

Re: top output: 8 cpus busy in user-mode activities, 6 processes running

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Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/RedHat/2006-10/msg00253.html>

- *From:* Susie White <swhite@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 31 Oct 2006 11:57:06 -0800
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Thanks for the suggestion, but I am thinking that the cpu matrix and the process listing are the same 'top' snap shot, and therefore, the cpu cycles on the matrix should match the process listing exactly. What do you think? Is this not correct and it is still a timing issue?

Thanks!
Susie

Troy Knabe wrote:

My understanding is that "top" refreshes every 5 seconds by default. So at the instant of the refresh, it is reporting what processes are actually on the cpu(s) at that time. Not what processes are or were on the process during the 5 seconds between refreshes.

-Troy

----- Original Message -----

From: Susie White <swhite@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Date: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 9:31 am

Subject: top output: 8 cpus busy in user-mode activities, 6 processes running

To: redhat-list@xxxxxxxxxxxxx

Can you give me some insights about how we can have a case of more busy cpus than users on the run queue or waiting for the run queue. Below is a point in time snap shot using 'top'. We have 8 cpus, all with user-mode activity. And yet we have 6 processes in an R or S state. All the rest are in SW state. Any speculation is welcome.

We are running this version of linux: 2.4.21-32.0.1.ELsmp #1 SMP Tue May 17 17:52:23 EDT 2005 i686 i686 i386 GNU/Linux

Thanks!

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```
05:10:01 up 24 days, 5:58, 3 users, load average: 3.50, 2.24, 1.33
1061 processes: 1060 sleeping, 1 running, 0 zombie, 0 stopped
CPU states: cpu user nice system irq softirq iowait idle
total 21.6% 0.0% 43.2% 0.0% 0.8% 9.6% 724.0%
cpu00 0.9% 0.0% 3.6% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 95.4%
cpu01 2.7% 0.0% 7.2% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 90.0%
cpu02 7.2% 0.0% 0.9% 0.0% 0.0% 5.4% 86.4%
cpu03 3.6% 0.0% 4.5% 0.0% 0.0% 4.5% 87.3%
cpu04 1.8% 0.0% 3.6% 0.0% 0.9% 0.0% 93.6%
cpu05 1.8% 0.0% 8.1% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 90.0%
cpu06 1.8% 0.0% 6.3% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 91.8%
cpu07 1.8% 0.0% 9.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 89.0%
Mem: 15887700k av, 14688888k used, 1198812k free, 0k shrd, 75228k buff
10974816k actv, 2098712k in_d, 244572k in_c
Swap: 12582712k av, 128796k used, 12453916k free 12403560k cached
```

```
PID USER PRI NI SIZE RSS SHARE STAT %CPU %MEM TIME CPU
COMMAND
9477 oracle 25 0 1944 1944 788 R 9.9 0.0 0:00 7 top
1937 root 16 0 1204 1076 692 S 7.2 0.0 328:13 2 hpasmd
9531 oracle 25 0 14208 13M 12596 S 4.5 0.0 0:00 3 oracle
25749 oracle 15 0 14200 13M 8584 S 2.7 0.0 0:06 6 oracle
1 root 25 0 520 520 460 S 0.9 0.0 190:19 0 init
25741 oracle 15 0 25132 24M 21952 S 0.9 0.1 4:38 3 oracle
2 root RT 0 0 0 0 SW 0.0 0.0 0:00 0 migration/0
3 root RT 0 0 0 0 SW 0.0 0.0 0:00 1 migration/1
4 root RT 0 0 0 0 SW 0.0 0.0 0:00 2 migration/2
5 root RT 0 0 0 0 SW 0.0 0.0 0:00 3 migration/3
6 root RT 0 0 0 0 SW 0.0 0.0 0:00 4 migration/4
7 root RT 0 0 0 0 SW 0.0 0.0 0:00 5 migration/5
8 root RT 0 0 0 0 SW 0.0 0.0 0:00 6 migration/6
9 root RT 0 0 0 0 SW 0.0 0.0 0:00 7 migration/7
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