

 Filter by title

- > Hybrid identity
- > Scenarios
- > Cloud sync reference
- < ▾ Connect sync reference
- What is connect sync?
- > Tutorials
- > Concepts
- < ▾ How-to guides
- > Installation and upgrade
- > Plan and design
- > Manage Microsoft Entra Connect
- > Manage Pass-through authentication
- < ▾ Manage Federation Services
- Managing federation with Microsoft Entra Connect
- Multiple domain support for federating
- Federate multiple instances of Microsoft Entra ID with single instance of AD FS
- Renew federation certificates for M365 and Microsoft Entra ID
- Update the SSL certificate for AD FS
- Manage the AD FS trust with Microsoft Entra ID
- Configure group claims for applications
- Change hash algorithm for M365 RP
- Use a SAML 2.0 server as your Idp
- Emergency rotation of AD FS certificates
- Monitor changes to federation configuration**
- > Manage single sign-on
- > Manage Microsoft Entra Connect Health
- > Manage Microsoft Entra Connect Sync
- > Troubleshoot
- > Reference

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Monitor changes to federation configuration in your Microsoft Entra ID

Article • 11/06/2023 • 5 contributors

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In this article

- Set up alerts to monitor the trust relationship
- Next steps

When you federate your on-premises environment with Microsoft Entra ID, you establish a trust relationship between the on-premises identity provider and Microsoft Entra ID.

Due to this established trust, Microsoft Entra ID honors the security token issued by the on-premises identity provider post authentication, to grant access to resources protected by Microsoft Entra ID.

Therefore, it's critical that this trust (federation configuration) is monitored closely, and any unusual or suspicious activity is captured.


To monitor the trust relationship, we recommend you set up alerts to be notified when changes are made to the federation configuration.

Set up alerts to monitor the trust relationship

Follow these steps to set up alerts to monitor the trust relationship:

1. [Configure Microsoft Entra audit logs](#) to flow to an Azure Log Analytics Workspace.
2. [Create an alert rule](#) that triggers based on Microsoft Entra ID log query.
3. [Add an action group](#) to the alert rule that gets notified when the alert condition is met.

After the environment is configured, the data flows as follows:

1. Microsoft Entra logs are populated per the activity in the tenant.
 2. The log information flows to the Azure Log Analytics workspace.
 3. A background job from Azure Monitor executes the log query based on the configuration of the Alert Rule in the configuration step (2) above.
-  Copy

```
AuditLogs
| extend TargetResource = parse_json(TargetResources)
| where ActivityDisplayName contains "Set federation settings on domain" or Activity
| project TimeGenerated, SourceSystem, TargetResource[0].displayName, AADTenantId, (
```
4. If the result of the query matches the alert logic (that is, the number of results is greater than or equal to 1), then the action group kicks in. Let’s assume that it kicked in, so the flow continues in step 5.
 5. Notification is sent to the action group selected while configuring the alert.

ⓘ Note

In addition to setting up alerts, we recommend periodically reviewing the configured domains within your Microsoft Entra tenant and removing any stale, unrecognized, or suspicious domains.

Next steps

- [Integrate Microsoft Entra logs with Azure Monitor logs](#)
- [Create, view, and manage log alerts using Azure Monitor](#)
- [Manage AD FS trust with Microsoft Entra ID using Microsoft Entra Connect](#)
- [Best practices for securing Active Directory Federation Services](#)

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Additional resources

Training

Module

[Monitor and maintain Microsoft Entra ID - Training](#)

Audit and diagnostic logs within Microsoft Entra ID provide a rich view into how users are accessing your Azure solution. Learn to monitor, troubleshoot, and analyze sign-in data.

Certification

[Microsoft Certified: Identity and Access Administrator Associate - Certifications](#)

Demonstrate the features of Microsoft Entra ID to modernize identity solutions, implement hybrid solutions, and implement identity governance.