

Activate Azure with Application Insights

POC Deployment Guide

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Version 1.0



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Revision and Signoff Sheet

Change Record

| Date | Author | Version | Change Reference |
|---------------|---------------|---------|----------------------|
| March 2019 | Ahmed Raboudi | 0.0 | Initial Draft |
| April 2019 | Ahmed Raboudi | 1.0 | First version |
| February 2020 | Ahmed Raboudi | 1.1 | DotNet Core 3 update |

Reviewers

| Name | Version Approved | Position | Date |
|----------------|------------------|----------|------|
| Simon Gurevich | | | |
| | | | |





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1 Introduction

In this lab you will integrate Azure Application Insights into the existing application.

1.1 Objectives

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

- Deploy Azure Application Insights into the existing ASP.NET Core application
- Implement application Usage Analysis in Azure Application Insights

1.2 Prerequisites

- Microsoft Azure Subscription
- Internet Connectivity
- Visual Studio 2019
- Access to Azure Portal
- Hands-on experience developing ASP.NET Core applications
- Basic understanding of Azure and its application development model

1.3 Estimated Time to Complete

This lab should take up to two hours depending on prior Azure knowledge and familiarity with Azure Portal and Visual Studio.

1.4 Scenario

To demonstrate the capabilities of the Azure Application Insights, we will be deploying a number of features that will touch on Azure application monitoring capabilities. This will include integrating sample application with Azure Application Insights. We will then explore application usage analysis features of Azure Application Insights.





2 Exercise 1: Download and run sample application

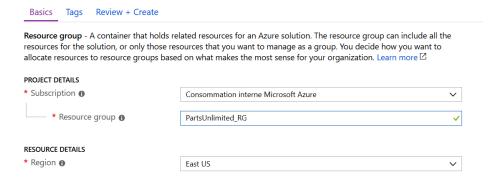
For the first exercise in this lab, we will be reusing an existing application to use as a baseline for Application Insights integration

2.1 Basic Configuration

- 1. Log on to the Azure Portal: https://portal.azure.com
- 2. Click on Resource Groups



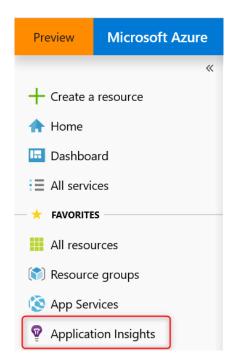
3. Click **Add** and then name your group **PartsUnlimited_RG** and create it in **East US.** When you're done, click **Create.**



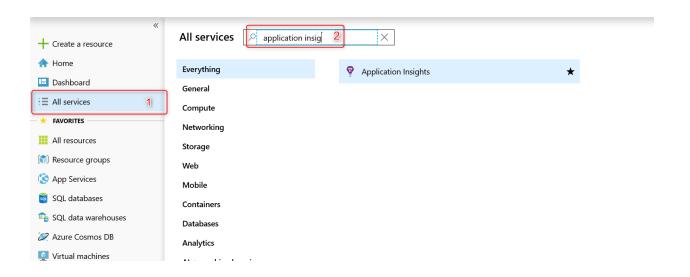
4. Now that your resource group has been created, we can now create your Application Insights instance. Begin by clicking on **Application Insights** in your favorite's menu.



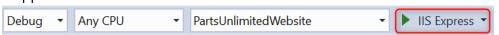




Note: If you don't see a particular option in the menu, click on **All Services** to find those that aren't in the favorites. You can then add them to you favorites by clicking on the star next to its name.



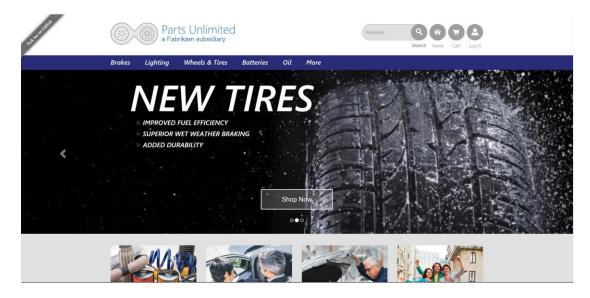
- 5. Open the Visual Studio solution of modified *Parts Unlimited* ASP.NET Core application supplied with the lab materials
- 6. Run the application



7. Explore the application







3 Exercise 2: Integrating with Application Insights

Application Insights is an extensible Application Performance Management service for web developers on multiple platforms and can be used to monitor your live web application and automatically detect performance anomalies.

Azure Application Insights also helps you gain deep understanding into how people use your app. Every time you update your app, you can assess how well it works for users. With this knowledge, you can make data driven decisions about your next development cycles.

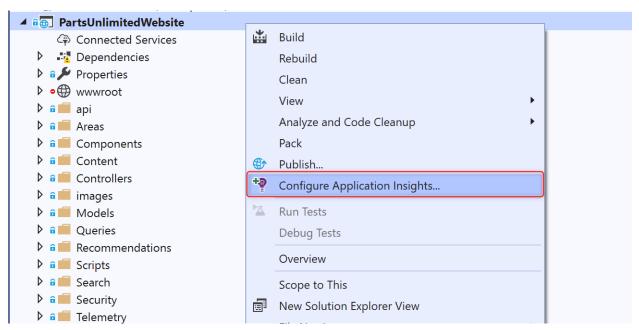
3.1 Setup Application Insights for PartUnlimited

For this exercise, we will examine how to update Parts Unlimited application source code to integrate with Application Insights to enable usage analysis data collection.

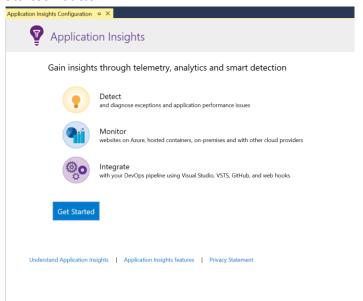
From Visual Studio solution Explorer tab, right click the PartUnlimitedWebsite project.
 Select "Configure Application Insights ..." option.







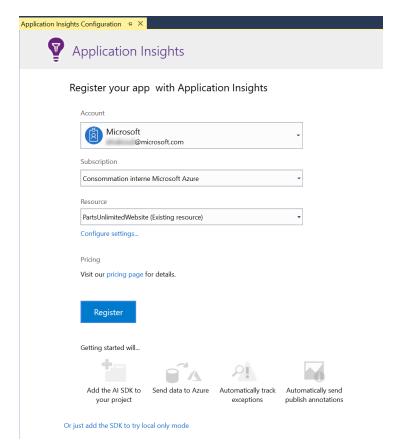
2. Click on the "Get Started" button



3. Select the account and the Azure subscription where you have previously created the Application Insights resources "PartUnlimitedWebsite" and hit the "Register" button.

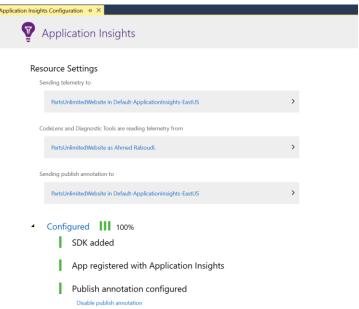






Note: you may be prompted to authenticate to the Azure subscription using your account credentials to be able to explore your subscription resources.

4. Hit the "Register" button.



5. Let highlight the modifications that has been done by the Application Insights integration tool





- Check the "PartsUnlimitedWebsite" for Application Insights Nuget Dependencies

```
✓ Image: PartsUnlimitedWebsite

✓ Connected Services

✓ Application Insights

+ Image: Dependencies

Dependencies

Dependencies

Analyzers

Packages

Image: Microsoft.ApplicationInsights.AspNetCore (2.12.0)

Image: Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.Facebook (3.0.0)

Image: Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.Google (3.0.0)

Image: Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.MicrosoftAccount (3.0.0)

Image: Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.MicrosoftAccount (3.0.0)

Image: Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.OpenIdConnect (3.0.0)
```

- Check the configuration file "appsettings.json" for the Application Insights Instrumentation key.

Check the Program.cs file for Server monitoring

Check the View/Shared/_Layout.cshtml file for Browser monitoring

```
@inject Microsoft.ApplicationInsights.AspNetCore.JavaScriptSnippet JavaScriptSnippet
      @using System.Globalization
 3
      Qusing PartsUnlimited
 4
      @using Microsoft.DotNet.InternalAbstractions
      <!DOCTYPE html>
      <html lang="en">
 8
9
          <meta charset="utf-8" />
          <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
10
          <link rel="Icon" href="/images/favicon.ico" />
11
          <title>@ViewBag.Title - Parts Unlimited</title>
12
13
          @await Component.InvokeAsync("Configuration")
14
          @Html.Raw(JavaScriptSnippet.FullScript)
      </head>
15
      <body>
          /hoadon
```

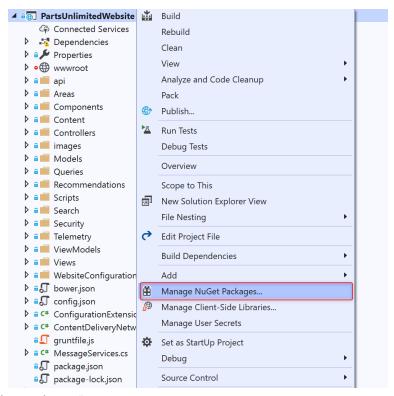
Note:

If you experience an error regarding restoring "Microsoft.ApplicationInsights.AspNetCore" nuget package then follow those steps:

 Manually add the "Microsoft.ApplicationInsights.AspNetCore" nuget package to the "PartUnlimitedWebsite" project







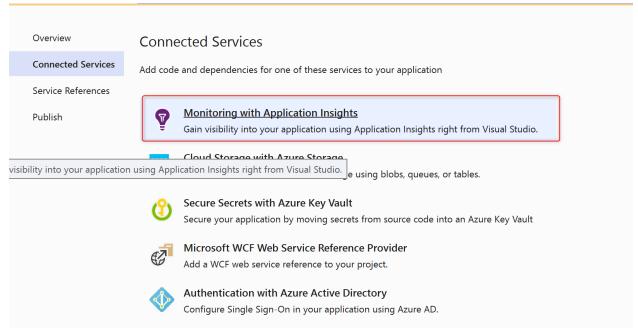
- Browse for the package "Microsoft.ApplicationInsights.AspNetCore" and install the latest version.



- Click "Save All" option under "File" top menu.
- Right click on the "PartUnlimitedWebsite" project on the Solution Explorer view. Click the "Add" option, select the "Connected Service" option and click on "Monitoring with Application Insights"







Repeat the steps from 2 to 5 to setup Application Insights

3.2 Setup Application Insights authenticated users monitoring

For this exercise, we will examine how to update Parts Unlimited application source code to enhance usage analysis data collection for authenticated users.

- 1. Open the file Views/Shared/_login.cshtml under the "PartsUnlimitedWebsite" project.
 - Add the following at the beginning of the file:

```
@using System.Security.Claims
```

- Add this code to the end of the authenticated section:

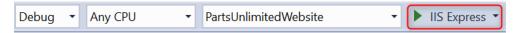
- The _Login.cshtml should look like that after you have finished your modifications





3.3 Running the application

Once the application is integrated with Application Insights, run the solution



1. Browse available product's gategories



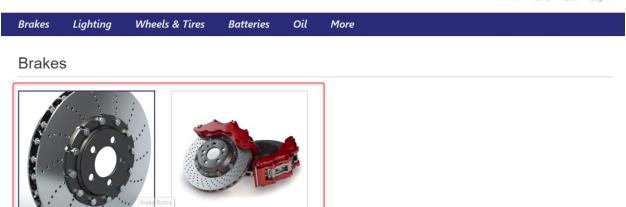
2. Bowse a product description









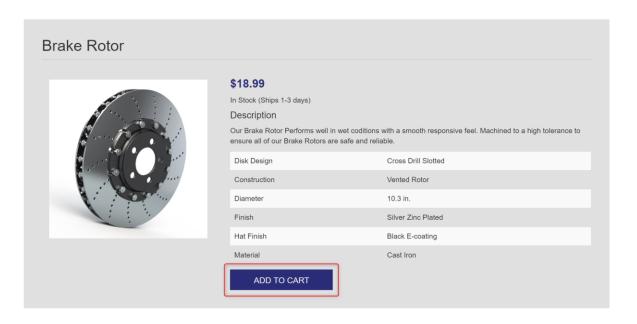


Brake Disk and Calipers

\$43.99

3. click "ADD TO CART" button

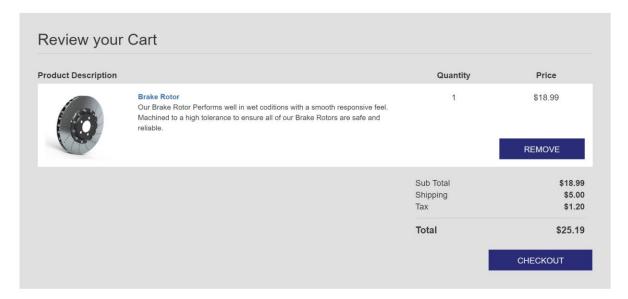
🖫 Shop Now



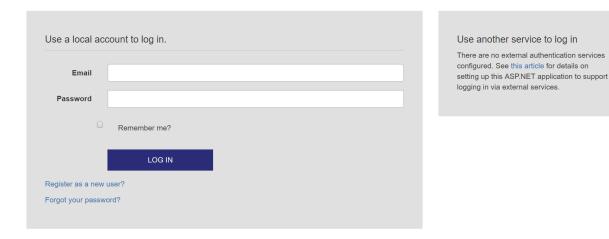
4. Click "Checkout" button







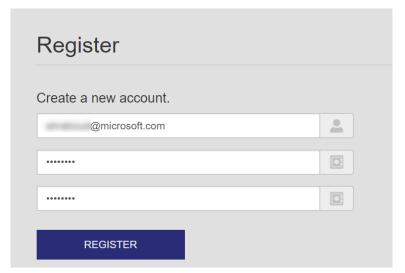
5. Click the "Register as a new user?" link to signup Log in.



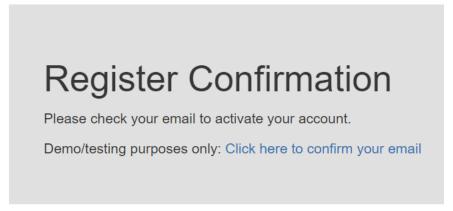
6. Fill your account Email and password then click "Register" button





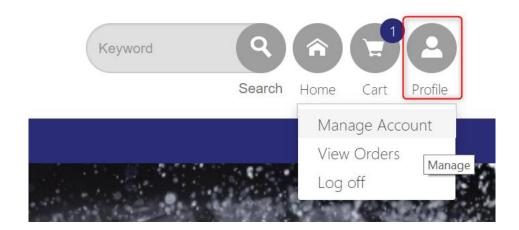


7. Confirm you email



Note: You will not go throw a real email confirmation process since the application is not able to send emails.

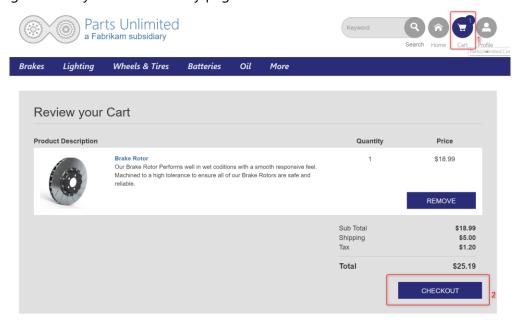
- 8. Now Signin using the newely created account credentials
- 9. Click on your "Profile" link and choose "Manage Account" to visit you profile management page.



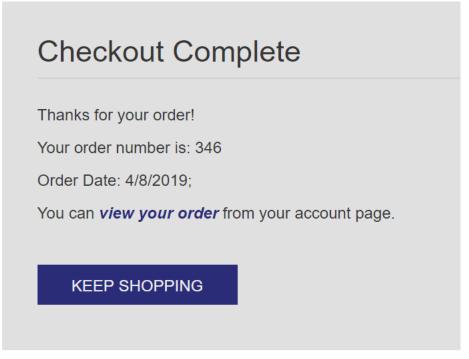




10. Now go back to you Cart summary page and click the "Checkout" button



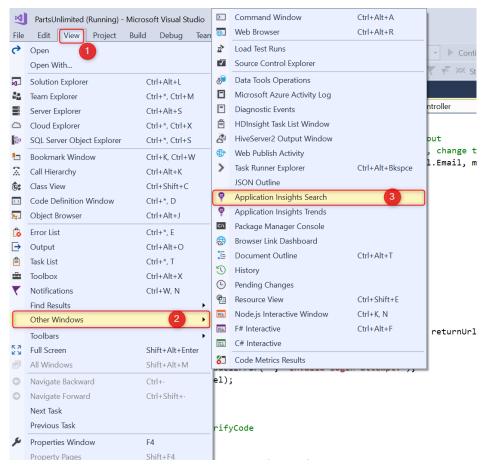
11. Confirm your order



12. Go back to Visual Studio and open the "Application Insights Search" View







13. Replay steps from 1 to 3 many times using browser private navigation feature to generate more user's related metrics.

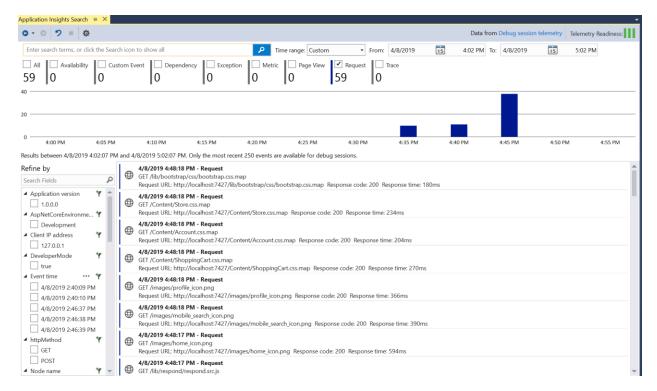
Note: If you are not able to use the Private Naviagation feature from your browser you can use a different browser or close your browser each time you finish the test and click again on the Run button from Visual Studio



14. You can browse and search the collected metrics locally using the "Application Insights Search"



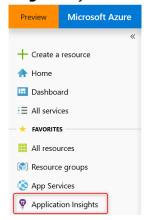




4 Exercise 3: Examining Application Insights Usage Analysis

In this section, we are going to generate and examine usage analyze data captured while running Parts Unlimited application integrated with Application Insights

- 1. Go to the Azure portal https://portal.azure.com
- 2. Begin by clicking on **Application Insights** in your favorite's menu.



3. Select the "PartsUnlimitedWebsite" Application Insight instance





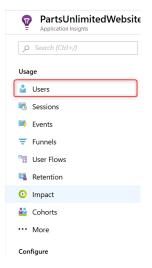
4.1 Examining Users, Sessions and Events

Find out when people use your web app, what pages they're most interested in, where your users are located, and what browsers and operating systems they use. Analyze business and usage telemetry

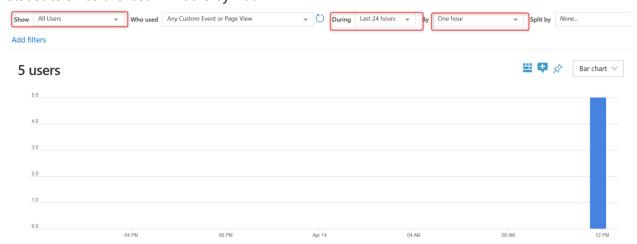
4.1.1 Users

How many people used your app and its features? Users are counted by using anonymous IDs stored in browser cookies. A single person using different browsers or machines will be counted as more than one user.

1. Go to the Users Blade



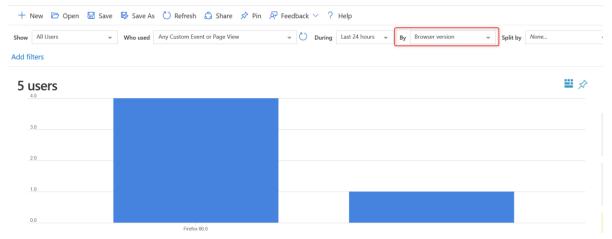
2. As soon as the user blade have been loaded, you have an insight about all users' statistics since the last 24 hours by hour



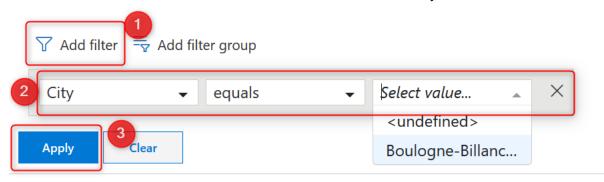
3. Change the By clause to Browser to group metrics on the chart by Browser Version



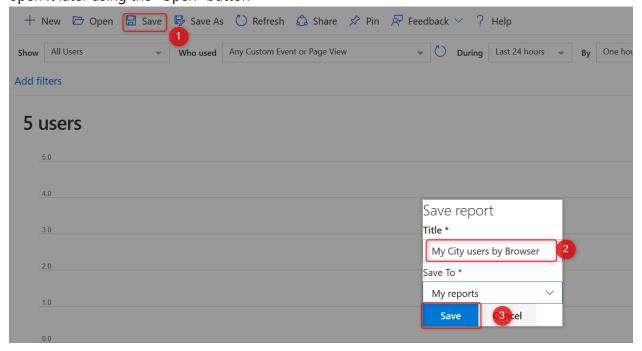




4. Click the "Add filters" link and create a new filter based on the City



5. Now click "Save" to save the report and name it "My City users by Browser" to be able to open it later using the "Open" button



6. Go to the "Meet your users" section







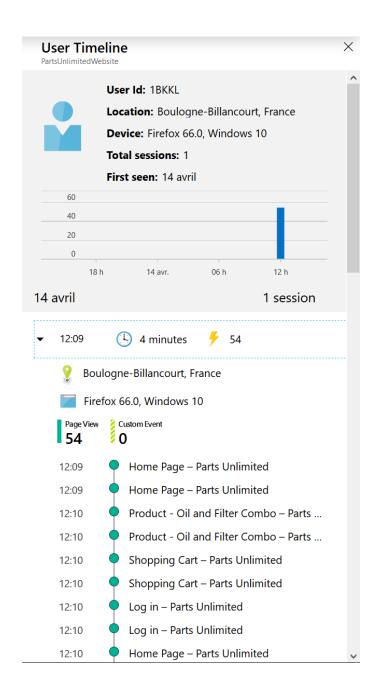
Note: If you don't have a "Meet your users" section click on the "View More Insights" button

View More Insights

7. Click on any user to open the Timeline blade to have an overview about all the user actions over all sessions







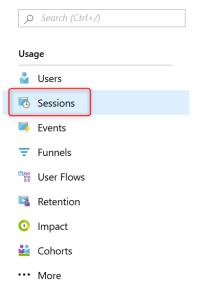
4.1.2 Sessions

How many sessions of user activity have included certain pages and features of your app? A session is counted after half an hour of user inactivity, or after 24 hours of continuous use.

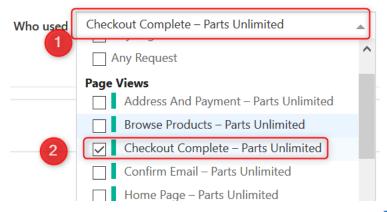
1. Go to the Users Blade







- 2. As soon as the session blade have been loaded All users report, you have an insight about all sessions' statistics since the last 24 hours grouped by hour.
- 3. Change the "Who Used" chart parameter to check sessions that have specific events only



Note: If you don't see the Page Views section click on the refresh button next to the "Who used" chart parameter.

4. Go to the "Active Sessions" section



Note: If you don't have a "Active Sessions" section click on the "View More Insights" button





View More Insights

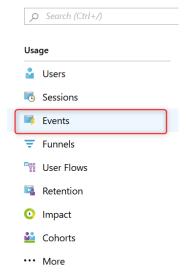
5. Click on any session to open the Timeline blade to have an overview about this session events



4.1.3 Events

How often certain pages and features of your app are used? A page view is counted when a browser loads a page from your app, provided you have instrumented it. Examining Cohorts

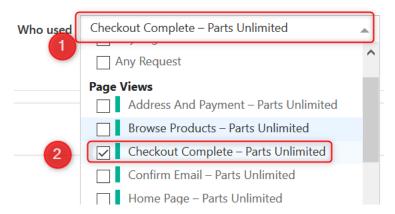
1. Go to the Events Blade



- 2. As soon as the Events blade have been loaded All users report, you have an insight about all Events statistics since the last 24 hours grouped by hour.
- 3. Change the "Who Used" chart parameter to get an overview about specific events only







Note: If you don't see the Page Views section click on the refresh button onext to the "Who used" chart parameter.

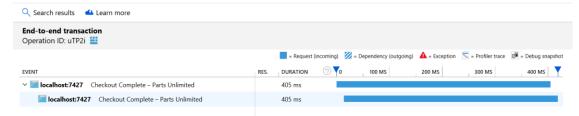
4. Go to the "Event Statistics" section



Note: If you don't have a "Event Statistics" section click on the "View More Insights" button

View More Insights

5. Click on any event to open the "End-to-end transaction details" view to have more details



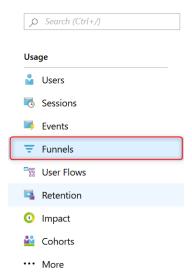
4.2 Examining Funnels

Understanding the customer experience is of the utmost importance to your business. If your application involves multiple stages, you need to know if most customers are progressing through the entire process, or if they are ending the process at some point. The progression through a series of steps in a web application is known as a funnel. You can use Azure Application Insights Funnels to gain insights into your users and monitor step-by-step conversion rates.

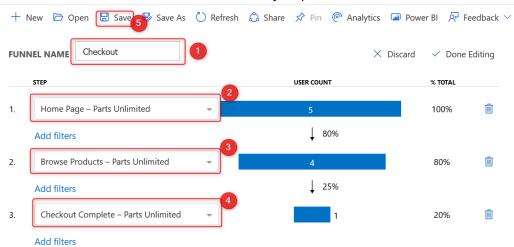




1. Go to the Funnels Blade



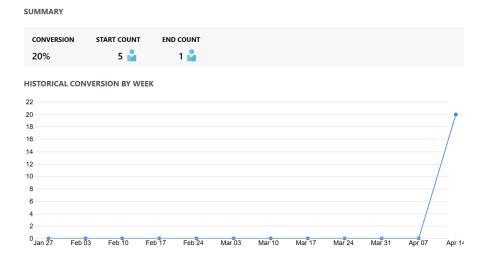
2. Create a new Funnel named "Checkout" to analyze the behavior of users that have been able to make a checkout and save it on "My Reports"



3. Check the "summary" section for conversion rate







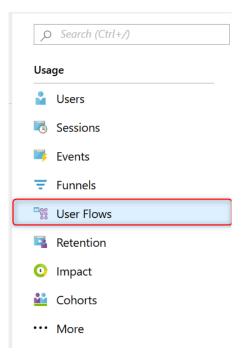
4.3 Examining User Flows

The User Flows tool visualizes how users navigate between the pages and features of your site. It's great for answering questions like:

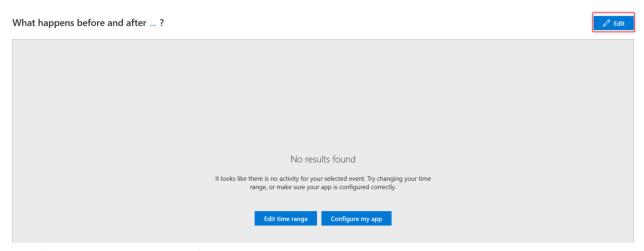
- How do users navigate away from a page on your site?
- What do users click on a page on your site?
- Where are the places that users churn most from your site?
- Are there places where users repeat the same action over and over?
- 1. Go to the User Flows Blade







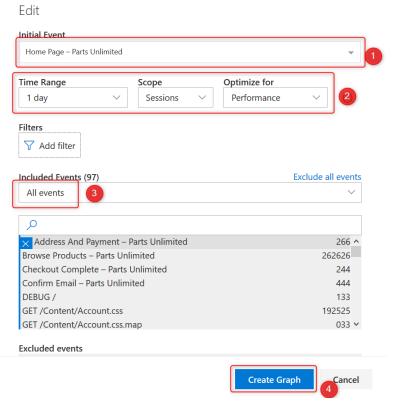
2. Click the "Edit" button



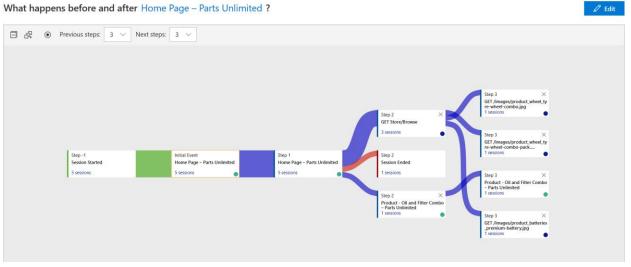
3. Configure the "User Flow as following" and click "Create Graph" button







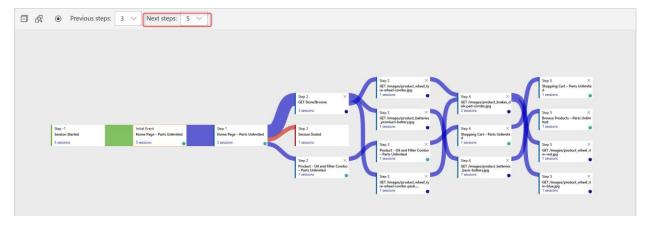
4. Analyze your users flow before and after the home Page



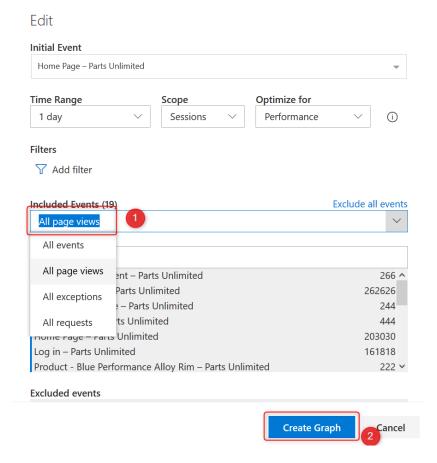
5. Change the Next steps" filter to 9 to see more steps







6. Click on the "Edit" button to filter the displayed events to page view only



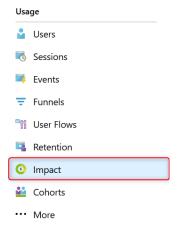
4.4 Examining Impact

Impact analyzes how load times and other properties influence conversion rates for various parts of your app. To put it more precisely, it discovers how any dimension of a page view, custom event, or request affects the usage of a different page view or custom event.

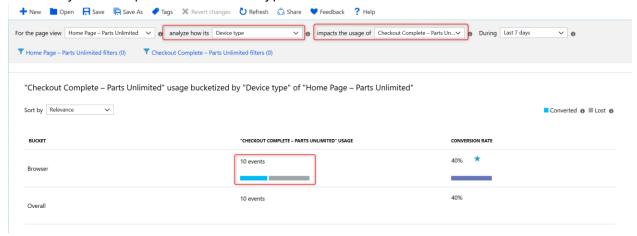
1. Go to the Impact Blade







2. Let's analyze the impact of user device type on the Checkout event



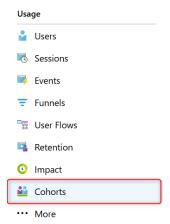
4.5 Creating Cohort

A cohort is a set of users, sessions, events, or operations that have something in common. In Azure Application Insights, cohorts are defined by an analytics query. In cases where you have to analyze a specific set of users or events repeatedly, cohorts can give you more flexibility to express exactly the set you're interested in.

1. Go to the Cohorts Blade



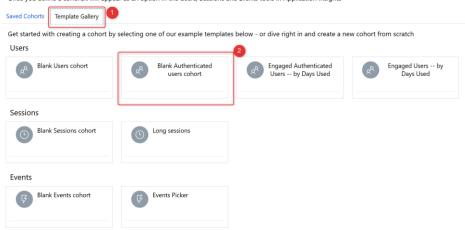




2. Let's create a new cohort that will bookmark your country users

Use cohorts to bookmark particular groups of users, sessions, events or operations.

Once you define a cohort, it will appear as an option in the Users, Sessions and Events tools in Application Insights



3. Provide a description for the cohort



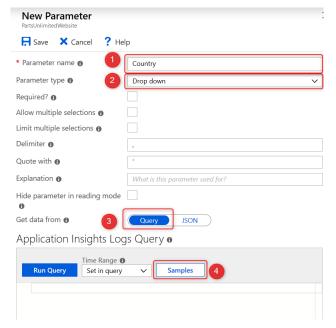
4. Add a new parameter



5. Fill the parameter settings and click on "Samples" button







6. Pick the Country sample

New Parameter

PartsUnlimitedWebsite

Close Samples

An Activity Picker

Creates a dropdown that lets a user pick from the top 20 events/pageviews/requests in the last 24 hours. Use in a query like <code>where name == '{parameter}'</code>, or <code>where name in {parameter}</code> if allowing multiple selections.

```
union customEvents, pageViews, requests
| where timestamp > ago(24h)
| summarize count() by name
| top 10 by count_
| order by count_ desc
| extend label = strcat(name, " (", count_, ")" )
| project name, label
Use this sample
```

A Country Picker

Creates a dropdown that lets a user pick from the 100 countries with themost events in the last 14 days. Use in a query like <code>where client_CountryOrRegion == '{parameter}' </code>

```
union customEvents, pageViews, requests
| where timestamp > ago(14d)
| summarize count() by client_CountryOrRegion
| top 100 by count_
| order by client_CountryOrRegion asc
| project client_CountryOrRegion
```

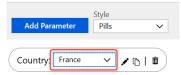
7. Save the parameter







8. Set the country value to your specific country

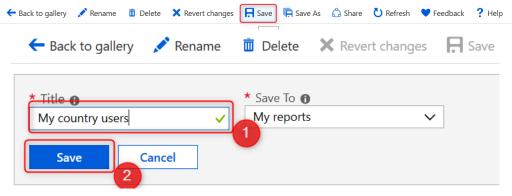


9. Paste the following query in the Application Insights Logs query textbox and click the "Run Query" button to get the result overview

```
union customEvents, pageViews
| where timestamp >= ago(7d)
| where client_CountryOrRegion == "{Country}"
| summarize Count = max(1) by user_AuthenticatedId, bin(timestamp, 1d)
```



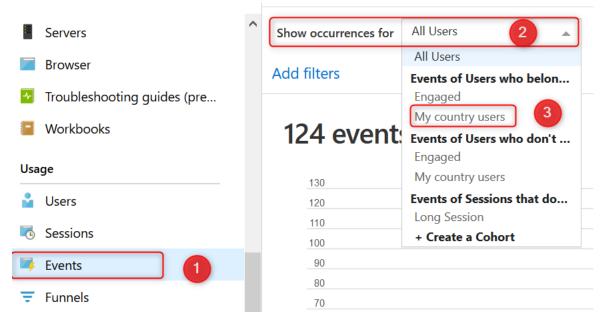
10. Save the cohort



11. Go the Events blade and chose "**Event of users that belong to My country users**" cohort as a filter







Note: The cohort will be available on Users or Session or Events blades

4.6 Viewing Workbook

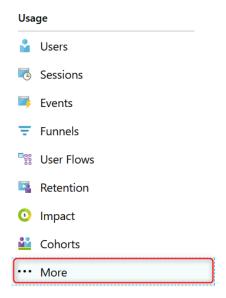
Workbooks combine text, Analytics queries, Azure Metrics, and parameters into rich interactive reports. Workbooks are editable by any other team members who have access to the same Azure resources.

Workbooks are helpful for scenarios like:

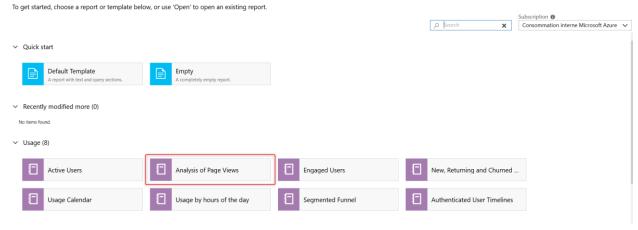
- Exploring the usage of your app when you don't know the metrics of interest in advance: numbers of users, retention rates, conversion rates, etc. Unlike other usage analytics tools, workbooks let you combine multiple kinds of visualizations and analyses, making them great for this kind of free-form exploration.
- Explaining to your team how a newly released feature is performing, by showing user counts for key interactions and other metrics.
- Sharing the results of an A/B experiment in your app with other members of your team. You can explain the goals for the experiment with text, then show each usage metric and Analytics query used to evaluate the experiment, along with clear call-outs for whether each metric was above- or below-target.
- Reporting the impact of an outage on the usage of your app, combining data, text
 explanation, and a discussion of next steps to prevent outages in the future.
- 1. Go to the More Blade to open the Workbook view







2. Choose the "Analysis of Page Views" Template



3. Add the Checkout page to "Pages" filter and analyze the "Checkout page" views statistics

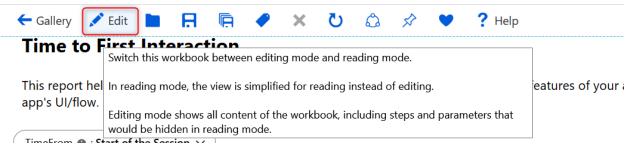
Analysis of Page Views

Page views correspond to user activity in your app. Understanding how your users interact with your pages will give you good insights into what is working in your app and what aspects need improvements. This report will help you understand common page view behaviors like: Usage
 Time spent on page Time to first interaction If your telemetry does not include page views, then follow these instructions to begin collecting -- it is relatively straightforward. TimeRange: Last 30 days V OptimizeCalculationsFor ① : Balance V ✓ Shopping Cart – Parts Unlimited ✓ Home Page – Parts Unlimited Usag Log in – Parts Unlimited Product - Oil and Filter Combo – Parts Unlimited This se re used -- in terms of # of users, sessions and views. Product - Matte Finish Rim - Parts Unlimited Register - Parts Unlimited Page As % of app Users Total Page Views As % of app Page Views Register Confirmation - Parts Unlimited Confirm Email - Parts Unlimited ◆ 0√ 100 7 100 81 55.86 Product - Jumper Leads - Parts Unlimited 20.69 100 100 30 Address And Payment – Parts Unlimited ✓ Checkout Complete – Parts Unlimited 57.14 26 80 4 Product - Filter Set – Parts Unlimited RΩ 57 14 25 17 24

4. Edit the workbook







5. Go to the bottom of the workbook and click the "Add text" link

Add text | Add query | Add metric | Add parameters

6. Add the following description

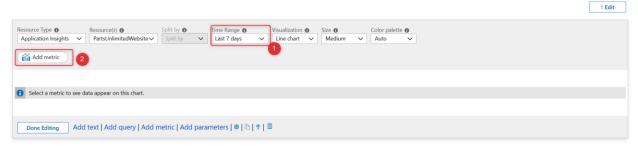


7. Go to the bottom of the workbook and click the "Add metric" link

Add text | Add query Add metric Add parameters

8. Click "Add metric"

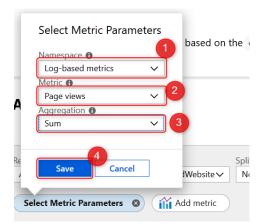
All Page Views



9. Provide the metric parameters







10. Click the "Done Editing" button

