

Release Plan 2.8.0 (April 2021)

Release Dates

- KIP Freeze: Jan 27, 2021 (A KIP must be accepted by this date in order to be considered for this release. Note, any KIP that may not be implemented in a week, or that might destabilize the release, should be deferred.)
- Feature Freeze: Feb 3, 2021 (major features merged & working on stabilization, minor features have PR, release branch cut; anything not in this state will be automatically moved to the next release in JIRA)
- Code Freeze: Feb 17, 2021
- At least two weeks of stabilization will follow code freeze.
- **Released: 19 April 2021**

These dates are goals and subject to change, but we expect to stay on the [Time Based Release Plan](#) unless unexpected critical issues come up. While the earliest possible release date is 2w after code freeze, RCs will roll out as needed until the release vote passes.

The release manager is [John Roesler](#)

How to Contribute


Before code freeze:

- Participate in votes and discussions to land or postpone the open KIPs.
- Review patches. We anticipate that this release will be bottlenecked mostly on reviews. The more reviewers, the more content we can fit in.
- Write unit/integration/system tests. We want to preserve the tradition of high-quality releases in Apache Kafka.

After code freeze:

- Write more unit/integration/system tests. We want to preserve the tradition of high-quality releases in Apache Kafka.
- Improve documentation
- Test the release candidates
- Open blocker JIRAs on critical issues found. Open non-blocker JIRAs on any other issues found.
- Fix critical bugs
- Review bug fixes
- Vote on RCs. Even though only PMC votes are binding, community votes are super important as we evaluate the readiness of the release


Open Issues








key	summary	type	created	updated	due	assignee	reporter	priority	status	resolution
 JQL and issue key arguments for this macro require at least one Jira application link to be configured										




Also feel free to refer to this release [page](#) for more details of the included tickets.

Planned KIP Content




Note: The planned content is not binding - final content will be based the features committed by branch-cutting date. See [Kafka Improvement Proposals](#) for the full list of KIPs.

KIP	JIRA	Component
KIP-700: Add Describe Cluster API	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Core

KIP-696: Update Streams FSM to clarify ERROR state meaning	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Streams
KIP-689: Extend `StreamJoined` to allow more store configs	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Streams
KIP-684 - Support mutual TLS authentication on SASL_SSL listeners	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Core
KIP-680: TopologyTestDriver should not require a Properties argument	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Streams
KIP-676: Respect logging hierarchy	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Core
KIP-673: Emit JSONs with new auto-generated schema	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Core
KIP-671: Introduce Kafka Streams Specific Uncaught Exception Handler	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Streams
KIP-663: API to Start and Shut Down Stream Threads	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Streams
KIP-661: Expose task configurations in Connect REST API	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Connect

KIP-659: Improve TimeWindowedDeserializer and TimeWindowedSerde to handle window size	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Streams
KIP-612: Ability to Limit Connection Creation Rate on Brokers	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Core
KIP-572: Improve timeouts and retries in Kafka Streams	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Streams

Postponed to subsequent release

KIP	JIRA	Component
KIP-679: Producer will enable the strongest delivery guarantee by default	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Core
KIP-622: Add currentSystemTimeMs and currentStreamTimeMs to ProcessorContext	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Streams
KIP-695: Further Improve Kafka Streams Timestamp Synchronization	 Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.	Consumer, Streams