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## Unix command to find CPU Utilization

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Q. I am using Solaris UNIX. How do I find out CPU Utilization under Sun Solaris UNIX?

A. Under Sun Solaris UNIX (and other UNIX oses like HP-UX and \*BSD oses) you can use following commands to gather CPU information:

=> **sar** : System activity reporter

=> **mpstat** : Report per-processor or per-processor-set statistics

=> **ps** / **top** commands

**Note:** Linux specific CPU utilization information is [here](#) <sup>[1]</sup>. Following information applies to UNIX only.

### UNIX sar command examples

General syntax is as follows:

**sar t [n]**

In the first instance, sar samples cumulative activity counters in the operating system at n intervals of t seconds, where t should be 5 or greater. If t is specified with more than one option, all headers are printed together and the output may be difficult to read.

**Task: Display today's CPU activity, use**

```
# sar
```

**Task: Watching system activity evolve i.e. reports CPU Utilization**

```
# sar -u 12 5
```

Where,

- **-u 12 5**: Comparison of CPU utilization; 12 seconds apart; 5 times.

**Output includes:**

1. **%usr**: User time (% of CPU)
2. **%sys**: System time (% of CPU)
3. **%wio**: Percent of CPU running idle with a process waiting for block I/O
4. **%idle**: Percent of CPU that is idle

**Task: You can watch CPU activity evolve for 10 minutes and save data**

```
# sar -o file-name 60 10
```

**Task: You can just sar and logout and let the report store in files**

```
# nohup sar -A -o output-file 60 10 1>/dev/null 2>&1 &
```

**Note to display data stored in output-file pass -f option to sar command:**

```
# sar -f output-file
```

## UNIX mpstat example

Type the following command to display per-processor statistics; 12 seconds apart; 5 times

```
# mpstat 12 5
```

You can also use traditional ps and top command:

```
# top  
# ps -e -o pcpu -o pid -o user -o args
```

Read man pages of ps, top, mpstat and sar for more information.

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[1] here: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/how-do-i-find-out-linux-cpu-utilization.html>

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