Postfix Statistics

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Contents

1 Overview

This document aggregates methods of creating mail server statistics. Starting with version 0.1.0 it gives information about `pflogsumm.pl`.

A list of software that has mail statistic features.

Name	Cov.	URL
pflogsum	Yes	https://jimsun.linxnet.com/postfix_contrib.html
lightmeter	No	https://gitlab.com/lightmeter/controlcenter/
Postscreen-Stats	No	https://github.com/jvehent/Postscreen-Stats

Name	Cov.	URL
PostConf	No	https://www.postconf.com/docs/spamrep/
AWStats	No	https://awstats.sourceforge.io/
Mailgraph	No	https://mailgraph.schweikert.ch/
MRTG w. scripts	No	http://taz.net.au/postfix/mrtg/
Logrep	No	https://sourceforge.net/projects/logrep/

A list of software that has no mail statistic features.

Name	Cov.	URL
Poststats	No	https://github.com/jpylypiw/poststats

1.1 History

Version	Date	Notes
0.1.5	2024-01-31	Improve writing
0.1.4	2022-11-13	Fix typo
0.1.3	2022-06-04	Changed shell to bash; updated cron settings, links
0.1.2	2022-05-09	Change level of sections (one down)
0.1.1	2022-05-05	Add poststats, list of software, links, front matter
0.1.0	2022-05-04	Initial release with `pflogsumm.pl`

2 Pflogsumm

When searching for "postfix mail statistic" the first 10 results are referring to a Perl script that analyses the Postfix log files. `pflogsumm.pl` is a script written by James S. Seymour and copyrighted 1998-2004 under the `GPL v2+` license and lives on https://jimsun.linxnet.com/postfix_contrib.html as of this writing (2022-05-04).

The `pflogsumm` script aims to provide an overview of past mail server activities, offering administrators a 'heads-up' in case of troubles.

2.1 Installation

```
aptitude install pflogsumm
```

2.2 Configuration

While some contributions, for example by Falko Timme, are suggesting to configure `logrotate` to have a dedicated log over 24 hours, I got the impression that `pflogsumm` can do this already by itself via a time stamp query and keywords like `yesterday`. I agree that when using the yesterday feature, the results depend on the time at which the cron job is executed. Additionally, re-invoking the same job after 24 hours would yield different results. So a recreation of the reports would be more difficult. However usually as a 'heads-up' using the `yesterday` scope as a one time shot cron job seems justified.

2.3 Invocations

As `pflogsumm` has a lot of command line options it might be advisable to create a script to execute it.

For a daily (yesterday) summary to be executed after 24:00 every day (0:10):

```bash
#!/bin/bash
/usr/sbin/pflogsumm -d yesterday --iso-date-time /var/log/mail.log 2>&1 |\
/usr/bin/mailx -s "`hostname --fqdn` daily mail statistic" postmaster
```

Then add a line to cron:

```
10 0 * * * /usr/local/sbin/postfix-statistics-pdflogsumm-yesterday
```

For a weekly summary, for Debian 10 and 11 `logrotate` is configured for some `locale` to start the week on Sunday 00:00. So you would need to execute the script 10 before the end of the week on the current log file or 10 minutes after the week started on the last log file. We use the latter to be executed after 24:00 on every Sunday (4:10):

```bash
#!/bin/bash
/usr/sbin/pflogsumm --iso-date-time /var/log/mail.log.1 2>&1 |\
/usr/bin/mailx -s "`hostname --fqdn` weekly mail statistic" postmaster
```

Then add a line to cron

```
10 4 * * 0 /usr/local/sbin/postfix-statistics-pdflogsumm-week
```

3   Poststats

Unlike the name the `poststats` tool (GPLv3), despite the name is postfix monitor with a web interface and mail sending capability triggered via cron. As it does not provide statistics, poststats will not be covered in this document.

3.1   Further reading

- https://github.com/jpylypiw/poststats

4   Links

- https://www.postfix.org/addon.html

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