Council of European National Top-Level Domain Registries

DomainWire Global TLD Stat Report is CENTR's quarterly publication covering status and trends in global top-level domains with a focus on European ccTLDs (country code top-level domains).

CENTR is the association of European country code top-level domain (ccTLD) registries, such as .de for Germany or .si for Slovenia. CENTR currently counts 53 full and 9 associate members – together, they are responsible for over 80% of all registered domain names worldwide. The objectives of CENTR are to promote and participate in the development of high standards and best practices among ccTLD registries.

DomainWire

Global TLD Stat Report

Edition 16 – Q2 2016

CENTR vzw/asbl · Belliardstraat 20 (6th floor) · 1040 Brussels, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 627 5550 · Fax: +32 2 627 5559 · secretariat@centr.org · www.centr.org

Global Market

Volume, Growth & Distribution

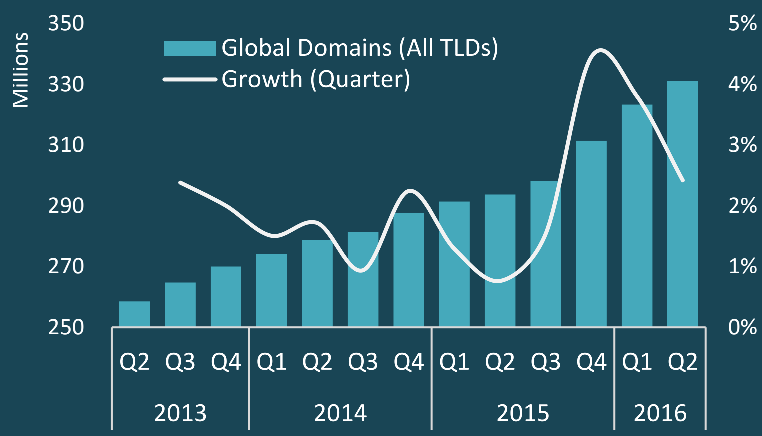
Q2/2016

Q2/2016: There are just over 331 million domains combined across all top-level domains (TLDs) globally – an increase of 2.4% over Q2 2016.

After the 'Chinese boom' in domain sales during the second half of 2015 (see previous editions), growth in the Q2 has begun to return to pre-boom levels, although the rate is still higher than the same period in the previous 2 years. This suggests that although the boom has slowed, it may not be completely finished.

New gTLDs grew a combined 33% with a median growth of 4.0%. The ccTLDs and legacy gTLDs grew a combined 1.1% and 0.56% respectively with median growth higher for ccTLDs.

MARKET SHARE (GLOBAL): Global distribution between TLD categories charted is weighted toward gTLDs (legacy and new combined). ccTLDs (inc IDN ccTLDs) have a combined 45% of the global market (246 TLDs), with 49% for legacy gTLDs (18 TLDs) and 6.4% for new gTLDs (1030 TLDs).

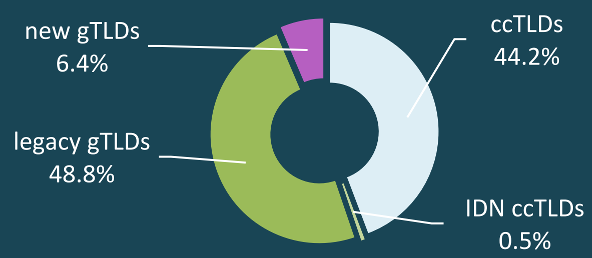


GLOBAL OVERVIEW

	Domains (million)	Combined Growth	Median Growth
ccTLDs	145.5	1.14%	0.92%
IDN ccTLDs	1.8	0.01%	0.04%
Legacy gTLDs	162.5	0.56%	0.47%
New gTLDs	21.3	32.8%	4.0%
Total	**331.1**	**2.42%**	

Legacy gTLDs = biz, com, info, mobi, net, org, aero, asia, cat, jobs, museum, name, post, pro, tel, travel. New gTLDs median calculated using top 400 largest TLDs and does not include brand TLDs

GLOBAL MARKET SHARE



LARGEST ccTLDS BY DOMAIN VOLUME

(million)

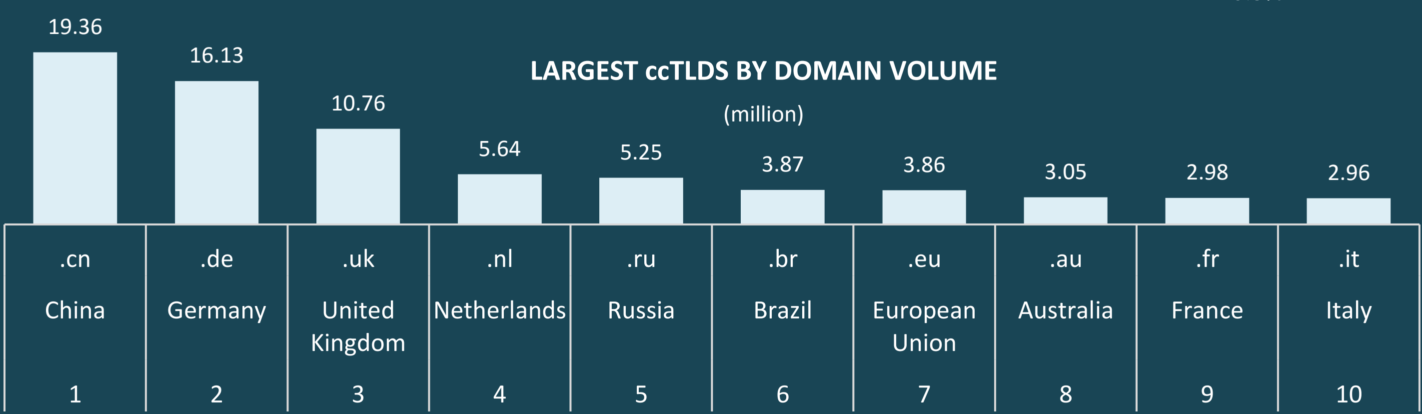


Chart does not include ccTLDs which give free domains such as .tk (Tokelau)

European ccTLDs Q2/2016

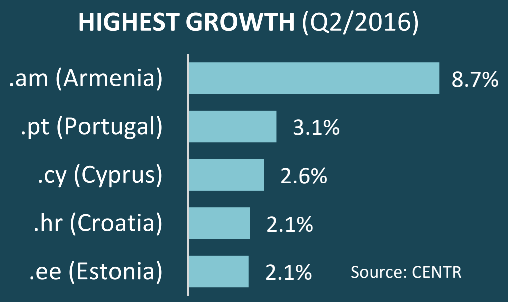
Volume, Growth & Country Market Share

The European ccTLD market is estimated at around 69 million domains with a growth of 168K domains (0.2%) over the second quarter 2016.

Median growth in Europe has stabilised slightly over the past 6 months highlighted in the chart, which shows the usual peak observed in April-May (pre-summer in Europe) as having reached a similar rate to that of the same period in the previous year.

As seen in the chart, the recent Chinese boom in domain sales had relatively little impact on European ccTLDs when compared to gTLDs.

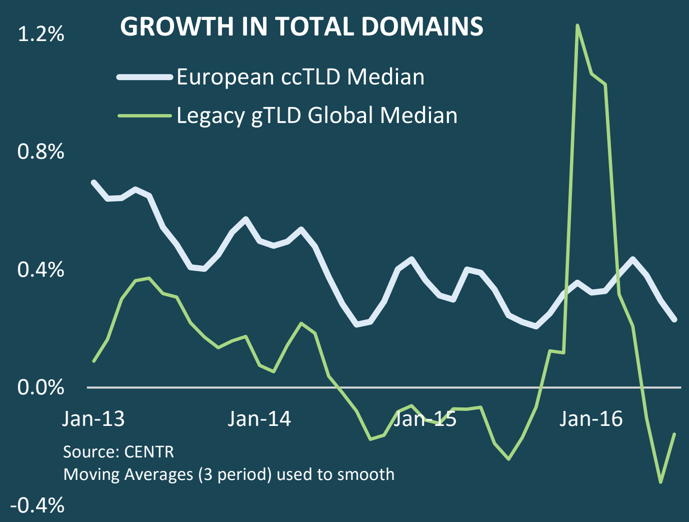
High percentage growth ccTLDs were .am (Armenia), .pt (Portugal) and .cy (Cyprus).

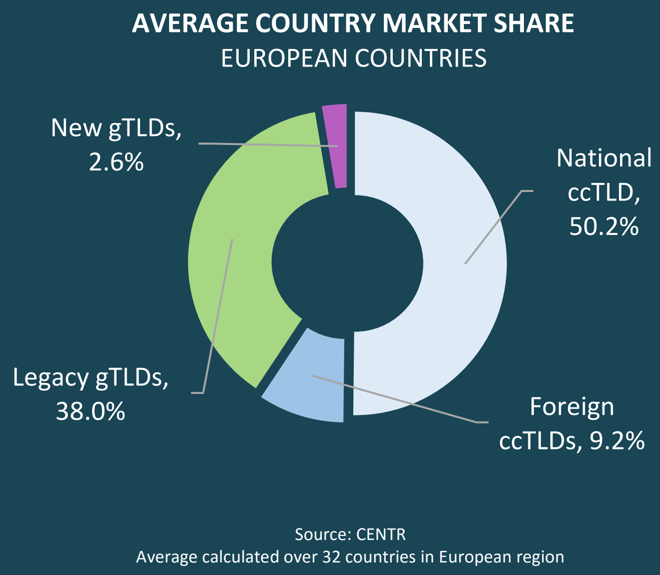


Average market share of European ccTLDs in their country markets is around 51%. Legacy gTLDs saw a small decrease over Q2 while new gTLDs increased marginally to 2.6%. Geo-TLDs such as .berlin, .paris, .london are often the largest of all new gTLDs registered within a European country.

Fundamentals *Q2 2016*

Est. market size (ccTLD domains)	68.4 million
Combined Growth:	168K / 0.2%
Highest % Growth (Domains):	.am (Armenia) 8.7%
Highest DNSSEC signed (% zone):	.no (Norway) 58.4%
Av. ccTLD market share (local market):	51.2%

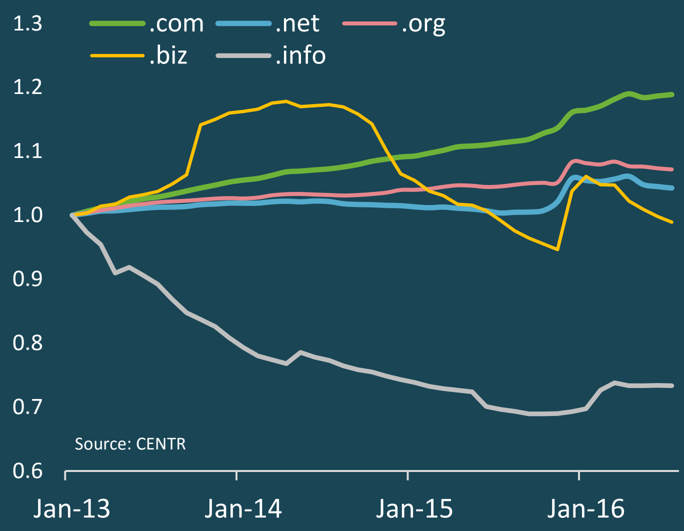




Legacy gTLDs grew a combined 0.56% in Q2 2016 to almost 163 million domains. The growth is a slowdown of roughly 1% compared to the previous quarter most likely due to slowing Chinese invesment.

The chart (right) shows evolution of the larger legacy gTLDs normalised to the same starting point of January 2013. It shows clearly the peaks during the Chinese boom however also highlights that .com has performed relatively well throughout the post boom period – ie. it has continued to climb while others flattened or declined.

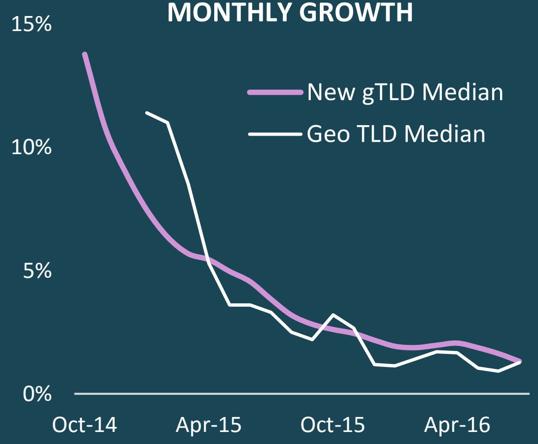
GROWTH
RUNNING TOTAL (%) SINCE 2013



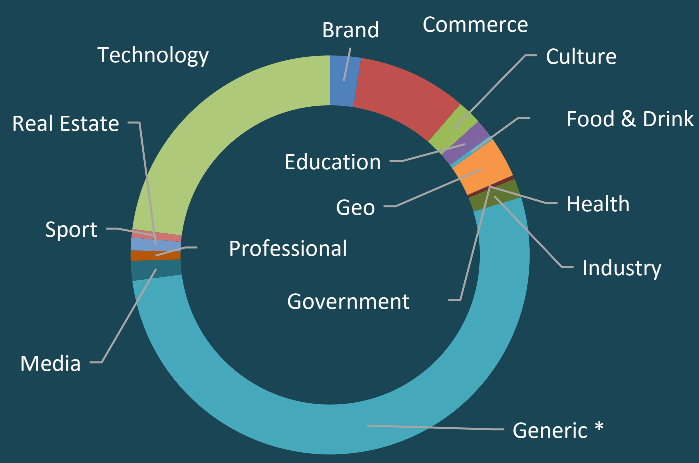
New gTLDs grew a combined 33% to 21.3 million over Q2 2016 with a median growth of 4.0% (top 400). In terms of combined gTLDs (legacy and new), new gTLDs represent just 12% - a relatively low figure considering number of unique new gTLDS already delegated. Not surprisingly, most volume in new gTLDs is found within the more generic strings (such as .xyz, .top, .club etc).

The largest growth for Q2 was .vip which came into general availability in May and has since attained some 280K domains. Median growth is beginning to flatten signs of stabilisation between 1% and 1.5% per month – similar between all new gTLDs and the geo-TLDs (such as .paris, .london etc)

MONTHLY GROWTH



NEW GTLD VOLUME BY CATEGORY



Source: CENTR *Generic category refers to TLDs which cannot be placed easily into one of the defined categories. They use either a very generic word or have no specific focus

SOURCES

Data in this report is sourced from the following: CENTR, ZookNic, the ICANN CZDAP service and direct zone downloads with TLD operators. CENTR would like to thank the support of the Regional Organisations (LACTLD, APTLD and AFTLD) for their continued support in the development of statistical reporting for the global ccTLD community. ccTLD data sourced by CENTR comes via direct automated communication with CENTR ccTLD members, CENTR surveys and other ongoing data collection.

When the term European ccTLDs' definition is used within this report, it generally refers to a combination of following: .am, .at, .be, .bg, .by, .ch, .cy, .cz, .срб, .de, .dk, .ee, .es, .eu, .fi, .fo, .fr, .gg, .gi, .gr, .hr, .hu, .ie, .im, .is, .it, .je, .li, .lt, .lu, .lv, .me, .mt, .nl, .no, .pl, .pt, .РФ , .ro, .rs, .ru, .se, .si, .sk, .tr, .ua, .uk, .va,
The aggregated values of this group are estimated to represent at least 95% of domain registrations from ccTLDs based in Europe.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ccTLD – a Country Code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) is a top level domain used and reserved for a country or dependent territory. Examples include .uk for the United Kingdom or .de for Germany. Each country appoints a manager of its ccTLD and sets the rules for allocating domains.
gTLD – a Generic Top Level Domain (gTLD) is a top level domain that is open to registrants worldwide in contrast to a Country Code Top Level Domain that are often restricted to registrants located in a particular country. The more popular gTLDs are .com, .org and .net
ccTLD IDN – an IDN is a domain name that includes characters used in the local representation of languages that are not written with the twenty-six letters of the basic Latin alphabet (a-z). An IDN can contain Latin letters with diacritical marks, as required by many European languages, or may consist of characters from non-Latin scripts such as Arabic or Chinese. A ccTLD IDN is an IDN at the top level – eg., the ccTLD IDN for the Russian Federation is .РФ which is the Cyrillic script version of .RF (Russian Federation).
sTLD – a Sponsored Top Level Domain (sTLD) is another form of a gTLD overseen by ICANN. An example of a sTLD is .cat for the Catalonia region.
Registrant – The individual or organisation that registers a specific domain name. They hold the right to use that domain name for a specified period of time (often one year however multi-year registrations are increasingly popular).
Registry – An internet domain name registry receives domain name information into a centralised database and transmits the information in internet zone files on the internet so that domain names can be found by users around the world via the worldwide web and email.

ABOUT CENTR

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For any questions on this report, please contact patrick@centr.org