

SQL Server DELETE Top Statement

 javatpoint.com/sql-server-delete-top

In SQL Server, DELETE TOP statement is used to delete the records from a table and limit the number of records deleted regarding a fixed value or percentage.

Syntax:

1. DELETETOP (top_value) [PERCENT]
2. FROM [database_name].[dbo].[table_name]
3. [WHERE conditions];

Parameter explanation

table: It specifies a table that you want to delete records from.

WHERE conditions: It is optional. The conditions that must be met for the records to be deleted.

TOP (top_value): It is used to delete the top number of rows in the result set based on top_value. For example, TOP(10) would delete the top 10 rows matching the delete criteria.

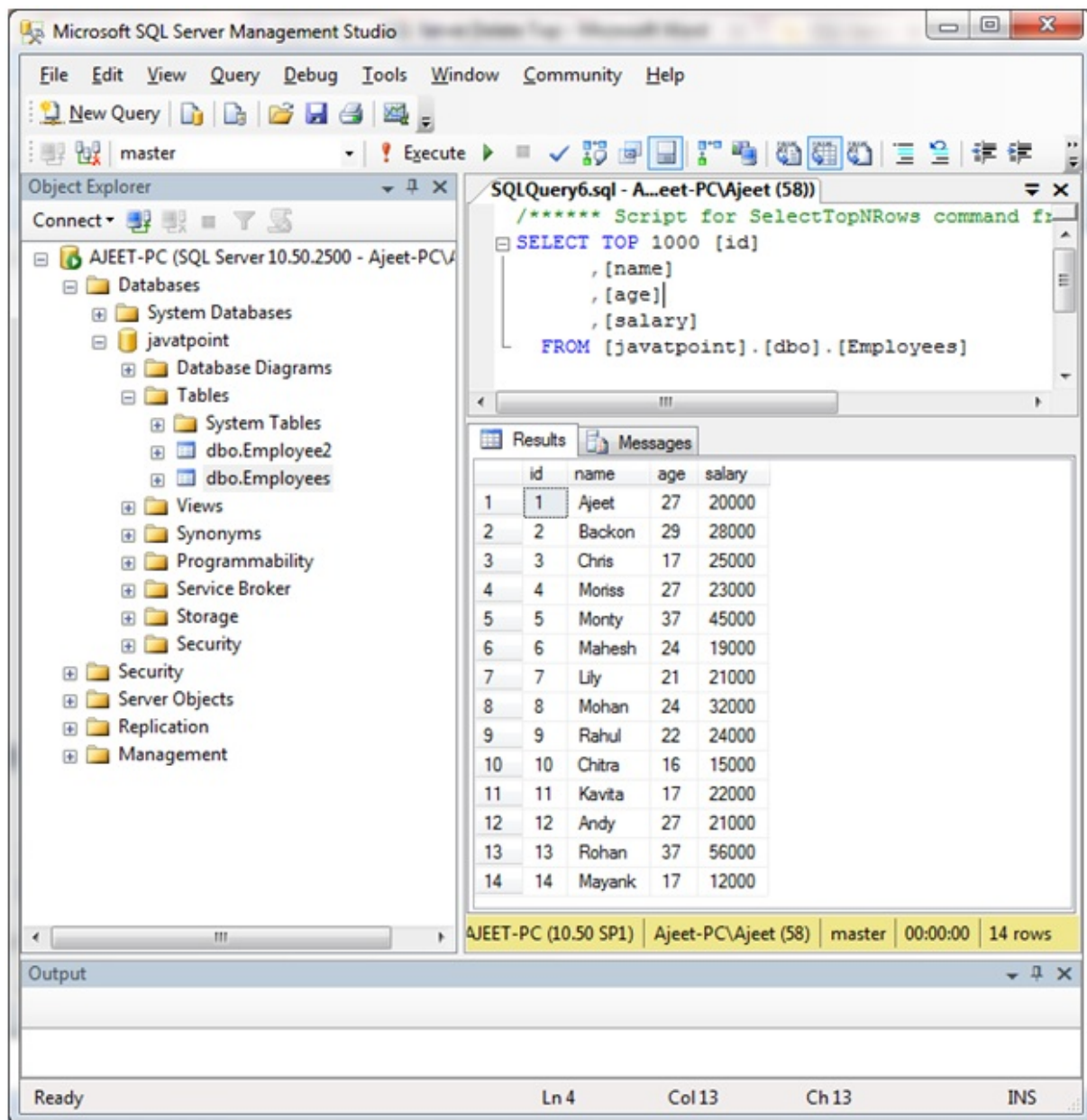
PERCENT: It is optional. It is used to delete the percentage of of top rows. For example, TOP(10) PERCENT would delete the top 10% of the records matching the delete criteria.

DELETE using TOP keyword

TOP keyword is used with DELETE statement to delete the specified top rows of a table.

Example:

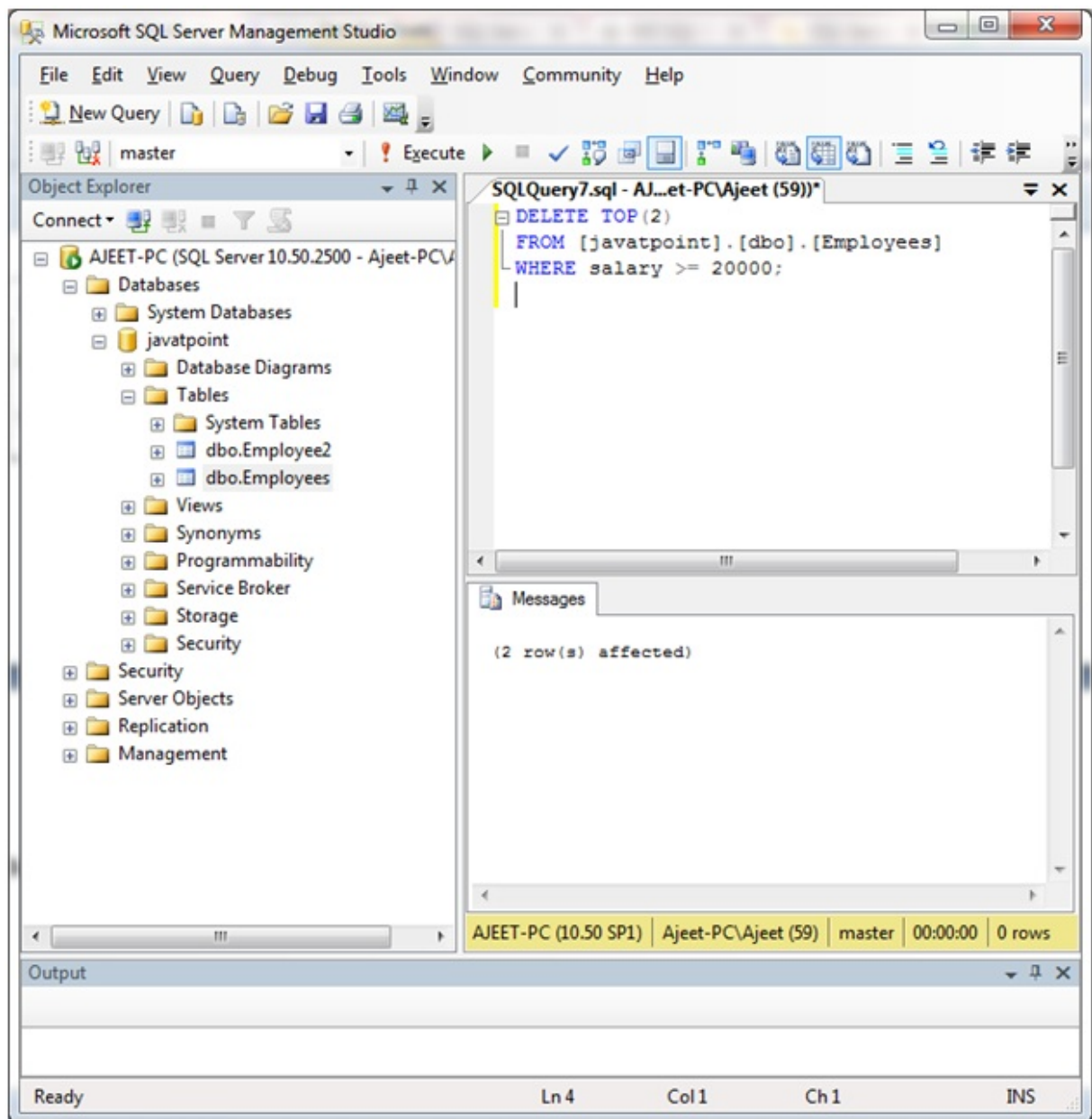
We have a table "Employees", having the following data.



Delete top 2 rows from the table "Employees" where salary is greater than or equal to 20000.

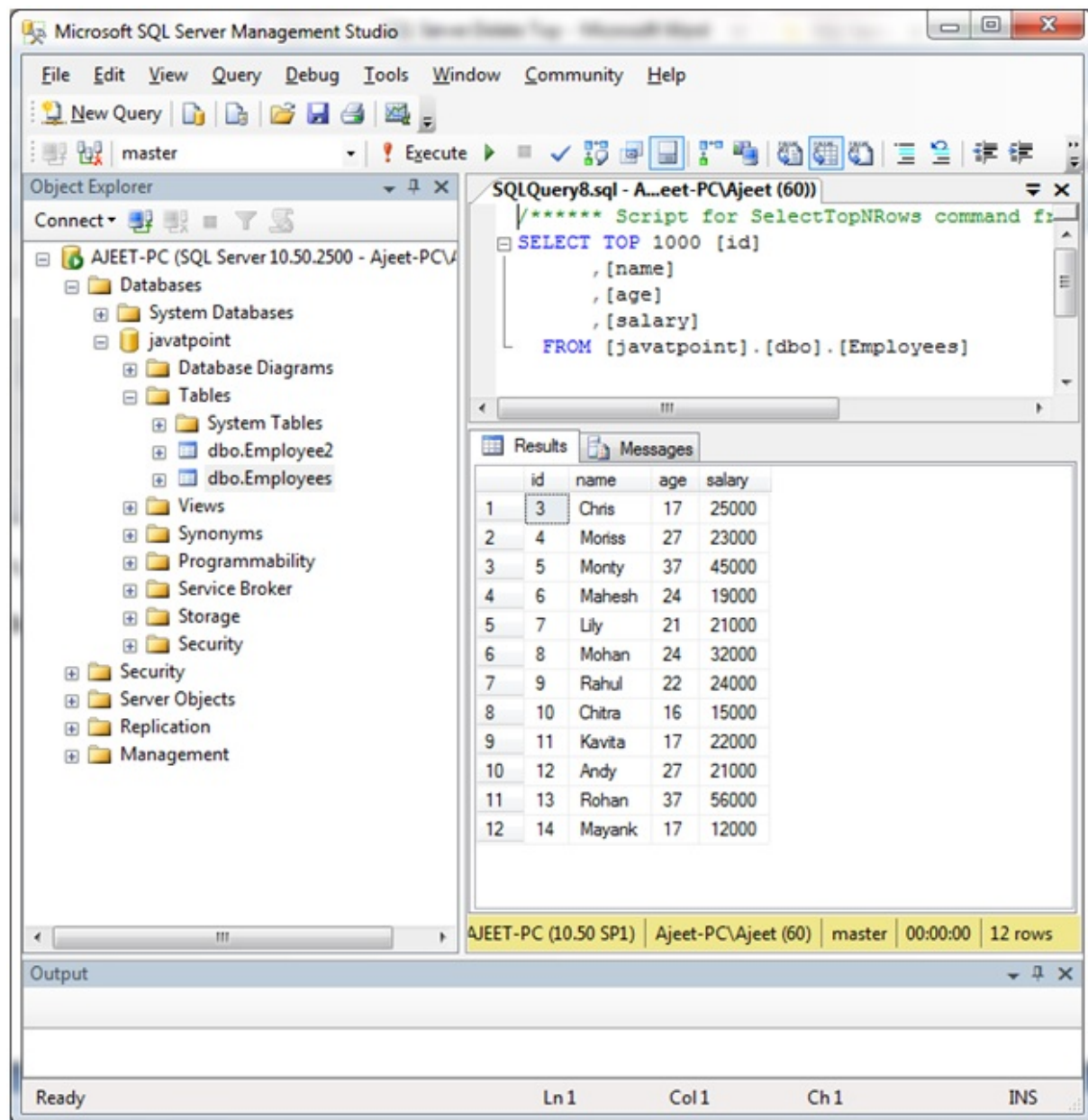
Syntax:

1. DELETETOP(2)
2. FROM [javatpoint].[dbo].[Employees]
3. WHERE salary >= 20000;



You can see that 2 rows are affected. Now see the output:

Output:



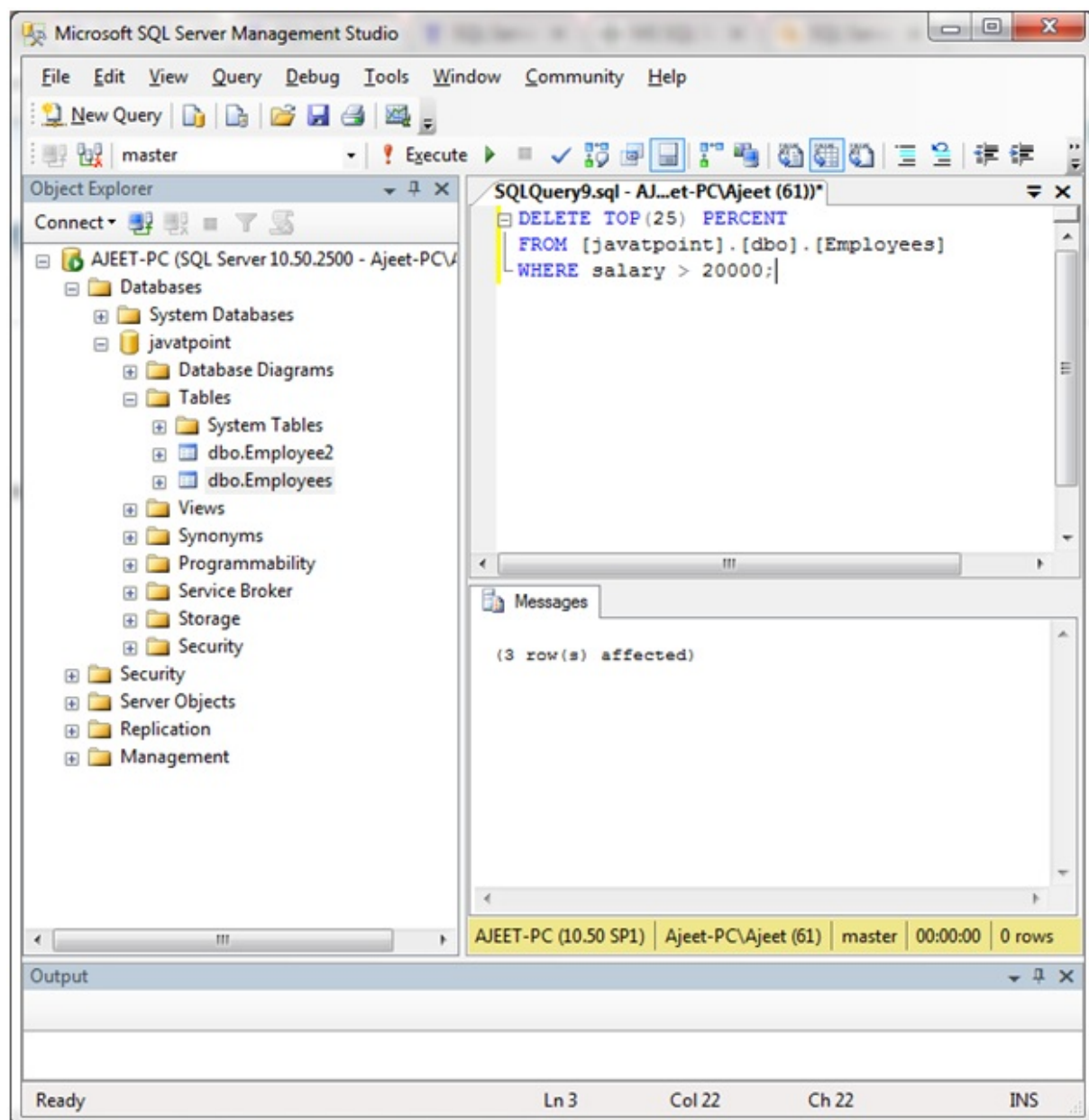
DELETE using TOP Percent Keyword

TOP percent keyword is used to delete the rows according to the percentage.

Example:

Delete TOP 25% rows from the table where salary is greater than 20000.

1. DELETETOP(25) PERCENT
2. FROM [javatpoint].[dbo].[Employees]
3. WHERE salary > 20000;



You can see that 3 rows are affected. 3 is exactly 25% of 12 which is the number of inserted rows.

Output:

Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio

File Edit View Query Debug Tools Window Community Help

New Query

master

Execute

Object Explorer

Connect

AJEET-PC (SQL Server 10.50.2500 - Ajeet-PC\Ajeet)

Databases

System Databases

javatpoint

Database Diagrams

Tables

System Tables

dbo.Employee2

dbo.Employees

Views

Synonyms

Programmability

Service Broker

Storage

Security

Security

Server Objects

Replication

Management

SQLQuery10.sql - ...et-PC\Ajeet (62)

```
/****** Script for SelectTopNRows command f
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```
SELECT TOP 1000 [id]
```

```
    , [name]
```

```
    , [age]
```

```
    , [salary]
```

```
FROM [javatpoint].[dbo].[Employees]
```

Results

	id	name	age	salary
1	6	Mahesh	24	19000
2	7	Lily	21	21000
3	8	Mohan	24	32000
4	9	Rahul	22	24000
5	10	Chitra	16	15000
6	11	Kavita	17	22000
7	12	Andy	27	21000
8	13	Rohan	37	56000
9	14	Mayank	17	12000

Messages

AJEET-PC (10.50 SP1) | Ajeet-PC\Ajeet (62) | master | 00:00:00 | 9 rows

Output

Ready

Ln 1 Col 1 Ch 1 INS