

dnsbelgium

Quarterly report

Q4
2023



Q4 2023 in a nutshell

In the fourth quarter of 2023, 11,000 fewer new websites were registered than in the same quarter of 2022. Over the whole of 2023, we are **still well above 200,000 domain names**, those are still excellent figures.

But we do see that very low economic growth in Belgium and the EU, and an increasing number of bankruptcies have an impact on the number of domain names registered or renewed.

The **renewal rate** is also **slightly lower** (0.3%) than in 2022 and that makes the difference between an upward or downward trend in the number of domain names.

We are pleased to note that the number of fake webshops is negligible. The number of infected domain names remains stable. This indicates that we are **doing a good job of keeping the .be zone safe**, but that our ongoing efforts are not a luxury.

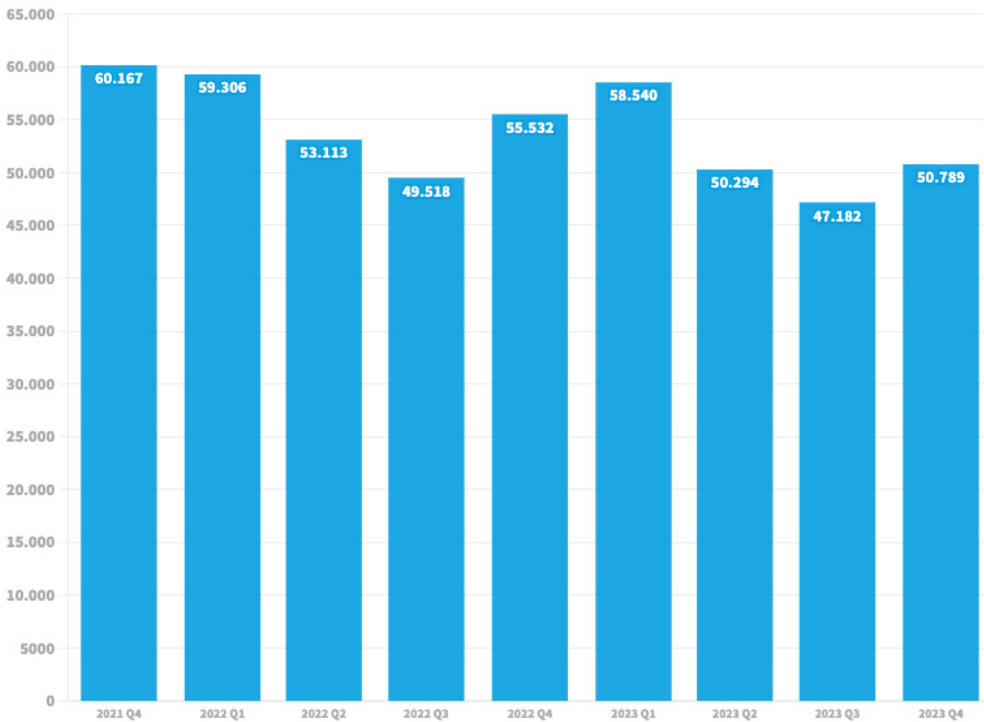
In the last quarter of 2023, we saw a **spike in the number of revoked domain names**. This had everything to do with one rogue player who had registered a whole number of domain names with malicious intent.

Our **strong checks** even before we get a domain name registered, verifying the applicant's identity, inevitably has an **impact on the number of new domain names**. Some people will certainly drop out before their domain name is registered. However, we assume that security and consumer confidence is one of our core tasks, so we prefer to avoid the short-term negative effects here (i.e. fewer registered domain names) in the hope that the long-term effect will be positive: greater use of the domain names and a higher renewal rate.

Philip Du Bois,
General Manager at DNS Belgium

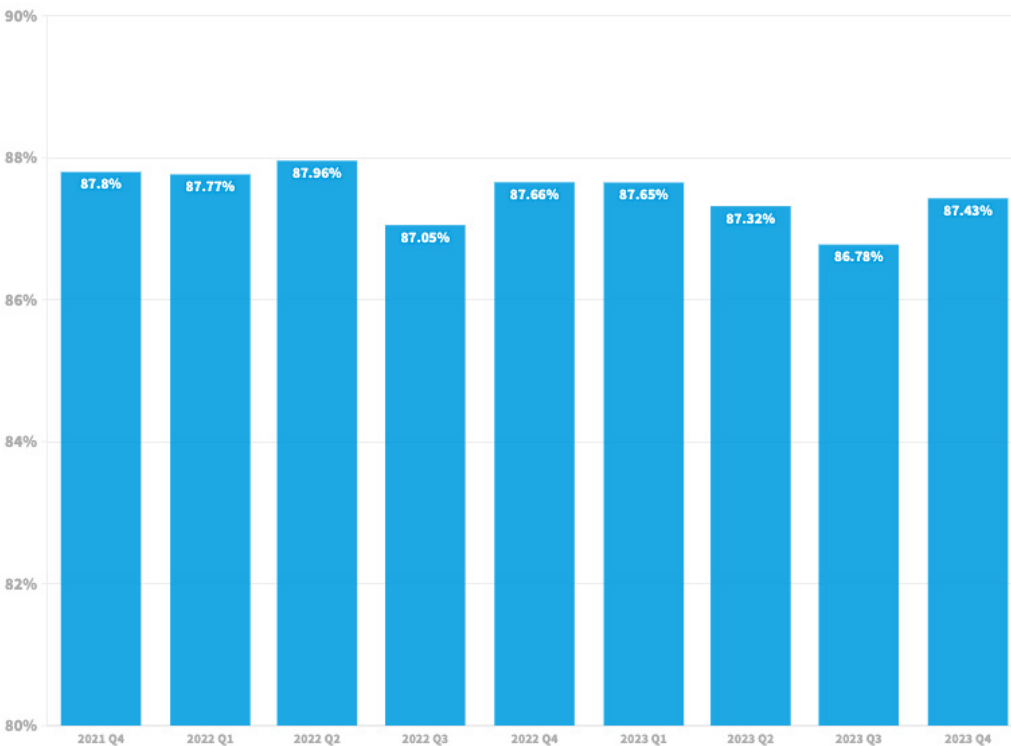


New registrations, Q4 2021 to Q4 2023



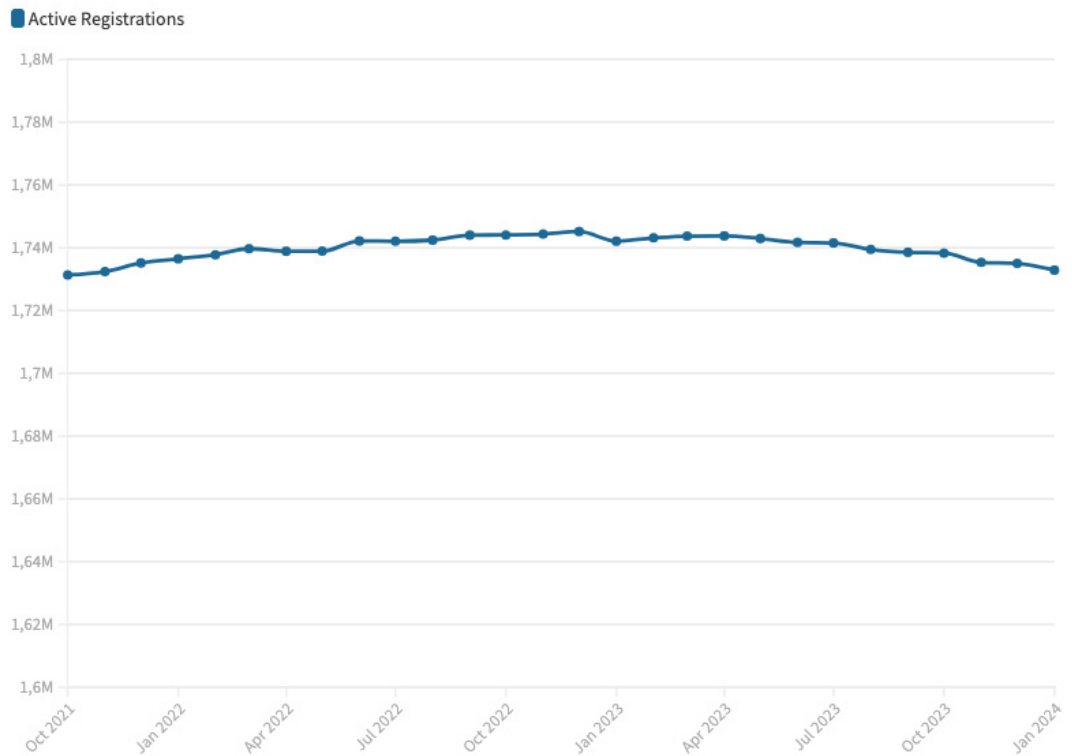
Q4 was not bad compared to previous years. We recorded about 11,000 fewer new registrations than in the same quarter of 2022. But we are still well above 200,000 new registrations per year.

Renewal rate, Q4 2021 to Q4 2023



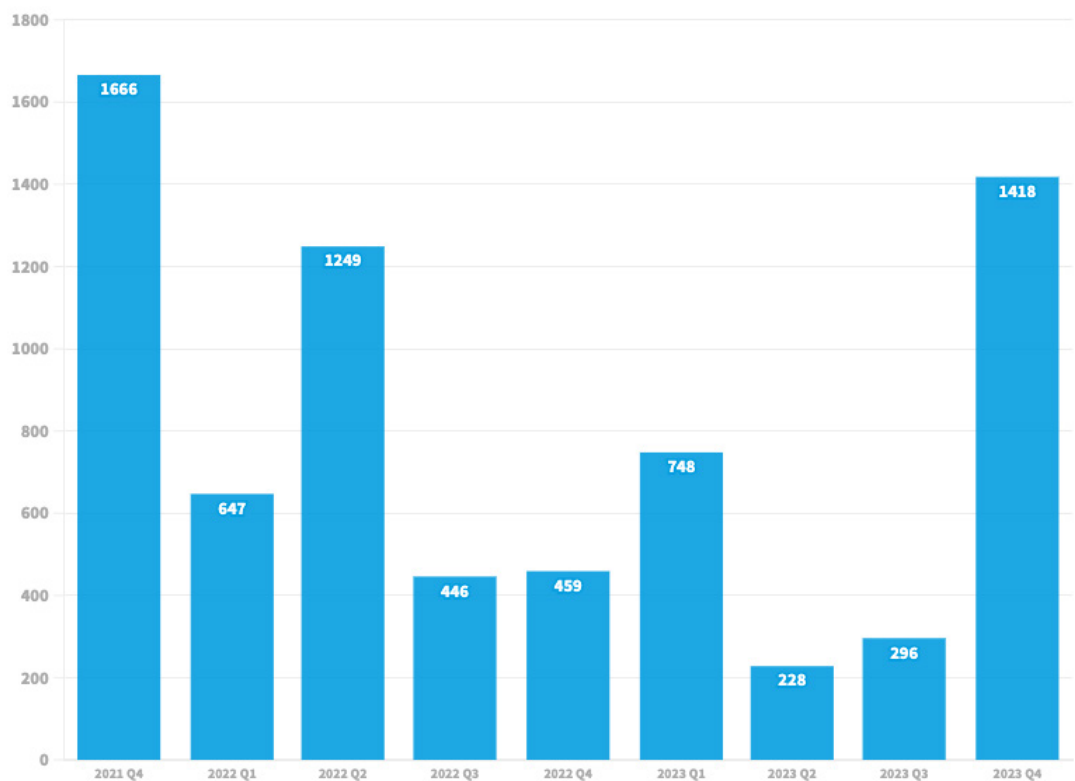
The renewal rate is 0.3% lower than last year's average. That doesn't seem like much, but it has a significant impact on the number of domain names and almost makes the difference between growth or decline.

Active registrations, Q4 2021 to Q4 2023



For three quarters, we have seen the same very slight downward trend in the number of active domain names. This is primarily due to very low economic growth in Belgium and EU, and an increasing number of bankruptcies.

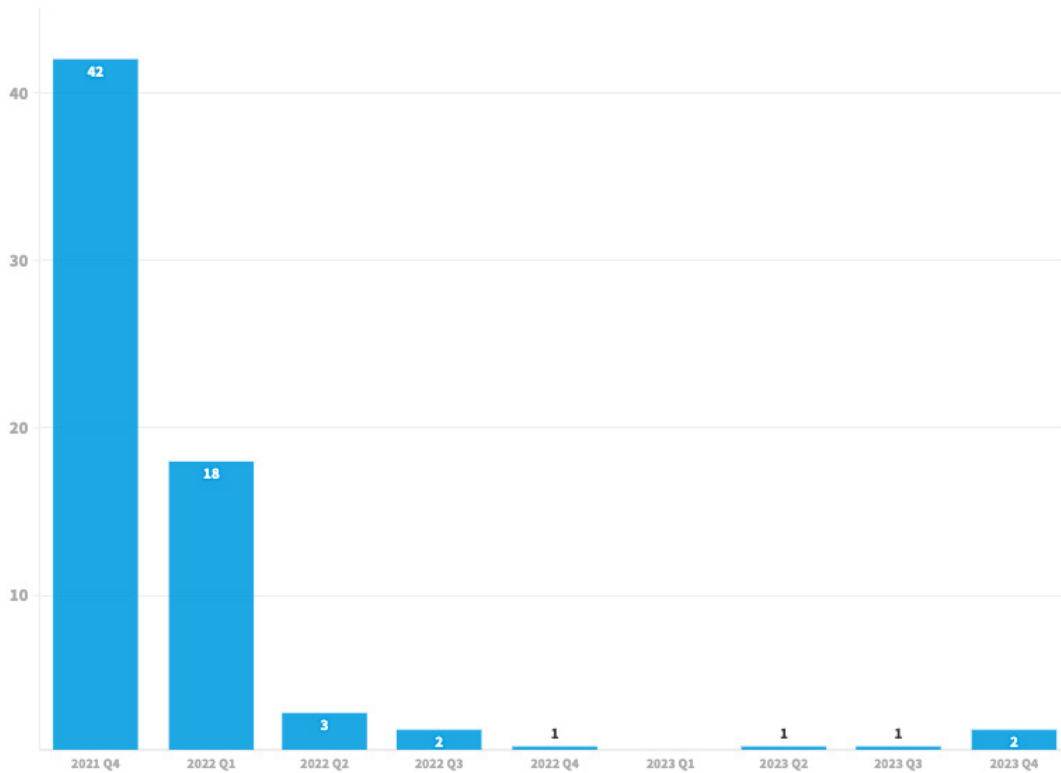
Revokes during Q4 2023





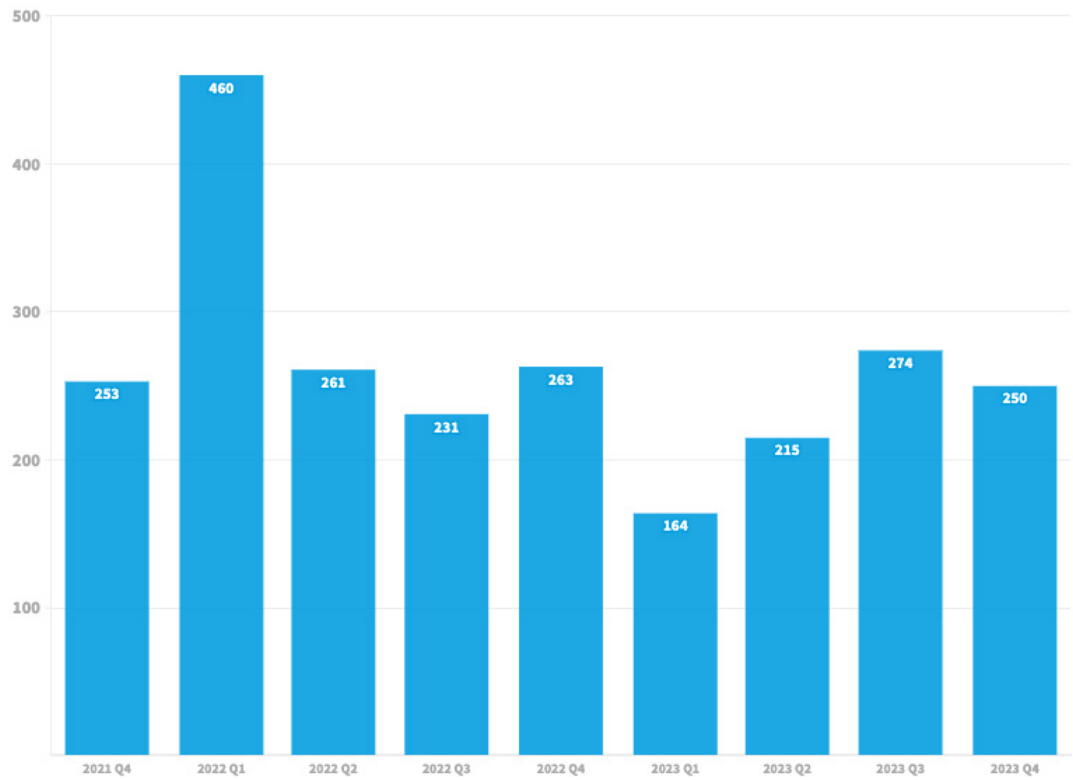
In Q4, we see a clear spike in the number of revoked domains. This is due to just one rogue player we could catch who had registered a lot of domain names.

Fake webshop removal



The number of fake webshops we detect is almost negligible, but occasionally one still pops up. Such a low number is of course a fantastic result for the .be zone.

Infected domains detection



The number of infections appears stable, clearly indicating the continued need for thorough monitoring.




dnsbelgium

.be

.brussels

.vlaanderen



DNS Belgium is a non-profit organisation. Our mission is to register and manage .be, .vlaanderen and .brussels domain names, improve the accessibility of the internet, encourage its use, make it safer to use for everyone and do so in a more sustainable manner.

DNS Belgium

Ubicenter - Philipssite 5/13 - 3001
Heverlee (Belgium)

+32 16 28 49 70

communications@dnsbelgium.be