Rate of Change from a Table

Big Idea: Rates of Change is a ratio comparing two things. The rate of change needs to be expressed as a UNIT RATE--that means out of one unit of measurement.

Not all tables increase by increments of one.

rate of change	$\dfrac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$

Examples: Find the rate of change from each table.

x (hours)	y (miles)
4	32
8	60
11	81

+4, +3 (left)   +28, +21 (right)

x (hours)	y (miles)
4	88
7	79
10	70

+3, +3 (left)   -9, -9 (right)

x (minutes)	y (feet)
5	23
7.5	33
12	51

+7, +28 (right)

$$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{28}{4} = \frac{21}{3} = 7$$

$$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{-9}{3} = -3$$

$$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{28}{7} = 4$$