

# .pl domain name market



NASK's report for  
the second quarter of 2019

Q2 | 2019

**NASK**



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PhD, Eng.

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Director of NASK PIB

# Introduction

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## Dear Readers,

The .pl domain registry closed the second quarter of 2019 with the number of 2 602 326 names active in DNS. As compared to the first quarter of 2019 the number of registrants increased by 1 492, amounting, at the end of June, to 1 085 029. The renewal rate also grew attaining the value of 65.94%.

In the second quarter there commenced first activations of the registry's new service - .pl Registry Lock. That solution provides a top level domain security. Within promotional activities of the service, carried out by NASK for registrants, there were prepared a leaflet and animation explaining the purpose of the service, as viewed from the perspective of cybersecurity, and in particular existing threats pertaining to domain names. Furthermore, NASK, participating in the IT conference for the banking sector, presented many typical cases of domain hijacking as well as explained the meaning and concept of the .pl Registry Lock service in the field of raising the security level of domain names. In this report you will also find an [article](#) presenting selected information on the application the Registry Lock service.

NASK, as usual, co-organized the Seminar of the Court of Arbitration at the Polish Chamber of Information Technology and Telecommunications which was held on 5 June 2019 in Toruń. During this sixth edition of the seminar there were raised the issues of cybersquatting and typosquatting, security incidents as well as legal protection of a domain name as a trademark.

I wish you pleasant reading.

# Facts and figures



Over

**2.6 million**

active .pl domain  
names



Over

**196 thousand**

new names



Almost

**490 thousand**

names secured  
with DNSSEC



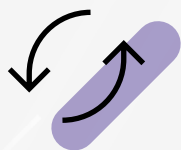
**217**

NASK Partners



**35.7 thousand**

transfers



**65.94%**

renewal rate



Over

**1.08 million**

registrants



**2.1 thousand**

names registered  
daily average



**64.66%**

of registrants  
constitute  
organizations



**35.34%**

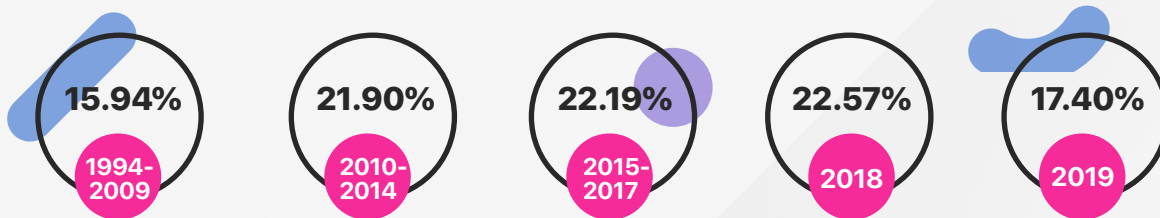
of registrants  
constitute natural  
persons

# .pl domain names active in DNS

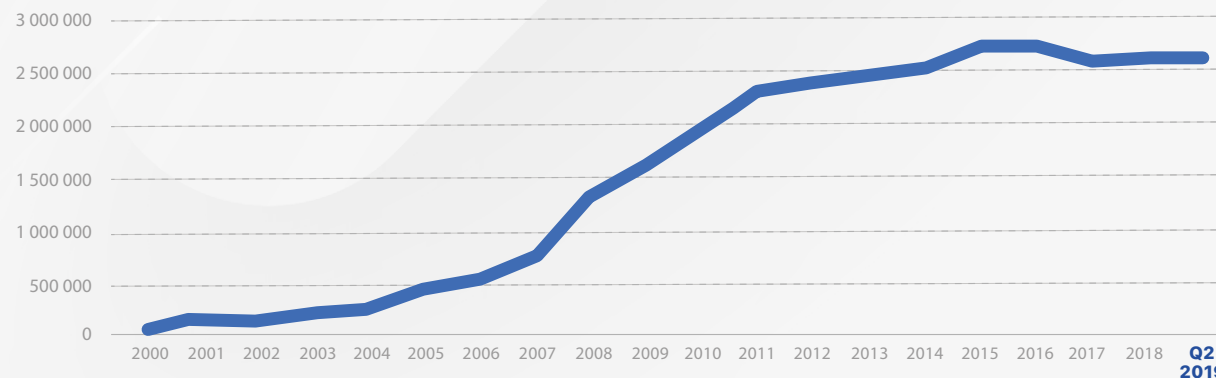
## Domains in .pl domain registry

The .pl domain registry ended the first half of 2019 with **2 602 326** domain names active in DNS. During the second quarter of 2019 the number of names decreased by **8 461**. The registry's annual growth dynamics of domain names amounted to **1.27%**.

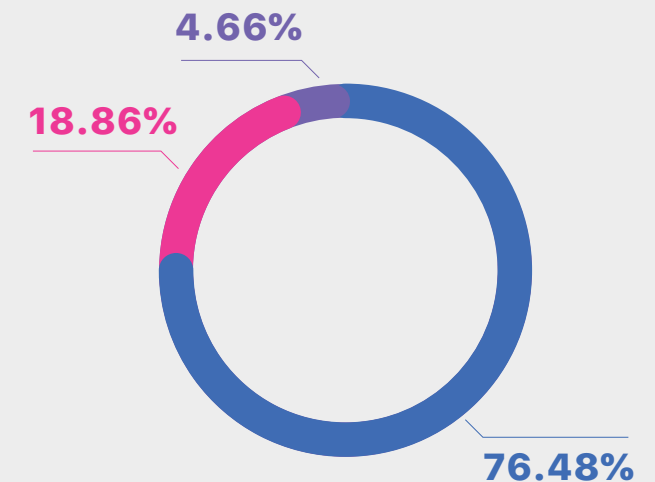
## Registration year of .pl domain names active in DNS



## Number of .pl domain names in DNS



## Number of domain names active in DNS as divided into the type of zone, Q2 2019



- second level domain names
- functional
- regional

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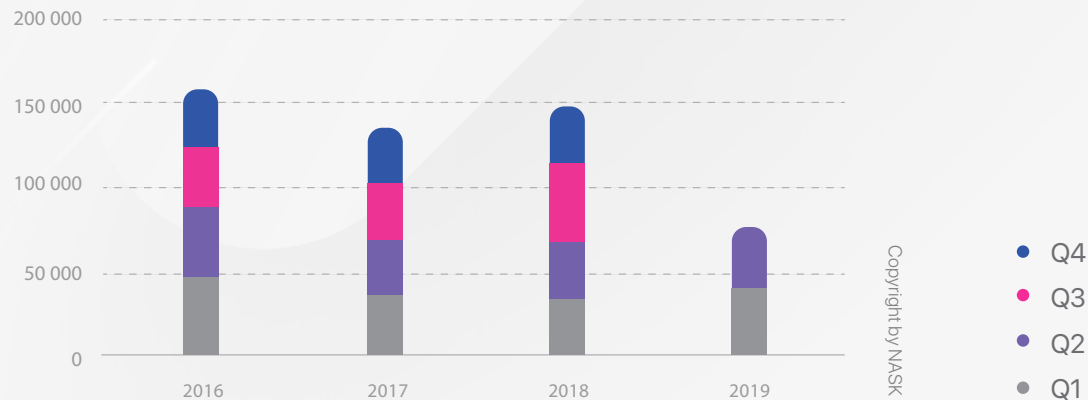
# .pl domain names active in DNS

## Transfers

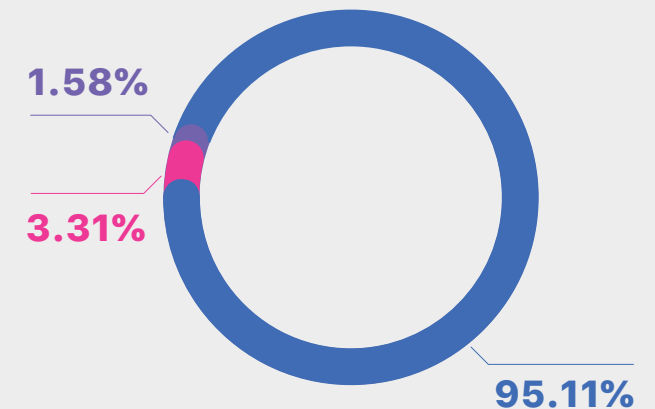
Within the period from 1 April to 30 June 2019 the registrants of the .pl domain registry **35 752** times changed a registrar servicing .pl domain names maintained for them.

During the discussed period in **1 747** cases the transfers were executed with a simultaneous renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period, with **562** of them being effected after the previous billing period had been completed.

Number of .pl domain name transfers



Division of transfers, Q2 2019

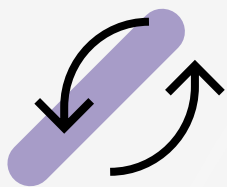


- active domain names
- active domain names with renewal
- domain names in Blocked state

# .pl domain names active in DNS

## Renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period

At the end of the first half of 2019 the renewal rate of .pl domain names equalled **65.94%**. It has maintained a growing tendency for a consecutive, tenth in a row, quarter.



**388 thousand**

.pl domain names renewed from the beginning of April to the end of June 2019

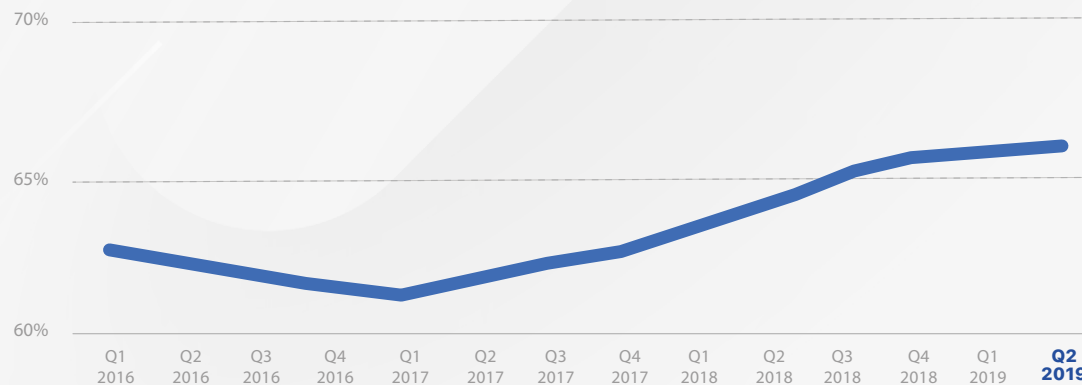


for

**1 726**

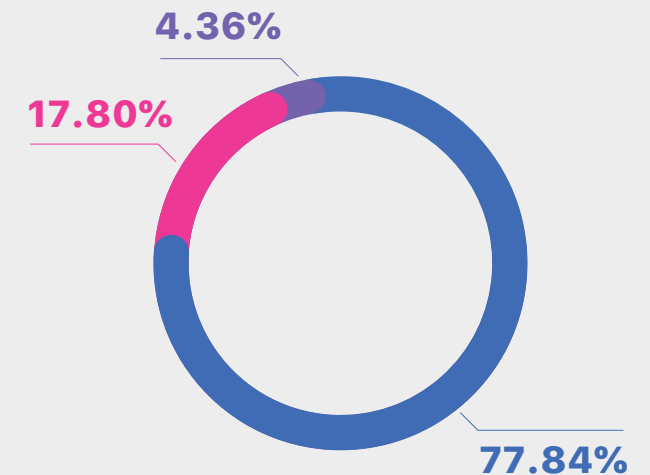
names the end date of a billing period was shifted by an individually defined number of days

### Renewal rate of .pl domain names



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### Structure of renewed .pl domain names, Q2 2019



- second level domain names
- functional
- regional

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# New domain names in .pl registry

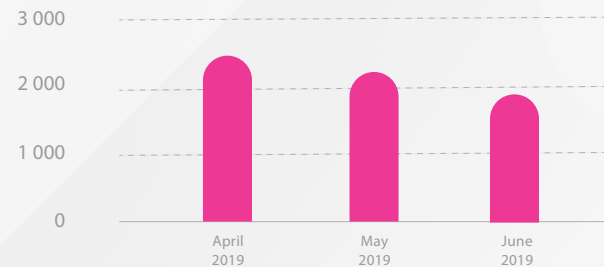
During the second quarter of 2019 **196 360** .pl domain names were registered, that was by **62 thousand** fewer than in the previous quarter. A daily average number of registrations amounted to **2 158** .pl domain names. The registration share of the second level domain names, i.e. directly in the .pl domain, in the total number of registrations amounted to **74.95%**. Registrations of functional domains, as compared to the preceding quarter, dropped by 3.97% and amounted to **18.74%**. The remaining **6.31%** denoted regional domains.



**2 158**

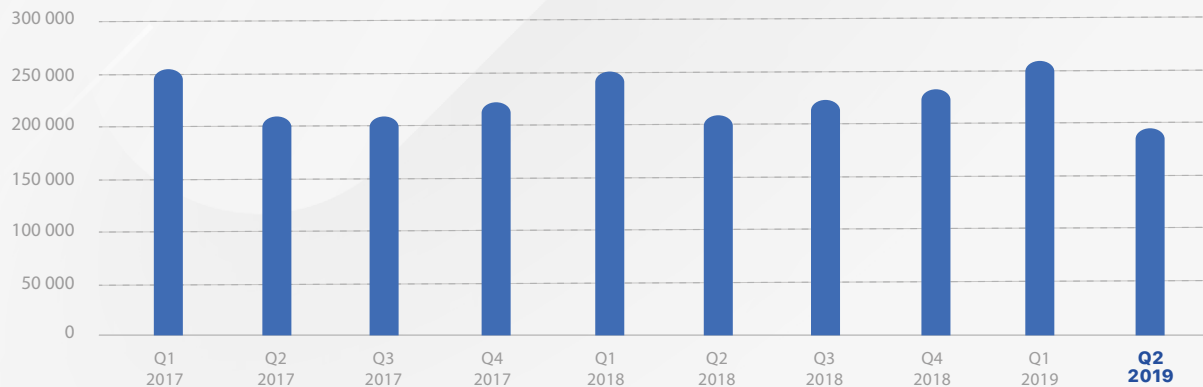
daily average number of registrations

Number of .pl domain name registrations, daily average, Q2 2019



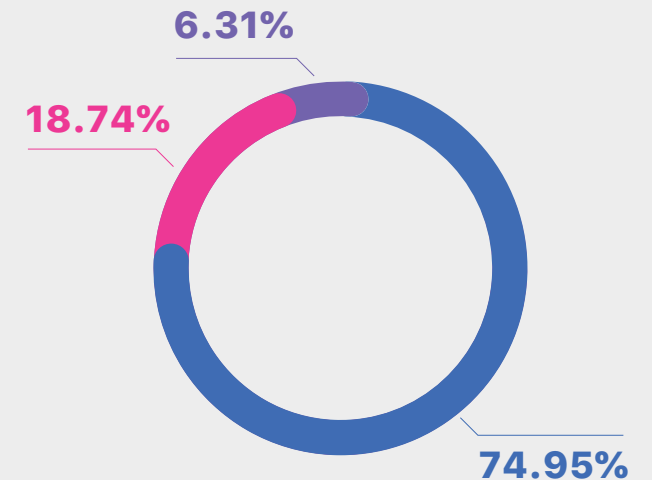
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Number of .pl domain name registrations



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.pl domain name registrations as divided into a type of zone, Q2 2019



- second level domain names
- functional
- regional


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# Registrants of .pl domain names

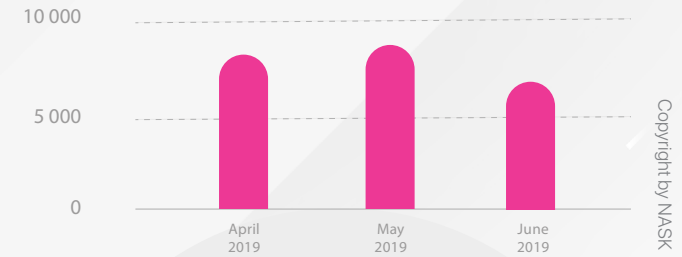
## Registrants in the .pl domain registry

At the end of the first half of 2019, in the .pl domain registry, there were **1 085 029** entries of unique registrants. It is by **1 492** registrants more than in the first quarter of 2019.

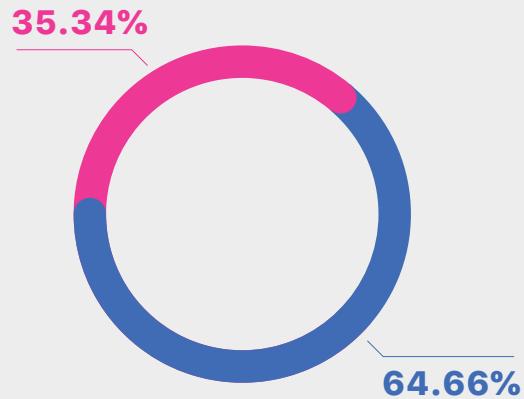
 **2.40** .pl domain names fell for one registrant on average

 In the second quarter of 2019 there were **23 664** changes of .pl domain names registrants.

Number of changes of .pl domain name registrants, Q2 2019

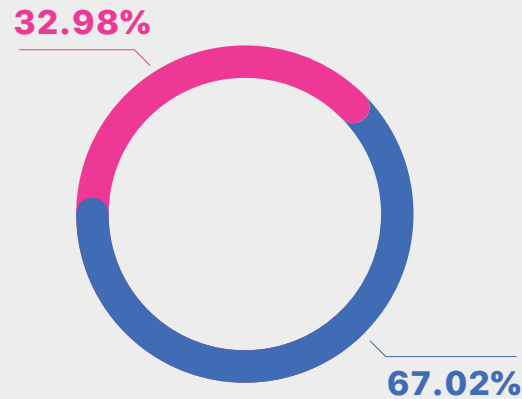


Division of Registrants of .pl domain names, Q2 2019



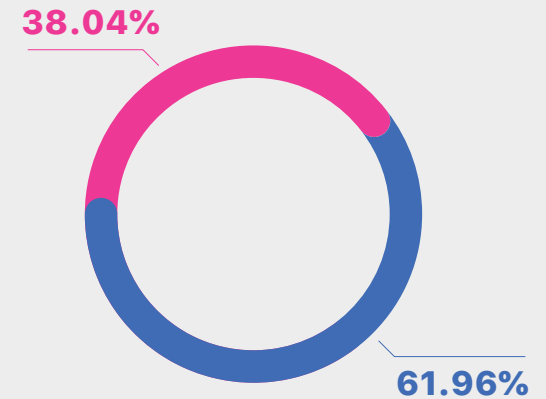
- Organizations
- Natural persons

Division of .pl domain names for Registrants, Q2 2019



- Organizations
- Natural persons

Division of .pl domain names for registrants, Q2 2019

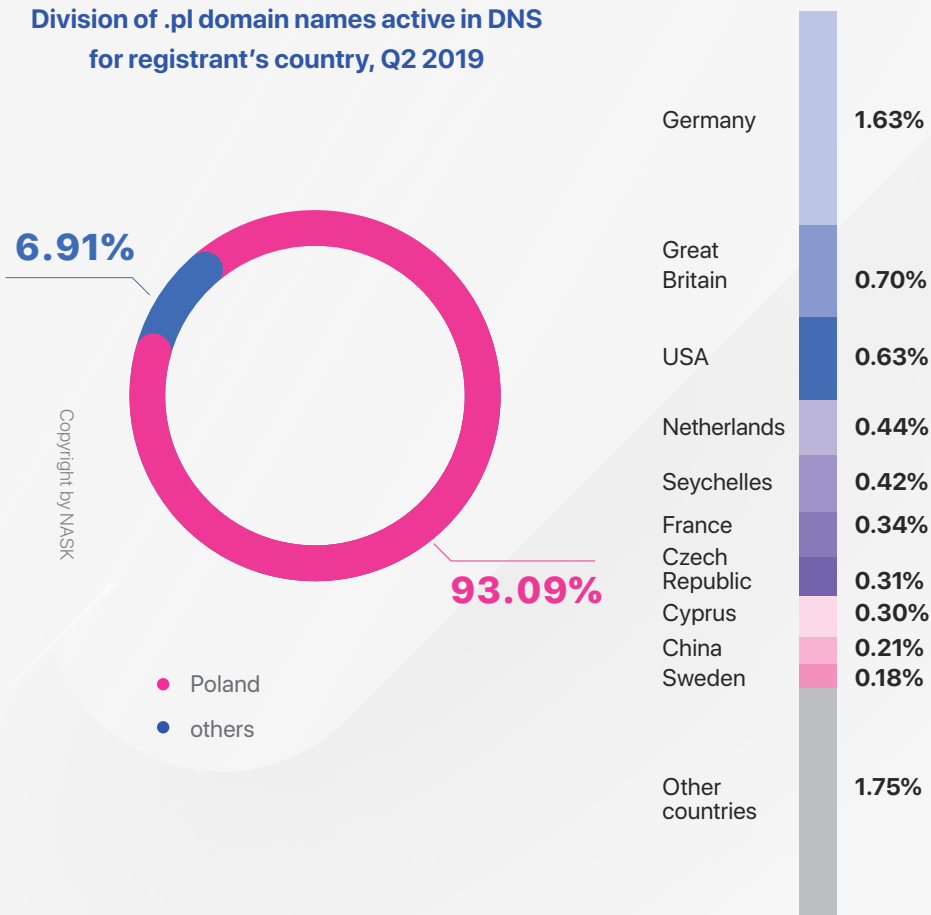


- Organizations
- Natural persons

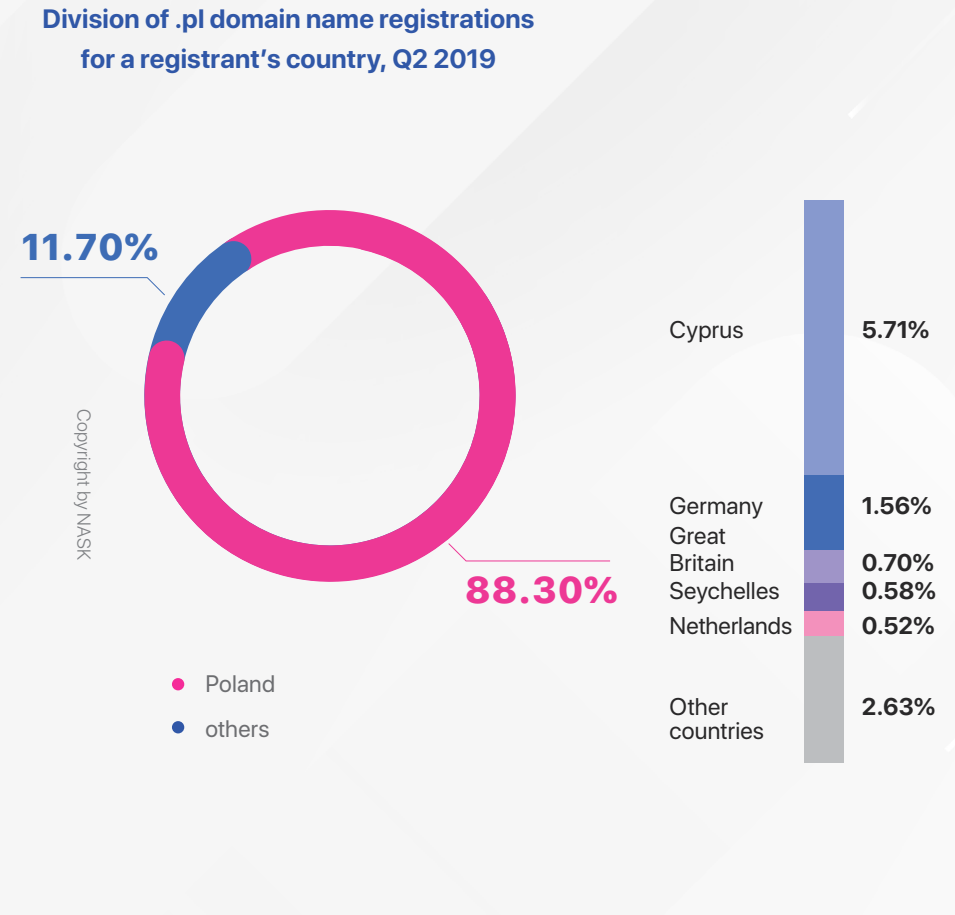
# Registrants of .pl domain names

## Place of residence of .pl domain name registrants

Division of .pl domain names active in DNS for registrant's country, Q2 2019



Division of .pl domain name registrations for a registrant's country, Q2 2019



# Additional services of .pl domain registry

## DNSSEC

At the end of June 2019 in the .pl domain registry, there were **489 945** names secured with the DNSSEC protocol. In the second quarter the number of secured .pl domain names decreased by **11 842**.

Number of the .pl domain names secured with DNSSEC

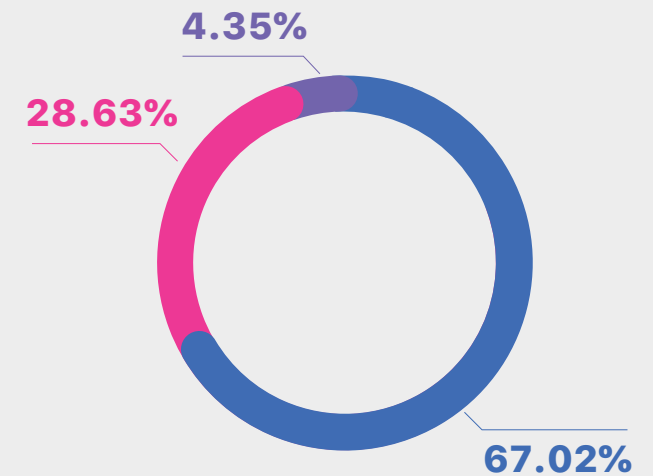


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## 67.02%

of secured names were registered directly in the .pl domain



- directly in the .pl domain
- in the functional domains
- in the regional domains

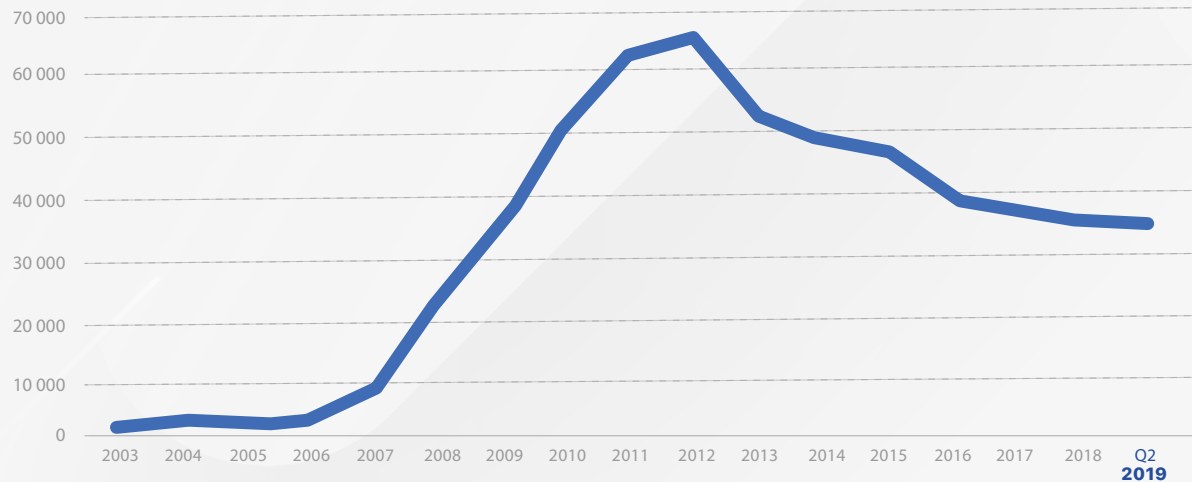
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# Additional services of .pl domain registry

## IDN

The .pl domain registry, at the end of the second quarter of 2019, contained **35 100** names with national diacritic signs (IDN) – by 550 fewer than in the previous quarter. During that period **2 807** IDNs were registered, i.e. **1.35%** of all active .pl domain names.

Number of .pl IDN domain names active in DNS



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Number of .pl IDN registrations



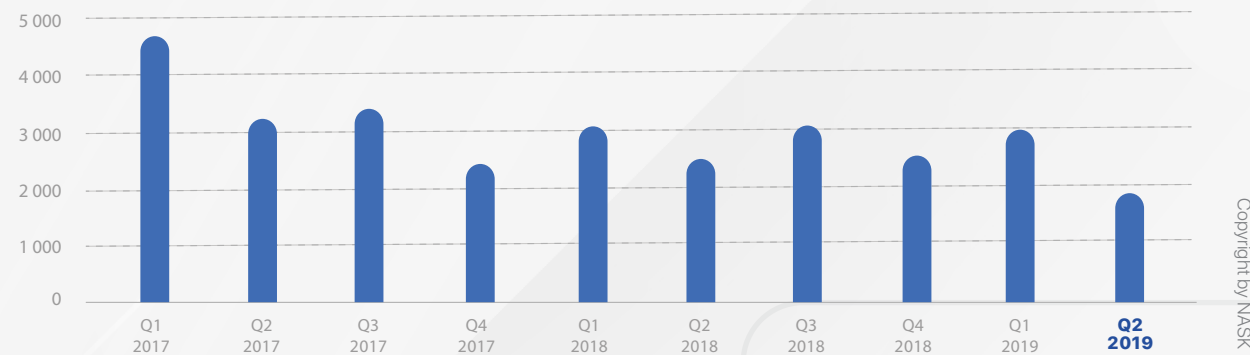
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# Additional services of .pl domain registry

## Options

Within the period from April to June 2019 **1 882** agreements on options for the registration of .pl domain names were concluded, with 1 493 options (79.3%) thereof being exercised.

### Number of WLS registrations



Since launching the service in 2004



to the end of the second quarter of 2019



**100 947**

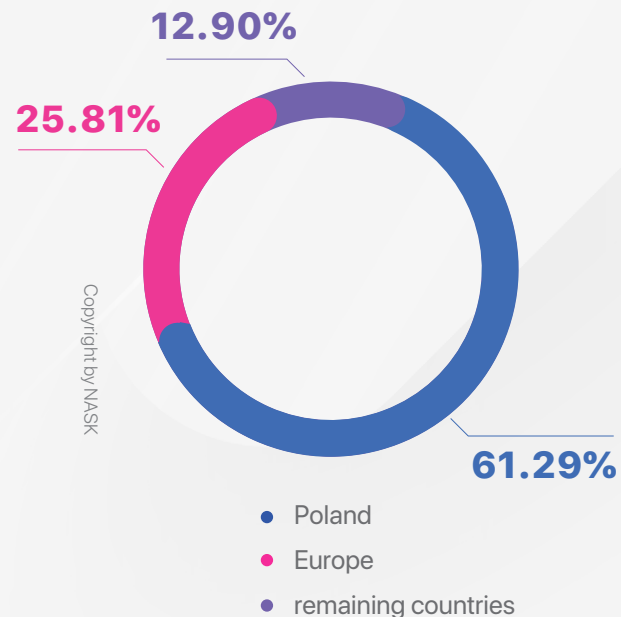
options were exercised

# Registrars of .pl domain names

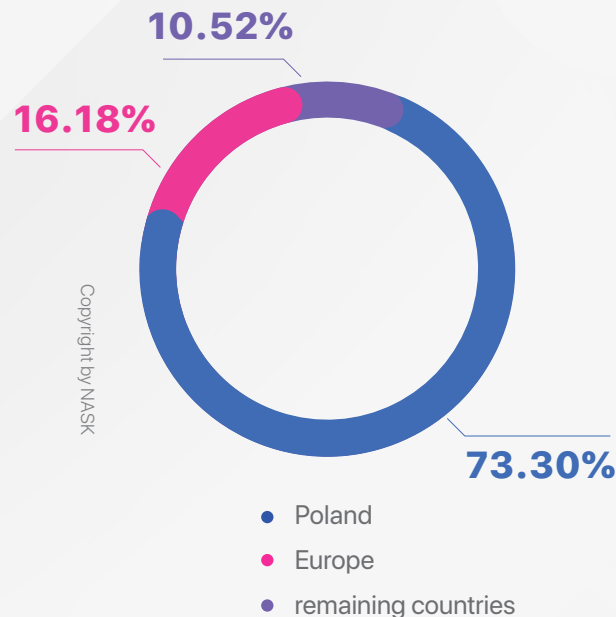
## NASK Partner Programme

The .pl domain registry, at the end of June 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, Q2 2019



.pl domain name market share between Partners considering the place of residence, Q2 2019



**217**  
Partners



**24**  
countries

# Internet 24/7

## Registry Lock – response to an increasing threat of domain name hijacking

The issue of domain name hijacking, although present in the cyberspace for ages, now is assuming ever greater proportions.

In recent years more than 4 thousand domain names, owned by over 600 organizations, have been hijacked. Among the victims of domain hijacking were, among others, Mastercard, ING Bank, McDonald's, Amazon, Hilton, BBC, Warner Bros. Entertainment, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Lenovo or Google Vietnam. Different scenarios of domain hijacking were first and foremost used to spread spam or discredit victims of a cyberattack. However, a particularly spectacular case, by account of the size of the attack, was hijacking all of 36 domain names owned by one of the biggest banks in Brazil. Seizing network operational activity of the bank allowed the attackers to capture, among others, ATM and POS transactions.

Domain hijacking takes place when the attacker gains an unauthorized access to domain's registration data, thus taking administrative control over a domain name which, in turn, allows them to modify its elements, including a website or e-mail built in that domain name. The access may be granted through, among others, reckless sharing the credentials to the registrar client panel amongst the employees in the organization or subcontractors, e.g. web designers, SEO

companies. Seizure of credentials may also occur as a result of sociotechnical activities of hackers and through phishing of data.

The .pl domain registry offered the implementation of the .pl Registry Lock service at the end of March 2019 while already in June the Partners of the .pl domain registry, Agnat (domena.pl) and H88 (domeny.pl) performed first implementations of the service and secured domain names in the .pl zone.

In Europe the Registry Lock service, also referred to as Security Lock, is provided by, among others, country-code top level domain registries in France, Sweden, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia and the registry of the European domain, EURid, as well as VeriSign, a registry services provider of generic top level domains .com and .net.

Compiled by Tomasz Szladowski, basing on the CENTR materials, PCWorld (Jeremy Kirk), KrebsonSecurity (Brian Krebs), ArsTechnika (Dan Goodin) and information provided at the websites of domain registries.





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