



What performance events are

OnCommand Unified Manager 9.5

NetApp
October 23, 2024

This PDF was generated from <https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/oncommand-unified-manager-95/performance-checker/reference-performance-event-analysis-and-notification.html> on October 23, 2024. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

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What performance events are

Performance events are incidents related to workload performance on a cluster. They help you identify workloads with slow response times. Together with health events that occurred at the same time, you can determine the issues that might have caused, or contributed to, the slow response times.

When Unified Manager detects multiple occurrences of the same event condition for the same cluster component, it treats all occurrences as a single event, not as separate events.

Performance event analysis and notification

Performance events notify you about I/O performance issues on a volume workload caused by contention on a cluster component. Unified Manager analyzes the event to identify all workloads involved, the component in contention, and whether the event is still an issue that you might need to resolve.

Unified Manager monitors the I/O latency (response time) and IOPS (operations) for volumes on a cluster. When other workloads overuse a cluster component, for example, the component is in contention and cannot perform at an optimal level to meet workload demands. The performance of other workloads that are using the same component might be impacted, causing their latencies to increase. If the latency crosses the performance threshold, Unified Manager triggers a performance event and sends an email alert to notify you.

Event analysis

Unified Manager performs the following analyses, using the previous 15 days of performance statistics, to identify the victim workloads, bully workloads, and the cluster component involved in an event:

- Identifies victim workloads whose latency has crossed the performance threshold, which is the upper boundary of the expected range:
 - For volumes on HDD or Flash Pool (hybrid) aggregates, events are triggered only when the latency is greater than 5 milliseconds (ms) and the IOPS are more than 10 operations per second (ops/sec).
 - For volumes on all-SSD aggregates or FabricPool (composite) aggregates, events are triggered only when the latency is greater than 1 ms and the IOPS are more than 100 ops/sec.
- Identifies the cluster component in contention.



If the latency of victim workloads at the cluster interconnect is greater than 1 ms, Unified Manager treats this as significant and triggers an event for the cluster interconnect.

- Identifies the bully workloads that are overusing the cluster component and causing it to be in contention.
- Ranks the workloads involved, based on their deviation in utilization or activity of a cluster component, to determine which bullies have the highest change in usage of the cluster component and which victims are the most impacted.

An event might occur for only a brief moment and then correct itself after the component it is using is no longer in contention. A continuous event is one that reoccurs for the same cluster component within a five-minute interval and remains in the active state. For continuous events, Unified Manager triggers an alert after detecting the same event during two consecutive analysis intervals. Events that remain unresolved, which have a state of new, can display different description messages as workloads involved in the event change.

When an event is resolved, it remains available in Unified Manager as part of the record of past performance issues for a volume. Each event has a unique ID that identifies the event type and the volumes, cluster, and cluster components involved.



A single volume can be involved in more than one event at the same time.

Event state

Events can be in one of the following states:

- **Active**

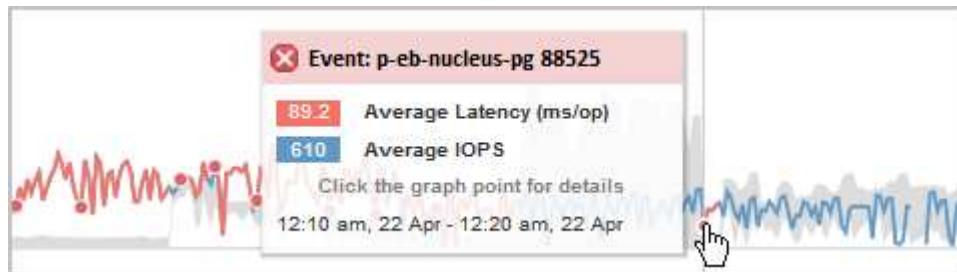
Indicates that the performance event is currently active (new or acknowledged). The issue causing the event has not corrected itself or has not been resolved. The performance counter for the storage object remains above the performance threshold.

- **Obsolete**

Indicates that the event is no longer active. The issue causing the event has corrected itself or has been resolved. The performance counter for the storage object is no longer above the performance threshold.

Event notification

The event alerts are displayed on the Dashboards/Overview page, Dashboards/Performance page, Performance/Volume Details page, and they are sent to specified email addresses. You can view detailed analysis information about an event and get suggestions for resolving it on the Event details page.



In this example, an event is indicated by a red dot (●) on the Latency chart on the Performance/Volume Details page. Hovering your mouse cursor over the red dot displays a popup with more details about the event and options for analyzing it.

Event interaction

On the Performance/Volume Details page, you can interact with events in the following ways:

- Moving the pointer over a red dot displays a message that shows the event ID, along with the latency, number of operations per second, and the date and time when the event was detected.

If there are multiple events for the same time period, the message shows the number of events, along with the average latency and operations per second for the volume.

- Clicking a single event displays a dialog box that shows more detailed information about the event, including the cluster components that are involved, similar to the Summary section on the Event details page.

The component in contention is circled and highlighted red. You can click either the event ID or **View full analysis** to view the full analysis on the Event details page. If there are multiple events for the same time period, the dialog box shows details about the three most recent events. You can click an event ID to view the event analysis on the Event details page. If there are more than three events for the same time period, clicking the red dot does not display the dialog box.

How Unified Manager determines the performance impact for an event

Unified Manager uses the deviation in activity, utilization, write throughput, cluster component usage, or I/O latency (response time) for a workload to determine the level of impact to workload performance. This information determines the role of each workload in the event and how they are ranked on the Event details page.

Unified Manager compares the last analyzed values for a workload to the expected range of values. The difference between the values last analyzed and the expected range of values identifies the workloads whose performance was most impacted by the event.

For example, suppose a cluster contains two workloads: Workload A and Workload B. The expected range for Workload A is 5-10 milliseconds per operation (ms/op) and its actual latency is usually around 7 ms/op. The expected range for Workload B is 10-20 ms/op and its actual latency is usually around 15 ms/op. Both workloads are well within their expected range for latency. Due to contention on the cluster, the latency of both workloads increases to 40 ms/op, crossing the performance threshold, which is the upper bounds of the expected range, and triggering events. The deviation in latency, from the expected values to the values above the performance threshold, for Workload A is around 33 ms/op, and the deviation for Workload B is around 25 ms/op. The latency of both workloads spike to 40 ms/op, but Workload A had the bigger performance impact because it had the higher latency deviation at 33 ms/op.

On the Event details page, in the System Diagnosis section, you can sort workloads by their deviation in activity, utilization, or throughput for a cluster component. You can also sort workloads by latency. When you select a sort option, Unified Manager analyzes the deviation in activity, utilization, throughput, or latency since the event was detected from the expected values to determine the workload sort order. For the latency, the red dots (●) indicate a performance threshold crossing by a victim workload, and the subsequent impact to the latency. Each red dot indicates a higher level of deviation in latency, which helps you identify the victim workloads whose latency was impacted the most by an event.

Cluster components and why they can be in contention

You can identify cluster performance issues when a cluster component goes into contention. The performance of volume workloads that use the component slow down and their response time (latency) for client requests increases, which triggers an event in Unified Manager.

A component that is in contention cannot perform at an optimal level. Its performance has declined, and the performance of other cluster components and workloads, called *victims*, might have increased latency. To bring a component out of contention, you must reduce its workload or increase its ability to handle more work, so that the performance can return to normal levels. Because Unified Manager collects and analyzes workload performance in five-minute intervals, it detects only when a cluster component is consistently overused. Transient spikes of overusage that last for only a short duration within the five-minute interval are not detected.

For example, a storage aggregate might be under contention because one or more workloads on it are

competing for their I/O requests to be fulfilled. Other workloads on the aggregate can be impacted, causing their performance to decrease. To reduce the amount of activity on the aggregate, there are different steps you can take, such as moving one or more workloads to a less busy aggregate, to lessen the overall workload demand on the current aggregate. For a QoS policy group, you can adjust the throughput limit, or move workloads to a different policy group, so that the workloads are no longer being throttled.

Unified Manager monitors the following cluster components to alert you when they are in contention:

- **Network**

Represents the wait time of I/O requests by the iSCSI protocols or the Fibre Channel (FC) protocols on the cluster. The wait time is time spent waiting for iSCSI Ready to Transfer (R2T) or FCP Transfer Ready (XFER_RDY) transactions to finish before the cluster can respond to an I/O request. If the network component is in contention, it means high wait time at the block protocol layer is impacting the latency of one or more workloads.

- **Network Processing**

Represents the software component in the cluster involved with I/O processing between the protocol layer and the cluster. The node handling network processing might have changed since the event was detected. If the network processing component is in contention, it means high utilization at the network processing node is impacting the latency of one or more workloads.

- **QoS Policy**

Represents the storage Quality of Service (QoS) policy group of which the workload is a member. If the policy group component is in contention, it means all workloads in the policy group are being throttled by the set throughput limit, which is impacting the latency of one or more of those workloads.

- **Cluster Interconnect**

Represents the cables and adapters with which clustered nodes are physically connected. If the cluster interconnect component is in contention, it means high wait time for I/O requests at the cluster interconnect is impacting the latency of one or more workloads.

- **Data Processing**

Represents the software component in the cluster involved with I/O processing between the cluster and the storage aggregate that contains the workload. The node handling data processing might have changed since the event was detected. If the data processing component is in contention, it means high utilization at the data processing node is impacting the latency of one or more workloads.

- **MetroCluster Resources**

Represents the MetroCluster resources, including NVRAM and interswitch links (ISLs), used to mirror data between clusters in a MetroCluster configuration. If the MetroCluster component is in contention, it means high write throughput from workloads on the local cluster or a link health issue is impacting the latency of one or more workloads on the local cluster. If the cluster is not in a MetroCluster configuration, this icon is not displayed.

- **Aggregate or SSD Aggregate Ops**

Represents the storage aggregate on which the workloads are running. If the aggregate component is in contention, it means high utilization on the aggregate is impacting the latency of one or more workloads. An aggregate consists of all HDDs, or a mix of HDDs and SSDs (a Flash Pool aggregate). An “SSD Aggregate” consists of all SSDs (an all-flash aggregate), or a mix of SSDs and a cloud tier (a FabricPool

aggregate).

- **Cloud Latency**

Represents the software component in the cluster involved with I/O processing between the cluster and the cloud tier on which user data is stored. If the cloud latency component is in contention, it means that a large amount of reads from volumes that are hosted on the cloud tier are impacting the latency of one or more workloads.

- **Sync SnapMirror**

Represents the software component in the cluster involved with replicating user data from the primary volume to the secondary volume in a SnapMirror Synchronous relationship. If the sync SnapMirror component is in contention, it means that the activity from SnapMirror Synchronous operations are impacting the latency of one or more workloads.

Roles of workloads involved in a performance event

Unified Manager uses roles to identify the involvement of a workload in a performance event. The roles include victims, bullies, and sharks. A user-defined workload can be a victim, bully, and shark at the same time.

Role	Description
Victim	A user-defined workload whose performance has decreased due to other workloads, called bullies, that are over-using a cluster component. Only user-defined workloads are identified as victims. Unified Manager identifies victim workloads based on their deviation in latency, where the actual latency, during an event, has greatly increased from its expected range of latency.
Bully	A user-defined or system-defined workload whose over-use of a cluster component has caused the performance of other workloads, called victims, to decrease. Unified Manager identifies bully workloads based on their deviation in usage of a cluster component, where the actual usage, during an event, has greatly increased from its expected range of usage.
Shark	A user-defined workload with the highest usage of a cluster component compared to all workloads involved in an event. Unified Manager identifies shark workloads based on their usage of a cluster component during an event.

Workloads on a cluster can share many of the cluster components, such as storage aggregates and the CPU for network and data processing. When a workload, such as a volume, increases its usage of a cluster component to the point that the component cannot efficiently meet workload demands, the component is in

contention. The workload that is over-using a cluster component is a bully. The other workloads that share those components, and whose performance is impacted by the bully, are the victims. Activity from system-defined workloads, such as deduplication or Snapshot copies, can also escalate into “bullying”.

When Unified Manager detects an event, it identifies all workloads and cluster components involved, including the bully workloads that caused the event, the cluster component that is in contention, and the victim workloads whose performance has decreased due to the increased activity of bully workloads.



If Unified Manager cannot identify the bully workloads, it only alerts on the victim workloads and the cluster component involved.

Unified Manager can identify workloads that are victims of bully workloads, and also identify when those same workloads become bully workloads. A workload can be a bully to itself. For example, a high-performing workload that is being throttled by a policy group limit causes all workloads in the policy group to be throttled, including itself. A workload that is a bully or a victim in an ongoing performance event might change its role or no longer be a participant in the event. On the Performance/Volume Details page, in the Events List table, when the selected volume changes its participant role, the date and time of the role change is displayed.

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