

# W&B IP Newsletter



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Website: [www.watsonband.com](http://www.watsonband.com)

E-mail: [mailip@watsonband.com](mailto:mailip@watsonband.com) | [mail@watsonband.com](mailto:mail@watsonband.com)

## Patent

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) recently released its annual data on the number of applications filed in the international intellectual property system.

### WIPO Data: Highlights of WIPO's International IP Application Data (PCT Patent Section)

**Global PCT patent filings fell for the first time in 14 years and China's PCT patent filings fell for the first time in 21 years.**

The total number of PCT filings amounted to 272,600 in 2023, a 1.8% decline from the year before. In 2023, China continued to be the top origin of PCT applications filed with 69,610 - a small decrease of 0.6% from the previous year. This is the first year-on-year decrease from China since 2002. The US came in second with 55,678 applications, which represents a 5.3% drop on 2022. Japan followed with 48,879 applications (-2.9%). The Republic of Korea and Germany rounded out the top five, with 22,288 applications and 16,916 applications respectively. The Republic of Korea saw 1.2% growth in 2023, while Germany experienced a 3.2% decline.

Among the top 15 countries, India (+44.6%) and Türkiye (+8.5%) saw the fastest growth in PCT filings in 2023. In 2023, Indian innovators filed 44.6% more PCT applications than the previous year, following a 25.9% growth the year earlier as India's innovation ecosystem strengthens and expands. The Netherlands (+5.8%), France (+2%) and the Republic of Korea (+1.2%) are the only other countries with growth in filings in 2023.

Annex 1: International patent applications by origin (PCT System)

Origin	2022	2023 Estimate	Origin	2022	2023 Estimate	Origin	2022	2023 Estimate
<b>Total</b>	<b>277,632</b>	<b>272,600</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>277,632</b>	<b>272,600</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>277,632</b>	<b>272,600</b>
China	70,017	69,610	Morocco	39	47	Bahamas	4	3
United States of America	58,823	55,678	Bulgaria	36	43	Dominican Republic	6	3
Japan	50,351	48,879	Iceland	39	43	Iraq	1	3
Republic of Korea	22,023	22,288	Lithuania	38	43	Marshall Islands	1	3
Germany	17,469	16,916	Romania	38	43	Oman	8	3
France	7,761	7,916	Egypt	60	41	Ghana	0	2
United Kingdom	5,716	5,586	Mauritius	21	39	Lebanon	8	2
Switzerland	5,446	5,382	Serbia	28	36	Libya	3	2
Sweden	4,481	4,323	Malta	46	33	Senegal	0	2
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	4,025	4,258	Estonia	32	32	Uganda	2	2
India	2,622	3,791	Latvia	44	31	Uzbekistan	1	2
Italy	3,317	3,102	Peru	31	27	Bangladesh	0	1
Canada	2,577	2,390	Argentina	30	25	Bhutan	0	1
Türkiye	1,771	1,921	Kazakhstan	25	23	Bosnia and Herzegovina	4	1
Israel	1,967	1,908	Bermuda	14	22	Burkina Faso	0	1
Singapore	1,835	1,742	Kenya	5	22	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	4	1
Austria	1,422	1,552	Qatar	28	20	Gabon	4	1
Finland	1,768	1,542	Jordan	25	19	Guatemala	1	1
Denmark	1,497	1,534	Viet Nam	26	19	Kuwait	4	1
Australia	1,752	1,502	Belarus	14	16	Liberia	2	1
Spain	1,476	1,457	Algeria	18	13	Madagascar	1	1
Belgium	1,324	1,342	Monaco	15	13	Micronesia (Federated States of)	1	1
Ireland	784	781	Azerbaijan	5	11	Nepal	0	1
Norway	793	686	Ecuador	6	11	Palau	0	1
Russian Federation	756	678	Montenegro	4	11	Saint Lucia	1	1
Brazil	547	517	Uruguay	6	11	Sudan	2	1
Poland	370	384	Albania	7	10	Antigua and Barbuda	24	0
Saudi Arabia	471	382	San Marino	8	10	Belize	1	0
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	354	362	Bahrain	7	9	Benin	1	0
Luxembourg	284	303	Sri Lanka	20	9	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	1	0
New Zealand	319	293	Philippines	29	8	Comoros	1	0
Portugal	218	236	Tunisia	7	8	Curaçao	2	0
South Africa	215	194	Namibia	4	7	Côte d'Ivoire	1	0
Chile	184	189	Panama	9	7	Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	0
Czech Republic	249	184	Georgia	8	6	Guinea	1	0
Liechtenstein	194	176	North Macedonia	4	6	Honduras	1	0
Hungary	137	157	Republic of Moldova	4	6	Lao People's Democratic Republic	1	0
Mexico	190	155	Seychelles	1	6	Mongolia	3	0
Indonesia	9	149	Andorra	3	5			
Thailand	162	149	Cameroon	4	5			
United Arab Emirates	113	141	Costa Rica	3	5			
Malaysia	152	131	Cuba	12	5			
Greece	135	118	Pakistan	2	5			
Colombia	116	114	Turkmenistan	1	5			
Slovenia	116	98	Armenia	9	4			
Ukraine	89	92	Holy See	1	4			
Barbados	38	81	Jamaica	2	4			
Cyprus	48	67	Nigeria	4	4			
Slovakia	44	60	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	4			
Croatia	19	48	Zimbabwe	2	4			

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Chinese telecoms giant Huawei Technologies remained by far the top filer with 6,494 published PCT applications in 2023. Samsung Electronics of the Republic of Korea came in second (3,924 applications), followed by Qualcomm of the US (3,410), Mitsubishi Electric of Japan (2,152) and BOE Technology of China (1,988). Contemporary Amperex Technology of China marked the fastest growth among the top 10 applicants, with an additional 1,533 published applications in 2023, moving up 84 positions to eighth place. In contrast, the top applicant, Huawei Technologies, had 1,195 fewer published applications in 2023 compared to the previous year.

### Annex 2: Top PCT applicants

2023 overall position in PCT ranking	Position changed in overall PCT ranking	Applicant's Name	Origin	2022	2023
1	0	Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.	China	7,589	6,494
2	0	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.	Republic of Korea	4,387	3,924
3	0	Qualcomm Incorporated	US	3,855	3,410
4	0	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation	Japan	2,320	2,152
5	2	BOE Technology Group Co.,Ltd	China	1,884	1,988
6	3	LG Electronics Inc.	Republic of Korea	1,793	1,887
7	-2	Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson (Publ)	Sweden	2,158	1,863
8	84	Contemporary Amperex Technology Co., Limited	China	266	1,799
9	-3	Guang Dong Oppo Mobile Telecommunications Corp., Ltd	China	1,963	1,766
10	-3	Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation	Japan	1,884	1,760
11	2	ZTE Corporation	China	1,479	1,738
12	-2	Panasonic Intellectual Property Management Co., Ltd.	Japan	1,776	1,722
13	-2	Vivo Mobile Communication Co., Ltd.	China	1,515	1,631
14	7	Beijing Xiaomi Mobile Software Co., Ltd.	China	913	1,603
15	-1	NEC Corporation	Japan	1,428	1,592
16	-4	Sony Group Corporation	Japan	1,513	1,433
17	0	LG Energy Solution, Ltd.	Republic of Korea	1,186	1,423
18	-2	Microsoft Technology Licensing, LLC	US	1,271	1,350
19	-4	Robert Bosch Corporation	Germany	1,290	1,307
20	-1	Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	Japan	1,043	1,051
21	9	NTT Docomo, Inc.	Japan	764	1,016
22	7	Changxin Memory Technologies, Inc.	China	786	954
23	2	Google Inc.	US	830	901
24	3	International Business Machines Corporation	US	816	853
25	-7	Fujifilm Corporation	Japan	1,181	825
26	-3	Denso Corporation	Japan	857	814
27	58	Beijing Ziliao Network Technology Co., Ltd.	China	278	810
28	0	Sony Semiconductor Solutions Corporation	Japan	789	781
29	-3	Apple Inc.	US	822	761
30	42	Honor Device Co., Ltd.	China	304	753
31	0	Koninklijke Philips Electronics N.V.	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	737	749
32	21	Qingdao Haier Air Conditioner General Corp., Ltd.	China	470	706
33	17	Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Technology	China	486	696
34	-1	Tencent Technology (Shenzhen) Company Limited	China	690	677
35	-11	Applied Materials, Inc.	US	856	638
36	9	Kyocera Corporation	Japan	508	632
37	-5	Nokia Technologies Oy	Finland	718	628
38	-3	Siemens Aktiengesellschaft	Germany	656	589
39	7	BASF SE	Germany	507	545
40	8	Bayerische Motoren Werke AG	Germany	489	537
41	0	University of California	US	552	531
42	-20	Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L. P.	US	894	523
43	-3	Hitachi, Ltd.	Japan	563	515
44	0	Hitachi Astemo, Ltd.	Japan	517	501
45	-7	Intel Corporation	US	591	500
46	9	Beijing Bytedance Network Technology Co., Ltd.	China	424	492
47	-5	Daikin Industries, Ltd.	Japan	536	460
48	4	Nitto Denko Corporation	Japan	473	444
48	-9	LG Chem, Ltd.	Republic of Korea	587	444
50	121	Meta Platforms Technologies, LLC	US	164	437

In the education sector, the University of California (USA) remained the top applicant with 531 published PCT applications in 2023. Suzhou University (China) came in second (332 applications) followed by the University of Texas System (US, 217), Tsinghua University (China, 209) and Leland Stanford Junior University (USA, 180). Tsinghua University witnessed the sharpest increase among the top five educational institutions, with an additional 35 published PCT applications.

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### Annex 3: Top PCT applicants by educational institution

2023 overall position in PCT ranking	Position changed in overall PCT ranking	Applicant's Name	Origin	2022	2023
41	0	University of California	US	552	531
69	4	Suzhou University	China	303	332
120	23	Board of Regents of The University of Texas System	US	187	217
125	36	Tsinghua University	China	174	209
154	-30	Leland Stanford Junior University	US	217	180
159	17	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	US	161	170
162	15	Seoul National University	Republic of Korea	160	168
203	-26	Johns Hopkins University	US	160	141
207	3	National University of Singapore	Singapore	138	139
225	84	Osaka University	Japan	95	132
227	-33	Korea University	Republic of Korea	147	131
230	18	University of Tokyo	Japan	118	128
232	-4	Jiangsu University	China	125	127
247	116	Tohoku University	Japan	82	120
247	48	Southeast University	China	99	120
256	17	South China University of Technology	China	110	117
260	15	University of Michigan	US	109	115
265	-75	Hanyang University	Republic of Korea	149	112
287	-24	Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology	Republic of Korea	112	105
287	8	University of Florida	US	99	105
297	-105	Yonsei University	Republic of Korea	148	103
298	124	University of Pittsburgh	US	71	102
305	-81	Jiangnan University	China	128	99
311	-69	Nanyang Technological University	Singapore	119	97
313	109	Jiangsu University of Science and Technology	China	71	96
330	42	Catholic University	Republic of Korea	80	90
336	7	University of Pennsylvania	US	87	89
336	-60	University of Arizona	US	108	89
345	-9	Harvard University	US	88	87
356	22	Kyoto University	Japan	79	85
356	56	Peking University	China	72	85
365	-16	Columbia University	US	85	83
379	-52	Cornell University	US	90	80
379	-18	University of Washington	US	83	80
386	-8	University of Colorado	US	79	78
386	66	Sun Yat-Sen University	China	67	78
394	336	Yale University	US	40	77
394	-90	Northwestern University	US	96	77
422	-59	Duke University	US	82	71
431	-46	Dalian University of Technology	China	78	70
459	n/a	Guangzhou Institute of Technology	China	...	65
464	147	Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation	US	48	64
473	49	Arizona Board of Regents, Acting For and on Behalf of Arizona State University	US	57	63
473	25	Purdue University	US	61	63
481	58	Kyungpook National University	Republic of Korea	55	62
481	-145	Shanghai Jiaotong University	China	88	62
489	133	National University Corporation Tokai National Higher Education and Research System	Japan	47	61
489	68	Tel Aviv University	Israel	53	61
489	223	Delft University of Technology	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	41	61
498	66	University of Massachusetts	US	52	60

## WIPO Data: Highlights of WIPO's International IP Application Data (Industrial Design Section)

### Chinese applicants drive global Hague design applications to record high.

In 2023, the number of designs included in international applications under WIPO's Hague System reached a record, totaling 25,343, reflecting a modest increase of 1% and marking three successive years of growth. Germany remained the top user of the international design system with 4,517 designs, followed by China (3,758), the US (2,668), Switzerland (2,196), and Italy (1,817). Among the top ten countries, China (+46.9%) and Türkiye (+45.7%) experienced double-digit growth in 2023. The US (+9.2%), Japan (+6.9%) and France (+4.7%) also reported strong growth in 2023.

# Patent

## Annex 7: International industrial designs by origin (Hague System) (designs contained in applications)

Origin	Applications		Designs	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,978</b>	<b>8,565</b>	<b>25,085</b>	<b>25,343</b>
Germany	869	903	4,910	4,517
China	1,287	1,813	2,558	3,758
United States of America	756	744	2,443	2,668
Switzerland	652	712	2,188	2,196
Italy	575	470	2,420	1,817
France	649	688	1,484	1,554
Republic of Korea	817	825	1,346	1,240
Japan	437	466	936	1,001
United Kingdom	233	240	1,032	941
Türkiye	155	173	505	736
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	223	235	975	720
Denmark	155	136	447	461
Austria	66	58	297	348
Belgium	112	105	262	345
Sweden	140	112	408	277
Malta	9	11	140	263
Poland	61	58	323	258
Greece	10	17	419	253
Spain	96	95	277	235
Canada	70	93	130	216
Norway	52	69	141	209
Finland	36	58	109	151
Israel	74	67	177	138
Ukraine	31	40	39	126
Cyprus	11	25	117	124
Czech Republic	22	17	142	99
Russian Federation	52	51	100	73
Portugal	43	16	69	63
Singapore	31	39	57	63
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	9	1	54
Bulgaria	12	19	34	51
Ireland	11	16	36	41
Slovenia	27	19	61	34
Brazil	1	28	1	33
Luxembourg	27	9	81	21
Australia	6	13	7	20
Georgia	2	3	7	19
Hungary	11	7	24	19
Morocco	1	3	18	18
Estonia	12	8	23	17
Liechtenstein	8	4	37	17
Republic of Moldova	3	2	14	15
Serbia	8	9	10	15
Croatia	32	8	61	14
United Arab Emirates	0	2	0	14
Lithuania	9	7	17	9
Viet Nam	11	8	18	9
Latvia	8	8	12	8
Romania	3	6	10	8
Slovakia	6	3	14	7
North Macedonia	2	5	8	5
Belarus	1	4	2	4
Mexico	3	4	3	4
Thailand	0	2	0	4
Algeria	0	3	0	3
Chile	1	1	1	3
Egypt	1	3	1	3
Monaco	2	3	2	3
India	0	2	0	2
Cameroon	0	1	0	1
Iceland	0	1	0	1
Kyrgyzstan	0	1	0	1
Lebanon	0	1	0	1
Oman	3	1	5	1
South Africa	4	1	4	1
Syrian Arab Republic	0	1	0	1
Uruguay	0	1	0	1
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1	0	1	0
Malaysia	2	0	5	0
Mongolia	1	0	1	0
Nicaragua	1	0	2	0
Nigeria	1	0	1	0
Panama	3	0	9	0
San Marino	3	0	3	0
Seychelles	2	0	68	0
Unknown	24	3	32	11

## Patent

Samsung Electronics of the Republic of Korea moved into the top filing position with 544 designs in published applications, surpassing Procter & Gamble (525 designs), a US-based company that previously held the top position. LG Electronics of the Republic of Korea and Porsche AG of Germany, each with 352 designs, jointly held the third position, followed by Xiaomi Mobile Software of China with 315 designs.

Porsche AG, Hermes Sellier of France, Triple A Finance of Germany, and Alfred Karcher of Germany, all saw substantial increases in the number of designs included in their applications in 2023 compared to 2022, with increases of 235, 179, 175, and 142 designs respectively.

(Source: WIPO)

## Trademark

### WIPO Data: Highlights of WIPO's International IP Application Data (Madrid Trademark Section)

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) recently released its annual data on the number of applications filed in the international intellectual property system.

#### China's Madrid trademark applications bucked the trend and maintained growth.

The total number of international trademarks applications filed under WIPO's Madrid System in 2023 amounted to 64,200, which is 7% fewer than the previous year. US-based applicants (10,987) filed the largest number of international trademark applications, followed by those located in Germany (6,613), China (5,473), France (4,267) and the United Kingdom (3,817).

#### Annex 5: International trademark applications by origin (Madrid System)

Origin	2022	2023 Estimate	Origin	2022	2023 Estimate
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,022</b>	<b>64,200</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>69,022</b>	<b>64,200</b>
United States of America	12,456	10,987	Chile	16	48
Germany	7,690	6,613	Armenia	36	47
China	5,082	5,473	Georgia	23	44
France	4,394	4,267	North Macedonia	49	42
United Kingdom	4,194	3,817	Iceland	40	33
Switzerland	3,750	3,284	Bosnia and Herzegovina	27	32
Japan	3,117	2,846	Uzbekistan	57	32
Italy	2,839	2,729	Pakistan	13	26
Republic of Korea	2,031	2,090	Albania	5	25
Australia	2,342	2,016	Azerbaijan	17	17
Türkiye	2,385	1,700	Tunisia	12	12
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	1,805	1,609	Bermuda	17	9
Spain	1,577	1,592	Cambodia	4	9
Russian Federation	1,438	1,564	Mauritius	5	8
Singapore	877	953	Mongolia	11	8
Sweden	1,158	948	Saint Kitts and Nevis	2	7
Austria	1,108	889	Angola	2	6
Canada	920	867	Tajikistan	7	6
Belgium	743	704	San Marino	9	5
Denmark	730	680	Antigua and Barbuda	1	4
Poland	443	572	Cuba	3	4
New Zealand	474	471	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	7	4
India	441	448	Saudi Arabia	0	4
Israel	418	403	Bahamas	7	3
Finland	437	377	Bahrain	4	3
Ukraine	302	365	Dominican Republic	0	3
Luxembourg	359	333	Sudan	0	3
Portugal	261	298	Trinidad and Tobago	7	3
Czech Republic	231	297	Turkmenistan	1	3
Norway	374	292	Zambia	0	3



## Trademark

Cyprus	261	287	Algeria	7	2
Bulgaria	327	284	Congo	0	2
Serbia	208	284	Kenya	1	2
Hungary	237	260	Kyrgyzstan	9	2
Ireland	288	253	Lao People's Democratic Republic	0	2
Viet Nam	176	221	Madagascar	1	2
Slovenia	224	209	Namibia	1	2
Brazil	157	205	Oman	12	2
Croatia	221	178	Panama	3	2
United Arab Emirates	115	138	Seychelles	3	2
Greece	101	137	Sint Maarten (Dutch Part)	0	2
Malaysia	154	137	Syrian Arab Republic	5	2
Belarus	157	133	Afghanistan	0	1
Lithuania	118	126	Barbados	3	1
Romania	117	108	Belize	4	1
Mexico	91	102	Benin	0	1
Thailand	66	102	Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba	0	1
Estonia	123	98	Brunei Darussalam	0	1
Indonesia	93	98	Cabo Verde	0	1
Malta	78	95	Curaçao	9	1
Kazakhstan	111	94	Jamaica	0	1
Colombia	125	92	Montenegro	3	1
Slovakia	62	83	Mozambique	1	1
Egypt	68	77	Myanmar	1	1
Morocco	88	65	Paraguay	0	1
Liechtenstein	74	64	Peru	0	1
Latvia	92	63	Rwanda	0	1
Monaco	47	62	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0	1
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	46	53	Senegal	2	1
Republic of Moldova	72	50	Sri Lanka	0	1
Philippines	60	49	Andorra	12	0
			Bangladesh	1	0
			Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	0
			Ghana	3	0
			Kuwait	1	0
			Lebanon	3	0
			Libya	1	0
			Mali	1	0
			Marshall Islands	2	0
			Qatar	2	0
			Saint Lucia	1	0
			South Africa	1	0

L'Oréal of France, with 199 Madrid applications, remained the top filer for the third year running in 2023. BMW AG (124 applications) of Germany moved up 33 places to become the second top filer, followed by Bulgaria's Euro Games Technology (118), Germany's Boehringer Ingelheim International GMBH (110) and Novartis AG (110) of Switzerland.

Berlin-Chemie AG of Germany filed 104 more applications in 2023 than in 2022, elevating it to the 6th largest applicant. BMW AG (+85 applications) Boehringer Ingelheim International GMBH (+56) and Stokomani of France (+56) also saw considerable increase in filings between 2022 and 2023.

(Source: WIPO)