



# Traffic Management Overview

---

- [Scope, on page 1](#)
- [Traditional Traffic Management, on page 1](#)
- [Traffic Management on Your Router, on page 1](#)
- [Limitations of the VoQ Model, on page 2](#)
- [Cisco Modular QoS CLI to Deploy QoS, on page 3](#)

## Scope

Read this configuration guide to understand the overall architecture that powers the Cisco Quality of Service (QoS) technology, and also how to use its features to configure and manage the traffic bandwidth and packet loss parameters on your network.

## Traditional Traffic Management

In traditional methods of traffic management, traffic packets are sent to the egress output queues without taking into consideration the egress interface availability to transmit.

Therein lies the problem as well. In case of a traffic congestion, the traffic packets may get dropped at the egress port. Which means that the network resources spent getting the packets from the ingress input queue across the switch fabric to the output queues at egress are wasted. That is not all—input queues buffer traffic meant for different egress ports, so congestion on one egress port could affect traffic on another port, an event referred to as head-of-line-blocking.

## Traffic Management on Your Router

Your router's Network Processing Unit (NPU) uses a coupled ingress-egress virtual output queuing (VoQ)-based forwarding architecture to manage traffic.



There is also an increase in the number of credit connectors from each scheduler for each egress port on pre-existing NPUs to each slice in the newly inserted NPU.

## Cisco Modular QoS CLI to Deploy QoS

Cisco Modular QoS CLI (MQC) framework is the Cisco IOS QoS user language that enables:

- a standard Command Line Interface (CLI) and semantics for QoS features.
- simple and accurate configurations.
- QoS provisioning within the context of an extensible language.

For your router, in the egress direction, two types of MQC policies are supported: queuing and marking. You use the queuing policy to configure credit scheduling hierarchy, rates, priority, buffering, and congestion avoidance. You use the marking policy to classify and mark packets that have been scheduled for transmission. Even when a queuing policy is not applied, there is an implicit queuing policy with TC7 - P1, TC6 - P2, TC5 - TC0 (6 x Pn), so packets marked with TC7 and control inject packets are always prioritized over other packets. In the ingress, only one policy is supported for classification and marking.

You can apply queuing and marking policy independent of each other or together in the egress direction. If you apply both policies together, the queuing policy actions are provisioned first, followed by marking policy actions.

### Important Points about MQC Egress Queuing Policy

These are important points that you must know about the MQC egress queuing policy:

- The MQC queuing policy consists of a set of class maps, which are added to a policy map. You control queuing and scheduling parameters for that traffic class by applying actions to the policy.
- **class-default** always matches **traffic-class 0**. Also, no other class can match **traffic-class 0**.
- If a traffic class has no matching class in the applied policy map, it always matches class-default. In other words, it uses the **traffic-class 0** VoQ.
- Each unique combination of traffic classes that match **class-default** require a separate traffic class (TC) profile. The number of TC profiles are limited to 8 for main interfaces and 8 for sub-interfaces.
- You cannot configure multiple traffic classes with the same priority level.
- Each priority level, when configured, must be configured to the class that matches the corresponding TC as shown in the following table.

Priority Level	Traffic Class
P1	7
P2	6
P3	5
P4	4
P5	3

Priority Level	Traffic Class
P6	2
P7	1

- If all the priority levels configured in a policy-map are sorted, they must be contiguous. In other words, you cannot skip a priority level. For example, P1 P2 P4 (skipping P3), is not allowed.
- MQC supports up to two levels (parent, child) of queuing policy. The parent level aggregates all the traffic classes and whereas the child level differentiates traffic classes using MQC classes.
- Only these actions are supported in the queuing policy:
  - priority
  - shape
  - bandwidth remaining ratio
  - queue-limit
  - Random Early Detection (RED)
  - Priority flow control
- You can have only one match traffic-class value in the class map.
- You cannot apply a queuing policy to a main interface and its sub-interfaces.