

[Cloud SQL](https://cloud.google.com/sql/) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/)

[Documentation](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/)

[PostgreSQL](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/) [Guides](#)

Replication options

[MySQL](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/mysql/replication/) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/mysql/replication/) | **PostgreSQL** | [SQL Server](#)

This

page describes the replication options offered by Cloud SQL.

Introduction

Cloud SQL provides the ability to replicate a master instance to one or more read replicas. A read replica is a copy of the master that reflects changes to the master instance in almost real time.

To reduce load on the master instance, send queries to the read replica instance instead.

[Connect](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/connect-admin-ip) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/connect-admin-ip) to the replica directly using its connection name and IP address.

Note: Read replicas do not provide failover capability. To provide failover capability for a PostgreSQL instance, see [Configuring an Instance for High Availability](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/configure-ha) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/configure-ha).

For Cloud SQL, PostgreSQL read replicas can have more CPUs and memory than the master instance, but they cannot have less. See [replication tips](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/replication/tips) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/replication/tips) for more information.

Cloud SQL for PostgreSQL does not yet support replication from an external master or external replicas for Cloud SQL instances.

Cloud SQL for PostgreSQL supports the following read replication scenarios:

	Benefits	
Name	Master Replica and use cases	More information

Read Cloud Cloud • Additional • [Creating Read Replicas](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/replication/create-replica)
replica SQL SQL read (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/replication/create-
instanceinstance capacity replica)
• Analytics • [Tips](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/replication/tips/#read-replica)
target (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/replication/tips/#rea
replica)

What's next

- Learn how to [create a read replica](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/replication/create-replica) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/replication/create-replica).
- Learn how to [configure an instance for high availability](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/configure-ha) (https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/configure-ha).

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