

# Applications

## Application by IPR type

(unit: cases)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Patents	204,775	209,992	218,975	226,759	<b>237,998</b>
Utility models	6,811	6,232	5,447	4,981	<b>4,009</b>
Subtotal	211,586	216,224	224,422	231,740	<b>242,007</b>
Designs	62,528 (64,986)	62,823 (65,434)	64,111 (66,637)	66,354 (68,695)	<b>63,647 (65,922)</b>
Trademarks	168,556 (202,539)	185,968 (232,109)	204,998 (252,309)	243,935 (290,207)	<b>270,421 (290,209)</b>
Total	442,670 (485,922)	465,015 (513,767)	493,531 (543,368)	542,029 (590,642)	<b>576,075 (598,138)</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

## PCT applications (KIPO as the Receiving Office)

(unit: cases)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of applications	15,790	16,991	18,885	19,675	<b>20,528</b>
Growth rate	1.2%	7.6%	11.1%	4.2%	<b>4.3%</b>

## International trademark applications under the Madrid System

(unit: cases)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Korea as office of origin	1,053	1,322	1,419	1,599	<b>2,012</b>
Korea as designated office	14,362	14,373	16,509	13,998	<b>15,400</b>

## International design applications under the Hague System

(unit: cases)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Korea as office of origin	133	116	178	250	<b>279</b>
Korea as designated office	925	857	928	1,229	<b>1,140</b>

## Comparison of domestic and foreign applications

(unit: cases)

Category			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Patents	Domestic	Cases	159,095	162,576	171,606	180,484	<b>186,245</b>
		Ratio	77.7%	77.40%	78.4%	79.6%	<b>78.3%</b>
	Foreign	Cases	45,680	47,416	47,396	46,275	<b>51,753</b>
		Ratio	22.3%	22.60%	21.6%	20.4%	<b>21.7%</b>
	Total		204,775	209,992	218,975	226,759	<b>237,998</b>
	Utility models	Domestic	Cases	6,448	5,768	4,975	4,595
Ratio			94.7%	92.60%	91.3%	92.3%	<b>90.8%</b>
Foreign		Cases	363	464	472	386	<b>367</b>
		Ratio	5.3%	7.40%	8.7%	7.7%	<b>9.2%</b>
Total		6,811	6,232	5,447	4,981	<b>4,009</b>	
Designs		Domestic	Cases	59,085 (60,379)	58,699 (60,021)	59,877 (61,204)	62,698 (63,939)
	Ratio		94.5% (92.9%)	93.4% (91.7%)	93.3% (91.8%)	94.5% (93.1%)	<b>94.1% (92.8%)</b>
	Foreign	Cases	3,443 (4,607)	4,124 (5,413)	4,234 (5,433)	3,656 (4,756)	<b>3,767 (4,747)</b>
		Ratio	5.5% (7.1%)	6.6% (8.3%)	6.7% (8.2%)	5.5% (6.9%)	<b>5.9% (7.2%)</b>
	Total		62,528 (64,986)	62,823 (65,434)	64,111 (66,637)	66,354 (68,695)	<b>63,647 (65,922)</b>
	Trademarks	Domestic	Cases	155,674 (181,229)	170,545 (207,958)	190,204 (228,530)	230,318 (269,332)
Ratio			92.4% (89.5%)	91.7% (89.6%)	92.8% (90.6%)	94.4% (92.8%)	<b>94.6% (92.8%)</b>
Foreign		Cases	12,882 (21,310)	15,423 (24,151)	14,794 (23,779)	13,617 (20,875)	<b>14,675 (20,990)</b>
		Ratio	7.6% (10.5%)	8.3% (10.4%)	7.2% (9.4%)	5.6% (7.2%)	<b>5.4% (7.2%)</b>
Total		168,556 (202,539)	185,968 (232,109)	204,998 (252,309)	243,935 (290,207)	<b>270,421 (290,209)</b>	
Total		Domestic	Cases	380,302 (407,151)	397,588 (436,323)	426,662 (466,315)	478,095 (518,350)
	Ratio		85.9% (85.0%)	85.5% (84.9%)	86.5% (85.8%)	88.2% (87.8%)	<b>87.8% (87.0%)</b>
	Foreign	Cases	62,368 (71,960)	67,427 (77,444)	66,869 (77,053)	63,934 (72,292)	<b>70,562 (77,857)</b>
		Ratio	14.1% (15.0%)	14.5% (15.1%)	13.5% (14.2%)	11.8% (12.2%)	<b>12.2% (13.0%)</b>
	Total		442,670 (479,111)	465,015 (513,767)	493,531 (543,368)	542,029 (590,642)	<b>576,075 (598,138)</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

## Patent and utility model applications by technological field in 2021

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	14,283	3,385	17,668	218	42	260
Audio-visual technology	5,762	2,112	7,874	71	17	88
Telecommunications	2,604	666	3,270	27	4	31
Digital communication	6,472	2,945	9,417	5	2	7
Basic communication processes	594	306	900	1	-	1
Computer technology	12,201	3,718	15,919	36	15	51
IT methods for management	15,019	557	15,576	27	1	28
Semiconductors	7,936	4,278	12,214	6	10	16
Optics	2,736	2,143	4,879	23	15	38
Measurement	8,037	1,951	9,988	71	10	81
Analysis of biological materials	585	243	828	3	-	3
Control	3,900	566	4,466	54	1	55
Medical technology	10,156	2,217	12,373	167	27	194
Organic fine chemistry	3,732	2,659	6,391	1	2	3
Biotechnology	3,741	2,674	6,415	3	-	3
Pharmaceuticals	3,369	2,307	5,676	2	1	3
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	2,063	1,880	3,943	-	-	-
Food chemistry	4,575	307	4,882	18	-	18
Basic materials chemistry	3,103	1,704	4,807	7	-	7
Materials, metallurgy	2,929	1,542	4,471	1	2	3
Surface technology, coating	2,222	1,595	3,817	15	5	20
Micro-structural and nano-technology	48	41	89	-	-	-
Chemical engineering	3,753	937	4,690	69	11	80
Environmental technology	3,316	390	3,706	39	2	41
Handling	4,749	884	5,633	260	24	284
Machine tools	3,555	1,066	4,621	128	10	138
Engines, pumps, turbines	2,355	734	3,089	43	7	50
Textile and paper machines	1,611	622	2,233	21	1	22
Other special machines	7,139	1,447	8,586	298	15	313
Thermal processes and apparatus	2,896	282	3,178	66	9	75
Mechanical elements	2,784	945	3,729	94	13	107
Transport	9,882	1,337	11,219	221	23	244

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Furniture, games	6,011	707	6,718	545	52	597
Other consumer goods	6,451	1,188	7,639	536	30	566
Civil engineering	8,767	487	9,254	311	7	318
Others	6,909	931	7,840	255	9	264
Total	186,245	51,753	237,998	3,642	367	4,009

Note: Figures for 2021 are preliminary.

## Patent applications in biotechnology

(unit: cases)

Category	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	7,328	74.9%	7,239	72.2%	7,269	71.0%	7,878	71.0%	8,010	67.2%
Foreign	2,462	25.1%	2,794	27.8%	2,973	29.0%	3,218	29.0%	3,918	32.8%
Total	9,790	100%	10,033	100%	10,242	100%	11,096	100%	11,928	100%

Note1: Figures for 2021 are preliminary.

Note2: Based on the following biotechnological categories of the Eighth Edition of the International Patent Classification: A01H; A01K 67/00-67/04; A01N 63/00-65/00; A61K 8/97-8/99; A61K 8/64-8/68; A61K 35/12-35/76; 36/00-36/9068; A61K 38/00-38/58, 39/00-39/44, 48/00, 51/00-51/10; C02F; C07H 19/00-21/04; C07K; C12C-M; C12N; C12P; C12Q; C12S; G01N 33/50-33/98.

## Patent applications in business methods

(unit: cases)

Category	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	8,852	95.2%	9,754	94.8%	10,321	95.1%	12,251	96.5%	15,019	96.4%
Foreign	446	4.8%	536	5.2%	534	4.9%	449	3.5%	557	3.6%
Total	9,298	100%	10,290	100%	10,855	100%	12,700	100%	15,576	100%

Note1: Figures for 2021 are preliminary.

Note2: Based on the Ninth Edition of the International Patent Classification.

## Applications by residents of foreign countries/regions in 2021

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
United States of America	1,678	13,851	1,182 (1,486)	144 (421)	3,680 (7,062)	3,549 (6,374)	<b>24,084 (30,872)</b>
China	1,401	5,059	1,161 (1,330)	122 (270)	5,823 (6,996)	2,100 (3,386)	<b>15,666 (18,442)</b>
Japan	3,999	10,196	685 (880)	140 (240)	1,494 (2,628)	1,386 (2,961)	<b>17,900 (20,904)</b>
Germany	609	3,140	60 (84)	120 (368)	174 (318)	1,504 (4,167)	<b>5,607 (8,686)</b>
France	163	1,468	108 (117)	139 (246)	339 (552)	924 (2,139)	<b>3,141 (4,685)</b>
Switzerland	122	1,302	81 (147)	112 (434)	251 (390)	846 (2,139)	<b>2,714 (4,534)</b>
United Kingdom	101	1,226	59 (107)	16 (35)	432 (973)	655 (1,694)	<b>2,489 (4,136)</b>
Italy	60	434	42 (46)	79 (158)	140 (233)	758 (1,604)	<b>1,513 (2,535)</b>
Netherlands	181	866	87 (116)	37 (271)	65 (133)	252 (579)	<b>1,488 (2,146)</b>
Sweden	116	680	25 (58)	21 (55)	54 (122)	333 (1,086)	<b>1,229 (2,117 )</b>
Taiwan, Province of China	1,219	107	51 (57)	-	353 (530)	-	<b>1,730 (1,913)</b>
Singapore	74	257	13 (14)	9 (10)	366 (549)	223 (477)	<b>942 (1,381)</b>
Australia	9	219	29 (46)	-	149 (230)	413 (811)	<b>819 (1,315)</b>
Canada	52	476	39 (60)	8 (15)	255 (449)	186 (353)	<b>1,016 (1,405)</b>
Denmark	12	236	18 (50)	25 (51)	25 (81)	247 (632)	<b>563 (1,062)</b>
Spain	23	143	12 (15)	10 (18)	71 (102)	259 (430)	<b>518 (731)</b>
Belgium	9	285	2 (2)	4 (6)	41 (80)	149 (369)	<b>490 (751)</b>
Finland	20	223	3 (3)	3 (3)	23 (112)	123 (420)	<b>395 (781)</b>
Austria	58	285	2 (6)	3 (8)	16 (42)	140 (370)	<b>504 (769)</b>
Israel	53	370	17 (20)	11 (14)	51 (62)	98 (157)	<b>600 (676)</b>
Russian Federation	6	61	4 (4)	7 (12)	29 (39)	151 (453)	<b>258 (575)</b>
New Zealand	3	50	16 (19)	-	50 (78)	101 (225)	<b>220 (375)</b>
Ireland	41	167	6 (8)	2 (2)	31 (57)	77 (146)	<b>324 (421)</b>
Norway	-	120	5 (7)	12 (27)	9 (22)	87 (229)	<b>233 (405)</b>
Luxembourg	15	120	4 (4)	1 (1)	57 (103)	62 (137)	<b>259 (380)</b>
Turkey	3	46	2 (2)	1 (1)	21 (34)	99 (184)	<b>172 (270)</b>
India	7	104	2 (2)	-	39 (54)	49 (68)	<b>201 (235)</b>
Poland	5	33	-	6 (10)	4 (4)	57 (157)	<b>105 (209 )</b>
Viet Nam	2	3	-	-	33 (40)	56 (135)	<b>94 (180)</b>
Thailand	7	36	18 (18)	-	46 (63)	25 (43)	<b>132 (167)</b>
Cyprus	2	12	-	3 (5)	10 (14)	45 (136)	<b>72 (169)</b>
Cayman Islands	2	30	-	-	40 (111)	9 (23)	<b>81 (166 )</b>
Malaysia	14	16	3 (3)	-	35 (43)	27 (41)	<b>95 (117)</b>
United Arab Emirates	4	8	-	1 (2)	59 (76)	7 (15)	<b>79 (105)</b>

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Liechtenstein	11	26	-	6 (13)	4 (9)	15 (69)	<b>62 (128)</b>
Czech Republic	1	18	-	4 (26)	-	31 (55)	<b>54 (100)</b>
Brazil	2	32	-	-	21 (52)	7 (15)	<b>62 (101)</b>
Saudi Arabia	-	76	-	-	16 (26)	-	<b>92 (102)</b>
Chile	-	6	1 (4)	-	40 (49)	7 (11)	<b>54 (70)</b>
Portugal	5	23	-	2 (3)	7 (9)	23 (41)	<b>60 (81)</b>
Mexico	-	14	3 (3)	-	31 (40)	9 (9)	<b>57 (66)</b>
Bulgaria	-	1	-	-	6 (6)	29 (58)	<b>36 (65)</b>
Indonesia	-	-	2 (2)	-	23 (26)	11 (17)	<b>36 (45)</b>
Barbados	4	5	-	-	3 (5)	20 (42)	<b>32 (56)</b>
Greece	1	22	1 (3)	2 (2)	3 (5)	11 (27)	<b>40 (60)</b>
Philippines	2	3	-	-	2 (7)	18 (43)	<b>25 (55)</b>
Hungary	1	18	2 (2)	1 (2)	3 (5)	13 (28)	<b>38 (56)</b>
Lithuania	-	2	-	-	3 (9)	18 (42)	<b>23 (53)</b>
Virgin Islands (British)	-	-	-	-	14 (26)	13 (19)	<b>27 (45)</b>
South Africa	1	18	2 (2)	-	20 (23)	-	<b>41 (44)</b>
Malta	-	7	-	1 (22)	10 (20)	3 (3)	<b>21 (52)</b>
Ukraine	-	2	-	3 (3)	1 (1)	18 (38)	<b>24 (44)</b>
Monaco	-	-	-	3 (3)	1 (1)	17 (34)	<b>21 (38)</b>
Slovenia	1	7	-	3 (6 )	-	13 (28)	<b>24 (42)</b>
Seychelles	1	1	-	-	21 (21)	4 (4)	<b>27 (27)</b>
Estonia	1	4	-	1 (2)	2 (14)	9 (17)	<b>17 (38)</b>
Argentina	-	3	-	-	23 (23)	-	<b>26 (26)</b>
Antigua and Barbuda	-	40	-	-	1 (6)	-	<b>41 (46)</b>
Cook Islands	-	-	-	-	6 (33)	-	<b>6 (33)</b>
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China	-	-	5 (5)	-	9 (19)	-	<b>14 (24)</b>
Iceland	-	6	-	-	-	8 (23)	<b>14 (29)</b>
Panama	-	-	-	-	13 (23)	-	<b>13 (23)</b>
Belarus	-	1	-	-	1 (1)	9 (21)	<b>11 (23)</b>
Mauritius	-	1	-	-	12 (17)	1 (1)	<b>14 (19)</b>
Kazakhstan	-	-	-	-	9 (9)	3 (10)	<b>12 (19)</b>
Latvia	-	-	-	-	-	8 (19)	<b>8 (19)</b>
Morocco	-	1	-	-	-	8 (16)	<b>9 (17)</b>

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Mongolia	1	-	-	-	11 (12)	-	<b>12 (13)</b>
Uruguay	-	1	-	-	9 (11)	-	<b>10 (12)</b>
Croatia	1	1	-	-	-	6 (13)	<b>8 (15)</b>
Azerbaijan	-	-	-	-	10 (10)	-	<b>10 (10)</b>
Slovakia	1	3	-	1 (2)	-	4 (8)	<b>9 (14)</b>
Tajikistan	1	-	1 (1)	-	6 (10)	-	<b>8 (12)</b>
Colombia	1	-	-	-	6 (9)	1 (2)	<b>8 (12)</b>
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	4 (11)	1 (2)	<b>5 (13)</b>
Romania	-	2	-	-	1 (1)	3 (11)	<b>6 (14)</b>
Qatar	-	1	3 (3)	-	2 (2)	1 (6)	<b>7 (12)</b>
Uzbekistan	2	-	4 (4)	-	3 (3)	-	<b>9 (9)</b>
Bermuda	-	4	-	-	4 (5)	1 (1)	<b>9 (10)</b>
Isle of Man	-	1	-	-	1 (14)	-	<b>2 (15)</b>
Kuwait	-	1	-	-	3 (8)	1 (1)	<b>5 (10)</b>
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	-	-	-	-	5 (8)	<b>5 (8)</b>
Sri Lanka	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	3 (3)	<b>6 (6)</b>
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	5 (7)	<b>5 (7)</b>
Samoa	-	1	-	-	4 (5)	-	<b>5 (6)</b>
Namibia	-	-	-	-	-	5 (5)	<b>5 (5)</b>
Gibraltar	-	2	-	-	-	2 (6)	<b>4 (8)</b>
Serbia	-	-	-	-	-	3 (7)	<b>3 (7)</b>
Egypt	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	1 (2)	<b>4 (5)</b>
Costa Rica	-	5	-	-	2 (2)	-	<b>7 (7)</b>
Armenia	-	1	-	-	-	3 (4)	<b>4 (5)</b>
Bangladesh	6	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	<b>7 (7)</b>
Andorra	-	-	-	-	-	2 (6)	<b>2 (6)</b>
Marshall Islands	-	-	-	-	-	1 (6)	<b>1 (6)</b>
Jordan	-	-	-	-	2 (5)	-	<b>2 (5)</b>
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	3 (4)	<b>3 (4)</b>
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	<b>3 (3)</b>
Curacao	-	-	-	-	-	1 (5)	<b>1 (5)</b>
Ghana	-	-	2 (2)	-	1 (1)	-	<b>3 (3)</b>
Tunisia	-	-	-	-	-	2 (3)	<b>2 (3)</b>
Kyrgyzstan	-	1	1 (1)	-	1 (1)	-	<b>3 (3)</b>

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	1	-	-	2 (2)	-	<b>3 (3)</b>
Peru	-	1	-	-	2 (2)	-	<b>3 (3)</b>
Bahamas	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	<b>2 (2)</b>
Fiji	-	-	-	-	1 (3)	-	<b>1 (3)</b>
Pakistan	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)	-	<b>2 (2)</b>
Cuba	-	2	-	-	-	1 (1)	<b>3 (3)</b>
Cambodia	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)	-	<b>2 (2)</b>
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	-	-	-	-	1 (3)	<b>1 (3)</b>
Algeria	1	2	-	-	-	-	<b>3 (3)</b>
Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	<b>1 (2)</b>
Dominican Republic	-	2	-	-	-	-	<b>2 (2)</b>
Zimbabwe	-	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Myanmar	2	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2 (2)</b>
Guatemala	-	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Lao People's Democratic Republic	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	<b>1 (1)</b>
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Ethiopia	1	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Oman	-	1	-	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
United Republic of Tanzania	1	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Trinidad and Tobago	-	1	-	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Belize	-	1	-	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Liberia	1	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Others	-	-	-	-	19 (23)	-	<b>19 (23)</b>
Total	10,120	42,001	3,767 (4,747)	1,063 (2,767)	14,676 (23,019)	15,384 (32,950)	<b>87,011 (115,604)</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

# Examinations

## Patents and utility models

(unit: cases)

Category		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Patents	Office Action	Approval of registration	9,891	9,126	9,637	11,483	<b>12,900</b>
		Notice of preliminary rejection or amendment	158,013	148,772	158,527	170,299	<b>164,312</b>
		Other notices	1,012	1,202	1,613	1,990	<b>1,709</b>
		Withdrawal or abandonment	2,196	2,190	2,594	2,723	<b>3,055</b>
		Total	171,112	161,290	172,371	186,495	<b>181,976</b>
	Final Decisions	Approval of registration	110,408	106,129	115,302	126,228	<b>134,338</b>
		Rejection or cancellation	62,869	55,613	50,944	47,331	<b>46,074</b>
		Withdrawal abandonment, annulment, or rejection	3,841	3,636	3,914	3,997	<b>4,298</b>
		Total	177,118	165,378	170,160	177,556	<b>184,710</b>
	Utility models	Office Action	Approval of registration	337	235	225	216
Notice of preliminary rejection or amendment			6,161	5,258	4,739	4,007	<b>3,192</b>
Other notices			13	12	21	14	<b>8</b>
Withdrawal or abandonment			122	113	109	99	<b>97</b>
Total			6,633	5,618	5,094	4,336	<b>3,441</b>
Final Decisions		Approval of registration	3,040	2,619	2,329	1,994	<b>1,801</b>
		Rejection or cancellation	3,729	3,282	2,815	2,254	<b>1,854</b>
		Withdrawal abandonment, annulment, or rejection	234	196	217	174	<b>152</b>
		Total	7,003	6,097	5,361	4,422	<b>3,807</b>

## Designs and trademarks

(unit: cases)

Category		2016	2017	2019	2020	2021		
Designs	Office Action	Publication/approval of registration	29,453 (30,598)	27,559 (28,708)	31,029 (32,218)	31,232 (32,640)	<b>36,682 (38,470)</b>	
		Notice of preliminary rejection	30,275 (32,647)	29,654 (31,962)	29,303 (31,778)	27,068 (29,055)	<b>28,415 (30,537)</b>	
		Other notices	-	-	-	-	<b>-</b>	
		Total	59,728 (63,245)	57,213 (60,670)	60,332 (63,996)	58,300 (61,695)	<b>65,097 (69,007)</b>	
	Final Decisions	Approval of registration	51,166 (53,480)	50,161 (52,750)	53,987 (56,989)	51,407 (54,101)	<b>58,103 (61,383)</b>	
		Rejection	7,190 (7,978)	7,356 (8,089)	7,343 (8,055)	7,095 (7,776)	<b>7,864 (8,396)</b>	
		Total	58,356 (61,458)	57,517 (60,839)	61,330 (65,044)	58,502 (61,877)	<b>65,967 (69,779)</b>	
	Trademarks	Office Action	Publication/approval of registration	94,490 (107,033)	96,236 (109,983)	98,557 (112,244)	94,942 (108,405)	<b>118,905 (133,969)</b>
			Notice of preliminary rejection	69,393 (97,656)	73,376 (106,978)	77,623 (116,298)	67,433 (99,287)	<b>80,913 (113,232)</b>
			Other notices	-	-	-	-	<b>-</b>
Final Decisions		Total	163,883 (204,689)	169,612 (216,961)	176,180 (228,542)	162,375 (207,692)	<b>199,818 (247,201)</b>	
		Approval of registration	133,378 (166,963)	133,359 (168,237)	145,794 (187,392)	133,882 (173,499)	<b>162,874 (201,381)</b>	
		Rejection	31,773 (39,414)	29,873 (36,697)	32,014 (41,658)	28,219 (37,267)	<b>31,697 (39,962)</b>	
Total	165,151 (206,377)	163,232 (204,934)	177,808 (229,050)	162,101 (210,766)	<b>194,571 (241,343)</b>			

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

**Average first office action pendency**

(unit: month)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Patents / Utility models	10.4	10.3	10.8	11.1	<b>12.2</b>
Trademarks	5.0	5.5	6.8	8.9	<b>10.8</b>
Designs	4.9	4.9	5.4	4.6	<b>5.2</b>

**Average total pendency**

(unit: month)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Patents / Utility models	15.9	15.8	15.6	15.8	<b>16.0</b>
Trademarks	9.8	10.4	11.1	13.2	<b>10.1</b>
Designs	6.2	6.3	6.7	6.0	<b>5.6</b>

**PCT international search reports and preliminary examinations undertaken by KIPO**

(unit: cases)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
International Search Reports	25,955	24,123	27,167	28,547	<b>28,359</b>
International Preliminary Examinations	169	131	131	100	<b>124</b>

Note: Based on KIPO data

# Registrations

**Registrations by IPR type**

(unit: cases)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Patents	120,662	119,014	125,661	134,766	<b>145,882</b>
Utility models	2,993	2,715	2,417	2,056	<b>1,817</b>
Subtotal	123,655	121,729	128,078	136,822	<b>147,699</b>
Designs	49,293	49,905	52,850	50,694	<b>57,545</b>
Trademarks	116,704	115,025	125,594	116,153	<b>136,629</b>
Total	289,652	286,659	306,522	303,669	<b>341,873</b>

Note: Trademark registration renewals are excluded.

**Comparison of domestic and foreign registrations**

(unit: cases)

Category			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Patents	Domestic	Cases	90,847	89,229	94,852	103,881	<b>110,351</b>
		Ratio	75.3%	75.0%	75.5%	77.1%	<b>75.6%</b>
	Foreign	Cases	29,815	29,785	30,809	30,885	<b>35,531</b>
		Ratio	24.7%	25.0%	24.5%	22.9%	<b>24.4%</b>
	Total		120,662	119,014	125,661	134,766	<b>145,882</b>
	Utility models	Domestic	Cases	2,810	2,521	2,238	1,842
Ratio			93.9%	92.9%	92.6%	89.6%	<b>89.0%</b>
Foreign		Cases	183	194	179	214	<b>199</b>
		Ratio	6.1%	7.1%	7.4%	10.4%	<b>11.0%</b>
Total		2,993	2,715	2,417	2,056	<b>1,817</b>	
Designs		Domestic	Cases	44,052	44,150	46,011	45,169
	Ratio		89.4%	88.5%	87.1%	89.1%	<b>88.4%</b>
	Foreign	Cases	5,241	5,755	6,839	5,525	<b>6,667</b>
		Ratio	10.6%	11.5%	12.9%	10.9%	<b>11.6%</b>
	Total		49,293	49,905	52,850	50,694	<b>57,545</b>

(unit: cases)

Category			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Trademarks	Domestic	Cases	96,993	94,532	102,333	94,892	<b>116,997</b>
		Ratio	83.1%	82.2%	81.5%	81.7%	<b>85.6%</b>
	Foreign	Cases	19,711	20,493	23,261	21,261	<b>19,632</b>
		Ratio	16.9%	17.8%	18.5%	18.3%	<b>14.4%</b>
	Total		116,704	115,025	125,594	116,153	<b>136,629</b>
	Total	Domestic	Cases	234,702	230,432	245,434	245,784
Ratio			81.0%	80.4%	80.1%	80.9%	<b>81.9%</b>
Foreign		Cases	54,950	56,227	61,088	57,885	<b>62,029</b>
		Ratio	19.0%	19.6%	19.9%	19.1%	<b>18.1%</b>
Total		289,652	286,659	306,522	303,669	<b>341,873</b>	

Patent and utility model registrations by technological field in 2021

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	8,689	2,294	<b>10,983</b>	114	25	<b>139</b>
Audio-visual technology	4,094	1,189	<b>5,283</b>	44	10	<b>54</b>
Telecommunications	1,874	510	<b>2,384</b>	12	5	<b>17</b>
Digital communication	4,030	2,324	<b>6,354</b>	3	-	<b>3</b>
Basic communication processes	348	293	<b>641</b>	-	-	<b>-</b>
Computer technology	7,183	2,577	<b>9,760</b>	12	6	<b>18</b>
IT methods for management	5,898	316	<b>6,214</b>	1	1	<b>2</b>
Semiconductors	5,263	3,891	<b>9,154</b>	4	10	<b>14</b>
Optics	2,510	1,691	<b>4,201</b>	19	7	<b>26</b>

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Measurement	4,806	1,339	<b>6,145</b>	33	1	<b>34</b>
Analysis of biological materials	457	172	<b>629</b>	1	1	<b>2</b>
Control	2,799	393	<b>3,192</b>	18	-	<b>18</b>
Medical technology	5,936	1,423	<b>7,359</b>	96	24	<b>120</b>
Organic fine chemistry	2,505	1,397	<b>3,902</b>	1	-	<b>1</b>
Biotechnology	2,053	989	<b>3,042</b>	-	-	<b>-</b>
Pharmaceuticals	1,609	889	<b>2,498</b>	-	-	<b>-</b>
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	1,328	1,518	<b>2,846</b>	-	-	<b>-</b>
Food chemistry	2,007	129	<b>2,136</b>	3	-	<b>3</b>
Basic materials chemistry	2,437	1,390	<b>3,827</b>	-	2	<b>2</b>
Materials, metallurgy	2,166	1,147	<b>3,313</b>	5	-	<b>5</b>
Surface technology, coating	1,667	1,163	<b>2,830</b>	11	1	<b>12</b>
Micro-structural and nano-technology	45	26	<b>71</b>	-	-	<b>-</b>
Chemical engineering	2,625	717	<b>3,342</b>	25	3	<b>28</b>
Environmental technology	2,362	333	<b>2,695</b>	39	2	<b>41</b>
Handling	2,670	569	<b>3,239</b>	110	9	<b>119</b>
Machine tools	2,420	848	<b>3,268</b>	52	8	<b>60</b>
Engines, pumps, turbines	1,583	813	<b>2,396</b>	18	6	<b>24</b>
Textile and paper machines	1,088	474	<b>1,562</b>	8	1	<b>9</b>
Other special machines	4,660	1,276	<b>5,936</b>	126	3	<b>129</b>
Thermal processes and apparatus	2,340	298	<b>2,638</b>	53	1	<b>54</b>
Mechanical elements	1,755	777	<b>2,532</b>	45	15	<b>60</b>
Transport	5,593	1,023	<b>6,616</b>	117	7	<b>124</b>
Furniture, games	3,439	388	<b>3,827</b>	239	30	<b>269</b>
Other consumer goods	3,396	674	<b>4,070</b>	224	19	<b>243</b>
Civil engineering	6,716	281	<b>6,997</b>	185	2	<b>187</b>
Total	110,351	35,531	<b>145,882</b>	1,618	199	<b>1,817</b>

Note: Figures for 2021 are preliminary.

## Patent registrations in biotechnology

(unit: cases)

Category	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	4,709	80.9%	4,524	79.3%	4,534	78.4%	4,969	79.0%	<b>4,913</b>	<b>76.4%</b>
Foreign	1,111	19.1%	1,149	20.3%	1,249	21.6%	1,321	21.0%	<b>1,514</b>	<b>23.6%</b>
Total	5,820	100%	5,673	100%	5,783	100%	6,290	100%	<b>6,427</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note1: Figures for 2021 are preliminary.

Note2: Based on the following biotechnological categories of the Eighth Edition of the International Patent Classification: A01H; A01K 67/00-67/04; A01N 63/00-65/00; A61K 8/97-8/99; A61K 8/64-8/68; A61K 35/12-35/76; 36/00-36/9068; A61K 38/00-38/58, 39/00-39/44, 48/00, 51/00-51/10; C02F; C07H 19/00-21/04; C07K; C12C-M; C12N; C12P; C12Q; C12S; G01N 33/50-33/98.

## Patent registrations in business methods

(unit: cases)

Category	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	3,782	93.7%	3,560	93.1%	3,500	93.6%	4,581	94.3%	<b>5,898</b>	<b>94.9%</b>
Foreign	253	6.3%	262	6.9%	241	6.4%	277	5.7%	<b>316</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
Total	4,035	100%	3,822	100%	3,741	100%	4,858	100%	<b>6,214</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note1: Figures for 2021 are preliminary.

Note2: Based on the Ninth Edition of the International Patent Classification.

## Registrations by resident of foreign countries/regions in 2021

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
United States of America	9,009	1,057	1,704	517	2,146 (3,947)	2,312 (4,123)	<b>16,745 (20,357)</b>
Japan	10,723	1,193	736	225	1,088 (1,996)	1,181 (2,579)	<b>15,146 (17,452)</b>
China	2,755	310	658	222	3,157 (3,747)	1,542 (2,692)	<b>8,644 (10,384)</b>
Switzerland	697	88	168	232	163 (257)	638 (1,451)	<b>1,986 (2,893)</b>
France	1,002	125	156	265	196 (314)	715 (1,817)	<b>2,459 (3,679)</b>
Netherlands	657	68	119	232	42 (75)	219 (516)	<b>1,337 (1,667)</b>
United Kingdom	637	61	99	47	374 (849)	439 (1,198)	<b>1,657 (2,891)</b>

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Germany	2,579	275	67	396	122 (231)	1,183 (3,327)	<b>4,622 (6,875)</b>
Italy	289	41	59	163	92 (146)	576 (1,111)	<b>1,220 (1,809)</b>
Sweden	560	56	53	89	50 (81)	184 (472)	<b>992 (1,311)</b>
Taiwan, Province of China	942	100	48	-	254 (404)	-	<b>1,344 (1,494)</b>
Denmark	95	9	43	34	26 (46)	131 (286)	<b>338 (513)</b>
Singapore	126	15	35	11	138 (273)	154 (384)	<b>479 (844)</b>
Luxembourg	100	21	23	6	11 (21)	46 (82)	<b>207 (253)</b>
Australia	84	10	17	1	90 (105)	241 (587)	<b>443 (804)</b>
Canada	193	24	15	20	154 (228)	80 (147)	<b>486 (627)</b>
Turkey	11	-	13	1	5 (7)	66 (107)	<b>96 (139)</b>
Thailand	20	4	10	-	42 (58)	31 (39)	<b>107 (131)</b>
Barbados	43	3	8	-	5 (13)	4 (6)	<b>63 (73)</b>
New Zealand	29	4	8	-	32 (57)	40 (64)	<b>113 (162)</b>
Ireland	95	14	8	3	20 (35)	57 (81)	<b>197 (236)</b>
Israel	179	28	5	9	13 (20)	67 (110)	<b>301 (351)</b>
Spain	72	6	5	3	50 (60)	196 (317)	<b>332 (463)</b>
Belgium	181	12	4	27	13 (22)	96 (200)	<b>333 (446)</b>
India	48	1	4	-	17 (29)	19 (28)	<b>89 (110)</b>
Qatar	-	-	3	-	3 (8)	-	<b>6 (11)</b>
Finland	150	11	3	17	64 (269)	78 (244)	<b>323 (694)</b>
Austria	218	31	3	11	13 (53)	93 (286)	<b>369 (602)</b>
Liechtenstein	8	3	2	8	1 (3)	20 (43)	<b>42 (67)</b>
Chile	3	-	2	-	23 (26)	-	<b>28 (31)</b>
Mexico	15	-	2	-	19 (22)	9 (9)	<b>45 (48)</b>
Russian Federation	49	3	2	5	4 (5)	83 (179)	<b>146 (243)</b>
Cyprus	10	4	1	-	6 (10)	19 (66)	<b>40 (91)</b>
Sudan	-	-	1	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
Malta	6	1	1	-	3 (3)	7 (17)	<b>18 (28)</b>
South Africa	5	1	1	-	13 (14)	-	<b>20 (21)</b>
Indonesia	1	-	1	-	11 (13)	14 (22)	<b>27 (37)</b>
Portugal	9	2	1	2	6 (6)	34 (57)	<b>54 (77)</b>
Brazil	5	1	1	-	7 (14)	3 (3)	<b>17 (24)</b>
Mongolia	1	1	1	-	2 (2)	-	<b>5 (5)</b>



(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Malaysia	12	2	1	-	24 (31)	8 (10)	47 (56)
Cambodia	-	-	1	-	1 (1)	-	2 (2)
Latvia	1	-	-	-	-	10 (25)	11 (26)
Czech Republic	7	1	-	3	2 (2)	18 (47)	31 (60)
Seychelles	-	-	-	-	2 (8)	-	2 (8)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	-	1 (4)	1 (4)
Morocco	-	-	-	-	-	5 (15)	5 (15)
Sri Lanka	1	-	-	-	2 (2)	1 (1)	4 (4)
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Philippines	3	-	-	-	6 (11)	4 (6)	13 (20)
Estonia	3	-	-	1	1 (1)	4 (7)	9 (12)
Bulgaria	2	-	-	-	-	17 (34)	19 (36)
Egypt	1	-	-	-	6 (7)	1 (1)	8 (9)
Samoa	1	-	-	-	2 (3)	-	3 (4)
United Arab Emirates	4	1	-	-	13 (13)	2 (3)	20 (21)
Hungary	7	1	-	1	2 (4)	7 (35)	18 (48)
Colombia	1	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	2 (2)
EUIPO	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	3 (3)
Kuwait	1	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	2 (2)
Netherlands Antilles	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Armenia	1	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	3 (3)
Macao	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
San Marino	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	3 (5)	5 (7)
Tajikistan	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	2 (2)
Iraq	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Romania	2	-	-	-	9 (9)	-	11 (11)
Monaco	-	-	-	3	4 (4)	11 (33)	18 (40)
Ukraine	1	1	-	2	-	5 (8)	9 (12)
Uzbekistan	1	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	4 (4)
Pakistan	-	1	-	-	4 (8)	-	5 (9)
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	2 (2)
Belize	2	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	5 (5)
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Cuba	1	1	-	-	1 (1)	2 (2)	5 (5)
Bahamas	-	1	-	-	3 (7)	-	4 (8)
Namibia	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Virgin Islands (British)	-	-	-	-	24 (47)	7 (14)	31 (61)
Bermuda	2	-	-	-	1 (2)	2 (3)	5 (7)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Curacao	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	2 (2)	3 (4)
Myanmar	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Andorra	-	-	-	-	1 (3)	-	1 (3)
Oman	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Saudi Arabia	65	2	-	-	5 (7)	-	72 (74)
Cayman Islands	221	40	-	-	40 (163)	12 (54)	313 (478)
Viet Nam	4	-	-	-	24 (34)	48 (98)	76 (136)
Panama	1	1	-	-	3 (7)	-	5 (9)
Slovakia	1	-	-	-	-	5 (13)	6 (14)
Greece	9	1	-	-	3 (9)	5 (11)	18 (30)
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	3 (10)	3 (10)
Belarus	-	-	-	-	-	5 (17)	5 (17)
Gibraltar	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Croatia	1	-	-	3	-	5 (7)	9 (11)
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China	2	-	-	-	21 (43)	-	23 (45)
Norway	83	7	-	13	10 (16)	45 (166)	158 (285)
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Argentina	1	-	-	-	7 (14)	-	8 (15)
Costa Rica	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Venezuela	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1	-	-	-	-	2 (5)	3 (6)
Jordan	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Ecuador	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Serbia	-	-	-	1	-	1 (1)	2 (2)
Tunisia	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Jersey(U.K.)	1	-	-	-	-	1 (6)	2 (7)
Mauritius	1	-	-	-	3 (3)	1 (1)	5 (5)
Poland	20	3	-	1	5 (5)	36 (130)	65 (159)
Slovenia	4	-	-	-	-	8 (21)	12 (25)
Lithuania	2	-	-	1	2 (2)	7 (16)	12 (21)
Kazakhstan	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	5 (6)	6 (7)
Peru	2	-	-	-	3 (4)	-	5 (6)
Guernsey	-	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	1 (2)
Others	-	-	-	-	-	14 (31)	14 (31)
Total	32,084	3,646	4,092	2,575	8,737 (13,969)	10,895 (23,504)	62,029 (79,870)

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications

# Trials and Appeals

## Requests for trial and appeal

(unit: cases)

Category		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Appeal against examiner's decision to reject application	Patents	4,351	3,624	2,820	2,110	<b>2,196 (2,196)</b>
	Utility models	180	162	128	59	<b>33 (33)</b>
	Designs	90	102	58	50	<b>49 (49)</b>
	Trademarks	1,569 (2,295)	1,437 (2,046)	1,330 (1,868)	1,021 (1,615)	<b>1,104 (1,724)</b>
	Subtotal	6,190 (6,916)	5,325 (5,934)	4,336 (4,874)	3,240 (3,834)	<b>3,382 (4,002)</b>
Appeals against examiner's decision to dismiss amendment	Patents	1	1	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	1	-	-	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
	Trademarks	-	-	3	-	<b>1 (1)</b>
	Subtotal	2	1	3	-	<b>2 (2)</b>
Appeals against examiner's decision of cancellation	Patents	-	-	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	-	1	3	3	<b>3 (3)</b>
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	-	1	3	3	<b>3 (3)</b>
Trials for correction	Patents	136	128	127	119	<b>150 (150)</b>
	Utility models	4	-	2	3	<b>4 (4)</b>
	Designs	-	-	-	-	-
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	140	128	129	122	<b>154 (154)</b>
Invalidation	Patents	529	460	478	383	<b>408 (408)</b>
	Utility models	27	21	15	20	<b>12 (12)</b>
	Designs	194	207	215	188	<b>152 (152)</b>
	Trademarks	433 (486)	472 (559)	472 (541)	372 (433)	<b>291 (342)</b>
	Subtotal	1,183 (1,236)	1,160 (1,247)	1,180 (1,249)	963 (1,024)	<b>863 (914)</b>

(unit: cases)

Category		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Trials to confirm scope of IP right	Patents	671	512	348	374	<b>445 (445)</b>
	Utility models	29	20	21	17	<b>11 (11)</b>
	Designs	136	151	136	169	<b>155 (155)</b>
	Trademarks	90 (102)	158 (175)	103 (123)	108 (129)	<b>112 (123)</b>
	Subtotal	926 (938)	841 (858)	608 (628)	668 (689)	<b>723 (734)</b>
Cancellation trials on trademark registration	Patents	1	1	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	-	17	-	-	-
	Trademarks	2,124 (2,474)	2,523 (3,011)	2,574 (3,193)	2,497 (3,003)	<b>2,395 (2,827)</b>
	Subtotal	2,125 (2,475)	2,541 (3,029)	2,574 (3,193)	2,497 (3,003)	<b>2,395 (2,827)</b>
Opposition of patent/utility model	Patents	109	150	174	146	<b>154 (154)</b>
	Utility models	1	4	1	9	<b>6 (6)</b>
	Designs	1	-	-	-	-
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	111	154	175	155	<b>160 (160)</b>
Grand total	Patents	5,689	4,876	3,947	3,132	<b>3,353 (3,353)</b>
	Utility models	240	207	167	108	<b>66 (66)</b>
	Designs	421	478	412	410	<b>360 (360)</b>
	Trademarks	4,216 (5,357)	4,590 (5,791)	4,482 (5,728)	3,998 (5,180)	<b>3,903 (5,017)</b>
	Total	10,566 (11,565)	10,151 (11,352)	9,008 (10,254)	7,648 (8,830)	<b>7,682 (8,796)</b>

Note1: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

Note2: Opposition of patents / Utility model has been enforced from March, 2017

\* Rejection refers to appeals against examiners' decisions of refusal and appeals against examiners' decisions to dismiss utility models.

\*\* Invalidation refers to invalidation trials and trials for invalidation of corrections.

Successful petitions

(unit: cases)

Category		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
		Accep-tance	Ratio	Accep-tance	Ratio	Accep-tance	Ratio	Accep-tance	Ratio	Accep-tance	Ratio
Ex partes	Patents	1,078	30.3%	1,370	31.1%	1,977	36.3	1,341	39.9	<b>1,008</b>	<b>36.8</b>
	Utility models	33	26.0%	40	20.5%	48	24.2	45	24.9	<b>16</b>	<b>28.1</b>
	Designs	43	31.9%	21	20.6%	27	32.5	20	40.8	<b>8</b>	<b>26.7</b>
	Trademarks	605 (896)	54.8% (58.9%)	1,026 (1,648)	58.3% (63.1%)	1,017 (1,607)	55.2 (60.4)	693 (1,063)	55.9 (60.4)	<b>536</b> <b>(884)</b>	<b>57.0</b> <b>(61.0)</b>
	Subtotal	1,759 (2,050)	35.7% (38.4%)	2,457 (3,079)	38.0% (42.1%)	3,069 (3,659)	40.5 (43.6)	2,099 (2,469)	43.4 (46.1)	<b>1,568</b> <b>(1,916)</b>	<b>41.6</b> <b>(44.8)</b>
Inter partes	Patents	616	46.2%	552	49.1%	653	53.4	382	42.8	<b>361</b>	<b>47.5</b>
	Utility models	45	54.9%	19	35.2%	16	35.6	8	24.2	<b>13</b>	<b>37.1</b>
	Designs	187	47.9%	210	51.0%	142	48.3	140	53.8	<b>141</b>	<b>46.2</b>
	Trademarks	2,436 (2,760)	78.1% (76.9%)	1,747 (1,962)	70.1% (70.2%)	2,753 (3,173)	74.0 (73.6)	1,877 (2,351)	70.6 (72.4)	<b>2,268</b> <b>(2,627)</b>	<b>78.8</b> <b>(79.1)</b>
	Subtotal	3,284 (3,608)	66.7% (66.9%)	2,528 (2,743)	61.9 (62.6%)	3,564 (3,984)	67.5 (67.8)	2,407 (2,881)	62.6 (65.0)	<b>2,783</b> <b>(3,142)</b>	<b>69.9</b> <b>(71.1)</b>
Grand total	Patents	1,694	34.6%	1,922	34.7%	2,630	39.4	1,723	40.5	<b>1,369</b>	<b>39.1</b>
	Utility models	78	37.3%	59	23.7%	64	26.3	53	24.8	<b>29</b>	<b>31.5</b>
	Designs	230	43.8%	231	44.9%	169	44.8	160	51.8	<b>149</b>	<b>44.5</b>
	Trademarks	3,041 (3,656)	72.0% (71.5%)	2,773 (3,610)	65.2% (66.8%)	3,770 (4,780)	67.8 (68.5)	2,570 (3,414)	65.9 (68.2)	<b>2,804</b> <b>(3,511)</b>	<b>73.4</b> <b>(73.6)</b>
	Total	5,043 (5,658)	51.2% (52.7%)	4,985 (5,822)	47.3% (49.8%)	6,633 (7,643)	51.6 (53.6)	4,506 (5,350)	51.9 (54.7)	<b>4,351</b> <b>(5,058)</b>	<b>56.2</b> <b>(58.1)</b>

Note1: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

Note2: The successful petitions refer to the number of petitions granted. These figures exclude cases where the registration was decided on the basis of an examiner's reconsideration before a trial and invalidation of a patent process. The figures in parentheses indicate the percentage of the petitions granted.

· Ex partes: Appeals against examiners' decisions of refusal / Appeals against examiners' decisions of cancellation / Appeals against examiners' decisions to dismiss amendments / Trials for correction

· Inter partes: Invalidation trials / Trials to confirm scope of IP rights / Trials for invalidation of correction / Trials for granting non-exclusive licenses / Trials for invalidation of registrations for extension of patent right term / Trials for invalidation of registration for renewals of trademark right term / Cancellation trials on trademark registrations / Cancellation trials on registrations of exclusive or non-exclusive licenses / Trials for invalidation on registrations for conversion of classification of goods

Comparison of domestic and foreign trial requests

(unit: cases)

Category		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Patents	Domestic	3,499	3,214	2,545	2,064	<b>2,293</b>
	Foreign	2,190	1,662	1,402	1,068	<b>1,060</b>
Utility models	Domestic	237	201	164	102	<b>63</b>
	Foreign	3	6	3	6	<b>3</b>
Designs	Domestic	373	419	381	386	<b>337</b>
	Foreign	48	59	31	24	<b>23</b>
Trademarks	Domestic	2,703	3,077	2,939	2,780	<b>2,726</b>
	Foreign	1,513	1,513	1,543	1,218	<b>1,177</b>
Total		10,566	10,151	9,008	7,648	<b>7,682</b>

Note: Multiple applications for trademarks and designs are treated as single applications.

## Income and Expenditures / KIPO Staff

### Income

(unit: USD)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Income from fees	428,025,022	446,163,758	443,443,731	484,871,681	<b>533,627,760</b>
Income carried over from the previous year	28,072,668	42,855,898	17,542,755	9,997,345	<b>48,094,637</b>
Internal income and others	119,661,120	148,403,121	115,788,238	109,041,593	<b>70,221,721</b>
Total	575,758,810	637,422,777	576,774,723	603,910,619	<b>651,945,020</b>

### Expenditures

(unit: USD)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Non-personnel resources (projects)	393,025,808	455,687,588	413,003,996	400,492,035	<b>426,200,090</b>
Personnel resources	106,532,589	116,102,191	116,951,668	122,678,761	<b>130,149,617</b>
Deposit for special fund	35,270,004	47,461,470	37,046,713	33,516,814	<b>5,680,937</b>
Total	534,828,401	619,251,249	567,002,377	556,687,611	<b>562,030,644</b>

### KIPO staff

(unit: number of positions)

Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Examiners	Patents and utility models	832	875	839	830	<b>861</b>
	Designs and trademarks	165	162	191	198	<b>194</b>
Administrative judges	103	107	107	107	<b>107</b>	
Administrative staff	527	517	604	632	<b>649</b>	
Total	1,627	1,661	1,741	1,767	<b>1,811</b>	

### Academic and professional credentials of KIPO examiners

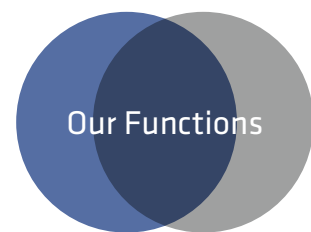
(unit: number of staff)

Category	Ph. D	Master's degrees	Patent attorney certificate only	Lawyer certificate only	Professional engineer certificate only	
Examiners	Patents and utility models	294	117	32	4	19
	Trademarks	6	9	7	1	0
	Designs	4	9	0	0	0
	Total	<b>304</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>

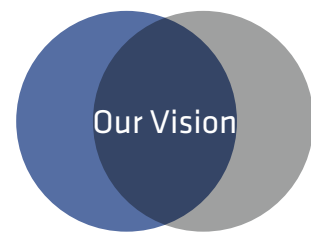
# About KIPO



The Korean Intellectual Property Office is the governmental authority in charge of affairs regarding patents, utility models, industrial designs, and trademarks. It was established in 1949 as an external bureau of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry under the name of Patent Bureau. In 1977, the Patent Bureau became an independent office of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and took the name of Korean Industrial Property Office. In 2000, it was renamed the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO).



The main functions of KIPO include: the examination and registration of intellectual property rights; the conducting of trials on intellectual property disputes; the management and dissemination of information on intellectual property rights; the promotion and enhancement of public awareness of invention activities; the advancement of international cooperation; and the training of experts on intellectual property rights.



In response to the competitive global environment where intellectual property is becoming increasingly valuable, we aim to advance Korea and its position in the world through innovative intellectual property.



We support technological innovation and industrial development by promoting the creation, protection, and utilization of intellectual property. We strive to provide world-class intellectual property services; to promote the economic and industrial use of intellectual property; and to create an environment respectful of the intellectual property system.