

Get Backup information

Last updated by | Vitor Tomaz | Jun 8, 2022 at 5:35 AM PDT

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Issue

It's not unusual on troubleshooting scenarios the need to know more details about the backups, when they are being executed, how long do they take, what is the size, ...

So how to get information about the automatic backups of a Azure Managed Instance?

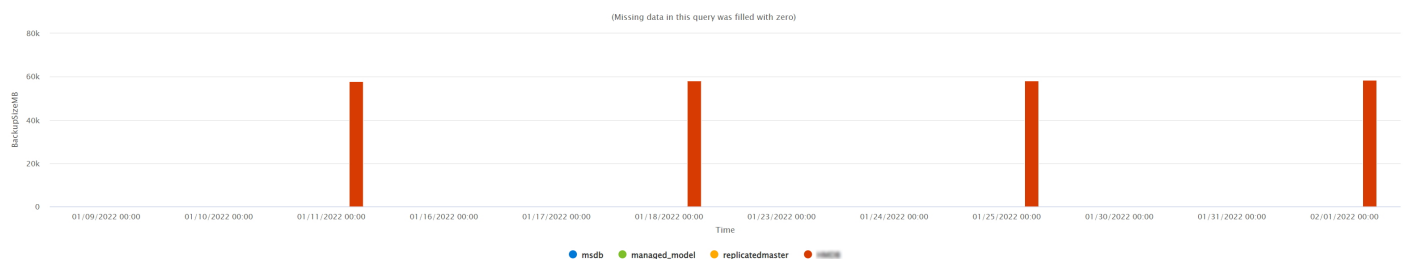
Investigation/Analysis

- CSS side

In the ASC Managed Instance Troubleshooter Report go to the Backup/Restore tab and you will get the following information.

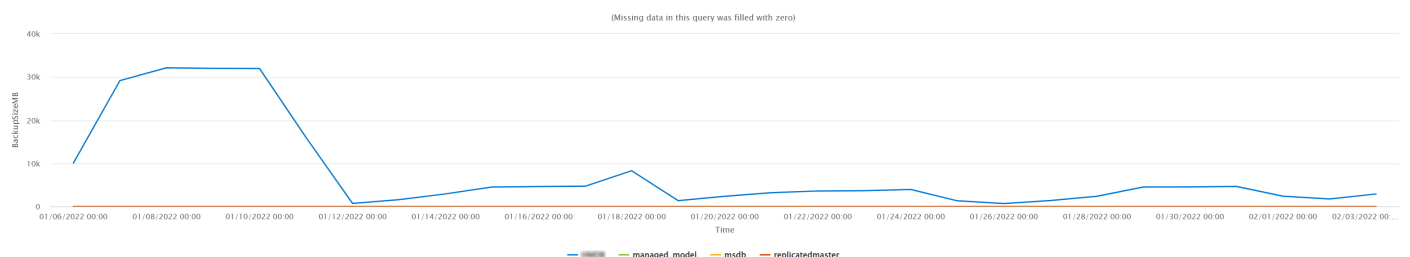
When were the full backups taken and there sizes, remember that full backups are taken every 7 days. There can be some exceptions when the customer has requested to change the backup schedule, for example, if the full backups were being taken on Wednesday and on Monday the backup schedule was changed so the full backups start to be taken on Saturdays, then there will be no full backup on Wednesday to be taken on Saturday going from an interval of 7 days to 10 days.

Full backups per database (top 10)



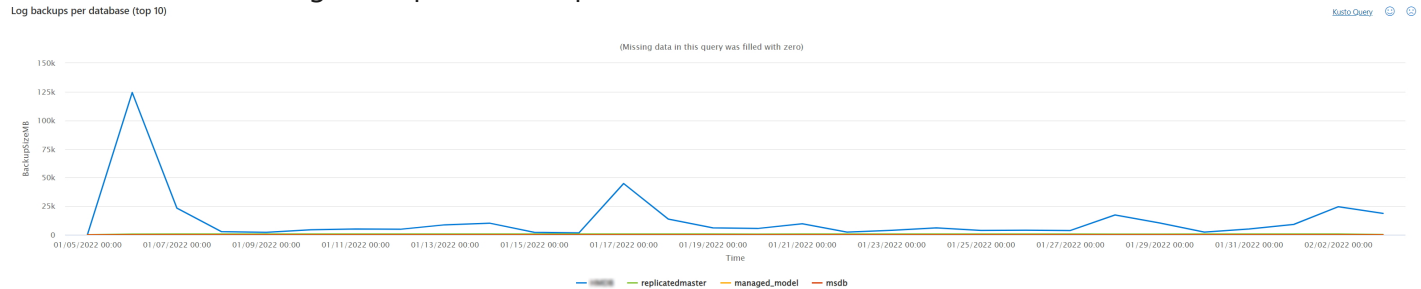
When were the differential backups taken and there sizes, this backups are taken every 12-24 hours. Changing the backup schedule will not affect this backups, that change is only for the full backups.

Diff backups per database (top 10)



The log backups are taken every 5 to 10 minutes.

Note: If a database is idle and it doesn't have data on the transaction log we can see a higher interval between transaction log backups, for example 1 hour.



To get a more detailed information about backups use the following kusto query.

```
let backuptype = ''; //Possible values: '', 'Full', 'Diff' or 'Log'
let MIName = '<instance name>';
let lookBack = ago(1h);
MonBackup
| where TIMESTAMP > lookBack
| where logical_server_name =~ MIName
| where backup_type =~ backuptype or backuptype == ''
| where event_type == 'BACKUP_METADATA_DETAILS'
| where toupper(logical_database_id) == toupper(logical_database_name) //To include system DBs, comment th
| extend BackupSizeMB = round(todecimal(backup_size)/1024/1024,2)
| extend backup_size_GB = round(todecimal(backup_size)/1024/1024/1024,2)
| project PreciseTimeStamp, logical_database_id=tolower(logical_database_name), BackupSizeMB, backup_size
| join kind=leftouter
(
MonAnalyticsDBSnapshot
| where logical_server_name =~ MIName
| summarize arg_max(TIMESTAMP,*) by logical_database_id
| project logical_database_id=tolower(logical_database_id), logical_database_name
) on logical_database_id
| extend DatabaseName = iif(logical_database_name != '', logical_database_name, logical_database_id)
| project PreciseTimeStamp, logical_database_id, DatabaseName, backup_type, BackupSizeMB, backup_size_GB,
| order by DatabaseName, PreciseTimeStamp
```

- Customer side

Customers can collect backup information using Extended Events or reading the ErrorLog.

- Using Extended Events to monitor backup activity

The drawback with this option is that it needs to be running to collect the information, if customer wants to know what happen in the past and he doesn't have the session running he will not be able to know. The alternative is to use the ErrorLog, but check the drawback of the ErrorLog.

Just follow the instruction on this public documentation page, [Monitor backup activity for Azure SQL Managed Instance](#)

- Using the ErrorLog to collect information about backups

The drawback with this option is that the ErrorLog is restarted everytime the Managed Instance is restarted and it's not possible to read the previous ErrorLog.

Customer can use the function sys.xp_readerrorlog or he can use the SP [sp_mibackupinfo](#) that filters and provide the information from the ErrorLog in a more clean way.

Public Doc Reference (optional)

[Automated backups - Azure SQL Database & Azure SQL Managed Instance](#) 

[Monitor backup activity for Azure SQL Managed Instance](#) 

Root Cause Classification

Cases resolved by this TSG should be coded to the following root cause:

Azure SQL v3\Backup/Restore\Automated Backups

How good have you found this content?



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