No temporary space left on device (azure.enable_temp_tablespaces_on_local_ssd)

Last updated by | Francisco Javier Pardillo Martin | Feb 17, 2022 at 8:51 AM PST

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Issue

Customer is receiving following messages when executing long running queries or queries that will require high temporary usage, like queries using aggregated functions, sorts, ...:

ERROR: could not write to file 'pg_tblspc/16386/PG_13_202007201/pgsql_tmp/pgsql_tmp21169.539': No space left on device

Investigation/Analysis

Please check parameter "azure.enable_temp_tablespaces_on_local_ssd".

By default, this parameter is set to ON, so temporary files will be generated in the internal SSD disk that those SKUs provide: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/edv4-edsv4-series

The internal SSD size depends on the SKU size, but not in the total storage already provisioned by customer. So, if a customer is using a large storage and they need to run queries that could use huge temporary files, then, the SSD size could not be enough.

Mitigation

Customer should consider changing the parameter "azure.enable_temp_tablespaces_on_local_ssd" to OFF, so, temporary files will be generated in the allocated storage, not in the internal SSD disk.

By setting this parameter to OFF, the customer will not have the improvement to use local SSD directly attached to its server but could attend to those big queries.

More Information

Flexible Server now supports V4 compute series in PostgreSQL on Azure

Public Doc Reference

Release: October 2021, support for Ddsv4 and Edsv4 SKUs and parameter "azure.enable temp tablespaces on local ssd" ☑

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