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Applicable to:

- Plesk for Linux

Symptoms

- The following error can be seen when checking MySQL/MariaDB status via the

```
systemctl status mariadb
```

command:

```
[Warning] Could not increase number of max_open_files to more than 16384 (request: 32335).
```

- MySQL/MariaDB performance is very slow.

Cause

Hard limit of the process exceeded the number set for open files limit (16384) in database server configuration files:

```
#Number of files limit  
LimitNOFILE=16384
```

Resolution

1. Connect to the server via [SSH](#)
2. Find in which exact file the limit is set by executing the following commands:

```
# egrep -r LimitNOFILE /etc/systemd/system/m*
```

```
# egrep -r LimitNOFILE /lib/systemd/system/m*
```

Note: You are looking for a line that does not have a `#` in its beginning. That line contains the configuration that is active.

3. Once you find in which file the line

```
LimitNOFILE
```

is active, edit that file with [your favorite command-line text editor](#) and adjust the value:

```
LimitNOFILE=32335
```

4. Save the changes and close the file
5. Reload all daemons on the server:

```
# systemctl daemon-reload
```

6. Restart the `mariadb` or `mysql` service:

```
# systemctl restart mariadb
```

Posted by: **Saeed Nobakht** - Sun, Aug 24, 2025 at 12:44 PM. This article has been viewed 279 times.

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