



Using the Top N Utility

This chapter describes how to use the Top N utility on the Catalyst 6500 series switches. Release 12.2(18)SXE and later releases support the Top N utility.



Note

For complete syntax and usage information for the commands used in this chapter, refer to the *Cisco IOS Master Command List*, Release 12.2SX at this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/ios/mcl/122sxmcl/12_2sx_mcl_book.html

This chapter consists of these sections:

- [Understanding the Top N Utility, page 56-1](#)
- [Using the Top N Utility, page 56-2](#)

Understanding the Top N Utility

These sections describe the Top N utility:

- [Top N Utility Overview, page 56-1](#)
- [Understanding Top N Utility Operation, page 56-2](#)

Top N Utility Overview

The Top N utility allows you to collect and analyze data for each physical port on a switch. When the Top N utility starts, it obtains statistics from the appropriate hardware counters and then goes into sleep mode for a user-specified interval. When the interval ends, the utility obtains the current statistics from the same hardware counters, compares the current statistics from the earlier statistics, and stores the difference. The statistics for each port are sorted by one of the statistic types that are listed in [Table 56-1](#).

Table 56-1 Valid Top N Statistic Types

Statistic Type	Definition
broadcast	Number of input/output broadcast packets
bytes	Number of input/output bytes
errors	Number of input errors
multicast	Number of input/output multicast packets
overflow	Number of buffer overflows
packets	Number of input/output packets
utilization	Utilization

**Note**

When calculating the port utilization, the Top N utility bundles the Tx and Rx lines into the same counter and also looks at the full-duplex bandwidth when calculating the percentage of utilization. For example, a Gigabit Ethernet port would be 2000-Mbps full duplex.

Understanding Top N Utility Operation

When you enter the **collect top** command, processing begins and the system prompt reappears immediately. When processing completes, the reports are not displayed immediately on the screen; the reports are saved for later viewing. The Top N Utility notifies you when the reports are complete by sending a syslog message to the screen.

To view the completed reports, enter the **show top counters interface report** command. The Top N Utility displays only those reports that are completed. For reports that are not completed, the Top N Utility displays a short description of the Top N process information.

To terminate a Top N process, enter the **clear top counters interface report** command. Pressing **Ctrl-C** does not terminate Top N processes. The completed reports remain available for viewing until you remove them by entering the **clear top counters interface report {all | report_num}** command.

Using the Top N Utility

These sections describe how to use the Top N Utility:

- [Enabling Top N Utility Report Creation, page 56-3](#)
- [Displaying the Top N Utility Reports, page 56-3](#)
- [Clearing Top N Utility Reports, page 56-4](#)

Enabling Top N Utility Report Creation

To enable Top N Utility report creation, perform this task:

Command	Purpose
Router# collect top [<i>number_of_ports</i>] counters interface { <i>interface_type</i> ¹ all layer-2 layer-3 } [sort-by <i>statistic_type</i> ²] [interval <i>seconds</i>]	Enables Top N Utility report creation.

- interface_type* = **ethernet**, **fastethernet**, **gigabitethernet**, **tengigabitethernet**, **port-channel**
- statistic_type* = **broadcast**, **bytes**, **errors**, **multicast**, **overflow**, **packets**, **utilization**

When enabling Top N Utility report creation, note the following information:

- You can specify the number of busiest ports for which to create reports (the default is 20).
- You can specify the statistic type by which ports are determined to be the busiest (the default is utilization).
- You can specify the interval over which statistics are collected (range: 0 through 999; the default is 30 seconds).
- Except for a utilization report (configured with the **sort-by utilization** keywords), you can specify an interval of zero to create a report that displays the current counter values instead of a report that displays the difference between the start-of-interval counter values and the end-of-interval counter values.

This example shows how to enable Top N Utility report creation for an interval of 76 seconds for the four ports with the highest utilization:

```
Router# collect top 4 counters interface all sort-by utilization interval 76
TopN collection started.
```

Displaying the Top N Utility Reports

To display the Top N Utility reports, perform this task:

Command	Purpose
Router# show top counters interface report [<i>report_num</i>]	Displays the Top N Utility reports. Note To display information about all the reports, do not enter a <i>report_num</i> value.

Top N Utility statistics are not displayed in these situations:

- If a port is not present during the first poll.
- If a port is not present during the second poll.
- If a port's speed or duplex changes during the polling interval.
- If a port's type changes from Layer 2 to Layer 3 during the polling interval.
- If a port's type changes from Layer 3 to Layer 2 during the polling interval.

This example shows how to display information about all the Top N Utility reports:

```
Router# show top counters interface report
-----
Id Start Time                               Int N  Sort-By  Status  Owner
-----
1  08:18:25 UTC Tue Nov 23 2004 76  20  util    done   console
2  08:19:54 UTC Tue Nov 23 2004 76  20  util    done   console
3  08:21:34 UTC Tue Nov 23 2004 76  20  util    done   console
4  08:26:50 UTC Tue Nov 23 2004 90  20  util    done   console
```

**Note**

Reports for which statistics are still being obtained are shown with a status of pending.

This example shows how to display a specific Top N Utility report:

```
Router# show top counters interface report 1
Started By           : console
Start Time          : 08:18:25 UTC Tue Nov 23 2004
End Time            : 08:19:42 UTC Tue Nov 23 2004
Port Type           : All
Sort By             : util
Interval            : 76 seconds
-----
Port   Band  Util  Bytes      Packets      Broadcast  Multicast  In-  Buf-
      width (Tx + Rx) (Tx + Rx)    (Tx + Rx)  (Tx + Rx)  err  ovflw
-----
Fa2/5  100   50   726047564  11344488    11344487   1          0    0
Fa2/48 100   35   508018905  7937789     0          43         0    0
Fa2/46 100   25   362860697  5669693     0          43         0    0
Fa2/47 100   22   323852889  4762539     4762495    43         0    0
```

Clearing Top N Utility Reports

To clear Top N Utility reports, perform one of these tasks:

Command	Purpose
Router# clear top counters interface report	Clears all the Top N Utility reports that have a status of done.
Router# clear top counters interface report <i>[report_num]</i>	Clears Top N Utility report number <i>report_num</i> regardless of status.

This example shows how to remove all reports that have a status of done:

```
Router# clear top counters interface report
04:00:06: %TOPN_COUNTERS-5-DELETED: TopN report 1 deleted by the console
04:00:06: %TOPN_COUNTERS-5-DELETED: TopN report 2 deleted by the console
04:00:06: %TOPN_COUNTERS-5-DELETED: TopN report 3 deleted by the console
04:00:06: %TOPN_COUNTERS-5-DELETED: TopN report 4 deleted by the console
```

This example shows how to remove a report number 4:

```
Router# clear top counters interface report 4
04:52:12: %TOPN_COUNTERS-5-KILLED: TopN report 4 killed by the console
```