

OBSERVATORY

*afnic*  
Internet  
made in France

● **The .fr in  
2024**

Annual Review

March 2025

# ● Contents

Definitions .....	4
Preamble.....	5
Summary .....	6
1. Growth of the .FR.....	9
2. Market share in France .....	11
3. Activity of the .FR .....	15
4. Structure of the .FR net balance.....	19
5. Key parameters of the .FR.....	22
5.1. A stabilising creation rate.....	22
5.2. A falling retention rate in 2024.....	25
5.3. Distribution of .FR names by age, an explanatory factor .....	28
5.4. Change in the number of .FR names since 1998 .....	31
6. .FR market concentration.....	34
7. Geographical distribution of .FR nationwide .....	43

8. Foreign holders .....	46
9. DNSSEC .....	48
10. Internationalised domain names under the .FR .....	50
11. Multi-year registrations .....	52
12. The .FR and business creation .....	55
13. 2025 outlook for the .FR.....	60
Annex: Source data figures .....	63

# Definitions

**TLD (Top-Level Domain):** a domain at the highest level in the hierarchical Domain Name System of the Internet after the root domain. .FR and .ORG are top-level domains.

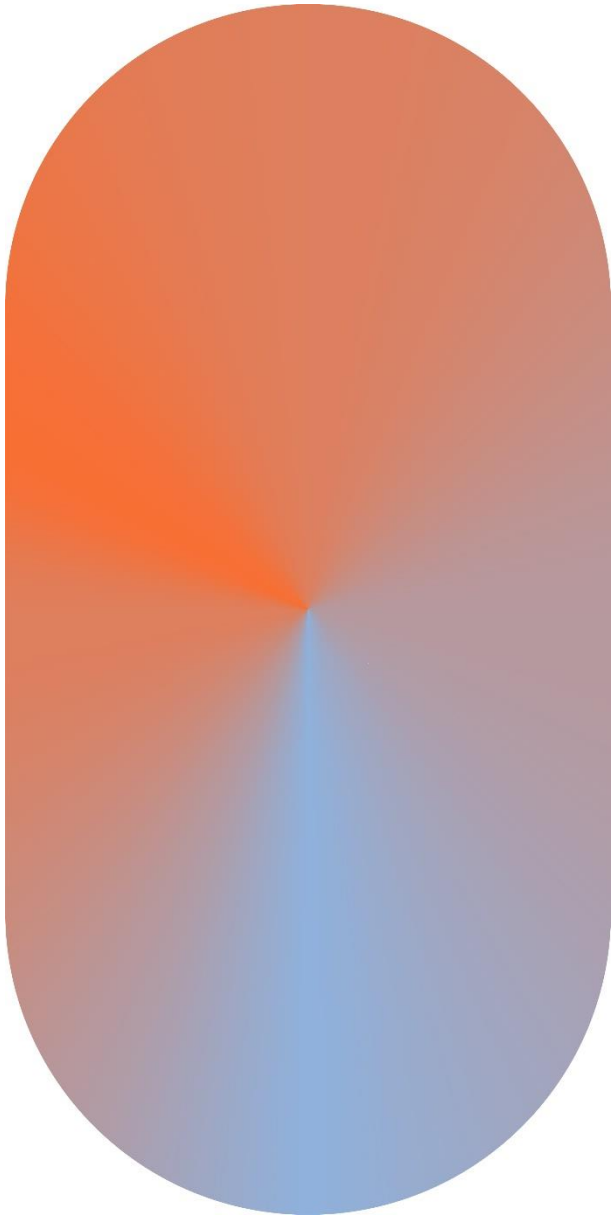
**ccTLD (country-code Top-Level Domain):** a TLD specific to a country or territory. The ccTLD for France is .FR, but there are other French ccTLDs such as .RE (Réunion), .PM (Saint Pierre and Miquelon), etc.

**gTLD (generic Top-Level Domain):** a generic TLD, not attached to a particular country or territory. .COM, .NET and .ORG are gTLDs.

**Legacy gTLD:** generic TLD created before 2014. Examples include .COM, .NET, .ORG or more recently (2001–2004) .INFO, .BIZ, .MOBI, etc.

**nTLD (new Top-Level Domain):** generic TLD created after 2014. nTLDs are divided into several sub-segments such as geoTLDs (regions, cities, etc.), Community TLDs (community-based), .BRANDs (TLD suffix corresponding to major brands) or generic nTLDs (common dictionary terms).

# Preamble



**As registry for the .FR Top Level Domain, Afnic is well placed to observe the adaptation of French society, particularly from the standpoint of the digital transition process.**

Looking just at the domain names market in France, the consolidation of certain benefits of the digital transformation was once again confirmed in 2024. The all-time record for the number of .FR create operations established in 2023 (801,000) was thus maintained (802,000).

This report details the activity of .FR over the past months. It also throws some light on how to read the more general trends while attempting to anticipate how they might evolve in 2025.

# Summary



At 31 December 2024, **the .FR domain** had

**4,216,786 names** in stock,

compared with 4,133,832 at 31 December 2023.



Its **growth** fell from 3.4% in 2023 to **2.0% in 2024**, with create operations up by 0.1% (compared with 6.4% in 2023) and delete operations up by 5.2% (compared with 7.0% in 2023).

These changes are the result of the sharp acceleration of the digital transformation during the COVID-19 crisis, which led many VSEs/SMEs to develop their activities online in 2020/2021. 2021/2022 saw somewhat of a 'return to normality', but the high volume of create operations is proof of how the digital practices developed during COVID have taken hold.



**The market share of .FR in France** has increased slightly, reaching **40.4%** compared with 40.3% at year-end 2023.

An almost inevitable consequence of the high level of create operations (causing increased volatility), the retention rate continued on its downward trend, at 82.6% as against 83.4% in 2023. The ageing structure of .FR domain names has hitherto contributed to their stability, but the delete rate for names reaching expiry for the first time (at the end of the first year) remains lower than usual (66% in 2023 and 67% in 2024, as opposed to 68–70% the previous years). This could presage a change in the qualitative composition of the portfolio of .FR names, accompanied by stronger volatility. In any case, this observation has to be seen in perspective, given the gains made by – or at least stability of – the .FR in terms of market share: the phenomena affecting the .FR domain are also affecting its rivals, if anything more strongly.

The 'deconcentration' of the .FR domain continues, with create operations being less concentrated than the stock of names. This trend persisted in 2024 with a relative lag among the market leaders in comparison to their challengers, a situation that was also reflected in the inter-registrar transfer flows.

The regional dynamics still reflect a 'catch up' of some rural regions in terms of growth, although the weight of the regions in the portfolio of .FR names registered varies little and is linked to the presence of big urban and economic centres. Over the long term, Île de France (the Greater Paris Region) is the big loser, down -4.7 points in terms of market share between 2014 and 2024, even though it is still the region with by far the greatest number of .FR names (27% of the stock).

Businesses continue to go under at a rising rate, although this trend appears to be waning. Perhaps stabilisation will be achieved in 2025. This contextual factor is directly linked to both the after-effects of the COVID period and economic difficulties, and can play a role in developments in the domain name market by causing names to be abandoned and slowing the create rate. However, the bleak climate can also lead companies to seek out new distribution channels via the Internet, which boosts startups of businesses who are now well on the way to making the digital transition. It was this second scenario that proved true in 2024 for the .FR.



# 1. Growth of the .FR

Growth of the .FR stood at 2.0% in 2024 following the atypical years of 2020 (impact of COVID-19, +7%), 2021 (gradual return to normality, +5.8%), 2022 (end of the return to normality, +2.9%) and 2023 (boom in create operations, +3.4%). With a slowdown in growth as a result of the continuing rise in delete operations, 2024 marked the transition to a period of uncertainty, given that although create operations returned to the levels posted in previous years, the number of deletions could cause structural risks in terms of stock loss.

Growth of the .FR remains above that of the French market as a whole, taking all TLDs together, despite the latter having picked up in 2024 at +1.6% compared with +1.1% in 2023.

Growth of EU ccTLDs (excluding .UK), on the other hand, lost ground in 2024, remaining virtually stable at +0.4% compared with +1.6% in 2023.

The global market, meanwhile, continued to grow at +3.1% in 2024 (as against +2.7% in 2023 and +1.9% in 2022), in large part due to nTLDs turbocharged by the fee increases for the .COM TLD and the closure of TLDs hitherto managed by Freenom.

Following a period of convergence between the different segments in 2022–2023, contrasts once again emerged in 2024 with increased global growth,

sluggish growth in Europe, and a .FR that has managed to maintain momentum above the European average.



Figure 1: Change in annual growth rates (2013 – 2024)

(Key figures table for Figure 1)

## 2. Market share in France

Having grown slightly faster than its local market in 2024 (see Figure 1), **the market share of the .FR domain stood at 40.44% at the end of 2024** (compared with 40.28% at the end of 2023).



**This market share constitutes a new all-time high for the .FR TLD.**

The gain in market share was thus 0.2 of a percentage point (pp) in 2024, whereas the .COM continued to lose ground (-0.2 pp). The differential between the two TLDs continued to evolve in favour of .FR in 2024.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
.FR	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.2	<b>+ 2.8</b>
.COM	-0.6	0.6	-0.5	-0.8	-0.2	<b>-1.7</b>
Other Legacy TLDs	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	<b>-1.4</b>
Other ccTLDs	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	<b>-0.6</b>
nTLDs	1.0	-0.9	0.3	0.1	0.3	<b>+0.9</b>

Table 1: Changes in market share in France (2020 – 2024)

Table 1 shows the gains and losses in market share over the past five years. During this period, the situation of the .FR improved constantly with a total gain of 2.8 pp. The .COM domain for its part lost 1.7 pp, Other Legacies lost 1.4 pp, Other ccTLDs lost 0.6 pp and nTLDs gained 0.9 pp.

The solidity of the .FR in its market was confirmed in 2024, whereas the .COM continued on the declining trend that had started in 2022. On the back of poor years worldwide in 2022 and 2023, .COM was on track to end 2024 at a -1.5% to -2.0% loss of stock. This weakness favours gains in market share by the ccTLDs, bolstered by the acceleration of the digital transition (the case of the .FR being no exception).



These multi-annual data show **a constant preference over time in France for the .FR.**

The declining market shares of the other segments could be explained by the same factors as in previous years: registrations made for defensive purposes,

'Other Legacies' suffering from 'portfolio clear-outs' not offset by a strong volume of create operations.

nTLDs, for their part, follow two quite different rationales. On the one hand, there are the low-cost nTLDs attracting bargain create operations with subsequent low retention rates. And on the other hand, the more 'classic' nTLDs, compelled by the fixed charges imposed by ICANN and by their relatively low volumes to charge rates that make them less competitive while at the same time not allowing them to obtain sufficient margins to finance the promotional operations they would need to carry out in order to make themselves widely known to their targets.

Figure 2 below shows that over a long period, the reality of the market is that of use, and that the great challenge for secondary TLDs such as 'Other Legacy TLDs', or newcomers to the market such as nTLDs, is how to anchor themselves in real use.

## CHANGES IN MARKET SHARE IN FRANCE

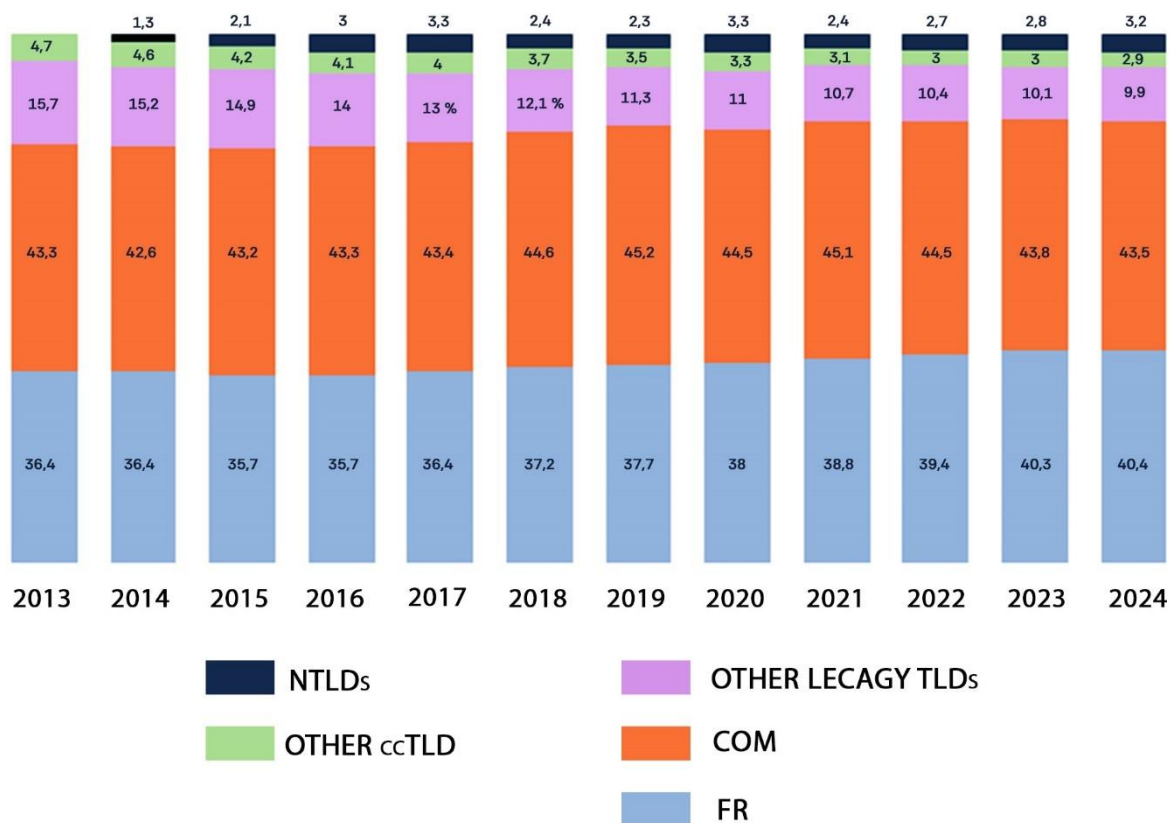


Figure 2: Change in market share (%) in France (2013 – 2024)

(Key figures table for Figure 2)

*Data for TLDs other than .FR are estimates provided by ZookNIC.*

As a result, the durability and the success of a TLD are less measurable by the volumes of stocks or the creation dynamics than by the use actually made of the names. This aspect is unfortunately also one of the most difficult to assess, and for the time being we are not in a position to present reliable data on the subject.

# 3. Activity of the .FR

In 2024, activity of the .FR domain was marked by a stabilisation in the number of create operations at a historic high, slightly above 800,000.

Delete operations for their part increased by 5% (as against +7% in 2023), with a resulting deterioration in the retention rate, which went from 83.4% to 82.6% in 2024 for an average of 83.6% over the period 2020–2024.

The good level of create operations proves that the acceleration of the digital transformation has become a permanent factor rather than a phenomenon. Yet even so, the increase in the number of delete operations, which exceeded the growth in stock in 2023 (+3.4%) reflects a higher volatility of creations, which are renewed less frequently than usual after the first year.

Beyond the 'disappointments' of the digital transition, the economic context may explain this phenomenon (significant increase in business failures).

Table 2 shows the differences by type of flow.

Flows	2023	2024	Change (abs.)	Change (%)
Create operations	801,427	802,202	+775	+0.1%
Net delete operations <sup>1</sup>	683,867	719,090	+35,223	+5.2%
Net balance	117,560	83,112	-34,448	-29.3%

Table 2: Flows of .FR activity in 2024

Figure 3 presents the trends in .FR flows since 2013 and shows the historic levels of create and delete operations and the net balance.

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<sup>1</sup> Net delete operations correspond to gross delete operations less operations to 'restore' names deleted then kept by their holders, plus the delete operations carried out at the initiative of Afnic, notably in the context of verification operations.



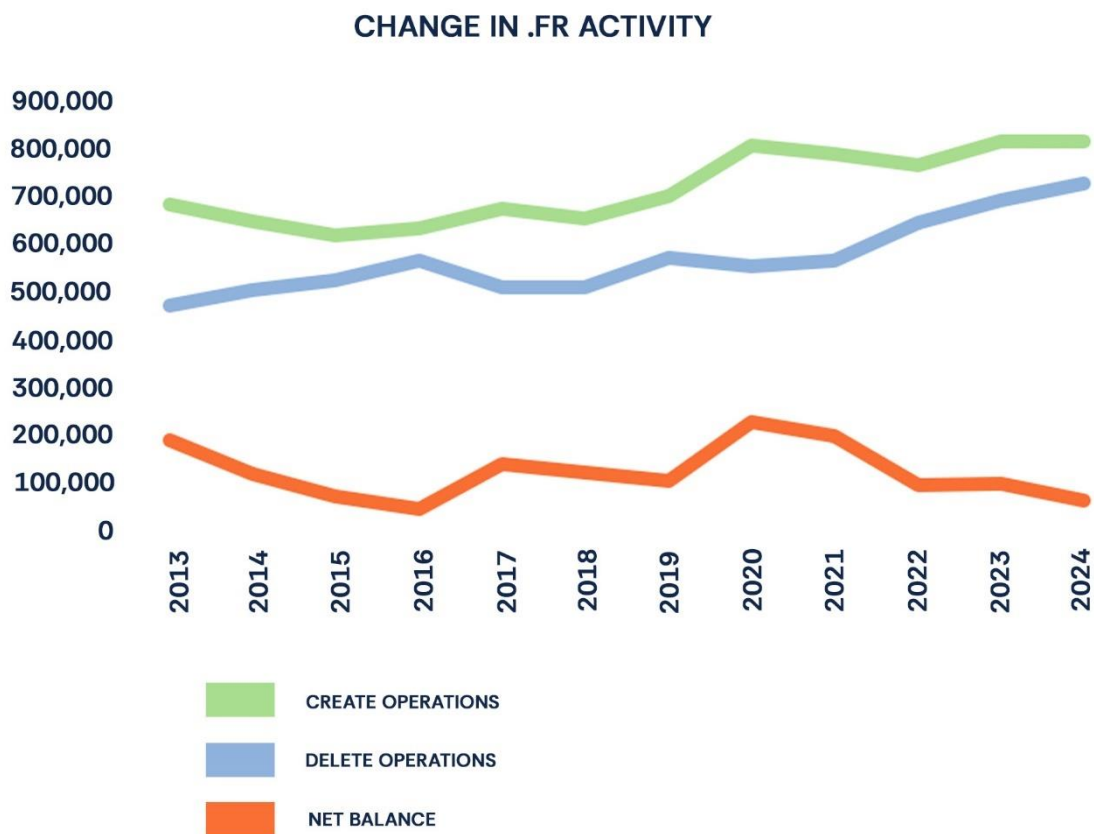


Figure 3: Change in .FR activity (2013 – 2024)

(Numerical table for Figure 3)

Following a peak in 2012, create operations fluctuated between 600,000 and 700,000 per year from 2013 to 2019. They exceeded 700,000 in 2020 and were stable above this threshold in 2021 and 2022, before passing the 800,000 mark in 2023 and remaining at this historic level in 2024.

Delete operations, meanwhile, were in the range of 500,000 to 600,000 a year between 2013 and 2021, with two peaks in 2016 and 2019 associated with

specific one-off incidents. Delete operations exceeded 600,000 in number in 2022, and 700,000 in 2024, entailing a fall in the retention rate to 82.6% in 2024.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> The retention rate is calculated using the following formula:  $(\text{Stock } 01/01/25 - \text{Create operations } 2024) / \text{Stock } 01/01/24$ . It therefore measures the proportion of names present at 1 January 2024 that were still present at 1 January 2025. Purists distinguish between this retention rate and the renewal rate, which measures the number of names renewed as a proportion of all those expiring in the period considered. For reasons of benchmarking, we prefer to use the retention rate, which can be calculated without having expiry dates for renewed names.

# 4. Structure of the .FR net balance

A study of the components of the net balance and their changes highlights the dynamics underlying the performance characteristics discussed above.

Figure 4 shows the variations in domain name renew and create operations from one year to another, their addition forming the net balance.

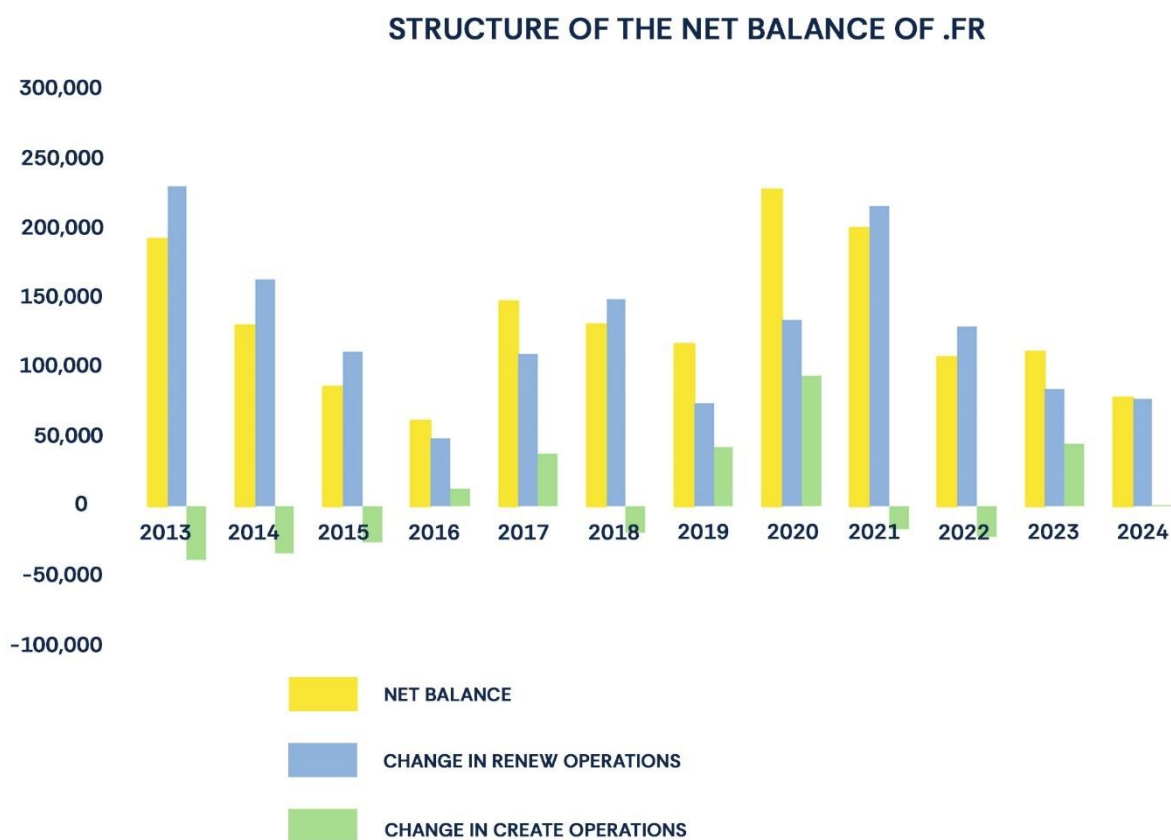


Figure 4: Structure of the .FR net balance (2013 – 2024)

(Numerical table for Figure 4)

The variation in renew operations was positive in all years from 2012 to 2024, reflecting the fact that the absolute number of domain name renewals continued to grow (2021 being the first year in which more than three million .FR names were renewed, a figure that rose to 3,414,530 in 2024.) Not surprisingly, the change in the volume of names renewed correlates with the changes in the net balance, which explains the slower growth.

Following a 2-year decline, create operations posted an upturn in 2023 and stabilised in 2024, meaning that the variation in the 2024 net balance is almost entirely due to the change in the number of names retained.

A study of the key parameters of the .FR TLD helps to explain these factors and to illustrate the reasoning behind activity forecasts.

# 5. Key parameters of the .FR

## 5.1. A stabilising creation rate

The creation rate represents the percentage of names created during the year in stock at year-end.

The 'younger' or more 'dynamic' a TLD, the higher its creation rate. This rate tends to reduce over time, since the stock of names increases from year to year, therefore the effort needed in terms of create operations (in absolute value) in order to maintain a similar rate from one year to the next is automatically ever greater.

Figure 5 shows that the creation rate of the .FR lost 4 pp in 2013–2015 before levelling out in 2016–2017, declining in 2018 and recovering in 2019 and 2020. This trend did not continue in 2021 and 2022, with a .FR creation rate falling to around 19%. The exceptional level of create operations in 2023 allowed it to rise above 19% once again before stabilising at 18% in 2024.

### CHANGE IN CREATION RATE FOR .FR



Figure 5: Change in creation rate

(Key figures table for Figure 5)

When it comes to evaluating the relevance of the scenarios referred to in terms of potential developments over recent years, two possibilities were put forward:

- an optimistic scenario in which the digital transformation initiated in 2020 continued, sustaining the dynamic of create operations;
- a pessimistic scenario in which the slow pace of economic activity reduced investment and discouraged potential project promoters from starting up new businesses.

The 2024 performance shows that the .FR domain has continued on an optimistic path, which does not mean however that this can last for ever. Holding the retention rate at around 18% in 2025 would be a success in itself, given that while stock is on the increase, more create operations are needed to maintain a constant creation rate.

The 2024 performance shows that the .FR domain has continued on an optimistic path, which does not mean however that this can last for ever. Holding the retention rate at around 18% in 2025 would be a success in itself, given that while stock is on the increase, more create operations are needed to maintain a constant creation rate.

The weekly trend in create operations shown in Figure 5.1 indicates that create operations were lower in 2024 than in 2023 for the first half of the year, before picking up as of September to eliminate the backlog. Seasonal trends remain distinct, with 'slow' months in July and August, and a drastic fall in the second half of December.



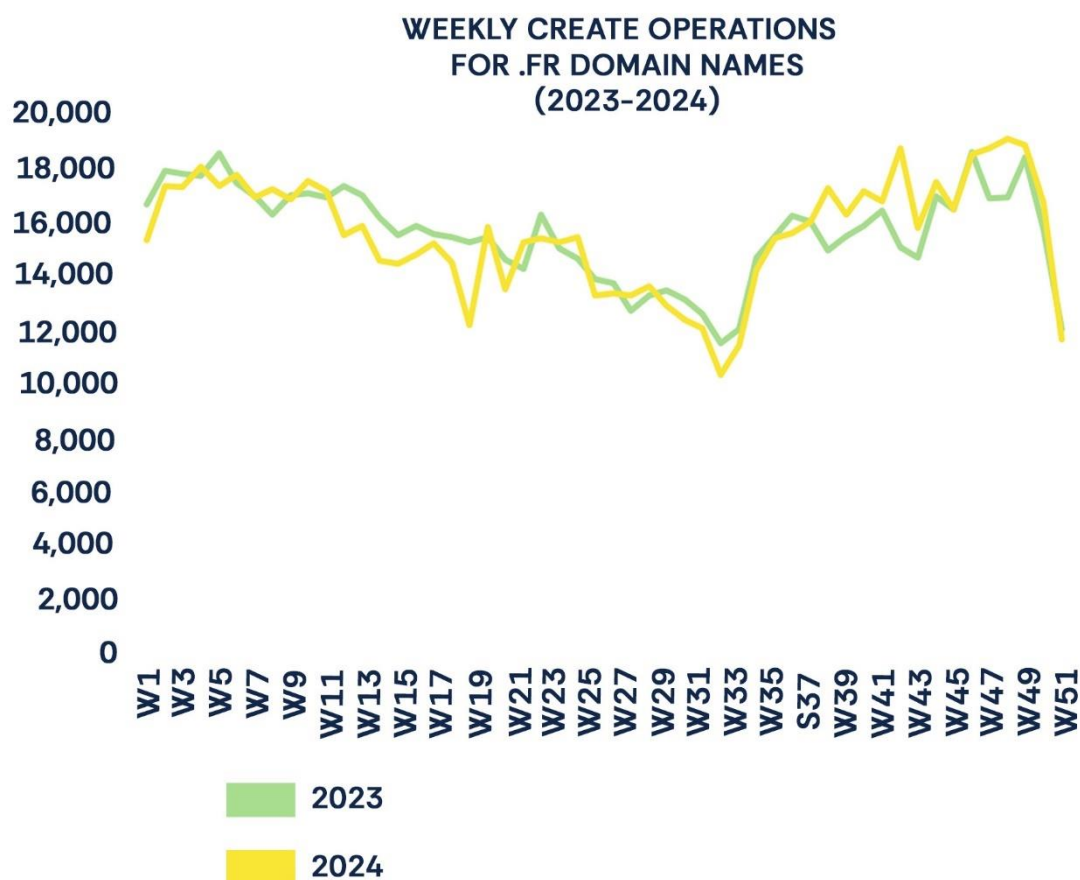


Fig. 5.1: Comparison of levels of weekly create operations in 2023 and 2024

(Keys figure table for Figure 5.1)

## 5.2. A falling retention rate in 2024

The retention rate is calculated by subtracting the number of create operations during the year from the stock at year-end and comparing that balance with the stock at the beginning of the same year. It therefore measures the proportion of names in the portfolio at the start of the year that were still there, i.e. had not been deleted, at year-end.

This retention rate has fallen since 2022 due to the number of delete operations increasing more quickly than the stock of names the previous year.

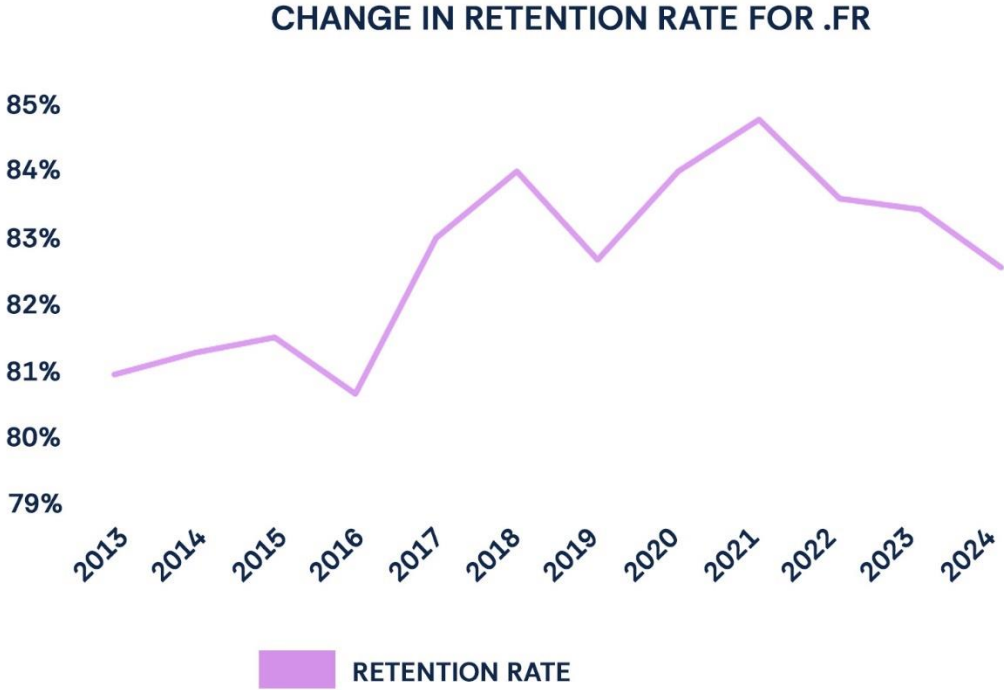


Figure 6: Change in retention rate

(Key figures table for Figure 6)

Figure 6 shows that this rate has grown appreciably over a long period (+3.5 pp between 2013 and 2021) with some jolts linked to specific events (introduction of automatic renewal systems by certain large registrars, deletions of ineligible 'domainers' portfolios, etc.).

The sustained deletions of 2022-2024 weighed on the renewal rate, which returned to the 83%-84% range in which it oscillated between 2017 and 2020, then fell below 83% in 2024.

There are four main causes of this change in deletions:

- the growth in stock, which automatically increases the number of names reaching expiry and therefore the number of delete operations;
- greater domain name volatility caused by the high level of create operations. This volatility reflects more opportunistic registrations, which is seen in the historically low retention rate for names reaching expiry for the first time;
- the mid-term consequences of the 'COVID effect' that forced many companies to put in place an online presence in 2020–2021, with a 'return to normality' in 2022–2024 that led to the abandonment of websites created during the crisis;
- the economic situation and (as we will see below) the high level of business failures, partly due to a 'catch-up' effect from the COVID period during which non-viable companies were able to survive thanks to government aid.

Although the last two causes should peter out over time, the first two should remain in effect in 2025.

Lastly, the high level of create operations between 2023 and 2024 represents a challenge in itself, given that the domain name renewal rate after the first year has a significant impact on the overall renewal rate: in 2025, 18% of the stock of .FR names (2024 creation rate) will reach expiry for the first time in their life cycle.

The ageing structure of the .FR portfolio is therefore a key factor in understanding the mechanism.

### 5.3. Distribution of .FR names by age, an explanatory factor

Figure 7 hereunder shows the distribution of extant .FR domain names by age at 31 December 2024. Names created in 2024 are 0 years old, those created in 2023 one year old and so on.

## STRUCTURE OF .FR NAMES BY AGE AT 31/12/24

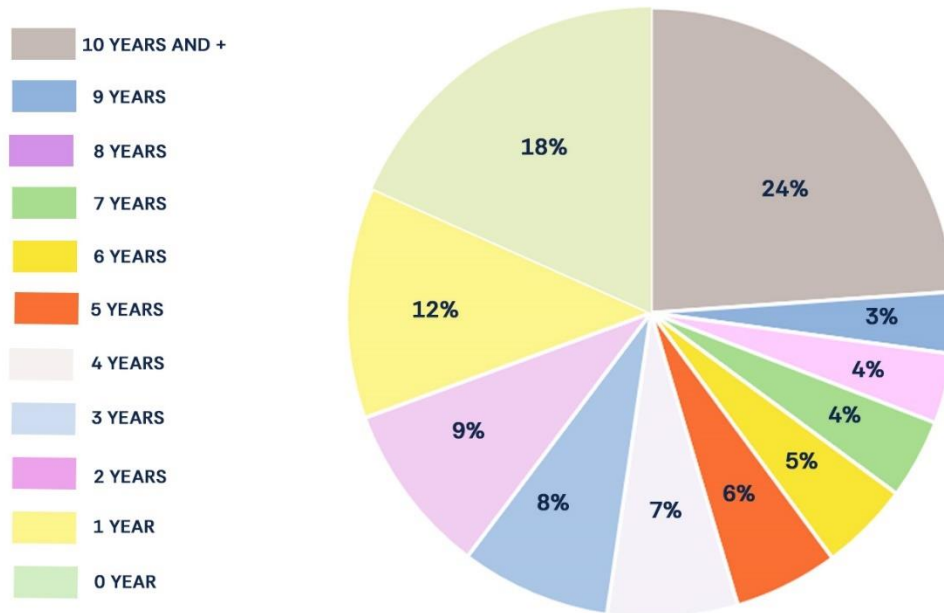


Figure 7: Structure of .FR names by age at 31 December 2024

(Key figures table for Figure 7)

This structure has remained very stable over time, names created during the past year generally representing just under 20% of the stock (corresponding to the creation rate). Three tiers can be distinguished: names created in 2023 and 2024 (30% as against 31% at 31/12/23), names registered for two to six years (35% in 2024 and 2023) and those that are seven or more years old (35% as against 34%).

The weight of 'old' names thus increased slightly, which had a stabilising effect on the renewal rate. This impact was not sufficient, however, in 2024 to offset the surge in volatility of the most recently registered names.

Indeed, the age structure of .FR names has a direct effect on the TLD's retention rate, since this rate varies with the age of the domain names (see Figure 8).

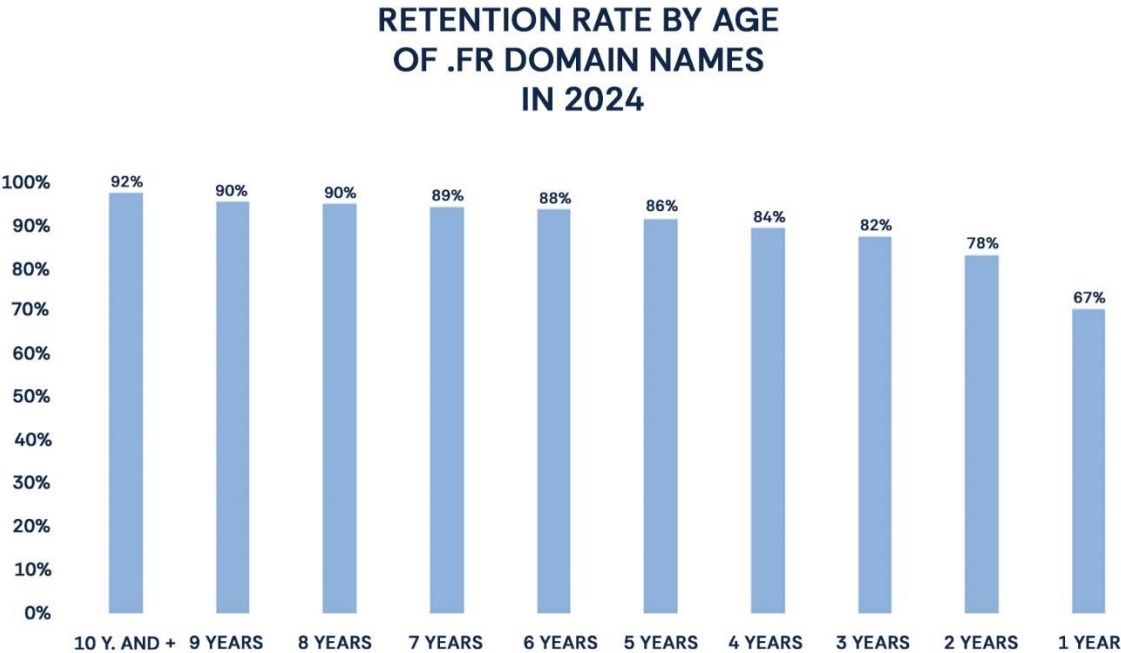


Figure 8: Retention rate by age of .FR names in 2024

**(Key figures table for Figure 8)**

The retention rate in year 1 (first renewal) was 67% in 2024, increasing in parallel with the age of the domain name to 80% and over. A domain name retained for several years has an ever-greater probability of being retained in the future. For names six years old and more, the retention rate is equal to or above 90%.

The low retention rate in year one at year-end 2024 (67% as against 66% in 2023 and an overall rate of 82.6% for .FR) is an indicator that registrars could conduct effective loyalty campaigns at the time of this first anniversary, when the expectancy of gain (renewal of names) is at its highest.

The retention rate is never 100%, reflecting the existence of a phenomenon of natural erosion, which decreases as the names age. But the 'quality' of domain names is also an issue. Up until 2023, for example, a 90% retention rate was achieved as of the fifth year, whereas in 2024, over 90% of names aged 6 years and more were renewed. The weak first-year retention rate is therefore spreading across the .FR structure, gradually lowering the retention rate by age. This phenomenon offsets the automatic increase in retention rate as portfolios age. The balance between these two competing effects depends on the change in retention rate.

Historically, the first-year retention rate has not exceeded 70% since at least 2016, staying within the range of 68%–70% between 2017 and 2022. It fell significantly in 2023 as a result of more volatile creations in 2022 and particularly with private individuals (maintenance rate 59%, compared with 72% for legal persons). In 2024, the situation somewhat improved for names registered by private individuals (61% compared with 59%), while declining for names registered by legal persons (71% compared with 72%), which explains the index's relative stability.

## 5.4. Change in the number of .FR names since 1998

Figure 9 highlights the impacts of the various waves of openings (2004, 2006 and 2011) and of the pandemic (2020/2021) on the growth of the .FR.

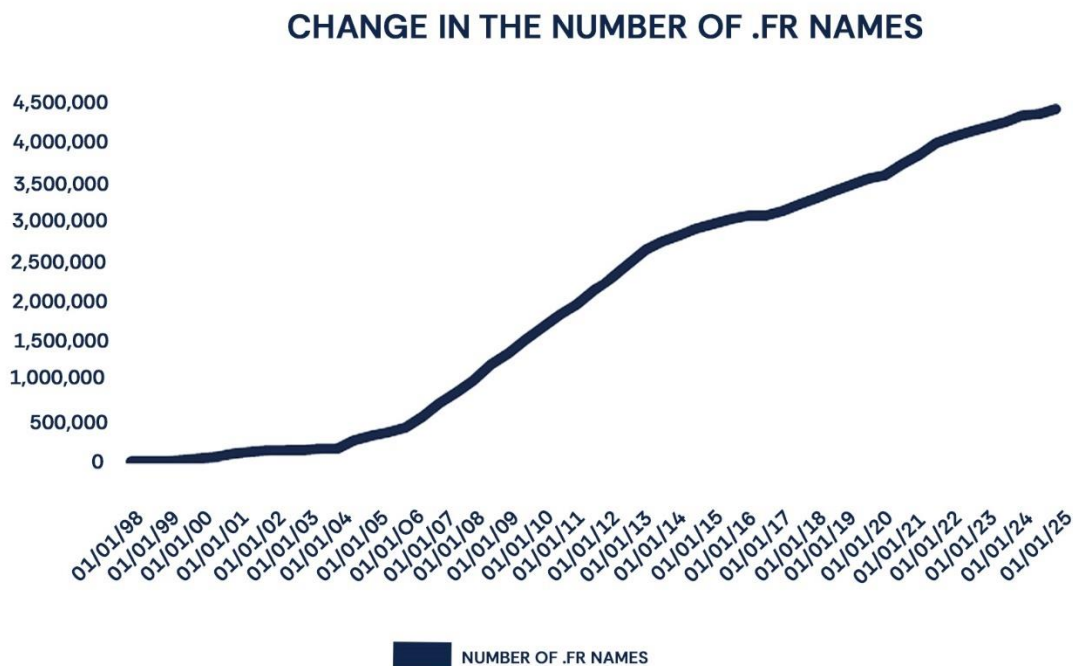


Figure 9: Change in the number of .FR names, 1998–2024

**(Key figures table for Figure 9)**

The easing of the ‘right to the name’ in May 2004, i.e. the abandonment of the requirement to substantiate a right to the name filed, was the first factor in the acceleration of growth. But the determining factor was the opening in 2006 to private individuals, the two ‘openings’ combining their effects until 2013, with the opening up to the European Union in 2011 not having any substantial effect.

From 2013 onwards, growth slowed, and it was not until early 2017 that the .FR TLD crossed the 3 million mark. The pace remained strong in 2018 and 2019 and stepped up again in 2020 due to the pandemic and the lockdowns; .FR crossed the 3.5 million mark in the second half of 2020. In 2021, the gradient remained



strong albeit with an appreciable inflection. The number of .FR domain names exceeded the 4 million mark in December 2022.

In 2023 and 2024, stock continued on the 2022 trend, shrinking steadily (+2.0% in 2024 as against 3.4% in 2023) to reach 4,216,786 names at 31/12/2024.

# 6. .FR market concentration

The concentration index for the .FR domain is calculated by taking the sum of the squares of the market shares of the top 10 registrars (using the HHI or Herfindahl–Hirschmann Index).

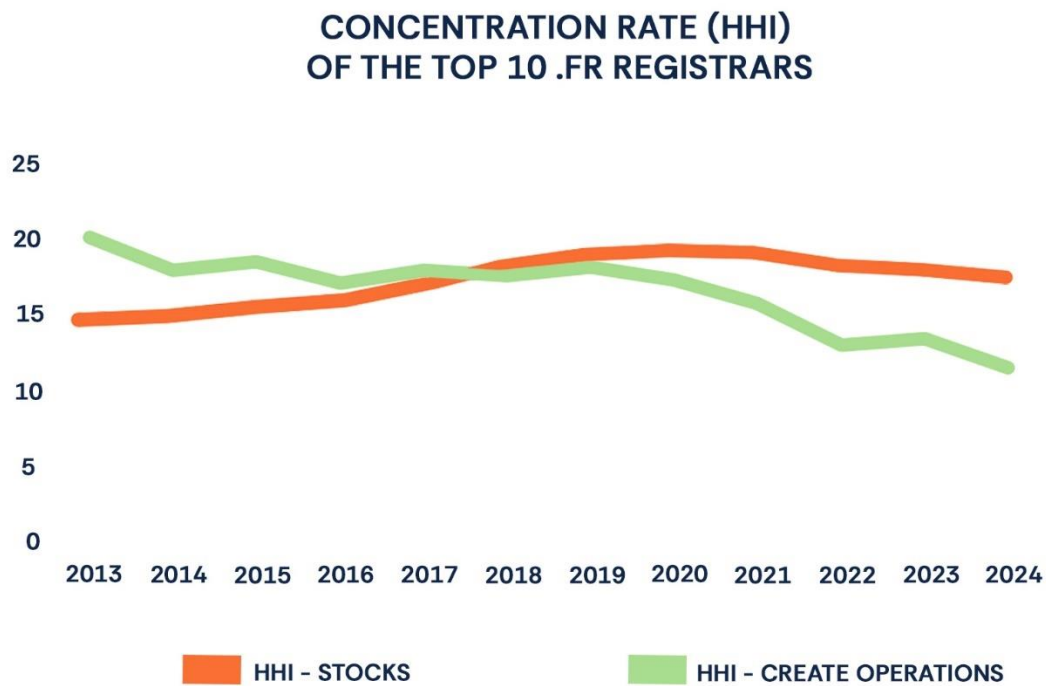


Figure10: Concentration rate (HHI) of the top 10 registrars (2013 – 2024)

(Key figures table for Figure 10)

Figure 10 shows the changes in the concentration of the .FR market since 2013.

At present, in terms of the HHI nomenclature, the .FR TLD is still considered a moderately concentrated market. However, it could be considered to be significantly concentrated if the index moves beyond 20, a situation that almost occurred in 2020.

The HHI Stock curve increased up until 2019, stabilised in 2020–2021 and declined in 2022–2024 under the effect of the evolution of the HHI Create Operations index. This index fell below the Stock index as of 2018, but the stall really began in 2020 and lasted until 2022. The index began to move up again in 2023 before returning to the downward trend begun in 2018. As a result, the leading registrars are having greater difficulty coping with the strong momentum of certain ‘challengers’, at least in terms of create operations.

We are thus still in a market deconcentration phase, the HHI Stock index reacting slower due to the names registered that in practice constitute ‘entrenched positions’ for registrars, the share of names moving from one registrar to another remaining marginal (see Figure 11). This proportion never exceeded 2.5% between 2014 and 2019, reaching a one-off record of 3.5% in 2020 before reverting to its usual levels (2.3% in 2021, 1.9% in 2022, 2.3% in 2023 and 2.4% in 2024).

## PERCENTAGE OF DOMAIN NAMES TRANSFERRED BETWEEN .FR REGISTRARS

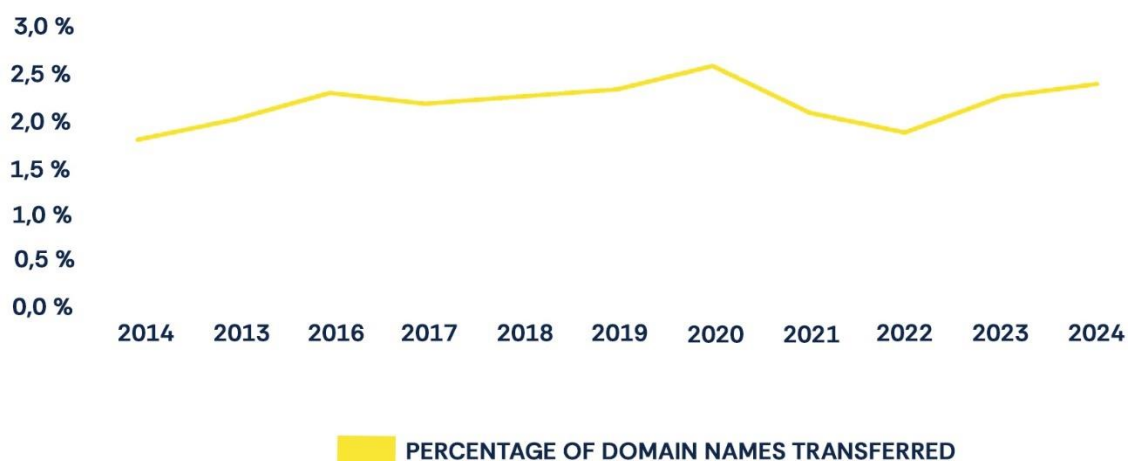


Figure 11: Percentage of domain names transferred between registrars (2014-2023)

(Key figures table for Figure 11)

The portfolios are therefore stable overall, changes being dictated, as far as registrars are concerned, by the combined effects of create operations and renewals more than by the flow of customers won or lost. This does not, however, exclude one-off phenomena, sometimes having a substantial effect on the scale of a single registrar, but which ultimately 'redistribute' market share to a very small extent.

These relatively flat inter-registrar transfer rates indicate that the French domain names market is still a growth market, in which competitors' efforts are focused much more on creations than on other registrars' existing clients.

As the market enters its mature phase (with balanced stock or slightly down) the inter-registrar transfer rate is likely to increase, reflecting increased competition for existing clients, the objective of some registrars being to gain market share by enticing their competitors' clients away. Once again, this phenomenon can already be seen but does not concern significant volumes.

Indeed, this strategy comes up against a number of obstacles: domain names are often associated with various online presence services, which changing registrar may affect, so this would be a brake on any decision to transfer.

Within a context of heightened competition, price policies become a deciding factor, either guaranteeing customer loyalty or pushing clients to take advantage of lower fees elsewhere. Yet aggressive pricing policies lead to an increase in the cost of client acquisition, which can only be offset by selling service packages including domain names or by charging higher renewal rates relative to the initial transfer rate or creation rate, which in turn increases the volatility of the portfolio (increase in potential abandonments) and fuels the inter-registrar transfer dynamic.

Placed as they are at the very heart of online presence, domain names in themselves are not yet subject to very intense competition among players, as is shown by an analysis of inter-registrar transfer flows.

<b>2024</b>	<b>Incoming transfers</b>			
<b>Outgoing transfers</b>	<b>3 leaders</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
3 leaders	17,074	26,918	<b>43,992</b>	<b>47%</b>
Others	17,569	32,533	<b>50,102</b>	<b>53%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,643</b>	<b>59,451</b>	<b>94,094</b>	
<b>%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>63%</b>		

Table 3: Inter-registrar transfers

In 2024, out of 94,094 transfers between registrars, 34,643 (37% as against 38% in 2023, 45% in 2022, 42% in 2021 and 30% in 2020) were to one of the three leaders, whereas these same leaders lost 43,992 names (47% of the total, as against 43% in 2023, 39% in 2022, 37% in 2021 and 25% in 2020) to other registrars.

The net balance of transfers therefore came to 9,349 names to the detriment of the three leaders (10% of the total) compared with 4,222 names in 2023 (4.7% of the total).

Flows of transfers between Registrars	2022	2023	2024
3 Leading to 3 Leading	19%	18%	18%
Others to 3 Leading	26%	21%	19%
3 Leading to Others	20%	25%	29%
Others to Others	35%	36%	35%

Table 4b: Flows of transfers between the three leading registrars and other registrars (2022-2024)

A study of the flow of exchanges since 2022 shows that transfers between the three leading registrars are relatively stable in terms of percentage (18-19%), whereas incoming flows from other registrars towards these three have declined abruptly (19% in 2024 as against 26% in 2022) and outgoing flows from these three leaders to other registrars are steadily increasing (29% in 2024 as against 20% in 2022). Transfers between other registrars are stable at 35-36% of the total.

Since 2022, the three leaders (as a whole) have been losing clients to the other registrars (deterrent effect) while the other registrars' clients are turning less often to the leaders when they change registrar (repellent effect). Although the volumes involved remain modest, this phenomenon is eroding the market share of the three leaders and contributing to the deconcentration of the .FR domain.

And while this may be an isolated incident, it could also be a sign that the leaders' offerings are being threatened by challengers that are either more aggressive commercially or more innovative in terms of services.

The transfer flow phenomenon also sheds light on the growing stakes linked to reseller networks, which can transfer from one to another the domain name portfolios that their customers have entrusted them to manage.



### MARKET SHARES OF THE THREE LEADING .FR REGISTRARS IN STOCK AND IN CREATE OPERATIONS



Figure 12: Market shares of the three leading registrars in stock and in create operations (2013 – 2024)

(Key figures table for Figure 12)

The three leaders remain in a position of power in the .FR market, even though their overall market share is crumbling in the context of the gradual deconcentration of the .FR market.

Figure 12 hereunder shows the trends since 2013 in the market shares of the top three players, in terms of stock and create operations. It illustrates that the deconcentration episode (where the concentration of create operations is below that of the stock) began for these three in 2017, with the concentration of stock continuing to grow, reaching a peak at 65.3% in 2019 before declining in 2020

and falling 5.1 points in 2024 from the 2019 peak level. Create operations, meanwhile, fell over the same period from 63.3% to 47.5%, i.e. -15.8 points.

This evolution is relatively similar to that seen for .FR as a whole, demonstrating that this trend is largely determined by the performances of the three leading registrars.

These data indicate that it is not the major leaders that have benefited most from the effects of the acceleration of the digital transformation. The current sharp differential between creations (47.5%) and stocks (60.2%) highlights the relative slowdown of the three leaders as a whole in the most competitive market segment, that of creations. Despite their significantly more modest size, their challengers have likely managed to come up with offerings better adapted to the current conditions in terms of pricing, services, etc. In the medium and long term, these offerings also influence retention rates and transfers, impacting the market share of the three leaders in terms of stock.

**The weight of the three leading .FR registrars – which together account for 60% of the .FR domain – in .FR activity** remains considerable in view of the number of registrars active in this TLD. But their share of creations, currently below 50%, is a strong signal announcing a profound change in the key success factors of the .FR domain names market in France.

# 7. Geographical distribution of .FR nationwide

Table 4 shows that all regions posted growth with the exception of Île de France.

The Grand-Est, Brittany, Occitanie, Hauts de France and Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur regions saw their stock increase, but their growth was below that of the .FR TLD overall. The regions that outperformed .FR were Nouvelle Aquitaine, Auvergne Rhône Alpes, Bourgogne Franche-Comté, Centre Val de Loire, Corsica, Normandy, Pays de la Loire, and (even though they are not a region) the French overseas territories.

The 'catch-up' phenomenon experienced by a certain number of regions since COVID-19 continued in 2024, the Île de France Region presenting the paradoxical situation of being both the strongest in terms of market share (27%) and the weakest in terms of growth (-0.5%).

Region	2024	Var. 2024	Mkt Share 2024	Chg. (*)
Grand-Est	228	1.4%	5%	-0.3
Nouvelle Aquitaine	290	2.2%	7%	+0.3
Auvergne Rhône-Alpes	498	3.4%	12%	+0.4
Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	105	2.6%	3%	-0.1
Brittany	148	1.5%	4%	+0.1
Centre Val de Loire	96	2.1%	2%	-0.1
Corsica	13	4.3%	0%	0.0
Île de France	1,154	-0.5%	27%	-4.7
Occitanie	324	1.8%	8%	-0.9
Hauts de France	204	0.7%	5%	-0.4
Normandy	119	3.4%	3%	+0.1
Pays de la Loire	196	5.1%	5%	+0.1
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	315	1.5%	8%	-0.3
Overseas Territories	49	5.0%	1%	+0.3

Table 5: Breakdown of the .FR TLD by holder region in 2024

(\*) Chg.: change in percentage points of market share in each region over a long period (2014-2024)

The weights of the different regions correspond to the existence of big urban and economic centres: Auvergne Rhône-Alpes is in 2nd position with 12%, Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur and Occitanie in 3rd with 8% each, Nouvelle-Aquitaine in 5th with 7%, etc. The rural regions are further behind, even though some of them are also the strongest in terms of growth.

Since the figures do not vary greatly from one year to another, an analysis of the long-term trend reveals more insights. Between 2014 and 2024, the region losing most 'weight' was Île de France (-4.7 pp), although it remains by far the leader in terms of market share. Auvergne Rhône Alpes, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, and the French overseas territories are the most dynamic challengers, although their gain market share remains limited.

Part of the growth of the .FR TLD was nonetheless obtained thanks to holders located abroad.

## 8. Foreign holders

The .FR TLD was opened to the rest of the EU in 2011, with a limited impact on growth momentum. The percentage of .FR domain names registered by foreigners has nonetheless increased continuously ever since, rising from 4.9% in 2013 to 11.3% in 2024. 2018 has been the only negative year.

The growth in the number of names registered by foreigners in 2024 was greater than that of the .FR as a whole: +6.1% compared with +2.0%. These data show how attractive the .FR is to foreign businesses wishing to sell their products and services on the French market.

## PERCENTAGE OF .FR DOMAIN NAMES REGISTERED BY FOREIGN HOLDERS

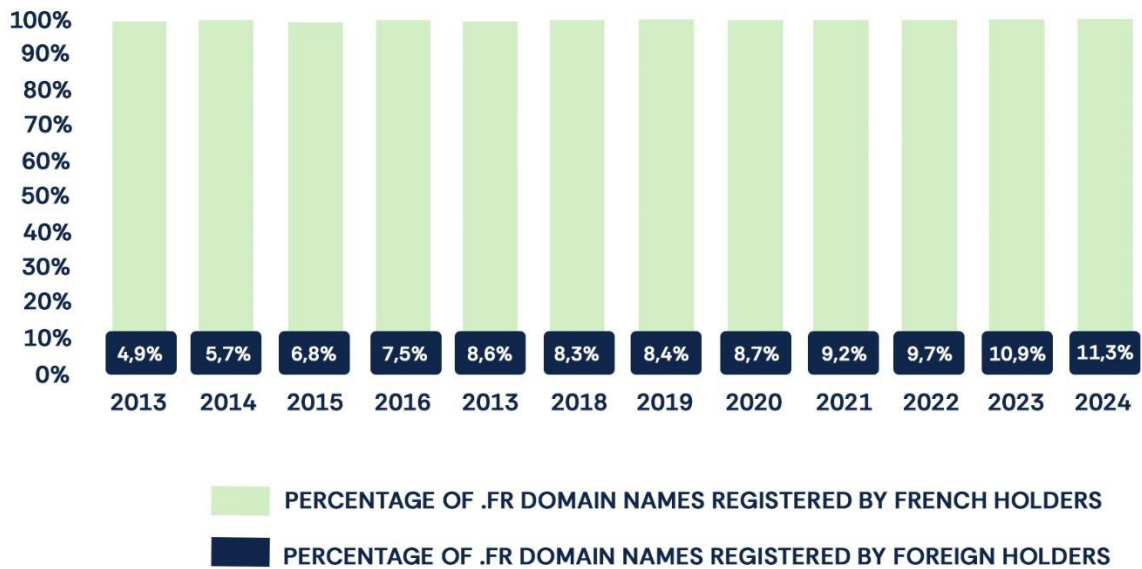


Figure 13: Percentage of .FR domain names registered by foreign holders

(Key figures table for Figure 13)

Foreign holders are still primarily located in the Netherlands, in first place since 2022 (156,000 names as against 139,000 in 2023), Germany (85,000 names as against 81,000), Switzerland (53,000 names as against 47,000), Belgium (42,000 names as against 43,000) and Spain (23,000 names as against 22,000). The strong growth observed in the Netherlands over the past several years could be the consequence of sustained domaining activities among this country's players, through specialist registrars.

# 9. DNSSEC

The proportion of .FR DNSSEC-signed domain names increased from 3.8% in 2013 to 19.8% in 2024, an eightfold increase in volume from 103,000 to 835,000 names.

This is due to an active policy on the part of certain major registrars that have adopted procedures aimed, for example, at signing new names registered with DNSSEC. An initial surge was observed in 2021 followed by a second in 2023, with growth plateauing in 2024.



## PERCENTAGE OF DNSSEC-SIGNED .FR DOMAIN NAMES

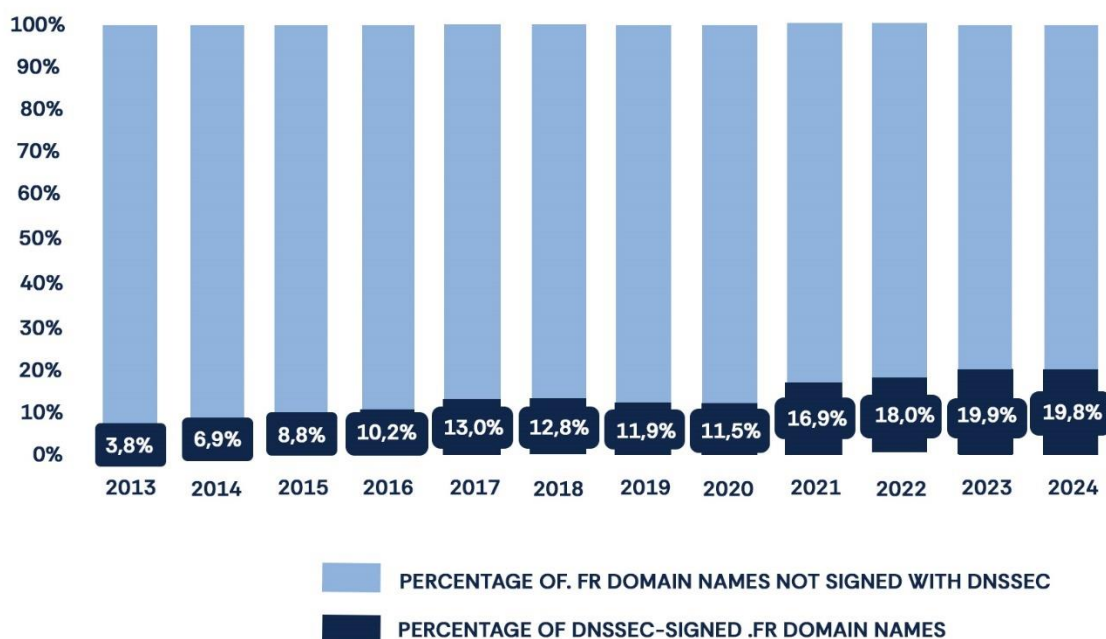


Figure 14: Percentage of DNSSEC-signed .FR domain names

(Key figures table for Figure 14)

Although this change is encouraging, this rate still remains fairly modest in view of those of other European TLDs.

The appearance in 2020 of a new type of attack dubbed SAD, which poisons the DNS cache by making it accept false responses which it then distributes to its clients, added further weight and currency to DNSSEC, which is the only reliable solution to these attacks. The more sustained development observed since 2021 can no doubt be attributed to this.

# 10. Internationalised domain names under the .FR

The proportion of .FR names in the IDN (Internationalised Domain Name) format, i.e. containing special characters (accents, etc.), remains low at 0.8%. The trend was very slightly upward between 2019 and 2023 following a period of decline in 2013–2018, and posted a slight decline in 2024.

This situation has to be seen in the context of the increase in the total number of names in stock: the number of IDNs under .FR grew by just 0.9% in 2024 to 31,646.

These figures are anecdotal at the level of the .FR, no doubt including a large number of defensive names (brands containing accented characters) and some speculative names (common names containing accented characters). The lack of convincing use explains the low percentage and the sometimes virtuous, sometimes vicious circle that closely links the flows of domain names and the use made thereof.

## PERCENTAGE OF .FR DOMAIN NAMES REGISTERED IN IDN FORMAT

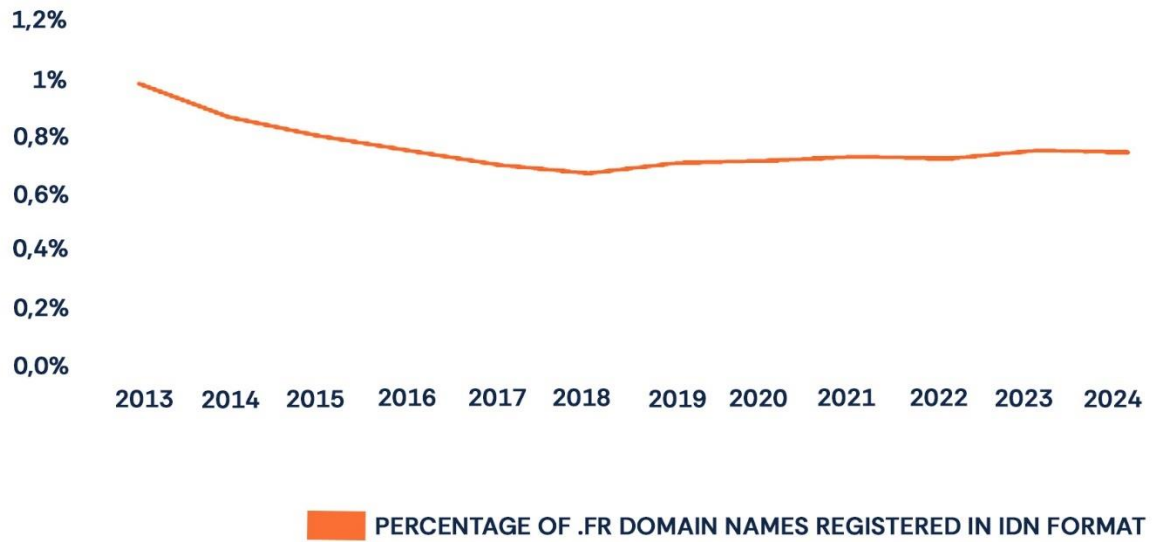


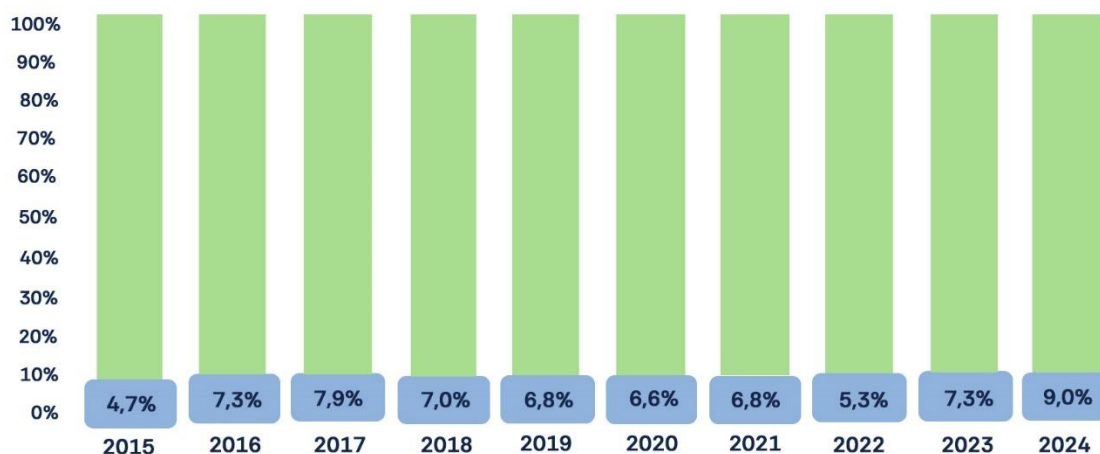
Figure 15: Percentage of .FR domain names registered in IDN format

(Key figures table for Figure 15)

# 11. Multi-year registrations

The registration and renewal of .FR domain names for periods of over 1 year (and up to 10 years) has been possible since 30 March 2015. Yet although this possibility has existed for nearly ten years, the proportion of .FR domain names registered or renewed for periods greater than one year remains marginal. Nonetheless, this share grew considerably in 2023 and 2024, moving above 7% initially to reach 9% at year-end 2024.

### PERCENTAGE OF .FR DOMAIN NAMES REGISTERED FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR



PERCENTAGE OF .FR REGISTERED FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR

Figure 16: Percentage of .FR domain names registered for more than one year

(Key figures table for Figure 16)

At 1 January 2025, 381,514 .FR domain names had been registered for two years or more, representing an increase of 27.2% and of 1.7 pp of the total number of .FR names.

The downward trend seen between 2017 and 2022 could be explained by the implementation of automatic renewal systems by various large registrars, which made the multi-year option less attractive. The 2023 increase could be linked with the relative slowdown of the leading registrars as noted above, benefiting dynamic challengers that had not put automatic renewal systems in place and that therefore offered multi-year plans.

In 2024, this phenomenon was combined with the introduction of a promotional offer for 3-year registration of .FR names by the leading registrars. The success of this offer helped increase the volume of multi-annual names, given that the names registered in 2024 expire in 2027. If this practice continues, the maturity structure of .FR could change dramatically in coming years, with a rising retention rate and a renewal rate that will warrant analysis as of 2027.

The maturity structure (from 2 to 10 years) at year-end 2024 shows that the bulk of the multi-year registrations expire in 2 years (62% as against 68% at year-end 2023), with the other maturities declining. The proportion of multi-year names expiring in 3 years, meanwhile, increased from 16% to 23% at the end of 2024 thanks to the boost provided by the above-mentioned offer. Other maturities are stable.

# 12. The .FR and business creation

.FR create operations are carried out by:

- businesses that have existed for some time, in the context of their activity;
- newly created businesses;
- project promoters registering their domain names personally in the absence of a legal structure;
- private individuals with needs of a professional or private nature leading them to register a .FR name.

It is therefore not possible to expect a situation in which .FR create operations are entirely due to newly created businesses, especially since newly established businesses or those being created do not exclusively register .FR domain names.

Nevertheless, we thought it interesting to compare trends in .FR create operations and in business start-ups, on the basis of data provided by the French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE).

Figure 17 hereunder shows that there is a link between the dynamics of the .FR TLD and business creation, particularly the creation of individual enterprises or sole proprietorships rather than of businesses with the legal form of a company.

## CHANGE IN .FR CREATE OPERATIONS AND BUSINESS START-UPS

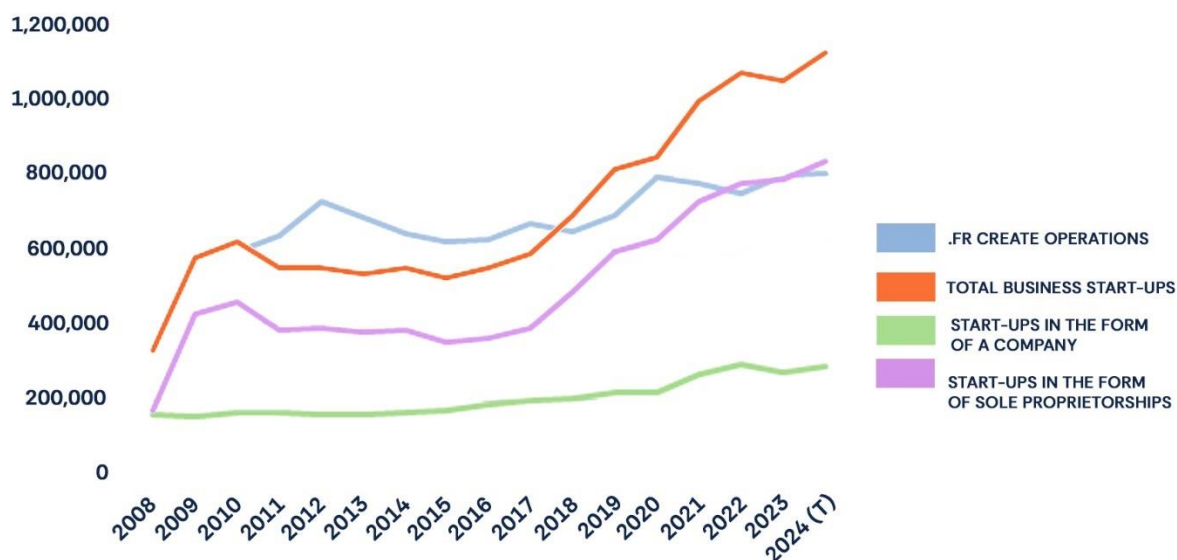


Figure 17: .FR create operations and business start-ups

(Key figures table for Figure 17)

This link is particularly visible over the period 2013–2017, when the annual figures were fairly stable, and in 2019–2020 when both kinds of creation increased. The .FR domain seems to have benefited somewhat less from business start-ups in 2021 and 2022, perhaps because the newly created businesses in these years adopted an Internet presence less promptly than in 2020. In 2024, growth of the .FR domain seemed to be more directly associated with that of company formations (the definitive full-year figures from INSEE having yet to be published, these data are merely indicative).

In view of the large number of parameters involved, it is difficult to offer any definitive explanations for these variations. The trend observed in 2020–2021



suggests, however, that newly created businesses tended, more than in previous years, to adopt a digital presence, something that was less prominent in 2022-2024.

The strong business creation dynamic is without doubt one of the main factors behind the volume of .FR create operations in 2023 and 2024, with the .COM price hike emphasising the preference for .FR.

The trend in business failures also warrants study since it constitutes a factor that may influence the level of .FR delete operations.

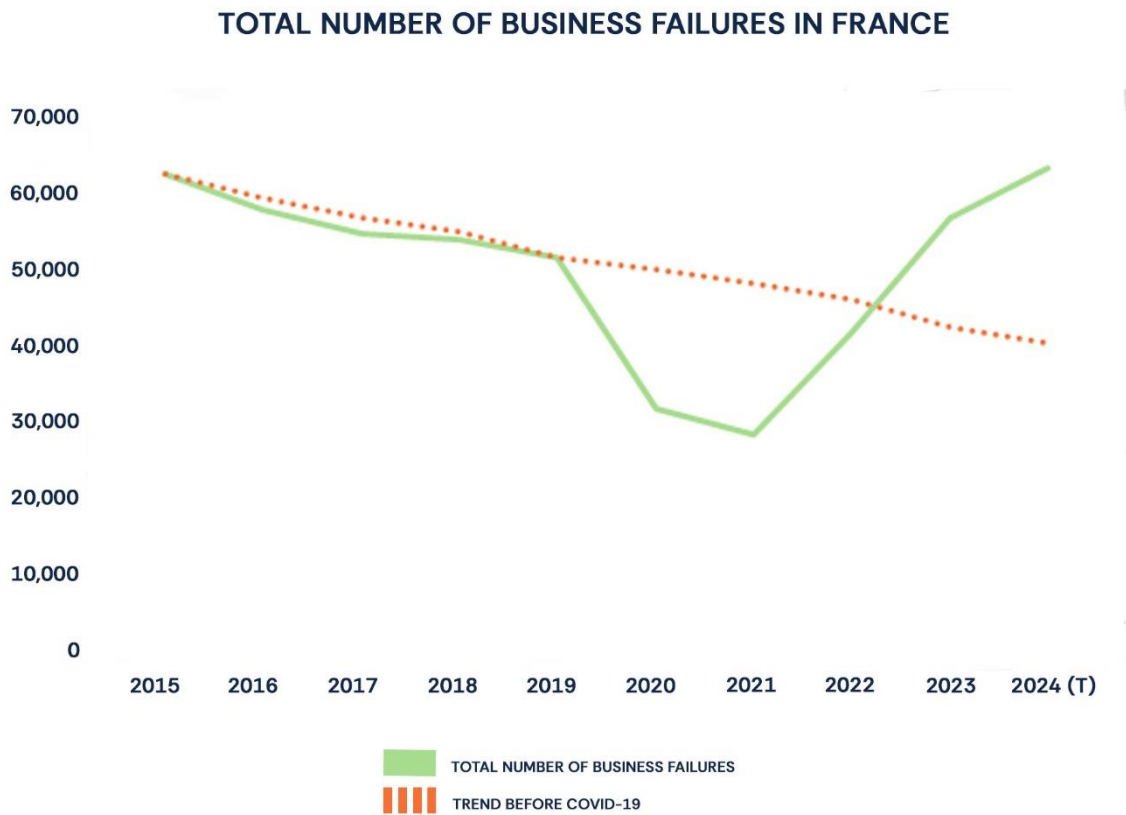


Figure 18: Total number of business failures in France

Source: INSEE. Last updated 18 October 2024, data to August 2024.

The figure for 2024 is a projection based on the historical weights of each month between 2015 and 2023.

(Key figures table for Figure 18)

The visible dip in 2020/2021 is likely attributable to the government aid which protected businesses from failure linked to the health crisis, while at the same time allowing some that would normally have gone bankrupt to survive.

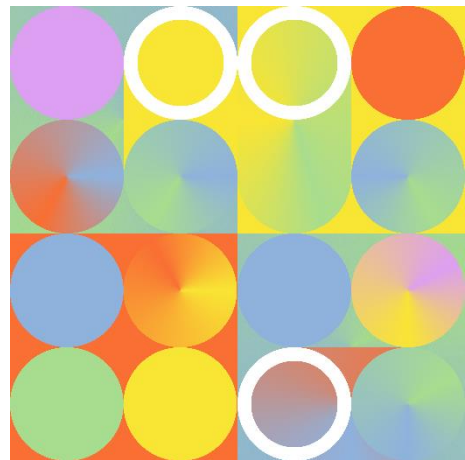
The volume of businesses concerned can be estimated at around 20,000 in both 2020 and 2021. At the time, a 'layer' of fragile businesses was formed, likely to collapse once government aid was discontinued.

In 2022, the number of failures increased substantially (+50%) but was still around 4,000 fewer than the number that would have been expected if the pre-COVID trend had continued. In 2023-2024, this 'catch-up effect' was followed by a 38% increase in the number of business failures in 2023 and 12% in 2024 (projections based on INSEE data available at the end of August). It thus exceeded by 24,000 the number of delete operations that should have taken place *ceteris paribus* since 2019.

The pool of fragile businesses, which we estimate at around 40,000, has therefore not yet been drained (differences of 14,000 and 23,000, i.e. 37,000). This trend is levelling off, however, and could stabilise in 2025 or post more moderate growth (5%?).

# 13. 2025 outlook for the .FR

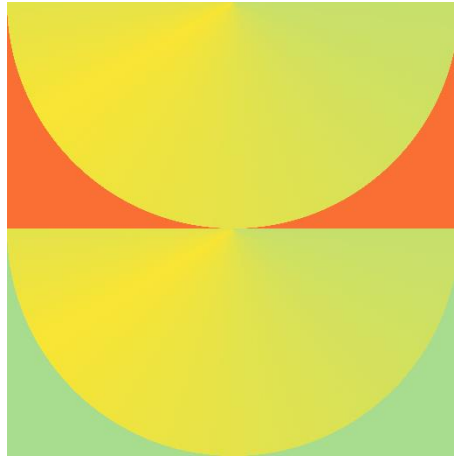
Create operations in 2024 remained at the exceptionally high 2023 level, slightly above 800,000 domain names. We have seen that these performances correspond to the perpetuation of VSEs/SMEs digital transformation, but they may also be down to the marketing and commercial actions of registrars which have energised the market.



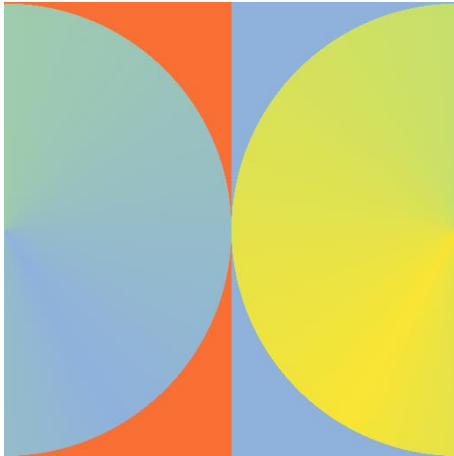
These two factors will have opposite effects on the retention rate. Create operations carried out to respond to 'real' needs will improve the retention rate, whereas 'opportunistic' names, registered as part of commercial operations not designed to become lastingly integrated into uses, will accentuate volatility and place downward pressure on the retention rate. It will become clear in 2025, based on the trend in the retention rate, whether the large numbers of creations in 2024 fall predominately in the former or latter category.

The strong trend towards increased deletions, consolidated by the high volume of create operations, will likely be apparent in the change in the overall stock of .FR names. Given the structural upward trend of delete operations, the level of creations will determine the net balance, unless campaigns targeting first-year

renewals disrupt the situation by countering the growing volatility of the .FR TLD. This decision lies with the registrars rather than Afnic, however.



The relative weakness of .COM in recent years, as a result of the Verisign price policy, is another factor that needs to be taken into account. Up until now this policy has benefited Verisign's competitors, and notably the ccTLDs, and may explain the volume of .FR creations through a trade-off effect, users preferring a more attractive .FR domain. This will continue to be the case in 2025 given the recently signed contract renewal between Verisign and ICANN, which provides for the possibility of further price increases. That said, Verisign is aware of the situation of the .COM TLD and has already announced possible marketing campaigns, likely in the form of financial assistance for registrars which would consequently not have to pay the nominal price and would be free to propose .COM names at competitive prices. Uncertainty remains, however, as to the scale of Verisign's efforts and their timing, as well as registrars' participation. This forced strategy could bolster .COM create operations in the short term to the detriment of its competitors, while no doubt holding surprises in store in terms of retention rates.



Faced with these challenges and uncertainties, growth of the .FR domain in 2025 should be between 1% and 2%, increasingly aligned with that of the other European ccTLDs.

Afnic's continued efforts aimed at VSEs and SMEs, such as "Réussir avec le web" and the "Je passe au numérique" [I'm going digital] and "Tous en ligne maintenant" [All online now] initiatives, form part of the possible responses to the uncertainties by making .FR the go-to option in both good practices and uses.

More than ever, Afnic is a key player in the development of the Internet in France and a privileged partner for public authorities and private structures alike, first and foremost VSEs and SMEs.

# Annex: Source data figures

Figure 1: Change in annual growth rates

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Growth .FR	15,6%	14,7%	8,1%	5,1%	3,2%	2,2%	5,2%	4,4%	3,7%	7,0%	5,8%	2,9%	3,4%	2,0%
Growth French market	19,1%	4,1%	5,8%	4,9%	5,3%	2,6%	3,2%	2,1%	2,0%	6,1%	3,6%	1,3%	1,1%	1,6%
Growth EU zone					3,0%	1,9%	2,9%	0,0%	0,7%	3,4%	2,9%	1,6%	1,6%	0,4%
Growth global market					9,2%	10,6%	0,8%	4,0%	4,6%	-0,2%	0,5%	1,9%	1,8%	3,1%

[\(Back to Figure 1\)](#)

Figure 2: Changes in market share in France

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
.FR	32,3%	35,9%	36,4%	36,4%	35,7%	35,7%	36,4%	37,2%	37,7%	38,0%	38,8%	39,4%	40,3%	40,4%	0,9%
.COM	46,2%	43,0%	43,3%	42,6%	43,2%	43,3%	43,4%	44,6%	45,2%	44,5%	45,1%	44,5%	43,8%	43,5%	-0,8%
Other Legacy TLDs	16,9%	16,3%	15,7%	15,2%	14,9%	14,0%	13,0%	12,1%	11,3%	11,0%	10,7%	10,4%	10,1%	9,9%	-0,2%
Other ccTLDs	4,7%	4,8%	4,7%	4,6%	4,2%	4,1%	4,0%	3,7%	3,5%	3,3%	3,1%	3,0%	3,0%	2,9%	0,0%
nTLDs				1,3%	2,1%	3,0%	3,3%	2,4%	2,3%	3,3%	2,4%	2,7%	2,8%	3,2%	0,1%

[\(Back to Figure 2\)](#)

Figure 3: Change in .FR activity

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Create operations	628 258	717 434	676 946	641 304	614 259	627 626	667 948	648 563	694 063	793 441	776 514	753 412	801 427	802 202
Delete operations	332 066	395 346	473 336	503 716	523 261	562 471	511 386	509 602	570 408	551 994	564 245	639 367	683 867	719 090
Net balance	296 192	322 088	203 610	137 588	90 998	65 155	156 562	138 961	123 655	241 447	212 269	114 045	117 560	83 112
Renew operations	1 561 893	1 794 805	2 038 903	2 212 133	2 330 126	2 381 914	2 498 141	2 656 503	2 734 888	2 876 957	3 106 127	3 243 035	3 332 395	3 414 530

[\(Back to Figure 3\)](#)



Figure 4: Structure of the .FR net balance

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Net balance	322 088	203 610	137 588	90 998	65 155	156 562	138 977	123 885	241 447	212 269	114 045	137 587	8311 2
Change in renew operations	232 912	244 098	173 230	118 043	51 788	116 227	158 362	78 385	142 069	229 170	136 908	89 360	8213 5
Change in create operations	89 176	-40 488	-35 642	-27 045	13 367	40 322	-19 385	45 500	99 378	-16 927	-23 102	48 015	775

[\(Back to Figure 4\)](#)

Figure 5: Change in creation rate

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Creation Rate	28,7%	28,6%	24,9%	22,5%	20,9%	20,9%	21,1%	19,6%	20,2%	21,6%	20,0%	18,9%	19,4%	19 %

[\(Back to Figure 5\)](#)



Figure 6: Change in retention rate

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Retention Rate	82,5%	81,9%	81,2%	81,5%	81,7%	80,9%	83,0%	83,9%	82,7%	83,9%	84,6%	83,5%	83,4%	82,6 %

[\(Back to Figure 6\)](#)

Figure 7: Structure of .FR names by age at 31 December 2024

	10 ans et +	9 ans	8 ans	7 ans	6 ans	5 ans	4 ans	3 ans	2 ans	1 an	0 an
31/12/24	24%	3%	4%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	12%	18%

[\(Back to Figure 7\)](#)

Figure 8: Retention rate by age of .FR names in 2024

	10 ans et +	9 ans	8 ans	7 ans	6 ans	5 ans	4 ans	3 ans	2 ans	1 an
Retention Rate 2024	92%	90%	90%	89%	88%	86%	84%	82%	78%	67%

[\(Back to Figure 8\)](#)



Figure 10: Concentration rate (HHI) of the top 10 registrars

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>HHI - stocks</b>	11,39	12,27	13,47	14,93	15,11	15,63	16,02	16,99	18,19	18,92	19,13	19,00	18,30	18,05	17,57
<b>HHI – Create operations</b>		16,27	17,84	19,84	17,91	18,4	17,15	17,9	17,58	18,07	17,38	16,01	13,57	13,94	12,24

[\(Back to Figure 10\)](#)

Figure 11: Percentage of domain names transferred between registrars

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of .FR at 1 January	2 715 849	2 853 206	2 944 403	3 009 527	3 166 105	3 305 296	3 428 951	3 670 372	3 882 488	39962 45	41338 32	42167 86
Number of .FR transferred from one registrar to another	49 046	57 776	68 201	65 996	71 648	77 389	113 675	84 167	73 421	90 347	99094	
%	1,8%	2,0%	2,3%	2,2%	2,3%	2,3%	3,3%	2,3%	1,9%	2,3%	2,4 %	

[\(Back to Figure 11\)](#)

Figure 12: Market shares of the three leading registrars in stock and in create operations

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Stock	59,60%	59,50%	60,00%	60,80%	63,90%	64,80%	65,3%	64,9%	64,3%	62,9%	61,8%	60,2%	-5,1%
Create operations	65,90%	62,00%	62,40%	61,50%	62,90%	62,50%	63,3%	59,3%	56,6%	52,7%	52,3%	47,5%	-15,8%

[\(Back to Figure 12\)](#)

Figure 13: Percentage of .FR domain names registered by foreign holders

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
%	4,9%	5,7%	6,8%	7,5%	8,6%	8,3%	8,4%	8,7%	9,2%	9,7%	10,9%	11,3 %
% French	95%	94%	93%	92%	91%	92%	92%	91%	91%	90%	89%	89 %
Number of domain names registered by foreigners	132 539	161 654	199 480	226 738	270 758	272 861	286 656	318 798	355 256	388 914	449 496	47711 1
Number of .FR	2 715 849	2 853 206	2 944 403	3 009 527	3 166 105	3 305 296	3 428 951	3 670 372	3 882 488	3 996 245	4 133 832	42167 86
Of which EU	126 353	154 912	191 886	219 558	263 394	265 523	278 496	310 656	323 803	362 489	429 471	46057 3
% EU / Foreigners	95,3%	95,8%	96,2%	96,8%	97,3%	97,3%	97,2%	97,4%	91,1%	93,2%	95,5%	96,5 %
%	-	22,0%	23,4%	13,7%	19,4%	0,8%	5,1%	11,2%	11,4%	9,5%	15,6%	6,1 %

[\(Back to Figure 13\)](#)

Figure 14: Percentage of DNSSEC-signed .FR domain names

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
%	4%	7%	9%	10%	13%	12,8%	11,9%	11,5%	16,9%	18,0%	19,9%	19,8 %
% non DNSSEC	96%	93%	91%	90%	87%	87%	88%	88%	83%	82%	80%	80 %
Number of DNSSEC- signed domain names	102 898	196 807	258 321	308 459	410 651	423 625	408 871	422 621	656 054	718 232	823 867	83525 4
Number of .FR	2 715 849	2 853 206	2 944 403	3 009 527	3 166 105	3 305 296	3 428 951	3 670 371	3 882 488	3 996 245	4 133 832	42167 86

[\(Back to Figure 14\)](#)

Figure 15: Percentage of .FR domain names registered in IDN format

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
%	1,0%	0,9%	0,8%	0,8%	0,7%	0,7%	0,7%	0,7%	0,7%	0,7%	0,8%	0,8 %
Number of domain names with IDN characters	26 828	24 878	23 717	22 724	22 467	22 467	24 580	26 605	28 568	29 286	31 364	31646
Number of .FR	2 715 849	2 853 206	2 944 403	3 009 527	3 166 105	3 305 296	3 428 951	3 670 371	3 882 488	3 996 245	4 133 832	42167 86
Variation	-	-7,3%	-4,7%	-4,2%	-1,1%	0,0%	9,4%	8,2%	7,4%	2,5%	7,1%	0,9 %

[\(Back to Figure 15\)](#)

Figure 16: Percentage of .FR domain names registered for more than one year

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
%	4,7%	7,3%	7,9%	7,0%	6,8%	6,6%	6,8%	5,3%	7,3%	9,0 %
% not M-Y	95%	93%	92%	93%	93%	93%	93%	95%	93%	91 %
Number of domain names registered for more than one year	139 278	220 137	251 225	232 967	233 929	242 761	263 722	211 906	299 848	38151 4
Number of .FR	2 944 403	3 009 527	3 166 105	3 305 296	3 428 951	3 672 371	3 882 488	3 996 245	4 133 832	42167 86
Variation	-	58,1%	14,1%	-7,3%	0,4%	3,8%	8,6%	-19,6%	41,5%	27,2 %

[\(Back to Figure 16\)](#)



Figure 17: .FR create operations and business start-ups

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
.FR create operations	489	531	597	638	728	688	641	619	627	667	648	694	793	776	753	801	802
	374	449	725	095	807	302	346	659	626	948	563	063	441	514	412	427	202
Total business start-ups	331	580	622	549	549	538	550	525	554	591	691	815	848	995	071	064	112
	439	193	039	805	975	185	794	091	031	267	283	257	164	519	881	725	1
Start-ups in the form of a company	161	152	163	166	159	158	165	171	188	197	201	218	218	267	293	274	289
	808	303	659	674	529	875	764	998	843	899	087	426	054	075	384	957	132
Start-ups in the form of sole proprietorships	169	427	458	383	390	379	385	353	365	393	490	596	630	728	778	789	837
	631	890	380	131	446	310	030	093	188	368	196	831	110	444	497	768	248

[\(Back to Figure 17\)](#)

Figure 18: Total number of business failures in France (source INSEE)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (t)
Total business failures	62 806	57 959	54 687	54 012	51 502	31 068	27 526	41 316	53 179	63614
Trend before Covid-19	62 806	59 500	57 000	55 000	51 500	50 000	48 000	46 000	42 000	40000

[\(Back to Figure 18\)](#)

# ● INFORMATION



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[Afnic Observatory](#)

## ABOUT AFNIC

Afnic is the registry appointed by the French government to manage domain names under the .fr Top Level Domain. Afnic also manages the .re (Reunion Island), .pm (Saint-Pierre and Miquelon), .tf (French Southern and Antarctic Territories), .wf (Wallis and Futuna) and .yt (Mayotte) French Overseas TLDs. Afnic is also the back-end registry for the companies as well as local and regional authorities that have chosen to have their own TLD.

Afnic is the acronym for Association Française pour le Nommege Internet en Coopération. As a non-profit association, Afnic has set up a multi-party governance bringing together all the stakeholders in the French internet: public authorities, users and the private sector.