

AWS CloudTrail

User Guide

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Viewing recent management events with the console

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You can use the **Event history** page in the CloudTrail console to view the last 90 days of management events in an AWS Region. You can also download a file with that information, or a subset of information based on the filter and time range you choose. You can customize your view of **Event history** by selecting how many events to display on each page and choosing which columns to display on the console. You can also look up and filter events by the resource types available for a particular service. You can select up to five events in **Event history** and compare their details side-by-side.

Event history does not show data events. To view data events, create an [event data store](#) or a [trail](#).

After 90 days, events are no longer shown in event history. You cannot manually delete events from event history.

You can learn more about the specifics of how CloudTrail logs events for a specific service by consulting the documentation for that service. For more information, see [AWS service topics for CloudTrail](#).

Note

For an ongoing record of activity and events past 90 days, create an [event data store](#) or a [trail](#).

To view Event history

1. Sign in to the AWS Management Console and open the CloudTrail console at <https://console.aws.amazon.com/cloudtrail/>.
2. In the navigation pane, choose **Event history**. You see a filtered list of events, with the most recent events showing first. The default filter for events is **Read only**, set to **false**. You can clear that filter by choosing **X** at the right of the filter.
3. You can filter events on a single attribute, which you can choose from the drop-down list. To filter on an attribute, choose the attribute from the drop-down list and enter the full value for the attribute. For example, to view all console login events, choose the **Event name** filter, and specify **ConsoleLogin**. Or, to view recent S3 management events, choose the **Event source** filter, and specify **s3.amazonaws.com**.
4. To view a specific management event, choose the event name. On the event details page, you can view details about the event, see any referenced resources, and view the event record.
5. To compare events, select up to five events by filling their check boxes in the left margin of the **Event history** table. You can view details for the selected events side-by-side in the **Compare event details** table.
6. You can save event history by downloading it as a file in CSV or JSON format. Downloading your event history can take a few minutes.

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Navigating between pages

You can navigate between pages in the **Event history** by choosing the page you want to view. You can also view the next and previous page in **Event history**.

Choose < to view the previous page of **Event history**.

Choose > to view the next page of **Event history**.

Customizing the display

You can customize the view of **Event history** on the CloudTrail console by selecting from the following preferences.

- **Page size** - Choose whether you want to display 10, 25, or 50 events on each page.
- **Wrap lines** - Wrap text so you can see all text for each event.
- **Striped rows** - Shade every other row in the table.
- **Event time display** - Choose whether to display the event time in UTC or the local time zone.
- **Select visible columns** - Select which columns to display. By default, the following columns are displayed:
 - **Event name**
 - **Event time**
 - **User name**
 - **Event source**
 - **Resource type**
 - **Resource name**

Note

You cannot change the order of the columns, or manually delete events from **Event history**.

To customize the display

1. Sign in to the AWS Management Console and open the CloudTrail console at <https://console.aws.amazon.com/cloudtrail/>.
2. In the navigation pane, choose **Event history**.
3. Choose the gear icon.
4. For **Page size**, choose the number of events to display on a page.
5. Choose **Wrap lines** to see all text for each event.
6. Choose **Striped rows** to shade every other row in the table.
7. For **Event time display**, choose whether to display the event time in UTC or the local time zone. By default, UTC is selected.
8. In **Select visible columns**, select the columns you want to display. Turn off

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7. For **Event time display**, choose whether to display the event time in UTC or the local time zone. By default, UTC is selected.
8. In **Select visible columns**, select the columns you want to display. Turn off columns you do not want to display.
9. When you have finished making your changes, choose **Confirm**.

Filtering CloudTrail events

The default display of events in **Event history** uses an attribute filter to exclude read-only events from the list of displayed events. This attribute filter is named **Read-only**, and it is set to **false**. You can remove this filter to display both read and write events. To view only **Read** events, you can change the filter value to **true**. You can also filter events by other attributes. You can additionally filter by time range.

Note

You can only apply one attribute filter and a time range filter. You cannot apply multiple attribute filters.

AWS access key

The AWS access key ID that was used to sign the request. If the request was made with temporary security credentials, this is the access key ID of the temporary credentials.

Event ID

The CloudTrail ID of the event. Each event has a unique ID.

Event name

The name of the event. For example, you can filter on IAM events, such as `CreatePolicy`, or Amazon EC2 events, such as `RunInstances`.

Event source

The AWS service to which the request was made, such as `iam.amazonaws.com` or `s3.amazonaws.com`. You can scroll through a list of event sources after you choose the **Event source** filter.

Read only

The read type of the event. Events are categorized as read events or write events. If set to **false**, read events are not included in the list of displayed events. By default, this attribute filter is applied and the value is set to **false**.

Resource name

The name or ID of the resource referenced by the event. For example, the resource name might be "auto-scaling-test-group" for an Auto Scaling group or "i-12345678910" for an EC2 instance.

Resource type

The type of resource referenced by the event. For example, a resource type can be `Instance` for EC2 or `DBInstance` for RDS. Resource types vary for each AWS service.

Time range

The time range in which you want to filter events. You can choose either a **Relative range** or an **Absolute range**. You can filter events for the last 90 days.

User name

The identity referenced by the event. For example, this can be a user, a role name, or a service role.

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The identity referenced by the event. For example, this can be a user, a role name, or a service role.

If there are no events logged for the attribute or time that you choose, the results list is empty. You can apply only one attribute filter in addition to the time range. If you choose a different attribute filter, your specified time range is preserved.

The following steps describe how to filter by attribute.

To filter by attribute

1. To filter the results by an attribute, choose an attribute from the **Lookup attributes** drop-down list, and then type or choose a value for the attribute in the text box.
2. To remove an attribute filter, choose the **X** at the right of the attribute filter box.

The following steps describe how to filter by a start and end date and time.

To filter by a start and end date and time

1. To narrow the time range for the events that you want to see, choose a time range in the time range bar. You can choose either a **Relative range** or an **Absolute range**.

Choose **Relative range** to select from a preset value or choose a custom range. Preset values are 30 minutes, 1 hour, 12 hours, or 1 day. To specify a custom time range, choose **Custom**.

Choose **Absolute range** to specify a specific start and end time. You can also choose between the local time zone or UTC.
2. To remove a time range filter, choose **Clear and dismiss** in the time range bar.

Viewing details for an event

1. Choose an event in the results list to show its details.
2. Resources referenced in the event are shown in the **Resources referenced** table on the event details page.
3. Some referenced resources have links. Choose the link to open the console for that resource.
4. Scroll to **Event record** on the details page to see the JSON event record, also called the event *payload*.
5. Choose **Event history** in the page breadcrumb to close the event details page and return to **Event history**.

Downloading events

You can download recorded event history as a file in CSV or JSON format. You can download up to 200,000 events in a single file. If you reach the 200,000 event limit, the CloudTrail console will provide the option to download additional files. Use filters and time ranges to reduce the size of the file you download.

Note

CloudTrail event history files are data files that contain information (such as resource names) that can be configured by individual users. Some data can potentially be interpreted as commands in programs used to read and analyze this data (CSV injection). For example, when CloudTrail events are exported to CSV and imported to a spreadsheet program, that program might warn you about security concerns. You should choose to disable this

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analyze this data (CSV injection). For example, when CloudTrail events are exported to CSV and imported to a spreadsheet program, that program might warn you about security concerns. You should choose to disable this content to keep your system secure. Always disable links or macros from downloaded event history files.

1. Add a filter and time range for events in **Event history** that you want to download. For example, you can specify the event name, `StartInstances`, and specify a time range for the last three days of activity.
2. Choose **Download events**, and then choose **Download as CSV** or **Download as JSON**. The download starts immediately.

Note

Your download might take some time to complete. For faster results, before you start the download process, use a more specific filter or a shorter time range to narrow the results. You can cancel a download. If you cancel a download, a partial download including only some event data might be on your local computer. To download the full event history, restart the download.

3. After your download is complete, open the file to view the events that you specified.
4. To cancel your download, choose **Cancel**, and then confirm by choosing **Cancel download**. If you need to restart a download, wait until the earlier download is finished canceling.

Viewing resources referenced with AWS Config

AWS Config records configuration details, relationships, and changes to your AWS resources.

On the **Resources referenced** pane, choose the in the **AWS Config resource timeline** column to view the resource in the AWS Config console.

If the icon is gray, AWS Config isn't turned on, or it's not recording the resource type. Choose the icon to go to the AWS Config console to turn on the service or start recording that resource type. For more information, see [Set Up AWS Config Using the Console](#) in the *AWS Config Developer Guide*.

If **Link not available** appears in the column, the resource can't be viewed for one of the following reasons:

- AWS Config doesn't support the resource type. For more information, see [Supported Resources, Configuration Items, and Relationships](#) in the *AWS Config Developer Guide*.
- AWS Config recently added support for the resource type, but it's not yet available from the CloudTrail console. You can look up the resource in the AWS Config console to see the timeline for the resource.
- The resource is owned by another AWS account.
- The resource is owned by another AWS service, such as a managed IAM policy.
- The resource was created and then deleted immediately.
- The resource was recently created or updated.

To grant users read-only permission to view resources in the AWS Config console, see [Granting permission to view AWS Config information on the CloudTrail console](#).

For more information about AWS Config, see the [AWS Config Developer Guide](#).

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CloudTrail console allows viewing, filtering, comparing event details, downloading event history for management, console login events.

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CloudTrail event history provides searchable, downloadable management event records for 90 days across AWS Regions, enabling viewing, analyzing, responding to account activity.

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How CloudTrail works

Create CloudTrail Lake event data store, log CloudTrail management, data, Insights events, create CloudTrail trail, enable log encryption, integrity validation. CloudTrail Lake stores, queries events from AWS, external sources.

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