NAME

w - display who is logged in and what they are doing

SYNOPSIS

w [**--libxo**] [**-dhin**] [**-M** *core*] [**-N** *system*] [*user* ...]

DESCRIPTION

The **w** utility prints a summary of the current activity on the system, including what each user is doing. The first line displays the current time of day, how long the system has been running, the number of users logged into the system, and the load averages. The load average numbers give the number of jobs in the run queue averaged over 1, 5 and 15 minutes.

The fields output are the user's login name, the name of the terminal the user is on, the host from which the user is logged in, the time the user logged on, the time since the user last typed anything, and the name and arguments of the current process.

The options are as follows:

--libxo
Generate output via libxo(3) in a selection of different human and machine readable formats. See xo_parse_args(3) for details on command line arguments.

-d dumps out the entire process list on a per controlling tty basis, instead of just the top level process.

-h Suppress the heading.

-i Output is sorted by idle time.

-M Extract values associated with the name list from the specified core instead of the default */dev/kmem*.

-N Extract the name list from the specified system instead of the default */boot/kernel/kernel*.

-n Do not attempt to resolve network addresses (normally **w** interprets addresses and attempts to display them as names). When **-n** is specified more than once, hostnames stored in utmp are attempted to resolve to display them as network addresses.

If one or more *user* names are specified, the output is restricted to those users.

FILES

/var/run/utx.active list of users on the system

EXAMPLES

Show global activity of the system:

```
$ w
 8:05PM  up 35 mins, 3 users, load averages: 0.09, 0.35, 0.27
USER     TTY      FROM          LOGIN@  IDLE WHAT
fernape  v0       -              7:30PM     - tmux: client (/tmp/tmux-1001/default) (tmux)
root     v1       -              8:03PM     1 -bash (bash)
fernape  pts/0    tmux(1391).%0  8:04PM     - w
```

Show the entire process list per tty:

```
$ w -d
 8:12PM  up 42 mins, 3 users, load averages: 0.01, 0.11, 0.17
USER     TTY      FROM          LOGIN@  IDLE WHAT
                    1199     login [pam] (login)
                    1207     -bash (bash)
                    1507     tmux: client (/tmp/tmux-1001/default) (tmux)
fernape  v0       -              7:30PM     - tmux: client (/tmp/tmux-1001/default) (tmux)
                    1488     login [pam] (login)
                    1489     -bash (bash)
root     v1       -              8:08PM     3 -bash (bash)
                    1510     -bash (bash)
                    1515     w -d
fernape  pts/0    tmux(1509).%0  8:11PM     - w -d
```

Same as above but only for the root user and omitting the heading:

```
$ w -d -h root
                         1183     login [pam] (login)
                         1204     -bash (bash)
root     v1       -       7:15PM     - -bash (bash)
```

COMPATIBILITY

The **-f**, **-l**, **-s**, and **-w** flags are no longer supported.

SEE ALSO

finger(1), ps(1), uptime(1), who(1), libxo(3), xo_parse_args(3)

HISTORY

The **w** command appeared in 3.0BSD.

BUGS

The notion of the "current process" is muddy. The current algorithm is "the highest numbered process on the terminal that is not ignoring interrupts, or, if there is none, the highest numbered process on the terminal". This fails, for example, in critical sections of programs like the shell and editor, or when faulty programs running in the background fork and fail to ignore interrupts. (In cases where no process can be found, **w** prints ‘-’.)

The CPU time is only an estimate, in particular, if someone leaves a background process running after logging out, the person currently on that terminal is "charged" with the time.

Background processes are not shown, even though they account for much of the load on the system.

Sometimes processes, typically those in the background, are printed with null or garbaged arguments. In these cases, the name of the command is printed in parentheses.

The **w** utility does not know about the new conventions for detection of background jobs. It will sometimes find a background job instead of the right one.