THE DOMAIN NAME INDUSTRY BRIEF

As a global provider of domain name registry services and internet infrastructure, Verisign reviews the state of the domain name industry each quarter through a variety of statistical and analytical research, as well as relevant industry insights. Verisign provides this brief to highlight important trends in domain name registrations, including key performance indicators and growth opportunities, to industry analysts, media and businesses.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The second quarter of 2022 closed with 351.5 million domain name registrations across all top-level domains, an increase of 1.0 million domain name registrations, or 0.3%, compared to the first quarter of 2022. Domain name registrations have increased by 10.4 million, or 3.0%, year over year.

The .com and .net TLDs had a combined total of 174.3 million domain name registrations in the domain name base at the end of the second quarter of 2022, a decrease of 0.4 million domain name registrations, or 0.2%, compared to the first quarter of 2022. The .com and .net TLDs had a combined increase of 3.7 million domain name registrations, or 2.2%, year over year. As of June 30, 2022, the .com domain name base totaled 161.1 million domain name registrations, and the .net domain name base totaled 13.2 million domain name registrations.

New .com and .net domain name registrations totaled 10.1 million at the end of the second quarter of 2022, compared to 11.7 million domain name registrations at the end of the second quarter of 2021.

Total country-code TLD domain name registrations were 134.1 million at the end of the second quarter of 2022, an increase of 0.7 million domain name registrations, or 0.5%, compared to the first quarter of 2022. ccTLDs increased by 2.6 million domain name registrations, or 2.0%, year-over-year.

Total new-generic TLD domain name registrations were 27.0 million at the end of the second quarter of 2022, an increase of 0.7 million domain name registrations, or 2.6%, compared to the first quarter of 2022. ngTLDs increased by 4.1 million domain name registrations, or 18.1%, year over year.

As of June 30, 2022, the 10 largest TLDs by number of reported domain names were .com, .cn, .de, .net, .uk, .org, .nl, .ru, .br and .xyz.
The top 10 ccTLDs, as of June 30, 2022, were .cn, .de, .uk, .nl, .ru, .br, .fr, .eu, .au and .it. As of June 30, 2022, there were 308 global ccTLD extensions delegated in the root zone, including internationalized domain names, with the top 10 ccTLDs comprising 60.1% of all ccTLD domain name registrations.
ngTLDs AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL TLDs
Source: ZookNIC, Q2 2022; Verisign, Q2 2022; and Centralized Zone Data Service, Q2 2022

The top 10 ngTLDs represented 51.7% of all ngTLD domain name registrations. The following chart shows ngTLD domain name registrations as a percentage of overall TLD domain name registrations, of which they represent 7.7%. In addition, the chart on the right highlights the top 10 ngTLDs as a percentage of all ngTLD domain name registrations for the second quarter of 2022.

GEOGRAPHICAL ngTLDs AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CORRESPONDING GEOGRAPHICAL TLDs
Source: ZookNIC, Q2 2022 and Centralized Zone Data Service, Q2 2022

As of June 30, 2022, there were 51 ngTLDs delegated that met the following criteria: 1) had a geographical focus and 2) had more than 1,000 domain name registrations since entering general availability. The chart on the left summarizes the domain name registrations as of June 30, 2022, for the listed ccTLDs and the corresponding geographical ngTLDs within the same geographic region. In addition, the chart on the right highlights the top 10 geographical ngTLDs as a percentage of the total geographical TLDs.
MORE MYSTERIOUS DNS ROOT QUERY TRAFFIC FROM A LARGE CLOUD/DNS OPERATOR

With so much traffic on the global internet day after day, it’s not always easy to spot the occasional irregularity. That’s why when something does catch our attention, it’s important that the various entities work together to explore the cause and, more importantly, try to identify whether it’s a malicious actor at work, a glitch in the process or maybe even something entirely intentional.

CELEBRATING WOMEN ENGINEERS TODAY AND EVERY DAY AT VERISIGN

At Verisign, we recognize and honor the real impact of all our women engineers’ contributions when it comes to ensuring that the internet is secure, stable and resilient. Today and every day, we celebrate Verisign’s women engineers whose own stories have helped shape dreams and encouraged young women and girls to take up engineering careers. We thank you for all you’ve done and everything you’re yet to accomplish.
ABOUT VERISIGN

Verisign, a global provider of domain name registry services and internet infrastructure, enables internet navigation for many of the world’s most recognized domain names. Verisign enables the security, stability, and resiliency of key internet infrastructure and services, including providing root zone maintainer services, operating two of the 13 global internet root servers, and providing registration services and authoritative resolution for the .com and .net top-level domains, which support the majority of global e-commerce. To learn more about what it means to be Powered by Verisign, please visit verisign.com.

LEARN MORE

To access the archives for The Domain Name Industry Brief, please go to verisign.com/dnibarchives. Email your comments or questions to domainbrief@verisign.com.

METHODOLOGY

The data presented in this brief, including quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year metrics, reflects information available to Verisign at the time of this brief and may incorporate changes and adjustments to previously reported periods based on additional information received since the date of such prior reports, so as to more accurately reflect the growth rate of domain name registrations. In addition, the data available for this brief may not include data for all of the 308 ccTLD extensions that are delegated to the root zone, and includes only the data available at the time of the preparation of this brief. Beginning with Vol. 19, Issue 1 of The Domain Name Industry Brief, the .tk, .cf, .ga, .gq and .ml ccTLDs have been excluded from all applicable calculations. The historical data has been adjusted from Vol. 19, Issue 1 forward.

For generic TLD and ccTLD data cited with ZookNIC as a source, the ZookNIC analysis uses a comparison of domain name root zone file changes supplemented with other authoritative data sources and independent approximations. For more information, see zooknic.com.

1 Per the Editor’s Note in Vol. 19, Issue 1 of The Domain Name Industry Brief, all figure(s) exclude domain names in the .tk, .cf, .ga, .gq and .ml ccTLDs operated by Freenom. Quarterly and year-over-year trends have been calculated relative to historical figures that have also been adjusted to exclude these five ccTLDs.

2 The generic TLD, ngTLD and ccTLD data cited in this brief: (i) includes ccTLD internationalized domain names, (ii) is an estimate as of the time this brief was developed and (iii) is subject to change as more complete data is received. Some numbers in this brief may reflect standard rounding.

3 The domain name base is the active zone plus the number of domain names that are registered but not configured for use in the respective TLD zone file plus the number of domain names that are in a client or server hold status. The .com and .net domain name registration figures are as reported in Verisign’s most recent SEC filings.

4 Line break indicates that the .com line has been shortened for display considerations.