Internet Watch Foundation 2020 Report

Verisign has exclusive management over the .com and .net generic top-level domains.

More than 82% of all webpages identified as containing child sexual abuse images were found on .com and .net domains according to the most recent Internet Watch Foundation Report released April 2021. This was a 17% increase from 2019 (with .com and .net accounting for 70%)

However, if you discount the ccTLDs (country code TLDs that cannot be governed my any entity outside that specific country’s government), .com and .net account for between 98 - 99% of gTLDs of all webpages identified as containing CSAM!

![Top 10 TLDs](image)

Found under the 2020 Trends & data/international data section of the IWF Annual Report 2020

In 2019 .com and .net accounted for 70% - meaning a 17% increase from 2019 to 2020.

Excerpts from the International data section of IWF report:

- We’ve seen an increase in the number of domains being abused to host child sexual abuse material in 2020.

  We’ve also seen a number of new second-level domains being created solely for the purpose of profiting financially from the distribution of child sexual abuse material online.
The 153,369 URLs which displayed child sexual abuse imagery in 2020 appeared across **5,590 domains**, traced to 59 countries. This is a 13% increase from 4,956 domains in 2019.

**Additional findings from IWF Report which can be found here.**

- In 2020, the IWF confirmed 68,000 cases of self-generated imagery. It now accounts for nearly half (44%) the imagery IWF took action on last year (IWF analysts confirmed 153,350 reports of child sexual abuse material in total).
- This is a 77% increase on 2019’s total of 38,400 reports which included “self-generated” material.
- New analysis shows in 80% of these cases, the victims were 11 to 13-year-old girls.
- 299,619 reports were assessed by IWF in 2020: 299,531 were reports of webpages and 88 were reports of newsgroups. 153,383 reports were confirmed as containing child sexual abuse imagery or UK-hosted non-photographic child sexual abuse imagery. This is a 16% increase from 2019.

While the latest IWF Annual Report has not yet been released, they have shared that 2021 was the worst year on record for online child sexual abuse with a 168% increase on 2020!

In 2021, 182,000 reports included self-generated material - a 168% increase on 2020 - created using webcams and then shared online. In some cases, children are groomed, deceived or extorted into producing and sharing a sexual image or video of themselves.