

The number of Internet of Things (IoT) connected devices is set to spike in the near future, Juniper Research reports-- from 13.4 billion in 2015 to 38.5bn in 2020, an increase of over 285%.



Driving such growth are industrial and public services sectors, such as retail, agriculture, smart buildings and smart grid applications, thanks to a "much stronger business case."

However the analyst warns the IoT represents a "huge challenge"-- one needs to know what information to gather, as well as how to integrate said information into back office systems. After all, mere connections only produce data, which only becomes information once it is gathered, analysed and understood through an analytics back-end.

Slowing progress further are interoperability hurdles caused by conflicting standards, although standards bodies and alliance are starting to work on overcoming such issues.

"[The Io] represents the combination of devices and software systems, connected via the Internet, that produce, receive and analyse data," Juniper Research says. "These systems must have the aim of transcending traditional siloed ecosystems of electronic information in order to improve quality of life, efficiency, create value and reduce cost."

Go [IoT Connected Devices to Almost Triple to Over 38bn Units by 2020 \(Juniper Research\)](#)