

Linked server

Last updated by | Charlene Wang | Oct 12, 2020 at 7:46 PM PDT

Contents

- [Public Doc Reference](#)
 - [Linked servers](#)
 - [Linked servers in managed instances support a limited nu...](#)
 - [Operations](#)
 - [Create linked server to readable secondary replica in Mana...](#)

Public Doc Reference

Linked servers

Linked servers in managed instances support a limited number of targets:

- Supported targets are Managed Instances, Single Databases, and SQL Server instances.
- Linked servers don't support distributed writable transactions (MS DTC).
- Targets that aren't supported are files, Analysis Services, and other RDBMS. Try to use native CSV import from Azure Blob Storage using BULK INSERT or OPENROWSET as an alternative for file import.

Operations

- Cross-instance write transactions aren't supported.
- `sp_dropserver` is supported for dropping a linked server. See [sp_dropserver](#).
- The `OPENROWSET` function can be used to execute queries only on SQL Server instances. They can be either managed, on-premises, or in virtual machines. See [OPENROWSET](#).
- The `OPENDATASOURCE` function can be used to execute queries only on SQL Server instances. They can be either managed, on-premises, or in virtual machines. Only the `SQLNCLI`, `SQLNCLI11`, and `SQLOLEDB` values are supported as a provider. An example is `SELECT * FROM OPENDATASOURCE('SQLNCLI', '...').AdventureWorks2012.HumanResources.Employee`. See [OPENDATASOURCE](#).
- Linked servers cannot be used to read files (Excel, CSV) from the network shares. Try to use [BULK INSERT](#) or [OPENROWSET](#) that reads CSV files from Azure Blob Storage. Track this requests on [managed instance Feedback item](#)

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/sql-database/sql-database-managed-instance-transact-sql-information>

Create linked server to readable secondary replica in Managed Instance Business Critical service tier

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/archive/blogs/sqlserverstorageengine/create-linked-server-to-readable-secondary-replica-in-managed-instance-business-critical-service-tier>

How good have you found this content?

