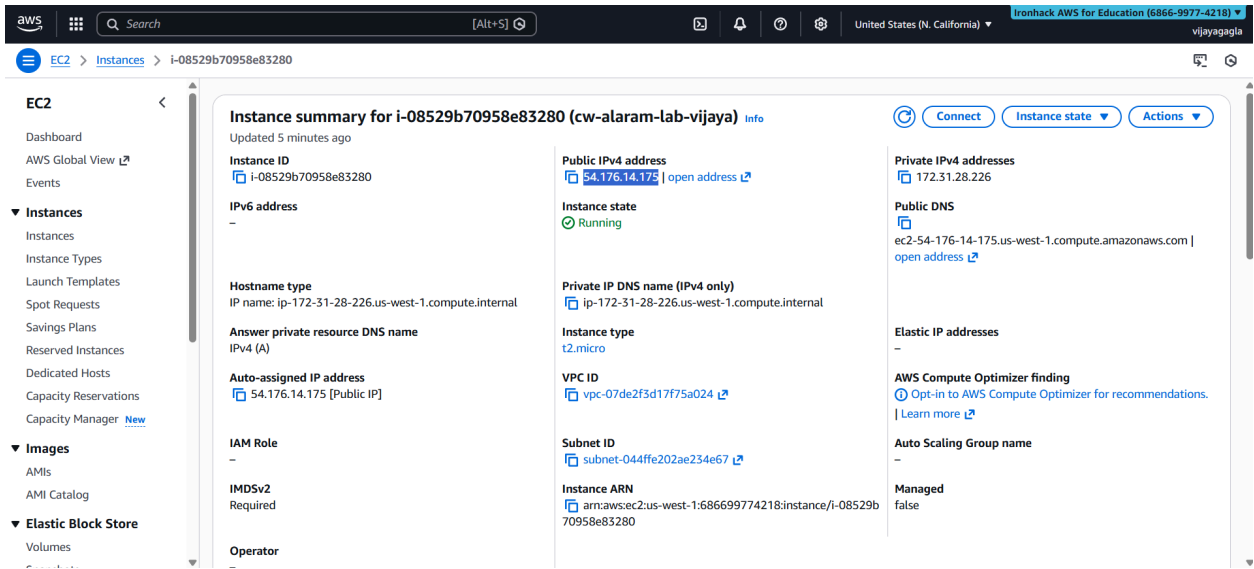# LAB | Create a CloudWatch Alarm

Create an EC2 Instance

CloudWatch alarm configuration

Details

Name
cpu_test_vijaya

Type
Metric alarm

Description
No description

State
⚠ In alarm

Threshold
CPUUtilization > 70 for 1 datapoints within 5 minutes

Actions
⊘ Actions enabled

Last state update
2026-01-22 13:48:06 (UTC)

Namespace
AWS/EC2

Metric name
CPUUtilization

InstanceId
i-08529b70958e83280

Instance name
cw-alaram-lab-vijaya

Statistic
Average

Period
5 minutes

Datapoints to alarm
1 out of 1

Missing data treatment
Treat missing data as missing

Percentiles with low samples
evaluate

ARN
arn:aws:cloudwatch:us-west-1:686699774218:alarm:cpu_test_vijaya

▸ View EventBridge rule

SNS email notification

AWS Notification - Subscription Confirmation Inbox ×

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-28-226 ~]$ sudo yum -y install stress
Amazon Linux 2023 Kernel Livepatch repository                                  242 kB/s |  30 kB     00:00
Dependencies resolved.
=================================================================================================================
 Package                Architecture          Version                    Repository               Size
=================================================================================================================
Installing:
 stress                 x86_64                1.0.7-2.amzn2023.0.1       amazonlinux              34 k

Transaction Summary
=================================================================================================================
Install  1 Package

Total download size: 34 k
Installed size: 68 k
Downloading Packages:
stress-1.0.7-2.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64.rpm                                         504 kB/s |  34 kB     00:00
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
Total                                                                          311 kB/s |  34 kB     00:00
Running transaction check
Transaction check succeeded.
Running transaction test
Transaction test succeeded.
Running transaction
  Preparing        :                                                                                  1/1
  Installing       : stress-1.0.7-2.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64                                               1/1
  Running scriptlet: stress-1.0.7-2.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64                                               1/1
  Verifying        : stress-1.0.7-2.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64                                               1/1

Installed:
  stress-1.0.7-2.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64

Complete!
```
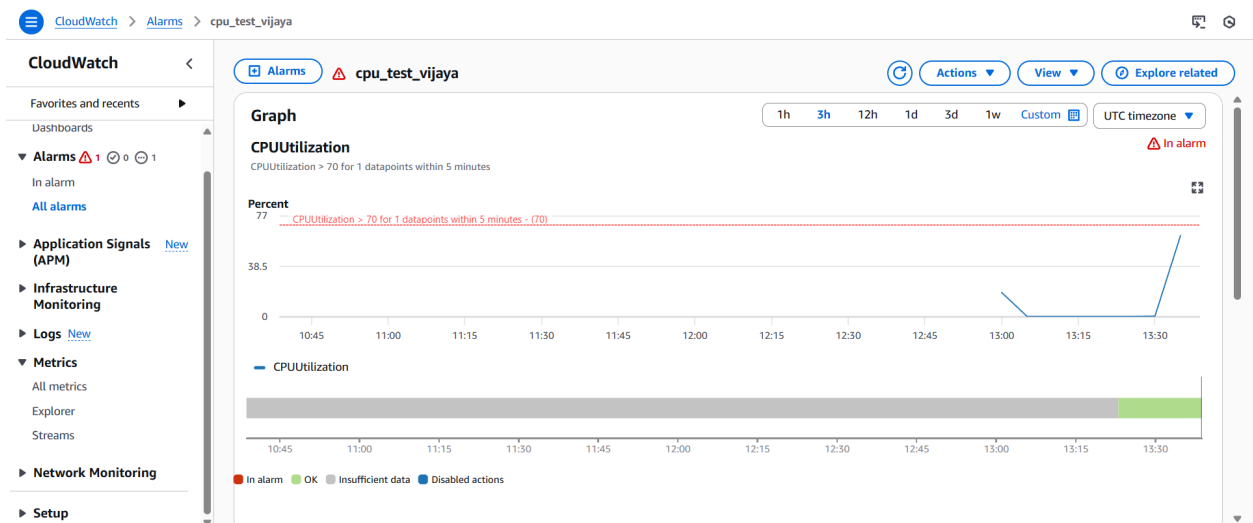
SSH session running `stress` command

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-28-226 ~]$ stress --cpu 1
stress: info: [26559] dispatching hogs: 1 cpu, 0 io, 0 vm, 0 hdd
```

Alarm state change to **"In Alarm"**

CloudWatch > Alarms > cpu_test_vijaya

CloudWatch

Favorites and recents ▸

Dashboards

▼ Alarms ⚠ 1 ⊘ 0 ⊖ 1
In alarm
All alarms

▸ Application Signals New
(APM)

▸ Infrastructure
Monitoring

▸ Logs New

▼ Metrics
All metrics
Explorer
Streams

▸ Network Monitoring

▸ Setup

⊞ Alarms   ⚠ cpu_test_vijaya   ↻ Actions ▾ View ▾ ⊙ Explore related

Graph   [1h] [3h] [12h] [1d] [3d] [1w] [Custom ▦]   UTC timezone ▾

CPUUtilization   ⚠ In alarm
CPUUtilization > 70 for 1 datapoints within 5 minutes

Percent
77   ····· CPUUtilization > 70 for 1 datapoints within 5 minutes - (70)

38.5

0
    10:45 11:00 11:15 11:30 11:45 12:00 12:15 12:30 12:45 13:00 13:15 13:30

▬ CPUUtilization

    10:45 11:00 11:15 11:30 11:45 12:00 12:15 12:30 12:45 13:00 13:15 13:30

🔴 In alarm 🟢 OK ⬜ Insufficient data 🔵 Disabled actions

☰ **M Gmail**   🔍 Search mail   ⚙ ✦ ⠿ V

← ⊡ ⓘ 🗑 ✉ 🗀 ⋮   1 of 4,815 ‹ › ▭ ▾   📅

ALARM: "cpu_test_vijaya" in US West (N. California) Inbox ×   🖶 ⧉

AWS Notifications <no-reply@sns.amazonaws.com>   2:48 PM (1 minute ago) ☆ ☺ ↩ ⋮
to me ▾

You are receiving this email because your Amazon CloudWatch Alarm "cpu_test_vijaya" in the US West (N. California) region has entered the ALARM state, because "Threshold Crossed: 1 out of the last 1 datapoints [99.9 (22/01/26 13:38:00)] was greater than the threshold (70.0) (minimum 1 datapoint for OK -> ALARM transition)." at "Thursday 22 January, 2026 13:48:06 UTC".

View this alarm in the AWS Management Console:
https://us-west-1.console.aws.amazon.com/cloudwatch/deeplink.js?region=us-west-1#alarmsV2:alarm/cpu_test_vijaya

Alarm Details:
- Name: cpu_test_vijaya
- Description:
- State Change: OK -> ALARM
- Reason for State Change: Threshold Crossed: 1 out of the last 1 datapoints [99.9 (22/01/26 13:38:00)] was greater than the threshold (70.0) (minimum 1 datapoint for OK -> ALARM transition).
- Timestamp: Thursday 22 January, 2026 13:48:06 UTC
- AWS Account: 686699774218
- Alarm Arn: arn:aws:cloudwatch:us-west-1:686699774218:alarm:cpu_test_vijaya

Threshold:
- The alarm is in the ALARM state when the metric is GreaterThanThreshold 70.0 for at least 1 of the last 1 period(s) of 300 seconds.

Monitored Metric:
- MetricNamespace: AWS/EC2
- MetricName: CPUUtilization
- Dimensions: [InstanceId = i-08529b70958e83280]
- Period: 300 seconds
- Statistic: Average