



# Intel® SoC Watch for Windows\*

## Release Notes

20th February 2020

Version 2020.2

Intel Corporation

[www.intel.com](http://www.intel.com)

[Legal Information](#)

---

# Contents

<b>Legal Information .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Version History .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Customer Support.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Chapter 1: Introduction</b>	
<b>Chapter 2: New in This Release</b>	
<b>Chapter 3: System Requirements</b>	
Supported Architectures .....	8
Minimum System Requirements .....	8
<b>Chapter 4: Where to Find the Release</b>	
<b>Chapter 5: Installation Notes</b>	
Default Installation Folders .....	10
Installing on a Remote Target.....	10
Changing, Updating, and Removing the Product.....	10
<b>Chapter 6: Fixed Issues</b>	
<b>Chapter 7: Known Issues</b>	
<b>Chapter 8: Related Documentation</b>	
<b>Chapter 9: Acronyms and Terms</b>	

# Legal Information

---

No license (express or implied, by estoppel or otherwise) to any intellectual property rights is granted by this document.

Intel technologies' features and benefits depend on system configuration and may require enabled hardware, software or service activation. Performance varies depending on system configuration. No product or component can be absolutely secure. Check with your system manufacturer or retailer or learn more at [intel.com].

Intel disclaims all express and implied warranties, including without limitation, the implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, and non-infringement, as well as any warranty arising from course of performance, course of dealing, or usage in trade.

This document contains information on products, services and/or processes in development. All information provided here is subject to change without notice. Contact your Intel representative to obtain the latest forecast, schedule, specifications and roadmaps.

The products and services described may contain defects or errors which may cause deviations from published specifications. Current characterized errata are available on request.

Intel, the Intel logo, Intel Atom, Intel Core, Intel Xeon Phi, VTune and Xeon are trademarks of Intel Corporation in the U.S. and/or other countries.

\*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

Intel, the Intel logo, Intel Atom, Intel Core, Intel Xeon Phi, VTune and Xeon are trademarks of Intel Corporation in the U.S. and/or other countries.

Microsoft, Windows, and the Windows logo are trademarks, or registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.

Java is a registered trademark of Oracle and/or its affiliates.

OpenCL and the OpenCL logo are trademarks of Apple Inc. used by permission by Khronos.

## © Intel Corporation

This software and the related documents are Intel copyrighted materials, and your use of them is governed by the express license under which they were provided to you (**License**). Unless the License provides otherwise, you may not use, modify, copy, publish, distribute, disclose or transmit this software or the related documents without Intel's prior written permission.

This software and the related documents are provided as is, with no express or implied warranties, other than those that are expressly stated in the License.

---

# Version History

---

These are the main releases of Intel® SoC Watch:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Revision</b>	<b>Description</b>
June, 2019	2.11	Improves handling of unrecognized CPUs, reporting S-state when hibernation occurs, and other bug fixes.
September, 2019	2019.12	Added support for Intel platform code named Ice Lake. Modified hw-cpu-pstate reporting.
October, 2019	2019.13	Fixed issue in hw-cpu-pstate for Intel platform code named Ice Lake.
November, 2019	2020.1	Added support for Intel platform code named Comet Lake.
February, 2020	2020.2	Added collection of tool usage analytics. Added new features pch-slps0, pch-slps0-dbg. Improved error messages and help output. Enhanced driver security.

# *Customer Support*

---

For technical support, including answers to questions not addressed in this product, see the Intel System Studio forum (<https://software.intel.com/en-us/forums/intel-system-studio>).

# Introduction

Intel® SoC Watch is a data collector for power-related data that can help identify issues on a platform that prevent entry to power-saving states. Captured metrics include:

- System sleep states
- CPU and GPU sleep states
- Processor frequencies
- Temperature data
- Device sleep states

You can correlate the collected data and visualize over time using Intel®VTune Profiler.

This document provides system requirements, installation instructions, issues and limitations, and legal information.

To learn more about this product, see:

- New features listed in the [New in This Release](#) section below, or in the help.
- Reference documentation listed in the [Related Documentation](#) section below
- Installation instructions can be found in the [Installation Notes](#) section below.
- For a detailed quick start guide to running the tool, see the *Intel SoC Watch User's Guide* in your installed documentation.

## Optimization Notice

Intel's compilers may or may not optimize to the same degree for non-Intel microprocessors for optimizations that are not unique to Intel microprocessors. These optimizations include SSE2, SSE3, and SSSE3 instruction sets and other optimizations. Intel does not guarantee the availability, functionality, or effectiveness of any optimization on microprocessors not manufactured by Intel. Microprocessor-dependent optimizations in this product are intended for use with Intel microprocessors. Certain optimizations not specific to Intel microarchitecture are reserved for Intel microprocessors. Please refer to the applicable product User and Reference Guides for more information regarding the specific instruction sets covered by this notice.

Notice revision #20110804

## 2

# New in This Release

The 2020.2 release (driver v2.12.2) contains these changes:

- **Added collection of SoC Watch usage analytics.** After installing Intel SoC Watch, upon first use, a dialog box prompts you to allow the collection of non-personal information about the system and SoC Watch command line used in this and future collections (i.e., to opt-in). If allowed, this data is sent to Intel if the system is connected to the internet at the end of the SoC Watch collection. If the data cannot be sent for any reason, the data is deleted. The data will not accumulate on the system. Use these command line options to respond to the dialog box:
  - To opt-in or change a former decision to opt-in: `--update-usage-consent yes`
  - To opt-out or change a former decision to opt-out: `--update-usage-consent no`
  - To skip prompt and disable usage collection (regardless of a prior opt-in): `--skip-usage-collection`
- **New features:**
  - `-f pch-slps0`: Reports residency in lowest power sleep state, SLP\_S0 (s0i3/Modern Standby).
  - `-f pch-slps0-dbg`: Reports blocking reasons (IP state conditions) that may be preventing entry to lowest power sleep state, SLP\_S0 (s0i3/Modern Standby).
- **Improved error messages and help:**
  - Improved error message when attempting to run SoC Watch as non-administrative user. Added explicit check for running as administrator. If check fails, report error "Failed to install Intel(R) SoC Watch driver. Please run with administrator privileges." Other failures to install the driver result in the error "Failed to install Intel(R) SoC Watch driver. Please reboot the system and try again."
  - Clarified `-f pkg-pwr` report's Note regarding multi-DIE topology: "Die-level power is included in package power on platforms with a multi-die CPU topology." There is no breakdown for energy at the Die-level.
  - Improved help output by aligning terminology and form used across the features.
- **Enhanced security of SoC Watch drivers.** The drivers now limit access to only those registers or memory intended by the tool development team for collecting platform power and performance information.

# ***System Requirements***

---

## **Supported Architectures**

---

Intel SoC Watch supports these Intel microarchitecture or platform code names:

- Cherryview (Cherry Trail)
- Apollo Lake
- Gemini Lake
- Broadwell
- Skylake
- Kaby Lake
- Coffee Lake
- Whiskey Lake
- Amber Lake
- Comet Lake
- Ice Lake

## **Minimum System Requirements**

---

You can run Intel SoC Watch on these 64-bit operating systems with administrator permissions:

- Windows\* 10



---

## ***Where to Find the Release***



Go to the Intel® System Studio website (<https://software.intel.com/en-us/intel-system-studio>) to get either an Evaluation (30-day trial release) license or a commercial license, and download the package from the Intel Registration Center (<http://registrationcenter.intel.com/>).

# Installation Notes

---

Intel SoC Watch for Windows\* OS is installed as part of Intel System Studio when downloaded to a Windows host system.

Refer to the *Intel® SoC Watch for Windows\* OS User's Guide* for additional instructions and understand how to install WDTF to allow automatic entry to Connected Standby.

## Installing WDTF to Enable --auto-connected-standby

Use of the `--auto-connected-standby` option requires the Windows\* OS Driver Test Framework (WDTF) to be installed on the target system. WDTF is found in the Windows Driver Kit (WDK). Below are instructions.

1. Get the latest WDK from Microsoft <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/download-the-wdk>. Follow only the instructions for installing the WDK.
2. After installing the WDK, open an administrative command prompt in this folder: `C:\Program Files (x86)\Windows Kits\10\Testing\Runtimes`
3. Enter the following command to install WDTF:

```
msiexec /i "Windows Driver Testing Framework (WDTF) Runtime Libraries-x64_en-us.msi" /1* WDTFInstall.log WDTFDir=c:\wdtf WDTF_SKIP_MACHINE_CONFIG=1
```

## Default Installation Folders

---

The default top-level installation folder for this product is:

```
C:\Program Files (x86)\IntelSWTools\energy_profiler_and_socwatch\socwatch_for_target
```

If you are installing on a system with a non-English language version of Windows OS, the name of the `Program Files` folder may be different. On Intel® 64 systems, the directory name is `Program Files (X86)` or the equivalent.

## Installing on a Remote Target

---

You can install Intel SoC Watch on a remote Windows system. Detailed instructions are available from <https://software.intel.com/en-us/energy-analysis-user-guide-preparing-a-target-windows-system-for-energy-analysis>.

## Changing, Updating, and Removing the Product

---

If you want to add or remove components from an installation, open the Control Panel, select the Add or Remove Programs applet, select Intel® System Studio, and click **Change**. To remove the product, select Intel SoC Watch and click **Remove**.

When installing an updated version of Intel SoC Watch, any previously installed version will automatically be removed.

## Fixed Issues

---

# 6

Release v2020.2 has a fix for these issues.

- Fixed issue where use of `--interval` option with value of 1 (e.g., `-n 1 -m`) resulted in only one sample being collected.
- Improved regularity of time interval between samples when using `--polling` on Windows OS. The actual time interval between samples is still slightly greater than requested interval due to overhead.
- Removed extra tables reported for features `igfx-throt-rsn`, `ia-throt-rsn`, and `ring-throt-rsn`, and added Total Samples Received table, to align with tables reported for similar features.

# Known Issues

## Bandwidth (on Intel Core Platforms)

- The presence of EDRAM on a system may not be detected by Intel SoC Watch. This is known to occur when the accelerator card VCA2, which contains EDRAM, is present.
- Total DDR bandwidth does not include EDRAM. On systems using EDRAM, the `ddr-bw` feature report may have a discrepancy between the total data reads and writes and the total component requests. The Data Reads+Data Writes will be significantly higher than the total IA+GT+IO requests, because the EDRAM requests are not included.

## Bandwidth and DRAM Self Refresh (on Intel Atom® Platforms)

- On Intel platforms code named Apollo Lake and Gemini Lake, memory bandwidth and memory self-refresh metrics are not available. These features are not supported: `ddr-bw`, `cpu-ddr-bw`, `cpu-ddr-mod0-bw`, `cpu-ddr-mod1-bw`, `disp-ddr-bw`, `isp-ddr-bw`, `gfx-ddr-bw`, `io-bw`, `all-approx-bw`, `dram-srr`.

## C-States / P-States

- When collecting a trace of residency data from hardware counters (i.e., using `-m`), the summarized residency data could be 2-3% inaccurate due to error propagation in the accumulation of each sample's calculated residency. Collecting without `-m` results in greater accuracy because only a single sample is taken. However, long collection duration could result in a counter rollover, and that will not be detected without the use of `-m`.
- The hardware CPU P-state data may be missing for some Cores when using feature `-f hw-cpu-pstate` on Intel platforms code named Skylake, Kaby Lake, Whiskey Lake, and Amber Lake. The issue is caused by unexpected behavior of the hardware counters. The tool ignores these bad samples which results in the missing data.
- On Intel platforms code named Broxton and Apollo Lake, the `cpu-cstate` metric results do not contain module C-state information.
- OS-based CPU P-state report does not support platforms with > 64 logical processors. The hardware-based P-state report is correct. The problem is in the OS event trace which provides state changes for only a partial set of logical processors when the platform is configured for more than 64 logical processors. When this situation occurs, a warning message is printed in the report indicating which processors have no OS P-state change events.

## S States & D States

- On Intel platform code named CherryView based devices:
  - Even when the device's screen is off, the NC DState called Display DPIO is reported in the D0i0 state 100% of the time. This result may or may not be correct.
  - When collecting NC D0ix states with the `-f nc-dstate` switch, note that the Display Island B (HDMI) IP block will remain in D0i0 when the primary display is enabled even if an HDMI cable is removed.
  - When using the `sc-dstate` feature, the SEC IP block results are incorrect and should be ignored. Also, the UFS IP block results are incorrect because an internal fuse is disabled.

## Miscellaneous

- When using `-z ( --auto-connected-standby )`, the following failed message is displayed by WDTF, but can be ignored when followed by the `enter /exit` messages from WDTF as shown below:

Loading Wex.Logger.dll from systemdata.cpp linep 922 failed.

WDTF\_SYSTEM : INFO : Attempt Entering Connected Standby At (hh:mm:ss): 13:4:35 ,  
Wake Time In Milliseconds: 20000

WDTF\_SYSTEM : INFO : Exiting Connected Standby. Elapsed time (hh:mm:ss): 0:0:20

- Feature -f dram-pwr is not supported by all versions of the server Intel platforms code named Skylake-Xeon, Cascade Lake-Xeon, and Denverton). The report contains all zero values in this case.
- On platforms with HyperV enabled, the sum of the CPU C-state idle residencies will not match CPU P-state idle residency time. The issue occurs because HyperV does not allow setting of a bit, resulting in incorrect core-level reporting of both C-state and P-states.
- Metrics report Unknown 0 when -m is not used and hibernation occurs. Metrics with a snapshot default collection mode, such as CPU C-state, will show the Unknown state with 0 time and the remaining states will not sum to the total collection duration if the system entered hibernation during the collection and the -m option was not specified. The snapshot metrics are only collected at the start and end of a collection by default, but finding hibernation time requires samples taken throughout the collection. Including -m will cause continuous sampling to occur for all metrics. When hibernation occurs, a message reporting time spent in hibernation appears at the beginning of the summary report. The Unknown state is then included for all appropriate metrics and the time in hibernation is included in that state. Refer to the *Intel SoC Watch User's Guide* "Options Quick Reference" section to learn which metrics have a snapshot collection mode by default.
- Package level power data (-f pkg-pwr) is reported incorrectly for Cascade Lake-Xeon (AP) which has multiple Die in the CPU package. Intel SoC Watch labels the power as per package but it is actually per Die. There is no package level power.
- Syntax errors in the command line may not report a visible error message. If a collection did not run and you are not seeing any error message, add option -d 2 to your command line to get more information.
- Insufficient system resources error seen on occasion when collecting OS event trace metrics such as acpi-dstate. The system error "WARNING: Cannot enable provider in the trace file <etl filename>" has been reported when collecting metrics that enable event trace logging. This error prevents ETL logging from being started and is usually caused by a background process consuming system resources. Use Task Manager to find and remove such processes then try the collection again.
- Hyper-V and Virtualization-based Security (VBS) prevent some metrics from being collected. Intel SoC Watch detects when Hyper-V and Virtualization-based Security is enabled on the platform, reports a warning message on the console and disables metrics that are blocked by these settings. When Hyper-V and VBS are enabled cpu-gpu-concurrency cannot be collected.
- Collection on Windows\* Server 2016 OS will result in failure to load the Intel SoC Watch driver if Secure Boot is enabled on the platform. The workaround is to disable Secure Boot. The problem on Windows 10 client OS was resolved.
- If a command window is closed (using either the X button or Alt-F4) while the socwatch process is running, or the Task Manager is used to kill the socwatch process, then the behavior of a subsequent run of Intel SoC Watch becomes unknown. The proper way to terminate Intel SoC Watch is using Ctrl-C. A collection driver may be left in an undefined state when Intel SoC Watch is abruptly terminated because there is no OS event to allow proper cleanup. This can cause the next Intel SoC Watch collection to result in anything from bad data to a system crash. If a driver is left running, it must be removed. You can reboot the system to clear a driver or use the following set of commands to check if the driver is running, stop it, and then delete it:
 

```
sc query socwatchdrv; sc stop socwatchdrv; sc delete socwatchdrv.
```

### Intel® VTune™ Amplifier Visualization

- The Intel VTune Amplifier System Summary does not report the rated frequency for the CPU when viewing results from data collected by SoC Watch, such as Throttling Analysis. Instead, it reports 1GHz which is the clock frequency used in the calculations for processing the SoC Watch data.
- Intel VTune Amplifier 2017 for Systems Update 1 or later is required for visualizing and analyzing Intel SoC Watch v2.10.0 and newer PWR files. We recommend using the latest version of Intel VTune Amplifier.

- If the bandwidth is 0 Mb throughout the collection for a particular bandwidth type, Intel VTune Amplifier will not show a timeline entry for it. The timeline is shown only if there is at least one non-zero value.
- In some cases, the summary CSV results produced by Intel SoC Watch can vary from the summary results shown by Intel VTune Amplifier even though they represent the same collection. For example, the summary CSV file may report a specific cpu-pstate residency of 50.78% and Intel VTune Amplifier may report the same cpu-pstate residency as 50.8%.
- The minimum and average calculations displayed in the grid for Sampled Value metrics don't take 0 values into consideration in older versions of Intel VTune Amplifier. For example, Sampled Graphics P-States minimum values may show a value higher than 0 Mhz even when some samples have 0 Mhz values. This in turn affects the average value calculation.
- In order to visualize graphics C-states that are reported as *Render* and *Media*, the table headers in the trace file (generated with option `-r int`), must be manually modified, adding *Render* and *Media* to the appropriate C0, C1, and C6 column headers.

## ***Related Documentation***

---



The release contains these documents:

- Intel® SoC Watch for Windows OS\* User's Guide.
- Energy Analysis help (<https://software.intel.com/en-us/energy-analysis-user-guide>)

## *Acronyms and Terms*

The following acronyms and terms are used in this document (arranged in alphabetic order):

<b>Acronym/Term</b>	<b>Description</b>
SoC	System on Chip