Queue statistics in MQ 9.3

Fabio Massimo Ottaviani
EPV Technologies

August 2024

1. Introduction

Up to MQ 9.3 the only way to get measurements about queues activity and performance was to activate a class 3 accounting trace.

However, many customers are reluctant to activate this trace because of the overhead produced in terms of:

- Increase of the number of SMF 116 records;
- Increase of the CPU charged to the MQ application address spaces, for data collection;
- Increase of the CPU charged to the MQ master address space, for the aggregation of task related data;
- Increase of the CPU charged to the SMF address space, dependent on the number of SMF 116 records to be written and on the amount of data in each record.

To give these customers the possibility to get information about queue activity and performance without incurring in the accounting trace costs, IBM decided to add a new class of the statistics trace which provides basic queue measurements with a much lower overhead.

Of course, not all the measurements available with the accounting trace are available but, especially with MQ 9.3.3, many interesting metrics have been provided.

In this paper we show what you can do to get these new measurements.

We also provide the full metric list for each MQ release with a short description.