PCT Statistics
PCT Working Group
Seventeenth Session

February 19 to 21, 2024
Sources:

2023 PCT Yearly Review
The International Patent System
WIPO Publication No. 901EN/23

WIPO IP Statistics Data Center
http://www.wipo.int/ipstats/en/
Outline

- PCT Application Filings
- Receiving Offices
- International Authorities
- PCT National Phase Entries
PCT Application Filings

*Provisional data

PCT Applications

- 277,179
- 277,624
- 273,500+
- 279,000
- 284,000
- 290,400

Growth: 0.2% in 2021, 2.0% in 2024, 1.8% in 2025, 2.3% in 2026

Applications: Change from 2021 to 2022 is 0.2%

Low (80%): 277,179
High (80%): 290,400

WIPO | The International Patent System
Filing Trends for the Top 5 Origins
PCT Applications for the Top 20 Origins in 2022
Distribution of PCT Applicants in 2022

**Top Applicants:**

**Businesses:** Huawei Technologies – 7,689 published applications

**Universities:** University of California – 552 published applications

**Government and Research Institutions:** Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Technology of China – 486 published applications
In 2022, the share of women listed as inventors grew to 17.1% (provisionally 17.7% in 2023).

About 96% of all PCT applications listed at least one man as inventor, and around 35% listed at least one woman as inventor in 2022.
## Main Fields of Technology in 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Fields of Technology by Percentage of Total</th>
<th>Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Technology</td>
<td>28,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Communication</td>
<td>25,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical Machinery</td>
<td>19,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Technology</td>
<td>19,013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Largest increases:
- Furniture, games: +9.8%
- Digital communication: +8.7%
- Other consumer goods: +8.4%
- Computer technology: +8.1%

### Largest decreases:
- Textile and paper machines: -7.5%
- Optics: -6.6%
- Audio-visual technology: -6.3%
- Civil engineering: -6.0%
PCT Applications by Medium of Filing

- Filing medium distribution for 2022 (2021):
  - 66.0% (65.0%) PDF,
  - 27.4% (27.3%) XML,
  - 0.9% (1.3%) Paper.
- Provisionally for 2023: 65.8% PDF, 28.3% XML, 0.8% Paper.
XML filings were increasing and rose to 29% in 2019, then slightly declined, 28.3% provisionally for 2023.
Paper filings have been steadily declining.
Nearly 93.5K PCT applications were filed by applicants using ePCT in 2022, 53.5% more than in 2021.

About a third of all PCT applications filed globally in 2022 were filed using ePCT.
Share of PCT publications in English declined (42.5% in 2023 provisionally).

Other percentages (2023 provisionally): 24.3% Chinese, 17.8% Japanese, 7.2% Korean, 5.3% German, 2.0% French, 0.5% Spanish, 0.3% Russian, 0.2% Portuguese, 0.01% Arabic.
China and United States of America received the most PCT applications in 2022.
Receiving Offices: Timeliness of Transmitting PCT Applications to the IB

Average transmission time between international filing date and date the IB received the application increased slightly to 2.9 weeks in 2022 (from 2.5 weeks in 2021).
China and EPO combined, established the majority of international search reports issued in 2022.
IP5 Offices established 94.5% of reports in 2022 (93.7% in 2012).
Since 2008, the average timeliness in transmitting international search reports to IB has improved significantly.

Excludes cases where the time limit of 9 months from the priority date applies.
The EPO accounted for 90.6% of requests for supplementary international search in 2022.

Provisionally for 2023: EPO – 28 requests, Austria - 3 requests and Sweden – 1 request).
Reports established by IPEA fell by 7.5% in 2022 to 8,791.

82% of IPRPs (Chapter II) were produced by the EPO, the JPO or the USPTO.
Average time in transmitting IPRPs decreased to 27.1 months from priority date in 2022.

80% of all IPRPs from 18 offices were transmitted to the IB within 28 months of the priority date.
Non-Resident Applications by Filing Route

PCT national phase entries accounted for nearly 59% of all non-resident patent applications filed worldwide in 2022 (provisional).
In 2021, PCT national phase entries grew by 7.7%, the most since 2010. In 2022, national phase entries growth rate provisionally estimated at 3%.
Most of the top 20 Offices saw provisional growth in the PCT national phase entries in 2022.