

Install AppDynamics Node.js Agent

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Introduction

This document describes how to install and configure the AppDynamics Node.js Agent to monitor a Node.js application for performance metrics.

Prerequisites

Requirements

To proceed with the setup, ensure you meet the following:

- Familiarity with Node.js and Express framework
- A working application or use the application present in GitHub link from Related Information section
- Basic understanding of environment variables and application structure
- Access to AppDynamics SaaS or On-Prem Controller
- API access credentials (Account Name, Access Key, Controller Host/Port)

Components Used

The information in this document is based on these software versions:

- Node.js v18.x

- AppDynamics Node.js Agent 24.x
- AppDynamics Controller (On-prem or SaaS)
- There is a GitHub link in the Related information section which has complete application

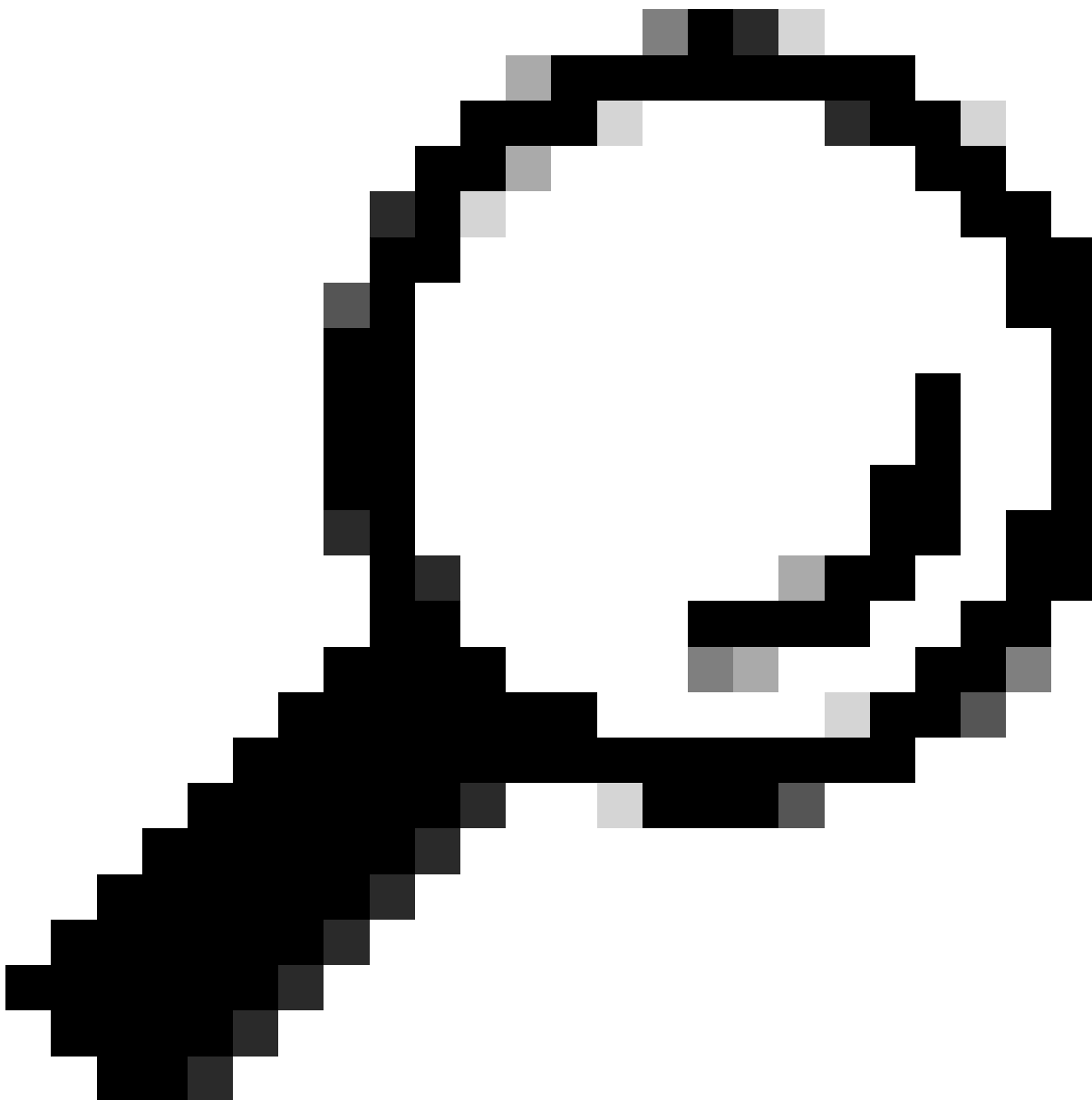
The information in this document was created from the devices in a specific lab environment. All of the devices used in this document started with a cleared (default) configuration. If your network is live, ensure that you understand the potential impact of any command.

Background Information

The AppDynamics Node.js Agent allows you to instrument and monitor your Node.js applications. It captures business transaction data, backend response times, memory usage, and CPU metrics, and sends them to the AppDynamics Controller.

To collect metrics properly, the agent must be initialized before any other user application modules are loaded. The agent communicates over HTTP(S) with the Controller and requires controller host, port, and access key details to function correctly.

Configure



Tip: Please ensure to replace all variable with your actual AppDynamics Controller details in the configuration snippet.

Step 1: Install the Agent

Install the AppDynamics Node.js Agent using NPM:

```
npm install appdynamics --save
```

Step 2: Embed Configuration in Code

Add the code at the very top of your main file (app.js or index.js), before any other modules:

```
require("appdynamics").profile({
  controllerHostName: 'ControllerURL',
  controllerPort: ControllerPort,
  controllerSslEnabled: true, // Set to true if controllerPort is SSL
  accountName: 'accountName',
  accountAccessKey: 'accountAccessKey', // required
  applicationName: 'Hello_World_NodeJS', // Change the name of application
  tierName: 'Hello_World_NodeJS_Tier', // Change the name of tier
  nodeName: 'Hello_World_NodeJS_Node', //// Change the name of node
});
```

Step 3: Add Your Application Logic

```
const express = require('express');
const app = express();
const port = 3000;

app.get('/', (req, res) => {
  res.send('Hello World!');
});

app.listen(port, () => {
  console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`);
});
```

Verify

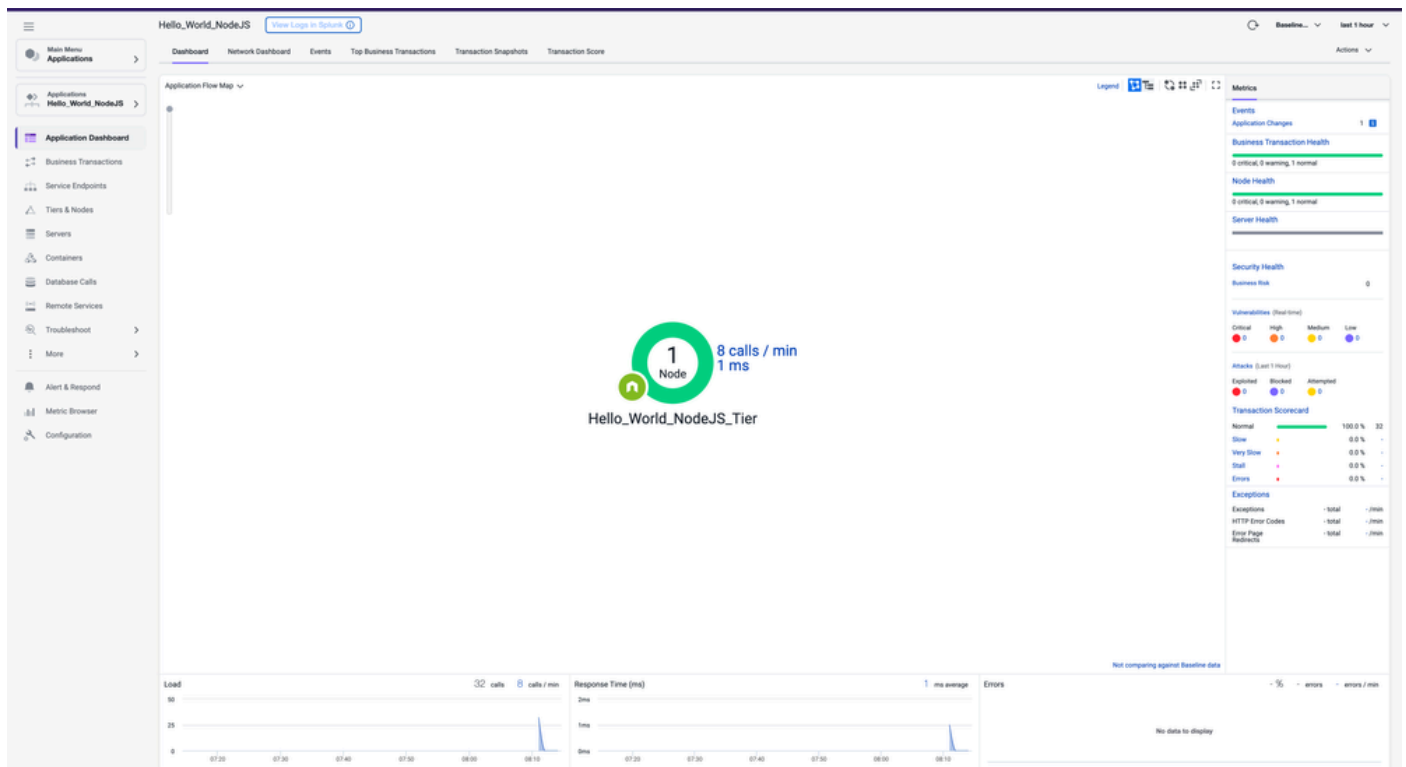
Step 1: Start Your App

```
node app.js
```

- Apply load on the application

Step 2: Go to AppDynamics Dashboard

- Log in to your AppDynamics Controller
- Navigate to **Applications > Hello_World_NodeJS**
- Look for metrics and flow maps within 5 minutes



Troubleshoot

Issue	Possible Cause	Resolution
App does not appear in dashboard	Agent not initialized before app code	Ensure require('appdynamics') is first line
Agent installation fails	Missing permissions or no internet or incompatible OS	Run with elevated permissions or ensure that using supported platforms
401 access error	Incorrect accountAccessKey or accountName	Double-check credentials from AppDynamics Controller

Related Information

[AppDynamics Documentation](#)

[Install the Node.js Agent](#)

[GitHub Node.js AppDynamics Demo](#)

Need Further Assistance?

If you have a question or experiencing issues, please create a [support ticket](#) with these details:

- **Error Details or Screenshot:** Provide specific error message or a screenshot of the problem.
- **Command Used:** Specify the exact command you were running when the issue occurred.
- **Node agent logs :** Provide the agent logs from `/tmp/appd/*/logs/` if generated.