

# Collecting MongoDB metrics and statistics

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series collection / mongodb / database  
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*This post is part 2 of a 3-part series about monitoring MongoDB performance. Part 1 presents the key performance metrics available from MongoDB: there is one post for the WiredTiger storage engine and one for MMAPv1. In Part 3 you will discover how to monitor MongoDB performance with Datadog.*





order to monitor them. There are three ways to collect MongoDB metrics from your hosts:

- Using utilities offered by MongoDB to collect real-time activity statistics
- Using database commands to check the database's current state
- Using a dedicated monitoring tool for more advanced monitoring features and graphing capabilities, which are essential for databases running in production

## Utilities

Utilities provide real-time statistics on the current activity of your MongoDB cluster. They can be useful for ad hoc checks, but to get actionable insights and more advanced monitoring features, you should check the last section about dedicated monitoring tools.

The two main utilities line are **mongostat** and **mongotop**.

### mongostat

**mongostat** is the most powerful utility. It reports real-time statistics about connections, inserts, queries, updates, deletes, queued reads and writes, flushes,





However **mongostat** does not provide insights on metrics about Replication and oplog, cursors, storage, resource saturation, asserts, or host-level metrics.

**mongostat** returns cache statistics only if you use the WiredTiger storage engine.

```
$ mongostat
connected to: 128.0.1.1
```

insert	query	update	delete	getmore	command	flushes	mapped	vsz	res	faults	locked	db	idx	miss %	qr qw	ar aw	netIn	netOut	conn	time
1000	1	1103	1805	1	1 0	0	320m	808m	54m	32	test:84.6%		0		0 0	0 1	321k	91k	2	13:36:20
2000	1	1229	1187	1	1 0	0	320m	808m	54m	102	test:83.9%		0		0 0	0 1	279k	54k	2	13:36:21
1000	1	964	995	1	1 0	0	320m	808m	54m	24	test:85.2%		0		0 0	0 1	243k	49k	2	13:36:22

You can find in the [MongoDB documentation](#) the meaning of the different fields returned by mongostat along with the available [options](#).

mongostat relies on the `db.serverStatus()` command ([see below](#)).

NOTE: Prior version 3.2, MongoDB offered an HTTP console displaying monitoring statistics on a web page, but this has been deprecated since v3.2.

## mongotop



**mongotop** returns the amount of time a MongoDB instance spends performing read and write operations. It is broken down by collection (namespace). This allows you to

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```
$ mongotop
connected to: 128.0.1.1
```

ns	total	read	write
test.monitoringExample	902ms	1ms	901ms
test.system.users	0ms	0ms	0ms
test.system.namespaces	0ms	0ms	0ms
test.system.js	0ms	0ms	0ms
test.system.indexes	0ms	0ms	0ms

```
2016-03-15T14:43:23
```

ns	total	read	write
test.monitoringExample	946ms	0ms	946ms

```
2016-03-15T14:43:24
```





ns	total	read	write	2016-03-15T14:43:25
test.monitoringExample	932ms	1ms	931ms	
test.system.users	0ms	0ms	0ms	
test.system.namespaces	0ms	0ms	0ms	
test.system.js	0ms	0ms	0ms	
test.system.indexes	0ms	0ms	0ms	

By default, values are printed every second but you can specify the frequency. For example if you want it to return every 20 seconds, you can run `mongotop 20`. Many other options are available as well.

Utilities are great for quick checks and ad hoc investigations, but for more detailed insights into the health and performance of your database, explore MongoDB commands discussed in the next section.

## Commands

MongoDB provides several commands that can be used to collect the different metrics from your database presented in Part 1. Here are the most useful ones.



### serverStatus



connections, operations, journaling, background flushing, locking, cursors, memory, asserts, etc. You can find the full list of metrics it can return [here](#).

This command is used by most [third party monitoring tools](#) to collect MongoDB metrics along with the `dbStats` and `replSetGetStatus` commands that are still necessary to collect storage metrics and statistics about your replica sets (see next paragraphs).

## dbStats

**dbStats** (`db.stats()` in the mongo shell) provides metrics about storage usage of the database: number of objects, or memory taken by documents and padding in the database (see memory metrics in [Part 1](#) of this series). [Here](#) is the full list of metrics it returns.

## collStats

**collStats** (`db.collection.stats()` in the shell) returns metrics similar to the `dbStats` output but for a specified collection: size of a collection, number of objects inside it, average size of objects, number of indexes in the collection, etc. See the full list [here](#).





scale of 1024 bytes.

```
db.runCommand( { collStats : "restaurant", scale: 1024 } )
```

## getReplicationInfo

`getReplicationInfo` ( `db.printReplicationInfo()` in the shell) returns metrics about oplogs of the different members of a replica set like the oplog size or the oplog window. See the list of output fields [here](#).

## replSetGetStatus

**replSetGetStatus** ( `rs.status()` from the shell) reports metrics about members of your replica set: state, metrics required to calculate replication lag. [See Part 1](#) for more info about these metrics. This command is used to check the health of a replica set's members and make sure replication is correctly configured. You can find the full list of metrics of the output [here](#).

## sh.status

`Sh.status` ( `sh.status()` from the shell) provides metrics about sharding configuration and existing chunks (contiguous range of shard key values in a specific [shard](#)) for a





`getProfilingStatus ( db.getProfilingStatus()`  in the shell) returns the current profile level and the defined threshold above which the profiler considers a query slow (`slowOpThresholdMs`).

## Production monitoring

The first two sections of this post cover built-in ways to manually access MongoDB metrics using simple lightweight tools. For databases running in production, you will likely want a more comprehensive monitoring system that ingests MongoDB metrics as well as metrics from other technologies in your stack.

### MongoDB's own tools

With MongoDB Enterprise Advanced, you will be able to collect performance metrics, automate, and backup your deployment through MongoDB's management tools:

- Ops Manager is the easiest way to manage MongoDB from your own data center
- Cloud Manager allows you to manage your MongoDB deployment through MongoDB's cloud service





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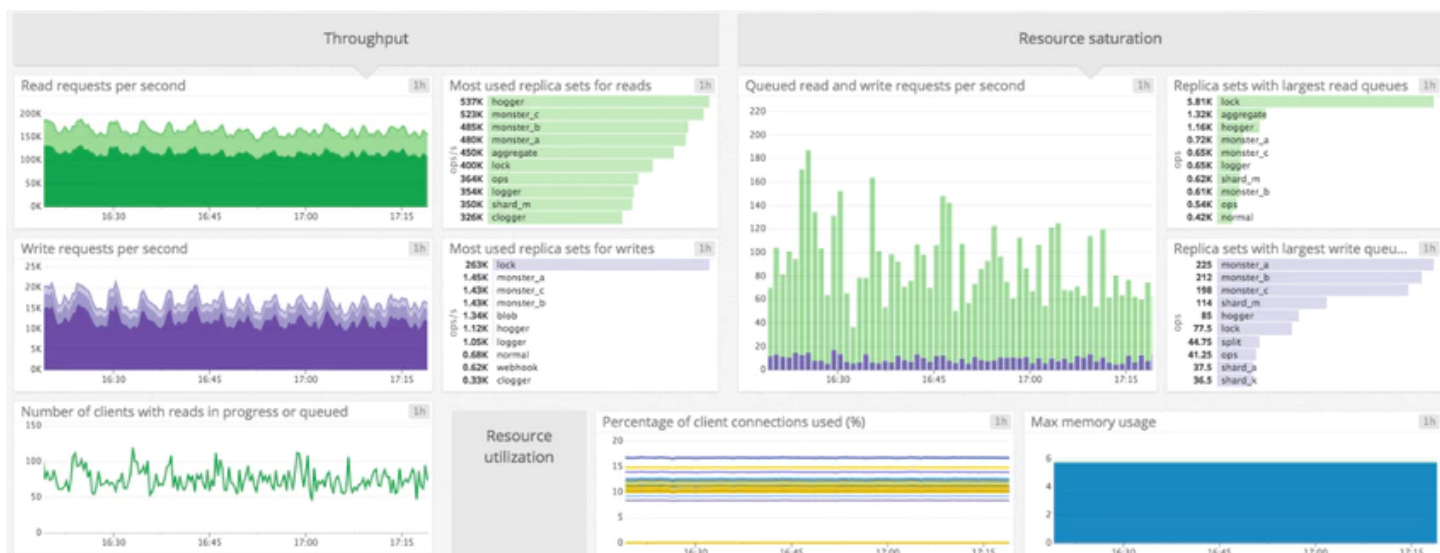
If you have it, MongoDB Ops Manager will likely be your go-to place to take actions to monitor, prevent or resolve MongoDB performance issues.

## Visibility into all your infrastructure with Datadog

At Datadog, we worked with MongoDB's team to develop a strong integration. Using Datadog you can start collecting, graphing, and monitoring all MongoDB metrics from your instances with a minimum of overhead, and immediately correlate what's happening in MongoDB with the rest of your stack



Datadog offers extended monitoring functionality, such as:

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For more details, check out our guide to monitoring MongoDB metrics with Datadog in the third and last part of this series.

*Source Markdown for this post is available on GitHub. Questions, corrections, additions, etc.? Please let us know.*

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