

Table 2. *Calculating Percentages Across (still confusing)*

	Right-Handed	Left-Handed	Total
Law-abiding	91% (810)	9% (80)	100% (890)
Delinquent	82% (90)	18% (20)	100% (110)

But watch what happens when we calculate the percentages down, as shown in Table 3, so that each column totals 100 percent. Suddenly, the pattern becomes clear: in our study, the percentage of lefties who are delinquent (20 percent) is twice that of righties (10 percent). These percentages help us understand the pattern in the numbers.

Table 3. *Calculating Percentages Down (much clearer)*

	Right-Handed	Left-Handed
Law-abiding	90% (810)	80% (80)
Delinquent	10% (90)	20% (20)
Total	100% (900)	100% (100)

Table 2 illustrates what we mean when we say that someone has calculated the percentages "in the wrong direction" or "in the wrong way." In general, percentages should be calculated so