

Assurance Features and Navigation

Cisco DNA Center 1.1.2 Training



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What Should I Know Before I Start?

That Assurance Correlates Data to Deliver Network Insights

Cisco DNA Center Assurance provides comprehensive functionality that helps you to ensure higher and more consistent service levels to meet growing business demands.

By correlating information from the network, clients, applications, and contextual sources, Cisco DNA Center delivers immediate network monitoring results and proactive insights into:

- Network infrastructure health, including routers, switches, wireless LAN controllers (WLCs), and access points (APs).
- Endpoint client device health, including wired and wireless clients.
- Potential or active infrastructure or client issues or failures that can affect network or business operations.
- The application experience and performance analytics for each client.

Assurance functions include:

- Monitoring and presenting current performance metrics and issues.
- Proactively assessing performance through live traffic analysis and automated sensorbased testing.

You can use Assurance to monitor and evaluate:

- Traditional (non-fabric) WLAN, LAN, and WAN networks.
- In systems with software-defined access (SD-Access), fabric topologies.



Note: For more on SD-Access and fabric topologies, <u>refer to the Software-Defined Access Resources list of links to guides, data sheets, videos, white papers, and other collateral.</u>

- Wired and wireless client services.
- Wireless and wired sensor data.
- Client endpoint analytics, including for some Apple iOS products.
- WAN connectivity and routing protocol failures or errors.
- In systems with router-enabled Application Visibility and Control (AVC), the application experiences that authenticated clients are having.



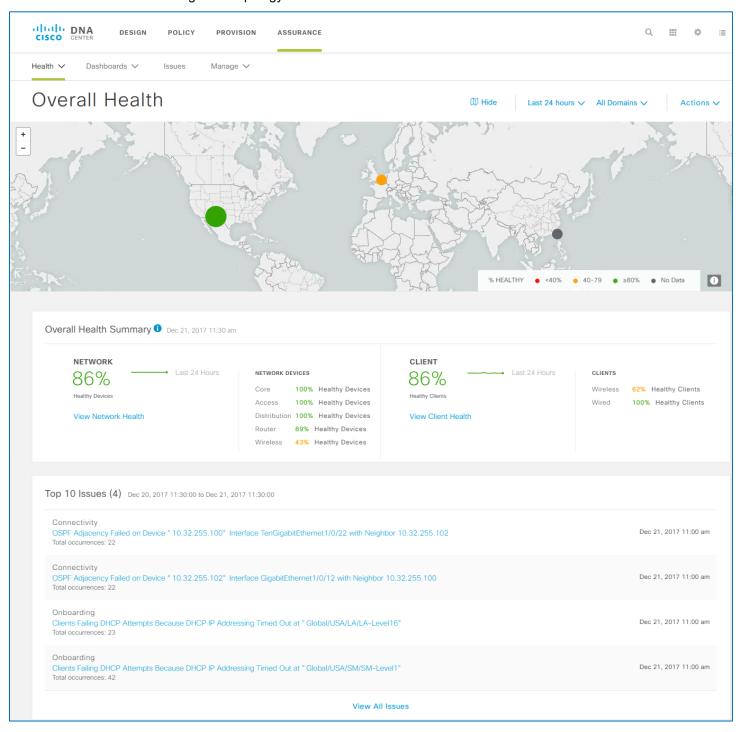
Note: For more information on Cisco Application Visibility and Control, refer to the AVC list of links guides, white papers, case studies, and other collateral.



What Should I Know Before I Start?

Cisco DNA Center collects data by using traditional SNMP, NetFlow, and SNMP protocols, streaming telemetry, and contextual collectors.

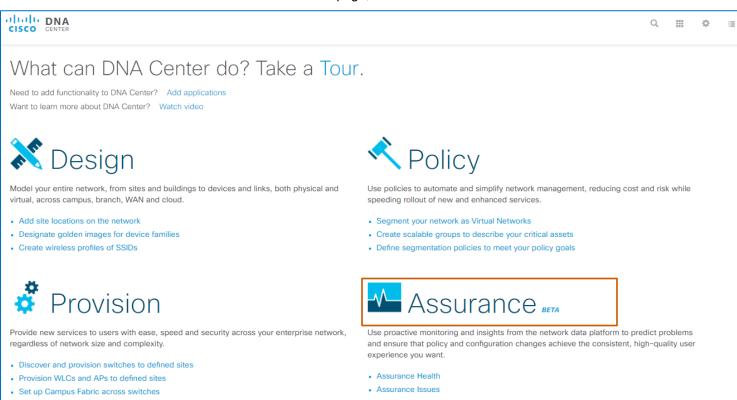
It then correlates and analyzes that data to present robust information, organizing it based on the network's design and topology.



What Should I Know Before I Start?

To open Assurance:

On the Cisco DNA Center home page, click Assurance.



This training introduces you to:

- Key Assurance operational concepts.
- The types and levels of information that Assurance provides.
- The organization and layout of Assurance features.
- General navigation and functions that you can use to access the information that you need.



Note: While this training does not address Assurance functions for systems with SD-Access specifically, the Assurance information and navigation available to you for monitoring and managing <u>fabric domains</u> is similar.



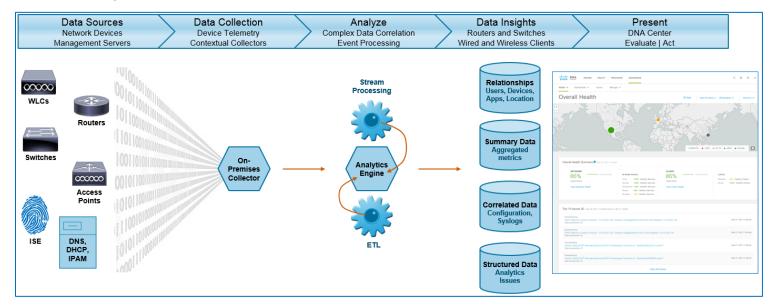
Assurance Concepts

The Automated Assurance Data Processing Workflow

Cisco DNA Center performs automated tasks to:

- 1. Collect raw data from network and contextual sources.
- 2. Correlate, process, and analyze the raw data.
- 3. Organize the processed data into meaningful network and client health, performance, and issue metrics and information, referred to as insights.
- 4. Present insights in the user interface in near real-time.

The following diagram illustrates the flow of data processing and presentation in Cisco DNA Center.



To prepare the system for accurate data collection, system users also:

- Initiate device discovery.
- Design network sites and assign devices to them.
- Configure telemetry and external network services.

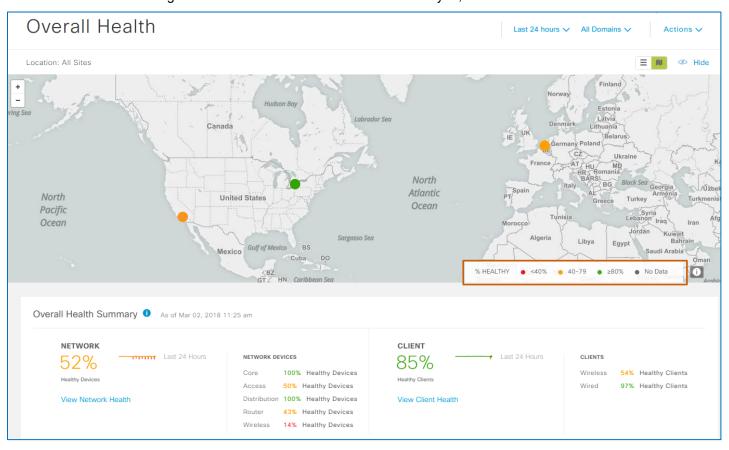


Health Scoring

Scoring Concepts

On the **Overall Health** page, Assurance presents health scores for the entire network, referred to as global health scores.

By providing health score percentages and applying color-coding to them, Assurance emphasizes areas of the network that might require attention or immediate action. Assurance applies the color-coding to location and table view indicators to alert you, also.



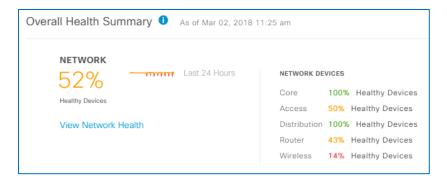
Assurance health scores combine network device performance indicator (KPI) metrics and, for wireless client devices, specific received signal strength indicator (RSSI) measurements, to indicate the number of devices or clients that are experiencing acceptable conditions, which is a healthy state.



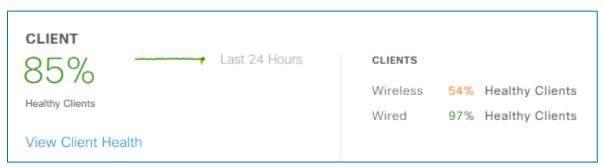
In the example screenshot, under **Network**, 52% of the devices out of the total number of network devices are in a healthy state.

The **Network Devices** section breaks out the percentage of healthy devices based on device roles and types.

All of the core devices, for example, are in a healthy state, while only 14% out of the total number of wireless devices are in a healthy state.



Client health scores are calculated and presented the same way for clients that are attached to and authenticated on the network.



Health scores appear in color-coding, which reinforces the urgency of potential or ongoing issues, as follows:

- 80% or more of the total number of network devices are in a healthy state
- Between 40% and 79% of network devices are in a healthy state, indicating that some devices, sites, or areas of the network might require attention
 - Less than 40% of the total number of network devices are in a healthy state, indicating that immediate attention to issues is recommended

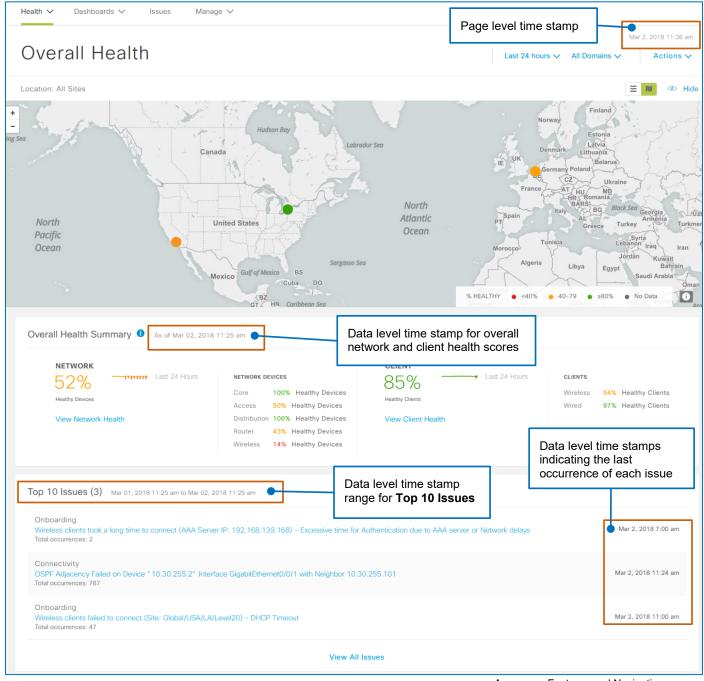


Time Stamp and Data Aging Concepts

Assurance provides two types of time stamps:

- The page level time stamp
 Indicates the last time the page was loaded, either by navigating to it or reloading it manually.
- Data level time stamps
 Indicate when the system collected the data that you are seeing.

The time stamps are browser-based, so they indicate the data collection time based on the date and time of your client.







The **Top 10 Issues** time stamp indicates the complete time period for which the system is presenting the issues. Each issue in the **Top 10 Issues** list provides a time stamp that indicates the last occurrence of the issue.



Note: The time period also affects health scores and issues that the system is presenting. You can change the default time period of twenty-four hours manually.

For more information, refer to the Changing Data Time Periods topic.

Cisco DNA Center computes Assurance data at specific time intervals, and those intervals vary slightly based on whether the system is collecting and analyzing network data or client data due to the types of computations that each data type requires.

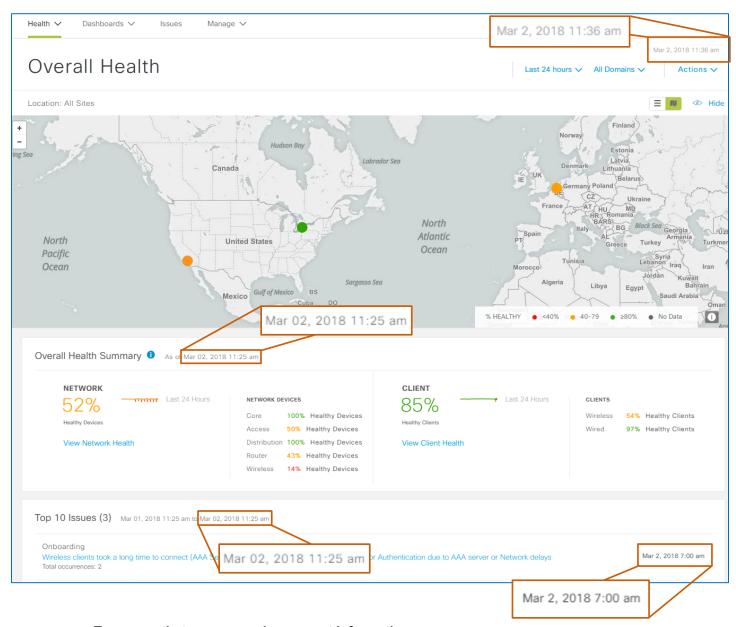
The slight variation in the collection and analysis intervals means that the time stamp for the **Overall Health Summary** data might vary from the time stamp for the **Top 10 Issues** and the individual issue time stamps.

Because the page level time stamp indicates the last page reload, and the data level time stamps indicate data collection intervals or issue occurrences, these time stamps can vary, also.



What Should I Know Before I Start?

In the screenshot below, the page was loaded on March 2, 2018 at 11:36 a.m., the health summary and issue data were collected on the same day at 11:25 a.m., and the **Onboarding** issue was last captured on the same day at 7 a.m.



To ensure that you are seeing current information:

Reload the page manually by using the browser reload button.

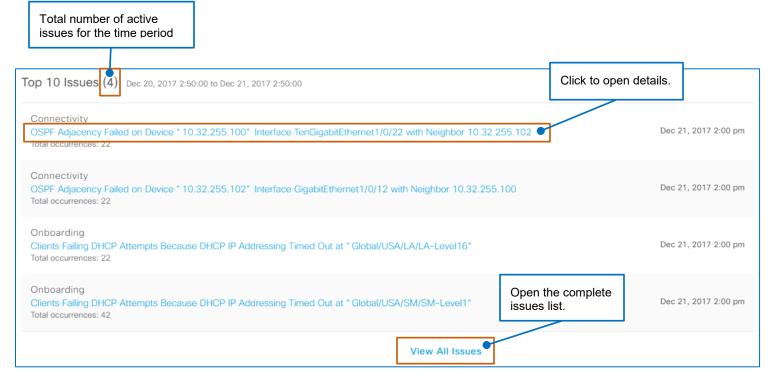


Reviewing Critical Issues

Cisco DNA Center presents current issues that are occurring on the network, up to 10, on the **Overall Health** page. When issues occur repeatedly, the system provides the number of times the issue has happened for the time period applied to the page.

To identify issues, Cisco DNA Center computes, analyzes, and correlates incoming data and predefined key performance indicators (KPIs).

Providing this information with links for immediate access to details helps ensure that potential or ongoing problems receive more immediate attention or action, as needed. The heading indicates the total number of occurring issues.

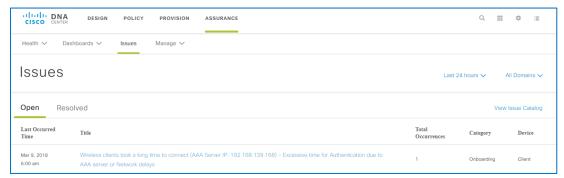


When more than 10 issues are occurring, you can navigate to the complete list of issues.

To open a complete list of issues:

Below the list, click View All Issues.

The system navigates to the Issues page and provides lists of open and resolved issues for the time period applied to the page.





Skills

To recognize, evaluate, and manage Assurance information, you need the following experience.

Basic

- Practical network and LAN or WAN management experience
- Cisco Internetwork Operating System (IOS) concepts

Proficient

- Cisco DNA Center user interface and navigation
- OSI model
- Network hardware design and concepts
- Networking concepts

Terms

Domain

In deployments that include Software-Defined Access (SD-Access), system users can configure fabric domains. A domain is a logical, virtualized network topology that abstracts networking functions from the underlying hardware. The virtualized topology performs routing, switching, and communication functions.



Note: For information on seeing Assurance data for a fabric domain, <u>refer to the Assurance Layout and Data Management Tasks topic</u>.

Sensor-Driven Tests

These tests assess connectivity or application issues by analyzing data from access point (AP) radios, and WLAN configurations for wired and wireless network services.

Site

An enterprise location, often organized based on the network design or geographical location



Recognizing Assurance Features

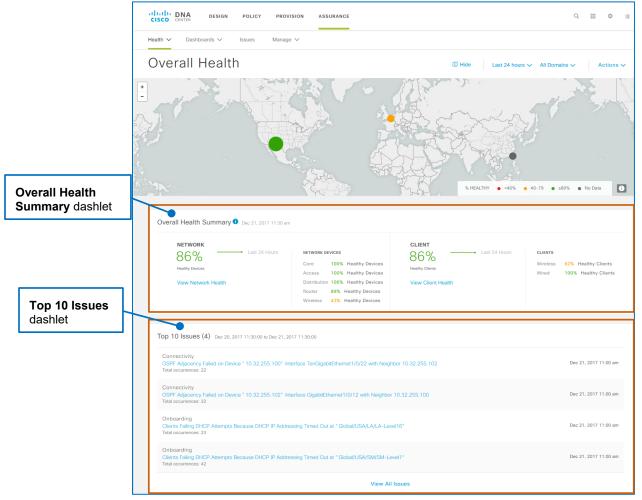
Assurance Features Overview

Interface Layout and Features

The Overall Health Page

When you open Assurance, the system illustrates aggregated network infrastructure and client health metrics, organizes health metrics by category, and escalates the most critical issues on the **Overall Health** page.

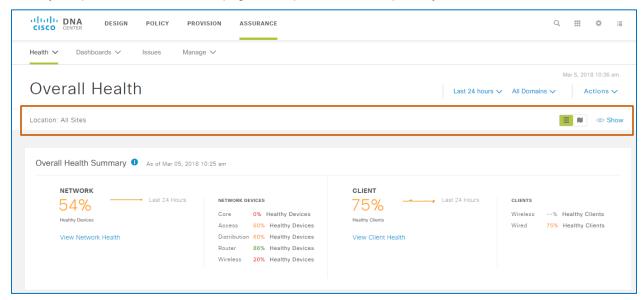
The page comprises dashlets, which are separate data elements that organize or categorize information, such as health performance metrics and critical issues, and present the information in charts, tables, or other graphical representations.





Recognizing Assurance Features

When you open the Overall Health page, the top dashlet is collapsed by default.



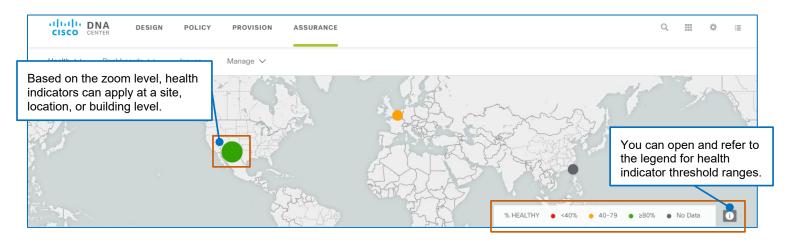
You can expand the dashlet to see a geographical map view or table view of the network and associated health metrics.

The geographical map of the network topology displays network and client health indicators with health score color-coding based on devices' site assignments and the map zoom level.



Note: The system presents the geographical map by using MapBox.

To see the map, the system requires Internet connectivity.





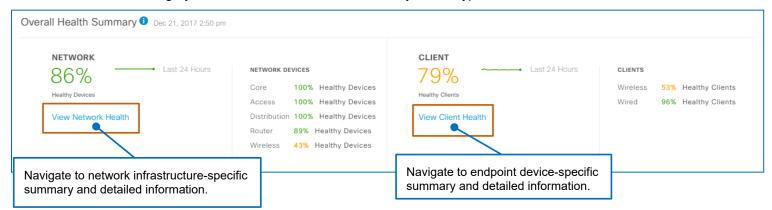
Recognizing Assurance Features

The table view lists network locations based on the network design hierarchy.

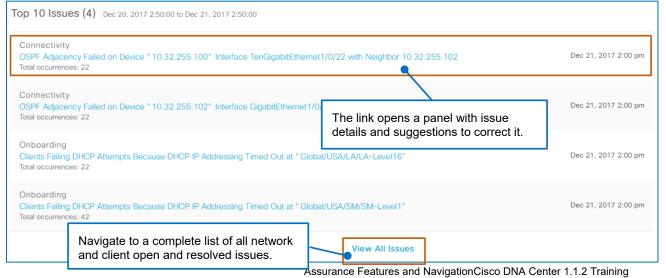


The **Overall Health Summary** dashlet displays the <u>health scores</u> for network infrastructure and endpoint client device health separately and the percentages are color-coded to emphasize any health issues.

Each category also breaks out the health metrics by device type.



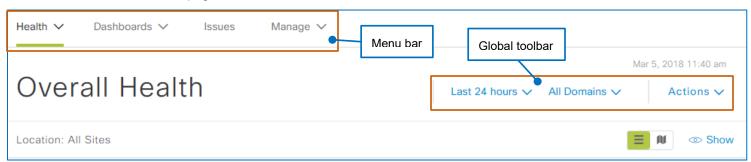
The **Top 10 Issues** dashlet lists those issues that can affect the network most significantly to help ensure that they receive more immediate attention.



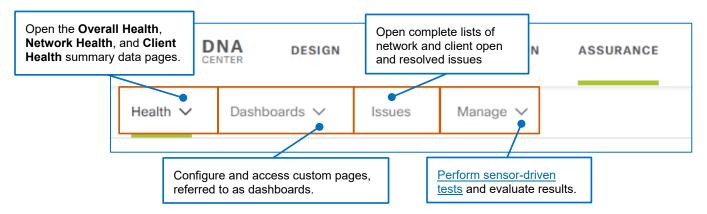
Recognizing Assurance Features

The Menu Bar and the Global Toolbar

The menu bar and global toolbar are available on the **Overall Health**, **Network Health**, and **Client Health** pages.



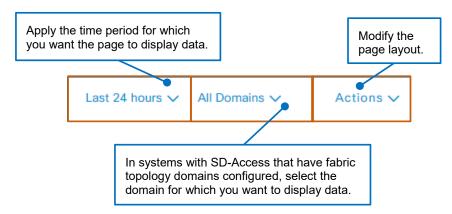
The menu bar provides navigation to detailed assurance information or tasks that you can perform.



You use the global toolbar to manage the display of information and page layout.



Note: You also can filter the data <u>at a site level</u> on the **Network Infrastructure** and **Client Health** pages.



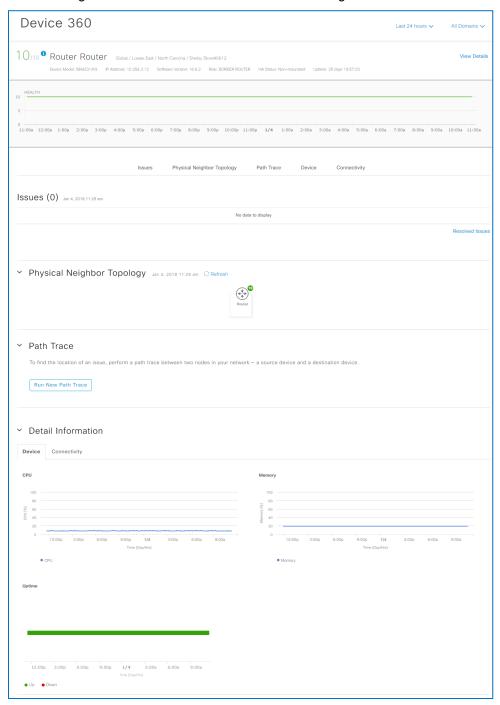


Device and Client 360 Pages

Holistic Views of Device and Client Health and Performance

To support evaluating metrics or resolving issues occurring on a specific device or for a specific client endpoint, Assurance includes the **Device 360** and the **Client 360** pages, which provide item details, health metrics, associated issues, testing functions, and links to other information.

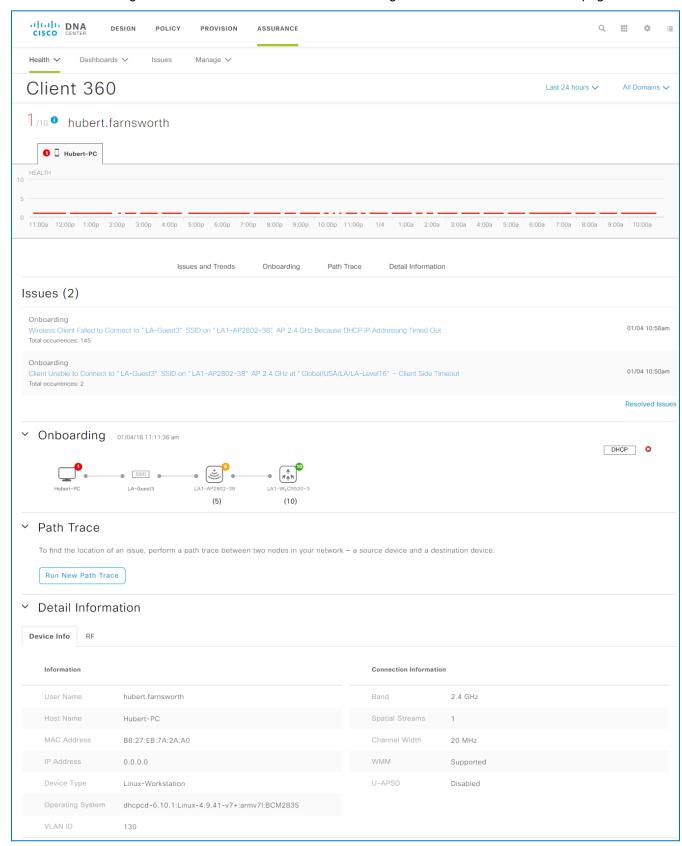
The following screenshot illustrates information and navigation available on a Device 360 page.





Recognizing Assurance Features

The following screenshot illustrates information and navigation available on a Client 360 page.

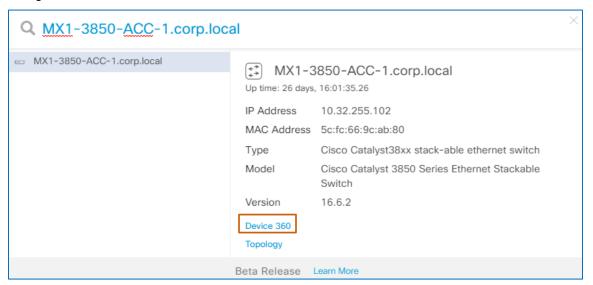




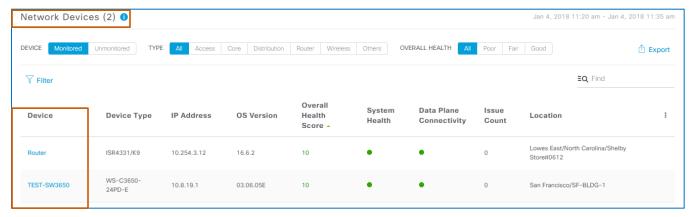
Recognizing Assurance Features

To open a Device 360 or Client 360 page:

• Follow the steps to search for a device, user, or client endpoint, and then, in the search dialog box, click the associated 360 link.



On the Network Health page, in the Network Devices list, click the Device name link.



 On the Client Health page, in the Client Devices list, click the MAC Address link for the user or endpoint of interest.





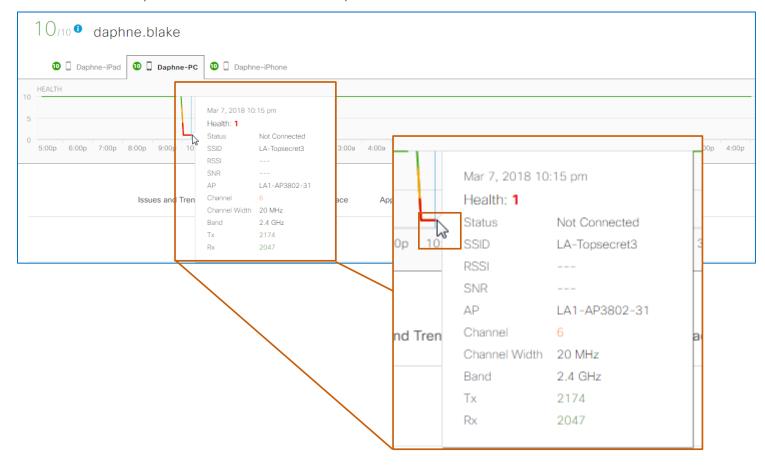
Obtaining Historical Health and Performance Details

A key feature available on the **Device 360** and **Client 360** pages is your ability to see historical information by using the timeline. Historical data provides context for issue troubleshooting, which supports resolving problem areas, and network planning, which supports proactive responses to changing conditions and helps avoid future problems.

This example uses a **Client 360** page illustrates the feature. The timeline appears below the page heading.



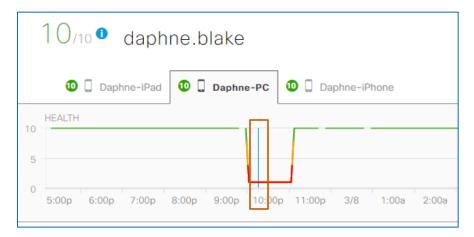
When you point to a time on the timeline, you can see key information about the state of the client, or device in the **Device 360** view, at the indicated time.





Recognizing Assurance Features

When you click a point on the timeline, an indicator emphasizes the time for which the page is displaying information...

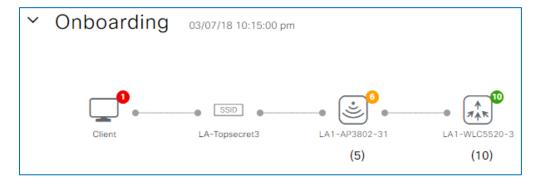


...and the page refreshes to display the details about the client (or device) experience at that time, including:

Issues



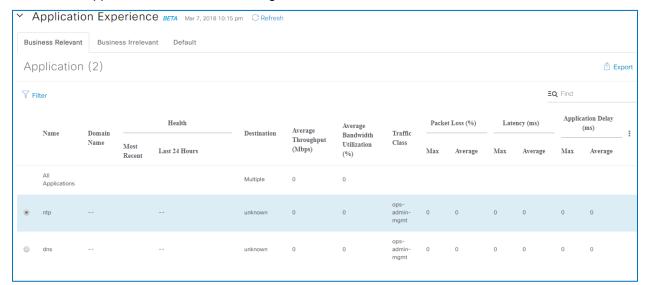
• The path the client used to onboard onto the network



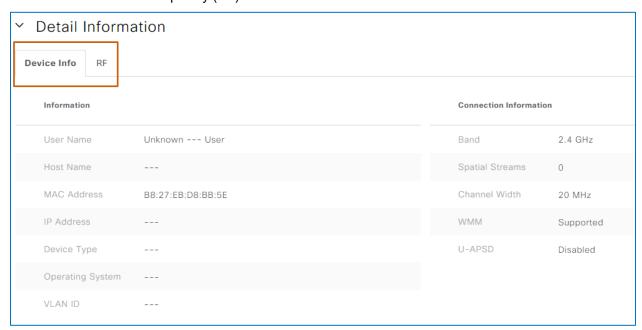


Recognizing Assurance Features

The applications the client was using and their behaviors

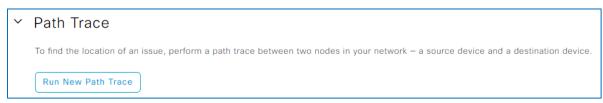


Device or radio frequency (RF) details



Note that you also can run a trace to determine the complete path through the network from a source (the IP address to which the device or client is connected) to its destination (a host, such as a printer, or a network device interface).

This information can be helpful when you are working to resolve issues or evaluate previous ones.





Assurance Layout and Data Management Tasks

Assurance provides features that you can use to help ensure that the information that you need is immediately visible and to navigate to detailed health or issue information efficiently.

This topic addresses the tasks that you can perform to manage Assurance data, organize page layouts, and find the information that you need.



Note: In systems with SD-Access and with fabric topologies configured, you can filter the **Overall Health** page and its features to display health metrics and issues for a specific fabric domain.

The features and navigation that you have access to are the same.

To see overall metrics for a specific fabric topology domain:

 On the global toolbar, in the All Domains drop-down list, select the domain of interest.



When you make changes to items such as default time periods, or showing or hiding the map, for example, the page does not retain these changes when you navigate away it.

Changing Data Time Periods

When you open Assurance, by default, the system applies the 24-hour time period to all of the page dashlets, including the geographical map, the health summaries, and the top 10 issues list.

You can change the time period so that the page includes data for 3 hours, 24 hours, or 7 days. When you change the time period, the system applies it to all of the dashlets.



Important Note: When you change the default time period, the page does not retain the changes when you navigate away from it.

When you return to the page, it applies the 24-hour default time period.

To change the data time period:

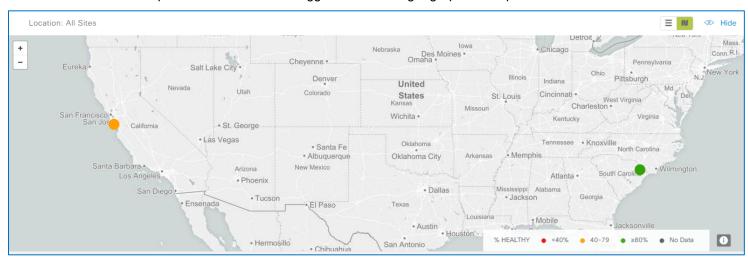
• On the global toolbar, in the time interval drop-down list, select the time period that you want to apply.





The Geographical Map and Table Network Views

Assurance provides a dashlet that toggles between a geographical map view...



....and a table view of the network.



For the time period that is applied to the page, each view displays color-coded indicators that reflect the health score of devices based on location.



Recognizing Assurance Features

When you navigate to Assurance, the dashlet closes by default.



To open the view that you want, below the global toolbar:

- To open the geographical map view, click the map button.
- To open the location list view, click the list button.



To collapse the dashlet, below the global toolbar:

Click Hide.



The system removes the dashlet from view, and the **Hide** button toggles to **Show**.



Navigating the Geographical Map View

Assurance provides a geographical map, which provides a visual view of the enterprise network and current health metrics.



The map opens at a zoom level to include all of the geographical locations that have been identified during network design. The legend below the map defines the health range percentages associated with the color-coding.



Important Note: The system displays locations based on the map coordinates that a system user added during network design.

If you do not see a location that you expect, a system user might need to add the location's coordinates in the network hierarchy.

Recognizing Assurance Features

Map zoom levels affect how the map represents locations. When locations are in close proximity and the map is a minimum zoom level, the system collapses location indicators so that they represent multiple locations with a single, larger indicator.

You can adjust map zoom levels to see the information that you need.



To adjust the map zoom level using the zoom tool:

• On the right of the map, click **Zoom in** or **Zoom out**.



To see whether an indicator represents multiple sites:

Refer to the size of the indicator.

Larger circle indicators represent more than one site.





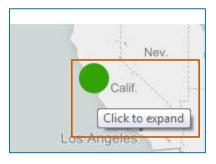
Important Note: When an indicator includes multiple sites, the health score color-coding represents the lowest health score at a device level for a single location or building.



To expand a location group indicator:

On the map, click the multiple site indicator.

The map zoom level decreases to show the indicators for the locations that the group indicator represented. These locations can include additional locations based on the geographical proximity and network design.







On the map, you can open location level summary health metrics. The summary also provides immediate navigation to detailed health metrics and related information.

This feature is helpful when you see a location indicating health issues. By providing overview metrics and efficient navigation, you can address potential issues or take actions, as needed.

To see a location's health score:

At a single location level, click the indicator.

A pop-window opens and displays the percentages of healthy clients and network devices at the location. It also provides links so that you can navigate to pages that provide detailed information on the clients or network devices for that location.



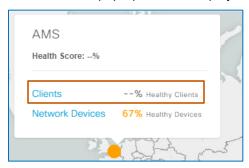
When no data is available for an item, the system displays a gray circle rather than a percentage.





Recognizing Assurance Features

In the case of client data, when the system is collecting data but there are no clients connected, the pop-up window displays a gray dashed line beside the percentage.



For better map visibility, you can collapse the map legend.

To collapse the legend:

• To the right of the legend, click the information icon.



The information icon remains available so that you can open the legend, as needed.



Navigating the Table View

The list view uses a table layout categorized by parent location. It also organizes the health score indicators by client type or device type, so that you can see potential problem areas for clients or network devices more easily.

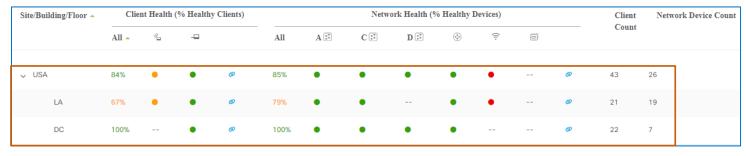
When you open the table view, the page applies the **Hierarchical Site View** layout by default. The layout lists the location hierarchy that is organized in the network design.

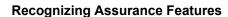


When a location has dependent, or child sites, the parent location displays an arrow to the left of the location name.

To see the health scores and indicators for child sites:

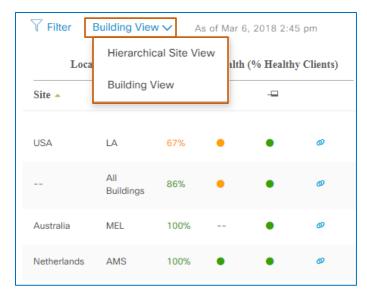
Beside the parent location, expand the location group.







You can toggle the view to the **Building View** layout, which organizes metrics by building. When location groups have child sites or multiple buildings, each building is a separate line item in the list.



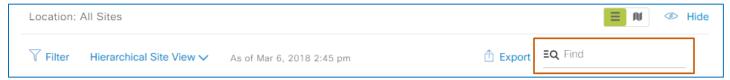
The health score below each **All** column is the percentage of the total number of clients or devices that are in a healthy state and display color-coding that indicates the status of the percentage.





Recognizing Assurance Features

When you have a long list of locations, or are looking for specific data, you can use the search function to filter the list.



To filter the list:

• In the **Find** field, begin typing a character string that the data includes.

As you type, the list updates to display all of the items that match the criteria.



When you see an item for which you want to see detailed information, the page provides navigation to the **Client Health** and **Network Health** pages in Assurance.

To navigate to a detailed information page:

Beside the applicable health score indicators, click the link.



The system opens the **Client Health** or **Network Health** page based on your navigation. When you navigate using a link at a child site or building level, the detailed health page filters to present that location's information only.



Configuring a Custom Dashboard Page

You can configure custom pages, referred to as dashboards, which can help you to organize and access the information that is relevant to your work more efficiently. The dashboards that you configure are available to you only, and not visible to other system users.

You access, configure, and manage dashboards on the **Dashboard Library** page, which organizes the dashboards that you add on tabs.

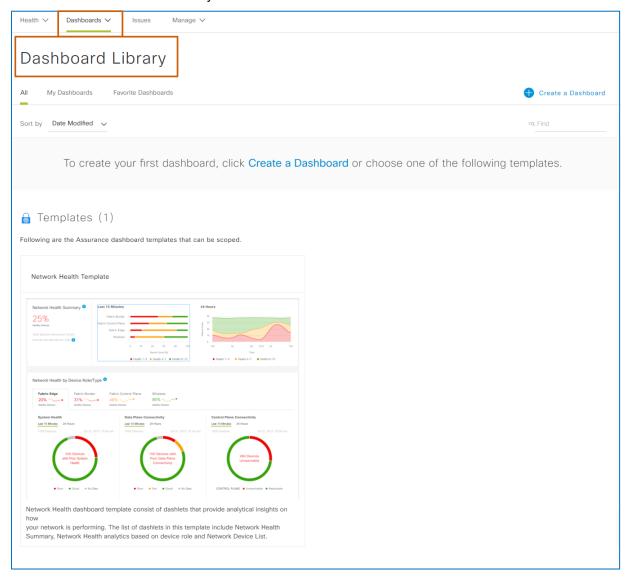
To manage custom dashboards, you can:

- Configure, edit, and delete custom dashboards.
- Copy a custom dashboard that you added and make changes to it.



Tip: This feature allows you to make minor layout adjustments efficiently without altering the original dashboard.

• Reposition <u>dashlets</u> on the **Overall Health**, **Network Health**, and **Client Health** pages that are available by default.

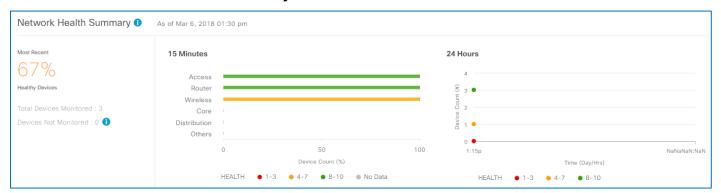




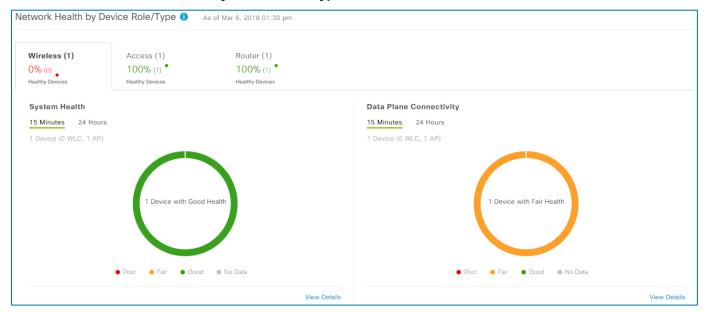
Recognizing Assurance Features

When you use the template, the dashboard includes the following dashlets with links to detailed information:

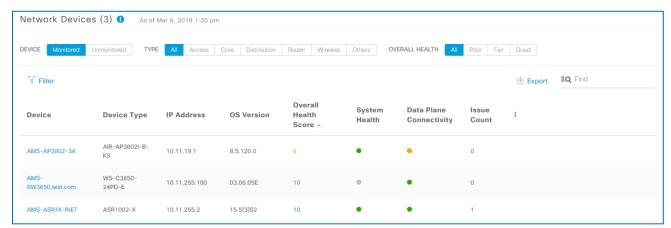
Network Health Summary



Network Health by Device Role/Type



Network Devices



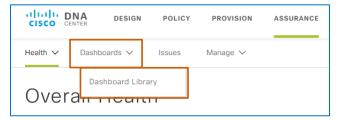


Recognizing Assurance Features

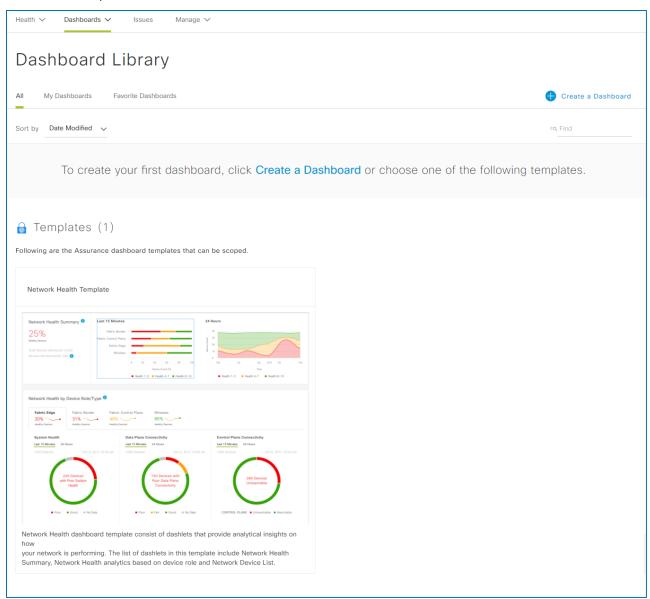
You configure custom dashboards by adding a unique page to the system, and then adding and positioning dashlets on the page.

To configure a custom dashboard:

1. On the menu bar, on the **Dashboards** menu, click **Dashboard Library**.



The **Dashboard Library** page opens. You can add a new dashboard or copy the template and edit it, as needed.



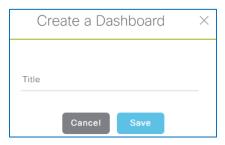


Recognizing Assurance Features

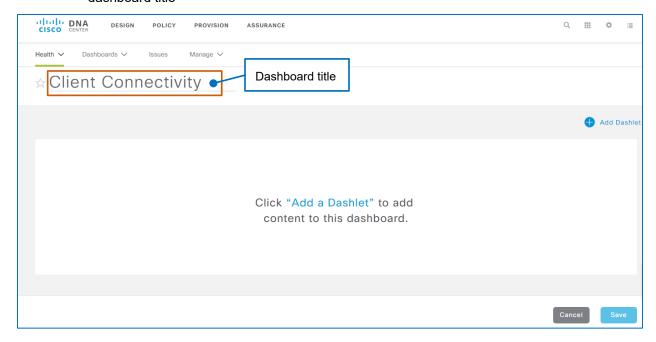
2. To add a dashboard, click Create a Dashboard.



The Create a Dashboard dialog box opens.



- 3. In the **Create a Dashboard** dialog box, type a meaningful dashboard name that describes its use, and then click **Save**.
 - When adding a custom dashboard, a blank dashboard page opens with the dashboard title





Recognizing Assurance Features

4. To continue configuring the custom dashboard, click Add Dashlet.

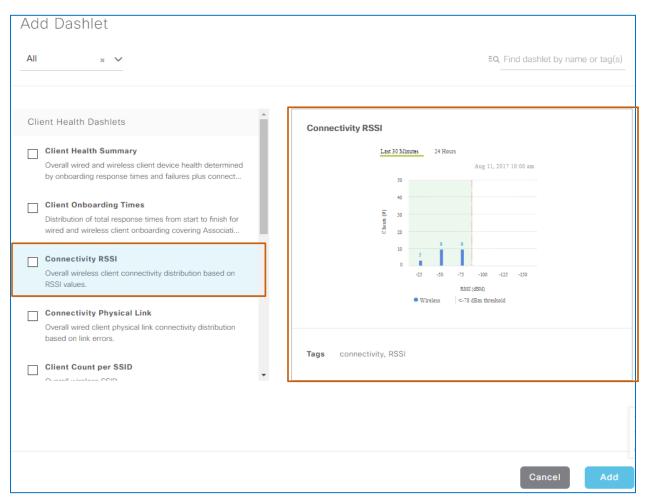


The Add Dashlet panel opens and lists all of the available dashlets by default.



Tip: To see a dashlet layout to the right of the list:

In the list, select the dashlet row.





Recognizing Assurance Features



Search Tips:

To filter the list of dashlets by a category:

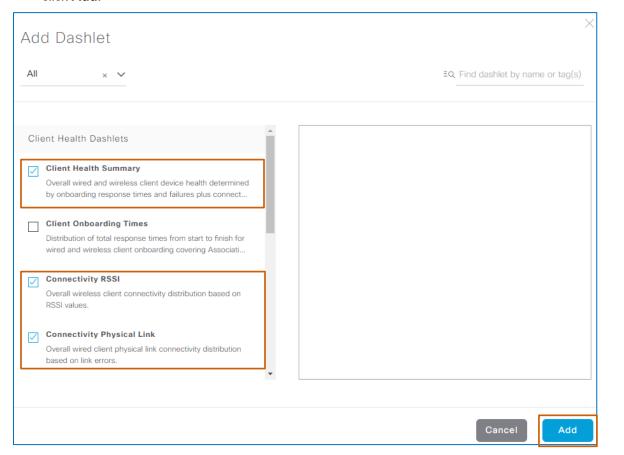
Below Add Dashlet, in the drop-down list, select the category.

To find a dashlet using a character string:

 In the search field, begin typing a character string. The list updates automatically to display all of the dashlets containing the string that you typed.



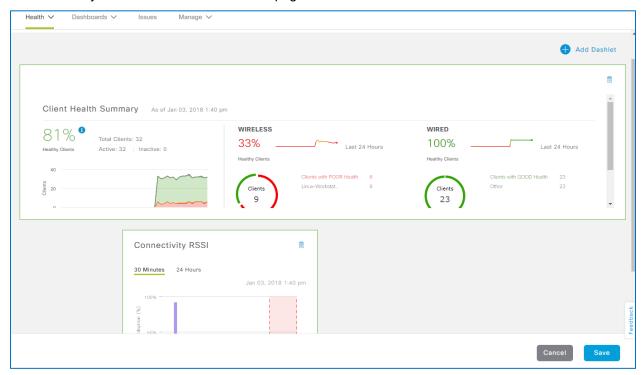
5. Beside the name of each dashlet that you want to add, select the check box, and then click **Add**.





Recognizing Assurance Features

The system adds the dashlets to the page.



- 6. To organize the layout, drag each dashlet to the position that you want on the page.
- 7. To add the dashboard to Cisco DNA Center, click Save.





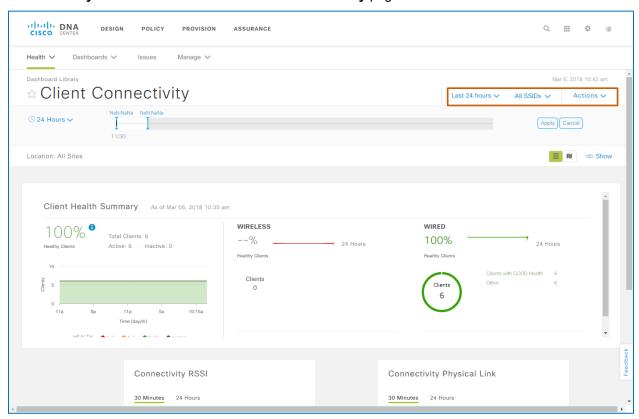
Recognizing Assurance Features

A system message opens confirming the save action.



8. In the message, click Ok.

The dashboard that you configured is the active dashboard on the page and a global toolbar is available for use with the dashboard. The dashboard is also available on the **All** and **My Dashboards** tabs on the **Dashboard Library** page.

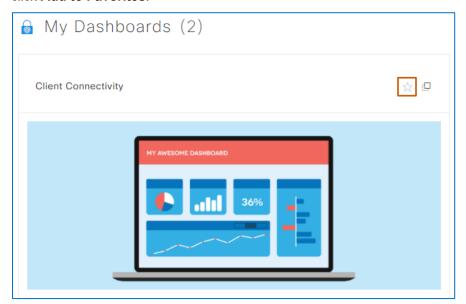




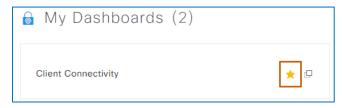
You can identify custom dashboards as favorites, which makes them available on the **Favorite Dashboards** tab.

To make the dashboard available on the Favorite Dashboards tab:

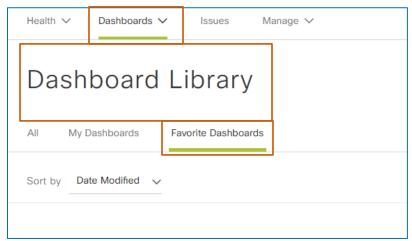
 On any dashboard tab displaying the dashboard, to the right of the dashboard name, click Add to Favorites.



The icon turns yellow to indicate that the dashboard is included as a favorite...



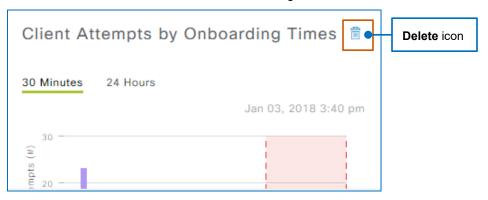
...and the dashboard is available on the **Favorite Dashboards** tab on the **Dashboard Library** page.



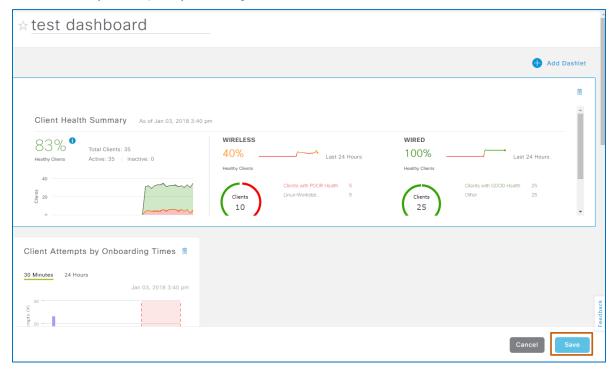


To edit custom dashboards that you have added:

- 1. Open the dashboard page, and then, on the Actions menu, select Edit Dashboard
- 2. To add or reposition dashlets, follow steps 4a 4d in configuring a custom page.
- 3. To remove a dashlet, beside the dashlet heading, click **Delete**.



4. When you complete your changes, click Save.





To delete custom dashboards that you have added:

Open the dashboard page, and then, on the **Actions** menu, select **Delete Dashboard**.
 A system message opens so that you can confirm the action.



2. To continue, click Delete.

The system removes the dashboard.

Reviewing Detailed Information by Category

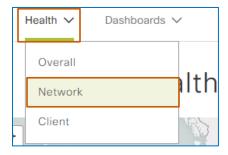
The system provides various ways for you to navigate to see only network infrastructure or client health information.



Important Note: When you apply a site filter on the **Overall Health** page, and then navigate to network infrastructure or client health information, the system applies the same site filter to that page automatically.

To open the Network Health page:

On the Health menu, select Network.



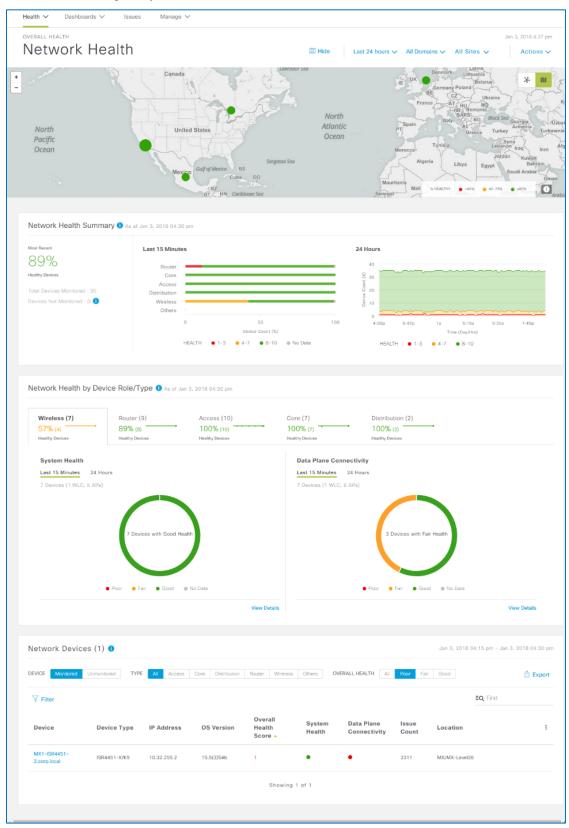
In the Overall Health Summary dashlet, under Network, click View Network Health.





Recognizing Assurance Features

Either action navigates you to detailed network health metrics for all of the network sites.

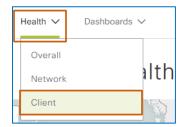




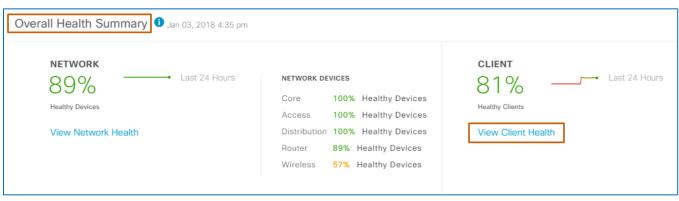
Recognizing Assurance Features

To open the Client Health page:

On the Health menu, select Client.



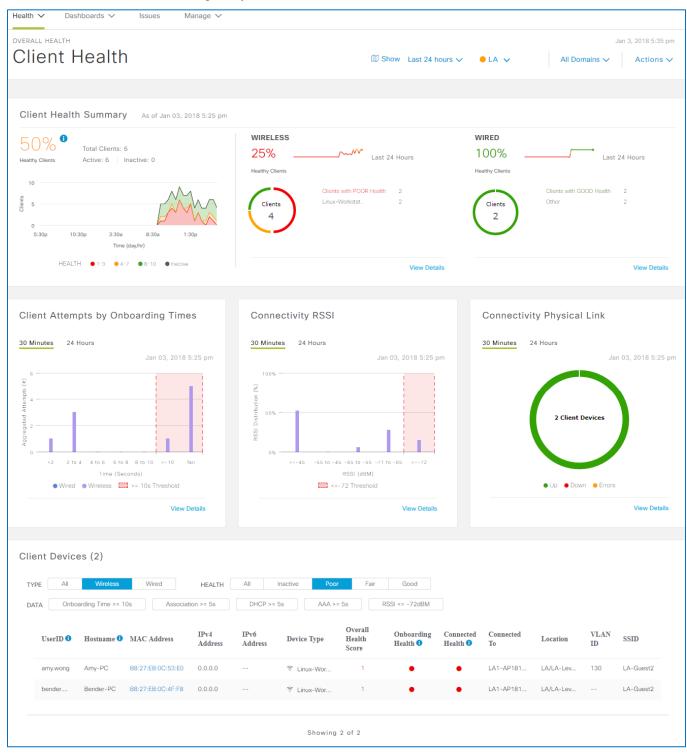
• In the Overall Health Summary dashlet, under Client, click View Client Health.





Recognizing Assurance Features

Either action navigates you to detailed client health metrics for all of the network sites.





To open detailed network infrastructure or client health pages for a specific location:

On the geographical map, click an icon that represents an individual location.
 A pop-up window opens with summary health metrics.



- 2. To open detailed health information for the location:
 - To open client health details, click Clients.
 - To open network infrastructure health details, click Network Devices.

The system navigates to the applicable health details page, filtered to display the information for the location that you selected.



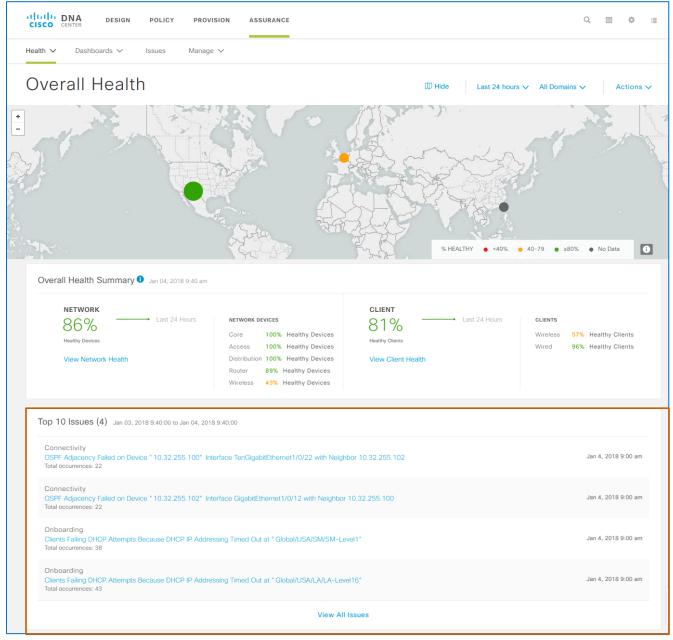
Reviewing Issues

The **Overall Health** page summarizes <u>up to 10 of the most critical issues</u> so that users can determine whether an item might need more immediate attention due to the number of affected users.

Each issue item includes the type of issue, a summarized description of the issue, the number of times the issue has occurred for the time period that is applied to the page, and the most recent date and time that it occurred.



Note: To review a list of the issues that Cisco DNA Center logs, <u>refer to the</u>
<u>Issue Catalog topic in the Cisco Digital Network Architecture Center User</u>
<u>Guide</u>.





Recognizing Assurance Features

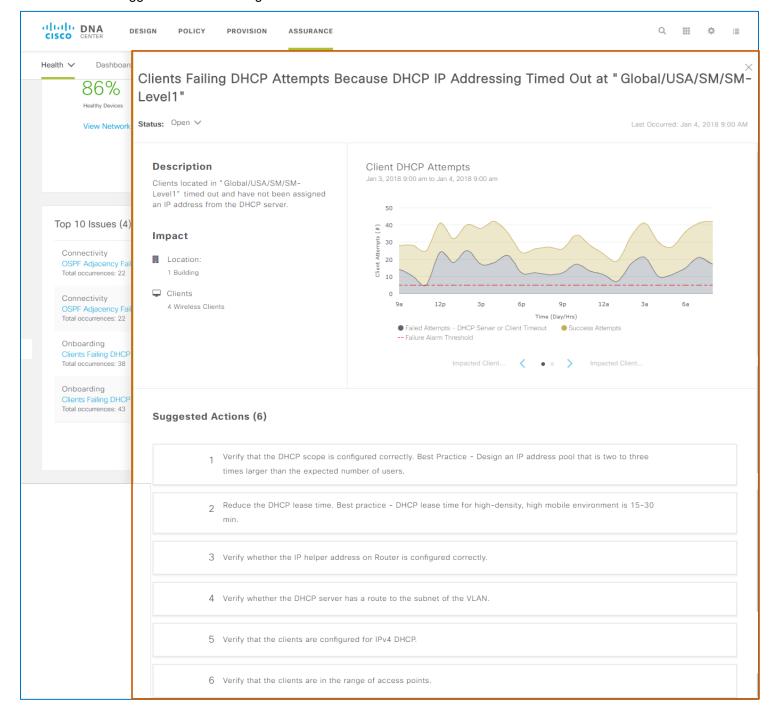
To open details for an issue listed in the Top 10 Issues list:

In the list, click the issue description link.

Onboarding
Clients Failing DHCP Attempts Because DHCP IP Addressing Timed Out at "Global/USA/SM/SM-Level1"
Total occurrences: 38

Jan 4, 2018 9:00 am

A panel opens with detailed information about the issue, metrics, affected locations or clients, and suggestions for resolving the issue.



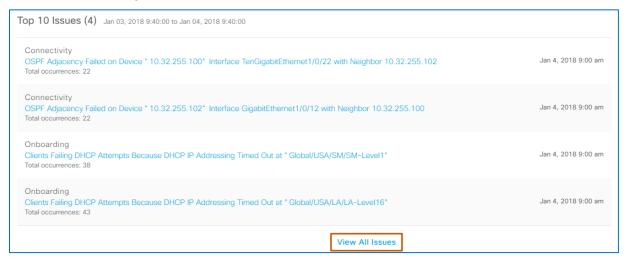


To open lists of all of the open and resolved issues:

On the menu bar, click Issues.

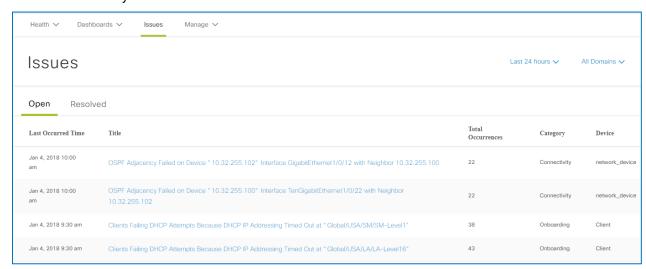


Below the Top 10 Issues list, click View All Issues.



The **Issues** page opens and provides complete lists of open and resolved issues, which the system retains for a rolling 7 day period.

The system does not close issues automatically. System users can change an open issue to a resolved status manually. Or, <u>based on the time period applied to the page</u>, the issue will not appear on the list if it has not occurred within that time period, up to the 7 day retention limit.



Search icon



Core Software Group

Searching for Devices, Users, or Client Endpoints

Cisco DNA Center provides a global search function that returns results on various network infrastructure, user names, and client endpoint parameters.

When you receive notifications of issues that affect specific network users or network devices, you can use this feature for more efficient navigation to the metrics that you need to evaluate.

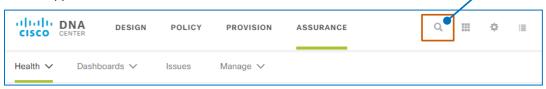


Tip: For a complete list of search parameters, in the **Search** dialog box, click **Learn More**.

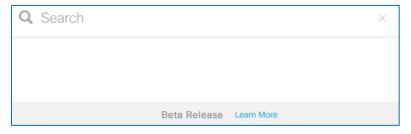


To perform a search:

1. On the application toolbar, click the search icon.



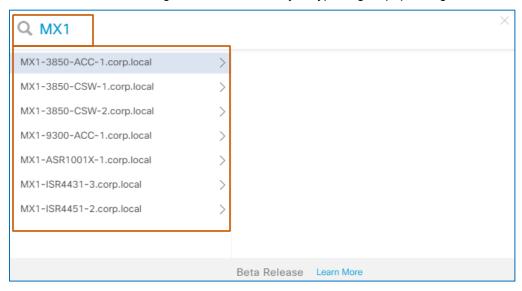
The **Search** dialog box opens.





Recognizing Assurance Features

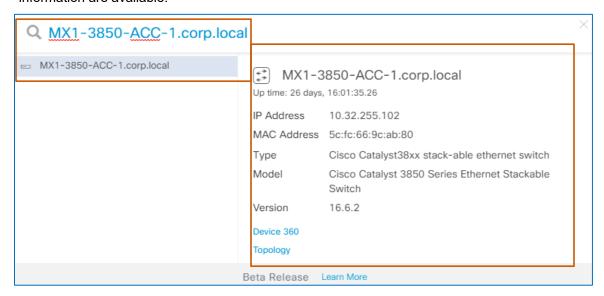
In the Search field, begin typing the applicable character string.
 A list of results matching the characters that you type begins populating automatically.



3. To open details about an item in the list, click the item.



Details about the item open in the dialog box and, based on the item type, links to more information are available.





Core Software Group Links

Links

To Product Information

Visit the Cisco Web site to learn more about Cisco DNA Center.

Visit the Cisco Web site to review or download technical documentation.

To Training

Visit the Cisco Web site to access learning opportunities for other Cisco products.

To Contact Us

Send us a message with questions or comments about this training.



Note: Please send messages that address training content only.

Follow your regular business process to request technical support or address technical or application-related questions.