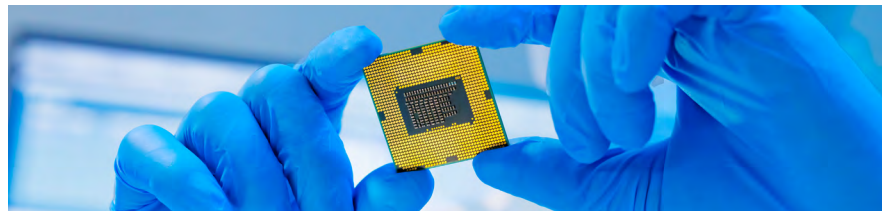


IPR-intensive industries and economic performance in the European Union

Industry-level analysis report, fourth edition
October 2022

A joint project of the European Patent Office and the European Union Intellectual Property Office

Key findings



Background

This joint study by the European Union Intellectual Property Office and the European Patent Office provides a broad, improved assessment of how industries that make intensive use of intellectual property rights (IPR) contribute to EU economies. It updates and extends the findings of a previous study released in 2019.

The study covers a broad range of IP rights – trade marks, patents, designs, copyright, geographical indications (GIs) and plant variety rights (PVRs) – and considers multiple economic indicators, with a focus on gross domestic product (GDP), employment, wages and external trade. Instead of making policy recommendations, the study provides facts and figures that can be used by policymakers to raise awareness of intellectual property as an economic driver.

Key findings

We define IPR-intensive industries as having an above-average use of IPR per employee. Most industries use IP rights to some extent, but this study focuses on areas of the European economy where IP rights make a major contribution.

Key figures for IPR-intensive industries by type of IP right

IPR-intensive industries	Value added / GDP (€ billion)	Direct employment (million)	Direct and indirect employment (million)	Imports (€ billion)	Exports (€ billion)
Trade mark-intensive	5 218	43.6	59.7	1 552	1 547
Design-intensive	2 101	26.8	40.1	1 014	1 232
Patent-intensive	2 361	22.8	36.1	1 342	1 560
Copyright-intensive	934	12.9	16.9	249	229
GI-intensive	15	n/a	n/a	2	13
PVR-intensive	188	1.9	2.5	51	43
All IPR-intensive¹	6 376	61.5	81.6	1 940	2 164

Economic impact of IPR-intensive industries

The positive impact of IPR-intensive industries on key economic indicators is growing steadily (see table below). Direct employment in the 357 IPR-intensive industries reached 61.5 million in 2017-2019.

Economic indicators in EU	Contribution of IPR-intensive industries	
	2014-2016 ²	2017-2019
GDP	46.2%	47.1%
Employment (direct)	28.9%	29.7%
Exports	79.1%	80.1%

¹ Since the same industry may make intensive use of more than one IP right, the sum of the figures for the individual IPR exceeds the figure for all IPR-intensive industries.

² The 2014-2016 figures have been re-calculated to take into account methodological changes between the two studies.

GDP

During 2017-2019, IPR-intensive industries generated 47% of total economic activity (GDP) in the EU, with a value of €6.4 trillion. Trade mark-intensive industries alone were responsible for 39% of EU GDP (€5.2 trillion).

Employment

IPR-intensive industries directly generated 30% of all jobs in the EU during the period 2017-2019. On average, 61.5 million Europeans were directly employed in IPR-intensive industries over this period, out of a total of around 207 million persons employed. An extra 20 million jobs were indirectly generated in industries that supply goods and services to IPR-intensive industries. Taking indirect jobs into account, the total number of IPR-dependent jobs rose to 82 million (39%).

Wage premium

IPR-intensive industries also pay significantly higher wages than other industries, with a premium of 41%. The value added per worker is also higher in IPR-intensive industries than elsewhere in the economy. The wage premium is especially high in patent-intensive industries, where it totals 65% (€985 per week).

Trade

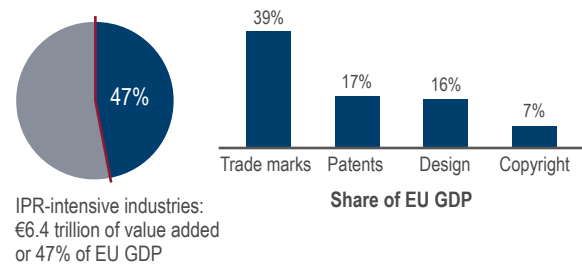
IPR-intensive industries form the backbone of the EU single market, with 76% of trade flows between EU countries. They also account for the bulk of the EU's external trade and generated a trade surplus of €224 billion for the EU in the period 2017-2019. Patent-intensive industries alone generated a surplus of €218 billion.

Download the full report at

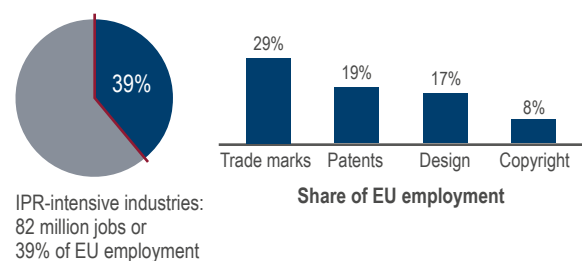
www.epo.org/ipr-intensive-industries

www.euipo.europa.eu/ipcontribution

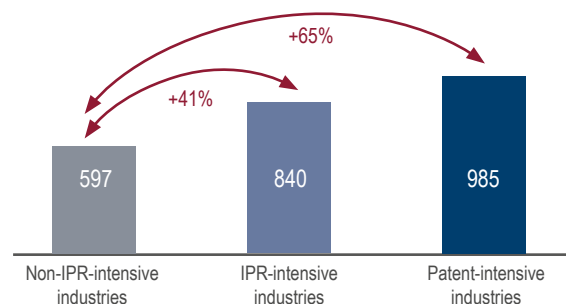
Contribution to EU GDP



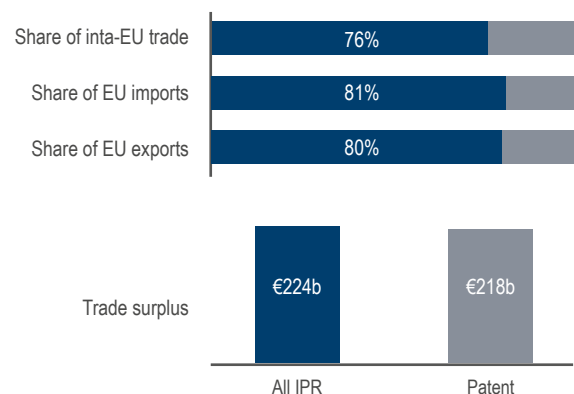
Employment in IPR-intensive industries



Comparison of average wage (€/week)



IPR-intensive industries and EU trade in goods and services



Published and edited by the EPO and the EUIPO
Munich, Germany and Alicante, Spain
www.epo.org
www.euipo.europa.eu

