World Intellectual Property Indicators

Economics & Statistics Series

2015

WIPO
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Foreword

Amid generally uncertain global economic prospects, it is heartening to be able to report that intellectual property (IP) activity continues to grow robustly in most countries. This year's edition of WIPO's *World Intellectual Property Indicators* reports global growth in patent and trademark filings in 2014 of 4.5% and 6.0%, respectively. China – more than ever – has been driving that growth. Fueled by filings from local residents, it saw patent applications increase by 12.5% and trademark applications rise by 18.2%.

Most IP offices outside China also recorded growth in patent and trademark filings. In particular, patent applications increased by 3.2% at the European Patent Office, 2.8% in the Republic of Korea and 1.3% in the US. Among the largest offices, only Japan saw a drop (0.7%) in patent filings. Trademark filing activity increased markedly in Japan and India, with growth rates of 16.9% and 15.4%, respectively. The United States also saw strong growth of 6.7% and the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) registered growth of 2.7%.

However, for the first time in more than 20 years, global industrial design activity declined, by 8.1%. Again, China drove the worldwide trend, receiving 14.4% fewer designs in 2014 compared to the previous year. Design activity in other offices was uneven, with single-digit growth in Germany and OHIM, and single-digit declines in the Republic of Korea, Turkey and the US.

The 2015 edition of the *World Intellectual Property Indicators* documents these and many other developments shaping the global IP system. The report is divided into four main sections devoted to patents, trademarks, industrial designs and plant varieties. Each section offers a concise overview of key statistical trends and patterns, along with a collection of figures and tables providing additional statistical perspectives. This year's special theme presents historical data on the top 100 patent applicants and documents the growing internationalization of the patent portfolios of multinational enterprises.

Readers wishing to go beyond the statistics presented in this report can use the statistics tools on the WIPO website (*www.wipo.int/ipstats*) – especially the IP Statistics Data Center and the Statistical Country Profiles.

Finally, I would like to thank our Member States as well as national and regional IP offices for sharing their annual statistics with WIPO. Their invaluable cooperation makes the *World Intellectual Property Indicators* possible.

Francis GURRY
Director General

Acknowledgements

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Further information

Online resources

The electronic version of the report as well as all figures and their underlying data can be downloaded at *www.wipo.int/ipstats*. Here, you will also find the IP Statistics Data Center, providing access to WIPO's statistical data.

Conditions of use

Contact Information

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Key numbers

Patents	2013	2014	Growth (%)
Applications worldwide	**2,564,800**	**2,680,900**	**4.5**
China	825,136	928,177	12.5
United States of America	571,612	578,802	1.3
Japan	328,436	325,989	-0.7

Trademarks

Application class counts worldwide	**7,028,400**	**7,449,400**	**6**
China	1,880,000	2,222,680	18.2
United States of America	441,547	471,228	6.7
OHIM (EU Office)	324,749	333,443	2.7

Industrial Designs

Applications design counts worldwide	**1,238,200**	**1,138,400**	**-8.1**
China	659,563	564,555	-14.4
OHIM (EU Office)	97,013	98,273	1.3
Republic of Korea	70,054	68,441	-2.3

Overview of IP filing activity

Table 1: Rankings of total (resident and abroad) IP filing activity by origin, 2014

Origin	Patents	Marks	Designs	Origin	Patents	Marks	Designs
China	1	1	1	Slovakia	60	48	52
United States of America	2	2	5	Greece (e)	44	77	41
Germany	5	4	2	Pakistan	73	38	54
Japan	3	5	7	Kazakhstan (b)	34	55	79
Republic of Korea	4	10	3	Cyprus	55	56	60
France	6	3	9	Saudi Arabia (e)	29	79	63
Italy	10	11	4	Croatia	71	59	44
United Kingdom (f)	7	8	11	United Arab Emirates (b)	64	51	67
Switzerland	8	12	8	Sri Lanka (a,b,c)	62	61	64
India	14	9	13	Uzbekistan	66	65	56
Turkey	24	7	6	Serbia	69	64	58
Russian Federation	11	6	21	Nigeria (a,b,c)	101	43	48
Netherlands	9	18	16	Slovenia (d,e,f)	54	70	70
Spain	22	14	10	Malta (b)	56	69	71
Austria	16	21	14	Bangladesh	105	58	42
Brazil	23	13	18	Algeria	94	67	50
Canada	12	16	26	Lithuania	72	66	75
Australia	21	15	19	Estonia	70	76	69
Sweden	13	25	20	Peru	92	41	82
Poland (f)	25	19	17	Azerbaijan (c)	53	75	88
Ukraine	32	26	15	Egypt (f)	48	50	122
Denmark	19	32	27	Latvia	74	74	76
Mexico	36	17	31	Panama	99	57	68
China, Hong Kong SAR	38	22	25	Mongolia	87	72	66
Belgium	20	33	35	Republic of Moldova	98	73	57
Finland	15	45	30	Monaco	81	71	78
Portugal	42	27	23	Iceland	68	78	89
Singapore	26	34	33	Côte d'Ivoire (d,e,f)	65	107	65
Thailand	41	29	24	Armenia	82	80	93
Czech Republic	37	30	29	Barbados (c)	57	95	103
Indonesia	50	24	28	Georgia	89	93	84
New Zealand	30	36	37	Bahamas	86	94	90
Norway	27	44	38	Seychelles (b,d,f)	91	101	80
Viet Nam	52	23	34	Tunisia (e)	77	122	73
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (e)	17	83	12	Uruguay	103	68	102
Romania	43	31	39	Cameroon (d,e,f)	63	116	98
Argentina	49	20	49	Mauritius (a,b,c)	90	88	99
Malaysia	33	42	43	Dominican Republic	122	60	99
South Africa	35	37	46	Qatar (f)	78	81	125
Israel (f)	18	52	51	Costa Rica	110	62	113
Luxembourg	31	49	45	Albania	124	104	59
Hungary	40	47	40	Jordan	97	82	108
Bulgaria	58	39	32	Kenya (e)	80	123	85
Morocco	67	46	22	Cuba	75	89	125
Ireland (e,f)	28	54	55	Jamaica	112	92	87
Philippines	51	40	47	China, Macao SAR	106	91	97
Liechtenstein (d)	45	63	36	Kyrgyzstan	79	120	95
Chile	47	28	77	Bosnia and Herzegovina	107	102	86
Belarus	39	53	62	Senegal (d,e,f)	61	118	116
Colombia	59	35	61	Bermuda (d,e,f)	76	112	113

Note: Rankings are based on the total numbers of applications filed by origin. Patent data refer to numbers of equivalent patent applications. Mark data refer to numbers of equivalent trademark applications based on class counts – the number of classes specified in applications. Design data refer to numbers of equivalent industrial design applications based on design counts – the number of designs contained in applications. This table lists origins for which at least two types of IP filing data are available.

a. 2013 patent data.
b. 2013 trademark data.
c. 2013 industrial design data.
d. Data on patent applications at the national IP office are not available.
e. Data on trademark applications at the national IP office are not available.
f. Data on industrial design applications at the national IP office are not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Table 2: Rankings of resident IP filing activity by origin, 2014

Origin	Patents	Marks	Designs	Origin	Patents	Marks	Designs
China	1	1	1	Singapore	30	49	44
Germany	5	4	2	Egypt	41	43	..
United States of America	2	2	9	Philippines	51	35	40
Japan	3	7	6	Hungary	44	48	38
Republic of Korea	4	9	3	Saudi Arabia	36	..	59
France	6	3	8	Chile	48	24	71
Turkey	15	6	4	Colombia	54	36	55
India	11	5	11	Luxembourg	45	52	49
Italy	10	12	5	Pakistan	62	32	52
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	9	..	10	Israel	32	66	..
United Kingdom (f)	8	10	12	Kazakhstan (b)	26	51	72
Russian Federation	7	8	20	Slovakia	56	46	50
Spain	18	13	7	Greece (e)	42	77	35
Brazil	16	11	17	Nigeria (a,b,c)	78	37	40
Switzerland	13	21	14	Belarus	40	56	65
Poland (f)	17	18	15	Uzbekistan	50	58	53
Netherlands	12	17	22	Ireland (e,f)	37	68	57
Australia	25	16	23	Sri Lanka (a,b,c)	52	54	56
Austria	20	27	18	Bangladesh	79	50	34
Ukraine	24	28	13	Croatia	60	61	48
Sweden	14	29	25	Algeria	71	60	43
Canada	19	15	39	Mongolia	64	62	58
Mexico	31	14	28	Peru	73	38	73
Thailand	34	26	21	Lithuania	61	63	67
Portugal	38	25	19	Tunisia	63	..	66
Belgium	23	31	32	Republic of Moldova	75	67	54
Indonesia	43	22	24	Serbia	57	70	70
Czech Republic	33	34	27	Azerbaijan (c)	58	65	84
Denmark	22	44	30	Latvia	69	71	69
Viet Nam	47	20	29	United Arab Emirates (b)	79	55	75
Finland	21	45	33	Estonia	74	69	68
Romania	35	30	36	Kenya	66	..	78
New Zealand	27	39	37	Malta (b)	76	83	62
Morocco	49	42	16	Slovenia (d,e,f)	67	91	63
Argentina	46	19	45	Liechtenstein (d)	53	95	80
Malaysia	29	41	42	Georgia	70	84	76
China, Hong Kong SAR	59	23	31	T F Y R of Macedonia (a,c)	81	..	73
South Africa	39	33	46	Armenia	68	75	91
Bulgaria	55	40	26	Cyprus	77	80	77
Norway	28	47	47	Dominican Republic	97	53	93

Note: Rankings are based on the numbers of resident applications filed by origin. Patent data refer to numbers of equivalent patent applications. Mark data refer to numbers of equivalent trademark applications based on class counts – the number of classes specified in applications. Design data refer to numbers of equivalent industrial design applications based on design counts – the number of designs contained in applications. This table lists origins for which at least two types of IP filing data are available.

a. 2013 patent data.
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e. Data on trademark applications at the national IP office are not available.
f. Data on industrial design applications at the national IP office are not available.
.. not available

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Special section
The top 100 global patent applicants

Global trend

The past three decades have seen dramatic growth in patent filings worldwide – filings almost tripled between 1985 and 2014. Furthermore, large multinational companies are increasingly seeking patent protection beyond their domestic borders, as reflected in an increase in cross-border and subsequent filings. This special section of *World Intellectual Property Indicators, 2015* aims to analyze the filing behavior of the top 100 patent applicants worldwide between 1980 and 2012.[1]

Inventors traditionally file first at their national office before filing abroad, in which case the same invention is recorded multiple times. To avoid counting the same invention multiple times, WIPO has developed a patent families database, from which the list of top 100 applicants has been extracted. Their selection is based on the cumulative total number of patent families for the 10-year period from 2003 to 2012. However, to observe long-term trends, data have been divided into three 10-year periods: 1983-92 (1980s), 1993-2002 (1990s) and 2003-12 (2000s).

Cleaning applicant names

Data reported in this section are based on the patent families database developed by WIPO. Since WIPO's patent families are constructed based on first filings, statistics on patent families may partially correct bias due to multiple counts of patent applications for the same invention and provide better measurement of original/first inventions. A patent family is defined as "a set of interrelated patent applications filed in one or more countries or jurisdictions to protect the same invention."

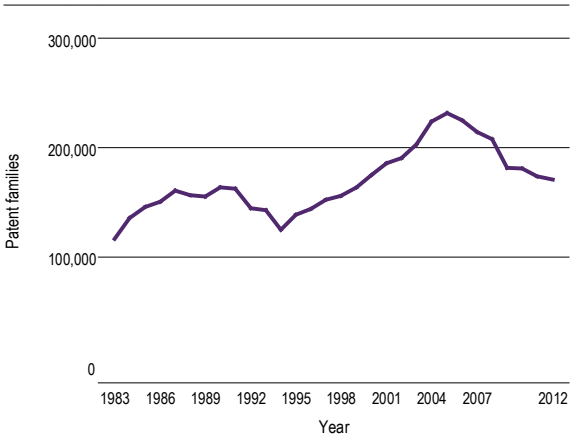
Different names may be recorded in the database for the same applicant. To provide accurate statistics on applicants, one must harmonize these names. WIPO carried out this name-cleaning process based on keyword searching and manual verification. The process was restricted to the top applicants only. The process takes historical changes of names into account, but not company structure; in other words, subsidiaries or applicants sharing a common parent company are not consolidated, and mergers and acquisitions are not taken into consideration.

Patent families are grouped by fields of technology based on WIPO's IPC-technology concordance table (available at *www.wipo.int/ipstats/en*). The total number of patent families by fields of technology for an applicant (table 3) may be different from the total number of patent families reported at aggregate level (table 1) due to missing IPC codes.

1. 2012 is the latest year for which complete patent family data are available.

Figure 1 shows the combined total number of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants. Filings grew sharply between 1983 and 1987, increasing from around 116,000 to 160,000. Between 1991 and 1994 the number of patent families fell, coinciding with the economic downturn of the early 1990s. The fastest growth occurred between 1994 and 2005, when the combined total grew by 85%. Since peaking at 231,000 in 2005, the total has followed a downward trend. This has resulted in part from a sharp decline in filings by three companies, Samsung Electronics, LG Electronics and Panasonic. In addition, the top 100 applicants, share of all patent families worldwide decreased from 26% in 2005 to 14% in 2012.

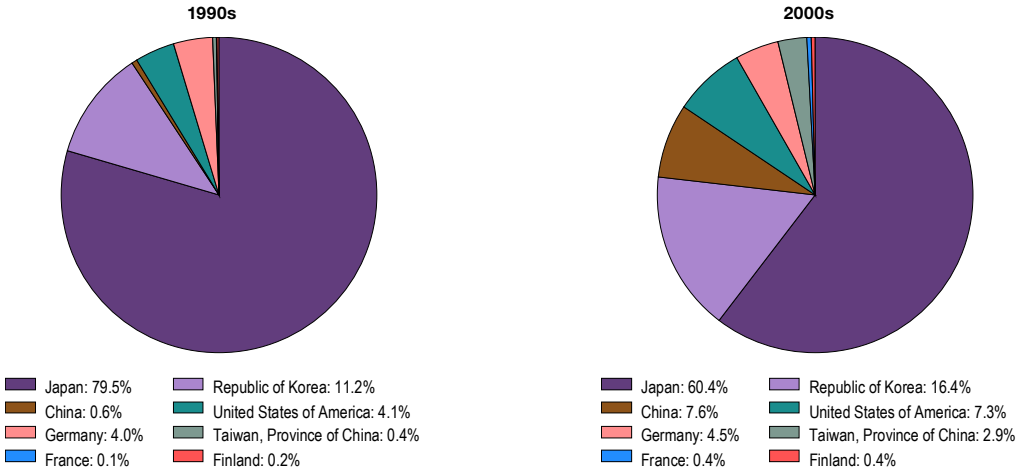
Figure 1. Trend in total patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants



Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Applicants from just eight origins make up the top 100 list: Japan with 55, the Republic of Korea (15), China (10), the US (9), Germany (5), Taiwan, Province of China (4) and one each from Finland and France. The list is dominated by multinational companies. However, four Chinese universities are among the top 100 applicants. Most of the listed applicants belong to the ICT, electrical machinery and transport sectors. The top applicant list does not include any biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies.

Figure 2. Distribution of patent families of the top 100 applicants by applicant origin (%)



Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Japanese applicants accounted for the largest share of all patent families worldwide, which is to be expected considering that Japan is home to 55 top applicants. However, their share declined from 80% in the 1990s to 60% in the 2000s (figure 2). Chinese applicants, on the other hand, saw their combined share grow from 0.6% to 7.6% over the same period. Korean and US applicants also saw notable growth in their shares of the total.

Who are the top applicants?

Table 1 lists the top 100 applicants based on their total number of patent families between 2003 and 2012. Panasonic of Japan was the top applicant in the 2000s, with 111,653 patent families worldwide. It was followed by Samsung Electronics of the Republic of Korea (95,852), and by the Japanese companies Canon (74,193), Toyota (73,220) and Toshiba (65,151). LG Electronics of the Republic of Korea and International Business Machines (IBM) of the US are two other non-Japanese applicants that rank among the top 10. Together, the top 10 applicants accounted for a third of all families held by the top 100 in the 2000s, which is lower than the two-fifths they held in the 1990s.

With 32,227 patent families, Robert Bosch was the highest-ranking German applicant – 17th in the 2000s – while for China it was ZTE Corporation (31,673), in 18th place. The highest-ranking applicant from Taiwan, Province of China was Honghai Precision Industry (30,848). The sole applicants from France (Peugeot Citroen) and Finland (Nokia) ranked 75th and 86th respectively.

Panasonic was the top applicant in each decade (1980s, 1990s and 2000s). Four more Japanese applicants – Canon, Toshiba, Ricoh and Sony – featured among the top 10 in each of these three decades. Mitsubishi Electric, Hitachi, Fujitsu and NEC made it into the top 10 in the 1980s and 1990s, but dropped out in the 2000s.

Widening the focus to the top 30 applicants, ZTE, Honghai Precision Industry, Huawei Technologies and Fujifilm moved quickly up the rankings from the 1990s to the 2000s. Before the 1990s, these four applicants were not included in the top 100, but appeared in the top 30 in the 2000s.

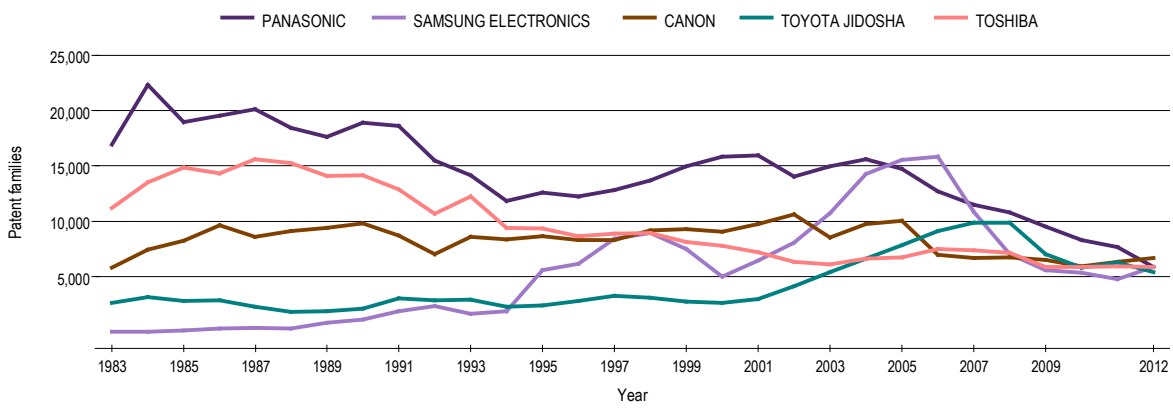
Table 1. Top 100 patent applicants worldwide, 2003-12

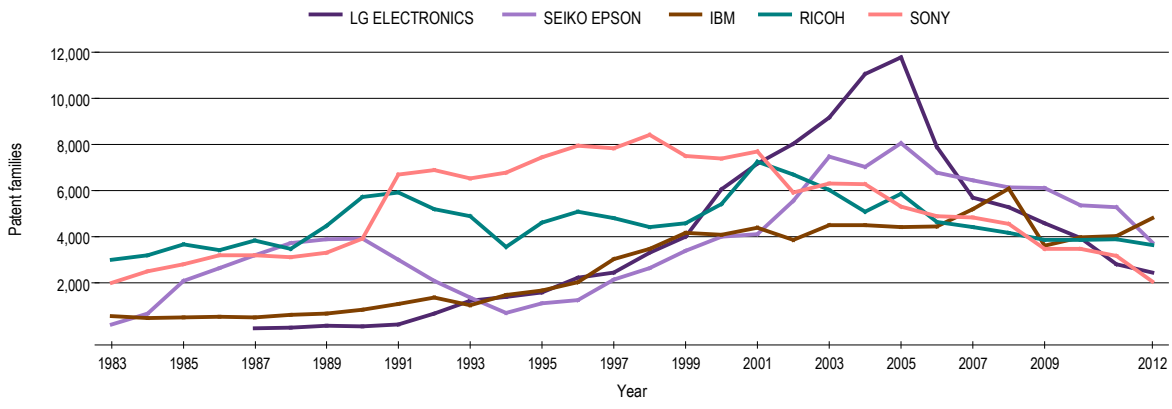
Applicant	Origin	Total number of patent families (2003-12)	Rank 1980s	1990s	2000s
PANASONIC CORPORATION	Japan	111,653	1	1	1
SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	95,852	38	7	2
CANON	Japan	74,193	7	2	3
TOYOTA JIDOSHA	Japan	73,220	15	16	4
TOSHIBA	Japan	65,151	4	3	5
LG ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	64,593	80	12	6
SEIKO EPSON	Japan	62,305	16	18	7
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES (IBM)	United States of America	45,473	40	17	8
RICOH	Japan	45,306	8	9	9
SONY	Japan	44,261	9	5	10
SHARP	Japan	43,094	10	14	11
MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC	Japan	42,852	5	8	12
HITACHI LTD	Japan	35,369	3	4	13
DENSO	Japan	34,219	124	27	14
FUJITSU LTD	Japan	33,655	6	10	15
HONDA MOTOR	Japan	33,367	23	24	16
ROBERT BOSCH	Germany	32,227	41	33	17
ZTE CORPORATION	China	31,673	155	144	18
HONGHAI PRECISION INDUSTRY	Taiwan, Province of China	30,848	127	129	19
HYUNDAI MOTOR	Republic of Korea	30,735	90	20	20
HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES	China	28,726	141	117	21
FUJI XEROX	Japan	27,457	25	28	22
SIEMENS	Germany	26,857	20	21	23
MICROSOFT	United States of America	23,925	104	81	24
FUJIFILM CORP	Japan	23,314	132	165	25
SANYO ELECTRIC	Japan	22,805	14	11	26
HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR	Republic of Korea	22,797	130	30	27
NEC CORP	Japan	22,178	2	6	28
NISSAN MOTOR	Japan	21,648	18	23	29
NIPPON TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE	Japan	19,673	13	19	30
DAINIPPON PRINTING	Japan	17,790	34	31	31
HONGFUJIN PRECISION INDUSTRY (SHENZHEN)	China	17,674	159	153	32
DAIMLER	Germany	17,270	58	45	33
KYOCERA CORP	Japan	16,985	54	35	34
GENERAL ELECTRIC	United States of America	16,802	59	84	35
BROTHER IND LTD	Japan	16,447	30	41	36
SAMSUNG SDI CO LTD	Republic of Korea	16,359	115	85	37
SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES	Japan	15,730	22	36	38
OLYMPUS CORP	Japan	15,236	122	139	39
NIPPON KOGAKU	Japan	14,998	44	34	40
ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY	China	14,707	96	142	41
KYOCERA MITA CORP	Japan	14,300	139	112	42
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS TECH	Japan	14,052	166	166	43
MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND LTD	Japan	14,018	12	15	44
CHINA PETROLEUM & CHEMICAL CORPORATION	China	13,658	103	111	45
QUALCOMM	United States of America	13,611	112	115	46
SAMSUNG ELECTRO MECH	Republic of Korea	13,375	94	99	47
TOPPAN PRINTING	Japan	13,313	46	39	48
BRIDGESTONE	Japan	13,068	47	47	49
KOREA ELECTRONICS TELECOMM	Republic of Korea	12,918	76	58	50

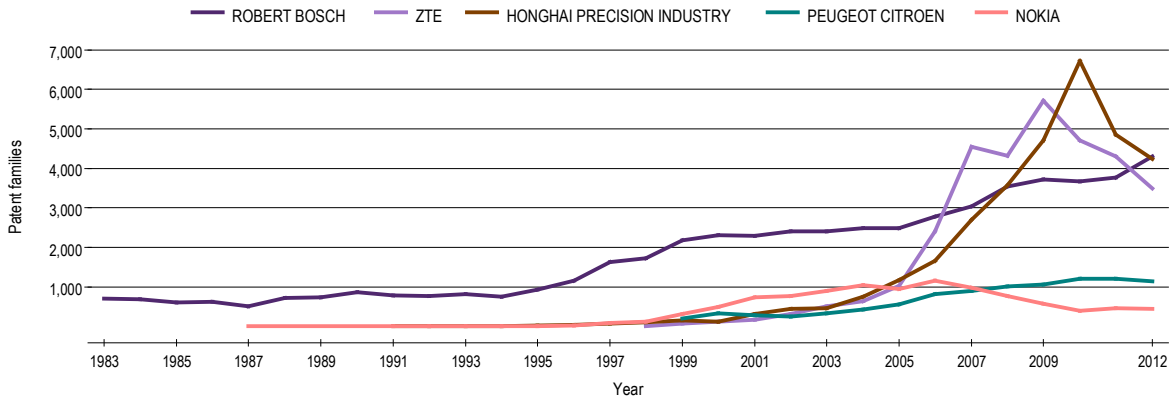
Applicant	Origin	Total number of patent families (2003-12)	Rank 1980s	1990s	2000s
GM GLOBAL TECH OPERATIONS	United States of America	12,585	106	143	51
FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD	Japan	11,718	11	13	52
TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY	China	11,633	93	122	53
LG DISPLAY CO LTD	Republic of Korea	11,556	165	164	54
POSCO	Republic of Korea	11,358	107	53	55
CASIO COMPUTER	Japan	11,050	36	38	56
LG INNOTEK	Republic of Korea	10,441	168	168	57
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY	China	10,299	109	141	58
JFE STEEL	Japan	10,071	145	126	59
NSK LTD	Japan	10,038	128	94	60
HEWLETT PACKARD DEVELOPMENT	United States of America	10,018	133	80	61
NTN TOYO BEARING	Japan	9,950	82	96	62
TDK CORP	Japan	9,848	55	68	63
INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE	Taiwan, Province of China	9,764	85	91	64
OCEAN,S KING LIGHTING SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	China	9,698	169	169	65
INTEL	United States of America	9,614	88	48	66
INVENTEC	Taiwan, Province of China	9,553	131	134	67
DAEWOO ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	9,376	157	150	68
FUNAI ELECTRIC CO	Japan	9,267	92	97	69
KAO CORP	Japan	9,208	45	43	70
AU OPTRONICS CORP	Taiwan, Province of China	9,154	156	147	71
YAZAKI CORP	Japan	8,985	67	40	72
ARUZE CORP	Japan	8,726	137	109	73
TOSHIBA TEC	Japan	8,684	134	82	74
PEUGEOT CITROEN	France	8,679	150	135	75
DAIKIN IND LTD	Japan	8,661	43	69	76
SUMITOMO WIRING SYSTEMS	Japan	8,180	91	42	77
OKI ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Japan	8,173	21	32	78
HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL	United States of America	8,088	75	107	79
SK TELECOM	Republic of Korea	8,052	143	124	80
LG PHILIPS LCD CO LTD	Republic of Korea	7,897	114	86	81
TORAY INDUSTRIES	Japan	7,840	29	37	82
NAT INST OF ADV IND & TECHNOL	Japan	7,765	136	103	83
LG ELECTRONICS (TIANJIN) ELECTRIC APPLIANCE	China	7,765	152	137	84
KIA MOTORS	Republic of Korea	7,681	105	73	85
NOKIA	Finland	7,675	125	106	86
XEROX	United States of America	7,658	65	70	87
JTEKT	Japan	7,640	170	170	88
HYUNDAI MOBIS	Republic of Korea	7,524	154	140	89
CHUGOKU ELECTRIC POWER	Japan	7,472	97	152	90
MAZDA MOTOR	Japan	7,464	19	61	91
SUMITOMO CHEMICAL	Japan	7,445	49	67	92
SANKYO CO	Japan	7,439	73	78	93
INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES	Germany	7,191	119	75	94
NIPPON STEEL	Japan	7,167	17	22	95
YAMAHA	Japan	7,095	60	74	96
VOLKSWAGEN	Germany	7,094	71	72	97
AISIN SEIKI	Japan	7,069	53	66	98
NTT DOCOMO INC	Japan	7,031	140	113	99
HARBIN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	China	6,954	164	163	100

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Figure 3. Trends in patent families for the top 10 applicants and the top applicant from each origin







Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Figure 3 presents the long-term trends in patent families for the top 10 applicants and for the top applicant from each origin. Samsung Electronics saw rapid growth in its patent families from 2000 to 2006. In 2005, it overtook Panasonic to become the top applicant. Similarly, LG Electronics saw fast growth until 2005, when it became the third-largest applicant, but has since seen its filings decrease rapidly. The trends for Toyota and Seiko Epson are similar to that for LG Electronics; however, the decline in filings by Toyota occurred during the 2008 financial crisis.

The number of patent families filed by IBM has remained stable at around 4,000 per year since 1999, except for a sharp increase in 2008. The top Chinese (ZTE) and Taiwanese (Honghai Precision Industry) applicants saw strong growth in their numbers of patent families from 2005 onward. However, since the financial crisis of 2009/10, both have experienced declines. The top German applicant (Robert Bosch) and the only French applicant listed (Peugeot Citroen) both saw continuous upward trends in their numbers of patent families from the early 2000s. Since reaching a peak of 154 patent families in 2006, Nokia of Finland has seen a decline.

Geographical coverage of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants

As previously mentioned, applicants tend to file first at their national office before seeking protection in other jurisdictions. The decision to seek patent rights beyond domestic borders depends on various factors, such as the business strategy of the applicant and market size, to name a few. It is costly for an applicant to seek protection in a large number of jurisdictions. Therefore, the size of a patent family may provide some indication of its value.

Figure 4 shows the size of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants. Most include only one office – most likely the applicant's domestic office. However, the share of single-office families has declined from 90% in 1983 to 71% in 2012. In contrast, the shares of other categories (two-office or three-office families and those with more than three offices) have increased. For example, the share of two-office patent families increased from 3% to 13% between 1983 and 2012. This indicates that the number of patent offices covered by inventions has increased over time. It also reflects the internationalization of multinational companies, patenting activities.

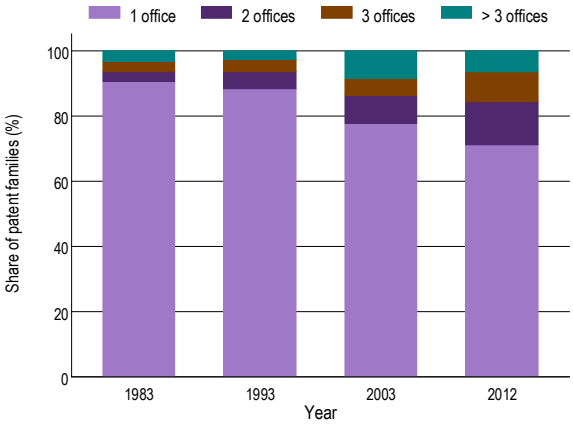
Figure 5 provides data on the size of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants by applicant origin for the period 2003-12. Chinese applicants have the highest share of single-office families (85%) while German applicants have the lowest (55%). Applicants from Finland, Taiwan, Province of China, and the US have low shares of single-office families. This indicates that patent families from these origins tend to have wider geographical coverage. Finnish and US applicants have the largest shares of patent families with more than five offices, at around 7% each.

Table 2 provides the distribution of patent families by the number of offices for all 100 top applicants, sorted by share of single-office family. German applicant Infineon Technologies had the highest share of patent families with more than one office (69%), followed by General Electric of the US (63%), Honghai Precision Industry of Taiwan, Province of China (63%), and GM Global Tech Operations of the US (62%). One Chinese applicant, Ocean's King Lighting Science & Technology, only had single-office families; most likely all its patent families include its domestic office.

Microsoft, Qualcomm, Canon and Seiko Epson had the largest number of offices included in their patent families. Microsoft had at least one family with a total of 25 offices, followed by Qualcomm and Canon, each with at least one 22-office family, and Seiko Epson with at least one 21-office family.

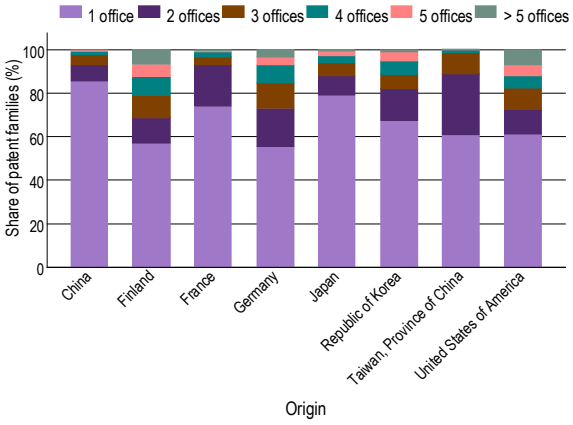
Among Chinese applicants, Petroleum & Chemical Corporation recorded the largest number of offices in a patent family (14). Finland's Nokia had at least one 19-office patent family. France's Peugeot Citroen included at least one 9-office family. Among German top applicants, Siemens had the largest number of offices for a patent family (17). One patent family belonging to LG Electronics and one from Posco of the Republic of Korea each covered 16 offices. Industry Technology Research Institute of Taiwan, Province of China had at least one family covering 9 offices.

Figure 4. Distribution of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants by number of offices



Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Figure 5. Distribution of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants by number of offices and applicant origin, 2003-12



Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Table 2. Distribution of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants, 2003-12

Applicant	Origin	Number of offices						
		1	2	3	4	5	>5	Max.
INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES	Germany	30.8	42.3	20.6	4.0	1.7	0.6	9
GENERAL ELECTRIC	United States of America	36.9	9.0	16.3	18.6	12.5	6.8	18
HONGFUJIN PRECISION INDUSTRY (SHENZHEN)	China	37.2	44.3	15.9	2.1	0.5	0.0	6
GM GLOBAL TECH OPERATIONS	United States of America	38.3	10.9	42.0	6.9	1.4	0.4	10
QUALCOMM	United States of America	42.0	7.4	1.6	2.1	9.9	37.0	22
ROBERT BOSCH	Germany	44.9	17.9	13.6	12.7	6.3	4.5	12
SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	45.8	27.2	10.7	9.7	4.8	1.9	15
SIEMENS	Germany	48.8	19.0	14.2	8.8	4.2	5.0	17
HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL	United States of America	49.6	21.8	15.9	7.3	2.3	3.1	17
INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE	Taiwan, Province of China	50.0	34.3	12.5	2.2	0.6	0.4	9
KOREA ELECTRONICS TELECOMM	Republic of Korea	52.5	42.7	3.3	1.0	0.4	0.2	8
BROTHER IND LTD	Japan	52.8	31.0	8.2	7.3	0.4	0.3	14
HONGHAI PRECISION INDUSTRY	Taiwan, Province of China	54.6	32.2	11.8	1.2	0.2	0.0	6
SAMSUNG ELECTRO MECH	Republic of Korea	57.0	15.6	16.9	7.8	2.2	0.6	8
SAMSUNG SDI CO LTD	Republic of Korea	57.0	16.5	6.3	11.2	8.4	0.6	6
NOKIA	Finland	57.1	11.7	9.9	8.8	5.5	7.1	19
FUJITSU LTD	Japan	58.0	25.7	7.7	4.0	3.6	1.0	10
SONY	Japan	59.0	6.8	15.1	7.2	7.2	4.7	18
AU OPTRONICS CORP	Taiwan, Province of China	60.6	28.4	8.2	2.4	0.4	0.0	5
XEROX	United States of America	61.9	12.8	11.0	6.3	3.5	4.5	11
NTT DOCOMO INC	Japan	65.1	6.0	5.1	12.2	5.3	6.3	15
TOSHIBA	Japan	65.3	21.6	7.1	3.9	1.4	0.8	12
HONDA MOTOR	Japan	65.3	12.7	10.9	6.2	2.6	2.3	15
INTEL	United States of America	67.0	5.2	6.9	7.4	6.9	6.7	14
FUJIFILM CORP	Japan	68.0	17.4	8.4	4.3	1.4	0.6	11
HITACHI LTD	Japan	68.3	15.9	9.8	4.3	1.1	0.6	8
DENSO	Japan	69.4	14.1	9.5	5.4	1.3	0.2	10
HEWLETT PACKARD DEVELOPMENT	United States of America	69.9	13.4	8.4	4.0	2.3	2.0	18
CANON	Japan	70.1	18.6	6.0	3.0	1.8	0.5	22
MICROSOFT	United States of America	71.0	6.8	3.6	2.8	6.3	9.5	25
YAZAKI CORP	Japan	72.2	6.3	7.5	11.3	2.2	0.5	8
AISIN SEIKI	Japan	72.4	6.8	8.9	9.7	1.9	0.3	8
LG ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	72.5	9.5	4.9	6.6	3.8	2.7	16
TDK CORP	Japan	72.8	11.9	7.4	4.7	2.2	1.0	10
PEUGEOT CITROEN	France	73.7	19.1	3.9	1.9	0.7	0.7	9
OKI ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Japan	73.8	16.9	4.8	3.9	0.5	0.0	6
TOSHIBA TEC	Japan	73.9	17.2	7.0	1.6	0.1	0.1	6
OLYMPUS CORP	Japan	74.2	13.1	7.5	4.0	0.9	0.3	9
LG PHILIPS LCD CO LTD	Republic of Korea	74.5	9.4	6.6	5.1	2.2	2.3	8
YAMAHA	Japan	74.8	7.3	7.1	7.6	2.0	1.3	10
FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD	Japan	75.1	16.6	5.3	1.6	1.0	0.4	6
SANYO ELECTRIC	Japan	75.5	7.2	7.5	4.9	3.6	1.3	10
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES (IBM)	United States of America	75.6	13.9	4.7	2.9	1.5	1.4	13
LG INNOTEK	Republic of Korea	75.6	5.6	4.5	6.3	5.6	2.4	7
FUNAI ELECTRIC CO	Japan	77.4	12.4	6.6	3.1	0.3	0.2	6
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS TECH	Japan	77.5	17.0	3.9	1.6	0.0	0.0	5
HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR	Republic of Korea	77.6	13.2	4.0	3.0	1.7	0.5	8
NTN TOYO BEARING	Japan	78.3	4.0	6.2	8.6	2.5	0.4	9
SEIKO EPSON	Japan	78.6	9.8	6.4	2.7	1.9	0.6	21
SUMITOMO CHEMICAL	Japan	78.6	4.1	3.0	5.8	3.0	5.4	17

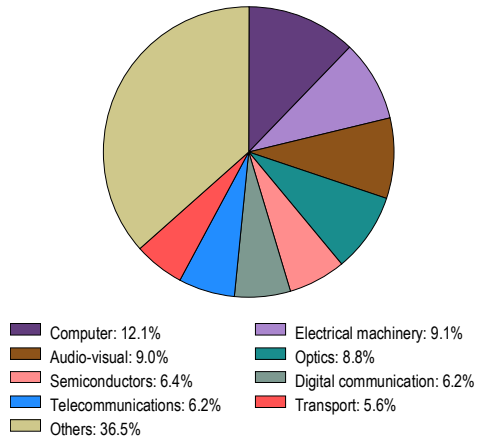
Applicant	Origin	Number of offices						
		1	2	3	4	5	>5	Max.
FUJI XEROX	Japan	78.8	10.4	7.6	2.4	0.6	0.2	14
KIA MOTORS	Republic of Korea	79.3	3.9	4.5	7.0	5.2	0.1	6
LG DISPLAY CO LTD	Republic of Korea	79.9	3.4	8.9	5.1	1.9	0.8	9
MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND LTD	Japan	80.0	3.6	5.1	4.1	4.3	2.9	11
SUMITOMO WIRING SYSTEMS	Japan	80.3	3.9	7.4	6.3	2.0	0.2	7
HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES	China	80.3	6.4	8.8	2.5	1.1	0.8	11
VOLKSWAGEN	Germany	80.7	12.0	3.1	1.9	1.5	0.7	13
JTEKT	Japan	81.0	1.3	8.0	9.0	0.5	0.1	9
RICOH	Japan	81.2	11.3	4.2	2.1	0.7	0.5	12
CASIO COMPUTER	Japan	82.9	3.1	6.1	2.7	3.4	1.9	8
SHARP	Japan	83.3	3.9	8.4	2.3	1.4	0.6	11
SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES	Japan	83.7	6.0	3.3	2.7	1.5	2.8	13
NEC CORP	Japan	84.1	6.7	3.1	3.6	1.4	1.1	12
MAZDA MOTOR	Japan	84.4	2.5	7.2	5.7	0.1	0.0	6
DAIKIN IND LTD	Japan	85.0	4.2	1.7	2.3	1.5	5.3	11
PANASONIC CORPORATION	Japan	86.0	5.1	4.0	2.8	1.4	0.7	15
HYUNDAI MOTOR	Republic of Korea	86.0	3.2	3.0	4.0	3.7	0.1	7
TOYOTA JIDOSHA	Japan	86.4	3.0	3.4	4.7	1.8	0.7	17
KYOCERA CORP	Japan	86.6	5.9	3.6	2.6	1.0	0.2	8
DAIMLER	Germany	86.7	4.7	4.2	2.4	1.6	0.4	12
TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY	China	87.7	4.5	5.0	1.4	0.8	0.5	13
NISSAN MOTOR	Japan	88.0	2.7	2.7	3.9	1.9	0.7	10
MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC	Japan	88.4	4.1	3.0	2.9	1.2	0.4	10
ZTE CORPORATION	China	88.5	2.8	5.5	1.8	0.8	0.6	12
KAO CORP	Japan	88.5	1.7	2.9	3.2	1.9	1.9	11
ARUZE CORP	Japan	88.6	2.5	1.8	2.8	1.5	2.8	12
KYOCERA MITA CORP	Japan	88.9	6.1	4.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	5
NIPPON KOGAKU	Japan	89.7	3.6	3.7	2.1	0.5	0.3	10
HYUNDAI MOBIS	Republic of Korea	89.9	7.5	1.7	0.7	0.3	0.0	5
NAT INST OF ADV IND & TECHNOL	Japan	90.1	4.6	2.9	1.1	0.6	0.8	10
BRIDGESTONE	Japan	90.4	0.9	2.2	4.5	1.4	0.6	9
INVENTEC	Taiwan, Province of China	91.8	8.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	6
NSK LTD	Japan	93.0	1.4	2.1	2.8	0.7	0.0	6
SK TELECOM	Republic of Korea	93.8	1.9	1.9	0.7	0.9	0.7	13
DAINIPPON PRINTING	Japan	95.2	1.8	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.2	8
POSCO	Republic of Korea	95.2	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.9	16
JFE STEEL	Japan	95.2	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.8	2.3	11
NIPPON STEEL	Japan	95.8	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5	1.9	12
DAEWOO ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	96.7	0.5	0.4	0.2	1.2	0.9	9
CHINA PETROLEUM & CHEMICAL CORPORATION	China	97.0	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.9	14
TOPPAN PRINTING	Japan	97.4	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.5	16
TORAY INDUSTRIES	Japan	97.9	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3	1.0	10
NIPPON TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE	Japan	98.9	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	8
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY	China	99.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	8
ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY	China	99.3	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	7
HARBIN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	China	99.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	6
CHUGOKU ELECTRIC POWER	Japan	99.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	7
SANKYO CO	Japan	99.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4
LG ELECTRONICS (TIANJIN) ELECTRIC APPLIANCE	China	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3
OCEAN,S KING LIGHTING SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	China	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Fields of technology for the top 100 applicants

Figure 6 shows the distribution by field of technology of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants in the 2000s. The top eight fields accounted for 63% of all of these patent families combined. Computer technology accounted for the largest share (12%), followed by electrical machinery (9%), audio-visual (9%) and optics (8.8%). The distribution of patent families by field of technology has remained more or less stable between the 1990s and the 2000s. Among the top eight fields, digital communication saw its share of the total increase the most, while audio-visual recorded the sharpest decline.

Figure 6. Distribution of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants by field of technology, 2003-12



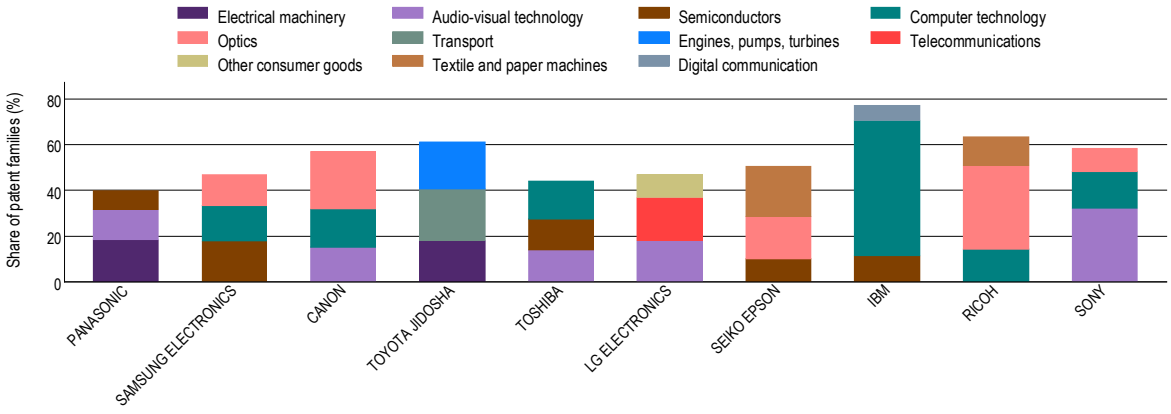
Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Figure 7 presents the top three technology fields for each top 10 applicant. The combined share of the top three fields ranged from 77% of all IBM,s patent families to 40% of Panasonic's. Computer technology accounted for two-thirds of IBM,s patent families. Optics accounted for the largest share of Ricoh's patent families. Transport accounted for a large share of all Toyota's patent families, while Sony's largest was in audio-visual technology. Computer technology appears as one of the three top fields of technology for six of the top ten applicants. Audio-visual, optics and semiconductors each feature among the top three fields for five of them.

Table 3 shows the main fields of technology for the top 100 applicants over the period 2003-12 sorted by share of main fields of technology. Optics was the main field for 15 of these applicants, followed by computer technology (13 applicants), transport (13) and electrical machinery (11). For Microsoft, computer technology was the main field of technology, while Chinese telecom giants Huawei Technologies and ZTE tended to focus on digital communication. Transport was the most important field of technology for Hyundai Mobis, while semiconductors accounted for the largest share of all of Hynix Semiconductor's patent families.

Almost all patent families belonging to Sankyo and Aruze were associated with furniture and games. In contrast, measurement accounted for around a tenth of all patent families created by three Chinese universities – Zhejiang University, Tsinghua University and Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The main field of technology accounted for more than half of the patent families of 19 of the top 100 applicants.

Figure 7. Top three technology fields for each top 10 applicant, 2003-12



Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Table 3. The main field of technology for each of the top 100 applicants, 2003-12

Applicant	Origin	Main field of technology	Total patent families (2003-12)	Main field share of total (%)
SANKYO CO	Japan	Furniture, games	7,454	95.5
ARUZE CORP	Japan	Furniture, games	8,741	89.3
LG PHILIPS LCD CO LTD	Republic of Korea	Optics	7,898	70.9
HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR	Republic of Korea	Semiconductors	22,804	69.5
MICROSOFT	United States of America	Computer technology	24,006	69.1
HYUNDAI MOBIS	Republic of Korea	Transport	7,547	64.4
SUMITOMO WIRING SYSTEMS	Japan	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	8,200	63.9
SAMSUNG SDI CO LTD	Republic of Korea	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	16,367	63.8
HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES	China	Digital communication	32,199	63.2
ZTE CORPORATION	China	Digital communication	32,329	62.6
NTN TOYO BEARING	Japan	Mechanical elements	9,965	61.8
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES (IBM)	United States of America	Computer technology	45,566	59.3
FUNAI ELECTRIC CO	Japan	Audio-visual technology	9,289	56.1
NSK LTD	Japan	Mechanical elements	10,054	55.2
INVENTEC	Taiwan, Province of China	Computer technology	9,565	53.8
OCEAN,S KING LIGHTING SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	China	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	9,924	53.1
KIA MOTORS	Republic of Korea	Transport	7,704	52.4
YAZAKI CORP	Japan	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	9,012	52.2
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS TECH	Japan	Optics	14,064	50.3
PEUGEOT CITROEN	France	Transport	8,688	49.5
LG DISPLAY CO LTD	Republic of Korea	Optics	11,554	47.5
KYOCERA MITA CORP	Japan	Optics	14,304	47.2
DAIKIN IND LTD	Japan	Thermal processes and apparatus	8,796	47.2
HYUNDAI MOTOR	Republic of Korea	Transport	30,746	46.8
MAZDA MOTOR	Japan	Transport	7,469	45.5
JTEKT	Japan	Mechanical elements	7,654	44.8
VOLKSWAGEN	Germany	Transport	7,148	43.9
SK TELECOM	Republic of Korea	Digital communication	8,083	43.9
QUALCOMM	United States of America	Digital communication	14,628	41.7
DAIMLER	Germany	Transport	17,388	41.4
INTEL	United States of America	Computer technology	11,674	40.1
HEWLETT PACKARD DEVELOPMENT	United States of America	Computer technology	13,345	39.6
NTT DOCOMO INC	Japan	Digital communication	7,073	38.9
DAEWOO ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	Audio-visual technology	9,391	38.7
LG ELECTRONICS (TIANJIN) ELECTRIC APPLIANCE	China	Thermal processes and apparatus	7,790	38.5
FUJI XEROX	Japan	Optics	27,455	37.4
NIPPON KOGAKU	Japan	Optics	15,122	37.4
POSCO	Republic of Korea	Materials, metallurgy	11,421	36.8
RICOH	Japan	Optics	45,301	36.4
INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES	Germany	Semiconductors	7,326	36.1
AU OPTRONICS CORP	Taiwan, Province of China	Optics	9,161	35.7
BRIDGESTONE	Japan	Transport	13,169	35.1
JFE STEEL	Japan	Materials, metallurgy	10,165	34.7
TDK CORP	Japan	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	9,864	34.2
NOKIA	Finland	Digital communication	10,900	33.4
GM GLOBAL TECH OPERATIONS	United States of America	Transport	12,741	33.4
YAMAHA	Japan	Other consumer goods	7,113	33.4
SONY	Japan	Audio-visual technology	44,341	32.0
CHUGOKU ELECTRIC POWER	Japan	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	7,521	30.4
NEC CORP	Japan	Computer technology	22,319	30.4

Applicant	Origin	Main field of technology	Total patent families (2003-12)	Main field share of total (%)
BROTHER IND LTD	Japan	Textile and paper machines	16,456	30.1
HONDA MOTOR	Japan	Transport	33,660	29.9
LG INNOTEK	Republic of Korea	Semiconductors	10,459	29.4
NIPPON STEEL	Japan	Materials, metallurgy	7,232	29.1
FUJITSU LTD	Japan	Computer technology	39,969	28.0
XEROX	United States of America	Optics	7,674	26.7
SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES	Japan	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	15,797	26.5
NISSAN MOTOR	Japan	Transport	21,665	26.4
FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD	Japan	Optics	11,721	26.3
SAMSUNG ELECTRO MECH	Republic of Korea	Audio-visual technology	13,378	26.3
KOREA ELECTRONICS TELECOMM	Republic of Korea	Digital communication	12,962	25.9
CANON	Japan	Optics	74,359	25.3
NIPPON TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE	Japan	Computer technology	19,691	25.1
CHINA PETROLEUM & CHEMICAL CORPORATION	China	Basic materials chemistry	13,679	25.1
OLYMPUS CORP	Japan	Optics	15,379	24.2
AISIN SEIKI	Japan	Transport	7,113	24.0
MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND LTD	Japan	Engines, pumps, turbines	14,426	23.9
TOYOTA JIDOSHA	Japan	Transport	77,598	22.8
HITACHI LTD	Japan	Computer technology	37,550	22.5
CASIO COMPUTER	Japan	Audio-visual technology	11,064	22.1
SEIKO EPSON	Japan	Textile and paper machines	62,326	21.9
GENERAL ELECTRIC	United States of America	Engines, pumps, turbines	17,189	21.9
HONGFUJIN PRECISION INDUSTRY (SHENZHEN)	China	Computer technology	17,676	21.1
KYOCERA CORP	Japan	Telecommunications	17,050	20.4
HONGHAI PRECISION INDUSTRY	Taiwan, Province of China	Computer technology	30,852	20.0
ROBERT BOSCH	Germany	Engines, pumps, turbines	32,589	20.0
TORAY INDUSTRIES	Japan	Textile and paper machines	7,878	19.7
SANYO ELECTRIC	Japan	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	22,973	19.6
FUJIFILM CORP	Japan	Optics	23,377	19.5
TOSHIBA TEC	Japan	Computer technology	8,692	18.7
KAO CORP	Japan	Organic fine chemistry	9,240	18.7
LG ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	Telecommunications	67,390	18.7
TOPPAN PRINTING	Japan	Optics	13,318	18.6
PANASONIC CORPORATION	Japan	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	113,060	18.1
DENSO	Japan	Engines, pumps, turbines	34,230	18.1
SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS	Republic of Korea	Semiconductors	96,159	17.5
OKI ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Japan	Control	8,178	17.1
SHARP	Japan	Audio-visual technology	43,148	16.9
SIEMENS	Germany	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	29,300	16.7
TOSHIBA	Japan	Computer technology	65,742	16.6
HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL	United States of America	Measurement	8,544	16.6
SUMITOMO CHEMICAL	Japan	Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	7,505	16.4
MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC	Japan	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	47,329	15.7
HARBIN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	China	Measurement	6,983	14.1
DAINIPPON PRINTING	Japan	Optics	17,814	13.3
INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE	Taiwan, Province of China	Semiconductors	9,796	12.7
NAT INST OF ADV IND & TECHNOL	Japan	Measurement	7,800	12.4
ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY	China	Measurement	14,722	11.6
TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY	China	Measurement	11,679	11.0
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY	China	Measurement	10,308	9.8

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Conclusion

The number of patent families belonging to the top 100 applicants grew sharply between 1994 and 2005. Since peaking at 231,000 in 2005, the total has followed a downward trend. This resulted in part from a sharp decline in filings by Samsung Electronics, LG Electronics and Panasonic.

Most of the top 100 applicants are Japanese. However, their combined share has declined over the decades, while those held by applicants from China, the Republic of Korea and the US have increased.

The top 100 applicants are mainly multinational companies. However, the list includes four Chinese universities. Most of the listed applicants are active in the ICT, electrical machinery and transport sectors. The top applicant list does not include any biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies.

The average number of offices included in patent families has increased over time, reflecting an internationalization of patenting activity.

Patent families of the top 100 applicants are concentrated in a small number of technological fields. The top eight fields accounted for 63% of all of their patent families combined. Computer technology (12%) recorded the largest share, followed by electrical machinery (9%), audio-visual (9%) and optics (8.8%).

Optics was the main field of technology for 15 of the top 100 applicants, followed by computer technology (13), transport (13) and electrical machinery (11).

Patents

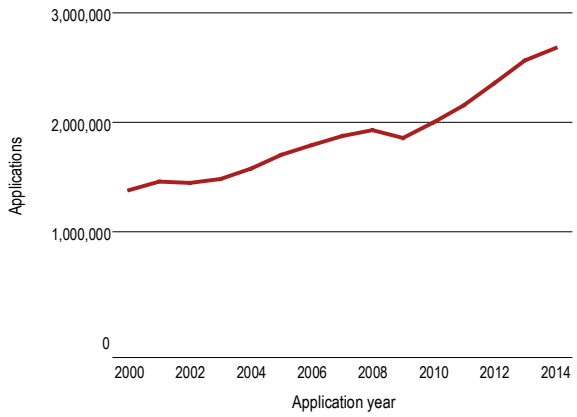
Highlights

Applications approach 2.7 million worldwide in 2014

Around 2.68 million patent applications were filed worldwide in 2014, up 4.5% from 2013 (figure 1). Driving that strong growth were filings in China, which received 103,000 of the 116,100 additional filings and accounted for 89% of total growth, whereas the United States of America (US) contributed 6% of total growth.

The 4.5% growth in filings in 2014 is lower than the growth rate in each of the previous four years, which varied between 7% and 10%.

Figure 1. Patent applications worldwide



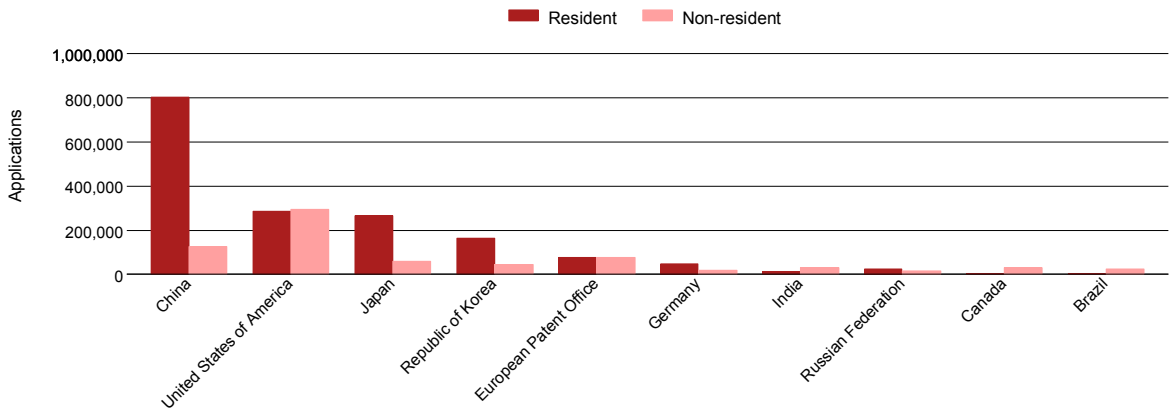
Source: Standard figure A1.

China received more applications than Japan and the US combined

The State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO) received the most applications in 2014, followed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the European Patent Office (EPO). SIPO – with 928,177 filings – received more applications than the combined total of the USPTO and the JPO. If the current trend continues, SIPO is set to become the first office to receive a million applications in a single year. The top five offices accounted for 82% of the world total in 2014, which is considerably higher than their 2000 share (70%). The four BRIC countries – Brazil, China, India and the Russian Federation – rank among the top 10 offices (figure 2).

The top 20 list includes patent offices from 13 high-income economies, 5 upper middle-income countries and 2 lower middle-income countries. As for geographical distribution, nine offices are located in Asia, six in Europe, two each in North America and Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC), and one in Oceania. South Africa, which is ranked 23rd, is the highest-placed office in Africa.

Figure 2. Patent applications at the top 10 offices, 2014



Source: Standard figure A8.

Double-digit growth in China and the Islamic Republic of Iran

Of the top 20 offices, 13 received more applications in 2014 than in 2013. China (+12.5%) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (+18.5%) exhibited double-digit growth, which was driven mainly by growth in resident applications. China's 2014 growth rate of 12.5% is less than half the 2013 growth rate and the lowest since 2009.

Other offices showing notable growth in 2014 were Indonesia (+7.7%), Thailand (+7.1%) and Singapore (+6.1%). At each of these offices, growth in non-resident applications was the main driver of overall growth. Australia recorded a 12.7% decline in 2014, ending the growth it had witnessed over the previous four years, with decreases in both resident and non-resident applications. China Hong Kong (SAR) and the Russian Federation each saw a decline of around 10%. Among the top five offices, the EPO, KIPO, SIPO and the USPTO saw growth in applications in 2014. However, the 2014 growth rates of KIPO, SIPO and the USPTO are considerably lower than those for 2013. The JPO, in third place, has recorded declines since 2005 due to a fall in resident applications; non-resident applications have increased, but not by enough to offset this decline.

Among selected offices of low- and middle-income countries, the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO, +20.7%), Turkey (+9.4%) and Viet Nam (+11.3%) showed the fastest growth in 2014. At most offices of low- and middle-income countries, the bulk of applications are filed by non-residents. As a result, overall growth or decline in applications at these offices is determined mainly by the filing behavior of non-resident applicants. For example, Viet Nam saw 11.3% growth in 2014 due mainly to growth in non-resident applications. Variations in year-on-year growth are considerable, especially at offices that receive low numbers of applications.

A shift toward China

High-income countries received 58.4% of applications filed worldwide in 2014, reflecting their high R&D spending (figure 3). However, the distribution of applications is shifting toward the upper middle-income group as they grow in China and decline in Japan. Applications filed in China rose sevenfold between 2004 and 2014, while those filed in Japan fell by a fifth.

Due to the high numbers of applications filed in China, offices of the upper middle-income countries have seen their share of the world total increase from 12.4% in 2004 to 38.5% in 2014. Without China, the share of the remaining upper middle-income countries increased from 4.5% in 2004 to 6% in 2014 – with the offices of Brazil, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey driving this growth.[1]

The lower middle-income group saw a slight increase in its share of the world total – from 2.4% in 2004 to 2.7% in 2014, due primarily to growth in the numbers of applications filed in India, Indonesia and Viet Nam. The low-income group accounted for less than 0.5% of the world total in both 2004 and 2014. However, it should be noted that data for only 14 offices of low-income countries are available.

Offices located in Asia received 60% of applications filed worldwide in 2014, compared with 49% in 2004 (figure 4). This high share reflects the fact that three of the top five patent offices are in Asia (the JPO, KIPO and SIPO). However, the increase in Asia's share of the world total resulted primarily from the substantial increase in filings in China. In fact, applications in China grew from 130,384 in 2004 to 928,177 in 2014, with resident applications being the main source of growth. Offices in North America accounted for 23% and those in Europe for 13% of the 2014 world total. Over the past 10 years, patenting activity has been gradually shifting away from Europe and North America toward Asia – to be more specific, China – and the pace of this shift has been accelerating since 2010. As for the other world regions, the combined share of Africa, LAC and Oceania was around 4% in 2014.

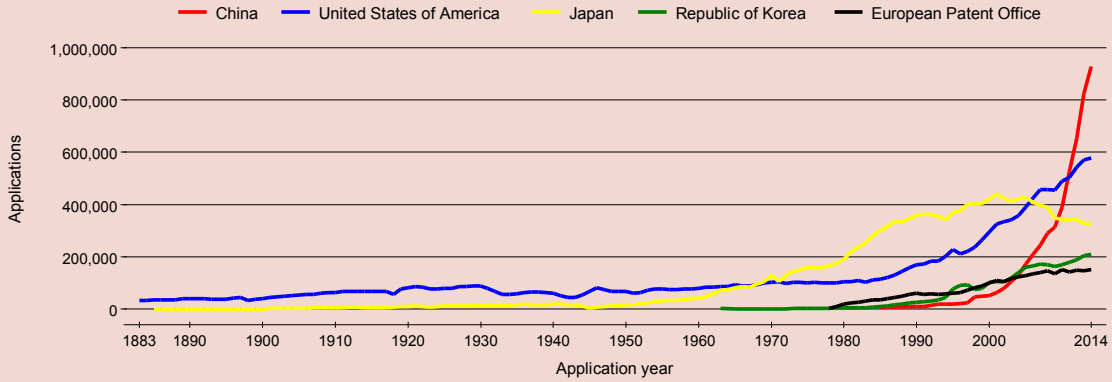
1. SIPO accounted for 90% of the upper middle-income group total.

Patent filings since 1883

From 1883 to 1963, the USPTO was the leading office in world filings. Application numbers at the JPO and the USPTO were stable until the early 1970s, when the JPO began to see rapid growth, a pattern also observed for the USPTO from the 1980s onwards.

Among the top five offices, the JPO surpassed the USPTO in 1968 and maintained the top position until 2005. Since 2006, the number of applications at the JPO has trended downward. Both the EPO and KIPO have seen increases each year since the early 1980s, as has SIPO since 2001. SIPO surpassed the EPO and KIPO in 2005, the JPO in 2010 and the USPTO in 2011 – and it now receives the largest number of applications worldwide. There has been a gradual upward trend in the combined share of the top five offices in the world total – from 70% in 2000 to 82% in 2014.

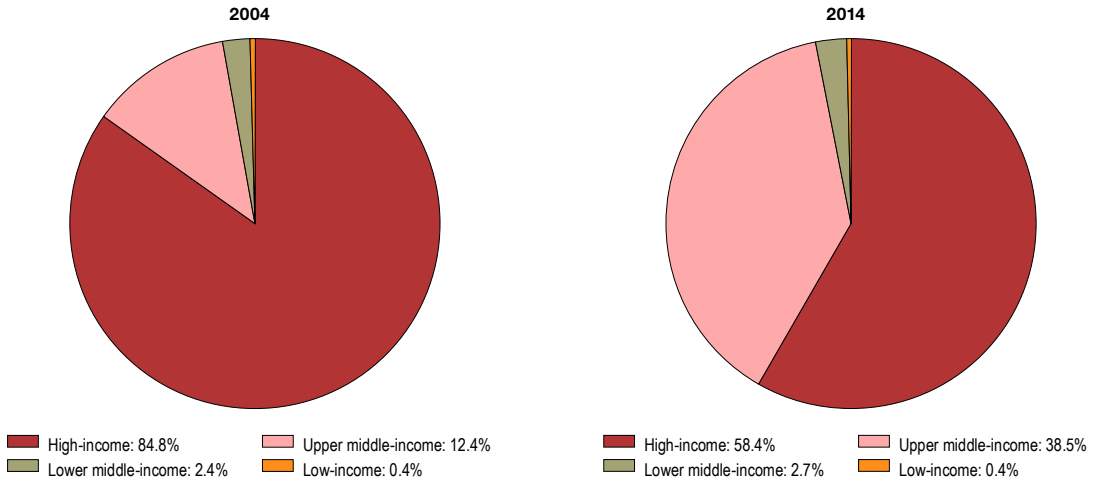
Trend in patent applications for the top five offices



Source: Standard figure A7.

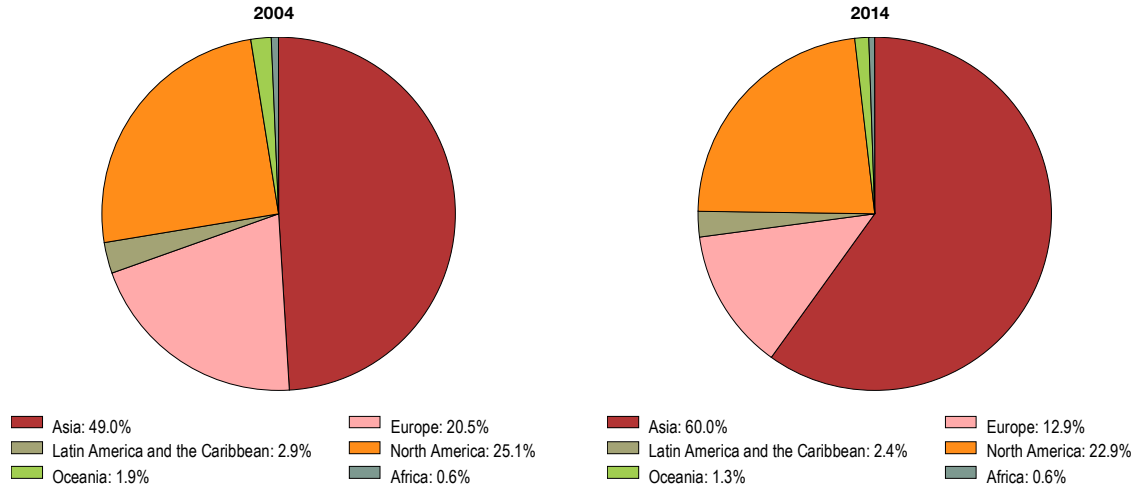
Note: The IP office of the Soviet Union, not represented in this figure, was the leading office in the world in terms of filings from 1964 to 1969. Like the JPO and the USPTO, the office of the Soviet Union saw stable application numbers until the early 1960s, after which it recorded rapid growth in applications filed.

Figure 3. Patent applications by income group



Source: Standard table A5.

Figure 4. Patent applications by region



Source: Standard table A6.

The US and Japan still account for most patents filed abroad

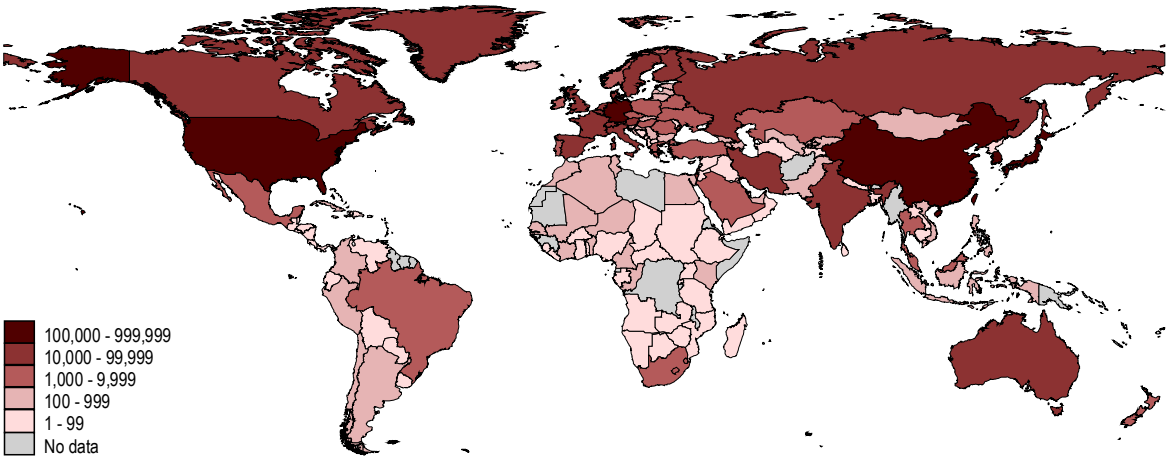
Applications received by offices from resident and non-resident applicants are referred to as office data, whereas applications filed by applicants at a national/regional office (resident applications) or at foreign offices (applications abroad) are referred to as origin data. Here, patent statistics based on the origin of the residence of the first-named applicant are reported to complement the picture of patent activity worldwide.

Applicants from China (837,817) filed the largest number of equivalent patent applications in 2014, followed by the US (509,521) and Japan (465,971) (map 1). China has been the largest origin of patent applications since 2012 when it overtook Japan. Furthermore, the gap between China and the other origins has increased considerably over the past three years.

Equivalent patent applications

Applications at regional IP offices are equivalent to multiple applications in the countries that are members of the organizations establishing these offices. In particular, to calculate the number of equivalent applications for the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), each application is multiplied by the corresponding number of member states. For European Patent Office (EPO) and African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) data, each application is counted as one application abroad if the applicant does not reside in a member state or as one resident and one application abroad if the applicant resides in a member state. The equivalent application concept is used for reporting data by origin.

Map 1. Equivalent patent applications by origin, 2014



Source: Standard map A16.

More than half the top 20 origins are located in Europe, and their combined total is higher than that of the US, which ranks second after China. All top 20 origins except China, India and the Islamic Republic of Iran are high-income countries. Among the top origins, the Islamic Republic of Iran recorded the fastest growth (+21.4%) in 2014, followed by China (+14.1%), the Netherlands (+12.3%) and Finland (+10.7%). Increases in applications abroad drove the growth for Finland and the Netherlands, while it was an increase in resident applications in the case of China and the Islamic Republic of Iran. A number of origins outside the top 20, such as Malaysia (+15.7%), Saudi Arabia (+31.9%) and Turkey (+12.1%), recorded double-digit growth in 2014 due to increases in both applications filed by residents and those filed abroad.

Filing abroad reflects the globalization of intellectual property (IP) protection and the desire to commercialize technology in foreign markets. The costs of filing abroad can be substantial, so the patents are likely to confer higher values. Among the top 20 origins, applications filed abroad made up a large share of Canada's, Israel's and Switzerland's totals. However, in absolute numbers, the US with around 224,400 had the most, followed by Japan (around 200,000) and Germany (around 105,600).

Applicants residing in China, while ranking first in terms of resident applications, filed only 36,700 applications abroad, which is similar to the level filed abroad by applicants residing in Switzerland. However, in recent years, China's applications filed abroad have increased markedly – from around 15,300 in 2010 to 36,700 in 2014. The abroad shares of middle-income countries such as Brazil, Turkey and Thailand are lower than the abroad shares of high-income countries.

Among other things, proximity and market size influence cross-border applications. US applicants accounted for 52% of all non-resident applications filed in Canada and 49% of non-resident filings in Mexico. German, Japanese or US applicants accounted for the highest non-resident shares at many offices. For example, German applicants had the highest share of non-resident filings in France, whereas Japanese applicants accounted for highest share in the Republic of Korea.

Chinese applicants accounted for 5% of all non-resident applications received by the patent office of South Africa, and 3.9% at the patent office of Malaysia. Compared to Japan and the US, China accounts for low shares at many offices, but these have increased in recent years. For example, the share of Chinese applicants at the USPTO increased from 3.2% in 2010 to 6.1% in 2014.

How large are patent families?

Inventors traditionally file at their national offices and then subsequently abroad, so some inventions are recorded more than once. To take this into account, WIPO has developed indicators for patent families, and the trend in patent families mirrors that of patent applications. Over the past seven years, the ratio of families to applications has remained more or less stable at around 0.5. This means that about half of all applications are initial filings and the other half are repetitive filings, mostly at foreign offices. France, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland have low family-to-application ratios at more than three-quarters for the period of 2010 to 2012, indicating substantial duplication due to high numbers of cross-border filings. China, Poland and the Russian Federation have high ratios, indicating less duplication due to low numbers of cross-border filings.

Patent families

Patent families are defined as patent applications interlinked by one or more of: priority claim, Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) national phase entry, continuation, continuation-in-part, internal priority and addition or division. A special subset comprises foreign-oriented patent families, which include only patent families that have at least one filing office different from the office of the applicant's country of origin. Some foreign-related patent families include only one filing office because applicants may choose to file only with a foreign office. For example, if a Canadian applicant files a patent application directly with the USPTO (without having previously filed with the patent office of Canada), that patent family constitutes a foreign-oriented patent family with just one office.

The size of patent families reflects their geographical coverage. Between 2010 and 2012, around 22% of foreign-oriented patent families were single-office families – they were filed in only one foreign office, but not in the applicant's respective domestic office. Around 87% of the families created worldwide between 2010 and 2012 were filed in fewer than three patent offices. However, there is considerable variation among the top origins. For example, applicants from France, Japan and the UK tend to cover three offices when filing abroad, whereas those from Canada cover two on average.

The Republic of Korea filed the highest number of patents per unit of GDP

Differences in patent activity reflect both the size of the economy and the level of development, so it is interesting to express the number of resident patent applications relative to GDP, population, R&D spending or other variables. These are commonly referred to as "patent activity intensity" indicators.

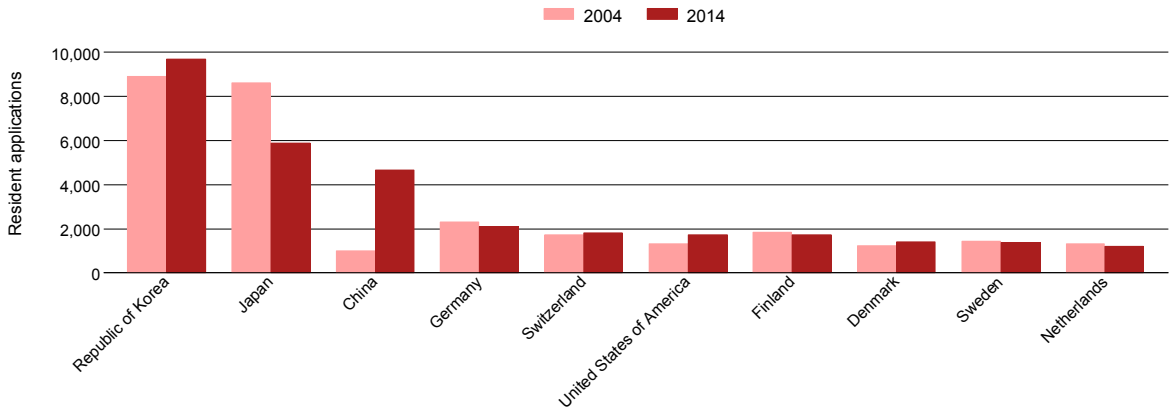
For the world, resident applications per 100 billion United States dollars (USD) of GDP rose from around 1,474 in 2004 to 1,821 in 2014. This estimate is based on data covering 113 offices. The Republic of Korea has had the highest number of patent applications per unit of GDP since 2004. Its ratio of resident applications to GDP is more than twice that of China and six times that of the US. China ranks third when its resident patent applications are adjusted by GDP, after the Republic of Korea and Japan (figure 5). Reflecting strong growth in resident applications, China's resident applications per unit of GDP increased from 990 in 2004 to 4,657 in 2014 – the fastest growth among the leading origins.

The top five ranking has remained unchanged since 2010 when China overtook Germany. The list of the top 20 origins is predominantly comprised of high-income countries. However, three middle-income countries – China, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ukraine – also feature. Large middle-income countries such as Brazil, India, Mexico, Turkey and South Africa exhibit low numbers of resident applications per unit of GDP. Brazil, with 150 resident applications per unit of GDP, is the highest-ranking origin in the Latin America & the Caribbean region, and Morocco ranks the highest in Africa. Patent activity is much more intensive in North-East Asia than in other parts of the world.

The profile of resident applications per million population is similar to that adjusted by GDP but shows some subtle differences. The top two origins – the Republic of Korea and Japan – are the same in both measures. But China's resident applications-to-population ratio ranks much lower, in ninth position, just after Denmark, whose population is less than 0.5% of China's.

Nordic countries rank high when resident patent applications are adjusted by population or GDP.

Figure 5. Resident patent applications per 100 billion USD GDP for the top 10 origins



Source: Standard figure A29.

The ICT sector accounts for the largest share of patent applications worldwide

In 2013, the latest year for which complete data are available due to the delay between application and publication, computer technology saw the most published applications worldwide, followed by electrical machinery, measurement, digital communication and medical technology. Each of these technological fields except medical technology had more than 100,000 published applications in 2013. The combined share of the top five went from 18.8% in 1995 to 28.9% in 2013. Among the top 20 technological fields, digital communication and computer technology saw the fastest annual growth between 1995 and 2013. Digital communication rose from around 8,600 published applications in 1995 to around 100,400 in 2013, while computer technology rose from 35,800 to 168,700 over the same period.

Of the top 10 origins in the period 2011-13, Switzerland filed mainly in pharmaceuticals; the Russian Federation in food chemistry; France and Germany in transport; China, Japan and the Republic of Korea in electrical machinery; the Netherlands in medical technology; and the UK and the US in computer technology. The combined share of the top three technologies ranged from 20% for the UK to 27% for Switzerland.

Among the large middle-income countries, applicants residing in India filed mainly in computer technology, organic fine chemistry and pharmaceuticals, while those in Brazil filed primarily in basic materials chemistry and residents of Turkey filed mostly in consumer goods.

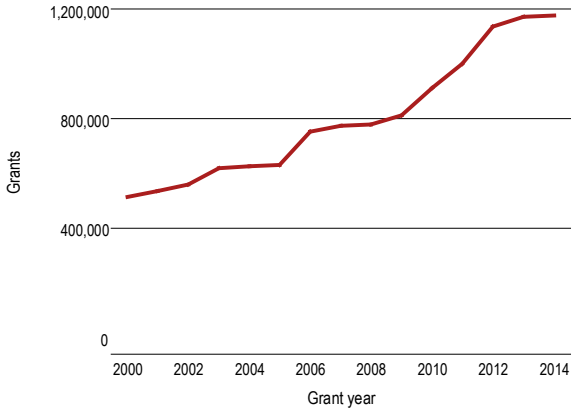
Patent applications in technologies related to fuel cells, geothermal, solar and wind grew continually between 2007 and 2012, but declined by 5% in 2013.

Latest trends in patent grants

Offices carry out a formal or substantive examination to decide whether or not to issue a patent. The procedure for issuing a patent varies across offices, and differences in the numbers of patent grants among offices depend on factors such as examination capacity and procedural delays. For this reason, applications data for a given year should not be compared with grants data from the same year.

Grants have followed a path similar to that of patent applications, growing continually since 2001 and increasing sharply from 2009 to 2012, followed by a slowdown in 2013 and 2014. In 2014, an estimated 1.18 million patents were granted worldwide, up 0.3% on 2013 (figure 6). The 0.3% growth in 2014 is the slowest since 2000. This was due mainly to a decline at the JPO, which granted 50,000 fewer patents in 2014 than in 2013.

Figure 6. Patent grants worldwide



Source: Standard figure A3.

Who grants the most patents?

The USPTO issued the most patents in 2014, around 300,700. SIPO granted more than 233,200 and overtook the JPO (227,100) as the second-largest patent issuing office. Grants grew by 12.3% at SIPO, contrasting with an 18% decline at the JPO. The top five offices increased their combined share of the world total from 74% in 2009 to 81% in 2014 thanks to substantial growth in the number of patents issued by KIPO, SIPO and the USPTO over this period.

Among the top 20 offices, India had the fastest growth (+82%) in 2014, with the number of grants increasing from 3,377 in 2013 to 6,153 in 2014. This reflected a substantial increase in the number of non-resident grants. Australia (+12.8%) and China (+12.3%) were the two other top 20 offices to exhibit double-digit growth in 2014. For China, growth in resident grants drove overall growth, while for Australia it was non-resident grants. Beyond the top 20 list, the Islamic Republic of Iran issued around 3,000 patents in 2014, while Brazil, Malaysia and the Philippines issued more than 2,000 each.

How are patents maintained over time?

Patent rights generally last up to 20 years from the date of filing. The estimated number of patents in force worldwide rose from 7.2 million in 2008 to 10.2 million in 2014 (annual growth of 6.1%). The USPTO recorded the most, with 2.53 million patents (24.7% of the world total), followed by the JPO with 1.92 million (18.8%). Patents in force at SIPO more than doubled, from 0.56 million in 2010 to 1.2 million in 2014. The top 20 list includes 16 offices from high-income countries and 4 from upper middle-income countries, namely China, Mexico, South Africa and Turkey. India – ranked 23rd – had close to 50,000 patents in force in its jurisdiction.

Holders must pay maintenance fees to maintain the validity of their patents and may opt to let a patent lapse before the end of its full term. For 71 offices that reported their in-force data, around 42% to 44% of the patents they issued remained in force for at least 6–12 years after the application date, and about one-sixth lasted the full 20 years.

Patent office workloads

Patent offices must assess whether the claims in applications meet the standards of novelty, non-obviousness and industrial applicability defined in national laws. Processing patents therefore consumes time and resources.

The number of applications that were potentially pending fell from 6.1 million in 2008 to 4.9 million in 2014. But this figure would be higher if data from SIPO were available. The decline in pending applications worldwide was driven mainly by Japan, which saw potentially pending applications decline from 2.4 million in 2008 to less than a million in 2014.

The USPTO had the most applications potentially pending in 2014, with 1.17 million, slightly fewer than the previous year's 1.2 million. Despite its substantial decline, the JPO still had more than 888,000 in 2014. The EPO and KIPO are the two other offices at which more than half a million applications were potentially pending in 2014. Among the top four offices, the EPO and KIPO had more potentially pending applications in 2014 than in 2013, while the JPO and the USPTO had fewer. Among the middle-income countries, India had the largest number of potentially pending applications, which doubled from around 100,000 in 2010 to 202,000 in 2014. Brazil, Mexico, Thailand and Viet Nam also showed substantial numbers of potentially pending applications in 2014.

A high proportion of potentially pending applications in India, Israel, Japan and Viet Nam did not enter the examination phase in 2014. This contrasts with Australia, Germany, the EPO and the Russian Federation, where the bulk of potentially pending applications were currently being examined. This may reflect a difference across offices in the time limit that applicants have for filing requests for examination.

Potentially pending applications

Potentially pending applications include all patent applications, at any stage in the process, that are awaiting a final decision by a patent office, including those applications for which applicants have not filed a request for examination (where applicable).

International cooperation

The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) offers applicants an advantageous route for seeking patent protection internationally as an alternative to using the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property to pursue patent rights in different countries. For further information and statistics, see the *PCT Yearly Review, 2015*.

Together, China and the US accounted for 87% of the total annual growth in PCT filings, which saw some 215,000 applications in total in 2014, a 4.4% increase on the previous year. The US was the primary country of origin for PCT filers in 2014, with 61,476 applications and 7% growth. Japan followed with 42,380 applications, 3.2% down on 2013. Applicants from China filed 25,548 applications – an 18.7% annual increase. India, with 1,428 applications, is the second-largest user of the PCT system among the BRIC countries. China and India are the only two middle-income countries among the top 20 PCT users.

Patent offices are entering more bilateral agreements that enable applicants to request a fast-track examination where examiners can use the work of the other office – so-called patent prosecution highways (PPH). The JPO had 42% of applications for which applicants subsequently filed PPH requests – with SIPO (2,103) and the USPTO (2,894) between them accounting for half the total (9,790). The USPTO had 29% of applications for which applicants subsequently filed PPH requests, with Canada (1,425) receiving the largest number of those requests, followed by China (1,151). The use of the patent prosecution highway is skewed towards the JPO and the USPTO for office of earlier examination, and the JPO, SIPO and the USPTO for office of later examination.

For the first time since 1998, utility model applications worldwide fell by 3% in 2014

A utility model protects an invention for a limited period, with different terms and conditions from those for patents. The growth in utility model applications has been strong since 2008, mainly due to filings at SIPO. However, for the first time since 1998, applications worldwide fell by 3% in 2014. This was due to fewer applications being received by the top six offices. An estimated 948,900 applications were filed worldwide in 2014, of which 868,511 were received by SIPO. Germany and the Russian Federation each received around 14,000, while this number was around 9,000 in both the Republic of Korea and Ukraine. Among the top 10 offices, applications received by Brazil, Germany, Japan and the Republic of Korea have declined over the past 10 years, while they have increased in the Russian Federation and Turkey.

Resident applications made up 98% of all applications filed worldwide in 2014, showing that utility model applications are rarely filed abroad.

Compared to patents, the Czech Republic, China Hong Kong (SAR), the Philippines, Slovakia and Ukraine are intense users of utility models.

Standard figures and tables

Patent applications and grants worldwide

Patent applications and grants by office

Patent applications and grants by origin

Patent families

Published patent applications by field of technology

Patent applications in relation to GDP and population

Patents in force

Pending patent applications and pendency time

Patent applications filed through the Patent Cooperation Treaty System (PCT)

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)

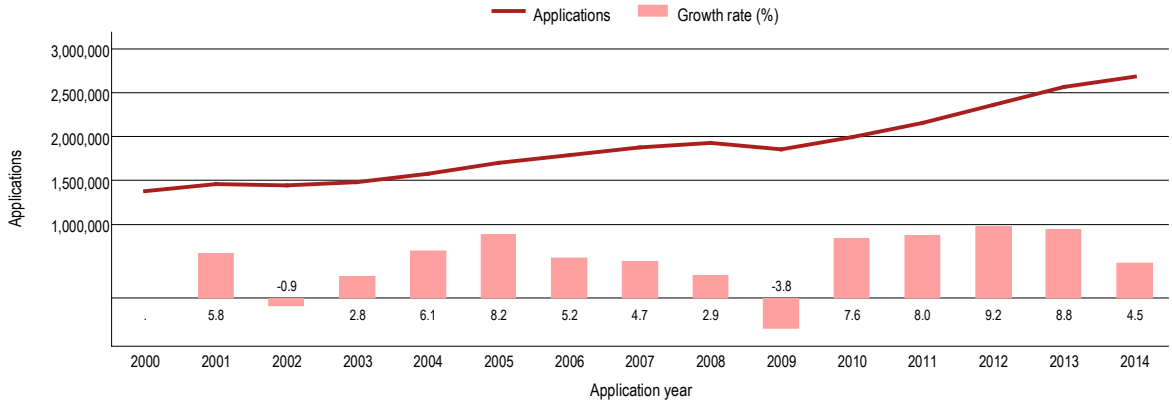
Utility model applications

Microorganisms

Statistical tables

Patent applications and grants worldwide

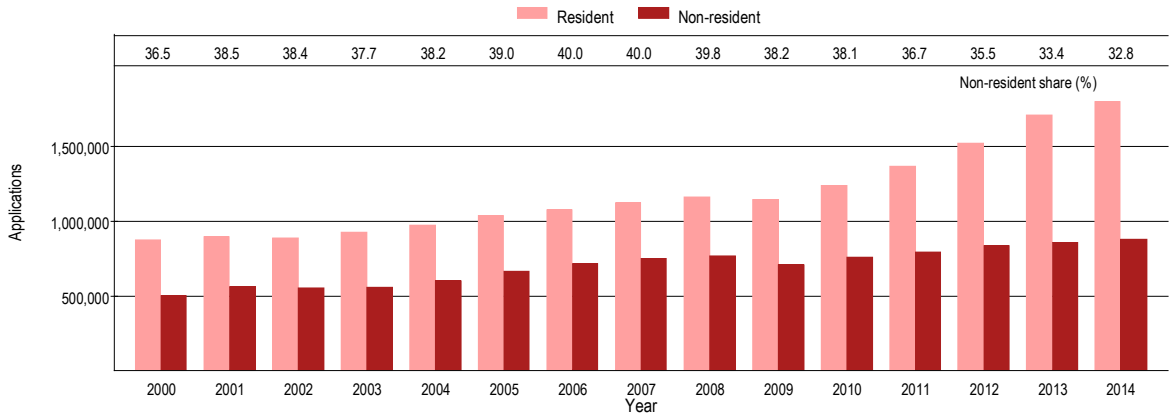
A1 Trend in patent applications worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 147 patent offices and include direct applications and Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entry data (where applicable).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

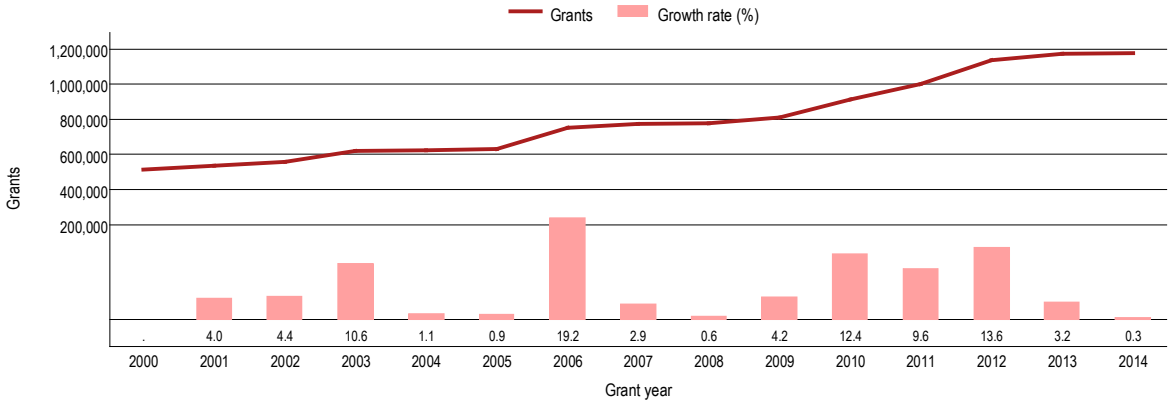
A2 Resident and non-resident patent applications worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 147 patent offices and include direct applications and Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entry data (where applicable). See the glossary for definitions of resident and non-resident applications.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

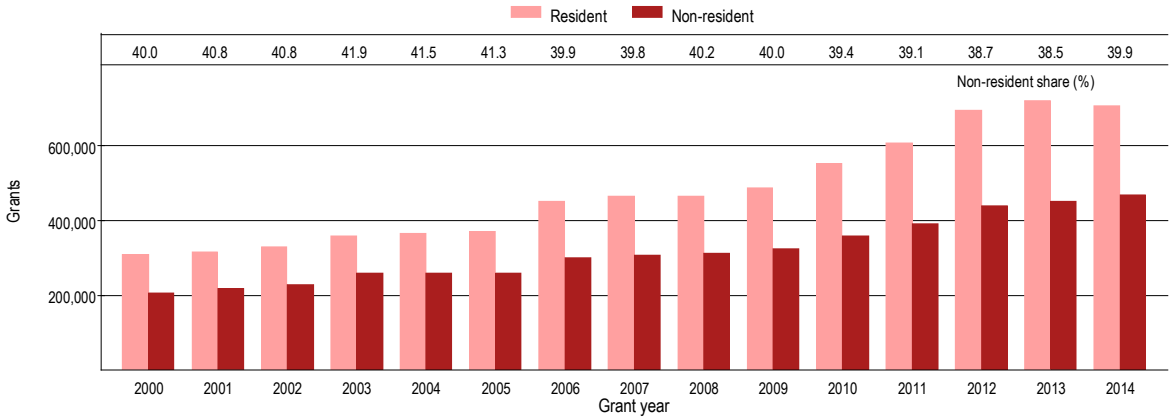
A3 Trend in patent grants worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 130 patent offices and include patent grants based on direct applications and on Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entry data (where applicable).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A4 Resident and non-resident patent grants worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 130 patent offices and include patent grants based on direct applications and on Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entry data. See the glossary for definitions of resident and non-resident.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Patent applications and grants by office

A5 Patent applications by income group

	Number of applications		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
High-income	1,335,200	1,564,800	65.5	59.9	84.8	58.4	1.6
Upper middle-income	194,900	1,033,100	41.9	80.9	12.4	38.5	18.1
Lower middle-income	37,500	72,900	28.8	25.9	2.4	2.7	6.9
Low-income	6,700	10,100	89.6	84.2	0.4	0.4	4.2
World	**1,574,300**	**2,680,900**	**61.8**	**67.2**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**5.5**

Note: WIPO estimates cover 147 offices and include the following number of offices: high-income countries/economies (57), upper middle-income (40), lower middle-income (36) and low-income (14). European Patent Office data are allocated to the high-income group because most of its member states are high-income countries. For the same reason, data for the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization and the African Intellectual Property Organization are allocated to the low-income group, while those for the Eurasian Patent Organization are allocated to the lower middle-income group. For information on income group classification, see the Data description section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

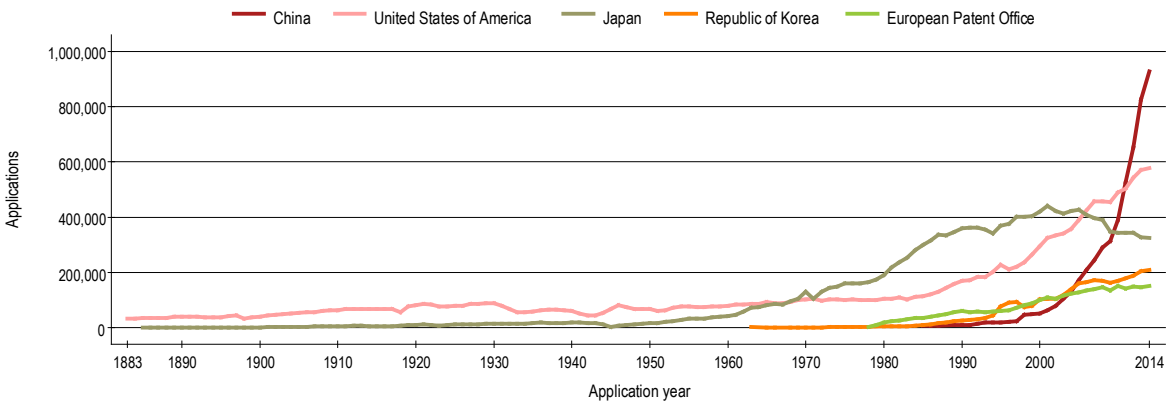
A6 Patent applications by region

	Number of applications		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
Africa	10,100	14,900	16.8	16.8	0.6	0.6	4.0
Asia	772,100	1,607,500	72.6	79.8	49.0	60.0	7.6
Europe	322,600	346,200	63.6	62.2	20.5	12.9	0.7
Latin America & the Caribbean	45,000	64,100	13.8	11.5	2.9	2.4	3.6
North America	395,100	614,300	49.3	47.1	25.1	22.9	4.5
Oceania	29,400	33,900	14.3	10.9	1.9	1.3	1.4
World Total	**1,574,300**	**2,680,900**	**61.8**	**67.2**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**5.5**

Note: WIPO estimates cover 147 offices and include the following number of offices: Africa (25), Asia (41), Europe (44), Latin America & the Caribbean (30), North America (2) and Oceania (5).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

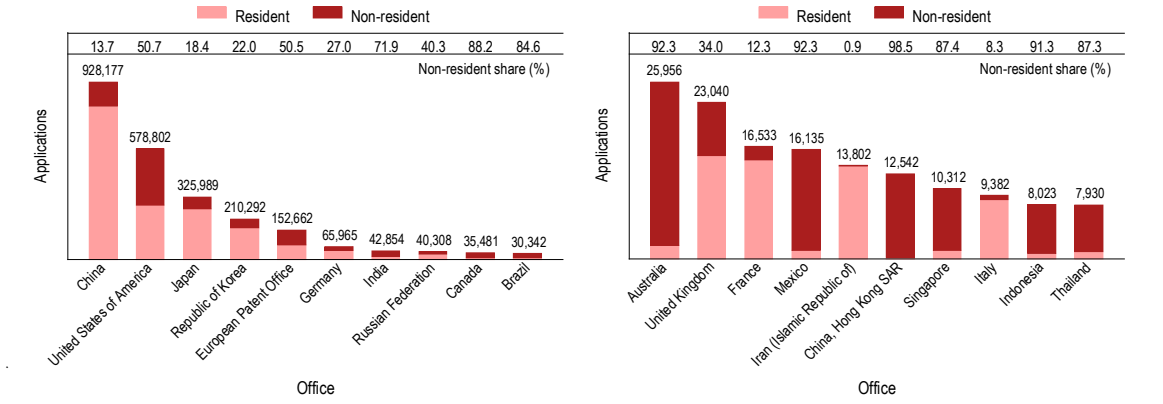
A7 Trend in patent applications for the top five offices



Note: The top five offices were selected based on their 2014 totals.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

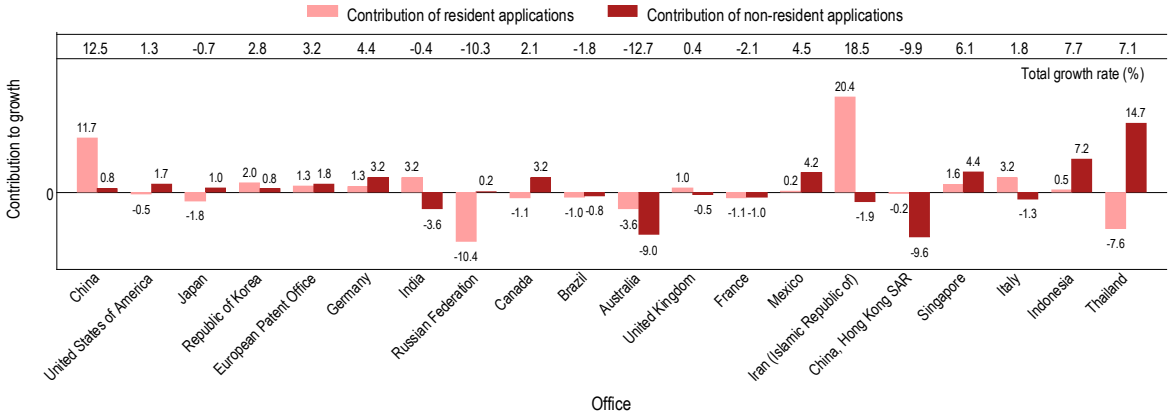
A8 Patent applications for the top 20 offices, 2014



Note: In general, national offices of European Patent Office member states receive lower volumes of applications because applicants may apply via the EPO to seek protection within any EPO member state.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

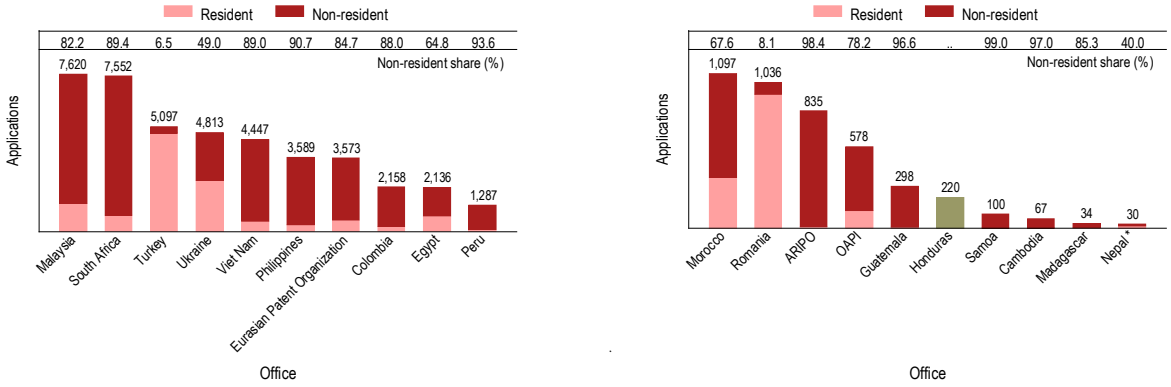
A9 Contribution of resident and non-resident applications to total growth for the top 20 offices, 2013-14



Note: The figure shows total growth or decreases in applications broken down by the respective contributions of resident and non-resident applications. For example, applications filed in China grew 12.5%. Growth in resident applications accounted for 11.7 percentage points of this increase.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A10 Patent applications for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2014

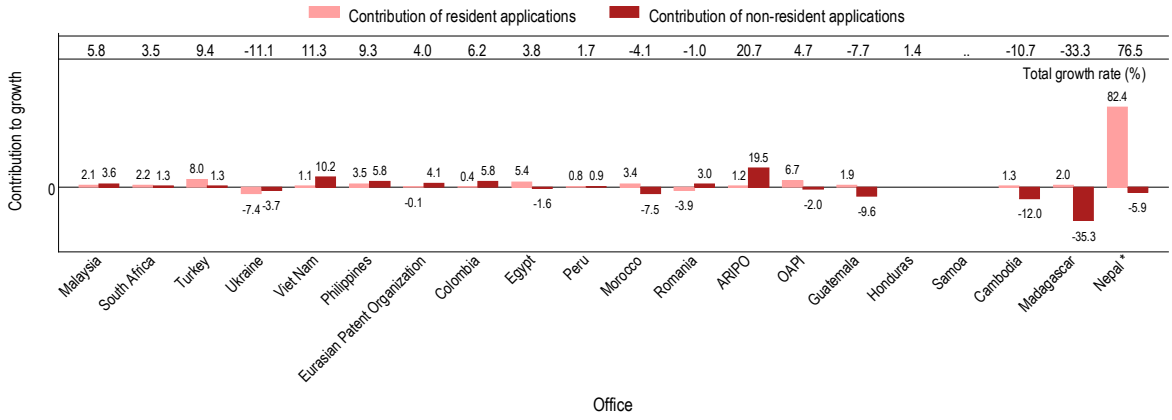


. indicates not available.
* indicates 2013 data.

Note: ARIPO is the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization, and OAPI is the African Intellectual Property Organization. The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all offices are in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A11 Contribution of resident and non-resident applications to total growth for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2013-14



.. indicates not available.
* indicates 2013 data.

Note: ARIPO is the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization, and OAPI is the African Intellectual Property Organization. The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Data for all available offices are in the statistical table at the end of this section. The figure shows total growth or decreases in applications broken down by the respective contributions of resident and non-resident applications. For example, applications filed in Malaysia grew 5.8%. Growth in non-resident applications accounted for 3.6 percentage points of this increase.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A12 Patent grants by income group

	Number of grants		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
High-income	531,200	878,300	61.9	59.7	85.0	74.6	5.2
Upper middle-income	74,200	273,900	33.4	63.2	11.9	23.3	14.0
Lower middle-income	15,600	16,900	51.9	19.5	2.5	1.4	0.8
Low-income	4,100	7,500	85.4	89.3	0.7	0.6	6.2
World	**625,100**	**1,176,600**	**58.5**	**60.1**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**6.5**

Note: WIPO estimates cover 130 offices and include the following number of offices: high-income countries/economies (53), upper middle-income (37), lower middle-income (28) and low-income (12). European Patent Office data are allocated to the high-income group because most of its member states are high-income countries. For the same reason, data for the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization and the African Intellectual Property Organization are allocated to the low-income group, while those for the Eurasian Patent Organization are allocated to the lower middle-income group. For information on income group classification, see the Data description section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

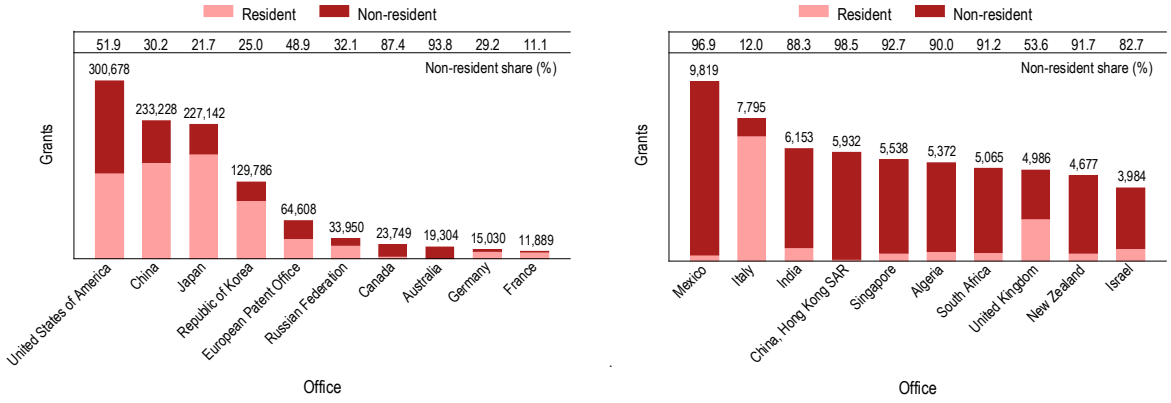
A13 Patent grants by region

	Number of grants		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
Africa	4,600	14,000	30.4	10.7	0.7	1.2	11.8
Asia	252,500	634,600	69.5	71.3	40.4	53.9	9.7
Europe	159,700	161,700	63.0	63.6	25.5	13.7	0.1
Latin America & the Caribbean	12,600	17,800	5.6	7.3	2.0	1.5	3.5
North America	177,400	324,400	48.3	45.5	28.4	27.6	6.2
Oceania	18,300	24,100	8.7	6.6	2.9	2.0	2.8
World	**625,100**	**1,176,600**	**58.5**	**60.1**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**6.5**

Note: WIPO estimates cover 130 offices and include the following number of offices: Africa (21), Asia (37), Europe (43), Latin America & the Caribbean (23), North America (2) and Oceania (4).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

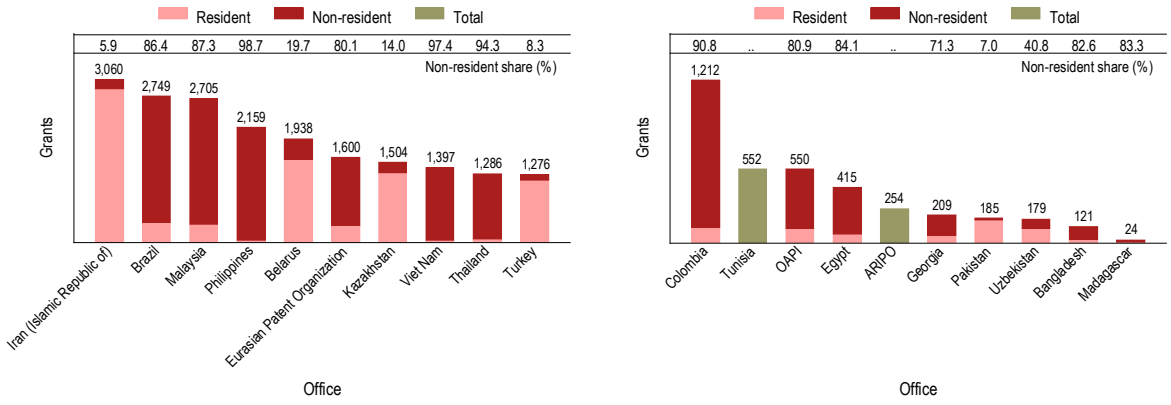
A14 Patent grants for the top 20 offices, 2014



Note: Offices undertake formal and/or substantive examination of applications received to decide whether or not to issue patent rights. The procedure for issuing patents varies across offices, and differences in the numbers of patents granted among offices depend on such factors as examination capacity and procedural delays. The examination process can also be lengthy, so there is a time lag between application and grant dates. For this reason, data on applications for a given year should not be compared with data on grants for the same year.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A15 Patent grants for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2014



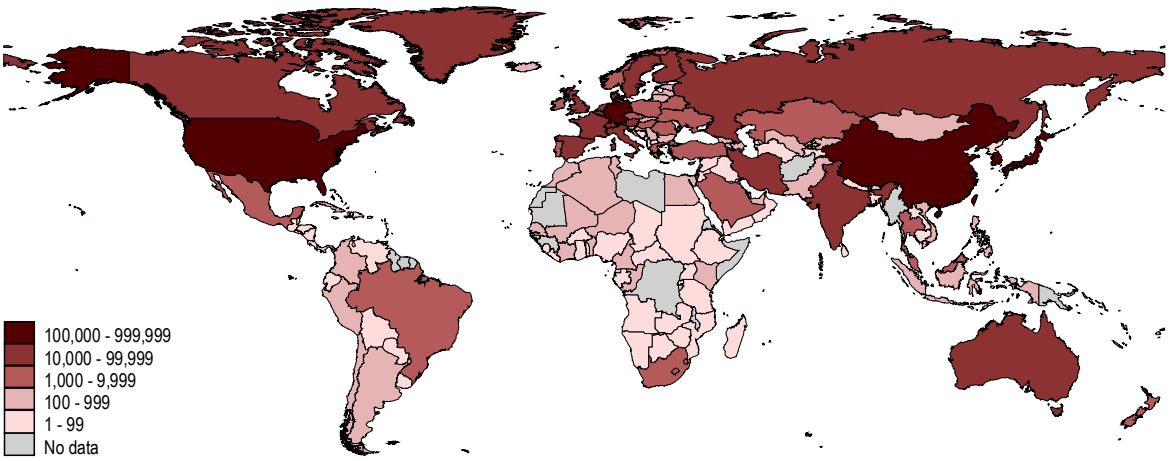
.. indicates not available.

Note: ARIPO is the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization, and OAPI is the African Intellectual Property Organization. The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all offices are in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Patent applications and grants by origin

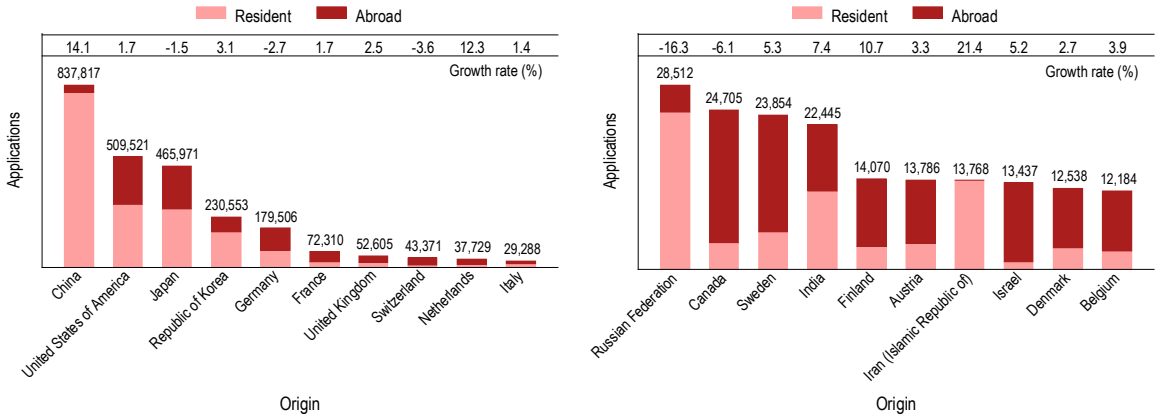
A16 Equivalent patent applications by origin, 2014



Note: Patent activity by origin includes resident applications and applications filed abroad. The origin of a patent application is determined by the residence of the first-named applicant. Applications filed at regional offices are considered equivalent to multiple applications in the relevant member states. See the glossary for the definition of equivalent application.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A17 Equivalent patent applications for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Patent activity by origin includes resident applications and applications filed abroad. The origin of a patent application is determined by the residence of the first-named applicant. See the glossary for the definition of equivalent application.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

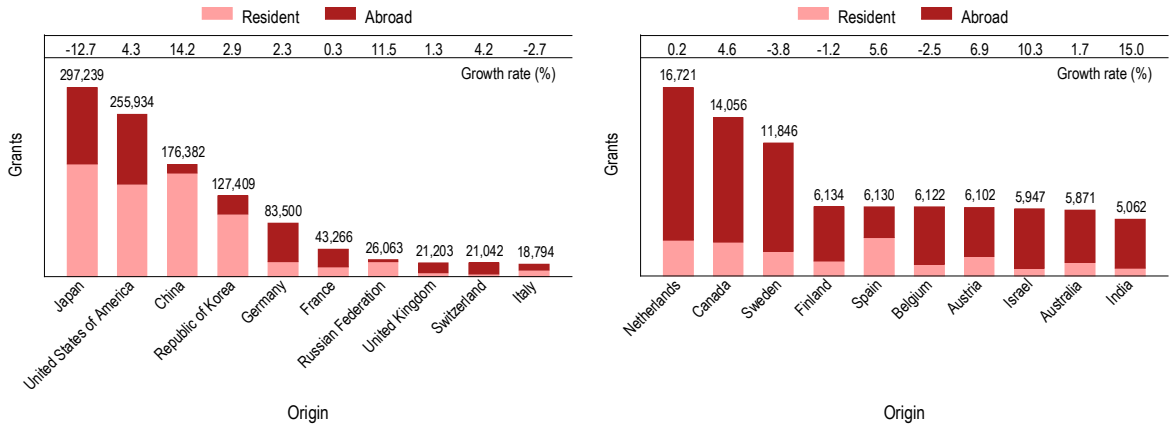
A18 Patent applications for the top 25 offices and origins, 2014

Origin	Office																								
	Australia	Brazil	Canada	China	China, Hong Kong SAR	European Patent Office	France	Germany	India	Indonesia	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Israel	Italy	Japan	Malaysia	Mexico	New Zealand	Republic of Korea	Russian Federation	Singapore	South Africa	Thailand	Turkey	United Kingdom	United States of America
Australia	1,988	210	441	664	156	792	10	29	276	98		55	5	452	97	138	813	210	87		215	3	5	101	3,516
Austria	196	261	207	944	63	1,966	22	1,044	244	41		8	4	419	61	107	42	317	207	169	108	1	3	41	2,402
Belgium	270	312	302	657	98	1,922	102	52	288	53		3	5	458	39	126	72	233	190	60	88			199	2,513
Brazil	48	4,659	74	137	4	208	4	13	55	8		5	2	88	8	88	8	58	22	28	29		2	6	810
Canada	510	290	4,198	1,009	219	1,730	23	63	354	64		69	4	635	49	230	120	404	160	94	124		4	228	12,963
China	593	559	604	801,135	1,052	4,657	170	524	880	248		54	8	2,531	244	264	103	1,572	598	327	336	37	35	293	18,040
Denmark	253	263	323	847	92	1,982	5	20	374	85		17	1	416	65	177	71	170	171	39	93			80	2,216
Finland	193	225	323	1,165	100	2,196	13	72	295	83		16		385	40	90	36	331	212	86	103		4	166	3,102
France	839	1,810	1,743	4,575	325	10,616	14,500	238	1,492	275		93	28	3,452	243	600	154	2,210	1,140	353	390	8	10	177	11,947
Germany	1,457	2,780	2,362	13,597	898	25,672	528	48,154	3,174	474		52	187	6,615	375	1,347	317	4,232	2,120	543	715	12	28	516	30,193
India	207	122	159	267	37	543	2	32	12,040	67		18	1	228	57	84	82	127	59	102	156	10	8	36	7,127
Iran (Islamic Republic of)						3	1	1	2	2	13,683				1									4	63
Israel	328	222	380	656	103	1,047	4	26	305	16		1,125	1	528	8	110	64	266	150	103	82		4	98	7,352
Italy	326	703	552	1,361	199	3,642	55	107	619	110		17	8,601	757	65	268	66	424	490	84	154	2	8	36	4,764
Japan	1,682	2,229	1,847	40,460	1,382	22,111	167	5,338	5,338	2,382		207	166	265,959	1,481	943	227	15,653	1,646	1,424	235	648	44	491	86,691
Netherlands	630	1,412	581	2,924	146	6,856	37	127	1,286	369		32	9	2,239	188	573	123	750	1,064	171	210	1		201	4,927
Republic of Korea	595	430	352	11,528	125	6,162	39	1,384	860	236		40	6	5,682	160	240	37	164,073	472	146	104	25	23	101	36,744
Russian Federation	29	34	52	130	16	208	4	33	81	11		25	2	71	6	14	8	41	24,072	9	7	3	6	10	1,007
Spain	123	265	214	340	76	1,463	80	28	181	39		24	11	242	35	218	46	136	129	47	112	1	6	41	1,640
Sweden	461	617	480	2,020	130	3,868	64	326	913	115		51	46	1,038	93	198	103	681	503	83	123	2	3	159	4,928
Switzerland	1,083	1,408	1,380	3,338	907	6,854	248	814	1,549	411		14	85	2,454	423	1,003	374	1,322		550	219	1	2	313	4,906
Thailand	12	5	5	22	4	19	2	2	18	17		1	1	51	15	3	1	12	3	6	1	6,973		13	155
Turkey	12	17	10	84	2	404	5	10	19	5		3	1	47	3	7	2	24	20	2	4		4,766	5	306
United Kingdom	1,153	808	1,172	2,050	404	4,726	42	234	1,094	200		133	15	1,731	298	321	289	920	451	356	395	4	4	15,196	13,157
United States of America	11,551	9,617	16,361	33,963	4,930	36,686	232	6,056	9,824	1,475		2,458	46	25,998	1,823	7,270	2,600	13,982	4,383	3,645	2,330	110	95	2,778	285,096
Others/Unknown	1,417	1,084	1,359	4,304	1,074	6,329	174	1,238	1,293	1,139	119	1,753	147	3,513	1,743	1,716	1,970	2,144	1,959	1,885	1,219	89	37	1,751	32,237
Total	**25,956**	**30,342**	**35,481**	**928,177**	**12,542**	**152,662**	**16,533**	**65,965**	**42,854**	**8,023**	**13,802**	**6,273**	**9,382**	**325,989**	**7,620**	**16,135**	**7,728**	**210,292**	**40,308**	**10,312**	**7,552**	**7,930**	**5,097**	**23,040**	**578,802**

Note: Origin data are based on absolute counts, not equivalent counts.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A19 Equivalent patent grants for the top 20 origins, 2014

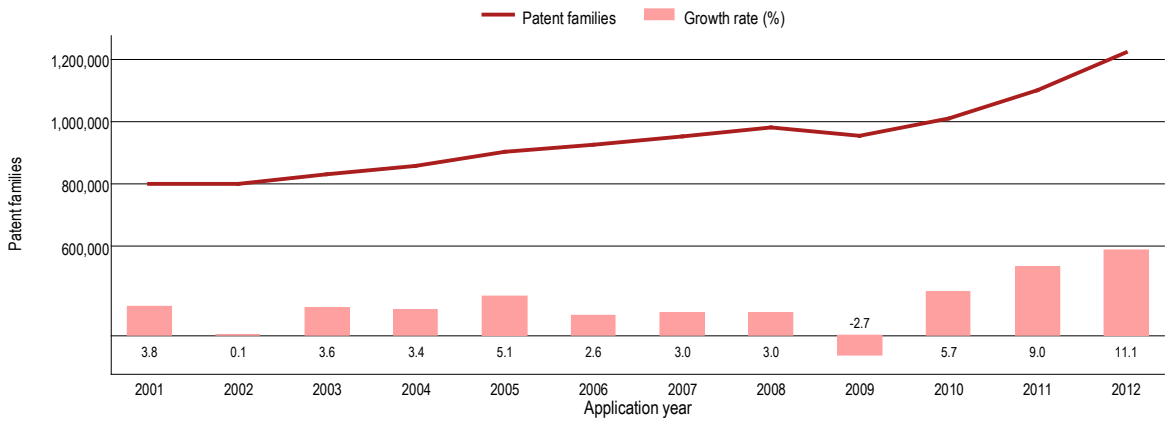


Note: See the glossary for the definition of equivalent grants.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Patent families

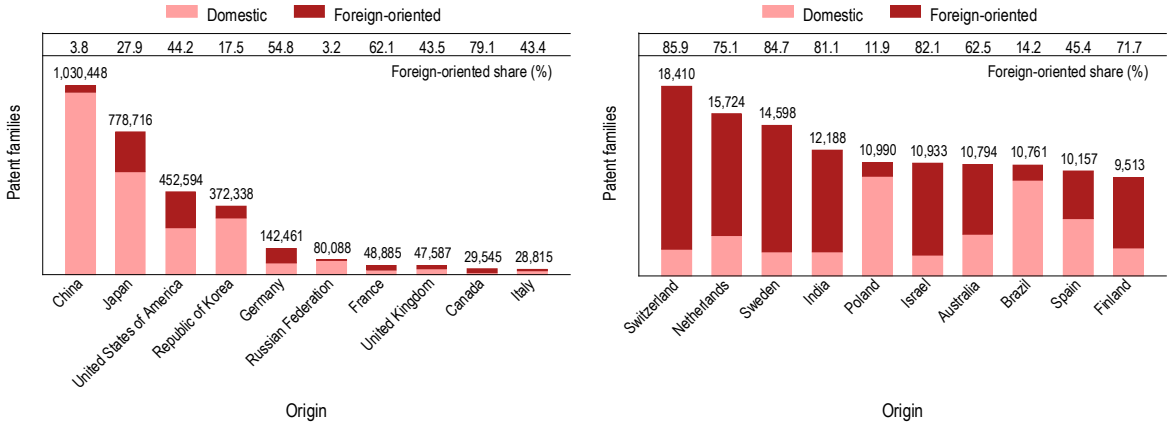
A20 Trend in patent families worldwide



Note: Applicants often file patent applications in multiple jurisdictions, so some inventions are recorded more than once. To take this into account, WIPO has indicators related to patent families, defined as patent applications interlinked by one or more of: priority claim, Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entry, continuation, continuation-in-part, internal priority and addition or division. Patent families include only those associated with patent applications for inventions and exclude patent families associated with utility model applications. A special subset comprises foreign-oriented patent families: this includes only patent families that have at least one filing office different from the office of the applicant's country of origin. Some foreign-related patent families include only one filing office, because applicants may choose to file directly with a foreign office. For example, if a Canadian applicant files a patent application directly with the USPTO (without previously filing with the patent office of Canada), that application and applications filed subsequently with the USPTO form a foreign-oriented patent family.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

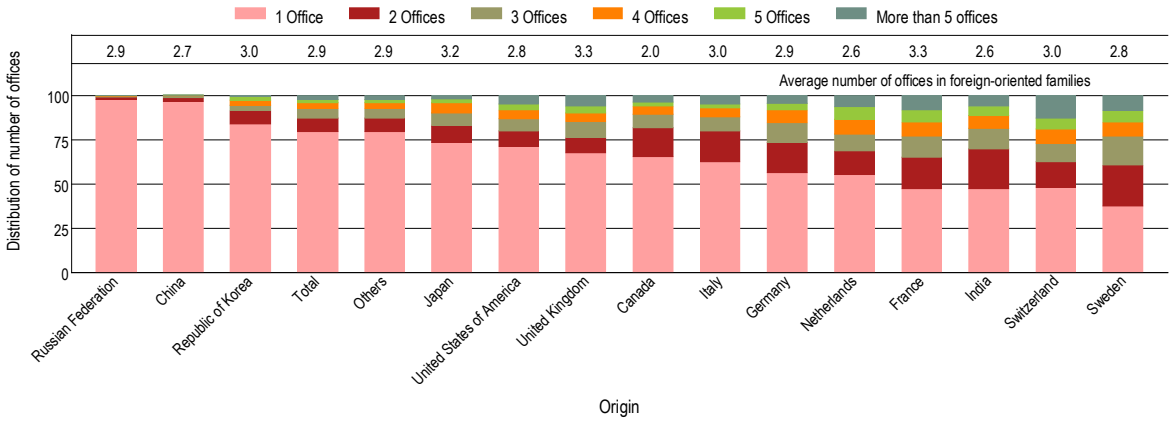
A21 Domestic and foreign-oriented patent families for the top origins, 2010-12



Note: A patent family is defined as patent applications interlinked by one or more of: priority claim, Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entry, continuation, continuation-in-part, internal priority and addition or division. A foreign-oriented patent family is defined as a patent family having at least one filing office that is different from the office of the first-named applicant's country of origin. Patent families include only those associated with patent applications for inventions and exclude patent families associated with utility model applications.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

A22 Patent families by number of offices, 2010-12



Note: The patent family dataset includes only published patent applications. A patent family is defined as patent applications interlinked by one or more of: priority claim, Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entry, continuation, continuation-in-part, internal priority and addition or division. This figure shows the distribution of total patent families by the number of offices at which they exist. For example, 97% of families originating from the Russian Federation are single-office families, whereas only 36% of families originating from Sweden are single-office families.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Published patent applications by field of technology

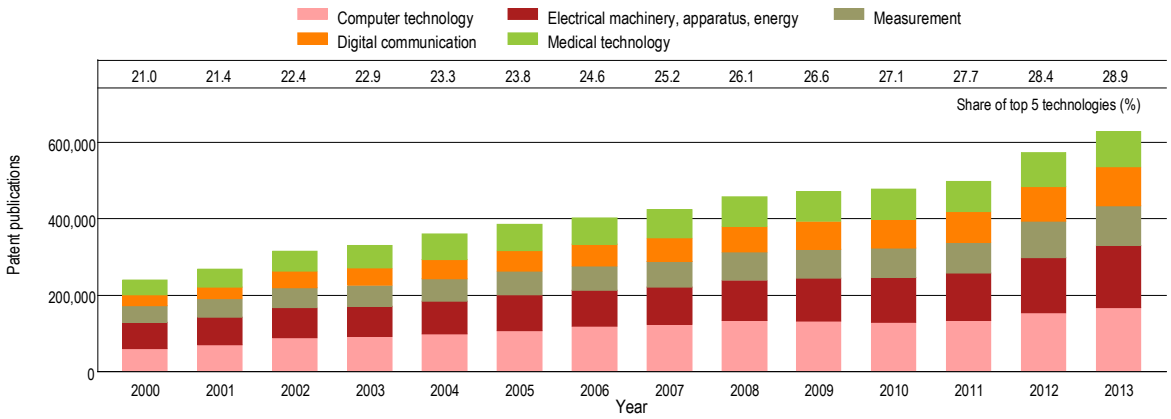
A23 Patent applications worldwide by field of technology

Field of technology	Publication year					Share (%):	Average growth (%):
	1995	2000	2005	2010	2013	2013	1995-2013
Electrical engineering							
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	45,911	68,587	91,818	116,569	161,633	7.4	7.2
Audio-visual technology	38,639	60,090	89,608	79,392	78,001	3.6	4.0
Telecommunications	24,323	45,791	62,057	56,359	50,497	2.3	4.1
Digital communication	8,575	27,097	53,465	76,031	100,412	4.6	14.6
Basic communication processes	10,451	14,150	18,020	16,612	16,420	0.8	2.5
Computer technology	35,772	60,418	107,864	129,762	168,722	7.8	9.0
IT methods for management	1,615	6,101	18,114	23,179	33,659	1.5	18.4
Semiconductors	25,493	50,143	70,401	77,064	88,344	4.1	7.1
Instruments							
Optics	37,278	48,317	70,783	64,176	66,239	3.0	3.2
Measurement	35,560	43,442	62,183	77,516	103,820	4.8	6.1
Analysis of biological materials	4,320	7,413	12,529	11,467	12,737	0.6	6.2
Control	13,405	19,489	26,900	29,023	37,013	1.7	5.8
Medical technology	27,560	41,100	69,907	78,441	93,357	4.3	7.0
Chemistry							
Organic fine chemistry	28,958	38,505	56,634	54,278	55,425	2.6	3.7
Biotechnology	13,351	24,472	38,539	39,226	45,485	2.1	7.0
Pharmaceuticals	21,920	38,470	73,282	71,258	78,473	3.6	7.3
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	20,129	23,805	27,610	28,545	37,478	1.7	3.5
Food chemistry	10,425	14,303	23,054	28,217	42,002	1.9	8.0
Basic materials chemistry	25,195	30,928	38,703	44,566	60,475	2.8	5.0
Materials, metallurgy	22,693	24,015	29,329	37,577	52,126	2.4	4.7
Surface technology, coating	15,475	19,532	27,870	33,122	39,426	1.8	5.3
Micro-structural and nano-technology	275	490	2,129	3,284	4,059	0.2	16.1
Chemical engineering	24,525	27,358	33,619	37,229	48,336	2.2	3.8
Environmental technology	13,794	17,268	21,016	25,865	33,890	1.6	5.1
Mechanical engineering							
Handling	31,633	37,509	43,490	42,922	55,633	2.6	3.2
Machine tools	26,526	31,633	36,853	43,503	61,249	2.8	4.8
Engines, pumps, turbines	22,092	29,276	41,537	48,645	62,252	2.9	5.9
Textile and paper machines	26,173	30,986	38,392	30,852	35,651	1.6	1.7
Other special machines	33,932	39,690	47,116	49,744	65,781	3.0	3.7
Thermal processes and apparatus	16,281	19,896	24,467	29,607	35,915	1.7	4.5
Mechanical elements	25,558	34,805	42,989	46,582	59,032	2.7	4.8
Transport	33,646	46,977	66,392	67,389	88,294	4.1	5.5
Other fields							
Furniture, games	20,096	29,799	43,120	43,018	52,022	2.4	5.4
Other consumer goods	17,648	25,050	33,854	32,578	40,906	1.9	4.8
Civil engineering	36,849	44,372	51,814	56,761	73,092	3.4	3.9
Unknown	20,817	24,983	21,190	31,734	35,661	1.6	3.0
Total	**816,893**	**1,146,260**	**1,616,648**	**1,762,093**	**2,173,517**	**100.0**	**5.6**

Note: Every patent application is assigned one or more International Patent Classification (IPC) symbols. If a patent application relates to multiple fields of technology, it is divided into equal shares, each representing one field of technology (fractional counting). Applications with no IPC symbol are not considered. Data refer to published patent applications. There is a minimum delay of 18 months between the application date and the publication date. For this reason, 2013 is the latest year with statistics on patents by technology field. The IPC technology concordance table (available at *www.wipo.int/ipstats/en*) was used to convert IPC symbols into 35 corresponding fields of technology.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

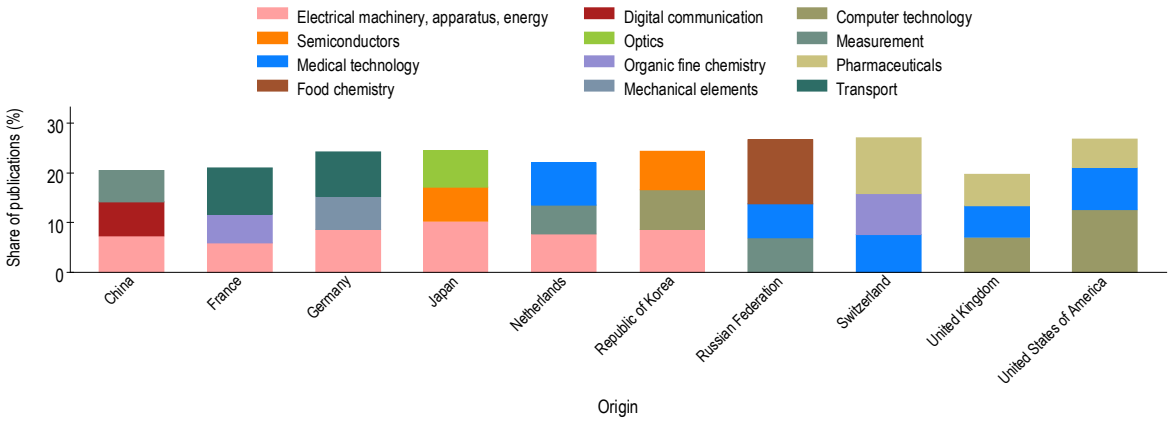
A24 Trend in patent applications for the top five technology fields



Note: The IPC technology concordance table (available at *www.wipo.int/ipstats/en*) was used to convert IPC symbols into 35 corresponding fields of technology. Data refer to published patent applications. The top five fields were selected based on their 2013 totals.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

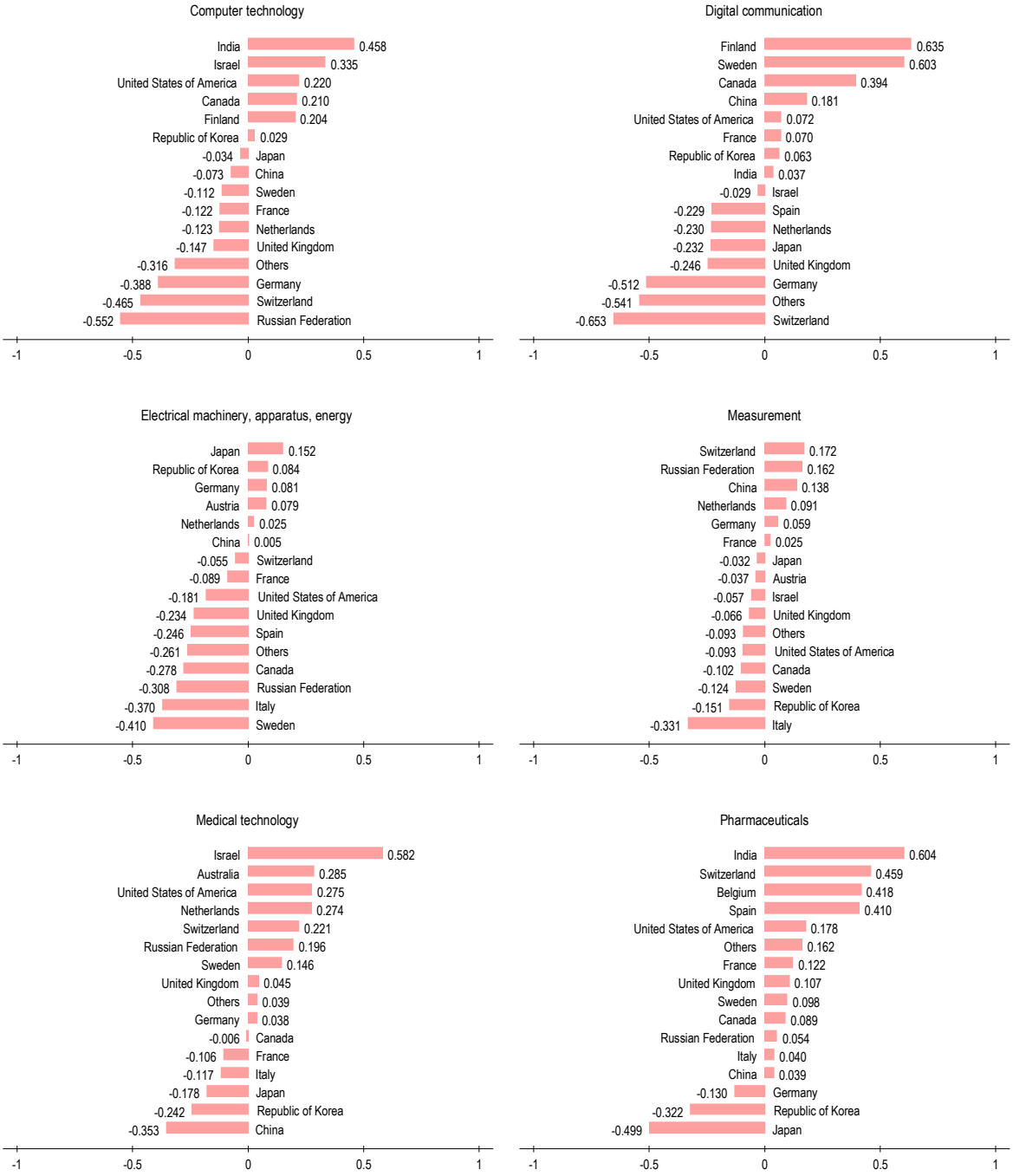
A25 Top three technology fields for the top 10 origins, 2011-13 (% of total)

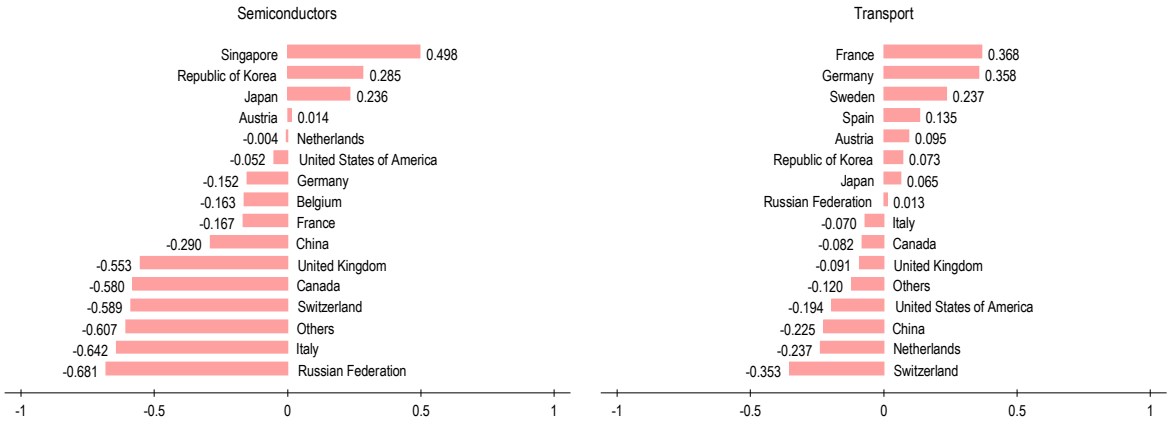


Note: The IPC technology concordance table (available at *www.wipo.int/ipstats/en*) was used to convert IPC symbols into 35 corresponding fields of technology. Data refer to published patent applications. The top three technology fields for each origin were selected from the total number of applications covering 2011-13.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

A26 Relative specialization index for patent applications for selected fields of technology, 2011-13





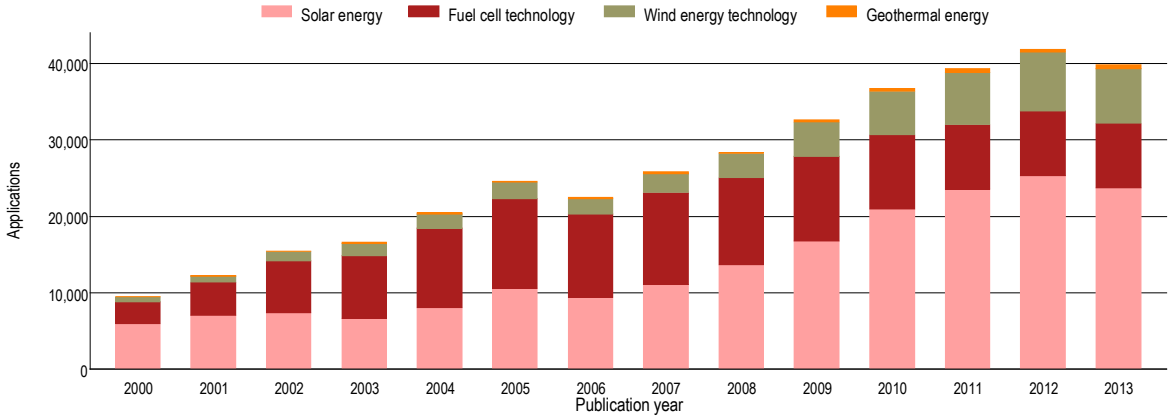
Note: The index corrects for the effects of country size and focuses on the concentration in specific technology fields; it captures whether a country tends to have a lower or a higher propensity to file in certain technology fields. It is calculated using the following formula:

$$RSI = Log\left(\frac{F_{CT}\sum F_{CT}}{\sum F_C \sum F_T}\right)$$

where F_C and F_T denote applications from country *C* and in technological field *T*. A positive value for a technology indicates that a country has a relatively high share of patent filings related to that field of technology. The IPC technology concordance table (available at *www.wipo.int/ipstats/en*) was used to convert IPC symbols into 35 corresponding fields of technology. Data refer to published patent applications.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

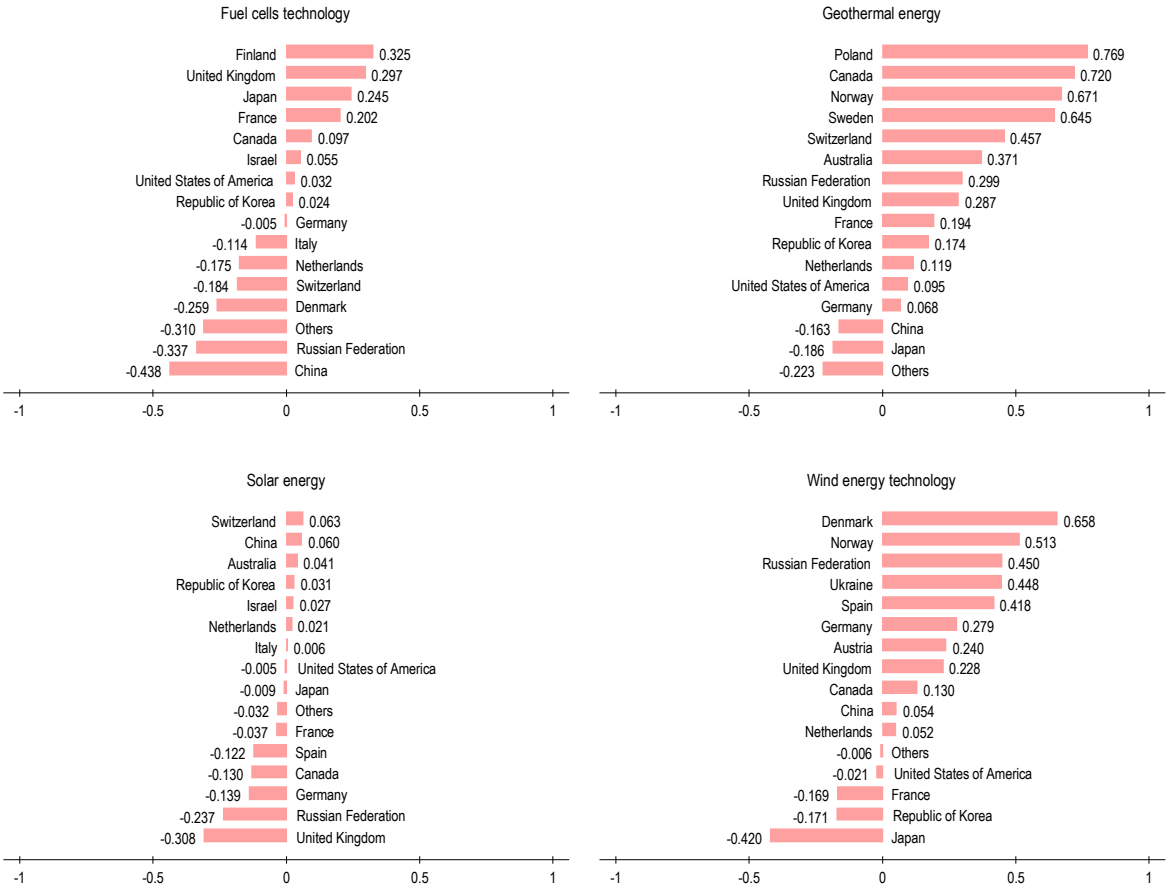
A27 Trend in patent applications in energy-related technologies



Note: For definitions of the technologies – fuel cells, geothermal, solar and wind energy – see Annex A. The correspondence between IPC symbols and technology fields is not always clear (there is no one-to-one relationship). It is thus difficult to capture all patents in a specific technology field. Even so, the IPC-based definitions are likely to capture the vast majority of patent applications in these areas. Data refer to published patent applications.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

A28 Relative specialization index for patent applications for selected energy-related technologies for the top origins, 2011-13



Note: For definitions of the technologies – fuel cells, geothermal, solar and wind energy – see Annex A. The correspondence between IPC symbols and technology fields is not always clear (there is no one-to-one relationship). It is thus difficult to capture all patents in a specific technology field. Even so, the IPC-based definitions are likely to capture the vast majority of patent applications in these areas. The index corrects for the effects of country size and focuses on the concentration in specific technology fields; it captures whether a given country tends to have a lower or a higher propensity to file in certain technology fields. The index is calculated using the following formula:

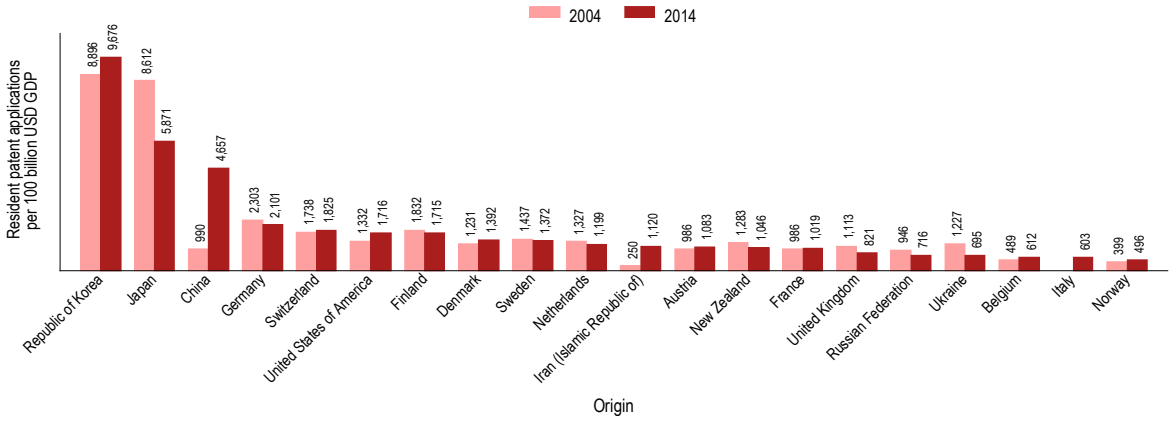
$$RSI = Log\left(\frac{F_{CT}\sum F_{CT}}{\sum F_C \sum F_T}\right)$$

where F_C and F_T denote applications from country C and in technological field T. A positive value for a technology indicates that a country has a relatively high share of patent filings related to that field of technology.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Patent applications in relation to GDP and population

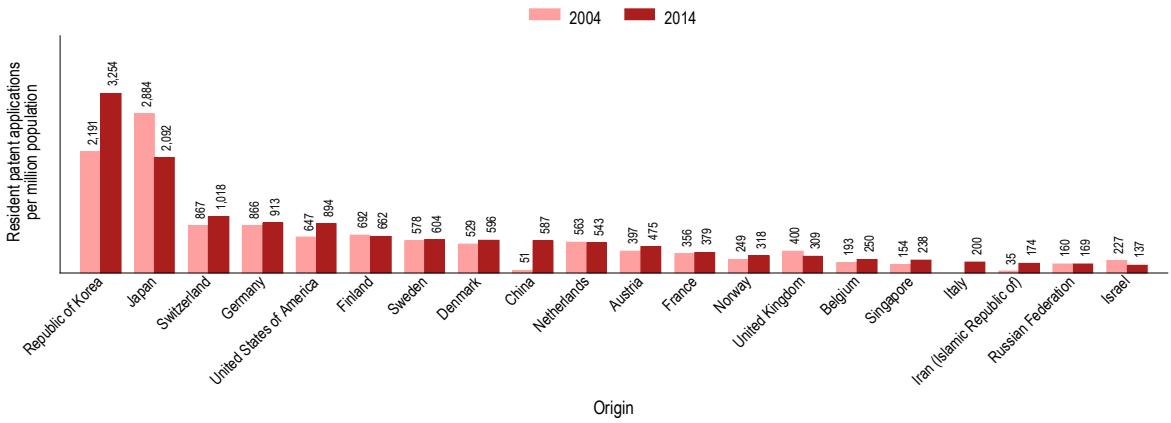
A29 Resident patent applications per 100 billion USD GDP for the top 20 origins



Note: GDP data are in 2011 US PPP dollars. The top 20 origins were included if they had a GDP greater than 20 billion USD PPP and more than 100 resident patent applications. Due to space constraints, only the top 20 origins that fulfil these criteria are presented.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and World Bank, October 2015.

A30 Resident patent applications per million population for the top 20 origins

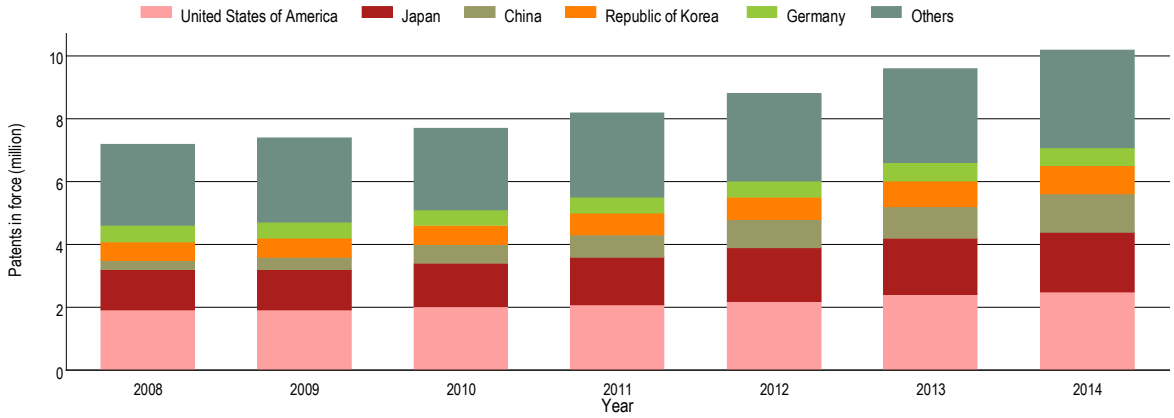


Note: The top 20 origins were included if they had a population greater than 5 million and if they had more than 100 resident patent applications. Due to space constraints, only the top 20 origins that fulfil these criteria are presented.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and World Bank, October 2015.

Patents in force

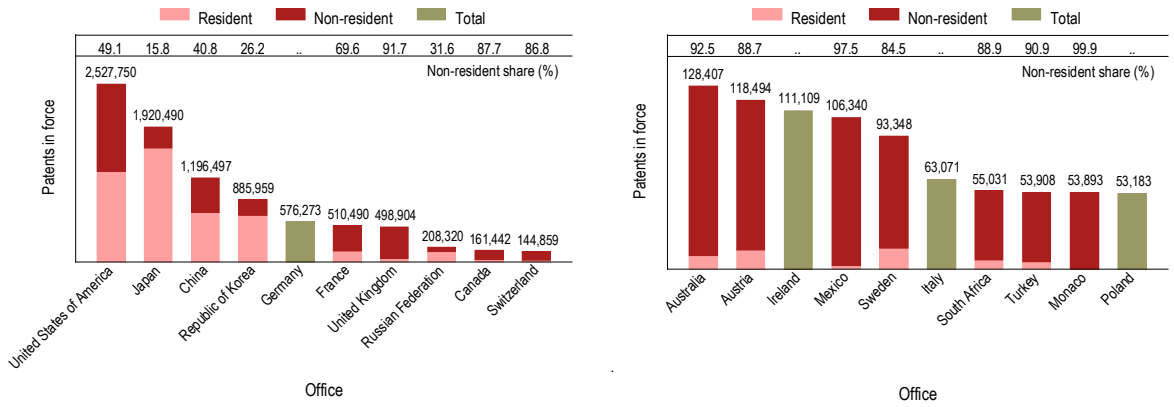
A31 Trend in patents in force worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 109 patent offices.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A32 Patents in force at the top 20 offices, 2014

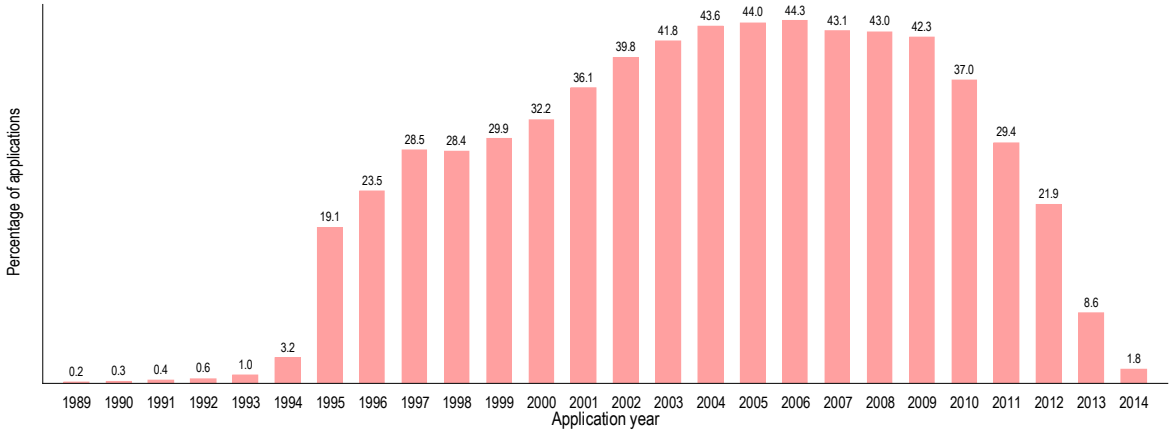


.. indicates not available.

Note: Patent rights last for a limited period – generally 20 years from the date of filing. Patents in force provide information on the volume of patents currently valid, as well as the historical patent life cycle.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

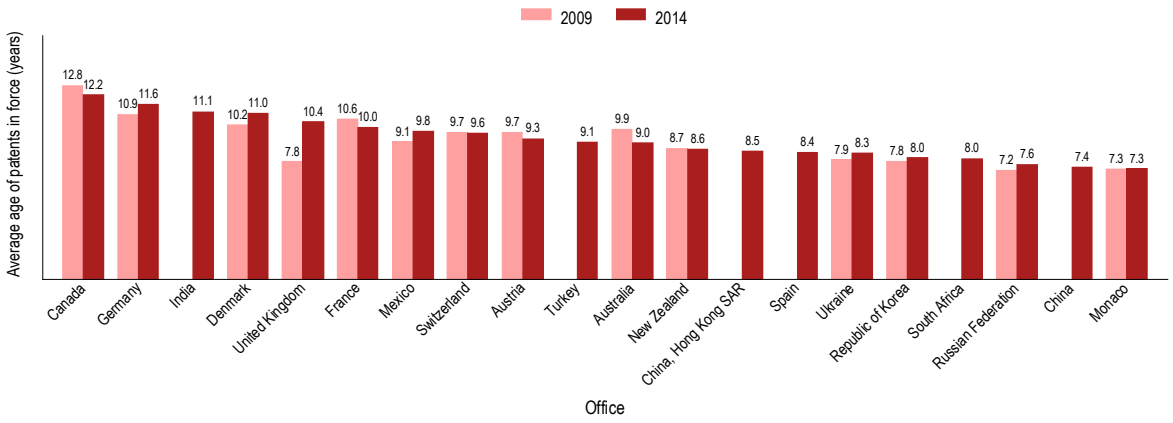
A33 Patents in force in 2014 as a percentage of total applications



Note: Percentages are calculated as the number of patent applications filed in year *t* and in force in 2014, divided by the total number of patent applications filed in year *t*. Patent holders must pay maintenance fees to maintain the validity of their patents. Depending on technological and commercial considerations, patent holders may opt to let a patent lapse before the end of the full protection term. This figure shows the distribution of patents in force in 2014 as a percentage of total applications in the year of filing. But not all offices provide these data. Data for 71 offices show that around 42% of the applications for which patents were eventually granted remained in force for at least 6 to 12 years after the application date. About 19% of these patents lasted the full 20-year patent term.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

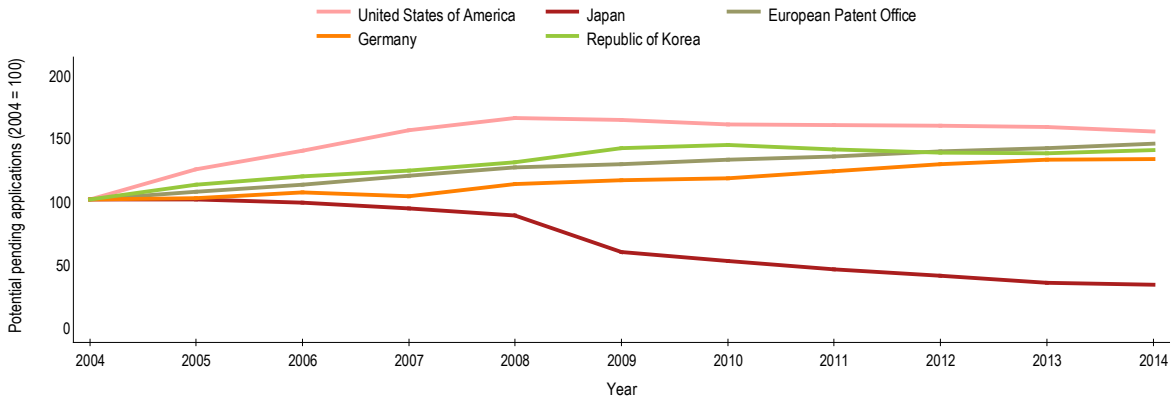
A34 Average age of patents in force at selected offices



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Pending patent applications and pendency time

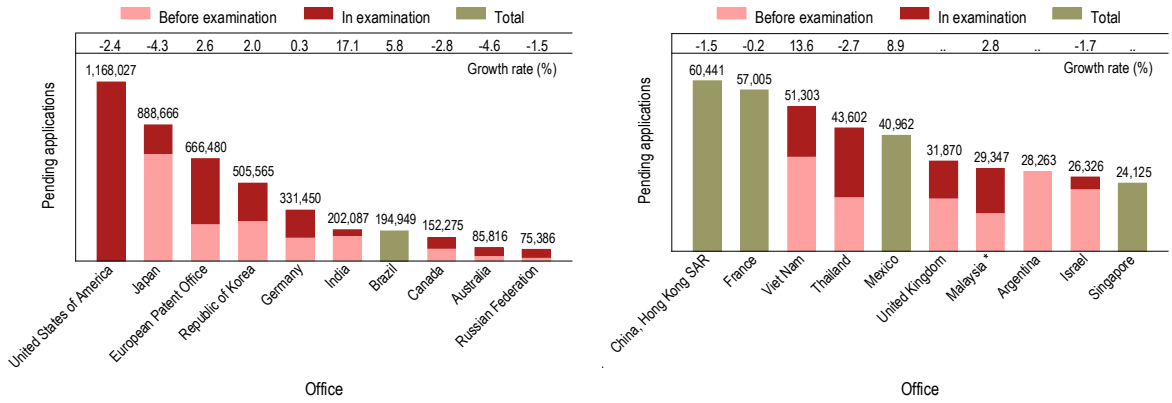
A35 Potentially pending applications at the top offices



Note: Application processing varies across offices, making it difficult to measure pending applications. In some offices patent applications automatically proceed to the examination stage unless applicants withdraw them; in others applications do not proceed to the examination stage unless applicants file a separate request for examination. To take account of procedural differences, pending application data are separated between (a) all patent applications, at any stage in the process, that are awaiting a final decision by a patent office, including those for which applicants have not filed a request for examination (where applicable) and (b) patent applications undergoing examination for which the applicant has requested examination (where such separate requests are necessary). Data for the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China, the office that receives the most applications, were unavailable.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A36 Potentially pending applications at the top 20 offices, 2014

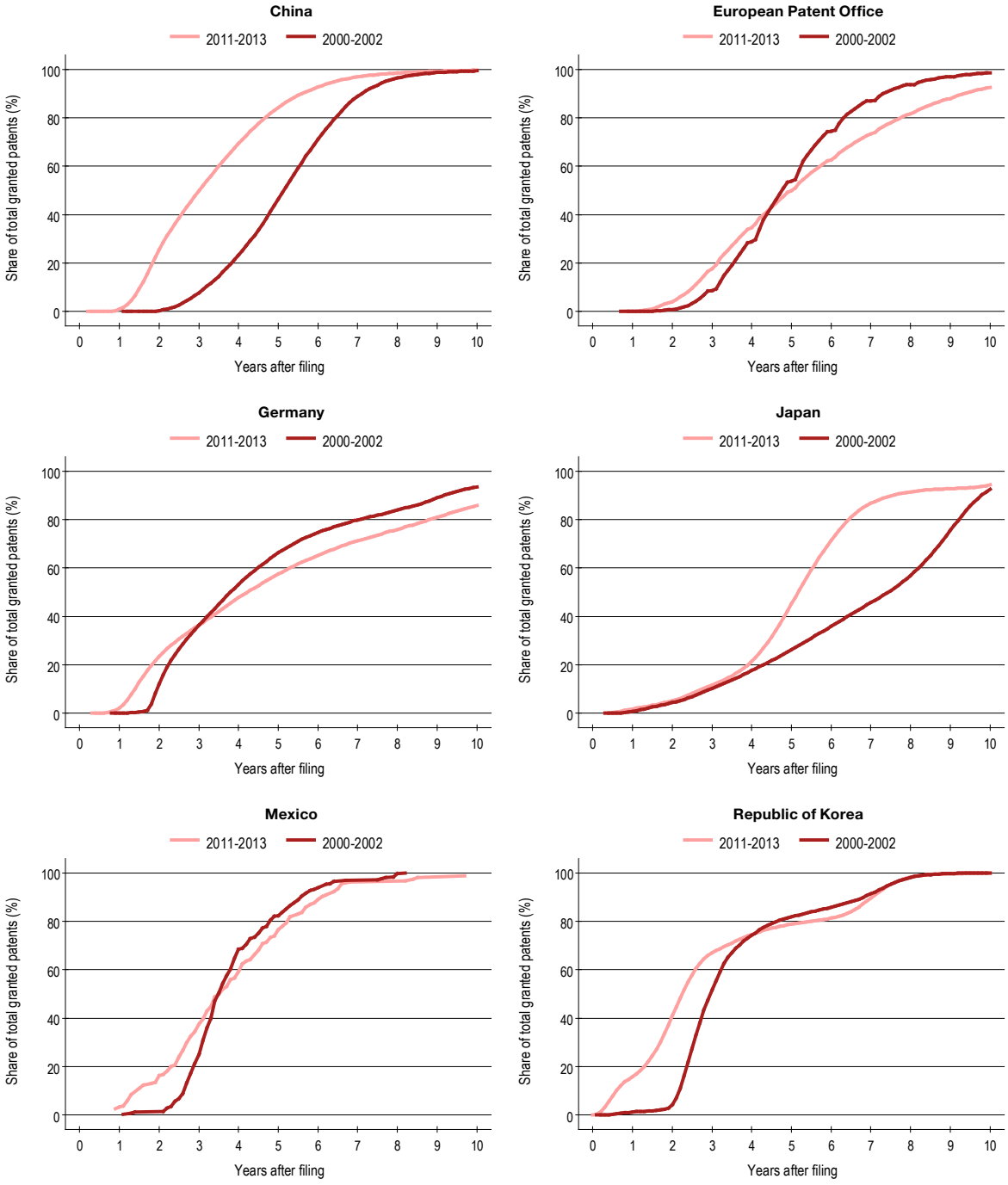


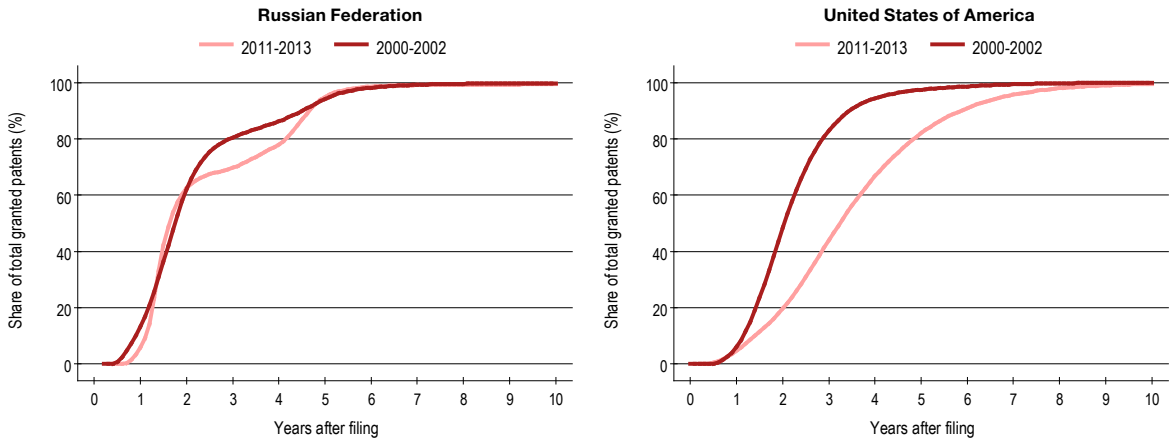
.. indicates not available.
* indicates 2013 data.

Note: Potentially pending applications include all patent applications, at any stage in the process, awaiting a final decision by a patent office, including those for which applicants have not filed a request for examination (where applicable). Data for Brazil include both pending patent and utility model applications, and so are not comparable with other offices.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A37 Distribution of pendency time for selected offices



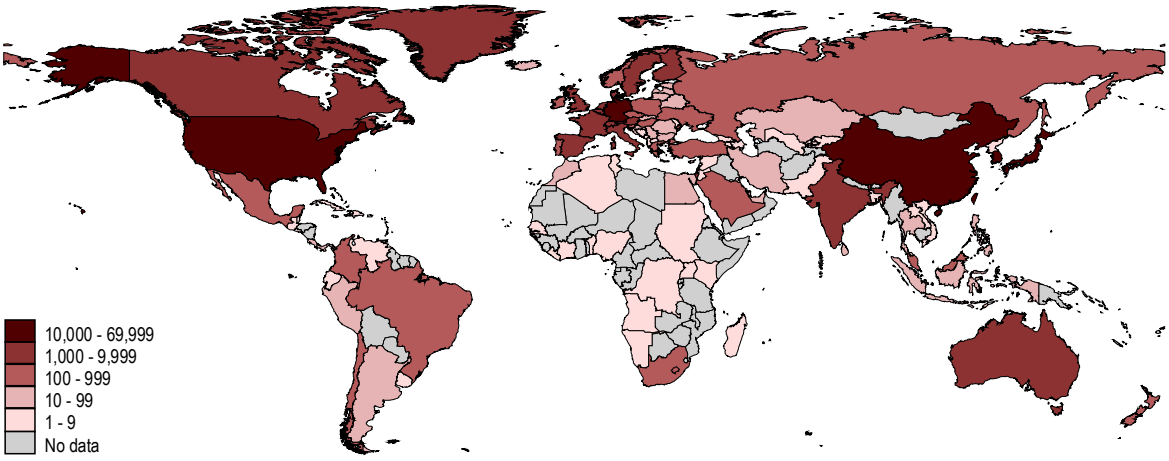


Note: Few offices report pendency time indicators, and there is no standard methodology to calculate such indicators. Here, a proxy for pendency time is constructed using patent application and grant dates from the EPO PATSTAT database. One limitation of this approach is that the pendency time for patents withdrawn, abandoned or refused is not included due to data unavailability. Pendency time can vary among offices for several reasons; for example, an applicant may file an application and then decide to delay the request for examination. So comparing pendency times across offices can be misleading. For a more meaningful comparison, pendency times reported here should be compared across time for individual offices.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and EPO PATSTAT database, October 2015.

Patent applications filed through the Patent Cooperation Treaty System (PCT)

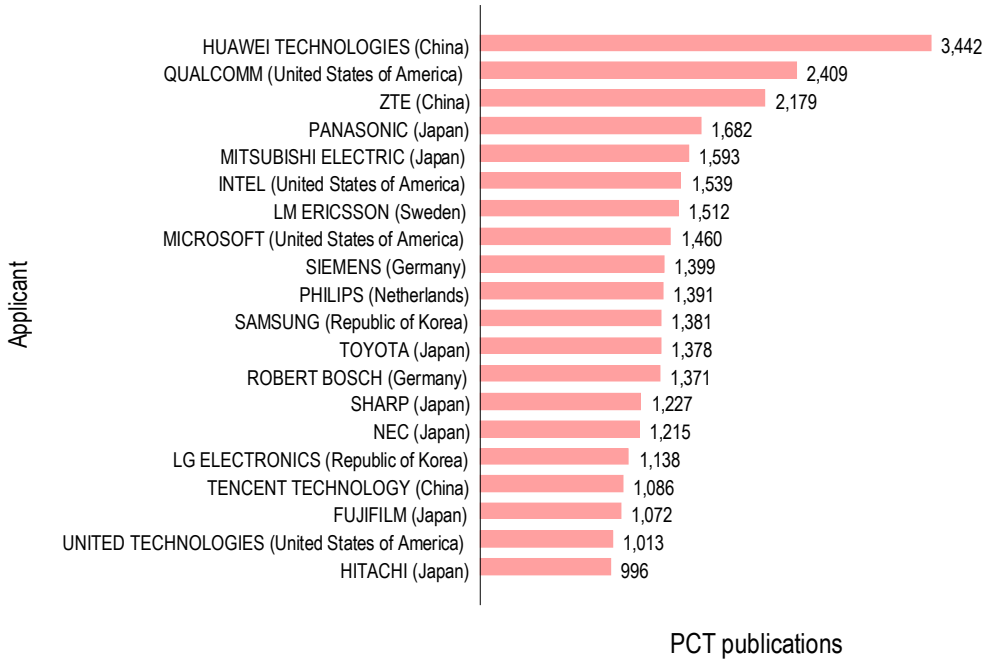
A38 PCT international applications by origin, 2014



Note: Data refer to the international phase of the Patent Cooperation Treaty System. Counts are based on the residency of the first-named applicant and the international application date.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

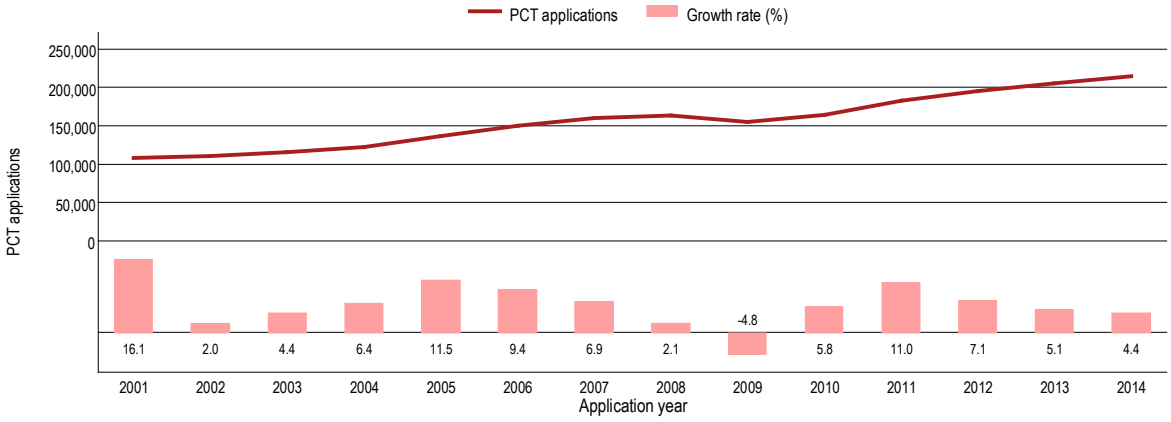
A39 Top PCT applicants, 2014



Note: Data refer to the international phase of the Patent Cooperation Treaty System. Due to confidentiality requirements, counts are based on publication date.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

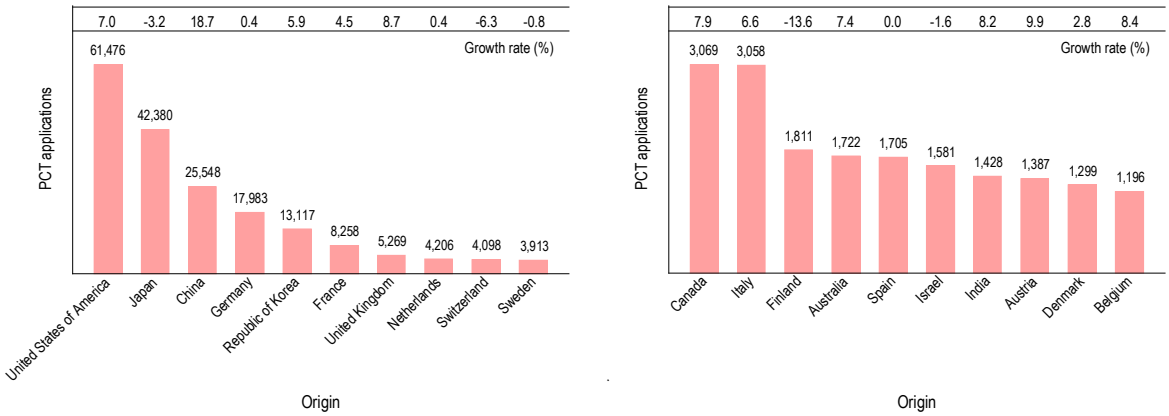
A40 Trend in PCT applications



Note: Data refer to the international phase of the Patent Cooperation Treaty System. Counts are based on the international application date.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

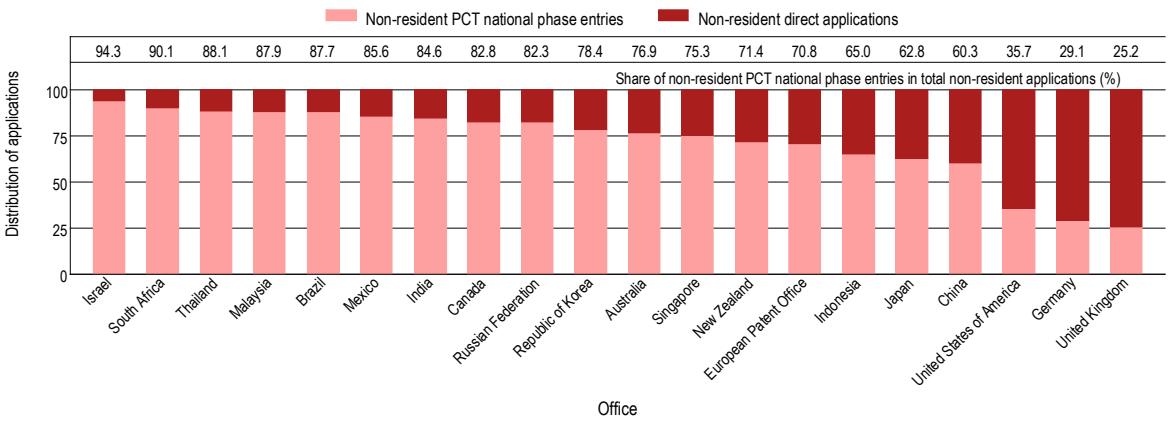
A41 PCT applications for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Data refer to the international phase of the Patent Cooperation Treaty System. Counts are based on the residency of the first-named applicant and the international application date.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A42 Non-resident applications by filing route for selected offices, 2014



Note: A patent office may receive patent applications filed either directly with the office (the "Paris route") or through the Patent Cooperation Treaty System (Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entries).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)

A43 Number of PPH requests, 2014

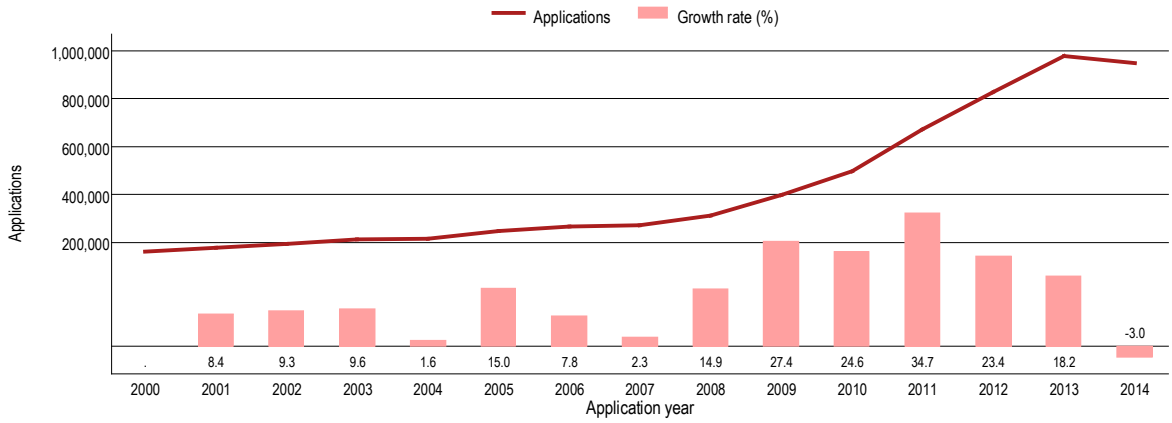
Office of Later Examination	Office of Earlier Examination: Japan	United States of America	European Patent Office	Republic of Korea	China	Canada	United Kingdom	Australia	Denmark	Germany	Russian Federation	Sweden	Finland	Israel	Austria	Singapore	Spain	Mexico	Norway	Colombia	Nordic Patent Institute	Indonesia	Portugal	Others	Total
United States of America	2,894	293	1,537	1,486	539	136	129	154	28	41	55	66	31	22	21	6	3	3	4	2	1			11	7,462
China	2,103	1,151	279	285		4	33		37	26	8	3	11		5	6									3,951
Japan	1,212	1,088	362	134	74	23	27	24	27	15	5	8	7	3	1							1		3	3,014
Republic of Korea	1,237	859	252	86	72	17	11	12	13	6	3	7	13		2	4									2,594
Canada	132	1,425		37	17	92	26	38	2	4	8		6	3				1					1		1,792
European Patent Office	858	680		63	137																				1,738
Germany	459	157		3	9	1	8						3												640
Australia	89	422		37		13	13		1		4	2	3	3			1								588
Russian Federation	62	117		11	8	13	3		2				4	4			1								225
Mexico	50	128			2												7								187
Thailand	108																								108
Israel	4	77	2	4		2		5			2			5											101
United Kingdom	16	62		1	2	2		1		2	1														87
Philippines	25	14																							39
Colombia	1	31															1								33
Singapore	6	12			2																				20
Malaysia	15																								15
Norway		13					1						1												15
Sweden	2	2									3														7
Spain		5																							5
Finland		1				1						1	1												4
Denmark	1																				1				2
Iceland	1																								1
Others	515	321															1								837
Total	**9,790**	**6,858**	**2,432**	**2,147**	**862**	**304**	**251**	**234**	**110**	**94**	**89**	**87**	**80**	**40**	**29**	**16**	**14**	**4**	**4**	**2**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**14**	**23,465**

Note: To avoid unnecessary duplication of work and to improve the efficiency of the examination process, patent offices increasingly seek to use the search and examination results of other offices. Patent prosecution highways have institutionalized such cooperation between offices. A patent prosecution highway is a bilateral agreement between two offices that enables applicants to request a fast-track examination whereby patent examiners can use the work of the other office. Offices that have a patent prosecution highway agreement but did not receive any first or subsequent filings are not reported in the table. For example, Romania is party to a patent prosecution highway agreement but did not receive any patent prosecution highway requests. A definition of patent prosecution highway statistics is available at *www.jpo.go.jp/ppph-portal/statistics.htm*.

Source: WIPO, based on data from the JPO, October 2015.

Utility model applications

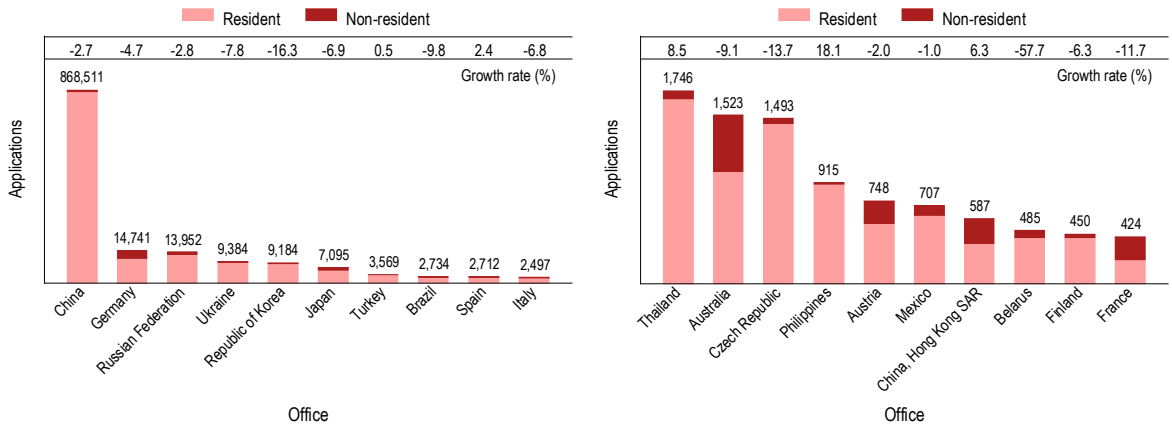
A44 Trend in utility model applications worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 70 patent offices and include direct applications and Patent Cooperation Treaty national phase entries (where applicable).

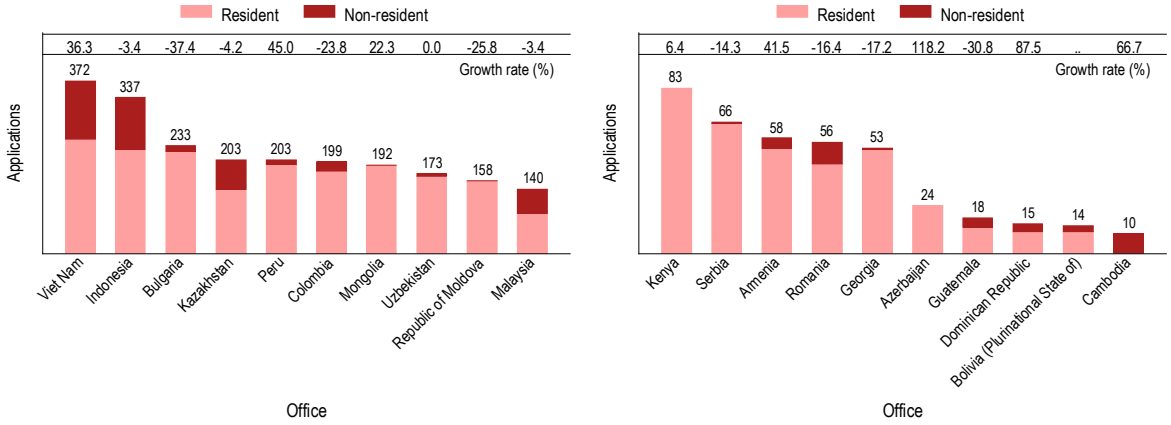
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A45 Utility model applications for the top 20 offices, 2014



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

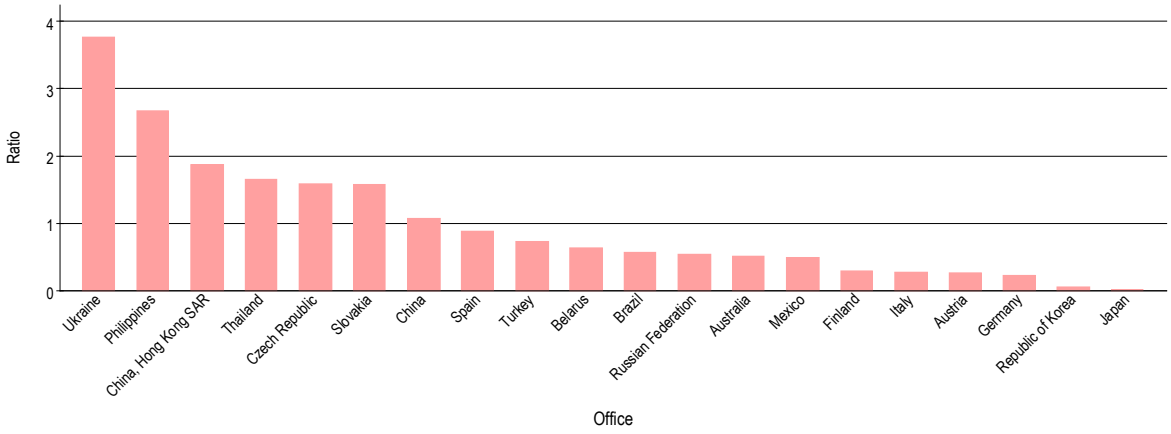
A46 Utility model applications for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2014



.. indicates not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A47 Resident utility model applications in relation to resident patent applications, 2014

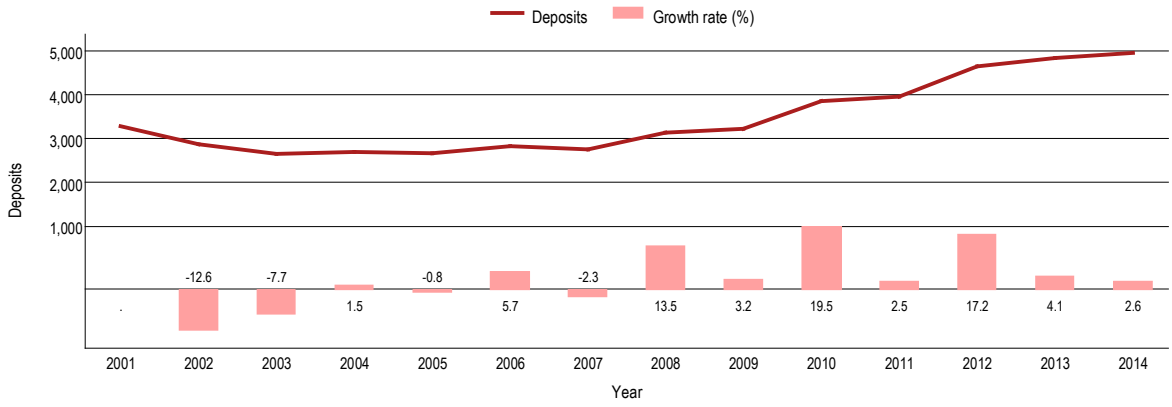


Note: A ratio greater than one indicates more intensive use of the utility model system than the patent system at an office.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Microorganisms

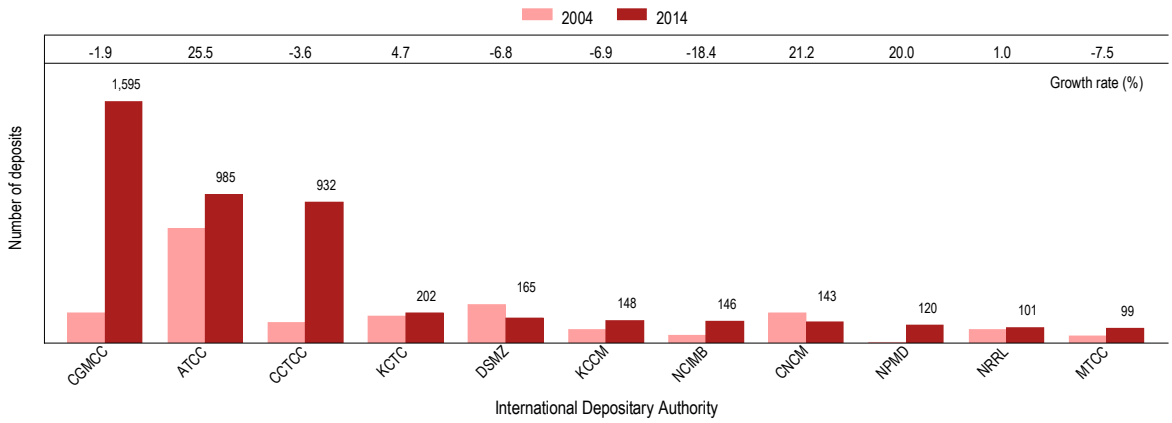
A48 Trend in microorganism deposits worldwide



Note: Deposits of microorganisms for patent procedures are important for biotechnological inventions. Disclosing an invention is a requirement for receiving a patent.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A49 Deposits at the top international depositary authorities



Note: ATCC is American Type Culture Collection (United States of America), CCTCC is China Center for Type Culture Collection, CGMCC is China General Microbiological Culture Collection Center, CNCM is Collection Nationale de Cultures de Micro-organismes (France), DSMZ is Leibniz-Institut DSMZ (Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH; Germany), KCCM is Korean Culture Center of Microorganisms (Republic of Korea), KCTC is Korean Collection for Type Cultures (Republic of Korea), MTCC is Microbial Type Culture Collection and Gene Bank (India), NCIMB is National Collection of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria (United Kingdom), NPMD is National Institute of Technology and Evaluation, Patent Microorganisms Depositary (Japan) and NRRL is Agriculture Research Services Culture Collection (United States of America).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Statistical tables

A50 Patent applications by office and origin, 2014

	Applications by office			Equivalent applications by origin	PCT international applications		PCT national phase entry	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Receiving office	Origin	Office	Origin
African Intellectual Property Organization	578	126	452	n.a.	3	n.a.	149	n.a.
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization	835	13	822	n.a.	0	n.a.	788	n.a.
Albania	13	10	3	18	1	1	2	4
Algeria	813	94	719	101	7	7	701	3
Andorra	..	..	..	12	n.a.	2	..	1
Angola (e)	..	..	..	2	n.a.	2	..	..
Antigua and Barbuda	15	0	15	..	0	0	15	..
Argentina	4,682	509	4,173	791	n.a.	33	..	124
Armenia	123	121	2	156	3	4	2	22
Aruba	..	..	..	2	n.a.	0	..	1
Australia	25,956	1,988	23,968	11,734	1,622	1,722	19,181	7,104
Austria	2,363	2,092	271	13,786	539	1,387	462	6,508
Azerbaijan	168	168	0	542	0	1	1	78
Bahamas	113	2	111	143	n.a.	20	..	46
Bahrain	205	6	199	21	0	2	196	3
Bangladesh	293	44	249	59	n.a.	2	..	8
Barbados (e)	39	1	38	474	n.a.	173	38	364
Belarus	757	652	105	1,781	10	13	81	28
Belgium	1,026	889	137	12,184	71	1,196	..	6,816
Belize	36	0	36	28	0	4	36	12
Benin (f)	..	..	..	103	0	1	..	102
Bermuda	..	..	..	188	n.a.	0	..	77
Bhutan (b,c)	7	3	4	6	n.a.	0	..	1
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	303	9	294	14	n.a.	0	..	..
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba	..	..	..	1	n.a.	0	..	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	43	41	2	55	5	5	2	6
Botswana	9	4	5	14	0	0	5	1
Brazil	30,342	4,659	25,683	6,712	512	580	22,644	1,338
Brunei Darussalam	117	26	91	39	0	0	..	2
Bulgaria	234	218	16	467	44	52	6	111
Burkina Faso (f)	..	..	..	85	0	0	..	85
Cambodia	67	2	65	5	n.a.	0	..	..
Cameroon (f)	..	..	..	435	n.a.	0	..	426
Canada	35,481	4,198	31,283	24,705	2,174	3,069	27,451	9,214
Central African Republic (f)	..	..	..	68	0	0	..	68
Chad (f)	..	..	..	36	0	0	..	34
Chile	3,105	452	2,653	998	90	141	2,468	420
China	928,177	801,135	127,042	837,817	27,088	25,548	79,612	22,893
China, Hong Kong SAR	12,542	192	12,350	1,831	0	0	..	286
China, Macao SAR	106	2	104	56	n.a.	0	..	10
Colombia	2,158	260	1,898	461	15	101	1,819	147
Comoros	..	..	..	17	n.a.	0	..	17
Congo (f)	..	..	..	153	0	0	..	153
Cook Islands	..	..	..	2	n.a.	0	..	1
Costa Rica	568	16	552	49	7	12	530	5
Côte d'Ivoire (f)	..	..	..	375	n.a.	2	..	374
Croatia	200	170	30	259	49	54	15	59
Cuba	150	24	126	189	4	4	118	148
Curaçao	..	..	..	17	n.a.	0	..	11
Cyprus	4	4	0	492	1	46	..	264
Czech Republic	972	910	62	2,180	166	189	24	531
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	..	..	..	41	4	4	..	29
Democratic Republic of the Congo	..	..	..	..	n.a.	1	..	..
Denmark	1,583	1,377	206	12,538	509	1,299	79	7,293

Name	Applications by office			Equivalent applications by origin	PCT international applications		PCT national phase entry	
	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Receiving office	Origin	Office	Origin
Djibouti	4	0	4	6	n.a.	0	..	..
Dominica	..	..	..	2	n.a.	0	..	..
Dominican Republic	258	13	245	20	3	3	227	3
Ecuador	..	..	..	26	0	7	..	20
Egypt	2,136	752	1,384	883	42	47	1,353	32
El Salvador	187	0	187	1	2	3	182	..
Estonia	50	44	6	278	9	33	1	109
Ethiopia	..	..	..	19	n.a.	0	..	..
Eurasian Patent Organization	3,573	548	3,025	n.a.	22	n.a.	2,894	n.a.
European Patent Office	152,662	75,495	77,167	n.a.	32,904	n.a.	92,627	n.a.
Finland	1,545	1,419	126	14,070	1,109	1,811	41	8,004
France	16,533	14,500	2,033	72,310	3,507	8,258	..	37,012
Gabon (f)	..	..	..	85	0	0	..	85
Gambia (h)	..	..	..	1	n.a.	0	..	..
Georgia	297	110	187	131	1	1	179	16
Germany	65,965	48,154	17,811	179,506	1,713	17,983	6,042	74,428
Ghana	..	..	..	5	0	0	..	1
Greece	670	651	19	1,251	68	133	..	297
Grenada	17	0	17	..	0	0	1	..
Guatemala	298	10	288	15	1	1	279	1
Guyana	20	0	20	..	n.a.	0	..	..
Haiti	21	2	19	2	n.a.	0	..	..
Honduras (c)	220	..	..	8	0	0	..	..
Hungary	619	546	73	1,434	127	158	31	613
Iceland	64	51	13	302	15	43	15	174
India	42,854	12,040	30,814	22,445	808	1,428	26,340	3,800
Indonesia	8,023	702	7,321	771	12	17	4,765	27
International Bureau	..	..	..	n.a.	10,523	n.a.	..	n.a.
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	13,802	13,683	119	13,768	0	35	..	4
Iraq	..	..	..	8	n.a.	0	..	2
Ireland	321	263	58	4,779	19	438	..	2,217
Israel	6,273	1,125	5,148	13,437	1,209	1,580	5,215	6,272
Italy	9,382	8,601	781	29,288	345	3,058	..	13,077
Jamaica	155	33	122	47	n.a.	2	..	1
Japan	325,989	265,959	60,030	465,971	41,292	42,380	58,337	124,555
Jordan	379	40	339	83	n.a.	3	..	6
Kazakhstan	2,013	1,742	271	2,453	20	21	..	18
Kenya	207	132	75	160	8	9	75	6
Kiribati (b,c)	18	18	0	18	n.a.	0	10	10
Kuwait	..	..	..	135	n.a.	1	..	8
Kyrgyzstan	139	132	7	173	0	1	7	1
Lao People's Democratic Republic (e)	..	..	..	1	n.a.	2	..	1
Latvia	107	103	4	193	12	29	..	39
Lebanon	..	..	..	60	n.a.	4	..	12
Liberia	..	..	..	2	0	1	..	..
Liechtenstein (g)	..	..	..	1,102	n.a.	231	..	543
Lithuania	165	123	42	254	17	54	13	78
Luxembourg	218	128	90	3,137	0	390	..	1,906
Madagascar (e)	34	5	29	6	n.a.	2	28	1
Malaysia	7,620	1,353	6,267	2,661	289	313	5,544	682
Mali (f)	..	..	..	154	0	0	..	153
Malta	13	5	8	475	0	58	..	296
Marshall Islands	..	..	..	17	n.a.	1	..	11
Mauritius (b,c)	20	2	18	129	n.a.	2	..	14
Mexico	16,135	1,246	14,889	2,187	216	284	12,801	501
Monaco	10	6	4	159	0	33	..	66
Mongolia	265	139	126	140	0	0	..	1
Montenegro (e)	13	13	0	14	n.a.	1	..	..

	Applications by office			Equivalent applications by origin	PCT international applications		PCT national phase entry	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Receiving office	Origin	Office	Origin
Morocco	1,097	355	742	368	58	60	714	9
Mozambique (h)	..	..	..	5	n.a.	0	..	3
Namibia (h)	..	..	..	8	n.a.	3	..	1
Nepal (b,c)	30	18	12	21	n.a.	0	..	3
Netherlands	2,582	2,294	288	37,729	970	4,206	..	22,651
New Zealand	7,728	1,636	6,092	3,429	274	348	4,412	1,356
Nicaragua	146	1	145	2	0	0	140	..
Niger (f)	..	..	..	154	0	0	..	154
Nigeria (b,c,e)	919	50	869	64	n.a.	4	..	1
Norway	1,563	1,106	457	5,872	295	687	416	3,272
Oman (e)	..	..	..	12	n.a.	0	..	3
Pakistan	922	146	776	202	n.a.	1	..	14
Panama	287	13	274	73	4	17	241	43
Papua New Guinea (b,c)	79	0	79	1	0	0	76	..
Paraguay	..	..	..	5	n.a.	0	..	2
Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	2,543	326	2,217	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	..	n.a.
Peru	1,287	83	1,204	103	15	16	1,089	16
Philippines	3,589	334	3,255	607	22	35	3,063	121
Poland	4,096	3,941	155	6,171	244	348	59	1,059
Portugal	740	722	18	1,332	83	159	13	420
Qatar	482	5	477	174	0	18	464	87
Republic of Korea	210,292	164,073	46,219	230,553	13,137	13,117	37,112	21,176
Republic of Moldova	139	67	72	79	3	3	62	2
Romania	1,036	952	84	1,252	31	28	17	135
Russian Federation	40,308	24,072	16,236	28,512	993	949	13,451	2,023
Rwanda	12	5	7	6	0	0	..	1
Saint Kitts and Nevis	..	..	..	5	n.a.	2	..	3
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (e)	8	0	8	52	n.a.	1	8	27
Samoa	100	1	99	12	n.a.	0	..	..
San Marino	..	..	..	28	0	2	..	8
Sao Tome and Principe (e)	3	0	3	..	n.a.	0	..	..
Saudi Arabia	787	652	135	4,122	0	381	..	1,008
Senegal (f)	..	..	..	446	0	3	..	443
Serbia	212	202	10	289	12	14	5	27
Seychelles	..	..	..	108	0	5	..	44
Sierra Leone (h)	..	..	..	3	n.a.	0	..	3
Singapore	10,312	1,303	9,009	5,927	632	940	7,123	2,597
Slovakia	234	211	23	454	47	65	9	116
Slovenia	..	..	..	509	87	156	..	255
South Africa	7,552	802	6,750	2,317	77	313	6,523	1,452
Spain	3,178	2,953	225	10,924	1,225	1,705	147	4,959
Sri Lanka (b,c,e)	516	328	188	445	n.a.	21	..	81
Sudan	8	0	8	8	0	4	8	2
Swaziland (h)	..	..	..	1,070	n.a.	0	..	905
Sweden	2,425	1,984	441	23,854	1,729	3,913	64	15,550
Switzerland	2,048	1,480	568	43,371	181	4,098	76	24,576
Syrian Arab Republic	..	..	..	9	0	2	..	1
T F Y R of Macedonia (b,c)	46	42	4	49	3	4	..	6
Tajikistan (b,c)	4	2	2	11	0	0	2	..
Thailand	7,930	1,006	6,924	1,405	58	68	6,113	206
Togo (f)	..	..	..	51	0	0	..	51
Trinidad and Tobago	186	2	184	9	0	1	180	2
Tunisia	542	142	400	176	6	8	394	19
Turkey	5,097	4,766	331	6,495	545	853	296	1,219
Turkmenistan	..	..	..	1	0	0	..	..
Uganda (h)	8	5	3	7	n.a.	4	3	2
Ukraine	4,813	2,457	2,356	2,990	138	147	2,138	156

Name	Applications by office			Equivalent applications by origin	PCT international applications		PCT national phase entry	
	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Receiving office	Origin	Office	Origin
United Arab Emirates (e)	1,471	24	1,447	387	n.a.	98	1,383	77
United Kingdom	23,040	15,196	7,844	52,605	4,240	5,269	2,330	24,138
United Republic of Tanzania (h)	..	..	..	2	n.a.	0	..	..
United States of America	578,802	285,096	293,706	509,521	61,982	61,476	128,946	176,262
Uruguay	676	37	639	61	n.a.	6	..	11
Uzbekistan	568	345	223	374	4	6	209	22
Vanuatu	..	..	..	1	n.a.	1	..	..
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	..	..	..	62	n.a.	1	..	12
Viet Nam	4,447	487	3,960	561	4	7	3,503	43
Yemen	53	29	24	29	n.a.	0	..	..
Zambia	39	14	25	15	0	0	22	..
Zimbabwe	..	..	..	2	0	0	..	1
Others/Unknown	..	..	..	37,374	n.a.	207	..	7,715
Total (2014 estimates)	**2,680,900**	**1,800,300**	**880,600**	**n.a.**	**214,316**	**214,316**	**595,400**	**n.a.**

(a) Equivalent applications by origin data are incomplete because some offices do not report by origin.
(b) 2013 data are reported for applications by office.
(c) 2013 data are reported for equivalent applications by origin.
(d) The office did not report resident applications so the equivalent applications by origin data may be incomplete.
(e) The International Bureau acts as the receiving office for PCT applications.
(f) The African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) acts as the receiving office for PCT applications.
(g) The Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property acts as the receiving office for PCT applications.
(h) The African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) acts as the receiving office for PCT applications.
.. indicates not available
n.a. is not applicable

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A51 Patent grants by office and origin, and patents in force, 2014

	Grants by office			Equivalent grants	In force by office
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Origin (a)	Total
Afghanistan	..	..	..	1	..
African Intellectual Property Organization	550	105	445	n.a.	..
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization	254	0	254	n.a.	2,550
Albania (d)	5	3	2	15	4,322
Algeria	5,372	537	4,835	538	4,340
Andorra	..	..	..	17	..
Angola	..	..	..	1	..
Antigua and Barbuda	..	..	..	3	..
Argentina	1,360	265	1,095	407	..
Armenia	108	104	4	121	279
Australia	19,304	1,199	18,105	5,871	128,407
Austria	962	827	135	6,102	118,494
Azerbaijan	97	92	5	221	87
Bahamas	120	1	119	155	1,536
Bahrain	..	..	..	3	117
Bangladesh	121	21	100	25	1,077
Barbados	3	0	3	266	..
Belarus	1,938	1,556	382	1,938	5,176
Belgium	373	327	46	6,122	..
Belize	28	0	28	12	120
Benin	..	..	..	102	..
Bermuda	..	..	..	151	..
Bhutan (d)	..	..	..	..	2
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	97	4	93	5	601
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5	1	4	2	503
Botswana (b,c)	3	0	3	1	883
Brazil	2,749	374	2,375	1,319	..
Brunei Darussalam (d)	71	..	..	2	119
Bulgaria	72	56	16	140	1,324
Burkina Faso	..	..	..	34	..
Cameroon	..	..	..	681	..
Canada	23,749	2,984	20,765	14,056	161,442
Central African Republic	..	..	..	2	..
Chad	..	..	..	37	..
Chile	1,168	156	1,012	372	9,987
China	233,228	162,680	70,548	176,382	1,196,497
China, Hong Kong SAR	5,932	88	5,844	910	40,865
China, Macao SAR	16	0	16	13	451
Colombia	1,212	112	1,100	180	6,710
Congo	..	..	..	17	..
Costa Rica	114	1	113	15	518
Côte d'Ivoire	..	..	..	374	..
Croatia	90	6	84	84	4,838
Cuba	94	17	77	133	927
Curaçao	..	..	..	5	..
Cyprus (b,c)	1	0	1	184	149
Czech Republic	688	471	217	977	7,157
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	..	..	..	3	..
Denmark	292	217	75	4,852	51,345
Dominica	..	..	..	2	..
Dominican Republic	62	1	61	5	294
Ecuador	..	..	..	7	..
Egypt	415	66	349	130	4,012
El Salvador	77	0	77	1	1,642
Estonia	38	26	12	110	1,089
Ethiopia	..	..	..	1	..
Eurasian Patent Organization	1,600	319	1,281	n.a.	n.a.
European Patent Office	64,608	33,043	31,565	n.a.	n.a.

	Grants by office			Equivalent grants	In force by office
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Origin (a)	Total
Finland	787	687	100	6,134	47,344
France	11,889	10,570	1,319	43,266	510,490
Gabon	..	..	..	35	..
Georgia	209	60	149	66	1,486
Germany	15,030	10,634	4,396	83,500	576,273
Ghana	..	..	..	1	..
Greece	316	302	14	511	3,239
Grenada	..	..	..	1	..
Guatemala	105	0	105	2	840
Guinea	..	..	..	36	..
Guyana	..	..	..	..	1,442
Honduras (c)	94	..	..	4	..
Hungary	376	101	275	631	4,695
Iceland	54	3	51	152	567
India	6,153	720	5,433	5,062	49,272
Indonesia (d)	..	..	..	27	22,564
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (d)	3,060	2,880	180	2,923	3,440
Iraq	..	..	..	2	..
Ireland	148	116	32	2,193	111,109
Israel (d)	3,984	690	3,294	5,947	25,372
Italy	7,795	6,863	932	18,794	63,071
Jamaica	28	1	27	8	324
Japan	227,142	177,750	49,392	297,239	1,920,490
Jordan	115	15	100	68	377
Kazakhstan	1,504	1,294	210	1,485	5,184
Kenya	53	4	49	30	..
Kuwait	..	..	..	100	..
Kyrgyzstan	100	99	1	133	375
Latvia	141	134	7	254	6,763
Lebanon (b,c)	316	67	249	81	..
Liberia	..	..	..	2	..
Libya	..	..	..	1	..
Liechtenstein	..	..	..	509	..
Lithuania	120	97	23	140	520
Luxembourg	152	79	73	1,800	19,360
Madagascar	24	4	20	5	390
Malaysia	2,705	344	2,361	856	21,568
Mali	..	..	..	19	..
Malta	4	1	3	153	490
Mauritius (b,c)	5	0	5	72	..
Mexico	9,819	305	9,514	784	106,340
Monaco	5	5	0	85	53,893
Mongolia (d)	216	103	113	112	869
Montenegro	14	11	3	11	1,933
Morocco (b,c)	937	145	792	158	..
Myanmar	..	..	..	1	..
Namibia	..	..	..	8	..
Nepal (b,c)	1	1	0	1	72
Netherlands	1,722	1,452	270	16,721	12,518
New Zealand	4,677	389	4,288	1,175	28,854
Nicaragua	62	0	62	1	387
Niger	..	..	..	85	..
Nigeria (b,c)	645	32	613	44	..
Norway	1,413	460	953	2,836	21,882
Oman	..	..	..	2	..
Pakistan	185	172	13	184	..
Panama	166	5	161	45	1,725
Papua New Guinea (b,c,d)	57	0	57	..	42
Paraguay	..	..	..	1	..

	Grants by office			Equivalent grants	In force by office
Name	**Total**	**Resident**	**Non-resident**	**Origin (a)**	**Total**
Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	503	31	472	n.a.	16,586
Peru	332	7	325	16	2,651
Philippines	2,159	27	2,132	94	..
Poland	2,852	2,490	362	3,094	53,183
Portugal	97	89	8	294	35,561
Qatar	..	..	..	11	..
Republic of Korea	129,786	97,294	32,492	127,409	885,959
Republic of Moldova	54	49	5	100	384
Romania	356	340	16	436	17,268
Russian Federation	33,950	23,065	10,885	26,063	208,320
Rwanda	..	..	..	..	135
Saint Kitts and Nevis	..	..	..	6	..
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (d)	..	..	..	21	28
Samoa	..	..	..	4	96
San Marino	..	..	..	22	..
Saudi Arabia	561	49	512	709	2,338
Senegal	..	..	..	324	..
Serbia	105	62	43	108	2,964
Seychelles	..	..	..	45	..
Singapore	5,538	402	5,136	2,477	47,422
Slovakia	94	58	36	138	2,357
Slovenia	..	..	..	274	..
South Africa	5,065	445	4,620	1,334	55,031
Spain	3,235	2,969	266	6,130	37,581
Sri Lanka (b,c)	236	71	165	76	..
Sudan	8	0	8	..	..
Swaziland (d)	..	..	..	3	9
Sweden	588	518	70	11,846	93,348
Switzerland	677	436	241	21,042	144,859
Syrian Arab Republic	..	..	..	3	..
T F Y R of Macedonia (b)	378	..	..	1	..
Tajikistan (b,c,d)	2	0	2	8	256
Thailand	1,286	73	1,213	198	11,623
Togo	..	..	..	51	..
Trinidad and Tobago	39	0	39	10	..
Tunisia (c,d)	552	..	..	116	3,685
Turkey	1,276	1,170	106	1,746	53,908
Uganda	1	1	0	1	26
Ukraine	3,319	1,701	1,618	2,067	26,183
United Arab Emirates	110	0	110	124	561
United Kingdom	4,986	2,315	2,671	21,203	498,904
United States of America	300,678	144,621	156,057	255,934	2,527,750
Uruguay	31	4	27	602	646
Uzbekistan	179	106	73	120	1,141
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	..	..	..	51	..
Viet Nam	1,397	36	1,361	60	14,593
Yemen	20	8	12	8	20
Zambia	23	6	17	7	4,161
Zimbabwe	..	..	..	1	..
Others/Unknown	..	..	..	20,484	..
Total (2014 estimates)	**1,176,600**	**707,500**	**469,100**	**n.a.**	**10,200,000**

(a) Equivalent grants by origin data are incomplete because some offices do not report by origin.
(b) 2013 data are reported for grants by office.
(c) 2013 data are reported for equivalent grants by origin.
(d) 2013 data are reported for patents in force.
n.a. is not applicable
.. indicates not available

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

A52 Utility model applications and grants by office and origin, 2014

	Applications by office			Equivalent applications by origin	Grants by office		
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total	Resident	Non-resident
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (b)	7	6	1	n.a.	..	..	..
Albania	1	1	0	1	..	..	..
Andorra	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Argentina	172	157	15	164	47	41	6
Armenia	58	53	5	60	40	39	1
Australia	1,523	1,011	512	1,110	1,501	949	552
Austria	748	550	198	989	488	331	157
Azerbaijan	24	24	0	26	15	10	5
Bahamas	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Bangladesh	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Barbados	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Belarus	485	418	67	535	558	463	95
Belgium	..	..	..	51	..	..	..
Belize (b,c)	6	0	6	7	..	..	..
Bermuda	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	14	11	3	11	..	..	..
Bosnia and Herzegovina	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Botswana	1	1	0	1	..	..	..
Brazil	2,734	2,638	96	2,674	367	352	15
Brunei Darussalam	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Bulgaria	233	220	13	240	180	175	5
Cambodia	10	0	10	..	..	..	..
Canada	..	..	..	85	..	..	..
Chile (b,c,d)	104	88	16	129	30	22	8
China	868,511	861,053	7,458	862,489	707,883	699,971	7,912
China, Hong Kong SAR	587	360	227	430	522	284	238
China, Macao SAR	28	5	23	34	1	0	1
Colombia	199	178	21	180	99	74	25
Costa Rica	9	5	4	6	3	1	2
Croatia	91	81	10	82	72	67	5
Cuba	5	5	0	5	..	..	..
Cyprus	..	..	..	103	..	..	..
Czech Republic	1,493	1,441	52	1,588	1,388	1,332	56
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Denmark	185	146	39	235	159	126	33
Dominica	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Dominican Republic	15	11	4	11	3	3	0
El Salvador	8	7	1	7	7	6	1
Estonia	82	70	12	74	77	67	10
Ethiopia	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Finland	450	417	33	621	387	356	31
France	424	209	215	601	..	..	..
Gambia (b,c,d)	3	3	0	3	3	3	0
Georgia	53	52	1	54	46	45	1
Germany	14,741	10,947	3,794	12,118	13,082	9,353	3,729
Greece	33	27	6	32	41	36	5
Guatemala	18	13	5	13	5	3	2
Honduras	5	..	..	..	8	..	..
Hungary	275	249	26	274	147	130	17
India	..	..	..	43	..	..	..
Indonesia	337	224	113	224	54	42	12
Ireland	..	..	..	18	..	..	..
Israel	..	..	..	101	..	..	..
Italy (b,c,d)	2,497	2,348	149	2,642	2,495	2,322	173
Japan	7,095	5,429	1,666	8,738	7,017	5,322	1,695
Kazakhstan	203	139	64	150	165	92	73
Kenya	83	83	0	83	31	31	0
Kyrgyzstan	10	8	2	8	11	11	0

	Applications by office			Equivalent applications by origin	Grants by office		
Name	**Total**	**Resident**	**Non-resident**	**Total (a)**	**Total**	**Resident**	**Non-resident**
Liechtenstein	..	..	..	20	..	..	..
Lithuania	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Luxembourg	..	..	..	46	..	..	..
Malaysia	140	86	54	121	57	37	20
Malta	..	..	..	4	..	..	..
Marshall Islands	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Mexico	707	612	95	625	178	155	23
Monaco	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Mongolia	192	190	2	190	125	124	1
Netherlands	..	..	..	175	..	..	..
New Zealand	..	..	..	45	..	..	..
Nicaragua (b,c,d)	2	0	2	1	1	0	1
Norway	..	..	..	25	..	..	..
Panama	13	6	7	7	5	2	3
Peru	203	192	11	195	45	34	11
Philippines	915	893	22	902	690	660	30
Poland (b,c,d)	1,053	986	67	1,033	654	621	33
Portugal	112	90	22	95	68	50	18
Republic of Korea	9,184	8,754	430	9,176	4,955	4,682	273
Republic of Moldova	158	156	2	158	134	130	4
Romania	56	45	11	46	30	25	5
Russian Federation	13,952	13,000	952	13,325	13,080	12,267	813
Rwanda	1	1	0	1	..	..	..
Samoa	..	..	..	16	..	..	..
San Marino	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Saudi Arabia	..	..	..	4	..	..	..
Senegal	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Serbia	66	65	1	67	52	50	2
Seychelles	..	..	..	23	..	..	..
Singapore	..	..	..	59	..	..	..
Slovakia	397	332	65	386	364	283	81
Slovenia	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
South Africa	..	..	..	17	..	..	..
Spain	2,712	2,611	101	2,849	2,421	2,310	111
Sweden	..	..	..	112	..	..	..
Switzerland	..	..	..	623	..	..	..
Syrian Arab Republic	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Tajikistan (b,c,d)	69	66	3	66	58	55	3
Thailand	1,746	1,666	80	1,680	828	797	31
Trinidad and Tobago (b,c,d)	1	1	0	1	2	1	1
Turkey	3,569	3,477	92	3,517	2,551	2,475	76
Uganda	..	..	..	..	1	1	0
Ukraine	9,384	9,244	140	9,428	9,196	9,015	181
United Arab Emirates	1	0	1	9	..	..	..
United Kingdom	..	..	..	185	..	..	..
United States of America	..	..	..	3,129	..	..	..
Uruguay	31	24	7	29	16	15	1
Uzbekistan	173	167	6	167	115	111	4
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Viet Nam	372	246	126	246	86	72	14
Yemen	2	2	0	2	1	1	0
Zimbabwe	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Others/Unknown	..	..	..	2,808	..	..	..
Total (2014 estimates)	**948,900**	**931,700**	**17,200**	**n.a.**	**..**	**..**	**..**

(a) Equivalent applications by origin data are incomplete because some offices do not report by origin.
(b) 2013 data are reported for applications by office.
(c) 2013 data are reported for equivalent applications by origin.
(d) 2013 data are reported for grants by office.
n.a. is not applicable
.. indicates not available

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Trademarks

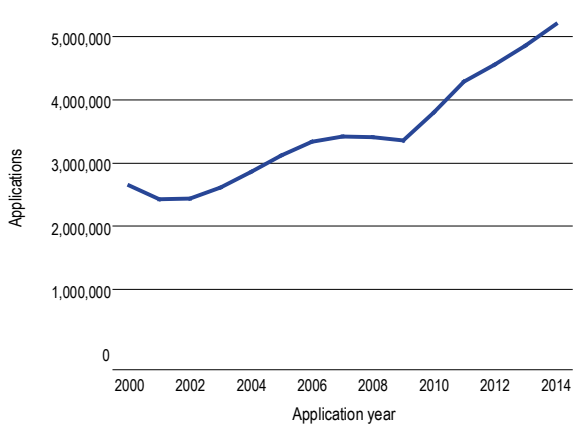
Highlights

Applications exceed 5 million in 2014

An estimated 5.19 million trademark applications were filed worldwide in 2014, 6.9% more than in 2013 (figure 7). This growth was driven by filings in China. Applications have almost doubled since 2000, increasing in all but 3 of the 15 years presented.

After stagnating in 2007 and experiencing slight declines in 2008 and 2009, applications for trademarks rebounded in 2010 and 2011 to double-digit growth not seen since the peak of the dot-com boom in 2000. Growth in applications returned to single-digit levels in 2012 and has remained at 6 to 7% each year since.

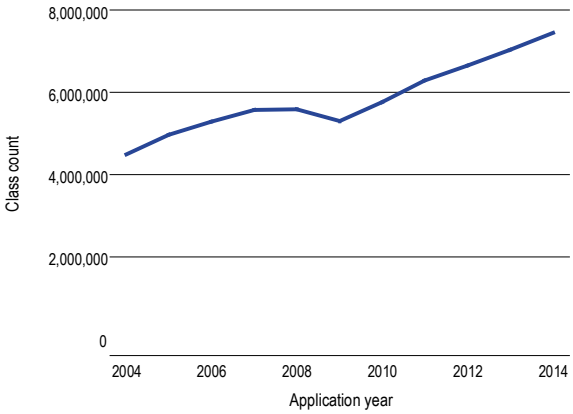
Figure 7. Trademark applications worldwide



Source: Standard figure B1.

When differences in filing systems across national and regional offices are harmonized using the application class count, trademark filing activity grew by 6% in 2014. The total number of classes specified in applications reached 7.45 million, an increase of 66% on the 4.5 million recorded in 2004 – the first year in which complete class counts became available (figure 8).

Figure 8. Trademark application class counts worldwide



Source: Standard figure B2.

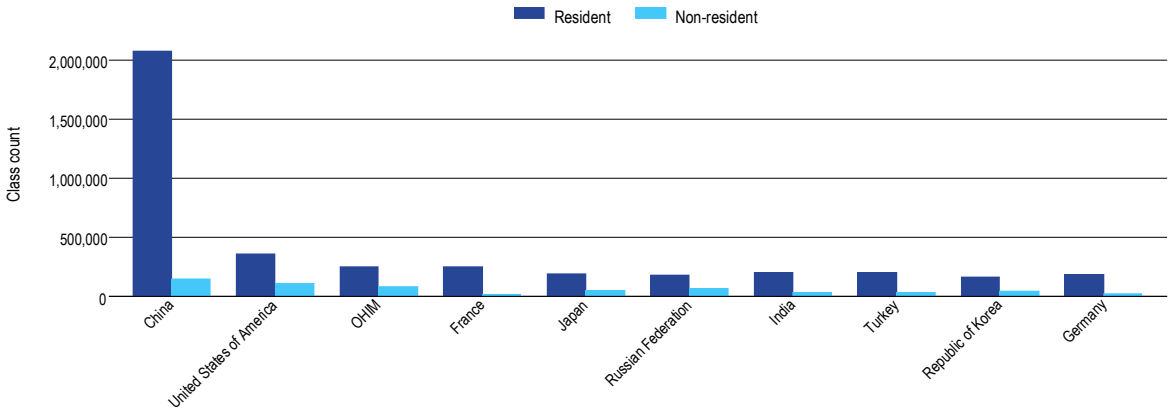
Class count

A trademark application may refer to different classes of goods or services. Many offices use the Nice Classification, an international classification of goods and services for registering trademarks and service marks. Applications received by these offices are classified in one or more of the 45 Nice classes (see *www.wipo.int/classifications/nice*). Some offices allow single-class filing only, meaning that applicants have to file a separate application for each class. Others permit multi-class filings, enabling applicants to file a single application in which a number of classes can be specified. To improve international comparisons between numbers of applications received, it helps to compare class counts across offices. Class counts are also used to make trademark registration activity internationally comparable.

Offices with the most filing activity

As with other forms of intellectual property (IP), the increase in trademark filing activity (measured in application class counts) largely reflects trademark holders seeking protection in China. In 2014, the trademark office of China accounted for four-fifths of the annual increase in global trademark filing activity. It was followed by the offices of Japan and the US, which accounted for less than one-tenth each.

Figure 9. Trademark application class counts for the top 10 offices, 2014



Source: Standard figure B10.

The office of China's 2.22 million class count was followed by around 470,000 at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). They have been the top two offices since the early 2000s (figure 9), but since 2004 China's class count has grown from nearly twice that of the US to over four times in 2014. These two offices were followed by the European Union's (EU) Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM; 333,443) and those of France (269,837) and Japan (242,073). The top five offices in 2014 accounted for almost half of all trademark filing activity, up from about one-third in 2004.

Among the top 20 offices, 15 exhibited more trademark filing activity in 2014 than in 2013, with the largest increases being recorded in China (+18.2%), Japan (+16.9%), India (+15.4%) and Mexico (+10.8%). Conversely, the offices of France (-10%), the Benelux Office of Intellectual Property (-4.1%), Brazil (-3.9%), Italy (-2.4%) and Switzerland (-0.6%) saw declines.

At most offices, trademark applications are filed mainly by residents seeking protection within their domestic jurisdiction. In 2014, residents accounted for three-quarters of global filing activity. In fact, domestic filing is becoming more concentrated, with the world resident application class count increasing by 8.6% on the previous year and that for non-residents decreasing by 1.4%.

Due to the large number of resident trademark applications in China, the global non-resident share has come down from its peak of 34.4% in 2008 to 24.2% in 2014, by 10.2 percentage points. Excluding China, the non-resident share has fallen by only 4.4 percentage points.

Of the top 20 offices, half had less than 20% of filing activity attributed to non-residents; China and France had the lowest at about 7% each. The highest non-resident shares were recorded in Australia (39.2%), Canada (45.4%), China Hong Kong (SAR) (61.3%) and Switzerland (58.1%).

Resident filing activity drove the double-digit growth in both China and Japan, whereas non-resident filing activity accounted for most of the growth in Mexico. In India and China Hong Kong (SAR), the annual increases in filing activity were more equally shared among residents and non-residents.

The ranking of the top 20 offices is generally similar to that in 2013. However, Japan moved up two spots to enter the top five in 2014, while India climbed two places to reach number seven, edging ahead of both Turkey and the Republic of Korea. In addition, Mexico surpassed Australia to become the thirteenth most active office in terms of trademark filing activity.

Total application class counts at offices of high-income economies grew only slightly (+2%) between 2004 and 2014, lower than the average annual growth rates for all other income groups.

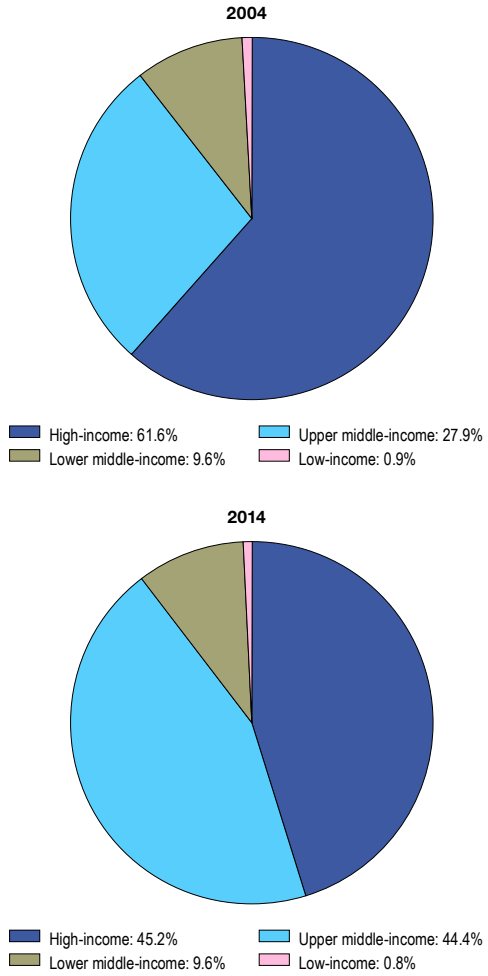
While three-fourths of the top 20 offices are in high-income economies, four are in upper middle-income countries (Brazil, China, Mexico and Turkey) and one is in a lower middle-income country (India). Offices of high-income countries accounted for 45.2% of filing activity worldwide – down from 61.6% in 2004, whereas the share accounted for by offices of upper middle-income countries – including China – rose from 27.9%

in 2004 to 44.4% in 2014 (figure 10). On the other hand, the shares of total filing activity by lower middle-income (9.6%) and low-income countries (0.8%) remained almost unchanged over the same period. When China's statistics are removed from the upper middle-income group category, the class count in the other middle-income countries combined still grew between 2004 and 2014, but only by 5.1%, and their share of the world total remained unchanged at 14.6%.

Among offices located in low- and middle-income countries, year-on-year growth was particularly high in Pakistan (+21.3%), the Philippines (+15.7%) and Yemen (+21%).

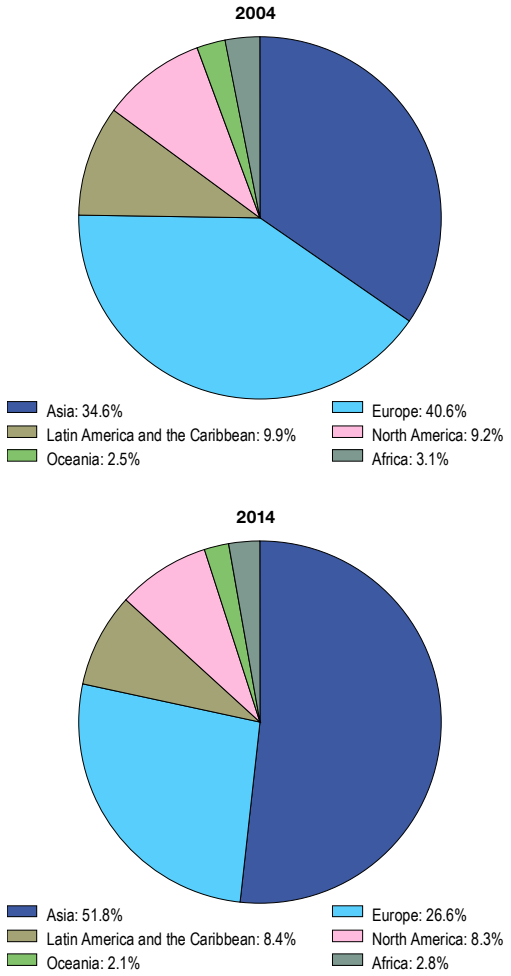
Nine of the top 20 offices are located in Europe, and six are in Asia. Offices in Asia accounted for 51.8% of trademark filing activity, followed by those in Europe (26.6%; figure 11). Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC; 8.4%) and North America (8.3%) held almost equal shares.

Figure 10. Trademark application class counts by income group



Source: Standard table B7.

Figure 11. Trademark application class counts by region



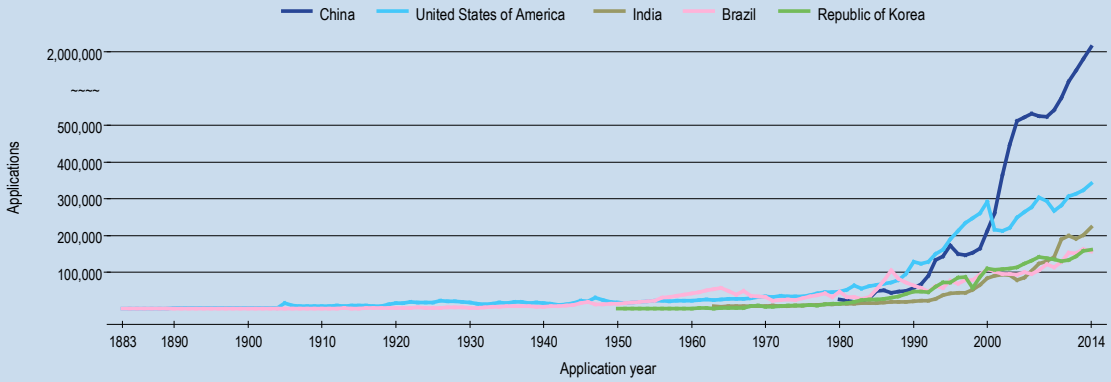
Source: Standard table B8.

Trademark filings since 1883

Trademark filings were fairly low and stable until the mid-1980s. Filings at China's office took off in the 1990s, and in 2001 they exceeded the numbers received by the USPTO, making China's office the largest in terms of applications received.

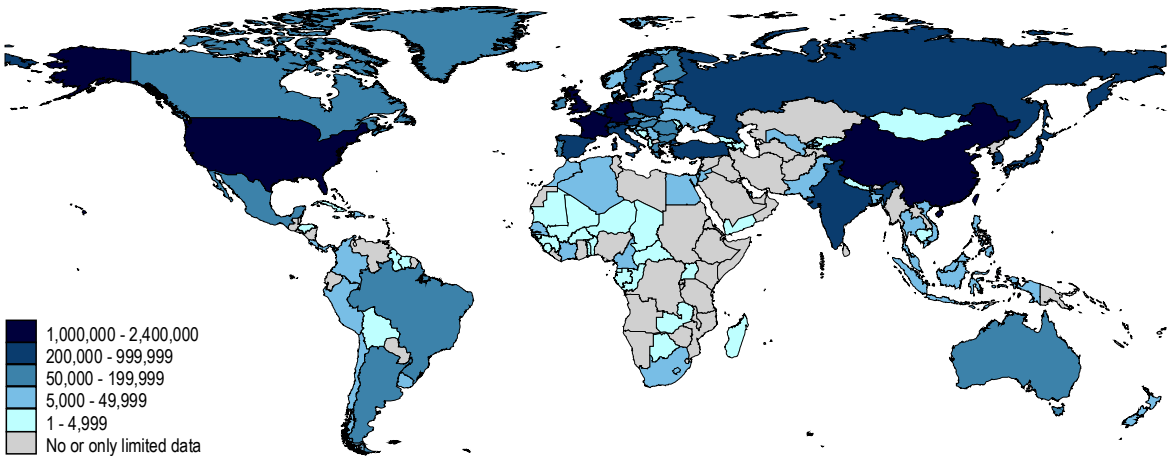
Nevertheless, filings at the USPTO have doubled since the mid-1990s despite declines at the end of the dot-com era in 2001 and 2002 and during the financial crisis in 2008 and 2009.

Trend in trademark applications for the top five offices



Source: Standard figure B9.

Map 2. Equivalent trademark application class counts by origin, 2014



Source: Standard map B16.

Equivalent application class count

Applications at some regional IP offices are equivalent to multiple applications in the countries that are members of the organizations establishing these offices. For example, to calculate the number of equivalent applications for OHIM, each application is multiplied by the corresponding number of member states. So an application filed with OHIM by an applicant residing outside the EU is counted as 28 applications abroad – equivalent to the membership of the EU, which in 2014 numbered 28 countries. An application filed by an applicant residing in an EU country is counted as 1 resident application and 27 applications abroad. The same multiplier is applied to the classes specified in these applications.

China overtakes Germany as the largest origin

Trademark filings received by each office include applications filed by residents and those filed by foreign applicants – referred to as non-residents. Completing the picture requires analysis of the origins of applications, whether filed by residents in their home jurisdiction or abroad.

Applicants from China accounted for the largest volume of filing activity, with 2.33 million equivalent application classes specified in their applications filed at home and abroad. Growth of 19% over the previous year pushed China ahead of Germany, whose applicants had an equivalent application class count of 2.07 million, down 6% from 2013. These top two origins were followed by the US, the United Kingdom (UK) and France, all with an equivalent application class count of more than a million.[1] Applicants from Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland each had equivalent application class counts ranging from about 400,000 to 860,000. However, when resident trademark applications are excluded, Germany has remained the largest origin of filing activity abroad since 2006.

Applicants from several LAC countries as well as those located in many African, Central and smaller South-East Asian countries showed low trademark filing activity in 2014. However, the picture is partial, as data for a number of these origins are incomplete because some offices do not provide a complete breakdown of the origin of the applications they receive.

1. Equivalent application class counts differ from absolute class counts, which are presented in figure B17 and do not take into account the multiplying effect of regional offices.

Applicants from many EU member countries had the highest trademark filing activity due not only to the application class counts at their respective national offices and at numerous offices abroad but also to their frequent use of OHIM – with its multiplier effect – to seek protection within the EU as a whole.

Looking at absolute counts – and removing OHIM's multiplier effect – 96% of all filing activity (application class counts) by Chinese applicants was in China alone, with only 4% attributed to those seeking protection abroad. These shares were the same in relation to resident filing and filing abroad by Brazilian, Indian and Filipino applicants. Applicants residing in Argentina, Indonesia and South Africa also dedicated less than 10% of their trademark filing activity to seeking protection abroad.

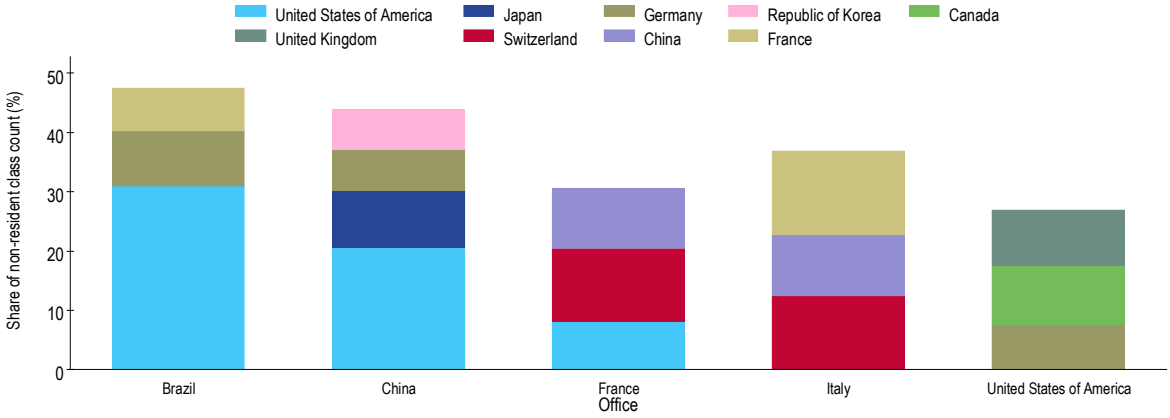
Conversely, about three-fourths of filing activity by Swiss applicants occurred outside their country, followed by that of applicants from the US (45%), Italy (38%), the UK (38%) and Germany (36%).

Applicants from the upper middle-income countries of Belarus (41%) and Panama (39%) sought protection abroad for a considerable share of their trademark filing activity. For the lower middle-income countries of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, the share was between 21% and 25%.

When deciding where to seek trademark protection, applicants consider such factors as market size and geographical proximity. For example, one-fifth of all non-resident filing activity in China in 2014 came from US applicants, and one-tenth from applicants in Japan (figure 12). Applicants from Germany and the Republic of Korea accounted for 7% each of non-resident trademark filing activity in China. In the US, applicants from Canada (10%) and the UK (9%) accounted for the largest shares of non-resident filing activity.

After applicants from Switzerland, those from China were the second most active foreign filers in France and the third most active in Italy, accounting for 10% of application class counts in filings received from abroad by these two offices. In Brazil, US applicants accounted for 31% of all non-resident filing activity (class counts), followed by 9% for German applicants and 7% for French.

Figure 12: Share of total non-resident filing activity by origin at selected offices



Source: Standard figure B20.

Adjusting for GDP and population

Differences in trademark filing activity across countries reflect both the size of their economy and their level of economic development. To compare trademark filing intensities across countries, it helps to measure resident application class counts relative to GDP or population level.

When resident trademark applications are viewed as class counts and adjusted by GDP, countries with a lower number of classes specified in resident applications (such as Portugal and Estonia) may rank higher than some countries that otherwise show higher class counts (India and the US). China (12,071), followed by Portugal (10,604), the Republic of Korea (9,685) and Estonia (8,379) exhibited among the highest resident application class count-to-GDP ratios in 2014 (figure 13). Portugal, in particular, saw a large increase in resident application class count per unit of GDP between 2004 and 2014. This was due to resident filing activity in Portugal more than doubling over this ten-year period, coupled with a decrease in GDP of 2.8%. Australia and Germany each had a ratio of about 7,000 even though German resident filing activity was two-and-a-half times that of Australian residents.

The data reflecting application class count per million population present a somewhat different picture. Switzerland – with a population of 8.2 million – reported a resident application class count of 4,221 per million, one of the most intensive on this indicator. The Republic of Korea (3,257), and Australia and Germany, with close to 3,000 each, also rank high.

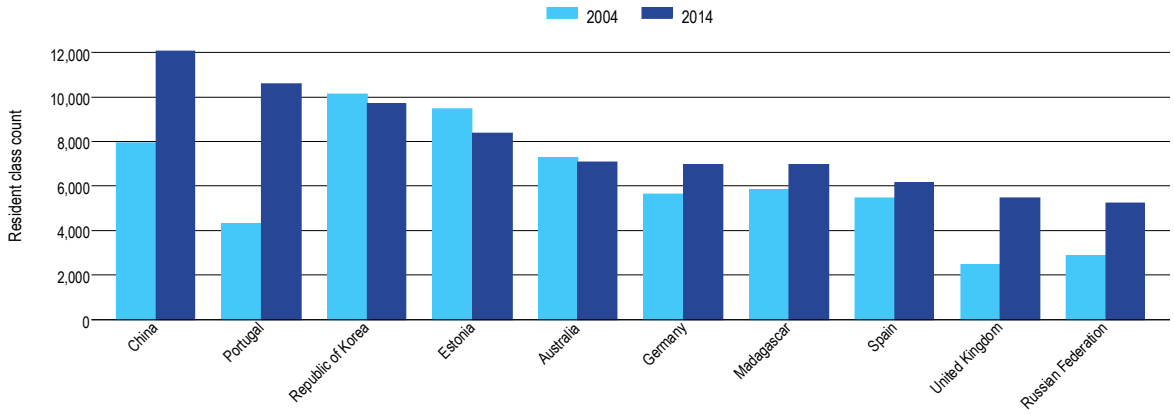
Which classes and industries see the most filing activity?

Nice Classification statistics offer insights into the relative importance of different goods and services. Service class 35 (advertising, business management, business administration and office functions) has been number one since 2004 – when complete class counts first became available – and in 2014 was represented in 9.8% of all trademark filing activity. Equally represented in 6.8% of all reported filing activity by class, the second and third highest were goods classes 9 (including scientific, photographic, measuring instruments, recording equipment, computers and software) and 25 (clothing, footwear, headgear).

The 11 service-related classes accounted for 35.4% of all classes specified in applications filed in 2014, up from 30% in 2004. But in the offices of China, India and Indonesia, services classes accounted for less than 30% of all filing activity, in contrast to more than 50% in the Benelux and Spain offices.

It is useful to group the 45 Nice classes into 10 industry sectors. Similar to the percentages reported in 2013, 2014 saw the agriculture, research & technology, and clothing sectors account for the largest shares of global trademark filing activity, ranging from 13% to 17%. In contrast, industries relating to chemicals and to transportation accounted for the smallest shares, from about 2% to 5%. The distribution of total trademark applications across industries has remained stable between 2004 and 2014.

Figure 13. Resident trademark application class count per 100 billion USD GDP for selected origins



Source: Standard figure B28.

The top three industry sectors in Germany, the US and at OHIM were business, leisure & education, and research & technology. This differs from India and the Republic of Korea, where the top three were agriculture, clothing and health.

Trademark registrations approach 3.5 million

After examination, an office may decide to register a trademark. The number of registrations issued can fluctuate greatly from year to year, due in part to the resources that offices dedicate to examining trademark applications. For this reason, one should not compare the number of applications filed at an office in a given year with the number of registrations issued by that office in the same year.

The 3.49 million trademark registrations recorded worldwide in 2014 were up an impressive 16.3% on the previous year.

Just as class counts make application activity internationally comparable, so they do for registrations. In 2014, 5.15 million classes were specified in trademark registrations, an 11.1% increase on 2013, returning to the double-digit growth last witnessed in 2010. China accounted for 70% of this annual increase, largely due to its efforts to improve examination efficiency. In 2014, China's office was responsible for more than a quarter of all registration activity (class counts), so a big change at this office can have a large impact on global growth.

Brazil records the fastest growth in registrations

In 2014, China's office registered trademarks in which about 1.38 million classes were specified, followed distantly by OHIM (293,465), the USPTO (253,700) and the office of Turkey (192,705).

Along with the very high annual growth in China (+36%), several other offices among the top 20 experienced large increases in registration activity, including Argentina (+19%), Brazil (+132%) and Turkey (+12%). However, Australia (-2%), the Benelux office (-2%), Canada (-13%) and the Republic of Korea (-1%) saw decreases.

Globally, 30% of the total registration class count in 2014 was attributed to non-residents. But more than half of the top 20 offices reported lower shares than this; in particular, the non-resident shares of registration activity at the offices of China, Germany, Italy and Spain ranged from around 10% to 12.5%. China Hong Kong (SAR), Switzerland and Ukraine had non-resident shares of 60% or more.

Many offices of EU countries – including the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property – have witnessed decreases in filing and registration activity in recent years. This is partly due to OHIM, which offers an alternative to seeking protection for trademarks not only in individual EU member countries but in the EU as a whole.

Active trademarks

Unlike most forms of IP, trademarks can be maintained indefinitely by paying renewal fees at defined time intervals. In 2014, there were an estimated 33.1 million active trademark registrations at 124 offices worldwide, representing an increase of 13% on 2013.

Once again, China accounted for the most trademarks in force in 2014, with almost 8.4 million, a 15.9% increase on 2013. The US (1.85 million) and Japan (1.8 million) had similar numbers. India, with almost 990,000, also ranks high. At slightly more than 920,000, Mexico edged in front of the Republic of Korea's approximately 888,000 trademarks in force to rank seventh, just after Germany. Like China, the offices of Argentina, South Africa and Turkey saw double-digit one-year growth.

About 11 million trademarks in force at 65 offices in 2014 can be distributed according to the year they were initially registered. Approximately 18% of those registered in 1981 were still in force in 2014, reflecting the enduring value of marks. For those registered in 2004 and later, the percentage rises above 50%. Almost half these 11 million have been registered since 2008.

Use of the Madrid route continues to grow

To obtain trademark protection in multiple countries or jurisdictions, applicants can either file their applications directly at each individual office – the Paris route – or file an application for international registration through the Madrid System: the Madrid route (see the glossary). In addition to the increased use of the Madrid System that took place in 2014, the System also continued to grow geographically, with the accession of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), representing 17 countries, and Zimbabwe.

The nearly 48,000 international trademark applications filed through the Madrid System in 2014 were up 2.3% on 2013, reflecting growing membership and a general upward trend in applications worldwide. About one-third of the growth resulted from just two countries whose applicants used the Madrid route the most in 2014 – Germany accounted for 10% and the US for 22% of total growth.

German holders have been the largest users of the Madrid System for more than a decade. In 2014, their registrations contained a total of 46,536 designations – including subsequent designations, followed by the designations in registrations belonging to holders from the US (41,738) and from France (28,919). Together, these three held a combined share of 34% of all designations made in international registrations recorded in 2014.

For the second year running, China was the only Madrid member to exceed 20,000 designations in 2014. The EU regained its number two spot while the Russian Federation dropped two positions to become the fourth most designated Madrid member in 2014, with 16,573 designations. Recent Madrid members India, Mexico and New Zealand showed high growth in frequency of designation by international registration holders from other Madrid member countries.

In 2014, a large majority (85%) of Madrid member offices received more than half their trademark filing activity (application class counts) from abroad through the Madrid System, with some offices receiving upwards of three-quarters. For further information and statistics, see the *Madrid Yearly Review, 2015*.

Standard figures and tables

Trademark applications and registrations worldwide

Trademark applications and registrations by office

Trademark applications by origin

Trademark applications by Nice class and industry sector

Trademark application class count in relation to GDP and population

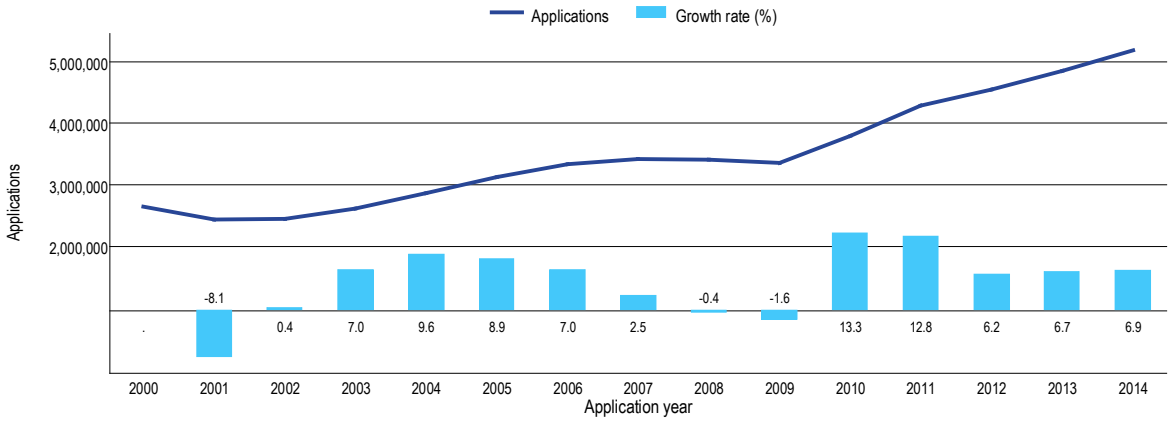
Trademarks in force

Trademark applications and registrations through the Madrid System

Statistical tables

Trademark applications and registrations worldwide

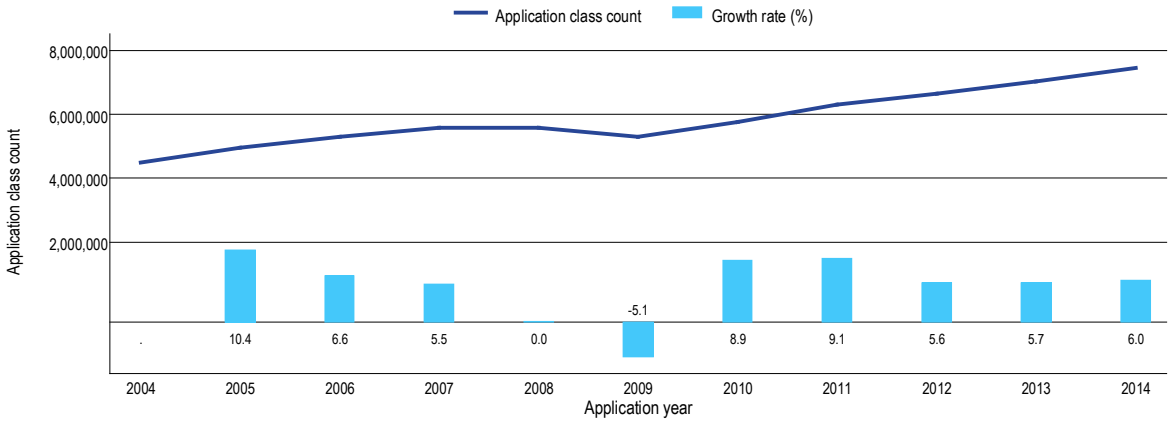
B1 Trend in trademark applications worldwide



Note: World totals are WIPO estimates using data covering 163 IP offices (see Data description). These totals include the numbers of applications filed directly with national and regional offices (the "Paris route") as well as the numbers of designations received by offices via the Madrid System (where applicable).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

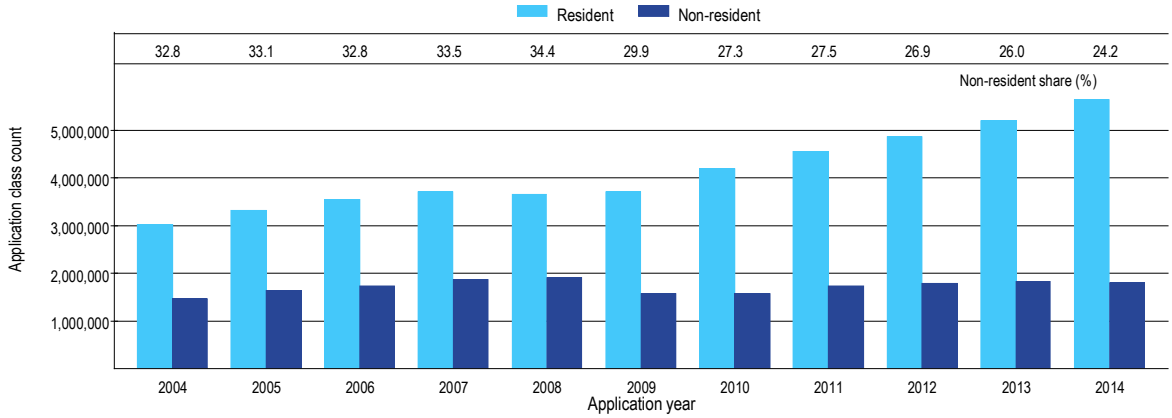
B2 Trend in trademark application class counts worldwide



Note: World totals are WIPO estimates using data covering 163 IP offices (see Data description). These totals include class counts in applications filed directly with national and regional offices (the "Paris route") as well as class counts in designations received by offices via the Madrid System (where applicable). See the glossary for the definition of class count.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

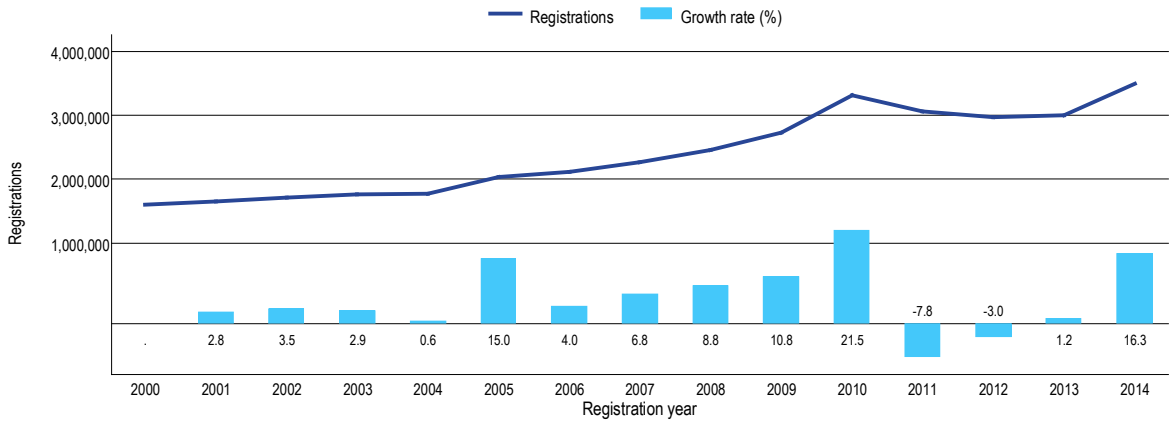
B3 Resident and non-resident trademark application class counts worldwide



Note: World totals are WIPO estimates using data covering 163 IP offices (see Data description). These totals include class counts in applications filed directly with national and regional offices (the "Paris route") as well as class counts in designations received by offices via the Madrid System (where applicable). See the glossary for definitions of class count and for resident and non-resident.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

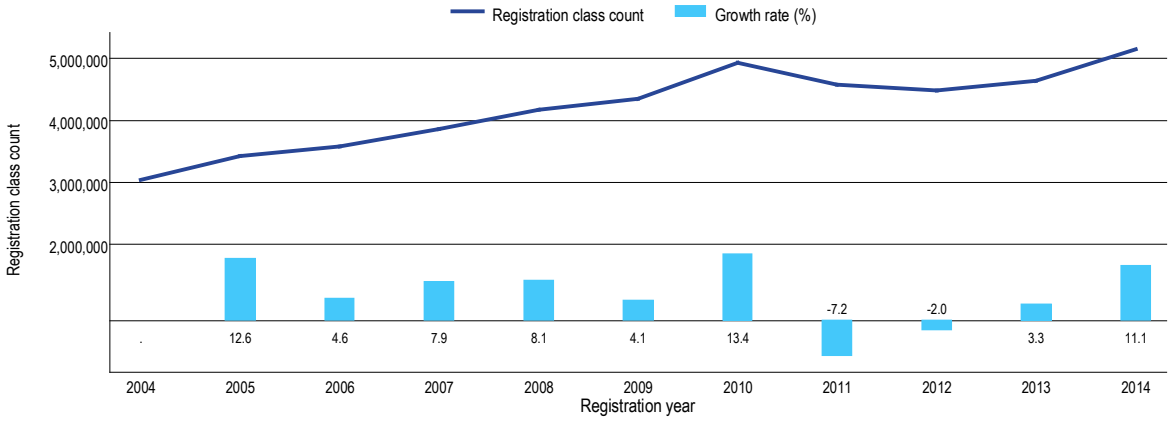
B4 Trend in trademark registrations worldwide



Note: World totals are WIPO estimates using data covering 156 IP offices (see Data description). These totals include the numbers of registrations issued by national and regional offices for applications filed directly with offices (the "Paris route") as well as for designations received by offices via the Madrid System (where applicable).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

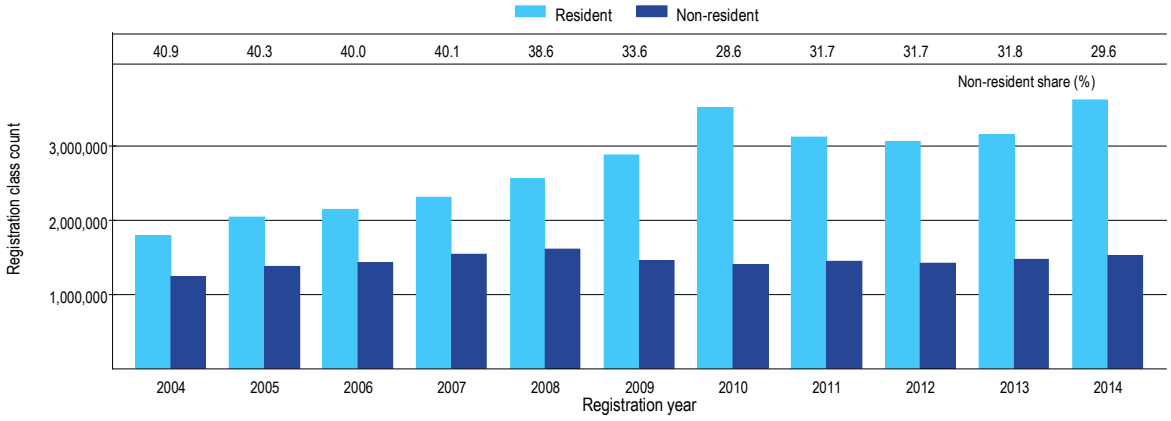
B5 Trend in trademark registration class counts worldwide



Note: World totals are WIPO estimates using data covering 156 IP offices (see Data description). These totals include class counts in registrations issued by national and regional offices for applications filed directly with offices (the "Paris route") as well as for designations received by offices via the Madrid System (where applicable). See the glossary for the definition of class count.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B6 Resident and non-resident trademark registration class counts worldwide



Note: World totals are WIPO estimates using data covering 156 IP offices (see Data description). These totals include class counts in registrations issued by national and regional offices for applications filed directly with offices (the "Paris route") as well as for designations received by offices via the Madrid System (where applicable). See the glossary for definitions of class count and for resident and non-resident.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Trademark applications and registrations by office

B7 Trademark application class counts by income group

	Application class count		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
High-income	2,770,000	3,368,600	66.3	71.6	61.6	45.2	2.0
Upper middle-income	1,253,400	3,308,000	73.4	83.5	27.9	44.4	10.2
...Upper middle-income without China	*658,500*	*1,085,400*	*59.6*	*63.3*	*14.6*	*14.6*	*5.1*
Lower middle-income	431,800	713,500	56.7	62.1	9.6	9.6	5.1
Low-income	41,700	59,300	48.1	46.0	0.9	0.8	3.6
World	**4,496,900**	**7,449,400**	**67.2**	**75.8**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**5.2**

Note: Totals by income groups are WIPO estimates using data covering 163 IP offices. Each category includes the following number of offices: high-income (63), upper middle-income (43), lower middle-income (37) and low income (20). Data for the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market are allocated to the high-income group because most EU member states are high-income countries. For the same reason, data for the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization and the African Intellectual Property Organization are allocated to the low-income group. An additional category, "Upper middle-income without China", has been added to provide a view of the remaining countries in the upper middle-income group excluding the high filing activity in China.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

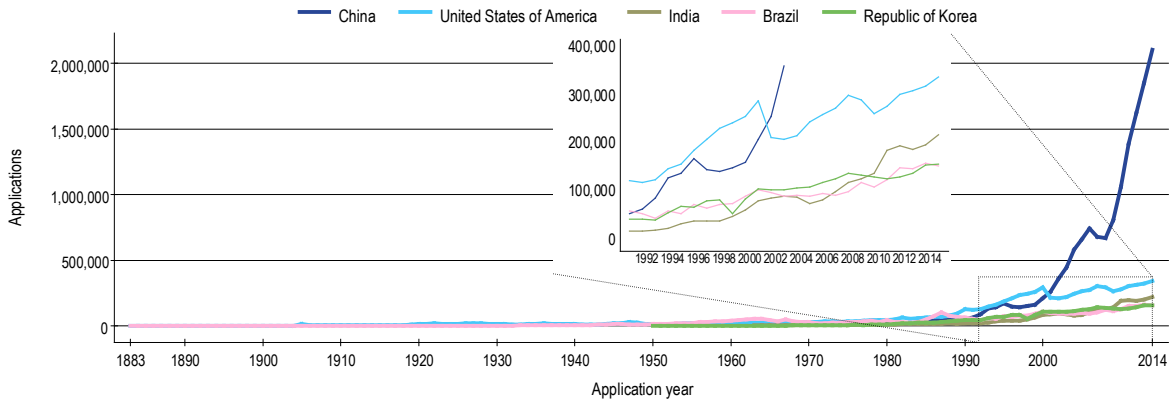
B8 Trademark application class counts by region

	Application class count		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
Africa	139,300	207,000	46.4	45.3	3.1	2.8	4.0
Asia	1,558,000	3,855,700	73.9	82.2	34.6	51.8	9.5
Europe	1,826,150	1,983,000	62.4	73.7	40.6	26.6	0.8
Latin America & the Caribbean	443,600	626,200	64.8	63.2	9.9	8.4	3.5
North America	415,550	617,400	74.7	71.5	9.2	8.3	4.0
Oceania	114,300	160,100	60.3	54.8	2.5	2.1	3.4
World	**4,496,900**	**7,449,400**	**67.2**	**75.8**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**5.2**

Note: Totals by geographical region are WIPO estimates based on data covering 163 offices. Each region includes the following number of offices: Africa (33), Asia (45), Europe (42), Latin America & the Caribbean (36), North America (2) and Oceania (5).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

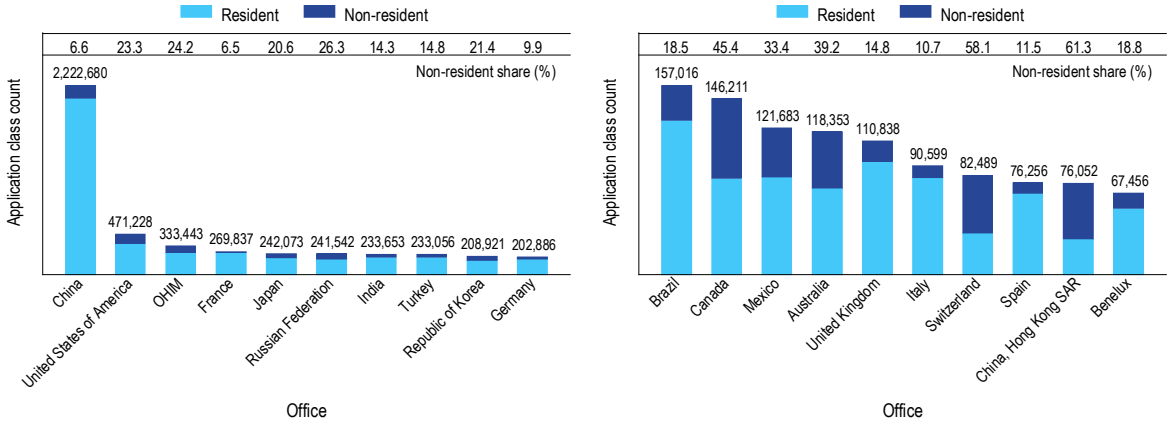
B9 Trend in trademark applications for the top five offices



Note: Data are based on the numbers of applications filed; that is, differences between single-class and multi-class filing systems across IP offices are not taken into account. The top five offices were selected based on their 2014 totals.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

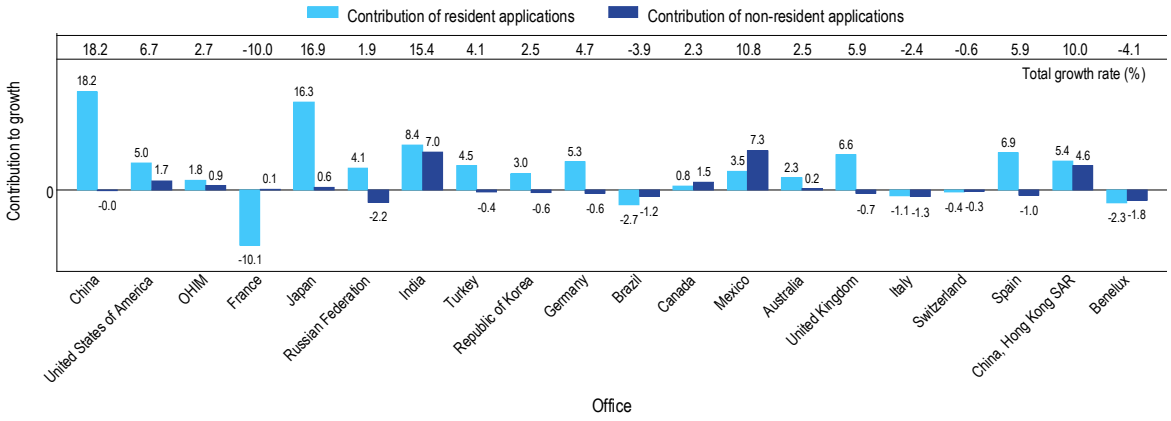
B10 Trademark application class counts for the top 20 offices, 2014



Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

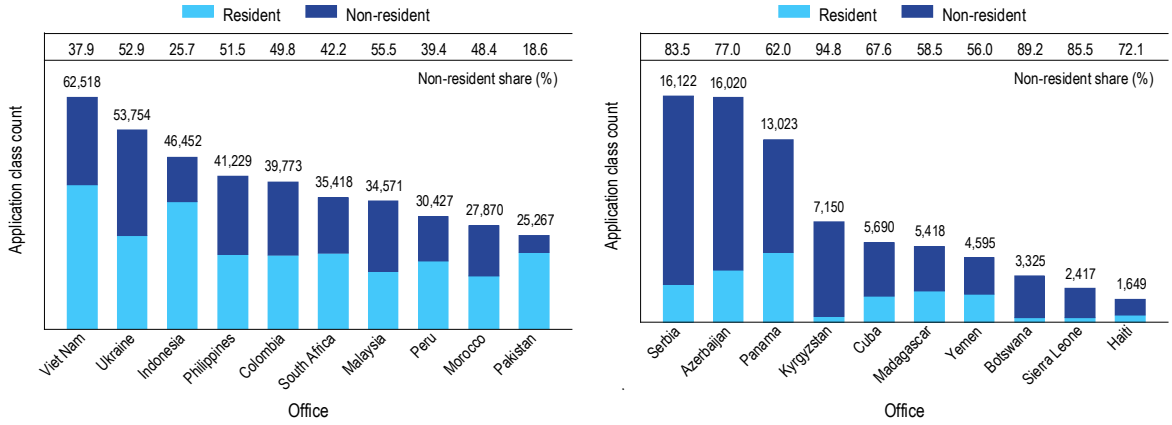
B11 Contribution of resident and non-resident application class counts to total growth for the top 20 offices, 2013-14



Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. This figure shows, for each office, total growth or decreases in application class counts broken down by the respective contributions of resident and non-resident filing activity. For example, the total number of classes specified in trademark applications in India grew by 15.4%. Growth in resident applications accounted for 8.4 percentage points of this increase, whereas the remaining 7 percentage points are attributed to non-resident filing activity.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

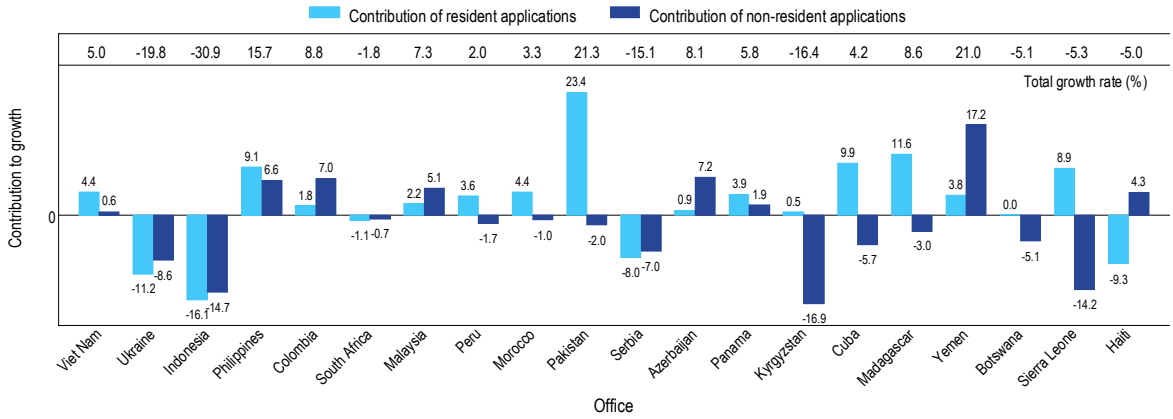
B12 Trademark application class counts for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2014



Note: The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all offices are presented in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

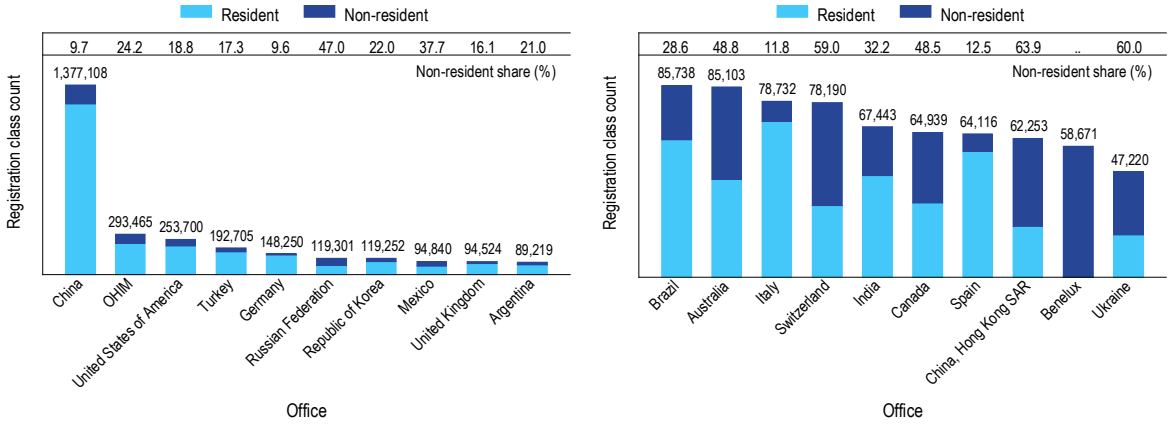
B13 Contribution of resident and non-resident application class counts to total growth for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2013-14



Note: The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all offices are presented in the statistical table at the end of this section. This figure shows, for each office, total growth in application class counts broken down by the respective contributions of resident and non-resident applications. For example, the total number of classes specified in trademark applications at the IP office of the Philippines grew by 15.7%. Growth in resident applications accounted for 9.1 percentage points of this increase, whereas the remaining 6.6 percentage points are attributed to non-resident filing activity.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B14 Trademark registration class counts for the top 20 offices, 2014

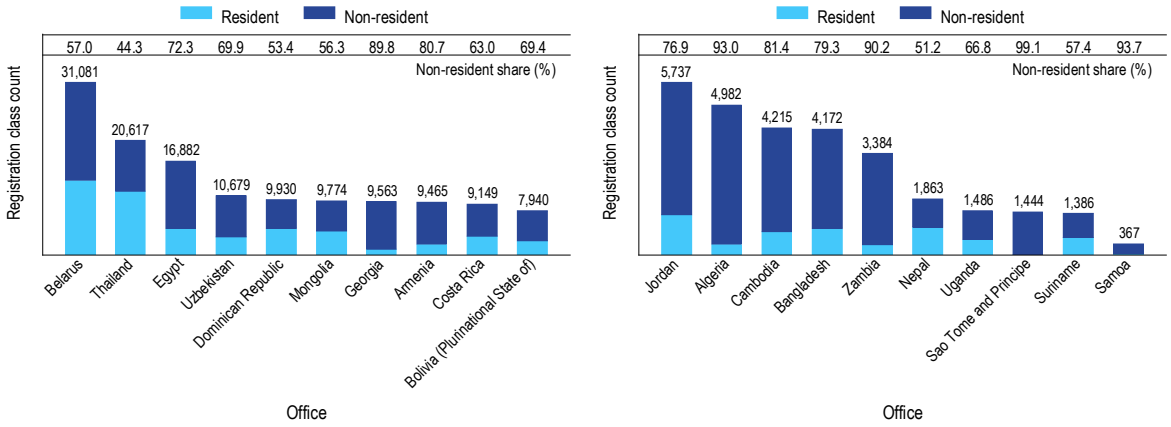


.. indicates not available.

Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. Figures for the offices of France and Japan are not presented here because their data were not available. On the basis of an examination, a registration may be issued for a trademark application. Unlike application numbers, the numbers of registrations issued may fluctuate greatly from one year to the next, in part reflecting the resources that IP offices dedicate to examining trademark applications.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B15 Trademark registration class counts for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2014

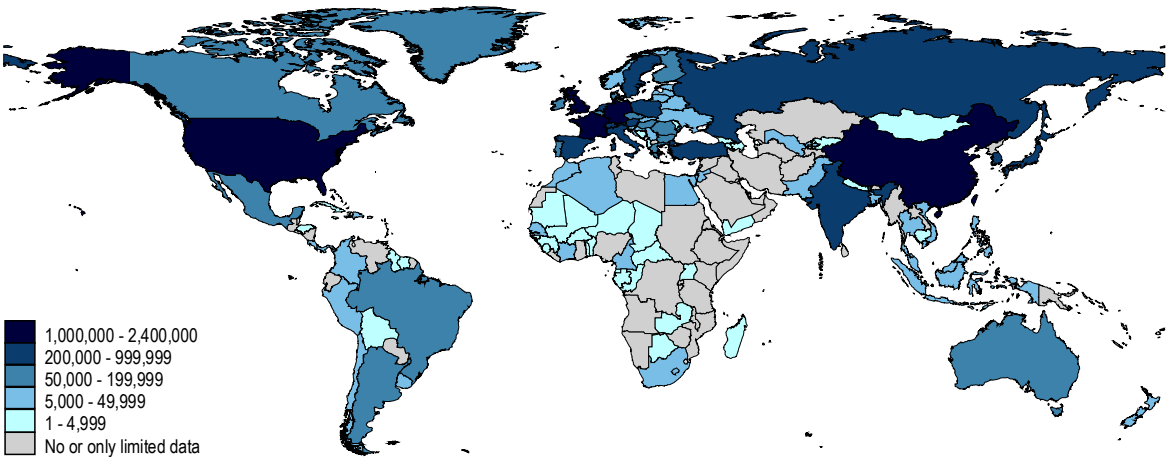


Note: The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all offices are presented in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Trademark applications by origin

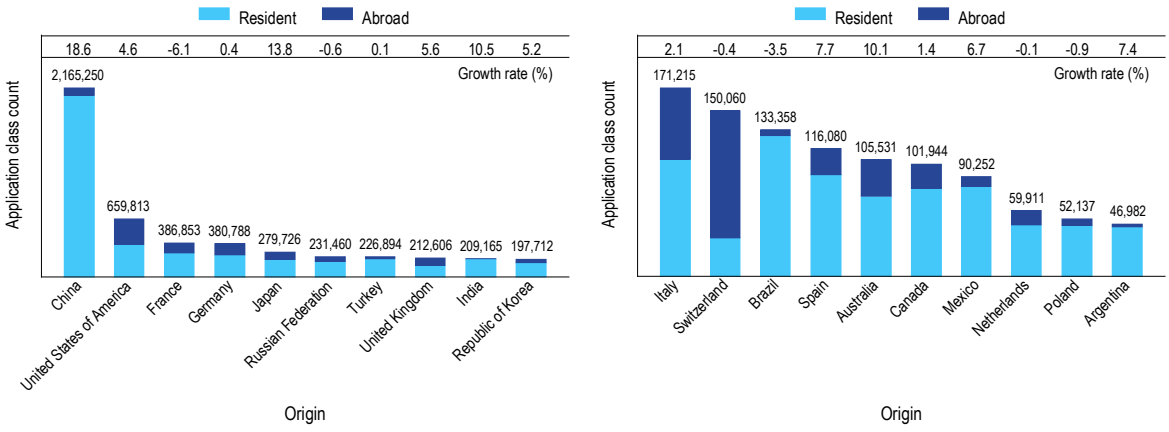
B16 Equivalent trademark application class counts by origin, 2014



Note: Trademark filing activity by origin includes resident applications and applications filed abroad. The origin of a trademark application is determined by the residence of the applicant. Applications filed at regional offices are considered equivalent to multiple applications in the relevant member states. See the glossary for the definition of equivalent application.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

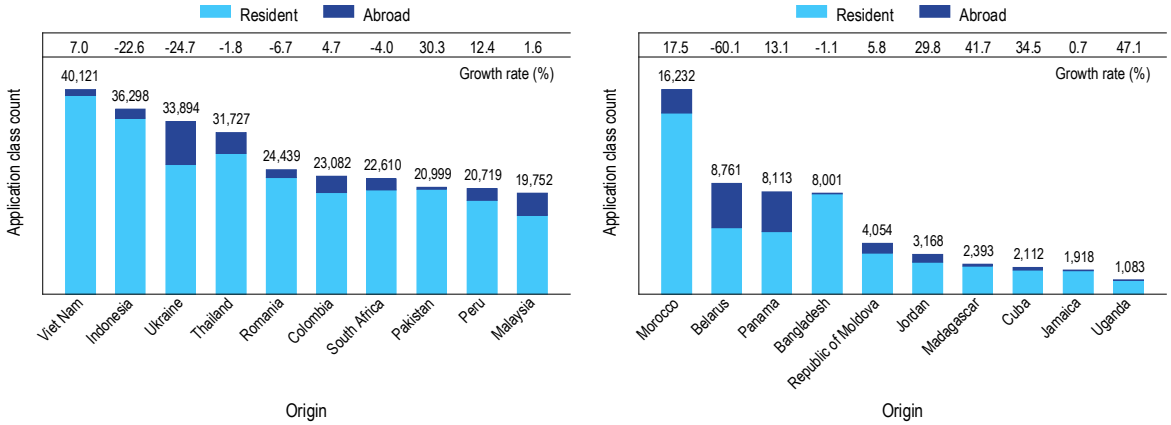
B17 Trademark application class counts for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Trademark application filing activity by origin includes resident applications and applications filed abroad, and is based on absolute count, not equivalent count. The origin of a trademark application is determined by the residence of the applicant. An application filed at a regional office is considered a resident filing if the applicant is a resident of one of the relevant member states.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

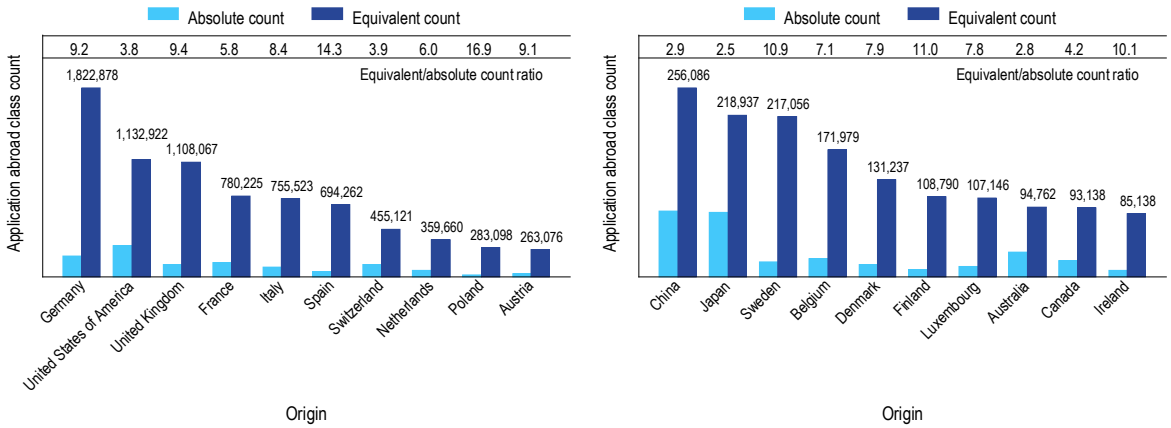
B18 Trademark application class counts for selected low- and middle-income origins, 2014



Note: Trademark application filing activity by origin includes resident applications and applications filed abroad, and is based on absolute count, not equivalent count. The origin of a trademark application is determined by the residence of the applicant. The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all origins are presented in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B19 Trademark application class counts abroad for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: This figure distinguishes between absolute counts and equivalent counts for filing activity abroad – that is, resident applications are excluded. Based on equivalent application class counts, applicants from Germany had the highest level of trademark filing activity abroad. This was due not only to their high application class counts at numerous foreign offices, but also to their frequent use of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) – with its multiplier effect – in order to seek trademark protection within the entire EU. See the glossary for the definition of equivalent application. The origin of a trademark application is determined by the residence of the applicant. Where available, data for all origins are presented in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B20 Trademark application class counts for the top 25 offices and origins, 2014

Origin	Office																								
	China	United States of America	OHIM	France	Japan	Russian Federation	India	Turkey	Republic of Korea	Germany	Brazil	Canada	Mexico	Australia	United Kingdom	Italy	Switzerland	Spain	China, Hong Kong SAR	Benelux	Viet Nam	Argentina	Ukraine	Indonesia	Thailand
Argentina	169	225	180	7	16	24	4	14	8		268	55	149	12	13	25	7	18	21	4	16	44,134	2	3	7
Australia	3,838	4,312	2,254	100	1,119	501	892	154	729	106	284	1,584	350	71,923	916	61	435	54	996	44	407	145	124	194	321
Austria	892	989	8,983	198	322	1,037	431	531	300	1,241	174	341	329	365	157	333	1,587	99	147	157	156	59	614	32	65
Brazil	483	800	638	54	69	56	25	28	57	17	127,925	87	424	32	7	32	38	47	65	6	15	459	10	18	18
Canada	1,987	11,032	2,619	99	407	252	136	113	524	51	253	79,807	451	702	234	18	163	6	429	72	178	149	59	55	136
China	2,076,472	7,217	5,848	1,775	2,192	2,144	1,759	992	3,552	1,951	1,036	2,388	1,052	1,769	1,245	988	984	623	13,209	762	1,485	417	808	880	1,696
China, Hong Kong SAR		2,522	2,309	404	685	296	179	129	48	204	130	638	104	746	364	63	225	30	29,448	96	300	45	39	298	223
Czech Republic	329	302	2,762	100	83	655	50	219	68	226	16	42	46	87	90	87	205	57	47	80	69	4	327	11	4
France	9,417	6,621	23,687	252,212	3,587	4,391	2,237	2,159	2,878	1,351	2,065	3,024	2,342	2,287	1,395	1,375	5,129	1,695	1,720	3,501	1,542	746	1,631	446	785
Germany	10,060	8,194	62,174	1,057	3,624	6,383	3,114	4,641	2,980	182,742	2,716	4,035	2,478	2,802	934	803	11,515	655	1,737	1,618	1,665	1,073	2,941	612	1,277
India	479	889	680	19	219	270	200,137	99	73	36	79	265	152	275	234	29	68	19	94	32	387	64	282	77	153
Indonesia	311	83	65	4	64	6	16	7	48	7	5	12	13	55	7	2	1	2	82	12	107	1	7	34,521	93
Italy	6,236	4,347	25,504	421	2,279	3,623	1,778	1,942	1,828	344	1,239	1,492	1,336	1,333	331	80,890	2,540	334	1,015	263	758	428	1,358	176	353
Japan	14,046	6,125	4,762	460	192,171	2,166	1,644	1,273	5,678	363	1,397	2,355	1,574	2,109	392	228	1,248	140	4,944	180	2,909	642	600	1,552	3,553
Mexico	372	2,085	662	19	66	59	43	77	54	10	374	352	81,100	41	27	7	26	46	75	4	62	629	31	14	25
Netherlands	1,359	969	10,061	313	279	361	147	379	217	344	899	960	304	173	255	94	207	142	679	35,811	184	374	167	306	374
Poland	476	304	10,236	72	44	528	82	133	56	120	56	90	64	62	76	89	85	73	33	64	80	24	465	1	18
Republic of Korea	9,969	2,848	1,863	126	2,433	809	516	365	164,226	155	547	610	479	702	168	125	192	100	1,266	68	1,232	176	189	467	749
Russian Federation	2,417	1,080	1,048	927	578	177,970	534	899	613	1,162	54	143	445	309	901	853	569	745	99	597	441	23	3,507	11	45
Spain	1,668	1,800	24,716	369	418	757	328	448	344	378	711	651	1,415	365	165	153	355	67,500	278	149	172	449	299	98	182
Switzerland	5,628	5,477	12,323	2,161	3,384	3,987	2,112	2,897	2,625	3,330	1,691	2,237	2,337	2,585	1,015	1,206	34,570	673	1,426	895	1,274	1,022	2,175	499	957
Turkey	922	796	1,758	470	297	1,474	321	198,680	183	665	76	117	162	251	427	427	343	362	36	465	154	35	861	37	39
Ukraine	280	183	129	99	27	1,334	57	141	44	228	15	17	35	33	137	123	98	115	18	100	48	7	25,343		
United Kingdom	8,000	10,284	37,851	1,014	2,716	2,532	1,835	1,538	2,347	3,370	1,771	5,010	1,729	3,749	94,437	390	1,792	231	2,310	606	875	722	919	401	849
United States of America	29,996	361,370	30,315	1,436	12,796	7,305	7,004	4,383	10,246	1,592	9,026	32,555	14,699	13,034	2,763	715	5,096	755	7,188	1,427	3,292	4,212	2,122	2,002	3,265
Others	36,874	30,374	60,016	5,921	12,198	22,622	8,272	10,815	9,195	2,893	4,209	7,344	8,114	12,552	4,148	1,483	15,011	1,735	8,690	20,443	44,710	2,447	8,874	3,741	30,474
Total	**2,222,680**	**471,228**	**333,443**	**269,837**	**242,073**	**241,542**	**233,653**	**233,056**	**208,921**	**202,886**	**157,016**	**146,211**	**121,683**	**118,353**	**110,838**	**90,599**	**82,489**	**76,256**	**76,052**	**67,456**	**62,518**	**58,486**	**53,754**	**46,452**	**45,661**

Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. Office and origin data consist of absolute application class counts rather than equivalent application class counts.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Trademark applications by Nice class and industry sector

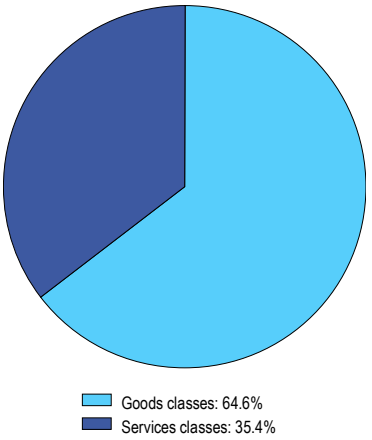
B21 Distribution of trademark applications by top Nice classes, 2014

Rank	Class		Class share (%)
1	35	Advertising and business management	9.8
2	9	Scientific, photographic, measuring instruments; recording equipment; computers and software	6.8
3	25	Clothing	6.8
4	41	Education, entertainment, and sporting activities	5.7
5	5	Pharmaceutical preparations, baby food, dietary supplements for humans and animals, disinfectants, fungicides and herbicides	4.6
6	30	Coffee, tea, cocoa, rice, flour, bread, pastry and confectionery, sugar, honey, yeast, salt, mustard; vinegar, sauces (condiments) and spices	4.5
7	42	Scientific and technological services, design and development of computer hardware and software	4.3
8	3	Bleaching preparations and other substances for laundry use; cleaning and abrasive preparations; soaps, perfumery and cosmetics	3.7
9	43	Services for providing food and drink; temporary accommodation	3.6
10	29	Foodstuffs of animal origin and vegetables	3.1
		Remaining classes	**47.1**

Note: These figures are based on filing data from 121 IP offices. Some classes listed are abbreviated. See Annex B for full definitions.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

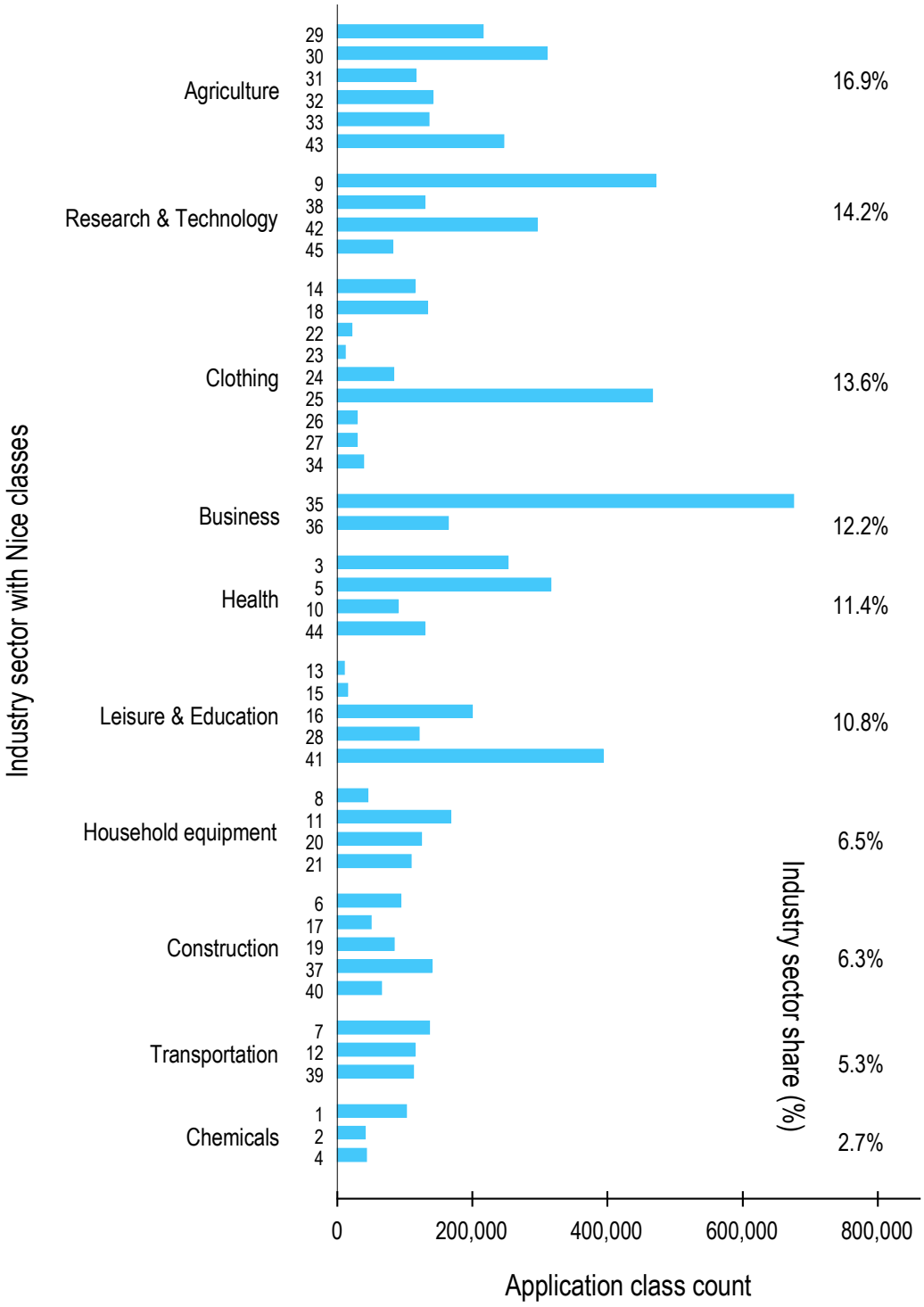
B22 Trademark applications by goods and services classes, 2014



Note: In the 45 Nice Classification, the first 34 classes indicate goods and the remaining 11 refer to services. Together, the service-related classes accounted for over one-third of all classes specified in applications filed in 2014, demonstrating the importance that applicants place on protecting their brands in service-oriented industries. See *www.wipo.int/classifications/nice* for full definitions of classes.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

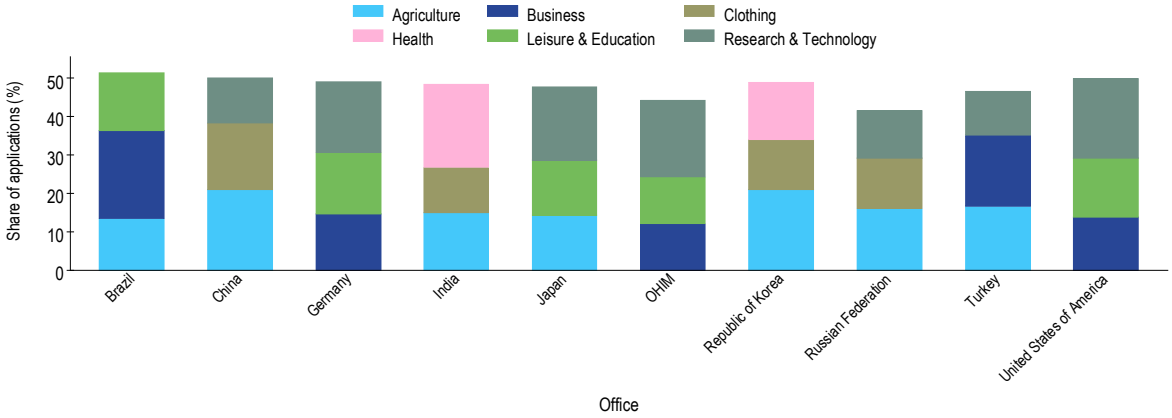
B23 Trademark applications by industry sector, 2014



Note: Industry sectors based on class groups are those defined by Edital. Some industry sectors are abbreviated. See Annex B for full definitions. The distribution of trademark applications across industries has remained stable between 2004 and 2014. Like class rankings, the shares of class groups differ across offices.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

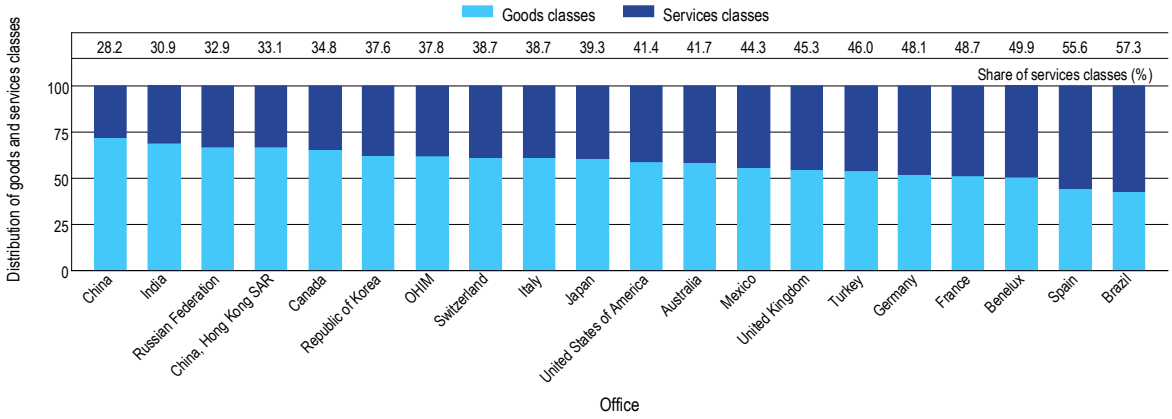
B24 Trademark applications by top three sectors at the top offices, 2014



Note: Industry sectors based on class groups are those defined by Edital. Some industry sectors are abbreviated. See Annex B for full definitions. OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. The top three sectors and top offices were selected based on their 2014 totals.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

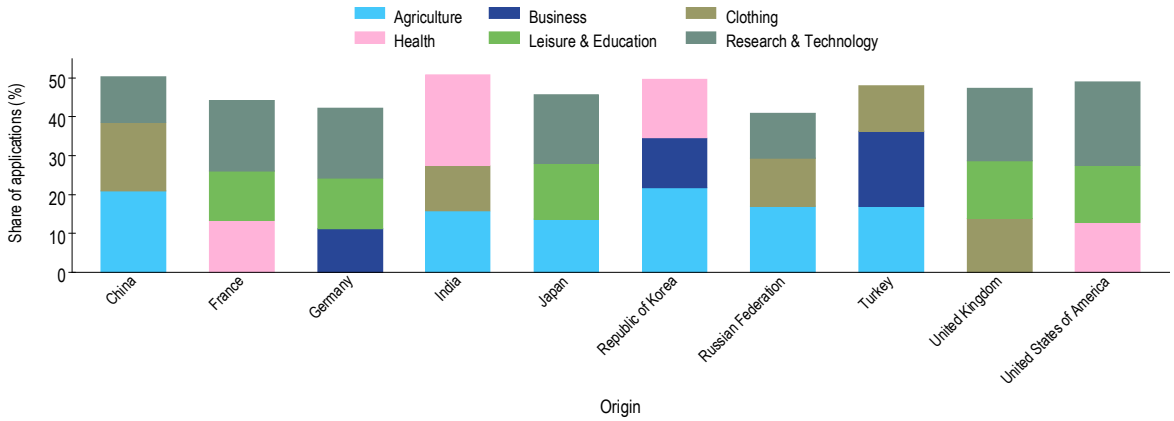
B25 Distribution of trademark applications by goods and services at the top offices, 2014



Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

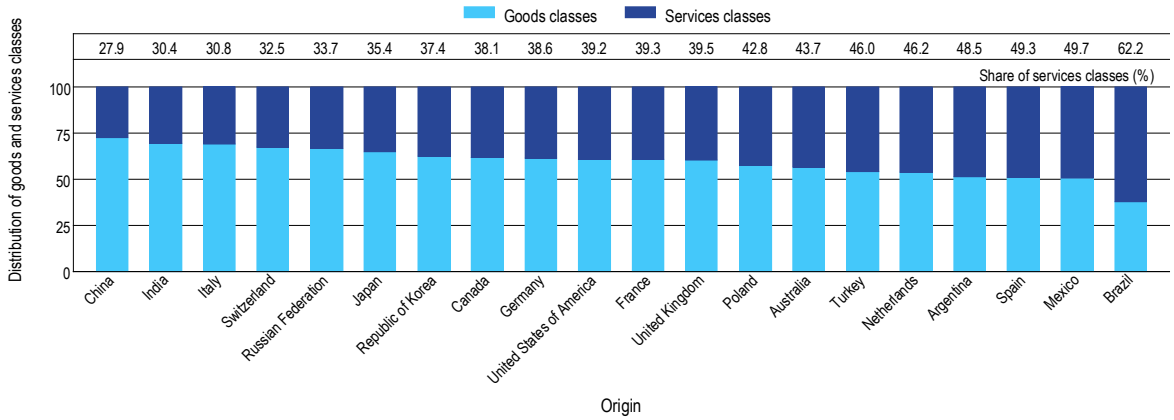
B26 Trademark applications by top three sectors for the top origins, 2014



Note: Industry sectors based on class groups are those defined by Edital. Some industry sectors are abbreviated. See Annex B for full definitions. The top three sectors and top origins were selected based on their 2014 totals.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

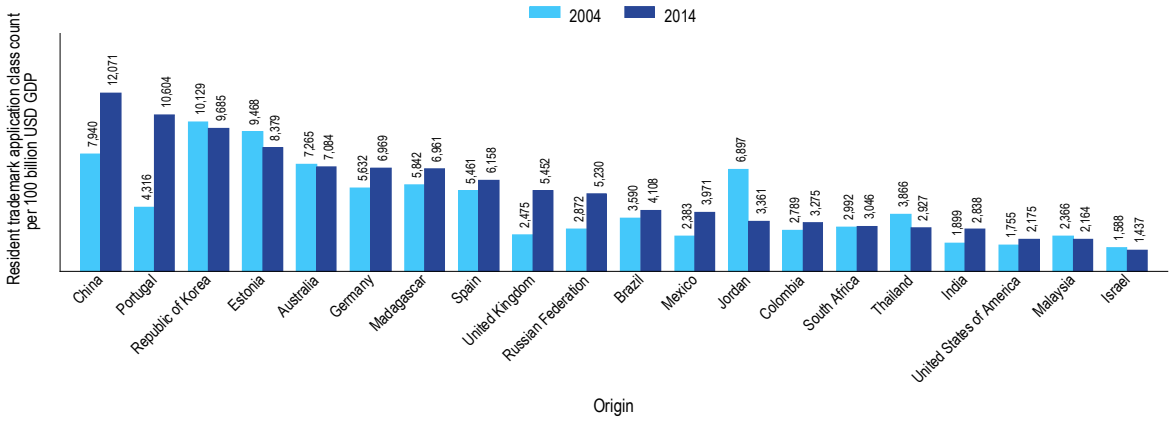
B27 Distribution of trademark applications by goods and services for selected origins, 2014



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Trademark application class count in relation to GDP and population

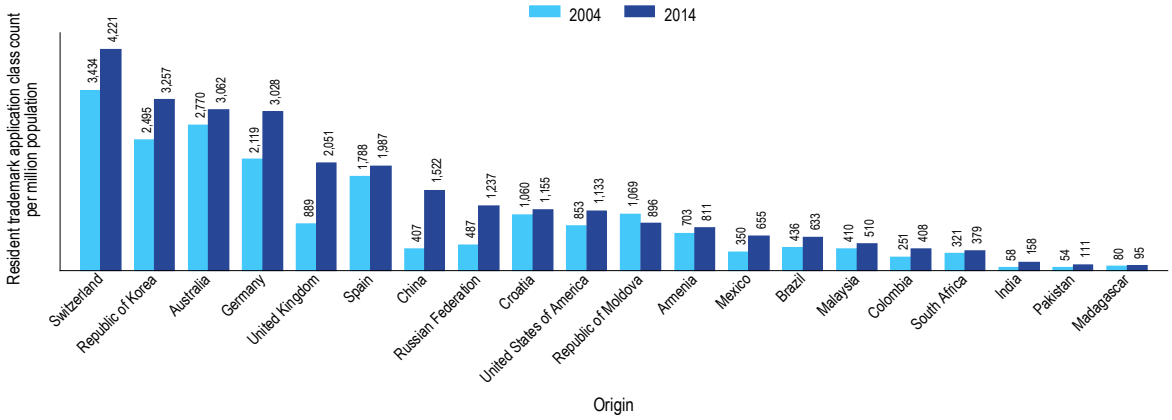
B28 Resident trademark application class count per 100 billion USD GDP for selected origins



Note: GDP data are in constant 2011 US PPP dollars. This figure does not provide an overall ranking of all origins; rather, it provides a selection across geographical regions and income groups.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and World Bank, October 2015.

B29 Resident trademark application class count per million population for selected origins

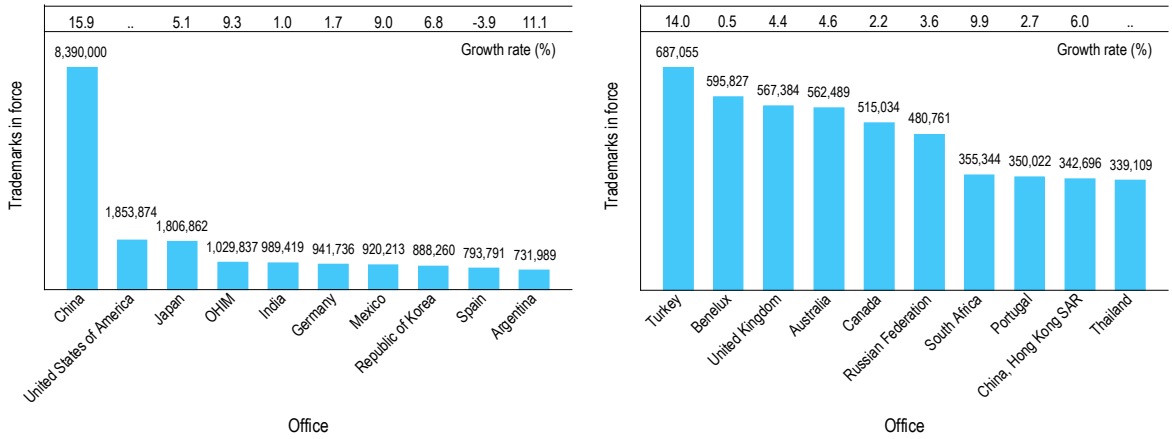


Note: This figure does not provide an overall ranking of all origins; rather, it provides a selection across geographical regions and income groups.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and World Bank, October 2015.

Trademarks in force

B30 Trademarks in force at selected offices, 2014

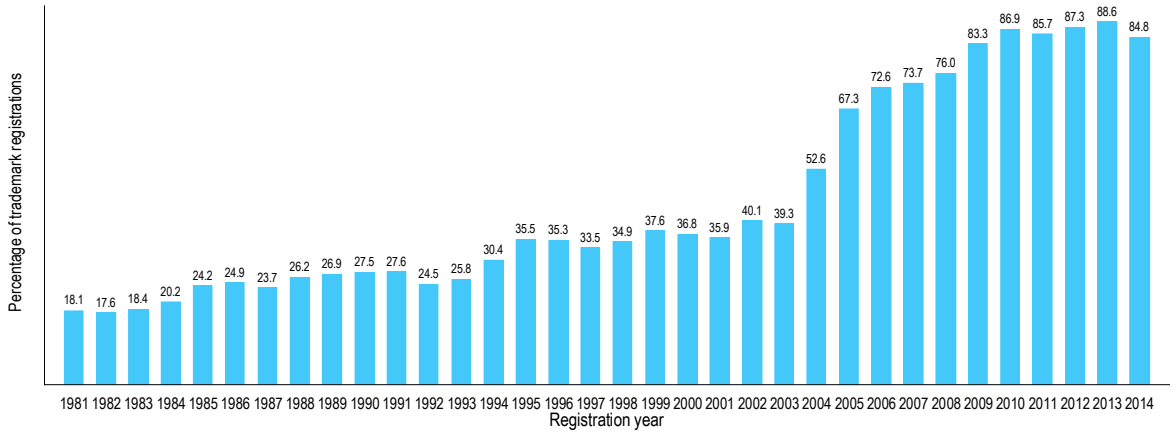


.. indicates not available.

Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market; data refer to the number of registrations in force and not the number of classes specified in those registrations.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

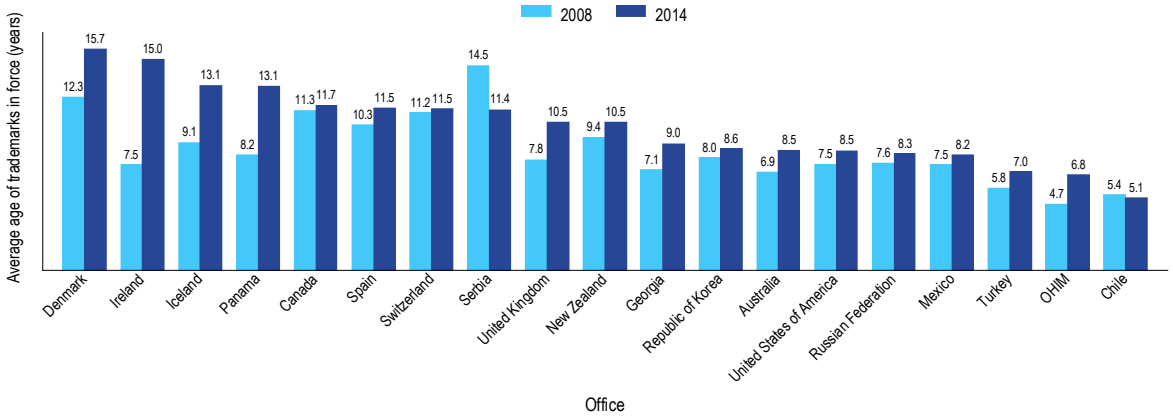
B31 Trademarks in force in 2014 as a percentage of total registrations



Note: Percentages are calculated as follows: the number of trademark registrations issued in year *t* and in force in 2014 divided by the total number of trademark registrations issued in year *t*. Trademark holders must pay renewal fees to maintain the validity of their marks, which in most cases can be maintained indefinitely. This figure is based on about 11 million active trademark registrations reported by 65 offices that provided a breakdown by year of registration. Detailed data for several larger offices, such as those of Brazil, China and Japan, were not available. Due to a change in methodology, this figure should not be compared with the trademarks in force as a percentage of total registrations figure published in previous years' editions.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B32 Average age of trademarks in force at selected offices, 2014

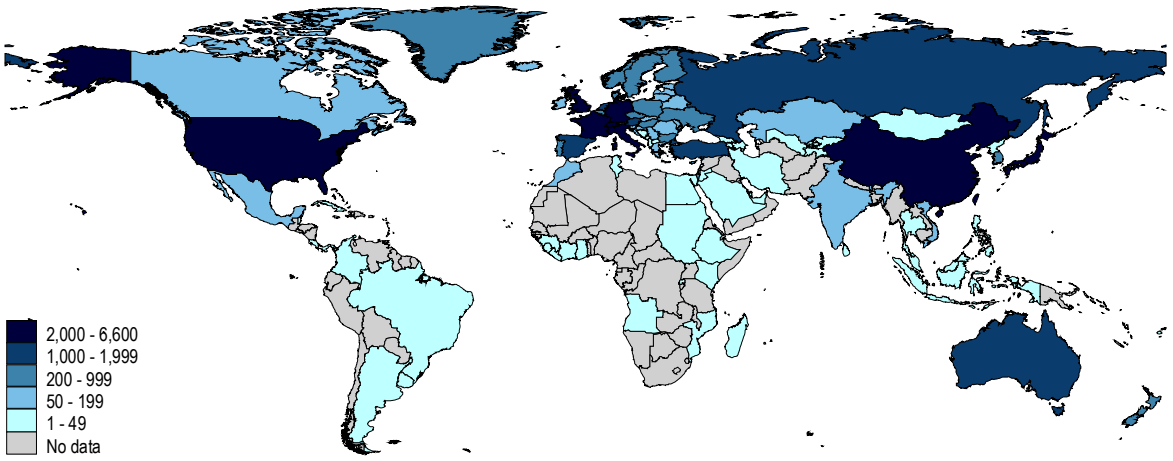


Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Trademark applications and registrations through the Madrid System

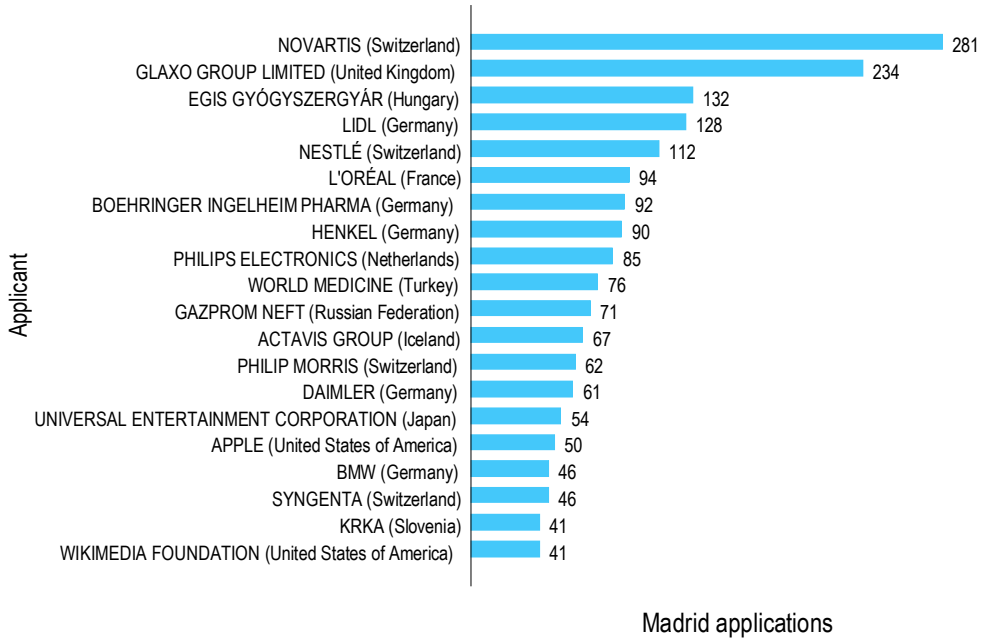
B33 Madrid international applications by origin, 2014



Note: Counts are based on the residency of the applicant, not the office of origin. See the glossary for information on the Madrid System.

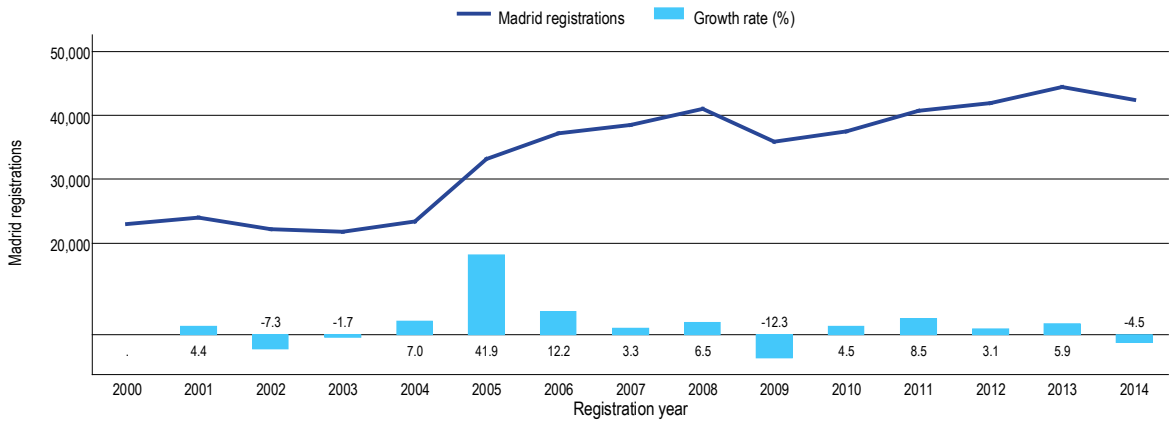
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B34 Top Madrid applicants, 2014



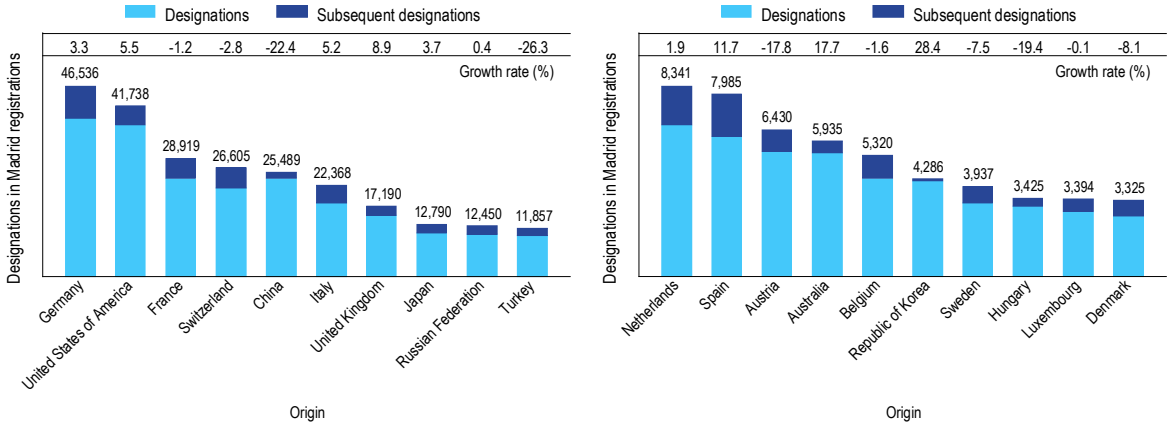
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B35 Trend in Madrid international registrations



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

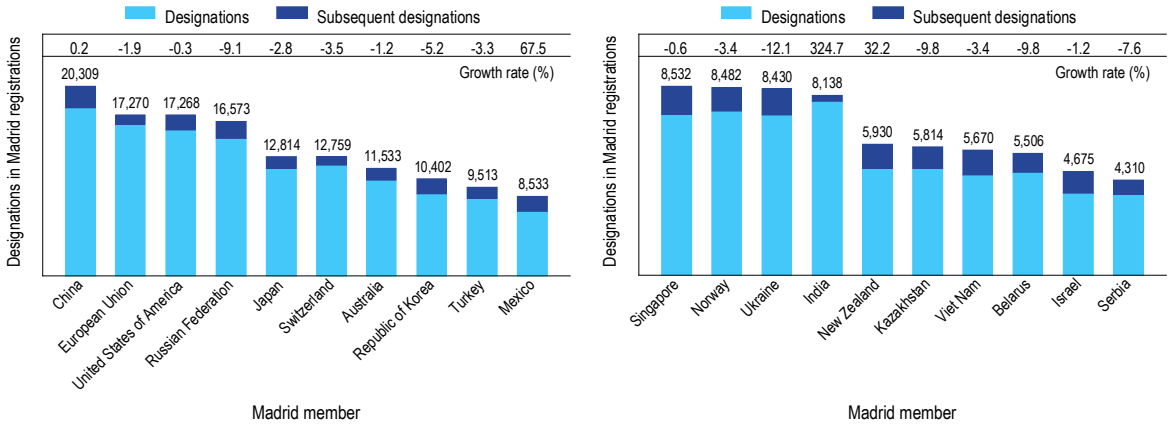
B36 Designations in registrations for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Origin is defined as the country of the stated residence of the applicant on an international application.

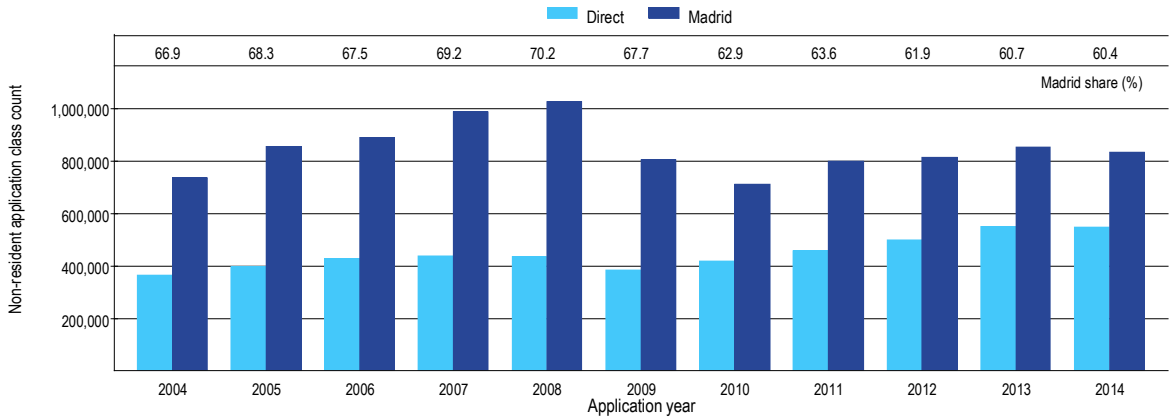
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B37 Designations in registrations for the top 20 designated Madrid members, 2014



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

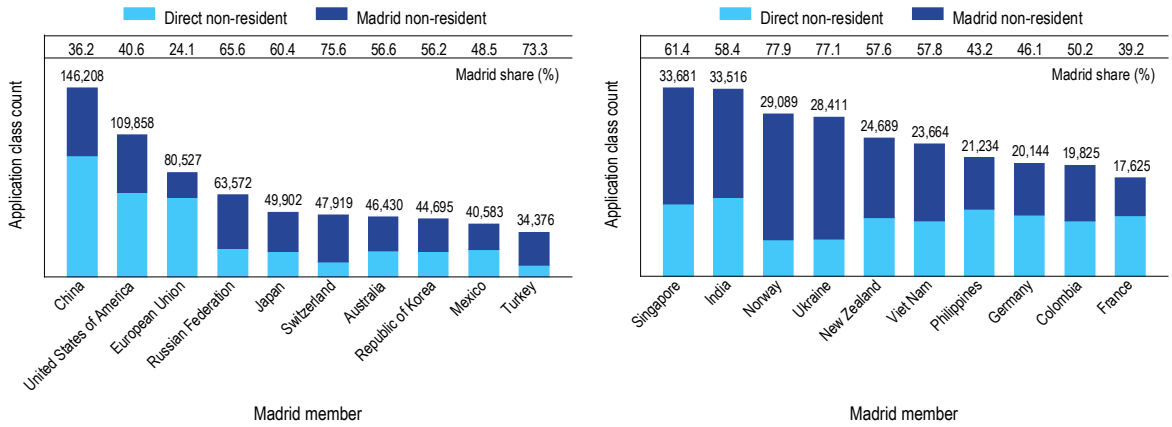
B38 Trend in non-resident filing activity by filing route (direct and Madrid)



Note: The direct route refers to classes specified in applications filed by non-residents directly with national or regional IP offices of Madrid members only. The Madrid route refers to classes specified in designations received by offices via the Madrid System. For the sake of simplicity, designations are referred to as non-resident applications received via the Madrid System.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B39 Madrid share of non-resident filing activity for selected designated Madrid members, 2014



Note: Protection for registrations issued by the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) is extended to all 28 EU member states.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Statistical tables

B40 Trademark applications by office and origin, 2014

	Application class count by office			Application class count by origin	Equivalent application class count by origin	Madrid international applications	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (h)	Designated Madrid member
Afghanistan	..	..	..	102	183	..	n.a.
African Intellectual Property Organization	8,699	2,603	6,096	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization	700	299	401	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Albania	8,067	581	7,486	772	1,021	6	2,414
Algeria	13,054	4,929	8,125	5,062	5,580	..	1,709
Andorra	2,387	526	1,861	712	2,903	1	n.a.
Angola	..	..	..	126	309	1	n.a.
Antigua and Barbuda (d)	1,584	..	1,584	163	298	3	608
Argentina	58,486	44,134	14,352	46,982	51,882	1	n.a.
Armenia	10,899	2,421	8,478	3,230	3,342	27	2,874
Aruba	..	..	..	1	28	..	n.a.
Australia	118,353	71,923	46,430	105,531	166,685	1,556	11,533
Austria	25,008	16,678	8,330	45,466	288,737	1,000	2,559
Azerbaijan	16,020	3,683	12,337	3,987	4,134	35	3,795
Bahamas	1,124	171	953	1,413	5,629	4	n.a.
Bahrain	11,626	415	11,211	486	945	..	2,484
Bangladesh	11,541	7,930	3,611	8,001	8,082	..	n.a.
Barbados	1,131	187	944	1,239	4,344	9	n.a.
Belarus	21,728	5,210	16,518	8,761	9,304	193	5,506
Belgium (e)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	24,125	192,625	778	n.a.
Belize	..	..	..	596	2,334	13	n.a.
Benelux (f)	67,456	54,751	12,705	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2,561
Benin	..	..	..	214	3,651	..	n.a.
Bermuda	..	..	..	630	6,136	7	n.a.
Bhutan (b,c)	2,256	16	2,240	16	16	..	578
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	8,032	2,467	5,565	2,557	2,557	..	n.a.
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba (d)	1,191	..	1,191	..	..	..	494
Bosnia and Herzegovina	10,595	570	10,025	828	1,098	20	3,244
Botswana	3,325	359	2,966	383	383	..	808
Brazil	157,016	127,925	29,091	133,358	150,628	3	n.a.
Brunei Darussalam	..	..	..	111	111	..	n.a.
Bulgaria	17,912	13,500	4,412	20,984	74,766	280	1,570
Burkina Faso	..	..	..	83	1,411	..	n.a.
Cabo Verde	..	..	..	11	152	..	n.a.
Cambodia	4,888	1,182	3,706	1,219	1,408	..	n.a.
Cameroon	..	..	..	514	8,472	..	n.a.
Canada	146,211	79,807	66,404	101,944	172,945	73	n.a.
Central African Republic	..	..	..	7	152	..	n.a.
Chad	..	..	..	46	756	..	n.a.
Chile	42,640	28,939	13,701	33,319	37,190	..	n.a.
China	2,222,680	2,076,472	146,208	2,165,250	2,332,558	2,225	20,309
China, Hong Kong SAR	76,052	29,448	46,604	43,589	107,004	6	n.a.
China, Macao SAR	12,287	1,421	10,866	2,036	2,684	..	n.a.
Colombia	39,773	19,948	19,825	23,082	25,279	46	4,075
Comoros	..	..	..	87	87	..	n.a.
Congo	..	..	..	46	602	..	n.a.
Cook Islands	..	..	..	50	50	..	n.a.
Costa Rica	12,361	5,120	7,241	5,693	6,584	2	n.a.
Côte d'Ivoire	..	..	..	718	12,205	1	n.a.
Croatia	10,006	4,566	5,440	7,283	16,169	160	1,956
Cuba	5,690	1,845	3,845	2,112	2,346	7	1,349
Curaçao	2,764	0	2,764	702	4,401	22	624
Cyprus	3,117	733	2,384	8,223	39,127	207	871

	Application class count by office			Application class count by origin	Equivalent application class count by origin	Madrid international applications	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (h)	Designated Madrid member
Czech Republic	22,829	17,644	5,185	28,641	103,375	316	1,799
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (d)	2,398	..	2,398	155	535	6	899
Democratic Republic of the Congo	..	..	..	22	453	..	n.a.
Denmark	11,371	7,548	3,823	24,157	143,176	555	1,308
Djibouti (b,c)	358	19	339	19	19	..	n.a.
Dominica	..	..	..	20	155	..	n.a.
Dominican Republic	12,073	6,150	5,923	6,371	6,722	..	n.a.
Ecuador	..	..	..	794	1,367	..	n.a.
Egypt	27,230	12,630	14,600	13,301	15,267	23	4,221
El Salvador (i)	7,036	..	..	266	320	..	n.a.
Equatorial Guinea	..	..	..	1	17	..	n.a.
Estonia	5,384	2,005	3,379	3,858	26,628	82	1,314
Ethiopia	..	..	..	27	27	1	n.a.
Fiji	..	..	..	47	47	3	n.a.
Finland	11,354	7,784	3,570	17,656	120,373	363	1,209
France	269,837	252,212	17,625	386,853	1,056,124	3,802	3,129
Gabon	..	..	..	36	549	..	n.a.
Gambia (b,c)	406	56	350	62	78	..	n.a.
Georgia	10,455	1,559	8,896	1,913	2,129	20	3,127
Germany	202,886	182,742	20,144	380,788	2,067,794	6,506	3,928
Ghana (d)	3,665	..	3,665	29	72	2	1,362
Greece (d)	2,797	..	2,797	3,767	59,902	110	1,349
Grenada (i)	521	..	..	5	5	..	n.a.
Guatemala	..	..	..	1,000	1,162	..	n.a.
Guinea	..	..	..	196	3,367	1	n.a.
Guinea-Bissau (b,c)	19	19	0	20	20	..	n.a.
Guyana	748	20	728	37	37	..	n.a.
Haiti	1,649	460	1,189	478	482	..	n.a.
Honduras	6,907	1,956	4,951	2,187	2,619	..	n.a.
Hungary	12,886	8,519	4,367	15,201	52,321	291	1,551
Iceland	8,713	1,517	7,196	3,674	10,868	122	2,443
India	233,653	200,137	33,516	209,165	230,277	153	8,138
Indonesia	46,452	34,521	11,931	36,298	38,461	1	n.a.
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (d)	7,288	..	7,288	2,802	4,282	27	3,019
Iraq	..	..	..	187	295	..	n.a.
Ireland (i)	6,776	..	..	8,442	88,074	187	1,009
Israel	18,909	3,680	15,229	9,661	28,078	276	4,675
Italy	90,599	80,890	9,709	171,215	861,917	2,742	3,026
Jamaica	4,553	1,810	2,743	1,918	2,404	..	n.a.
Japan	242,073	192,171	49,902	279,726	411,108	2,081	12,814
Jordan	6,958	2,553	4,405	3,168	5,700	2	n.a.
Kazakhstan (b,c)	26,296	7,042	19,254	8,289	8,451	50	5,814
Kenya (d)	4,620	..	4,620	422	1,310	3	1,805
Kuwait	..	..	..	402	1,756	..	n.a.
Kyrgyzstan	7,150	372	6,778	465	465	3	2,499
Lao People's Democratic Republic	..	..	..	25	484	..	n.a.
Latvia	6,345	2,215	4,130	4,022	16,151	113	1,586
Lebanon	..	..	..	646	3,835	1	n.a.
Lesotho (d)	1,618	..	1,618	3	3	..	623
Liberia (d)	2,146	..	2,146	58	706	4	779
Libya	..	..	..	28	28	..	n.a.
Liechtenstein	8,398	710	7,688	5,470	13,496	118	2,307
Lithuania	7,581	3,533	4,048	5,129	19,858	117	1,644
Luxembourg (e)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	13,721	113,921	350	n.a.
Madagascar	5,418	2,249	3,169	2,393	2,628	2	890
Malawi	..	..	..	5	5	..	n.a.
Malaysia	34,571	15,400	19,171	19,752	23,182	8	n.a.

	Application class count by office			Application class count by origin	Equivalent application class count by origin	Madrid international applications	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (h)	Designated Madrid member
Maldives	..	..	..	5	5	..	n.a.
Mali	..	..	..	112	1,584	..	n.a.
Malta (b,c)	948	503	445	4,810	39,805	75	n.a.
Marshall Islands	..	..	..	183	345	1	n.a.
Mauritania	..	..	..	71	754	..	n.a.
Mauritius (b,c)	1,758	787	971	2,132	5,983	5	n.a.
Mexico	121,683	81,100	40,583	90,252	108,198	80	8,533
Monaco	9,098	1,408	7,690	4,619	18,476	70	2,203
Mongolia	9,743	4,199	5,544	4,298	4,541	1	1,817
Montenegro (d)	8,545	..	8,545	446	996	14	2,962
Morocco	27,870	14,379	13,491	16,232	20,470	80	3,923
Mozambique (d)	2,902	..	2,902	53	458	2	1,151
Myanmar	..	..	..	31	31	..	n.a.
Namibia (d)	2,420	..	2,420	19	46	..	937
Nepal	3,950	2,541	1,409	2,573	2,654	..	n.a.
Netherlands (e)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	59,911	405,532	1,402	n.a.
New Zealand	40,329	15,640	24,689	22,852	33,814	340	5,930
Nicaragua (b,c)	7,946	1,146	6,800	1,210	1,399	..	n.a.
Niger	..	..	..	23	359	..	n.a.
Nigeria (b,c)	19,332	19,332	0	19,597	20,982	..	n.a.
Norway	39,668	10,579	29,089	19,437	47,711	327	8,482
Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (g)	333,443	252,916	80,527	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	17,270
Oman (d)	5,752	..	5,752	86	280	..	2,370
Pakistan	25,267	20,576	4,691	20,999	22,338	..	n.a.
Palau	..	..	..	1	1	..	n.a.
Panama	13,023	4,954	8,069	8,113	13,304	18	n.a.
Papua New Guinea (b,c)	1,019	180	839	223	250	..	n.a.
Paraguay	..	..	..	291	804	..	n.a.
Peru	30,427	18,448	11,979	20,719	21,340	..	n.a.
Philippines	41,229	19,995	21,234	20,814	22,058	47	3,954
Poland	42,319	35,399	6,920	52,137	328,733	402	2,438
Portugal	30,537	25,882	4,655	33,757	111,112	251	1,537
Qatar	7,608	1,405	6,203	3,172	6,783	2	n.a.
Republic of Korea	208,921	164,226	44,695	197,712	249,285	692	10,402
Republic of Moldova	12,596	3,186	9,410	4,054	4,757	75	3,403
Romania	26,189	21,169	5,020	24,439	69,569	74	1,779
Russian Federation	241,542	177,970	63,572	231,460	261,366	1,276	16,573
Rwanda (d)	1,381	..	1,381	1	1	1	610
Saint Kitts and Nevis	..	..	..	71	314	..	n.a.
Saint Lucia	..	..	..	150	405	3	n.a.
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (b,c)	501	16	485	44	476	..	n.a.
Samoa	301	36	265	252	522	..	n.a.
San Marino (d)	2,678	..	2,678	734	4,815	10	1,006
Sao Tome and Principe	1,444	13	1,431	15	15	..	484
Saudi Arabia	..	..	..	3,539	10,776	1	n.a.
Senegal	..	..	..	480	7,574	..	n.a.
Serbia	16,122	2,665	13,457	5,395	7,546	170	4,310
Seychelles (b,c)	106	106	0	865	3,279	5	n.a.
Sierra Leone	2,417	350	2,067	352	352	1	738
Singapore	42,772	9,091	33,681	23,427	42,549	239	8,532
Sint Maarten (Dutch Part)	1,977	0	1,977	..	..	..	566
Slovakia	15,080	9,640	5,440	14,506	44,404	124	1,463
Slovenia (d)	3,251	..	3,251	4,797	34,874	191	1,400
Solomon Islands	..	..	..	1	1	..	n.a.
Somalia	..	..	..	2	2	..	n.a.
South Africa	35,418	20,475	14,943	22,610	32,392	..	n.a.
Spain	76,256	67,500	8,756	116,080	786,478	1,276	2,642

Name	Application class count by office			Application class count by origin	Equivalent application class count by origin	Madrid international applications	
	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (h)	Designated Madrid member
Sri Lanka (b,c)	8,825	5,481	3,344	5,837	6,887	1	n.a.
Sudan (d)	2,973	..	2,973	65	65	8	1,164
Suriname	1,529	702	827	722	967	..	n.a.
Swaziland (b,i)	2,590	..	..	29	29	..	678
Sweden	20,153	15,977	4,176	35,953	240,588	699	1,437
Switzerland	82,489	34,570	47,919	150,060	489,691	3,144	12,759
Syrian Arab Republic (d)	3,215	..	3,215	403	1,107	..	1,346
T F Y R of Macedonia (d)	8,550	..	8,550	561	1,106	17	2,923
Tajikistan (b,c)	7,427	247	7,180	249	249	1	2,238
Thailand	45,661	27,517	18,144	31,727	37,227	6	n.a.
Togo	..	..	..	189	3,102	..	n.a.
Trinidad and Tobago	2,845	1,019	1,826	1,239	1,239	..	n.a.
Tunisia (d)	5,769	..	5,769	445	2,966	11	2,272
Turkey	233,056	198,680	34,376	226,894	277,594	1,294	9,513
Turkmenistan (d)	5,442	..	5,442	9	9	..	2,281
Uganda	2,666	1,076	1,590	1,083	1,083	..	n.a.
Ukraine	53,754	25,343	28,411	33,894	37,609	432	8,430
United Arab Emirates (b,c)	18,747	5,293	13,454	9,739	26,847	27	n.a.
United Kingdom	110,838	94,437	16,401	212,606	1,240,355	2,946	3,482
United Republic of Tanzania	..	..	..	31	112	..	n.a.
United States of America	471,228	361,370	109,858	659,813	1,494,292	6,595	17,268
Uruguay	9,881	3,825	6,056	4,842	6,586	3	n.a.
Uzbekistan	12,310	5,119	7,191	5,357	5,465	3	2,587
Vanuatu	..	..	..	2	2	..	n.a.
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	..	..	..	685	1,468	..	n.a.
Viet Nam	62,518	38,854	23,664	40,121	41,330	68	5,670
Yemen	4,595	2,020	2,575	2,067	2,147	..	n.a.
Zambia	4,193	527	3,666	536	536	..	952
Zimbabwe	..	..	..	12	12	..	n.a.
Others/Unknown	..	..	..	218,442	427,335	248	n.a.
Total (2014 estimates)	**7,449,394**	**5,647,278**	**1,802,116**	**7,449,394**	**n.a.**	**47,885**	**342,603**

a. Data on application class count by origin are incomplete, because some offices do not report detailed statistics containing the origin of application class counts.
b. 2013 data are reported for application class count by office.
c. 2013 data are reported for application class count by origin.
d. Only Madrid designation data are available; therefore, application class count by office and origin data may be incomplete.
e. This country does not have a national trademark office. All applications for trademark protection are filed at the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property or the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market of the European Union.
f. Resident applications include those filed by residents of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.
g. Resident applications include those filed by residents of EU member states.
h. Origin is defined as the country/territory of the stated residence of the applicant of an international application.
i. Total includes an aggregate direct application class count that cannot be broken down into direct and non-resident components.
n.a. indicates not applicable.
.. indicates not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

B41 Trademark registrations by office and origin, and trademarks in force, 2014

	Registration class count by office			Registration class count by origin	Equivalent registration class count by origin	Madrid international registrations	In force by office
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (i)	Total
Afghanistan	..	..	..	97	286	..	..
African Intellectual Property Organization	9,294	1,981	7,313	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	45,299
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization	438	59	379	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,148
Albania (d)	6,656	..	6,656	175	478	6	1,802
Algeria	4,982	351	4,631	514	2,181	..	36,237
Andorra	2,400	526	1,874	643	2,371	1	20,011
Angola	..	..	..	126	930	..	..
Antigua and Barbuda (d)	1,158	..	1,158	147	174	3	..
Argentina	89,219	70,506	18,713	73,792	83,365	2	731,989
Armenia	9,465	1,825	7,640	2,499	2,530	34	15,119
Aruba	..	..	..	4	31	..	..
Australia	85,103	43,532	41,571	69,609	126,560	1,206	562,489
Austria	21,796	14,023	7,773	39,718	252,774	919	107,236
Azerbaijan	14,725	3,391	11,334	3,678	3,798	24	..
Bahamas	1,126	30	1,096	1,064	3,477	6	32,767
Bahrain	8,311	130	8,181	236	1,035	..	..
Bangladesh	4,172	865	3,307	904	985	..	41,218
Barbados	658	55	603	722	2,369	8	..
Belarus	31,081	13,372	17,709	16,568	17,138	191	40,646
Belgium (f)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	7,227	124,512	748	n.a.
Belize	..	..	..	502	4,183	8	2,936
Benelux (g)	58,671	1	58,670	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	595,827
Benin	..	..	..	7	109	..	..
Bermuda	..	..	..	597	6,375	14	..
Bhutan (b,c,e)	2,346	32	2,314	32	32	..	11,434
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	7,940	2,428	5,512	2,525	2,579	..	59,528
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba (d)	1,191	..	1,191	..	..	..	..
Bosnia and Herzegovina	10,227	258	9,969	482	644	22	14,172
Botswana	3,130	184	2,946	191	191	..	40,040
Brazil	85,738	61,236	24,502	66,286	79,431	2	..
Brunei Darussalam	..	..	..	38	119	..	..
Bulgaria	13,461	8,981	4,480	15,392	55,321	201	53,224
Burkina Faso	..	..	..	8	136	..	..
Cabo Verde	..	..	..	7	61	..	..
Cambodia	4,215	786	3,429	790	817	..	53,887
Cameroon	..	..	..	586	9,632	..	..
Canada	64,939	33,468	31,471	48,375	114,815	62	515,034
Central African Republic	..	..	..	122	2,107	..	..
Chad	..	..	..	3	51	..	..
Chile	35,814	20,924	14,890	24,552	27,343	..	326,650
China	1,377,108	1,242,843	134,265	1,310,091	1,430,663	1,826	8,390,000
China, Hong Kong SAR	62,253	22,450	39,803	32,474	84,667	..	342,696
China, Macao SAR	12,610	1,201	11,409	1,421	1,718	..	80,798
Colombia	32,834	15,387	17,447	18,363	20,085	42	270,943
Comoros (e)	..	..	..	42	42	..	1
Congo	..	..	..	581	9,797	..	..
Cook Islands	..	..	..	28	28	..	..
Costa Rica	9,149	3,385	5,764	3,914	4,859	2	172,593
Côte d'Ivoire	..	..	..	31	349	1	..
Croatia	9,395	3,665	5,730	5,989	14,136	132	131,468
Cuba	4,108	615	3,493	980	2,264	4	14,848
Curaçao	2,724	0	2,724	672	4,992	11	21,996
Cyprus	2,814	669	2,145	7,656	46,350	178	66,120
Czech Republic	33,017	27,562	5,455	37,095	102,408	325	120,964
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (d)	2,119	..	2,119	86	312	2	..
Democratic Republic of the Congo	..	..	..	16	182	..	..

	Registration class count by office			Registration class count by origin	Equivalent registration class count by origin	Madrid international registrations	In force by office
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (i)	Total
Denmark	10,258	6,518	3,740	20,214	118,313	505	92,722
Djibouti (b,c)	358	19	339	19	19	..	769
Dominica	..	..	..	35	143	1	..
Dominican Republic	9,930	4,625	5,305	4,775	5,153	..	103,822
Ecuador	..	..	..	724	1,447	..	..
Egypt	16,882	4,675	12,207	5,325	9,338	22	..
El Salvador (j)	5,096	..	..	174	282	..	..
Estonia	5,011	1,729	3,282	3,286	21,514	74	59,217
Ethiopia	..	..	..	35	62	1	..
Fiji	..	..	..	39	39	3	..
Finland	9,102	5,853	3,249	14,598	106,811	356	107,304
France (d)	6,740	2	6,738	115,285	731,523	3,732	..
Gabon	..	..	..	7	136	..	..
Gambia (b,c,e)	406	56	350	57	73	..	406
Georgia	9,563	976	8,587	1,152	1,368	23	53,199
Germany	148,250	134,043	14,207	307,698	1,820,437	6,072	941,736
Ghana (d)	3,665	..	3,665	62	761	2	..
Greece (d)	2,684	..	2,684	2,943	44,772	92	..
Grenada	..	..	..	4	4	..	268
Guatemala	..	..	..	738	900	..	..
Guinea	..	..	..	5	85	..	..
Guinea-Bissau (b,c,e)	3	3	0	3	3	..	21
Guyana (b,c)	57	0	57	13	121	..	..
Haiti	..	..	..	12	12	..	..
Holy See	..	..	..	3	84	..	..
Honduras	5,396	1,268	4,128	1,438	1,465	..	..
Hungary	10,296	5,984	4,312	11,942	42,285	225	55,813
Iceland	7,815	1,101	6,714	2,599	8,065	127	22,860
India	67,443	45,718	21,725	52,230	68,499	113	989,419
Indonesia	35,274	25,926	9,348	27,109	29,351	2	197,017
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (d)	6,574	..	6,574	2,193	3,480	36	81,440
Iraq	..	..	..	86	194	..	..
Ireland (j)	5,324	..	..	7,437	89,251	181	83,133
Israel	16,973	2,374	14,599	6,792	25,439	210	183,621
Italy (e)	78,732	69,433	9,299	147,919	767,579	2,607	372,134
Jamaica	2,975	1,225	1,750	1,318	1,858	..	..
Japan (d)	14,263	..	14,263	80,914	193,813	1,796	1,806,862
Jordan	5,737	1,324	4,413	1,727	3,533	2	15,143
Kazakhstan (b,c)	22,955	6,063	16,892	7,150	7,609	41	..
Kenya (d)	4,610	..	4,610	277	603	2	..
Kuwait	..	..	..	640	5,318	..	..
Kyrgyzstan	6,969	248	6,721	302	302	5	9,632
Lao People's Democratic Republic	..	..	..	4	85	..	..
Latvia	5,886	1,793	4,093	3,249	11,674	87	25,710
Lebanon	..	..	..	454	3,675	1	..
Lesotho (d)	1,618	..	1,618	..	..	..	..
Liberia (d)	2,146	..	2,146	27	702	..	..
Libya	..	..	..	44	44	..	..
Liechtenstein	8,301	694	7,607	4,742	12,309	101	104,290
Lithuania	7,270	3,213	4,057	4,538	17,375	102	34,944
Luxembourg (f)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	8,093	93,325	339	n.a.
Madagascar	4,364	1,411	2,953	1,515	1,926	3	..
Malawi	..	..	..	2	2	..	..
Malaysia	27,428	10,467	16,961	13,958	17,686	5	257,531
Maldives	..	..	..	21	75	..	..
Mali	..	..	..	57	937	..	..
Malta (b,c,e)	772	386	386	2,299	28,747	77	23,087
Marshall Islands	..	..	..	132	213	1	..

	Registration class count by office			Registration class count by origin	Equivalent registration class count by origin	Madrid international registrations	In force by office
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (i)	Total
Mauritania	..	..	..	35	147	..	..
Mauritius (b,c)	1,797	747	1,050	1,517	4,863	5	..
Mexico	94,840	59,095	35,745	66,095	79,482	57	920,213
Micronesia (Federated States of)	..	..	..	2	2	..	..
Monaco	9,576	1,866	7,710	4,084	17,518	63	10,658
Mongolia	9,774	4,275	5,499	4,340	4,583	1	..
Montenegro (d)	8,469	..	8,469	409	1,040	11	42,459
Morocco	25,551	12,361	13,190	13,907	18,161	60	..
Mozambique (d)	2,859	..	2,859	40	40	1	..
Myanmar	..	..	..	24	24	..	..
Namibia (d)	2,420	..	2,420	25	25	..	..
Nauru	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Nepal (e)	1,863	910	953	922	922	..	35,537
Netherlands (f)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	20,107	258,558	1,347	n.a.
New Zealand	36,588	12,434	24,154	18,274	32,605	276	238,393
Nicaragua (b,c)	7,954	669	7,285	746	854	..	..
Niger	..	..	..	13	109	..	..
Nigeria (b,c,e)	4,369	4,369	0	4,471	5,134	1	106,200
Norway	38,509	12,320	26,189	19,425	46,520	259	208,209
Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (h)	293,465	222,544	70,921	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,029,837
Oman (d)	5,728	..	5,728	69	447	..	..
Pakistan	9,183	5,765	3,418	6,016	7,029	..	104,207
Panama	12,730	4,322	8,408	7,083	13,144	12	175,483
Papua New Guinea (b,c,e)	45	16	29	36	36	..	4,058
Paraguay	..	..	..	367	637	..	..
Peru	25,864	14,622	11,242	16,258	17,014	..	..
Philippines	27,714	11,875	15,839	12,555	13,824	22	..
Poland	31,213	24,857	6,356	37,499	222,154	367	235,795
Portugal	26,168	21,731	4,437	27,874	84,360	249	350,022
Qatar (e)	6,533	1,168	5,365	1,911	4,458	4	7,979
Republic of Korea	119,252	93,018	26,234	116,669	175,528	546	888,260
Republic of Moldova	11,537	2,147	9,390	2,912	3,507	65	71,533
Romania	21,413	16,625	4,788	19,181	51,999	59	86,650
Russian Federation	119,301	63,213	56,088	113,428	142,031	1,072	480,761
Rwanda (d)	1,381	..	1,381	..	..	..	561
Saint Kitts and Nevis	..	..	..	37	631	..	..
Saint Lucia	..	..	..	83	435	2	..
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (e)	..	..	..	17	368	..	3,808
Samoa	367	23	344	465	724	..	4,074
San Marino (d)	2,678	..	2,678	605	3,147	7	..
Sao Tome and Principe	1,444	13	1,431	14	14	..	..
Saudi Arabia	..	..	..	1,519	10,373	..	..
Senegal	..	..	..	483	8,078	..	..
Serbia	15,455	2,218	13,237	4,625	6,209	142	29,791
Seychelles (b,c)	106	106	0	512	2,272	1	..
Sierra Leone	2,417	350	2,067	354	354	..	528
Singapore	37,408	7,208	30,200	18,558	34,129	212	295,039
Sint Maarten (Dutch Part)	1,967	0	1,967	..	..	..	19,381
Slovakia	12,861	7,322	5,539	11,584	36,525	95	48,380
Slovenia (d)	3,162	..	3,162	4,437	29,141	156	..
Solomon Islands	..	..	..	5	5	..	..
South Africa	31,778	17,019	14,759	18,751	27,353	..	355,344
Spain	64,116	56,096	8,020	98,628	688,201	1,206	793,791
Sri Lanka (b,c)	2,044	1,485	559	1,636	1,933	1	..
Sudan (d)	2,910	..	2,910	51	51	4	..
Suriname (e)	1,386	591	795	593	593	..	3,290
Swaziland (b,e,j)	2,390	..	..	1	1	..	189
Sweden	15,170	11,170	4,000	27,491	202,672	628	..

Name	Registration class count by office			Registration class count by origin	Equivalent registration class count by origin	Madrid international registrations	In force by office
	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (i)	Total
Switzerland	78,190	32,057	46,133	130,796	428,637	3,054	224,497
Syrian Arab Republic (d)	2,671	..	2,671	263	1,190	..	..
T F Y R of Macedonia (d)	8,475	..	8,475	522	2,378	23	..
Tajikistan (b,c,e)	6,888	117	6,771	117	117	..	7,391
Thailand	20,617	11,487	9,130	15,039	25,130	7	339,109
Timor-Leste	..	..	..	8	8	..	..
Togo	..	..	..	35	499	..	..
Trinidad and Tobago	3,394	940	2,454	1,130	1,265	..	..
Tunisia (d,e)	5,759	..	5,759	210	1,918	6	59,870
Turkey	192,705	159,356	33,349	184,227	226,881	1,019	687,055
Turkmenistan (d)	5,432	..	5,432	..	..	..	..
Uganda	1,486	494	992	497	497	..	3,801
Ukraine	47,220	18,901	28,319	26,211	28,852	409	161,592
United Arab Emirates (b,c,e)	13,336	2,570	10,766	5,527	21,204	15	155,894
United Kingdom	94,524	79,289	15,235	176,270	1,112,540	2,511	567,384
United Republic of Tanzania	..	..	..	25	25	..	..
United States of America	253,700	206,035	47,665	450,800	1,179,159	5,360	1,853,874
Uruguay	10,108	3,808	6,300	4,984	9,717	4	91,233
Uzbekistan	10,679	3,210	7,469	3,429	3,537	2	17,967
Vanuatu	..	..	..	4	4	..	..
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	..	..	..	486	1,188	..	..
Viet Nam	44,755	23,831	20,924	24,918	28,832	63	199,679
Yemen (b,c)	1,482	550	932	598	722	..	..
Zambia	3,384	332	3,052	363	363	..	31,437
Zimbabwe	..	..	..	14	14	..	..
Others/Unknown	..	..	..	224,091	513,754	100	..
Total (2014 estimates)	**5,153,039**	**3,626,632**	**1,526,407**	**5,153,039**	**n.a.**	**42,430**	**33,110,295**

a. Data on registration class count by origin are incomplete, because some offices do not report detailed statistics containing the origin of registration class counts.
b. 2013 data are reported for registration class count by office.
c. 2013 data are reported for registration class count by origin.
d. Only Madrid designation data are available; therefore, registration class count by office and origin data may be incomplete.
e. 2013 data are reported for trademarks in force.
f. This country does not have a national trademark office. All trademark registrations for this country are issued by the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property or the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market of the European Union.
g. Resident registrations include those issued to residents of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.
h. Resident registrations include those issued to residents of EU member states.
i. Origin is defined as the country/territory of the stated residence of the holder of an international registration.
j. Total includes an aggregate direct registration class count that cannot be broken down into direct and non-resident components.
n.a. indicates not applicable.
.. indicates not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Industrial Designs

Highlights

Applications are down 10% at around 850,000

More than 20 years of growth in industrial design applications ended in 2014. An estimated 854,400 applications were filed worldwide in 2014, down 9.9% from 2013 (figure 14). This fall was due mainly to a sharp decrease in filings by Chinese residents at the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO). China had driven most of the world's growth in applications from 2001 to 2012 and accounted for nearly two-thirds of the world total in 2014. If Chinese applications were excluded from this total, applications would have increased by only 0.3% in 2014.

Reflecting the decline in applications, the total number of designs contained in applications (design count) dropped by 8.1% to about 1.14 million in 2014 (figure 15). Designs contained in resident applications decreased (-9.1%) for the first time in a decade, and those contained in non-resident applications (-1.9%) saw their first decrease since 2009.

China sees a sharp drop in resident filings

China received applications containing a total of 564,555 designs in 2014, down 14.4% from 2013. This represents the first decline since 1985, when China began receiving applications. In 2014, designs in applications filed by residents accounted for 97.1% of SIPO's total design count, but they also fell by 14.9%. Those filed by non-residents grew by 6.3%.

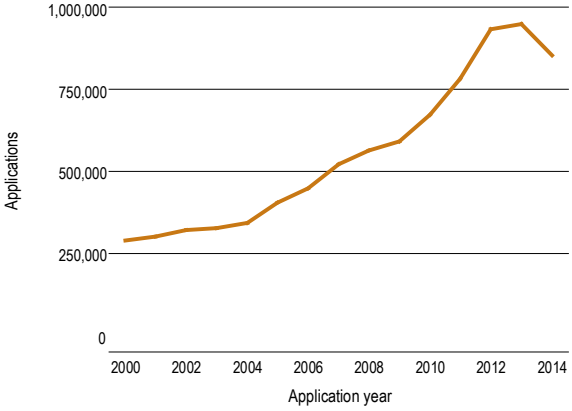
The top 20 offices combined accounted for 91.9% of the world total. Of these offices, 11 saw decreases in application design counts in 2014, and seven of these were ranked among the top 10. Ukraine (-29.5%) and China (-14.4%) saw double-digit drops, followed by Australia (-4.6%), Japan (-4.5%) and Turkey (-4.5%). Other notable falls were seen in Brazil (-3.8%), the Republic of Korea (-2.3%) and the United States of America (US; -1.8%).

Nine of the top 20 offices saw growth in design counts, five of them located in Europe, namely the offices of France (+7.6%), Germany (+6.6%), the Russian Federation (+5.5%) and Switzerland (+2.8%) as well as the European Union's (EU) Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM; +1.3%). The sharpest increases, however, were at offices located in three middle-income countries: the Islamic Republic of Iran (+83.7%), India (+9.6%) and Morocco (+9.2%).

Design count

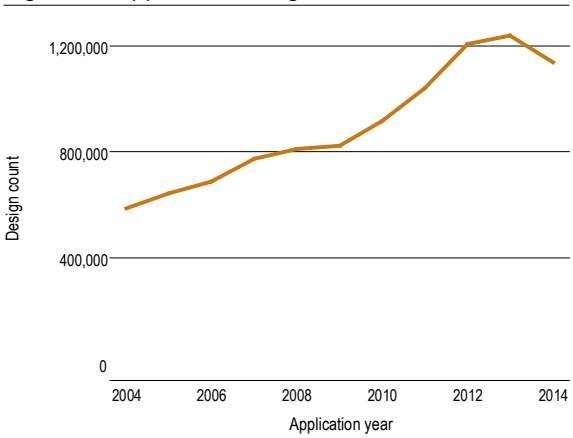
In an industrial design application or registration, some offices allow applications to contain more than one design for the same good or in the same class – others allow only one design per application. To capture the differences in application filing systems across offices, one needs to compare their respective application and registration design counts.

Figure 14. Industrial design applications worldwide



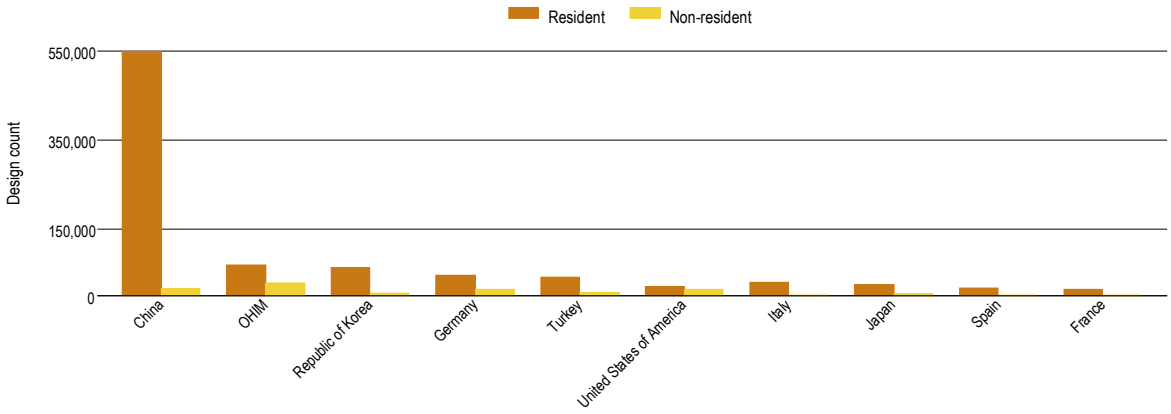
Source: Standard figure C1.

Figure 15. Application design counts worldwide



Source: Standard figure C2.

Figure 16. Application design counts for the top 10 offices, 2014



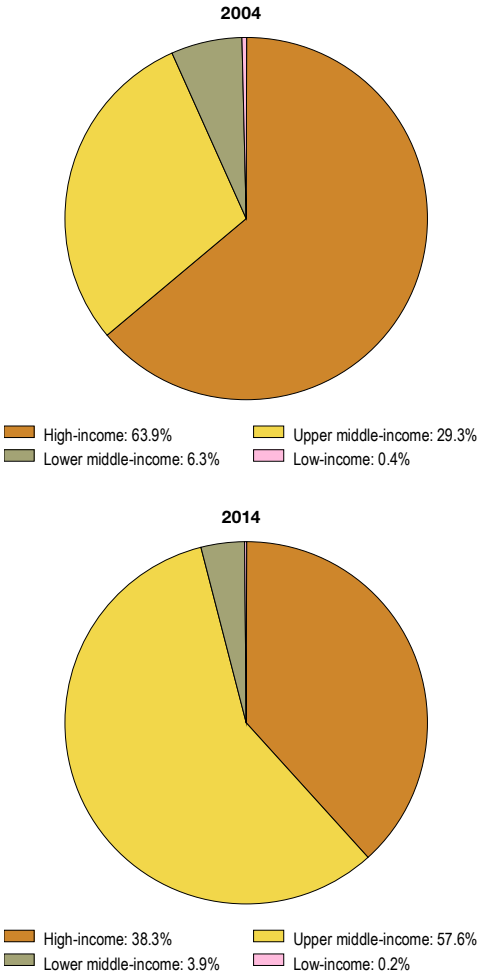
Source: Standard figure C10.

A fall in resident design count was responsible for the declines at seven of the 11 top 20 offices that saw decreases in design counts in 2014. Decreases in both resident and non-resident design counts explained the drop witnessed at three other offices, while a reduction in designs contained in non-resident applications resulted in the net decrease in the US. The contribution of resident design count to total growth was particularly high in India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Morocco and the Russian Federation. In contrast, increases in non-resident design counts provided the main source of growth in Canada, Germany and Switzerland.

The top 20 list features 13 offices located in high-income countries, four in upper middle-income countries and three in lower middle-income countries. At the global level, the offices of all upper middle-income countries combined received 57.7% of all designs contained in applications filed in 2014 (figure 17). China accounted for the vast majority of their share; the other upper middle-income countries received only 8.1% of the world total. The share of high-income countries stood at 38.3%. Offices of low- and lower middle-income countries received a combined share of 4.1% of all designs in applications filed.

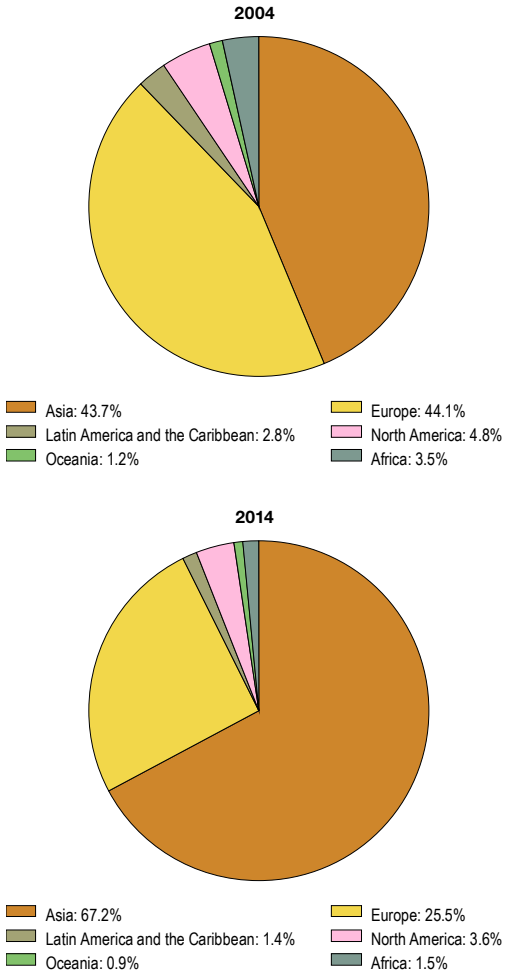
Average annual growth between 2004 and 2014 was 17.7% for China and 4.1% for the other upper middle-income countries. Over the same period, offices in high-income (+1.5%), lower middle-income (+1.8%) and low-income (-2.4%) countries had much lower growth rates.

Figure 17. Application design counts by income group



Source: Standard table C7.

Figure 18. Application design counts by region



Source: Standard table C8.

Asia accounted for a large majority (67.2%) of all designs in applications filed worldwide in 2014 (figure 18). It was followed by Europe (25.5%) and North America (3.6%). Of all geographical regions, Asia (+11.5%) had the highest average annual growth rate between 2004 and 2014. North America (+3.9%), Oceania (+3.1%) and Europe (+1.1%) also experienced growth over this period, unlike Africa (-1.6%) and Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC; -0.4%).

Equivalent design count

Designs in applications filed at regional offices are equivalent to multiple designs in applications filed in the respective member states of those offices. To calculate the number of equivalent designs for the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI, which has 17 member states), the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (3) and OHIM (28), each design is multiplied by the corresponding number of member states. However, the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) does not register industrial designs with automatic region-wide applicability. Thus, for this office, each application is counted as one application abroad if the applicant does not reside in a member state or as one resident application and one application abroad if the applicant resides in a member state.

China and Germany top the list by origin

Industrial design filings received by each office include applications filed by residents and those filed by foreign applicants – referred to as non-residents. Completing the picture requires looking at the origin of applications – those filed by residents in their home jurisdiction and those they file abroad.

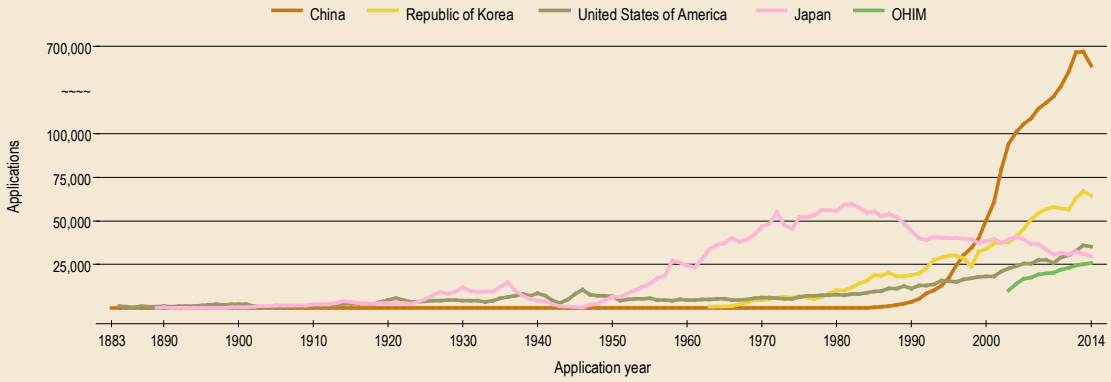
Applicants from China and Germany had the highest equivalent design counts in 2014, about 673,500 and 648,200 respectively (map 3). Designs in applications filed abroad accounted for nearly 90% of the total for applicants from Germany, but only 18.6% for applicants from China.

For the other top 20 origins, equivalent design count ranged between 27,000 and 300,000, with France, Italy and the US being the only other origins with an equivalent design count exceeding 200,000. Among the top five origins, France (-13.1%) and China (-11.5%) were the only two to witness sharp drops from 2013, whereas the remaining three showed growth of between 4% and 7%.

Industrial design applications filed since 1883

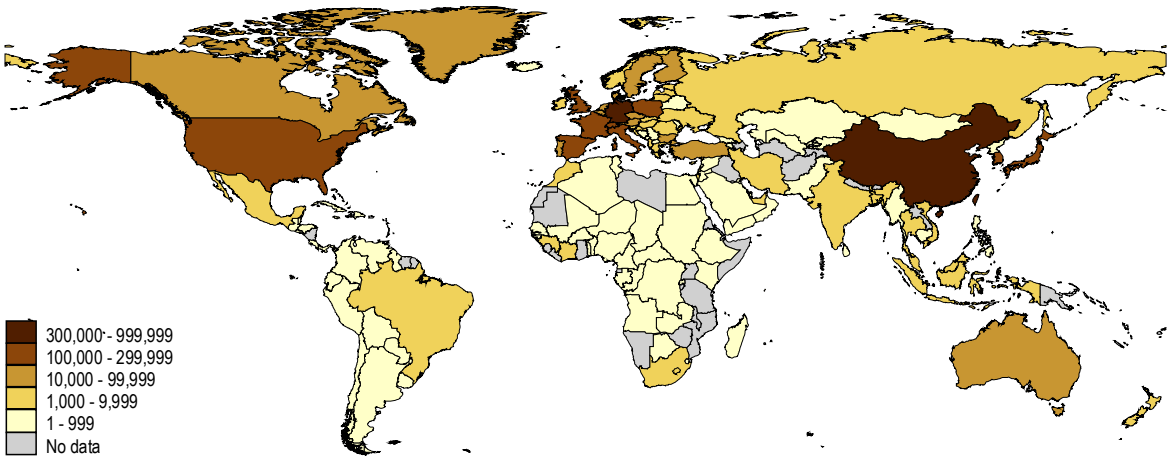
Between 1883 and the early 1950s, the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) averaged similar numbers of applications, rarely exceeding 10,000. The JPO received the largest number of applications from the 1950s to the late 1990s, reaching about 50,000 annual filings at its peak. SIPO began receiving applications in 1985 and saw unprecedented growth, from 640 in 1985 to 660,000 in 2013. It experienced its first drop in 2014. In 2004, KIPO surpassed the JPO and has remained the second-largest office. In 2012, the USPTO moved ahead of the JPO to become the third largest. OHIM began receiving applications in 2003 and has remained the fifth largest. Unlike the other four offices, OHIM has a multiple design system. Applications filed with OHIM contained about 98,300 designs in 2014.

Trend in industrial design applications for the top five offices



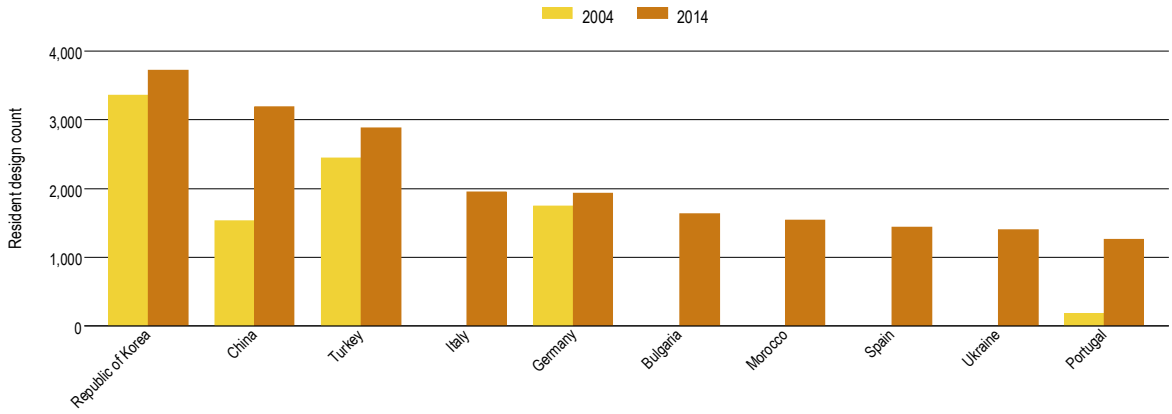
Source: Standard figure C9.

Map 3. Equivalent application design counts by origin, 2014



Source: Standard map C16.

Figure 19. Resident application design counts per 100 billion USD GDP for the top 10 origins



Source: Standard figure C24.

Europe dominated the top 20 ranking with 15 countries, followed by four located in Asia and one in North America. In terms of income categories, 17 belonged to the high-income group, and there were three upper middle-income countries – Bulgaria, China and Turkey – among the top 20.

The ranking of the top 10 origins in terms of equivalent designs in applications filed abroad changed only slightly compared with 2013. The US overtook France to rank third, right after Germany and Italy. Poland moved up one position to number eight, and Japan surpassed the Republic of Korea to reach tenth place. Among the top 10 origins, Poland (+25.1%), China (+7.3%) and the US (+7%) saw the sharpest growth from 2013, while only France (-14.1%) and Switzerland (-2.8%) declined.

Adjusting for GDP and population

The Republic of Korea had the highest resident design count per 100 billion United States dollars (USD) of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2014 (figure 19). It was followed by China, which moved down to second position due to a sharp decrease in resident filings. Most of the remaining 20 were European countries, except Morocco (7th position) and Madagascar (19th) from Africa, and Turkey (3rd), Mongolia (14th) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (16th) from Asia. In Europe, the three countries with the highest resident design count per unit of GDP were Italy, Germany and Bulgaria, ranking fourth, fifth and sixth respectively.

In 2014, the Republic of Korea, Germany and Italy remained the countries with the highest resident design count per million population. China moved down two positions to number eight. As with resident design count per unit of GDP, Brazil, India and the US do not appear among the top 20 origins. Compared with 2004, the resident design count per million population in 2014 was more than five times higher for China and for Portugal, whereas it decreased the most for China Hong Kong (SAR), Denmark and Japan.

Furnishing and articles of clothing are the most recorded classes

The Locarno classification includes 32 classes of industrial designs. In 2014, the classes accounting for the largest shares of the world total were furnishing (11.1%), articles of clothing (8.1%) and graphic symbols and logos (7.2%). The most recorded class varies from one office to another. For example, furnishing was the most recorded class at OHIM, and at the offices of Germany and Turkey. Handling of goods accounted for the largest share in Argentina, Morocco and Viet Nam. By contrast, the most recorded class was information retrieval equipment in China Hong Kong (SAR), and clocks and watches in Switzerland.

Grouping the 32 Locarno classes into 12 industry sectors shows that applications filed at most of the top 10 offices are concentrated in three sectors, though which three sectors varies across offices. In France, Germany and Turkey, most applications filed belonged to one of the three following sectors: advertising, furniture and household goods, and textiles and accessories. In fact, the textiles and accessories sector appeared among the top three sectors for 8 of the top 10 offices in 2014. It was also the sector that accounted for the largest share of the total for Australia, China Hong Kong (SAR), Germany, India, OHIM and Thailand.

Second consecutive annual drop in registrations

An estimated 601,100 industrial designs were registered worldwide in 2014, down 6.2% from 2013. This was the second consecutive annual decrease – each of a similar magnitude – due to fewer registrations in China. Excluding China from the world total, registrations would actually have increased by 4.4% in 2013 and 4.9% in 2014. Between 2000 and 2012, industrial design registrations worldwide increased almost every year, and at a high pace during the last three years of this period.

Nearly 865,000 designs were contained in applications registered in 2014, down 5.8% from 2013. Designs contained in resident registrations decreased by 7.5%, in contrast to those contained in non-resident registrations, which increased by 2.2%. In 2014, China accounted for nearly 42% of all designs in applications registered worldwide, and the top 20 offices combined recorded nearly 90% of the total. Among these offices, Canada (+64.9%), Brazil (+63.2%) and the Republic of Korea (+16.3%) saw double-digit growth since 2013, whereas Italy (-36.7%), China (-12.3%) and China Hong Kong (SAR; -9.8%) experienced the sharpest declines.

Industrial designs in force remain stable

Similar to 2013, about 3.33 million industrial design registrations were in force worldwide in 2014. With nearly 1.15 million active industrial design registrations, China accounted for about one-third of the world total. France (304,000) and the Republic of Korea (301,298) completed the list of the top three offices, followed by the US (284,481), Japan (250,802) and OHIM (210,093).

Most of the top 20 offices saw growth in 2014. Singapore (+16.1%), India (+15.8%), Turkey (+11.5%) and OHIM (+10.7%) experienced double-digit annual growth. By contrast, Spain (-15.6%), China (-5.7%), the United Kingdom (UK; -0.6%) and Japan (-0.2%) had fewer active industrial design registrations in 2014 than in the preceding year.

Over 92% of industrial design registrations issued each year between 2011 and 2014 were in force in 2014. That share falls to 36.6% for registrations issued in 2003. The average age of a registration in force was 9.8 years in Spain, 6.3 years in South Africa and 3.1 years in China. This may partly reflect different legal terms of protection across jurisdictions and different registration activity in recent years.

The Hague System saw growth in registration design counts

The Hague System offers applicants an advantageous route for seeking industrial design protection internationally as an alternative to using the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property to pursue industrial design rights in different countries. For further information and statistics on this System, see the *Hague Yearly Review, 2015*.

In 2014, 2,703 international registrations were recorded under the Hague System, down 1.1% from 2013. However, these registrations contained 13,504 designs, representing an increase of 5.5%. With 3,758 designs in registrations, Germany remained the largest user of the Hague System. Combined with Switzerland (3,051) – the second-largest user – these two countries accounted for half of all designs in Hague registrations in 2014. They were followed by registration holders from France (1,361), Italy (825) and the US (749). Among these top five origins, only the US (+14.2%) and Switzerland (+1.5%) experienced growth.

In 2014, non-resident applications filed at offices of Hague members contained approximately 96,000 designs, of which 51.7% were filed via the Hague System.[1]

The European Union remained the most designated Hague member in 2014, accounting for 17.5% of all designs in designations. It was followed by Switzerland (15.9%), Turkey (9.6%), Norway (4.3%) and Singapore (4.3%). Among these top five Hague members, the EU (+6%) and Switzerland (+5.4%) saw the strongest growth in designations, whereas Norway (-15.7%) saw the sharpest fall.

1. The Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) is not included in this calculation as the Republic of Korea became member of the Hague System in the course of 2014.

Standard figures and tables

Industrial design applications and registrations worldwide

Industrial design applications and registrations by office

Application design counts by origin

Application design counts by Locarno class

Application design counts in relation to GDP and population

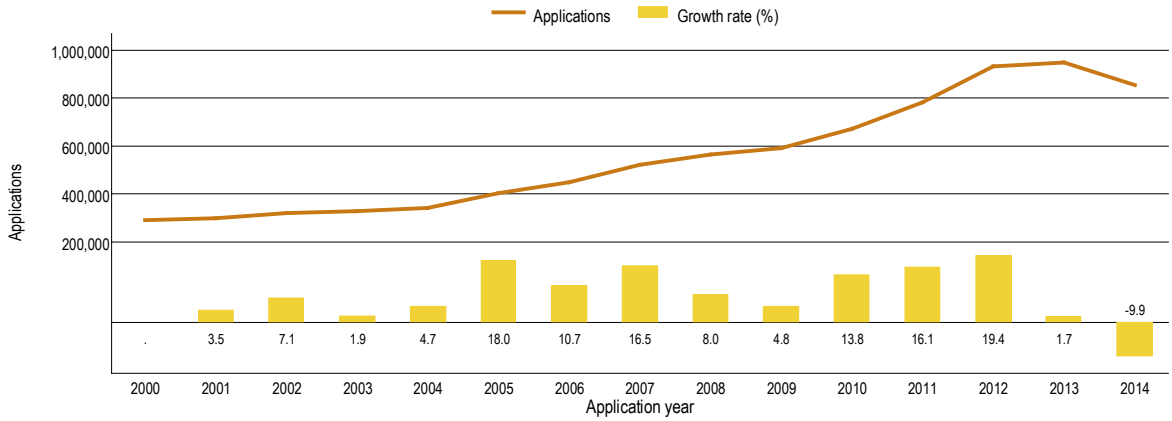
Industrial design registrations in force

Industrial design applications and registrations through the Hague System

Statistical tables

Industrial design applications and registrations worldwide

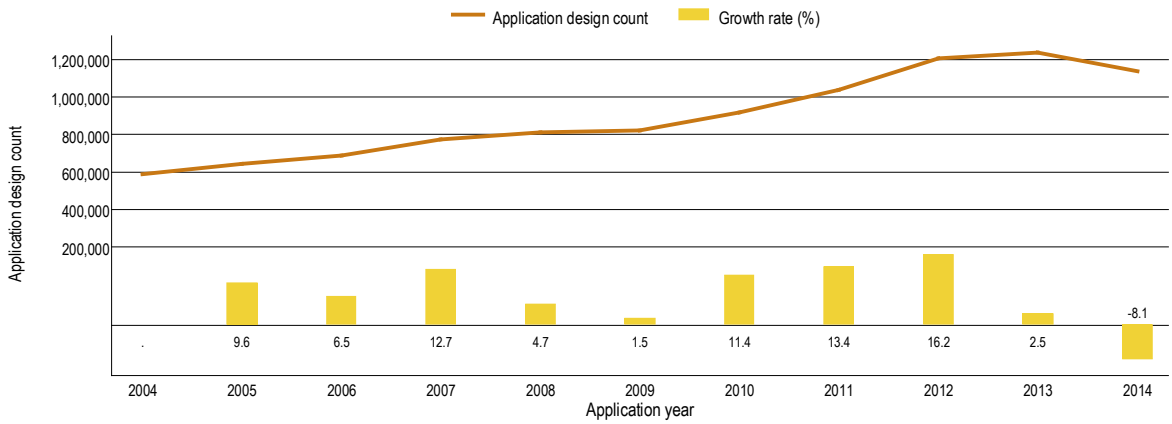
C1 Trend in industrial design applications worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 150 IP offices and include direct national and regional applications as well as designations received via the Hague System.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

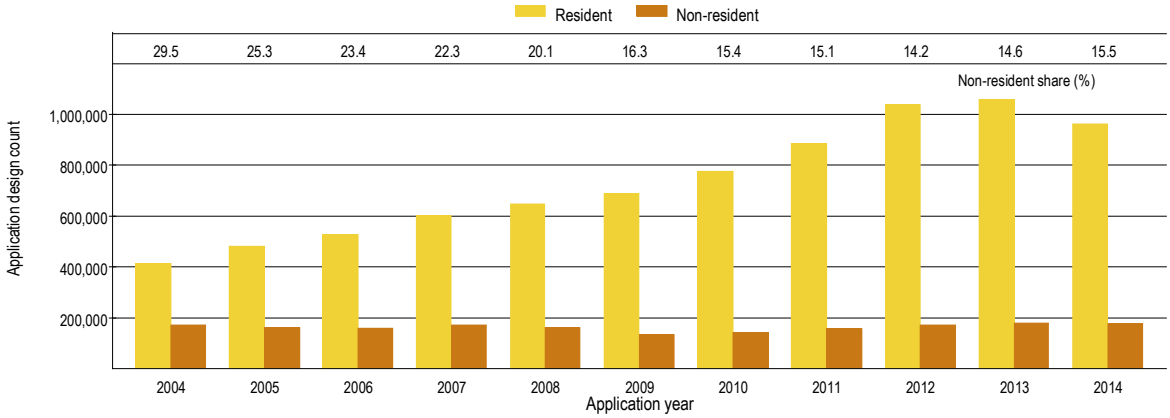
C2 Trend in application design counts worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 132 IP offices and include direct national and regional applications as well as designations received via the Hague System.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C3 Resident and non-resident application design counts worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 132 IP offices and include direct national and regional applications as well as designations received via the Hague System.

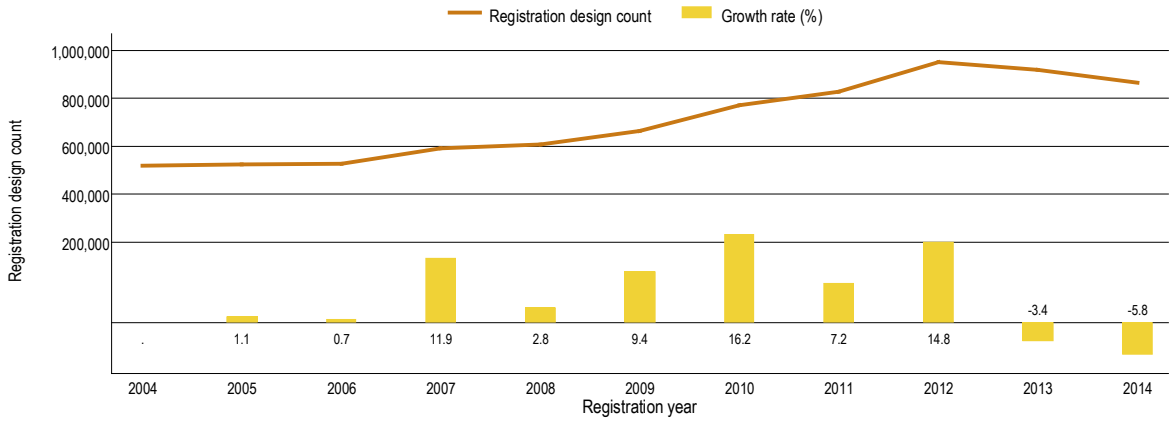
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C4 Trend in industrial design registrations worldwide

Note: WIPO estimates cover 146 IP offices and include registrations issued for direct applications and designations received via the Hague System.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

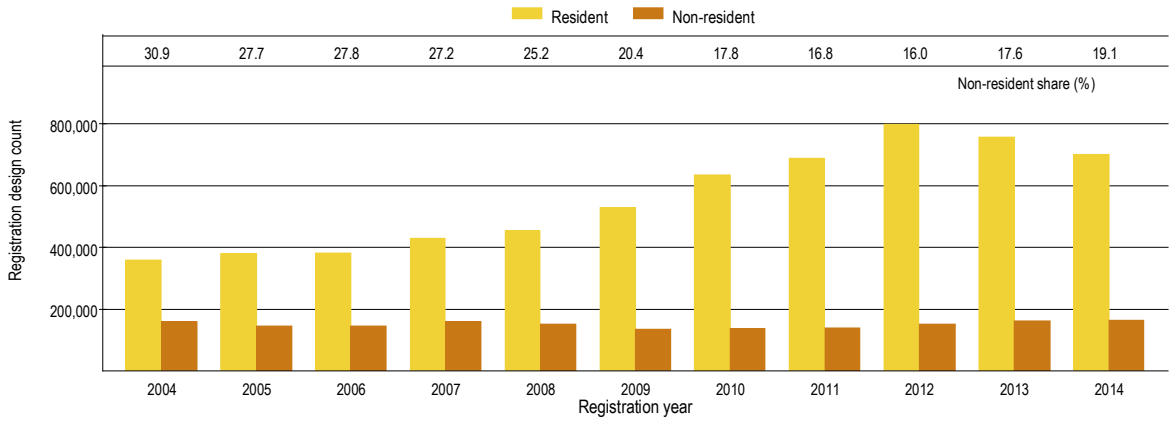
C5 Trend in registration design counts worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 131 IP offices and include registrations issued for direct applications and designations received via the Hague System.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C6 Resident and non-resident registration design counts worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 131 offices and include registrations issued for direct applications and designations received via the Hague System.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Industrial design applications and registrations by office

C7 Application design counts by income group

	Number of designs in applications		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
High-income	375,900	436,000	69.2	73.5	63.9	38.3	1.5
Upper middle-income	172,400	656,300	81.0	93.4	29.3	57.6	14.3
...Upper middle-income without China	*61,600*	*91,800*	*61.9*	*70.4*	*10.5*	*8.1*	*4.1*
Lower middle-income	37,300	44,400	38.9	61.7	6.3	3.9	1.8
Low-income	2,300	1,800	21.5	40.4	0.4	0.2	-2.4
World	**587,900**	**1,138,400**	**70.5**	**84.5**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**6.8**

Note: WIPO estimates cover 132 offices and include the following number of IP offices: high-income (51), upper middle-income (37), lower middle-income (33), and low-income (11). Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market data are allocated to the high-income group because most European Union member states are high-income countries. African Intellectual Property Organization data are similarly allocated to the low-income group.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

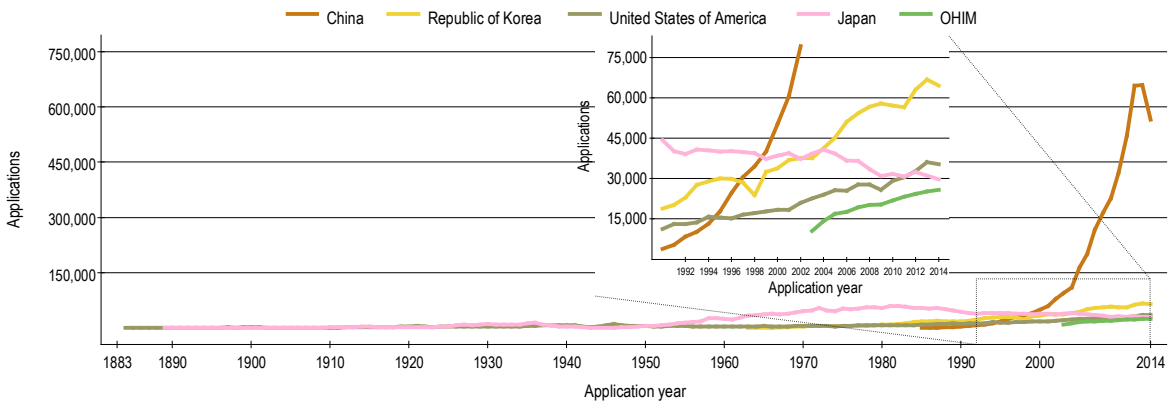
C8 Application design counts by region

	Number of designs in applications		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
Africa	20,300	17,300	22.5	60.6	3.5	1.5	-1.6
Asia	257,000	764,600	85.8	92.6	43.7	67.2	11.5
Europe	259,000	290,000	64.0	72.6	44.1	25.5	1.1
Latin America & the Caribbean	16,300	15,600	36.5	47.7	2.8	1.4	-0.4
North America	28,100	41,100	51.8	51.5	4.8	3.6	3.9
Oceania	7,200	9,800	49.8	37.4	1.2	0.9	3.1
World	**587,900**	**1,138,400**	**70.5**	**84.5**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**6.8**

Note: WIPO estimates are based on data covering 132 offices and include the following number of offices: Africa (25), Asia (38), Europe (40), Latin America & the Caribbean (24), North America (2) and Oceania (3).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

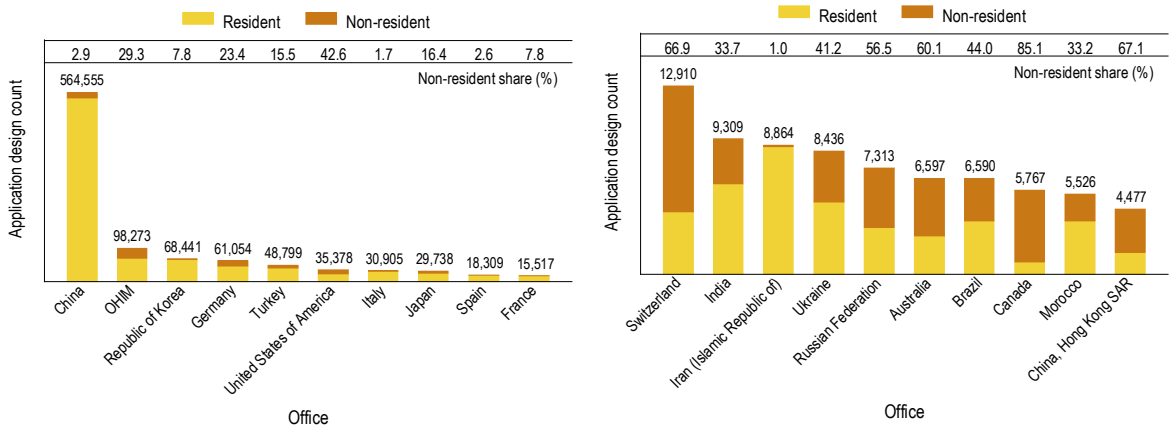
C9 Trend in industrial design applications for the top five offices



Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. Data are based on the numbers of applications filed; that is, differences between single-design and multiple design filing systems across IP offices are not taken into account. The top five offices were selected based on their 2014 totals.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

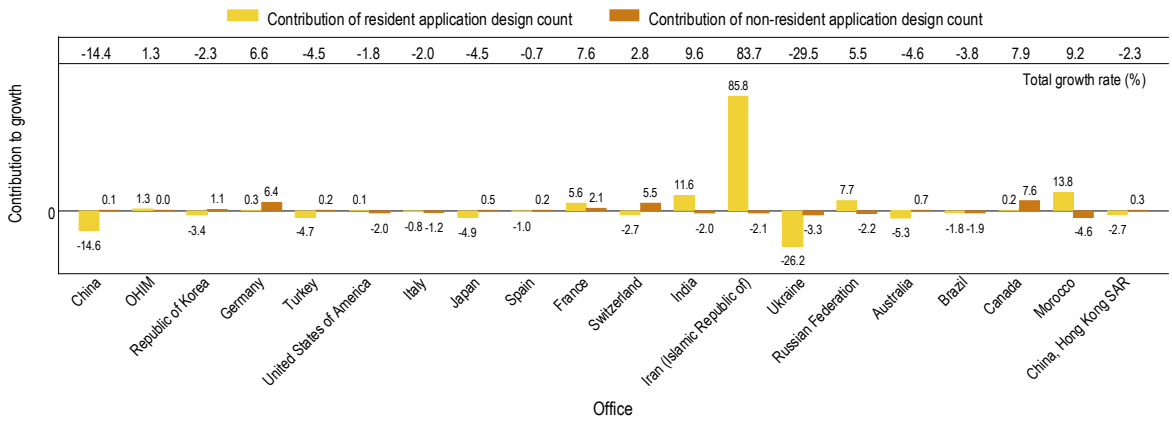
C10 Application design counts for the top 20 offices, 2014



Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. Application design count data for the United Kingdom were not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

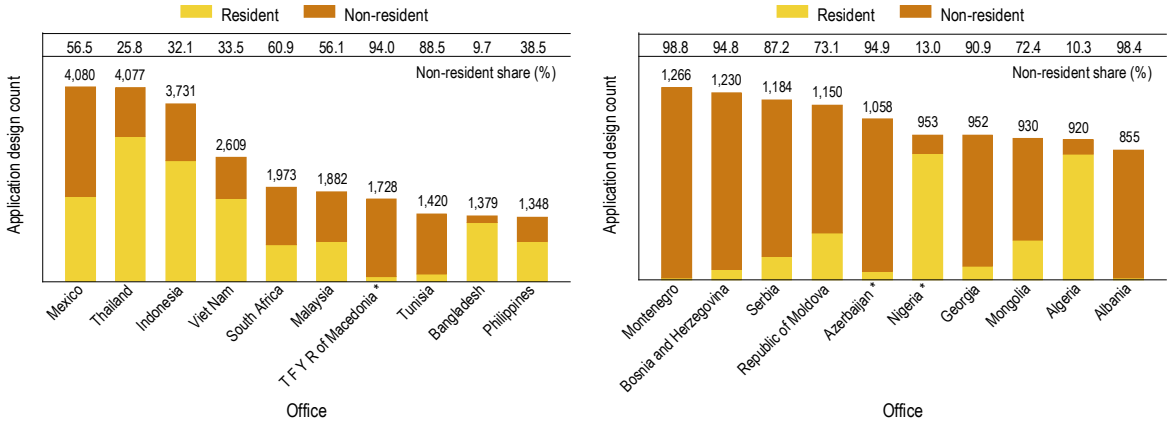
C11 Contribution of resident and non-resident application design counts to total growth for the top 20 offices, 2013-14



Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. This figure shows total growth in application design counts broken down by the respective contributions of resident and non-resident filings. For example, design counts in France grew by 7.6%, and resident applicants contributed 5.6 percentage points to this total growth.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C12 Application design counts for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2014

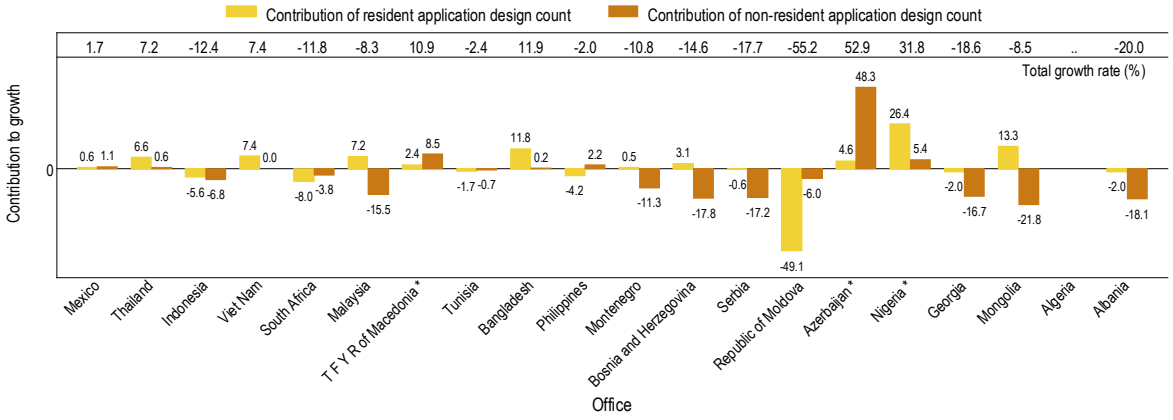


* indicates 2013 data.

Note: TFYR of Macedonia is The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all offices are in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C13 Contribution of resident and non-resident application design counts to total growth for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2013-14

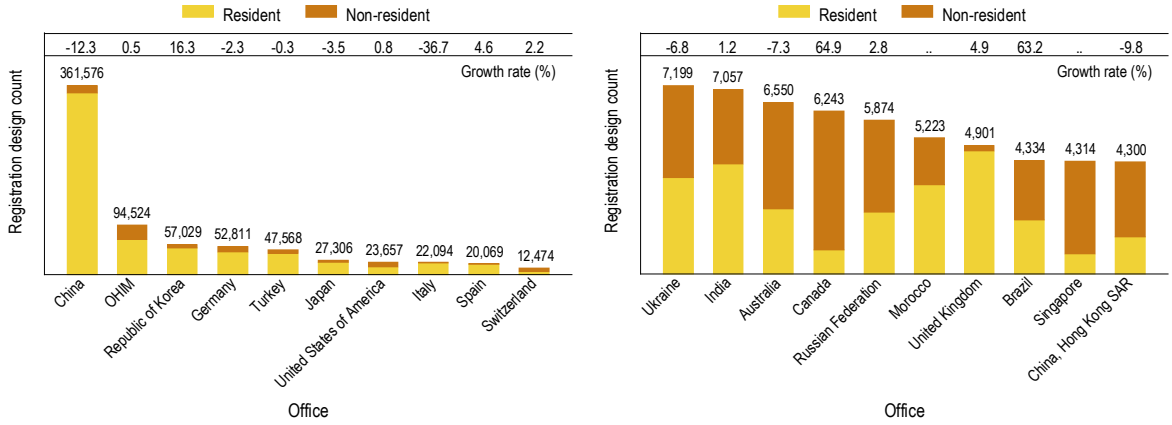


.. indicates not available.
* indicates 2013 data.

Note: TFYR of Macedonia is The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all offices are in the statistical table at the end of this section. This figure shows total growth in design counts broken down by the respective contributions of resident and non-resident filings. For example, the design count in Mexico grew by 1.7%, and resident applicants contributed 0.6 percentage points to this growth.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C14 Registration design counts for the top 20 offices, 2014

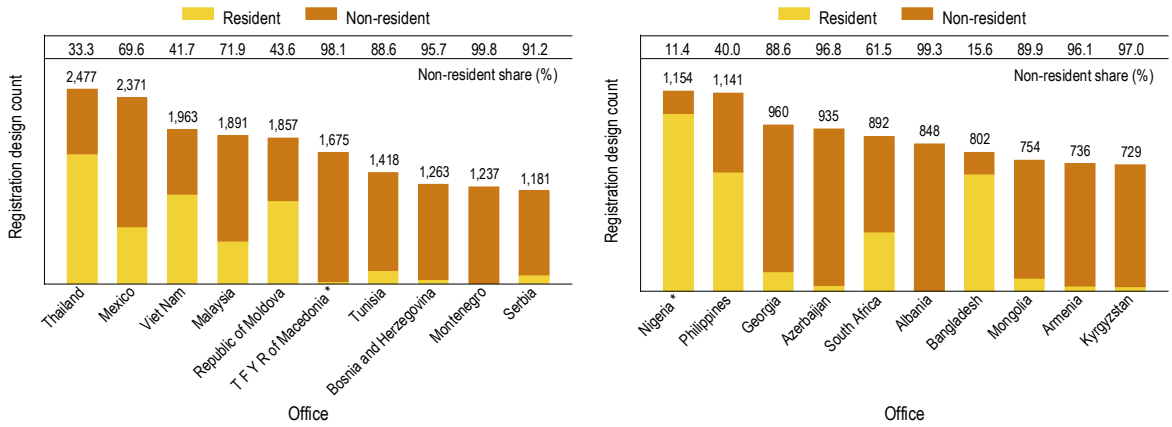


.. indicates not available.

Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. Registration design count data for France were not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C15 Registration design counts for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2014



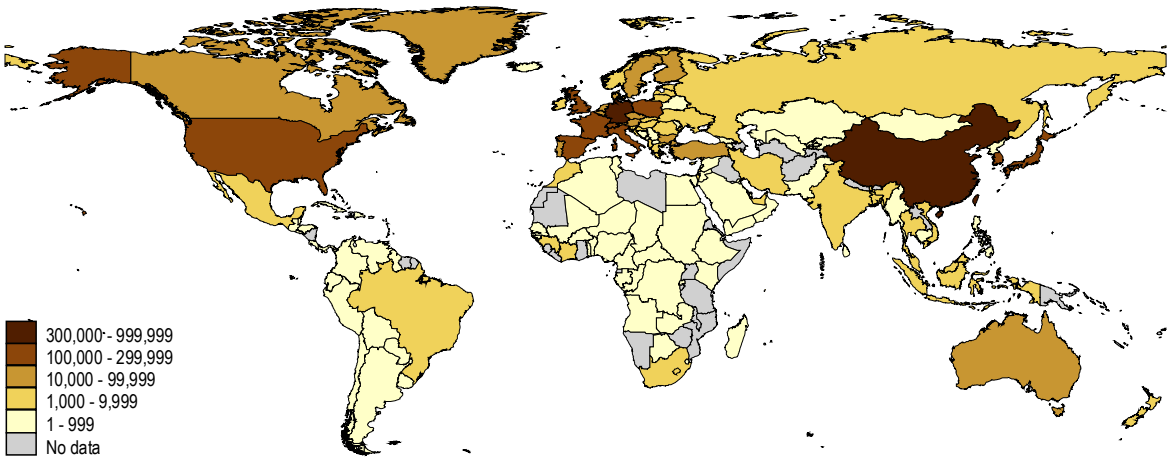
.. indicates not available.
* Indicates 2013 data.

Note: TFYR of Macedonia is The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all offices are presented in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Application design counts by origin

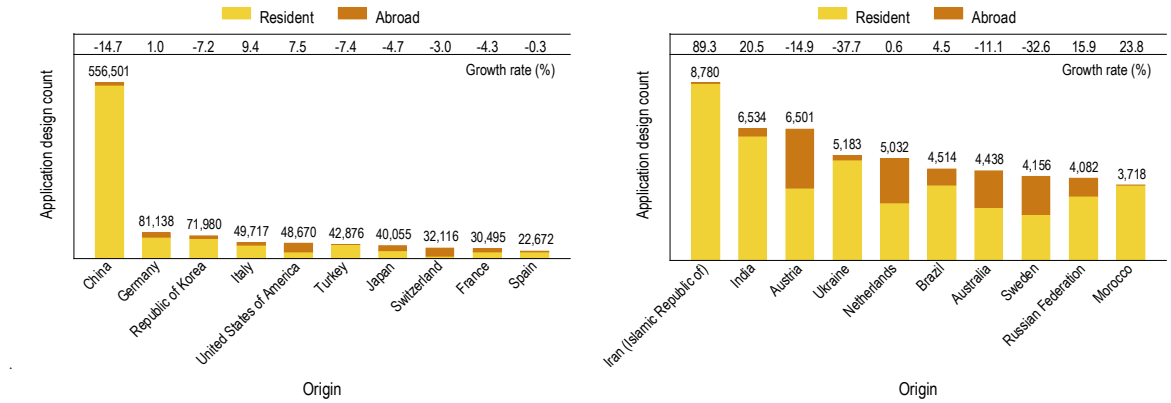
C16 Equivalent application design counts by origin, 2014



Note: Equivalent application design count includes resident applications and applications filed abroad. The origin of an industrial design application is determined by the residence of the first-named applicant. Applications filed at some regional offices are considered equivalent to multiple applications in the states member to these offices. See the glossary for the full definition of equivalent application.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

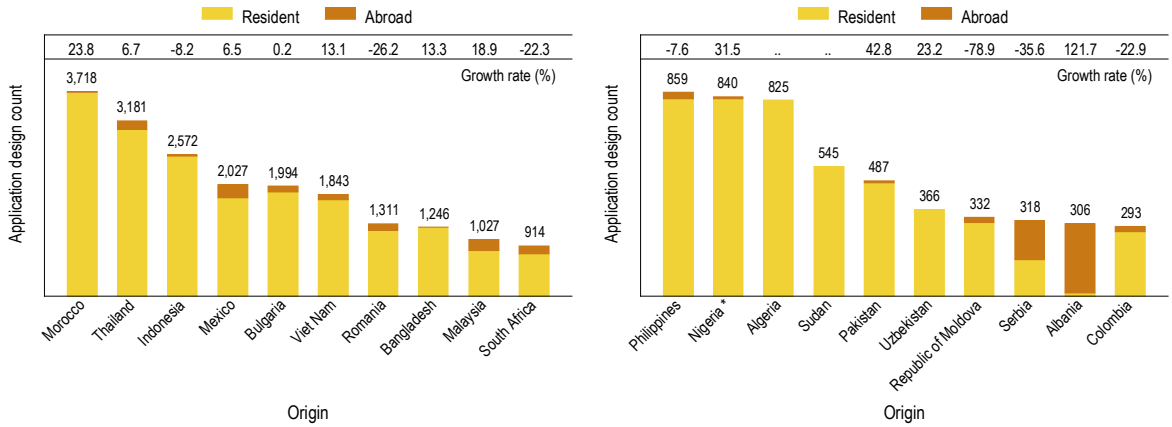
C17 Application design counts for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Data are based on absolute count, not equivalent count. Application design counts by origin include resident applications and applications filed abroad. The origin of an industrial design application is determined by the residence of the first-named applicant. An application filed at a regional office is considered a resident filing if the applicant is a resident of one of that office's member states.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C18 Application design counts for selected low- and middle-income origins, 2014

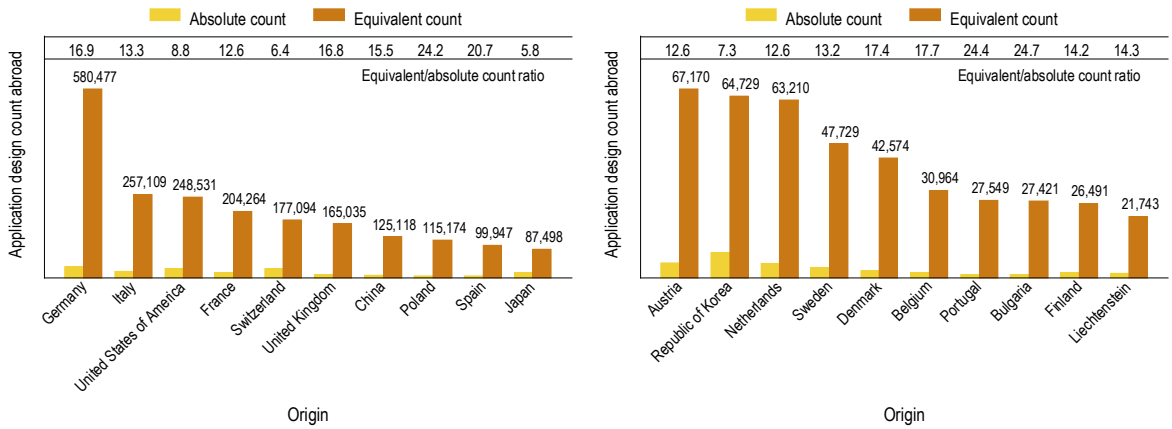


.. indicates not available.
* indicates 2013 data.

Note: Data are based on absolute count, not equivalent count. The selected origins are from different world regions and income groups (low-income, lower middle-income and upper middle-income). Where available, data for all origins are presented in the statistical table at the end of this section. The origin of an industrial design application is determined by the residence of the first-named applicant.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C19 Application design counts abroad for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Application design counts abroad exclude resident applications. Applications filed at some regional offices are considered equivalent to multiple applications in the states member to these offices (see the glossary for the full definition of equivalent application). The origin of an industrial design application is determined by the residence of the first-named applicant. Where available, data for all origins are presented in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C20 Application design counts for the top 25 offices and origins, 2014

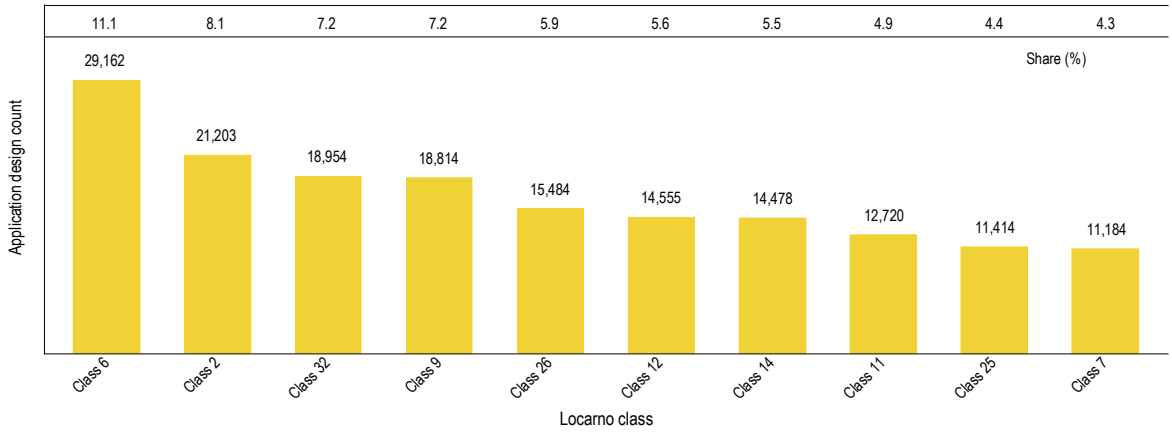
Origin	Office																								
	China	OHIM	Republic of Korea	Germany	Turkey	United States of America	Italy	Japan	Spain	France	Switzerland	India	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Ukraine	Russian Federation	Australia	Brazil	Canada	Morocco	China, Hong Kong SAR	Singapore	Mexico	Thailand	Egypt	Norway
Australia	184	454	9	1	2	354		80		1	1	38			9	2,630	5	84		16	13	3	14		1
Austria	83	2,379		2,305	36	150		30			146	25		4	24	33	18	27		1		5			1
Brazil	88	196	31		1	69		32				38		9	45	2	3,693	12		26	27	47	2		
China	548,428	4,335	182	590	29	1,421	7	250	24	10	2	60		8	74	154	75	87	1	282	45	50	74		33
China, Hong Kong SAR		641		317	6	265		30		4	11				19	61	9	30		1,472	30	2	2		
France	635	7,144	307	130	638	509	74	240	76	14,303	1,021	121		254	260	154	140	146	514	126	478	84	1	315	230
Germany	1,528	20,990	353	46,747	1,038	1,354	5	315	16	100	2,552	355		252	521	233	300	199	103	190	220	145	1	101	503
India	26	52			6	93		10			6	6,168		6	7	6	9	5	3	4	7	11	16		
Iran (Islamic Republic of)		2			4	1							8,772												
Italy	552	9,145	95	7,604	136	522	30,394	132		10	63	122		3	212	67	101	82		95	6	52	14		
Japan	4,078	2,677	1,311	163	102	2,411		24,868		5	87	497		22	310	232	238	166	1	373	193	180	385		6
Morocco		2		3			3		4	4									3,694						
Netherlands	336	2,212	153	14	49	224		220	39	6	3	126		20	141	71	134	26	7	90	7	67			11
Poland	21	4,244	7	153	17	38		11			14	10		51	22	5	9	3			5			1	53
Portugal	12	1,016			9	42		3	13	3	1				3	3	5	3			1	1			
Republic of Korea	2,120	2,037	63,082	17	67	2,241	11	630	1	4	45	172		9	264	84	167	114	1	121	114	69	48		7
Russian Federation	38	104	1	1	83	36		2				3		276	3,183		4	4		2					
Spain	134	3,656	11	9	90	135		21	17,833	132	70	17		49	70	11	33	18	13	17	25	57		24	20
Sweden	262	1,697	71	8	71	337		78		7	22	76		2	158	100	95	78	2	59	8	39	9		102
Switzerland	708	5,485	493	1,584	1,821	310	57	362	19	202	4,267	161		1,071	244	161	120	208	796	500	1,082	82	25	168	928
Thailand	5	80	1	3		35		2				6				1	2	3				1	3,026		
Turkey	66	649	1	27	41,242	37		2	13	5	16	23		67	78		6		2		5	1		33	7
Ukraine	7	36			12	19					11			4,959	81									10	10
United Kingdom	529	5,967	249	27	83	1,010	6	197	10	4	52	176		19	190	271	102	183	1	140	38	60	6		24
United States of America	3,329	8,153	1,498	500	355	20,320	4	1,629	3	42	177	814		102	846	1,794	1,093	3,156	5	680	240	1,090	136		94
Unknown/Others	1,386	14,920	586	851	2,902	3,445	344	594	258	675	4,343	301	92	1,253	552	524	232	1,133	383	283	1,724	2,034	315	3,175	1,793
Total	**564,555**	**98,273**	**68,441**	**61,054**	**48,799**	**35,378**	**30,905**	**29,738**	**18,309**	**15,517**	**12,910**	**9,309**	**8,864**	**8,436**	**7,313**	**6,597**	**6,590**	**5,767**	**5,526**	**4,477**	**4,268**	**4,080**	**4,074**	**3,827**	**3,823**

Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. Data are based on absolute count, not equivalent count.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Application design counts by Locarno class

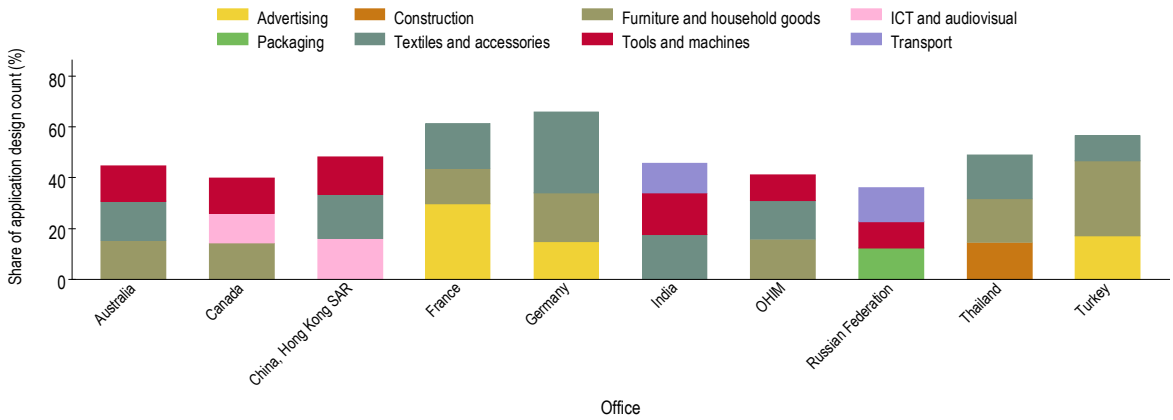
C21 Application design counts by Locarno class, 2014



Note: See Annex C for definitions. These figures are based on data from 105 IP offices. Class data were not available for the offices of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the US.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

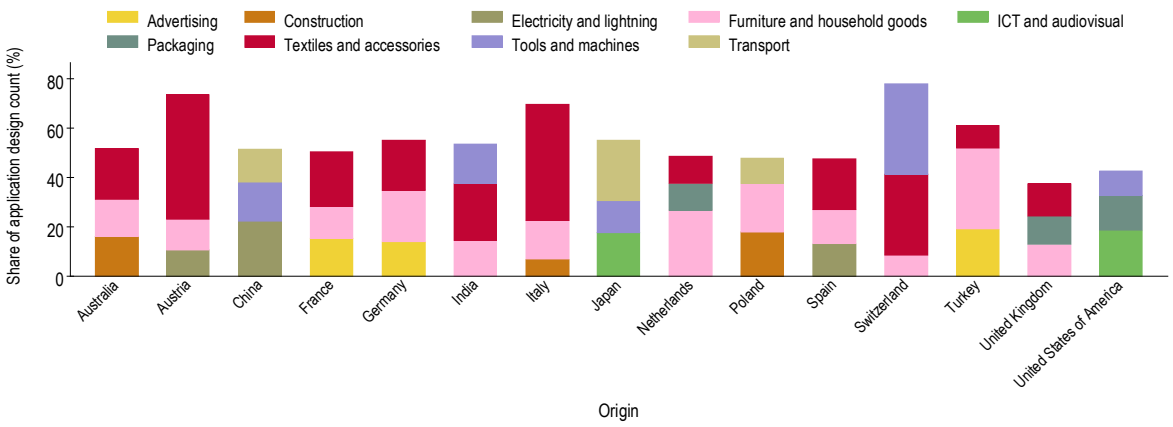
C22 Distribution of application design counts in the top three sectors and for the top 10 offices, 2014



Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. A concordance table produced by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was used to convert the 32 classes into 12 industry sectors (see Annex C for definitions). The top three sectors and top 10 offices were selected based on their 2014 totals. Data for several large offices are missing or unavailable, including the offices of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the US.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C23 Distribution of application design counts in the top three sectors and for the top 15 origins, 2014

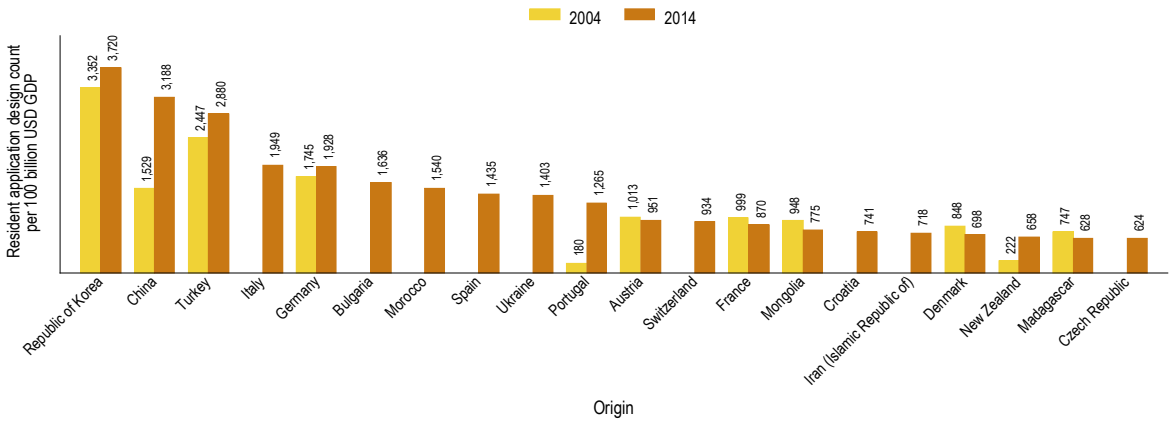


Note: A concordance table produced by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was used to convert the 32 classes into 12 industry sectors (see Annex C for definitions). The top three sectors and top 15 origins were selected based on their 2014 totals. These figures are based on data from 105 IP offices. Class data were not available for the offices of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the US.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Application design counts in relation to GDP and population

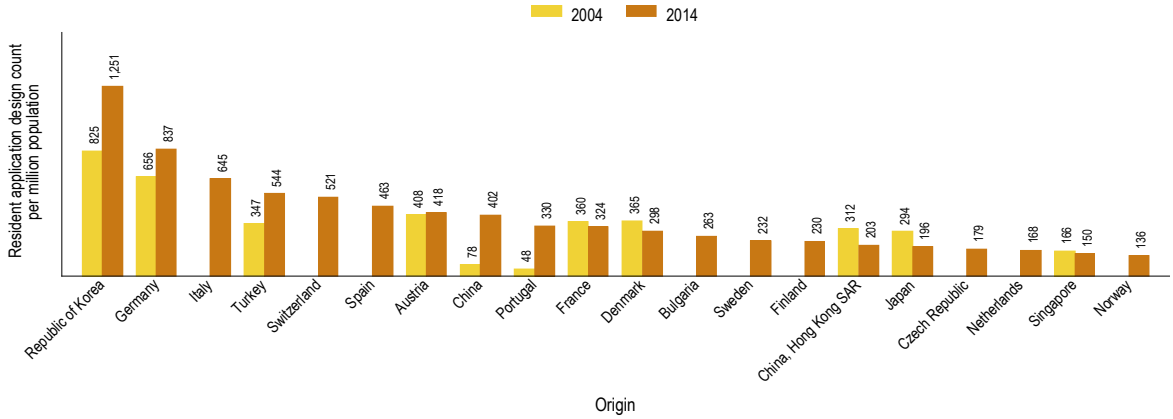
C24 Resident application design counts per 100 billion of USD GDP for the top 20 origins



Note: GDP data are in constant 2011 US PPP dollars. Origins were selected if they had a GDP greater than 25 billion PPP dollars and received resident applications containing more than 100 designs.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and World Bank, October 2015.

C25 Resident application design counts per million population for the top 20 origins

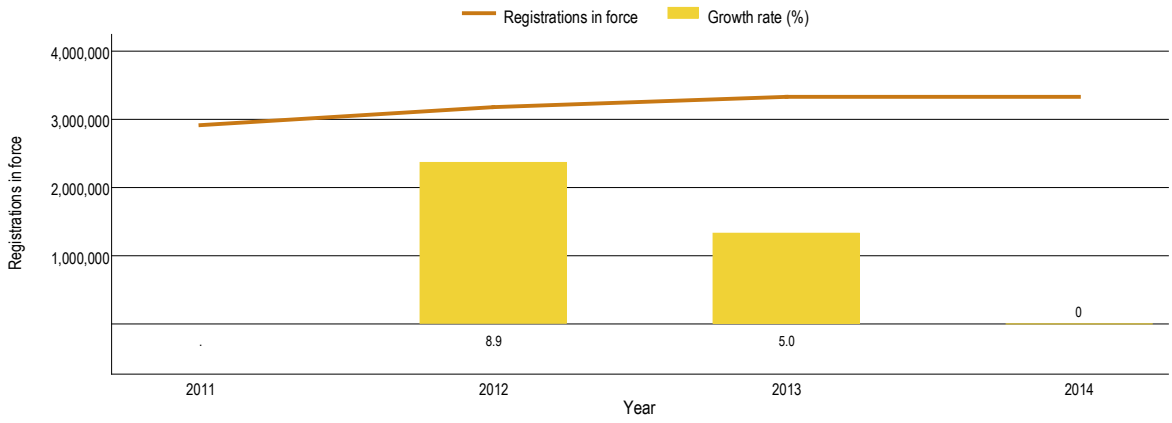


Note: Origins were selected if they had a population greater than five million and received resident applications containing more than 100 designs.

Sources: WIPO Statistics Database and World Bank, October 2015.

Industrial design registrations in force

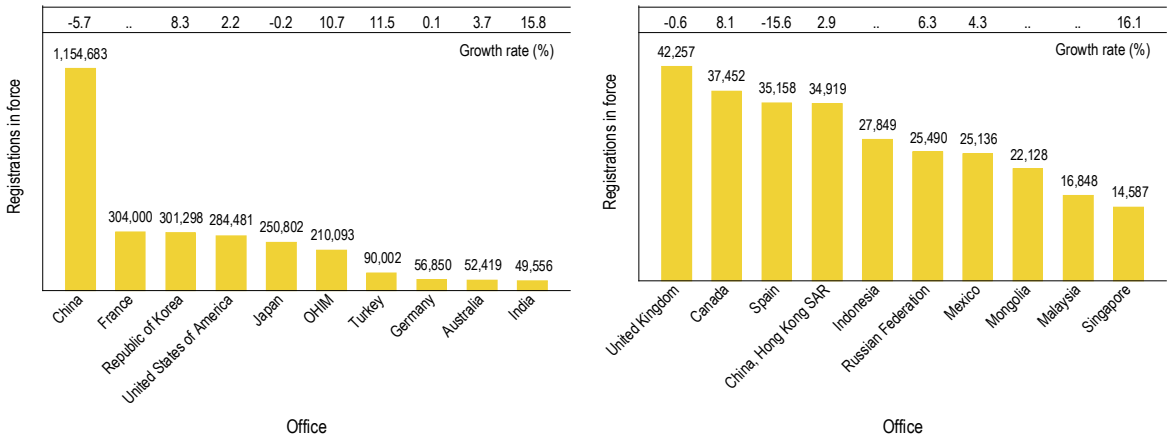
C26 Industrial design registrations in force worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 100 IP offices and include direct national and regional applications as well as designations received via the Hague System. Data refer to the number of industrial design registrations in force and not the number of designs contained in registrations.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C27 Industrial design registrations in force for the top 20 offices, 2014

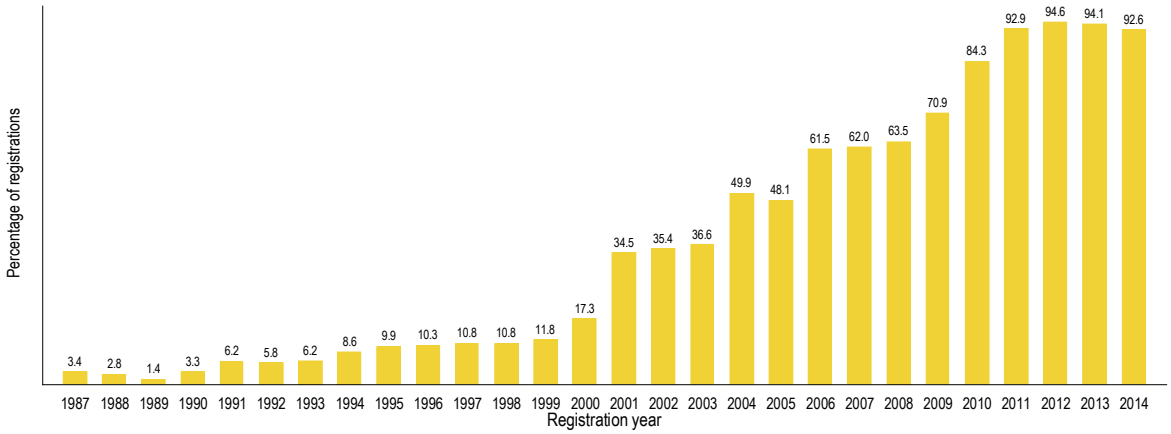


.. indicates not available.

Note: OHIM is the European Union's Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market. Data refer to the number of industrial design registrations in force and not the number of designs contained in registrations. Registration in force data for Brazil and Italy were not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

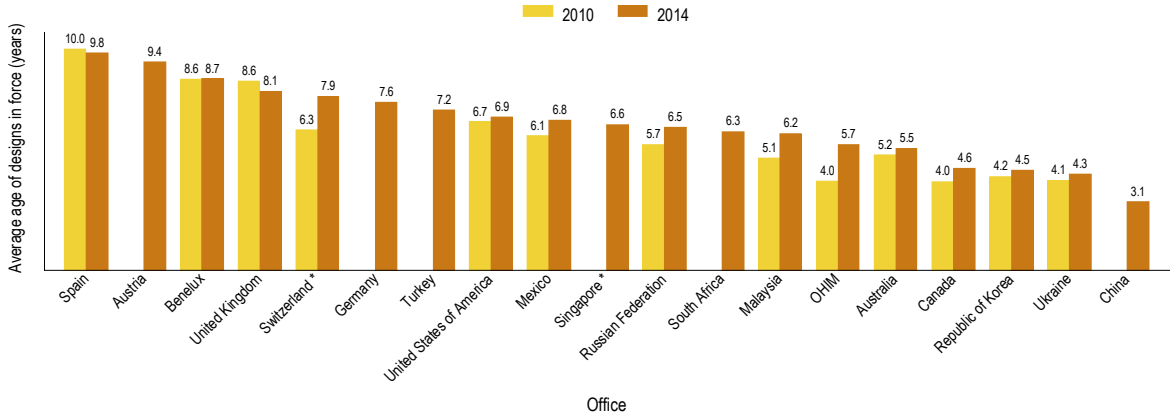
C28 Industrial design registrations in force in 2014 as a percentage of total registrations



Note: Percentages are calculated using the number of industrial designs registered in year *t* and in force in 2014 divided by the total number of industrial designs registered in year *t*. The graph is based on data from 73 offices (including most large offices, with the exception of Brazil, France, Italy and Japan) for which a breakdown of industrial design registrations in force by year of registration was available. Due to a change in methodology, this figure should not be compared with the ones published in previous years' editions.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C29 Average age of industrial design registrations in force at selected offices

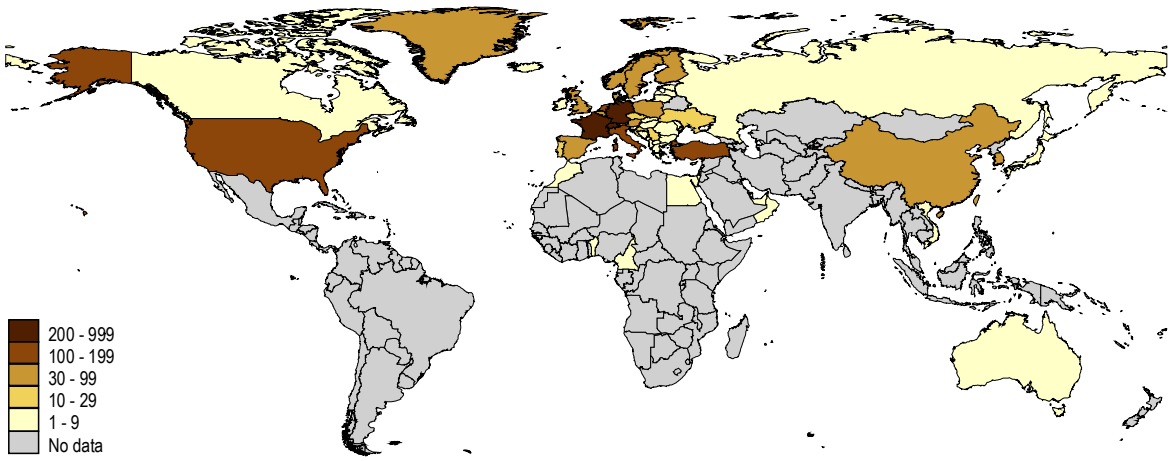


* indicates 2013 data.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Industrial design applications and registrations through the Hague System

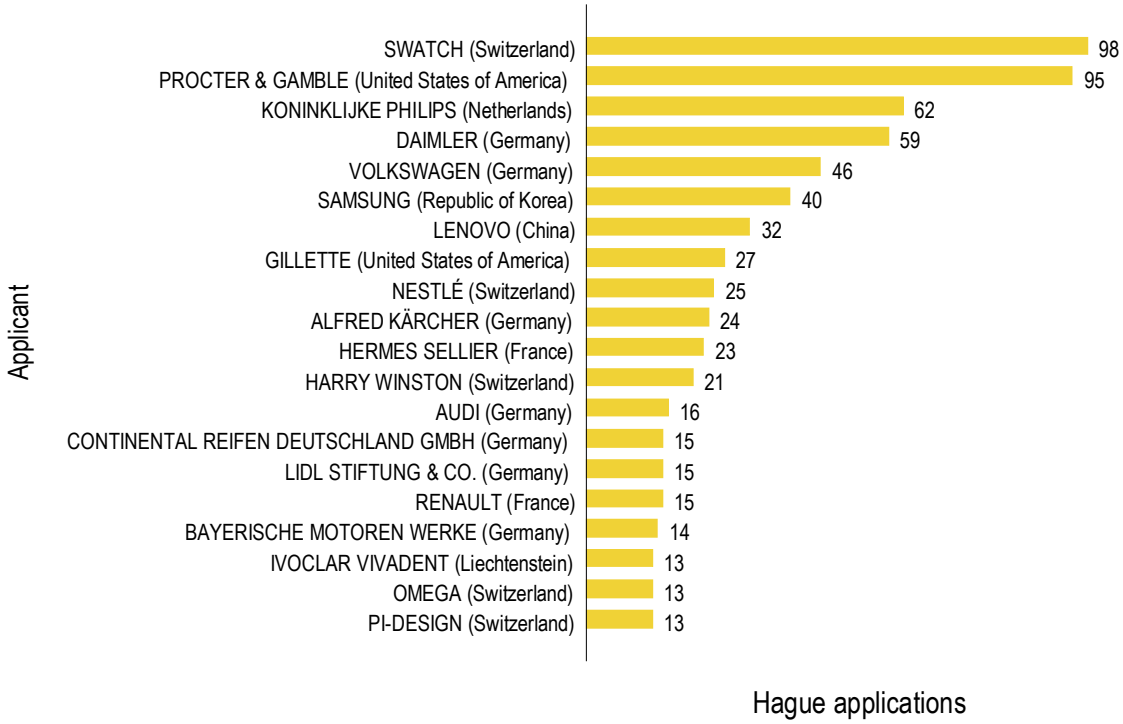
C30 Hague international application design count by origin, 2014



Note: Counts are based on the residency of the applicant, not the office of origin.

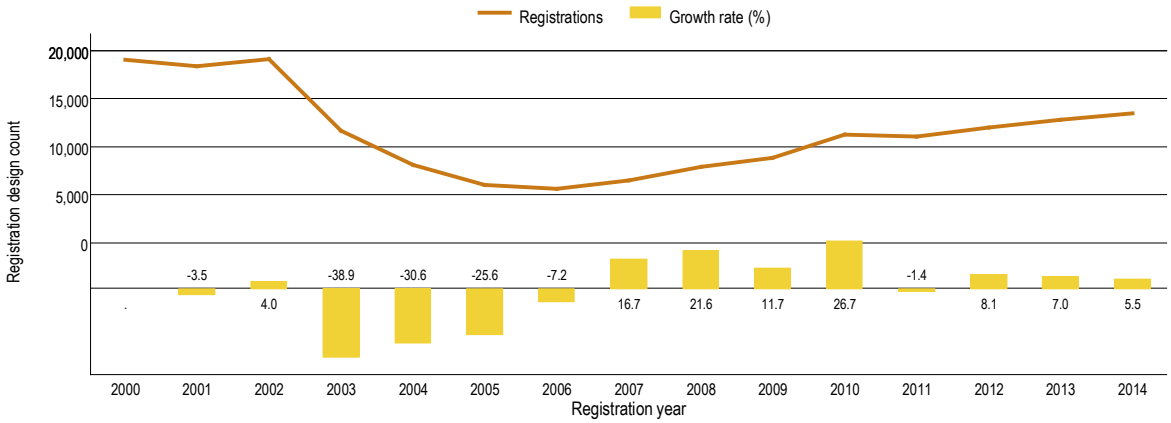
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C31 Top Hague applicants, 2014



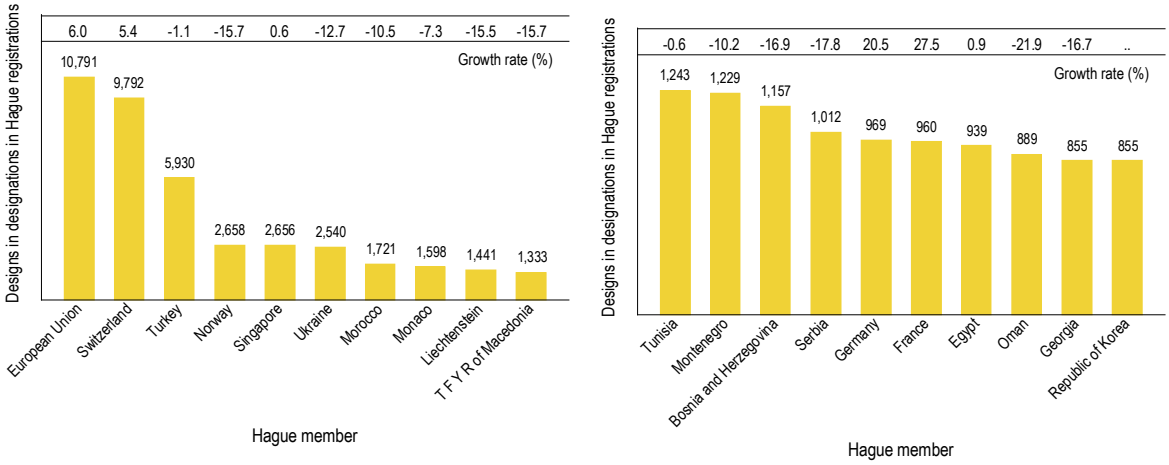
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C32 Trend in Hague international registration design counts



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

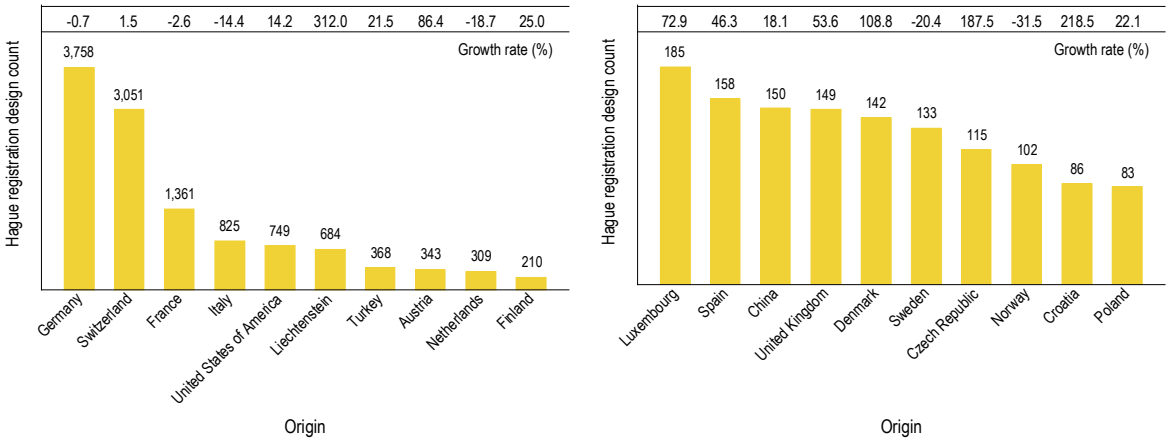
C33 Registration design counts for the top 20 designated Hague members, 2014



.. indicates not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

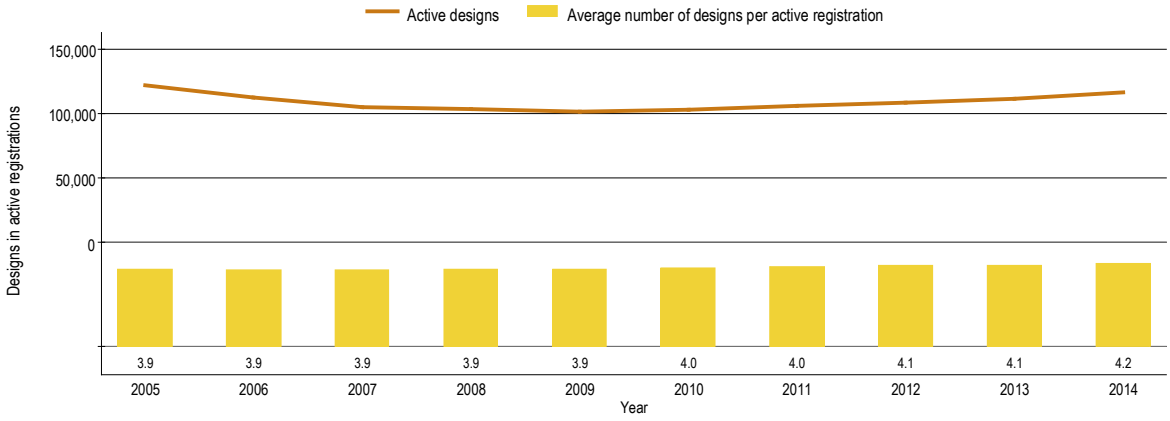
C34 Registration design counts for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Origin is defined as the country of the stated residence of the applicant on an international application.

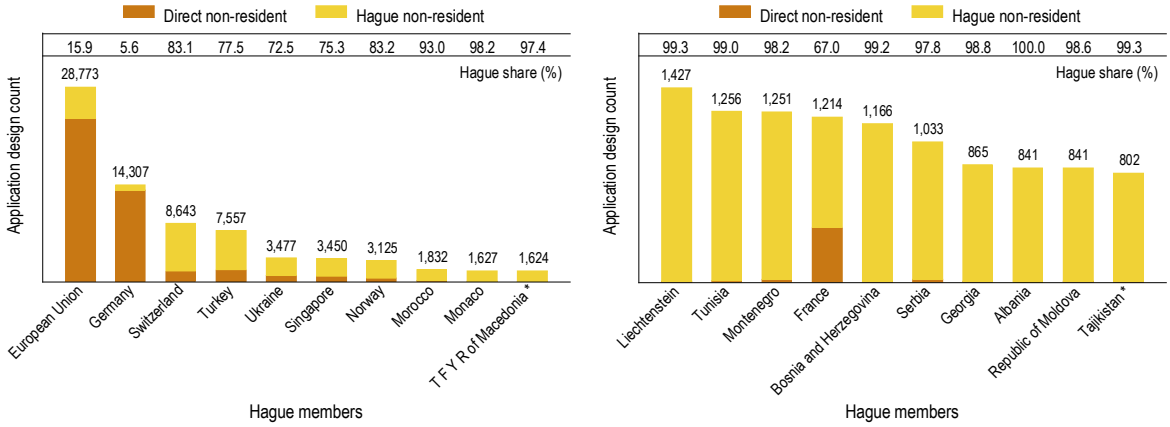
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C35 Trend in active international registration design counts



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C36 Non-resident application design counts by filing route for selected Hague members, 2014



* indicates 2013 data.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Statistical tables

C37 Industrial design applications by office and origin, 2014

	Application design count by office			Application design count by origin	Equivalent application design count by origin	Hague international application design count	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (e)	Designated Hague member
African Intellectual Property Organization	836	363	473	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	456
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization	154	31	123	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Albania	855	14	841	306	1,169	31	847
Algeria	920	825	95	825	825	..	n.a.
Andorra	..	..	..	11	11	2	n.a.
Angola	..	..	..	2	2	..	n.a.
Argentina	1,384	798	586	833	941	..	n.a.
Armenia	756	31	725	64	955	..	759
Australia	6,597	2,630	3,967	4,438	16,712	2	n.a.
Austria	2,400	1,185	1,215	6,501	70,734	344	n.a.
Azerbaijan (b,c)	1,058	54	1,004	70	70	..	927
Bahamas	24	23	1	65	470	..	n.a.
Bahrain	53	11	42	11	11	..	n.a.
Bangladesh	1,379	1,245	134	1,246	1,246	..	n.a.
Barbados (b,c)	5	2	3	27	81	..	n.a.
Belarus	469	171	298	278	278	..	n.a.
Belgium	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,745	32,308	106	n.a.
Belize (d)	571	..	571	15	15	..	600
Benelux	1,348	875	473	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	528
Benin (d)	30	..	30	10	170	1	17
Bermuda	..	..	..	15	150	..	n.a.
Bhutan (b,c)	2	0	2	..	..	..	n.a.
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	60	26	34	27	27	..	n.a.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,230	64	1,166	77	212	3	1,145
Botswana	93	12	81	12	12	..	90
Brazil	6,590	3,693	2,897	4,514	9,854	..	n.a.
Brunei Darussalam	92	4	88	7	7	..	109
Bulgaria	930	885	45	1,994	29,318	6	42
Burkina Faso	..	..	..	1	17	..	n.a.
Cambodia	82	37	45	51	51	..	n.a.
Cameroon	..	..	..	41	697	31	n.a.
Canada	5,767	859	4,908	2,761	16,018	3	n.a.
Central African Republic	..	..	..	1	17	..	n.a.
Chad	..	..	..	1	17	..	n.a.
Chile	465	110	355	159	564	..	n.a.
China	564,555	548,428	16,127	556,501	673,546	141	n.a.
China, Hong Kong SAR	4,477	1,472	3,005	2,944	20,251	..	n.a.
China, Macao SAR	132	12	120	42	96	..	n.a.
Colombia	577	271	306	293	293	..	n.a.
Congo	..	..	..	4	68	..	n.a.
Costa Rica	47	7	40	15	15	..	n.a.
Côte d'Ivoire (d)	68	..	68	260	4,765	..	71
Croatia	1,185	522	663	990	3,930	73	710
Cuba	11	8	3	9	9	..	n.a.
Curaçao	..	..	..	1	1	..	n.a.
Cyprus	40	40	0	304	1,546	..	n.a.
Czech Republic	1,164	1,149	15	2,326	22,117	86	n.a.
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (d)	228	..	228	2	2	..	207
Democratic Republic of the Congo	..	..	..	2	2	..	n.a.
Denmark	400	140	260	2,580	44,257	155	241
Djibouti	2	0	2	..	..	..	n.a.
Dominican Republic	70	28	42	30	84	..	n.a.
Ecuador	..	..	..	2	2	..	n.a.
Egypt (d)	3,827	..	..	10	64	1	1,004
El Salvador	70	47	23	48	48	..	n.a.
Estonia	86	74	12	238	2,398	16	22

	Application design count by office			Application design count by origin	Equivalent application design count by origin	Hague international application design count	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (e)	Designated Hague member
Ethiopia	..	..	..	1	1	..	n.a.
Finland	362	307	55	2,176	27,745	211	57
France	15,517	14,303	1,214	30,495	225,711	1,559	986
Gabon (d)	25	..	25	4	68	..	39
Georgia	952	87	865	90	90	..	902
Germany	61,054	46,747	14,307	81,138	648,214	3,868	1,057
Ghana (d)	110	..	110	..	..	..	177
Greece	1,346	1,066	280	1,262	5,393	5	339
Guatemala	360	65	295	65	65	..	n.a.
Guinea	..	..	..	65	1,105	..	n.a.
Guinea-Bissau (b,c)	9	9	0	9	9	..	n.a.
Guyana	..	..	..	2	2	..	n.a.
Honduras (c)	20	..	..	17	17	..	n.a.
Hungary	854	789	65	1,273	6,889	4	60
Iceland	224	39	185	66	390	5	229
India	9,309	6,168	3,141	6,534	8,018	..	n.a.
Indonesia	3,731	2,534	1,197	2,572	2,653	..	n.a.
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	8,864	8,772	92	8,780	8,834	..	n.a.
Ireland	..	..	..	409	7,402	2	n.a.
Israel	..	..	..	800	8,657	1	n.a.
Italy	30,905	30,394	511	49,717	296,648	906	387
Jamaica	75	72	3	72	72	..	n.a.
Japan	29,738	24,868	4,870	40,055	112,366	20	n.a.
Jordan	52	17	35	18	18	..	n.a.
Kazakhstan	300	107	193	124	124	..	n.a.
Kenya	95	78	17	79	79	..	n.a.
Kiribati (b,c)	10	10	0	10	10	..	n.a.
Kuwait	..	..	..	1	1	..	n.a.
Kyrgyzstan	752	48	704	48	48	..	724
Latvia	185	79	106	164	2,135	4	118
Lebanon (b,d)	108	..	..	12	12	..	n.a.
Lesotho	..	..	..	1	1	..	n.a.
Liechtenstein	1,494	67	1,427	1,587	21,810	697	1,464
Lithuania	386	62	324	174	2,766	12	365
Luxembourg	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	970	16,578	132	n.a.
Madagascar	207	203	4	203	203	..	n.a.
Malaysia	1,882	827	1,055	1,027	1,216	..	n.a.
Mali (d)	23	..	23	8	120	..	39
Malta	10	10	0	207	4,986	8	n.a.
Marshall Islands	..	..	..	2	2	..	n.a.
Mauritius (b,c)	15	10	5	30	57	..	n.a.
Mexico	4,080	1,774	2,306	2,027	2,675	..	n.a.
Monaco	1,666	39	1,627	148	2,713	8	1,717
Mongolia	930	257	673	257	257	..	707
Montenegro	1,266	15	1,251	20	74	1	1,191
Morocco	5,526	3,694	1,832	3,718	3,844	6	1,832
Myanmar	..	..	..	4	4	..	n.a.
Namibia (d)	114	..	114	..	..	..	141
Nepal (b,c)	56	21	35	21	21	..	n.a.
Netherlands	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	5,032	66,040	340	n.a.
New Zealand	3,217	1,030	2,187	1,574	4,652	..	n.a.
Nicaragua	9	0	9	..	..	..	n.a.
Niger (d)	28	..	28	2	18	..	27
Nigeria (b,c)	953	829	124	840	1,045	..	n.a.
Norway	3,823	698	3,125	1,416	7,183	104	2,996
Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market	98,273	69,500	28,773	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	11,489
Oman (d)	889	..	889	2	29	1	950
Pakistan	558	475	83	487	703	..	n.a.
Panama	71	13	58	241	365	..	n.a.
Papua New Guinea (b,c)	35	1	34	1	1	..	n.a.

	Application design count by office			Application design count by origin	Equivalent application design count by origin	Hague international application design count	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (e)	Designated Hague member
Paraguay	..	..	..	3	3	..	n.a.
Peru	319	104	215	107	107	..	n.a.
Philippines	1,348	829	519	859	940	..	n.a.
Poland (d)	48	..	48	4,766	119,418	120	66
Portugal	2,528	2,410	118	3,541	30,975	34	n.a.
Qatar	..	..	..	9	144	9	n.a.
Republic of Korea	68,441	63,082	5,359	71,980	127,811	125	984
Republic of Moldova	1,150	309	841	332	334	3	805
Romania	1,235	1,012	223	1,311	6,106	29	192
Russian Federation	7,313	3,183	4,130	4,082	6,890	1	n.a.
Rwanda	77	2	75	2	2	..	82
Saint Lucia (b,c)	1	1	0	1	1	..	n.a.
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2	0	2	..	..	..	n.a.
Samoa	20	15	5	23	23	..	n.a.
San Marino	..	..	..	92	389	..	n.a.
Sao Tome and Principe (d)	70	..	70	..	..	..	81
Saudi Arabia	685	234	451	271	703	..	n.a.
Senegal (d)	88	..	88	13	221	..	39
Serbia	1,184	151	1,033	318	857	14	955
Seychelles	..	..	..	119	1,577	..	n.a.
Singapore	4,268	818	3,450	1,873	8,697	60	2,996
Slovakia	441	340	101	601	6,352	32	n.a.
Slovenia (d)	519	..	519	221	5,135	17	540
South Africa	1,973	772	1,201	914	2,539	..	n.a.
Spain	18,309	17,833	476	22,672	121,436	172	422
Sri Lanka (b,c)	359	260	99	268	295	..	n.a.
Sudan	545	545	0	545	545	..	n.a.
Suriname (d)	63	..	63	..	..	..	69
Swaziland	..	..	..	16	16	..	n.a.
Sweden	570	549	21	4,156	49,975	162	n.a.
Switzerland	12,910	4,267	8,643	32,116	181,361	3,189	10,254
Syrian Arab Republic (d)	124	..	124	16	205	..	141
T F Y R of Macedonia (b,c)	1,728	104	1,624	115	115	5	1,309
Tajikistan (b,c)	803	1	802	1	1	..	505
Thailand	4,077	3,026	1,051	3,181	5,341	..	n.a.
Togo	..	..	..	3	51	..	n.a.
Trinidad and Tobago	259	179	80	179	179	..	n.a.
Tunisia	1,420	164	1,256	183	199	..	1,316
Turkey	48,799	41,242	7,557	42,876	60,687	427	6,368
Ukraine	8,436	4,959	3,477	5,183	6,155	44	2,587
United Arab Emirates	804	91	713	252	1,742	1	n.a.
United Kingdom	..	..	..	9,839	171,002	199	n.a.
United States of America	35,378	20,320	15,058	48,670	268,851	765	n.a.
Uruguay	77	20	57	28	82	..	n.a.
Uzbekistan	413	366	47	366	366	..	n.a.
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	..	..	..	11	38	..	n.a.
Viet Nam	2,609	1,736	873	1,843	1,843	6	n.a.
Yemen	37	18	19	18	18	..	n.a.
Zambia	40	29	11	29	29	..	n.a.
Others/Unknown	..	..	..	24,139	58,669	132	n.a.
Total (2014 estimates)	**1,138,400**	**961,500**	**176,900**	**1,138,400**	**n.a.**	**14,441**	**65,479**

a. Design count by origin is incomplete, as some offices do not report the origin of applications.
b. 2013 data are reported for application design count by office.
c. 2013 data are reported for application design count by origin.
d. Only Hague designation data are available and/or the office has not reported the origin of applications; therefore, design count by office and origin data may be incomplete.
e. Origin is defined as the country of the stated address of residence of the applicant of an international application.
n.a. indicates not applicable
.. indicates not available

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

C38 Industrial design registrations by office and origin, and industrial designs in force, 2014

	Registration design count by office			Registration design count by origin	Equivalent registration design count by origin	Hague international registration design count	In force by office
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total (a)	Total (a)	Origin (e)	Total
African Intellectual Property Organization (c)	928	..	..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	..
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization	221	8	213	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	638
Albania	848	6	842	296	1,159	29	38
Algeria	121	115	6	117	117	..	2,017
Andorra	..	..	..	23	266	..	..
Angola	..	..	..	3	30	..	..
Antigua and Barbuda	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Argentina	1,271	677	594	708	897	..	..
Armenia	736	29	707	59	869	..	56
Aruba	..	..	..	7	196	..	..
Australia	6,550	2,478	4,072	4,074	14,847	1	52,419
Austria	2,433	919	1,514	6,907	69,223	343	10,383
Azerbaijan (e)	935	30	905	30	30	..	128
Bahamas	24	23	1	38	335	..	..
Bahrain	64	5	59	5	5	..	219
Bangladesh	802	677	125	678	678	..	..
Barbados	..	..	..	24	105	..	..
Belarus	551	269	282	409	625	..	354
Belgium	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,711	30,861	80	n.a.
Belize (d)	571	..	571	198	252	..	..
Benelux	1,234	754	480	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	8,541
Benin (d)	30	..	30	..	..	..	..
Bermuda	..	..	..	34	709	..	..
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	56	23	33	24	24	..	550
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,263	54	1,209	73	181	4	357
Botswana	84	4	80	6	6	..	..
Brazil	4,334	2,080	2,254	2,683	10,810	..	..
Brunei Darussalam (b,c,e)	11	0	11	..	..	..	163
Bulgaria	668	614	54	1,464	18,852	17	2,702
Cambodia	29	10	19	10	10	..	..
Cameroon	..	..	..	..	..	10	..
Canada	6,243	928	5,315	2,649	22,575	2	37,452
Chile	723	55	668	106	106	..	2,340
China	361,576	346,751	14,825	353,099	455,107	150	1,154,683
China, Hong Kong SAR	4,300	1,421	2,879	2,678	19,769	..	34,919
China, Macao SAR	174	27	147	39	39	..	857
Colombia	526	208	318	274	274	..	3,651
Costa Rica	65	19	46	40	526	..	572
Côte d'Ivoire (d)	68	..	68	..	..	..	..
Croatia	1,163	481	682	946	3,562	86	5,233
Cuba	8	4	4	6	6	..	51
Curaçao	..	..	..	24	618	..	..
Cyprus	34	34	0	330	1,761	..	92
Czech Republic	1,429	1,132	297	2,443	19,723	115	3,434
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (d)	228	..	228	26	26	..	..
Denmark	376	121	255	2,407	42,194	142	1,787
Djibouti	2	0	2	..	..	..	9
Dominican Republic (b,c)	34	13	21	19	100	..	321
Ecuador	..	..	..	9	90	..	..
Egypt (d)	1,200	..	..	..	..	..	..
El Salvador	38	6	32	10	118	..	..
Estonia	71	59	12	253	4,330	14	1,355
Ethiopia	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Finland	279	223	56	1,865	25,220	210	2,657
France (d)	960	147	813	16,492	226,256	1,361	304,000
Gabon (d)	25	..	25	..	..	..	..

	Registration design count by office			Registration design count by origin	Equivalent registration design count by origin	Hague international registration design count	In force by office
Name	**Total**	**Resident**	**Non-resident**	**Total (a)**	**Total (a)**	**Origin (e)**	**Total**
Georgia	960	109	851	110	110	..	303
Germany	52,811	42,643	10,168	75,217	620,785	3,758	56,850
Ghana (d)	110	..	110	..	..	..	..
Greece	1,506	1,224	282	1,475	6,659	1	1,462
Guatemala	430	10	420	10	10	..	405
Guinea-Bissau (b,c)	6	6	0	7	7	..	..
Honduras (c,e)	39	..	..	16	16	..	216
Hungary	1,008	946	62	1,372	5,044	34	4,195
Iceland	222	38	184	65	416	4	831
India	7,057	4,179	2,878	4,390	5,983	..	49,556
Indonesia	3,878	2,334	1,544	2,365	2,365	24	27,849
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	3,268	3,164	104	3,169	3,169	..	11,221
Ireland	..	..	..	356	6,188	1	1,000
Israel	..	..	..	633	5,925	1	..
Italy	22,094	21,566	528	36,204	258,468	825	..
Jamaica	189	180	9	180	180	..	..
Japan	27,306	23,092	4,214	38,195	109,583	20	250,802
Jordan	56	25	31	27	54	..	2,026
Kazakhstan	282	92	190	96	96	..	1,014
Kenya	34	31	3	31	31	..	..
Kuwait	..	..	..	4	4	..	..
Kyrgyzstan	729	22	707	22	22	..	127
Latvia	182	76	106	112	760	3	417
Lebanon	..	..	..	58	544	..	..
Liechtenstein	1,490	67	1,423	1,762	25,981	684	84
Lithuania	390	47	343	111	1,515	5	312
Luxembourg	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	985	20,325	185	n.a.
Madagascar	172	169	3	169	169	..	1,418
Malaysia	1,891	532	1,359	712	1,387	..	16,848
Mali (d)	23	..	23	..	..	..	..
Malta	10	8	2	248	5,787	8	48
Mauritius (b,c)	66	14	52	23	50	..	..
Mexico	2,371	720	1,651	901	1,306	..	25,136
Monaco	1,661	24	1,637	74	1,073	8	379
Mongolia	754	76	678	76	76	..	22,128
Montenegro	1,237	3	1,234	8	62	2	115
Morocco	5,223	3,399	1,824	3,417	3,477	3	..
Namibia (d)	114	..	114	5	5	..	..
Nepal	9	5	4	5	5	..	..
Netherlands	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	4,720	62,633	309	n.a.
New Zealand	2,677	795	1,882	1,176	2,958	..	9,745
Nicaragua	17	0	17	5	5	..	114
Niger (d)	28	..	28	..	..	..	..
Nigeria (b,c)	1,154	1,023	131	1,033	1,254	..	..
Norway	3,647	573	3,074	1,237	6,522	102	8,375
Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market	94,524	65,979	28,545	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	210,093
Oman (d)	889	..	889	15	15	..	..
Pakistan	592	502	90	502	502	..	7,182
Panama	148	5	143	241	268	..	399
Papua New Guinea (b,c,e)	25	1	24	1	1	..	3
Paraguay	..	..	..	3	3	..	..
Peru	427	91	336	97	97	..	2,547
Philippines	1,141	685	456	708	789	..	..
Poland (b,c)	1,397	1,318	79	4,957	93,268	83	10,626
Portugal	1,916	1,806	110	2,799	28,125	30	4,382
Qatar	..	..	..	9	90	9	..
Republic of Korea	57,029	51,372	5,657	60,660	129,484	53	301,298
Republic of Moldova	1,857	1,048	809	1,071	1,073	1	3,152

	Registration design count by office			Registration design count by origin	Equivalent registration design count by origin	Hague international registration design count	In force by office
Name	**Total**	**Resident**	**Non-resident**	**Total (a)**	**Total (a)**	**Origin (e)**	**Total**
Romania	1,853	1,530	323	1,848	7,291	29	3,940
Russian Federation	5,874	2,350	3,524	3,057	6,164	4	25,490
Rwanda	72	0	72	..	..	..	..
Saint Lucia (b,c)	1	1	0	1	1	..	..
Samoa	19	14	5	36	144	..	19
San Marino	..	..	..	4	112	..	..
Sao Tome and Principe (d)	70	..	70	..	..	..	..
Saudi Arabia	1,036	237	799	245	299	..	2,515
Senegal (d)	88	..	88	1	1	..	..
Serbia	1,181	104	1,077	270	809	23	4,144
Seychelles	..	..	..	28	28	..	..
Singapore	4,314	758	3,556	1,743	10,511	55	14,587
Slovakia	455	314	141	537	5,856	16	887
Slovenia (d)	519	..	519	155	3,341	9	..
South Africa	892	343	549	525	2,469	..	14,581
Spain	20,069	19,585	484	23,800	115,000	158	35,158
Sri Lanka (b,c)	130	100	30	117	144	..	..
Sudan	247	247	0	247	247	..	120
Suriname (d)	63	..	63	..	..	..	..
Swaziland	..	..	..	5	5	..	..
Sweden	504	497	7	5,275	55,576	133	5,883
Switzerland	12,474	4,023	8,451	30,287	171,459	3,051	9,624
Syrian Arab Republic (d)	27	..	27	3	3	..	..
T F Y R of Macedonia (b,c,e)	1,675	32	1,643	52	52	2	2,792
Tajikistan (b,c,e)	801	0	801	..	..	..	47
Thailand	2,477	1,653	824	1,788	2,220	..	..
Trinidad and Tobago	57	29	28	31	31	..	..
Tunisia	1,418	162	1,256	163	163	..	..
Turkey	47,568	39,935	7,633	41,446	59,068	368	90,002
Ukraine	7,199	3,695	3,504	3,891	4,863	27	11,095
United Arab Emirates	368	6	362	145	1,765	..	..
United Kingdom	4,901	4,697	204	13,412	166,767	149	42,257
United Republic of Tanzania	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
United States of America	23,657	13,385	10,272	39,183	247,569	749	284,481
Uruguay	92	9	83	12	12	..	677
Uzbekistan	131	113	18	113	113	..	503
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	..	..	..	5	59	..	..
Viet Nam	1,963	1,144	819	1,155	1,182	6	8,975
Yemen	15	10	5	10	10	..	..
Zambia	22	15	7	15	15	..	..
Zimbabwe	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Others/Unknown	..	..	..	23,989	69,238	8	..
Total (2014 estimates)	**864,877**	**699,844**	**165,033**	**864,877**	**n.a.**	**13,504**	**3,329,000**

a. Design count by origin is incomplete, as some offices do not report the origin of registrations.
b. 2013 data are reported for registration design counts by office.
c. 2013 data are reported for registration design counts by origin.
d. Only Hague designation data are available and/or the office has not reported the origin of registrations; therefore, design count by office and origin data may be incomplete.
e. Origin is defined as the country of the stated address of residence of the holder of an international registration.
n.a. indicates not applicable
.. indicates not available

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

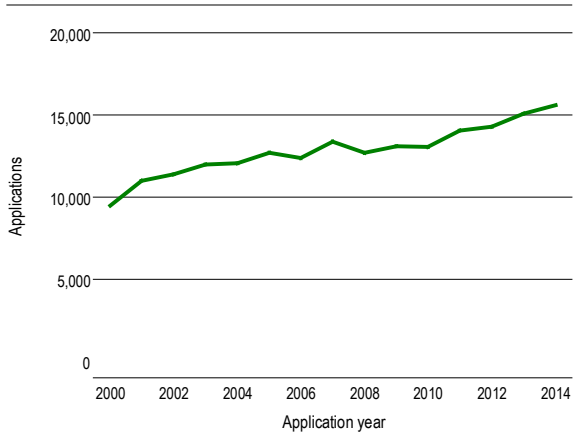
Plant Varieties

Highlights

Applications see steady growth

Around 15,600 plant variety applications were filed worldwide in 2014, up 3.3% from 2013. The Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) of the European Union (EU), the offices of China and the Russian Federation accounted for the largest part of this increase.

Figure 20. Plant variety applications worldwide



Source: Standard figure D1.

Offices with the most plant variety filings

With 3,625 applications received in 2014, the CPVO remained the top filing office. China (2,026) overtook the US (1,567) and Ukraine (1,447) to take the second spot in the list.[1] Filings in the US and Ukraine dropped 17% and 6% respectively. Japan (1,018) completed the list of the top five offices. Among those top five, China (+34%) and the CPVO (+10%) recorded growth, while the other three saw declines. The US saw a sharp drop (-17%) in filings. The top five offices increased their combined share of applications worldwide from around 57% in 2004 to 62% in 2014.

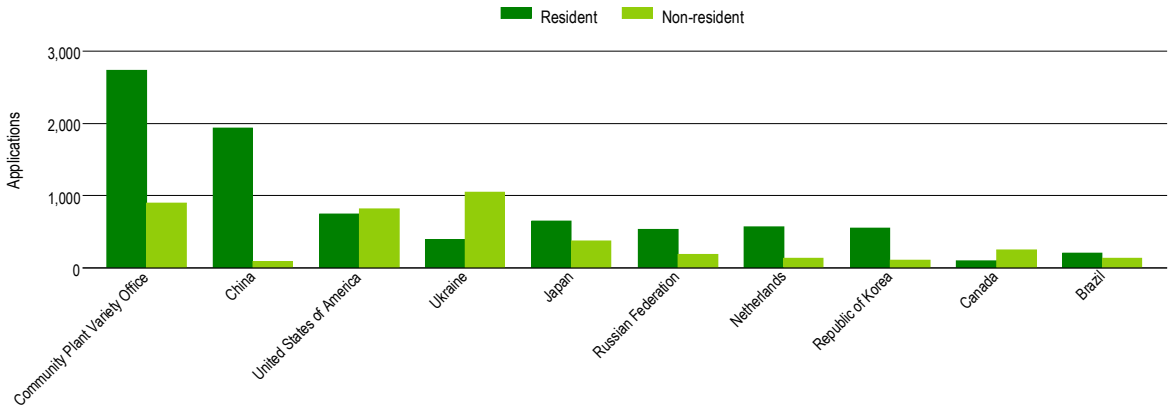
The growth in China was driven primarily by resident filings, whereas that at the CPVO was driven by non-resident filings. The declines in Ukraine and the US resulted from declines in both resident and non-resident filings. However, Japan saw non-resident filings increase despite a drop in its plant variety applications overall.

Seven of the top ten offices received more applications from residents than from non-residents. Among those offices, China's resident share (95.6%) was the highest. Ukraine, the US and Canada received higher shares of non-resident filings – 72.6%, 52.3% and 72.2% respectively.

Offices of high-income economies accounted for the largest proportion (58.4%) of plant variety applications received in 2014, down from 73.6% in 2004. Offices in the upper middle-income group saw their share increase from 21.3% in 2004 to 29.6% in 2014, mostly driven by the increase in filings in China. The share held by the lower middle-income group likewise increased, rising from 4.6% in 2004 to 11.5% in 2014 due to strong growth in Ukraine.

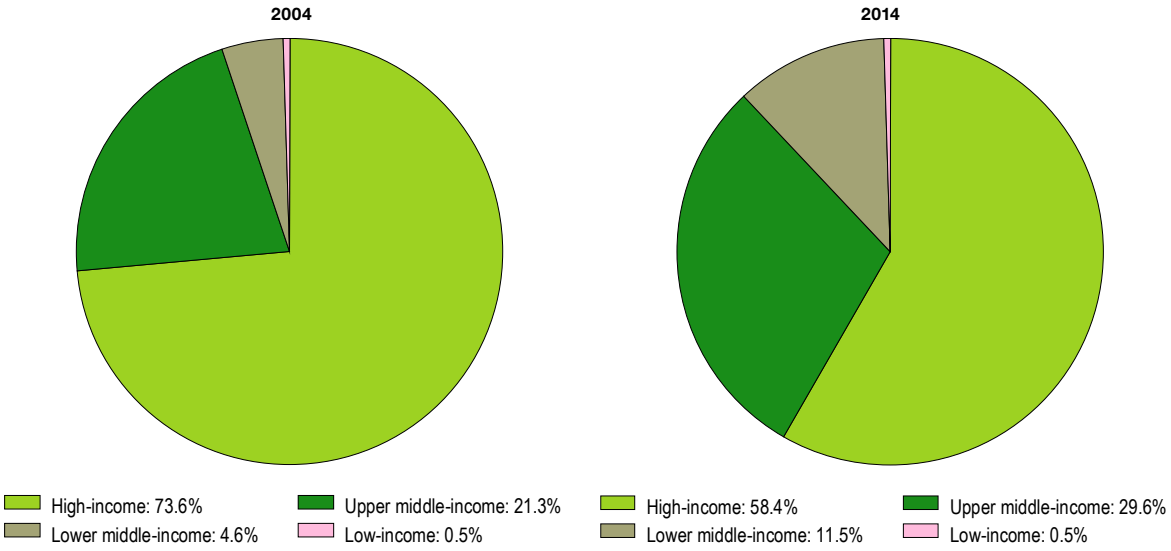
1. Throughout this section, the US data refer to Plant Variety Protection Act and Plant Patent Act data combined. However, separate data relating to each Act are given in statistical table D16.

Figure 21. Plant variety applications for the top 10 offices, 2014



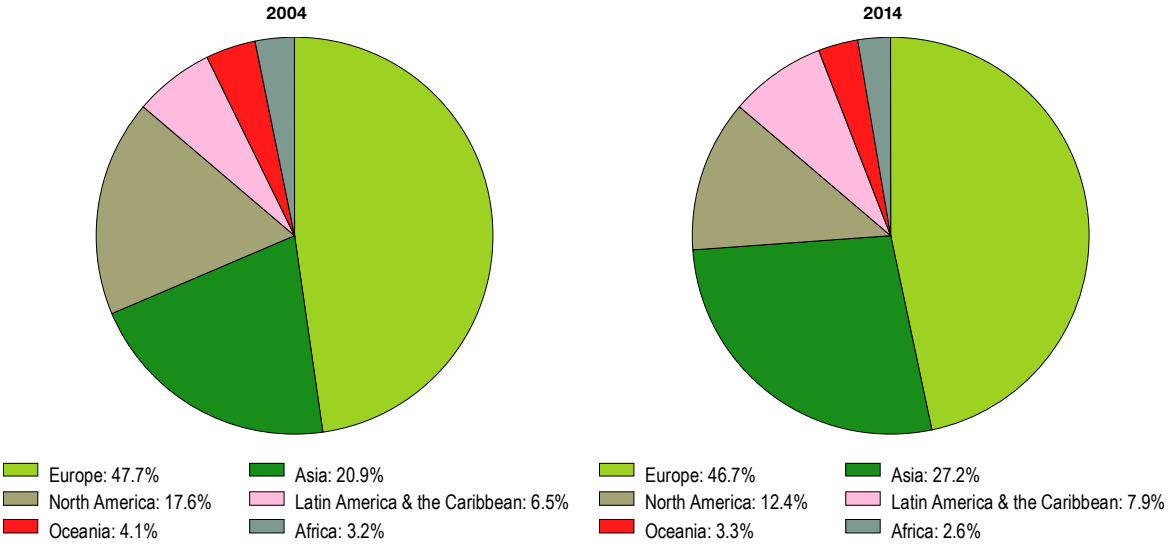
Source: Standard figure D5.

Figure 22. Plant variety applications by income group



Source: Standard table D3.

Figure 23. Plant variety applications by region



Source: Standard table D4.

Offices in Europe received 46.7% of all plant variety applications in 2014, largely unchanged from ten years ago (47.7%). Asia saw its share increase from 20.9% in 2004 to 27.2% in 2014 at the expense of a five-percentage point drop in North America. Shares for other regions were largely unchanged.

Applicants from the Netherlands top the origin list

Applicants may file both at their home office and at offices in other countries. For EU member states, filing at the CPVO regional office is also regarded as home filing. Combining statistics from all offices makes it possible to learn how many applications applicants from each country file, and where. Statistics by origin reveal how applicants from different countries file their plant variety applications.

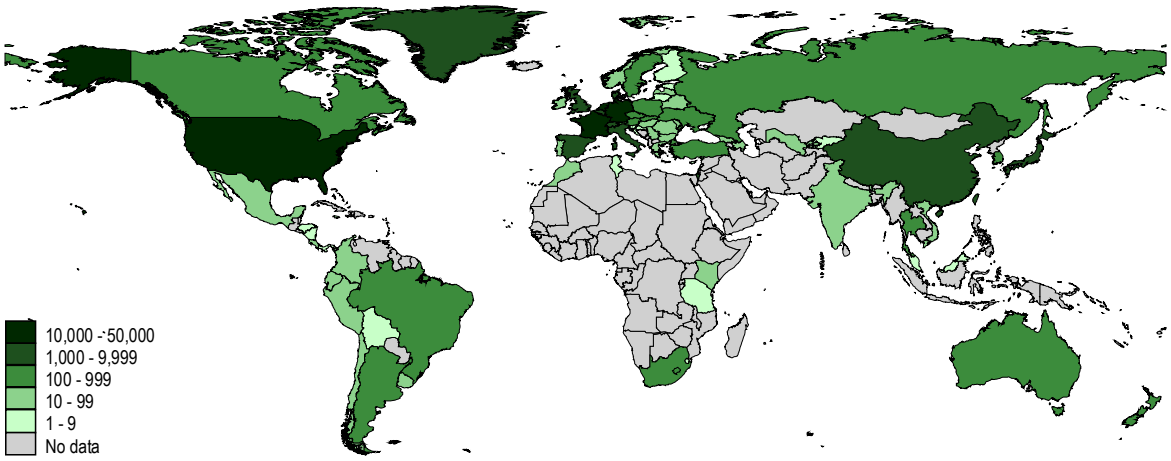
With 3,035 plant variety applications filed at various offices in 2014, applicants from the Netherlands remained the most active applicants in the world. They were followed by applicants from the US (2,113) and China (1,938), France (1,067) and Germany (990). However, while applicants from other countries among the top five origins filed most applications abroad or at the regional office, those from China filed almost exclusively at their home office. Similarly, applicants from the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and Ukraine also filed mostly at their home offices.

Equivalent count

Origin data are compiled using two different counting methods – absolute count and equivalent count. The difference between the two lies in the treatment of regional office (CPVO) data. For absolute count, an application received by the CPVO is counted only once. For the equivalent count, a single application filed at the CPVO is equivalent to multiple applications. To calculate the number of equivalent applications at the CPVO in 2014, each application was multiplied by the corresponding number of member states. If the applicant resided in one of the 28 EU member states in 2014, the application was counted as one resident filing and 27 filings abroad. If the applicant did not reside in an EU member state in 2014, the application was counted as 28 filings abroad.

Since the equivalent count takes multiple members at the regional office into account, one would expect to see those country origins whose applicants filed intensively at the CVPO move up the order when this counting method is used. Not surprisingly, then, European countries, the US and Japan topped the list of origins based on equivalent counts. Applicants from the Netherlands, with their 38,864 equivalent applications filed worldwide in 2014, remained number one. They were followed by applicants from the US (14,587), France (13,568), Germany (11,115) and Switzerland (6,041). Japan (2,682) is the only other non-European country among the top 10.

Map 4. Equivalent plant variety applications by origin, 2014



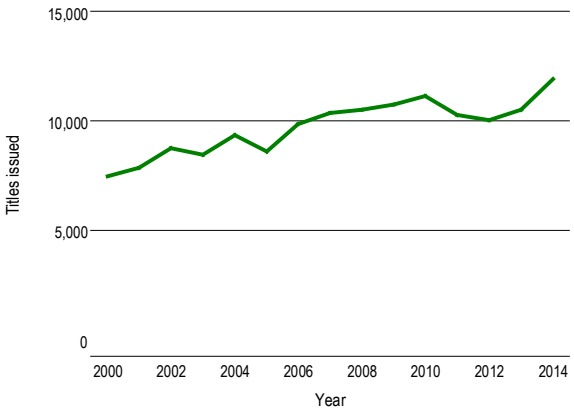
Source: Standard figure D9.

Large increase in titles issued

The total number of plant variety titles issued jumped by 13.3% in 2014, reaching 11,900. China and Ukraine accounted for 93% of total growth, but despite a slight drop the CPVO issued the largest number of titles (2,681). It was followed by the US (1,951), China (996) and Ukraine (883). The number of plant variety titles issued by the offices of China and Ukraine more than tripled. Other offices that saw marked increases in titles issued were the US (+22%), Canada (+21%) and Japan (+15%).

The granting or registration process takes time. Therefore, fluctuations in volumes of granted plant variety titles may reflect changes in processing capacities or procedural delays.

Figure 24. Plant variety titles issued worldwide



Source: Standard figure D2.

Plant varieties in force grew steadily

Around 106,800 plant variety titles were in force at the end of 2014, up 3.5% from 2013. The CPVO and the US were the top two offices for plant variety titles in force, each with around 22,500 titles. Other offices that maintained at least 4,000 active titles included Japan (8,274), the Netherlands (7,254), the Russian Federation (4,246) and China (4,020).

Standard figures and tables

Plant variety applications and titles issued worldwide

Plant variety applications and titles issued by office

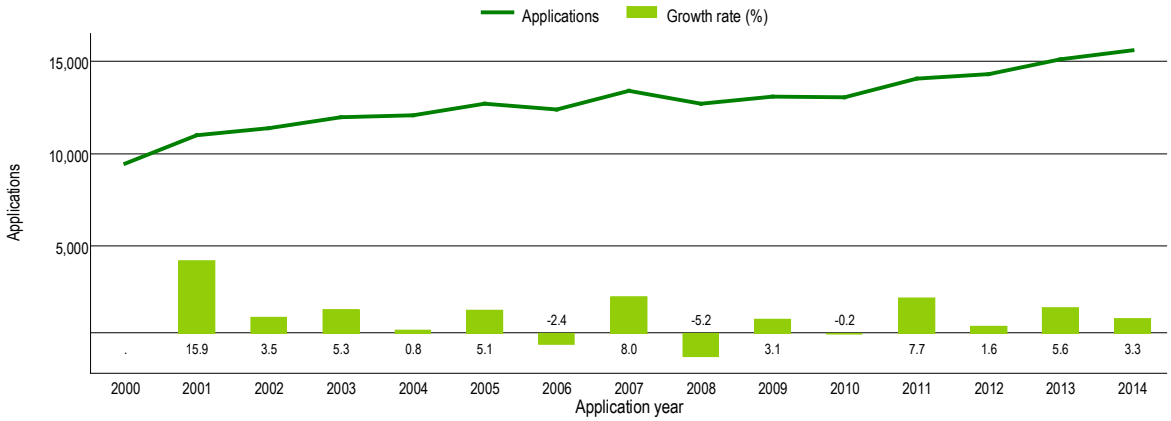
Plant variety applications and titles issued by origin

Plant varieties in force

Statistical table

Plant variety applications and titles issued worldwide

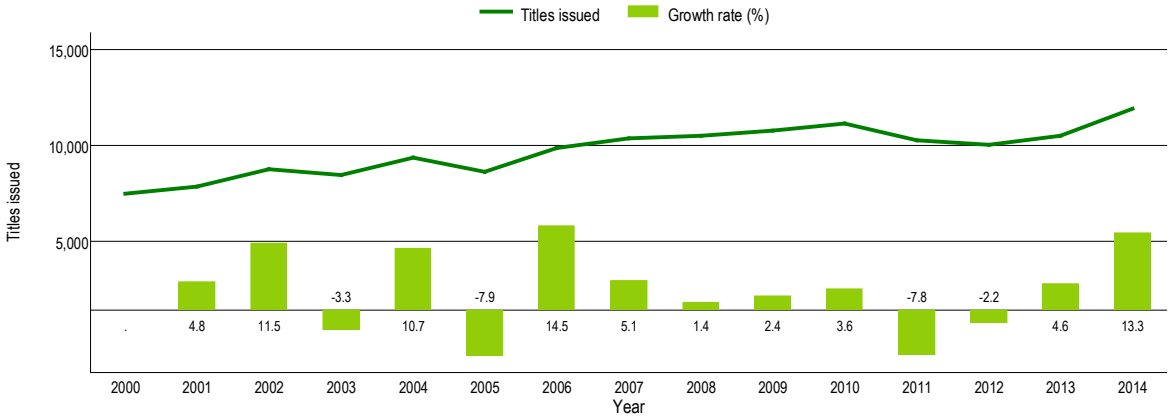
D1 Trend in plant variety applications worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 67 offices.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

D2 Trend in plant variety titles issued worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 67 offices.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Plant variety applications and titles issued by office

D3 Plant variety applications by income group

	Number of applications		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
High-income	8,880	9,110	61.8	66.0	73.6	58.4	0.3
Upper middle-income	2,570	4,610	67.2	69.6	21.3	29.6	6.0
Lower middle-income	560	1,800	77.9	32.4	4.6	11.5	12.4
Low-income	60	80	28.6	12.9	0.5	0.5	2.9
World	**12,070**	**15,600**	**63.5**	**63.0**	**100**	**100**	**2.6**

Note: WIPO estimates cover 67 offices: 31 of them are located in high-income countries; 25 in upper middle-income countries; 9 in lower middle-income countries; and 2 in low-income countries. The EU's Community Plant Variety Office data are allocated to the high-income group because the majority of its member states are high-income countries.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

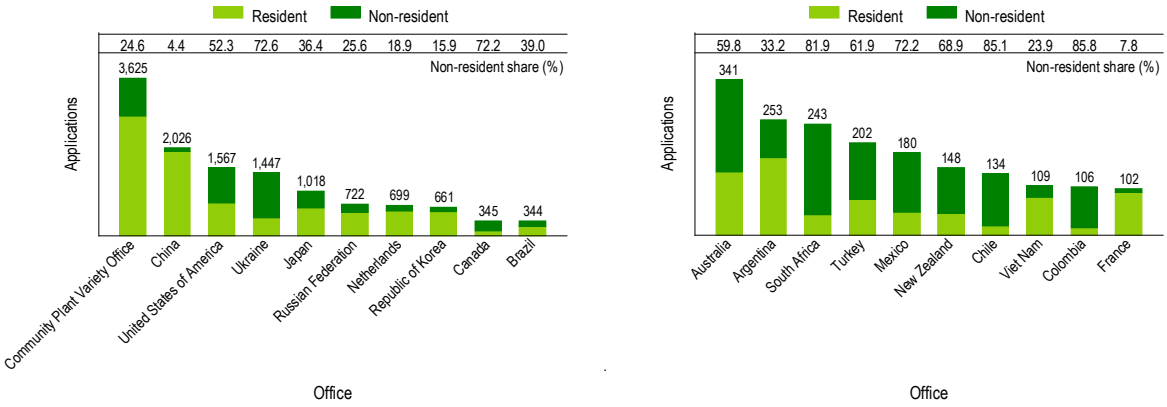
D4 Plant variety applications by region

	Number of applications		Resident share (%)		Share of world total (%)		Average growth (%)
	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004	2014	2004-14
Africa	390	410	27.9	16.7	3.2	2.6	0.5
Asia	2,520	4,240	79.0	80.5	20.9	27.2	5.3
Europe	5,760	7,280	74.9	65.5	47.7	46.7	2.4
Latin America & the Caribbean	780	1,230	37.0	42.2	6.5	7.9	4.7
North America	2,130	1,930	36.6	44.1	17.6	12.4	-1.0
Oceania	490	510	39.1	37.4	4.1	3.3	0.4
World	**12,070**	**15,600**	**63.5**	**63.0**	**100**	**100**	**2.6**

Note: WIPO estimates cover data for 67 offices. Each region includes the following number of offices: Africa (4), Asia (12), Europe (33), Latin America & the Caribbean (14), North America (2) and Oceania (2).

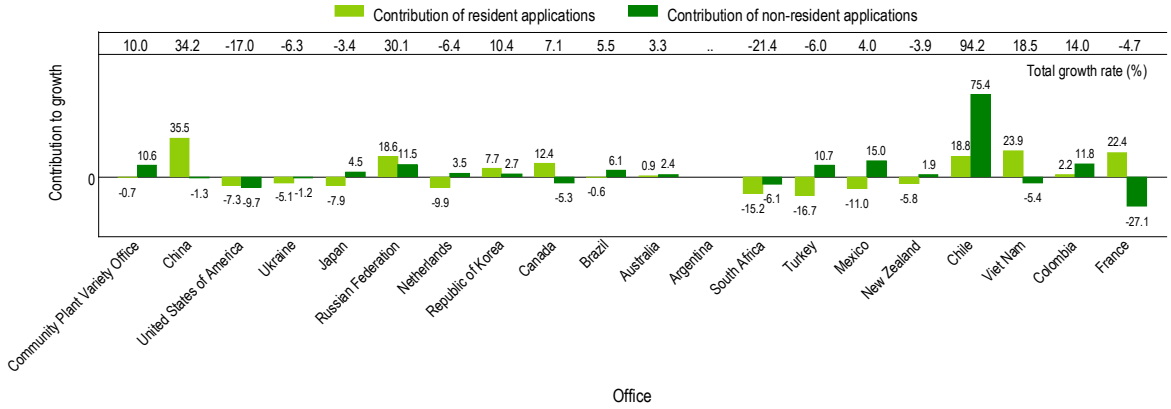
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

D5 Plant variety applications for the top 20 offices, 2014



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

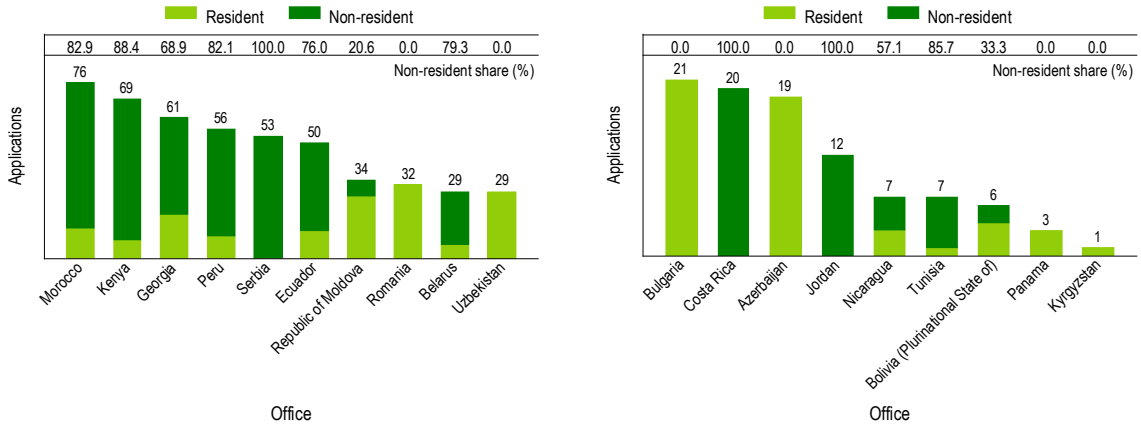
D6 Contribution of resident and non-resident applications to total growth for the top 20 offices, 2013-14



.. indicates not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

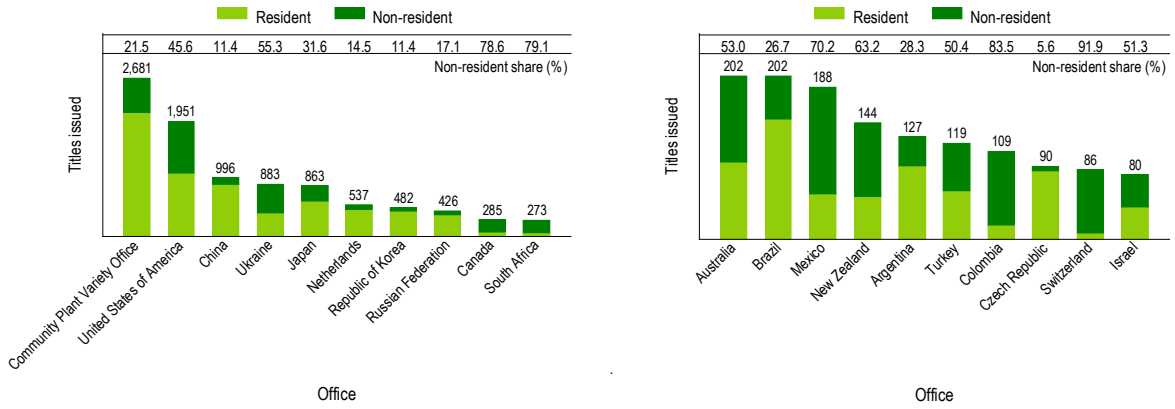
D7 Plant variety applications for offices of selected low- and middle-income countries, 2014



Note: The selected offices are from different world regions and income groups. Where available, data for all offices are in the statistical table at the end of this section.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

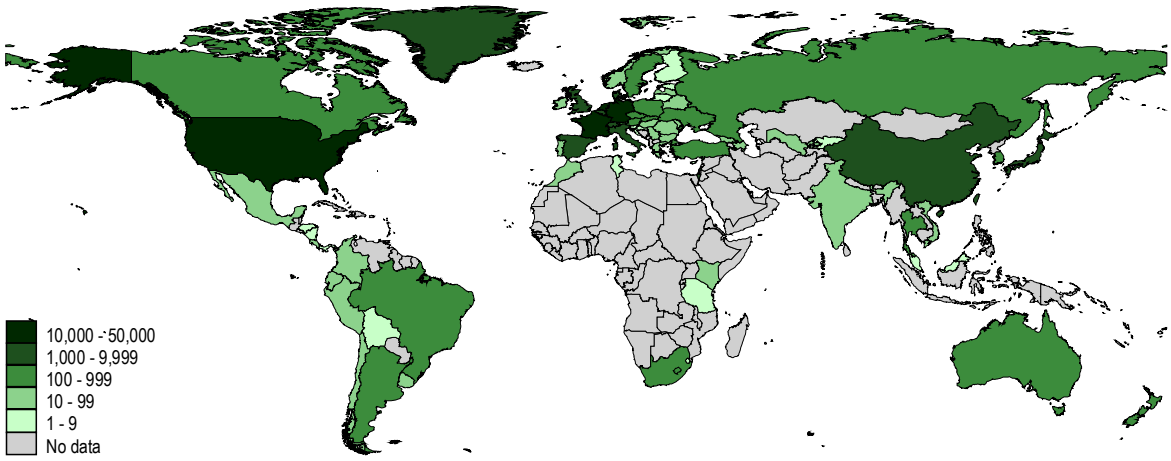
D8 Plant variety titles issued for the top 20 offices, 2014



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Plant variety applications and titles issued by origin

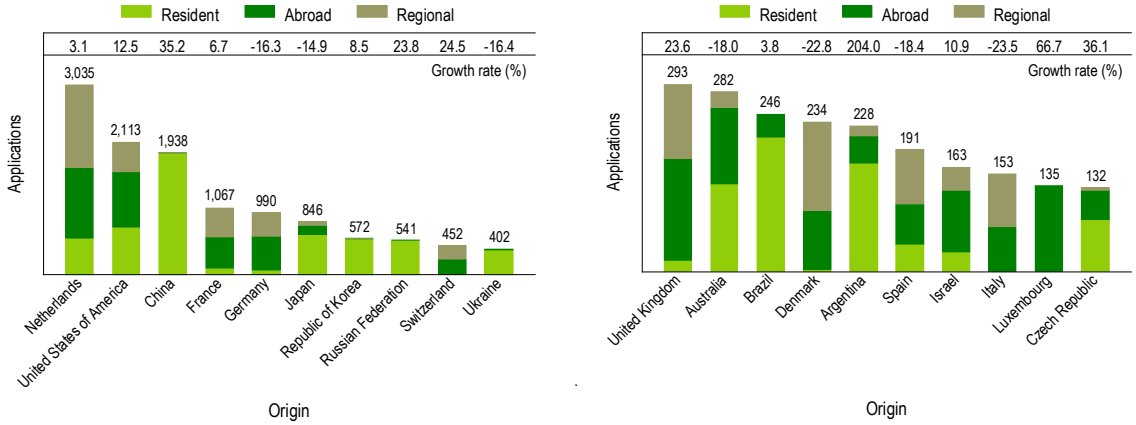
D9 Equivalent plant variety applications by origin, 2014



Note: The origin of an application is determined by the residence of the applicant. See the glossary for the definition of equivalent application.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

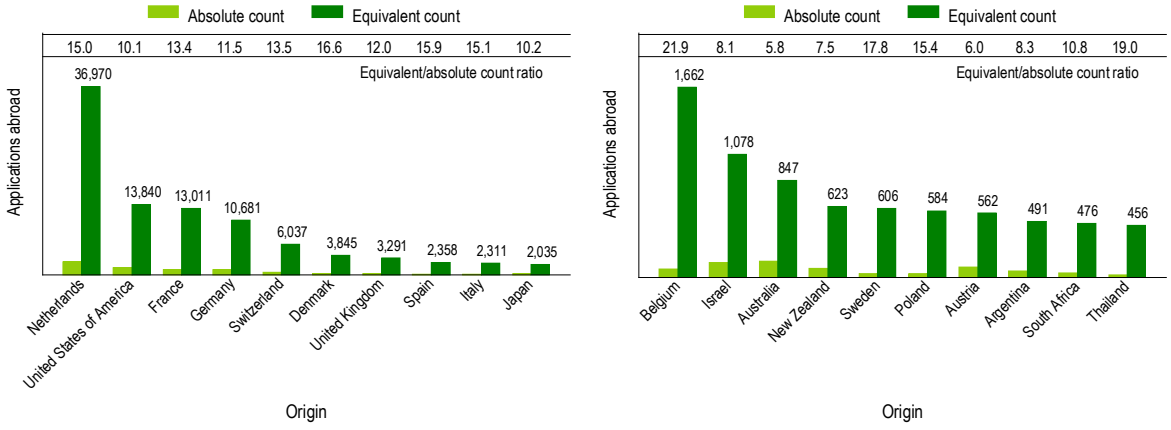
D10 Plant variety applications for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Data are based on absolute count, not equivalent count. The origin of an application is determined by the residence of the applicant. Regional refers to applications filed at the EU's Community Plant Variety Office.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

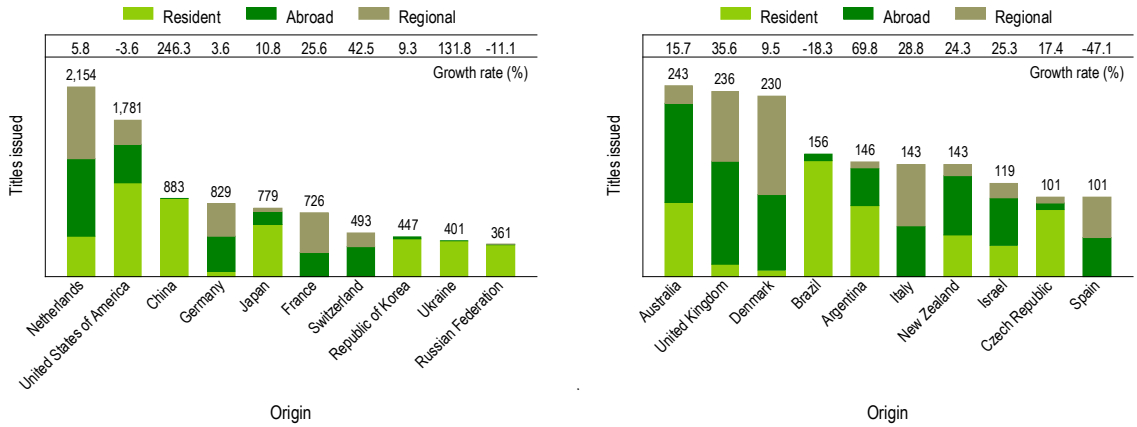
D11 Plant variety applications abroad for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: The origin of an application is determined by the residence of the applicant. See the glossary for the definition of equivalent application.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

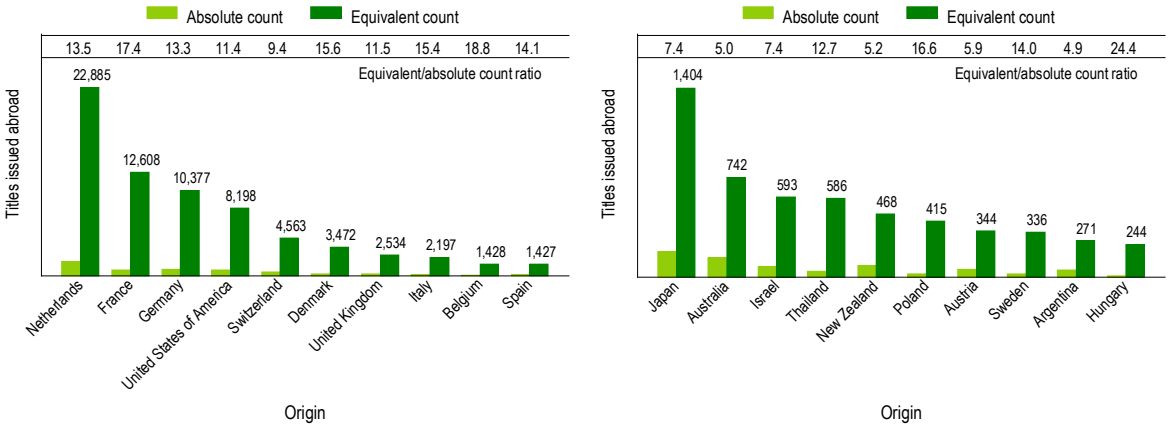
D12 Plant variety titles issued for the top 20 origins, 2014



Note: Data are based on absolute count, not equivalent count. The origin of an application is determined by the residence of the applicant.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

D13 Plant variety titles issued abroad for the top 20 origins, 2014

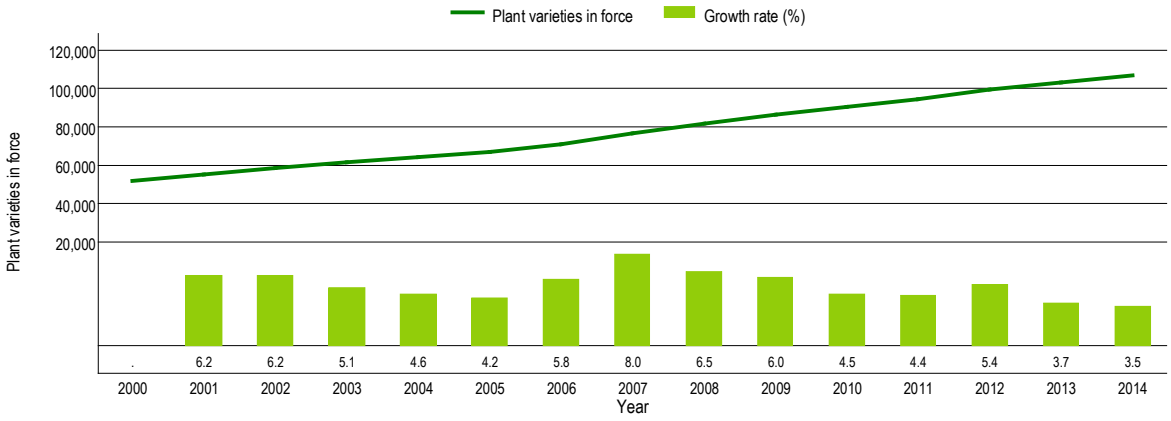


Note: See the glossary for the definition of equivalent grant (registration).

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Plant varieties in force

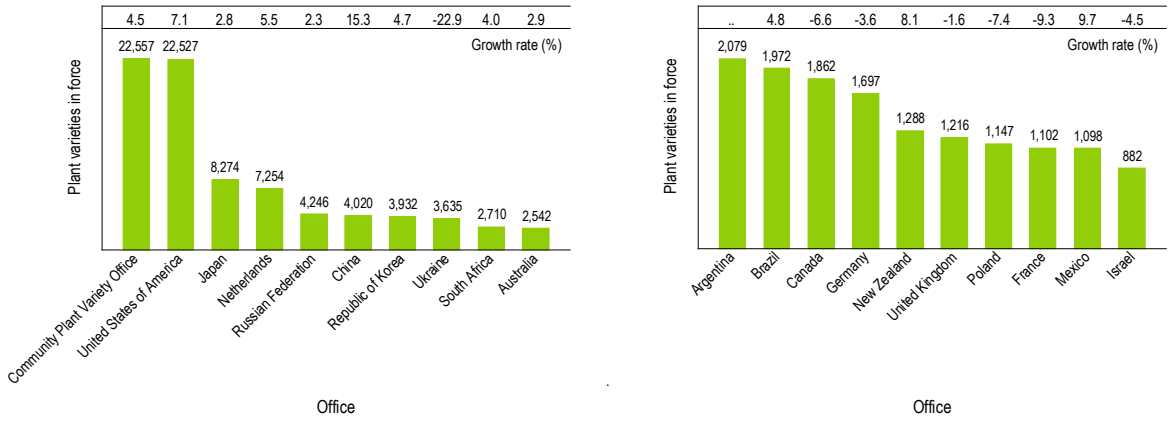
D14 Trend in plant varieties in force worldwide



Note: WIPO estimates cover 66 offices.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

D15 Plant varieties in force at selected offices, 2014



.. indicates not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Statistical table

D16 Plant variety applications and titles issued by office and origin, 2014

	Applications by office			Applications by origin	Equivalent applications by origin	Grants by office		Plant varieties in force	
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total	Total	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Office
African Intellectual Property Organization	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Argentina	253	169	84	228	660	127	91	36	2,079
Australia	341	137	204	282	984	202	95	107	2,542
Austria (a)	..	..	..	94	580	2	2	0	37
Azerbaijan	19	19	0	19	19	19	19	0	179
Belarus	29	6	23	13	40	46	21	25	270
Belgium	3	3	0	79	1,726	3	1	2	84
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	6	4	2	4	4	6	4	2	49
Brazil	344	210	134	246	246	202	148	54	1,972
Bulgaria	21	21	0	24	24	19	19	0	388
Canada	345	96	249	129	264	285	61	224	1,862
Chile	134	20	114	28	55	60	5	55	..
China	2,026	1,936	90	1,938	1,965	996	882	114	4,020
Colombia	106	15	91	18	18	109	18	91	597
Community Plant Variety Office	3,625	2,732	893	n.a.	..	2,681	2,105	576	22,557
Costa Rica	20	0	20	19	46	1	1	0	8
Croatia	3	3	0	3	3	8	8	0	41
Cyprus (b)	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Czech Republic	99	82	17	132	240	90	85	5	761
Denmark	16	3	13	234	3,987	9	8	1	146
Ecuador	50	12	38	12	12	38	2	36	344
Estonia	7	1	6	1	1	8	1	7	82
Finland	6	6	0	6	6	10	7	3	180
France	102	94	8	1,067	13,568	..	..	..	1,102
Georgia	61	19	42	19	19	61	16	45	137
Germany	69	59	10	990	11,115	56	46	10	1,697
Greece (b)	..	..	..	2	56	..	..	..	..
Honduras (b)	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..
Hungary	30	30	0	39	39	19	18	1	97
India (b)	..	..	..	4	85	..	..	..	..
Ireland	2	1	1	15	96	3	3	0	65
Israel	79	30	49	163	1,108	80	39	41	882
Italy (a)	..	..	..	153	2,394	..	..	..	..
Jamaica (b)	..	..	..	2	29	..	..	..	..
Japan	1,018	647	371	846	2,682	863	590	273	8,274
Jordan	12	0	12	..	..	7	0	7	41
Kenya	69	8	61	10	10	24	0	24	330
Kyrgyzstan	1	1	0	1	1	..	..	..	6
Latvia	6	6	0	10	37	6	6	0	220
Lithuania	7	3	4	3	3	6	2	4	59
Luxembourg (b)	..	..	..	135	135	..	..	..	..
Malaysia (b)	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Mauritius (b)	..	..	..	5	5	..	..	..	..
Mexico	180	50	130	51	51	188	56	132	1,098
Morocco	76	13	63	13	13	27	1	26	239
Netherlands	699	567	132	3,035	38,864	537	459	78	7,254
New Zealand	148	46	102	129	669	144	53	91	1,288
Nicaragua	7	3	4	3	3	4	0	4	10
Norway	18	9	9	10	10	26	6	20	253
Panama	3	3	0	3	3	..	..	..	16
Peru	56	10	46	10	10	22	5	17	75
Poland	75	66	9	104	671	57	46	11	1,147
Portugal (a)	..	..	..	2	56	1	1	0	10
Republic of Korea	661	556	105	572	626	482	427	55	3,932

	Applications by office			Applications by origin	Equivalent applications by origin	Grants by office			Plant varieties in force
Name	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Total	Total	Total	Resident	Non-resident	Office
Republic of Moldova	34	27	7	33	33	29	26	3	131
Romania	32	32	0	40	40	41	41	0	323
Russian Federation	722	537	185	541	541	426	353	73	4,246
Serbia	53	0	53	49	49	51	6	45	164
Singapore	6	3	3	3	3	..	..	..	..
Slovakia	16	11	5	22	292	23	23	0	409
Slovenia	3	3	0	3	3	..	..	..	11
South Africa	243	44	199	88	520	273	57	216	2,710
Spain	54	43	11	191	2,486	..	..	..	325
Swaziland (b)	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..
Sweden (a)	..	..	..	34	628	3	2	1	..
Switzerland	53	4	49	452	6,041	86	7	79	793
Thailand (b)	..	..	..	24	456	..	..	..	..
Tunisia	7	1	6	1	1	6	1	5	114
Turkey	202	77	125	102	129	119	59	60	524
Ukraine	1,447	396	1,051	402	402	883	395	488	3,635
United Kingdom	36	18	18	293	3,425	26	16	10	1,216
United Republic of Tanzania (b)	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
United States of America (PPA) (c)	1,063	378	685	n.a.	..	1,072	401	671	15,693
United States of America (PVPA)	504	369	135	2,113	14,587	879	661	218	6,834
Uruguay	49	14	35	20	20	39	13	26	550
Uzbekistan	29	29	0	29	29	2	2	0	60
Viet Nam	109	83	26	83	83	38	25	13	208
Others/Unknown	..	..	..	59	356	..	..	..	..
Total (2014 estimates)	**15,600**	**9,800**	**5,800**	**15,600**	**n.a.**	**11,900**	**7,500**	**4,400**	**106,800**

a. The office did not report data, so applications by origin data may be incomplete.
b. Not a member of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants.
c. Applications by origin are reported under United States of America (PVPA), because statistics by origin do not distinguish between applications under the Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA) and those under the Plant Patent Act (PPA).
n.a. indicates not applicable.
.. indicates not available.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, October 2015.

Data description

Data sources

Intellectual property (IP) data are from the WIPO Statistics Database and are based primarily on WIPO's annual IP statistics survey (see below) and on data compiled by WIPO in processing international applications/registrations through the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and the Madrid and Hague Systems. Data are available from WIPO's Statistics Data Center at *www.wipo.int/ipstats*.

Patent family and technology data are extracted from the WIPO Statistics Database and from the April 2015 edition of the European Patent Office's PATSTAT database.

Gross domestic product and population data are from the World Bank's World Development Indicators database. Patent Prosecution Highway data are from the Japan Patent Office's website (consulted in October 2015).

This report uses the World Bank's income classifications. Economies are classified according to 2014 gross national income per capita as calculated using the World Bank Atlas method. The classifications are low-income (USD 1,045 or less), lower middle-income (USD 1,046 to USD 4,125), upper middle-income (USD 4,126 to USD 12,735) and high-income (USD 12,736 or more).[1]

This report uses United Nations (UN) definitions of regions and subregions, though the geographical terms used in the report may differ slightly from those defined by the UN.[2]

WIPO's annual IP statistics survey

WIPO collects data from national and regional IP offices around the world through an annual survey consisting of multiple questionnaires, and enters these data into the WIPO Statistics Database. When possible, data published on IP offices' websites or in annual reports are used to supplement questionnaire responses in cases where IP offices do not provide statistics. Efforts to improve the quality and availability of IP statistics and to gather data for as many IP offices and countries as possible are ongoing. The questionnaires are available in English, French and Spanish at *www.wipo.int/ipstats/en/data_collection/questionnaire*.

Data are broken down by IP office, origin, resident and non-resident applications, applications abroad, class count, design count and other factors. See the glossary for the definitions of key concepts used in this publication.

Offices are requested to report data by the origin (country or territory) of applications, grants or registrations. However, some offices are unable to provide a detailed breakdown. Instead, these offices report either an aggregate total or a simple breakdown by total resident and total non-resident. For this reason, the totals for each origin are underreported. However, the unknown origin shares of the 2014 totals are low, only 0.6% for patent applications, 0.5% for industrial design application design counts and 1% for trademark application class counts.

1. For further details on World Bank income classifications, see *http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups*.
2. For further details on UN regional classifications, see *http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm*.

Estimating world totals

World totals for applications for, and grants/registrations of, patents, utility models, trademarks, industrial designs and plant varieties are WIPO estimates. Data are not available for all IP offices for every year. Missing data are estimated using methods such as linear extrapolation and averaging adjacent data points. The estimation method used depends on the year and office in question. When an office provides data that are not broken down by origin, WIPO estimates the resident and non-resident counts using the historical shares of that office. Data are available for most of the larger offices. Only small shares of world totals are estimated. For example, the estimate of the total number of patent applications worldwide covers 147 offices. Data are available for 121 of them which account for 99.5% of the estimated world total. Table 1 shows the availability and coverage of data on applications for different types of IP.

Table 1: IP applications data coverage by IP type

IP type	Number of offices on which 2014 world totals are based	Number of offices for which data are available	Data coverage (%)
Patents	147	121	99.5
Utility models	70	62	99.9
Trademarks (a)	163	131	96.0
Industrial designs (b)	132	100	99.1
Plant varieties	67	63	99.7

a. refers to the number of trademark applications based on class count (that is, the number of classes specified in applications).
b. refers to the number of industrial design applications based on design count (that is, the number of designs contained in applications).

National and international data

Application and grant/registration data include both grants/registrations for direct filings and filings through international systems (where applicable). For patents and utility models, data include direct filings at national patent offices as well as PCT national phase entries. For trademarks, data include filings at national and regional offices and designations received by relevant offices through the Madrid System. For industrial designs, data include national and regional applications combined with designations received by relevant offices through the Hague System.

International comparability of indicators

Every effort has been made to compile IP statistics based on the same definitions and to facilitate international comparability. Although data are collected from offices using questionnaires from WIPO's harmonized annual IP survey, national laws and regulations for filing IP applications or for issuing IP rights as well as statistical reporting practices may differ across jurisdictions.

Due to the continual updating of data and the revision of historical statistics, data in this report may differ from data in previous editions and from data available on WIPO's website.

IP Systems at a glance

The patent system

A patent is a set of exclusive rights granted by law to applicants for an invention that meets the standards of novelty, non-obviousness and industrial applicability. It is valid for a limited period (generally 20 years), during which time the patent holder can commercially exploit the invention on an exclusive basis. In return, applicants are obliged to disclose their inventions to the public, so that others, skilled in the art, may replicate them. The patent system is designed to encourage innovation by providing innovators with time-limited exclusive legal rights, thus enabling them to appropriate the returns from their innovative activity.

The procedures for acquiring patent rights are governed by the rules and regulations of national and regional patent offices. These offices are responsible for issuing patents, and the rights are limited to the jurisdiction of the issuing authority. To obtain patent rights, applicants must file an application describing the invention with a national or regional office.

Applicants can also file an international application through the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) System, an international treaty administered by WIPO that facilitates the acquisition of patent rights in multiple jurisdictions. The PCT System simplifies the process of multiple national patent filings by delaying the requirement to file a separate application in each jurisdiction in which protection is sought. However, the decision whether to grant a patent remains the prerogative of national or regional patent offices, and patent rights are limited to the jurisdiction of each patent-granting authority.

The PCT application process begins with the international phase, during which an international search and optional preliminary examination and supplementary international search are performed. It concludes with the national phase, during which national (or regional) patent offices decide on the patentability of an invention according to national law. Further information about the PCT System is available at *www.wipo.int/pct*.

The utility model system

Like a patent, a utility model (UM) confers a set of rights for an invention for a limited period, during which UM holders can commercially exploit their inventions on an exclusive basis. The terms and conditions for granting a UM differ from those for granting a traditional patent. For example, UMs are issued for a shorter duration (7–10 years), and at most offices protection is granted without substantive examination. As with patents, procedures for granting UM rights are governed by the rules and regulations of national intellectual property (IP) offices, and rights are limited to the jurisdiction of the issuing authority.

Approximately 75 countries provide protection for UMs. In this report, the term "utility model" refers to UMs and other types of protection similar to UMs, such as innovation patents in Australia and short-term patents in Ireland.

Microorganisms under the Budapest Treaty

The Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure plays an important role in biotechnological inventions. Disclosing an invention is a generally recognized requirement for receiving a patent. When an invention involves microorganisms, national laws in most countries require that the applicant deposit a sample at a designated International Depositary Authority (IDA).

To eliminate the need to deposit a microorganism in every country in which patent protection is sought, the Budapest Treaty provides that depositing a microorganism with any IDA will suffice for the purposes of patent procedures at national patent offices of all contracting states and at regional patent offices that recognize the treaty. An IDA is a scientific institution – typically a "culture collection" – capable of storing microorganisms. Currently, there are 45 IDAs around the world. Further information about the Budapest Treaty is available at *www.wipo.int/treaties/en/registration/budapest*.

The trademark system

A trademark is a distinctive sign that identifies certain goods or services as those produced or provided by a specific person or enterprise. Trademarks can be registered for both goods and services. In the latter case, the term "service mark" is sometimes used. For simplicity, this report uses "trademark" regardless of whether the registration concerns goods or services. The holder of a registered trademark has the exclusive right to use the mark in relation to the goods or services for which it is registered and can block unauthorized use of the trademark, or a confusingly similar mark, to prevent consumers from being misled. Unlike patents, trademark registrations can be maintained indefinitely provided the trademark holder pays the required renewal fees.

The procedures for registering trademarks are governed by the rules and regulations of national and regional IP offices. Therefore, trademark rights are limited to the jurisdiction of the authority in which a trademark is registered. Trademark applicants can file an application with the relevant national or regional IP office or an international application through the Madrid System. However, when an applicant files internationally via the Madrid System, the decision to issue a trademark registration remains the prerogative of the national or regional IP office concerned, and trademark rights remain limited to the jurisdiction of the authority issuing that registration.

The Madrid System is governed legally by the Madrid Agreement (1891) and the Madrid Protocol (1989) and is administered by WIPO. It simplifies multinational trademark registration by allowing an applicant to apply for a trademark in a large number of countries by filing a single application through a national or regional IP office that is party to the System. This eliminates the requirement to file an individual application in each jurisdiction in which protection is sought. The System also simplifies subsequent management of the trademark, since it is possible to centrally request and record further changes, or to renew the registration through a single procedure. A registration recorded in the International Register yields the same effect as a registration made directly with each designated contracting party (Madrid member) if no refusal is made by the competent authority of that jurisdiction within a specified time limit. Further information about the Madrid System is available at *www.wipo.int/madrid*.

The industrial design system

Industrial designs are applied to a wide variety of industrial products and handicrafts.[3] They refer to the ornamental or aesthetic aspects of a useful article, including compositions of lines or colors or three-dimensional forms that give a special appearance to a product or handicraft. The holder of a registered industrial design has exclusive rights over the design and can prevent unauthorized copying or imitation of the design by others.

The procedures for registering industrial designs are governed by national or regional laws. An industrial design can be protected if it is new or original, and rights are limited to the jurisdiction of the issuing authority. Registrations can be obtained by filing an application with a relevant national or regional IP office or by filing an international application through the Hague System. Once a design is registered, the term of protection is generally five years and may be renewed for additional periods of five years up to, in most cases, 15 years. In some countries, industrial designs are protected through the delivery of a design patent rather than design registration.

The Hague System comprises several international treaties – the London Act, the Hague Act and the Geneva Act.[4] The Hague System makes it possible for an applicant to register industrial designs in multiple countries by filing a single application with the International Bureau of WIPO. By allowing the filing of up to 100 different designs per application, the System offers considerable opportunities for efficiency gains. Moreover, it simplifies multinational registration by reducing the requirement to file separate applications with each office at which protection is sought. The System also streamlines subsequent management of industrial design registration, since it is possible to record changes or to renew the registration through a single procedure. Further information about the Hague System is available at *www.wipo.int/hague/en*.

3. The products and handicrafts to which industrial designs are applied range from technical and medical instruments to watches, jewelry and other luxury items, and from housewares, electrical appliances, vehicles and construction materials to textile designs and leisure goods.
4. The London Act has been frozen since January 2010, meaning that no new designation may be recorded under that Act.

Glossary

Plant variety protection

To obtain protection, a plant breeder must file an individual application with each authority entrusted with granting breeders' rights. A breeder's right is granted only when the variety is new, distinct, uniform and stable and has a suitable denomination.

In the United States of America (US), two legal frameworks protect new plant varieties: the Plant Patent Act (PPA) and the Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA). Under the PPA, whoever invents or discovers and asexually reproduces any distinct and new variety of plant – including cultivated sports, mutants, hybrids and newly found seedlings other than a tuber-propagated plant (in practice, Irish potato and Jerusalem artichoke), or a plant found in an uncultivated state – may obtain a patent for it. Under the PVPA, the US protects all sexually reproduced plant varieties and tuber-propagated plant varieties, excluding fungi and bacteria.

This glossary provides definitions of key technical terms and concepts. Many of the terms are defined generically (for example, "application") but apply to several or all of the various forms of intellectual property (IP) covered in this report.

Applicant
An individual or other legal entity that files an application for a patent, utility model, trademark or industrial design. There may be more than one applicant in an application. For the statistics in this publication, the name of the first-named applicant is used to determine the origin of the application.

Application
The procedure for requesting IP rights at an office which then examines the application and decides whether to grant protection. Also refers to a set of documents submitted to an office by the applicant.

Application abroad
For statistical purposes, an application filed by a resident of a given state or jurisdiction with an IP office of another state or jurisdiction. For example, an application filed by an applicant domiciled in France with the Japan Patent Office (JPO) is considered an application abroad from the perspective of France. This differs from a "non-resident application", which describes an application filed by a resident of a foreign state or jurisdiction from the perspective of the office receiving the application, so the example above would be a non-resident application from the JPO's point of view.

Application date
The date on which the IP office receives an application that meets the minimum requirements. Also referred to as the filing date.

Budapest Treaty
Disclosure of an invention is a requirement for granting a patent. Normally, an invention is disclosed by means of a written description. Where an invention involves a microorganism or the use of a microorganism, disclosure is not always possible in writing but can sometimes only be effected by depositing a sample of the microorganism with a specialized institution. To eliminate the need to deposit a microorganism in each country in which patent protection is sought, the Budapest Treaty provides that the deposit of a microorganism with any "International Depositary Authority" (IDA) suffices for the purposes of patent procedure at the national patent offices of all contracting states and at any regional patent office that recognizes the treaty.

Class
May refer to the classes defined in either the Locarno Classification or the Nice Classification. Classes indicate the categories of products and services (where applicable) for which industrial design or trademark protection is requested. See "Locarno Classification" and "Nice Classification".

Class count
The number of classes specified in a trademark application or registration. In the international trademark system and at certain national and regional offices, an applicant can file a trademark application that specifies one or more of the 45 goods and services classes of the Nice Classification. Offices use a single- or multi-class filing system. For example, the offices of Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America (US) as well as many European IP offices have multi-class filing systems. The offices of Brazil, China and Mexico follow a single-class filing system, requiring a separate application for each class in which an applicant seeks trademark protection. To capture the differences in application numbers across offices, it is useful to compare their respective application and registration class counts.

Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) of the European Union (EU)
An EU agency that manages a system of plant variety rights covering all EU member states.

Design count
The number of designs contained in an industrial design application or registration. Under the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs, it is possible for an applicant to obtain protection for up to 100 industrial designs for products belonging to one and the same class by filing a single application. Some national or regional IP offices allow applications to contain more than one design for the same product or within the same class, while others allow only one design per application. In order to capture the differences in application numbers across offices, it is useful to compare their respective application and registration design counts.

Designation
Designation in an international application or registration means the request by which the applicant/international registration holder specifies the jurisdiction(s) in which they seek to protect their industrial designs (Hague System) or trademarks (Madrid System).

Direct filing
See "National route".

Equivalent application
Applications at regional offices are equivalent to multiple applications, one in each of the states that is a member of those offices. To calculate the number of equivalent applications for the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP), the Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO), the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), each application is multiplied by the corresponding number of member states. For European Patent Office (EPO) and African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) data, each application is counted as one application abroad if the applicant does not reside in a member state or as one resident and one application abroad if the applicant resides in a member state. The equivalent application concept is used for reporting data by origin.

Equivalent grant (registration)
Grants (registrations) at regional offices are equivalent to multiple grants (registrations), one in each of the states that is a member of those offices. To calculate the number of equivalent grants (registrations) for BOIP, EAPO, OAPI or OHIM data, each grant (registration) is multiplied by the corresponding number of member states. For EPO and ARIPO data, each grant is counted as one grant abroad if the applicant does not reside in a member state or as one resident and one grant abroad if the applicant resides in a member state. The equivalent grant (registration) concept is used for reporting data by origin.

European Patent Office (EPO)
The EPO is the regional patent office created under the European Patent Convention, in charge of granting European patents for EPC member states. Under Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) procedures, the EPO acts as a receiving office, an International Searching Authority and an International Preliminary Examining Authority.

Filing
See "Application".

Foreign-oriented patent families
A patent family having at least one filing office that is different from the office of the applicant's origin. Foreign-oriented patent families are a subset of patent families. See "Patent family".

Grant
A set of exclusive rights legally accorded to the applicant when a patent or utility model is granted or issued.

Gross domestic product (GDP)
The total unduplicated output of economic goods and services produced within a country as measured in monetary terms.

Hague international application
An application for the international registration of an industrial design filed under the WIPO-administered Hague System.

Hague international registration
An international registration issued via the Hague System, which facilitates the acquisition of industrial design rights in multiple jurisdictions. An application for international registration of an industrial design leads to its recording in the International Register and the publication of the registration in the *International Designs Bulletin*. If the registration is not refused by the IP office of a designated Hague member, the international registration will have the same effect as a registration made in that jurisdiction.

Hague member (Contracting Party)
A state or intergovernmental organization that is a member of the Hague System. Includes any state or intergovernmental organization party to the 1999 Act and/or the 1960 Act of the Hague Agreement. The entitlement to file an international application under the Hague Agreement is limited to natural persons or legal entities having a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment, or a domicile, in at least one of the Contracting Parties to the Agreement, or being a national of one of those Contracting Parties or of a member state of an intergovernmental organization that is a Contracting Party. In addition – but only under the 1999 Act – an international application may be filed on the basis of habitual residence in the jurisdiction of a Contracting Party.

Hague route
An alternative to the Paris route (the direct national or regional route), the Hague route enables an application for international registration of industrial designs to be filed using the Hague System.

Hague System
The abbreviated form of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. This System comprises several international treaties: the London Act of 1934 (frozen since 2010), the Hague Act of 1960 and the Geneva Act of 1999. The Hague System makes it possible for an applicant to register up to 100 industrial designs in multiple jurisdictions by filing a single application with the International Bureau of WIPO. It simplifies multinational registration by reducing the requirement to file separate applications with each IP office. The System also simplifies the subsequent management of the industrial design, since it is possible to record changes or renew the registration through a single procedural step.

In force
Refers to IP rights that are currently valid or, in the case of trademarks, active. To remain in force, IP protection must be maintained.

Industrial design
Industrial designs are applied to a wide variety of industrial products and handicrafts. They refer to the ornamental or aesthetic aspects of a useful article, including compositions of lines or colors or any three-dimensional forms that give a special appearance to a product or handicraft. The holder of a registered industrial design has exclusive rights against unauthorized copying or imitation of the design by third parties. Industrial design registrations are valid for a limited period. The term of protection is usually 15 years for most jurisdictions. However, differences in legislation exist, notably in China (which provides for a 10-year term from the application date) and the US (which provides for a 14-year term from the date of registration).

Intellectual property (IP)
Creations of the mind: inventions, literary and artistic works, symbols, names, images and designs used in commerce. IP is divided into two categories: industrial property – which includes patents, utility models, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications of source – and copyright, which includes literary and artistic works such as novels, poems, plays, films, musical works, artistic works (such as drawings, paintings, photographs and sculptures) and architectural designs. Rights related to copyright include those of performing artists in their performances, those of producers of phonograms in their recordings and those of broadcasters in their radio and television programs.

International Bureau of WIPO
In the context of the PCT, Hague and Madrid Systems, the International Bureau of WIPO acts as a receiving office for international applications from all contracting states and contracting parties. It also handles processing tasks with respect to these applications and the subsequent management of Hague and Madrid System registrations.

International Depositary Authority (IDA)
A scientific institution – typically a culture collection – capable of storing microorganisms that has acquired the status of an International Depositary Authority under the Budapest Treaty and provides for the receipt, acceptance and storage of microorganisms and the furnishing of samples thereof. Currently, 45 such authorities exist around the world.

International Patent Classification (IPC)
Provides for a hierarchical system of language-independent symbols for the classification of patents and utility models according to the different areas of technology to which they pertain. The symbols contain information relating to sections, classes, subclasses and groups.

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)
An intergovernmental organization established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV Convention), which was adopted on December 2, 1961. UPOV provides and promotes an effective system of plant variety protection with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants for the benefit of society.

Invention
A new solution to a technical problem. To qualify for patent protection, the invention must be novel, involve an inventive step and be industrially applicable, as judged by a person skilled in the art.

Locarno Classification (LOC)
The abbreviated form of the International Classification for Industrial Designs under the Locarno Agreement used for registering industrial designs. The LOC comprises a list of 32 classes and their respective subclasses, with explanatory notes plus an alphabetical list of the goods in which industrial designs are incorporated and an indication of the classes and subclasses into which they fall.

Madrid international application
An application for international registration under the Madrid System, which is a request for protection of a trademark in one or more Madrid member jurisdictions. Such international applications must be based on a trademark registration issued by the trademark holder's "home" national or regional office.

Madrid international registration
An international registration issued under the Madrid System, which facilitates the acquisition of trademark rights in multiple jurisdictions. An application for international registration of a mark leads to its recording in the International Register and the publication of the international registration in the *WIPO Gazette of International Marks*. If the international registration is not refused protection by a designated Madrid member, it will have the same effect as a national or regional trademark registration made under the law applicable in that Madrid member's jurisdiction.

Madrid member (Contracting Party)
A state or intergovernmental organization (the EU) that is party to the Madrid Agreement and/or the Madrid Protocol.

Madrid route
An alternative to the Paris route (the direct national or regional route), the Madrid route enables an application for international registration of a trademark to be filed using the Madrid System.

Madrid System
The abbreviated form of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, established under the Madrid Agreement and the Madrid Protocol and administered by WIPO. The Madrid System makes it possible for an applicant to register a trademark in a large number of countries by filing a single application at their national or regional IP office if it is party to the System. The Madrid System simplifies the process of multinational trademark registration by reducing the requirement to file separate applications at each office. It also simplifies the subsequent management of the mark, since it is possible to record changes or renew the registration through a single procedural step. Registration through the Madrid System does not create an international trademark, and the decision to register or refuse the trademark remains in the hands of national or regional offices. Trademark rights are limited to the jurisdiction of each trademark registration office.

Maintenance
An act by the applicant to keep an IP grant/registration valid (in force), primarily by paying the required fee to the IP office of the state or jurisdiction providing protection. The fee is also known as a "maintenance fee". A trademark can be maintained indefinitely by paying renewal fees; however, patents, utility models and industrial designs can be maintained for only a limited number of years.

Microorganism deposit
The transmittal of a microorganism to an International Depositary Authority (IDA), which receives and accepts it, the storage of such a microorganism by the IDA, or both transmittal and storage.

National Phase Entry (NPE)
See "National phase under the PCT".

National phase under the PCT
The phase that follows the international phase of the PCT procedure and that consists of the entry and processing of the international application in the individual countries or regions in which the applicant seeks protection for an invention.

National route
Applications for IP protection filed directly with the national office of, or acting for, the relevant state or jurisdiction (see also "PCT route", "Hague route" or "Madrid route"). The national route is also called the "direct route" or "Paris route".

Nice Classification (NCL)
The abbreviated form of the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks, an international classification established under the Nice Agreement. The Nice Classification consists of 45 classes, which are divided into 34 classes for goods and 11 for services. See also "Class".

Non-resident
For statistical purposes, a "non-resident" application refers to an application filed with the IP office of, or acting for, a state or jurisdiction in which the first-named applicant in the application is not domiciled. For example, an application filed with the JPO by an applicant residing in France is considered a non-resident application from the perspective of the JPO. Non-resident applications are sometimes referred to as foreign applications. A non-resident grant or registration is an IP right issued on the basis of a non-resident application.

Origin (country or region)
For statistical purposes, the origin of an application means the country or territory of residence of the first-named applicant in the application. In some cases (notably in the US), the country of origin is determined by the residence of the assignee rather than that of the applicant.

Paris Convention
The Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (1883), signed on March 20, 1883, is one of the most important IP treaties. It establishes the "right of priority" that enables an IP applicant, when filing an application in countries other than the original country of filing, to claim priority of an earlier application filed up to 12 months previously.

Paris route
An alternative to the PCT, Hague or Madrid routes, the Paris route (also called the "direct route" or "national route") enables individual IP applications to be filed directly with an office that is a signatory of the Paris Convention.

Patent
A set of exclusive rights granted by law to applicants for inventions that are new, non-obvious and commercially applicable. A patent is valid for a limited period of time (generally 20 years), during which patent holders can commercially exploit their inventions on an exclusive basis. In return, applicants are obliged to disclose their inventions to the public in a manner that enables others, skilled in the art, to replicate the invention. The patent system is designed to encourage innovation by providing innovators with time-limited exclusive legal rights, thus enabling them to appropriate the returns from their innovative activity.

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)
The PCT is an international treaty administered by WIPO. The PCT System facilitates the filing of patent applications worldwide and makes it possible to seek patent protection for an invention simultaneously in each of a large number of countries by first filing a single international patent application. The granting of patents, which remains under the control of national or regional patent offices, is carried out in what is called the "national phase" or "regional phase".

Patent family
A set of interrelated patent applications filed in one or more countries or jurisdictions to protect the same invention.

PCT filing
Abbreviated form of "PCT international application".

PCT international application
A patent application filed through the WIPO-administered Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT).

PCT-Patent Prosecution Highway Pilots (PCT-PPH)
A number of bilateral agreements signed between patent offices enable applicants to request a fast-track examination procedure, whereby patent examiners can make use of the work products of another office or offices. These work products can include the results of a favorable written opinion by an International Searching Authority, the written opinion of an International Preliminary Examining Authority or the international preliminary report on patentability issued within the framework of the PCT. By requesting this procedure, applicants can generally obtain patents from participating offices more quickly.

PCT route
Patent applications filed or patents granted based on PCT international applications.

PCT System
The PCT, an international treaty administered by WIPO, facilitates the acquisition of patent rights in a large number of jurisdictions. The PCT System simplifies the process of multiple national patent filings by reducing the requirement to file a separate application in each jurisdiction. However, the decision whether to grant patent rights remains in the hands of national and regional patent offices, and patent rights remain limited to the jurisdiction of the patent-granting authority. The PCT international application process starts with the international phase, during which an international search and possibly a preliminary examination are performed, and concludes with the national phase, during which a national or regional patent office decides on the patentability of an invention according to national law.

Pending patent application
In general, this refers to a patent application filed with a patent office for which no patent has yet been granted or refused, and for which the application has not been withdrawn. In jurisdictions where a request for examination is required to start the examination process, a pending application may refer to an application for which a request for examination has been received or for which no patent has been granted or refused, and for which the application has not been withdrawn.

Plant Patent Act (PPA) of the US
Under the law commonly known as the "Plant Patent Act", whoever invents or discovers and asexually reproduces any distinct and new variety of plant, including cultivated sports, mutants, hybrids and newly found seedlings, other than a tuber-propagated plant or a plant found in an uncultivated state, may obtain a patent therefor.

Plant variety
According to the UPOV Convention, plant variety means a plant grouping within a single botanical taxon of the lowest known rank, which, irrespective of whether the conditions for the grant of a breeder's right are fully met, can be defined by the expression of the characteristics resulting from a given genotype or combination of genotypes, distinguished from any other plant grouping by the expression of at least one of the said characteristics and considered as a unit with regard to its suitability for being propagated unchanged.

Plant variety grant
Under the UPOV Convention, the breeder's right is granted (title of protection is issued) only when the variety is new, distinct, uniform, stable and has a suitable denomination.

Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA) of the US
Under the PVPA, the US protects all sexually reproduced plant varieties and tuber-propagated plant varieties, excluding fungi and bacteria.

Prior art
All information disclosed to the public about an invention, in any form, before a given date. Information on prior art can assist in determining whether the claimed invention is new and involves an inventive step (is non-obvious) for the purposes of international searches and international preliminary examination.

Priority date
The filing date of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed.

Publication date
The date on which an IP application is disclosed to the public. On that date, the subject matter of the application becomes prior art.

Regional application/grant (registration)
An application filed with or granted (registered) by a regional IP office having jurisdiction over more than one country. Regional IP offices in operation include ARIPO, the BOIP, EAPO, the EPO, OAPI and OHIM.

Regional route (or regional direct)
Applications for IP protection filed or granted based on applications filed with a regional IP office.

Registered Community Design
A registration issued by OHIM based on a single application filed directly with the office by an applicant seeking protection within the EU as a whole.

Registration
A set of exclusive rights legally accorded to the applicant when an industrial design or trademark is registered or issued. See "Industrial design" or "Trademark". Registrations are issued to applicants to make use of and exploit their industrial design or trademark for a limited period of time and can, in some cases (particularly in the case of trademarks), be renewed indefinitely.

Renewal
The process by which the protection of an IP right is maintained (that is, kept in force). Usually consists of paying renewal fees to an IP office at regular intervals. If renewal fees are not paid, the registration may lapse. See "Maintenance".

Resident
For statistical purposes, a resident application refers to an application filed with the IP office of, or acting for, the state or jurisdiction in which the first-named applicant in the application has residence. For example, an application filed with the JPO by a resident of Japan is considered a resident application for the JPO. Resident applications are sometimes referred to as "domestic applications". A resident grant/registration is an IP right issued on the basis of a resident application.

Trademark
A sign used by the owner of certain products or provider of certain services to distinguish them from the products or services of other companies. A trademark can consist of words and combinations of words (for instance, slogans), names, logos, figures and images, letters, numbers, sounds and moving images, or a combination thereof. The procedures for registering trademarks are governed by the legislation and procedures of national and regional IP offices. Trademark rights are limited to the jurisdiction of the IP office that registers the trademark. Trademarks can be registered by filing an application at the relevant national or regional office(s) or by filing an international application through the Madrid System.

Utility model
A special form of patent right granted by a state or jurisdiction to an inventor or the inventor's assignee for a fixed period of time. The terms and conditions for granting a utility model are slightly different from those for normal patents (including a shorter term of protection and less stringent patentability requirements). The term can also describe what are known in certain countries as "petty patents", "short-term patents" or "innovation patents".

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
A United Nations specialized agency dedicated to the promotion of innovation and creativity for the economic, social and cultural development of all countries through a balanced and effective international IP system. Established in 1967, WIPO's mandate is to promote the protection of IP throughout the world through cooperation among states and in collaboration with other international organizations.

List of abbreviations

ARIPO	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization
BOIP	Benelux Office for Intellectual Property
CPVO	Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union
EAPO	Eurasian Patent Organization
EPO	European Patent Office
EU	European Union
GDP	Gross domestic product
ID	Industrial design
IDA	International Depositary Authority
IP	Intellectual Property
IPC	International Patent Classification
JPO	Japan Patent Office
KIPO	Korean Intellectual Property Office
LOC	Locarno Classification
NCL	Nice Classification
OAPI	African Intellectual Property Organization
OHIM	Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (of the European Union)
PCT	Patent Cooperation Treaty
PPA	Plant Patent Act of the United States of America
PVPA	Plant Variety Protection Act of the United States of America
SIPO	State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China
UK	United Kingdom
UM	Utility model
UPOV	International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants
US	United States of America
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

Annexes

Annex A
Definitions for selected energy-related technology fields

Energy-related technologies	International patent classification (IPC) symbols
Solar energy technology	F24J 2/00, F24J 2/02, F24J 2/04, F24J 2/05, F24J 2/06, F24J 2/07, F24J 2/08, F24J 2/10, F24J 2/12, F24J 2/13, F24J 2/14, F24J 2/15, F24J 2/16, F24J 2/18, F24J 2/23, F24J 2/24, F24J 2/36, F24J 2/38, F24J 2/42, F24J 2/46, F03G 6/06, G02B 5/10, H01L 31/052, E04D 13/18, H01L 31/04, H01L 31/042, H01L 31/18, E04D 1/30, G02F 1/136, G05F 1/67, H01L 25/00, H01L 31/00, H01L 31/048, H01L 33/00, H02J 7/35, H02N 6/00
Fuel cell technology	H01M 4/00, H01M 4/86, H01M 4/88, H01M 4/90, H01M 8/00, H01M 8/02, H01M 8/04, H01M 8/06, H01M 8/08, H01M 8/10, H01M 8/12, H01M 8/14, H01M 8/16, H01M 8/18, H01M 8/20, H01M 8/22, H01M 8/24
Wind energy	F03D 1/00, F03D 3/00, F03D 5/00, F03D 7/00, F03D 9/00, F03D 11/00, B60L 8/00
Geothermal energy	F24J 3/08, F03G 4/00, F03G 7/05

Note: For definitions of IPC symbols, see *www.wipo.int/classifications/ipc*. The correspondence between IPC symbols and technology fields is not always clear-cut. Therefore, it is difficult to capture all patents in a specific technology field. Nonetheless, the IPC-based definitions of the four technologies presented above are likely to capture the vast majority of related patents.

Source: WIPO.

Annex B
International Classification of Goods and Services under the Nice Agreement

Class heading	Goods or services
Class 3	Bleaching preparations and other substances for laundry use; cleaning, polishing, scouring and abrasive preparations; soaps; perfumery, essential oils, cosmetics, hair lotions; dentifrices
Class 5	Pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations; sanitary preparations for medical purposes; dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for destroying vermin; fungicides, herbicides
Class 9	Scientific, nautical, surveying, photographic, cinematographic, optical, weighing, measuring, signaling, checking (supervision), life-saving and teaching apparatus and instruments; apparatus and instruments for conducting, switching, transforming, accumulating, regulating or controlling electricity; apparatus for recording, transmission or reproduction of sound or images; magnetic data carriers, recording discs; automatic vending machines and mechanisms for coin-operated apparatus; cash registers, calculating machines, data processing equipment and computers; fire-extinguishing apparatus
Class 25	Clothing, footwear, headgear
Class 29	Meat, fish, poultry and game; meat extracts; preserved, frozen, dried and cooked fruits and vegetables; jellies, jams, compotes; eggs; milk and milk products; edible oils and fats
Class 30	Coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, rice, tapioca, sago, artificial coffee; flour and preparations made from cereals, bread, pastry and confectionery, ices; honey, treacle; yeast, baking-powder; salt, mustard; vinegar, sauces (condiments); spices; ice
Class 35	Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions
Class 41	Education; providing of training; entertainment; sporting and cultural activities
Class 42	Scientific and technological services and research and design relating thereto; industrial analysis and research services; design and development of computer hardware and software
Class 43	Services for providing food and drink; temporary accommodation

Note: See *www.wipo.int/classifications/nice* for a complete list of all classes and further information on the International Classification of Goods and Services under the Nice Agreement.

Source: WIPO.

Industry sector	Abbreviation (where applicable)	Nice classes
Agricultural products and services	Agriculture	29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 43
Management, Communications, Real estate and Financial services	Business	35, 36
Chemicals		1, 2, 4
Textiles – Clothing and Accessories	Clothing	14, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34
Construction, Infrastructure	Construction	6, 17, 19, 37, 40
Pharmaceuticals, Health, Cosmetics	Health	3, 5, 10, 44
Household equipment		8, 11, 20, 21
Leisure, Education, Training	Leisure & Education	13, 15, 16, 28, 41
Scientific research, Information and Communication Technology	Research & Technology	9, 38, 42, 45
Transportation and Logistics	Transportation	7, 12, 39

Source: Edital®.

Annex C

International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification)

Class Heading	Goods
Class 2	Articles of clothing and haberdashery
Class 6	Furnishing
Class 7	Household goods, not elsewhere specified
Class 9	Packages and containers for the transport or handling of goods
Class 11	Articles of adornment
Class 12	Means of transport or hoisting
Class 14	Recording, communication or information retrieval equipment
Class 25	Building units and construction elements
Class 26	Lighting apparatus
Class 32	Graphic symbols and logos, surface patterns, ornamentation

Note: See *www.wipo.int/classifications/locarno* for a complete list of all classes and further information.

Source: WIPO.

Sector	Locarno classes
Advertising	20, 32
Agricultural products and food preparation	1, 27, 31
Construction	23, 25, 29
Electricity and lighting	13, 26
Furniture and household goods	6, 7, 30
Health, pharma and cosmetics	24, 28
ICT and audiovisual	14, 16, 18
Leisure and education	17, 19, 21, 22
Packaging	9
Textiles and accessories	2, 3, 5, 11
Tools and machines	4, 8, 10, 15
Transport	12

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

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