

RDS Risk Survey – Definitions

Whois Data USERS include:

- Natural Person Registrant i.e., individual person registering a domain name
- Legal Person Registrant i.e., company or organization registering a domain name
- Proxy Service Provider i.e., agent registering domain names for use by third parties
- Protected Registrant i.e., customer of a Proxy Service Provider
- Internet Technical Staff e.g., DNS, email, or website administrators
- On-Line Service Provider e.g., ISP, hosting provider, certificate authority
- Individual Internet User e.g., on-line consumer
- Business Internet User e.g., brand holder, broker
- Internet Researcher e.g., academic or private studies about the Internet
- Intellectual Property Owner e.g., trademark owner, digital media copyright holder
- Law Enforcement Agency e.g., national/local agencies investigating cybercrime
- Operations/Security Incident Investigator e.g., cyber defense provider, industry consortia
- Other Investigator e.g., tax authority, UDRP provider

Or anyone else that uses Whois to query domain name registration data.

Whois data PROVIDERS include:

- Natural Person Registrant i.e., individual person registering a domain name
- Legal Person Registrant i.e., company or organization registering a domain name
- Proxy Service Provider i.e., agent registering domain names for use by third parties
- Protected Registrant i.e., customer of a Proxy Service Provider
- Domain Name Registrar i.e., provides domain name registration services to Registrants
- Domain Name Registry i.e., authoritative database of domain names under each TLD
- Third-Party Whois Data Access Provider i.e., offers Whois but is not a Registrar/Registry

Or anyone else that inputs registration data to be provided via Whois, or that collects, stores, or relays registration data to be provided by Whois.