

psql CLI Quick Reference

Complete PostgreSQL Command Line Reference

✓ v16 / v17 compatible



Updated: October 2026 · Production-grade

01 Connection Commands

02 Meta Commands (Backslash Commands)

03 Output & Format Settings

05 Variables & Settings

+ Help & Useful Commands

07 Debugging & Diagnostic Queries

pg_stat_activity · pg_stat_user_tables · pg_locks

ACTIVE CONNECTIONS

```
-- Active connections
SELECT pid, username,
       application_name,
       state, query
FROM pg_stat_activity
WHERE state != 'idle';
```

TABLE SIZES

```
-- Table sizes
SELECT relname,
       pg_size_pretty(
         pg_total_relation_size(relid))
FROM pg_stat_user_tables
ORDER BY pg_total_relation_size(relid) DESC;
```

LONG-RUNNING QUERIES

```
-- Long-running queries
SELECT pid,
       now() - query_start AS duration,
       query
FROM pg_stat_activity
WHERE state = 'active'
      AND now() - query_start > interval '5 min';
```

LOCK WAITERS

```
-- Lock waiters
SELECT pid,
       relation::regclass,
       mode, granted
FROM pg_locks
WHERE NOT granted;
```