



## ZFS SSD Benchmark: RAW IMAGE vs QCOW2 vs ZVOL for KVM

This benchmark showâ€™s the performance of a zfs pool providing storage to a kvm virtual machine with three different formats:

raw image files on plain dataset  
qcow2 image file on plain dataset  
zvol

For each of those several filesystem benchmarks from the phoronix-benchmark-suite are run with two different recordsizes:

8k  
64k

Host Details:

cpu: Intel® Xeon® CPU E5320 @ 1.86GHz  
ram: 6GB DDR2  
sata: Intel Corporation 631xESB/632xESB SATA AHCI Controller (rev 09)  
os: Debian GNU/Linux 9.4 (stretch), fully upgraded as of 2018-03-15  
zfs: 0.7.6-1~bpo9+1 (from stretch-backports)  
ssd: 2x samsung 840 pro 256GB

KVM machine:

cpu: host  
ram: 1024MB  
disk: bus=scsi,cache=writeback,io=threads  
os: Debian GNU/Linux 9.1 (stretch)  
fs: ext4

The zfs pool used consists of a single mirrored vdev with samsung 840 pro ssd™s.  
Each benchmark is run like this:

drop all caches  
trim whole ssd™s  
create zfs pool (ashift=13,compression=lz4,atime=on,relatime=on  
benchmark,devices=off,exec=off,setuid=off,xattr=off)  
create disk:

```
qemu-img create -f raw debian9.raw 50G  
qemu-img create -f qcow2 -o cluster_size=8k,preallocation=metadata,compat=1.1,lazy_refcounts=on debian9.qcow2  
50G  
zfs create -o volblocksize=8k -V 50G benchmark/kvm/debian9
```

create kvm machine  
take timestamp  
let debian9 install automatically  
save install time  
install phoronix-test-suite and needed dependencies in the vm  
run the pts  
trim the filesystem and save the time it took  
copy the results to the kvm host  
destroy vm and zpool

other test results:

8k\_raw - install time: 619s, trim: 39.401s  
64k raw - install time: 589s, trim: 0m9.593s  
8k qcow2 - install time: 615s, trim: 1m45.421s  
64k qcow2 - install time: 590s, trim: 0m7.598s  
8k zvol - install time: 621s, trim: 0m11.353s  
64k zvol - install time: 605s

### Automated Executive Summary

*zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, raw image had the most wins, coming in first place for 67% of the tests.*

*Based on the geometric mean of all complete results, the fastest (zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, raw image) was 1.662x the speed of the slowest (zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, zvol). zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize*

64k, qcow2 image was 0.983x the speed of zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, raw image, zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, raw image was 0.688x the speed of zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, qcow2 image, zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, qcow2 image was 0.968x the speed of zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, raw image, zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, zvol was 0.989x the speed of zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, qcow2 image, zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, zvol was 0.929x the speed of zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, zvol.

The results with the greatest spread from best to worst included:

Flexible IO Tester (Type: Sequential Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 64KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory) at 3.816x

Flexible IO Tester (Type: Random Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 1MB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory) at 3.472x

Flexible IO Tester (Type: Sequential Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 1MB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory) at 3.353x

Flexible IO Tester (Type: Random Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 64KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory) at 3.045x

IOzone (Record Size: 64Kb - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Write Performance) at 2.877x

IOzone (Record Size: 4Kb - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Write Performance) at 2.843x

IOzone (Record Size: 1MB - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Read Performance) at 2.691x

IOzone (Record Size: 64Kb - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Read Performance) at 2.668x

IOzone (Record Size: 4Kb - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Read Performance) at 2.646x

IOzone (Record Size: 1MB - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Write Performance) at 2.63x.

## Test Systems:

**zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, qcow2 image**

**zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, raw image**

**zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, zvol**

**zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, qcow2 image**

**zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, raw image**

**zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, zvol**

Processor: 8 x Intel Celeron\_4x0 (Conroe/Merom Class Core 2) @ 1.86GHz (8 Cores), Motherboard: QEMU Standard PC (i440FX + PIIX 1996), Chipset: Intel 440FX- 82441FX PMC, Memory: 1 x 1024 MB RAM QEMU, Disk: 54GB QEMU HDD, Graphics: Cirrus Logic GD 5446, Network: Realtek RTL-8100/8101L/8139

OS: Debian 9.1, Kernel: 4.9.0-4-amd64 (x86\_64), Compiler: GCC 6.3.0 20170516, File-System: ext4, Screen Resolution: 1024x768, System Layer: qemu

Compiler Notes: --build=x86\_64-linux-gnu --disable-browser-plugin --disable-vtable-verify --enable-checking=release --enable-clocale=gnu --enable-default-pie --enable-gnu-unique-object --enable-gtk-cairo --enable-java-awt=gtk --enable-java-home --enable-languages=c,ada,c++,java,go,d,fortran,objc,obj-c++ --enable-libmpx --enable-libstdcxx-debug --enable-libstdcxx-time=yes --enable-multiarch --enable-multiilib --enable-nls --enable-objc-gc=auto --enable-plugin --enable-shared --enable-threads=posix --host=x86\_64-linux-gnu --program-prefix=x86\_64-linux-gnu --target=x86\_64-linux-gnu --with-abi=m64 --with-arch-32=i686 --with-arch-directory=amd64 --with-default-libstdcxx-abi=new --with-multiilib-list=m32,m64,mx32 --with-target-system-zlib --with-tune=generic -v  
 Disk Notes: CFQ / data=ordered,errors=remount-ro,relatime,rw  
 System Notes: Python 2.7.13.

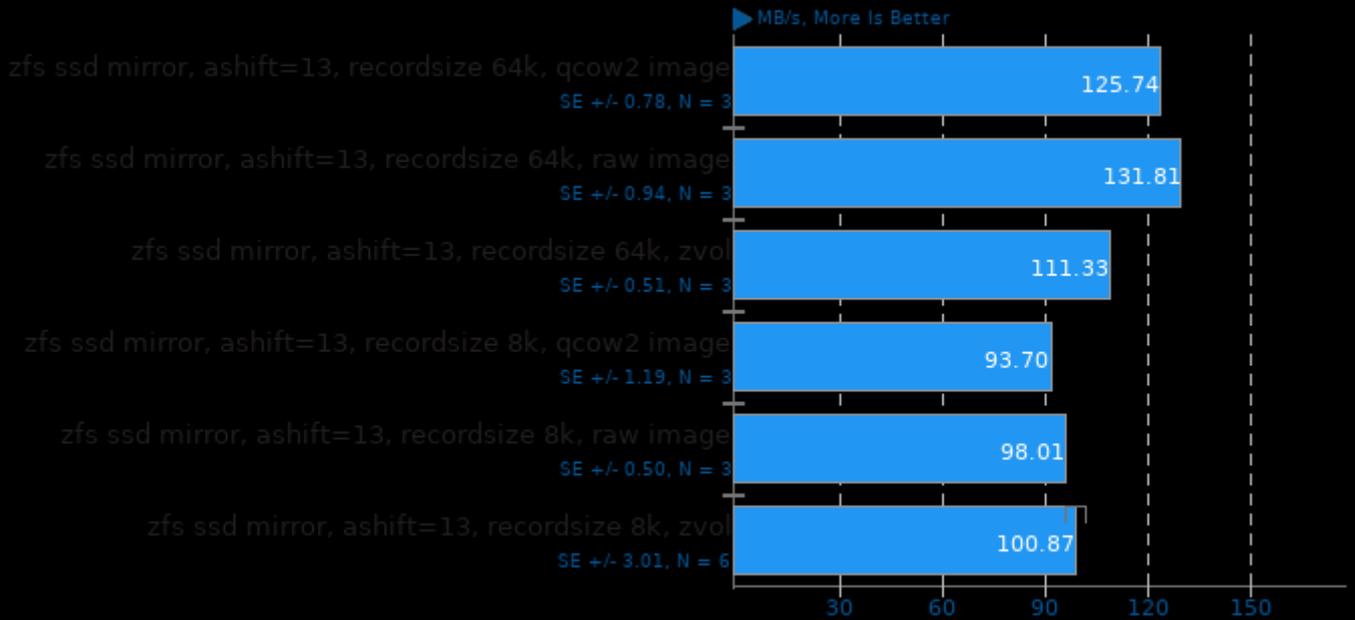
	zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, qcow2	zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, raw	zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 64k, zvol	zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, qcow2	zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, raw image	zfs ssd mirror, ashift=13, recordsize 8k, zvol
<b>AIO-Stress - Rand Write (MB/s)</b>	125.74	<b>131.81</b>	111.33	<b>93.70</b>	98.01	100.87
Normalized	95.39%	100%	84.46%	71.09%	74.36%	76.53%
Standard Deviation	1.1%	1.2%	0.8%	2.2%	0.9%	7.3%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Rand Read - Linux AIO - No - Yes - 1MB (MB/s)</b>	292	294	454	<b>228</b>	230	<b>473</b>
Normalized	61.73%	62.16%	95.98%	48.2%	48.63%	100%
Standard Deviation	0.7%	1.2%	5.6%	0.8%	0.8%	3.9%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Rand Read - Linux AIO - No - Yes - 8KB (MB/s)</b>	38.60	38.93	<b>40.73</b>	40.65	<b>36.80</b>	39.20
Normalized	94.77%	95.58%	100%	99.8%	90.35%	96.24%
Standard Deviation	0.4%	0.1%	2.2%	3.2%	1.9%	1.7%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Rand Read - Linux AIO - No - Yes - 64KB (MB/s)</b>	237	<b>239</b>	230	232	<b>229</b>	230
Normalized	99.16%	100%	96.23%	97.07%	95.82%	96.23%
Standard Deviation		1.1%	0.4%	1.9%		0.7%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Rand Write - Linux AIO - No - Yes - 1MB (MB/s)</b>	143	<b>146</b>	54.75	70.23	71.20	<b>42.05</b>
Normalized	97.95%	100%	37.5%	48.1%	48.77%	28.8%
Standard Deviation	0.8%	0.7%	9.4%	0.2%	0.7%	6.3%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Rand Write - Linux AIO - No - Yes - 8KB (MB/s)</b>	15.97	17.20	<b>12.05</b>	25.73	<b>29.20</b>	20.70
Normalized	54.69%	58.9%	41.27%	88.12%	100%	70.89%
Standard Deviation	2.6%	2.7%	3.5%	1.2%	1.2%	0.8%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Rand Write - Linux AIO - No - Yes - 64KB (MB/s)</b>	113	<b>118</b>	66.40	59.40	61.33	<b>38.75</b>
Normalized	95.76%	100%	56.27%	50.34%	51.97%	32.84%
Standard Deviation	1%	1.3%	2.1%	0.7%	0.1%	20.9%

<b>Flexible IO Tester - Seq Read</b>	291	289	458	<b>226</b>	229	<b>472</b>
- Linux AIO - No - Yes - 1MB						
(MB/s)						
Normalized	61.65%	61.23%	97.03%	47.88%	48.52%	100%
Standard Deviation	0.7%	0.4%	2.1%	0.5%		5.4%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Seq Read</b>	54.17	55.50	<b>44.73</b>	45.85	<b>58.32</b>	45.02
- Linux AIO - No - Yes - 8KB						
(MB/s)						
Normalized	92.88%	95.16%	76.7%	78.62%	100%	77.19%
Standard Deviation	6%	0.7%	1.2%	8.1%	8.9%	6%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Seq Read</b>	306	303	347	<b>244</b>	252	<b>353</b>
- Linux AIO - No - Yes - 64KB						
(MB/s)						
Normalized	86.69%	85.84%	98.3%	69.12%	71.39%	100%
Standard Deviation	0.8%	1%	5.3%	0.4%	0.9%	2.2%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Seq Write</b>	147	<b>152</b>	66.28	72.03	74.37	<b>45.33</b>
- Linux AIO - No - Yes - 1MB						
(MB/s)						
Normalized	96.71%	100%	43.61%	47.39%	48.93%	29.82%
Standard Deviation	2.8%		7.2%	2.6%	2.2%	34.7%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Seq Write</b>	46.30	<b>47.10</b>	29.77	32.70	41.83	<b>24.15</b>
- Linux AIO - No - Yes - 8KB						
(MB/s)						
Normalized	98.3%	100%	63.21%	69.43%	88.81%	51.27%
Standard Deviation	9.1%	9.4%	5.3%	13.5%	10.4%	5.8%
<b>Flexible IO Tester - Seq Write</b>	<b>139</b>	138	71.37	70.77	74.27	<b>36.43</b>
- Linux AIO - No - Yes - 64KB						
(MB/s)						
Normalized	100%	99.28%	51.35%	50.91%	53.43%	26.21%
Standard Deviation	0.8%		1.4%	0.1%	1%	22.3%
<b>Dbench - 1 (MB/s)</b>	42.33	42.60	<b>42.72</b>	42.20	42.18	<b>40.87</b>
Normalized	99.09%	99.72%	100%	98.78%	98.74%	95.67%
Standard Deviation	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.6%
<b>Dbench - 6 (MB/s)</b>	102.98	<b>105.25</b>	88.54	89.99	91.96	<b>86.79</b>
Normalized	97.84%	100%	84.12%	85.5%	87.37%	82.46%
Standard Deviation	1.5%	1.8%	2.5%	1.7%	2.6%	0.3%
<b>Dbench - 12 (MB/s)</b>	162.59	<b>166.12</b>	133.55	137.50	137.66	<b>128.76</b>
Normalized	97.88%	100%	80.39%	82.77%	82.87%	77.51%
Standard Deviation	0.8%	0.6%	0.5%	1.9%	1.9%	1.1%
<b>Dbench - 48 (MB/s)</b>	<b>294.03</b>	292.22	177.89	176.41	181.38	<b>153.63</b>
Normalized	100%	99.38%	60.5%	60%	61.69%	52.25%
Standard Deviation	2.6%	2.5%	8.9%	9.8%	9.6%	10.9%
<b>Dbench - 128 (MB/s)</b>	203.76	<b>207.32</b>	102.07	89.75	97.79	<b>88.41</b>
Normalized	98.28%	100%	49.23%	43.29%	47.17%	42.64%
Standard Deviation	0.8%	1.7%	11.9%	15.7%	14.6%	12.5%
<b>Dbench - 256 (MB/s)</b>	118.70	<b>120.18</b>	62.00	<b>55.57</b>	55.77	58.47
Normalized	98.77%	100%	51.59%	46.24%	46.41%	48.65%
Standard Deviation	0.3%	0.6%	7.9%	2.6%	9.3%	5.8%
<b>IOzone - 1MB - 8GB - Read</b>	215.34	<b>216.63</b>	86.07	165.90	167.07	<b>80.50</b>
Performance (MB/s)						
Normalized	99.4%	100%	39.73%	76.58%	77.12%	37.16%
Standard Deviation	0.6%	0.5%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	2.7%

<b>IOzone - 4Kb - 8GB - Read</b>	223.31	<b>224.74</b>	94.99	173.68	174.63	<b>84.95</b>
<b>Performance (MB/s)</b>						
Normalized	99.36%	100%	42.27%	77.28%	77.7%	37.8%
Standard Deviation	0.7%	1.6%	2.3%	0.1%	0.8%	6.3%
<b>IOzone - 1MB - 8GB - Write</b>	156.30	<b>157.79</b>	66.79	65.22	<b>60.00</b>	72.07
<b>Performance (MB/s)</b>						
Normalized	99.06%	100%	42.33%	41.33%	38.03%	45.67%
Standard Deviation	0.9%	0.9%	1.3%	7.6%	5.8%	6.9%
<b>IOzone - 4Kb - 8GB - Write</b>	161.59	<b>162.04</b>	63.10	61.43	<b>57.00</b>	74.06
<b>Performance (MB/s)</b>						
Normalized	99.72%	100%	38.94%	37.91%	35.18%	45.7%
Standard Deviation	1.9%	1.1%	3%	4.1%	6.9%	2.6%
<b>IOzone - 64Kb - 8GB - Read</b>	225.08	<b>226.37</b>	88.90	174.56	172.38	<b>84.86</b>
<b>Performance (MB/s)</b>						
Normalized	99.43%	100%	39.27%	77.11%	76.15%	37.49%
Standard Deviation	0.6%	0.3%	3.1%	0.5%	0.5%	6%
<b>IOzone - 64Kb - 8GB - Write</b>	156.04	<b>160.28</b>	60.03	58.87	<b>55.72</b>	67.62
<b>Performance (MB/s)</b>						
Normalized	97.35%	100%	37.45%	36.73%	34.76%	42.19%
Standard Deviation	4.3%	4.5%	7.2%	3.8%	1.2%	11.4%
<b>Compile Bench - Compile</b>	142.88	<b>147.18</b>	81.59	<b>61.65</b>	72.13	91.69
<b>(MB/s)</b>						
Normalized	97.08%	100%	55.44%	41.89%	49.01%	62.3%
Standard Deviation	8.6%	8.7%	3%	19.8%	7.2%	7.3%
<b>Compile Bench - Initial</b>	82.40	<b>86.85</b>	50.11	<b>42.54</b>	48.40	49.32
<b>Create (MB/s)</b>						
Normalized	94.88%	100%	57.7%	48.98%	55.73%	56.79%
Standard Deviation	13.5%	6.1%	20.6%	33.9%	6.8%	12.6%
<b>Compile Bench - Read</b>	64.69	<b>64.83</b>	60.72	56.72	55.72	<b>46.58</b>
<b>Compiled Tree (MB/s)</b>						
Normalized	99.78%	100%	93.66%	87.49%	85.95%	71.85%
Standard Deviation	0.4%	0.9%	7.2%	1.6%	0.5%	2.4%

### AIO-Stress 0.21

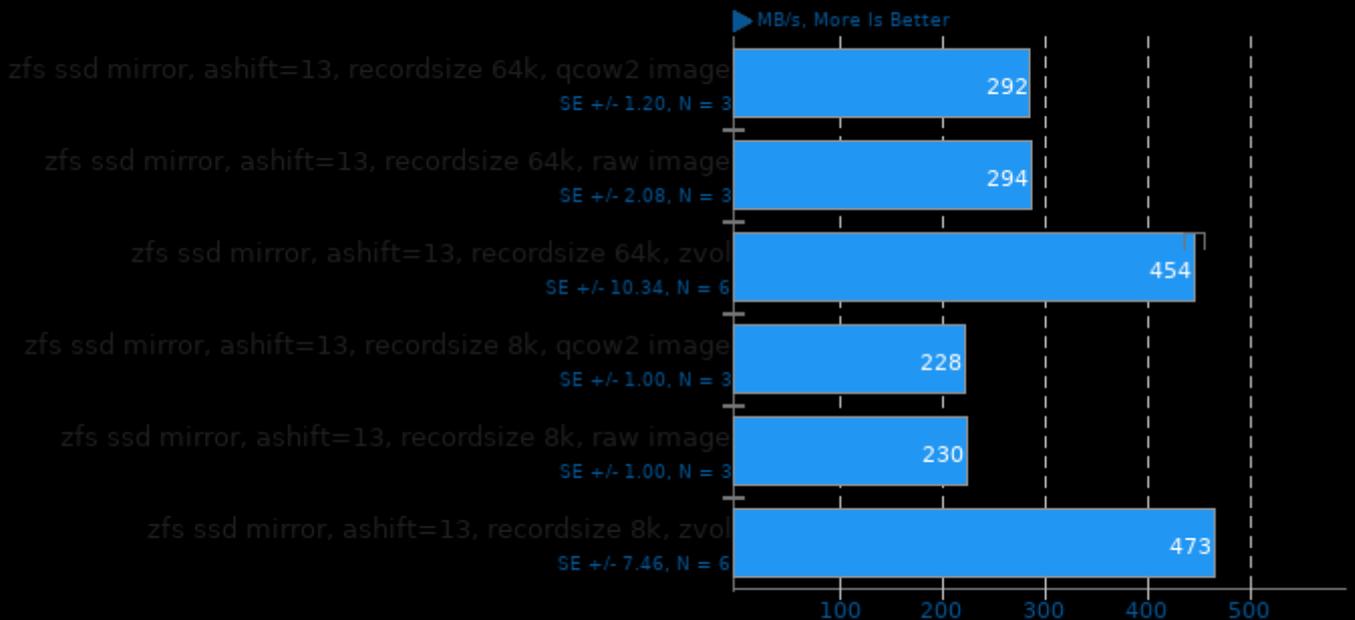
Test: Random Write



1. (CC) gcc options: -pthread -laio

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

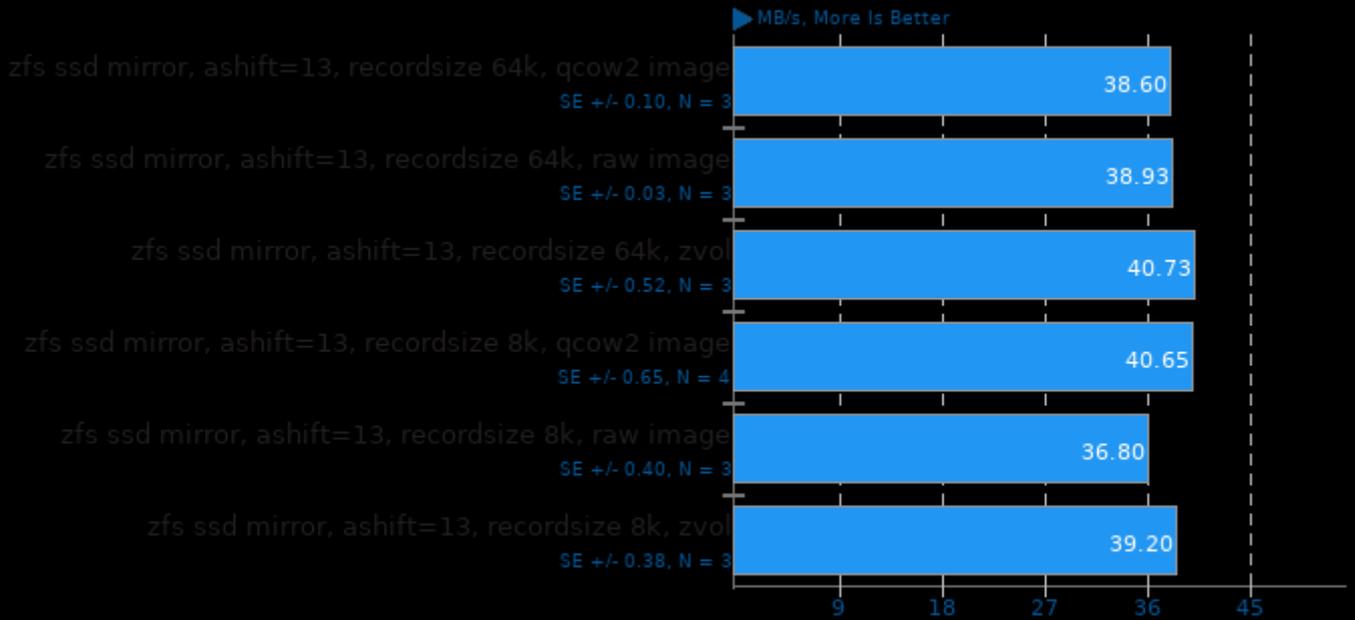
Type: Random Read - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 1MB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -fast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -pthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

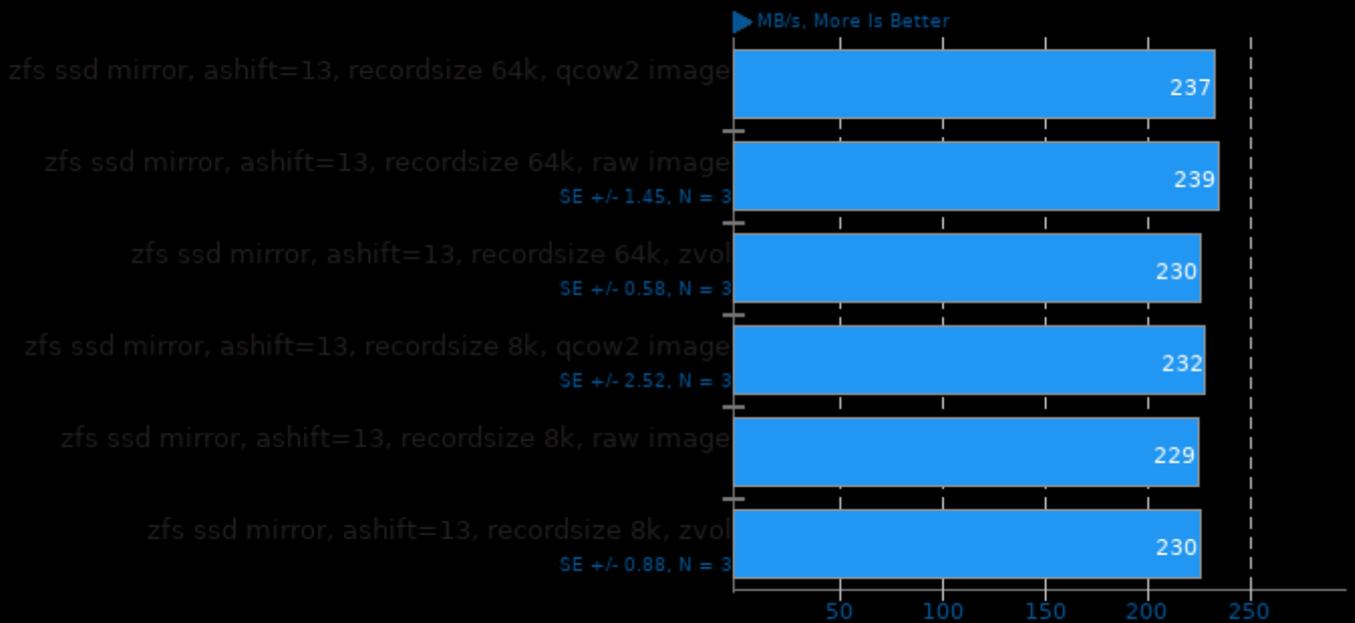
Type: Random Read - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 8KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

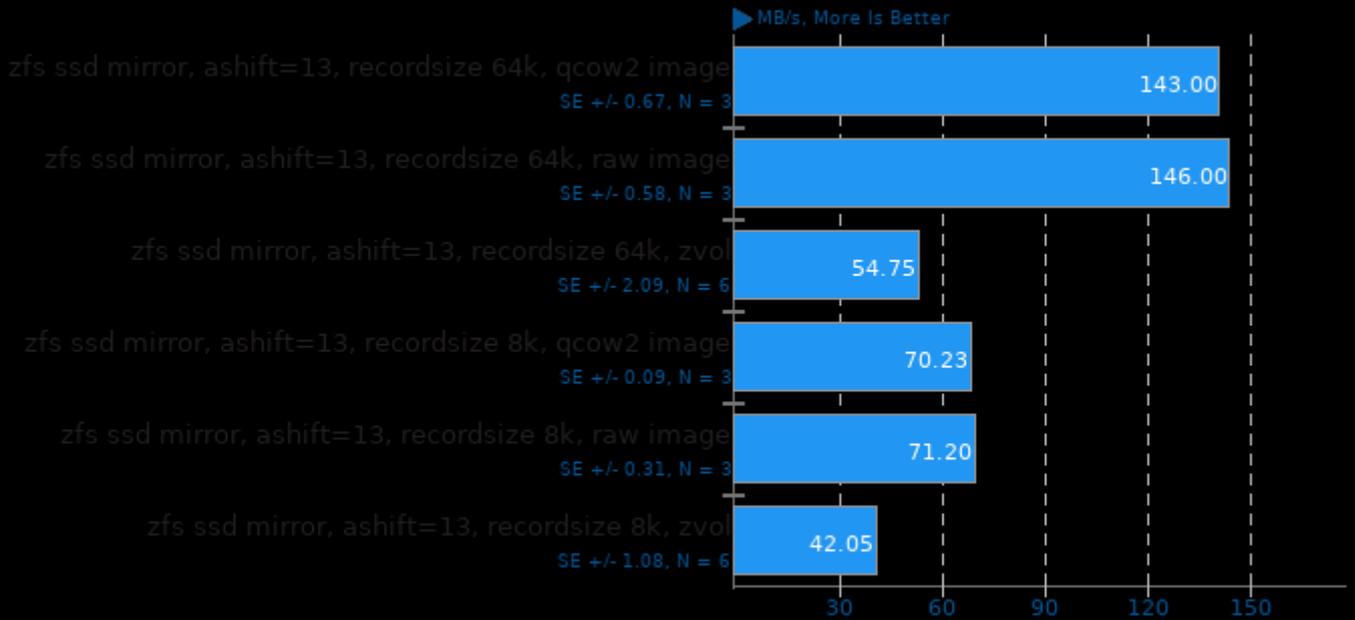
Type: Random Read - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 64KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

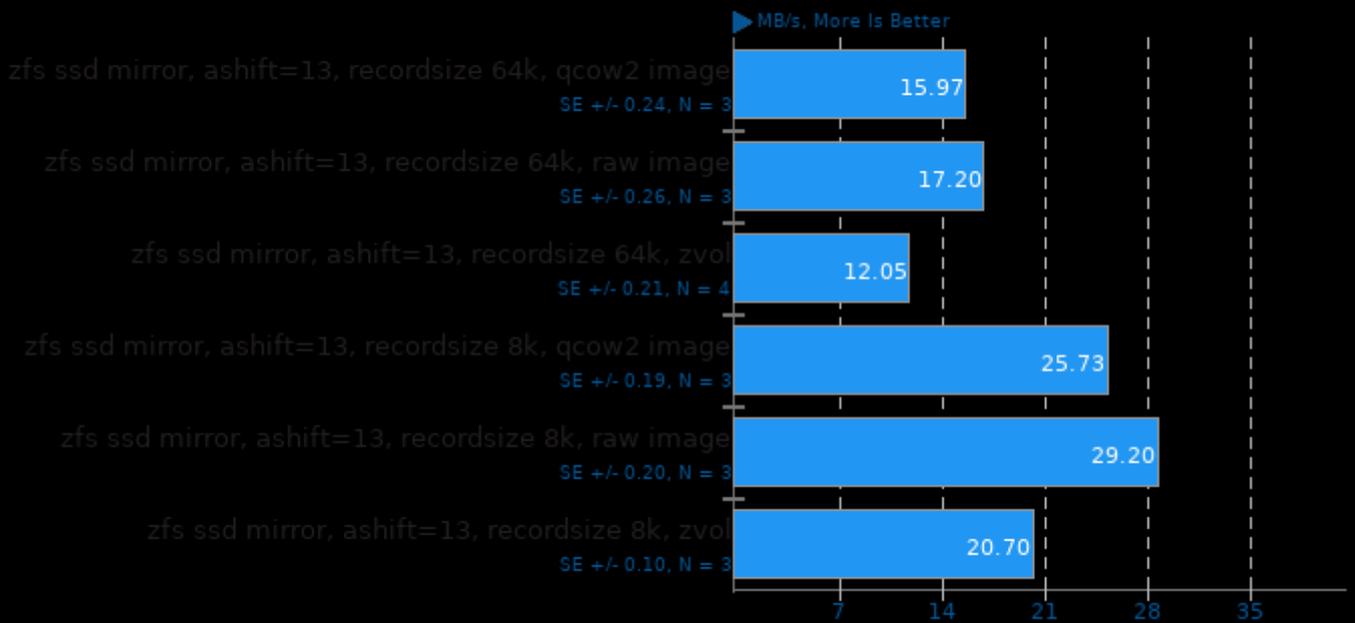
Type: Random Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 1MB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

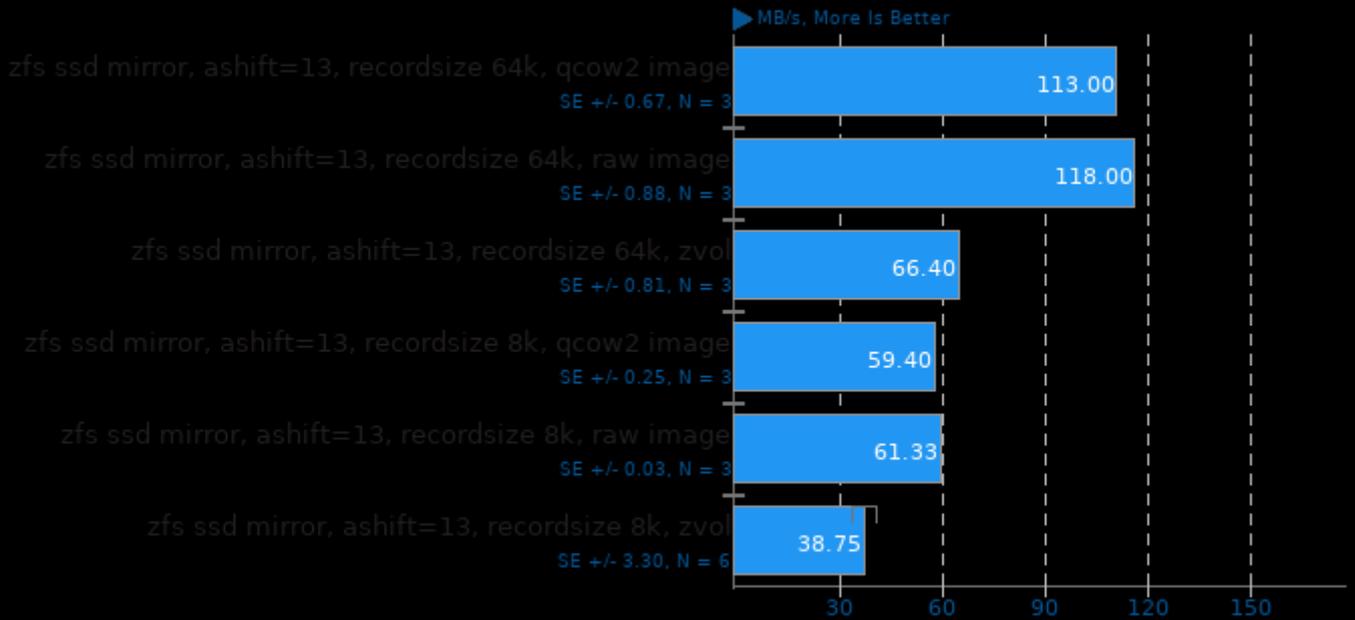
Type: Random Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 8KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

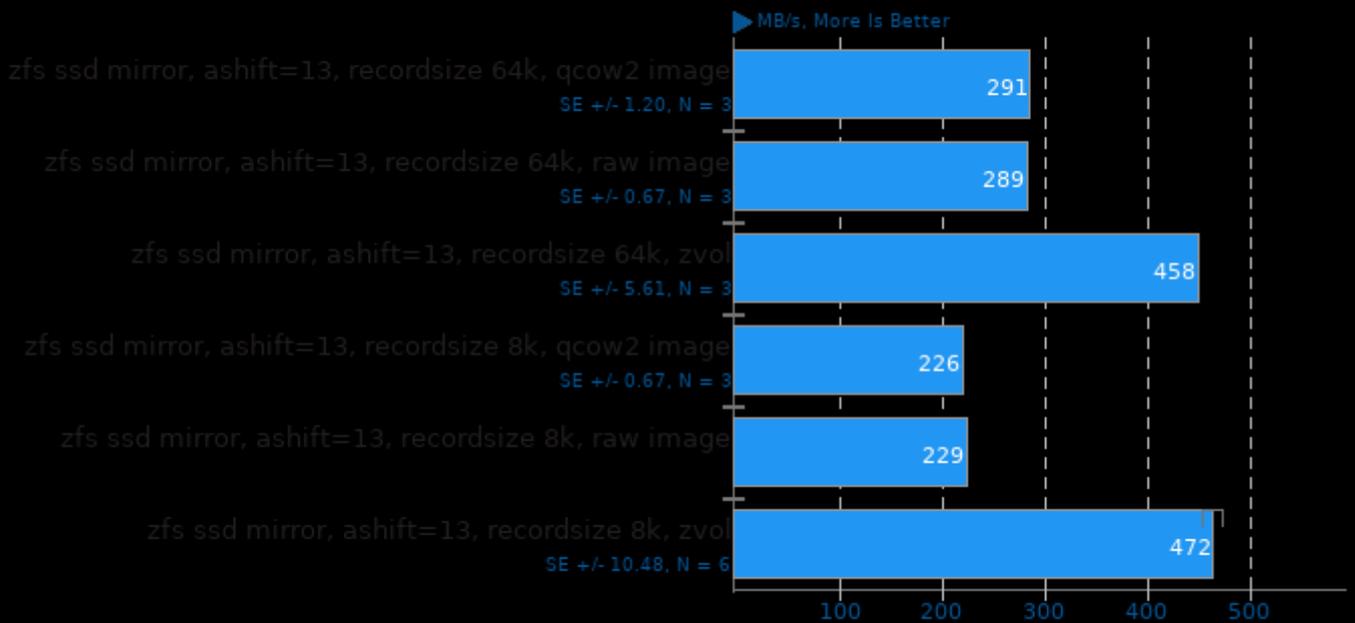
Type: Random Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 64KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

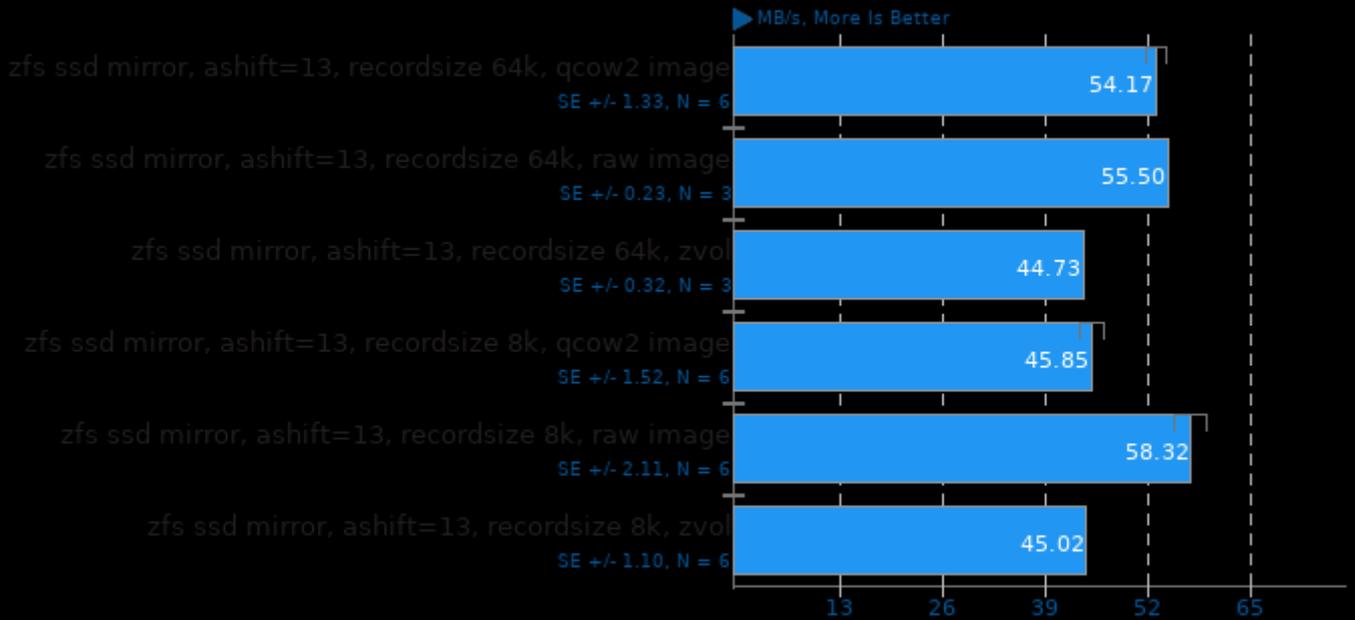
Type: Sequential Read - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 1MB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

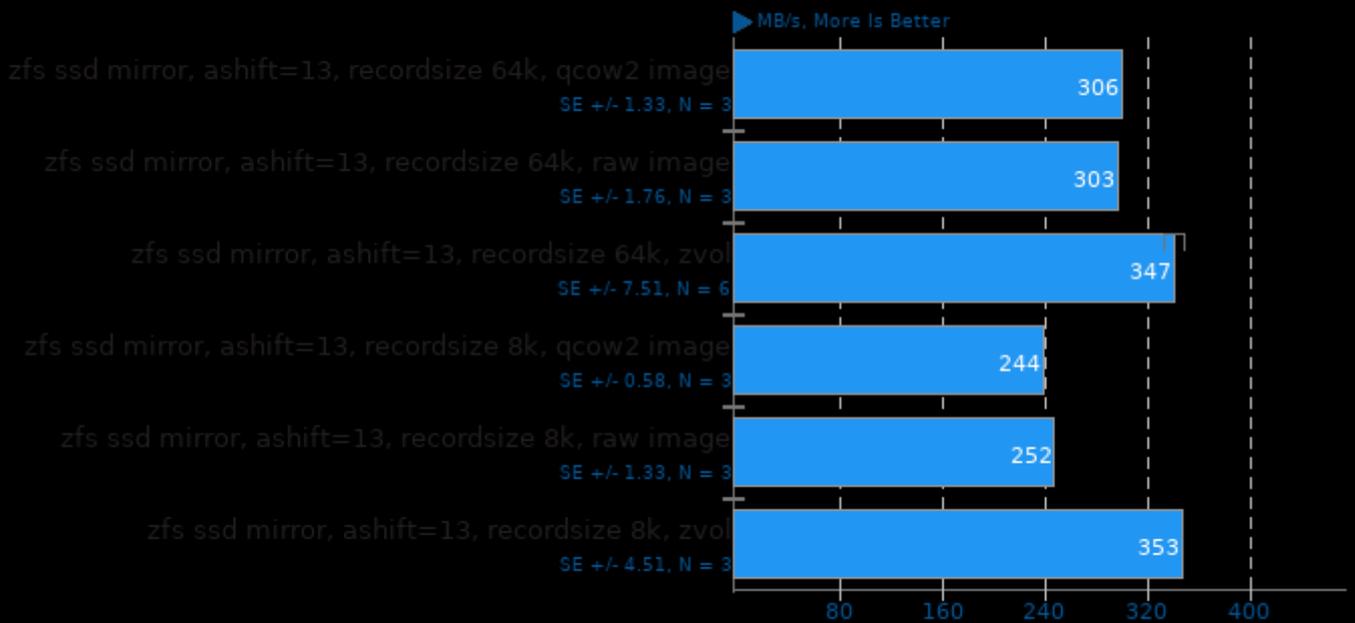
Type: Sequential Read - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 8KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

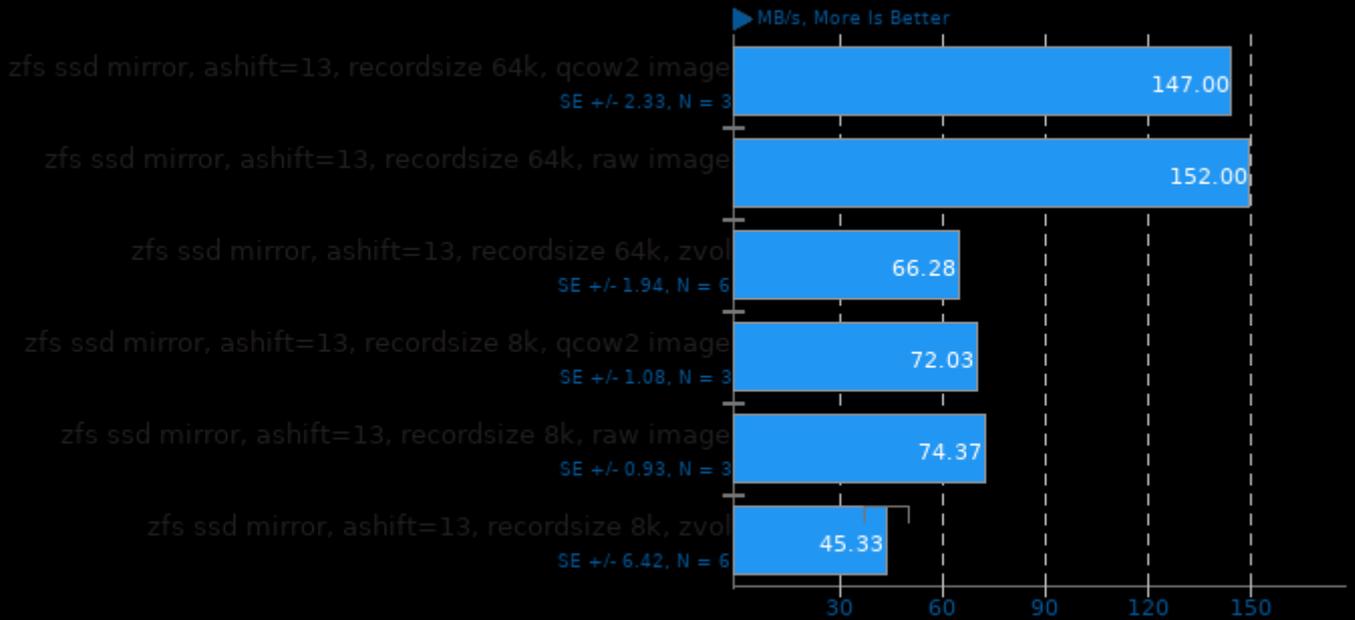
Type: Sequential Read - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 64KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

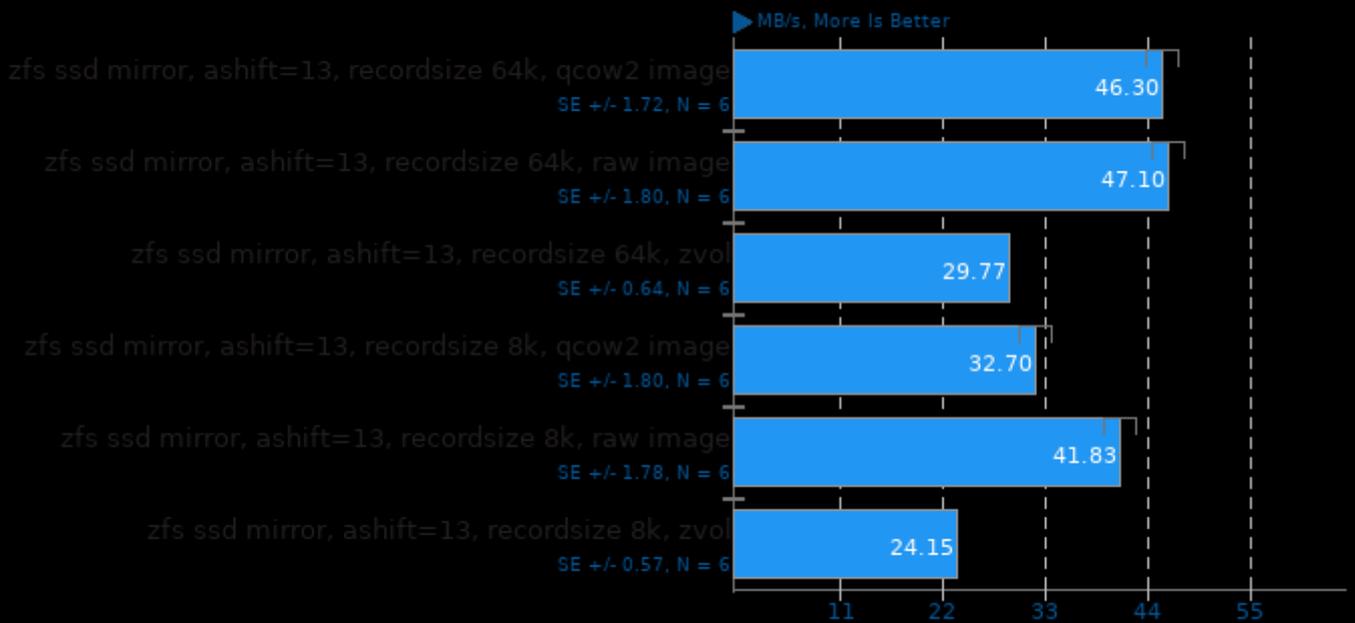
Type: Sequential Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 1MB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

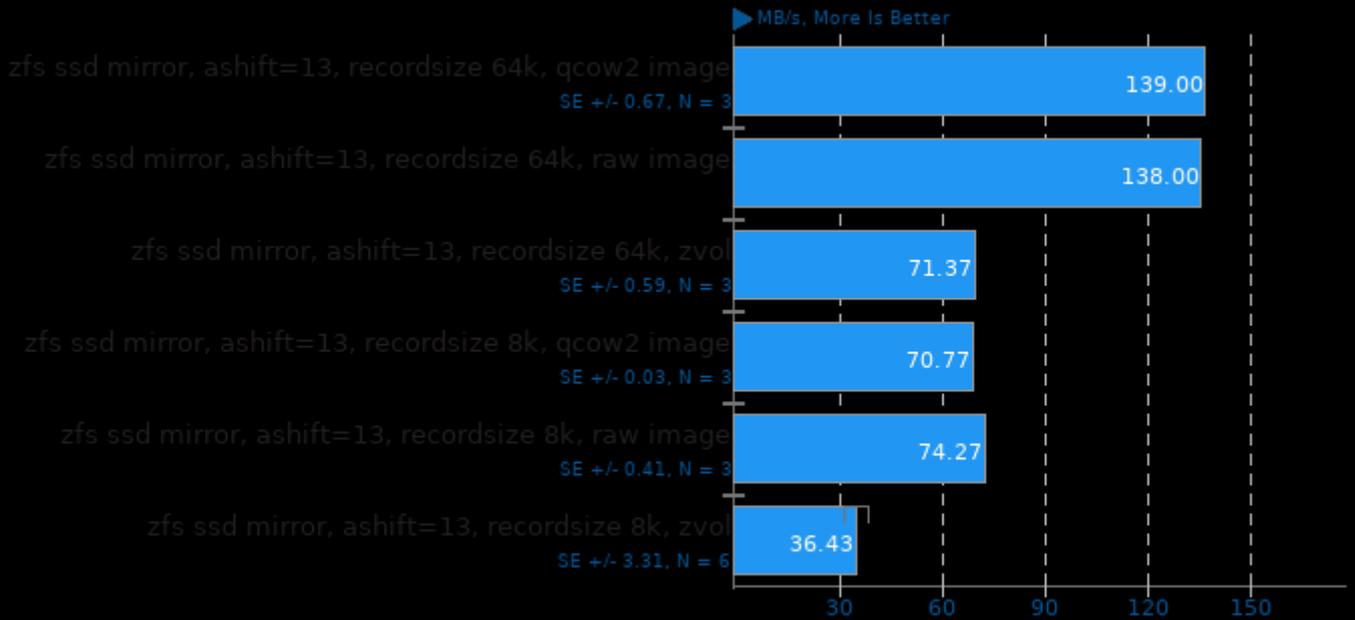
Type: Sequential Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 8KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Flexible IO Tester 3.1

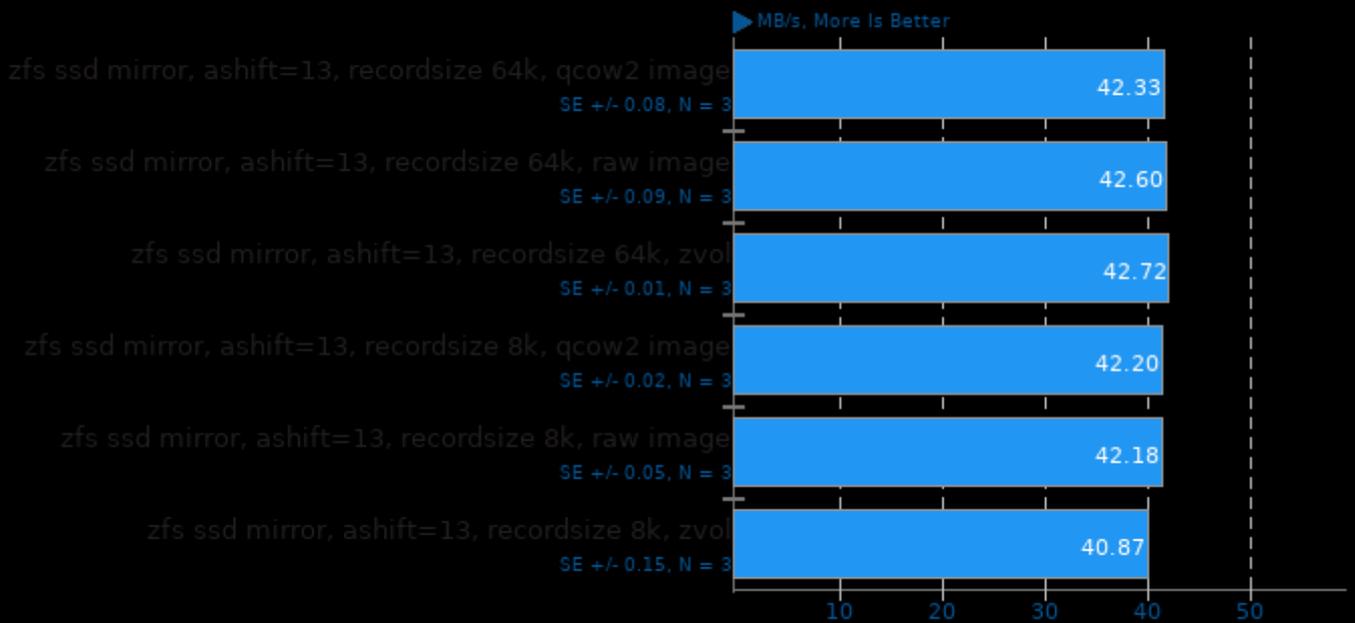
Type: Sequential Write - IO Engine: Linux AIO - Buffered: No - Direct: Yes - Block Size: 64KB - Disk Target: Default Test Directory



1. (CC) gcc options: -rdynamic -std=gnu99 -ffast-math -include -O3 -U\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE -lrt -laio -lm -lpthread -ldl

### Dbench 4.0

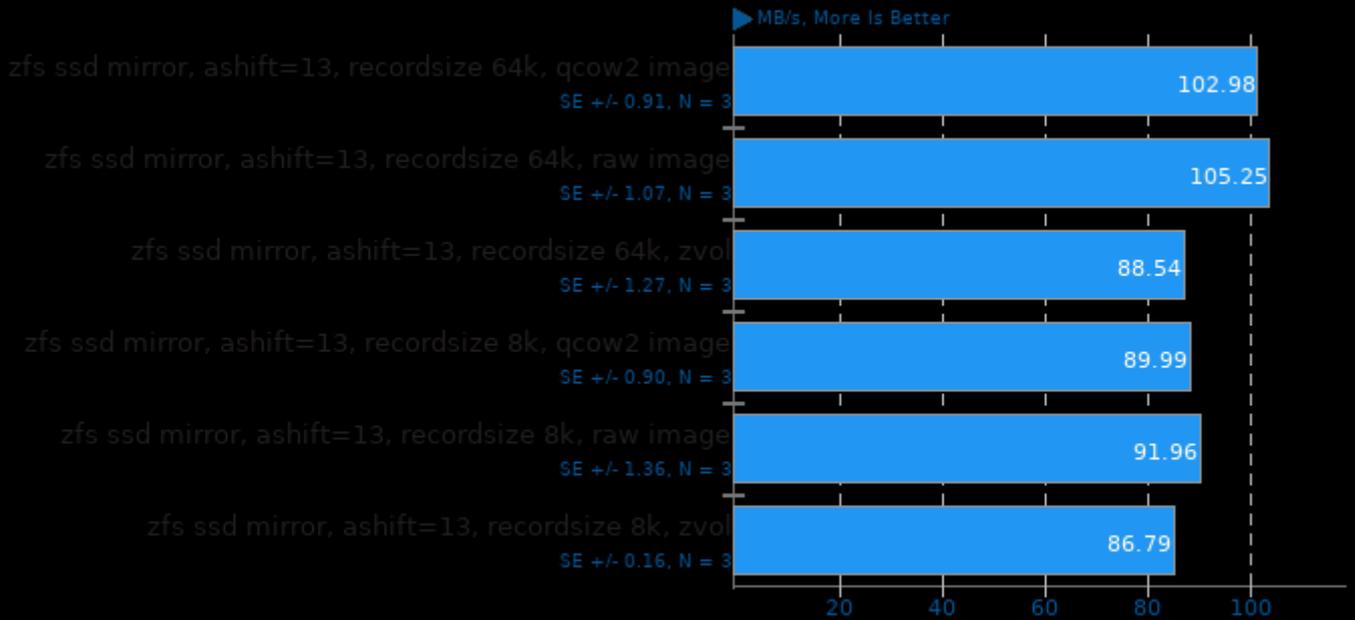
Client Count: 1



1. (CC) gcc options: -fpopt -O2

### Dbench 4.0

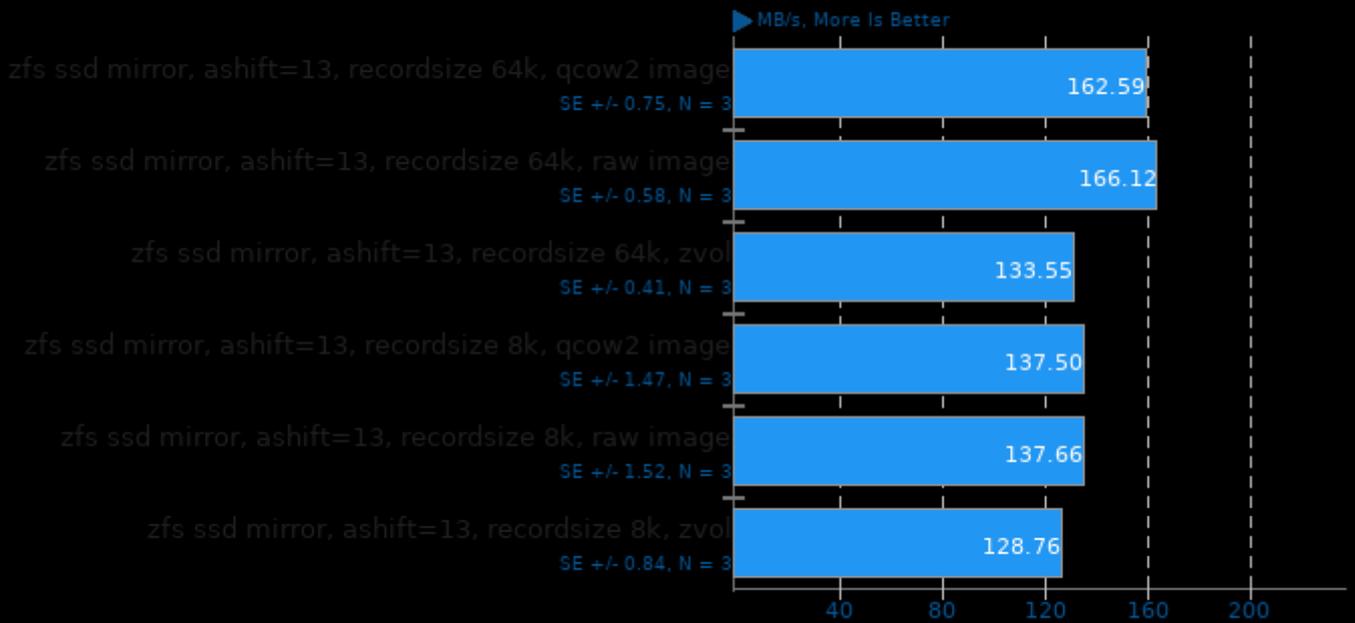
Client Count: 6



1. (CC) gcc options: -fpopt -O2

### Dbench 4.0

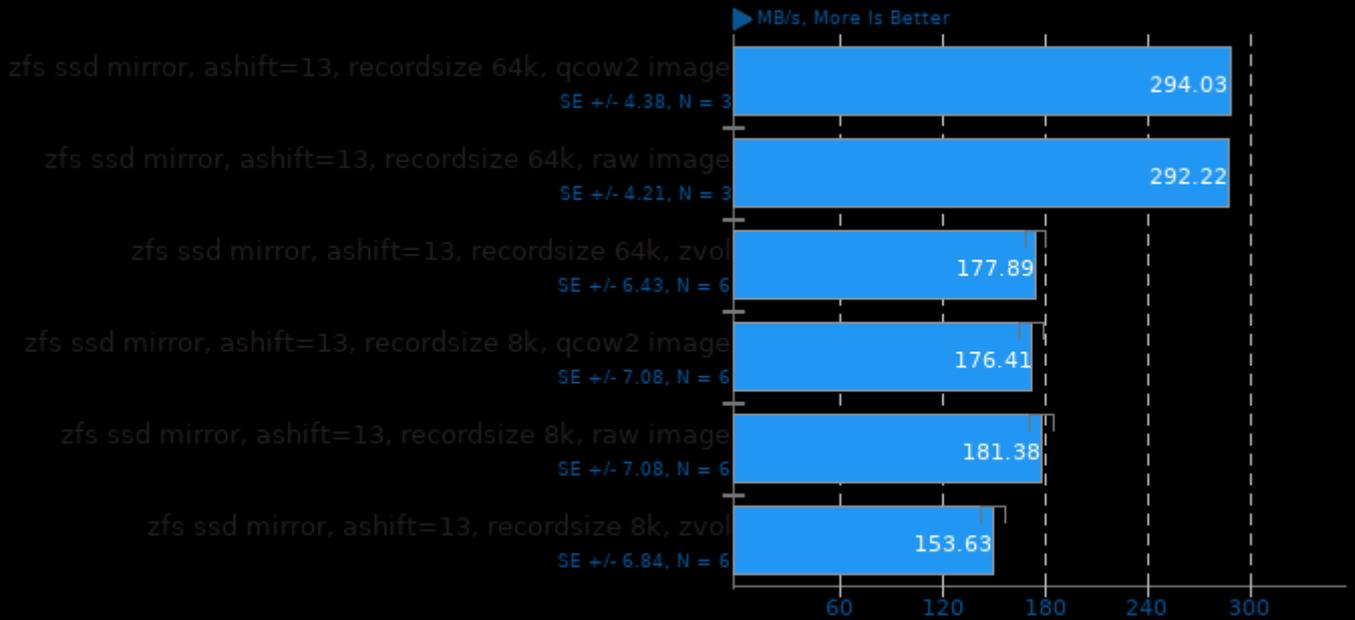
Client Count: 12



1. (CC) gcc options: -fpopt -O2

### Dbench 4.0

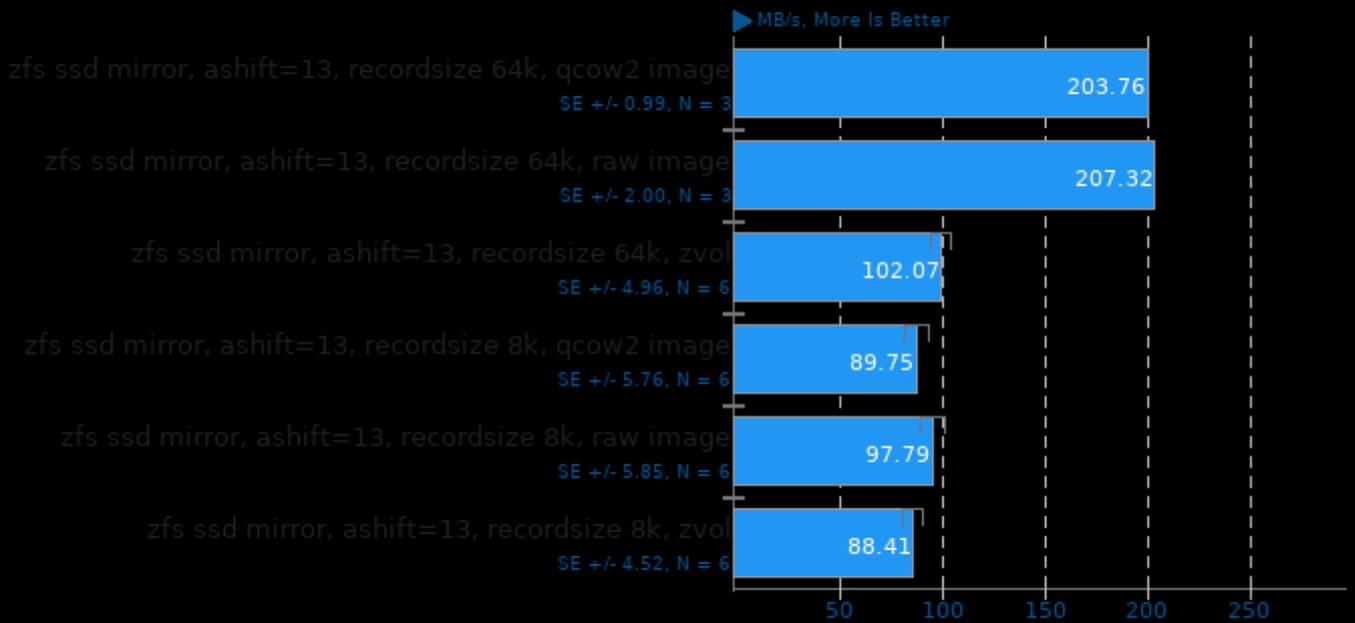
Client Count: 48



1. (CC) gcc options: -fpopt -O2

### Dbench 4.0

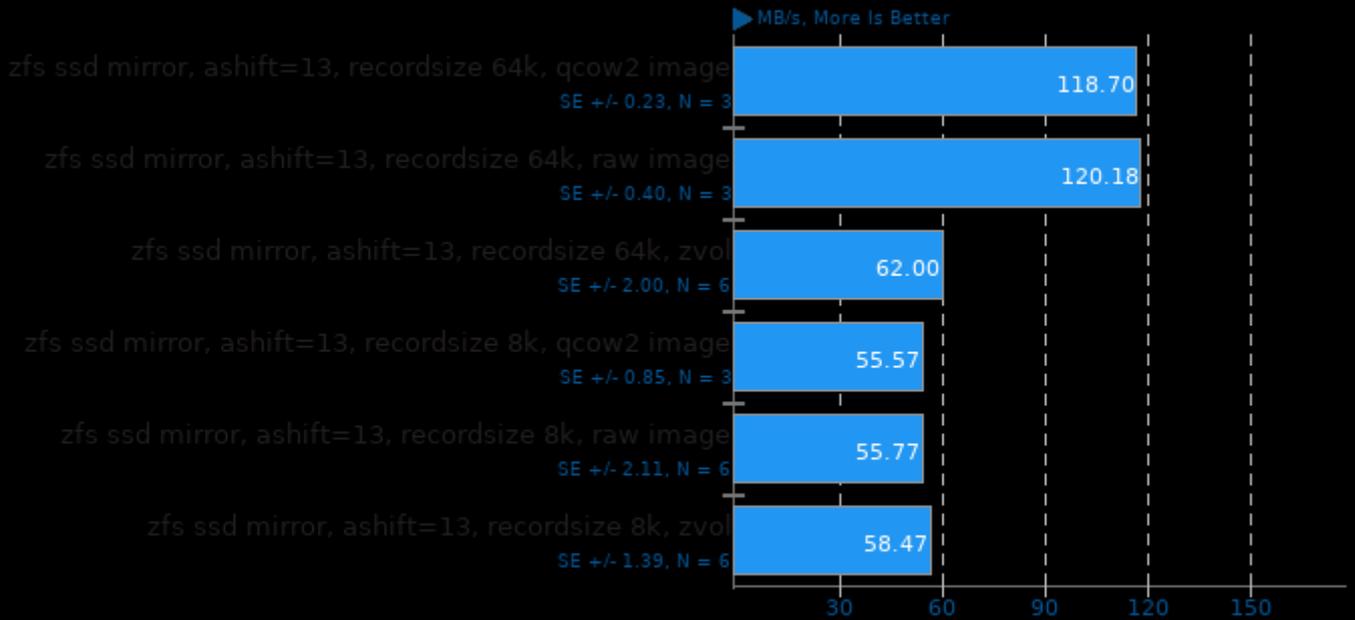
Client Count: 128



1. (CC) gcc options: -fpopt -O2

## Dbench 4.0

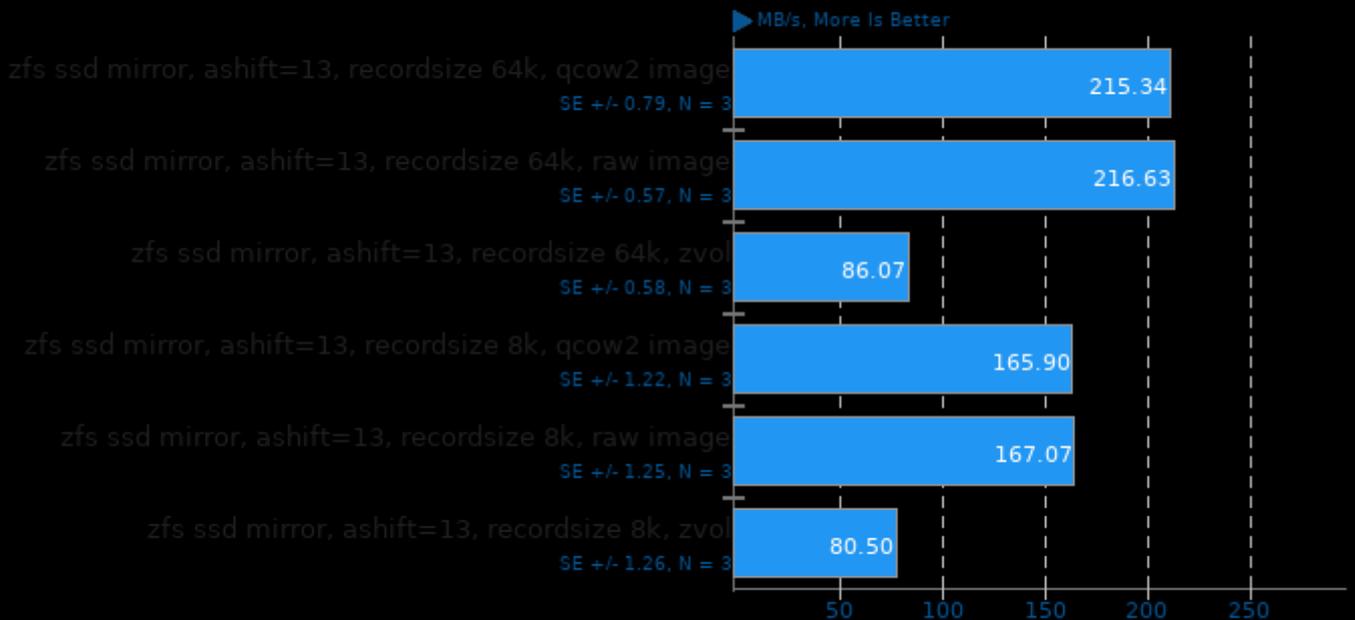
Client Count: 256



1. (CC) gcc options: -fpopt -O2

## IOzone 3.465

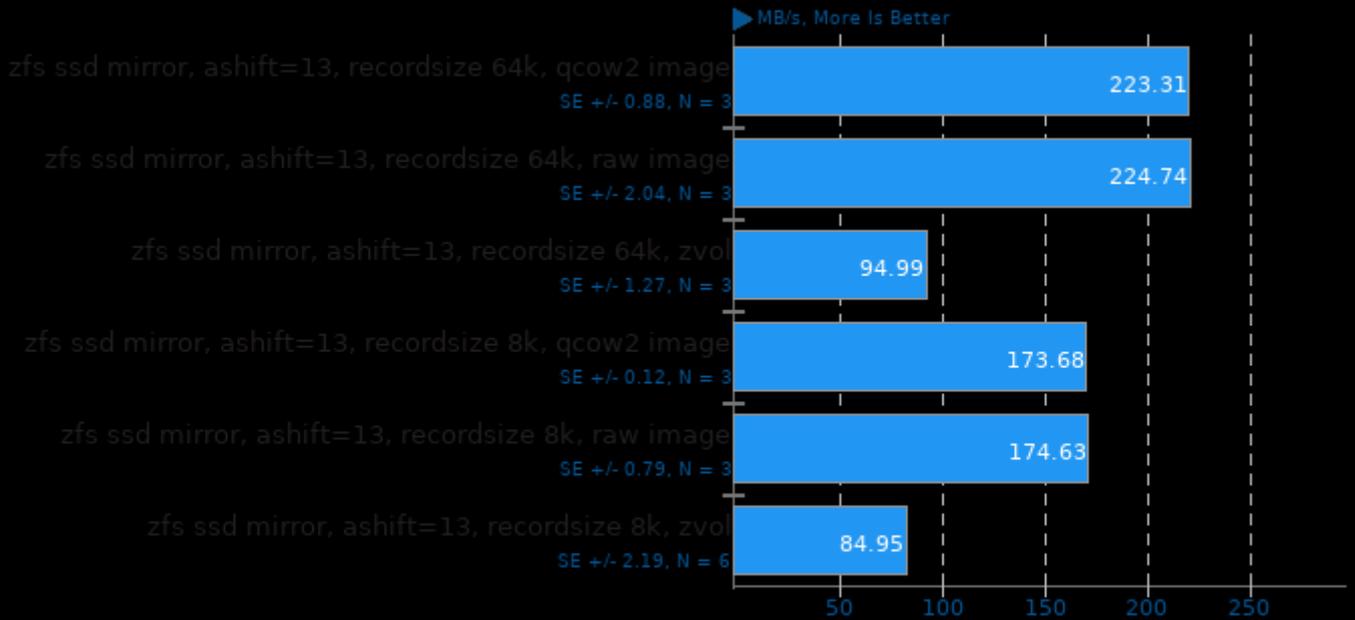
Record Size: 1MB - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Read Performance



1. (CC) gcc options: -O3

### IOzone 3.465

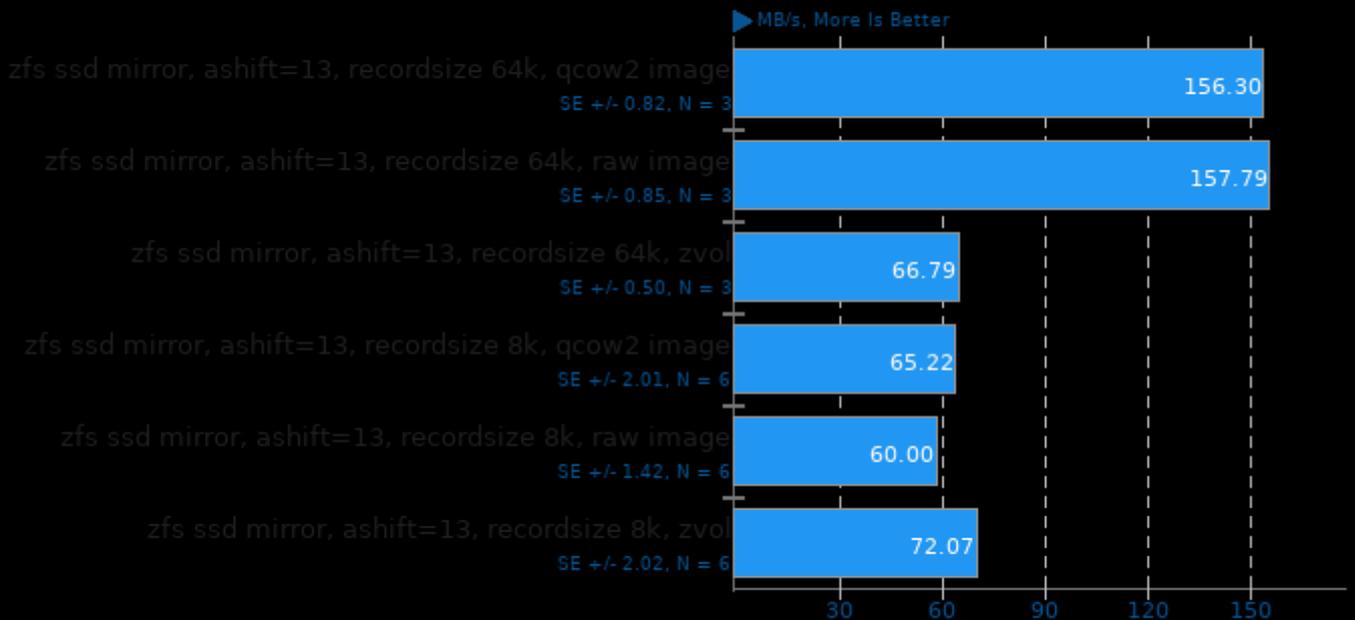
Record Size: 4Kb - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Read Performance



1. (CC) gcc options: -O3

### IOzone 3.465

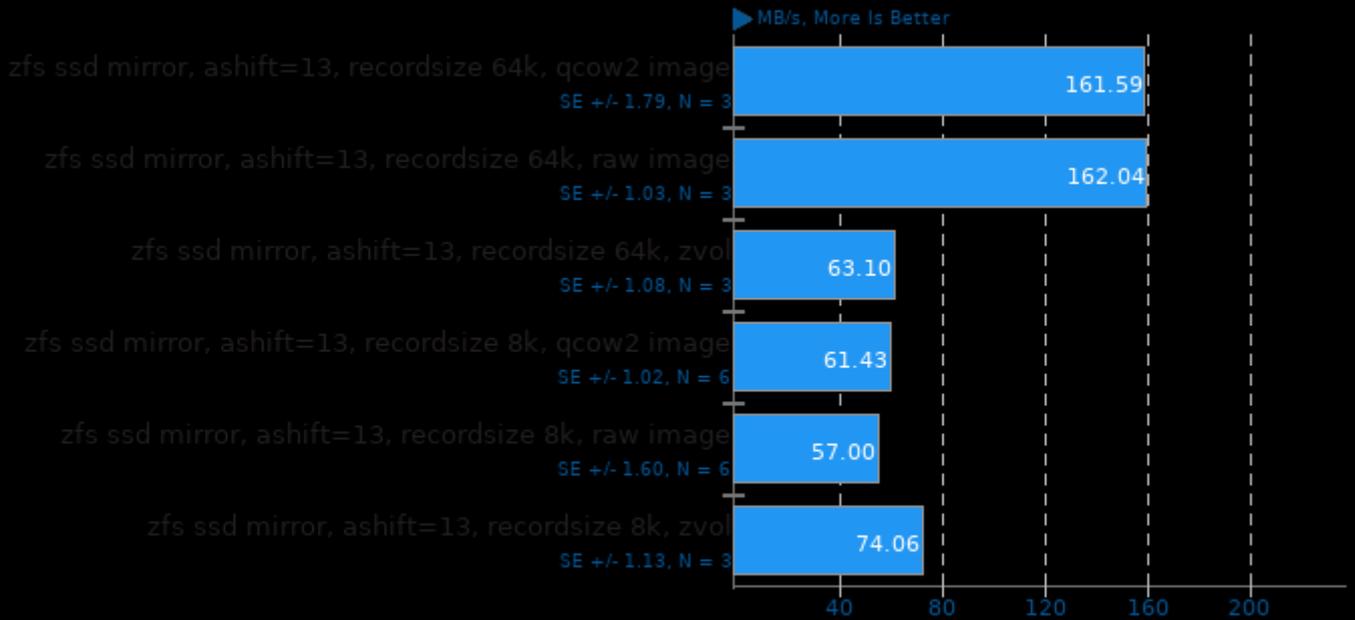
Record Size: 1MB - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Write Performance



1. (CC) gcc options: -O3

### IOzone 3.465

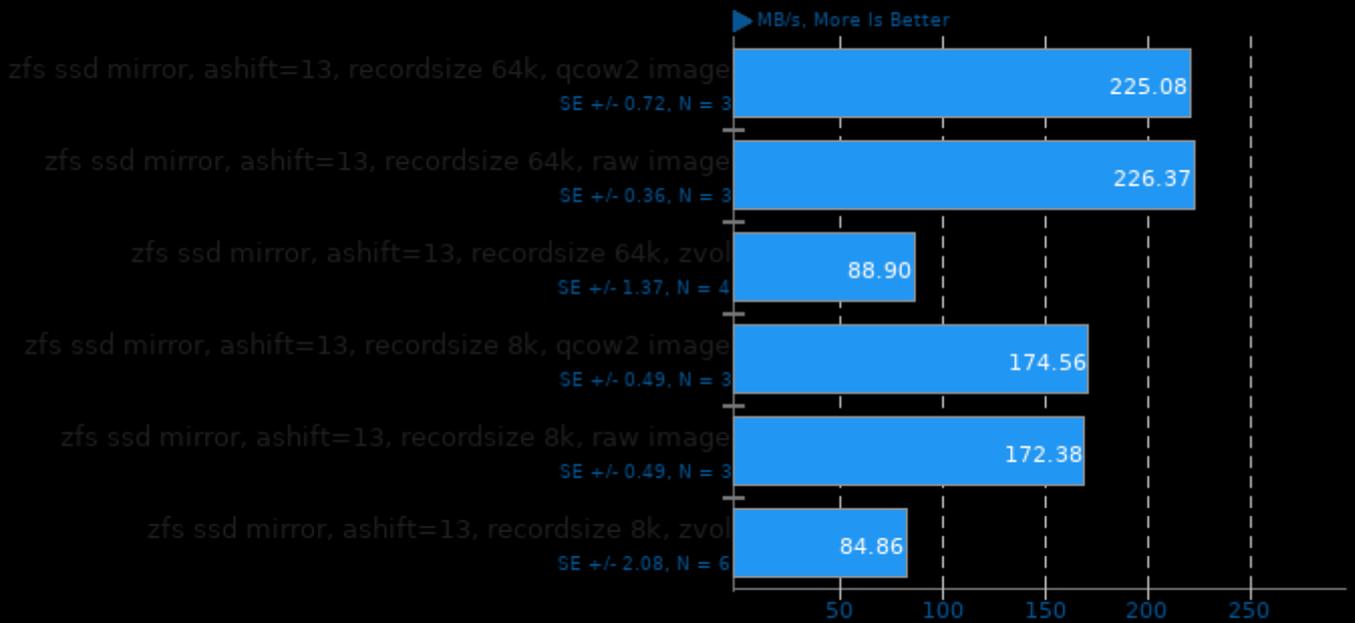
Record Size: 4Kb - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Write Performance



1. (CC) gcc options: -O3

### IOzone 3.465

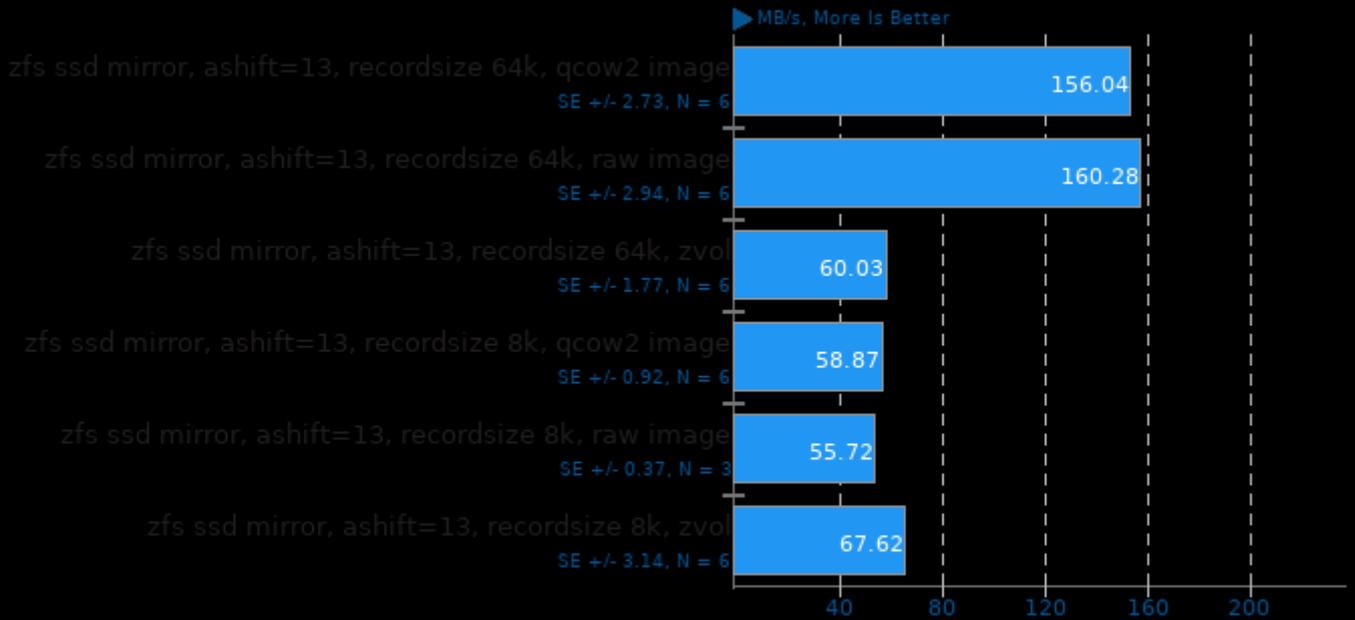
Record Size: 64Kb - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Read Performance



1. (CC) gcc options: -O3

## IOzone 3.465

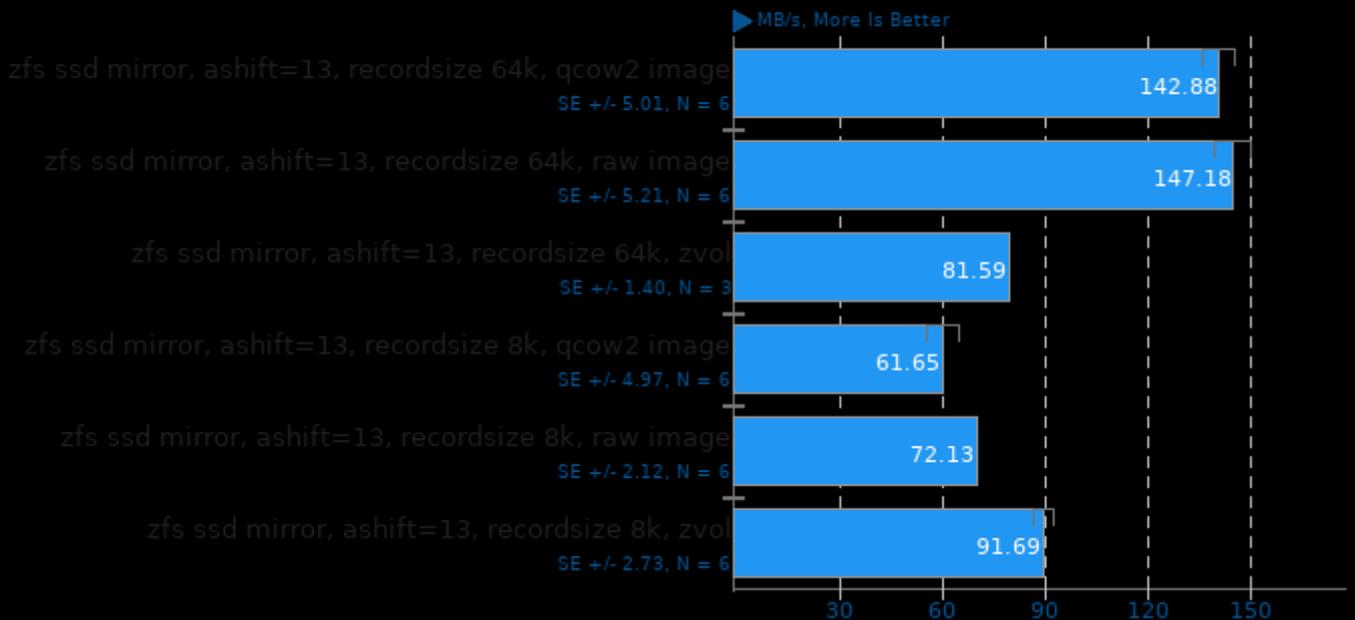
Record Size: 64Kb - File Size: 8GB - Disk Test: Write Performance



1. (CC) gcc options: -O3

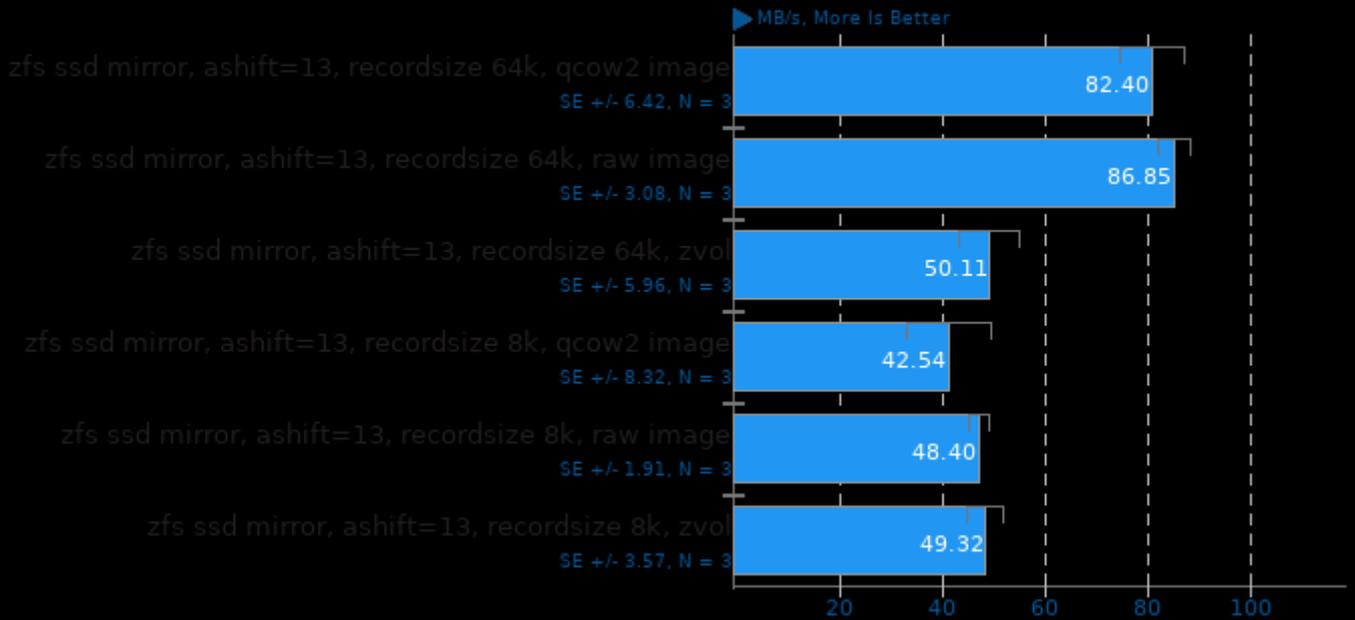
## Compile Bench 0.6

Test: Compile



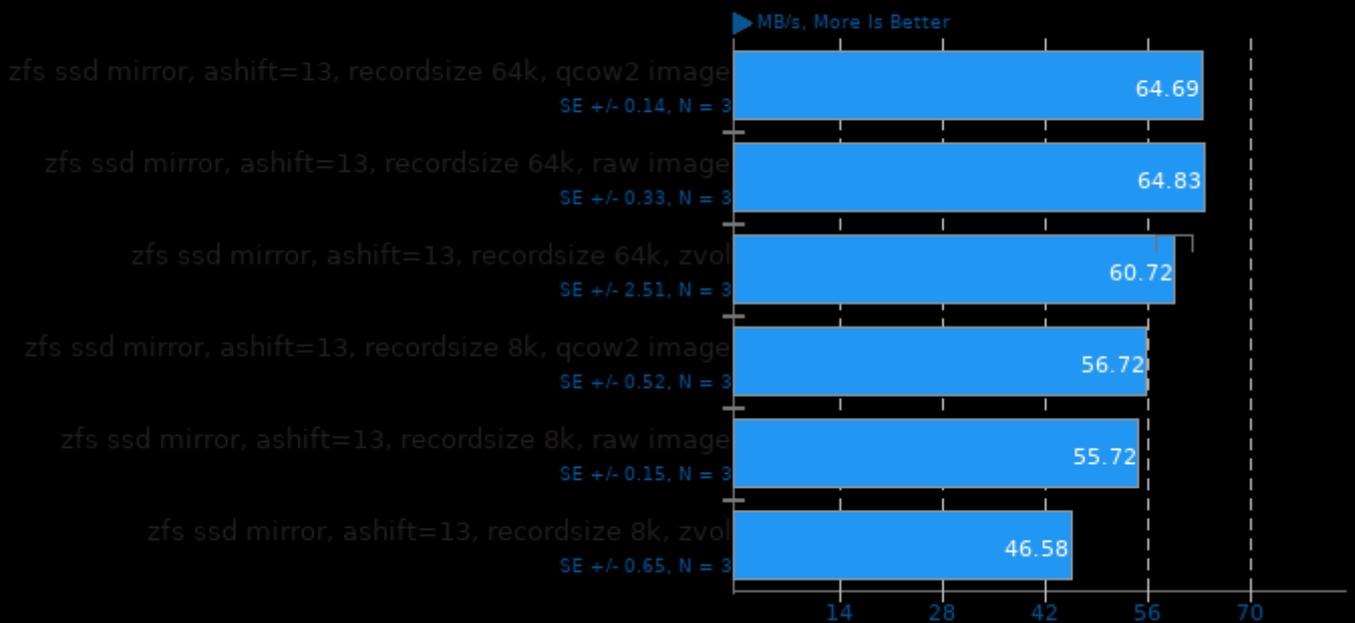
### Compile Bench 0.6

Test: Initial Create

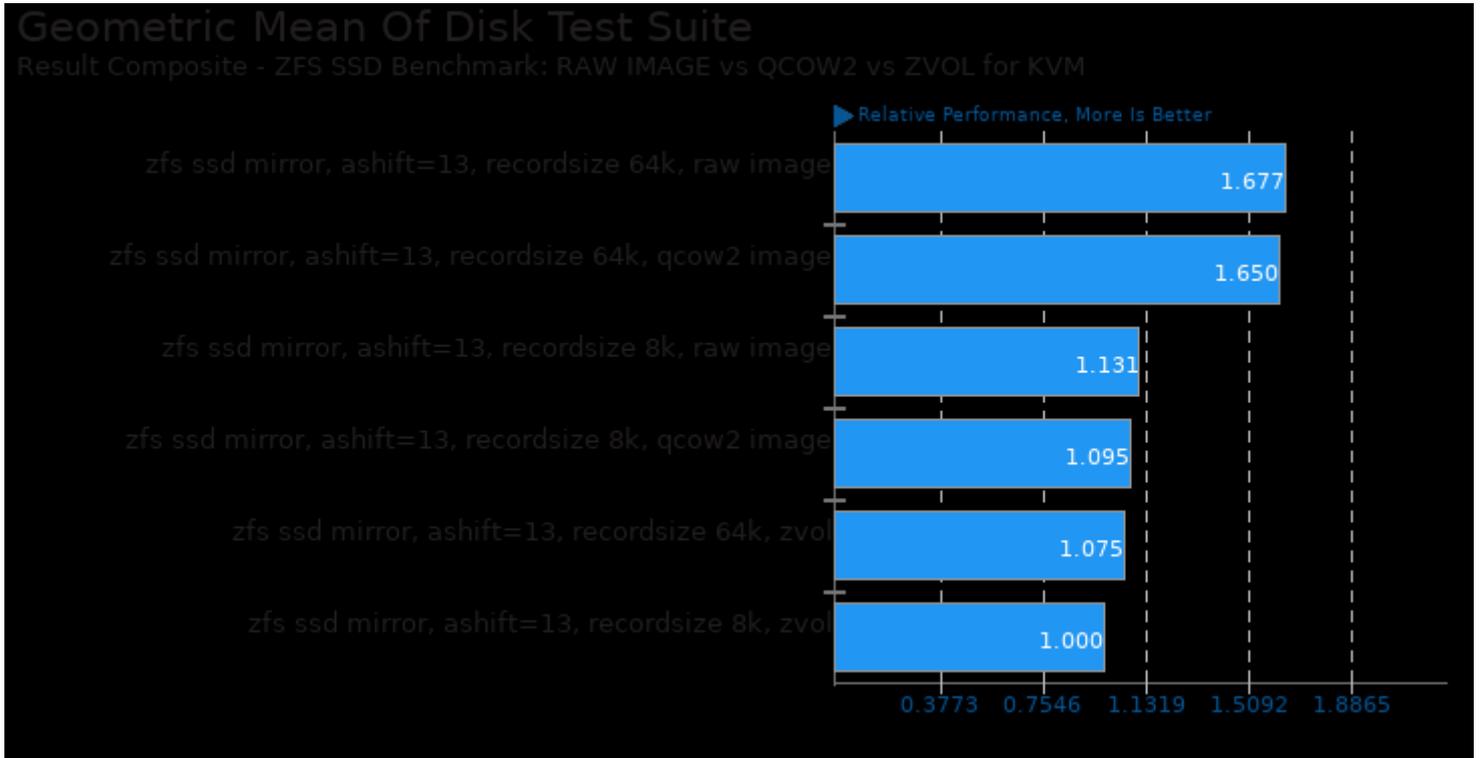


### Compile Bench 0.6

Test: Read Compiled Tree



These geometric means are based upon test groupings / test suites for this result file.



Geometric mean based upon tests: pts/compilebench, pts/iozone, pts/dbench and pts/fio

This file was automatically generated via the Phoronix Test Suite benchmarking software on Thursday, 28 March 2024 21:23.