Example 6 - Using a single cell as part of a formula instead of the entire row or column

Other features illustrated: Column number formatting (decimals shown)

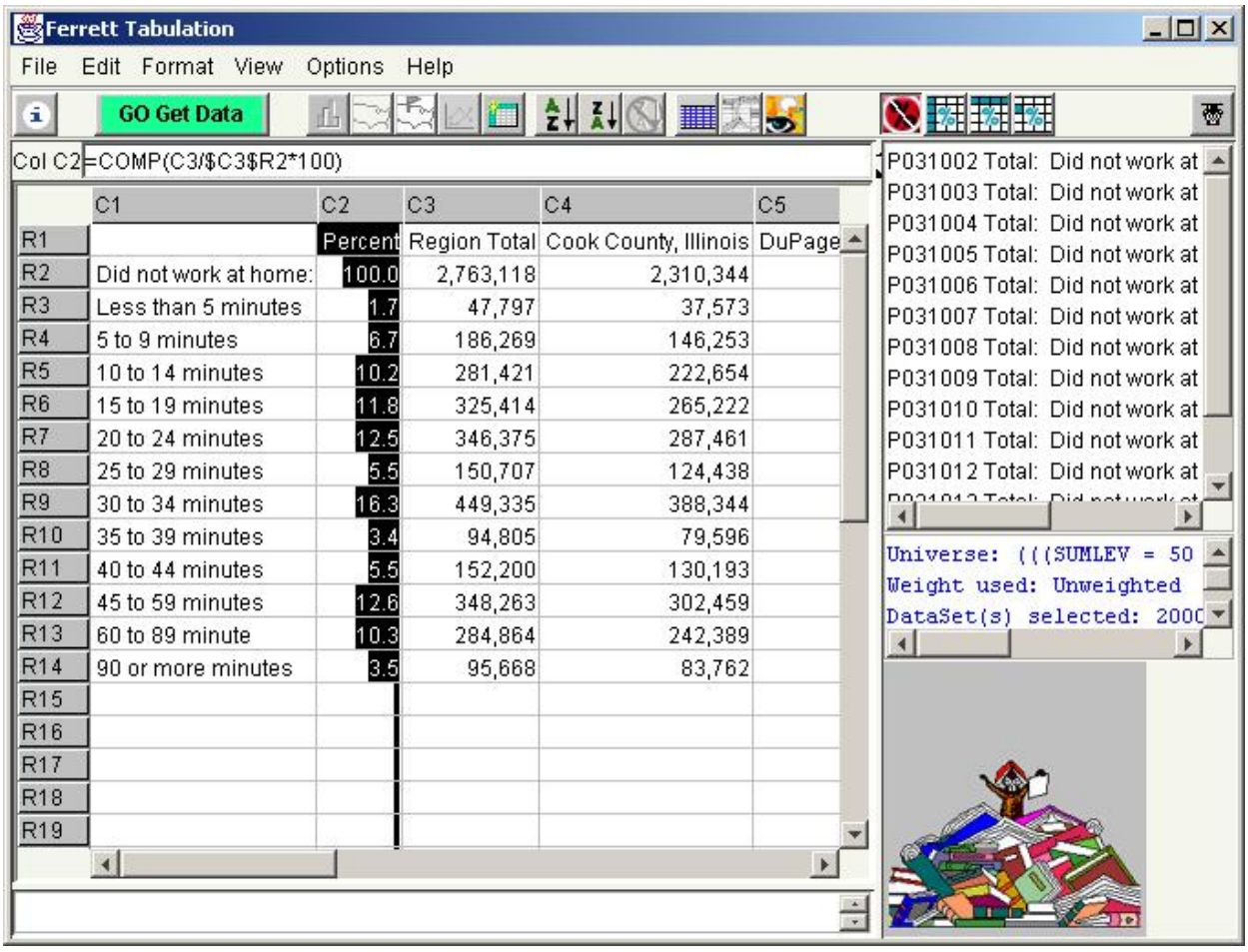
Background: The DataFerrett spreadsheet typically does row and column calculations since calculations normally apply to all cells in the row or column equally. However, sometimes you want to create a calculation that uses one specific cell as part of the formula and not the entire column or row.

Goal: Create a table that calculates the percentage of drivers within commute time ranges for a set of counties, while still showing the numbers of drivers within each commute time.

Steps:

1. Open the Ferrett Tabulation File named edw_trans_time_sf3_cell_calculation.ftf. Press the "OK" button on the Ferrett Chosen Instance Warning dialog.
2. "Go Get Data" to see the tabulation.
3. Column 2 was created using a formula that calculates the percent of commuters by travel time ranges. The formula in this case does not use Row 2 as the denominator, but instead just uses cell C3, R2 designated as **$C3$R2** - see the image for the entire formula.

Screenshot of table with a formula using a cell:



	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
R1		Percent	Region Total	Cook County, Illinois	DuPage
R2	Did not work at home:	100.0	2,763,118	2,310,344	
R3	Less than 5 minutes	1.7	47,797	37,573	
R4	5 to 9 minutes	6.7	186,269	146,253	
R5	10 to 14 minutes	10.2	281,421	222,654	
R6	15 to 19 minutes	11.8	325,414	265,222	
R7	20 to 24 minutes	12.5	346,375	287,461	
R8	25 to 29 minutes	5.5	150,707	124,438	
R9	30 to 34 minutes	16.3	449,335	388,344	
R10	35 to 39 minutes	3.4	94,805	79,596	
R11	40 to 44 minutes	5.5	152,200	130,193	
R12	45 to 59 minutes	12.6	348,263	302,459	
R13	60 to 89 minute	10.3	284,864	242,389	
R14	90 or more minutes	3.5	95,668	83,762	
R15					
R16					
R17					
R18					
R19					

4. We can create a new column and replicate this formula.
5. Highlight C6 by clicking in the gray column header.
6. In the formula bar, enter the formula as- **=COMP(C3/$C3$R2*100)** -then press the "Enter" key.
7. Highlight the column again, then select the "Decimal Format" button or the "Format" menu, then "Decimal" to bring up the decimal formatting dialog.
8. Select the "One decimal place" option and press the "Ok" button.
9. The percents in our new column (C6) should match the percents in column 2.

By creating a formula using a single cell as the denominator, we are able to create a column showing percents while also maintaining all the other data columns.