



# student survey.ie

## Good practice in the usage of ACUnit1 and ACUnit2

### What is ACUnit1 and ACUnit2?

ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 are variables in the student demographic data submission made by each participating institution to the survey company which delivers the survey platform and prepares the survey results. This is part of the usual preparation for StudentSurvey.ie fieldwork and this student demographic data submission is made no later than three weeks before commencement of fieldwork.

ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 allow institutions to apply two levels of organisational structure of their institution to the dataset, which facilitates easier analysis of the results and a deeper knowledge of the students who have responded to the survey.

### What is the value of ACUnit1 and ACUnit2?

All of the value of the ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 variables is centered at institution level. These are variables added purely for ease of analysis for institutions. These variables help institutions understand which cohorts of students are responding to the survey and subsequently, what their results are. It allows for multi-level institutional analysis, such as at the level of faculty, college, department, school, or whatever unit(s) are represented. Institutions have the freedom to use these variables as they see fit and as best benefits their analysis.

### Further information

If you wish to discuss the use of ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 in your institution, or require further details about how to begin using these valuable variables in your student demographic data submission for StudentSurvey.ie, please contact the StudentSurvey.ie Project Manager at [info@studentsurvey.ie](mailto:info@studentsurvey.ie).

This document, the survey, and all other associated StudentSurvey.ie supports are living documents and tools. If you have any feedback for the StudentSurvey.ie Analysis and Impact Group on this document, or your experience using any of the StudentSurvey.ie tools and supports, please use the StudentSurvey.ie Project Manager as your contact point.



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## Examples of how ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 can be used effectively

The following two examples of how ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 are used demonstrate some of the ways in which these variables can be used to capture institutional organisational structure.

These examples are provided in order to show how ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 can be used effectively, but usage is not limited to these structures. You may use ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 as best facilitates analysis of the data within your institution and makes the results most accessible to the people who can achieve the most impact on foot of the results.

One option is to use ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 to capture the hierarchical organisation of your institution. ACUnit1 may represent a high level of the institutional academic organisation, such as Faculty or College. ACUnit2 may represent the next level of the organisational hierarchy, such as School, Department or Unit. This should allow for the results to be analysed by the relevant unit management in addition to any centralised institutional analysis.

*To capture institutional academic organisation:*

HEI	Number of ACUnit1	ACUnit1	ACUnit2
University	5	College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences >>>>>>>	School of Applied Psychology School of Applied Social Studies School of Film, Music & Theatre School of Education Department of English and others...
		College of Business and Law	
		College of Medicine and Health	
		College of Science, Engineering and Food Science	
		Adult Continuing Education	



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An alternative is to use ACUnit1 and ACUnit2 to represent the institutional physical organisation, which may be valuable to multi-campus institutions, or some other useful aspect of the organisation of the institution not immediately linked to management hierarchy.

*To capture institutional physical organisation or some other useful aspect:*

HEI	Number of ACUnit1	ACUnit1	ACUnit2
IoT	7	Galway Int. Hotel School HC	Culinary Arts Heritage and Tourism Service Industries
		Galway Int. Hotel School HU	Centre for Creative Arts Heritage and Tourism
		Letterfrack Campus	Letterfrack
		Mayo Campus	Business, Humanities and Technology Nursing, Health Science and Social Care
		School of Business	Business
		School of Engineering	Building and Civil Engineering Electronic and Electrical Engineering Mechanical and Industrial Engineering
		School of Science	Computing Physical and Life Sciences