

# HRR400MCWBI

Aaron Gable  
Let's Encrypt

Pass the SALT  
July 5, 2024



# How to Revoke and Replace 400 Million Certificates Without Breaking the Internet



Aaron Gable  
Let's Encrypt

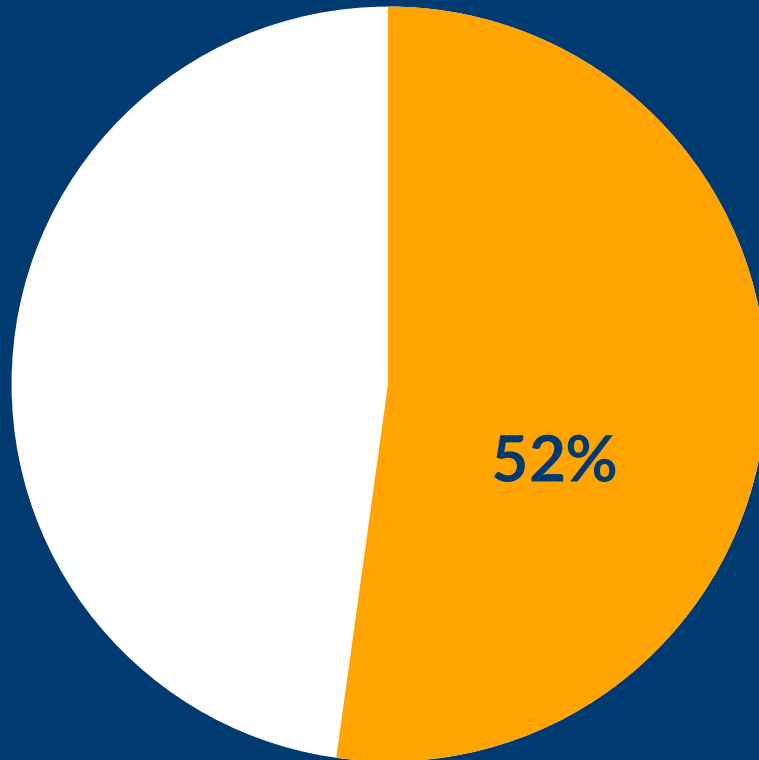
Pass the SALT  
July 5, 2024



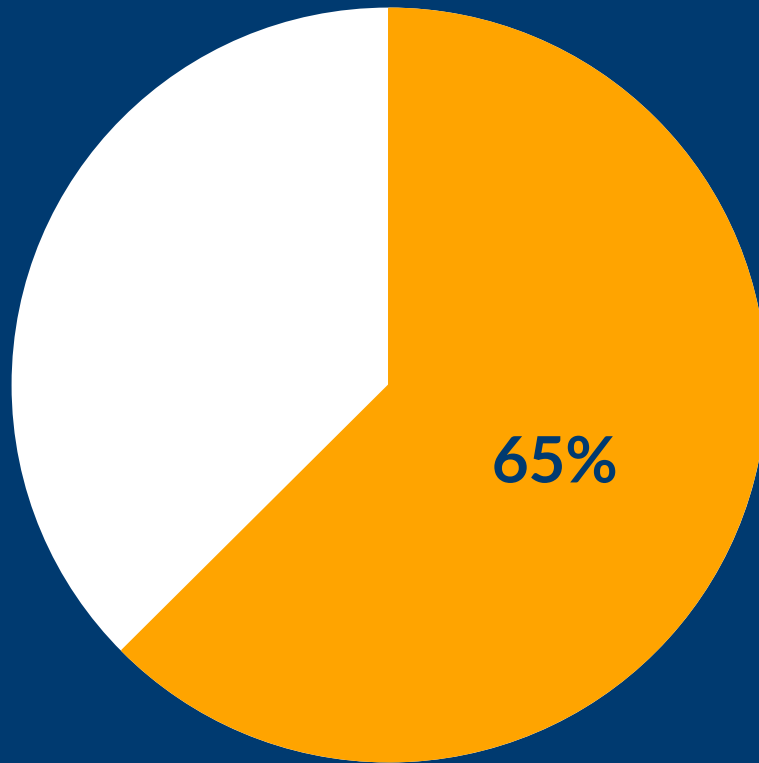


**Let's  
Encrypt**

# The Web



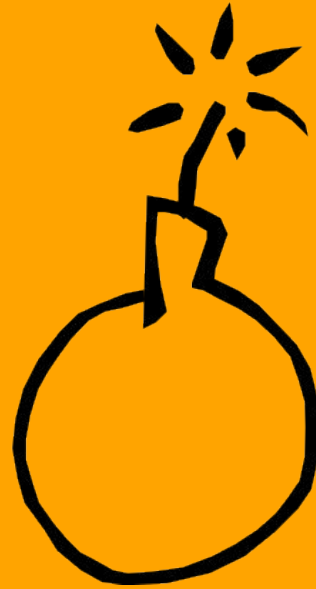
# The WebPKI





**375M Certificates**

**430M Domains**





**Closed**

Bug 1715455 Opened 3 years ago Closed 3 years ago

## Let's Encrypt: certificate lifetimes 90 days plus one second

All unexpired certificates issued by Let's Encrypt are affected,



**What happens if you revoke  
everything?**

What **breaks** if you revoke  
everything?



 OCSP to revoke

 Replacement certificate

+  OCSP for new cert

---

3  

× 400M 

---

1.2 Billion 

÷ 750  / second

---

18.5 Days

 OCSP to revoke

 Replacement certificate

+  OCSP for new cert

---

3  

× 400M 

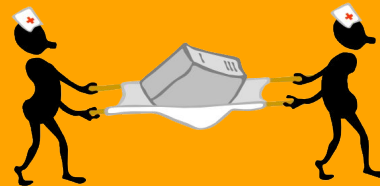
---

1.2 Billion 

÷ 10,000  / second

---

1.4 Days







## Your connection is not private

Attackers might  
(for example, pa  
NET::ERR\_CERT\_REV



## Your connection is not private

mation from **revoked.badssl.com**  
it cards). [Learn more](#)



## Your connection is not private

Attackers might be trying to steal your information from **revoked.badssl.com**  
(for example, passwords, messages, or credit cards). [Learn more](#)

NET::ERR\_CERT\_REVOKED

from **revoked.badssl.com**



## Your co



## Your connection is not private

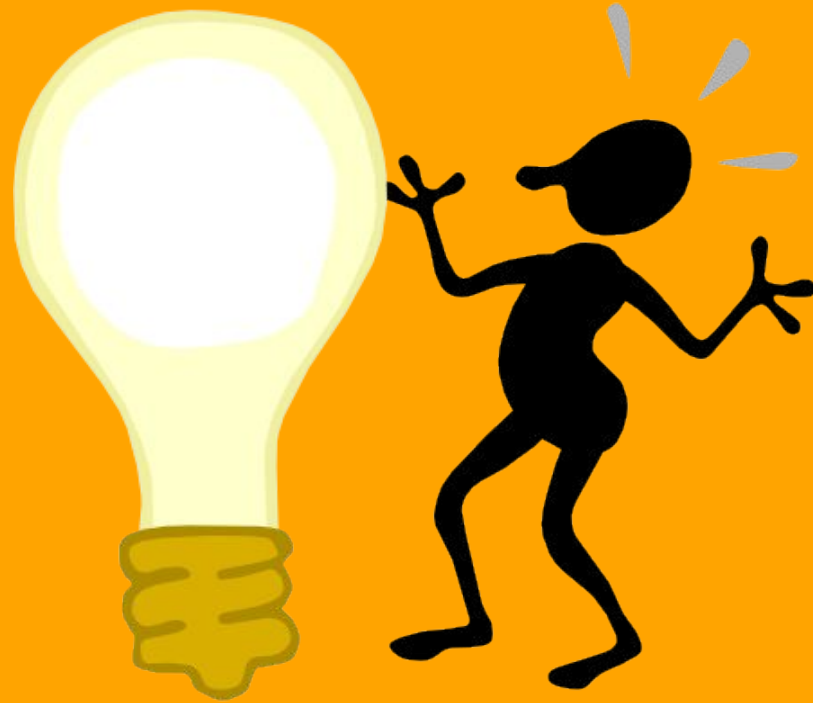
Attackers might be trying to steal your information from **revoked.badssl.com**  
(for example, passwords, messages, or credit cards). [Learn more](#)

## is not private

to steal your information from **revoked.badssl.com**  
messages, or credit cards). [Learn more](#)







1. On-Demand OCSP



2. ACME Renewal Info



3. Short-Lived Certificates



# 1. On-Demand OCSP



OCSP to revoke



Replacement certificate



OCSP for new cert

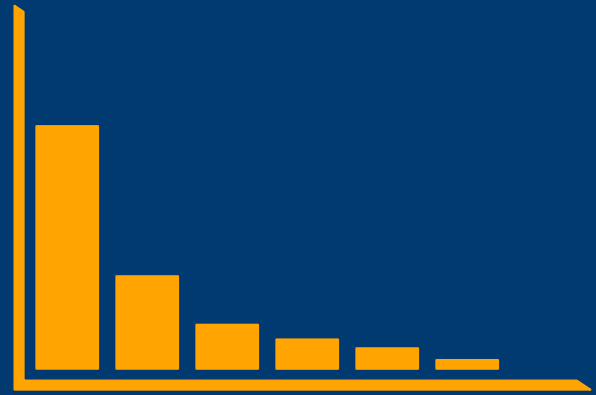


# Replacement certificate

# OCSP Signatures per Certificate



Pre-Signing



Live-Signing

# Replacement certificate

+

---

1  / 

× 400M 

---

400M 

÷ 10,000  / second

---

0.45 Days



## 2. ACME Renewal Info

# Q: When should I renew?

**A:** `GET /acme/renewal-info/aYhba4...IdlQyE`

```
{
  "suggestedWindow": {
    "start": "2024-07-03 00:00:00",
    "end": "2024-07-05 00:00:00"
  }
}
```

# Q: Can this cert be revoked?

A: POST /acme/new-order

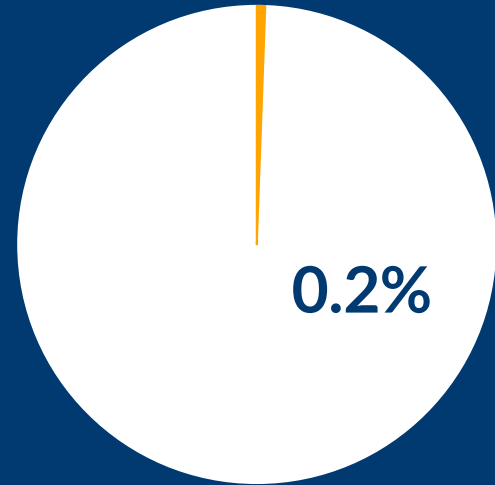
```
{
  "identifiers": [
    "example.com", "www.example.com"
  ],
  "replaces": "aYhba4...IdlQyE"
}
```



draft-ietf-acme-ari-04

3+ ACME servers

10+ ACME clients



# 3. Short-Lived Certificates

# Baseline Requirements, Section 4.9.1 “Circumstances for revocation”

*With the exception of  
Short-lived Subscriber  
Certificates...*

# Baseline Requirements, Section 1.6 “Short-Lived Subscriber Certificate”

*...a Validity Period less  
than or equal to 10 days.*

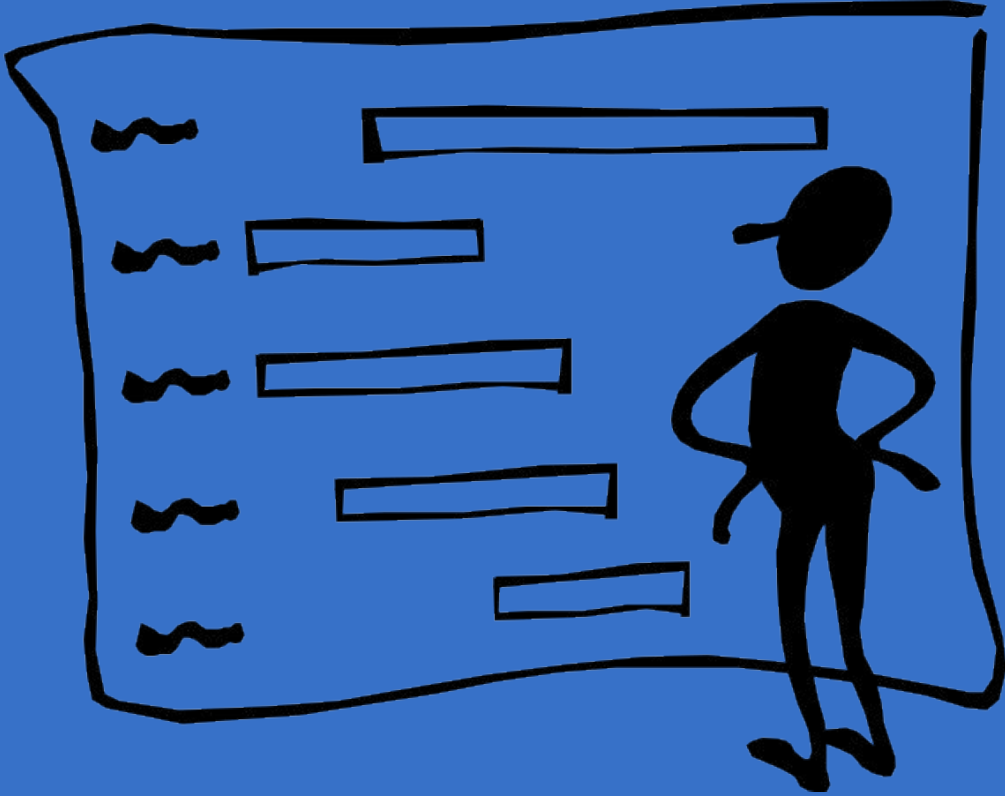
**notBefore:**

**2024-07-03 01:02:03**

**notAfter:**

**2024-07-10 01:02:03**





# Thank You!

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