

Monitoring and metrics are important for supporting any production system. Luckily, Kafka provides access to a variety of metric data points using the standard JMX protocol for Java monitoring. In this lesson, we will briefly discuss Kafka metrics, and we will demonstrate how to connect to a Kafka broker using JConsole so that you can browse the available metrics data.

Relevant Documentation

- [Kafka Monitoring](#)

Lesson Reference

1. Edit your Kafka unit file.

```
sudo vi /lib/systemd/system/confluent-kafka.service
```

2. Add the following line under the `[Service]` block.

```
Environment=KAFKA_JMX_OPTS="-Dcom.sun.management.jmxremote -Dcom.sun.management.jmxremote.local.only=false"
```

3. Reload the daemon to pick up the changes to the unit file, and restart the service.

```
sudo systemctl daemon-reload
sudo systemctl restart confluent-kafka
```

4. Make sure Kafka is able to start up successfully after making the changes.

```
sudo systemctl status confluent-kafka
```

5. In Cloud Playground, start a graphical shell for your first Kafka broker (the large server).

6. In the graphical shell, open a terminal and start JConsole.

```
sudo jconsole
```

7. Under `Local Process`, select the item that begins with `io.confluent.support.metrics.SupportedKafka`, and click `Connect`.

8. When you see a dialog stating `Secure connection failed`, click `Insecure connection`. After a few moments you should be connected to your Kafka broker via JMX. You can explore JConsole to see what metrics are available for the broker.