

NAME

`pg_waldump` - display a human-readable rendering of the write-ahead log of a PostgreSQL database cluster

SYNOPSIS

`pg_waldump` [*option...*] [*startseg* [*endseg*]]

DESCRIPTION

`pg_waldump` displays the write-ahead log (WAL) and is mainly useful for debugging or educational purposes.

This utility can only be run by the user who installed the server, because it requires read-only access to the data directory.

OPTIONS

The following command-line options control the location and format of the output:

startseg

Start reading at the specified log segment file. This implicitly determines the path in which files will be searched for, and the timeline to use.

endseg

Stop after reading the specified log segment file.

-b

--bkp-details

Output detailed information about backup blocks.

-B *block*

--block=*block*

Only display records that modify the given block. The relation must also be provided with **--relation** or **-R**.

-e *end*

--end=*end*

Stop reading at the specified WAL location, instead of reading to the end of the log stream.

-f

--follow

After reaching the end of valid WAL, keep polling once per second for new WAL to appear.

-F *fork*

--fork=*fork*

If provided, only display records that modify blocks in the given fork. The valid values are main for the main fork, fsm for the free space map, vm for the visibility map, and init for the init fork.

-n *limit*

--limit=*limit*

Display the specified number of records, then stop.

-p *path*

--path=*path*

Specifies a directory to search for log segment files or a directory with a `pg_wal` subdirectory that contains such files. The default is to search in the current directory, the `pg_wal` subdirectory of the current directory, and the `pg_wal` subdirectory of **PGDATA**.

-q

--quiet

Do not print any output, except for errors. This option can be useful when you want to know whether a range of WAL records can be successfully parsed but don't care about the record contents.

-r *rmgr*

--rmgr=*rmgr*

Only display records generated by the specified resource manager. You can specify the option multiple times to select multiple resource managers. If `list` is passed as name, print a list of valid resource manager names, and exit.

Extensions may define custom resource managers, but `pg_waldump` does not load the extension module and therefore does not recognize custom resource managers by name. Instead, you can specify the custom resource managers as `custom###` where `###` is the three-digit resource manager ID. Names of this form will always be considered valid.

-R *tblspc/db/rel*

--relation=*tblspc/db/rel*

Only display records that modify blocks in the given relation. The relation is specified with tablespace OID, database OID, and relfilenode separated by slashes, for example `1234/12345/12345`. This is the same format used for relations in the program's output.

-s *start*

--start=*start*

WAL location at which to start reading. The default is to start reading the first valid log record found in the earliest file found.

-t *timeline*

--timeline=*timeline*

Timeline from which to read log records. The default is to use the value in *startseg*, if that is specified; otherwise, the default is 1.

-V

--version

Print the pg_waldump version and exit.

-w

--fullpage

Only display records that include full page images.

-x *xid*

--xid=*xid*

Only display records marked with the given transaction ID.

-z

--stats[=record]

Display summary statistics (number and size of records and full-page images) instead of individual records. Optionally generate statistics per-record instead of per-rmgr.

If pg_waldump is terminated by signal SIGINT (Control+C), the summary of the statistics computed is displayed up to the termination point. This operation is not supported on Windows.

-?

--help

Show help about pg_waldump command line arguments, and exit.

ENVIRONMENT

PGDATA

Data directory; see also the **-p** option.

PG_COLOR

Specifies whether to use color in diagnostic messages. Possible values are always, auto and never.

NOTES

Can give wrong results when the server is running.

Only the specified timeline is displayed (or the default, if none is specified). Records in other timelines are ignored.

`pg_waldump` cannot read WAL files with suffix `.partial`. If those files need to be read, `.partial` suffix needs to be removed from the file name.

SEE ALSO

Section 30.6