

Q4

.pl domain name market

NASK's report for
the fourth quarter of 2019



NASK

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PhD, Eng.

Jacek Leśkow

Director of NASK PIB

Introduction

Dear Readers,

In the last quarter of 2019 the .pl domain registry accomplished a record number of domain names secured with the DNSSEC protocol. At the end of the quarter there were 524 343 names, that's almost 60 thousand more than in the previous one. A noticeable increase in interest of domain name registrants in the DNSSEC protocol, which enhances the security of using DNS, was undoubtedly influenced by NASK's activities, aimed at promoting and developing DNSSEC.

It is also worth mentioning that last year the .pl domain registry expanded its own anycast cloud, starting cooperation with other providers of this service. Thanks to those actions the security and stability of the DNS service of the .pl domain was increased.

I invite you to read the [article](#) in the Internet 24/7 series, where you will find more information on this subject.

In November and December 2019 NASK conducted intensive information and promotional activities for different environments. The most important of them were the 14th edition of the IGF conference in Berlin and IGF Poland in Warsaw. Both events were co-organized by NASK together with the Ministry of Digitization.

Issues concerning security of .pl domain names were presented during industry meetings, such as E-commerce Standard 2019 and SECURE 2019 conference.

I invite you to get acquainted with the report.

Facts and figures



Over

2.5 million
active
.pl domain names



Nearly

189 thousand
new names



Over

524 thousand
names secured
with DNSSEC



213
NASK Partners



30.8 thousand
transfers



65.43%
renewal rate



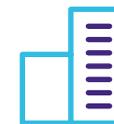
Over

1.07 million
registrants



Over

2 thousand
registrations
daily average



65.30%
of registrants constitute
organizations



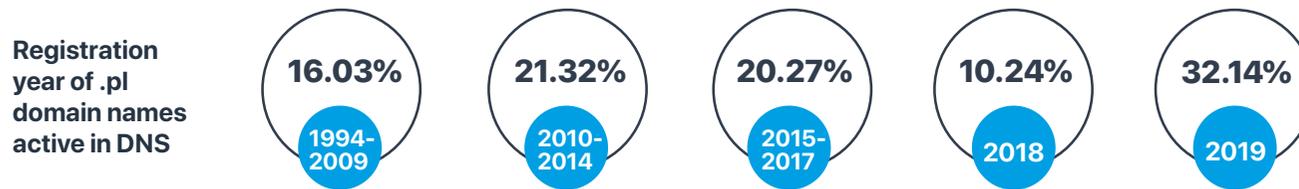
34.70%
of registrants constitute
natural persons

.pl domain names active in DNS

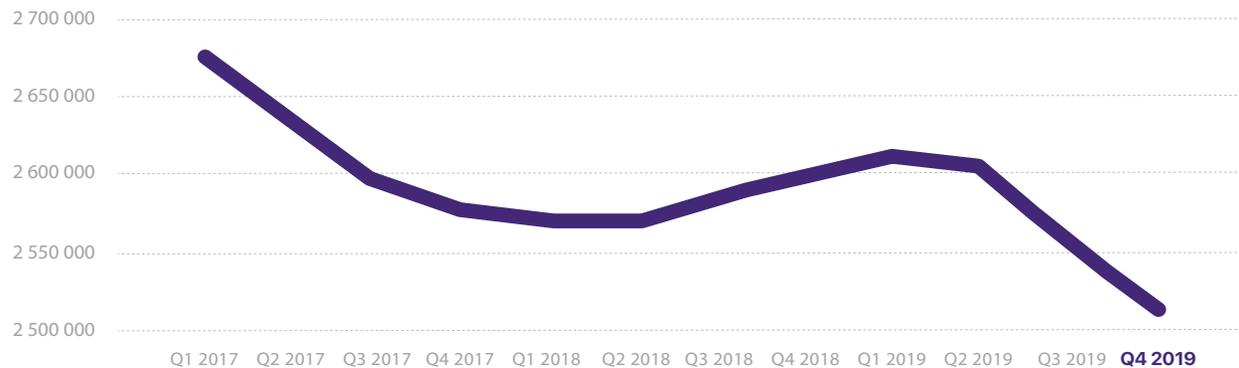
Domains in .pl domain registry

In the .pl domain registry at the end of 2019 there were maintained **2 513 491** domain names active in DNS. During the last quarter there followed a decrease by **1.60%** in the number of domain names.

Directly in the .pl domain there were registered **1 935 407** names. In the functional domains (e.g. .com.pl, .net.pl) there were registered **459 146** names, while in regional domains (e.g. .waw.pl, .wroclaw.pl) **118 938** names.



Number of .pl domain names in DNS



Number of domain names active in DNS as divided into the type of zone, Q4 2019



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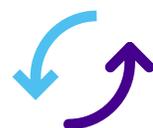
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.pl domain names active in DNS

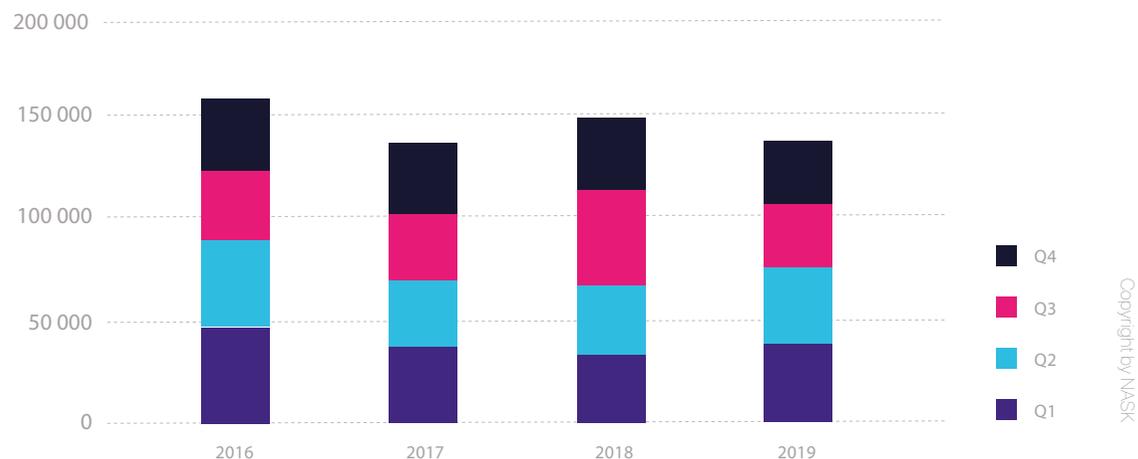
Transfers

In the fourth quarter of 2019 registrants **30 831** times changed a registrar servicing .pl domain names maintained for them.

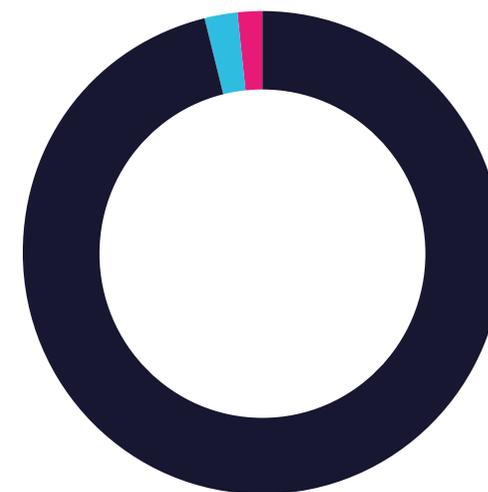
During the discussed period **1 169** transfers of service were executed with a simultaneous renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period with **479** of them being effected after the previous billing period had been completed.

 **1 169** transfers with renewal

Number of .pl domain name transfers



Division of transfers, Q4 2019



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96.21% active domain names without renewal

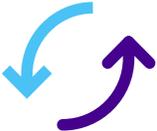
2.24% active domain names with renewal

1.55% inactive domain names

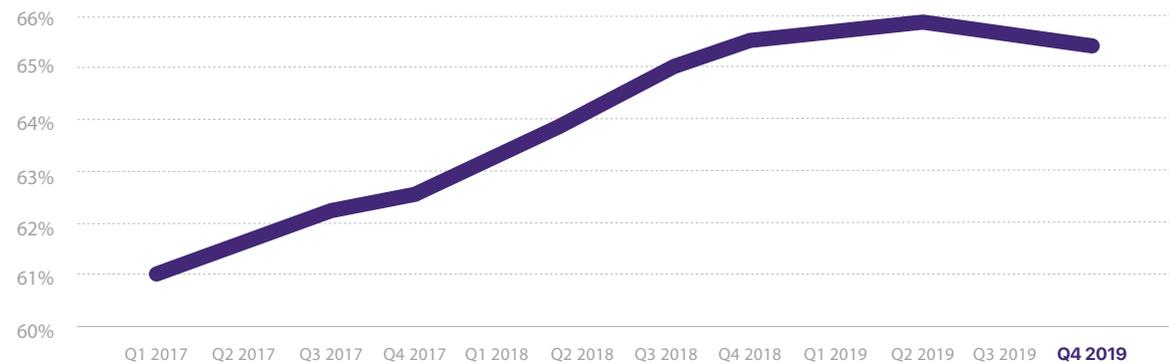
.pl domain names active in DNS

Renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period

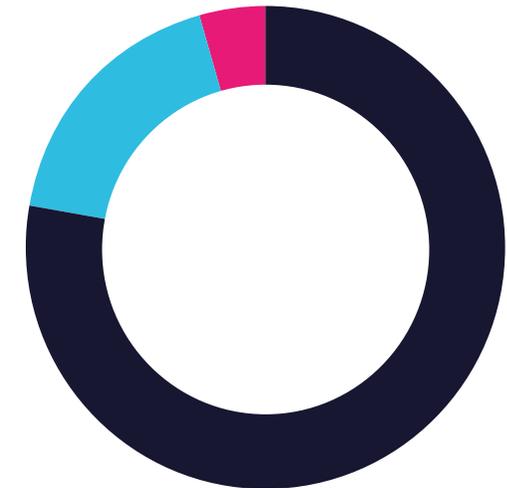
At the end of the fourth quarter of 2019 the renewal rate of the .pl domain names equalled **65.43%**. From the beginning of October to the end of December over **412 thousand** .pl domain names were renewed, while for **1674** names the end date of a billing period was shifted by an individually defined number of days.

 **412 thousand** .pl domain names renewed

Renewal rate of .pl domain names



Structure of renewed .pl domain names, Q4 2019



77.82% second level domain names

17.96% functional

4.22% regional

New registrations in the .pl domain

During the last three months of 2019 **188 939** .pl domain names were registered, by **18 thousand** more than in the preceding quarter. The number of names registered in particular months amounted to **69 080** in October, **64 291** in November and **55 568** in December.

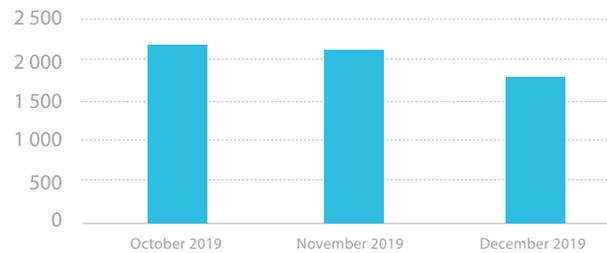
.pl domain name registrations as divided into a type of zone, Q4 2019



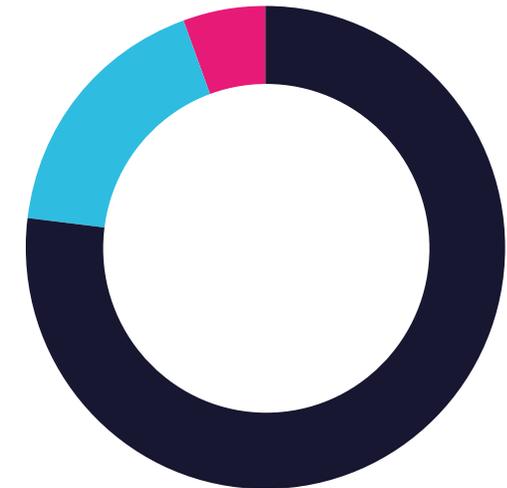
2 054

daily average number of registrations

Number of .pl domain name registrations, daily average, Q4 2019

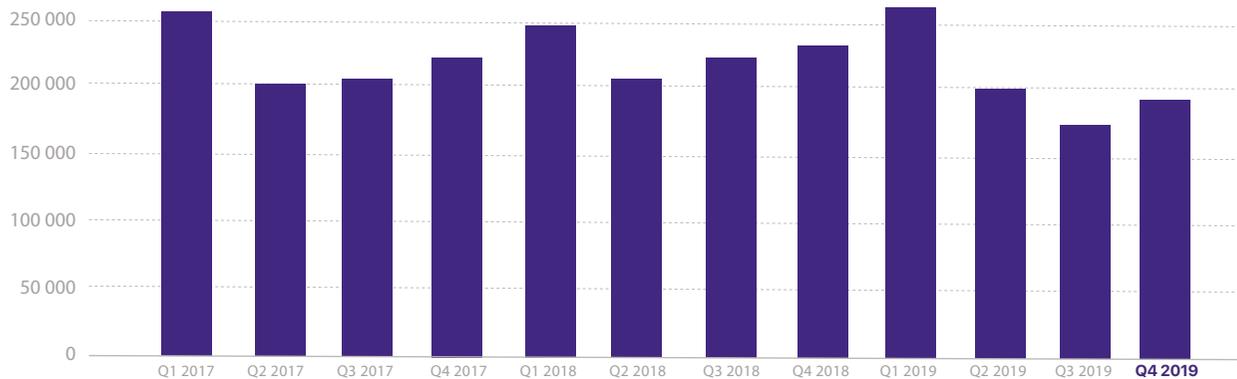


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Number of .pl domain name registrations



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77.12% second level domain names

17.39% functional

5.49% regional

Registrants of .pl domain names

Registrants in the .pl domain registry

At the end of December 2019, in the .pl domain registry, there were **1 072 587** entries of unique data of .pl domain name registrants. The number was by 3 570 lower than at the end of the third quarter of 2019.

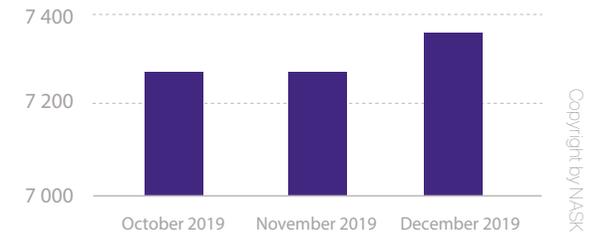


2.34 .pl domain names fell for one registrant on average.

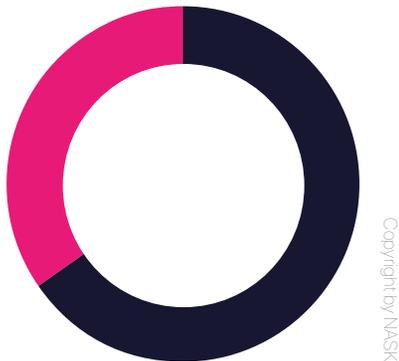


From the beginning of October to the end of December 2019 there were **21 888** changes of .pl domain names registrants

Number of changes of .pl domain name registrants, Q4 2019

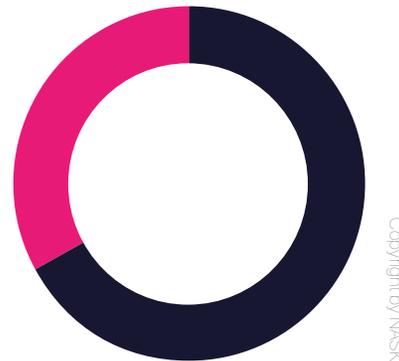


Division of registrants of .pl domain names, Q4 2019



65.30% organizations
34.70% natural persons

Division of .pl domain names, active in DNS, for the type of registrants, Q4 2019



67.17% organizations
32.83% natural persons

Division of .pl domain name registrations for the type of registrants, Q4 2019

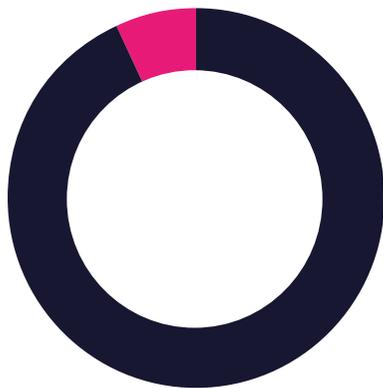


58.16% organizations
41.84% natural persons

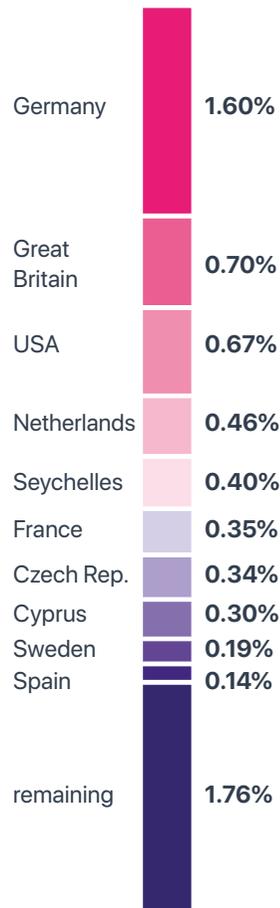
Registrants of .pl domain names

Place of residence of .pl domain name registrants

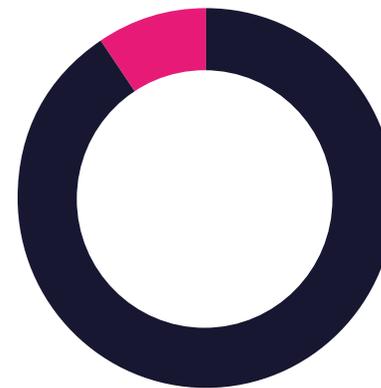
Division of .pl domain name registrations for a registrant's country, Q4 2019



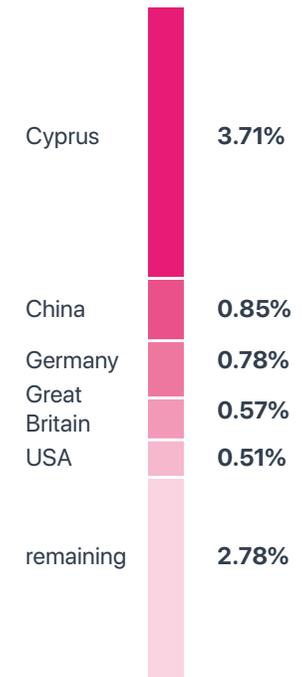
93.09% Poland
6.91% others



Division of .pl domain names, active in DNS, for registrant's country, Q4 2019



90.80% Poland
9.20% others



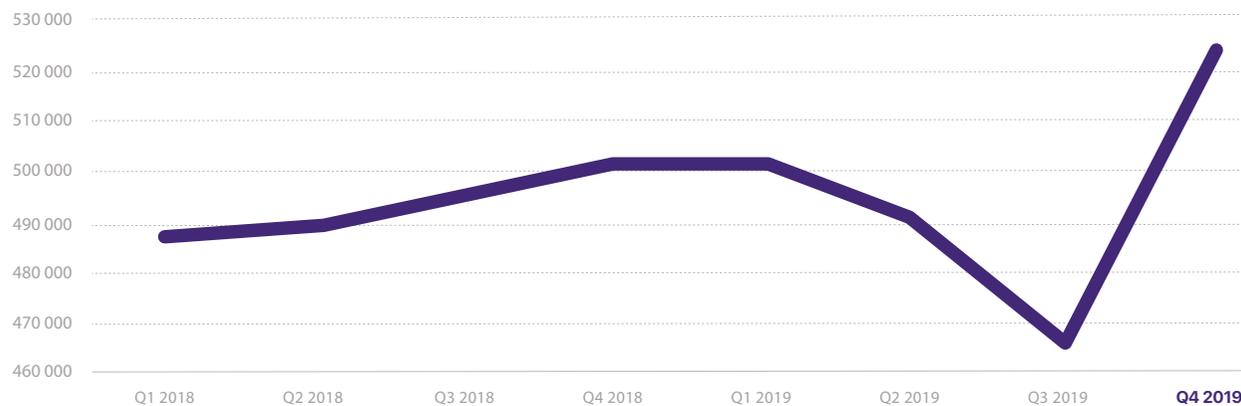
Additional services of .pl domain registry

DNSSEC

At the end of 2019 in the .pl domain registry, there were **524 343** names, secured with the DNSSEC protocol. In the fourth quarter the number of names, secured with that solution, in the .pl domain registry increased by **58 712** names.



Number of the .pl domain names secured with DNSSEC

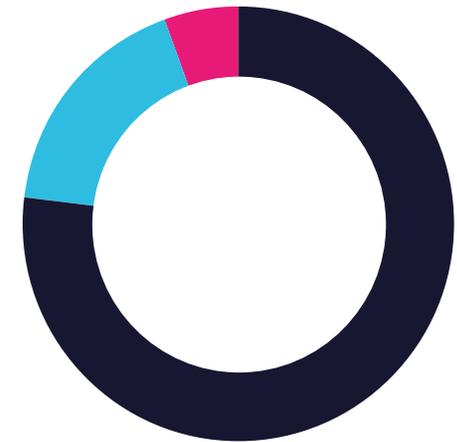


.pl domain names secured with DNSSEC as divided into the type of a zone



70.90%

of secured names were registered directly in the .pl domain



70.90% directly in the .pl domain

24.46% in the functional domains

4.64% in the regional domains

Additional services of .pl domain registry

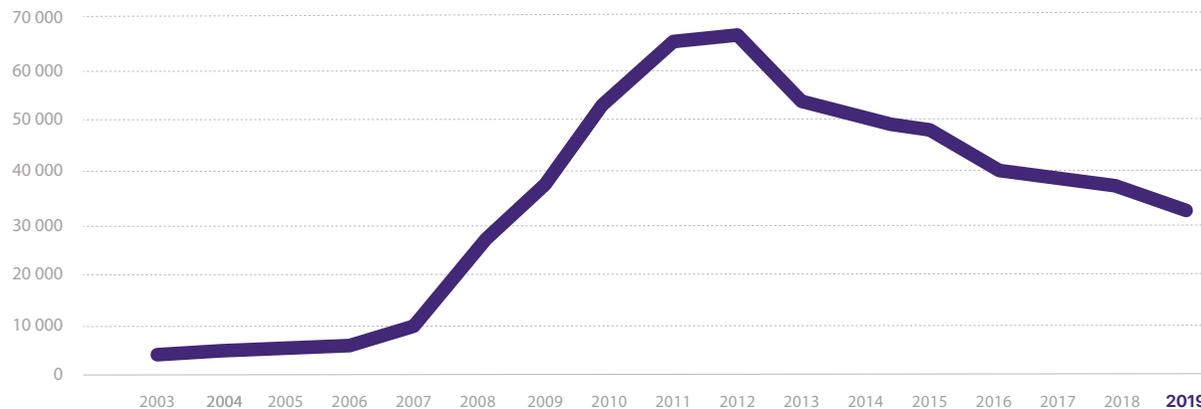
IDN

In the .pl domain registry, at the end of the fourth quarter of 2019, there were **31 889** .pl domain names with national diacritic signs (IDN), consisting **1.27%** of all names active in the registry.

From the beginning of October to the end of December 2019 **2 518** IDNs were registered, i.e. **1.33%** of all .pl domain names registered during the period under discussion.

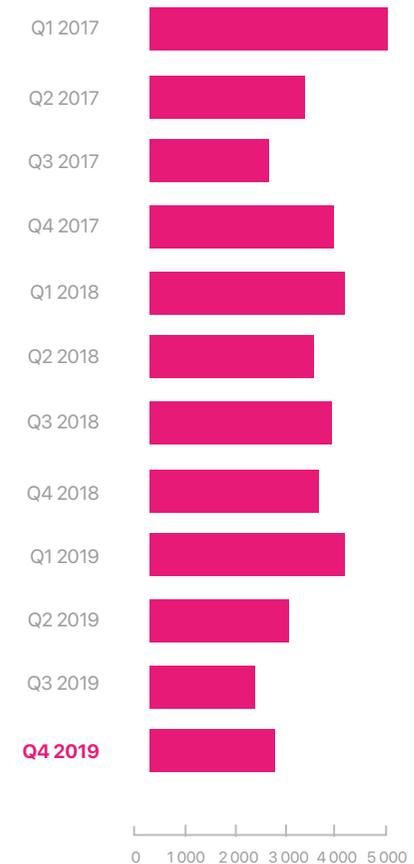
 **2 518** registered IDNs

Number of .pl IDNs active in DNS



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Number of registrations of .pl IDNs



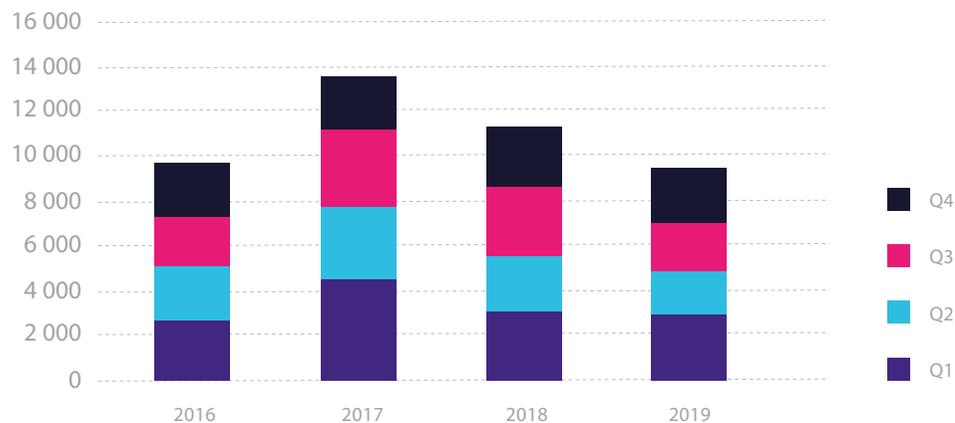
Additional services of .pl domain registry

Options

From the beginning of October to the end of December 2019 **2 480** agreements on options for the registration of .pl domain names were concluded, while **576** already existing agreements were renewed for a consecutive 3-year period.

During the presented quarter **1007** existing agreements on options were executed with providing a domain name for registration, while in **103** cases, registration failed for reasons attributed to an option holder, thus domain names in question being released for public registration.

Number of WLS registrations



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since launching
the service in June 2004



the .pl domain registry has
concluded **227 thousand**
agreements



45.15%
thereof being
completed with
providing a .pl domain
name for registration

Additional services of .pl domain registry

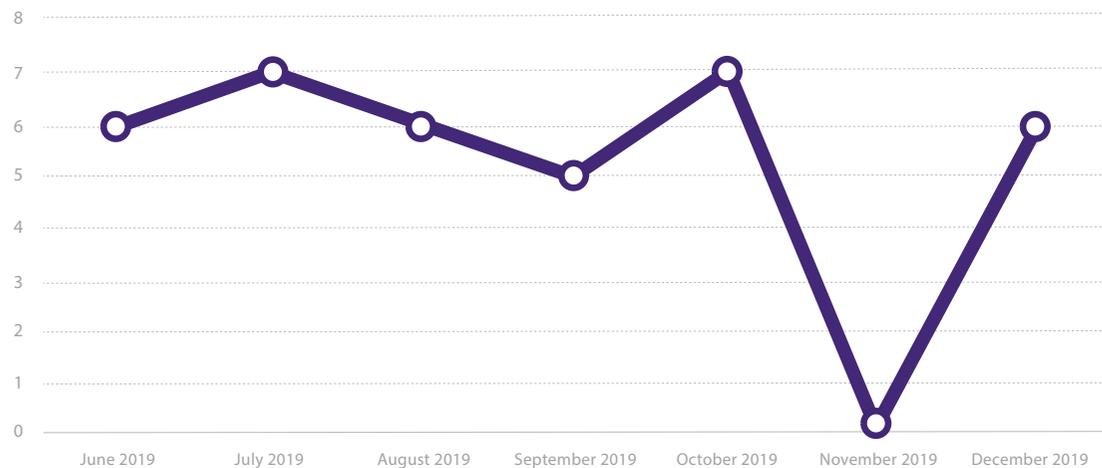
.pl Registry Lock

The .pl Registry Lock service, offered by the .pl domain registry, allows to lock current data concerning a particular domain name. Activation of .pl Registry Lock prevents, among others, from deleting a domain name, changing a registrant or the delegation of the domain name.

In the fourth quarter of 2019 the .pl Registry Lock service was activated 13 times.



Number of activation of the .pl Registry Lock service*



*during the presented period one deactivation of the service occurred



27

agreements on
.pl Registry Lock



36

domain names secured
with .pl Registry Lock

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Registrars of .pl domain names

NASK Partner Programme

At the end of December 2019, the .pl domain registry was cooperating, within the frames of the Partner Programme, with **213** registrars from 26 countries.

128 registrars had their registered offices in Poland and were servicing in total **71.49%** of .pl domain names, **56** registrars, seated in other European countries, were servicing **17.62%** of .pl domain names, while **29** registrars, domiciled beyond Europe, were servicing **10.89%** of .pl domain names.

Division of Partners for their place of residence, Q4 2019



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60.09% Poland
26.29% Europe
13.62% other countries

Division of .pl domain names for Partner's registered office, Q4 2019



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71.49% Poland
17.62% Europe
10.89% other countries

213
Partners



26
countries

Internet 24 / 7



Increasing the security and stability of the DNS service for the .pl domain

There are many techniques to enhance the security and stability of the DNS service. One of them is anycast DNS. Thanks to its application it is possible to optimize response times to DNS queries and increase service capacity and availability. Such a result is achieved by multiplying the servers, providing DNS service, and their geographical dispersion as well as placing them in appropriate segments of the global Internet network.

NASK expands its own network of anycast DNS servers and cooperates with providers of anycast DNS service, acting as a giant backup name server for the .pl domain.

To ensure security and stability of DNS, diversification of service providers is essential. With this in mind, in 2019 NASK started cooperation with other global providers, Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA), based in Ottawa, and ipcom GmbH, a subsidiary of nic.at, based in Salzburg. Both service providers are at the same time the operators of ccTLD national domain registries, respectively Canadian .ca and Austrian .at.

Currently NASK cooperates with three providers, the two mentioned above and Neustar, the operator of .us, .biz, .co, .nyc and .in.

As an operator of key services, NASK takes the utmost care to ensure their safety and stability. Within the framework of the implemented ISO 27001 system, as well as business continuity management, we are constantly improving our services. One of the improvement areas is DNS. Within the scope of this service, we develop our own network of anycast DNS servers, as well as cooperate with other providers. I am convinced that the undertaken actions have contributed to the improvement of key parameters of the DNS service – says Krzysztof Olesik, Manager of Domain Technical Service Team of NASK PIB.



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