



RIPE NCC
RIPE NETWORK COORDINATION CENTER

Registration Services Update

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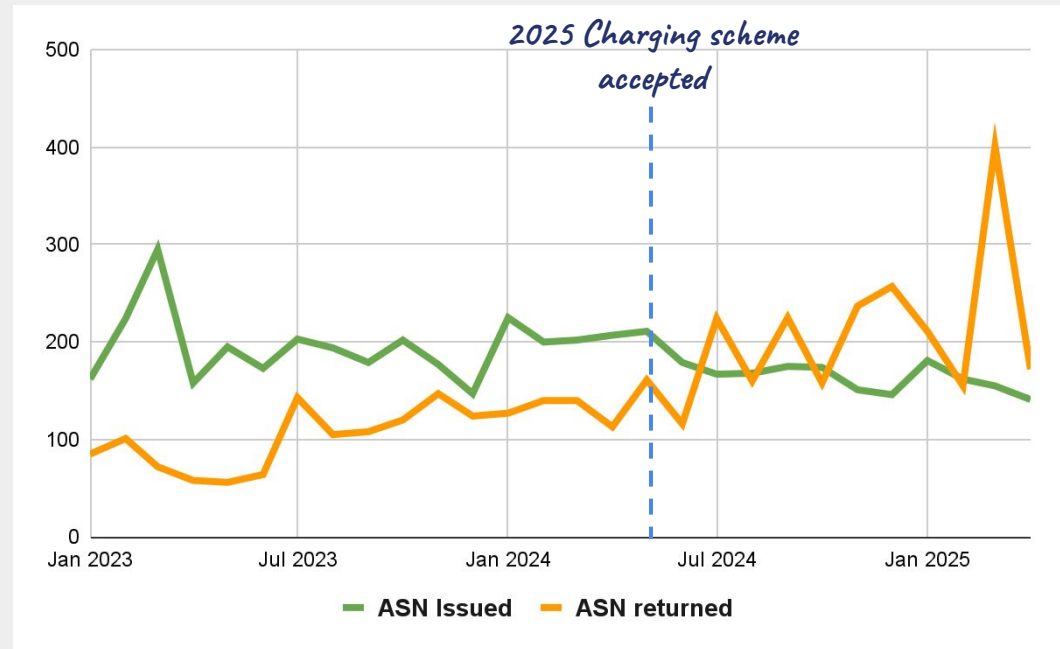
4.

Policy Interpretation



ASN Development

- In May 2024, RIPE NCC members approved a new Charging Scheme for 2025 introducing a €50 annual fee per ASN.
- Noticeable impact on ASN requests and returns, but no major shifts.
- Last 12 months (May 24 - Apr 25)
 - **2,000 ASNs issued**
(5-year average: 2,350)
 - **2,500 ASNs returned**
(5-year average: 1,500)





The additional ASN fee has had the intended effect

- Returned ASNs were almost entirely unused and primarily held by End Users, leading to a drop of around 500 End User registrations.
- Additionally, over the past 12 months, **~1,100 End Users ASNs changed their sponsoring LIR.**
- The surge in ASN returns and sponsorship changes caused a significant workload increase for Registration Services, especially in last months — but for a good reason.
- A similar spike is expected end of 2025, as many members reviewed their sponsored ASNs only after receiving the 2025 invoice.
- To improve the process and user experience, we plan to introduce a dedicated request form in the LIR Portal for sponsorship changes of independent resources.

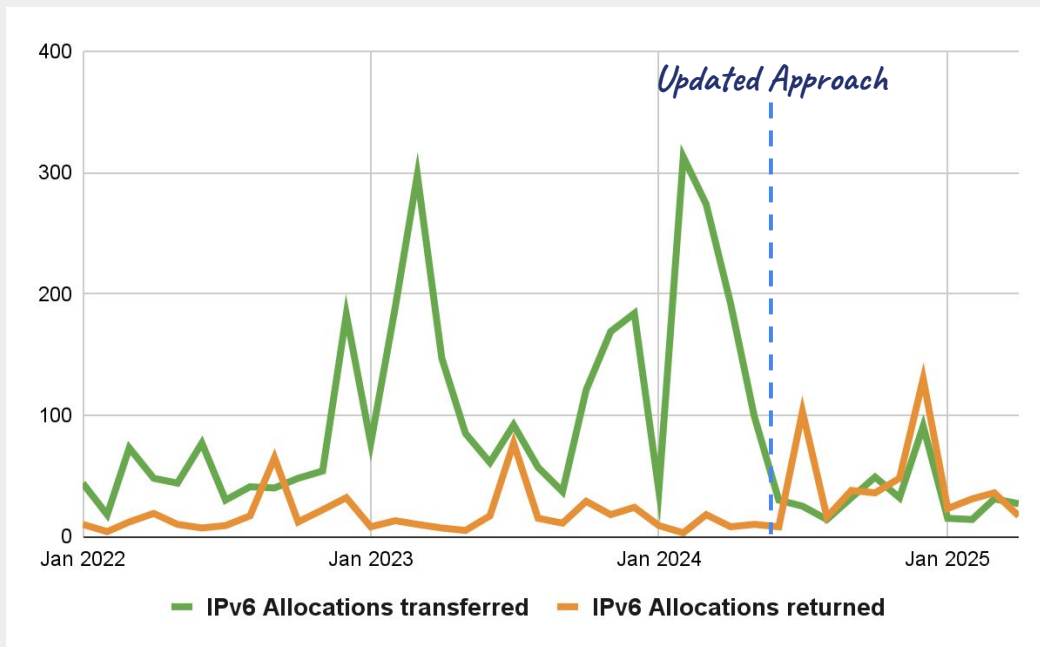


IPv6 Allocation Transfers

IPv6 Transfers



- Since June 2024, following guidance from the AP-WG, the RIPE NCC is prioritising the enforcing of policy requirements when evaluating IPv6 allocation transfer requests.
- This also applies to LIR account consolidations, as IPv6 allocations are provided per LIR.
- Last 12 months (May 24 - Apr 25)
 - **450 allocations transferred** (5-year average: 1,100)
 - **500 allocations returned** (5-year average: 300)





The new approach has had the intended effect

- Transfers of needed IPv6 allocations are still possible.
- Increased awareness among members to review IPv6 needs and planning.
- Some frustration from a few members unable to demonstrate the need for multiple allocations.
- Opportunity to educate members on policy requirements (e.g. assignment sizes, documentation).
- Good collaboration between the Address Policy WG and the RIPE NCC.



Legacy Without Contract

What is IPv4 Legacy Space?



- IPv4 Legacy space refers to address blocks provided before RIPE NCC and other RIRs existed, distributed by IANA or early registries outside today's policy framework.
- In 2014, the RIPE policy "[RIPE NCC Services to Legacy Internet Resource Holders](#)" defined services and possible contractual options between RIPE NCC and legacy holders.

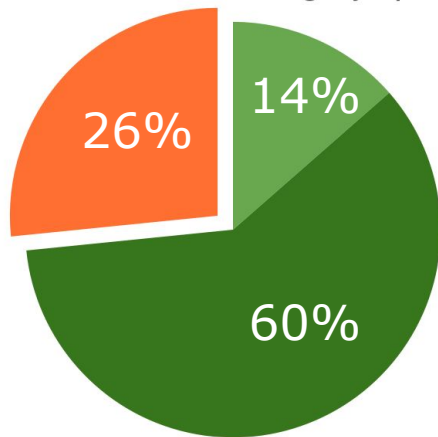
Potential options:

- Direct contract (RIPE NCC membership or non-member service contract)
 - Indirect contract (via sponsoring LIR)
 - No relationship
- As these resources were issued outside the current system, RIPE NCC has limited authority, especially when no contract is in place.

Current Status IPv4 Legacy Space

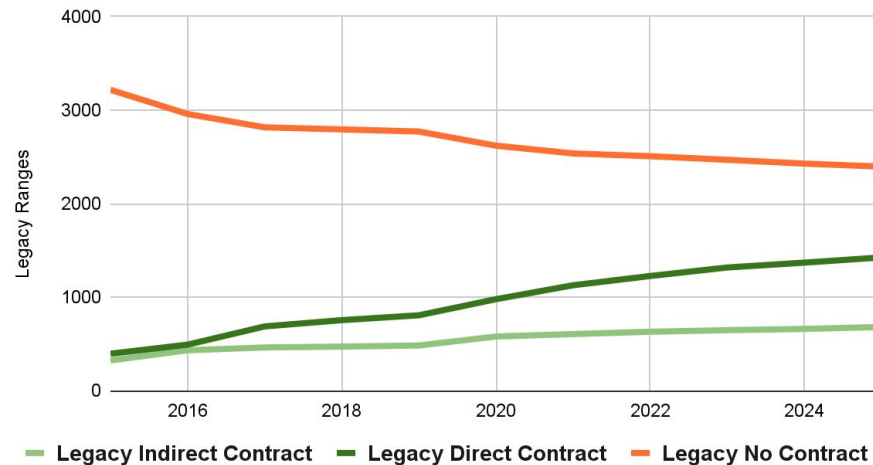


Current Contractual Status of IPv4 Legacy Space



● Legacy Indirect Contract ● Legacy Direct Contract ● Legacy No Contract

Development Contractual Status IPv4 Legacy Ranges



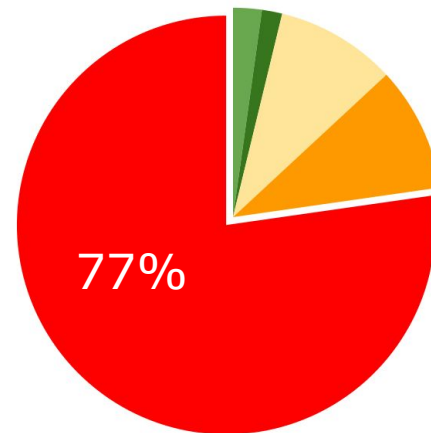
- **74% of IPv4 Legacy addresses** (135 million out of 185 million) **are covered by a contractual relationship.**
- However, **53% of all Legacy IPv4 ranges** (around 2,400) are still **not under contract.**
- This gap exists because most of the remaining non-contracted ranges are smaller blocks.

Legacy without Contract



- IPv4 Legacy resources without contract are often held by entities that haven't engaged with the RIPE NCC:
 - 2,374 Legacy resources are linked to **1,569 unique organisation names** in RIPE NCC's internal records
 - Around **half of the ranges are routed** (~80% of the IP space)
- Some resources holders actively decide against a contractual relationship.

Aging Data: Last NCC Update of Uncontracted Legacy Resources



● < 1 year ● 1 - 2 years ● 2 - 5 years ● 5 - 10 years ● 10+ years



Who is the resource holder?

```
inetnum:      136.144.22.0 – 136.144.22.255
netname:      NB-136-144-22-0
country:      NL
admin-c:      NJT1-RIPE
tech-c:       NJT1-RIPE
status:       LEGACY
mnt-by:       NIELS-MNT
created:      2017-09-20T21:13:44Z
last-modified: 2017-09-21T12:53:20Z
source:       RIPE
```



- **Data Accuracy Challenges**

- Without a contract, RIPE NCC has no clear mandate to validate holder information
- Result:
 - Outdated or unclear contact details
 - Registry records become unreliable
 - Increased pressure on the RIPE NCC to clarify holdership

- **Operational Impact**

- Request to update (transfer) resources are resource-intensive for RIPE NCC
 - Lengthy analysis to trace changes in holdership over 20+ years
 - Disputes over holdership
- Special rules for this address space add complexity to software development

- **(Ab)using possibilities provided by the RIPE policy**

- Some parties exploit the lack of oversight
- Transfer-like arrangements without RIPE NCC involvement



- **Current policy text provides some mandate:**

- **1.0 Introduction**

- [...]The RIPE NCC maintains and publishes registry data for resources held by its members and by legacy resource holders located in the RIPE NCC service area. **It strives to maintain the accuracy of these data.**[...]*

- **2.6 No relationship**

- In case no formal relationship has been established in support of a particular legacy resource, the RIPE NCC
[...]*

- **and may update the related entries in the RIPE Database from time to time to correspond to the current actual situation.**

- <https://www.ripe.net/publications/docs/ripe-639/>

- The RIPE NCC is looking into solutions how to improve this situation.



Policy Interpretation



- Over the last decade, RIPE policies have trended toward simplification and generalisation (e.g. minimise needs justification for IPv4, combined transfer policies).
- This offers more flexibility but also requires careful interpretation of RIPE policies.
- When the RIPE NCC requires clarification on policy interpretation, it consults with the Address Policy Working Group for guidance as needed, e.g.
 - IPv6 allocation transfers
 - Published information in transfer statistics
- This collaboration helps balance flexibility with clarity and supports transparent, consistent application of RIPE policies.

Clarifying Policy Interpretation – Choosing the Right Path



- When RIPE community members disagree with the RIPE NCC's policy interpretation, submitting a policy proposal is the standard approach.
- However, the formal PDP can result in lengthy debates, especially when there is resistance to make policies too specific or disagreement with the interpretation itself.
- This often leads to frustration for all involved parties.
- It may be more effective to first use informal discussions to assess whether the PDP is the right path, or if the RIPE NCC should instead initiate a clarification call.
- In case of doubt, send an email to pdo@ripe.net and our Policy Officer will assist you.



Questions & Comments





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THANK YOU!