



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'perf-sched.1'

\$ man perf-sched.1

PERF-SCHED(1) perf Manual PERF-SCHED(1)

NAME

perf-sched - Tool to trace/measure scheduler properties (latencies)

SYNOPSIS

perf sched {record|latency|map|replay|script|timehist|stats}

DESCRIPTION

There are several variants of perf sched:

'perf sched record <command>' to record the scheduling events of an arbitrary workload.

'perf sched latency' to report the per task scheduling latencies and other scheduling properties of the workload.

Example usage:

```
perf sched record -- sleep 1
```

```
perf sched latency
```

Task	Runtime ms	Count	Avg delay ms	Max delay ms	Max delay start	Max delay end

perf:(2)	2.804 ms	66	avg: 0.524 ms	max: 1.069 ms	max start: 254752.314960 s	max end: 254752.316029 s
NetworkManager:1343	0.372 ms	13	avg: 0.008 ms	max: 0.013 ms	max start: 254751.551153 s	max end: 254751.551166 s
kworke	0.012 ms	1	avg: 0.008 ms	max: 0.008 ms	max start: 254751.519807 s	max

end: 254751.519815 s

 kworker/3:1-xfs:388 | 0.011 ms | 1 | avg: 0.006 ms | max: 0.006 ms | max start: 254751.519809 s | max

end: 254751.519815 s

 sleep:147736 | 0.938 ms | 3 | avg: 0.006 ms | max: 0.007 ms | max start: 254751.313817 s | max end:

254751.313824 s

It shows Runtime(time that a task spent actually running on the CPU), Count(number of times a delay was calculated) and delay(time that a task was ready to run but was kept waiting).

Tasks with the same command name are merged and the merge count is given within (), However if -p option is used, pid is mentioned.

'perf sched script' to see a detailed trace of the workload that was recorded (aliased to 'perf script' for now).

'perf sched replay' to simulate the workload that was recorded via perf sched record. (this is done by starting up mockup threads that mimic the workload based on the events in the trace. These threads can then replay the timings (CPU runtime and sleep patterns) of the workload as it occurred when it was recorded - and can repeat it a number of times, measuring its performance.)

'perf sched map' to print a textual context-switching outline of workload captured via perf sched record. Columns stand for individual CPUs, and the two-letter shortcuts stand for tasks that are running on a CPU. A '*' denotes the CPU that had the event, and a dot signals an idle CPU.

'perf sched timehist' provides an analysis of scheduling events.

Example usage:

perf sched record -- sleep 1

perf sched timehist

By default it shows the individual schedule events, including the wait time (time between sched-out and next sched-in events for the task), the task scheduling delay (time between runnable and actually running) and run time for the task:

time	cpu	task name	wait time	sch delay	run time
		[tid/pid]	(msec)	(msec)	(msec)

79371.874569 [0011]	gcc[31949]	0.014	0.000	1.148
79371.874591 [0010]	gcc[31951]	0.000	0.000	0.024
79371.874603 [0010]	migration/10[59]	3.350	0.004	0.011
79371.874604 [0011]	<idle>	1.148	0.000	0.035
79371.874723 [0005]	<idle>	0.016	0.000	1.383
79371.874746 [0005]	gcc[31949]	0.153	0.078	0.022

...

Times are in msec.usec.

'perf sched stats {record | report | diff} <command>' to capture, report the diff in schedstat counters and show the difference between perf sched stats report respectively. schedstat counters which are present in the linux kernel and are exposed through the file ``/proc/schedstat``. These counters are enabled or disabled via the sysctl governed by the file ``/proc/sys/kernel/sched\_schedstats``. These counters accounts for many scheduler events such as ``schedule()`` calls, load-balancing events, ``try\_to\_wakeup()`` call among others. This is useful in understanding the scheduler behavior for the workload.

Note: The tool will not give correct results if there is topological reordering or online/offline of cpus in between capturing snapshots of ``/proc/schedstat``.

Example usage:

```
perf sched stats record -- sleep 1

perf sched stats report

perf sched stats diff
```

A detailed description of the schedstats can be found in the Kernel Documentation:

<https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/scheduler/sched-stats.html>

The result can be interpreted as follows:

The ``perf sched stats report`` starts with description of the columns present in the report. These column names are given before cpu and domain stats to improve the readability of the report.

DESC	-> Description of the field
COUNT	-> Value of the field
PCT_CHANGE	-> Percent change with corresponding base value

AVG_JIFFIES -> Avg time in jiffies between two consecutive occurrence of event

Next is the total profiling time in terms of jiffies:

Time elapsed (in jiffies) : 2323

Next is CPU scheduling statistics. These are simple diffs of /proc/schedstat CPU lines along with description. The report also prints % relative to base stat.

In the example below, schedule() left the CPU0 idle 36.58% of the time. 0.45% of total try_to_wake_up() was to wakeup local CPU. And, the total waittime by tasks on CPU0 is 48.70% of the total runtime by tasks on the same CPU.

CPU 0

DESC	COUNT	PCT_CHANGE
yld_count	0	
array_exp	0	
sched_count	402267	
sched_goidle	147161 (36.58%)	
ttwu_count	236309	
ttwu_local	1062 (0.45%)	
rq_cpu_time	7083791148	
run_delay	3449973971 (48.70%)	
pcount	255035	

Next is load balancing statistics. For each of the sched domains

(eg: `SMT`, `MC`, `DIE`...), the scheduler computes statistics under the following three categories:

- 1) Idle Load Balance: Load balancing performed on behalf of a long idling CPU by some other CPU.
- 2) Busy Load Balance: Load balancing performed when the CPU was busy.
- 3) New Idle Balance : Load balancing performed when a CPU just became

idle.

Under each of these three categories, sched stats report provides different load balancing statistics. Along with direct stats, the report also contains derived metrics prefixed with *. Example:

CPU 0, DOMAIN SMT CPUS 0,64

DESC	COUNT	AVG_JIFFIES
----- <Category busy> -----		
busy_lb_count	: 136	\$ 17.08 \$
busy_lb_balanced	: 131	\$ 17.73 \$
busy_lb_failed	: 0	\$ 0.00 \$
busy_lb_imbalance_load	: 58	
busy_lb_imbalance_util	: 0	
busy_lb_imbalance_task	: 0	
busy_lb_imbalance_misfit	: 0	
busy_lb_gained	: 7	
busy_lb_hot_gained	: 0	
busy_lb_nobusyq	: 2	\$ 1161.50 \$
busy_lb_nobusyg	: 129	\$ 18.01 \$
*busy_lb_success_count	: 5	
*busy_lb_avg_pulled	: 1.40	
----- <Category idle> -----		
idle_lb_count	: 449	\$ 5.17 \$
idle_lb_balanced	: 382	\$ 6.08 \$
idle_lb_failed	: 3	\$ 774.33 \$
idle_lb_imbalance_load	: 0	
idle_lb_imbalance_util	: 0	
idle_lb_imbalance_task	: 71	
idle_lb_imbalance_misfit	: 0	
idle_lb_gained	: 67	
idle_lb_hot_gained	: 0	
idle_lb_nobusyq	: 0	\$ 0.00 \$

```

idle_lb_nobusyq          :    382 $    6.08 $
*idle_lb_success_count   :        64
*idle_lb_avg_pulled      :    1.05

```

----- <Category newidle> -----

```

newidle_lb_count         :   30471 $    0.08 $
newidle_lb_balanced      :    28490 $    0.08 $
newidle_lb_failed        :     633 $    3.67 $
newidle_lb_imbalance_load :         0
newidle_lb_imbalance_util :         0
newidle_lb_imbalance_task :    2040
newidle_lb_imbalance_misfit :         0
newidle_lb_gained        :    1348
newidle_lb_hot_gained    :         0
newidle_lb_nobusyq       :      6 $   387.17 $
newidle_lb_nobusyq       :   26634 $    0.09 $
*newidle_lb_success_count :    1348
*newidle_lb_avg_pulled    :    1.00

```

Consider following line:

```

newidle_lb_balanced      :    28490 $    0.08 $

```

While profiling was active, the load-balancer found 28490 times the load needs to be balanced on a newly idle CPU 0. Following value encapsulated inside \$ is average jiffies between two events ($2323 / 28490 = 0.08$).

Next are active_load_balance() stats. alb did not trigger while the profiling was active, hence it's all 0s.

----- <Category active_load_balance()> -----

```

alb_count                :         0
alb_failed                :         0
alb_pushed               :         0

```

Next are sched_balance_exec() and sched_balance_fork() stats. They are not used but we kept it in RFC just for legacy purpose. Unless opposed, we plan to remove them in next revision.

Next are wakeup statistics. For every domain, the report also shows task-wakeup statistics. Example:

```
----- <Wakeup Info> -----
ttwu_wake_remote          :    1590
ttwu_move_affine          :      84
ttwu_move_balance         :       0
-----
```

Same set of stats are reported for each CPU and each domain level.

How to interpret the diff

~~~~~

The `perf sched stats diff` will also start with explaining the columns present in the diff. Then it will show the diff in time in terms of jiffies. The order of the values depends on the order of input data files. It will take `perf.data.old` and `perf.data` respectively as the defaults for comparison. Example:

```
-----
Time elapsed (in jiffies)      :    2009,    2001
-----
```

Below is the sample representing the difference in cpu and domain stats of two runs. Here third column or the values enclosed in `|...|` shows the percent change between the two. Second and fourth columns shows the side-by-side representations of the corresponding fields from `perf sched stats report`.

-----

CPU <ALL CPUS SUMMARY>

-----

| DESC         | COUNT1    | COUNT2 | PCT_CHANG> |
|--------------|-----------|--------|------------|
| yld_count    | : 0,      | 0      | 0.00>      |
| array_exp    | : 0,      | 0      | 0.00>      |
| sched_count  | : 528533, | 412573 | -21.94>    |
| sched_goidle | : 193426, | 146082 | -24.48>    |
| ttwu_count   | : 313134, | 385975 | 23.26>     |

```

ttwu_local          :    1126,    1282 |  13.85>
rq_cpu_time         : 8257200244, 8301250047 |  0.53>
run_delay           : 4728347053, 3997100703 | -15.47>
pcount              :    335031,    266396 | -20.49>

```

Below is the sample of domain stats diff:

CPU <ALL CPUS SUMMARY>, DOMAIN SMT

```

DESC                                COUNT1  COUNT2  PCT_CHANG>

```

----- <Category busy> -----

```

busy_lb_count          :    122,    80 | -34.43>
busy_lb_balanced       :    115,    76 | -33.91>
busy_lb_failed         :     1,     3 | 200.00>
busy_lb_imbalance_load :    35,    49 |  40.00>
busy_lb_imbalance_util :     0,     0 |   0.00>
busy_lb_imbalance_task :     0,     0 |   0.00>
busy_lb_imbalance_misfit :     0,     0 |   0.00>
busy_lb_gained         :     7,     2 | -71.43>
busy_lb_hot_gained     :     0,     0 |   0.00>
busy_lb_nobusyq        :     0,     0 |   0.00>
busy_lb_nobusyq        :    115,    76 | -33.91>
*busy_lb_success_count :     6,     1 | -83.33>
*busy_lb_avg_pulled    :    1.17,    2.00 |  71.43>

```

----- <Category idle> -----

```

idle_lb_count          :    568,    620 |   9.15>
idle_lb_balanced       :    462,    449 |  -2.81>
idle_lb_failed         :    11,    21 |  90.91>
idle_lb_imbalance_load :     0,     0 |   0.00>
idle_lb_imbalance_util :     0,     0 |   0.00>
idle_lb_imbalance_task :    115,    189 |  64.35>
idle_lb_imbalance_misfit :     0,     0 |   0.00>
idle_lb_gained         :    103,    169 |  64.08>

```

|                        |   |       |      |  |        |
|------------------------|---|-------|------|--|--------|
| idle_lb_hot_gained     | : | 0,    | 0    |  | 0.00>  |
| idle_lb_nobusyq        | : | 0,    | 0    |  | 0.00>  |
| idle_lb_nobusyq        | : | 462,  | 449  |  | -2.81> |
| *idle_lb_success_count | : | 95,   | 150  |  | 57.89> |
| *idle_lb_avg_pulled    | : | 1.08, | 1.13 |  | 3.92>  |

----- <Category newidle> -----

|                             |   |        |      |  |         |
|-----------------------------|---|--------|------|--|---------|
| newidle_lb_count            | : | 16961, | 3155 |  | -81.40> |
| newidle_lb_balanced         | : | 15646, | 2556 |  | -83.66> |
| newidle_lb_failed           | : | 397,   | 142  |  | -64.23> |
| newidle_lb_imbalance_load   | : | 0,     | 0    |  | 0.00>   |
| newidle_lb_imbalance_util   | : | 0,     | 0    |  | 0.00>   |
| newidle_lb_imbalance_task   | : | 1376,  | 655  |  | -52.40> |
| newidle_lb_imbalance_misfit | : | 0,     | 0    |  | 0.00>   |
| newidle_lb_gained           | : | 917,   | 457  |  | -50.16> |
| newidle_lb_hot_gained       | : | 0,     | 0    |  | 0.00>   |
| newidle_lb_nobusyq          | : | 3,     | 1    |  | -66.67> |
| newidle_lb_nobusyq          | : | 14480, | 2103 |  | -85.48> |
| *newidle_lb_success_count   | : | 918,   | 457  |  | -50.22> |
| *newidle_lb_avg_pulled      | : | 1.00,  | 1.00 |  | 0.11>   |

----- <Category active\_load\_balance()> -----

|            |   |    |   |  |       |
|------------|---|----|---|--|-------|
| alb_count  | : | 0, | 1 |  | 0.00> |
| alb_failed | : | 0, | 0 |  | 0.00> |
| alb_pushed | : | 0, | 1 |  | 0.00> |

----- <Category sched\_balance\_exec()> -----

|              |   |    |   |  |       |
|--------------|---|----|---|--|-------|
| sbe_count    | : | 0, | 0 |  | 0.00> |
| sbe_balanced | : | 0, | 0 |  | 0.00> |
| sbe_pushed   | : | 0, | 0 |  | 0.00> |

----- <Category sched\_balance\_fork()> -----

|               |   |    |   |  |       |
|---------------|---|----|---|--|-------|
| sbfc_count    | : | 0, | 0 |  | 0.00> |
| sbfc_balanced | : | 0, | 0 |  | 0.00> |
| sbfc_pushed   | : | 0, | 0 |  | 0.00> |

----- <Wakeup Info> -----

|                  |   |       |      |  |        |
|------------------|---|-------|------|--|--------|
| ttwu_wake_remote | : | 2031, | 2914 |  | 43.48> |
|------------------|---|-------|------|--|--------|

```
ttwu_move_affine          :      73,    124 |  69.86>
ttwu_move_balance         :       0,      0 |   0.00>
```

---

## OPTIONS

Applicable to {record|latency|map|replay|script}

**-i, --input=<file>**

Input file name. (default: perf.data unless stdin is a fifo)

**-v, --verbose**

Be more verbose. (show symbol address, etc)

**-D, --dump-raw-trace=**

Display verbose dump of the sched data.

**-f, --force**

Don't complain, do it.

## OPTIONS FOR PERF SCHED LATENCY

**-C, --CPU <n>**

CPU to profile on.

**-p, --pids**

latency stats per pid instead of per command name.

**-s, --sort <key[,key2...]>**

sort by key(s): runtime, switch, avg, max by default it's sorted by "avg ,max ,switch ,runtime".

## OPTIONS FOR PERF SCHED MAP

**--compact**

Show only CPUs with activity. Helps visualizing on high core count systems.

**--cpus**

Show just entries with activities for the given CPUs.

**--color-cpus**

Highlight the given cpus.

**--color-pids**

Highlight the given pids.

**--task-name <task>**

Map output only for the given task name(s). Separate the task names with a comma (without whitespace). The sched-out time is printed and is represented by \*- for the

given task name(s). (- indicates other tasks while . is idle).

--fuzzy-name

Given task name(s) can be partially matched (fuzzy matching).

## OPTIONS FOR PERF SCHED TIMEHIST

-k, --vmlinux=<file>

vmlinux pathname

--kallsyms=<file>

kallsyms pathname

-g, --call-graph

Display call chains if present (default on).

--max-stack

Maximum number of functions to display in backtrace, default 5.

-C=, --cpu=

Only show events for the given CPU(s) (comma separated list).

-p=, --pid=

Only show events for given process ID (comma separated list).

-t=, --tid=

Only show events for given thread ID (comma separated list).

-s, --summary

Show only a summary of scheduling by thread with min, max, and average run times (in sec) and relative stddev.

-S, --with-summary

Show all scheduling events followed by a summary by thread with min, max, and average run times (in sec) and relative stddev.

--symfs=<directory>

Look for files with symbols relative to this directory.

-V, --cpu-visual

Show visual aid for sched switches by CPU: i marks idle time, s are scheduler events.

-w, --wakeups

Show wakeup events.

-M, --migrations

Show migration events.

-n, --next

Show next task.

-I, --idle-hist

Show idle-related events only.

--time

Only analyze samples within given time window: <start>,<stop>. Times have the format seconds.microseconds. If start is not given (i.e., time string is ,x.y) then analysis starts at the beginning of the file. If stop time is not given (i.e, time string is x.y,) then analysis goes to end of file.

--state

Show task state when it switched out.

--show-prio

Show task priority.

--prio

Only show events for given task priority(ies). Multiple priorities can be provided as a comma-separated list with no spaces: 0,120. Ranges of priorities are specified with -: 120-129. A combination of both can also be provided: 0,120-129.

-P, --pre-migrations

Show pre-migration wait time. pre-migration wait time is the time spent by a task waiting on a runqueue but not getting the chance to run there and is migrated to a different runqueue where it is finally run. This time between sched\_wakeup and migrate\_task is the pre-migration wait time.

## OPTIONS FOR PERF SCHED REPLAY

-r, --repeat <n>

repeat the workload n times (0: infinite). Default is 10.

## SEE ALSO

perf-record(1)

perf

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PERF-SCHED(1)