3 Ways to Check Apache Server Status and Uptime in Linux

Aaron Kili | September 5, 2017 | Apache, Monitoring Tools | 4 Comments

Apache is a world's most popular, cross platform HTTP web server that is commonly used in Linux and Unix platforms to deploy and run web applications or websites. Importantly, it's easy to install and has a simple configuration as well.

Read Also: How to Hide Apache Version Number and Other Sensitive Info

In this article, we will show how to check Apache web server uptime on a Linux system using different methods/commands explained below.

1. Systemctl Utility

Systemctl is a utility for controlling the systemd system and service manager; it is used it to start, restart, stop services and beyond. The systemctl status sub-command, as the name states is used to view the status of a service, you can use it for the above purpose like so:

```
$ sudo systemctl status apache2   #Debian/Ubuntu
# systemctl status httpd          #RHEL/CentOS/Fedora
```

```
aaronkilik@tecmint ~ $ sudo systemctl status apache2
● apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/apache2.service; enabled; vendor prese
   Active: active (running) since Mon 2017-09-04 10:05:51 EAT; 4h 8min ago
  Process: 3030 ExecReload=/usr/sbin/apachectl graceful (code=exited, status=
  Process: 1182 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/apachectl start (code=exited, status=0/SU
 Main PID: 1395 (apache2)
    Tasks: 7 (limit: 512)
   CGroup: /system.slice/apache2.service
           ├─1395 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
           ├─3037 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
           ├─3038 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
           ├─3039 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
           ├─3040 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
           ├─3041 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
           └─4232 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start

Sep 04 10:05:39 tecmint systemd[1]: Starting The Apache HTTP Server...
Sep 04 10:05:50 tecmint apachectl[1182]: AH00558: apache2: Could not reliably
Sep 04 10:05:51 tecmint systemd[1]: Started The Apache HTTP Server.
Sep 04 10:10:43 tecmint systemd[1]: Reloading The Apache HTTP Server.
Sep 04 10:10:43 tecmint apachectl[3030]: AH00558: apache2: Could not reliably
Sep 04 10:10:43 tecmint systemd[1]: Reloaded The Apache HTTP Server.
lines 1-22/22 (END)
```

Check Apache Status Using Systemctl

2. Apachectl Utilities

Apachectl is a control interface for Apache HTTP server. This method requires the **mod_status** (which displays info about the server is performing including its uptime) module installed and enabled (which is the default setting).

On Debian/Ubuntu

The **server-status** component is enabled by default using the file **/etc/apache2/mods-enabled/status.conf**.

```
$ sudo vi /etc/apache2/mods-enabled/status.conf
```

```
<IfModule mod_status.c>
        # Allow server status reports generated by mod_status,
        # with the URL of http://servername/server-status
        # Uncomment and change the "192.0.2.0/24" to allow access from other hosts.

        <Location /server-status>
                SetHandler server-status
                Require local
                #Require ip 192.0.2.0/24
        </Location>

        # Keep track of extended status information for each request
        ExtendedStatus On

        # Determine if mod_status displays the first 63 characters of a request or
        # the last 63, assuming the request itself is greater than 63 chars.
        # Default: Off
        #SeeRequestTail On


        <IfModule mod_proxy.c>
                # Show Proxy LoadBalancer status in mod_status
                ProxyStatus On
        </IfModule>


</IfModule>

# vim: syntax=apache ts=4 sw=4 sts=4 sr noet
~
~
                                                                1,1           All
```

Apache Mod_Status Configuration

On RHEL/CentOS

To enable **server-status** component, create a file below.

```
# vi /etc/httpd/conf.d/server-status.conf
```

and add the following configuration.

```
<Location "/server-status">
    SetHandler server-status
    #Require  host  localhost          #uncomment to only allow requests from localhost
</Location>
```

Save the file and close it. Then restart the web server.

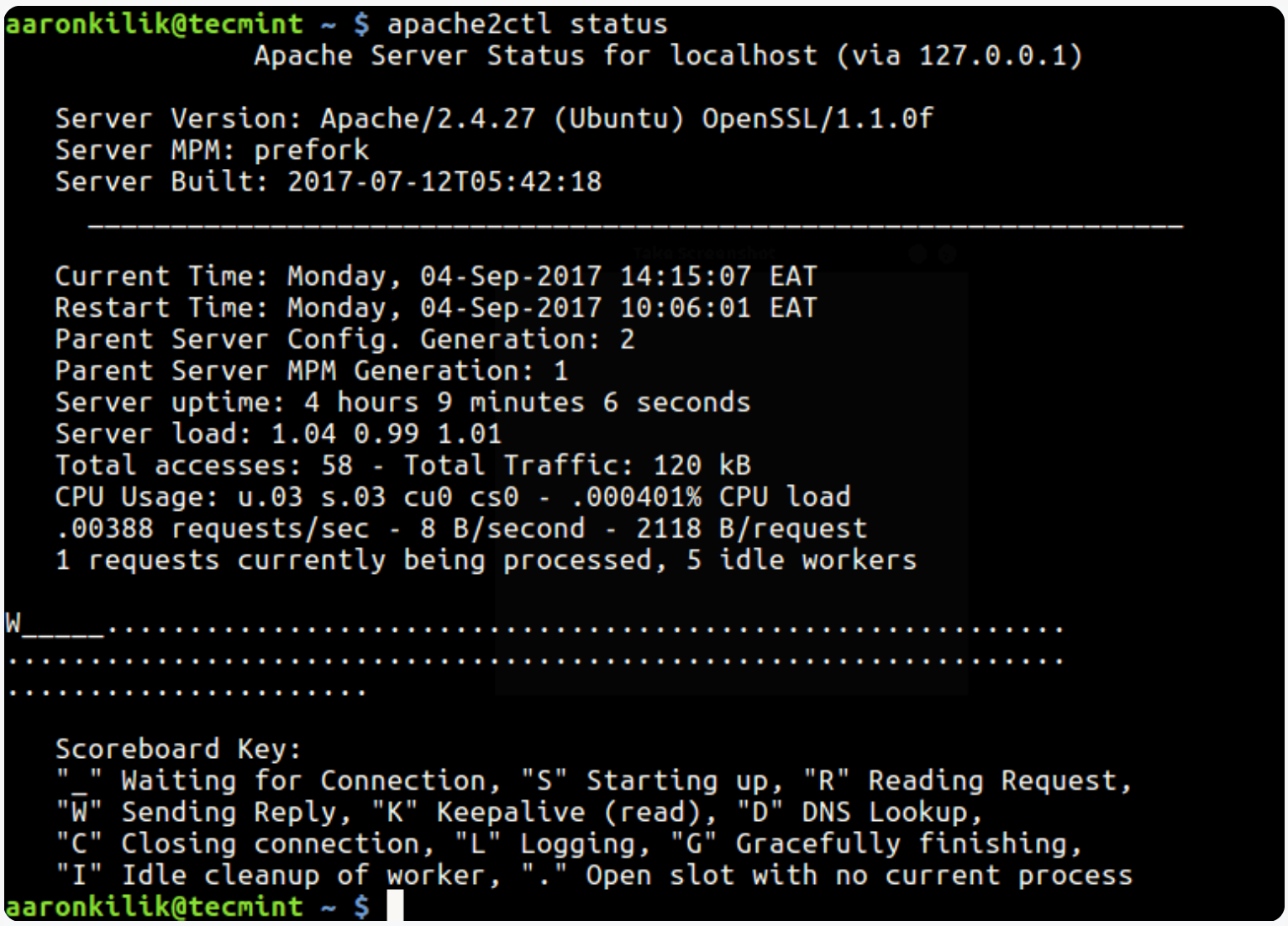
```
# systemctl restart httpd
```

If you are primarily using a terminal, then you also need a command line web browser such as lynx or links.

```
$ sudo apt install lynx         #Debian/Ubuntu
# yum install links             #RHEL/CentOS
```

Then run the command below to check the Apache service uptime:

```
$ apachectl status
```



Check Apache Status Using Apache2ctl

Alternatively, use the URL below to view the Apache web server status information from a graphical web browser:

```
http://localhost/server-status
OR
http:SERVER_IP/server-status
```

3. ps Utility

ps is a utility which shows information concerning a selection of the active processes running on a Linux system, you can use it with grep command to check Apache service uptime as follows.

Here, the flag:

- `-e` – enables selection of every processes on the system.
- `-o` – is used to specify output (comm – command, etime – process execution time and user – process owner).

```
# ps -eo comm,etime,user | grep apache2
# ps -eo comm,etime,user | grep root | grep apache2
OR
# ps -eo comm,etime,user | grep httpd
# ps -eo comm,etime,user | grep root | grep httpd
```

The sample output below shows that **apache2** service has been running for 4 hours, 10 minutes and 28 seconds (only consider the one started by root).

```
aaronkilik@tecmint ~ $ ps -eo comm,etime,user | grep apache2
apache2             04:10:28 root
apache2             04:05:36 www-data
apache2             04:05:36 www-data
apache2             04:05:36 www-data
apache2             04:05:36 www-data
apache2             04:05:36 www-data
apache2             04:02:58 www-data
aaronkilik@tecmint ~ $
aaronkilik@tecmint ~ $ ps -eo comm,etime,user | grep root | grep  apache2
apache2             04:10:36 root
aaronkilik@tecmint ~ $
```

Check Apache Uptime

Lastly, check out more useful Apache web server guides:

- 13 Apache Web Server Security and Hardening Tips
- How to Check Which Apache Modules are Enabled/Loaded in Linux
- 5 Tips to Boost the Performance of Your Apache Web Server
- How to Password Protect Web Directories in Apache Using .htaccess File

In this article, we showed you three different ways to check Apache/HTTPD service uptime on a Linux system. If you have any questions or thoughts to share, do that via the comment section below.

Apache Tips

‹ Sysdig – A Powerful System Monitoring and Troubleshooting Tool for Linux

› How to Delete Old Unused Kernels in CentOS, RHEL and Fedora for Linux

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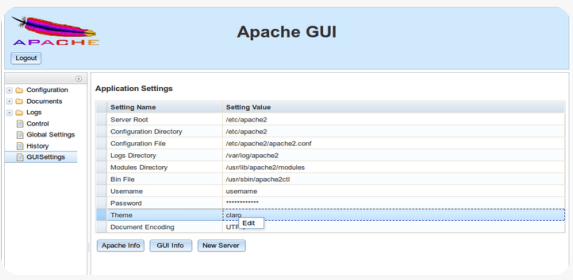

How to Manage Apache Server Using “Apache GUI” Tool

“Forbidden – You don’t have permission to access / on this server” Error

How to Install WordPress on RHEL 8 with Apache

How to Set Up ModSecurity with Apache on Debian/Ubuntu

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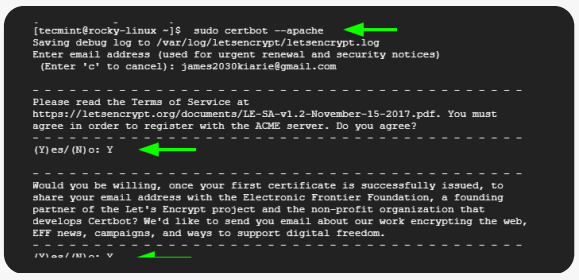

Secure Apache with Let’s Encrypt Certificate on Rocky Linux

4 thoughts on “3 Ways to Check Apache Server Status and Uptime in Linux”

How To
September 6, 2021 at 4:39 am

How to make `"ps -eo comm,etime,user | grep apache2"` show full filenames?

Reply

Mark Fulghum
January 24, 2021 at 9:28 pm

Thanks a lot for the amazing commands it saved my time.

Reply