



**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



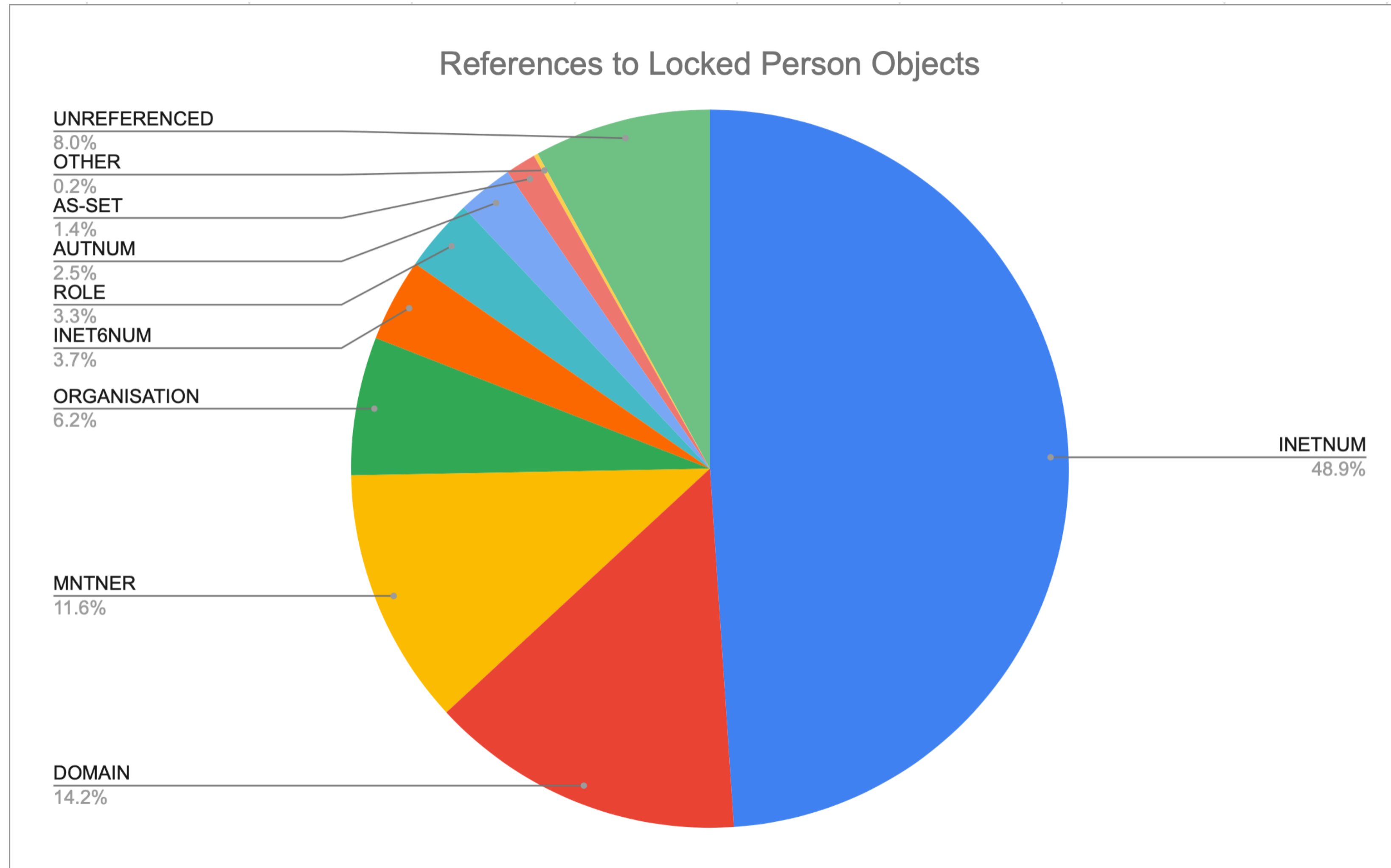
- 2017-02 Regular Abuse-c Validation
  - More abuse-c addresses (90K vs 77K last year), fewer invalid (2K vs 6K)
- 2018-06 NONAUTH Route(6) Cleanup
  - Deleting ~100 route(6) objects a month
  - Expect NONAUTH source to shrink further as RPKI adoption increases
- NWI-8 (Synchronise LIR Portal users to 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



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- Earn digitally verifiable badges
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  - **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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