

Why 80% of SQL incidents are avoidable

Aurélien LEQUOY · February 20, 2026

PERFORMANCE

MONITORING

BEST-PRACTICES

80% OF SQL INCIDENTS ARE AVOIDABLE

Top 3 root causes from 150+ incidents analysed in 2025

45%

Missing indexes

200ms dev → 45s prod
Full table scans on 10M+ rows

→ Marina+ detects & suggests

28%

Untested backups

72% had backups but
never tested a restore

→ Backup verification agent

12%

Silent replication lag

Seconds_Behind_Master
3 days behind, nobody noticed

→ Replication lag alerting

PmaControl — proactive observability catches these before they become incidents

Analysis based on 150+ MariaDB / MySQL incidents — 2025

The finding

Out of the 150+ MariaDB / MySQL incidents we handled in 2025, **80% could have been avoided** with proactive monitoring.

The 3 main causes

1. Missing indexes

The classic. A query that runs in 200ms in dev, but takes 45 seconds in prod with 10M rows.

```
-- Before: full table scan
SELECT * FROM orders WHERE customer_id = 12345;

-- After: index added
ALTER TABLE orders ADD INDEX idx_customer_id (customer_id);
```

PmaControl detects slow queries and suggests missing indexes through the **Marina+** agent.

2. Untested backups

72% of our clients had backups... but **had never tested a restore**. A backup that can't be restored is just a decorative file.

3. Silent replication lag

The replica is 3 days behind, but nobody watches `Seconds_Behind_Master`. PmaControl alerts as soon as the lag exceeds the configured threshold.

The solution

A dedicated database observability tool that doesn't just collect metrics but actually **understands** your architecture.

That's exactly what PmaControl does.