

15.2: DATABASE CONCEPTS



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When you first look at a database it looks like a spreadsheet with multiple sheets. The primary data structures in a database are: *tables*, *rows*, and *columns*.

		column				attribute	
	Table				Relation		
row		2.3		tuple		2.3	

Relational Databases

In technical descriptions of relational databases the concepts of table, row, and column are more formally referred to as *relation*, *tuple*, and *attribute*, respectively. We will use the less formal terms in this chapter.