

Example

For a physics experiment, a student attempts to determine the coefficient of friction of an aluminum surface. He repeats the experiment 5 times, and calculates the coefficient of friction each time. The results of each experiment are shown in the chart below.

Trial	Experimental Value
1	0.35
2	0.34
3	0.35
4	0.36
5	0.38

If the coefficient of friction of the aluminum surface is known to be 0.22, describe the accuracy and precision of the student's results.

The values are all close together, so the results are precise. However, the results are not close to the known value of the coefficient of friction, and therefore they are not accurate.