

Miscellaneous

Working with statistics

The DNS Proxy generates binary logs, which are stored directly on the SafeDNS Shield server. A dedicated parsing module processes these logs and exports the resulting data to an external DBMS for analysis and report generation. The module includes a connector for ClickHouse, which provides the best performance for this data type, but logs can also be exported to other databases if required.

The local binary log storage acts as a buffer: if the connection to ClickHouse is temporarily lost, logs generated during the outage are retained on disk and automatically exported once connectivity is restored. No data is lost during short interruptions, provided the local storage on the Shield server does not become completely full.

Although the statistics module is not essential for the core filtering functionality, it is indispensable for assessing system performance and investigating incidents effectively.

Note on HTTPS block pages

To display the built-in block page for HTTPS requests, the SafeDNS root certificate must be added to the trusted certificate store on every end user device. Without the certificate, web browsers cannot validate the block page's TLS certificate; instead of the block page, users will see a TLS/SSL error. Access to the requested resource will still be denied.

Displaying the block page over HTTP does not require the certificate.

If an externally hosted block page is used, certificate requirements depend on your own hosting configuration.

Revision #2

Created 6 March 2026 08:41:42 by Ryan Lane

Updated 26 May 2026 12:46:25 by Andrew Lem