How to Access a PostgreSQL Database From Another Host?

written by sysadmin | 22 November 2025

I want to access a PostgreSQL database from another host.

Problem

How to access a PostgreSQL database from another host?

Solution

I have 2 servers, the PostgreSQL server IP is 192.168.56.101, and the Ubuntu server IP is 192.168.56.11. I want to access the PostgreSQL database from the Ubuntu server. By default, use the format below if you want to access PostgreSQL:

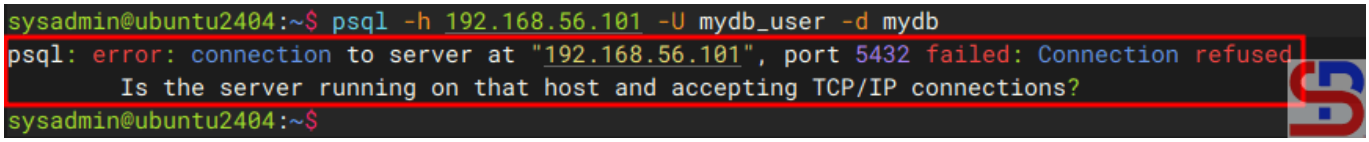
```
psql -h ip_db -u username -d db_name -p port_number
```

By default, the PostgreSQL database uses port 5432, so if you access your PostgreSQL using port 5432, you don't need to write the port. I accessed my PostgreSQL by writing the command:

```
psql -h 192.168.56.101 -u postgres -d mydb
```

But I got an error like the image below:

```
psql: error: connection to server at '192.168.56.101', port 5432 failed:
Connection refused
Is the server running on that host and accepting TCP/IP connections?
```



Error when accessing the PostgreSQL database

The following are the steps to access a PostgreSQL database from another host:

1. Open port

Open port 5432 on each server. If you use RockyLinux/AlmaLinux/RHEL for your servers, use the command below:

```
firewall-cmd --add-port=5432/tcp --permanent
firewall-cmd --reload
```

But if you use Ubuntu/Debian for your server, type the command below:

```
sudo ufw allow 5432
```

2. Config postgresql.conf

In the database server, go to **/etc/postgresql/18/main/postgresql.conf** file if you use PostgreSQL 18, but back up the file first:

```
sudo cp /etc/postgresql/18/main/postgresql.conf
/etc/postgresql/18/main/postgresql.conf.ori
```

After that, change the script below in the file:

```
#listen_addresses = 'localhost'
```

to

```
listen_addresses = '*'
```

3. Configure pg_hba.conf

After that, go to **/etc/postgresql/18/main/pg_hba.conf** if you use PostgreSQL 18, but backup the file first:

```
sudo cp /etc/postgresql/18/main/pg_hba.conf
/etc/postgresql/18/main/pg_hba.conf.ori
```

Then, add your IP host (in this case, IP is 192.168.56.11) like the below script:

```
host    all             all             192.168.56.11/32        scram-sha-256
```

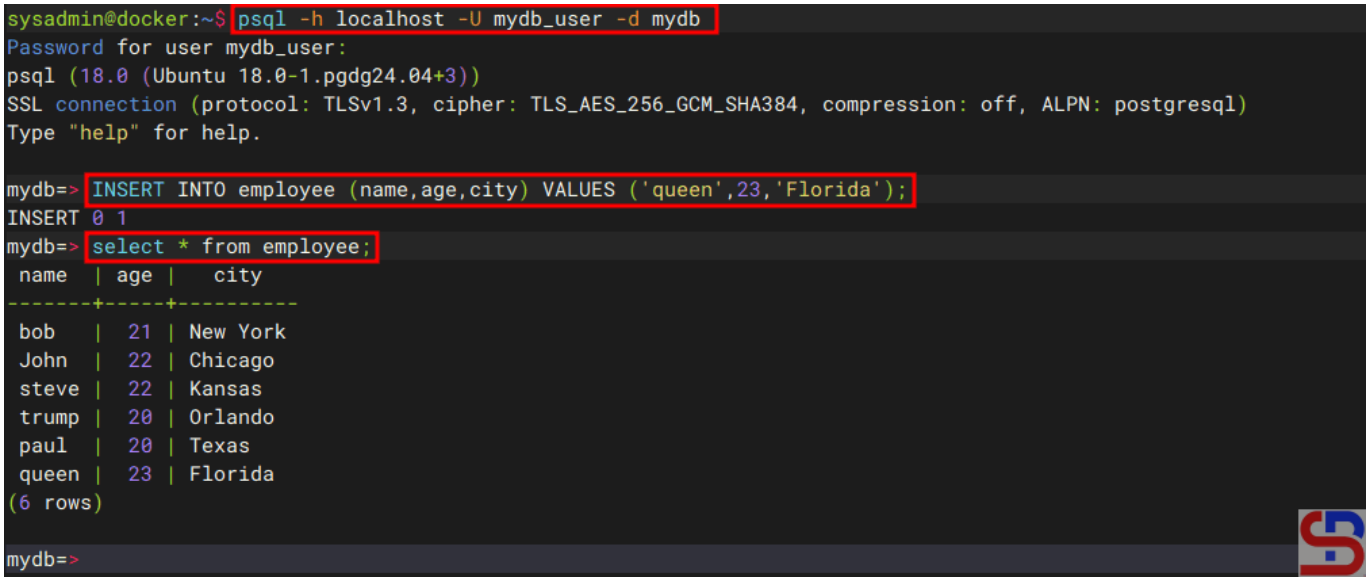
Warning
You must change the file **/etc/postgresql/18/main/postgresql.conf** if you want to use scram-sha-256 encryption as described in [this article](#).

4. Restart PostgreSQL

Restart postgresql service using the command below:

```
sudo systemctl restart postgresql
```

Now, try to access the PostgreSQL again, and you should be able to access the database like the command below:



Do CRUD on the database

Note

If you have an error when you want to display data, like the image below:

```
ERROR: permission denied for table employee
```

```
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$ psql -h 192.168.56.101 -U mydb_user -d mydb
Password for user mydb_user:
psql (18.0 (Ubuntu 18.0-1.pgdg24.04+3))
SSL connection (protocol: TLSv1.3, cipher: TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384, compression: off, ALPN: postgresql)
Type "help" for help.

mydb=> SELECT * FROM employee;
ERROR:  permission denied for table employee
mydb=>
```



Error when querying in the postgresql

Then you have to change the owner of the database and the tables in the database. You can follow how to change it via this page.

References

dev.to
dba.stackexchange.com
prisma.io
tigerdata.com