The Online World: 2019

Did you know?

There are now nearly 360 million country code domains registered around the world.

Top level domains (TLDs) don't just stop with countries. Region and city TLDs such as .la and .ny are also available, as are TLDs linked to professions such as .law and .med.

In 2010, ICANN launched a programme to release hundreds of new generic TLDs. The most popular are .xyz and .club.

Nomine, responsible for .uk, is a profit with a purpose company and has donated more than £1.67 million to tech for good causes since 2008, helping more than 50 million people. Current initiatives are tackling some of the most important digital issues facing young people today.

With over 12 million domains, the .uk namespace remains one of the world’s most popular country code domains. It saw 3% growth last year, supported by the end of the 6-character .uk domain name restriction last year. The list of the top ten countries is led by the USA, Canada, UK, Netherlands and Japan. The fastest growing, second only to India.

Entering the top 10 leader board for the first time is Australia, up 2% from last year. Australia is a key target market for Nominet in 2015.

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Some ccTLDs are mapping their way back to a country but rather for the economy...or for the future...or for potential for marketing. Romania’s .ro domain is seeing growth driven by interest from the academic community, its potential for marketing, Romania’s cultural identity and potential for tourism. India’s, as has been described, the boom in artificial intelligence companies.

Britain’s country code isn’t one of the most popular, growing at 0.9% last year. The growth mirrors the economy, with economic growth in the UK at 0.6% 2015.

As of 2015, China (.cn) has over 90 million domain registrations. It continues to register as the world’s largest country code domain name, driven by its free registration policy. The rest of the top ten includes:

- China (.cn): 99,346,045
- Germany (.de): 86,946,349
- United Kingdom (.uk): 51,610,812
- France (.fr): 50,467,508
- Japan (.jp): 46,394,754
- Russia (.ru): 46,245,895
- European Union (.eu): 2,580,278
- Canada (.ca): 1,744,923