

NASA-HTTP

Description:

These two traces contain two month's worth of all HTTP requests to the NASA Kennedy Space Center WWW server in Florida.

Analysis insights

1. Request Counts

	July	August
Total Requests	1891714	1569898
Get Requests	1887646	1565812
Post Requests	111	111

Observation:

The vast majority of the traffic consisted of GET requests (~99.74%), with POST requests being negligible in volume

2. Unique IP Addresses

Total unique ips: **Jul:81983, Aug: 75060**

Observation:

A wide distribution of IPs hence it's a globally accessed system, exposed to the public

3. Failed Requests

	July	August
Failed Requests	10893	10251
Failure Rate	0.58%	0.65%

Observation: Failure rate in August is Slightly worse but still pretty minimal which is a positive indicator of system stability and reliability.

4. Top User (Most Active IP)

Most Active IP: (July) piweba3y.prodigy.com (17572 requests)
(Aug) edams.ksc.nasa.gov (6530 requests)

Observation:

This IP especially in **July** represents a high request volume, which may indicate internal automated access or scraping behavior and can be a security concern to validate it

5. Daily Request Averages

Average Requests per Day:(July) 65231
(Aug) 52329

Observation:

Traffic is consistently high. System performance under sustained load appears to be adequate given the low failure rate since only 0.61% of total requests failed

6. Top 10 Days with the Most Failures

July	August
19/Jul (670 Failure)	30/Aug (601 Failures)
06/Jul (656 Failure)	31/Aug (541 Failures)
07/Jul (583 Failure)	07/Aug (538 Failures)
13/Jul (543 Failure)	29/Aug (453 Failures)
03/Jul (543 Failure)	25/Aug (444 Failures)
05/Jul (520 Failure)	24/Aug (441 Failures)
25/Jul (510 Failure)	27/Aug (423 Failures)

18/Jul (509 Failure)	28/Aug (417 Failures)
12/Jul (488 Failure)	08/Aug (409 Failures)
11/Jul (479 Failure)	06/Aug (378 Failures)

Observation: Late August had a noticeable cluster of failure spikes. These could be linked to system updates, content changes, or malicious activity so it needs to be checked if there was an new update published on these spikes days like (19/jul and 30/Aug) also on the 7th of each month there was a noticeable spike in the number of failures as well, so these failures needs to be checked carefully incase if it was an attempt to attack the server.

7. Request Distribution by Hour (24 Hour Format)

July	August
12:00 122085 Requests	12:00 105143 Requests
14:00 122479 Requests	13:00 104536 Requests
13:00 120814 Requests	15:00 109465 Requests
15:00 121200 Requests	14:00 101394 Requests
11:00 115720 Requests	16:00 99527 Requests
16:00 118037 Requests	11:00 95344 Requests
10:00 105507 Requests	10:00 88309 Requests
09:00 99969 Requests	09:00 78695 Requests
08:00 83750 Requests	08:00 65443 Requests
07:00 54017 Requests	07:00 47386 Requests
00:00 62450 Requests	00:00 47862 Requests
01:00 53066 Requests	01:00 38531 Requests
02:00 45297 Requests	02:00 32508 Requests
03:00 37398 Requests	03:00 29995 Requests
06:00 35253 Requests	06:00 31287 Requests
04:00 32234 Requests	04:00 26756 Requests
05:00 31919 Requests	05:00 27587 Requests
17:00 97609 Requests	17:00 80834 Requests
18:00 79282 Requests	18:00 66809 Requests
21:00 71922 Requests	19:00 59315 Requests
19:00 71776 Requests	20:00 59944 Requests
22:00 70759 Requests	22:00 60673 Requests
20:00 69809 Requests	21:00 57985 Requests
23:00 69362 Requests	23:00 54570 Requests

Observation: even distribution with most requests are at peak hours like 12:00 and a noticeable drop in the numbers at time like 23:00, and one of the **suggestions** if the company is using cloud service is to set up automatic scaler to scale up in the peak hours and then scale down when the server is idle to save computing power and also to make sure servers are meeting all requests and prevent any kind of Attack like DDos that could happen at peak hours.

8. Status Code Breakdown

July	August
200: 1697914	200: 1,396,473
304: 132626	304: 134138
404: 10,714	302: 26422
302: 46549	404: 9978
786: 244	403: 171
500->599: 1,253	500->599: 99

Observation:

Successful responses (200) dominate, but notable 404 codes indicate broken or restricted links. The presence of 500 errors hints at some server-side issues.

So we need to investigate recurring 404 errors, consider creating redirects or updating broken urls and regarding 500 errors we need to review internal logs to determine their root causes like if it's a database failure or app crashes and work on them to get it fixed.

9. Most Active User by Method

Most GETs: **(July)** piweba3y.prodigy.com (17572), **(Aug)** edams.ksc.nasa.gov (6528)

Most POSTs: **(July)** 163.205.1.45 (21), **(Aug)** seabrk.mindspring.com (8)

Observation:

GET usage Dominates POST activity, consistent with the request count data. But we need to monitor these users to make sure no malicious behaviour is happening especially if most of their request are failing or getting blocked due to restricted access

10. Failure Patterns by Hour

July	August
15:00 (841 failures)	12:00 (670 failures)
14:00 (753 failures)	02:00 (618 failures)

11:00 (732 failures)	13:00 (616 failures)
12:00 (649 failures)	17:00 (590 failures)
10:00 (643 failures)	16:00 (583 failures)
16:00 (643 failures)	15:00 (549 failures)
17:00 (616 failures)	14:00 (525 failures)
13:00 (531 failures)	10:00 (488 failures)
18:00 (494 failures)	23:00 (487 failures)
22:00 (487 failures)	22:00 (459 failures)
09:00 (481 failures)	20:00 (457 failures)
23:00 (467 failures)	19:00 (444 failures)
21:00 (446 failures)	21:00 (434 failures)
00:00 (429 failures)	11:00 (429 failures)
19:00 (411 failures)	18:00 (429 failures)
20:00 (380 failures)	00:00 (371 failures)
08:00 (358 failures)	03:00 (365 failures)
01:00 (319 failures)	09:00 (352 failures)
02:00 (276 failures)	08:00 (340 failures)
03:00 (242 failures)	01:00 (332 failures)
07:00 (240 failures)	07:00 (225 failures)
04:00 (167 failures)	04:00 (182 failures)
05:00 (155 failures)	05:00 (171 failures)
06:00 (133 failures)	06:00 (135 failures)

Most failures are at peak time which is a normal thing given the count of request but some of the failures like at 02:00 are a bit high considering that it's not one of the top hours for requests so these failures needs to be investigated and check if it's was due an internal error or malicious activity was happening.

Conclusion

The system handled over **1.5 million** requests with excellent stability and only **0.65% failure rate**. Usage patterns are consistent and global. There are some failure spikes and a few heavily active users worth monitoring, but overall, the log data indicates healthy traffic and operational performance.

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