



.pl domain name market

NASK's report for
the first quarter
of 2019



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Introduction



**PhD, Eng.
Jacek Leśkow**
DIRECTOR OF NASK

Dear Readers,

On 26 March 2019 the .pl domain registry at NASK implemented a new service: **.pl Registry Lock**. Following DNSSEC, it is a consecutive domain security solution, available for the registrants of the Polish registry.

In the first months of 2019, NASK continued actions aiming to optimize technical solutions of registrants (natural persons) data management to the provisions of GDPR. Registrars, cooperating with NASK, are now capable of updating the registrants' data more efficiently. Within the frames of the .pl domain registry's communication with the market, there was carried out an information campaign targeted at registrants, underlying the significance of the correctness of data, kept in the Whois database.

Furthermore, as in each quarter, also in this report you will find detailed information on the .pl domain name market, including Facts and figures, presented briefly on page 4. I also invite you to read an article within a new series titled "Internet 24/7" (p. 12). The topic, chosen for you in the first quarter of 2019, was a call of the ICANN organization which turned, among others, to ccTLD registries on increasing the security level in the Internet.

I invite you to get acquainted with the report, presenting the data from the .pl domain market for the first quarter of 2019.

Facts and figures



**2.61
million**
active .pl
domain names



Over
**258
thousand**
new names



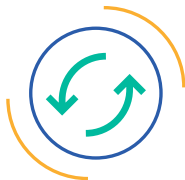
501 787
names secured
with DNSSEC



217
Partners



Over
**40.5
thousand**
transfers



65.81%
renewal rate



Over
**1.08
million**
registrants



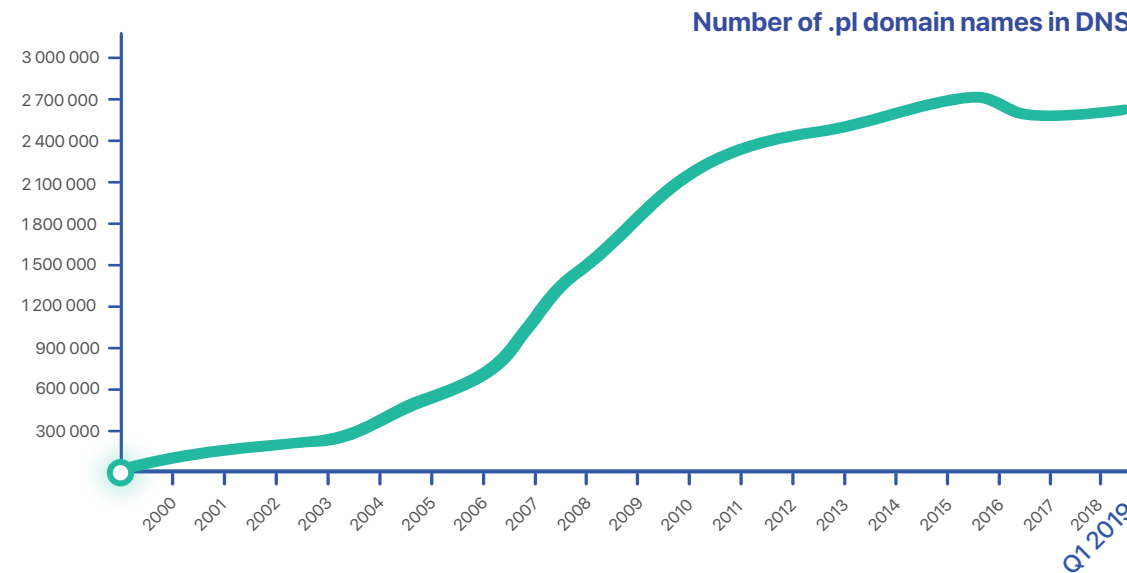
**2.9
thousand**
names registered
daily average

.pl domain names active in DNS

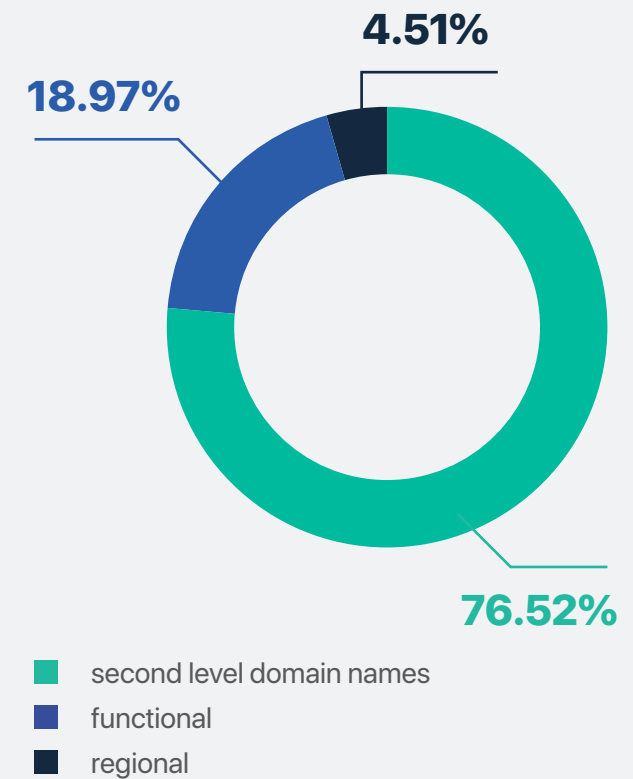
Domains in .pl domain registry

At the end of march 2019 in the .pl domain registry, there were **2 610 787** domain names active in DNS. In the first quarter the number of names increased by **14 039**.

Registration year of .pl domain names active in DNS



Number of domain names active in DNS as divided into the type of zone, Q1 2019

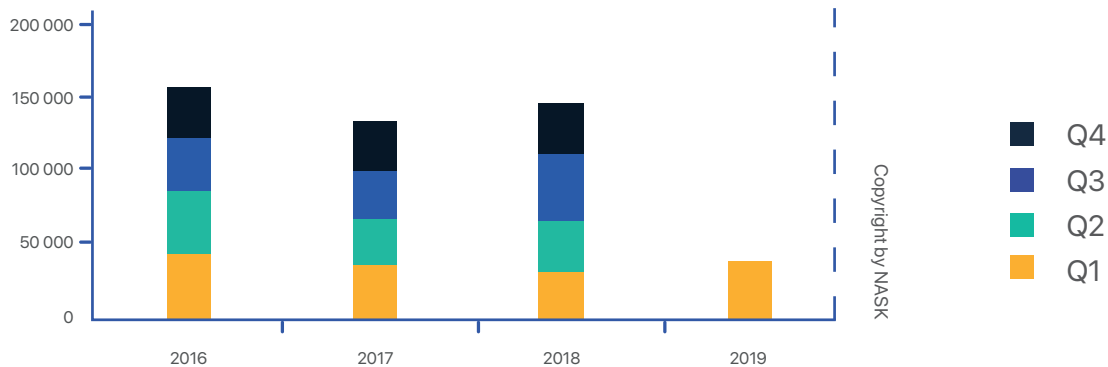


.pl domain names active in DNS

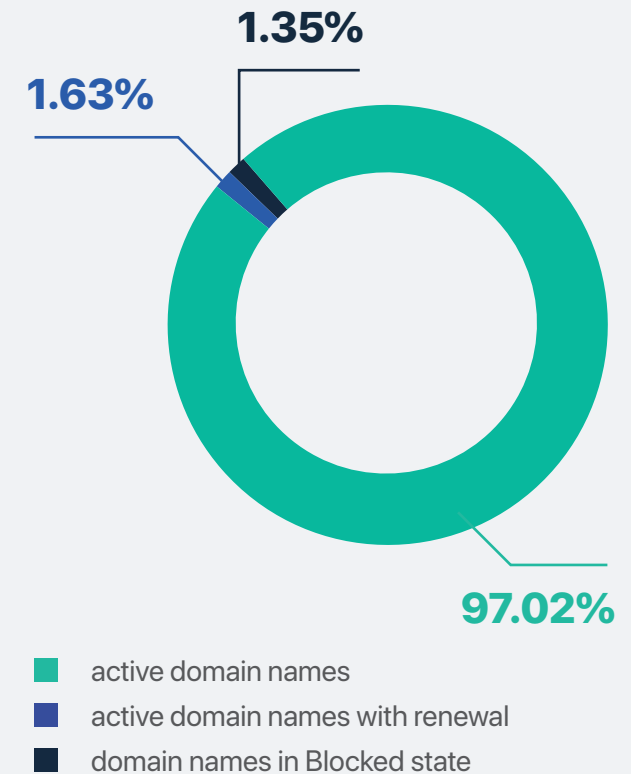
Transfers

From the beginning of January to the end of March 2019 the registrants of the .pl domain registry **40 549** times changed a registrar servicing .pl domain names maintained for them in the .pl zone. In **662** cases the transfers were executed with a simultaneous renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period, with **547** of them being effected after the previous billing period had been completed.

Number of .pl domain name transfers



Division of transfers, Q1 2019

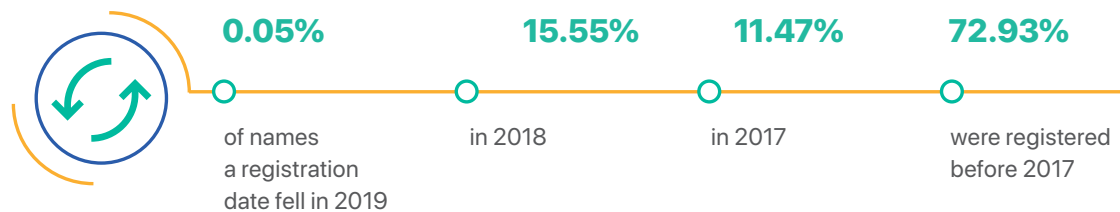


.pl domain names active in DNS

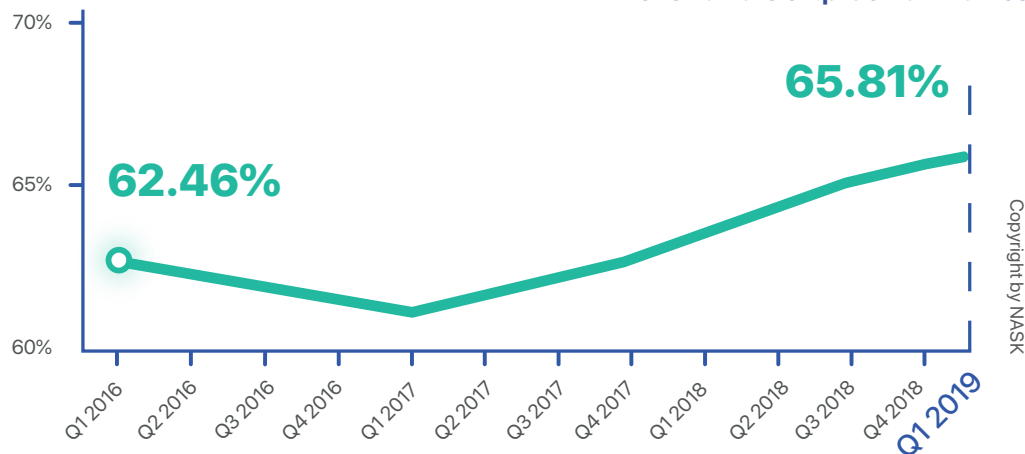
Renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period

In the first quarter of 2019 almost **478 thousand** names were renewed, constituting **65.81%** of all .pl domain names subject to renewal for a consecutive billing period in this quarter.

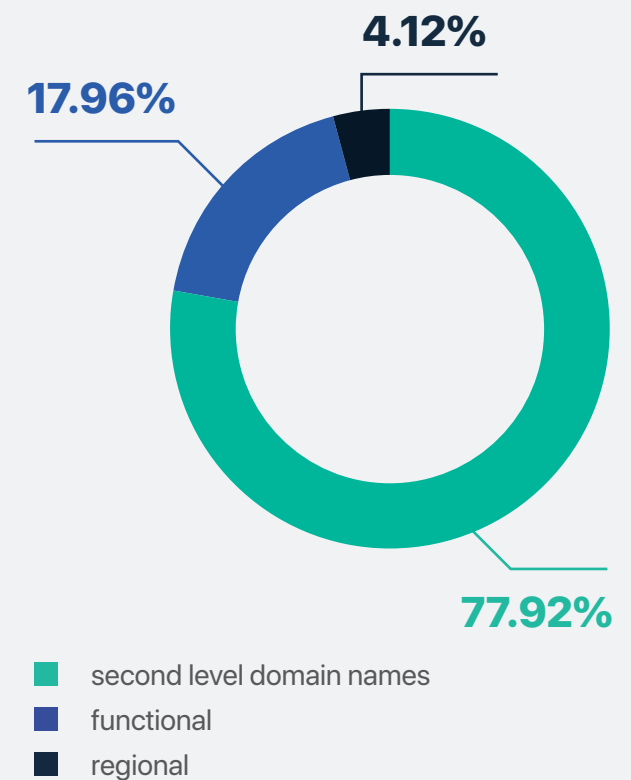
Out of all .pl domain names, renewed in the first three months of 2019,



Renewal rate of .pl domain names



Structure of renewed .pl domain names, Q1 2019



New domain names in .pl domain registry

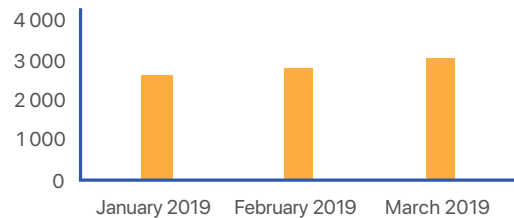
During the first quarter of 2019 **258 367** .pl domain names were registered, that was by **over 28 thousand more** than in the quarter closing the last year. A daily average number of registrations amounted to **2 871** .pl domain names. The registration share of the second level domain names, i.e. directly in the .pl domain, in the total number of registrations amounted to **70.69%**. Registrations of functional domains constituted **22.71%**, whereas the remaining **6.60%** denoted regional domains.

Number of .pl domain name registrations, daily average, Q1 2019



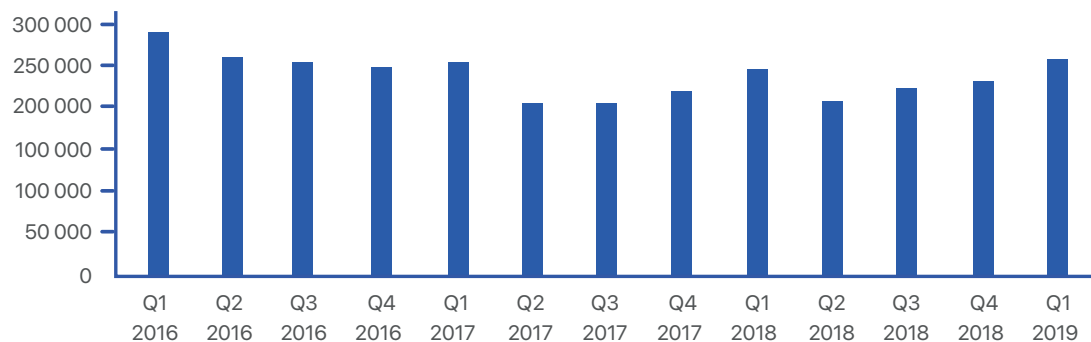
Daily average number of .pl domain name registrations

2 871



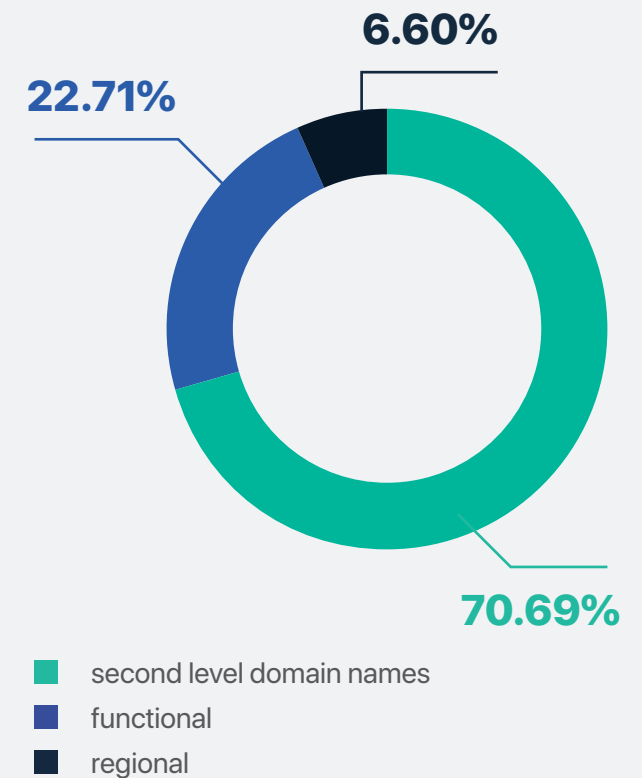
Copyright by NASK

Number of .pl domain name registrations



Copyright by NASK

.pl domain name registrations as divided into a type of zone, Q1 2019



Copyright by NASK

Registrants of .pl domain names

At the end of march 2019 in the .pl domain registry, there were



1 083 537
unique registrants

It is by **8 104** registrants more than in the fourth quarter of 2018.

2.41

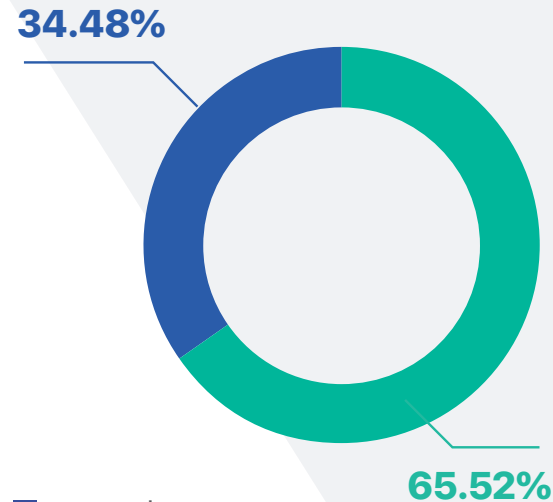
.pl domain names fell for one registrant on average.

In the first quarter of 2019 there were

33 067

changes of .pl domain names registrants.

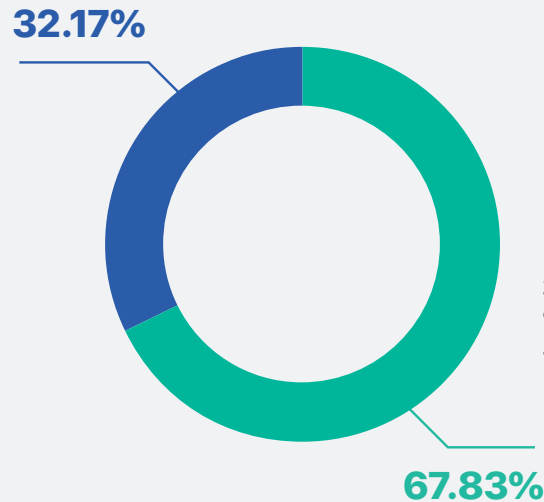
Division of Registrants of .pl domain names, Q1 2019



■ natural persons
■ organizations

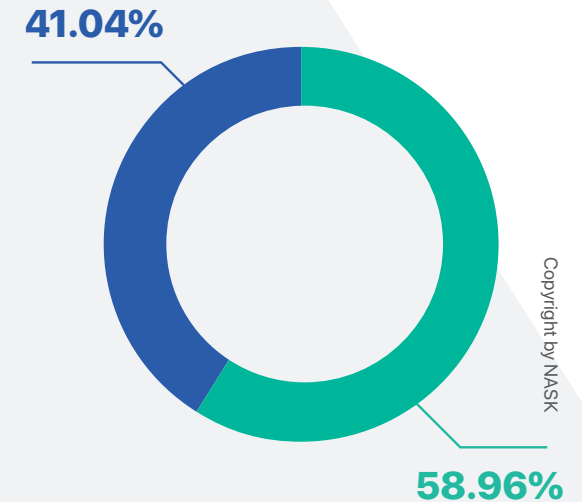
Copyright by NASK

Division of .pl domain names for Registrants, Q1 2019



Copyright by NASK

Division of .pl domain name registrations for the type of registrant, Q1 2019

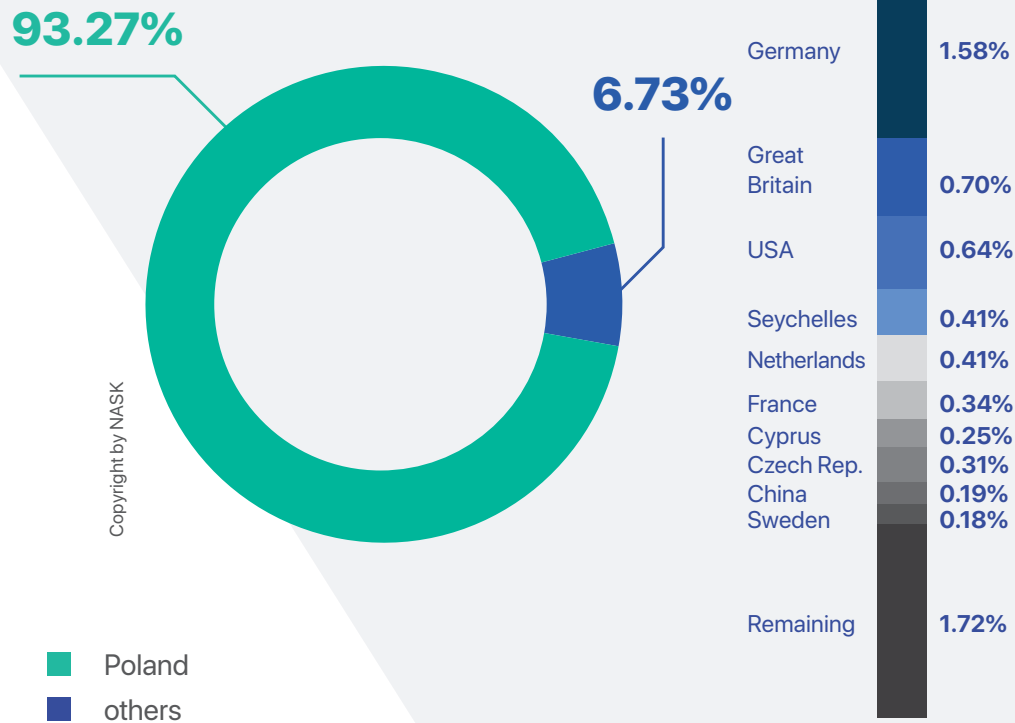


Copyright by NASK

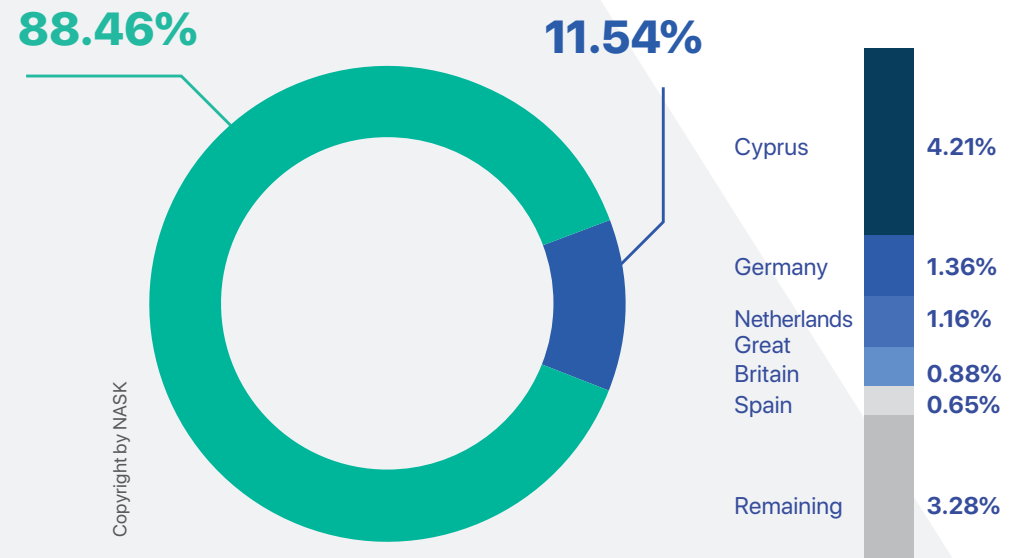
Registrants of .pl domain names

Place of residence of .pl domain name registrants

Division of .pl domain names active in DNS for registrant's country, Q1 2019



Division of .pl domain name registrations for a registrant's country, Q1 2019

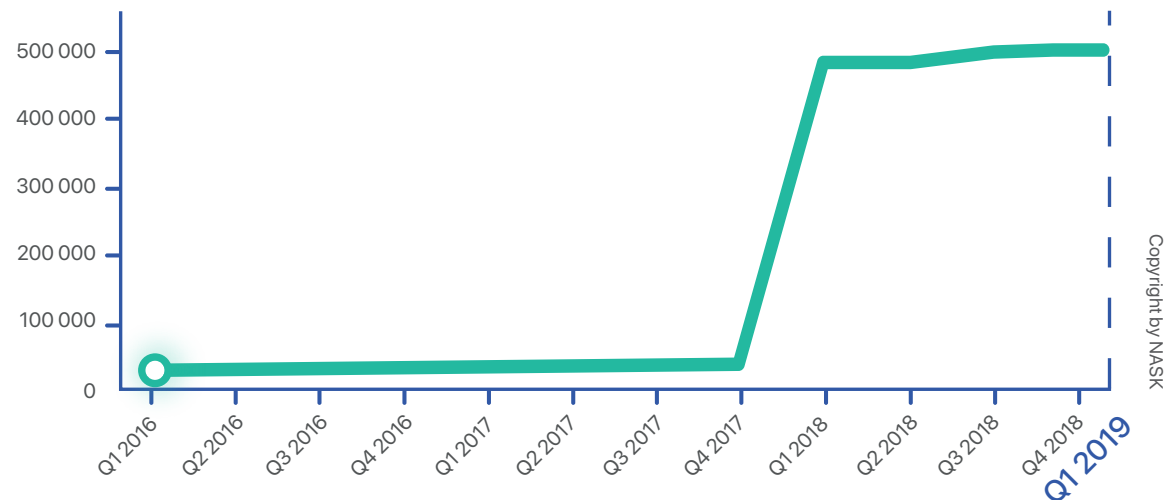


Additional services of .pl domain registry

DNSSEC

At the end of march 2019 in the .pl domain registry, there were **501 787** names secured with the DNSSEC protocol. In the first quarter the number of secured .pl domain names decreased by **296**.

Number of the .pl domain names secured with DNSSEC



28.30%

of secured names were registered in the functional domains

3.90%

of secured names were registered in the regional domains



67.80%

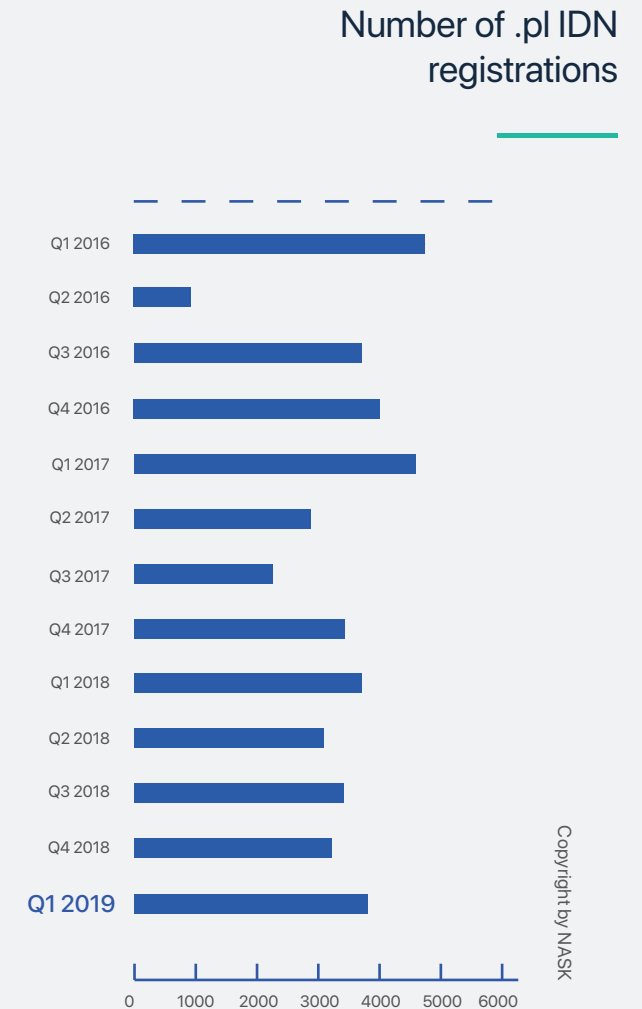
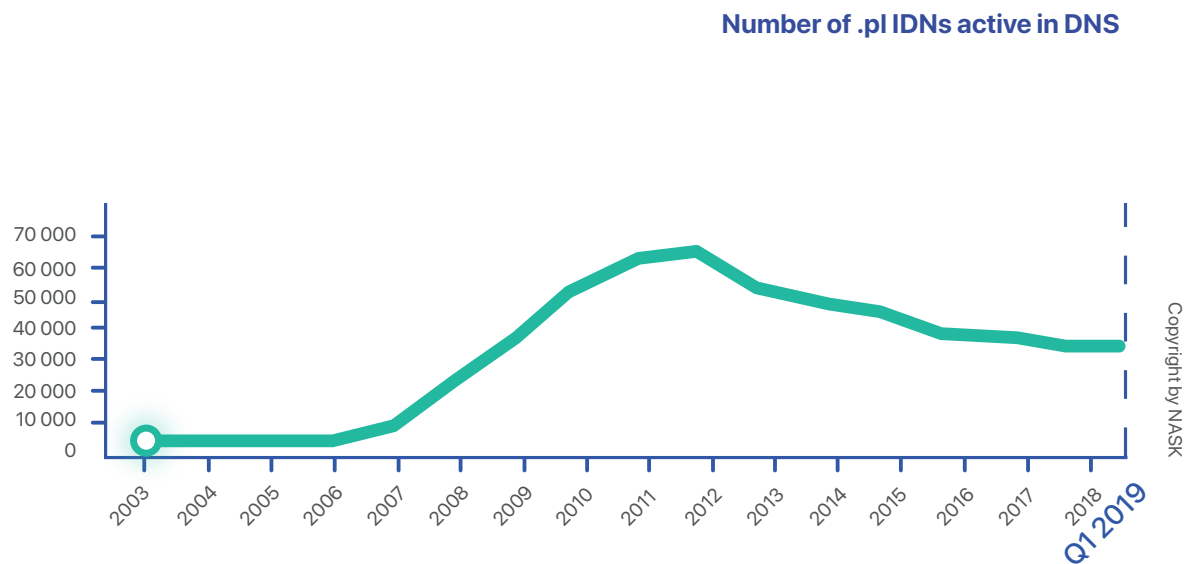
of secured names were registered directly in the .pl domain

Additional services of .pl domain registry

IDN

The .pl domain registry, at the end of the first quarter of 2019, contained **35 650** names with national diacritic signs (IDN), constituting **1.37%** of all active .pl domain names.

From the beginning of January to the end of March 2019 **4 012** IDNs were registered, i.e. **1.55%** of all .pl domain names registered during that period.

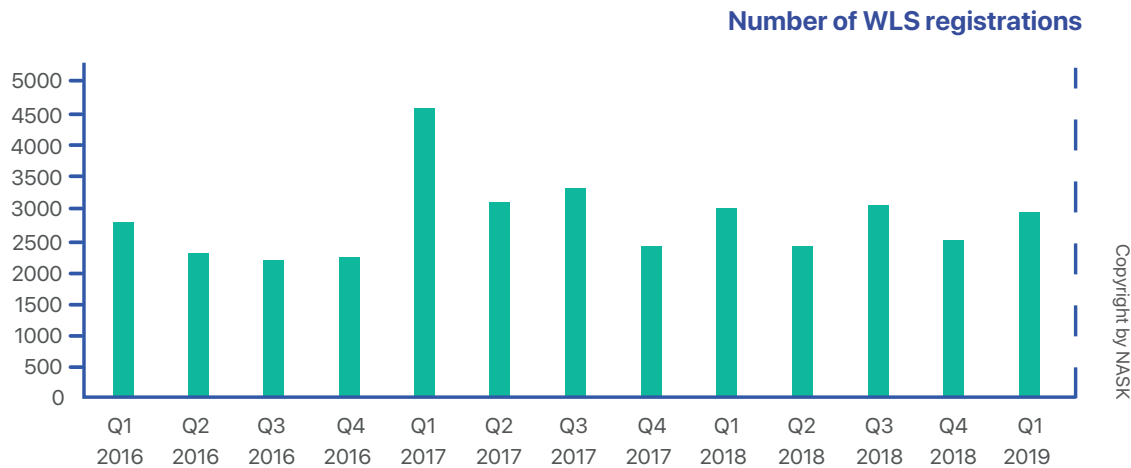


Additional services of .pl domain registry

Options

During the first three months of 2019 **3 030** agreements on options for the registration of .pl domain names were concluded, whereas **372** existing agreements were renewed for consecutive three years.

During the discussed quarter **1 252** agreements on options ended with providing a domain name for registration. In **82** cases the registration procedure was not completed due to reasons attributable to an option holder, which resulted in the domain names being released to the group of names available for registration.



40.12%

effectiveness
of options



to the end of the first
quarter of 2019



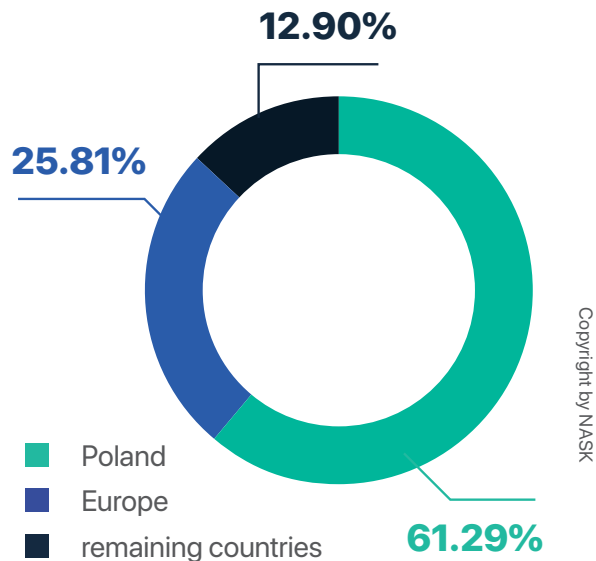
since launching the
service in 2004

Registrars of .pl domain names

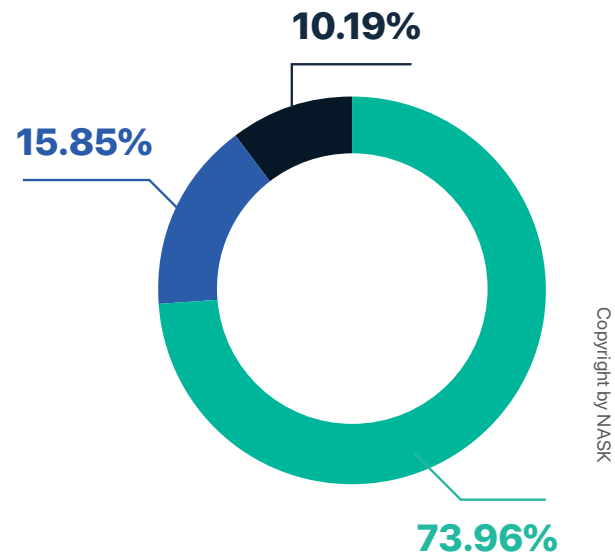
NASK Partner Programme

The .pl domain registry, in the first quarter of 2019, was cooperating within the frames of the Partner Programme with **217** registrars from 24 countries. 133 registrars had their registered offices in Poland and were servicing in total **61.29%** of .pl domain names, 56 registrars, seated in other European countries, were servicing **25.81%** of .pl domain names, while 28 registrars, domiciled beyond Europe, were servicing **12.90%** of .pl domain names.

Partners of NASK, division by place of residence, Q1 2019



.pl domain name market share between Partners considering the place of residence, Q1 2019



217
Partners



24
countries

Internet 24/7

ICANN Calls for Full DNSSEC Deployment, Promotes Community Collaboration to Protect the Internet.

In February 2019 ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) called for full DNSSEC deployment to protect the Internet. According to ICANN, there is an ongoing and significant risk to key parts of the Domain Name System (DNS) infrastructure which has been particularly reflected by the attacks on the DNS infrastructure since 2017.

Since February 2017 to January 2019 hackers, mainly from Iraq, succeeded in compromising key components of DNS infrastructure for more than 50 Middle Eastern companies and government agencies, including targets in Albania, Cyprus, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

ICANN has been underlying the significance of DNSSEC for a long time and now is calling for full deployment of that technology in all domains. Admittedly, according to ICANN, the technology itself will not solve all Internet security problems, however, the aim of DNSSEC is to ensure that internet users reach a proper destination in the Internet. DNSSEC is also helpful in preventing the so called "man-in-the-middle" attacks, where a user is unconsciously redirected to a location infected with malicious software. DNSSEC complements other technologies, such as Transport Layer Security (most frequently applied in HTTPS), which protect communication between the end user and a domain name.

In response to reported attacks for key parts of the DNS infrastructure, ICANN has recommended a security measures package for the representatives of the domain name industry, registries, registrars, agents and other affiliated entities in order to take action actively to protect their systems. What is referred here is so called "data hygiene".

In particular ICANN recommends among others:

- » Ensure all system security patches have been reviewed and have been applied;
- » Regularly review log files for unauthorized access to systems, especially administrator access;
- » Review internal controls over administrator ("root") access;
- » Verify integrity of every DNS record, and the change history of those records;
- » Enforce sufficient password complexity, especially length of password;
- » Ensure that passwords are not shared with other users;
- » Ensure that passwords are never stored or transmitted in clear text;
- » Enforce regular and periodic password changes;
- » Enforce a password lockout policy;
- » Ensure that DNS zone records are DNSSEC signed and your DNS resolvers are performing DNSSEC validation;
- » Ideally ensure multi-factor authentication is enabled to all systems, especially for administrator access; and
- » Ideally ensure your email domain has a DMARC policy with SPF and/or DKIM and that you enforce such policies provided by other domains on your email system.

Tomasz Szladowski, based on ICANN and Krebs on Security information



Text:

Anna Gniadek, Weronika Rakowska,
Tomasz Szladowski, Alina Wiśniewska-Skura

**Compilation of data gathered from the
.pl domain name registry system:**

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