



RIPE NCC

RIPE NETWORK COORDINATION CENTRE

Operational Update RIPE Database

RIPE NCC Database Team

Ed Shryane | 29 October 2021 | RIPE 81

The RIPE NCC Database Team





Progress Since RIPE 80

Whois Releases



- Whois 1.97.2 (6 July 2020)
 - Improved inetnum status validation to align with RIPE policy
 - Removed obsolete inetnum status values
- Whois 1.98 (1 October 2020)
 - NWI-11 Punycode Internationalized Domain Names in email addresses
 - Numerous improvements to RDAP service
 - Re-enabled RDAP entity search (limit 100 matches)
 - Return remark in RDAP response when abuse-c validation has failed

Release Notes: <https://www.ripe.net/manage-ips-and-asns/db/release-notes>

Whois Outages



- Partial network outage on 22-23 August 2020
 - A network problem caused a small fraction of traffic to be discarded by an edge router
 - A planned upgrade on 31st August should prevent the recurrence of this issue
 - Also improved external monitoring and alerting so we are notified sooner
- Web Application unavailable for 19 minutes on 1 October 2020
 - The web application was deleted when Whois was (manually) deployed
 - Always use the automated deployment process

Whois Features - Statistics



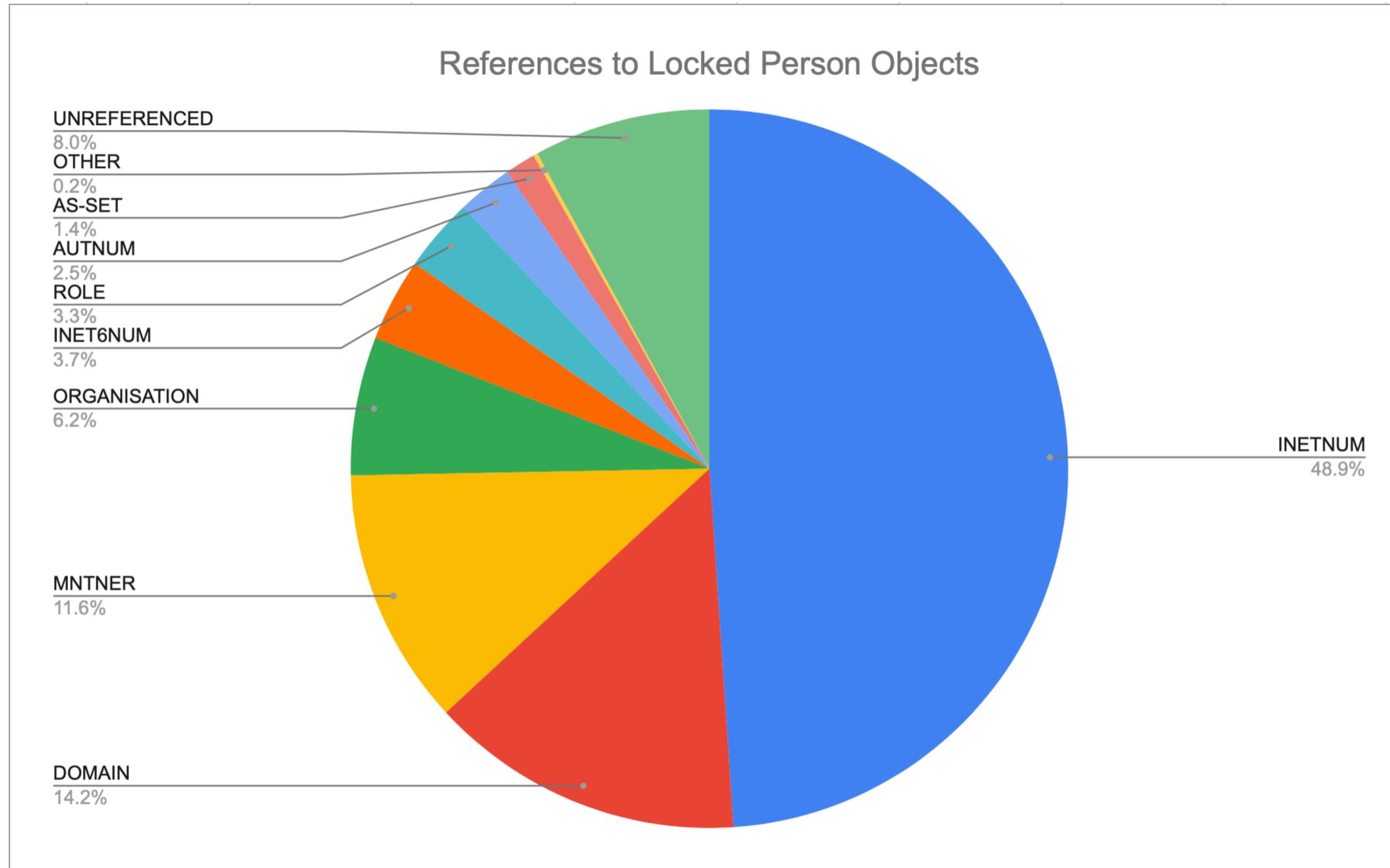
- 2017-02 Regular Abuse-c Validation
 - More abuse-c addresses (90K vs 77K last year), fewer invalid (2K vs 6K)
- 2018-06 NONAUTH Route(6) Cleanup
 - Deleting ~100 route(6) objects a month
 - Expect NONAUTH source to shrink further as RPKI adoption increases
- NWI-8 (Synchronise LIR Portal users to Default Maintainer)
 - 479 LIR organisations synchronising users (up from 50 last year)
- NWI-9 (Open NRTM Service)
 - 6x more NRTM clients/month compared to March

Locked Person Objects (1/2)



- Progress since RIPE 80
 - Implemented cleanup of locked persons referenced from IPv4 Assignments
 - **600K person objects** “unlocked” (set to assignment or LIR maintainer)
 - **1562 persons deleted, 526 updated** since then (why so few?)
- Remaining Work
 - Notify LIR organisations
 - Ask them to validate contact details for their resources
 - Cleanup remaining Locked Persons

Locked Person Objects (2/2)



UTF-8 in the RIPE Database (1/2)



- “We need to know what impact having non Latin1 characters in different parts of the data set will have on
 - the RIPE Registry,
 - the RIPE NCC members,
 - the different user groups of the RIPE Database
 - and the social, legal and political impact of such a change.
- **Which parts of the data set** can/should/shouldn't be allowed to be in other character sets.
- Who really needs access to this data and what parts of it need to be understandable or interpreted.
- Which does bring into question the whole purpose of the RIPE Database and the data contained therein.”

UTF-8 in the RIPE Database (2/2)



- Investigation in Progress (RIPE Labs article to follow)
 - RIPE NCC
 - **Internal procedures** convert (organisation, person) names to Latin-1
 - **Internal applications** convert to Latin-1
 - Community Discussion
 - **Where** should we allow UTF-8 in the database?
 - **How** do we prepare clients for UTF-8?
 - Technical
 - **Whois application and database** can handle UTF-8
 - **Full text search** engine is better suited to “fuzzy” word matching



Upcoming Changes

Upcoming Changes



- Numbered Work Items
- Cloud Migration
- Whois
 - MNT suffix will be mandatory when creating a MNTNER
 - Client Certificate Authentication
 - Domain object cleanup
- Website
 - Improved User Interface (new website template due in Q1 2021)
 - Improved Search page

RIPE NCC Certified Professionals



- Certify your skills by taking an online proctored exam
- Earn digitally verifiable badges
- Launched in April
 - **RIPE Database Associate exam**
 - IPv6 Fundamentals Analyst
 - IPv6 Security Expert (Q1 2021)
- Three vouchers sent to each LIR
 - Vouchers **expire** at the end of 2020
 - Make use of your vouchers and take the exam at your earliest convenience!



Questions



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