## **SQL Server CPU Usage (Percent)**

The SQL Server CPU Usage (Percent) metric calculates the percentage of CPU time used by the SQL Server instance. This value is calculated by the percentage of time in a query spent by the I/O, idle, and CPU times on the computer that hosts the SQL Server instance.

To track this metric, use the CPU Usage chart in the CPU dashboard of the Server Overview tab.

## Lower SQL Server CPU usage

If this value regularly exceeds 75%, consider taking the following actions:

- Reduce the number of SQL re-compilations, as they are CPU intensive. There are many reasons that an object such as a stored procedure is recompiled. You can remove most of these reasons by careful coding.
- Make sure that all T-SQL statements (whether in a Stored Procedure, Trigger, or Ad Hoc statement) that reference objects fully qualify the object referenced.

For example: SELECT \* FROM Northwind.dbo Employees is a fully-qualified object reference whereas SELECT \* FROM Employees is a poorly-qualified object. You can reuse the execution plans of fully-qualified objects "as is," whereas plans where you either cannot reuse the not fully-qualified objects or, if they are reused, then they are subject to a highly restrictive COMPILE lock while SQL Server determines if all of the objects referenced in the T-SQL code have the same owners as the execution plan currently in cache. Both of these situations consume a significant amount of CPU time.

SQL Diagnostic Manager for SQL Server performance monitoring, alerting, and diagnostics for SQL Server.

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