a specific number, whereas the more general word percentage is used without a number.

percent (adverb, noun): of each hundred

Fifteen percent of the control group responded to treatment with Drug A.
More than 95% of the participants who responded to the survey reported positive results.

percentage (noun): part of a whole that can be expressed in
hundredths

A large percentage of the population has been exposed to rotavirus.
The percentage of the population exposed to rotavirus is between 70% and 75%.

ro·ta·vi·rus [ròutəváiəɹəs] 로터바이러스

(방사상의 바이러스로 유아나 동물의 새끼에 위장염을 일으킴)