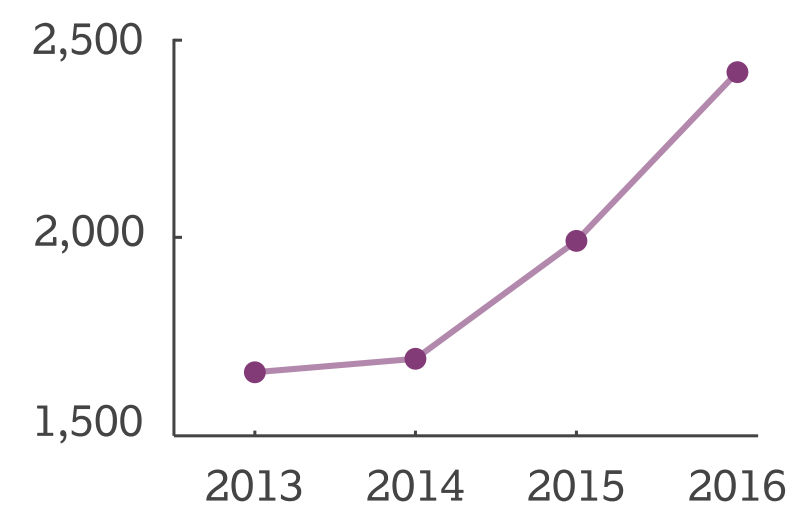
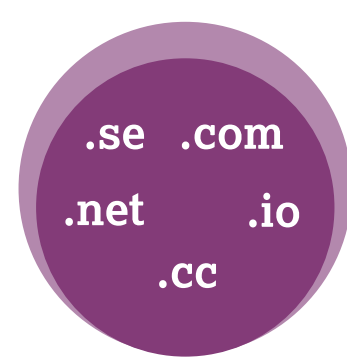


Domain analysis

Number of domains hosting child sexual abuse images and videos



These domains account for...



80%
of all webpages
that contain child
sexual abuse
images and videos

For domain analysis purposes, the webpages of www.iwf.org.uk, www.iwf.org.uk/report, www.iwf.org.uk/what-we-do and www.iwf.org.uk/become-a-member/join-us are counted as one domain: iwf.org.uk.

In 2016, 57,335 URLs contained child sexual abuse imagery and these were hosted on 2,416 domains worldwide. This is a 21% increase from 1,991 in 2015.

The 57,335 URLs hosting child sexual abuse content were traced to 50 countries, which is an increase from 48 in 2015. Five top level domains (.com .net .se .io .cc) accounted for 80 per cent of all webpages identified as containing child sexual abuse images and videos.

Abuse of generic top level domains

Our **Domain Alerts** help our Members in the domain registration sector prevent abuse of their services by criminals attempting to create domains dedicated to distribution of child sexual abuse imagery. Several well-established domains including .com and .biz are known as "Generic Top Level Domains" (gTLDs). Since 2014, many more gTLDs have been released to meet a growing demand for domain names relevant to the web content shown. In 2015, we first saw new gTLDs being used to share child sexual abuse imagery. Many of these new gTLDs were dedicated to illegal imagery and had apparently been registered specifically for this purpose.

The number of websites using a new gTLD, and dedicated to the distribution of child Sexual abuse imagery, continues to be a rising in trend in 2016.

- In 2015, we took action against 436 URLs on 117 websites using new gTLDs.

- In 2016, we took action against 1,559 URLs on 272 websites using new gTLDs – an increase of 258% (153 of these were disguised websites).

Of these 272 websites, 226 were websites dedicated to distributing child sexual abuse content.