

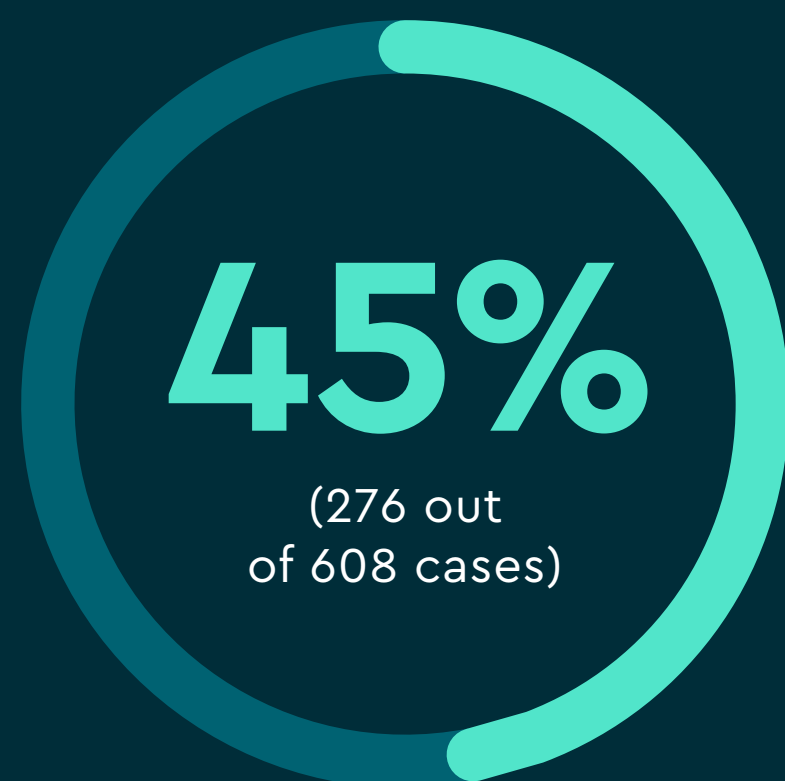


.UK DOMAIN DISPUTE RESOLUTION 2024

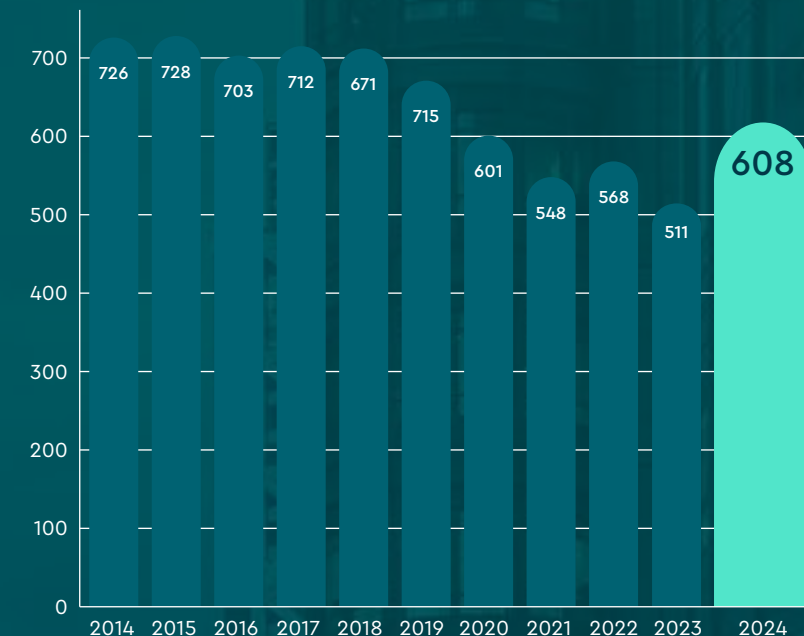
Our Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) offers an efficient and transparent method of resolving disputes relating to .UK domain names.

The DRS seeks to settle disputes through mediation and, where this is not possible, through an independent expert decision.

PROPORTION OF 2024 CASES RESULTING IN A DOMAIN TRANSFER



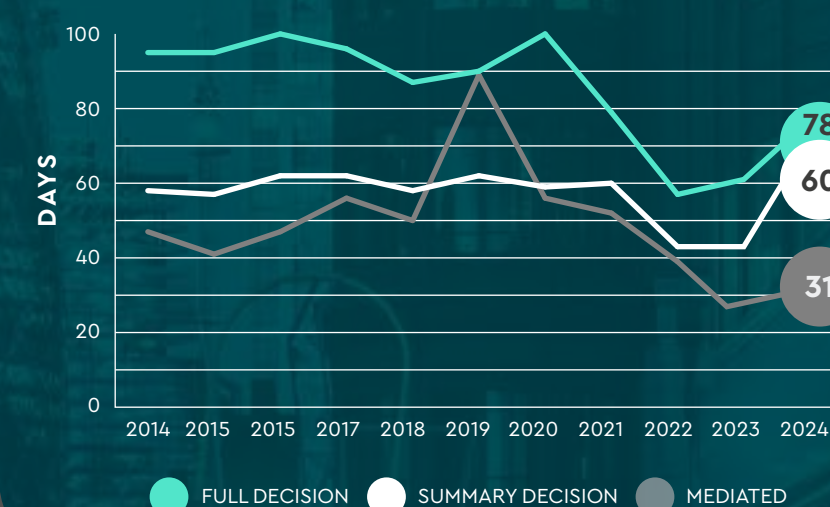
COMPLAINTS MADE



CASE OUTCOMES FOR 2024



AVERAGE CASE DURATION



DISPUTED DOMAIN NAMES BY SUFFIX

Suffix	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
.co.uk	609	529	525	628	687	687	716	686	538	506
.org.uk	44	20	30	33	34	46	34	30	18	27
.me.uk	4	0	1	2	1	4	3	3	2	1
.uk	66	74	71	136	41	46	32	26	122	73
.sch.uk	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
.net.uk	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
.plc.uk & .ltd.uk	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NOTEWORTHY CASES THIS YEAR

RIGHTMOVECOMMERCIAL.CO.UK

The Complainant, Rightmove Group Ltd., provides a real-estate portal that allows property searches. It has rights to the "RIGHTMOVE" trademark and argued that the domain name, which added only "commercial" to the end, was too similar.

The Respondent said they registered the domain for a small estate agent, not believing they had done anything wrong as the domain was available and they weren't aware of any trademark issues. They believed that the Complainant was at fault for not registering the domain name.

However, the Expert noted that the Respondent likely knew about Rightmove and used the domain to confuse users and divert traffic. The Expert ruled it was an abusive registration and ordered the domain to be transferred to Rightmove.

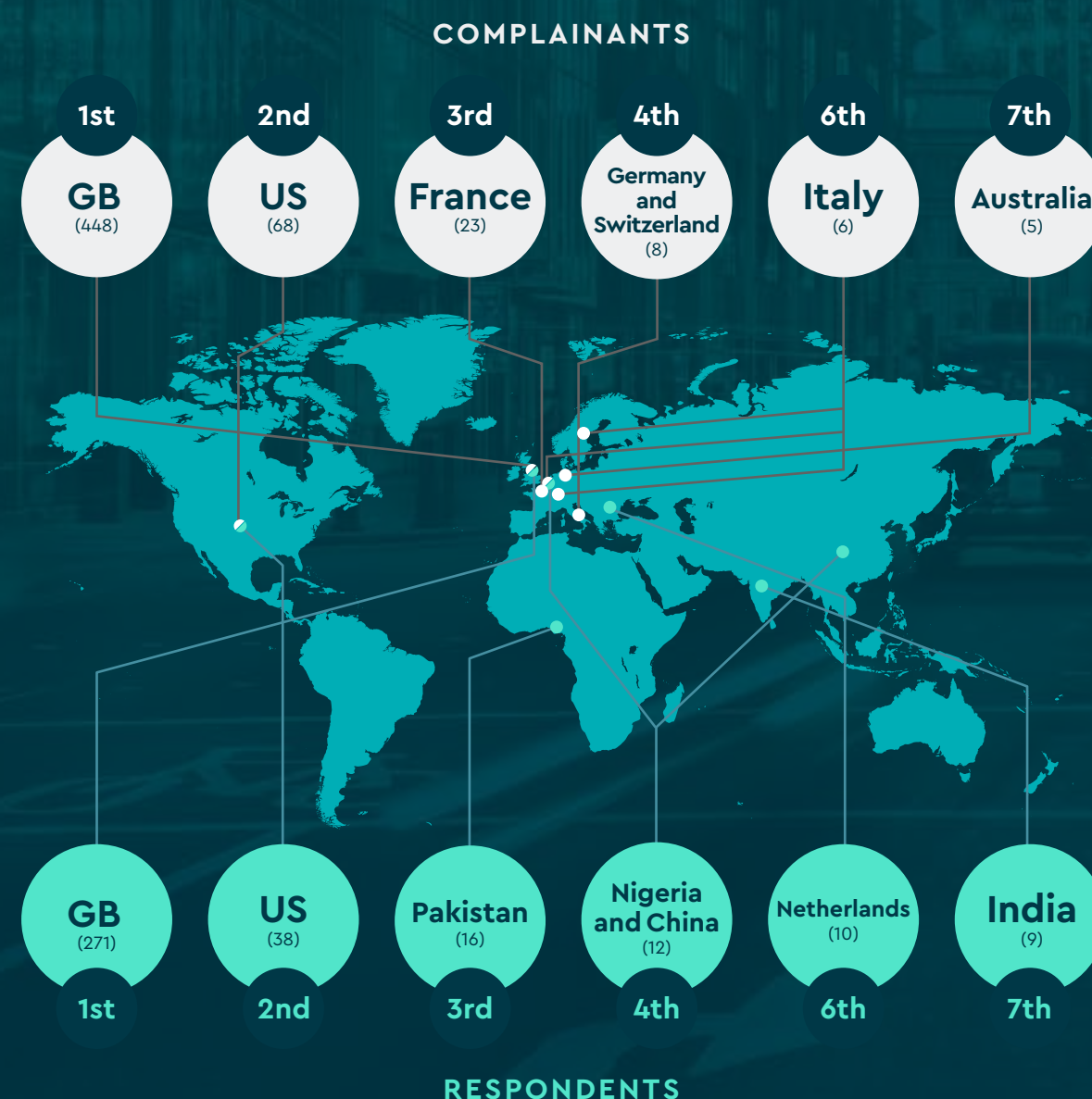
BGC.UK

Bournemouth Glass Company Ltd (BGC) claimed rights to the domain name arguing it was registered by the Respondent for resale at a profit and never actively used. BGC provided evidence such as a brochure and invoice, but the Respondent disputed their authenticity, suggesting the documents were recently created to support its case. The Expert found BGC's evidence insufficient to prove enforceable rights in "bgc" and noted their lack of online presence.

The Respondent argued they were unaware of BGC when registering the domain. The Expert concluded that the Complainant had not proven their rights in the term "bgc" and that the domain name registration was not abusive. Additionally, the Expert found that the Complainant had used the Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) in bad faith, constituting Reverse Domain Name Hijacking, and therefore, no action should be taken regarding the domain name.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF COMPLAINANTS AND RESPONDENTS

In 2024 the DRS saw cases brought by complainants from 30 countries, with respondents from 44 countries. Here are the top ranking countries:



COURT COSTS AVOIDED IN 2024

£8,150,000

Assuming court and legal fee savings of £25,000 per complaint that progresses into formal dispute resolution.

MOST COMMON INDUSTRIES



ABOUT NOMINET

Since 1996, Nominet has operated at the heart of the internet, protecting and connecting over 10 million domains within the .UK namespace. This expertise in the Domain Name System (DNS) now underpins critical internet infrastructure that government services rely on. Our social impact programme provides funding, support, and opportunities to help tackle some of the most important digital issues facing young people in the UK today. Learn more at nominet.uk.

ABOUT THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICE

Nominet's Dispute Resolution Service has addressed over 16,000 .UK domain disputes since being established in 2001. To make a complaint through the DRS, you need to have rights (such as a trade mark) in a name which is the same or similar to the domain name you are concerned about. The DRS can usually provide a quicker and cheaper resolution to disputes than going through the courts as this service is based on free, confidential mediation. In the event of deadlock, complainants can pay to appoint independent experts from a panel to make a binding adjudication. Nominet does not profit from running the DRS, the fee for decisions is paid to the Expert for their time adjudicating disputes.

FIND OUT MORE

More information about the DRS is available at nominet.uk/disputes.