

Statistical Data

General statistics tables

Patents

	Applications	Requests for examination	First actions	Decisions of registration	Registrations
1991	369,396	146,008	☆	66,637	36,100
1992	371,894	152,853	☆	70,361	92,100
1993	366,486	223,546	☆	77,310	88,400
1994	353,301	144,051	☆	81,664	82,400
1995	369,215	167,923	☆	97,677	109,100
1996	376,615	186,415	☆	195,846	215,100
1997	391,572	205,300	183,744	122,386	147,686
1998	401,932	208,392	216,015	129,443	141,448
1999	405,655	217,389	203,117	135,412	150,059
2000	436,865	261,690	191,131	116,279	125,880

☆ : No data were collected.

Note : The number of first actions indicates the number of first notices of examination results made by examiners
- mainly a decision to grant a patent or notification of reasons for refusal - which were sent to applicants.

Utility Models under Old Law

	Applications	Requests for examination	First actions	Decisions of registration	Registrations
1991	114,687	88,397	☆	51,254	36,500
1992	94,601	75,488	☆	51,067	65,200
1993	77,101	83,909	☆	49,552	53,400
1994	911	44,611	☆	42,007	45,100
1995	776	43,848	☆	48,200	50,200
1996	628	33,409	☆	68,732	82,500
1997	340	18,394	47,534	30,774	38,752
1998	274	283	32,278	22,270	25,107
1999	105	108	8,679	9,775	12,027
2000	37	38	1,113	2,579	3,575

☆ : No data were collected.

Note : The number of first actions indicates the number of first notices of examination results made by examiners
- mainly a decision to grant a patent or notification of reasons for refusal - which were sent to applicants.

Utility Models under New Law

	Applications	Registrations	Request for report of technical opinion on registrability of utility model
1994	16,620	8,785	1,456
1995	14,110	13,766	1,915
1996	13,454	12,981	2,403
1997	11,708	11,356	2,280
1998	10,643	10,406	1,992
1999	10,178	9,959	1,906
2000	9,550	9,038	1,797

☆ : No data were collected.

Note : The number of first actions indicates the number of first notices of examination results made by examiners
- mainly a decision to grant a patent or notification of reasons for refusal - which were sent to applicants.

Designs

	Applications	First actions	Decisions of registration	Registrations
1991	40,134	☆	35,519	28,854
1992	39,170	☆	37,828	38,004
1993	40,759	☆	36,763	38,708
1994	40,534	☆	34,893	34,948
1995	40,067	☆	36,000	34,887
1996	40,192	☆	33,898	35,495
1997	39,865	43,788	32,966	37,418
1998	39,352	48,000	37,489	36,264
1999	37,368	52,191	41,160	41,355
2000	38,496	47,003	37,373	40,037

☆ : No data were collected.

Note 1 : Registrations include similar designs registered.

Note 2 : The number of first actions indicates the number of first notices of examination results made by examiners - mainly a decision of registration or notification of reasons for refusal - which were sent to applicants.

Trademarks

	Applications	First actions	Publication of examined trademarks	Decisions of registration	Registrations
1991	167,906	☆	119,000	135,284	95,329
1992	311,011	☆	150,500	157,404	156,040
1993	174,585	☆	123,500	166,572	166,697
1994	172,859	☆	104,000	126,733	147,191
1995	179,689	☆	138,000	179,811	144,911
1996	188,160	☆	150,000	169,530	178,251
1997	133,116	225,091	* 11,490	193,357	253,272
1998	112,469	178,202		141,531	132,066
1999	121,861	168,767		128,984	123,656
2000	145,668	122,391		95,297	94,369

☆ : No data were collected.

* : The system of publication of examined applications was abolished following introduction of the post-grant opposition system in April 1997. Accordingly, these figures cover statistics for the January - March period.

Note 1 : The number of registrations includes the number of renewal registrations and defensive mark registrations.

Note 2 : The number of first actions indicates the number of first notices of examination results made by examiners - mainly a decision to grant a patent or notification of reasons for refusal - which were sent to applicants.

Note 3 : In 1997, the number of first actions and other relevant numbers temporarily increased due to the abolishment of the system of publication of examined applications. In 1998, on the contrary, these numbers significantly decreased from the previous year because the multi-class application system was adopted this year and the JPO started examining / registering trademark applications under the newly introduced system.

Appeals, Trials and Oppositions

1) Appeals against examiner's decision of refusal

	Patents		Utility models		Total (first actions of patents and utility models under old law)
	Appeals	Appeals accepted	Appeals	Appeals accepted	
1991	13,438	6,626	5,851	3,131	☆
1992	13,514	7,459	5,276	3,896	☆
1993	13,379	7,895	4,835	3,544	☆
1994	12,802	7,905	3,981	3,083	☆
1995	18,819	9,534	4,425	3,647	☆
1996	13,337	16,305	2,809	6,191	☆
1997	13,324	9,175	1,828	2,106	12,135
1998	13,675	7,253	1,404	1,181	10,567
1999	14,086	7,276	864	751	10,848
2000	16,324	5,439	312	399	10,009

	Designs			Trademarks		
	Appeals	First actions	Appeals accepted	Appeals	First actions	Appeals accepted
1991	1,500	☆	586	3,900	☆	1,748
1992	1,572	☆	687	3,953	☆	3,003
1993	1,530	☆	946	3,711	☆	2,959
1994	1,319	☆	863	2,492	☆	2,884
1995	1,447	☆	1,035	2,624	☆	3,450
1996	1,422	☆	959	2,481	☆	4,314
1997	1,393	2,261	1,397	2,763	5,495	6,937
1998	1,370	2,435	1,447	3,968	3,753	3,076
1999	1,306	2,275	1,435	3,643	4,920	3,217
2000	1,209	2,361	1,524	3,277	3,330	2,091

☆ : No data were collected.

Note : The number of first actions indicates the number of appeals/ trial examination results made by appeal examiners - mainly an appeal / trial decision or notification of reasons for refusal - which were sent to demandants.

2) Appeals against examiner's decision to decline amendment

	Patents		Utility Models		Designs		Trademarks	
	Appeals	Appeals accepted	Appeals	Appeals accepted	Appeals	Appeals accepted	Appeals	Appeals accepted
1991	120	57	25	17	7	8	2	1
1992	143	53	45	23	9	1	1	0
1993	143	72	40	16	7	7	5	0
1994	140	108	31	25	0	5	1	1
1995	199	106	36	17	5	0	9	0
1996	154	92	29	16	5	2	4	1
1997	161	125	23	15	2	2	4	3
1998	138	102	19	15	2	0	2	0
1999	119	82	1	9	6	1	17	0
2000	99	53	2	1	26	2	11	2

3) Trials for invalidation

	Patents		Utility Models		Designs		Trademark	
	Appeals	Appeals accepted	Appeals	Appeals accepted	Appeals	Appeals accepted	Appeals	Appeals accepted
1991	91	17	50	12	61	23	164	21
1992	102	19	51	10	36	16	137	22
1993	100	22	69	13	59	13	226	24
1994	113	41	62	12	54	18	185	64
1995	159	45	92	21	38	39	161	70
1996	125	39	108	31	45	39	181	77
1997	184	22	105	29	39	31	210	185
1998	252	46	130	52	30	25	317	136
1999	293	27	109	22	30	19	388	94
2000	296	77	95	34	53	17	307	100

4) Trials for correction

	Patents		Utility Models	
	Appeals	Appeals accepted	Appeals	Appeals accepted
1991	38	17	18	11
1992	46	16	15	12
1993	49	14	20	7
1994	47	29	12	10
1995	27	52	15	19
1996	32	15	8	7
1997	65	30	11	3
1998	69	56	23	11
1999	96	53	13	11
2000	151	68	13	10

5) Trials for cancellation

	Trademarks	
	Appeals	Appeals accepted
1991	1,216	580
1992	1,063	607
1993	990	603
1994	803	660
1995	882	937
1996	1,109	591
1997	1,339	772
1998	1,454	1,079
1999	1,761	1,163
2000	1,576	1,072

6) Hantei (advisory opinion)

	Patents		Utility Models		Designs		Trademarks	
	Requests	Requests regarded as justifiable	Requests	Requests regarded as justifiable	Requests	Requests regarded as justifiable	Requests	Requests regarded as justifiable
1991	9	8	9	4	5	3	6	3
1992	13	5	13	6	5	0	6	1
1993	9	6	23	12	15	8	4	6
1994	23	3	9	15	11	1	3	5
1995	18	11	8	5	12	2	2	4
1996	9	8	10	2	8	9	1	1
1997	8	4	12	4	10	7	5	1
1998	20	9	17	8	22	9	16	4
1999	56	17	17	2	26	14	4	15
2000	78	33	43	14	38	10	16	2

7) Oppositions

	Patents		Utility Models		Trademarks	
	Oppositions	Oppositions accepted	Oppositions	Oppositions accepted	Oppositions	Oppositions accepted
1997	5,322 (7,102)	427	877 (1,070)	70	719 (764)	0
1998	6,130 (7,986)	1,237	696 (824)	279	2,499 (2,621)	110
1999	4,566 (5,680)	1,501	325 (375)	185	1,722 (1,786)	314
2000	4,558 (5,700)	1,285	122 (146)	121	1,350 (1,396)	255

Note : The figures indicate the number of rights. Figures in brackets indicate the total number of oppositions filed. The post-grant opposition system was introduced for patents and utility models in January 1996, and for trademarks in April 1997. Due to the period required for publication of gazettes and filing of oppositions, it was not until the end of the year of introduction that oppositions were filed on a full scale, and it was not until the following year that trial examinations on oppositions actually started.