Council of European National
Top-Level Domain Registries

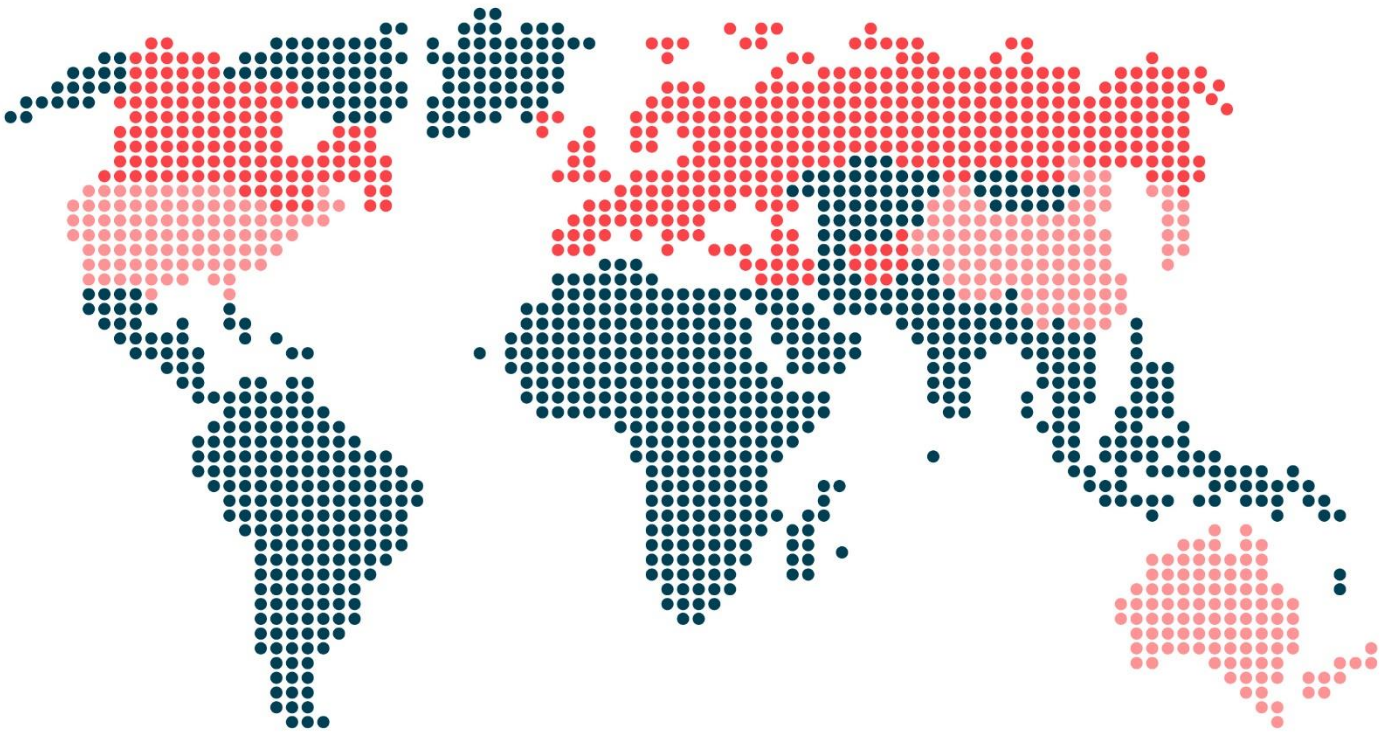
DomainWire Global TLD Stat Report is CENTR's quarterly publication covering status and trends in global top-level domains with a focus on European ccTLDs (country code top-level domains).

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 54 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

Q2 2017 *(Edition 20)*



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Global **TLD** market

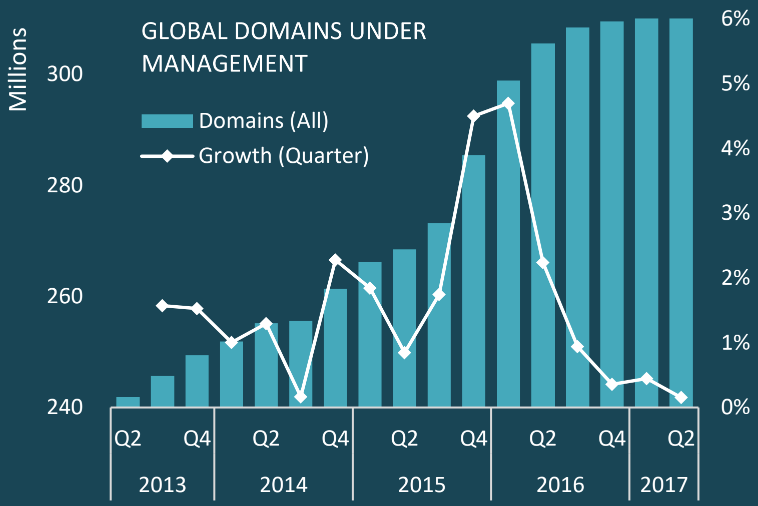
Volume / Growth / Market Share

Q2/2017

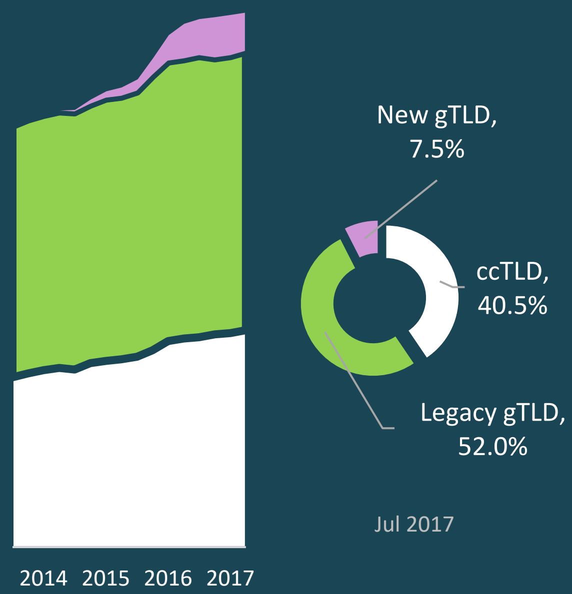
Global Market - At the end of Q2 2017, there were around 312 million domain names across all top-level domains (TLDs) globally[1] - combined growth of 1.9% year on year.

Many of the domains associated with growth spikes seen 12 months ago may not have renewed resulting in the dip now observed in Q1 and Q2 2017. This was also observed in a reduction in average gTLD renewal rates.

Market Share – The global market share over the 3 TLD groups below indicate a small increasing trend in favour of ccTLDs. This is largely due to declines observed in the gTLDs .net, .org, .xyz. Most of the volume of ccTLD domains are in Europe (roughly 70 million) followed by Asia Pacific of which grew at a median rate of 2.6% (over 66 recorded TLDs in the region).



Global Market Share & Trends



Market Overview

		Domains (million)	Growth YOY
ccTLDs*	Africa	2.7	19.4%
	Asia Pacific	39.3	5.2%
	Europe	70.0	1.5%
	Latin America/Carrib	8.8	1.9%
	North America	4.7	11.4%
Legacy gTLDs		162.6	-0.3%
New gTLDs		23.4	10.9%
		311.4	**1.9%**

Top 10 Largest TLDs

.com	127.7	1.0%
.cn	20.9	7.8%
.de	16.2	0.5%
.net	14.9	-4.5%
.uk	10.7	-0.5%
.org	10.4	-4.2%
.info	5.9	8.1%
.nl	5.7	1.8%
.ru	5.5	5.0%
.xyz	5.2	14.9%

[1] ccTLDs include IDN. The ccTLD .tk (Tokelau) is not included in this report due to lack of consistency and reliability in data. ccTLDs by geographic region: Africa (58), Asia Pacific (98), Europe (57), Latin America/Carrib (48), North America (5)

European **ccTLD** Market

Volume / Growth / Market Share

Q2/2017

The European ccTLD market is estimated at 70 million domains and had overall growth of 1.5% year on year. Market share remains stable at 58% in favour of ccTLD domains with a large variation from country to country.

Long term growth continues to decline although the pace of decline is not as rapid and is continuing to stabilise. Since the beginning of the year registrations into European ccTLDs from Chinese registrants have also begun declining, dropping overall 16% (a reduction of 16K domains over 30 recorded ccTLDs).

At the end of Q2, median ccTLD growth was 3.0% YOY with a handful achieving double digits. (see chart). Below are some possible explanations to the high growth ccTLDs.

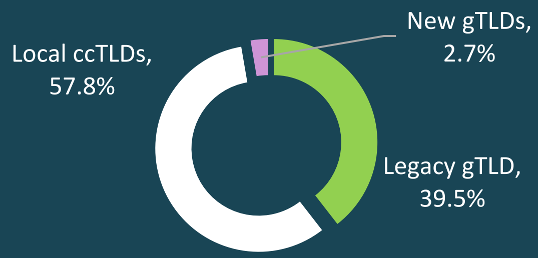
The Finnish ccTLD (.fi) has eased registration policies, .se (Sweden) is seeing effects of increased sales/marketing some time ago and .pt (Portugal) continue to see demand linked to policy changes in 2013, marketing activity and economic conditions. In Armenia, .am attributes some growth to Chinese registrations (although without these domains, growth would still be relatively high at 8.4%) and in Albania the registry has reported increased activity among local business turning to the ccTLD (.al) over gTLDs.

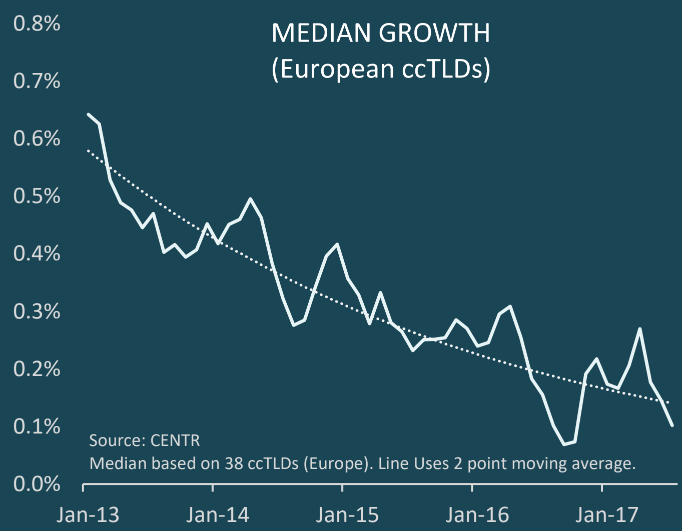
It's worth highlighting two other ccTLDs from the CENTR community .fr (France) and .ca (Canada) both of which experienced above average gains over the past 12 months (5% and 6% YOY respectively).

European Market	
Market[1] volume (ccTLDs):	70.0M (+1.5%, YOY)
ccTLD marketshare:	58% (+ 0.4% YOY)
Av. Renewal Rate[2]:	83%

[1] Market is defined as 56 ccTLDs in the European region
[2] Renewal rate: (renews / (renews + deletes)). Av based on latest data from 16 ccTLDs

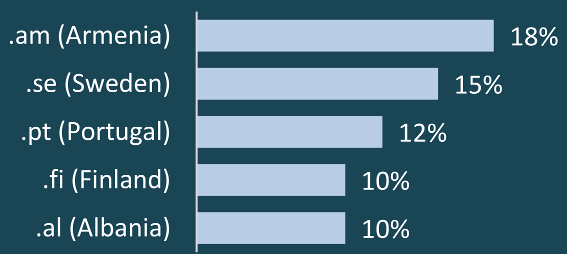
EUROPEAN MARKET
(BY TLD TYPE)





HIGH GROWTH YOY

Source: CENTR, Jul 2017



*YoY refers to year on year ie. Growth over the perios 12 months
Market share figures based on registrant location (WHOIS) over 38 countries; source: CENTR, gTLD location data source: Zooknic.

gTLD Global Market

Volume / Growth / Market Share

Q2/2017

At the end of Q2, 2017 there were around 186 million gTLD domains globally – a combined growth of 1.1% year on year. Most of this growth came from new gTLDs which increased by over 2 million.

Of the larger legacy gTLDs, .info achieved the highest growth (8% YOY) mostly due to a sharp increase in domains over Q2. .com grew around 1% YOY however most other legacy gTLDs contracted. The contraction was in part due to slides in average **renewal rates** over the past 12 months (top 50 median was 51% at end of Q2 compared to 66% 1 year earlier).

As seen in the trend chart, median growth among new gTLDs has now settled at similar rates to legacy gTLDs. High growth new gTLDs* over the past 12 months include .loan, .accountant and .cloud. Within the geo-TLD category higher growth was recorded in .tokyo, .moscow and .vegas

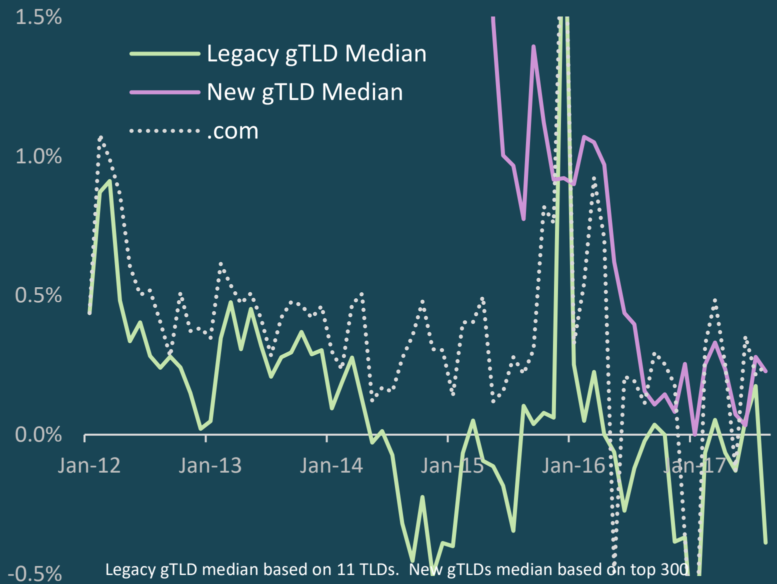
Among the largest new gTLDs, .loan has the highest number of non-parked domains. Across all new gTLDs, parked domains[2] are estimated at around 68% and 72% if based on the top 10 only[1].

Global gTLD Market

Market[1] volume (global):	186 M (+1.1% YOY)
Av. renewal rate[2] (top 100):	63% (-7.9% YOY)
gTLD marketshare:	Legacy (87%), New (13%)

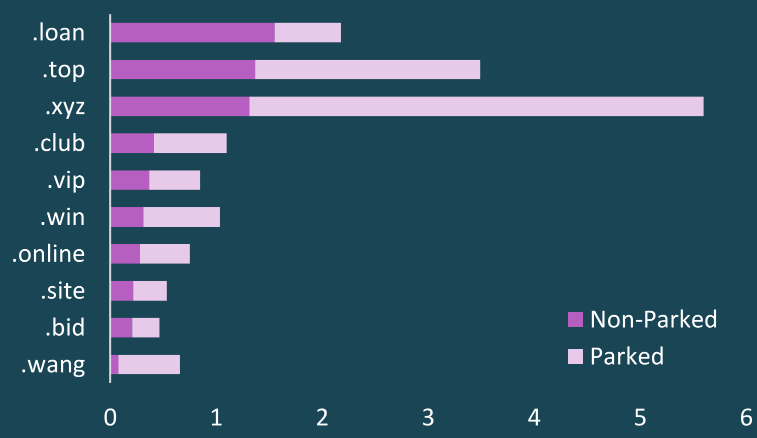
[1] Market defined as 1224 gTLDs (legacy and new)
[2] Renewal rate: (renews / (renews + deletes)). Av is median calculated at Apr 2017

gTLD GROWTH



Legacy gTLD median based on 11 TLDs. New gTLDs median based on top 300

Top 10 new gTLDs (ordered by non-parked)



Source: figures on parked domains from ntldstats.com

[1]TLDs with highest net growth filtered by those with a parked domains ratio of under 50% and came into general availability over 12 months prior.
[2]Parked domain figures sourced from ntldstats.com (https://ntldstats.com/parking/tld)

Explore gTLD registration data - Interactive stats and trend charts at stats.centr.org/gtlds

SOURCES

Data in this report is sourced from the following raw data sources: CENTR, ICANN (CZDS), ZookNic, ntldstats.com and direct zone downloads with TLD operators. Parking statistics on new gTLDs are sourced from ntldstats.com. The percentages expressed (parked domains as a proportion of total domains) are also based on the total domain counts ntldstats.com provides which differs slightly from CENTR sourced data.

CENTR would like to thank 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" is used within this report, it generally refers to a combination of the 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.

TERMS AND METHODOLOGY

ccTLD – a Country Code Top-Level Domain (ccTLD) is a two-character top-level domain used and reserved for a country or dependent territory. Examples include .uk for the United Kingdom or .de for Germany.
gTLD – a Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) is a three-character or more top-level domain. When reporting on median and aggregated values of legacy TLDs, the following are used: .biz, .com, .info, .mobi, .net, .org, .pro, .name. Median rates in new gTLDs generally use the top 300.
IDN – an Internationalised Domain Name is a domain that contains at least one label that is displayed in software applications, in whole or in part, in a language-specific script or alphabet, such as Arabic, Chinese, Cyrillic, Tamil, Hebrew or the Latin alphabet-based characters with diacritics or ligatures, such as French. A ccTLD IDN is an IDN at the top level – e.g., the ccTLD IDN for the Russian Federation is .РФ, which is the Cyrillic script version of .ru.
Registrant – The individual or organisation that registers a specific domain name. A registrant holds the right to use that domain name for a specified period of time.
Registry – An Internet domain name registry receives domain name information into a centralised database and transmits the information in Internet zone files so that domain names can be found by users around the world via the worldwide web and email.
Market Share – TLD market share in European countries is calculated by using the locally registered domains under each TLD group (ccTLD, new gTLD, legacy gTLD) in over 30 European countries measured as a percentage of their sum. (source: CENTR) and gTLDs (source: Zooknic) Market shares averages are calculated quarterly.

ABOUT CENTR

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