

You may have found the sum of $-3\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$ as your first step, rather than the sum of $-3\frac{1}{4}$ and $-\frac{2}{3}$. To add the two negative numbers, you must add $3\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3}$ and put a negative sign in front of that result. Then add $9\frac{5}{8}$.