

Best Practices

SNMP-Based Network Management on Devices Running the Junos OS

Release

11.3



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Best Practices SNMP-Based Network Management on Devices Running the Junos OS

Release 11.3

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Table of Contents

Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS	1
Configuring SNMP on Devices Running the Junos OS	5
Configuring Basic Settings for SNMPv1 and SNMPv2	5
Configuring Basic Settings for SNMPv3	5
Configuring System Name, Location, Description, and Contact Information	7
Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS	9
Checking for MIB Objects Registered with the snmpd	9
Tracking SNMP Activity	10
Monitoring SNMP Statistics	12
Checking CPU Utilization	13
Checking Kernel and Packet Forwarding Engine Response	14
Optimizing the Network Management System Configuration for the Best Results	15
Changing the Polling Method from Column-by-Column to Row-by-Row ...	15
Reducing the Number of Variable Bindings per PDU	15
Increasing Timeout Values in Polling and Discovery Intervals	15
Reducing Incoming Packet Rate at the snmpd	15
Configuring Options on Managed Devices for Better SNMP Response Time	17
Enabling the stats-cache-lifetime Option	17
Filtering Out Duplicate SNMP Requests	17
Excluding Interfaces That Are Slow in Responding to SNMP Queries	18
Managing Traps and Informs	19
Generating Traps Based on SysLog Events	19
Filtering Traps Based on the Trap Category	19
Filtering Traps Based on the Object Identifier	20
Using the Enterprise-Specific Utility MIB to Enhance SNMP Coverage	23

Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS

A typical SNMP implementation includes three components:

- Managed device
- SNMP agent
- Network management system (NMS)

A managed device is any device on a network, also known as a network element, that is managed by the network management system. Routers and switches are common examples of managed devices. The SNMP agent is the SNMP process that resides on the managed device and communicates with the network management system. The NMS is a combination of hardware and software that is used to monitor and administer a network.

The SNMP data is stored in a highly-structured, hierarchical format known as a management information base (MIB). The MIB structure is based on a tree structure, which defines a grouping of objects into related sets. Each object in the MIB is associated with an object identifier (OID), which names the object. The “leaf” in the tree structure is the actual managed object instance, which represents a resource, event, or activity that occurs in your network device.

The SNMP agent exchanges network management information with SNMP manager software running on an NMS, or host. The agent responds to requests for information and actions from the manager. The agent also controls access to the agent's MIB, the collection of objects that can be viewed or changed by the SNMP manager.

The SNMP manager collects information about network connectivity, activity, and events by polling managed devices.

Communication between the agent and the manager occurs in one of the following forms:

- **Get, GetBulk, and GetNext** requests—The manager requests information from the agent. The agent returns the information in a **Get** response message.
- **Set** requests—The manager changes the value of a MIB object controlled by the agent. The agent indicates status in a **Set** response message.
- **Traps** notification—The agent sends traps to notify the manager of significant events that occur on the network device.

The SNMP implementation in the Junos OS contains:

- A master SNMP agent (known as the SNMP process or `snmpd`) that resides on the managed device and is managed by the NMS or host.
- Various subagents that reside on different modules of the Junos OS, such as the Routing Engine, and are managed by the master SNMP agent (`snmpd`).



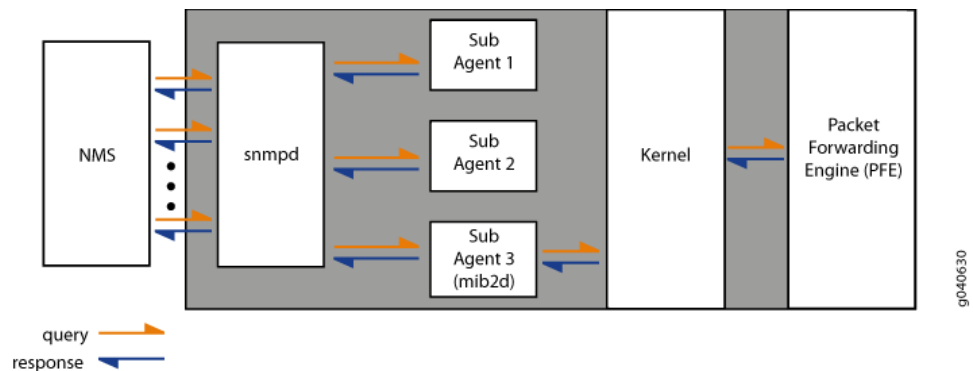
NOTE: By default, SNMP is not enabled on devices running the Junos OS. For information about enabling SNMP on a device running the Junos OS, see [“Configuring SNMP on Devices Running the Junos OS” on page 5](#).

The SNMP implementation in the Junos OS uses both standard (developed by IETF and documented in RFCs) and enterprise-specific (developed and supported by specific vendors) MIBs.

In the Junos OS, the management data is maintained by the `snmpd` at one level (for example, `snmpVacmMIB` and `snmpUsmMIB`), and the subagents at the next level (for example, routing MIBs and RMON MIBs). However, there is another level of data that is maintained neither by the master agent nor by the subagents. In such cases, the data is maintained by Junos OS processes that share the data with the subagents when polled for SNMP data. Interface-related MIBs and Firewall MIBs are good examples of data maintained by Junos OS processes.

When a network management system polls the master agent for data, the master agent immediately shares the data with the network management system if the requested data is available with the master agent or one of the subagents. However, if the requested data does not belong to those categories that are maintained by the master agent or the subagents, the subagent polls the Junos OS kernel or the process that maintains that data. On receiving the required data, the subagent passes the response back to the master agent, which in turn passes it to the NMS.

The following illustration shows the communication flow among the NMS, SNMP process (`snmpd`), SNMP subagents, and Junos OS processes.



When a significant event, most often an error or a failure, occurs on a network device, the SNMP agent sends notifications to the SNMP manager. The SNMP implementation in the Junos OS supports two types of notifications: traps and informs. *Traps* are unconfirmed notifications, whereas *informs* are confirmed notifications. Informs are supported only on devices that support SNMP version 3 (SNMPv3) configuration.

The Junos OS supports trap queuing to ensure that traps are not lost because of temporary unavailability of routes. Two types of queues, *destination queues* and a *throttle queue*, are formed to ensure delivery of traps and to control the trap traffic.

The Junos OS forms a destination queue when a trap to a particular destination is returned because the host is not reachable, and adds the subsequent traps to the same destination to the queue. The Junos OS checks for availability of routes every 30 seconds and sends the traps from the destination queue in a round-robin fashion.

If the trap delivery fails, the trap is added back to the queue, and the delivery attempt counter and the next delivery attempt timer for the queue are reset. Subsequent attempts occur at progressive intervals of 1 minute, 2 minutes, 4 minutes, and 8 minutes. The maximum delay between the attempts is 8 minutes, and the maximum number of attempts is 10. After 10 unsuccessful attempts, the destination queue and all the traps in the queue are deleted.

The Junos OS also has a throttle mechanism to control the number of traps (throttle threshold; default value of 500 traps) sent during a particular time period (throttle interval; default of 5 seconds) and to ensure consistency in trap traffic, especially when large number of traps are generated because of interface status changes. The throttle interval period begins when the first trap arrives at the throttle. All traps within the trap threshold are processed, and the traps beyond the threshold limit are queued.

The maximum size of trap queues—that is, throttle queue and destination queue put together—is 40,000. However, on EX Series Ethernet Switches, the maximum size of trap queue is 1,000. The maximum size of any one queue is 20,000 for devices other than EX Series Switches. On EX Series Switches, the maximum size of one queue is 500. When a trap is added to the throttle queue, or if the throttle queue has exceeded the maximum size, the trap is added back on top of the destination queue, and all subsequent attempts from the destination queue are stopped for a 30-second period, after which the destination queue restarts sending the traps.

**Related
Documentation**

- [Configuring SNMP on Devices Running the Junos OS on page 5](#)
- [Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS on page 9](#)
- [Optimizing the Network Management System Configuration for the Best Results on page 15](#)
- [Configuring Options on Managed Devices for Better SNMP Response Time on page 17](#)
- [Managing Traps and Informs on page 19](#)
- [Using the Enterprise-Specific Utility MIB to Enhance SNMP Coverage on page 23](#)

Configuring SNMP on Devices Running the Junos OS

The following sections contain information about basic SNMP configuration and a few examples of configuring the basic SNMP operations on devices running the Junos OS:

- [Configuring Basic Settings for SNMPv1 and SNMPv2 on page 5](#)
- [Configuring Basic Settings for SNMPv3 on page 5](#)
- [Configuring System Name, Location, Description, and Contact Information on page 7](#)

Configuring Basic Settings for SNMPv1 and SNMPv2

By default, SNMP is not enabled on devices running the Junos OS. To enable SNMP on devices running the Junos OS, include the **community public** statement at the **[edit snmp]** hierarchy level.

Enabling SNMPv1 and SNMPv2 Get and GetNext Operations	<pre>[edit] snmp { community public; }</pre>
---	--

A community that is defined as public grants access to all MIB data to any client.

To enable SNMPv1 and SNMPv2 **Set** operations on the device, you must include the following statements at the **[edit snmp]** hierarchy level:

Enabling SNMPv1 and SNMPv2 Set Operations	<pre>[edit snmp] view all { oid .1; } community private { view all; authorization read-write; }</pre>
---	---

The following example shows the basic minimum configuration for SNMPv1 and SNMPv2 traps on a device:

Configuring SNMPv1 and SNMPv2 Traps	<pre>[edit snmp] trap-group jnpr { targets { 192.168.69.179; } }</pre>
--	--

Configuring Basic Settings for SNMPv3

The following example shows the minimum SNMPv3 configuration for enabling **Get**, **GetNext**, and **Set** operations on a device (note that the configuration has authentication set to **md5** and privacy to **none**):

Enabling SNMPv3 Get, GetNext, and Set Operations	<pre>[edit snmp] v3 { usm { local-engine {</pre>
--	--

```
user jnpruser {
  authentication-md5 {
    authentication-key "$9$guaDiQFnAuOQzevMWx7ikqP"; ## SECRET-DATA
  }
  privacy-none;
}
}
vacm {
  security-to-group {
    security-model usm {
      security-name jnpruser {
        group grpnm;
      }
    }
  }
}
access {
  group grpnm {
    default-context-prefix {
      security-model any {
        security-level authentication {
          read-view all;
          write-view all;
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
}
view all {
  oid .1;
}
```

The following example shows the basic configuration for SNMPv3 informs on a device (the configuration has authentication and privacy set to **none**):

Configuring SNMPv3 Informs

```
[edit snmp]
v3 {
  usm {
    remote-engine 00000063000100a2c0a845b3 {
      user RU2_v3_sha_none {
        authentication-none;
        privacy-none;
      }
    }
  }
  vacm {
    security-to-group {
      security-model usm {
        security-name RU2_v3_sha_none {
          group g1_usm_auth;
        }
      }
    }
  }
  access {
```

```

group g1_usm_auth {
  default-context-prefix {
    security-model usm {
      security-level authentication {
        read-view all;
        write-view all;
        notify-view all;
      }
    }
  }
}

target-address TA2_v3_sha_none {
  address 192.168.69.179;
  tag-list tl1;
  address-mask 255.255.252.0;
  target-parameters TP2_v3_sha_none;
}

target-parameters TP2_v3_sha_none {
  parameters {
    message-processing-model v3;
    security-model usm;
    security-level none;
    security-name RU2_v3_sha_none;
  }
  notify-filter nf1;
}

notify N1_all_tl1_informs {
  type inform; # Replace inform with trap to convert informs to traps.
  tag tl1;
}

notify-filter nf1 {
  oid .1 include;
}

view all {
  oid .1 include;
}

```

You can convert the SNMPv3 informs to traps by setting the value of the **type** statement at the `[edit snmp v3 notify N1_all_tl1_informs]` hierarchy level to **trap** as shown in the following example:

Converting Informs to Traps

```
user@host# set snmp v3 notify N1_all_tl1_informs type trap
```

Configuring System Name, Location, Description, and Contact Information

The Junos OS enables you to include the name and location of the system, administrative contact information, and a brief description of the system in the SNMP configuration.



NOTE: Always keep the name, location, contact, and description information configured and updated for all your devices that are managed by SNMP.

The following example shows a typical configuration.



TIP: Use quotation marks to enclose the system name, contact, location, and description information that contain spaces.

```
[edit]
snmp {
  name "snmp 001"; # Overrides the system name.
  contact "Juniper Berry, (650) 555 1234"; # Specifies the name and phone number of
    the administrator.
  location "row 11, rack C"; # Specifies the location of the device.
  description "M40 router with 8 FPCs" # Configures a description for the device.
}
```

**Related
Documentation**

- [Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS on page 1](#)
- [Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS on page 9](#)
- [Optimizing the Network Management System Configuration for the Best Results on page 15](#)
- [Configuring Options on Managed Devices for Better SNMP Response Time on page 17](#)
- [Managing Traps and Informs on page 19](#)
- [Using the Enterprise-Specific Utility MIB to Enhance SNMP Coverage on page 23](#)

Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS

The following sections contain information about monitoring the SNMP activity on devices running the Junos OS and identifying problems that might impact the SNMP performance on devices running the Junos OS:

- [Checking for MIB Objects Registered with the snmpd on page 9](#)
- [Tracking SNMP Activity on page 10](#)
- [Monitoring SNMP Statistics on page 12](#)
- [Checking CPU Utilization on page 13](#)
- [Checking Kernel and Packet Forwarding Engine Response on page 14](#)

Checking for MIB Objects Registered with the snmpd

For the SNMP process to be able to access data related to a MIB object, the MIB object must be registered with the snmpd. When an SNMP subagent comes online, it tries to register the associated MIB objects with the snmpd. The snmpd maintains a mapping of the objects and the subagents with which the objects are associated. However, the registration attempt fails occasionally, and the objects remain unregistered with the snmpd until the next time the subagent restarts and successfully registers the objects.

When a network management system polls for data related to objects that are not registered with the snmpd, the snmpd returns either a **noSuchName** error (for SNMPv1 objects) or a **noSuchObject** error (for SNMPv2 objects).

You can use the following commands to check for MIB objects that are registered with the snmpd:

- **show snmp registered-objects**—Creates a `/var/log/snmp_reg_objs` file that contains the list of registered objects and their mapping to various subagents.
- **file show /var/log/snmp_reg_objs**—Displays the contents of the `/var/log/snmp_reg_objs` file.

The following example shows the steps for creating and displaying the `/var/log/snmp_reg_objs` file:

```
user@host> show snmp registered-objects
user@host> file show /var/log/snmp_reg_objs
-----
Registered MIB Objects
root_name =
-----
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.2 (dot3adAggMACAddress) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.3 (dot3adAggActorSystemPriority) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.4 (dot3adAggActorSystemID) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.5 (dot3adAggAggregateOrIndividual)
(/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.6 (dot3adAggActorAdminKey) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.7 (dot3adAggActorOperKey) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.8 (dot3adAggPartnerSystemID) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.9 (dot3adAggPartnerSystemPriority)
```

```
(/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.10 (dot3adAggPartnerOperKey) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.1.1.11 (dot3adAggCollectorMaxDelay) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.1.2.1.1 (dot3adAggPortListPorts) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.2 (dot3adAggPortActorSystemPriority)
(/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.3 (dot3adAggPortActorSystemID) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.4 (dot3adAggPortActorAdminKey) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.5 (dot3adAggPortActorOperKey) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.6 (dot3adAggPortPartnerAdminSystemPriority)
(/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.7 (dot3adAggPortPartnerOperSystemPriority)
(/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.8 (dot3adAggPortPartnerAdminSystemID)
(/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.9 (dot3adAggPortPartnerOperSystemID)
(/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.10 (dot3adAggPortPartnerAdminKey) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.11 (dot3adAggPortPartnerOperKey) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
.1.2.840.10006.300.43.1.2.1.1.12 (dot3adAggPortSelectedAggID) (/var/run/mib2d-11)
---(more)---
```



NOTE: The `/var/log/snmp_reg_objs` file contains only those objects that are associated with Junos OS processes that are up and running and registered with the `snmpd`, at the time of executing the `show snmp registered-objects` command. If a MIB object related to a Junos OS process that is up and running is not shown in the list of registered objects, you might want to restart the software process to retry object registration with the `snmpd`.

Tracking SNMP Activity

SNMP tracing operations track activity of SNMP agents and record the information in log files. The logged event descriptions provide detailed information to help you solve problems faster. By default, the Junos OS does not trace any SNMP activity. To enable tracking of SNMP activities on a device running the Junos OS, include the **traceoptions** statement at the **[edit snmp]** hierarchy level.

A sample **traceoptions** configuration might look like:

```
[edit snmp]
set traceoptions flag all;
```

When the **traceoptions flag all** statement is included at the **[edit snmp]** hierarchy level, the following log files are created:

- `snmpd`
- `mib2d`
- `rmopd`

You can use the **show log log-filename** operational mode command to view the contents of the log file. In the `snmpd` log file (see the following example), a sequence of `>>>` represents an incoming packet, whereas a sequence of `<<<` represents an outgoing

A careful analysis of the request-response time can help you identify and understand delayed responses.

```
user@host> show log snmpd
```

11

[illegible]

Monitoring SNMP Statistics

The **show snmp statistics extensive** operational mode command provides you with an option to review SNMP traffic, including traps, on a device. Output for the **show snmp statistics extensive** command shows real-time values and can be used to monitor values such as throttle drops, currently active, max active, not found, time out, max latency, current queued, total queued, and overflows. You can identify slowness in SNMP responses by monitoring the currently active count, because a constant increase in the currently active count is directly linked to slow or no response to SNMP requests.

Sample Output for the show snmp statistics extensive Command

```
user@host> show snmp statistics extensive
SNMP statistics:
  Input:
    Packets: 226656, Bad versions: 0, Bad community names: 0,
    Bad community uses: 0, ASN parse errors: 0,
    Too big: 0, No such names: 0, Bad values: 0,
    Read only: 0, General errors: 0,
    Total request varbinds: 1967606, Total set varbinds: 0,
    Get requests: 18478, Get nexts: 75794, Set requests: 0,
    Get responses: 0, Traps: 0,
    Silent drops: 0, Proxy drops: 0, Commit pending drops: 0,
    Throttle drops: 27084, Duplicate request drops: 0
V3 Input:
  Unknown security models: 0, Invalid messages: 0
  Unknown pdu handlers: 0, Unavailable contexts: 0
  Unknown contexts: 0, Unsupported security levels: 0
  Not in time windows: 0, Unknown user names: 0
  Unknown engine ids: 0, Wrong digests: 0, Decryption errors: 0
Output:
  Packets: 226537, Too big: 0, No such names: 0,
  Bad values: 0, General errors: 0,
  Get requests: 0, Get nexts: 0, Set requests: 0,
  Get responses: 226155, Traps: 382
```

```

SA Control Blocks:
  Total: 222984, Currently Active: 501, Max Active: 501,
  Not found: 0, Timed Out: 0, Max Latency: 25
SA Registration:
  Registers: 0, Deregisters: 0, Removes: 0
Trap Queue Stats:
  Current queued: 0, Total queued: 0, Discards: 0, Overflows: 0
Trap Throttle Stats:
  Current throttled: 0, Throttles needed: 0
Snmp Set Stats:
  Commit pending failures: 0, Config lock failures: 0
  Rpc failures: 0, Journal write failures: 0
  Mgd connect failures: 0, General commit failures: 0

```

Checking CPU Utilization

High CPU usage of the software processes that are being queried, such as `snmpd` or `mib2d`, is another factor that can lead to slow response or no response. You can use the **`show system processes extensive`** operational mode command to check the CPU usage levels of the Junos OS processes.

**Sample Output of
show system
processes extensive
Command**

```

user@host> show system processes extensive
last pid: 1415; load averages: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00 up 0+02:20:54 10:26:25
117 processes: 2 running, 98 sleeping, 17 waiting

Mem: 180M Active, 54M Inact, 39M Wired, 195M Cache, 69M Buf, 272M Free
Swap: 1536M Total, 1536M Free

```

PID	USERNAME	THR	PRI	NICE	SIZE	RES	STATE	TIME	WCPU	COMMAND
11	root	1	171	52	OK	12K	RUN	132:09	95.21%	idle
1184	root	1	97	0	35580K	9324K	select	4:16	1.61%	chassisd
177	root	1	-8	0	OK	12K	mdwait	0:51	0.00%	md7
119	root	1	-8	0	OK	12K	mdwait	0:20	0.00%	md4
13	root	1	-20	-139	OK	12K	WAIT	0:16	0.00%	swi7: clock sio
1373	root	1	96	0	15008K	12712K	select	0:09	0.00%	snmpd
1371	root	1	96	0	9520K	5032K	select	0:08	0.00%	jdiameterd
12	root	1	-40	-159	OK	12K	WAIT	0:07	0.00%	swi2: net
1375	root	2	96	0	15016K	5812K	select	0:06	0.00%	pfed
49	root	1	-8	0	OK	12K	mdwait	0:05	0.00%	md0
1345	root	1	96	0	10088K	4480K	select	0:05	0.00%	l2ald
1181	root	1	96	0	1608K	908K	select	0:05	0.00%	bslockd
23	root	1	-68	-187	OK	12K	WAIT	0:04	0.00%	irq10: fxp1
30	root	1	171	52	OK	12K	pgzero	0:04	0.00%	pagezero
1344	root	1	4	0	39704K	11444K	kqread	0:03	0.00%	rpdp
1205	root	1	96	0	3152K	912K	select	0:03	0.00%	license-check
1372	root	1	96	0	28364K	6696K	select	0:03	0.00%	dcd
1374	root	1	96	0	11764K	7632K	select	0:02	0.00%	mib2d
1405	regress	1	96	0	15892K	11132K	select	0:02	0.00%	cli
139	root	1	-8	0	OK	12K	mdwait	0:02	0.00%	md5
22	root	1	-80	-199	OK	12K	WAIT	0:02	0.00%	irq9: cbb1 fxp0
1185	root	1	96	0	4472K	2036K	select	0:02	0.00%	alarmd
4	root	1	-8	0	OK	12K	-	0:02	0.00%	g_down
3	root	1	-8	0	OK	12K	-	0:02	0.00%	g_up
43	root	1	-16	0	OK	12K	psleep	0:02	0.00%	vmkmemdaemon
1377	root	1	96	0	3776K	2256K	select	0:01	0.00%	irsd
48	root	1	-16	0	OK	12K	-	0:01	0.00%	schedcpu
99	root	1	-8	0	OK	12K	mdwait	0:01	0.00%	md3
953	root	1	96	0	4168K	2428K	select	0:01	0.00%	eventd
1364	root	1	96	0	4872K	2808K	select	0:01	0.00%	cfmd

```
15 root      1 -16    0      0K    12K -      0:01  0.00% yarrow
1350 root    1  96    0 31580K 7248K select 0:01  0.00% cosd
1378 root    1  96    0 19776K 6292K select 0:01  0.00% lpdfd
```

...

Checking Kernel and Packet Forwarding Engine Response

As mentioned in [“Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS” on page 1](#), some SNMP MIB data are maintained by the kernel or Packet Forwarding Engine. For such data to be available for the network management system, the kernel has to provide the required information to the SNMP subagent in mib2d. A slow response from the kernel can cause a delay in mib2d returning the data to the network management system. The Junos OS adds an entry in the mib2d log file every time that an interface takes more than 10,000 microseconds to respond to a request for interface statistics. You can use the **show log log-filename | grep “kernel response time”** command to find out the response time taken by the kernel.

Checking the Kernel Response Time

```
user@host> show log mib2d | grep “kernel response time”
Aug 17 22:39:37 == kernel response time for
COS_IPVPN_DEFAULT_OUTPUT-t1-7/3/0:10:27.0-o: 9.126471 sec, range
(0.000007, 11.000806)

Aug 17 22:39:53 == kernel response time for
COS_IPVPN_DEFAULT_INPUT-t1-7/2/0:5:15.0-i: 5.387321 sec, range
(0.000007, 11.000806)

Aug 17 22:39:53 == kernel response time for ct1-6/1/0:9:15: 0.695406
sec, range (0.000007, 11.000806)

Aug 17 22:40:04 == kernel response time for t1-6/3/0:6:19: 1.878542
sec, range (0.000007, 11.000806)

Aug 17 22:40:22 == kernel response time for lsq-7/0/0: 2.556592 sec,
range (0.000007, 11.000806)
```

Related Documentation

- [Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS on page 1](#)
- [Configuring SNMP on Devices Running the Junos OS on page 5](#)
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- [Configuring Options on Managed Devices for Better SNMP Response Time on page 17](#)
- [Managing Traps and Informs on page 19](#)
- [Using the Enterprise-Specific Utility MIB to Enhance SNMP Coverage on page 23](#)

Optimizing the Network Management System Configuration for the Best Results

You can modify your network management system configuration to optimize the response time for SNMP queries. The following sections contain a few tips on how you can configure the network management system:

- [Changing the Polling Method from Column-by-Column to Row-by-Row on page 15](#)
- [Reducing the Number of Variable Bindings per PDU on page 15](#)
- [Increasing Timeout Values in Polling and Discovery Intervals on page 15](#)
- [Reducing Incoming Packet Rate at the snmpd on page 15](#)

Changing the Polling Method from Column-by-Column to Row-by-Row

You can configure the network management system to use the row-by-row method for SNMP data polling. It has been proven that the row-by-row and multiple row-by-multiple-row polling methods are more efficient than column-by-column polling. By configuring the network management system to use the row-by-row data polling method, you can ensure that data for only one interface is polled in a request instead of a single request polling data for multiple interfaces, as is the case with column-by-column polling. Row-by-row polling also reduces the risk of requests timing out.

Reducing the Number of Variable Bindings per PDU

By reducing the number of variable bindings per protocol data unit (PDU), you can improve the response time for SNMP requests. A request that polls for data related to multiple objects, which are mapped to different index entries, translates into multiple requests at the device-end because the subagent might have to poll different modules to obtain data that are linked to different index entries. The recommended method is to ensure that a request has only objects that are linked to one index entry instead of multiple objects linked to different index entries.



NOTE: If responses from a device are slow, avoid using the **GetBulk** option for the device, because a **GetBulk** request might contain objects that are linked to various index entries and might further increase the response time.

Increasing Timeout Values in Polling and Discovery Intervals

By increasing the timeout values for polling and discovery intervals, you can increase the queuing time at the device end and reduce the number of throttle drops that occur because of the request timing out.

Reducing Incoming Packet Rate at the snmpd

By reducing the frequency of sending SNMP requests to a device, you can reduce the risk of SNMP requests piling up at any particular device. Apart from reducing the frequency of sending SNMP requests to a device, you can also increase the polling interval, control the use of **GetNext** requests, and reduce the number of polling stations per device.

**Related
Documentation**

- [Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS on page 1](#)
- [Configuring SNMP on Devices Running the Junos OS on page 5](#)
- [Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS on page 9](#)
- [Configuring Options on Managed Devices for Better SNMP Response Time on page 17](#)
- [Managing Traps and Informs on page 19](#)
- [Using the Enterprise-Specific Utility MIB to Enhance SNMP Coverage on page 23](#)

Configuring Options on Managed Devices for Better SNMP Response Time

The following sections contain information about configuration options on the managed devices that can enhance SNMP performance:

- [Enabling the stats-cache-lifetime Option on page 17](#)
- [Filtering Out Duplicate SNMP Requests on page 17](#)
- [Excluding Interfaces That Are Slow in Responding to SNMP Queries on page 18](#)

Enabling the stats-cache-lifetime Option

The Junos OS provides you with an option to configure the length of time an SNMP request stays active and queued so as to reduce the possibility of request drops during slow response times. You can use the **stats-cache-lifetime seconds** option at the **[edit snmp]** hierarchy level to specify the length of time that an SNMP request remains queued. The recommended value for the **stats-cache-lifetime** option is in the range of 30 to 60 seconds.



NOTE: The **set snmp stats-cache-lifetime seconds** command is a hidden command and is supported only on devices running Junos OS Release 9.3 and later.

Filtering Out Duplicate SNMP Requests

If a network management station retransmits a **Get**, **GetNext**, or **GetBulk** SNMP request too frequently to a device, that request might interfere with the processing of previous requests and slow down the response time of the agent. Filtering these duplicate requests improves the response time of the SNMP agent. The Junos OS enables you to filter out duplicate **Get**, **GetNext**, and **GetBulk** SNMP requests. The Junos OS uses the following information to determine if an SNMP request is a duplicate:

- Source IP address of the SNMP request
- Source UDP port of the SNMP request
- Request ID of the SNMP request



NOTE: By default, filtering of duplicate SNMP requests is disabled on devices running the Junos OS.

To enable filtering of duplicate SNMP requests on devices running the Junos OS, include the **filter-duplicates** statement at the **[edit snmp]** hierarchy level:

```
[edit snmp]
filter-duplicates;
```

Excluding Interfaces That Are Slow in Responding to SNMP Queries

An interface that is slow in responding to SNMP requests for interface statistics can delay kernel responses to SNMP requests. You can review the `mib2d` log file to find out how long the kernel takes to respond to various SNMP requests. For more information about reviewing the log file for kernel response data, see “Checking Kernel and Packet Forwarding Engine Response” under “[Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS](#)” on page 9. If you notice that a particular interface is slow in responding, and think that it is slowing down the kernel from responding to SNMP requests, exclude that interface from the SNMP queries to the device. You can exclude an interface from the SNMP queries either by configuring the `filter-interface` statement or by modifying the SNMP view settings.

The following example shows a sample configuration for excluding interfaces from the SNMP `Get`, `GetNext`, and `Set` operations:

```
[edit]
snmp {
  filter-interfaces {
    interfaces { # exclude the specified interfaces
      interface1;
      interface2;
    }
    all-internal-interfaces; # exclude all internal interfaces
  }
}
```

The following example shows the SNMP view configuration for excluding the interface with an interface index (`ifIndex`) value of 312 from a request for information related to the `ifTable` and `ifXTable` objects:

```
[edit snmp]
view test {
  oid .1 include;
  oid ifTable.1.*:312 exclude;
  oid ifXTable.1.*:312 exclude
}
```

Alternatively, you can take the interface that is slow in responding offline.

Related Documentation

- [Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS](#) on page 1
- [Configuring SNMP on Devices Running the Junos OS](#) on page 5
- [Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS](#) on page 9
- [Optimizing the Network Management System Configuration for the Best Results](#) on page 15
- [Managing Traps and Informs](#) on page 19
- [Using the Enterprise-Specific Utility MIB to Enhance SNMP Coverage](#) on page 23

Managing Traps and Informs

The following sections contain a few tips on managing SNMP notifications:

- [Generating Traps Based on SysLog Events on page 19](#)
- [Filtering Traps Based on the Trap Category on page 19](#)
- [Filtering Traps Based on the Object Identifier on page 20](#)

Generating Traps Based on SysLog Events

Event policies can include an action that raises traps for events based on system log messages. This feature enables notification of an SNMP trap-based application when an important system log message occurs. You can convert any system log message, for which there is no corresponding trap, into a trap. If you are using network management system traps rather than system log messages to monitor your network, you can use this feature to ensure that you are notified of all the major events.

To configure a policy that raises a trap on receipt of an event, include the following statements at the **[edit event-options policy *policy-name*]** hierarchy level:

```
[edit event-options policy policy-name]  
events [ events ];  
then {  
    raise-trap;  
}
```

The following example shows the sample configuration for raising a trap for the event **ui_mgd_terminate**:

```
Generating Traps  
Based on SysLog  
Events  
[edit event-options policy p1]  
events ui_mgd_terminate;  
then {  
    raise-trap;  
}
```

Filtering Traps Based on the Trap Category

SNMP traps are categorized into many categories. The Junos OS provides a configuration option, **categories** at the **[edit snmp trap-group *trap-group*]** hierarchy level, that enables you to specify categories of traps that you want to receive on a particular host. You can use this option when you want to monitor only specific modules of the Junos OS.

The following example shows a sample configuration for receiving only **link**, **vrrp-events**, **services**, and **otn-alarms** traps:

```
[edit snmp]  
trap-group jnpr {  
    categories {  
        link;  
        vrrp-events;  
        services;  
        otn-alarms;
```

```
    }
    targets {
      192.168.69.179;
    }
  }
}
```

Filtering Traps Based on the Object Identifier

The Junos OS also provides a more advanced filter option that enables you to filter out specific traps based on their object identifiers. You can use the **notify-filter** option to filter out a specific trap or a group of traps.

The following example shows the sample configuration for excluding Juniper Networks enterprise-specific configuration management traps (note that the SNMPv3 configuration also supports filtering of SNMPv1 and SNMPv2 traps as is shown in the following example):

```
[edit snmp]
v3 {
  vacm {
    security-to-group {
      security-model v2c {
        security-name sn_v2c_trap {
          group gr_v2c_trap;
        }
      }
    }
  }
  access {
    group gr_v2c_trap {
      default-context-prefix {
        security-model v2c {
          security-level none {
            read-view all;
            notify-view all;
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
target-address TA_v2c_trap {
  address 10.209.196.166;
  port 9001;
  tag-list tg1;
  target-parameters TP_v2c_trap;
}
target-parameters TP_v2c_trap {
  parameters {
    message-processing-model v2c;
    security-model v2c;
    security-level none;
    security-name sn_v2c_trap;
  }
  notify-filter nfl;
}
notify v2c_notify {
```

```
    type trap;
    tag tg1;
}
notify-filter nf1 {
    oid .1.3.6.1.4.1.2636.4.5 exclude;
    oid .1 include;
}
snmp-community index1 {
    community-name "$9$tDLl01h7Nbw2axN"; ## SECRET-DATA
    security-name sn_v2c_trap;
    tag tg1;
}
view all {
    oid .1 include;
}
}
```

**Related
Documentation**

- [Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS on page 1](#)
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- [Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS on page 9](#)
- [Optimizing the Network Management System Configuration for the Best Results on page 15](#)
- [Configuring Options on Managed Devices for Better SNMP Response Time on page 17](#)
- [Using the Enterprise-Specific Utility MIB to Enhance SNMP Coverage on page 23](#)

Using the Enterprise-Specific Utility MIB to Enhance SNMP Coverage

Even though the Junos OS has built-in performance metrics and monitoring options, you might need to have customized performance metrics. To make it easier for you to monitor such customized data through a standard monitoring system, the Junos OS provides you with an enterprise-specific Utility MIB that can store such data and thus extend SNMP support for managing and monitoring the data of your choice.

The enterprise-specific Utility MIB provides you with container objects of the following types: **32-bit counters**, **64-bit counters**, **signed integers**, **unsigned integers**, and **octet strings**. You can use these container MIB objects to store the data that are otherwise not supported for SNMP operations. You can populate data for these objects either by using CLI commands or with the help of Op scripts and an RPC API that can invoke the CLI commands.

The following CLI commands enable you to set and clear Utility MIB object values:

- `request snmp utility-mib set instance name object-type <counter | counter 64 | integer | string | unsigned integer> object-value value`
- `request snmp utility-mib clear instance name object-type <counter | counter 64 | integer | string | unsigned integer>`

The *instance name* option of the `request snmp utility-mib <set | clear>` command specifies the name of the data instance and is the main identifier of the data. The **object-type <counter | counter 64 | integer | string | unsigned integer>** option enables you specify the object type, and the **object-value *value*** option enables you to set the value of the object.

To automate the process of populating Utility MIB data, you can use a combination of an event policy and event script. The following examples show the configuration for an event policy to run **show system buffers** every hour and to store the **show system buffers** data in Utility MIB objects by running an event script (**check-mbufs.slax**).

Event Policy Configuration To configure an event policy that runs the **show system buffers** command every hour and invokes **check-mbufs.slax** to store the **show system buffers** data into Utility MIB objects, include the following statements at the [edit] hierarchy level:

```
event-options {
  generate-event {
    1-HOUR time-interval 600;
  }
  policy Mbufs {
    events 1-HOUR;
    then {
      event-script check-mbufs.slax; # script stored at /var/db/scripts/event/
    }
  }
  event-script {
    file check-mbufs.slax;
  }
}
```

check-mbufs.slax Script The following example shows the **check-mbufs.slax** script that is stored under **/var/db/scripts/event/**:

```
----- script START -----
version 1.0;

ns junos = "http://xml.juniper.net/junos/*/junos";
ns xnm = "http://xml.juniper.net/xnm/1.1/xnm";
ns jcs = "http://xml.juniper.net/junos/commit-scripts/1.0";
ns ext = "http://xmlsoft.org/XSLT/namespace";

match / {
  <op-script-results>{
    var $cmd = <command> "show system buffers";
    var $out = jcs:invoke($cmd);

    var $lines = jcs:break_lines($out);
    for-each ($lines) {
      if (contains(., "current/peak/max")) {
        var $pattern = "([0-9]+)/([0-9]+)/([0-9]+) mbufs";
        var $split = jcs:regex($pattern, .);
        var $result = $split[2];

        var $rpc = <request-snmp-utility-mib-set> {
          <object-type> "integer";
          <instance> "current-mbufs";
          <object-value> $result;
        }
        var $res = jcs:invoke($rpc);
      }
    }
  }
}
----- script END -----
```

You can run the following command to check the data stored in the Utility MIB as a result of the event policy and script shown in the preceding examples:

```
user@host> show snmp mib walk jnxUtilData ascii jnxUtilIntegerValue."current-mbufs"
= 0 jnxUtilIntegerTime."current-mbufs" = 07 da 05 0c 03 14 2c 00 2d 07 00
regress@caramels>
```

**Related
Documentation**

- [Understanding SNMP Implementation in the Junos OS on page 1](#)
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- [Monitoring SNMP Activity and Tracking Problems That Affect SNMP Performance on a Device Running the Junos OS on page 9](#)
- [Optimizing the Network Management System Configuration for the Best Results on page 15](#)
- [Configuring Options on Managed Devices for Better SNMP Response Time on page 17](#)
- [Managing Traps and Informs on page 19](#)