.auDA

Quarterly Report

Q2 2022

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Contents

From the CEO

Rosemary Sinclair AM
auDA Chief Executive Officer

As we head into Q3, we acknowledge the many successes of the previous quarter, including exceeding 3.6 million .au domain name registrations for the first time.

This growth has placed the .au in the top 10 largest country code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs) in the world by number, just ahead of Italy and behind ccTLDs including France, Brazil, Russia and the Netherlands, according to Verisign.

The registration milestone can be attributed to registrants' trust and confidence in .au and the strong uptake of Australia's newest namespace: **.au direct**. auDA was heartened to see Australians welcome .au direct at launch and the continued growth in Q2, with registrations surpassing 170,000 by the end of June.

We continue to raise awareness of .au direct among the community, through our channels, and in partnership with auDA accredited registrars. This includes providing continued information to existing registrants on the Priority Allocation process. Priority Allocation allows

registrants of .au domain names licensed before the launch of .au direct on 24 March 2022 priority to apply for their matching .au direct domain name. It runs until 20 September 2022, after which, .au direct domain names will become available for registration by the general public. You can read more about it on our website.
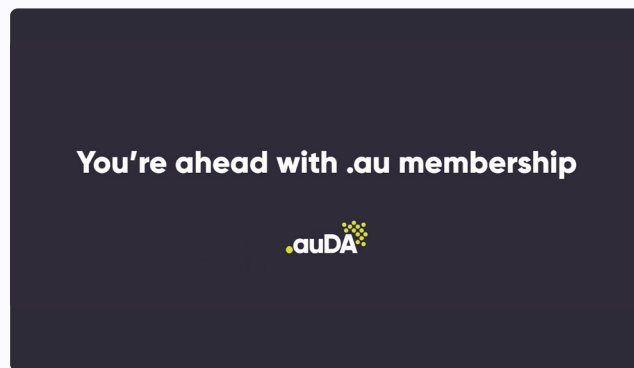
Building trust in .au is a key focus for auDA each quarter and Q2 was no exception. To this end, we continued working with auDA accredited registrars on their security and validation requirements and undertook activity to further reduce already low levels of DNS abuse in .au. Our Compliance Team also carried out 961 audits to validate .au registration details, a more than 40 per cent increase on the same period in 2021. This audit activity improves our ability to ensure our robust registration requirements are being met, supporting community confidence in .au.

.au members and the auDA team come together
at the Brisbane .au member event

You're ahead with .au membership
.auDA
Awareness campaign for .au membership

PARTICIPANT INTERACTION LANYARD CODE
The auDA team attends ICANN74

During the quarter, we were pleased to host two **.au member events**, in each of Brisbane and Sydney, and numerous member and community webinars. These events are a valuable way for auDA to engage with stakeholders and update them on the Australian and international Internet ecosystem. The member webinars are held for our .au member community and are one of the many benefits of the membership program.

Growing and diversifying our membership base to reflect the Australian community is an important priority for us. In May, we launched an **awareness campaign** to encourage those interested in .au or internet governance to sign-up as a member. While we did not meet our ambitious growth targets, we were thrilled to welcome many new members in the quarter, taking us to a record membership of more than 4,800 members. Over the period, we also continued our outreach to existing .au members, inviting them to opt-in to our new terms and conditions, ahead of the transition to our new membership model in September 2022. We hope all existing members will join us under the new model. More information about this process is available on our website.

In June, auDA was pleased to attend the **ICANN74 Policy Forum** in The Hague, Netherlands. The forum provided a significant opportunity to connect with global colleagues and contribute to discussions on the latest innovations and challenges to the internet sector. Key areas of focus included DNS abuse, ICANN's priorities for strengthening multi-stakeholder internet governance processes, and geopolitical and regulatory developments. Our regular participation in local and global industry events plays a key role in meeting auDA's strategic goals to foster and advocate for an open, free, secure and global internet for all.

Another highlight of the quarter was the celebration of **National Reconciliation Week**. This year, we began our development of an auDA Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). National Reconciliation Week was a great opportunity for the auDA Team to further consider how we can play our part in advancing reconciliation in Australia. We look forward to engaging with First Nations communities, including those who are .au members, as we continue this work.

Q2 also saw auDA's independent Nomination Committee open **Expressions of Interest applications for appointed and elected Director roles** on the auDA Board. The Committee met in June to shortlist candidates and will progress the selection process in Q3, with the appointments to take effect after the 2022 AGM in November.

Finally, on 23 June we marked 25 years of auDA. We are pleased to build on our success as stewards of Australia's .au domain and will continue to work diligently to grow the positive social and economic benefits of .au for Australians into the future.

Quarter at-a-glance

Timeline of key milestones and events

5 Apr
auDA CEO spoke at COSBOA National Small Business Summit 2022

ASPI's .auCheck tool to uplift online security launched, supported by auDA

7 Apr
.au member event in Sydney

13 Apr
auDA community webinar on the eSafety agenda

27 Apr
.au member webinar on the DNS and the digital economy

28 Apr
auDA sponsored B&T Women Leading Tech Awards 2022

2 May
Nomination Committee meeting

3 May
auDA community webinar on .auCheck

4 May
Q1 2022 report released

.au member event in Brisbane

10 May
.au member awareness campaign launches

16 May
Expressions of Interest open for appointed and elected Director roles

edu.au Advisory Committee meeting

19 May
.au member webinar on overcoming technophobia

24 May
auDA's Specialist Policy Adviser hosted ccTLD News Session panel on cyber security

25 May
auDA Foundation Committee meeting

30 May
auDA community webinar on internet governance

Jun
.au registrations pass **3.6 million**

1 - 2 Jun
auDA attended AISA's Cybercon conference, Melbourne

7 Jun
Board meeting

13 -16 Jun
auDA attended **ICANN74** in The Hague, Netherlands

14 Jun
General Advisory Standing Committee meeting

21 Jun
Technical Advisory Standing Committee meeting

23 Jun
25 years of auDA

24 Jun
.au members pass **4,800**

28 Jun
Nomination Committee meeting

.au by numbers

Overview of key Q2 operational metrics

Variations are year-on-year

REGISTRATIONS

Domains under management, Jun 2022

3,603,924 +8%

New domain names created in Q2

218,886 +55%

MEMBERS

.au members, Jun 2022

4,820 +21%

New members in Q2

264

SECURITY

24	9

Registrars with ISO 27001 certification or equivalent

Registrars with ISO 27001 progress plan in place

ENGAGEMENTS

2 .au member events

2 .au member webinars

3 Community webinars

3 Registrar briefings

COMPLIANCE

Enquiries	Complaints	Audits	Enforcement body requests	auDRP disputes
1,244 +15%	353 -36%	961 +43%	23 -12%	14 +56%
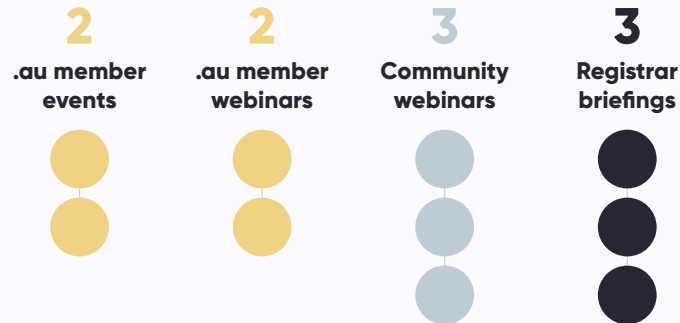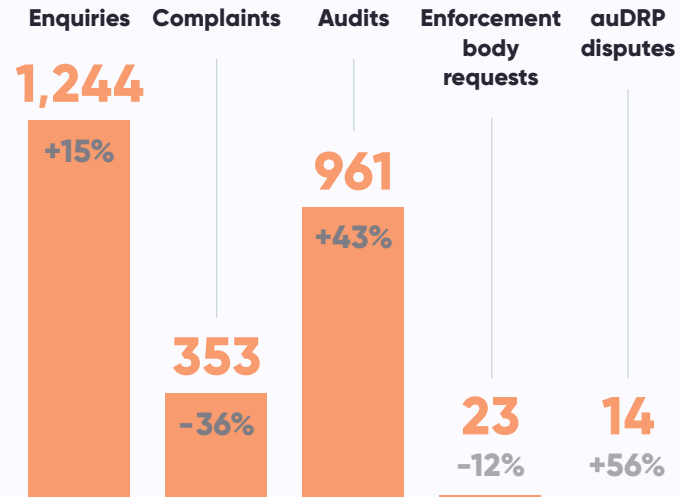
DNS AND REGISTRY SERVICES

.au DNS queries per second in Q2

32,500 -25%

DNS availability

100% 0%

WHOIS availability

100% 0%

Registry database availability

100% 0%

.au scorecard

Overview of strategic objectives and key results

Objective	Key Result	Status
Trust		
Drive down DNS abuse	DNS abuse in .au is less than 0.04 percent of all registered names by June 2022	🟩
Drive up the integrity of the .au domain	95 percent of .au registrants have a validated Australian presence by June 2023	🟩
Lead world's best practice ccTLD security	Maintain ISO 27001 certification	🟩
Innovation		
Improve the utility of the .au by providing greater choice of .au domain names	Launch .au direct namespace in March 2022	🟩
Produce leading insights from our data and community research	Deliver 2022 Digital Lives of Australians research report	🟩
Invest to enable innovation and research by others	auDA Foundation Grants Program invests $600,000 in community projects by June 2022	🟩
Multi-stakeholder engagement		
Grow and diversify auDA's membership	3,000 new members from January to June 2022	🟨
Increase auDA's influence in multi-stakeholder internet governance	Majority of participants identify auDA's multi-stakeholder processes as inclusive (establish baseline by April 2023)	🟩

Objective	Key Result	Status
People		
Build an organisation regarded as an Employer of Choice	Improve auDA's culture score against independent global ranking assessment (2021 survey results act as baseline)	🟩
Strengthen the trust and confidence our stakeholders have in us	Establish effective working relationships with Advisory Committees (establish baseline by Q4 2022)	🟩
Governance		
Strengthen transparency and accountability	ASX Corporate Governance Principles reported publicly by auDA annually with all relevant Principles addressed satisfactorily (initial baseline 2020-21 Annual Report)	🟩
Strive for excellence in our reporting	Increase elements of Integrated Reporting in auDA's 2021-22 Annual Report	🟩

On track 🟩

Being managed within tolerance 🟨

Outside tolerance 🟧