

The US appears unusually small as there is a general preference for using .com over .us, but domain registrations in .us have risen by 37% since last year.

The .UK domain is the world's fourth most popular country-code domain. Back in 1985, .UK was one of the first ever country-code domains to be created. In 2014, shorter 'website.uk' domains were made available alongside 'website.co.uk' for the first time.

Geo-political changes influence the country codes: Russia officially adopted .ru after the dissolution of the Soviet Union but the .su country-code lives on (with nearly 120,000 registrations). West and East Germany had .de and .dd respectively, with the former becoming the official country code after reunification.

One of the world's least-used country-codes – North Korea's .kp – only has 24 registered domains. This is due to the strict censorship of the country's internet use, with many .kp domains only accessible from within the country.



It's not just countries that have domains! There are an increasing number of local domains, such as .london, .cymru and .berlin. The most popular city domain name is .nyc, which has more domains registrations than Thailand's country code.

There are over 143.6 million country code domain names registered around the world. One of the largest growth areas is China, where almost 4 million new .cn domain names have been registered since March 2016.

Domain name registrations don't always correspond with population sizes. Little Liechtenstein (.li) has 169.1 domain registrations per 100 people, while America's .us only has 0.7 domains registration for every 100 people. There are various reasons for the interest in .li – it is a popular Chinese surname, some American companies use it to mean Long Island, while li is also a common word ending in Russian.

Africa is relatively underrepresented, which is partly due to poor internet connections in some areas and a preference for using mobiles. Also, many in Africa favour .com as a domain name ending over their own country code.

Montenegro's .me has proven very popular worldwide, with many global brands such as Microsoft and Samsung registering domains. For a country with around 600,000 people, there are over 800,000 domain names registered.

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Disclaimer: Map represents registrations within current country code top-level domains (ccTLDs) in use worldwide. Data provided by Zooknic, March 2017. Numbers estimated on previously available data. *ISO code is obsolete, but can still be purchased.