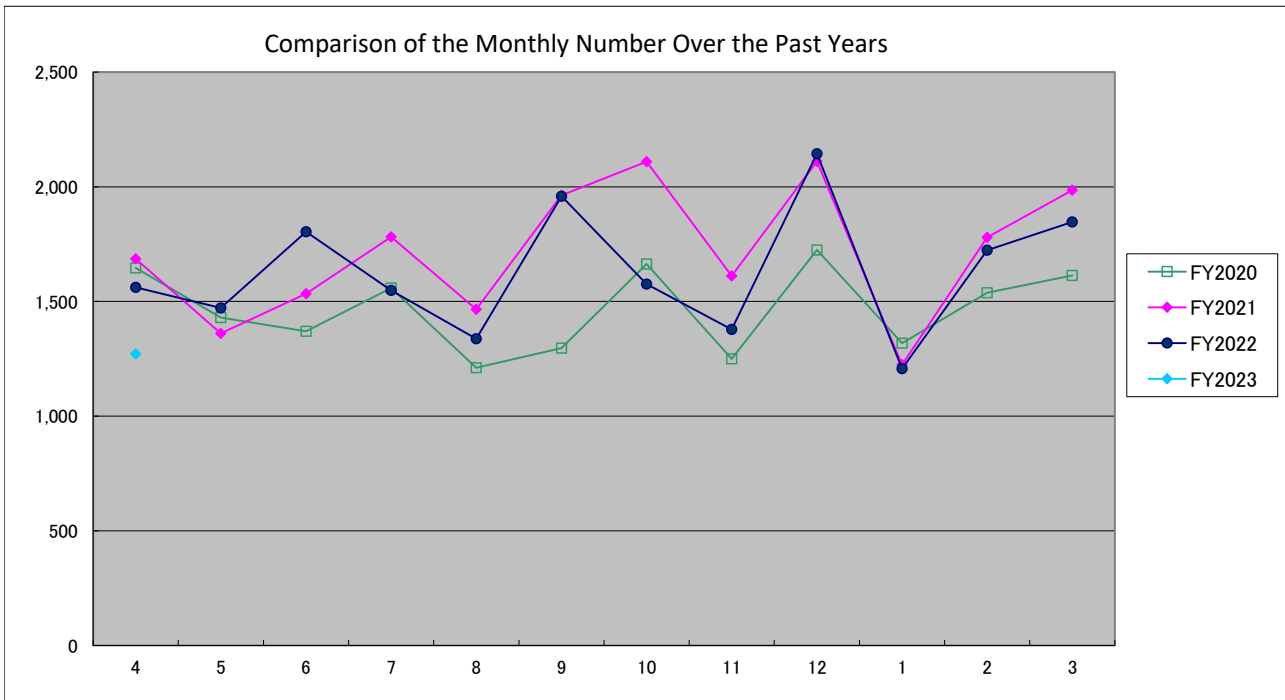
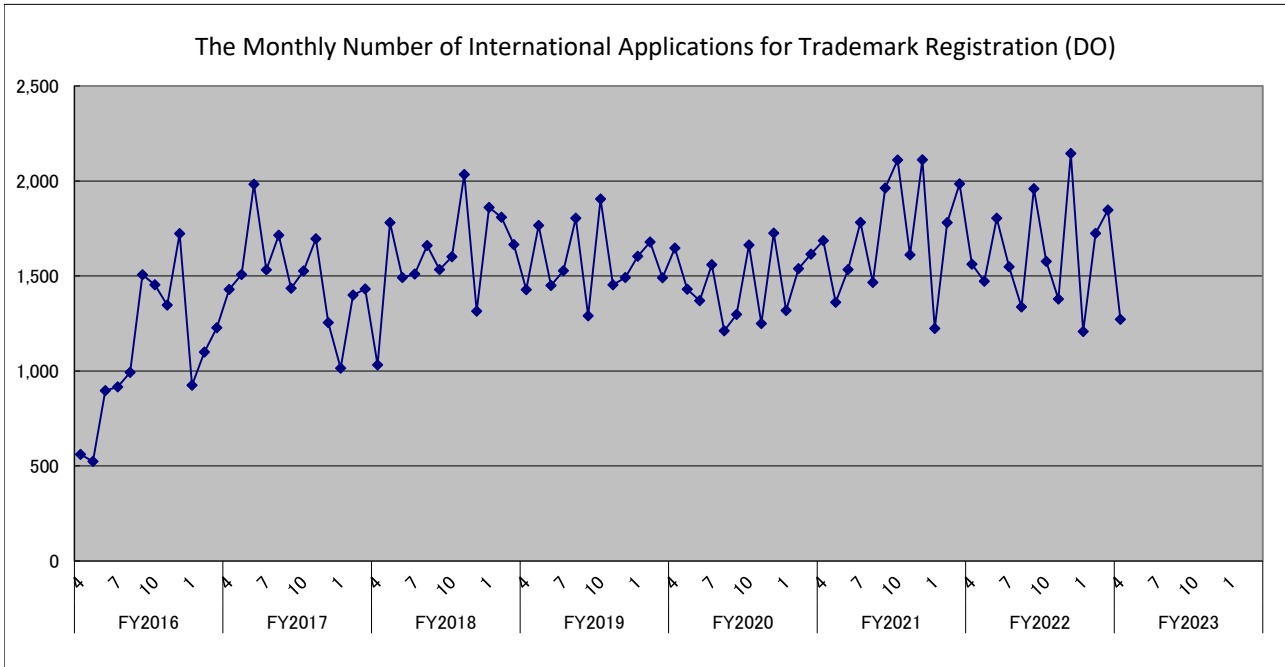


The Number of Patent Applications

*The preliminary data are tentatively compiled figures based on the JPO Statistical Database.
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