

SOURCE: 2011 IPv6 Survey conducted by the Measurement Factory and sponsored by Infoblox Inc., October 2011

METHODOLOGY: Script-based automated assessment of IPv6 support by a percentage of com, net and org subdomains, testing AAAA (IPv6 address) records for DNS, mail and web servers.

FINDINGS:

- There has been a dramatic increase (from 1.27% in 2010 sample to 25.4% in 2011) in the percentage of zones under com, net and org that support IPv6.
 - The increase was so striking because of the adoption of IPv6 by a single, popular registrar, Go Daddy.¹
 - However, factoring out Go Daddy's contribution, the percentage of zones that support IPv6 rose organically to over 3%, a more than two-fold increase over the previous year.
- Just over 2% zones were served by mail servers supporting IPv6
- Similarly, the percentage of zones with IPv6-enabled web servers was quite low, at just less than 1%
- Geographical rankings of IPv6 adoption:
 1. France leads in IPv6 adoption (57%)
 2. The U.S. comes in second, with (42%)
 3. Czech Republic (36%)
 4. Poland (32%)

WHAT IT ALL MEANS:

- Go Daddy's adoption of IPv6 illustrates the v6 "power" of major registrars; a single large registrar can have a substantial effect on global IPv6 adoption.
- Go Daddy and other registrars often run mail and web servers for their customers, but Go Daddy, at least, does not yet support IPv6 on those servers, which shows in the results; when Go Daddy begins supporting IPv6 mail and web servers, we expect to see another dramatic jump in our statistics.
- The high percentages of IPv6 support in specific countries, (e.g., France and the U.S.) are attributable to adoption by a few registrars: Go Daddy in the U.S. (and elsewhere); Gandi and OVH in France; and Active 24 in the Czech Republic

IMPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESSES AND INTERNET USERS ALL OVER THE WORLD

- Huge percentages of businesses run on the registrars' networks, relying on their systems for email and a web presence; if all the registrars cut over, a significant impediment to those businesses' enabling IPv6 content is removed.
- Registrars should start fully supporting IPv6, externally and within their email and web servers
- If registrars/service providers do not start fully supporting IPv6, and use a cobbled-together approach of transition "Band-Aid" technologies, end users with IPv6 devices may start to experience latency and poor performance, which may in turn prompt customer desertion.
 - If your registrar isn't supporting IPv6, it creates a serious impediment to any company wanting to test and implement IPv6 for their external content.
- Those registrars and service providers that use the most proven solutions with full IPv6 support may have a competitive advantage

ENTERPRISE AND SERVICE PROVIDER CALLS TO ACTION

- Large registrars should start to fully support IPv6—not just name servers, but email and web servers with dual-stack IPv6 (versus transition technologies that could jeopardize performance)
- Customers/end users should ask their registrars about their plans to support IPv6 and consider alternatives if they don't have a good answer.
- Make sure you have a DNS implementation that fully supports IPv6 (ideally with tight integration of DHCP & IPAM)

¹ Go Daddy's name servers serve an astounding 22% of the subzones of com, net and org.