The tallest man ever was Robert Waldow. He was 272cm tall (nearly 9 feet!).

The shortest man ever was Gul Mohammed. He measured 57cm in height – not even 2 feet tall.

But how many times taller was Robert Waldow than Gul Mohammed? To answer this question we can look at ratios.

The ratio of their heights was 272 : 57. This doesn’t simplify exactly, but we can still write the ratio in the form n : 1

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| RW | GM |
| 272÷ 57 | 57÷ 57 |
| 4.77… | 1 |

So Robert Waldow was 4.77 times taller (to 2 decimal places) than Gul Mohammed, and 4.77 : 1 is the ratio **in the form *n* : 1.**

The world’s tallest mountain, Everest, is 8,848 metres tall. England’s highest mountain, Scafell Pike is 979 metres tall. Copy and complete the following boxes to help you write their heights in the form *n* : 1. Round the answer to 2dp.

**The ratio is 8,848 : 979**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Everest | Scafell Pike |
| 8848 | 979 |
|  | 1 |

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÷

**So the ratio of their heights in the form *n* : 1 is ……... : 1**

For each of the following set of facts, **first** write the ratio, **then** write it in the form *n* : 1. Draw your own tables like the ones above to help, and round answers to 2dp.

1. The female life expectancy in England is 79.7 years.

The female life expectancy in Ethiopia is 49.1 years.

1. The male life expectancy in England is 74.4 years.

The male life expectancy in Ethiopia is 45.9 years.

1. The world’s heaviest man weighed 105 stone.

The world’s heaviest woman weighed 75 stone.

1. Europe covers 7% of the world’s land.

Asia covers 29.5% of the world’s land.

1. The River Nile is 4,145 miles long.

The River Severn is 220 miles long.

1. The world’s largest bird, the ostrich, is 274cm long.

The world’s smallest bird, the hummingbird, is 5.7cm long.

1. Luke McMasters (the English wrestler ‘Giant Haystacks’) weighed 46 stone.

His wife, Rita, weighed 7.5 stone.

(This is the world record for weight difference between man and wife)

8. The area of England’s largest county, North Yorkshire, is 3,324 square miles. The area of Gloucestershire is 1,024 square miles.