

CA/F 5/19

Orig.: en

Munich, 04.10.2019

SUBJECT: Statistics 2018

SUBMITTED BY: President of the European Patent Office

ADDRESSEES: Budget and Finance Committee (for information)

SUMMARY

Annual compendium of statistics on the activity at the EPO and at the member state offices in 2018.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Subject	Page
I. STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL	1
II. RECOMMENDATION	1
III. MAJORITY NEEDED	1
IV. CONTEXT	1
V. RECOMMENDATION FOR PUBLICATION	1
VI. ANALYSIS	1
A. KEY RESULTS	1
B. EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED	2
C. GRANT PROCEDURE	2
D. OPPOSITION PROCEDURE	3
E. APPEAL PROCEDURES	3
F. VALIDATION AND MAINTENANCE	4
G. NATIONAL PROCEDURE	4
ANNEX 1 EUROPEAN PATENT PROCEDURES STATISTICS	6
A. EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED	6
a) Filing route in 2018	6
b) Origin and growth over 2017 (%)	7
c) First filings at the EPO	8
B. EUROPEAN PROCEDURES	9
a) Grant procedure	9
b) Opposition procedure	11
c) Appeal procedures	14
d) Processing times	15
C. PUBLICATIONS	16

D.	VALIDATION AND MAINTENANCE OF EUROPEAN PATENTS	17
a)	Albania	19
b)	Austria	20
c)	Belgium	21
d)	Bulgaria	22
e)	Switzerland/Liechtenstein	23
f)	Cyprus	24
g)	Czech Republic	25
h)	Germany	26
i)	Denmark	27
j)	Estonia	28
k)	Spain	29
l)	Finland	30
m)	France	31
n)	United Kingdom	32
o)	Greece	33
p)	Croatia	34
q)	Hungary	35
r)	Ireland	36
s)	Iceland	37
t)	Italy	38
u)	Lithuania	39
v)	Luxembourg	40
w)	Latvia	41
x)	Monaco	42
y)	North Macedonia	43
z)	Malta	44
aa)	Netherlands	45
bb)	Norway	46
cc)	Poland	47
dd)	Portugal	48
ee)	Romania	49
ff)	Serbia	50
gg)	Sweden	51
hh)	Slovenia	52
ii)	Slovakia	53
jj)	San Marino	54
kk)	Turkey	55

ANNEX 2	NATIONAL STATISTICS	56
A.	NATIONAL PATENT APPLICATIONS	56
a)	Filing route and growth over 2017 (not adjusted for missing data)	56
b)	Origin of foreign applications	57
c)	First filings	58
B.	GRANT PROCEDURE	59
C.	WORKING AGREEMENTS EPO-NPO ON SEARCH	60
a)	Ex-IIIB states	60
b)	Other states	60
ANNEX 3	THE EUROPEAN PATENT PROCEDURE IN 2018	61
ANNEX 4	THE PCT INTERNATIONAL PHASE AND THE EPO IN 2018	62
ANNEX 5	GLOSSARY	63

I. STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL

1. Operational

II. RECOMMENDATION

2. To take note

III. MAJORITY NEEDED

3. n.a.

IV. CONTEXT

4. Information to the BFC

V. RECOMMENDATION FOR PUBLICATION

5. Yes.

As its previous versions, this document has been compiled with the support of the national offices of the contracting states. Following the decision taken in 2015, subsequent editions of the document have been published. It is recommended to publish the current version as well.

VI. ANALYSIS

In the different phases of the patent procedures, the development is expressed in percentage change compared to the previous year. Where appropriate, numbers have been rounded.

A. KEY RESULTS

The key results for 2018 are:

- Increase by 4.7% of the number of applications to ca 174 500.
- More than 127 600 published European patents (+21%).
- Decline in national applications in the member states (-2%).

- 63% of all applications filed in the EPC area (EPO and national offices) originated from the member states.
- 7% increase in national patents granted in the member states.

B. EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED

See Annex 1.A

European patent applications are either direct European applications or PCT international applications entering the regional phase during the reporting period.

Based on the information available in July 2019, some 174 460 applications were filed for European patents in 2018. This was 4.7% above the latest 2017 figure.

Less than half of the applications (46.8%, -0.4%pts) originated from the EPC contracting states. The combined share of the three leading Asian countries slightly increased to 22.5%. The share of the U.S. (25.1%) declined marginally by 0.4%pts.

In 2018, EPC residents filed about 133 900 first filings in the EPC area (at EPO and at national offices). Of these 79% were filed at the national office of the applicant's residence, 18% where filed at the EPO and 4% were filed at another EPC national office.

The first filings made by EPC residents at the EPO accounted for 29% of all the applications filed by EPC residents at the EPO.

C. GRANT PROCEDURE

See Annex 1.B.a

The grant procedure has been completed for 96% of all applications for a European patent filed up until the end of 2013. For these applications the grant rate was 56%. Of those applications filed since the beginning of 2014, 38% of the procedures have been completed.

The number of published granted patents increased by 20.8% to 127 625 in 2018 (see Annex 1.C).

On average (median), a search performed by the EPO was completed in 4.4 months (4.8 in 2017). The examination was completed 22.3 months after the examination request was validly filed with the EPO (22.1 in 2017). The decision by the opposition divisions was notified 18.6 months after the end of the opposition period (22.3 in 2017).

D. OPPOSITION PROCEDURE

See Annex 1.B.b

The number of patents for which the opposition period expired in 2018 increased to 107 822 by 11% and 3.2% of these patents were eventually opposed (3.7% in 2017). Considering that multiple parties can oppose the same patent, the average number of oppositions filed per opposed patent was 1.24 in 2018 (1.24 in 2017).

As shown in the annexed tables, the opposition rate varies among technologies and according to the country of residence of the patentees.

In 2018, 73% of the granted patents were maintained (opposition rejected or maintained in amended form) and 27% were revoked by the opposition divisions (27% in 2017).

E. APPEAL PROCEDURES

See Annex 1.B.c

The number of decisions to refuse a patent for which the appeal period expired in 2018 increased by 28% compared to 2017 to 8 037. Of these decisions to refuse a patent 1 318 (+16%) were appealed, leading to an ex parte appeal rate of 16% (18% in 2017).

The number of opposition decisions open for appeal increased by 2.7% to 4 214. The number of decisions appealed increased by 3.7% to 2 128 leading to a stable inter partes appeal rate of 50% (50% in 2017).

Statistics on the outcome of the appeal procedures are available on the home page of the EPO Boards of Appeal (epo.org/law-practice/case-law-appeals/annual-report.html).

F. VALIDATION AND MAINTENANCE

See Annex 1.D

The figures presented in the annexes are based on the data available in the Post Grant Data System of the EPO and reflect the information provided by the national offices of the member states. They represent the situation as at the end of 2018 with respect to the validation and the maintenance of European granted patents in the member states as available in June 2019. A patent is considered as maintained until its abandonment is legally recorded and transmitted to the EPO.

The EP patents validated are maintained on average (median) 12 years. About 20% of the validated rights are maintained up until the expiration of the 20th patent-year.

As a consequence of the increase in granted patents since 2015, the number of those which were validated kept increasing in 2018. But they represent a slightly decreasing proportion of the potential rights granted by the EPO. The number of patents granted by the EPO and still in force in the contracting states at the end of the year increased by 19% in 2018. Approximately 6.8 million patent rights granted by the EPO were in force at the end of 2018.

There are substantial differences in validation and patent maintenance rate between the designated member states. For patents filed between 1999 and 2018, the validation rate ranges from 8% to 99%.

G. NATIONAL PROCEDURE

See Annex 2

National patent applications are either direct national applications or for member states where it is possible PCT international applications entering the national phase during the reporting period.

Based on the data provided by the national offices by August 2019 and on estimations for 2 member states for which data are missing, it is estimated that 150 800 applications for a national patent were filed in the member states in 2018. This represented a decrease compared to 2017 (-2.1%).

About 75% were filed by residents of the respective countries (76% in 2017), and 28% of the foreign applications were filed by residents of other EPC contracting states. Together 82% of the national patent applications in the EPC states were filed by residents of the EPC states (83% in 2017).

In 2018, overall 94% of the national applications filed by residents of the EPC member states at their home office were first filings.

It is calculated (estimating missing data) that about 140 560 national grant procedures were completed in 2018. Of these, 62 970 resulted in a granted patent. This is 7% higher than the number of patents granted by the national offices in 2017.

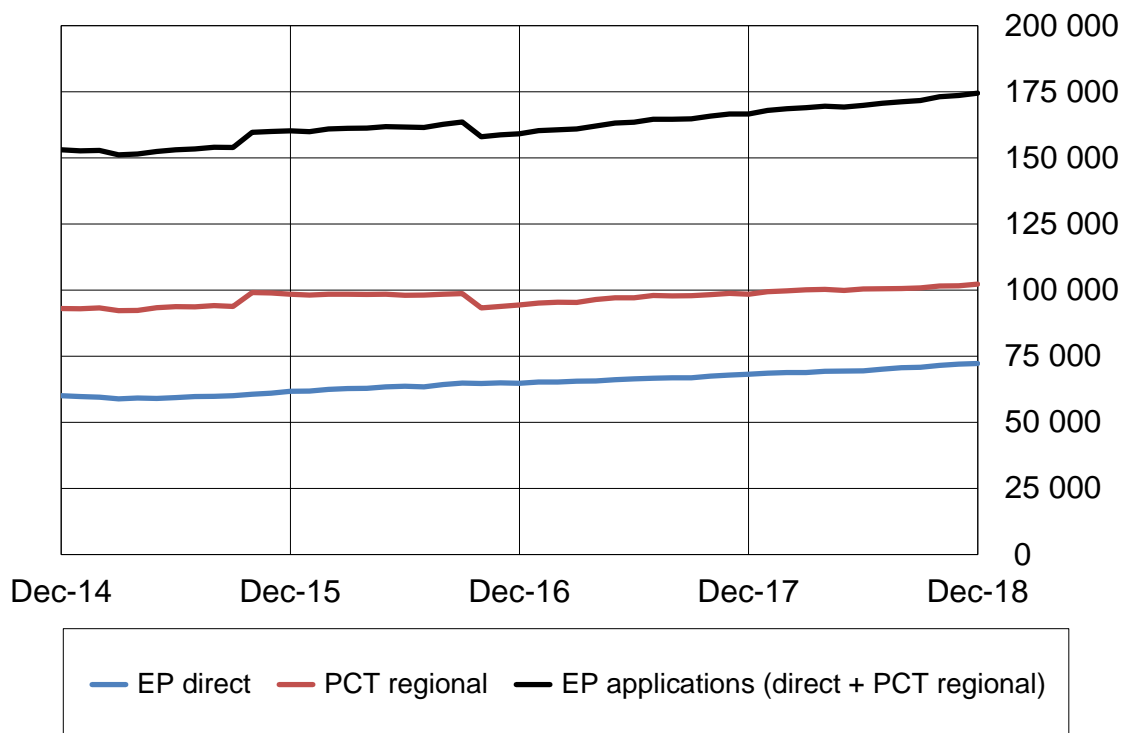
ANNEX 1 EUROPEAN PATENT PROCEDURES STATISTICS

A. EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED

a) Filing route in 2018

Category	Budget 2018	Previous year 2017	Actual 2018 Status July 2019	Deviation to budget		Deviation to previous year	
				Number	%	Number	%
Euro-direct	63 800	68 159	72 230	8 430	13.2%	4 071	6.0%
PCT regional	105 163	98 435	102 234	-2 929	-2.8%	3 799	3.9%
Total applications	168 963	166 594	174 464	5 501	3.3%	7 870	4.7%

12 Months Moving Total



b) Origin and growth over 2017 (%)

Country of origin		EP direct		PCT regional		EP applications	
Albania	AL	0		0		0	
Austria	AT	1 278	-0.3%	1 006	8.5%	2 284	3.4%
Belgium	BE	1 401	8.2%	949	10.7%	2 350	9.2%
Bulgaria	BG	13	-7.1%	18	0.0%	31	-3.1%
Switzerland	CH	4 603	6.8%	3 338	9.7%	7 941	8.0%
Cyprus	CY	18	0.0%	31	0.0%	49	0.0%
Czech Republic	CZ	127	25.7%	119	13.3%	246	19.4%
Germany	DE	14 929	4.3%	11 769	4.9%	26 698	4.5%
Denmark	DK	1 390	21.9%	1 003	5.7%	2 393	14.6%
Estonia	EE	27	-32.5%	20	42.9%	47	-13.0%
Spain	ES	1 075	7.1%	707	6.0%	1 782	6.6%
Finland	FI	724	-13.8%	1 002	4.7%	1 726	-4.0%
France	FR	4 727	2.6%	5 737	-4.5%	10 464	-1.5%
United Kingdom	GB	2 050	8.8%	3 687	7.3%	5 737	7.8%
Greece	GR	70	40.0%	50	-3.8%	120	17.6%
Croatia	HR	2	0.0%	12	50.0%	14	40.0%
Hungary	HU	42	40.0%	78	20.0%	120	26.3%
Ireland	IE	381	20.2%	431	25.7%	812	23.0%
Iceland	IS	6	-33.3%	27	-42.6%	33	-41.1%
Italy	IT	2 017	-5.1%	2 389	6.9%	4 406	1.1%
Liechtenstein	LI	250	24.4%	182	1.7%	432	13.7%
Lithuania	LT	14	75.0%	23	43.8%	37	54.2%
Luxembourg	LU	144	-28.4%	288	-13.3%	432	-18.9%
Latvia	LV	7	0.0%	5	-28.6%	12	-14.3%
Monaco	MC	19	58.3%	5	-73.7%	24	-22.6%
North Macedonia	MK	0		0		0	
Malta	MT	19	-42.4%	31	-13.9%	50	-27.5%
Netherlands	NL	3 860	0.9%	3 280	2.0%	7 140	1.4%
Norway	NO	184	12.9%	423	14.9%	607	14.3%
Poland	PL	342	24.4%	178	4.1%	520	16.6%
Portugal	PT	95	72.7%	126	32.6%	221	47.3%
Romania	RO	36	-7.7%	14	7.7%	50	-3.8%
Serbia	RS	5	66.7%	4	-42.9%	9	-10.0%
Sweden	SE	1 286	8.7%	2 768	6.5%	4 054	7.2%
Slovenia	SI	65	18.2%	35	-18.6%	100	2.0%
Slovakia	SK	25	-3.8%	25	66.7%	50	22.0%
San Marino	SM	4		8	300.0%	12	500.0%
Turkey	TR	233	-57.6%	340	-6.1%	573	-37.1%
EPC contracting states		41 468	3.6%	40 108	4.3%	81 576	3.9%
P.R. China	CN	2 343	17.3%	7 104	6.9%	9 447	9.3%
Japan	JP	6 911	3.3%	15 679	3.9%	22 590	3.7%
Republic of Korea	KR	2 738	-2.0%	4 548	24.2%	7 286	12.8%
United States of America	US	14 657	12.1%	29 081	-1.0%	43 738	3.0%
Other countries		4 113	15.0%	5 714	10.1%	9 827	12.1%
Non EPC		30 762	9.3%	62 126	3.6%	92 888	5.4%
TOTAL		72 230	6.0%	102 234	3.9%	174 464	4.7%

Status July 2019

c) **First filings at the EPO**

Number of Euro-direct first filings and percentage out of total EP applications filed per country and change of this percentage to the latest 2017 figures.

Country of origin		2018		2018 / 2017
Albania	AL	0	-	
Austria	AT	804	35.2%	6.2%
Belgium	BE	995	42.3%	9.6%
Bulgaria	BG	10	32.3%	11.1%
Switzerland	CH	3 488	43.9%	6.5%
Cyprus	CY	4	8.2%	-20.0%
Czech Republic	CZ	51	20.7%	54.5%
Germany	DE	7 574	28.4%	5.3%
Denmark	DK	1043	43.6%	25.7%
Estonia	EE	19	40.4%	-26.9%
Spain	ES	857	48.1%	9.5%
Finland	FI	471	27.3%	-18.8%
France	FR	1 968	18.8%	-5.5%
United Kingdom	GB	778	13.6%	3.6%
Greece	GR	36	30.0%	9.1%
Croatia	HR	1	7.1%	-50.0%
Hungary	HU	21	17.5%	10.5%
Ireland	IE	146	18.0%	-4.6%
Iceland	IS	2	6.1%	-50.0%
Italy	IT	517	11.7%	-5.3%
Liechtenstein	LI	231	53.5%	22.2%
Lithuania	LT	6	16.2%	200.0%
Luxembourg	LU	66	15.3%	-24.1%
Latvia	LV	6	50.0%	50.0%
Monaco	MC	0	0.0%	-100.0%
North Macedonia	MK	0	-	
Malta	MT	13	26.0%	-43.5%
Netherlands	NL	3 074	43.1%	0.5%
Norway	NO	96	15.8%	0.0%
Poland	PL	189	36.3%	31.3%
Portugal	PT	33	14.9%	50.0%
Romania	RO	29	58.0%	-12.1%
Serbia	RS	3	33.3%	50.0%
Sweden	SE	889	21.9%	7.4%
Slovenia	SI	30	30.0%	30.4%
Slovakia	SK	7	14.0%	-36.4%
San Marino	SM	1	8.3%	
Turkey	TR	131	22.9%	-70.6%
EPC states		23 589	28.9%	2.8%
P.R. China	CN	446	4.7%	106.5%
Japan	JP	356	1.6%	-6.3%
Rep. Korea	KR	51	0.7%	2.0%
United States of America	US	1 389	3.2%	13.1%
Other countries		518	5.3%	21.9%
Non EPC		2 760	3.0%	20.1%
TOTAL		26 349	15.1%	4.3%

B. EUROPEAN PROCEDURES

a) Grant procedure

Fate of 100 applications filed from 1978 to 2013.

Fate of applications by filing route

Procedural phase		Euro-direct applications	PCT regional phase	Total
Before examination	Refused	0	0	0
	Withdrawn	20	8	15
Forwarded for examination		80	92	85
Examination	Refused	3	3	3
	Withdrawn	22	32	26
	Granted	55	57	56
Total		100	100	100

Fate of 100 PCT international filings 1978-2013.

Not pursued in the EPO regional phase	44	
Entered the European procedure	56	
Before examination	Refused	0
	Withdrawn	5
Forwarded for examination		51
Examination	Refused	2
	Withdrawn	18
	Granted	32
Total	100	

Fate of applications filed from 2014 to 2018.

Fate of applications by filing route

Euro-direct		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Applications filed		60 048 100.0%	61 770 100.0%	64 741 100.0%	68 159 100.0%	72 230 100.0%
Before examination	Refused	268 0.4%	312 0.5%	288 0.4%	191 0.3%	46 0.1%
	Withdrawn	19 010 31.7%	18 717 30.3%	18 489 28.6%	12 597 18.5%	3 972 5.5%
	Not yet forwarded for examination					
	Search completed	34 0.1%	100 0.2%	225 0.3%	10 214 15.0%	16 666 23.1%
	Search not completed	60 0.1%	86 0.1%	62 0.1%	176 0.3%	29 027 40.2%
Examination	Forwarded	40 676 67.7%	42 555 68.9%	45 677 70.6%	44 981 66.0%	22 519 31.2%
	Refused	771 1.3%	487 0.8%	167 0.3%	10 0.0%	0 0.0%
	Withdrawn	5 621 9.4%	3 790 6.1%	2 058 3.2%	441 0.6%	3 0.0%
	Granted	20 277 33.8%	17 412 28.2%	11 523 17.8%	2 589 3.8%	14 0.0%
	Examination not yet completed	14 007 23.3%	20 866 33.8%	31 929 49.3%	41 941 61.5%	22 502 31.2%

PCT with supplementary search		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Applications filed		43 952 100.0%	47 100 100.0%	44 692 100.0%	46 698 100.0%	48 959 100.0%
Before examination	Refused	16 0.0%	5 0.0%	7 0.0%	3 0.0%	1 0.0%
	Withdrawn	5 782 13.2%	5 953 12.6%	5 077 11.4%	2 968 6.4%	337 0.7%
	Not yet forwarded for examination					
	Search completed	18 0.0%	39 0.1%	80 0.2%	2 228 4.8%	1 376 2.8%
	Search not completed	8 0.0%	29 0.1%	49 0.1%	1 938 4.2%	36 769 75.1%
Examination	Forwarded	38 128 86.7%	41 074 87.2%	39 479 88.3%	39 561 84.7%	10 476 21.4%
	Refused	681 1.5%	425 0.9%	77 0.2%	10 0.0%	0 0.0%
	Withdrawn	6 783 15.4%	4 776 10.1%	1 948 4.4%	349 0.7%	7 0.0%
	Granted	15 999 36.4%	13 283 28.2%	6 601 14.8%	1 073 2.3%	10 0.0%
	Examination not yet completed	14 665 33.4%	22 590 48.0%	30 853 69.0%	38 129 81.7%	10 459 21.4%

PCT without supplementary search		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Applications filed		49 036 100.0%	51 335 100.0%	49 652 100.0%	51 737 100.0%	53 275 100.0%
Before examination	Refused	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	2 0.0%
	Withdrawn	46 0.1%	64 0.1%	52 0.1%	76 0.1%	58 0.1%
	Not yet forwarded for examination					
	Search completed	3 0.0%	5 0.0%	7 0.0%	15 0.0%	32 0.1%
	Search not completed	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Examination	Forwarded	48 987 99.9%	51 266 99.9%	49 593 99.9%	51 646 99.8%	53 183 99.8%
	Refused	602 1.2%	446 0.9%	173 0.3%	16 0.0%	1 0.0%
	Withdrawn	10 031 20.5%	8 462 16.5%	5 350 10.8%	2 717 5.3%	544 1.0%
	Granted	25 094 51.2%	22 139 43.1%	15 692 31.6%	7 121 13.8%	201 0.4%
	Examination not yet completed	13 260 27.0%	20 219 39.4%	28 378 57.2%	41 792 80.8%	52 437 98.4%

Total applications		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Applications filed		153 036 100.0%	160 205 100.0%	159 085 100.0%	166 594 100.0%	174 464 100.0%
Before examination	Refused	284 0.2%	317 0.2%	295 0.2%	194 0.1%	49 0.0%
	Withdrawn	24 838 16.2%	24 734 15.4%	23 618 14.8%	15 641 9.4%	4 367 2.5%
	Not yet forwarded for examination					
	Search completed	55 0.0%	144 0.1%	312 0.2%	12 457 7.5%	18 074 10.4%
	Search not completed	68 0.0%	115 0.1%	111 0.1%	2 114 1.3%	65 796 37.7%
Examination	Forwarded	127 791 83.5%	134 895 84.2%	134 749 84.7%	136 188 81.7%	86 178 49.4%
	Refused	2 054 1.3%	1 358 0.8%	417 0.3%	36 0.0%	1 0.0%
	Withdrawn	22 435 14.7%	17 028 10.6%	9 356 5.9%	3 507 2.1%	554 0.3%
	Granted	61 370 40.1%	52 834 33.0%	33 816 21.3%	10 783 6.5%	225 0.1%
	Examination not yet completed	41 932 27.4%	63 675 39.7%	91 160 57.3%	121 862 73.1%	85 398 48.9%

b) Opposition procedure

Opposition rate and oppositions filed according to fields of technology

Technology	Patents which could be opposed	Opposed patents	Opposition rate	Oppositions filed	Opposition ratio
Electrical engineering	29 035	317	1.1%	356	1.12
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	7 887	158	2.0%	176	1.11
Audio-visual technology	2 457	41	1.7%	43	1.05
Telecommunications	3 359	31	0.9%	37	1.19
Digital communication	7 938	38	0.5%	47	1.24
Basic communication processes	580	4	0.7%	5	1.25
Computer technology	4 937	33	0.7%	35	1.06
IT methods for management	158	3	1.9%	3	1.00
Semiconductors	1 719	9	0.5%	10	1.11
Instruments	17 686	398	2.3%	457	1.15
Optics	2 234	25	1.1%	28	1.12
Measurement	4 825	88	1.8%	94	1.07
Analysis of biological materials	826	16	1.9%	17	1.06
Control	1 276	44	3.4%	48	1.09
Medical technology	8 525	225	2.6%	270	1.20
Chemistry	25 528	1 443	5.7%	1 957	1.36
Organic fine chemistry	4 420	218	4.9%	264	1.21
Biotechnology	3 577	180	5.0%	327	1.82
Pharmaceuticals	3 181	205	6.4%	347	1.69
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	2 532	195	7.7%	233	1.19
Food chemistry	1 008	125	12.4%	155	1.24
Basic materials chemistry	2 806	188	6.7%	228	1.21
Materials, metallurgy	2 274	114	5.0%	135	1.18
Surface technology, coating	1 628	82	5.0%	106	1.29
Micro-structural and nano-technology	177	1	0.6%	1	1.00
Chemical engineering	2 372	87	3.7%	104	1.20
Environmental technology	1 553	48	3.1%	57	1.19
Mechanical engineering	26 923	984	3.7%	1 158	1.18
Handling	2 929	136	4.6%	153	1.13
Machine tools	2 689	130	4.8%	159	1.22
Engines, pumps, turbines	4 601	162	3.5%	192	1.19
Textile and paper machines	1 515	87	5.7%	106	1.22
Other special machines	3 924	172	4.4%	209	1.22
Thermal processes and apparatus	2 096	55	2.6%	67	1.22
Mechanical elements	2 790	91	3.3%	107	1.18
Transport	6 379	151	2.4%	165	1.09
Other fields	8 611	274	3.2%	324	1.18
Furniture, games	1 990	52	2.6%	63	1.21
Other consumer goods	2 524	100	4.0%	115	1.15
Civil engineering	4 097	122	3.0%	146	1.20
Not classified	39	0	0.0%	0	-
Total	107 822	3 416	3.2%	4 252	1.24

Opposition rate and oppositions filed according to proprietor origin

Country of residence of the patent proprietor	Patents which could be opposed	Opposed patents	Opposition rate	Oppositions filed	Opposition ratio
AL Albania	0	0	-	0	-
AT Austria	1 493	79	5.3%	89	1.13
BE Belgium	1 206	65	5.4%	87	1.34
BG Bulgaria	16	0	0.0%	0	-
CH Switzerland	3 993	221	5.5%	287	1.30
CY Cyprus	23	2	8.7%	3	1.50
CZ Czech Republic	121	2	1.7%	2	1.00
DE Germany	18 938	944	5.0%	1 166	1.24
DK Denmark	1 066	79	7.4%	105	1.33
EE Estonia	20	0	0.0%	0	-
ES Spain	830	33	4.0%	38	1.15
FI Finland	1 275	46	3.6%	56	1.22
FR France	7 324	202	2.8%	230	1.14
GB United Kingdom	3 198	143	4.5%	171	1.20
GR Greece	38	3	7.9%	3	1.00
HR Croatia	7	0	0.0%	0	-
HU Hungary	61	1	1.6%	4	4.00
IE Ireland	445	13	2.9%	16	1.23
IS Iceland	23	0	0.0%	0	-
IT Italy	3 131	87	2.8%	98	1.13
LI Liechtenstein	166	8	4.8%	8	1.00
LT Lithuania	18	1	5.6%	1	1.00
LU Luxembourg	432	19	4.4%	52	2.74
LV Latvia	12	0	0.0%	0	-
MC Monaco	3	1	33.3%	1	1.00
MK North Macedonia	1	0	0.0%	0	-
MT Malta	40	0	0.0%	0	-
NL Netherlands	3 223	218	6.8%	255	1.17
NO Norway	357	18	5.0%	21	1.17
PL Poland	220	8	3.6%	8	1.00
PT Portugal	67	2	3.0%	3	1.50
RO Romania	9	0	0.0%	0	-
RS Serbia	6	0	0.0%	0	-
SE Sweden	2 962	73	2.5%	86	1.18
SI Slovenia	93	3	3.2%	5	1.67
SK Slovakia	19	0	0.0%	0	-
SM San Marino	6	0	0.0%	0	-
TR Turkey	311	9	2.9%	10	1.11
EPC states	51 153	2 280	4.5%	2 805	1.23
CN P.R. China	3 507	17	0.5%	20	1.18
JP Japan	18 001	218	1.2%	272	1.25
KR Rep. Korea	4 638	33	0.7%	36	1.09
US United States of America	25 535	760	3.0%	989	1.30
Other	4 988	108	2.2%	130	1.20
Total	107 822	3 416	3.2%	4 252	1.24

Outcome of the opposition procedures completed in 2018 (examiner decisions).

According to the field of technology

Technology	Opposition rejected		Patent revoked		Patent amended		Total	
Electrical engineering	101	30%	88	26%	146	44%	335	100%
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	46	28%	36	22%	82	50%	164	100%
Audio-visual technology	12	26%	15	33%	19	41%	46	100%
Telecommunications	10	40%	10	40%	5	20%	25	100%
Digital communication	14	38%	8	22%	15	41%	37	100%
Basic communication processes	2	67%	0	0%	1	33%	3	100%
Computer technology	15	34%	14	32%	15	34%	44	100%
IT methods for management	0	0%	1	50%	1	50%	2	100%
Semiconductors	2	14%	4	29%	8	57%	14	100%
Instruments	168	29%	157	27%	261	45%	586	100%
Optics	8	36%	3	14%	11	50%	22	100%
Measurement	28	26%	30	28%	49	46%	107	100%
Analysis of biological materials	7	25%	11	39%	10	36%	28	100%
Control	15	26%	22	38%	21	36%	58	100%
Medical technology	110	30%	91	25%	170	46%	371	100%
Chemistry	535	32%	498	30%	643	38%	1 676	100%
Organic fine chemistry	73	32%	81	35%	77	33%	231	100%
Biotechnology	42	24%	51	29%	82	47%	175	100%
Pharmaceuticals	52	20%	113	43%	96	37%	261	100%
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	60	30%	52	26%	91	45%	203	100%
Food chemistry	51	35%	51	35%	45	31%	147	100%
Basic materials chemistry	95	37%	58	23%	101	40%	254	100%
Materials, metallurgy	59	43%	28	20%	51	37%	138	100%
Surface technology, coating	32	41%	24	30%	23	29%	79	100%
Micro-structural and nano-technology	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%	2	100%
Chemical engineering	52	46%	25	22%	36	32%	113	100%
Environmental technology	19	26%	15	21%	39	53%	73	100%
Mechanical engineering	424	35%	296	24%	497	41%	1 217	100%
Handling	70	37%	56	29%	65	34%	191	100%
Machine tools	57	40%	37	26%	48	34%	142	100%
Engines, pumps, turbines	61	32%	39	20%	93	48%	193	100%
Textile and paper machines	51	36%	30	21%	62	43%	143	100%
Other special machines	68	37%	50	27%	68	37%	186	100%
Thermal processes and apparatus	28	39%	14	19%	30	42%	72	100%
Mechanical elements	29	29%	30	30%	40	40%	99	100%
Transport	60	31%	40	21%	91	48%	191	100%
Other fields	140	35%	104	26%	156	39%	400	100%
Furniture, games	35	38%	22	24%	36	39%	93	100%
Other consumer goods	44	28%	48	30%	66	42%	158	100%
Civil engineering	61	41%	34	23%	54	36%	149	100%
Unclassified		-		-		-	0	-
Total	1 368	32%	1 143	27%	1 703	40%	4 214	100%

Status: May 2019

c) Appeal procedures

Refusals by the examining divisions and appeals in 2018

Technology	Decisions to refuse	Appealed decisions	
Electrical engineering	5 287	776	15%
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	208	45	22%
Audio-visual technology	714	106	15%
Telecommunications	294	23	8%
Digital communication	544	84	15%
Basic communication processes	65	10	15%
Computer technology	2 216	310	14%
IT methods for management	1 092	179	16%
Semiconductors	154	19	12%
Instruments	1 062	196	18%
Optics	113	16	14%
Measurement	315	64	20%
Analysis of biological materials	39	4	10%
Control	331	62	19%
Medical technology	264	50	19%
Chemistry	1 082	222	21%
Organic fine chemistry	135	29	21%
Biotechnology	169	38	22%
Pharmaceuticals	201	45	22%
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	39	4	10%
Food chemistry	76	24	32%
Basic materials chemistry	167	27	16%
Materials, metallurgy	63	8	13%
Surface technology, coating	50	10	20%
Micro-structural and nano-technology	8	1	13%
Chemical engineering	97	19	20%
Environmental technology	77	17	22%
Mechanical engineering	410	81	20%
Handling	73	18	25%
Machine tools	25	5	20%
Engines, pumps, turbines	82	13	16%
Textile and paper machines	25	9	36%
Other special machines	52	10	19%
Thermal processes and apparatus	46	6	13%
Mechanical elements	21	1	5%
Transport	86	19	22%
Other fields	196	43	22%
Furniture, games	93	20	22%
Other consumer goods	53	6	11%
Civil engineering	50	17	34%
Unclassified	0	0	0%
Total	8 037	1 318	16%

Decisions by the opposition divisions and appeals in 2018

Type of decision	Total cases	Appealed cases	
Opposition rejected	1 368	552	40%
Patent revoked	1 143	485	42%
Patent amended	1 703	1 091	64%
Total	4 214	2 128	50%

d) Processing times

Early Certainty

The statistics on processing times describe the progress towards the Early Certainty objectives for the European patent procedures.

The times indicated in the table below represent the median delays in months for the European search, the substantive examination and the opposition procedures. As part of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2023, these figures will be given as mean averages from 2020.

The delays are measured:

- European search: from date of receipt at the EPO to end of search
- All searches: from date of receipt at the EPO to date of dispatch of the search report
- Examination: from valid request for examination (all formalities completed) to dispatch of the examiner's intention to grant.
- Opposition: from expiry of the opposition filing period to the date of the opposition decision.

The times are calculated for the applications for which the corresponding stage ended in 2018.

Procedure	Months
European search	5.9
<i>All searches (incl. Nat. and PCT intern.)</i>	<i>4.4</i>
Examination	22.3
Opposition	18.6

C. PUBLICATIONS

Technology	Applications		Examination requests		Granted patents	
Electrical engineering	45 830	29%	44 177	29%	37 292	29%
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	9 962	6.3%	9 800	6.4%	8 849	6.9%
Audio-visual technology	3 955	2.5%	3 671	2.4%	2 798	2.2%
Telecommunications	3 608	2.3%	3 454	2.3%	4 236	3.3%
Digital communication	11 486	7.3%	11 044	7.2%	10 891	8.5%
Basic communication processes	853	0.5%	859	0.6%	853	0.7%
Computer technology	10 863	6.9%	10 397	6.8%	7 267	5.7%
IT methods for management	2 293	1.5%	2 172	1.4%	208	0.2%
Semiconductors	2 810	1.8%	2 780	1.8%	2 190	1.7%
Instruments	28 032	17.7%	26 972	17.7%	20 442	16.0%
Optics	3 733	2.4%	3 584	2.3%	2 653	2.1%
Measurement	7 706	4.9%	7 633	5.0%	5 942	4.7%
Analysis of biological materials	1 207	1%	1 112	1%	926	1%
Control	2 868	1.8%	2 758	1.8%	1 577	1.2%
Medical technology	12 518	7.9%	11 885	7.8%	9 344	7.3%
Chemistry	36 064	22.8%	34 212	22.4%	28 624	22.4%
Organic fine chemistry	5 232	3.3%	4 901	3.2%	4 366	3.4%
Biotechnology	5 374	3.4%	4 984	3.3%	3 638	2.9%
Pharmaceuticals	5 921	3.7%	5 592	3.7%	3 471	2.7%
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	3 173	2.0%	3 044	2.0%	2 793	2.2%
Food chemistry	1 337	0.8%	1 243	0.8%	1 174	0.9%
Basic materials chemistry	4 039	3%	3 821	3%	3 343	3%
Materials, metallurgy	3 103	2.0%	3 023	2.0%	2 988	2.3%
Surface technology, coating	2 350	1.5%	2 308	1.5%	2 047	1.6%
Micro-structural and nano-technology	160	0.1%	171	0.1%	237	0.2%
Chemical engineering	3 629	2.3%	3 487	2.3%	2 956	2.3%
Environmental technology	1 746	1.1%	1 638	1.1%	1 611	1.3%
Mechanical engineering	36 476	23%	36 231	24%	31 612	25%
Handling	4 241	2.7%	3 933	2.6%	2 821	2.2%
Machine tools	3 470	2.2%	3 296	2.2%	2 867	2.2%
Engines, pumps, turbines	5 252	3.3%	5 807	3.8%	5 352	4.2%
Textile and paper machines	2 506	1.6%	2 499	1.6%	1 983	1.6%
Other special machines	5 703	3.6%	5 321	3.5%	4 684	3.7%
Thermal processes and apparatus	2 513	1.6%	2 600	1.7%	2 473	1.9%
Mechanical elements	4 267	2.7%	4 343	2.8%	3 454	2.7%
Transport	8 524	5%	8 432	6%	7 978	6%
Other fields	11 245	7.1%	10 916	7.1%	9 608	7.5%
Furniture, games	3 008	1.9%	2 855	1.9%	2 416	1.9%
Other consumer goods	3 727	2.4%	3 637	2.4%	3 073	2.4%
Civil engineering	4 510	2.9%	4 424	2.9%	4 119	3.2%
Unclassified	293	0.2%	239	0.2%	47	0.0%
Total	157 940	100.0%	152 747	100.0%	127 625	100.0%

D. VALIDATION AND MAINTENANCE OF EUROPEAN PATENTS

In the following pages, for each member state, the figures presented in the first table indicate the number of applications filed and designating the country, the number of those which have been granted by the EPO, the number of these grants which have been validated and entered into force in the country, and the number of European patents still in force at the end of 2018. The data cover the filing period 1999-2018 for which patents can still be in force.

As the patent term is 20 years, the figures cover the applications filed between January 1999 and December 2018.

Applications for a European patent are counted in the year of the international filing date. In the case of the PCT applications only those that entered the regional phase at the EPO are taken into account and they are counted in the year of the international filing date. The statistics reflect the current status of the designations in the EPO granting procedure.

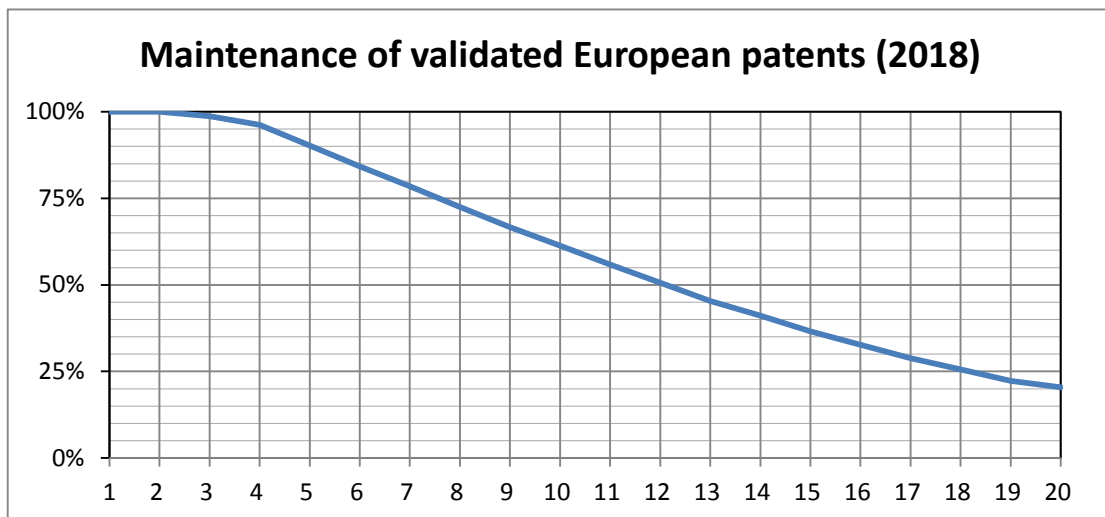
The second table indicate the proportion of granted European patents still in force at the end of each patent year. All data are extracted from the EPO database on the basis of data transmitted by the contracting states offices. A patent is considered as maintained until its abandonment is legally recorded and transmitted to the EPO.

The following table and chart give an overview of the fate of the resulting patent rights granted by the EPO.

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
Total counts of designated states				
Total filed: 1999 - 2018	78 665 435	27 254 020	11 311 963	6 774 597
Total filed: 1998 - 2017	72 792 115	22 941 841	9 652 426	5 672 100
<i>Growth: status end of 2018 over status end of 2017</i>	8%	19%	17%	19%

Due to the legal delay for paying the national renewal fees, the number of patents still in force at the end of 2018 is still provisional.

As shown in the chart below, EP patents validated are maintained on average (median) up to 12 years. About 20% are maintained up until the expiration of the 20th patent-year.



a) Albania

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009				
2010	110 741	57 231	22 561	22 341
2011	162 472	78 969	32 388	32 141
2012	161 540	73 916	33 250	33 077
2013	157 825	58 969	28 634	28 559
2014	158 860	45 910	23 442	23 424
2015	155 876	27 469	11 817	11 810
2016	156 913	10 931	3 251	3 251
2017	138 766	2 159	357	357
2018	62 392	2	2	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009																			
2010	22 561	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%											
2011	32 388	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%												
2012	33 250	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%													
2013	28 634	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2014	23 442	100%	100%	100%															
2015	11 817	100%	100%																
2016	3 251	100%																	
2017	357																		
2018	2																		

b) Austria

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	56 686	27 396	14 278	2 425
2000	74 609	36 016	16 699	3 029
2001	84 164	38 332	16 646	3 542
2002	86 822	39 107	16 028	3 992
2003	92 001	41 515	16 112	4 503
2004	99 484	44 430	16 583	5 001
2005	108 479	46 596	17 016	5 679
2006	115 459	49 699	17 744	6 482
2007	121 497	53 168	18 467	7 213
2008	131 788	60 005	19 801	8 161
2009	135 714	64 527	19 998	9 025
2010	144 173	66 677	20 668	9 888
2011	148 763	65 257	19 903	10 571
2012	151 806	64 178	18 744	10 910
2013	155 226	56 366	16 324	15 298
2014	158 548	45 588	14 052	14 040
2015	156 188	27 775	10 128	10 125
2016	156 985	10 985	4 318	4 317
2017	138 589	1 969	953	952
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	14 278	100%	98%	91%	83%	76%	69%	63%	58%	50%	45%	41%	36%	32%	28%	25%	22%	19%	17%
2000	16 699	100%	96%	87%	79%	71%	64%	58%	51%	45%	40%	36%	32%	28%	25%	23%	20%	18%	
2001	16 646	100%	95%	88%	79%	72%	65%	57%	51%	46%	42%	37%	33%	29%	26%	23%	21%		
2002	16 028	99%	94%	87%	79%	72%	64%	57%	52%	47%	42%	37%	34%	30%	27%	25%			
2003	16 112	99%	92%	84%	77%	69%	62%	57%	51%	46%	41%	37%	33%	30%	28%				
2004	16 583	99%	91%	84%	76%	68%	62%	55%	50%	45%	40%	36%	32%	30%					
2005	17 016	98%	90%	81%	74%	67%	60%	54%	49%	44%	39%	35%	33%						
2006	17 744	98%	91%	91%	74%	67%	60%	54%	49%	43%	39%	37%							
2007	18 467	98%	98%	98%	73%	65%	58%	53%	47%	41%	39%								
2008	19 801	100%	100%	100%	70%	63%	57%	50%	44%	41%									
2009	19 998	100%	100%	100%	69%	62%	54%	47%	45%										
2010	20 668	100%	100%	100%	68%	59%	50%	48%											
2011	19 903	100%	100%	100%	65%	56%	53%												
2012	18 744	100%	100%	100%	61%	58%													
2013	16 324	100%	100%	100%	94%														
2014	14 052	100%	100%	100%															
2015	10 128	100%	100%																
2016	4 318	100%																	
2017	953																		
2018	1																		

c) Belgium

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	58 080	28 148	17 225	2 815
2000	74 897	36 186	20 628	3 416
2001	84 383	38 504	20 706	4 070
2002	86 967	39 247	20 277	4 565
2003	92 368	41 767	21 136	5 182
2004	99 910	44 718	22 648	5 985
2005	109 009	47 043	23 966	6 891
2006	115 943	50 191	25 996	8 099
2007	122 065	53 701	28 197	9 269
2008	132 486	60 706	32 285	11 306
2009	136 714	65 538	35 780	13 236
2010	145 559	68 064	39 557	15 603
2011	150 277	66 771	42 313	17 764
2012	153 103	65 477	46 270	20 392
2013	155 886	57 029	46 392	22 778
2014	158 804	45 849	41 825	23 520
2015	156 015	27 602	26 853	17 948
2016	156 843	10 856	10 856	8 475
2017	138 554	1 933	1 933	1 933
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	17 225	100%	97%	89%	80%	72%	66%	60%	54%	48%	42%	38%	34%	31%	27%	24%	21%	18%	16%
2000	20 628	100%	95%	85%	75%	67%	60%	54%	47%	42%	38%	34%	30%	27%	24%	21%	18%	17%	
2001	20 706	99%	94%	85%	76%	68%	61%	53%	48%	43%	39%	35%	32%	28%	25%	22%	20%		
2002	20 277	99%	93%	84%	75%	67%	59%	53%	48%	44%	40%	36%	32%	28%	25%	23%			
2003	21 136	98%	91%	81%	73%	65%	59%	54%	49%	44%	40%	36%	32%	27%	25%				
2004	22 648	98%	89%	80%	71%	64%	58%	53%	48%	44%	40%	35%	30%	26%					
2005	23 966	98%	88%	78%	71%	64%	58%	53%	49%	45%	39%	33%	29%						
2006	25 996	98%	89%	80%	72%	65%	59%	55%	50%	44%	36%	31%							
2007	28 197	98%	89%	80%	72%	66%	61%	55%	49%	39%	33%								
2008	32 285	98%	89%	80%	72%	67%	61%	54%	43%	35%									
2009	35 780	98%	89%	80%	75%	68%	60%	47%	37%										
2010	39 557	98%	90%	84%	76%	66%	51%	39%											
2011	42 313	98%	93%	83%	72%	55%	42%												
2012	46 270	99%	92%	80%	60%	44%													
2013	46 392	98%	90%	68%	49%														
2014	41 825	96%	79%	56%															
2015	26 853	88%	67%																
2016	10 856	78%																	
2017	1 933																		
2018	1																		

d) Bulgaria

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002	44 182	20 402	2 572	1 223
2003	92 377	42 369	5 154	2 674
2004	100 694	45 947	4 383	3 151
2005	110 277	48 676	4 637	3 569
2006	118 065	52 598	5 427	4 421
2007	124 729	56 582	5 831	4 999
2008	135 399	63 705	7 152	6 470
2009	139 816	68 655	7 792	7 282
2010	149 185	71 689	8 944	8 505
2011	153 359	69 854	8 339	8 058
2012	157 032	69 406	8 940	8 756
2013	159 259	60 401	7 780	7 704
2014	162 134	49 179	5 844	5 824
2015	158 396	29 985	3 288	3 285
2016	158 606	12 614	2 003	2 003
2017	139 385	2 766	844	844
2018	62 392	2	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002	2 572	100%	100%	100%	78%	74%	74%	71%	68%	62%	59%	56%	54%	52%	49%	48%			
2003	5 154	100%	100%	79%	77%	77%	74%	71%	67%	64%	61%	59%	56%	54%	52%				
2004	4 383	100%	100%	99%	99%	97%	94%	88%	86%	83%	80%	77%	74%	72%					
2005	4 637	100%	100%	100%	98%	96%	91%	90%	87%	84%	82%	79%	77%						
2006	5 427	100%	100%	100%	98%	95%	94%	92%	89%	86%	84%	81%							
2007	5 831	100%	100%	99%	97%	96%	95%	93%	90%	88%	86%								
2008	7 152	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	94%	92%	90%									
2009	7 792	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%	96%	95%	93%										
2010	8 944	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	95%											
2011	8 339	100%	100%	99%	98%	98%	97%												
2012	8 940	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%													
2013	7 780	100%	100%	99%	99%														
2014	5 844	100%	100%	100%															
2015	3 288	100%	100%																
2016	2 003	100%																	
2017	844																		
2018	1																		

e) Switzerland/Liechtenstein

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	59 385	29 140	20 697	3 374
2000	75 950	36 986	25 696	4 172
2001	85 307	39 252	28 545	4 994
2002	87 506	39 858	31 234	5 730
2003	93 082	42 240	35 419	6 702
2004	100 642	45 119	41 041	7 684
2005	109 609	47 219	45 846	8 925
2006	116 406	50 221	50 081	10 288
2007	122 026	53 372	53 371	11 921
2008	132 030	60 100	60 100	14 170
2009	135 606	64 398	64 398	16 172
2010	143 723	66 227	66 227	18 139
2011	148 287	64 782	64 782	20 061
2012	151 257	63 630	63 630	22 078
2013	154 664	55 806	55 806	23 850
2014	158 164	45 206	45 206	24 009
2015	155 831	27 418	27 418	19 234
2016	156 747	10 751	10 751	10 751
2017	138 552	1 933	1 933	1 933
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	20 697	100%	100%	92%	84%	78%	72%	67%	61%	53%	46%	41%	37%	33%	29%	25%	22%	18%	16%
2000	25 696	100%	100%	89%	81%	75%	70%	63%	53%	46%	41%	36%	31%	28%	24%	21%	18%	16%	
2001	28 545	100%	100%	90%	83%	78%	71%	59%	51%	44%	39%	34%	30%	26%	23%	19%	17%		
2002	31 234	100%	100%	91%	85%	77%	66%	56%	49%	42%	36%	32%	28%	24%	20%	18%			
2003	35 419	100%	100%	90%	82%	71%	61%	53%	46%	39%	34%	29%	25%	21%	19%				
2004	41 041	100%	100%	87%	76%	66%	57%	48%	41%	35%	30%	26%	21%	19%					
2005	45 846	100%	100%	81%	71%	61%	52%	44%	38%	33%	27%	22%	19%						
2006	50 081	100%	100%	79%	69%	59%	50%	42%	36%	30%	24%	21%							
2007	53 371	100%	100%	79%	68%	58%	49%	41%	34%	26%	22%								
2008	60 100	100%	100%	78%	65%	55%	47%	37%	28%	24%									
2009	64 398	100%	100%	74%	63%	53%	42%	31%	25%										
2010	66 227	100%	100%	73%	61%	48%	35%	27%											
2011	64 782	100%	87%	72%	57%	41%	31%												
2012	63 630	100%	86%	68%	47%	35%													
2013	55 806	100%	84%	60%	43%														
2014	45 206	100%	75%	53%															
2015	27 418	100%	70%																
2016	10 751	100%																	
2017	1 933																		
2018	1																		

f) Cyprus

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	47 154	21 101	2 781	827
2000	72 165	34 629	3 488	1 213
2001	81 653	37 180	3 633	1 729
2002	84 436	38 220	3 645	2 152
2003	90 917	40 968	4 207	3 002
2004	98 963	44 212	5 359	4 251
2005	108 330	46 731	6 340	5 380
2006	115 722	50 256	8 510	7 494
2007	122 478	54 334	10 665	9 793
2008	134 403	62 712	14 867	14 015
2009	138 981	67 820	18 506	18 094
2010	149 004	71 509	23 825	23 488
2011	151 659	68 154	27 802	27 589
2012	153 211	65 585	33 603	33 436
2013	155 427	56 570	37 843	37 721
2014	158 479	45 524	34 195	34 152
2015	155 746	27 335	22 135	22 125
2016	156 777	10 790	8 621	8 620
2017	138 557	1 937	1 881	1 879
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	2 781	97%	97%	95%	92%	86%	79%	74%	69%	63%	53%	49%	45%	41%	39%	36%	34%	31%	30%
2000	3 488	100%	100%	97%	94%	88%	83%	77%	69%	62%	56%	53%	47%	44%	41%	39%	36%	35%	
2001	3 633	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	87%	81%	75%	71%	66%	61%	58%	56%	52%	49%	48%		
2002	3 645	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	84%	79%	75%	71%	68%	65%	63%	61%	59%			
2003	4 207	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	90%	87%	85%	82%	80%	78%	75%	73%	71%				
2004	5 359	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	92%	89%	88%	85%	84%	82%	81%	79%					
2005	6 340	100%	100%	99%	95%	94%	93%	91%	90%	89%	87%	86%	85%						
2006	8 510	100%	100%	96%	96%	94%	93%	92%	91%	90%	89%	88%							
2007	10 665	100%	97%	97%	97%	96%	95%	94%	93%	93%	92%								
2008	14 867	98%	98%	98%	97%	97%	96%	96%	95%	94%									
2009	18 506	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%										
2010	23 825	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%											
2011	27 802	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%												
2012	33 603	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%													
2013	37 843	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2014	34 195	100%	100%	100%															
2015	22 135	100%	100%																
2016	8 621	100%																	
2017	1 881																		
2018	1																		

g) Czech Republic

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002	43 283	19 910	3 366	1 614
2003	91 275	41 257	6 370	3 116
2004	99 174	44 315	6 800	3 644
2005	108 224	46 529	6 626	3 981
2006	115 267	49 713	6 988	4 639
2007	121 673	53 456	7 296	5 319
2008	132 183	60 447	8 000	6 334
2009	136 513	65 349	8 427	7 116
2010	145 429	67 934	9 282	8 284
2011	150 129	66 624	9 665	8 982
2012	153 240	65 614	10 080	9 642
2013	156 328	57 470	9 986	9 767
2014	159 260	46 305	9 804	9 698
2015	156 793	28 382	8 186	8 162
2016	157 158	11 166	3 971	3 968
2017	138 564	1 945	1 246	1 244
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002	3 366	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	61%	57%	53%	50%	48%			
2003	6 370	100%	99%	98%	95%	90%	85%	79%	75%	69%	65%	60%	56%	52%	49%				
2004	6 800	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	83%	79%	74%	69%	65%	61%	57%	54%					
2005	6 626	100%	100%	97%	94%	91%	86%	82%	77%	72%	68%	64%	60%						
2006	6 988	100%	99%	98%	95%	91%	88%	83%	79%	74%	70%	66%							
2007	7 296	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	85%	80%	76%	73%								
2008	8 000	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	83%	79%									
2009	8 427	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%	87%	84%										
2010	9 282	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	89%											
2011	9 665	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	93%												
2012	10 080	100%	100%	99%	97%	96%													
2013	9 986	100%	100%	99%	98%														
2014	9 804	100%	100%	99%															
2015	8 186	100%	100%																
2016	3 971	100%																	
2017	1 246																		
2018	1																		

h) Germany

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	102 290	55 990	53 351	15 165
2000	114 386	60 525	57 596	19 299
2001	121 809	61 755	59 387	23 375
2002	121 250	60 251	58 391	26 543
2003	126 697	61 578	60 100	30 905
2004	132 954	63 168	62 256	35 574
2005	141 176	64 838	64 342	40 650
2006	146 222	66 751	66 606	45 261
2007	145 881	67 177	67 086	48 842
2008	144 888	68 323	68 222	52 467
2009	137 770	65 489	65 398	53 206
2010	142 852	65 358	65 334	55 424
2011	147 624	64 122	64 122	56 665
2012	150 731	63 107	63 107	57 603
2013	154 282	55 435	55 435	52 048
2014	157 883	44 934	44 934	43 200
2015	155 705	27 305	27 305	26 720
2016	156 733	10 751	10 751	10 629
2017	138 547	1 936	1 936	1 936
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	53 351	100%	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	89%	84%	78%	71%	66%	61%	57%	51%	45%	40%	34%	28%
2000	57 596	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	92%	88%	83%	76%	71%	66%	61%	56%	51%	45%	39%	34%	
2001	59 387	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	88%	82%	77%	72%	67%	61%	56%	50%	45%	39%		
2002	58 391	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	92%	86%	82%	78%	73%	67%	62%	57%	51%	45%			
2003	60 100	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	90%	86%	83%	78%	73%	68%	63%	57%	51%				
2004	62 256	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	90%	87%	83%	78%	73%	68%	63%	57%					
2005	64 342	100%	100%	99%	96%	94%	91%	87%	83%	78%	73%	68%	63%						
2006	66 606	100%	100%	98%	96%	94%	91%	87%	83%	78%	73%	68%							
2007	67 086	100%	100%	98%	97%	94%	91%	87%	83%	78%	73%								
2008	68 222	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	82%	77%									
2009	65 398	100%	100%	98%	96%	94%	90%	86%	81%										
2010	65 334	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	85%											
2011	64 122	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	88%												
2012	63 107	100%	99%	98%	95%	91%													
2013	55 435	100%	99%	97%	94%														
2014	44 934	100%	99%	96%															
2015	27 305	100%	98%																
2016	10 751	99%																	
2017	1 936																		
2018	1																		

i) Denmark

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	53 518	25 123	7 563	1 986
2000	72 583	35 203	8 292	2 449
2001	81 213	37 508	7 975	3 011
2002	84 306	38 498	7 564	3 341
2003	91 266	41 145	7 724	3 790
2004	98 968	44 072	7 734	4 367
2005	108 078	46 334	7 772	4 801
2006	114 969	49 343	8 115	5 462
2007	121 145	52 907	8 326	6 125
2008	131 519	59 781	9 014	7 171
2009	135 653	64 482	9 711	8 253
2010	144 218	66 722	10 516	9 387
2011	148 834	65 329	10 844	10 093
2012	151 770	64 145	11 306	10 869
2013	155 195	56 338	11 642	11 413
2014	158 527	45 569	11 543	11 474
2015	156 117	27 704	9 740	9 722
2016	156 949	10 955	4 990	4 987
2017	138 559	1 940	1 549	1 547
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	7 563	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	84%	79%	74%	66%	59%	54%	49%	44%	40%	36%	32%	28%	26%
2000	8 292	100%	100%	97%	94%	90%	85%	79%	71%	64%	58%	53%	48%	44%	39%	35%	31%	30%	
2001	7 975	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	87%	79%	73%	68%	63%	58%	53%	48%	44%	40%	38%		
2002	7 564	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	86%	80%	75%	70%	64%	59%	54%	50%	46%	44%			
2003	7 724	100%	100%	98%	96%	91%	86%	82%	77%	70%	66%	61%	55%	51%	49%				
2004	7 734	100%	100%	98%	94%	91%	87%	82%	77%	72%	67%	63%	58%	56%					
2005	7 772	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	88%	83%	78%	73%	68%	64%	62%						
2006	8 115	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	89%	84%	79%	74%	69%	67%							
2007	8 326	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	85%	80%	75%	74%								
2008	9 014	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	90%	86%	81%	80%									
2009	9 711	100%	100%	98%	97%	94%	90%	87%	85%										
2010	10 516	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%	89%											
2011	10 844	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	93%												
2012	11 306	100%	100%	99%	97%	96%													
2013	11 642	100%	100%	99%	98%														
2014	11 543	100%	100%	99%															
2015	9 740	100%	100%																
2016	4 990	100%																	
2017	1 549																		
2018	1																		

j) Estonia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002	43 045	19 781	1 834	1 129
2003	91 038	41 184	3 418	2 166
2004	99 190	44 464	3 738	2 659
2005	108 470	46 896	3 854	2 994
2006	115 798	50 340	4 444	3 650
2007	122 358	54 213	4 885	4 263
2008	133 804	62 112	6 239	5 702
2009	138 404	67 243	7 029	6 687
2010	147 529	70 034	8 221	7 913
2011	152 955	69 450	9 405	9 236
2012	156 149	68 523	10 224	10 122
2013	158 906	60 048	10 454	10 390
2014	161 185	48 230	9 964	9 934
2015	157 543	29 133	8 050	8 046
2016	157 518	11 526	4 114	4 113
2017	138 563	1 944	1 264	1 261
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002	1 834	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	89%	86%	81%	77%	73%	70%	67%	64%	62%	62%			
2003	3 418	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	89%	85%	81%	78%	75%	71%	68%	65%	63%				
2004	3 738	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	90%	86%	83%	80%	77%	75%	73%	71%					
2005	3 854	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	89%	87%	84%	82%	79%	78%						
2006	4 444	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	93%	91%	88%	86%	84%	82%							
2007	4 885	100%	99%	99%	98%	96%	95%	93%	91%	89%	87%								
2008	6 239	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	94%	93%	91%									
2009	7 029	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	95%										
2010	8 221	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%											
2011	9 405	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%												
2012	10 224	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%													
2013	10 454	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2014	9 964	100%	100%	100%															
2015	8 050	100%	100%																
2016	4 114	100%																	
2017	1 264																		
2018	1																		

k) Spain

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	65 863	33 604	19 833	5 128
2000	79 950	40 213	21 173	6 119
2001	87 605	41 845	21 011	7 305
2002	89 882	42 177	20 329	8 219
2003	96 077	44 179	20 245	9 244
2004	103 345	46 796	20 191	10 370
2005	111 804	48 614	19 666	11 410
2006	118 262	51 350	19 535	12 620
2007	123 670	54 380	19 618	13 752
2008	132 763	60 506	19 827	15 163
2009	135 479	64 204	18 968	15 576
2010	143 590	66 091	18 107	15 821
2011	148 291	64 785	17 238	15 726
2012	151 330	63 705	16 581	15 801
2013	154 784	55 927	14 829	14 523
2014	158 219	45 264	12 039	11 937
2015	155 976	27 562	7 785	7 779
2016	156 908	10 911	3 014	3 013
2017	138 571	1 952	818	817
2018	62 393	2	2	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	19 833	100%	100%	99%	95%	91%	85%	80%	74%	65%	59%	53%	48%	43%	39%	34%	30%	26%	26%
2000	21 173	100%	100%	98%	96%	91%	86%	79%	71%	64%	58%	53%	47%	42%	38%	33%	29%	29%	
2001	21 011	100%	100%	99%	95%	92%	87%	78%	72%	65%	60%	54%	49%	44%	39%	35%	35%		
2002	20 329	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	83%	78%	72%	67%	61%	55%	50%	45%	41%	40%			
2003	20 245	100%	99%	98%	95%	89%	83%	78%	73%	67%	61%	56%	51%	46%	46%				
2004	20 191	100%	99%	98%	93%	89%	84%	79%	73%	67%	62%	57%	52%	51%					
2005	19 666	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	80%	75%	69%	64%	58%	58%						
2006	19 535	100%	99%	98%	95%	91%	87%	81%	76%	70%	65%	65%							
2007	19 618	100%	99%	98%	95%	91%	87%	82%	76%	70%	70%								
2008	19 827	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	87%	82%	77%	76%									
2009	18 968	100%	99%	98%	95%	92%	87%	82%	82%										
2010	18 107	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	87%											
2011	17 238	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	91%												
2012	16 581	100%	100%	98%	95%	95%													
2013	14 829	100%	100%	98%	98%														
2014	12 039	100%	99%	99%															
2015	7 785	100%	100%																
2016	3 014	100%																	
2017	818																		
2018	2																		

I) Finland

Filing year	Applications atled	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	53 469	25 219	7 008	1 789
2000	73 408	35 777	7 725	2 231
2001	81 973	38 042	7 404	2 660
2002	84 928	38 916	6 902	2 856
2003	92 051	41 633	6 798	3 176
2004	99 692	44 562	6 600	3 529
2005	108 758	46 821	6 528	3 969
2006	115 695	49 813	6 578	4 249
2007	121 810	53 390	6 427	4 507
2008	132 119	60 332	6 726	5 101
2009	136 352	65 178	6 810	5 613
2010	145 244	67 746	7 055	6 093
2011	150 004	66 499	6 818	6 201
2012	153 227	65 600	6 618	6 185
2013	156 534	57 676	5 913	5 726
2014	159 709	46 751	4 697	4 616
2015	157 343	28 930	3 263	3 248
2016	157 722	11 728	1 476	1 473
2017	139 038	2 419	561	559
2018	62 392	2	2	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	7 008	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	83%	79%	73%	65%	59%	54%	49%	45%	41%	36%	32%	28%	26%
2000	7 725	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	85%	78%	70%	64%	58%	53%	48%	43%	39%	35%	32%	29%	
2001	7 404	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	87%	79%	73%	68%	62%	56%	52%	47%	43%	39%	36%		
2002	6 902	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	85%	79%	73%	68%	63%	57%	53%	48%	44%	41%			
2003	6 798	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	86%	80%	75%	70%	65%	59%	54%	50%	47%				
2004	6 600	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	86%	80%	75%	70%	65%	61%	57%	53%					
2005	6 528	100%	100%	97%	95%	91%	86%	82%	77%	72%	68%	64%	61%						
2006	6 578	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	83%	78%	73%	68%	65%							
2007	6 427	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	83%	78%	73%	70%								
2008	6 726	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	84%	79%	76%									
2009	6 810	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	85%	82%										
2010	7 055	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	86%											
2011	6 818	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%												
2012	6 618	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%													
2013	5 913	100%	100%	98%	97%														
2014	4 697	100%	100%	98%															
2015	3 263	100%	100%																
2016	1 476	100%																	
2017	561																		
2018	2																		

m) France

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	97 241	52 805	47 613	11 346
2000	109 681	57 633	51 471	14 255
2001	116 994	58 857	53 164	17 243
2002	116 797	57 664	53 074	19 776
2003	122 197	58 982	55 345	23 268
2004	128 649	60 721	58 230	26 813
2005	136 486	62 185	60 986	30 826
2006	141 170	63 842	63 640	34 728
2007	141 839	64 671	64 669	38 013
2008	141 849	66 247	66 247	41 208
2009	137 119	65 080	65 080	42 593
2010	142 923	65 427	65 427	45 185
2011	147 677	64 179	64 179	46 700
2012	150 809	63 180	63 180	48 260
2013	154 325	55 471	55 471	45 076
2014	157 931	44 970	44 970	38 913
2015	155 757	27 333	27 333	24 907
2016	156 759	10 765	10 765	10 169
2017	138 556	1 939	1 939	1 939
2018	62 389	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	47 613	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	87%	83%	77%	69%	63%	58%	53%	47%	42%	37%	32%	27%	24%
2000	51 471	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	87%	82%	74%	68%	63%	57%	51%	46%	41%	36%	31%	28%	
2001	53 164	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	88%	81%	74%	69%	64%	57%	51%	46%	41%	36%	32%		
2002	53 074	100%	99%	98%	96%	92%	85%	79%	74%	68%	62%	56%	51%	46%	41%	37%			
2003	55 345	100%	99%	98%	96%	90%	84%	79%	74%	67%	62%	56%	51%	46%	42%				
2004	58 230	100%	99%	98%	93%	88%	83%	78%	72%	66%	61%	56%	50%	46%					
2005	60 986	100%	99%	95%	92%	87%	82%	76%	71%	65%	60%	54%	51%						
2006	63 640	100%	98%	95%	91%	86%	80%	75%	70%	64%	58%	55%							
2007	64 669	100%	98%	95%	91%	85%	80%	74%	69%	63%	59%								
2008	66 247	100%	98%	94%	89%	84%	78%	73%	67%	62%									
2009	65 080	99%	97%	93%	88%	82%	77%	70%	65%										
2010	65 427	99%	96%	92%	86%	81%	74%	69%											
2011	64 179	99%	96%	91%	85%	78%	73%												
2012	63 180	99%	96%	90%	82%	76%													
2013	55 471	99%	96%	88%	81%														
2014	44 970	99%	93%	87%															
2015	27 333	97%	91%																
2016	10 765	94%																	
2017	1 939																		
2018	1																		

n) United Kingdom

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	98 101	53 258	50 459	11 660
2000	109 744	57 556	54 280	14 261
2001	116 910	58 500	55 494	17 100
2002	116 310	57 114	54 458	19 340
2003	121 361	58 156	56 012	22 328
2004	127 523	59 685	58 020	25 730
2005	135 452	61 242	60 463	29 439
2006	140 113	62 813	62 711	33 076
2007	140 745	63 690	63 689	35 702
2008	141 438	65 756	65 756	38 852
2009	136 893	64 843	64 843	39 918
2010	142 718	65 262	65 262	42 349
2011	147 480	64 013	64 013	43 624
2012	150 522	62 962	62 962	45 299
2013	154 102	55 330	55 330	42 759
2014	157 735	44 838	44 838	39 000
2015	155 620	27 248	27 248	27 221
2016	156 695	10 737	10 737	10 732
2017	138 554	1 938	1 938	1 938
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	50 459	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	85%	80%	74%	66%	60%	55%	51%	45%	40%	35%	30%	26%	23%
2000	54 280	100%	100%	97%	94%	89%	84%	79%	71%	64%	59%	54%	49%	44%	39%	34%	29%	26%	
2001	55 494	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	85%	77%	71%	66%	60%	55%	49%	44%	39%	34%	31%		
2002	54 458	100%	100%	97%	94%	89%	82%	76%	71%	66%	60%	54%	49%	43%	38%	36%			
2003	56 012	100%	100%	97%	93%	87%	81%	76%	71%	65%	59%	54%	48%	43%	40%				
2004	58 020	100%	100%	96%	91%	86%	81%	75%	69%	64%	59%	53%	48%	44%					
2005	60 463	100%	100%	94%	89%	85%	80%	74%	68%	63%	57%	52%	49%						
2006	62 711	100%	100%	93%	89%	84%	78%	73%	67%	62%	56%	53%							
2007	63 689	100%	100%	92%	88%	82%	77%	72%	66%	60%	56%								
2008	65 756	100%	100%	92%	86%	81%	75%	69%	63%	59%									
2009	64 843	100%	100%	90%	84%	79%	72%	66%	62%										
2010	65 262	100%	100%	89%	83%	76%	69%	65%											
2011	64 013	100%	100%	88%	81%	73%	68%												
2012	62 962	100%	100%	87%	77%	72%													
2013	55 330	100%	100%	84%	77%														
2014	44 838	100%	100%	87%															
2015	27 248	100%	100%																
2016	10 737	100%																	
2017	1 938																		
2018	1																		

o) Greece

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	50 322	23 143	4 934	1 309
2000	71 863	34 811	5 535	1 661
2001	80 690	37 344	5 400	2 008
2002	84 026	38 453	5 177	2 280
2003	91 228	41 282	5 042	2 590
2004	99 365	44 598	5 309	3 079
2005	108 497	46 895	5 158	3 301
2006	115 633	50 151	5 368	3 733
2007	121 966	53 802	5 253	3 938
2008	133 171	61 472	5 807	4 625
2009	137 679	66 515	6 104	5 212
2010	146 984	69 489	6 819	5 978
2011	151 741	68 236	6 652	6 238
2012	154 838	67 213	6 406	6 230
2013	157 756	58 899	5 520	5 432
2014	160 776	47 821	4 513	4 486
2015	158 061	29 650	3 274	3 269
2016	158 131	12 144	1 691	1 690
2017	139 064	2 445	558	558
2018	62 392	2	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	4 934	100%	99%	97%	95%	89%	84%	79%	75%	68%	60%	54%	49%	44%	40%	36%	33%	30%	27%
2000	5 535	100%	99%	97%	93%	89%	83%	78%	71%	64%	58%	52%	47%	43%	39%	35%	33%	30%	
2001	5 400	100%	99%	97%	93%	90%	87%	81%	73%	68%	62%	57%	52%	48%	44%	40%	37%		
2002	5 177	100%	98%	96%	94%	92%	88%	81%	76%	71%	64%	59%	55%	51%	47%	44%			
2003	5 042	100%	99%	97%	96%	92%	87%	83%	79%	72%	67%	62%	58%	55%	51%				
2004	5 309	100%	99%	98%	95%	92%	88%	84%	77%	73%	69%	65%	62%	58%					
2005	5 158	100%	99%	98%	95%	93%	88%	82%	78%	74%	70%	67%	64%						
2006	5 368	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	88%	85%	80%	76%	73%	70%							
2007	5 253	100%	100%	99%	97%	92%	88%	85%	81%	78%	75%								
2008	5 807	100%	100%	99%	94%	92%	89%	86%	82%	80%									
2009	6 104	100%	99%	96%	94%	93%	91%	88%	85%										
2010	6 819	99%	95%	94%	93%	92%	90%	88%											
2011	6 652	98%	98%	98%	97%	96%	94%												
2012	6 406	100%	100%	100%	99%	97%													
2013	5 520	100%	100%	99%	98%														
2014	4 513	100%	100%	99%															
2015	3 274	100%	100%																
2016	1 691	100%																	
2017	558																		
2018	1																		

p) Croatia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008	133 623	61 953	4 695	4 083
2009	137 906	66 746	5 162	4 717
2010	146 426	68 931	5 488	5 134
2011	151 070	67 565	5 242	5 042
2012	153 974	66 349	5 024	4 879
2013	157 177	58 319	4 684	4 612
2014	160 929	47 974	4 526	4 498
2015	157 884	29 473	2 853	2 843
2016	158 449	12 457	1 894	1 893
2017	139 377	2 759	845	842
2018	62 392	2	2	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008	4 695	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	92%	89%	87%									
2009	5 162	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	93%	91%										
2010	5 488	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	94%											
2011	5 242	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%												
2012	5 024	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%													
2013	4 684	100%	100%	99%	98%														
2014	4 526	100%	100%	99%															
2015	2 853	100%	100%																
2016	1 894	100%																	
2017	845																		
2018	2																		

q) Hungary

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003	91 811	42 045	7 795	5 213
2004	100 139	45 357	9 285	6 816
2005	109 460	47 838	10 526	8 350
2006	116 924	51 375	12 724	10 774
2007	123 378	55 104	15 221	13 526
2008	134 462	62 715	20 003	18 533
2009	138 799	67 627	24 341	23 286
2010	147 122	69 626	29 379	28 456
2011	150 889	67 384	34 081	33 469
2012	152 906	65 280	40 715	40 291
2013	155 046	56 188	45 212	44 979
2014	158 109	45 154	41 889	41 824
2015	155 709	27 298	27 276	27 259
2016	156 743	10 751	10 750	10 748
2017	138 552	1 933	1 933	1 933
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003	7 795	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	87%	84%	81%	77%	74%	71%	69%	67%				
2004	9 285	100%	100%	99%	96%	94%	91%	88%	85%	82%	79%	77%	75%	73%					
2005	10 526	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	90%	87%	85%	83%	81%	79%						
2006	12 724	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	92%	90%	88%	86%	85%							
2007	15 221	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	93%	92%	90%	89%								
2008	20 003	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	95%	94%	93%									
2009	24 341	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	96%										
2010	29 379	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	97%											
2011	34 081	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%												
2012	40 715	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%													
2013	45 212	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2014	41 889	100%	100%	100%															
2015	27 276	100%	100%																
2016	10 750	100%																	
2017	1 933																		
2018	1																		

r) Ireland

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	52 137	24 181	18 966	2 000
2000	72 563	35 254	25 808	2 533
2001	81 319	37 637	27 838	3 071
2002	84 236	38 470	28 699	3 499
2003	91 277	41 124	31 307	4 058
2004	99 065	44 089	34 004	4 868
2005	108 010	46 222	36 254	5 427
2006	115 105	49 388	40 049	6 492
2007	121 282	52 929	44 666	7 625
2008	131 580	59 781	53 252	9 416
2009	135 482	64 299	61 030	11 161
2010	143 858	66 363	65 799	13 350
2011	148 587	65 083	65 080	15 413
2012	151 468	63 844	63 844	17 986
2013	154 818	55 961	55 961	20 803
2014	158 240	45 286	45 286	22 109
2015	155 889	27 478	27 478	17 320
2016	156 837	10 852	10 852	8 333
2017	138 553	1 933	1 933	1 933
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	18 966	100%	98%	88%	75%	64%	54%	47%	41%	34%	30%	26%	23%	20%	18%	15%	14%	12%	11%
2000	25 808	100%	95%	84%	71%	59%	50%	42%	35%	30%	26%	22%	19%	16%	14%	12%	11%	10%	
2001	27 838	100%	96%	86%	72%	60%	51%	42%	36%	31%	26%	22%	19%	17%	14%	12%	11%		
2002	28 699	99%	94%	84%	72%	61%	51%	44%	37%	31%	26%	22%	19%	16%	13%	12%			
2003	31 307	99%	93%	82%	71%	61%	52%	45%	37%	30%	26%	22%	18%	15%	13%				
2004	34 004	99%	92%	82%	72%	62%	54%	45%	36%	30%	26%	21%	16%	14%					
2005	36 254	99%	92%	82%	73%	63%	53%	43%	35%	29%	23%	18%	15%						
2006	40 049	99%	92%	83%	74%	62%	50%	41%	34%	26%	19%	16%							
2007	44 666	99%	93%	84%	71%	58%	47%	38%	29%	21%	17%								
2008	53 252	99%	93%	81%	66%	53%	43%	32%	22%	18%									
2009	61 030	98%	89%	73%	59%	48%	35%	24%	18%										
2010	65 799	97%	85%	69%	55%	41%	27%	20%											
2011	65 080	96%	84%	67%	50%	32%	24%												
2012	63 844	96%	84%	63%	40%	28%													
2013	55 961	95%	81%	53%	37%														
2014	45 286	93%	71%	49%															
2015	27 478	85%	63%																
2016	10 852	77%																	
2017	1 933																		
2018	1																		

s) Iceland

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004	19 149	8 810	999	951
2005	107 871	46 312	3 091	2 853
2006	114 996	49 540	3 733	3 656
2007	121 286	53 140	4 379	4 319
2008	132 005	60 319	5 651	5 593
2009	136 305	65 146	7 198	7 160
2010	144 890	67 395	8 700	8 664
2011	149 143	65 638	9 837	9 818
2012	151 886	64 260	11 435	11 417
2013	155 162	56 304	12 969	12 951
2014	158 347	45 392	11 993	11 986
2015	155 914	27 504	8 307	8 306
2016	156 851	10 859	3 805	3 805
2017	138 585	1 966	682	682
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004	999	100%	98%	97%	96%	96%	96%	96%	96%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%					
2005	3 091	97%	97%	95%	94%	94%	94%	94%	93%	93%	93%	93%	92%						
2006	3 733	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	98%							
2007	4 379	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%								
2008	5 651	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%									
2009	7 198	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%										
2010	8 700	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%											
2011	9 837	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%												
2012	11 435	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%													
2013	12 969	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2014	11 993	100%	100%	100%															
2015	8 307	100%	100%																
2016	3 805	100%																	
2017	682																		
2018	1																		

t) Italy

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	80 745	43 254	30 639	6 895
2000	92 395	48 029	32 238	8 363
2001	99 464	49 150	32 213	10 077
2002	100 706	48 926	31 410	11 319
2003	105 809	50 071	31 123	12 979
2004	112 442	52 319	31 171	14 508
2005	120 377	53 835	30 046	16 030
2006	125 905	56 063	29 354	18 029
2007	129 463	58 224	29 274	19 794
2008	135 433	62 443	29 278	21 543
2009	136 008	64 605	27 948	22 248
2010	143 378	65 878	27 449	23 418
2011	148 087	64 580	26 599	23 816
2012	151 100	63 475	26 389	24 736
2013	154 607	55 749	24 053	23 273
2014	158 125	45 165	21 264	21 053
2015	155 873	27 458	14 292	14 289
2016	156 860	10 868	6 135	6 135
2017	138 564	1 943	1 529	1 528
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	30 639	100%	100%	100%	100%	92%	91%	82%	74%	66%	59%	54%	49%	43%	39%	34%	29%	25%	23%
2000	32 238	100%	100%	100%	96%	96%	87%	79%	71%	64%	58%	53%	48%	42%	37%	33%	28%	26%	
2001	32 213	100%	100%	99%	99%	93%	85%	77%	71%	65%	60%	54%	49%	43%	38%	33%	31%		
2002	31 410	100%	100%	100%	95%	88%	81%	76%	71%	65%	59%	54%	48%	43%	38%	36%			
2003	31 123	100%	100%	97%	91%	86%	81%	76%	71%	65%	60%	54%	49%	44%	42%				
2004	31 171	100%	99%	94%	90%	86%	82%	77%	71%	66%	60%	54%	49%	47%					
2005	30 046	100%	97%	94%	92%	88%	84%	78%	73%	67%	62%	56%	53%						
2006	29 354	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	87%	82%	76%	70%	64%	61%							
2007	29 274	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	87%	81%	76%	70%	68%								
2008	29 278	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	87%	82%	76%	74%									
2009	27 948	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	87%	82%	80%										
2010	27 449	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	85%											
2011	26 599	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	90%												
2012	26 389	100%	100%	98%	96%	94%													
2013	24 053	100%	100%	98%	97%														
2014	21 264	100%	100%	99%															
2015	14 292	100%	100%																
2016	6 135	100%																	
2017	1 529																		
2018	1																		

u) Lithuania

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004	10 429	4 891	725	623
2005	108 724	47 161	3 839	2 943
2006	116 065	50 608	4 283	3 463
2007	122 827	54 678	4 665	4 033
2008	134 636	62 946	5 943	5 374
2009	139 754	68 594	6 868	6 506
2010	149 342	71 847	7 935	7 633
2011	154 517	71 012	8 155	7 971
2012	157 700	70 074	8 097	8 005
2013	159 313	60 455	6 105	6 047
2014	162 100	49 145	5 264	5 233
2015	158 156	29 746	3 050	3 042
2016	158 323	12 339	1 776	1 775
2017	139 475	2 856	933	930
2018	62 392	2	2	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004	725	100%	100%	99%	98%	98%	96%	94%	91%	90%	89%	88%	86%	86%					
2005	3 839	100%	100%	98%	96%	94%	91%	89%	86%	83%	81%	78%	77%						
2006	4 283	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	93%	91%	88%	85%	83%	81%							
2007	4 665	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	92%	90%	88%	86%								
2008	5 943	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	94%	92%	90%									
2009	6 868	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	95%										
2010	7 935	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%											
2011	8 155	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%												
2012	8 097	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%													
2013	6 105	100%	100%	99%	99%														
2014	5 264	100%	100%	99%															
2015	3 050	100%	100%																
2016	1 776	100%																	
2017	933																		
2018	2																		

v) Luxembourg

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	49 635	22 752	22 507	1 356
2000	72 137	35 126	34 629	1 885
2001	81 213	37 848	36 980	2 469
2002	84 476	38 915	37 505	2 883
2003	91 799	41 870	39 445	3 484
2004	99 933	45 164	41 545	4 320
2005	109 235	47 630	42 388	5 021
2006	116 419	50 945	43 818	6 000
2007	122 643	54 484	44 725	6 922
2008	134 053	62 359	48 949	9 381
2009	138 615	67 451	49 858	11 505
2010	146 102	68 607	46 693	12 380
2011	149 655	66 150	45 678	13 217
2012	151 729	64 105	51 096	14 914
2013	154 922	56 065	51 686	17 759
2014	158 245	45 290	44 452	19 557
2015	155 911	27 500	27 500	15 945
2016	156 858	10 866	10 866	7 854
2017	138 555	1 934	1 934	1 934
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	22 507	100%	95%	80%	63%	49%	38%	30%	25%	20%	17%	14%	12%	10%	9%	8%	7%	7%	6%
2000	34 629	100%	92%	75%	58%	43%	33%	26%	20%	16%	13%	11%	9%	8%	8%	7%	6%	5%	
2001	36 980	99%	92%	77%	59%	45%	36%	28%	22%	17%	14%	11%	10%	10%	9%	7%	7%		
2002	37 505	99%	90%	74%	58%	46%	36%	29%	22%	17%	13%	12%	12%	10%	8%	8%			
2003	39 445	98%	87%	71%	57%	45%	36%	28%	21%	16%	15%	15%	13%	10%	9%				
2004	41 545	98%	85%	70%	57%	46%	36%	27%	20%	19%	19%	16%	12%	10%					
2005	42 388	97%	84%	69%	56%	44%	33%	25%	24%	23%	19%	14%	12%						
2006	43 818	97%	84%	69%	55%	41%	31%	29%	28%	23%	17%	14%							
2007	44 725	98%	84%	67%	51%	38%	37%	35%	29%	20%	15%								
2008	48 949	98%	83%	65%	49%	47%	45%	37%	25%	19%									
2009	49 858	96%	80%	61%	59%	57%	46%	31%	23%										
2010	46 693	94%	78%	76%	73%	59%	38%	27%											
2011	45 678	94%	91%	88%	70%	44%	29%												
2012	51 096	99%	96%	77%	47%	29%													
2013	51 686	99%	87%	55%	34%														
2014	44 452	95%	71%	44%															
2015	27 500	84%	58%																
2016	10 866	72%																	
2017	1 934																		
2018	1																		

w) Latvia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005	56 020	24 716	2 311	1 918
2006	116 381	50 928	4 284	3 494
2007	123 239	55 096	4 845	4 216
2008	134 795	63 105	5 879	5 349
2009	139 984	68 824	6 980	6 614
2010	149 265	71 770	7 734	7 439
2011	154 728	71 223	8 245	8 067
2012	157 901	70 275	8 191	8 097
2013	160 408	61 550	7 011	6 954
2014	163 606	50 651	6 389	6 351
2015	158 780	30 369	3 412	3 404
2016	158 832	12 845	2 193	2 192
2017	139 511	2 892	967	964
2018	62 392	2	2	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004																			
2005	2 311	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	92%	90%	87%	86%	84%	83%						
2006	4 284	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	94%	91%	88%	86%	83%	82%							
2007	4 845	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	93%	91%	89%	87%								
2008	5 879	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	94%	92%	91%									
2009	6 980	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	95%										
2010	7 734	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%											
2011	8 245	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%												
2012	8 191	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%													
2013	7 011	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2014	6 389	100%	100%	99%															
2015	3 412	100%	100%																
2016	2 193	100%																	
2017	967																		
2018	2																		

x) Monaco

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	46 601	20 882	20 285	850
2000	71 518	34 606	33 418	1 188
2001	80 493	37 194	35 104	1 566
2002	83 746	38 227	34 716	1 823
2003	90 863	40 969	35 172	2 310
2004	98 847	44 117	35 325	2 996
2005	107 980	46 405	33 974	3 508
2006	115 039	49 582	32 572	4 409
2007	121 410	53 262	30 013	5 487
2008	132 110	60 420	27 469	7 287
2009	136 130	64 969	21 864	8 960
2010	144 654	67 159	15 954	10 942
2011	149 208	65 703	14 025	13 105
2012	152 098	64 473	15 880	15 736
2013	155 011	56 154	18 354	18 262
2014	158 296	45 341	19 119	19 084
2015	155 842	27 431	15 301	15 294
2016	156 793	10 806	7 216	7 215
2017	138 556	1 937	1 922	1 919
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	20 285	100%	99%	77%	58%	43%	32%	24%	19%	15%	11%	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%	4%	4%
2000	33 418	100%	91%	72%	53%	39%	28%	21%	15%	11%	8%	6%	5%	5%	4%	4%	4%		
2001	35 104	99%	91%	74%	55%	40%	29%	22%	15%	10%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%	4%		
2002	34 716	99%	88%	70%	53%	39%	30%	20%	13%	8%	7%	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%			
2003	35 172	98%	84%	66%	50%	38%	26%	17%	10%	8%	8%	7%	7%	7%	7%				
2004	35 325	97%	82%	64%	49%	34%	22%	12%	10%	9%	9%	9%	9%	8%					
2005	33 974	97%	79%	62%	43%	28%	15%	12%	11%	11%	11%	11%	10%						
2006	32 572	96%	80%	57%	37%	19%	15%	15%	14%	14%	14%	14%							
2007	30 013	96%	75%	49%	25%	20%	20%	19%	19%	19%	18%								
2008	27 469	95%	69%	36%	28%	28%	28%	27%	27%	27%									
2009	21 864	91%	53%	43%	42%	42%	42%	41%	41%										
2010	15 954	83%	71%	71%	70%	70%	69%	69%											
2011	14 025	95%	95%	95%	95%	94%	93%												
2012	15 880	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%													
2013	18 354	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2014	19 119	100%	100%	100%															
2015	15 301	100%	100%																
2016	7 216	100%																	
2017	1 922																		
2018	1																		

y) North Macedonia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009	148 289	77 133	31 940	31 615
2010	157 176	79 682	37 786	37 462
2011	160 823	77 318	42 684	42 486
2012	159 754	72 129	46 631	46 486
2013	157 299	58 441	47 042	46 965
2014	158 663	45 708	42 373	42 353
2015	155 707	27 298	27 298	27 291
2016	156 741	10 749	10 749	10 749
2017	138 551	1 933	1 933	1 933
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009	31 940	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%										
2010	37 786	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%											
2011	42 684	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%												
2012	46 631	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%													
2013	47 042	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2014	42 373	100%	100%	100%															
2015	27 298	100%	100%																
2016	10 749	100%																	
2017	1 933																		
2018	1																		

z) Malta

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007	105 332	47 207	13 180	7 335
2008	134 716	63 029	20 865	11 406
2009	139 708	68 549	26 928	14 523
2010	148 286	70 791	32 755	17 662
2011	154 302	70 797	40 287	22 010
2012	157 186	69 560	47 930	26 258
2013	158 524	59 666	45 851	28 979
2014	160 760	47 805	37 964	29 270
2015	156 976	28 564	24 110	21 436
2016	156 743	10 756	9 688	9 687
2017	138 555	1 936	1 917	1 915
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007	13 180	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%	98%	76%	56%	56%								
2008	20 865	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	76%	55%	55%									
2009	26 928	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	76%	54%	54%										
2010	32 755	100%	100%	100%	100%	77%	54%	54%											
2011	40 287	100%	100%	100%	78%	55%	55%												
2012	47 930	100%	100%	80%	55%	55%													
2013	45 851	100%	88%	63%	63%														
2014	37 964	95%	77%	77%															
2015	24 110	89%	89%																
2016	9 688	100%																	
2017	1 917																		
2018	1																		

aa) Netherlands

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	64 832	32 214	16 448	3 819
2000	78 822	39 066	17 299	4 685
2001	86 595	40 713	16 862	5 615
2002	88 647	40 874	15 967	6 108
2003	95 628	43 330	15 840	6 882
2004	103 116	46 020	16 143	8 130
2005	111 582	47 857	16 121	9 020
2006	118 477	50 860	16 608	10 270
2007	123 324	53 655	16 419	11 105
2008	132 404	59 924	17 157	12 717
2009	135 093	63 783	16 908	13 441
2010	143 180	65 687	16 867	14 242
2011	148 007	64 501	16 400	14 677
2012	151 133	63 506	16 109	14 851
2013	154 604	55 746	14 786	13 935
2014	158 094	45 137	12 451	11 926
2015	155 943	27 529	8 436	8 187
2016	156 866	10 874	3 454	3 452
2017	138 576	1 954	956	954
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	16 448	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	83%	77%	70%	62%	55%	51%	46%	41%	34%	30%	26%	23%
2000	17 299	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	83%	76%	67%	62%	56%	51%	46%	38%	34%	30%	27%	
2001	16 862	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	83%	76%	70%	65%	59%	54%	46%	41%	36%	33%		
2002	15 967	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	89%	82%	76%	71%	65%	60%	51%	46%	41%	38%			
2003	15 840	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	83%	78%	73%	67%	58%	53%	47%	43%				
2004	16 143	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	84%	78%	73%	64%	59%	54%	50%					
2005	16 121	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	85%	79%	71%	65%	60%	56%						
2006	16 608	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	85%	77%	71%	66%	62%							
2007	16 419	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	82%	77%	71%	68%								
2008	17 157	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	88%	83%	78%	74%									
2009	16 908	100%	100%	99%	97%	92%	88%	83%	79%										
2010	16 867	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	88%	84%											
2011	16 400	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	89%												
2012	16 109	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%													
2013	14 786	100%	100%	96%	94%														
2014	12 451	100%	97%	96%															
2015	8 436	98%	97%																
2016	3 454	100%																	
2017	956																		
2018	1																		

bb) Norway

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008	132 205	60 495	6 125	4 846
2009	136 690	65 526	6 622	5 564
2010	145 748	68 252	7 245	6 437
2011	150 555	67 051	7 232	6 607
2012	153 370	65 744	6 809	6 371
2013	156 931	58 073	6 365	6 151
2014	160 203	47 250	5 213	5 145
2015	157 369	28 956	3 297	3 279
2016	157 691	11 694	1 448	1 443
2017	138 948	2 329	483	483
2018	62 392	2	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008	6 125	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	82%	79%									
2009	6 622	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%	87%	84%										
2010	7 245	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%	89%											
2011	7 232	100%	100%	98%	96%	94%	91%												
2012	6 809	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%													
2013	6 365	100%	99%	98%	97%														
2014	5 213	100%	100%	99%															
2015	3 297	100%	99%																
2016	1 448	100%																	
2017	483																		
2018	1																		

cc) Poland

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004	85 650	38 085	7 447	4 227
2005	108 002	46 314	8 760	5 467
2006	115 037	49 434	9 343	6 328
2007	121 331	53 057	9 645	7 012
2008	131 643	59 860	10 218	8 075
2009	135 772	64 598	10 721	9 064
2010	144 124	66 629	10 799	9 546
2011	148 921	65 419	10 923	10 244
2012	151 906	64 280	10 664	10 284
2013	155 447	56 590	10 436	10 287
2014	158 855	45 900	9 729	9 700
2015	156 418	28 005	7 436	7 432
2016	157 158	11 166	3 716	3 715
2017	138 571	1 950	1 085	1 083
2018	62 392	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004	7 447	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	86%	81%	76%	71%	66%	62%	57%	57%					
2005	8 760	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	87%	83%	77%	72%	68%	63%	62%						
2006	9 343	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	88%	83%	78%	73%	68%	68%							
2007	9 645	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	83%	78%	73%	73%								
2008	10 218	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	84%	79%	79%									
2009	10 721	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	85%	85%										
2010	10 799	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	88%											
2011	10 923	100%	100%	99%	96%	94%	94%												
2012	10 664	100%	100%	99%	97%	96%													
2013	10 436	100%	100%	99%	99%														
2014	9 729	100%	100%	100%															
2015	7 436	100%	100%																
2016	3 716	100%																	
2017	1 085																		
2018	1																		

dd) Portugal

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	51 428	23 965	10 888	1 552
2000	71 489	34 721	14 455	1 894
2001	80 592	37 222	11 990	2 388
2002	83 791	38 174	8 293	2 711
2003	90 812	40 875	6 420	3 258
2004	98 631	43 841	6 638	4 069
2005	107 678	46 059	7 000	4 783
2006	114 555	49 065	7 918	5 982
2007	120 737	52 563	8 819	7 313
2008	131 333	59 620	10 971	9 668
2009	135 493	64 328	13 198	12 221
2010	143 992	66 497	15 892	15 149
2011	148 813	65 308	18 954	18 492
2012	151 638	64 012	23 109	22 826
2013	154 997	56 140	26 194	26 043
2014	158 319	45 364	26 867	26 818
2015	155 919	27 509	17 468	17 460
2016	156 763	10 771	6 858	6 858
2017	138 570	1 951	993	993
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	10 888	100%	100%	99%	69%	50%	46%	43%	41%	37%	33%	29%	27%	24%	22%	20%	17%	16%	14%
2000	14 455	100%	100%	67%	43%	41%	38%	36%	32%	29%	26%	24%	21%	19%	18%	16%	14%	13%	
2001	11 990	100%	78%	52%	51%	49%	47%	43%	39%	36%	33%	31%	28%	26%	24%	22%	20%		
2002	8 293	93%	73%	72%	71%	68%	65%	60%	56%	52%	48%	44%	40%	38%	35%	33%			
2003	6 420	95%	95%	95%	93%	89%	84%	80%	75%	70%	65%	61%	57%	54%	51%				
2004	6 638	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	85%	80%	76%	72%	68%	65%	61%					
2005	7 000	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	83%	79%	75%	72%	68%						
2006	7 918	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	89%	85%	82%	79%	76%							
2007	8 819	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	91%	88%	85%	83%								
2008	10 971	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	93%	90%	88%									
2009	13 198	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	95%	93%										
2010	15 892	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%											
2011	18 954	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%												
2012	23 109	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%													
2013	26 194	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2014	26 867	100%	100%	100%															
2015	17 468	100%	100%																
2016	6 858	100%																	
2017	993																		
2018	1																		

ee) Romania

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003	77 079	34 995	4 017	2 214
2004	99 041	44 314	5 106	2 957
2005	108 146	46 567	5 226	3 251
2006	115 228	49 763	5 857	3 841
2007	121 744	53 590	6 480	4 463
2008	132 469	60 768	7 555	5 309
2009	137 009	65 847	8 667	6 280
2010	145 738	68 242	9 890	7 117
2011	150 732	67 227	11 105	8 102
2012	153 484	65 858	11 372	8 521
2013	156 945	58 087	10 370	9 319
2014	159 544	46 589	9 802	9 680
2015	156 448	28 037	8 651	8 643
2016	156 813	10 821	4 163	4 161
2017	138 562	1 942	1 270	1 269
2018	62 391	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003	4 017	100%	99%	99%	96%	92%	88%	84%	80%	76%	72%	64%	60%	57%	55%				
2004	5 106	100%	99%	98%	95%	92%	88%	84%	81%	77%	66%	63%	60%	58%					
2005	5 226	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	89%	86%	82%	70%	67%	65%	62%						
2006	5 857	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	91%	88%	74%	71%	67%	66%							
2007	6 480	100%	99%	99%	97%	95%	93%	76%	74%	71%	69%								
2008	7 555	100%	100%	99%	97%	96%	77%	75%	72%	70%									
2009	8 667	100%	100%	99%	98%	78%	76%	74%	72%										
2010	9 890	100%	100%	99%	76%	75%	73%	72%											
2011	11 105	100%	100%	76%	75%	74%	73%												
2012	11 372	100%	77%	76%	76%	75%													
2013	10 370	91%	91%	90%	90%														
2014	9 802	99%	99%	99%															
2015	8 651	100%	100%																
2016	4 163	100%																	
2017	1 270																		
2018	1																		

ff) Serbia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009				
2010	41 759	20 205	2 928	2 869
2011	154 138	70 635	7 639	7 481
2012	157 785	70 160	8 056	7 958
2013	160 969	62 112	7 522	7 475
2014	162 978	50 023	5 803	5 783
2015	159 164	30 753	3 821	3 815
2016	158 701	12 709	2 055	2 054
2017	139 365	2 747	831	828
2018	62 392	2	2	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009																			
2010	2 928	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%											
2011	7 639	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%												
2012	8 056	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%													
2013	7 522	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2014	5 803	100%	100%	100%															
2015	3 821	100%	100%																
2016	2 055	100%																	
2017	831																		
2018	2																		

gg) Sweden

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999	60 573	30 017	12 449	2 917
2000	75 462	37 577	12 874	3 362
2001	84 751	40 013	12 614	4 031
2002	87 074	40 432	11 864	4 424
2003	93 731	42 805	11 565	4 908
2004	101 127	45 539	11 466	5 487
2005	109 946	47 551	11 469	6 200
2006	116 545	50 379	11 209	6 758
2007	122 044	53 436	10 798	7 144
2008	131 935	60 096	11 241	8 138
2009	135 586	64 426	11 075	8 819
2010	144 172	66 747	10 845	9 137
2011	148 994	65 550	10 563	9 330
2012	151 952	64 432	9 843	9 086
2013	155 378	56 674	8 909	8 539
2014	158 615	45 851	7 118	6 979
2015	156 304	28 073	4 569	4 529
2016	156 195	11 033	1 777	1 767
2017	131 541	2 090	473	469
2018	61 739	2	2	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999	12 449	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	84%	79%	73%	65%	58%	53%	48%	43%	38%	34%	30%	26%	23%
2000	12 874	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	85%	79%	70%	63%	57%	52%	46%	41%	37%	32%	29%	26%	
2001	12 614	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	87%	78%	71%	65%	60%	54%	49%	43%	39%	35%	32%		
2002	11 864	100%	100%	98%	96%	91%	84%	77%	71%	66%	60%	55%	49%	44%	40%	37%			
2003	11 565	100%	100%	98%	95%	89%	83%	78%	73%	66%	61%	55%	50%	46%	42%				
2004	11 466	100%	99%	98%	93%	88%	83%	78%	72%	67%	62%	56%	52%	48%					
2005	11 469	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	85%	80%	74%	68%	62%	58%	54%						
2006	11 209	100%	99%	98%	95%	91%	86%	81%	75%	69%	64%	60%							
2007	10 798	100%	99%	98%	95%	91%	86%	81%	75%	70%	66%								
2008	11 241	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	86%	81%	77%	72%									
2009	11 075	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	88%	83%	80%										
2010	10 845	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	84%											
2011	10 563	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%												
2012	9 843	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%													
2013	8 909	100%	100%	98%	96%														
2014	7 118	100%	100%	98%															
2015	4 569	100%	99%																
2016	1 777	99%																	
2017	473																		
2018	2																		

hh) Slovenia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002	7 975	3 693	530	368
2003	90 695	40 925	4 094	2 434
2004	98 842	44 133	4 521	3 082
2005	108 006	46 433	4 741	3 545
2006	115 081	49 633	5 558	4 472
2007	121 526	53 388	6 407	5 504
2008	132 308	60 634	7 979	7 235
2009	136 752	65 632	9 637	9 102
2010	145 473	68 048	11 676	11 232
2011	150 173	66 730	13 289	13 023
2012	152 902	65 381	15 401	15 250
2013	155 750	57 046	17 914	17 835
2014	158 626	45 862	19 542	19 508
2015	155 860	27 629	17 590	17 586
2016	155 958	10 803	8 814	8 813
2017	131 384	1 933	1 933	1 933
2018	61 737	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002	530	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	90%	88%	85%	82%	79%	76%	74%	71%	69%	69%			
2003	4 094	100%	99%	98%	96%	92%	87%	83%	79%	75%	71%	68%	64%	61%	59%				
2004	4 521	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	89%	86%	82%	78%	75%	72%	69%	68%					
2005	4 741	100%	100%	98%	96%	94%	91%	88%	84%	81%	78%	76%	75%						
2006	5 558	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	93%	90%	87%	84%	82%	80%							
2007	6 407	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	92%	89%	87%	86%								
2008	7 979	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	93%	91%	91%									
2009	9 637	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%	97%	95%	94%										
2010	11 676	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%	97%	96%											
2011	13 289	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%	98%												
2012	15 401	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%													
2013	17 914	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2014	19 542	100%	100%	100%															
2015	17 590	100%	100%																
2016	8 814	100%																	
2017	1 933																		
2018	1																		

ii) Slovakia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002	42 949	19 760	2 329	1 303
2003	90 989	41 165	4 365	2 448
2004	99 157	44 422	4 743	3 023
2005	108 264	46 684	4 678	3 255
2006	115 463	50 015	5 200	3 869
2007	122 071	53 924	5 615	4 572
2008	133 047	61 377	6 673	5 747
2009	137 846	66 726	7 647	6 988
2010	146 832	69 407	8 552	8 016
2011	151 745	68 302	9 241	8 932
2012	154 707	67 186	9 812	9 595
2013	157 619	58 915	10 011	9 900
2014	160 121	47 357	9 693	9 640
2015	156 899	28 669	7 937	7 931
2016	156 465	11 305	3 999	3 996
2017	131 395	1 944	1 274	1 271
2018	61 737	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002	2 329	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	87%	83%	78%	73%	69%	66%	62%	59%	57%	56%			
2003	4 365	100%	99%	98%	96%	91%	87%	82%	78%	73%	69%	65%	61%	58%	56%				
2004	4 743	100%	100%	98%	94%	91%	88%	83%	79%	75%	72%	69%	66%	64%					
2005	4 678	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	89%	86%	82%	78%	75%	72%	70%						
2006	5 200	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	90%	87%	83%	80%	76%	74%							
2007	5 615	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	90%	87%	84%	81%								
2008	6 673	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	91%	88%	86%									
2009	7 647	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	93%	91%										
2010	8 552	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	94%											
2011	9 241	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%												
2012	9 812	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%													
2013	10 011	100%	100%	99%	99%														
2014	9 693	100%	100%	99%															
2015	7 937	100%	100%																
2016	3 999	100%																	
2017	1 274																		
2018	1																		

jj) San Marino

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009	75 629	38 688	7 891	7 776
2010	155 388	77 964	18 042	17 779
2011	158 142	74 699	17 006	16 874
2012	159 046	71 525	16 559	16 468
2013	161 575	62 871	17 638	17 603
2014	161 891	49 127	16 235	16 223
2015	157 887	29 656	13 616	13 615
2016	156 644	11 484	6 755	6 754
2017	131 390	1 940	1 768	1 765
2018	61 737	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001																			
2002																			
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009	7 891	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%										
2010	18 042	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%											
2011	17 006	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%												
2012	16 559	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%													
2013	17 638	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2014	16 235	100%	100%	100%															
2015	13 616	100%	100%																
2016	6 755	100%																	
2017	1 768																		
2018	1																		

kk) Turkey

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
1999				
2000				
2001	81 138	37 772	7 108	4 239
2002	84 397	38 785	7 842	5 062
2003	91 456	41 506	8 851	6 292
2004	99 581	44 730	10 408	7 986
2005	108 670	47 018	11 771	9 705
2006	115 892	50 377	14 113	12 336
2007	122 102	53 905	16 649	15 184
2008	132 810	61 119	21 287	20 096
2009	137 144	66 016	25 590	24 818
2010	145 454	68 029	30 556	30 105
2011	149 501	66 058	35 370	35 149
2012	151 534	64 013	41 462	41 302
2013	154 588	55 885	45 797	45 715
2014	157 823	45 058	42 019	41 999
2015	155 529	27 299	27 277	27 271
2016	155 913	10 751	10 751	10 751
2017	131 384	1 933	1 933	1 933
2018	61 737	1	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1999																			
2000																			
2001	7 108	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	95%	87%	83%	77%	72%	68%	64%	60%	60%	60%	60%		
2002	7 842	100%	100%	100%	100%	97%	91%	87%	81%	77%	73%	68%	65%	65%	65%	65%			
2003	8 851	100%	100%	100%	98%	94%	91%	87%	83%	79%	76%	72%	72%	71%	71%				
2004	10 408	100%	100%	99%	96%	94%	91%	87%	84%	81%	77%	77%	77%	77%					
2005	11 771	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	90%	86%	83%	83%	83%	82%						
2006	14 113	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	93%	91%	88%	88%	88%	87%							
2007	16 649	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	92%	92%	91%	91%								
2008	21 287	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	95%	95%	94%									
2009	25 590	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	97%	97%	97%										
2010	30 556	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%											
2011	35 370	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%												
2012	41 462	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%													
2013	45 797	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2014	42 019	100%	100%	100%															
2015	27 277	100%	100%																
2016	10 751	100%																	
2017	1 933																		
2018	1																		

ANNEX 2 NATIONAL STATISTICS

A. NATIONAL PATENT APPLICATIONS

a) Filing route and growth over 2017 (not adjusted for missing data)

Country		National		PCT national phase		Total		Resident		Non Resident	
Albania	AL	15	-	3	-	18		14	-	4	-
Austria	AT	2 309	-0.4%	435	-25.3%	2 744	-5.4%	2 419	-4.1%	325	-14.0%
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	BE	1 110	-8.8%			1 110	-8.8%	893	-11.1%	217	2.4%
Bulgaria*	BG		-		-	0			-		-
Switzerland/Liechtenstein	CH/LI	1 533	-1.5%	82	13.9%	1 615	-0.8%	1 283	-4.0%	332	14.1%
Cyprus ⁽¹⁾	CY	6	-50.0%			6	-50.0%	4	-50.0%	2	-50.0%
Czech Republic	CZ	708	-15.2%	26	-3.7%	734	-14.8%	678	-14.6%	56	-17.6%
Germany	DE	60 872	-1.0%	7 027	12.6%	67 899	0.3%	46 623	-2.4%	21 276	6.8%
Denmark	DK	1 408	-16.7%	93	14.8%	1 501	-15.3%	1 262	-15.3%	239	-15.2%
Estonia	EE	27	-27.0%	4		31	-24.4%	30	-18.9%	1	-75.0%
Spain	ES	1 578	-31.0%	96	68.4%	1 674	-28.6%	1 525	-29.6%	149	-15.3%
Finland	FI	1 463	-2.3%	24	-25.0%	1 487	-2.7%	1 385	-0.4%	102	-26.6%
France ⁽¹⁾	FR	16 222	0.5%			16 222	0.5%	14 466	0.4%	1 756	-4.1%
United Kingdom	GB	18 539	-4.3%	2 580	-10.6%	21 119	-5.1%	12 865	-3.2%	8 254	-7.9%
Greece ⁽¹⁾	GR	580	-1.5%			580	-1.5%	431	-13.5%	149	63.7%
Croatia	HR	134	-13.0%	2	-60.0%	136	-14.5%	121	-18.2%	15	36.4%
Hungary	HU	432	-16.6%	11	-21%	443	-16.7%	407	-17.9%	36	0.0%
Ireland ⁽¹⁾	IE	641	139.2%			641	139.2%	193	6.0%	448	420.9%
Iceland	IS	59	37.2%	7	600.0%	66	50.0%	56	55.6%	10	25.0%
Italy ⁽¹⁾	IT	9 821	1.5%			9 821	1.5%	8 921	3.2%	900	-12.7%
Lithuania ⁽¹⁾	LT	105	-17.3%			105	-17.3%	81	0.0%	24	-47.8%
Luxembourg	LU	404	-14.2%	31	93.8%	435	-10.7%	152	23.6%	283	-22.3%
Latvia ⁽¹⁾	LV	110	13.4%			110	13.4%	86	-4.4%	24	242.9%
Monaco ⁽¹⁾	MC	15	-57.1%			15	-57.1%	4	-77.8%	11	-35.3%
North Macedonia	MK	1 092	9.2%	2	-33.3%	1 094	9.1%	32	-38.5%	1 062	11.7%
Malta ⁽¹⁾	MT	19	72.7%			19	72.7%	4	0.0%	15	114.3%
Netherlands ⁽¹⁾	NL	2 519	-3.3%			2 519	-3.3%	2 110	-5.8%	409	12.1%
Norway	NO	1 136	-8.5%	541	-33.3%	1 677	-18.3%	1 088	-6.2%	589	-34.0%
Poland	PL	4 269	6.8%	53	23.3%	4 322	7.0%	4 207	7.2%	115	-1.7%
Portugal	PT	826	0.1%	16	-23.8%	842	-0.5%	727	1.1%	115	-9.4%
Romania*	RO		-		-	-			-		-
Serbia	RS	167	-8.7%	7	600.0%	174	-5.4%	163	-4.7%	11	-15.4%
Sweden	SE	2 208	-0.1%	66	-23.3%	2 274	-1.0%	1 835	-7.8%	439	43.0%
Slovenia ⁽¹⁾	SI	278	-19.2%			278	-19.2%	255	-20.8%	23	4.5%
Slovakia	SK	228	14.6%	3	-57.1%	231	12.1%	217	18.6%	14	-39.1%
San Marino	SM	31	19.2%	0		31	10.7%	5	0.0%	26	13.0%
Turkey	TR	7 293	-12.4%	215	-40.4%	7 508	-13.6%	7 210	-13.2%	298	-16.8%
EPC States		138 157	-2.4%	11 324	-0.2%	149 481	-2.3%	111 752	-3.5%	37 729	1.4%
EPC States estimates						150 830	-2.1%				

(1) PCT national route closed

* Data not provided

Due to missing data, figures do not necessarily add up.

b) Origin of foreign applications

Origin	Office of filing																												Total EPC											
	AL	AT	BE	BG*	CH/LI	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	ES	FI	FR	GB	GR	HR	HU	IE	IS	IT	LT	LU	LV	MC	MK	MT	NL	NO		PL	PT	RO*	RS	SE	SI	SK	SM	TR		
AL	-	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
AT	1	-	0		42	0	0	777	2	0	0	2	8	37	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	3	0	0	20	0	2	2	1	0		0	2	1	0	0	0	7	916	
BE	0	0	-		0	0	0	53	0	0	0	0	91	165	0	0	0	1	0	43	1	14	0	0	23	0	75	1	3	2		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	472	
BG	0	0	2	-	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	
CH	0	43	2		-	0	3	813	6	0	8	5	94	275	0	0	2	0	0	144	0	1	0	0	61	0	4	7	3	12		0	66	1	0	0	3	1 553		
CY	0	0	0		0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0		0	1	0	0	0	0	13		
CZ	0	11	1		0	0	-	39	1	0	0	0	11	12	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	9	0	3	0	5	0		0	0	3	10	0	2	111		
DE	0	166	97		120	0	18	-	24	0	11	23	375	470	3	0	2	7	0	320	0	117	0	0	118	1	46	23	19	5		0	27	6	1	0	41	2 040		
DK	0	0	0		0	0	0	49	-	0	0	3	12	35	1	0	0	1	0	10	0	0	0	17	0	3	9	1	2		0	8	0	0	0	0	0	151		
EE	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	-	0	3	0	12	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		0	2	0	0	0	0	0	21	
ES	0	2	5		8	0	0	44	0	0	-	1	85	30	0	0	0	0	5	0	4	0	0	16	0	7	2	2	23		0	2	0	0	0	0	5	241		
FI	0	11	1		0	0	0	50	3	0	1	-	4	102	5	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	15	0	1	6	2	1		0	93	0	0	0	0	0	298	
FR	0	2	19		14	0	0	346	6	0	10	1	-	184	0	0	0	0	0	61	0	12	0	1	43	0	2	10	4	1		0	3	0	0	0	2	721		
GB	0	6	5		10	0	0	371	4	0	1	2	55	-	30	0	1	15	0	22	0	7	0	0	66	1	2	20	3	4		0	5	0	1	0	5	636		
GR	0	1	0		0	0	1	6	0	0	1	0	2	7	-	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	24	
HR	0	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
HU	0	3	2		1	0	0	18	1	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	-	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	
IE	0	0	0		0	0	1	128	1	0	1	0	13	353	0	0	2	-	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	2	0	0	0	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	518	
IS	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	12	
IT	2	20	3		16	0	0	114	0	0	15	0	92	43	0	2	2	0	0	-	0	0	0	48	0	6	1	5	9		1	1	6	0	26	8	420			
LI	0	5	0		0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	
LT	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
LU	0	2	5		0	0	0	62	3	0	4	1	35	24	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	-	0	0	11	0	5	0	1	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	158	
LV	0	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	1	0	2	2	1	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	
MC	0	0	0		0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	
MK	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
MT	0	0	0		0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	4	11	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	0	0	0		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	29	
NL	0	3	11		12	0	0	152	9	0	4	0	34	153	1	0	0	2	0	4	0	9	0	0	27	0	-	56	1	3		0	3	0	0	0	2	486		
NO	0	2	0		0	0	0	16	25	0	0	2	9	378	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	-	3	0		0	28	0	0	0	3	473		
PL	0	2	0		0	0	3	28	0	0	1	1	5	19	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	7	0	1	0	-	1		0	1	0	0	0	4	79			
PT	0	0	0		0	0	0	16	0	0	1	0	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	-		0	0	0	0	0	0	38		
RO	1	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	2	30		
RS	0	0	0		0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		-	0	0	0	0	1	21		
SE	0	2	0		0	0	0	393	11	1	1	25	48	149	0	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	24	0	1	11	0	0		0	-	0	0	0	1	701		
SI	0	2	0		0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	1	17	0	5	0	0	0	2	0	7	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	-	0	0	1	54		
SK	0	3	0		0	0	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		0	0	1	-	0	0	23		
SM	0	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	-	0	0	17	
TR	0	1	0		0	0	1	24	0	0	2	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	1		0	1	0	1	0	-	0	50	
EPC States	4	287	153	0	223	0	34	3 561	101	1	61	69	995	2 555	44	7	19	27	2	707	1	187	1	1	550	2	168	153	56	66	0	1	245	18	13	26	88	10 426		
CN	0	6	29		29	0	0	491	5	0	6	1	104	1 006	0	0	0	0	1	28	23	0	23	9	13	0	64	1	1	0		0	7	0	0	0	25	1 872		
JP	0	5	6		36	0	12	8 013	10	0	19	21	232	637	0	0	4	0	0	41	0	0	0	65	0	48	13	6	6		0	121	0	0	0	42	9 337			
KR	0	1	0		4	0	0	1 313	0	0	23	0	11	183	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	55	0	1	4	1	1		1	3	0	1	0	17	1 621			
US	0	6	22		19	0	5	6 669	107	0	23	7	252	2 479	103	2	8	6	3	56	0	1	0	0	318	0	72	405	37	21		4	37	1	0	0	49	10 712		
Other	0	20	7		21	2	5	1 229	16	0	17	4	162	1 394	1	6	5	415	4	67	0	95	0	1	61	13	56	13	14	21		5	26	4	0	0	77	3 761		
TOTAL	4	325	217	0	332	2	56	21 276	239	1	149	102	1 756	8 254	149	15	36	448	10	900	24	283	24	11	1 062	15	409	589	115	115	0	11	439	23	14	26	298	37 729		

* Data not provided

c) **First filings**

First filings as % of national domestic applications

Albania	<i>AL</i>	100.0%
Austria	<i>AT</i>	76.8%
Belgium	<i>BE</i>	89.8%
Bulgaria*	<i>BG</i>	
Switzerland/Liechtenstein	<i>CH/LI</i>	92.6%
Cyprus	<i>CY</i>	100.0%
Czech Republic	<i>CZ</i>	99.6%
Germany	<i>DE</i>	92.8%
Denmark	<i>DK</i>	95.9%
Estonia	<i>EE</i>	95.8%
Spain	<i>ES</i>	99.1%
Finland	<i>FI</i>	96.2%
France	<i>FR</i>	97.9%
United Kingdom	<i>GB</i>	88.4%
Greece	<i>GR</i>	99.8%
Croatia	<i>HR</i>	100.0%
Hungary	<i>HU</i>	91.9%
Ireland	<i>IE</i>	87.6%
Iceland	<i>IS</i>	98.1%
Italy	<i>IT</i>	96.9%
Lithuania	<i>LT</i>	100.0%
Luxembourg*	<i>LU</i>	
Latvia	<i>LV</i>	98.8%
Monaco	<i>MC</i>	75.0%
North Macedonia	<i>MK</i>	100.0%
Malta	<i>MT</i>	100.0%
Netherlands	<i>NL</i>	87.4%
Norway	<i>NO</i>	91.7%
Poland	<i>PL</i>	99.8%
Portugal	<i>PT</i>	99.7%
Romania*	<i>RO</i>	
Serbia	<i>RS</i>	100.0%
Sweden	<i>SE</i>	97.9%
Slovenia	<i>SI</i>	89.8%
Slovakia	<i>SK</i>	100.0%
San Marino	<i>SM</i>	100.0%
Turkey	<i>TR</i>	96.6%
EPC states		93.7%

* Data not provided

In addition 61% of the national applications filed by residents from other EPC states were first filings.

B. GRANT PROCEDURE

Country		Granted patents			Applications			Total
		Residents	Non residents	Total	Withdrawn	Deemed withdrawn	Refused	
Albania	AL	8	5	13	0	0	3	16
Austria	AT	1 005	184	1 189	127		1 159	2 475
Belgium	BE	867	152	1 019	62	0	63	1 144
Bulgaria*	BG							
Switzerland / Liechtenstein	CH/LI	420	195	615	142	0	1 297	2 054
Cyprus	CY			1	0	1	1	3
Czech Republic	CZ	455	57	512	98	247	258	1 115
Germany	DE	10 790	5 578	16 368	4 197	30 286	8 640	59 491
Denmark	DK	195	127	322	142	1 590	3	2 057
Estonia	EE	14	1	15	2	17	8	42
Spain	ES	1 638	122	1 760	112	354	148	2 374
Finland	FI	472	61	533	70	801	10	1 414
France	FR	12 142	2 027	14 169	499	0	1 623	16 291
United Kingdom	GB	3 005	2 977	5 982	2 414	2 414	12 009	22 819
Greece	GR	220	11	231	30	4	2	267
Croatia	HR	9	12	21	0	102	25	148
Hungary	HU	83	73	156	62	195	40	453
Ireland	IE	55	32	87	57	71	45	260
Iceland	IS	6	10	16	2	0	0	18
Italy	IT	6 339	85	6 424	586	0	2 061	9 071
Lithuania	LT	68	24	92	5	5	2	104
Luxembourg*	LU							
Latvia	LV	48	3	51	8	4	10	73
Monaco	MC	4	24	28	0	0	4	32
North Macedonia	MK	58	1 219	1 277	0	0	42	1 319
Malta	MT	0	3	3	0	0	0	3
Netherlands	NL	1 631	341	1 972	362	254	8	2 596
Norway	NO	553	1 036	1 589	82	1 460	7	3 138
Poland	PL	2 906	74	2 980			1 273	4 253
Portugal	PT	93	86	179	11	n.a.	204	394
Romania*	RO							
Serbia	RS	36	8	44	6	76	48	174
Sweden	SE	883	180	1 063	120	1 216	26	2 425
Slovenia	SI	223	9	232	15	92	0	339
Slovakia	SK	86	23	109	11	78	57	255
San Marino	SM	11	17	28	1	0	0	29
Turkey	TR	2 597	285	2 882	18	1	1	2 902
Total		46 920	15 041	61 962	9 241	39 268	29 077	139 548
Total estimates				62 970				140 560

* Data not provided

C. WORKING AGREEMENTS EPO-NPO ON SEARCH

a) Ex-IIIB states

As per CA/37/08 rev. 1, the table below shows the latest figures on the numbers and proportions of national applications for which the EPO has conducted search on behalf of the country (FR, NL, BE, LU), which were subsequently filed as European applications or PCT international applications.

Applications are counted in the year of the subsequent applications. Counts for 2018 are still provisional.

Year	Searched by the EPO	Not extended / Remained national		Extended as			
				EP		PCT	
2017	16 935	7 329	43%	2 542	15%	7 064	42%
2018	16 766	6 948	42%	2 757	16%	7 061	42%

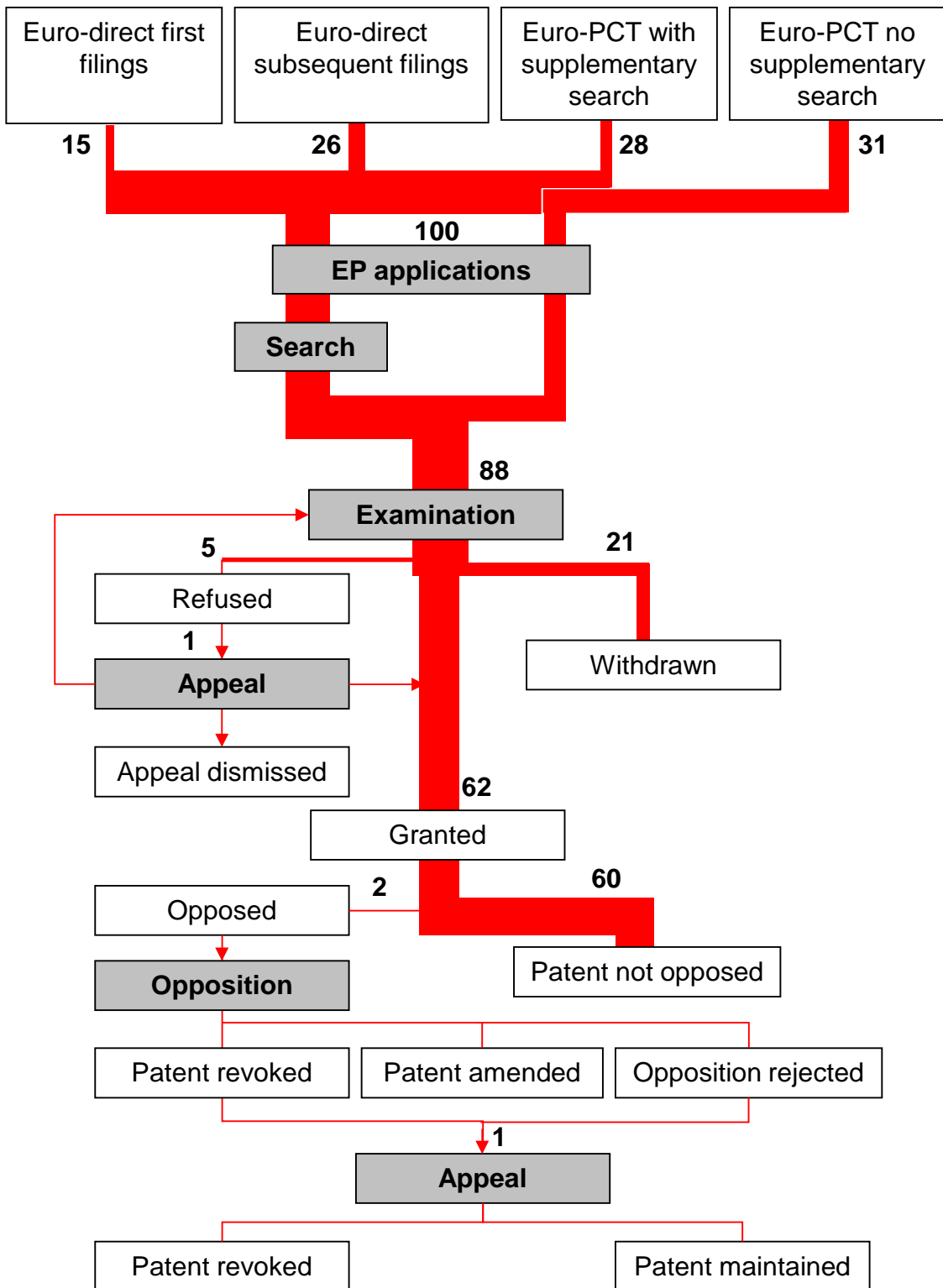
b) Other states

Similar working agreements have been signed with other EPC member states (CY, GB, GR, IT, LT, LV, MC, MT, SM). The agreement with the United Kingdom entered into force on 1 July 2018.

Applications are counted in the year of the subsequent applications. Counts for 2018 are still provisional.

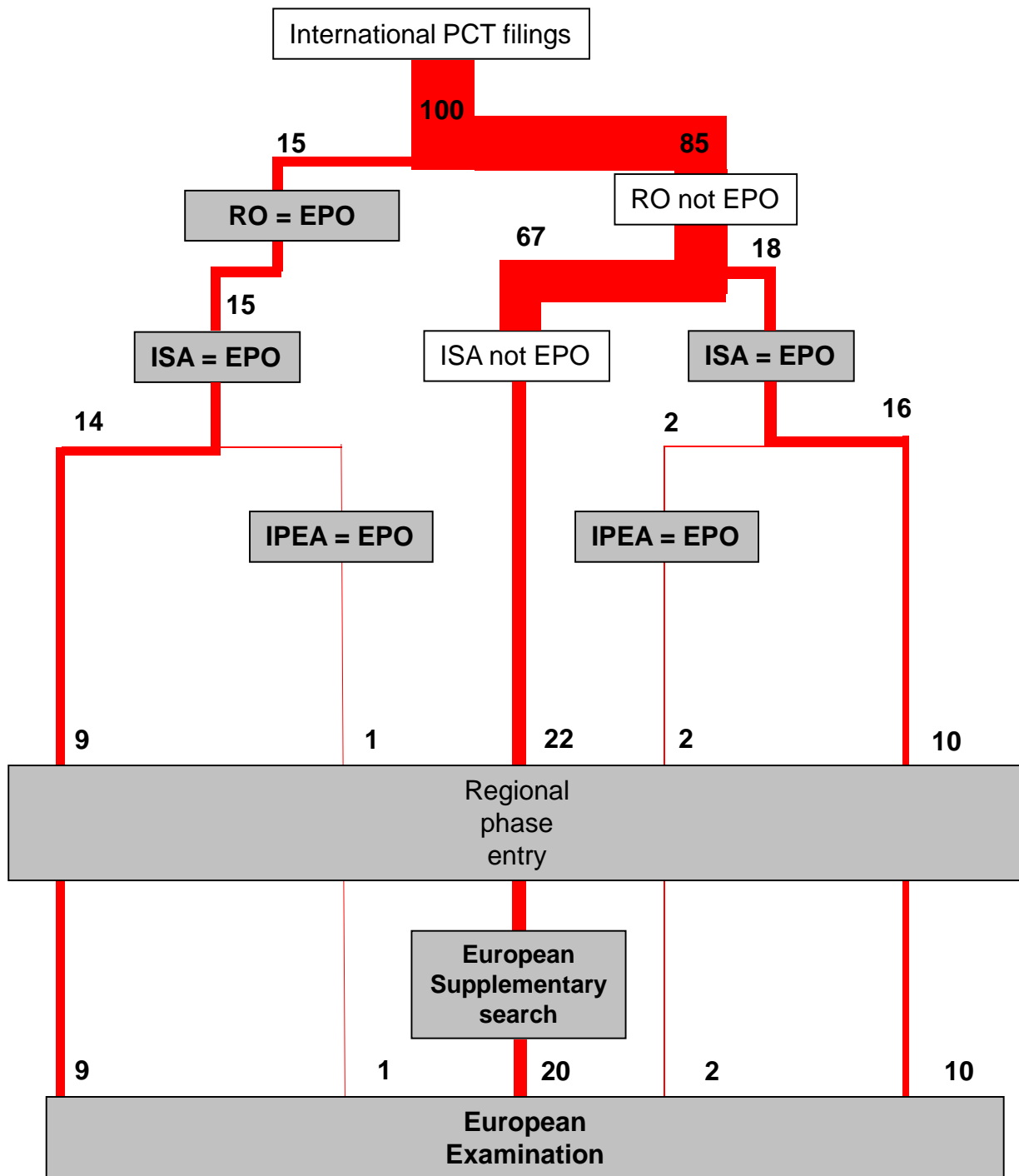
Year	Searched by the EPO	Not extended / Remained national		Extended as			
				EP		PCT	
2017	8 607	4 360	51%	1 457	17%	2 790	32%
2018	8 615	4 357	50%	1 449	17%	2 809	33%

European grant procedure in 2018



The figures illustrate the 2018 values of the different parameters.

PCT International phase and the EPO activities in 2018



RO: Receiving Office
 ISA: International Search Authority
 IPEA: International Preliminary Examining Authority

The figures illustrate the 2018 values of the different parameters.

ANNEX 5 GLOSSARY

Amended form: patent application (description, claims or drawings) has been amended before grant (Article 123 EPC) or during the opposition proceedings (Article 101 EPC) .

Appeal: *ex parte* appeal, *inter partes* appeal or a PCT protest as well as a legal appeal, a disciplinary appeal (Article 106 EPC).

Country of origin: country of residence of the first named applicant.

Direct European route (application): patent application filed under Article 75 EPC (also Euro-direct application).

Designation: indication of the contracting state(s) in which the protection for the invention is desired (Article 79 EPC).

EPC: European Patent Convention (38 contracting states as at 31 December 2018) enables the patent applicant, by means of a single procedure, to obtain a patent in some or all of the contracting states.

Euro-PCT route: a way to obtain a European patent by designating the EPO in a PCT application (Article 11 PCT).

Euro-PCT application – international phase (or Euro-PCT application or PCT international): a PCT application designating the EPO (Article 153(2) EPC).

Euro-PCT application – regional phase (or PCT regional): PCT application entering the European (or regional) phase once the applicant has fulfilled the conditions under Article 22 or 39 PCT, Article 153(3) and (4) and Rule 159 EPC.

Euro-PCT search (or PCT Chapter I): search carried out by the EPO acting as International Searching Authority for a Euro-PCT application in the international phase (Article 16 PCT).

European patent application: either a direct European application or a PCT international application entering the regional phase during the reporting period.

European examination: on written request the EPO shall examine a European patent application (Article 94 EPC).

European first filings: a European application filed without claiming the priority of a previous application.

European search: search carried out by the EPO on a direct European application or a Euro-PCT application having entered the European phase (Article 92 EPC).

Ex parte case: appeal filed against a decision taken by an examining division where only one party is involved.

Final action: the last decision taken by the examining division in the examination procedure, either refusing the patent application or indicating the intention to grant a patent (Article 97 EPC).

First action: the first communication sent to the applicant in the examination procedure (Article 94(3), Rule 71(3) EPC).

Inter partes case: appeal filed against a decision taken by an opposition division where two or more parties are involved.

International PCT filings: (see PCT applications)

International preliminary examination (or PCT Chapter II): non-binding examination which can be requested for a PCT application (Article 31 PCT).

International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA): (23 authorities as of 1 July 2019) office with competence to carry out the international preliminary examination for a PCT application. It may be either a national office (AT, AU, BR, CA, CL, CN, EG, ES, FI, IL, IN, JP, KR, PH, RU, SE, SG, TR, UA, US) or an intergovernmental organisation (EPO, Nordic PI, Visegrad PI) (Article 32 PCT, Article 152 EPC).

International search report with written opinion: search report drawn up by a PCT International Searching Authority (Article 18 PCT and Article 153(6) EPC).

International Searching Authority (ISA): (23 authorities as of 1 July 2019) office with competence to carry out the international search for a PCT application. It may be either a national office (AT, AU, BR, CA, CL, CN, EG, ES, FI, IL, IN, JP, KR, PH, RU, SE, SG, TR, UA, US) or an intergovernmental organisation (EPO, Nordic PI, Visegrad PI), (Article 16 PCT, Article 152 EPC).

IPC (classification): all patent applications are classified in this internationally recognised classification system, which facilitates searches to be carried out on all existing patent documents by technical fields.

National application: filed at a national patent office according to a national procedure or a PCT international application entering the national phase during the reporting period.

Opposition: under Articles 99 and 100 EPC, within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of a European patent in the European Patent Bulletin, any person may give notice to the EPO of opposition to the European patent granted, invoking lack of patentability, e.g. lack of novelty or inventive step (Articles 52-57 EPC); or lack of sufficiently clear and complete disclosure of invention (Article 83 EPC); or that the granted patent extends beyond the application as filed (Article 123(2) EPC).

Patent granted: when the examining division is of the opinion that the application and the invention to which it relates meet the requirements of the EPC, it shall decide to grant the European patent, Article 97(1) EPC. The grant will be effective from the date on which the European Patent Bulletin mentions the grant (Article 97(3) EPC).

PCT: Patent Cooperation Treaty, which encompassed 152 contracting states on 1 July 2019, enabling a patent applicant, by means of a single procedure, to file a patent application in some or all of the contracting states.

PCT application or filing: international application filed under the PCT (Article 3 PCT).

PCT international phase: part of the PCT procedure from filing until the end of the delay to enter national or regional phase (see PCT national phase and Euro-PCT application).

PCT international search: search carried out by an International Searching Authority.

PCT national phase: PCT application entering the national phase once the applicant has fulfilled the conditions under Article 22 or 39 PCT.

PCT regional phase: PCT application entering the European phase at the EPO once the applicant has fulfilled the conditions under Article 22 or 39 PCT.

PCT route: one possible way of filing a patent application within any of the PCT contracting states.

Processing time: time elapsing between the moments the examiner starts and completes a given phase of the procedure.

Protest: appeal filed by an applicant in the PCT procedure if he does not agree with the request to pay an additional fee following a decision on lack of unity of invention taken during either the international search or the international preliminary examination (international phase of the PCT) (Articles 17(3)(a) and 34(3)(a), Rules 40.2 and 68.3 PCT, Rule 158 (3) EPC).

Publication: a patent application is published twice during the procedure:

- a European patent application is published as soon as possible after the expiry of a period of eighteen months from the date of filing or, if priority has been claimed, as from the date of priority (Article 93, Rules 67-69 EPC);
- at the same time as the Office publishes the mention of the grant of the European patent, the Office publishes a specification of the European patent containing the description, the claims and any drawings, Articles 98 and 103, Rule 73 EPC. An international patent application, where the Office is designated, is published under Article 21 PCT and is mentioned in the European Patent Bulletin (Article 153(3)-(6) EPC).

Refusal/rejection:

- the examination division will refuse a European patent application if it is of the opinion that such application or the invention to which it relates does not meet the requirements of the EPC, or if the applicant fails to observe a given time limit (Articles 97(2) EPC).
- the Office will reject an opposition or an appeal if it does not fulfil the necessary requirements (Articles 101 and 110 EPC).

Revocation: a patent is revoked after an opposition procedure if the subject-matter of the patent application is not patentable or if it does not disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art or if the subject matter goes beyond the content of the application filed. The patent can also be revoked if the patent applicant fails to meet all formal requirements (Article 101(2) EPC).

Search report: a report of the results of the search drawn up by the search division if the patent application has been accorded a date of filing and is not deemed to be withdrawn (Article 92 EPC).

Supplementary European search: search carried out by the EPO on a Euro-PCT application entering the regional phase for which the ISA was not the EPO (Article 153(7) EPC).

Technical appeal: *ex parte* appeal, *inter partes* appeal or a PCT protest.

Withdrawal: this is the result of non-compliance to the EPC rules, at any stage of the procedure the applicant does:

- not pay fees in due time
- not file a request for examination within the given time period (Article 94(2) EPC)
- not reply in due time to any invitation within the examination procedure (Article 94(4) EPC).

A patent application can be withdrawn by the applicant at any stage except where a third party proves to the Office that he has initiated proceedings concerning entitlement and then until such time as the Office resumes the proceedings for grant (Rule 14 EPC).