

## Re: ios\_in\_flight of CONFIG\_BLK\_STATS (still) negative in 2.4

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*Source:* <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Kernel/2006-08/msg06454.html>

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Steffen Maier <[smaier@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:smaier@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> writes:

Hello,

in this posting I would like to analyze and discuss a bug(?), that causes the number of I/O requests in flight (`ios_in_flight`) of the extended block device statistics (`CONFIG_BLK_STATS`) to become and stay negative on various kernels of version 2.4. In turn, this leads to erroneous display of 100% utilization for certain classes of harddisk devices with 'iostat -x' and probably other statistic tools relying on the 13th (last but two) field (`ios_in_flight`) of extended block device statistics listed in `/proc/partitions`.

First I encountered the behavior with 2.4.24 but could reproduce it with 2.4.33-rc3 (which is now the latest 2.4 kernel version 2.4.33). There have been various postings concerning this problem in recent years but to the best of my knowledge no ultimate fix has been merged into the mainstream kernel so far.

Have you tried this patch: [http://linux.inet.hr/iostat\\_patch\\_2.4.html](http://linux.inet.hr/iostat_patch_2.4.html)

It was made against 2.4.24 so you'll probably need to tweak it a little bit before applying it cleanly to a newer 2.4, but I think it deserves it's chance.

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Zlatko

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