## Approximating Numbers

We do not always need to give exact numbers.
In fact, in some cases it is preferable to give approximations. This is especially so if we want to be vague about the numbers we are reporting!

Some phrases we can use are given in the table below. Make sure you pay attention to whether the phrases are positive or negative in meaning.

| Exact | Approximation |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | a few |  |
| 8 | several |  |
| 9 | less than ten |  |
| 9 | just over ten |  |
| 995 | almost a hundred |  |
| 1,014 | nearly a thousand |  |
| 994,337 | more than a thousand |  |
| $1,143,555$ | around a million |  |
| $34 \%$ | abell over a million |  |
| $48 \%$ | just under half |  |
| $53 \%$ | just over half |  |
| $73 \%$ | around two-thirds |  |
| $92 \%$ |  |  |
| $98 \%$ |  |  |

