



Using Group Codes with Your First College Year Survey

We provide two Group Code variables (Group Code A, Group Code B) that allow institutions to compare specific subgroups of their student sample. They are typically used by institutions to identify students in different colleges, majors, residence halls, or academic programs on campus. The two group codes (Group Code A and Group Code B) allow you to identify up to 190 (95 per Group Code) unique subgroups of students.*

A group code can be used in two ways:

- As an additional, permanent variable, it can be used to disaggregate data for additional institutional analyses.
- HERI can produce a special report using these codes. This report comes in a format similar to the standard CIRP Institutional Profile. However, it provides a separate profile of each coded subgroup, as well as a total survey population profile.

Using group codes is optional. If you are administering a web survey, you should include instructions that will be programmed into the web survey. (Please see the section below marked with an asterisk for information on using Group Codes for paper administration of the YFCY Survey this year).

For example, if a campus wanted to examine results for students in different colleges at a large university, the group code instructions might look like this:

Please indicate which college you attend by entering the appropriate number in the section marked Group Code A:

- 01 Liberal Arts
- 02 Life Sciences & Agriculture
- 03 Engineering & Physical Sciences
- 04 Health and Human Services
- 05 Whittington School of Business & Economics

***Using Group Codes will be slightly different on the YFCY paper survey for this year only.**

While the option for students to fill in a two-digit code directly on the survey form is not an option for the 2015 YFCY paper survey, we are providing alternative means to obtain this information and want to ensure that the process is as seamless as possible during your survey administration. If you plan on using Group Codes for your paper administration of the 2015 YFCY Survey, we have several options for you to obtain this information from your students. Please contact us so that we can find the best solution for using Group Codes, if applicable to your campus.