Elastic Load Balancing

Gateway Load Balancers

aws
Elastic Load Balancing: Gateway Load Balancers
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# Table of Contents

What is a Gateway Load Balancer? .............................................................................................................. 1  
Appliance vendors ....................................................................................................................................... 1  
Getting started ........................................................................................................................................ 1  
Pricing .................................................................................................................................................... 1  
Getting started ........................................................................................................................................ 2  
Overview .............................................................................................................................................. 2  
Routing ................................................................................................................................................ 3  
Prerequisites ........................................................................................................................................ 4  
Step 1: Register targets and create a Gateway Load Balancer ............................................................... 4  
Step 2: Create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint ............................................................................. 5  
Step 3: Configure routing .................................................................................................................... 6  
Overview .............................................................................................................................................. 7  
Routing ................................................................................................................................................ 7  
Prerequisites ........................................................................................................................................ 9  
Step 1: Create a Gateway Load Balancer and register targets ........................................................... 9  
Step 2: Create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint ............................................................................. 10  
Step 3: Configure routing ................................................................................................................... 11  
Load balancers ...................................................................................................................................... 12  
Load balancer state .............................................................................................................................. 12  
Load balancer attributes ...................................................................................................................... 12  
Availability Zones ................................................................................................................................ 13  
Deletion protection ............................................................................................................................... 13  
Cross-zone load balancing .................................................................................................................. 13  
Create a load balancer .......................................................................................................................... 14  
  Step 1: Configure your target group and register targets ................................................................ 14  
  Step 2: Configure the load balancer and listener ............................................................................ 15  
  Important next steps .......................................................................................................................... 16  
Update tags ........................................................................................................................................ 16  
Delete a load balancer ........................................................................................................................ 17  
Listeners ............................................................................................................................................... 18  
Target groups ....................................................................................................................................... 19  
Routing configuration ......................................................................................................................... 19  
Target type ......................................................................................................................................... 19  
Registered targets ............................................................................................................................... 20  
Target group attributes ....................................................................................................................... 20  
Deregistration delay ............................................................................................................................. 20  
Create a target group ........................................................................................................................... 21  
Configure health checks ....................................................................................................................... 23  
  Health check settings ....................................................................................................................... 23  
  Target health status ........................................................................................................................ 24  
  Health check reason codes ............................................................................................................. 25  
  Target failure scenarios .................................................................................................................. 25  
  Check the health of your targets .................................................................................................... 26  
  Modify health check settings ......................................................................................................... 26  
Register targets .................................................................................................................................. 27  
  Target security groups ..................................................................................................................... 27  
  Network ACLs ............................................................................................................................... 27  
  Register or deregister targets ........................................................................................................ 28  
Update tags ......................................................................................................................................... 29  
Delete a target group .......................................................................................................................... 30  
Monitor your load balancers .............................................................................................................. 32  
CloudWatch metrics ............................................................................................................................ 32  
  Gateway Load Balancer metrics ................................................................................................... 33
What is a Gateway Load Balancer?

Gateway Load Balancers enable you to deploy, scale, and manage virtual appliances, such as firewalls, intrusion detection and prevention systems, and deep packet inspection systems. It combines a transparent network gateway (that is, a single entry and exit point for all traffic) and distributes traffic while scaling your virtual appliances with the demand.

A Gateway Load Balancer operates at the third layer of the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model, the network layer. It listens for all IP packets across all ports and forwards traffic to the target group that's specified in the listener rule. It maintains stickiness of flows to a specific target appliance using 5-tuple (for TCP/UDP flows) or 3-tuple (for non-TCP/UDP flows). The Gateway Load Balancer and its registered virtual appliance instances exchange application traffic using the GENEVE protocol on port 6081. It supports a maximum transmission unit (MTU) size of 8500 bytes.

Gateway Load Balancers use Gateway Load Balancer endpoints to securely exchange traffic across VPC boundaries. A Gateway Load Balancer endpoint is a VPC endpoint that provides private connectivity between virtual appliances in the service provider VPC and application servers in the service consumer VPC. You deploy the Gateway Load Balancer in the same VPC as the virtual appliances. You register the virtual appliances with a target group for the Gateway Load Balancer.

Traffic to and from a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint is configured using route tables. Traffic flows from the service consumer VPC over the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint to the Gateway Load Balancer in the service provider VPC, and then returns to the service consumer VPC. You must create the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint and the application servers in different subnets. This enables you to configure the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint as the next hop in the route table for the application subnet.

For more information, see Gateway Load Balancer endpoints (AWS PrivateLink) in the Amazon VPC User Guide.

Appliance vendors

You are responsible for choosing and qualifying software from appliance vendors. You must trust the appliance software to inspect or modify traffic from the load balancer. The appliance vendors listed as Elastic Load Balancing Partners have integrated and qualified their appliance software with AWS. You can place a higher degree of trust in the appliance software from vendors in this list. However, AWS does not guarantee the security or reliability of software from these vendors.

Getting started

To create a Gateway Load Balancer using the AWS Management Console, see Getting started (p. 2).
To create a Gateway Load Balancer using the AWS Command Line Interface, see Getting started using the CLI (p. 7).

Pricing

With your load balancer, you pay only for what you use. For more information, see Elastic Load Balancing pricing.
Getting started with Gateway Load Balancers

Gateway Load Balancers make it easy to deploy, scale, and manage third-party virtual appliances, such as security appliances.

In this tutorial, we'll implement an inspection system using a Gateway Load Balancer and a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint.

Contents

• Overview (p. 2)
• Prerequisites (p. 4)
• Step 1: Register targets and create a Gateway Load Balancer (p. 4)
• Step 2: Create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint (p. 5)
• Step 3: Configure routing (p. 6)

Overview

A Gateway Load Balancer endpoint is a VPC endpoint that provides private connectivity between virtual appliances in the service provider VPC, and application servers in the service consumer VPC. The Gateway Load Balancer is deployed in the same VPC as that of the virtual appliances. These appliances are registered as a target group of the Gateway Load Balancer.

The application servers run in one subnet (destination subnet) in the service consumer VPC, while the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint is in another subnet of the same VPC. All traffic entering the service consumer VPC through the internet gateway is first routed to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint for inspection and then routed to the destination subnet.

Similarly, all traffic leaving the application servers (destination subnet) is routed to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint for inspection before it is routed back to the internet. The following network diagram is a visual representation of how a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint is used to access an endpoint service.
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers
Routing

The numbered items that follow, highlight and explain elements shown in the preceding image.

Traffic from the internet to the application (blue arrows):
1. Traffic enters the service consumer VPC through the internet gateway.
2. Traffic is sent to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint, as a result of ingress routing.
3. Traffic is sent to the Gateway Load Balancer for inspection through the security appliance.
4. Traffic is sent back to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint after inspection.
5. Traffic is sent to the application servers (destination subnet).

Traffic from the application to the internet (orange arrows):
1. Traffic is sent to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint as a result of the default route configured on the application server subnet.
2. Traffic is sent to the Gateway Load Balancer for inspection through the security appliance.
3. Traffic is sent back to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint after inspection.
4. Traffic is sent to the internet gateway based on the route table configuration.
5. Traffic is routed back to the internet.

Routing

The route table for the internet gateway must have an entry that routes traffic destined for the application servers to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint. To specify the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint, use the ID of the VPC endpoint.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.0.0.0/16</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers

Prerequisites

The route table for the subnet with the application servers must have an entry that routes all traffic (0.0.0.0/0) from the application servers to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.0.1.0/24</td>
<td>vpc-endpoint-id</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The route table for the subnet with the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint must route traffic that returns from inspection to its final destination. For traffic that originated from the internet, the local route ensures that it reaches the application servers. For traffic that originated from the application servers, add an entry that routes all traffic (0.0.0.0/0) to the internet gateway.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.0.0.0/16</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0.0.0/0</td>
<td>vpc-endpoint-id</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<td>10.0.0.0/16</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0.0.0/0</td>
<td>internet-gateway-id</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prerequisites

- Ensure that the service consumer VPC has at least two subnets for each Availability Zone that contains application servers. One subnet is for the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint, and the other is for the application servers.
- The Gateway Load Balancer and the targets can be in the same subnet.
- You cannot use a subnet that is shared from another account to deploy the Gateway Load Balancer.
- Launch at least one security appliance instance in each security appliance subnet in the service provider VPC. The security groups for these instances must allow UDP traffic on port 6081.

Step 1: Register targets and create a Gateway Load Balancer

Use the following procedure to create your target group, register your security appliance instances as targets, and then create your load balancer and listener.

To create a target group and register targets

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. On the navigation pane, under Load Balancing, choose Target Groups.
3. For Choose a target type, select Instances to specify targets by instance ID, or IP addresses to specify targets by IP address.
4. For Target group name, enter a name for your target group. For example, my-targets.
Step 2: Create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint

Use the following procedure to create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint. Gateway Load Balancer endpoints are zonal. We recommend that you create one Gateway Load Balancer endpoint per zone. For more information, see Gateway Load Balancer endpoints (AWS PrivateLink).

To create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint

1. Open the Amazon VPC console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/vpc/.
2. In the navigation pane, choose Endpoint Services.
3. Choose Create Endpoint Service and do the following:
   a. For Associate Load Balancers, select your Gateway Load Balancer.
   b. For Require acceptance for endpoint, select Acceptance required to accept connection requests to your service manually. Otherwise, endpoint connections are automatically accepted.
   c. To add a tag (optional), choose Add tag and then specify the key and value for the tag.
d. Choose **Create service**. Choose the service ID. Save the service name from the **Details** tab; you'll need it when you create the endpoint.

e. Choose **Actions, Add principals to whitelist**. Enter the ARNs of the service consumers that are allowed to create an endpoint to your service. A service consumer can be an IAM user, IAM role, or AWS account.

4. In the navigation pane, choose **Endpoints**.

5. Choose **Create Endpoint** and do the following:

   a. For **Service category**, choose **Find service by name**.
   b. For **Service name**, enter the service name that you saved earlier, and then choose **Verify**. If the name is found, proceed to the next step. Otherwise, be sure that you used the correct service name.
   c. For **VPC**, select the service consumer VPC.
   d. For **Subnets**, select a subnet for the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint.
   e. (Optional) To add a tag, choose **Add tag** and specify the key and value for the tag.
   f. Choose **Create endpoint**. The initial status is pending acceptance.

---

### Step 3: Configure routing

Configure the route tables for the service consumer VPC as follows. This allows the security appliances to perform security inspection on inbound traffic that's destined for the application servers.

#### To configure routing

1. Open the Amazon VPC console at [https://console.aws.amazon.com/vpc/](https://console.aws.amazon.com/vpc/).
2. In the navigation pane, choose **Route Tables**.
3. Select the route table for the internet gateway and do the following:

   a. Choose **Actions, Edit routes**.
   b. Choose **Add route**. For **Destination**, enter the CIDR block of the subnet for the application servers (for example, 10.0.1.0/24). For **Target**, select the VPC endpoint.
   c. Choose **Save routes**.
4. Select the route table for the subnet with the application servers and do the following:

   a. Choose **Actions, Edit routes**.
   b. Choose **Add route**. For **Destination**, enter `0.0.0.0/0`. For **Target**, select the VPC endpoint.
   c. Choose **Save routes**.
5. Select the route table for the subnet with the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint, and do the following:

   a. Choose **Actions, Edit routes**.
   b. Choose **Add route**. For **Destination**, enter `0.0.0.0/0`. For **Target**, select the internet gateway.
   c. Choose **Save routes**.
Getting started with Gateway Load Balancers using the AWS CLI

Gateway Load Balancers make it easy to deploy, scale, and manage third-party virtual appliances, such as security appliances.

In this tutorial, we’ll implement an inspection system using a Gateway Load Balancer and a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint.

Contents
- Overview (p. 7)
- Prerequisites (p. 9)
- Step 1: Create a Gateway Load Balancer and register targets (p. 9)
- Step 2: Create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint (p. 10)
- Step 3: Configure routing (p. 11)

Overview

A Gateway Load Balancer endpoint is a VPC endpoint that provides private connectivity between virtual appliances in the service provider VPC, and application servers in the service consumer VPC. The Gateway Load Balancer is deployed in the same VPC as the virtual appliances. These appliances are registered as a target group of the Gateway Load Balancer.

The application servers run in one subnet (destination subnet) in the service consumer VPC, while the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint is in another subnet of the same VPC. All traffic entering the service consumer VPC through the internet gateway is first routed to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint for inspection and then routed to the destination subnet.

Similarly, all traffic leaving the application servers (destination subnet) is routed to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint for inspection before it is routed back to the internet. The following network diagram is a visual representation of how a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint is used to access an endpoint service.
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers

Routing

The numbered items that follow, highlight and explain elements shown in the preceding image.

Traffic from the internet to the application (blue arrows):
1. Traffic enters the service consumer VPC through the internet gateway.
2. Traffic is sent to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint, as a result of ingress routing.
3. Traffic is sent to the Gateway Load Balancer for inspection through the security appliance.
4. Traffic is sent back to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint after inspection.
5. Traffic is sent to the application servers (destination subnet).

Traffic from the application to the internet (orange arrows):
1. Traffic is sent to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint as a result of the default route configured on the application server subnet.
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4. Traffic is sent to the internet gateway based on the route table configuration.
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Routing

The route table for the internet gateway must have an entry that routes traffic destined for the application servers to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint. To specify the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint, use the ID of the VPC endpoint.

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<tr>
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<td>Local</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers**

**Prerequisites**

- Install the AWS CLI or update to the current version of the AWS CLI if you are using a version that does not support Gateway Load Balancers. For more information, see Installing the AWS Command Line Interface in the AWS Command Line Interface User Guide.
- Ensure that the service consumer VPC has at least two subnets for each Availability Zone that contains application servers. One subnet is for the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint, and the other is for the application servers.
- Ensure that the service provider VPC has at least two subnets for each Availability Zone that contains security appliance instances. One subnet is for the Gateway Load Balancer, and the other is for the instances.
- Launch at least one security appliance instance in each security appliance subnet in the service provider VPC. The security groups for these instances must allow UDP traffic on port 6081.

**Step 1: Create a Gateway Load Balancer and register targets**

Use the following procedure to create your load balancer, listener, and target groups, and to register your security appliance instances as targets.

**To create a Gateway Load Balancer and register targets**

1. Use the `create-load-balancer` command to create a load balancer of type `gateway`. You can specify one subnet for each Availability Zone in which you launched security appliance instances.
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers

Step 2: Create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint

Use the following procedure to create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint. Gateway Load Balancer endpoints are zonal. We recommend that you create one Gateway Load Balancer endpoint per zone. For more information, see Gateway Load Balancer endpoints (AWS PrivateLink).

To create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint

1. Use the `create-vpc-endpoint-service-configuration` command to create an endpoint service configuration using your Gateway Load Balancer.
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers
Step 3: Configure routing

aws ec2 create-vpc-endpoint-service-configuration --gateway-load-balancer-arns loadbalancer-arn --no-acceptance-required

The output contains the service ID (for example, vpce-svc-12345678901234567) and the service name (for example, com.amazonaws.vpce.us-east-2.vpce-svc-12345678901234567).

2. Use the `modify-vpc-endpoint-service-permissions` command to allow service consumers to create an endpoint to your service. A service consumer can be an IAM user, IAM role, or AWS account. The following example adds permission for the specified AWS account.

aws ec2 modify-vpc-endpoint-service-permissions --service-id vpce-svc-12345678901234567 --add-allowed-principals arn:aws:iam::123456789012:root

3. Use the `create-vpc-endpoint` command to create the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint for your service.

aws ec2 create-vpc-endpoint --vpc-endpoint-type GatewayLoadBalancer --service-name com.amazonaws.vpce.us-east-2.vpce-svc-12345678901234567 --vpc-id consumer-vpc-id --subnet-ids consumer-subnet-id

The output contains the ID of the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint (for example, vpce-01234567890abcdef).

**Step 3: Configure routing**

Configure the route tables for the service consumer VPC as follows. This allows the security appliances to perform security inspection on inbound traffic that's destined for the application servers.

**To configure routing**

1. Use the `create-route` command to add an entry to the route table for the internet gateway that routes traffic that's destined for the application servers to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint.

aws ec2 create-route --route-table-id gateway-rtb --destination-cidr-block 10.0.1.0/24 --vpc-endpoint-id vpce-01234567890abcdef

2. Use the `create-route` command to add an entry to the route table for the subnet with the application servers that routes all traffic from the application servers to the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint.

aws ec2 create-route --route-table-id application-rtb --destination-cidr-block 0.0.0.0/0 --vpc-endpoint-id vpce-01234567890abcdef

3. Use the `create-route` command to add an entry to the route table for the subnet with the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint that routes all traffic that originated from the application servers to the internet gateway.

aws ec2 create-route --route-table-id endpoint-rtb --destination-cidr-block 0.0.0.0/0 --gateway-id igw-01234567890abcdef

4. Repeat for each application subnet route table in each zone.
Gateway Load Balancers

Use a Gateway Load Balancer to deploy and manage a fleet of virtual appliances that support the GENEVE protocol.

A Gateway Load Balancer operates at the third layer of the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model. It listens for all IP packets across all ports and forwards traffic to the target group that’s specified in the listener rule, using the GENEVE protocol on port 6081.

You can add or remove targets from your load balancer as your needs change, without disrupting the overall flow of requests. Elastic Load Balancing scales your load balancer as traffic to your application changes over time. Elastic Load Balancing can scale to the vast majority of workloads automatically.

Contents
• Load balancer state (p. 12)
• Load balancer attributes (p. 12)
• Availability Zones (p. 13)
• Deletion protection (p. 13)
• Cross-zone load balancing (p. 13)
• Create a Gateway Load Balancer (p. 14)
• Tags for your Gateway Load Balancer (p. 16)
• Delete a Gateway Load Balancer (p. 17)

Load balancer state

A Gateway Load Balancer can be in one of the following states:

provisioning
   The Gateway Load Balancer is being set up.
active
   The Gateway Load Balancer is fully set up and ready to route traffic.
failed
   The Gateway Load Balancer could not be set up.

Load balancer attributes

The following are the load balancer attributes for Gateway Load Balancers:

deletion_protection.enabled
   Indicates whether deletion protection (p. 13) is enabled. The default is false.
load_balancing.cross_zone.enabled
   Indicates whether cross-zone load balancing (p. 13) is enabled. The default is false.
Availability Zones

When you create a Gateway Load Balancer, you enable one or more Availability Zones, and specify the subnet that corresponds to each zone. When you enable multiple Availability Zones, it ensures that the load balancer can continue to route traffic even if an Availability Zone becomes unavailable. The subnets that you specify must each have at least 8 available IP addresses. Subnets cannot be added or removed after the load balancer is created. To add or remove a subnet, you must create a new load balancer.

Deletion protection

To prevent your Gateway Load Balancer from being deleted accidentally, you can enable deletion protection. By default, deletion protection is disabled.

If you enable deletion protection for your Gateway Load Balancer, you must disable it before you can delete the Gateway Load Balancer.

**To enable deletion protection using the console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Load Balancers**.
3. Select the Gateway Load Balancer.
4. Choose **Actions**, **Edit attributes**.
5. On the **Edit load balancer attributes** page, select **Enable** for **Delete Protection**, and then choose **Save**.

**To disable deletion protection using the console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Load Balancers**.
3. Select the Gateway Load Balancer.
4. Choose **Actions**, **Edit attributes**.
5. On the **Edit load balancer attributes** page, clear **Enable** for **Delete Protection**, and then choose **Save**.

**To enable or disable deletion protection using the AWS CLI**

Use the `modify-load-balancer-attributes` command with the `deletion_protection.enabled` attribute.

Cross-zone load balancing

By default, each load balancer node distributes traffic across the registered targets in its Availability Zone only. If you enable cross-zone load balancing, each Gateway Load Balancer node distributes traffic across the registered targets in all enabled Availability Zones. For more information, see Cross-zone load balancing in the Elastic Load Balancing User Guide.

**To enable cross-zone load balancing using the console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Load Balancers**.
Select the Gateway Load Balancer.
5. On the Edit load balancer attributes page, select Enable for Cross-Zone Load Balancing, and then choose Save.

To enable cross-zone load balancing using the AWS CLI

Use the modify-load-balancer-attributes command with the load_balancing.cross_zone.enabled attribute.

Create a Gateway Load Balancer

A Gateway Load Balancer takes requests from clients and distributes them across targets in a target group, such as EC2 instances.

Before you begin, ensure that the virtual private cloud (VPC) for your Gateway Load Balancer has at least one subnet in each Availability Zone where you have targets.

To create a Gateway Load Balancer using the AWS CLI, see Getting started using the CLI (p. 7).

To create a Gateway Load Balancer using the AWS Management Console, complete the following tasks.

Tasks

• Step 1: Configure your target group and register targets (p. 14)
• Step 2: Configure the load balancer and listener (p. 15)
• Important next steps (p. 16)

Step 1: Configure your target group and register targets

You can register targets, such as EC2 instances, with a target group. The target group that you configure in this step is used as the target group in the IP listener routing section, when you configure your load balancer. For more information, see Target groups (p. 19).

To configure your target group

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under Load Balancing, choose Target Groups.
3. Choose Create target group.
4. Basic configuration
   a. For Choose a target type, select Instances to specify targets by instance ID, or select IP addresses to specify targets by IP address.
   b. For Target group name, enter a name for the target group.
   c. Verify that Protocol is set to GENEVE, and the Port is set to 6081. No other values for Protocol and port are supported.
   d. For VPC, select a virtual private cloud (VPC) with the instances that you want to include in your target group.
5. In the Health checks section (optional), modify the default settings as needed. For Advanced health check settings, choose the health check port, count, timeout, and interval, and then specify success
codes. If health checks consecutively exceed the Unhealthy threshold count, the load balancer takes the target out of service. If health checks consecutively exceed the Healthy threshold count, the load balancer puts the target back in service. For more information, see Health checks for your target groups (p. 23).

6. For Tags (optional), add one or more tags as follows:
   a. Expand the Tags section.
   b. Choose Add tag.
   c. Enter the tag Key and tag Value. Allowed characters are letters, spaces, numbers (in UTF-8), and the following special characters: + - = . _ : / @. Do not use leading or trailing spaces. Tag values are case-sensitive.

7. Choose Next

8. In the Register targets page, add one or more targets as follows:
   • If the target type is Instances, select one or more instances, enter one or more ports, and then choose Include as pending below.
   • If the target type is IP addresses, select the network, enter the IP address and ports, and then choose Include as pending below.

9. Choose Create target group.

Step 2: Configure the load balancer and listener

Use the following procedure to create your Gateway Load Balancer. Provide basic configuration information for your load balancer, such as a name and IP address type (currently only IPv4 is supported). Then provide information about your network, and the IP listener that routes traffic to your target groups. Only target groups with GENEVE are available for use with the Gateway Load Balancer.

To create a Gateway Load Balancer

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under Load Balancing, choose Load Balancers.
3. Choose Create Load Balancer.
4. Under Gateway Load Balancer, choose Create.
5. Basic configuration
   a. For Load balancer name, enter a name for your load balancer. For example, my-glb. The name of your Gateway Load Balancer must be unique within your set of load balancers for the Region. It can have a maximum of 32 characters, can contain only alphanumeric characters and hyphens, and must not begin or end with a hyphen.
   b. For IP address type, you must choose IPv4, because your clients can only use IPv4 addresses to communicate with the load balancer.
6. Network mapping
   a. For VPC, select the service provider VPC. Only VPCs with an internet gateway are available for selection.
   b. For Mappings, select all of the Availability Zones in which you launched security appliance instances, and the corresponding public subnets.
7. IP listener routing
8. For Default action, select a target group to forward traffic to. If you don't have a default target group, create a target group first. Only target groups with GENEVE protocol are available for use with the Gateway Load Balancer.
9. Tag and create
a. Add an optional tag to categorize your load balancer. Tag keys must be unique for each load balancer. Allowed characters are letters, spaces, numbers (in UTF-8), and the following special characters: + - . _ : / @. Do not use leading or trailing spaces. Tag values are case-sensitive. For more information, see Update tags (p. 16).
b. Review your configuration, and choose Create load balancer. A few default attributes are applied to your load balancer during creation. You can view and edit them after creating the load balancer.

Important next steps

After creating your load balancer, verify that your EC2 instances have passed the initial health check. To test your load balancer, you must create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint and update your route table to make the Gateway Load Balancer endpoint the next hop. These configurations are set within the Amazon VPC console. For more information, see Step 2: Create a Gateway Load Balancer endpoint (p. 5) and Step 3: Configure routing (p. 6) in the Getting started with Gateway Load Balancers (p. 2) section.

Tags for your Gateway Load Balancer

Tags help you to categorize your load balancers in different ways, for example, by purpose, owner, or environment.

You can add multiple tags to each load balancer. Tag keys must be unique for each Gateway Load Balancer. If you add a tag with a key that is already associated with the load balancer, it updates the value of that tag.

When you are finished with a tag, you can remove it from your Gateway Load Balancer.

Restrictions

- Maximum number of tags per resource—50
- Maximum key length—127 Unicode characters
- Maximum value length—255 Unicode characters
- Tag keys and values are case-sensitive. Allowed characters are letters, spaces, and numbers representable in UTF-8, plus the following special characters: + - . _ : / @. Do not use leading or trailing spaces.
- Do not use the aws: prefix in your tag names or values because it is reserved for AWS use. You can't edit or delete tag names or values with this prefix. Tags with this prefix do not count against your tags per resource limit.

To update the tags for a Gateway Load Balancer using the console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Load Balancers.
3. Select the Gateway Load Balancer.
4. Choose Tags, Add/Edit Tags, and then do one or more of the following:
   a. To update a tag, edit the values of Key and Value.
   b. To add a new tag, choose Create Tag. For Key and Value, enter values.
   c. To delete a tag, choose the delete icon (X) next to the tag.
5. When you have finished updating tags, choose Save.
To update the tags for a Gateway Load Balancer using the AWS CLI

Use the add-tags and remove-tags commands.

Delete a Gateway Load Balancer

As soon as your Gateway Load Balancer becomes available, you are billed for each hour or partial hour that you keep it running. When you no longer need the Gateway Load Balancer, you can delete it. As soon as the Gateway Load Balancer is deleted, you stop incurring charges for it.

You can't delete a Gateway Load Balancer if it is in use by another service. For example, if the Gateway Load Balancer is associated with a VPC endpoint service, you must delete the endpoint service configuration before you can delete the associated Gateway Load Balancer.

Deleting a Gateway Load Balancer also deletes its listeners. Deleting a Gateway Load Balancer does not affect its registered targets. For example, your EC2 instances continue to run and are still registered to their target groups. To delete your target groups, see Delete a target group (p. 30).

To delete a Gateway Load Balancer using the console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Load Balancers.
3. Select the Gateway Load Balancer.
4. Choose Actions, Delete.
5. When prompted for confirmation, choose Yes, Delete.

To delete a Gateway Load Balancer using the AWS CLI

Use the delete-load-balancer command.
Listeners for your Gateway Load Balancers

When you create your Gateway Load Balancer, you add a listener. A listener is a process that checks for connection requests.

Listeners for Gateway Load Balancers listen for all IP packets across all ports. You cannot specify a protocol or port when you create a listener for a Gateway Load Balancer. You cannot delete the listener for a Gateway Load Balancer.

When you create a listener, you specify a rule for routing requests. This rule forwards requests to the specified target group. You can update the listener rule to forward requests to a different target group.

To update your listener using the console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Load Balancers.
3. Select the load balancer and choose Listeners.
4. Choose Edit listener.
5. For Forwarding to target group, choose a target group.
6. Choose Save.

To update your listener using the AWS CLI

Use the modify-listener command.
Target groups for your Gateway Load Balancers

Each target group is used to route requests to one or more registered targets. When you create a listener, you specify a target group for its default action. Traffic is forwarded to the target group that’s specified in the listener rule. You can create different target groups for different types of requests.

You define health check settings for your Gateway Load Balancer on a per target group basis. Each target group uses the default health check settings, unless you override them when you create the target group or modify them later on. After you specify a target group in a rule for a listener, the Gateway Load Balancer continually monitors the health of all targets registered with the target group that are in an Availability Zone enabled for the Gateway Load Balancer. The Gateway Load Balancer routes requests to the registered targets that are healthy. For more information, see Health checks for your target groups (p. 23).

Contents
- Routing configuration (p. 19)
- Target type (p. 19)
- Registered targets (p. 20)
- Target group attributes (p. 20)
- Deregistration delay (p. 20)
- Create a target group for your Gateway Load Balancer (p. 21)
- Health checks for your target groups (p. 23)
- Register targets with your target group (p. 27)
- Tags for your target group (p. 29)
- Delete a target group (p. 30)

Routing configuration

Target groups for Gateway Load Balancers support the following protocol and port:

- **Protocol**: GENEVE
- **Port**: 6081

Target type

When you create a target group, you specify its target type, which determines how you specify its targets. After you create a target group, you cannot change its target type.

The following are the possible target types:

- **instance**

  The targets are specified by instance ID.
The targets are specified by IP address.

When the target type is `ip`, you can specify IP addresses from one of the following CIDR blocks:

- The subnets of the VPC for the target group
- `10.0.0.0/8` (RFC 1918)
- `100.64.0.0/10` (RFC 6598)
- `172.16.0.0/12` (RFC 1918)
- `192.168.0.0/16` (RFC 1918)

**Important**
You can't specify publicly routable IP addresses.

## Registered targets

Your Gateway Load Balancer serves as a single point of contact for clients, and distributes incoming traffic across its healthy registered targets. Each target group must have at least one registered target in each Availability Zone that is enabled for the Gateway Load Balancer. You can register each target with one or more target groups.

If demand increases, you can register additional targets with one or more target groups in order to handle the demand. The Gateway Load Balancer starts routing traffic to a newly registered target as soon as the registration process completes.

If demand decreases, or you need to service your targets, you can deregister targets from your target groups. Deregistering a target removes it from your target group, but does not affect the target otherwise. The Gateway Load Balancer stops routing traffic to a target as soon as it is deregistered. The target enters the **draining** state until in-flight requests have completed. You can register the target with the target group again when you are ready for it to resume receiving traffic.

## Target group attributes

The following are the target group attributes:

`deregistration_delay.timeout_seconds`

The amount of time for Elastic Load Balancing to wait before changing the state of a deregistering target from draining to unused. The range is 0-3600 seconds. The default value is 300 seconds.

## Deregistration delay

When you deregister a target, the Gateway Load Balancer manages flows to that target in the following manner:

**New flows:**

The Gateway Load Balancer stops sending new flows to a deregistered target.
Existing flows:

The Gateway Load Balancer handles existing flows based on protocol.

- **TCP protocols**: Existing flows for TCP protocols are closed if idle for more than 350 seconds.
- **Non-TCP protocols**: Existing flows for all non-TCP protocols are closed if idle for more than 120 seconds.

To help drain existing flows, we recommend that you stop sending all traffic to the load balancer. This allows the idle timeout created by deregistration to take effect. A deregistered target shows that it is draining until the timeout expires. After the deregistration delay timeout expires, the target transitions to an unused state.

New console

To update the deregistration delay value using the new console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. On the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Target Groups**.
3. Choose the name of the target group to open its details page.
4. On the **Group details** page, in the **Attributes** section, choose **Edit**.
5. On the **Edit attributes** page, change the value of **Deregistration delay** as needed.
6. Choose **Save changes**.

Old console

To update the deregistration delay value using the old console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. On the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Target Groups**.
3. Select the target group.
4. Choose **Description**, **Edit attributes**.
5. Change the value of **Deregistration delay** as needed, and then choose **Save**.

To update the deregistration delay value using the AWS CLI

Use the **modify-target-group-attributes** command.

Create a target group for your Gateway Load Balancer

You register targets for your Gateway Load Balancer using a target group.

To route traffic to the targets in a target group, create a listener and specify the target group in the default action for the listener. For more information, see Listeners (p. 18).

You can add or remove targets from your target group at any time. For more information, see Register targets (p. 27). You can also modify the health check settings for your target group. For more information, see Modify health check settings (p. 26).
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers
Create a target group

New console

To create a target group using the new console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Choose Create target group.
4. For Choose a target type, select Instances to register targets by instance ID or IP addresses to register targets by IP address.
5. For Target group name, enter a name for the target group. This name must be unique per Region per account, can have a maximum of 32 characters, must contain only alphanumeric characters or hyphens, and must not begin or end with a hyphen.
6. For Protocol, use GENEVE. With the GENEVE protocol, Port must be 6081.
7. For VPC, select a virtual private cloud (VPC).
8. In the Health checks section (optional), modify the default settings as needed.
9. Expand the Tags section (optional) and add one or more tags. To add a tag, choose Add tag and enter the tag key and tag value.
10. Choose Next.
11. Add one or more targets as follows:
   • If the target type is Instances, select one or more instances, enter one or more ports, and then choose Include as pending below.
   • If the target type is IP addresses, select the network, enter the IP address and ports, and then choose Include as pending below.
12. Choose Create target group.

Old console

To create a target group using the old console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Choose Create target group.
4. For Target group name, enter a name for the target group. This name must be unique per Region per account, can have a maximum of 32 characters, must contain only alphanumeric characters or hyphens, and must not begin or end with a hyphen.
5. For Protocol, use GENEVE. With the GENEVE protocol, Port must be 6081.
6. For Target type, select instance to specify targets by instance ID or ip to specify targets by IP address.
7. For VPC, select a virtual private cloud (VPC).
8. (Optional) For Health check settings and Advanced health check settings, modify the default settings as needed. Choose Create.
9. (Optional) Add one or more tags as follows:
   a. Select the newly created target group.
   b. Choose Tags, Add/Edit Tags.
   c. On the Add/Edit Tags page, for each tag that you add, choose Create Tag and then specify the tag key and tag value. When you have finished adding tags, choose Save.
10. (Optional) To add targets to the target group, see Register targets with your target group (p. 27).
To create a target group using the AWS CLI

Use the `create-target-group` command to create the target group, the `add-tags` command to tag your target group, and the `register-targets` command to add targets.

Health checks for your target groups

You register your targets with one or more target groups. Your Gateway Load Balancer starts routing requests to a newly registered target as soon as the registration process completes. It can take a few minutes for the registration process to complete and for health checks to start.

The Gateway Load Balancer periodically sends a request to each registered target to check its status. After each health check is complete, the Gateway Load Balancer closes the connection that was established for the health check.

Health check settings

You configure active health checks for the targets in a target group by using the following settings. If the health checks exceed the specified number of `UnhealthyThresholdCount` consecutive failures, the Gateway Load Balancer takes the target out of service. When the health checks exceed the specified number of `HealthyThresholdCount` consecutive successes, the Gateway Load Balancer puts the target back in service.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HealthCheckProtocol</td>
<td>The protocol that the load balancer uses when performing health checks on targets. The possible protocols are HTTP, HTTPS, and TCP. The default is TCP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HealthCheckPort</td>
<td>The port that Gateway Load Balancer uses when performing health checks on targets. The range is 1 to 65535. The default is 80.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HealthCheckPath</td>
<td>[HTTP/HTTPS health checks] The ping path that is the destination on the targets for health checks. The default is <code>/</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HealthCheckTimeoutSeconds</td>
<td>The amount of time, in seconds, during which no response from a target means a failed health check. The range is 2 to 120. The default is 5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HealthCheckIntervalSeconds</td>
<td>The approximate amount of time, in seconds, between health checks of an individual target. The range is 5 to 300. The default is 10 seconds. This value must be greater than or equal to <code>HealthCheckTimeoutSeconds</code>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important

Health checks for Gateway Load Balancers are distributed and use a consensus mechanism to determine target health. Therefore, you should expect target appliances to receive several health checks within the configured time interval.
### Target health status

Before the Gateway Load Balancer sends a health check request to a target, you must register it with a target group, specify its target group in a listener rule, and ensure that the Availability Zone of the target is enabled for the Gateway Load Balancer.

The following table describes the possible values for the health status of a registered target.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>initial</strong></td>
<td>The Gateway Load Balancer is in the process of registering the target or performing the initial health checks on the target.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Related reason codes: Elb.RegistrationInProgress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>healthy</strong></td>
<td>The target is healthy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Related reason codes: None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>unhealthy</strong></td>
<td>The target did not respond to a health check or failed the health check.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Related reason code: Target.FailedHealthChecks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>unused</strong></td>
<td>The target is not registered with a target group, the target group is not used in a listener rule, the target is in an Availability Zone that is not enabled, or the target is in the stopped or terminated state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Related reason codes: Target.NotRegistered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>draining</strong></td>
<td>The target is deregistering and connection draining is in process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Related reason code: Target.DeregistrationInProgress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>** unavailable**</td>
<td>Target health is unavailable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers

Health check reason codes

If the status of a target is any value other than Healthy, the API returns a reason code and a description of the issue, and the console displays the same description. Reason codes that begin with Elb originate on the Gateway Load Balancer side and reason codes that begin with Target originate on the target side.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elb.InitialHealthChecking</td>
<td>Initial health checks in progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elb.InternalError</td>
<td>Health checks failed due to an internal error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elb.RegistrationInProgress</td>
<td>Target registration is in progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target.DeregistrationInProgress</td>
<td>Target deregistration is in progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target.FailedHealthChecks</td>
<td>Health checks failed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target.InvalidState</td>
<td>Target is in the stopped state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target is in the terminated state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target is in the terminated or stopped state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target is in an invalid state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target.IpUnusable</td>
<td>The IP address cannot be used as a target, as it is in use by a load balancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target.NotInUse</td>
<td>Target group is not configured to receive traffic from the Gateway Load Balancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target is in an Availability Zone that is not enabled for the Gateway Load Balancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target.NotRegistered</td>
<td>Target is not registered to the target group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gateway Load Balancer target failure scenarios

Existing flows: Existing flows always go to the same target unless the flows time out or are reset, regardless of the health status of the target. This approach facilitates connection draining, and accommodates 3rd party firewalls that are sometimes unable to respond to health checks due to high CPU usage.

New flows: New flows are sent to a healthy target. When a load balancing decision for a flow has been made, the Gateway Load Balancer will send the flow to the same target even if that target becomes unhealthy, or other targets become healthy.

When all targets are unhealthy, the Gateway Load Balancer picks a target at random and forwards traffic to it for the life of the flow, until it is either reset or has timed out. Because traffic is being forwarded to an unhealthy target, traffic is dropped until that target becomes healthy again.
**Cross-zone load balancing:** By default, load balancing across Availability Zones is disabled. If load balancing across zones is enabled, each Gateway Load Balancer is able to see all targets in all Availability Zones, and they are all treated the same, regardless of their zone.

Load balancing and health check decisions are always independent among zones. Even when load balancing across zones is enabled, the behavior for existing flows and new flows is the same as described above. For more information, see *Cross-zone load balancing* in the *Elastic Load Balancing User Guide*.

**Check the health of your targets**

You can check the health status of the targets registered with your target groups.

**New console**

**To check the health of your targets using the new console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Target Groups**.
3. Choose the name of the target group to open its details page.
4. On the **Targets** tab, the **Status** column indicates the status of each target.
5. If the target status is any value other than **Healthy**, the **Status details** column contains more information.

**Old console**

**To check the health of your targets using the old console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Target Groups**.
3. Select the target group.
4. Choose **Targets**, and view the status of each target in the **Status** column. If the status is any value other than **Healthy**, the console displays more information.

**To check the health of your targets using the AWS CLI**

Use the `describe-target-health` command. The output of this command contains the target health state. It includes a reason code if the status is any value other than **Healthy**.

**To receive email notifications about unhealthy targets**

Use CloudWatch alarms to trigger a Lambda function to send details about unhealthy targets. For step-by-step instructions, see the following blog post: *Identifying unhealthy targets of your load balancer*.

**Modify health check settings**

You can modify some of the health check settings for your target group.

**New console**

**To modify health check settings for a target group using the new console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Target Groups**.
3. Choose the name of the target group to open its details page.
4. On the **Group details** tab, in the **Health check settings** section, choose **Edit**.
5. On the **Edit health check settings** page, modify the settings as needed, and then choose **Save changes**.

**Old console**

**To modify health check settings for a target group using the old console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under **LOAD BALANCING**, choose **Target Groups**.
3. Select the target group.
4. Choose **Health checks, Edit**.
5. On the **Edit target group** page, modify the settings as needed, and then choose **Save**.

**To modify health check settings for a target group using the AWS CLI**

Use the **modify-target-group** command.

---

**Register targets with your target group**

When your target is ready to handle requests, you register it with one or more target groups. You can register targets by instance ID or by IP address. The Gateway Load Balancer starts routing requests to the target as soon as the registration process completes and the target passes the initial health checks. It can take a few minutes for the registration process to complete and health checks to start. For more information, see Health checks for your target groups (p. 23).

If demand on your currently registered targets increases, you can register additional targets in order to handle the demand. If demand on your registered targets decreases, you can deregister targets from your target group. It can take a few minutes for the deregistration process to complete and for the Gateway Load Balancer to stop routing requests to the target. If demand increases subsequently, you can register targets that you deregistered with the target group again. If you need to service a target, you can deregister it and then register it again when servicing is complete.

When you deregister a target, Elastic Load Balancing waits until in-flight requests have completed. This is known as **connection draining**. The status of a target is **draining** while connection draining is in progress. After deregistration is complete, status of the target changes to **unused**. For more information, see Deregistration delay (p. 20).

**Target security groups**

When you register EC2 instances as targets, you must ensure that the security groups for these instances allow inbound and outbound traffic on port 6081.

Gateway Load Balancers do not have associated security groups. Therefore, the security groups for your targets must use IP addresses to allow traffic from the load balancer.

**Network ACLs**

When you register EC2 instances as targets, you must ensure that the network access control lists (ACL) for the subnets for your instances allow traffic on port 6081. The default network ACL for a VPC
allows all inbound and outbound traffic. If you create custom network ACLs, verify that they allow the appropriate traffic.

Register or deregister targets

Each target group must have at least one registered target in each Availability Zone that is enabled for the Gateway Load Balancer.

The target type of your target group determines how you register targets with that target group. For more information, see Target type (p. 19).

Requirements

- You cannot register instances by instance ID if they are in a VPC that is peering to the load balancer VPC (same Region or different Region). You can register these instances by IP address.

Contents

- Register or deregister targets by instance ID (p. 28)
- Register or deregister targets by IP address (p. 29)
- Register or deregister targets using the AWS CLI (p. 29)

Register or deregister targets by instance ID

An instance must be in the running state when you register it.

New console

To register or deregister targets by instance ID using the new console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. On the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Choose the name of the target group to open its details page.
4. Choose the Targets tab.
5. To register instances, choose Register targets. Select one or more instances, and then choose Include as pending below. When you are finished adding instances, choose Register pending targets.
6. To deregister instances, select the instance and then choose Deregister.

Old console

To register or deregister targets by instance ID using the old console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Select the target group.
5. (Optional) For Registered instances, select any instances to be deregistered and choose Remove.
6. (Optional) For Instances, select any running instances to be registered and then choose Add to registered.
7. Choose Save.
Register or deregister targets by IP address

An IP address that you register must be from one of the following CIDR blocks:

- The subnets of the VPC for the target group
- 10.0.0.0/8 (RFC 1918)
- 100.64.0.0/10 (RFC 6598)
- 172.16.0.0/12 (RFC 1918)
- 192.168.0.0/16 (RFC 1918)

New console

**To register or deregister targets by IP address using the new console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. On the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Choose the name of the target group to open its details page.
4. Choose the Targets tab.
5. To register IP addresses, choose Register targets. For each IP address, select the network, Availability Zone, IP address, and port, and then choose Include as pending below. When you are finished specifying addresses, choose Register pending targets.
6. To deregister IP addresses, select the IP addresses and then choose Deregister. If you have many registered IP addresses, you might find it helpful to add a filter or change the sort order.

Old console

**To register or deregister targets by IP address using the old console**

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Select the target group and choose Targets, Edit.
4. To register IP addresses, choose the Register targets icon (the plus sign) in the menu bar. For each IP address, specify the network, Availability Zone, IP address, and port, and then choose Add to list. When you are finished specifying addresses, choose Register.
5. To deregister IP addresses, choose the Deregister targets icon (the minus sign) in the menu bar. If you have many registered IP addresses, you might find it helpful to add a filter or change the sort order. Select the IP addresses and choose Deregister.
6. To leave this screen, choose the Back to target group icon (the back button) in the menu bar.

Register or deregister targets using the AWS CLI

Use the `register-targets` command to add targets and the `deregister-targets` command to remove targets.

Tags for your target group

Tags help you to categorize your target groups in different ways, for example, by purpose, owner, or environment.

You can add multiple tags to each target group. Tag keys must be unique for each target group. If you add a tag with a key that is already associated with the target group, it updates the value of that tag.
When you are finished with a tag, you can remove it.

Restrictions

- Maximum number of tags per resource—50
- Maximum key length—127 Unicode characters
- Maximum value length—255 Unicode characters
- Tag keys and values are case sensitive. Allowed characters are letters, spaces, and numbers representable in UTF-8, plus the following special characters: + - = . _ : / @. Do not use leading or trailing spaces.
- Do not use the `aws:` prefix in your tag names or values because it is reserved for AWS use. You can’t edit or delete tag names or values with this prefix. Tags with this prefix do not count against your tags per resource limit.

New console

To update the tags for a target group using the new console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. On the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Choose the name of the target group to open its details page.
4. On the Tags tab, choose Manage tags and do one or more of the following:
   a. To update a tag, enter new values for Key and Value.
   b. To add a tag, choose Add tag and enter values for Key and Value.
   c. To delete a tag, choose Remove next to the tag.
5. When you have finished updating tags, choose Save changes.

Old console

To update the tags for a target group using the old console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. On the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Select the target group.
4. On the Tags tab, choose Add/Edit Tags, and then do one or more of the following:
   a. To update a tag, edit the values of Key and Value.
   b. To add a new tag, choose Create Tag and then enter values for Key and Value.
   c. To delete a tag, choose the delete icon (X) next to the tag.
5. When you have finished updating tags, choose Save.

To update the tags for a target group using the AWS CLI

Use the add-tags and remove-tags commands.

Delete a target group

You can delete a target group if it is not referenced by the forward actions of any listener rules. Deleting a target group does not affect the targets registered with the target group. If you no longer need a registered EC2 instance, you can stop or terminate it.
New console

To delete a target group using the new console
1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Select the target group and choose Actions, Delete.
4. When prompted for confirmation, choose Yes, delete.

Old console

To delete a target group using the old console
1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. In the navigation pane, under LOAD BALANCING, choose Target Groups.
3. Select the target group and choose Actions, Delete.
4. When prompted for confirmation, choose Yes.

To delete a target group using the AWS CLI

Use the delete-target-group command.
Monitor your Gateway Load Balancers

You can use the following features to monitor your Gateway Load Balancers to analyze traffic patterns, and to troubleshoot issues. However, the Gateway Load Balancer does not generate access logs since it is a transparent layer 3 load balancer that does not terminate flows. To receive access logs, you must enable access logging on Gateway Load Balancer target appliances such as firewalls, IDS/IPS, and security appliances. In addition, you can also choose to enable VPC flow logs on Gateway Load Balancers.

**CloudWatch metrics**

You can use Amazon CloudWatch to retrieve statistics about data points for your Gateway Load Balancers and targets as an ordered set of time-series data, known as *metrics*. You can use these metrics to verify that your system is performing as expected. For more information, see [CloudWatch metrics for your Gateway Load Balancer](#).

**VPC Flow Logs**

You can use VPC Flow Logs to capture detailed information about the traffic going to and from your Gateway Load Balancer. For more information, see [VPC flow logs in the Amazon VPC User Guide](#).

Create a flow log for each network interface for your Gateway Load Balancer. There is one network interface per subnet. To identify the network interfaces for a Gateway Load Balancer, look for the name of the Gateway Load Balancer in the description field of the network interface.

There are two entries for each connection through your Gateway Load Balancer, one for the frontend connection between the client and the Gateway Load Balancer, and the other for the backend connection between the Gateway Load Balancer and the target. If the target is registered by instance ID, the connection appears to the instance as a connection from the client. If the security group of the instance doesn't allow connections from the client but the network ACLs for the subnet allow them, the logs for the network interface for the Gateway Load Balancer show "ACCEPT OK" for the frontend and backend connections, while the logs for the network interface for the instance show "REJECT OK" for the connection.

**CloudTrail logs**

You can use AWS CloudTrail to capture detailed information about the calls made to the Elastic Load Balancing API, and store them as log files in Amazon S3. You can use these CloudTrail logs to determine which calls were made, the source IP address where the call came from, who made the call, when the call was made, and so on. For more information, see [Logging API calls for your Gateway Load Balancer using AWS CloudTrail](#).

CloudWatch metrics for your Gateway Load Balancer

Elastic Load Balancing publishes data points to Amazon CloudWatch for your Gateway Load Balancers and your targets. CloudWatch enables you to retrieve statistics about those data points as an ordered set.
of time-series data, known as **metrics**. Think of a metric as a variable to monitor, and the data points as the values of that variable over time. For example, you can monitor the total number of healthy targets for a Gateway Load Balancer over a specified time period. Each data point has an associated time stamp and an optional unit of measurement.

You can use metrics to verify that your system is performing as expected. For example, you can create a CloudWatch alarm to monitor a specified metric and initiate an action (such as sending a notification to an email address) if the metric goes outside of what you consider an acceptable range.

Elastic Load Balancing reports metrics to CloudWatch only when requests are flowing through the Gateway Load Balancer. If there are requests flowing, Elastic Load Balancing measures and sends its metrics in 60-second intervals. If there are no requests flowing or no data for a metric, the metric is not reported.

For more information, see the Amazon CloudWatch User Guide.

### Contents
- Gateway Load Balancer metrics (p. 33)
- Metric dimensions for Gateway Load Balancers (p. 34)
- View CloudWatch metrics for your Gateway Load Balancer (p. 35)

## Gateway Load Balancer metrics

The **AWS/GatewayELB** namespace includes the following metrics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ActiveFlowCount</strong></td>
<td>The total number of concurrent flows (or connections) from clients to targets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reporting criteria</strong>: There is a nonzero value</td>
<td><strong>Statistics</strong>: The most useful statistics are Average, Maximum, and Minimum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dimensions</strong>:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ConsumedLCUs</strong></td>
<td>The number of load balancer capacity units (LCU) used by your load balancer. You pay for the number of LCUs that you use per hour. For more information, see Elastic Load Balancing Pricing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reporting criteria</strong>: Always reported</td>
<td><strong>Statistics</strong>: All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dimensions</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dimensions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HealthyHostCount</strong></td>
<td>The number of targets that are considered healthy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reporting criteria</strong>: Reported if health checks are enabled</td>
<td><strong>Statistics</strong>: The most useful statistics are Maximum and Minimum.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, see the Amazon CloudWatch User Guide.
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers

Metric dimensions for Gateway Load Balancers

To filter the metrics for your Gateway Load Balancer, use the following dimensions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AvailabilityZone</td>
<td>Filters the metric data by Availability Zone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LoadBalancer</td>
<td>Filters the metric data by Gateway Load Balancer. Specify the Gateway Load Balancer as follows: gateway/load-balancer-name/1234567890123456 (the final portion of the ARN).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TargetGroup</td>
<td>Filters the metric data by target group. Specify the target group as follows: targetgroup/target-group-name/1234567890123456 (the final portion of the target group ARN).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
View CloudWatch metrics for your Gateway Load Balancer

You can view the CloudWatch metrics for your Gateway Load Balancers by using the Amazon EC2 console. These metrics are displayed as monitoring graphs. The monitoring graphs show data points if the Gateway Load Balancer is active and receiving requests.

Alternatively, you can view metrics for your Gateway Load Balancer using the CloudWatch console.

To view metrics using the Amazon EC2 console

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. To view metrics filtered by target group, do the following:
   a. In the navigation pane, choose Target Groups.
   b. Select your target group and choose Monitoring.
   c. (Optional) To filter the results by time, select a time range from Showing data for.
   d. To get a larger view of a single metric, select its graph.
3. To view metrics filtered by Gateway Load Balancer, do the following:
   a. In the navigation pane, choose Load Balancers.
   b. Select your Gateway Load Balancer and choose Monitoring.
   c. (Optional) To filter the results by time, select a time range from Showing data for.
   d. To get a larger view of a single metric, select its graph.

To view metrics using the CloudWatch console

2. In the navigation pane, choose Metrics.
3. Select the GatewayELB namespace.
4. (Optional) To view a metric across all dimensions, enter its name in the search field.

To view metrics using the AWS CLI

Use the following list-metrics command to list the available metrics:

```
aws cloudwatch list-metrics --namespace AWS/GatewayELB
```

To get the statistics for a metric using the AWS CLI

Use the following get-metric-statistics command get statistics for the specified metric and dimension. Note that CloudWatch treats each unique combination of dimensions as a separate metric. You can't retrieve statistics using combinations of dimensions that were not specially published. You must specify the same dimensions that were used when the metrics were created.

```
aws cloudwatch get-metric-statistics --namespace AWS/GatewayELB \
--metric-name UnHealthyHostCount --statistics Average --period 3600 \
--dimensions Name=LoadBalancer,Value=net/my-load-balancer/50dc6c495c0c9188 \
Name=TargetGroup,Value=targetgroup/my-targets/73e2d6bc24d8a067 \
--start-time 2017-04-18T00:00:00Z --end-time 2017-04-21T00:00:00Z
```
The following is example output.

```json
{
    "Datapoints": [
        {
            "Timestamp": "2020-12-18T22:00:00Z",
            "Average": 0.0,
            "Unit": "Count"
        },
        {
            "Timestamp": "2020-12-18T04:00:00Z",
            "Average": 0.0,
            "Unit": "Count"
        },
        ...
    ],
    "Label": "UnHealthyHostCount"
}
```

### Logging API calls for your Gateway Load Balancer using AWS CloudTrail

Elastic Load Balancing is integrated with AWS CloudTrail, a service that provides a record of actions taken by a user, role, or an AWS service in Elastic Load Balancing. CloudTrail captures all API calls for Elastic Load Balancing as events. The calls captured include calls from the AWS Management Console and code calls to the Elastic Load Balancing API operations. If you create a trail, you can enable continuous delivery of CloudTrail events to an Amazon S3 bucket, including events for Elastic Load Balancing. If you don't configure a trail, you can still view the most recent events in the CloudTrail console in [Event history](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/). Using the information collected by CloudTrail, you can determine the request that was made to Elastic Load Balancing, the IP address from which the request was made, who made the request, when it was made, and additional details.

To learn more about CloudTrail, see the [AWS CloudTrail User Guide](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/

### Elastic Load Balancing information in CloudTrail

CloudTrail is enabled on your AWS account when you create the account. When activity occurs in Elastic Load Balancing, that activity is recorded in a CloudTrail event along with other AWS service events in [Event history](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/). You can view, search, and download recent events in your AWS account. For more information, see [Viewing events with CloudTrail event history](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/).

For an ongoing record of events in your AWS account, including events for Elastic Load Balancing, create a trail. A trail enables CloudTrail to deliver log files to an Amazon S3 bucket. By default, when you create a trail in the console, the trail applies to all AWS Regions. The trail logs events from all Regions in the AWS partition and delivers the log files to the Amazon S3 bucket that you specify. Additionally, you can configure other AWS services to further analyze and act upon the event data collected in CloudTrail logs. For more information, see the following:

- [Overview for creating a trail](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/
- [CloudTrail supported services and integrations](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/
- [Configuring Amazon SNS notifications for CloudTrail](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/
- [Receiving CloudTrail log files from multiple Regions](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/
- [Receiving CloudTrail log files from multiple accounts](https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/cloudtrail/
All Elastic Load Balancing actions for Gateway Load Balancers are logged by CloudTrail and are documented in the Elastic Load Balancing API Reference version 2015-12-01. For example, calls to the `CreateLoadBalancer` and `DeleteLoadBalancer` actions generate entries in the CloudTrail log files.

Every event or log entry contains information about who generated the request. The identity information helps you determine the following:

- Whether the request was made with root or AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) user credentials.
- Whether the request was made with temporary security credentials for a role or federated user.
- Whether the request was made by another AWS service.

For more information, see the CloudTrail `userIdentity` element.

### Understanding Elastic Load Balancing log file entries

A trail is a configuration that enables delivery of events as log files to an Amazon S3 bucket that you specify. CloudTrail log files contain one or more log entries. An event represents a single request from any source and includes information about the requested action, the date and time of the action, request parameters, and so on. CloudTrail log files aren't an ordered stack trace of the public API calls, so they don't appear in any specific order.

The log files include events for all AWS API calls for your AWS account, not just Elastic Load Balancing API calls. You can locate calls to the Elastic Load Balancing API by checking for `eventSource` elements with the value `elasticloadbalancing.amazonaws.com`. To view a record for a specific action, such as `CreateLoadBalancer`, check for `eventName` elements with the action name.

The following are example CloudTrail log records for Elastic Load Balancing for a user who created a Gateway Load Balancer and then deleted it using the AWS CLI. You can identify the CLI using the `userAgent` elements. You can identify the requested API calls using the `eventName` elements. Information about the user (Alice) can be found in the `userIdentity` element.

**Example Example: CreateLoadBalancer**

```json
{
  "eventVersion": "1.03",
  "userIdentity": {
    "type": "IAMUser",
    "principalId": "123456789012",
    "arn": "arn:aws:iam::123456789012:user/Alice",
    "accountId": "123456789012",
    "accessKeyId": "AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE",
    "userName": "Alice"
  },
  "eventTime": "2020-12-11T15:31:48Z",
  "eventSource": "elasticloadbalancing.amazonaws.com",
  "eventName": "CreateLoadBalancer",
  "awsRegion": "us-west-2",
  "sourceIPAddress": "198.51.100.1",
  "userAgent": "aws-cli/1.10.10 Python/2.7.9 Windows/7 botocore/1.4.1",
  "requestParameters": {
    "subnets": ["subnet-8360a9e7","subnet-b7d881c0"],
    "name": "my-load-balancer",
    "type": "gateway"
  },
  "responseElements": {
    "loadBalancers": [
      {
        "type": "gateway",
        "loadBalancerName": "my-load-balancer",
```
Elastic Load Balancing Gateway Load Balancers
Understanding Elastic Load Balancing log file entries

Example Example: DeleteLoadBalancer

```json
{
  "eventVersion": "1.03",
  "userIdentity": {
    "type": "IAMUser",
    "principalId": "123456789012",
    "arn": "arn:aws:iam::123456789012:user/Alice",
    "accountId": "123456789012",
    "accessKeyId": "AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE",
    "userName": "Alice"
  },
  "eventTime": "2020-12-12T15:31:48Z",
  "eventSource": "elasticloadbalancing.amazonaws.com",
  "eventName": "DeleteLoadBalancer",
  "awsRegion": "us-west-2",
  "sourceIPAddress": "198.51.100.1",
  "userIdentity": "aws-cli/1.10.10 Python/2.7.9 Windows/7 botocore/1.4.1",
  "requestParameters": {
    "loadBalancerArn": "arn:aws:elasticloadbalancing:us-west-2:123456789012:loadbalancer/gateway/my-load-balancer/ffcddace1759e1d0"
  },
  "responseElements": null,
  "requestID": "349598b3-000e-11e6-a82b-298133eEXAMPLE",
  "eventID": "75e81c95-4012-421f-a0cf-babdaEXAMPLE",
  "eventType": "AwsApiCall",
  "apiVersion": "2015-12-01",
  "recipientAccountId": "123456789012"
}
```
Quotas for your Gateway Load Balancers

Your AWS account has default quotas, formerly referred to as limits, for each AWS service. Unless otherwise noted, each quota is Region-specific. You can request increases for some quotas, and other quotas cannot be increased.

To request a quota increase, use the limit increase form

**Load balancers**

Your AWS account has the following quotas related to Gateway Load Balancers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Adjustable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gateway Load Balancers per Region</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway Load Balancers per VPC</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway Load Balancer ENIs per VPC</td>
<td>30 *</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listeners per Gateway Load Balancer</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Each Gateway Load Balancer uses one network interface per zone.

**Target groups**

The following quotas are for target groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Adjustable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GENEVE target groups per Region</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targets per Availability Zone per GENEVE target group</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targets per Availability Zone per Gateway Load Balancer</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targets per Gateway Load Balancer</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Document history for Gateway Load Balancers

The following table describes the releases for Gateway Load Balancers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>update-history-change</th>
<th>update-history-description</th>
<th>update-history-date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial release (p. 40)</td>
<td>This release of Elastic Load Balancing introduces Gateway Load Balancers.</td>
<td>November 10, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>