

Hague Yearly Review 2021

International Registration
of Industrial Designs



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of Industrial Designs

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Further information

Online resources

An electronic version of the *Review*, as well as the underlying data used to produce all figures and tables, can be downloaded at www.wipo.int/ipstats. The webpage also provides links to the IP Statistics Data Center – offering access to WIPO's statistical data – and to the IP Statistical Country Profiles.

The following resources are available on WIPO's website:

Information on the Hague System

www.wipo.int/hague

Search the International Register

www.wipo.int/hague/en/how_to/search

Contact information

Department for Economics and Data Analytics

Website: www.wipo.int/ipstats

email: ipstats.mail@wipo.int

Key numbers for 2020

5,792 (-1.7%)
International applications

18,580 (-15%)
Designs contained in
international applications

6,795 (+34.8%)
International registrations

23,671 (+27.7%)
Designs contained in
international registrations

24,126 (-3.2%)
Designations in international
applications

75,345 (-11.8%)
Designs contained in designations
in international applications

27,339 (+30.3%)
Designations in international
registrations

89,549 (+21.6%)
Designs contained in designations
in international registrations

4,759 (+34.2%)
Renewals of international
registrations

21,559 (+25.1%)
Designs contained in renewals
of international registrations

44,096 (+6.3%)
International registrations
in force

172,217 (+5.1%)
Designs contained in international
registrations in force

Special theme: Renewal of designs contained in international registrations

Introduction

For the first time, the *Hague Yearly Review* includes a special theme providing in-depth analysis of a topic of specific interest to users of the Hague System. The special theme for this year focuses in on the renewals of international industrial designs via the Hague System.

International registrations of industrial designs through the Hague System are valid for a period of five years and can be renewed for at least two additional five-year periods (i.e., 15 years in total). The maximum term of protection afforded an industrial design by a designated Hague member depends on the locally applicable legislation. In general, it is limited to either 15 years or 25 years.¹ However, there are exceptions, such as Monaco, where the maximum term for the protection an industrial design is 50 years. The whole term of protection afforded is divided into successive renewable periods in a majority of jurisdictions.

Designs registered via the Hague System are renewed through the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), primarily by paying the required renewal fee.² If this is not paid, the registration may lapse, and therefore no longer be valid and enforceable in case of infringements.

Renewal data are often used to indicate the value of intellectual property rights (IPR). This is based on the assumption that holders will only choose to renew an IPR if the value of maintaining the IPR is greater than the cost of renewal, meaning that those designs that are renewed are of a greater value than those left to expire.

The special theme for this year examines firstly trends in renewals, followed by the distribution of renewals by renewal category, renewal rate, the age profile of designs in force, renewal by Locarno class and, lastly, renewal by IPR holders.

How many designs are renewed each year?

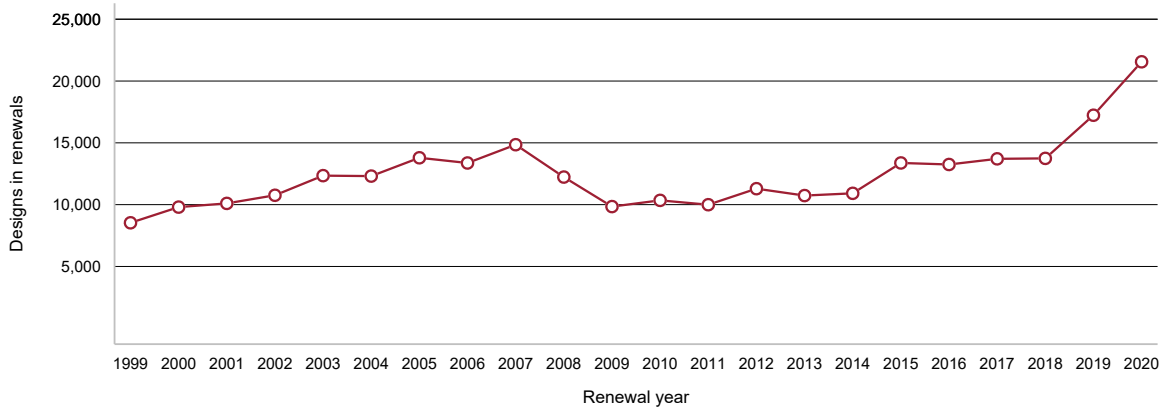
The number of designs renewed increased sharply between 1999 and 2007 – from around 8,500 in 1999 to 14,800 in 2007 – followed by a steep decline between 2008 and 2011 (see figure 1). The decline witnessed during the 2008–2011 period was due to the availability of a Registered Community Design (RCD), first issued by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) in 2003. This enables applicants to file a single application for protection across all European Union (EU) member states. Applicants seeking protection in EU markets began to use the RCD instead of the Hague System, resulting in a sudden and marked decrease in the number of designs registered via the Hague System between 2003 and 2006 (figure 2). This meant that, because an international registration can only be renewed every five years, fewer registrations became due for renewal during the 2008–2011 period. For the same reason, due to a subsequent increase in designs contained in new registrations between 2012 and 2017, designs in renewals grew strongly once again in 2019 and 2020 – averaging 25% a year. The increase in designs registered between 2012 and 2017 is partly attributable to the expansion of the Hague System through the accession of several big economies, namely, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America (U.S.), which dramatically boosted its attractiveness to users seeking protection across a broad range of jurisdictions.

IPR holders located in Germany (5,688 designs) registered the most renewals in 2020, followed by those

1 For further information on maximum terms of protection, see www.wipo.int/hague/en/declarations/declarations.html#protection.

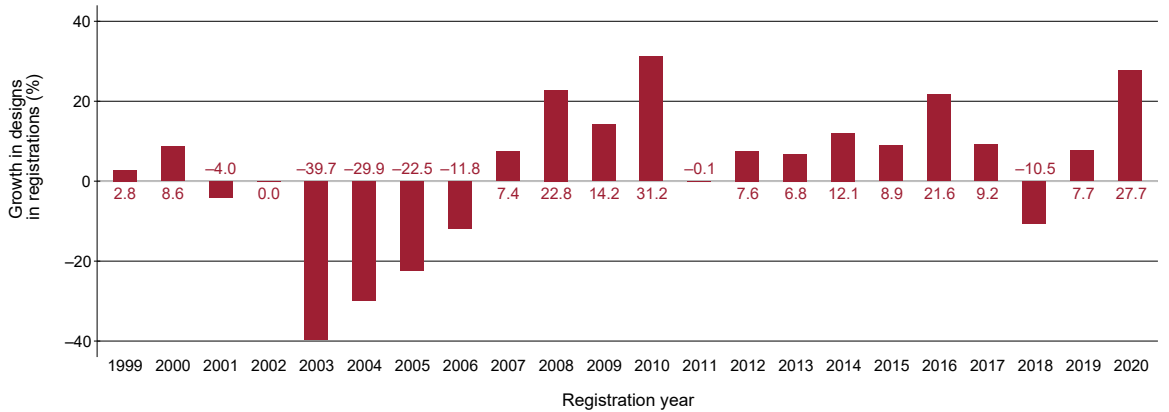
2 The renewal fee for an international registration consists of the basic fee, the standard designation fee and the individual designation fee (see www.wipo.int/hague/en/fees/sched.htm).

1. Designs in renewals via the Hague System, 1999–2020



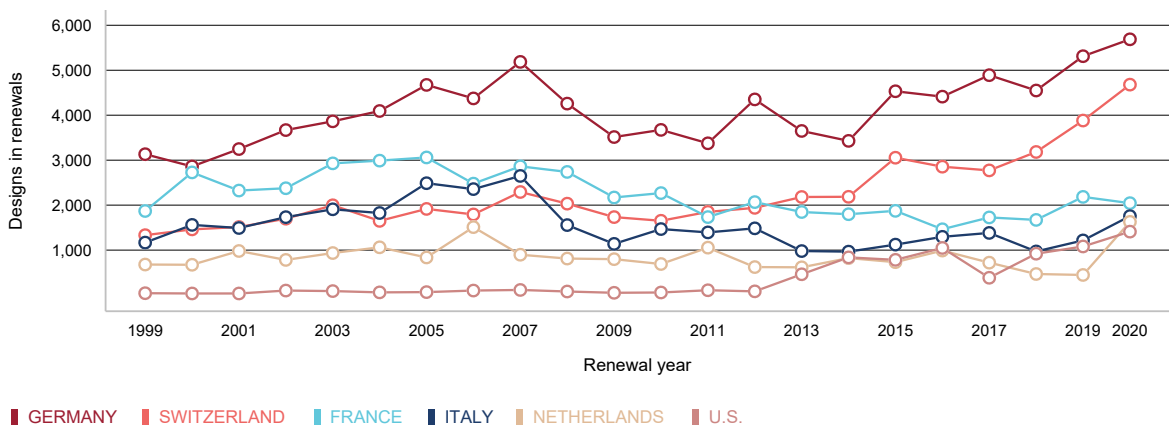
Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

2. Growth in designs contained in international registrations, 1999–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

3. Designs in renewals for the top six origins, 1999–2020



Note: the top six origins were selected based on total number of designs in renewals in 2020.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

in Switzerland (4,680), France (2,044), Italy (1,756), the Netherlands (1,628) and the U.S. (1,411). Combined, the top six origins accounted for 79.8% of all renewals in 2020, which is around 15 percentage points below their 2010 share. In the past five years, renewals by the top six origins have been on an upward trend, most notably for Germany and Switzerland; however, designs in renewals for both France and Italy remain below their 2007 values (figure 3). Recent members Japan and the Republic of Korea are not currently among the top six origins for renewals, but, considering the high number of designs registered in the recent past, they are likely to see a large volume of renewals within the next two to three years as the first five-year term ends.

Distribution of designs in renewals by renewal category

As mentioned, the whole term of protection is divided into successive five-year periods. The total number of renewals in any given year can be disaggregated into first-, second- and third-renewal, and so on. For an international registration, the first-renewal is due five years after initial registration, the second after 10 years, the third after 15 years, and the fourth after 20 years.

More than 60% of all the designs renewed between 1995 and 2007 were renewed for the first time (figure 4). Designs renewed for a second time constituted the largest proportion of renewals between 2009 and 2012, ranging from 42.2% to 46.4%. That the share of second-renewals is higher than it is for first-renewals is due to a drop in registrations between 2003 and 2006, which meant fewer designs were eligible for a first renewal between 2008 and 2012. Designs renewed for a third time also accounted for a large proportion of all renewals between 2009 and 2017, ranging from 15.2% in 2009 to 22.8% in 2017. The share of designs renewed for a fourth time has been on an upward trend since 2008 and accounted for 11.2% of all renewals in 2020 (the fourth-renewal category includes renewal for a fourth time or more).

There is a wide variation in the distribution of renewals by category for the 2011–2020 period among the top 15 origins. Designs renewed for a first time accounted for all renewals for the Republic of Korea (figure 5). This is due to the Republic of Korea only having become a member of the Hague System in 2014, meaning insufficient time had elapsed for registrations to be renewed for a second time. First-time renewals also accounted for a high share of all renewals in Liechtenstein, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom (U.K.). As for Spain, more than half of all its renewals were renewed for a second time. Likewise, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland had a large proportion of second-renewals,

with around a quarter of all designs renewed for a second time. The share of third-renewals was highest for Italy, while Belgium, France and the Netherlands had high shares of third- and fourth-renewals.

Among the top 15 origins, the four categories are distributed more or less equally for France, Italy and the Netherlands. In contrast, Turkey's renewals are skewed towards the first- and second-renewal categories.

What proportion of designs contained in international registrations are actually renewed?

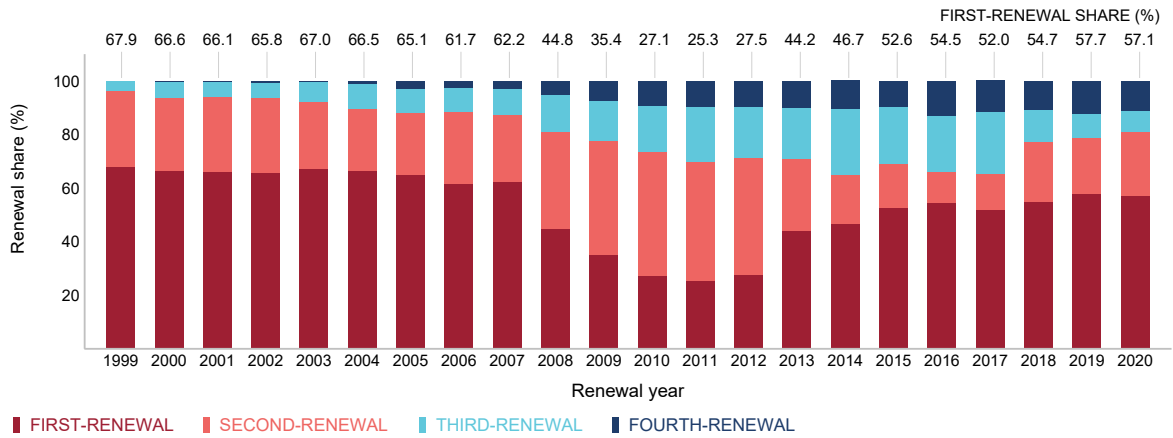
When international registrations become due for renewal, IPR holders have to decide whether to pay the renewal fees to maintain them or let them lapse. It is reasonable to assume that registrations will be renewed, if the value to be gained from renewal outweighs the cost. Note that renewals of international registrations can be partial – if a registration contains five designs and designates four Hague members, the holder can decide whether to renew fewer designs or renew in fewer designated members, or both.

Figure 6 shows the first-renewal rate for the 1999–2020 period. This is defined as the total number of designs renewed for the first time in any given year divided by the total number of designs that must be renewed for the first time or else lapse. For example, in 2020, 15,857 designs were due for renewal at the end of the initial registration period, of which 11,675 were renewed. This gives a first-renewal rate of 73.6%. The first-renewal rate for designs contained in international registrations has been on an upward trend for the past two decades, ranging from 42.7% in 1999 up to 73.6% in 2020. Moreover, the first-renewal rate has been above 60% for each year since 2013 (i.e., six in 10 designs were renewed at the end of the initial registration period).

Among the top 15 origins, for the 2011–2020 period, the first-renewal rate ranged from 35.7% for Austria to 87.2% for Liechtenstein (figure 7). Like Austria, Turkey (36.9%) had a low first-renewal rate. For each of the remaining 13 countries, the first-renewal rate was above 50%. Liechtenstein, the Republic of Korea and the U.S. had a very high first-renewal rate, with eight out of 10 designs renewed at the end of the initial registration period.

Comparison of the first-renewal rates between the 2001–2010 and 2011–2020 periods shows that every top 15 origin, with the exception of Sweden and the U.K., had a higher first-renewal rate for the 2011–2020 period than for the preceding period. The most notable increases were for Germany (+25.4 percentage points), Liechtenstein (+29.6) and Spain (24.8).

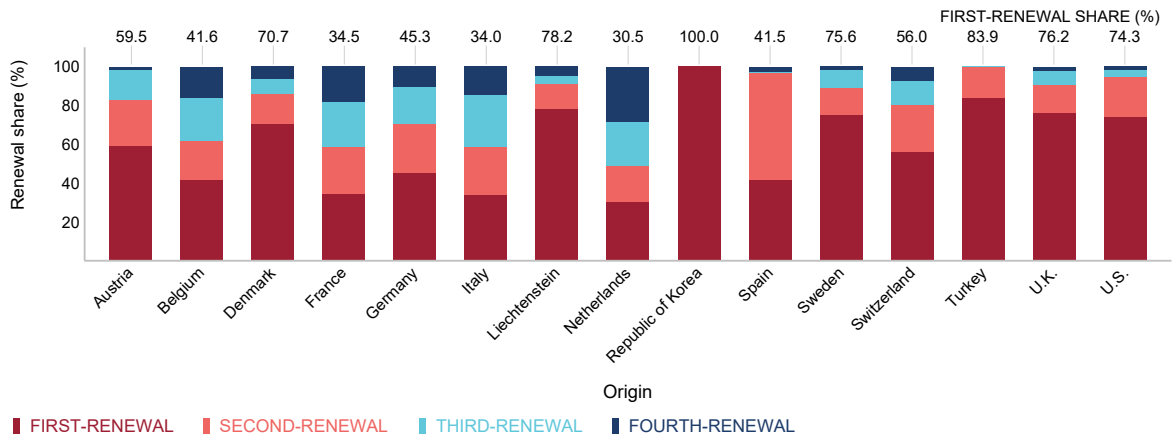
4. Designs in renewals by category, 1999–2020



Note: The fourth-renewal category includes renewal for a fourth time or more.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

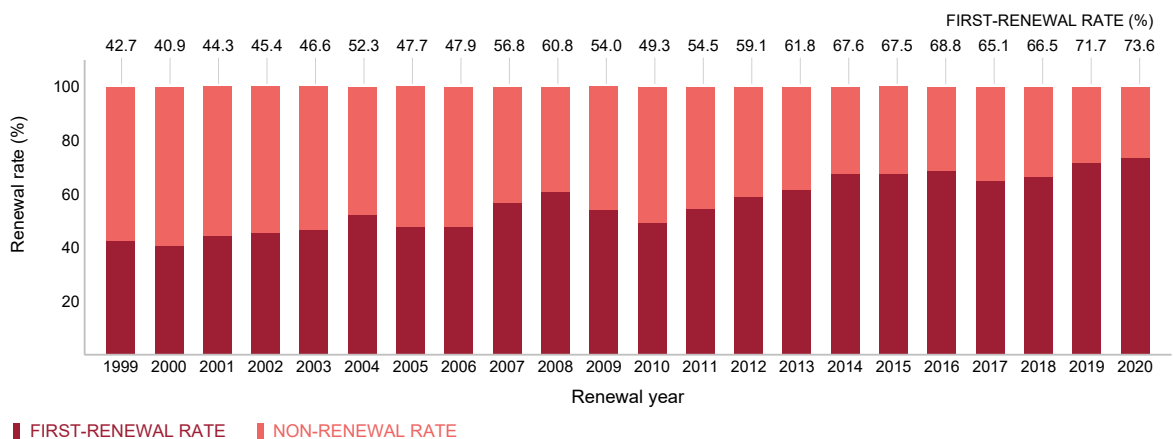
5. Designs in renewals by category for the top 15 origins, 2011–2020



Note: The top 15 origins were selected based on the total number of designs in renewals between 2011 and 2020. The fourth-renewal category includes renewal for a fourth time or more.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

6. First-renewal rate for designs contained in international registrations, 1999–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

How does the renewal rate differ between categories?

On average, at the end of the initial registration period (first-renewal), two-thirds of all registered designs were renewed during the 2011–2020 period (figure 8). Whereas six out of 10 designs due for renewal for either a second or third time were renewed, one in two designs – that is, half – due for renewal for a fourth time were renewed. (Note that the renewal rate declines over time.)

Rates for the first-, second- and third-renewal categories increased between the 2001–2010 and 2011–2020 periods. The first-renewal category made the most significant gain – a 17.5 percentage points increase. In contrast, the fourth-renewal rate declined from 58.1% in 2002–2010 down to 51.2% in 2011–2020. This is mostly due to a considerable decrease in the fourth-renewal rate for designs originating from Italy and the Netherlands, which declined by 22 and 11 percentage points, respectively.

For the six of the top 10 origins, the first-renewal rate was the highest for the four renewal categories (figure 9). For Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands, the third-renewal category that had the highest renewal rate, whereas for Spain it was the fourth.

The profile of the renewal rate varies across origins. For instance, for the Netherlands, the first-renewal rate was lower than the second, which in turn was lower than the third-renewal rate. In contrast, for the U.S., the first-renewal rate was higher than both the second- and third-renewal rate, which in turn was higher than the fourth-renewal rate. Among the top 10 origins, Belgium and France had the smallest standard deviation between the four renewal categories – that is, the renewal rates for the four categories fluctuated within a narrow range. In contrast, Liechtenstein and Spain had the greatest standard deviation – that is, the renewal rates of the four categories differed considerably.

Age profile of designs in force

Designs registered between 1991 and 2000 and between 2001 and 2010 have a similar age profile (figure 10).³ For these two cohorts, between 43% and 49% designs were valid for at least five years. Around 23% of designs were maintained for at least 10 years, while more than 20% of all designs registered between 2001 and 2010 remained

in force for at least 15 years. Almost 825 of the designs registered between 1991 and 2000 remained in force for 30 years, while four designs – all registered by Cartier International – remained in force for 35 years.

The age profile of the top five origins for designs registered between 2001 and 2010 is similar to the aggregate age profile presented in figure 10 (see figure 11). Among the top five origins, Switzerland had the largest proportion of designs in force for 10 and 15 years, while Italy had the highest share of designs maintained for at least 20 years (see figure 11). The share of designs that remained in force for at least 25 years ranged from 0.2% for France to 1.2% for the Netherlands.

Which classes were most frequently specified in designs in renewals?

The Locarno Classification consists of 32 classes. Designs relating to packages and containers (Class 9; 13,266 renewals) were the most frequently specified class in designs renewed during the 2011–2020 period (table 12). This was followed by clocks and watches (Class 10; 12,882 renewals); furnishing (Class 6; 11,627); means of transport (Class 12; 10,971); and articles of adornment (Class 11; 10,565). Combined, these five classes accounted for 44.3% of all renewals between 2011 and 2020.

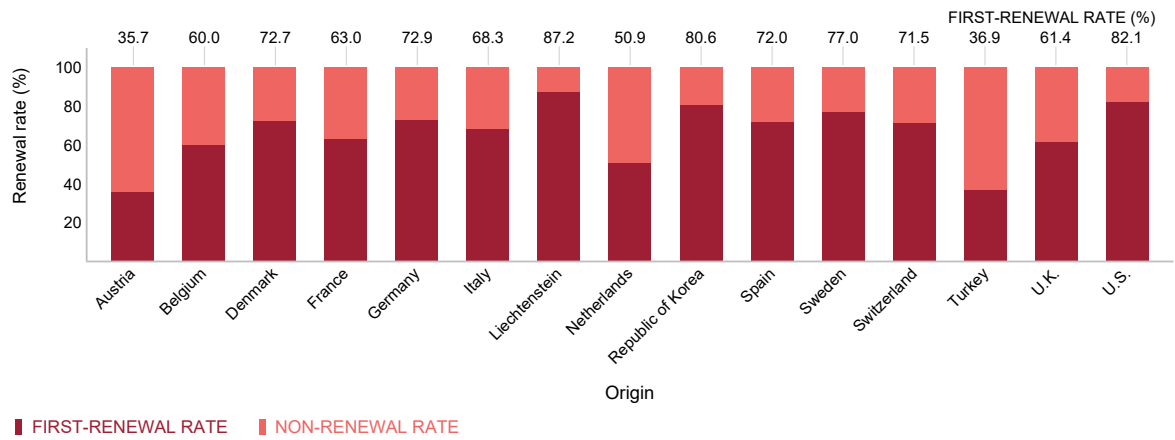
Among the top five classes, first-renewals accounted for the bulk of renewals, ranging from 52% of renewals for Class 10 to 47.7% for Class 11. The second-renewal share varied from 21.9% for Class 9 to 27.7% for Class 10, while the third-renewal share was below 20% and the fourth-renewal share less than 10%, except for Class 9, which had a share of 12.4%.

Among the 32 classes, designs relating to graphic symbols and logos (Class 32) had the highest share of first-renewals (84.7%), while the highest second-, third- and fourth-renewal shares were for designs relating to, respectively, tobacco and smokers' supplies (Class 27; 36.4%), textiles (Class 5; 35.4%) and games and toys (Class 21; 38.3%).

Among the top five classes, designs relating to means of transport had the highest renewal rate for each of the renewal categories, while furnishing had the lowest (figure 13). For both of these classes, the renewal rate decreased over time – that is, the first-renewal rate was higher than the second-renewal rate, and so on. Designs relating to packages and containers, and clocks and watches had a similar renewal rate profile. Furnishing had the smallest standard deviation of the four renewal categories – that is, the renewal rate for the four categories fluctuated within a narrow range.

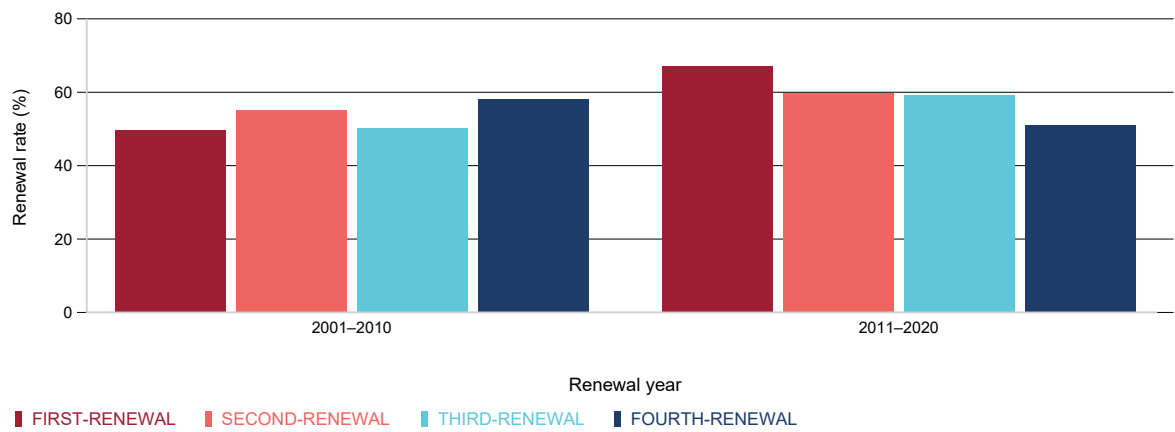
³ The steepness of the gradient for the age profile of designs registered between 2011 and 2020 is due to truncation, that is, the majority of registered designs are not yet due to be renewed for a second or third time.

7. First-renewal rate for designs contained in international registrations for the top 15 origins, 2011–2020



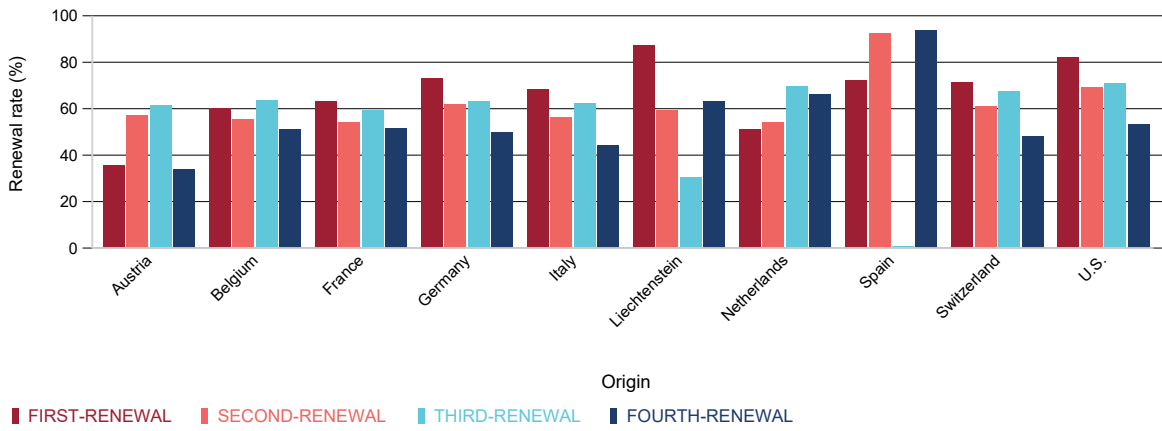
Note: The top 15 origins are as reported in figure 5.
 Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

8. Renewal rate by category



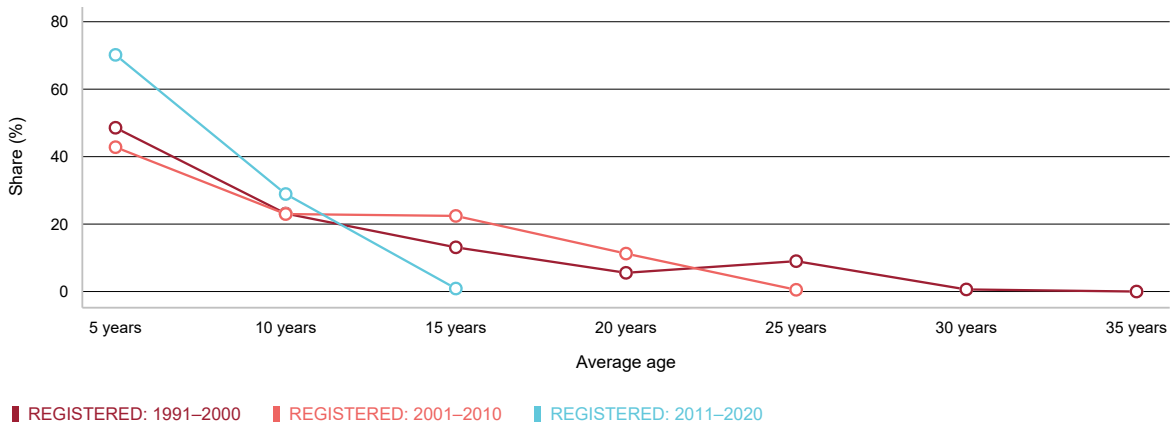
Note: The fourth-renewal category includes renewal for a fourth time or more.
 Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

9. Renewal rate by category for the top 10 origins, 2011–2020



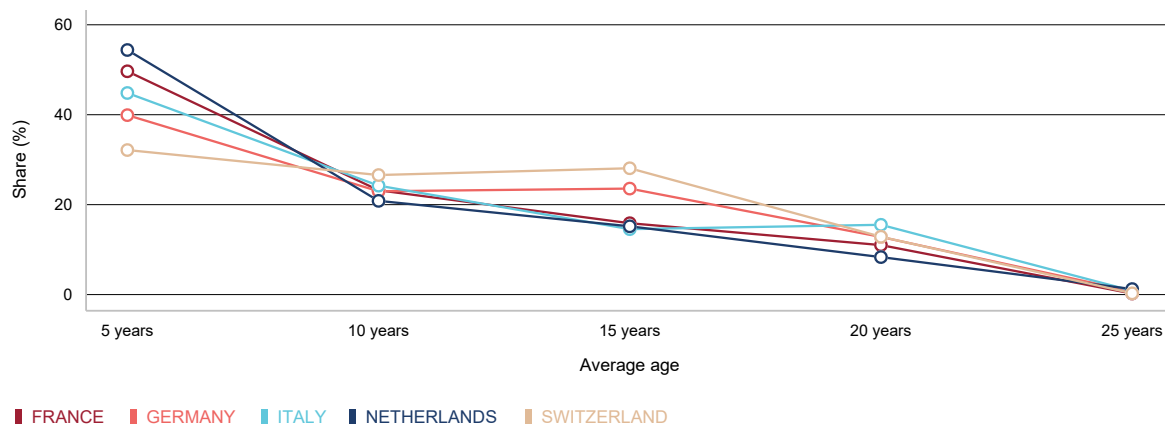
Note: Taken from the top 15 origins as reported in figure 5. The fourth-renewal category includes renewal for a fourth time or more.
 Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

10. Age profile of designs in force



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

11. Age profile of designs registered between 2001 and 2010 for the top five origins



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

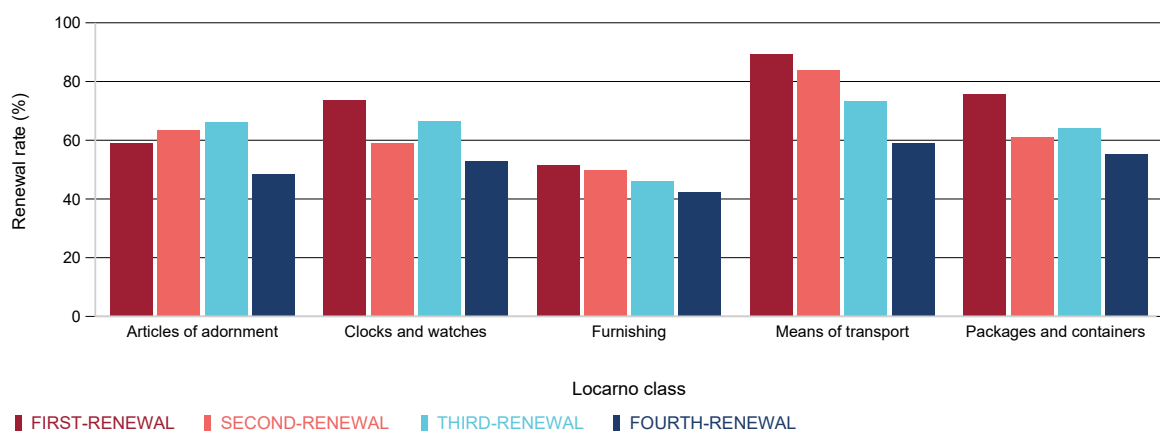
12. Designs in renewals by class and category, 2011–2020

Class	Total number of design renewals	Share (%)			
		First-renewal	Second-renewal	Third-renewal	Fourth-renewal
Class 9: Packages and containers	13,266	48.3	21.9	17.4	12.4
Class 10: Clocks and watches	12,882	52.0	27.7	13.7	6.6
Class 6: Furnishing	11,627	50.6	24.5	16.6	8.3
Class 12: Means of transport	10,971	50.0	23.5	17.4	9.1
Class 11: Articles of adornment	10,565	47.7	26.4	16.8	9.1
Class 23: Heating and cooling equipment	8,854	50.6	25.3	15.4	8.7
Class 7: Household goods	6,879	37.4	24.4	25.1	13.2
Class 26: Lighting apparatus	6,571	48.2	24.2	16.4	11.2
Class 32: Graphic symbols and logos	5,280	84.7	15.3	0.0	0.0
Class 25: Building units and construction elements	4,942	43.3	24.3	18.3	14.0
Class 8: Tools and hardware	4,704	31.5	23.6	27.4	17.4
Class 2: Clothing	4,473	57.0	19.6	12.2	11.2
Class 14: Recording and communication equipment	4,257	69.3	15.7	10.8	4.2
Class 21: Games, toys, tents and sports goods	3,974	26.3	16.4	19.0	38.3
Class 19: Stationery and office equipment	3,942	37.6	23.2	23.0	16.1
Class 13: Equipment for production of electricity	3,255	38.2	26.3	21.2	14.3
Class 15: Machines, not elsewhere specified	2,815	55.4	21.8	15.3	7.5
Class 3: Travel goods	2,689	44.0	22.6	18.3	15.1
Class 24: Medical and laboratory equipment	2,684	68.0	16.1	10.1	5.8
Class 28: Pharmaceutical and cosmetic products	2,095	52.3	26.4	14.1	7.2
Class 20: Sales and advertising equipment	1,496	45.4	25.2	22.4	7.1
Class 5: Textile piecegoods	1,261	19.1	31.6	35.4	13.8
Class 4: Brushware	997	51.7	25.3	17.3	5.8
Class 1: Foodstuffs	974	44.4	15.4	21.3	19.0
Class 31: Machines for preparing food or drink	566	32.9	17.7	23.7	25.8
Class 16: Photographic apparatus	549	44.3	30.0	14.9	10.8
Class 27: Tobacco and smokers' supplies	512	40.7	36.4	18.6	4.4
Class 18: Printing and office machinery	242	59.1	16.9	11.2	12.8
Class 22: Arms, articles for hunting and fishing	196	73.5	19.9	4.1	2.6
Class 30: Animal care articles	154	50.5	14.5	18.8	16.2
Class 29: Accident prevention and rescue equipment	122	63.1	10.7	10.7	15.6
Class 17: Musical instruments	107	59.8	18.7	14.0	7.5

Note: The fourth-renewal category includes renewal for a fourth time or more.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

13. Renewal rate by category for the top five Locarno classes, 2011–2020



Note: The fourth-renewal category includes renewal for a fourth time or more.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

14. First-renewal rate for the top five classes and the top five origins, 2011–2020

Class	France	Germany	Italy	Netherlands	Switzerland
Class 2: Clothing	67.6	..	51.4	..	..
Class 3: Travel goods	..	..	41.3	..	..
Class 6: Furnishing	39.5	66.6	72.6	33.6	45.0
Class 7: Household goods	58.3	..	..	83.9	..
Class 9: Packages and containers	68.7	75.2	..	77.1	76.1
Class 10: Clocks and watches	..	..	..	..	74.8
Class 11: Articles of adornment	83.2	..	86.1	..	74.0
Class 12: Means of transport	..	94.7	..	..	..
Class 23: Heating and cooling equipment	..	87.6	..	..	86.6
Class 26: Lighting apparatus	..	86.9	69.6	46.1	..
Class 32: Graphic symbols and logos	..	..	..	89.1	..
Mean	60.6	82.7	67.6	45.3	73.2

.. indicates the class is not among the top five classes for this origin.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

15. Designs in renewals by category for the top 30 IPR holders, 2011–2020

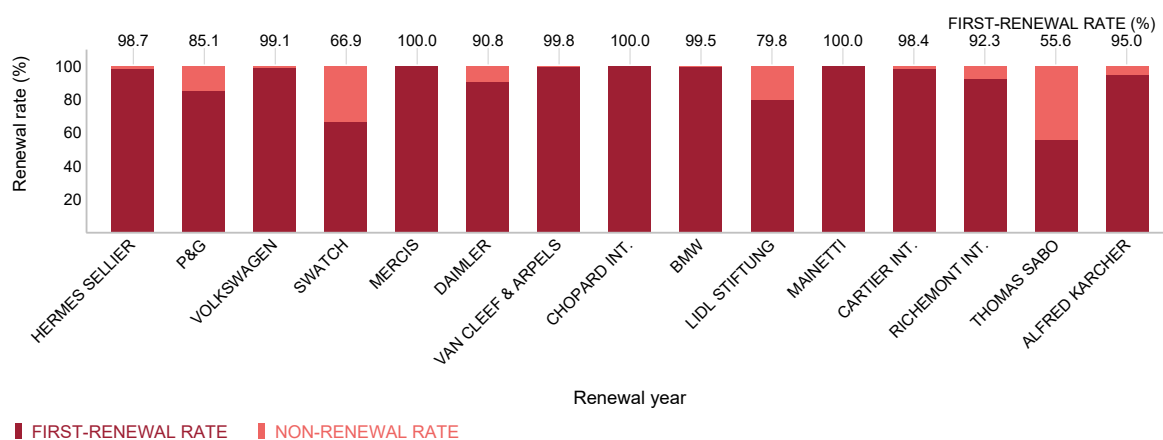
Rank	Holder	Origin	Total number of design renewals	Share (%)			
				First-renewal	Second-renewal	Third-renewal	Fourth-renewal
1	HERMES SELLIER (SAS)	France	5,672	25.4	29.0	24.6	20.9
2	PROCTER & GAMBLE CO.	U.S.	5,138	78.5	21.4	0.2	0.0
3	VOLKSWAGEN AG	Germany	4,509	56.6	27.2	13.4	2.9
4	SWATCH AG	Switzerland	3,314	59.0	27.6	12.4	1.0
5	MERCIS B.V.	Netherlands	2,781	9.0	15.4	23.4	52.2
6	DAIMLER AG	Germany	2,493	49.3	28.6	16.1	6.0
7	VAN CLEEF & ARPELS S.A.	Switzerland	1,876	32.4	36.0	18.8	12.7
8	CHOPARD INTERNATIONAL SA	Switzerland	1,522	26.3	24.8	27.3	21.7
9	BAYERISCHE MOTOREN WERKE AG	Germany	1,488	29.2	31.3	26.6	12.8
10	LIDL STIFTUNG & CO. KG	Germany	1,236	76.9	22.3	0.7	0.1
11	MAINETTI GMBH	Germany	1,234	20.2	34.5	33.7	11.6
12	CARTIER INTERNATIONAL AG	Switzerland	1,161	59.9	23.5	7.8	8.7
13	RICHEMONT INTERNATIONAL S.A.	Switzerland	1,087	37.7	35.7	21.4	5.2
14	THOMAS SABO GMBH & CO. KG	Germany	1,038	61.1	38.9	..	..
15	ALFRED KARCHER GMBH & CO	Germany	995	74.0	25.6	0.3	0.1
16	KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.	Netherlands	984	60.2	20.7	12.6	6.5
17	BRAUN GMBH	Germany	915	49.9	35.2	10.8	4.0
18	GILLETTE COMPANY LLC	U.S.	901	80.2	19.8	..	..
19	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.	Republic of Korea	892	100.0	..	..	..
20	SOCIETE DES PRODUITS NESTLE S.A.	Switzerland	860	81.4	14.0	3.5	1.2
21	IVOCLAR VIVADENT AG	Liechtenstein	822	94.0	3.3	0.7	1.9
22	HANS GROHE GMBH CO. KG	Germany	801	38.3	44.7	11.7	5.2
23	FONKEL MEUBELMARKETING B.V.	Netherlands	781	89.4	10.5	0.1	0.0
24	BULGARI S.P.A.	Italy	653	47.5	27.9	14.2	10.4
25	SOREMARTEC S.A.	Belgium	650	35.4	9.7	30.2	24.8
26	HENKEL AG & CO KGAA	Germany	618	43.0	31.6	18.1	7.3
27	THUN S.P.A.	Italy	611	63.7	13.6	18.0	4.7
28	GEBERIT INTERNATIONAL AG	Switzerland	602	83.6	12.1	2.8	1.5
29	BULTHAUP GMBH & CO. KG	Germany	538	11.5	40.9	37.5	10.0
30	SENATOR GMBH & CO. KGAA	Germany	521	33.2	31.1	30.5	5.2

Note: The fourth-renewal category includes renewal for a fourth time or more.

.. indicates zero.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

16. First-renewal rate for the top 15 IPR holders, 2011–2020



Note: For the full IPR holder name, refer to table 15.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

In contrast, means of transport had the greatest standard deviation – that is, the renewal rates differed within a wide range.

While designs relating to packages and containers were the most frequently specified class in renewals overall (table 12), the top class varied between origins. For example, means of transport was the most frequently specified class in renewals for Germany and clocks and watches for Switzerland. Packages and containers was among the top five classes for four of the top five origins (table 14). Germany had the highest average first-renewal rate (82.7%) among its top five classes. This is explained by the fact Germany has a high number of designs in renewal relating to means of transport, a class with a high first-renewal rate (see figure 13). In contrast, the Netherlands had the lowest average first-renewal rate (45.3%), which is to be expected as most of its designs in renewals related to furnishing, a class with a low renewal rate (see figure 13). For France, Italy and Switzerland, the average first-renewal rate for the top five classes was above 60%.

Designs in renewals by the top IPR holders

Hermes Sellier of France and Procter & Gamble of the U.S. – each with more than 5,000 designs – are the two top IPR holders with the most renewals during the 2011–2020 period (table 15). They were followed by Volkswagen of Germany (4,509), Swatch of Switzerland (3,314) and Mercis of the Netherlands (2,781). First-renewals accounted for more than half of all renewals for Procter & Gamble (78.5%), Swatch (59%) and Volkswagen (56.6%). In contrast, renewals for a fourth time accounted for more than half of all renewals for Mercis (52.2%). Hermes Sellier's renewals are more or less evenly distributed across the four renewal categories.

Among the top 30 IPR holders, all the renewals made by Samsung electronics of the Republic of Korea were for the first time. This is to be expected as Samsung electronics is a recent user of the Hague System, meaning insufficient time has elapsed for its registrations to require renewing for a second or third time. Designs registered by Mercis, Soremartec of Belgium, Chopard of Switzerland and Hermes Sellier have been maintained for an extended period of time, as reflected in the large proportion of renewals registered in the fourth-renewal category.

The first-renewal rate is above 90% for 11 of the top 15 IPR holders for the 2011–2020 period (figure 16). This means that almost all initial registrations are maintained

for at least 10 years. In contrast, a smaller proportion of the initial registrations filed by Swatch (66.9%) and Thomas Sabo of Germany (55.6%) are maintained for at least 10 years.

Figure 17 presents the age profile of designs registered between 2001 and 2010 for the top five IPR holders.⁴ Around 13% of all designs registered by Mercis remained valid for 25 years, while 46.1% of designs registered by Hermes Sellier were valid for at least 20 years and 60.5% of designs registered by Mercis remained in force for at least 15 years. Swatch had the highest share of designs in force for at least 10 years.

Conclusion

The number of designs renewed grew strongly in 2019 and 2020 – averaging 25% a year. In 2020, around 21,560 designs were renewed. Renewals are, however, concentrated in a small number of jurisdictions – the top six origins accounted for 79.8% of the 2020 totals.

The distribution of renewals by renewal category shows that more than 50% of all renewals since 2015 were first-time renewals. Moreover, around 10% of designs were renewed for at least a fourth time, which shows that a large proportion of registered designs are maintained for an extended period of time.

The share of designs renewed for a first time (i.e., first-renewal rate) ranged from 42.7% in 1999 to 73.6% in 2020. This shows that once a design is registered there is a high probability of it being renewed.

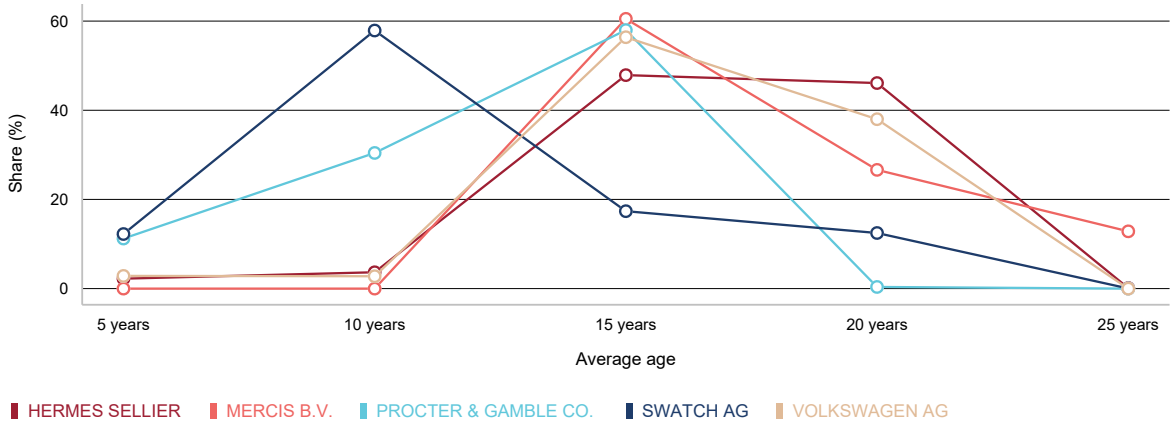
Among the top 15 origins, the first-renewal rate for the 2011–2020 period ranged from 35.7% for Austria to 87.2% for Lichtenstein, with 13 origins reporting a first-renewal rate above 50%. Furthermore, for most of the top origins, the first-renewal rate increased between the 2001–2010 and the 2011–2020 periods.

As expected, the average renewal rate according to renewal category decays over time. For example, for the 2011–2020 period, the average first-renewal rate was 67.3%, which is higher than the average second- (59.8%), third- (59.2%) or fourth- (51.2%) renewal rate.

Data shows that some designs are maintained for an extended period. For example, 11.3% of designs registered between 2001 and 2010 remained in force for at

⁴ Due to data truncation, it is not possible to report data for the 2011–2020 period. The bulk of the designs were in force for at least 10 years. Insufficient time had elapsed from the registration date for these designs to be renewed for a second or third time.

17. Age profile of designs registered between 2001 and 2010 for the top five IPR holders



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

least 20 years and 0.5% were valid for at least 25 years. The maintenance rate varies across countries, however. For example, among the top five origins, the share of designs maintained for at least 20 years ranged from 8.3% for the Netherlands to 15.5% for Italy.

Renewal rates also vary considerably across Locarno classes. For example, designs relating to means of transport (89.5% for the 2011–2020 period) had a far higher first-renewal rate than furnishing (51.6%).

The top IPR holders maintained almost all registrations for at least 10 years. This is reflected in the first-renewal rate, which was above 90% for 11 of the top 15 IPR holders for the 2011–2020 renewal period. Furthermore, 46.1% of all designs registered between 2001 and 2010 by Hermes Sellier were valid for at least 20 years, while 13% all designs registered by Mercis were maintained for at least 25 years.

The Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs allows applicants to register up to 100 different designs through a single international application. Focusing on both the number of applications and the number of designs contained in international applications provides a comprehensive depiction of the use of the Hague System. This Highlights section refers mainly to the number of designs contained in the applications, while the standard figures and tables show the number of Hague applications together with the number of designs contained in those applications.

Statistics on the Hague International Registration of Industrial Designs

Highlights

After 13 consecutive years of growth, the number of designs contained in applications filed under the Hague System declined by 15% in 2020

The number of international applications for the protection of designs filed under the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) administered Hague System amounted to 5,792 applications in 2020, representing a 1.7% decline on the previous year (figure A1). Moreover, the number of designs contained in those applications fell by 15% to 18,580 designs – the first decline since 2006 (figure A2). A considerable drop in the number of designs originating from Germany, Italy and the Republic of Korea partly accounts for the overall decrease seen in 2020 (figure A10).

Applicants from at least 67 countries or territories filed one or more Hague application

The accession of Israel, Mexico and Samoa in 2020 brought the number of Hague members to 74. These 74 Hague members make it possible for applicants to obtain protection for their designs within a geographical area incorporating a total of 91 countries. The difference between the number of Hague members and the number of countries covered by the System is due to the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and the European Union (EU) being Hague members. By choosing to designate these intergovernmental organizations within an application, protection is sought simultaneously within all their respective member states. In 2020, around 2,290 applicants from at least 67 countries or territories filed one or more Hague international application.

Applicants based in Europe accounted for 64.2% of all designs filed in 2020 (figure A7). This reflects the membership of the Hague System, the vast majority of whom are European countries. However, following the recent accession of Japan and the Republic of Korea, the proportion of designs originating from Asia increased from 3.1% in 2010 to 23% in 2020. Similarly, accession by Canada and the U.S. led to an increase in North America's share from 7.8% in 2010 to 12.8% in 2020. The combined share of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and Oceania is only 0.5%.

Germany, with 3,666 designs, continued to be the biggest source of designs for the Hague System

Despite a decrease of 18.7%, Germany, with 3,666 designs, continues to be the main source of designs for the Hague System (figure A10). The United States of America (U.S.) (2,211 designs) moved up from 6th to second position. Switzerland, the Republic of Korea and Italy ranked third, fourth and fifth, respectively, with 1,944, 1,669 and 1,231 designs. Japan – a recent member – has gradually moved up the ranking. It was the seventh largest user of the Hague System in 2020. China, which is not a member of the Hague System, ranked in ninth position.

Among the top 10 origins, the U.S. (+62.7%), Turkey (+34.7%) and China (+22.7%) are the only three to have registered growth in 2020. Strong growth has propelled Turkey from 14th position in 2019 to 10th spot. The remaining seven countries all underwent a double-digit decline in 2020, with the Republic of Korea (–39%), Italy (–38.3%), the Netherlands (–28.2%) and France (–27.8%) recording the sharpest falls.

On average, each international application contained 3.2 designs in 2020

The Hague System allows applicants to register up to 100 different designs through a single international application. In 2020, only one application – filed by Wenko-Wenselaar of Germany – contained the maximum permitted number of designs. Lampenwelt of Germany filed one application with 89 designs, while Procter & Gamble of the U.S. filed two applications, each with 87 designs.

On average, there were 3.2 designs per application filed in 2020, which is slightly below the 2019 average of 3.7. In recent years, the average number of designs per application has followed a downward trend (figure A3). This is partly due to applications originating from recent Hague members Japan and the Republic of Korea containing fewer designs per application compared to those of long-time members such as Germany and the Netherlands. For example, the Republic of Korea averaged 1.5 designs per application in 2020, compared to an average of 5.2 designs for Germany (figure A11).

The distribution of designs per application varied widely across origins. Of the top 20 origins, the Republic of Korea (88.9%) had the highest proportion of single design applications, whereas Austria (24.4%) recorded the lowest (figure A12). Applications containing up to two designs accounted for 92.8% of all applications from the Republic of Korea, whereas for Austria the share was just 51.2%. Germany (10.5%) and the Netherlands (17.6%) had the largest proportion of applications with more than 10 designs.

Which companies had the most designs published in 2020?

For a fourth consecutive year, Samsung Electronics of the Republic of Korea with 859 designs published headed the list of top filers, followed by Procter & Gamble of the U.S. (623), Fonkel Meubelmarketing of the Netherlands (569), Volkswagen of Germany (524) and Beijing Xiaomi Mobile Software of China (516) (table A4). For the first time, a company from China is among the top five applicants.

The top 10 applicants list is comprised of three applicants from Germany, two applicants each from the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea and the U.S., and one from China. Lampenwelt of Germany is a new user of the Hague System and ranked in 10th spot, with 276 designs. Among the top 10 applicants, Wenko-Wenselaar of Germany (with 352 additional designs in 2020) and Beijing Xiaomi Mobile Software of China (+344 designs) registered the fastest increase in published designs recorded between 2019 and 2020. The top 10 applicants represent a diverse set of industries that includes automobiles, electronics, furnishing, household/consumer goods and mobile phones.

The proportion of designs held by the top three applicants from each of the top 10 origins ranged from 17.4% in Switzerland to 84.6% in the Netherlands (figure A5). The top Dutch applicant, Fonkel Meubelmarketing, accounted for 43.4% of all designs from the Netherlands, while Harry Winston accounted for only 6.4% of all designs from Switzerland.

Where do Hague applicants seek protection for their designs?

The Hague System simplifies the process of multinational registration by creating a single international procedure for protecting a design in multiple jurisdictions. Applicants list those Hague members in whose jurisdictions they wish to protect their designs (known as “designated members”). Following an increase of just over a quarter (25.5%) in 2019, the number of designations in all international applications decreased by 3.2% in 2020 (figure A17), while the number of designs in all designations saw a steeper decline of 11.8% (figure A18). In total, 75,345 designs were contained in all designations made in 2020.

The EU was the most designated Hague member in international applications in 2020, with 4,149 designations (figure A21) containing 13,268 designs (figure A22). The EU has been the most designated member since 2010. It was followed by Switzerland (7,853 designs), the United Kingdom (U.K.) (6,494), the U.S. (5,038) and Turkey (4,665). Every top 20 designated member, apart from Canada, Japan and the U.K., saw a decline in designations in 2020. The U.K. (+49%) recorded the fastest growth, whereas Morocco (-35.6%) experienced the steepest decline.

Designs originating in Germany accounted for the largest proportion of all designs in designations for the top five designated members. The share for Germany ranged from 13.3% in the U.S. to 35.7% in Switzerland (table A25).

Applicants can designate every Hague member in an application. Despite this, in 2020, no applicant sought to protect their designs within the jurisdictions of all members; however, six applications did designate 72 of the 74 Hague members. Three of these six originated from the Russian Federation and one from each of France, Italy and Japan. Around 18.6% of applications included one designation, while 28.6% of applications included two designations. Only 5.6% of applications included more than 10 designations (figure A19).

Which classes were most frequently specified in international applications?

Designs relating to means of transport (Class 12; 10.1%) accounted for the largest share of total designs in 2020, followed by recording and communication equipment (Class 14; 8.9%), packages and containers (Class 9; 8.4%), furnishing (Class 6; 7.4%) and lighting apparatus (Class 26; 6.9%). Combined, the top 10 most specified classes accounted for 65.6% of all designs in 2020, whereas the 10 least specified classes accounted for only 4.2% (table A28). Among the top 10 classes, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products (+42.8%) saw a sizeable growth in 2020. This, combined with the top growth of 262% in designs relating to the prevention of accidents (class 29) and another strong 45% growth in designs relating to medical and laboratory equipment (class 24), reflects the innovation taking place as part of the collective response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While designs relating to transport were the most frequently specified class in international applications overall, class shares differed across origins (table A29). For example, Class 14 was the most frequently specified class in applications from China (44.7% of all designs), the Republic of Korea (30.6%) and Japan (16.6%). For France (23.7%) and Germany (19.7%), it was Class 12. As for the U.S., Class 9 accounted for the largest share (27.8%).

International registrations of industrial designs grew by 34.8% in 2020

The International Bureau (IB) recorded 6,795 international registrations in 2020, representing a remarkable 34.8% growth on the previous year (table A34). The number of designs contained within those registrations grew by 27.7% to reach 23,671 designs – the fastest year-on-year increase seen since 2010. In total, residents from at least 66 countries registered at least one design in 2020.

Holders residing in Germany accounted for 22.3% of all design registrations, followed by those in the U.S. (10.9%), Switzerland (9.7%), the Republic of Korea (9.6%) and Italy (6.1%). Among the top five origins, the U.S. (+84.6%), Germany (+52.2%) and Switzerland (+10.2%) each saw double-digit growth in 2020. The U.S. moved up from fifth position to second spot due to strong growth in 2020. Outside the top five origins, China ranked in ninth spot, after its registered number of designs more than doubled from 482 designs in 2019 to 989 designs in 2020. Canada – a recent Hague member – registered 172 designs in 2020.

Renewals of international registrations grew by 34.2% in 2020

Around 4,760 international registrations containing close to 21,560 designs were renewed in 2020. Registration renewals grew overall by 34.2%, while renewals of designs contained in registrations increased by 25.1%. Holders located in Germany (26.4%) accounted for the largest share of design renewals, followed by those in Switzerland (21.7%), France (9.5%), Italy (8.1%) and the Netherlands (7.6%) (figure A43). Among the top five holders, the Netherlands saw a 263.4% growth in design renewals in 2020, from 448 in 2019 to 1,628 in 2020. Strong growth was also observed for Italy (+44.4%) and Switzerland (+20.6%).

Switzerland, with 14,501 design renewals, was the most designated Hague member, closely followed by the EU (14,216), Turkey (7,858), Ukraine (4,478) and Germany (4,412) (table A44). These five designated members accounted for 38.2% of all design renewal designations in 2020, which is 7.7 percentage points above their 2015 share.

Registrations in force grew by 6.3% in 2020

The number of registrations in force (active registrations) rose by 6.3% in 2020, marking an eleventh consecutive year of growth (figure A45). The approximately 44,100 registrations in force contained around 172,200 designs (figure A46). Both registrations in force and the designs contained in those registrations are concentrated in a small number of countries, with holders residing in Germany (25.8%), Switzerland (17.4%) and France (9.2%) together accounting for around 52.4% of all active designs in 2020 (figure A49). However, the combined share of these three countries declined by around 12.7 percentage points between 2015 and 2020.

Studying registrations in force by right holders helps provide insights into the concentration of registrations at the firm and individual level. In 2020, just over two-thirds of firms or individuals holding an active registration had only one registration in their portfolio (figure A50). A further 14.3% of holders owned only two active registrations, while holders with three accounted for 5.7% of the total. Only 40 portfolios had more than 100 active registrations, with one holder – LG Electronics of the Republic of Korea – having 2,894 active registrations. The distribution of active registrations has remained more or less unchanged over the past few years.

The IB distributed CHF 11.14 million to designated offices in 2020

In 2020, the IB distributed 11.14 million Swiss francs (CHF) to all designated offices, representing an increase of 51.5% on 2019 (table A52). Japan received the largest share (25.6%), followed by the U.S. (21.4%), the EU (14.1%) and the Republic of Korea (10.5%).

The average cost of registration through the Hague System is around CHF 2,064

In 2020, the average fee for a Hague international registration was CHF 2,064, which is around CHF 81 more than the previous year (figure A53). The fee per registration ranged from between CHF 456 for 11 single-design registrations to CHF 43,325 for a single registration that contained 62 designs and designated four Hague members, namely, Canada, the Republic of Korea, Serbia and Switzerland. Around two-thirds of registrations cost less than CHF 2,000, and around 12.8% of registrations cost more than CHF 3,000 per registration.

Almost all international Hague applications were submitted to the IB via electronic filing

Electronic filing was introduced by the IB in 2003 and by 2009 over half (58.3%) of all international applications were submitted electronically and this has continued to grow, reaching 99.4% in 2020 (figure A13). The total number of applications received in paper format amounted to 32 in 2020, 10 of which were filed by applicants located in Germany and four by applicants residing in each of Sweden and Turkey.

*Nine out of 10
international
applications are
filed in English*

In 2020, 90.4% of Hague applications were filed in English, whereas French accounted for 8.6% and Spanish just 1% (figure A14). Up until 1998, over half of all filings were made in French, since when English has been the preferred language for applications. Only two Spanish-speaking countries – Mexico and Spain – are members of the Hague System, which explains the low share of applications filed in Spanish.

Hague international applications

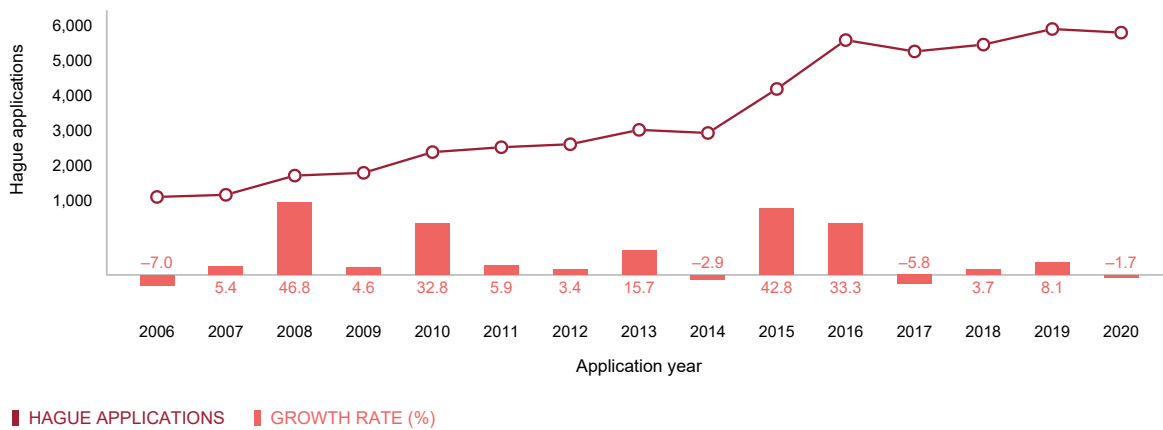
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Hague international applications

This subsection presents statistics on Hague international applications for the international registration of industrial designs. Statistics are presented for both the number of applications and the number of designs contained in applications.

International applications declined 1.7% in 2020 to 5,792 applications.

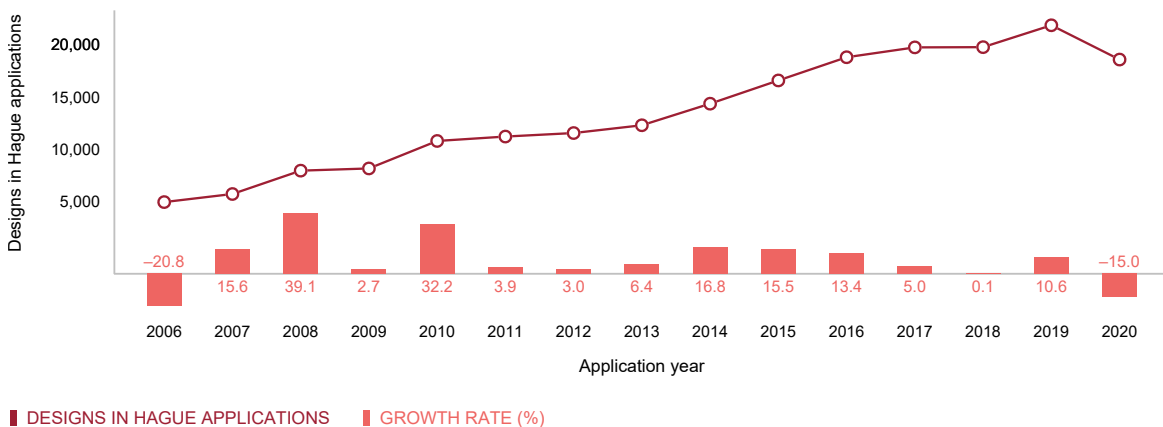
A1. Trend in international applications, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Designs contained in international applications fell 15% in 2020 down to 18,580 designs – the first decline since 2006.

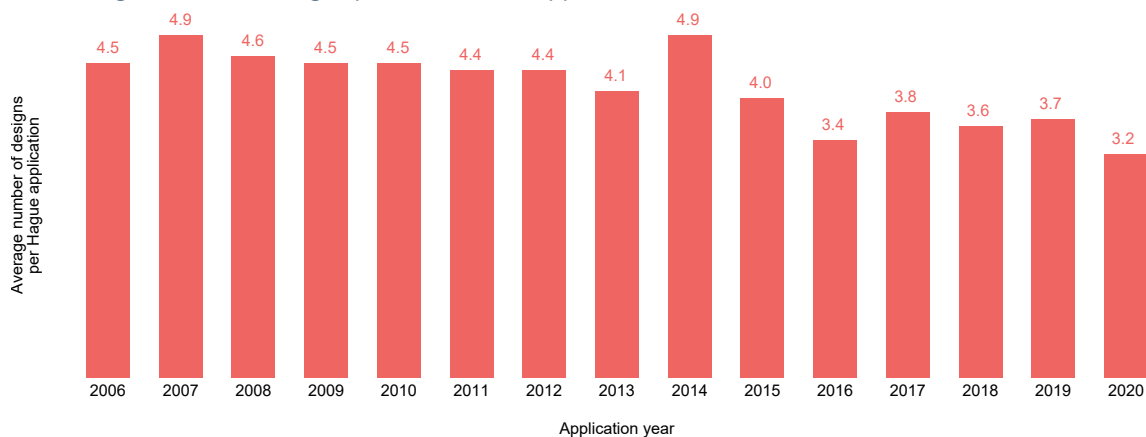
A2. Trend in the number of designs contained in international applications, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

On average, there were 3.2 designs per application filed in 2020, which is slightly below the 2019 average of 3.7.

A3. Average number of designs per international application, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

For a fourth consecutive year, Samsung Electronics of the Republic of Korea headed the list of top filers.

A4. Top Hague applicants, 2018–2020

Ranking	Applicant's name	Origin	Number of designs contained in published registrations		
			2018	2019	2020
1	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.	Republic of Korea	863	929	859
2	PROCTER & GAMBLE CO.	U.S.	561	405	623
3	FONKEL MEUBELMARKETING B.V.	Netherlands	408	859	569
4	VOLKSWAGEN AG	Germany	268	536	524
5	BEIJING XIAOMI MOBILE SOFTWARE CO., LTD.	China	14	172	516
6	LG ELECTRONICS INC.	Republic of Korea	715	598	478
7	KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.	Netherlands	164	371	463
8	WENKO-WENSELAAR GMBH & CO. KG	Germany	282	10	362
9	MAGIC LEAP, INC.	U.S.	5	63	320
10	LAMPENWELT GMBH	Germany	0	0	276
11	BRAUN GMBH	Germany	14	89	238
12	DAIMLER AG	Germany	91	156	207
13	ALFRED KARCHER GMBH & CO	Germany	79	113	188
14	PSA AUTOMOBILES SA	France	159	218	187
15	BSN MEDICAL GMBH	Germany	0	46	184
16	THUN S.P.A.	Italy	38	241	175
17	RENAULT S.A.S.	France	6	192	157
18	ARES S.R.L. - SOCIO UNICO	Italy	35	47	154
19	DRYLOCK TECHNOLOGIES NV	Belgium	0	195	150
20	GILLETTE COMPANY LLC	U.S.	75	199	144
21	HYUNDAI MOTOR COMPANY	Republic of Korea	115	57	141
21	KRONOPLUS LIMITED	Malta	0	0	141
23	HERMES SELLIER (SAS)	France	139	27	139
24	MOLEX, LLC	U.S.	11	51	133
25	HARRY WINSTON SA	Switzerland	33	94	132
26	CARTIER INTERNATIONAL AG	Switzerland	81	70	125
27	THOMAS SABO GMBH & CO. KG	Germany	195	177	121
28	MASCOT INTERNATIONAL A/S	Denmark	9	79	117
29	CANDY POLSTERMOBEL GMBH	Germany	93	101	116
30	IMPRESS TECH LTD	Cyprus	62	48	114
31	EIS GMBH	Germany	105	68	109
32	MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION	Japan	127	183	107
33	RICHEMONT INTERNATIONAL S.A.	Switzerland	105	99	101
34	KERMI GMBH	Germany	44	6	99

(Continued)

(A4 continued)

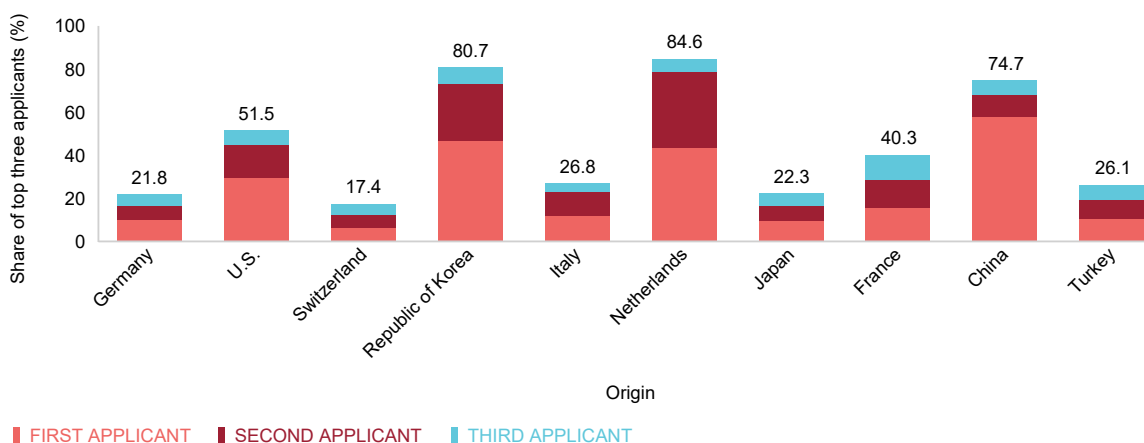
Ranking	Applicant's name	Origin	Number of designs contained in published registrations		
			2018	2019	2020
35	MICROSOFT CORPORATION	U.S.	109	29	96
36	ELOPAK AS	Norway	21	3	95
37	MAN TRUCK & BUS AG	Germany	46	60	92
38	NINEBOT(BEIJING)TECH. CO.,LTD	China	18	26	90
38	PATEK PHILIPPE SA GENEVE	Switzerland	35	85	90
40	KRONOPLUS LIMITED	Cyprus	110	204	89
41	SEAT, S.A.	Spain	8	37	81
42	KABUSHIKI KAISHA TOSHIBA	Japan	0	100	79
43	SINO PRO TRADING B.V.	Netherlands	0	43	78
44	SKODA AUTO A.S.	Czech Republic	38	57	77
45	HANSGROHE SE	Germany	28	20	75
46	VOLVO TRUCK CORPORATION	Sweden	0	0	70
47	ROTHO KUNSTSTOFF AG	Switzerland	18	3	69
48	I. PALEOHORINOS FOTISTIKA A.B.E.E.	Greece	379	0	65
48	UHRENFABRIK JUNGHANS GMBH & CO. KG	Germany	20	19	65
50	SCHATTDECOR AG	Germany	45	64	64

Note: For confidentiality reasons, data are based on published registrations and on the publication date. Applicants residing in a non-member country can file applications for international registration if they have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment within the jurisdiction of a Hague member. For example, China is not a member of the Hague System, but China's Beijing Xiaomi Mobile Software Co., Ltd. sought protection for 516 designs by filing applications via a connection with a Hague member.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The proportion of designs held by the top three applicants from each of the top 10 origins ranged from 17.4% in Switzerland to 84.6% in the Netherlands.

A5. Share of the top three applicants for the top 10 origins, 2020

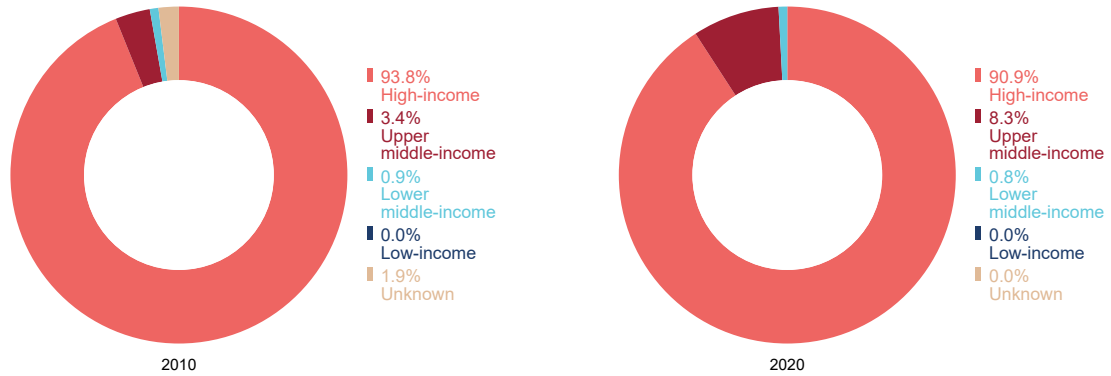


Note: For confidentiality reasons, data are based on published registrations and on the publication date. Applicants residing in a non-member country can file applications for international registration if they have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment within the jurisdiction of a Hague member. For example, China is not a member of the Hague System, but Chinese applicants sought protection for designs by filing applications via a connection with a Hague member.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The bulk of designs contained in international applications originated from high-income countries in 2020.

A6. Designs contained in international applications by income group, 2010 and 2020

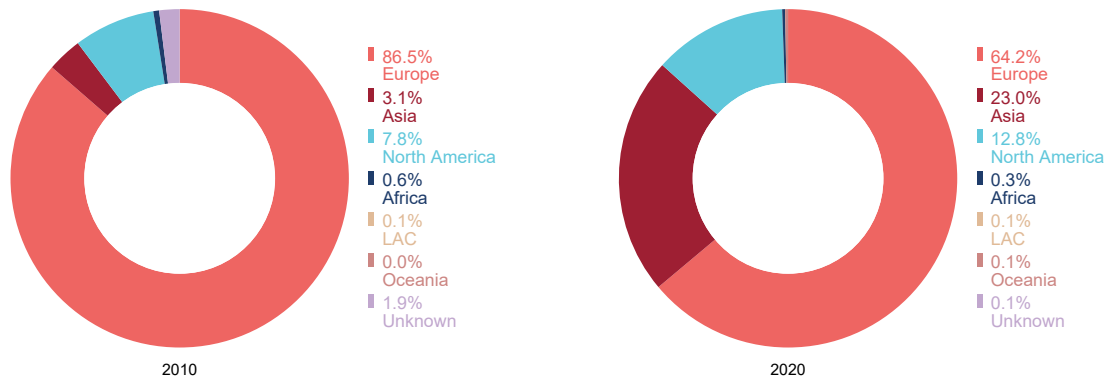


Note: Each income group includes the following number of countries or territories that filed at least one design application in either 2010 or 2020: high-income (46), upper middle-income (15) and lower middle-income (10). Income groups are defined by the World Bank's income classifications.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Applicants based in Europe accounted for 64.2% of all designs filed in 2020.

A7. Designs contained in international applications by region, 2010 and 2020

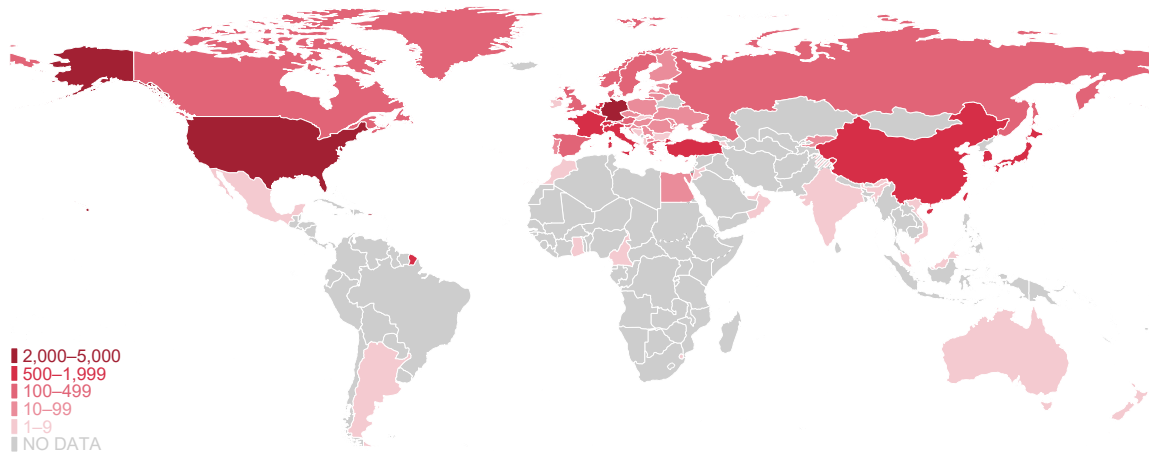


Note: Each geographical region includes the following number of countries or territories that filed at least one design application in either 2010 or 2020: Africa (5), Asia (18), Europe (41), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) (4), North America (2) and Oceania (2). Regions are defined according to United Nations definitions.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The top five origins accounted for 57.7% of designs in 2020.

A8. Designs contained in international applications by origin, 2020

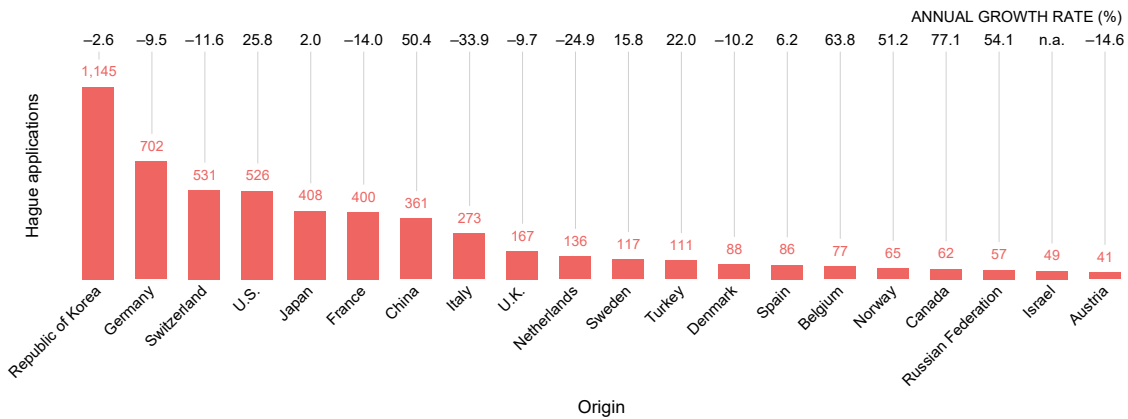


Note: The origin of an application is defined as the country/territory of the stated address of residence of the applicant. Applicants residing in a non-member country can file applications for international registrations, if they have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment within the jurisdiction of a Hague member.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

China and the U.S. recorded the fastest growth in international applications among the top 10 origins in 2020.

A9. International applications for the top 20 origins, 2020



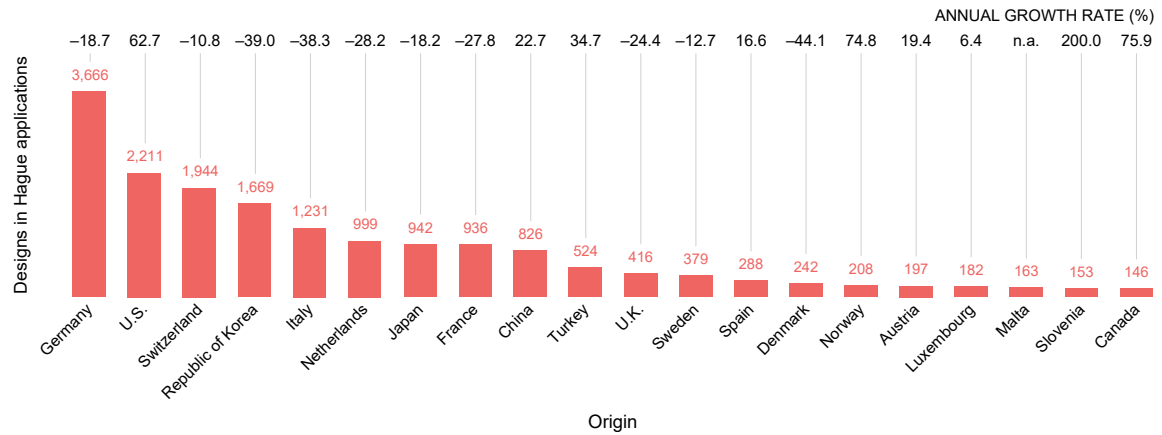
Note: The origin of an application is defined as the country/territory of the stated address of residence of the applicant. Applicants residing in a non-member country can file applications for international registrations, if they have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment within the jurisdiction of a Hague member. For example, China is not a member of the Hague System, but is ranked seventh for application count.

n.a. indicates not applicable.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Despite a substantial decline in applications, Germany remained the main source of designs for the Hague System, with 3,666 designs in 2020.

A10. Designs contained in international applications for the top 20 origins, 2020



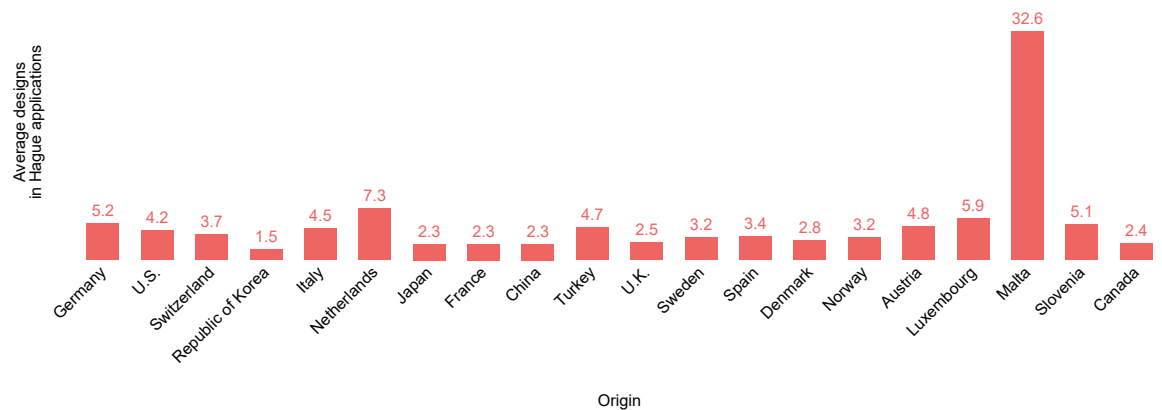
Note: The origin of an application is defined as the country/territory of the stated address of residence of the applicant. Applicants residing in a non-member country can file applications for international registrations, if they have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment within the jurisdiction of a Hague member. For example, China is not a member of the Hague System, but ranked ninth, with 826 designs.

n.a. indicates not applicable.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Among the top 20 origins, the average number of designs per application, excluding Malta, ranged from 1.5 for the Republic of Korea to 7.3 for the Netherlands.

A11. Average number of designs per international application for the top 20 origins, 2020

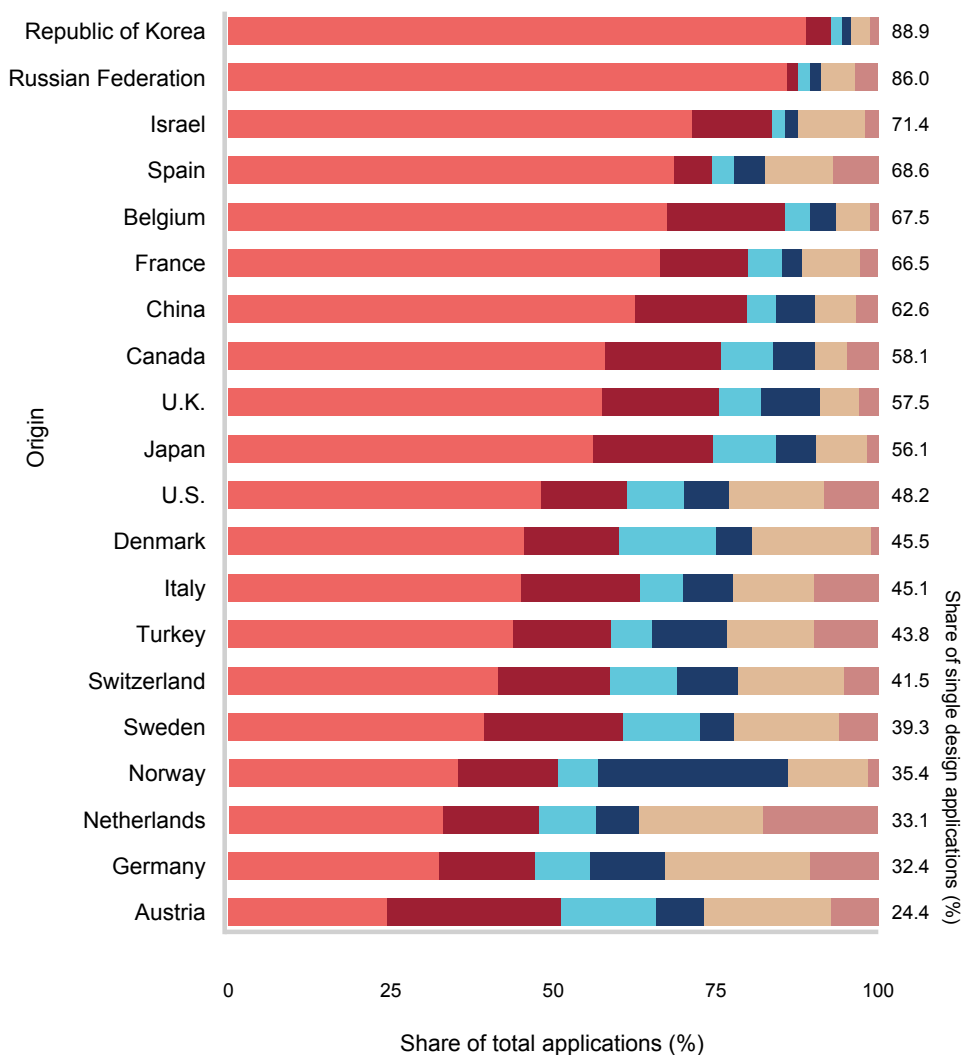


Note: Malta filed only five applications containing the following number of designs: 16, 22, 22, 33 and 70. As a result, its average number of designs per application is far higher than for the other top 20 origins. The origin of an application is defined as the country/territory of the stated address of residence of the applicant. Applicants residing in a non-member country can file applications for international registrations, if they have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment within the jurisdiction of a Hague member. The top 20 origins as reported in figure A10.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

For the top 20 origins, the proportion of single-design applications ranged from 24.4% for Austria to 88.9% for the Republic of Korea.

A12. Distribution of designs per application for the top 20 origins, 2020



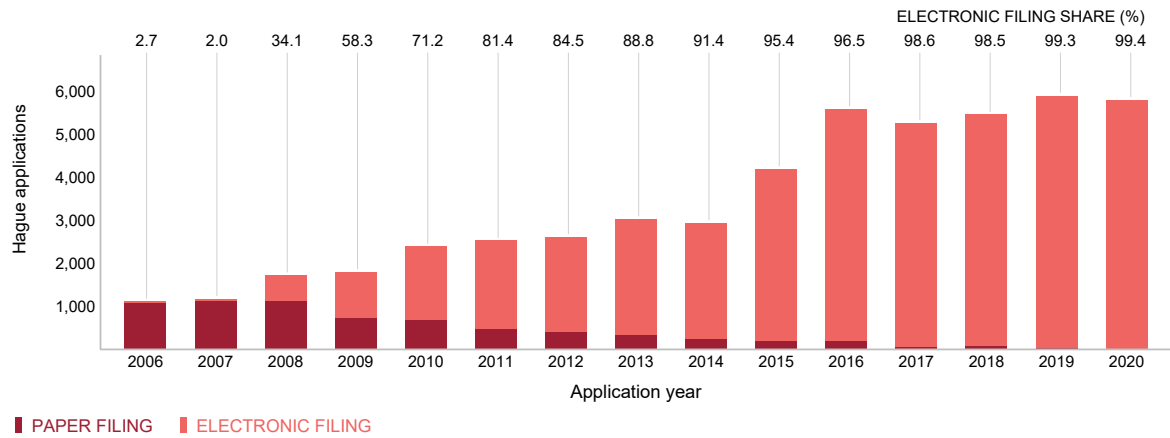
1 DESIGN 2 DESIGNS 3 DESIGNS 4 DESIGNS 5 to 10 DESIGNS >10 DESIGNS

Note: The top 20 origins as reported in figure A9.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Almost every international application is now filed in electronic format.

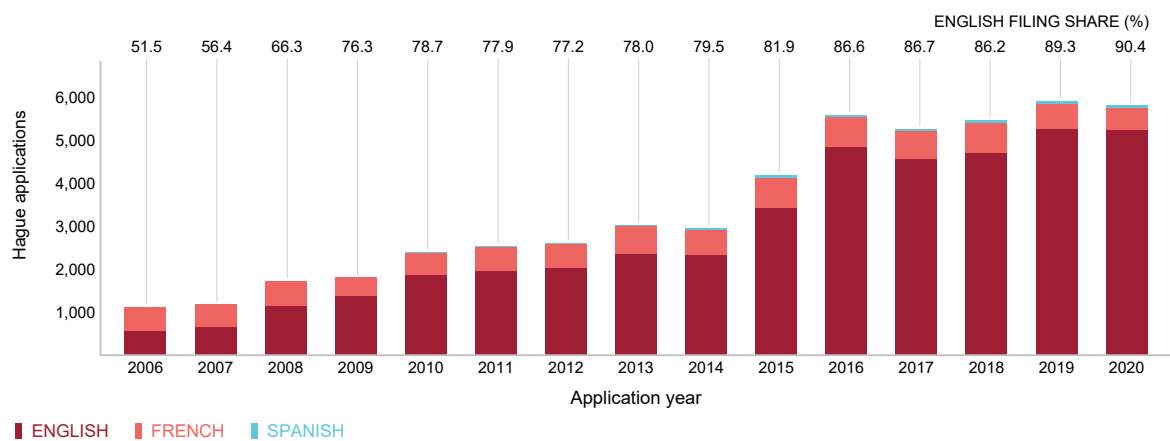
A13. Distribution of international applications by medium of filing, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Nine out of 10 international applications are now filed in English.

A14. Distribution of international applications by language of filing, 2006–2020

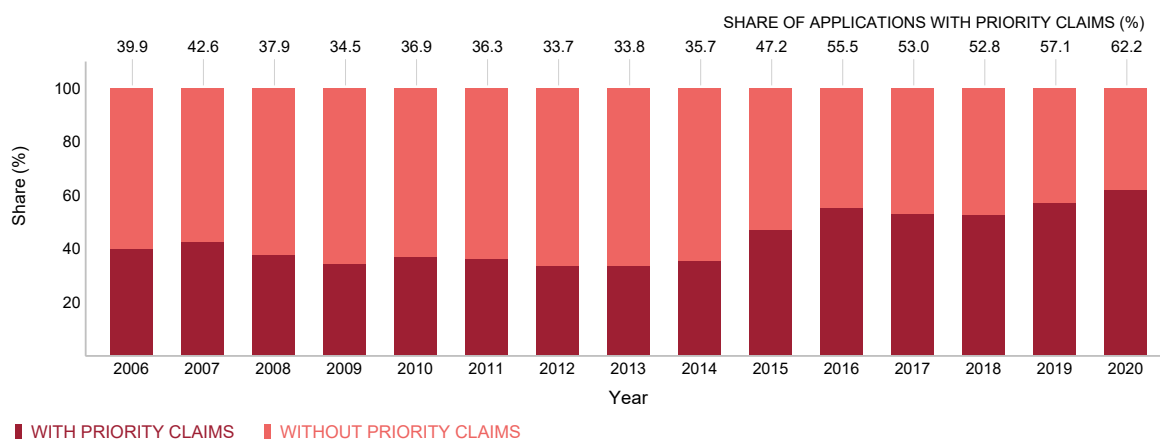


Note: International applications can be filed in English, French or Spanish.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Three out of five international applications filed in 2020 were based on priority claims.

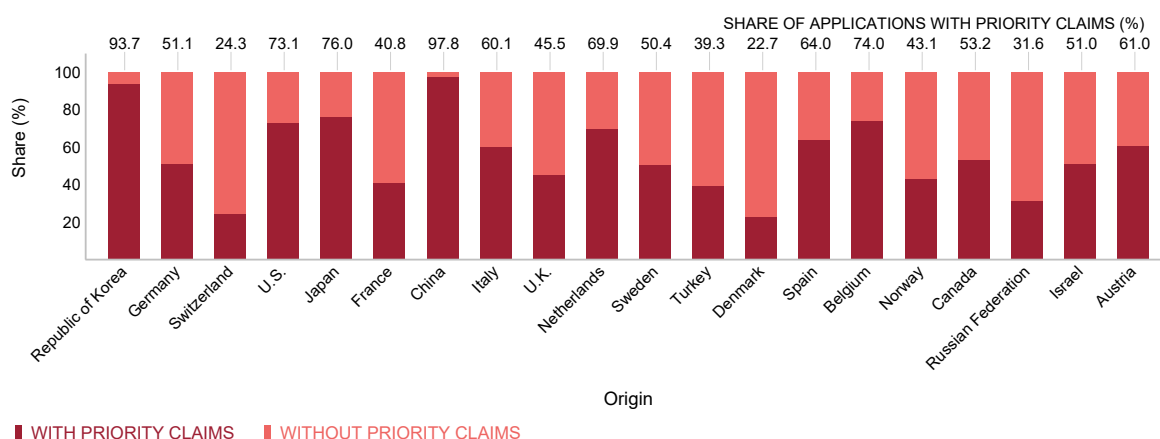
A15. Trend in international applications with priority claims, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Among the top 20 origins, China and the Republic of Korea had the highest proportion of applications with priority claims in 2020.

A16. Share of international applications with priority claims for the top 20 origins, 2020



Note: The top 20 origins as reported in figure A9.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Geographical coverage of Hague international applications

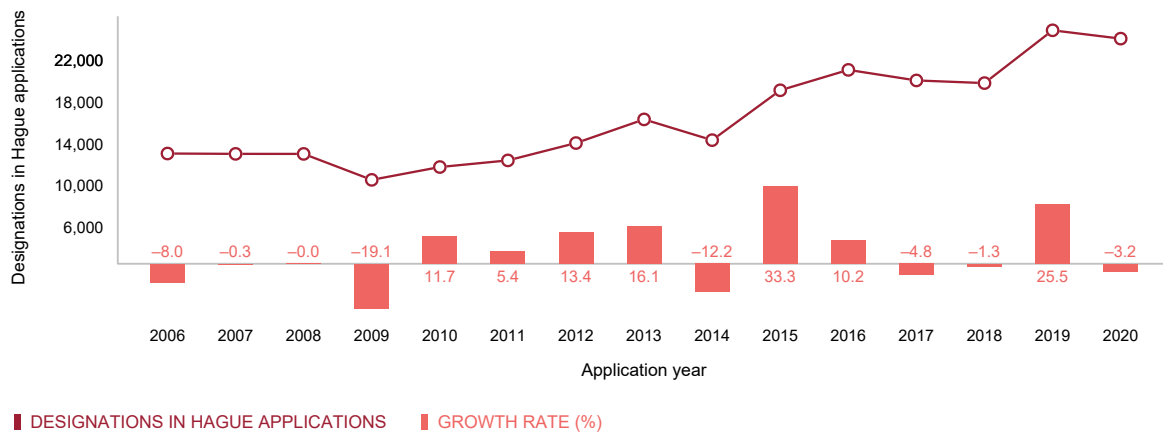
A17	Trend in designations in international applications, 2006–2020	37
A18	Trend in the number of designs contained in designations in international applications, 2006–2020	37
A19	Distribution of designations per international application, 2020	38
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A23	Average number of designs per designation for the top 20 designated Hague members, 2020	40
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Geographical coverage of Hague international applications

The Hague System simplifies the process of multinational registration by creating a single international procedure for protecting a design in multiple jurisdictions. Applicants list those Hague members in whose jurisdictions they wish to protect their designs (known as “designated members”). This subsection presents statistics on designations in order to provide insights into the geographical coverage of international applications.

Following substantial growth the previous year, designations in international applications fell by 3.2% in 2020.

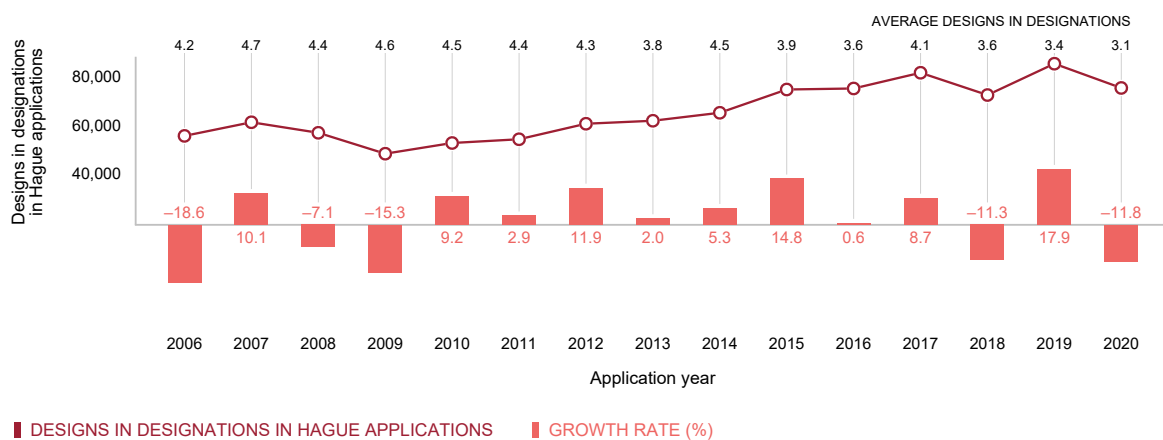
A17. Trend in designations in international applications, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Designs contained in all designations amounted to around 75,300 in 2020, 11.8% fewer than the previous year.

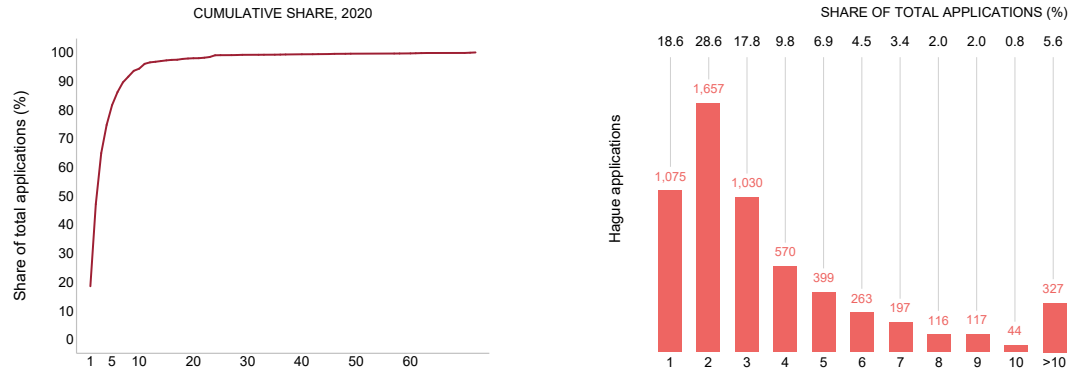
A18. Trend in the number of designs contained in designations in international applications, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Around three-quarters of all applications sought protection in up to four Hague member jurisdictions.

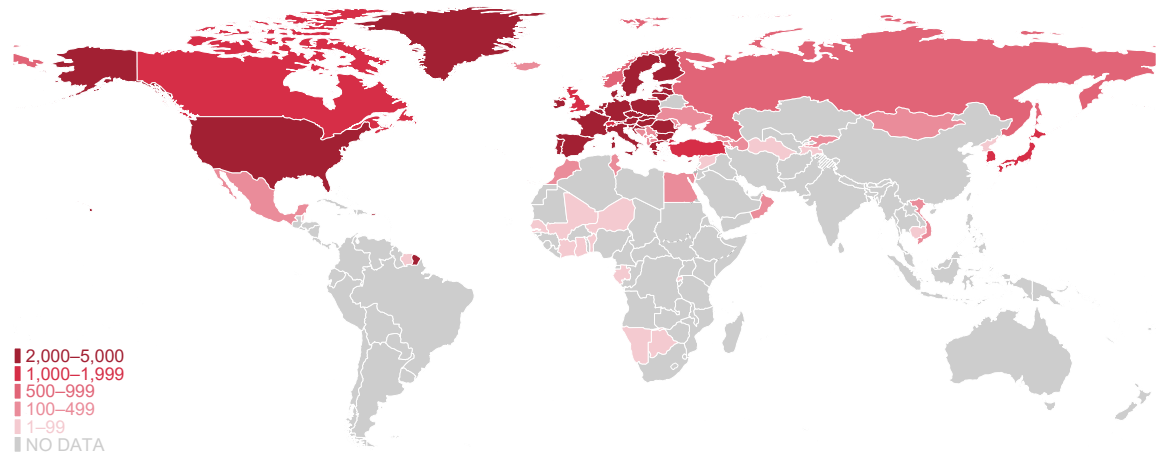
A19. Distribution of designations per international application, 2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The top six designated Hague members accounted for over half of all designations in 2020.

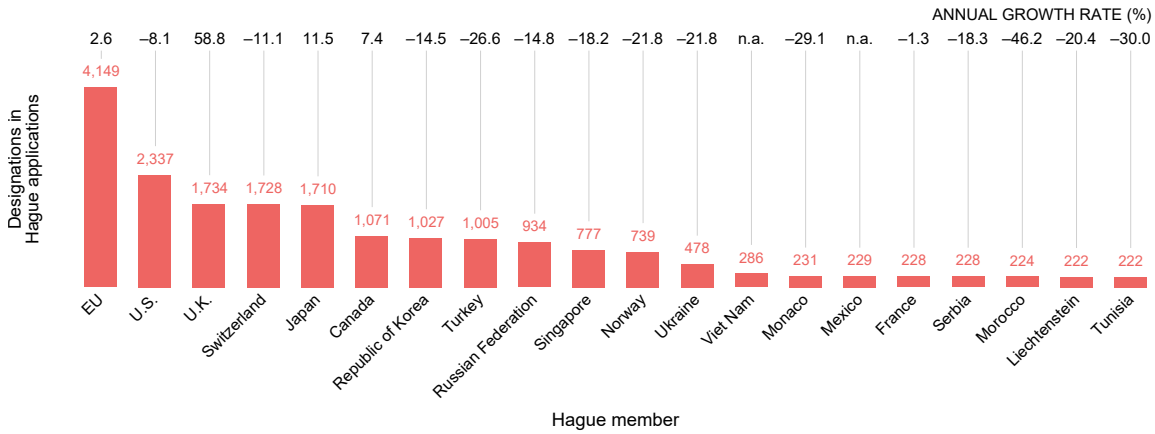
A20. International applications by designated Hague member, 2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The EU continues to receive the most designations in international applications.

A21. Designations in international applications for the top 20 designated Hague members, 2020

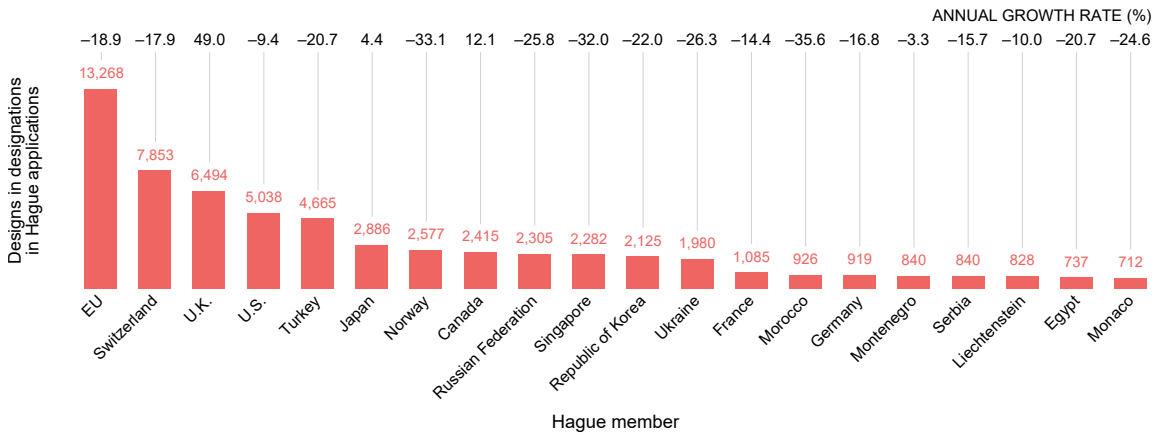


n.a. indicates not applicable.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Of the top 20 designated members, the U.K. had the strongest growth in designs in designations in 2020.

A22. Designs contained in designations in international applications for the top 20 designated Hague members, 2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

International applications designating France, Switzerland and Turkey contained the highest average number of designs per designation in 2020.

A23. Average number of designs per designation for the top 20 designated Hague members, 2020

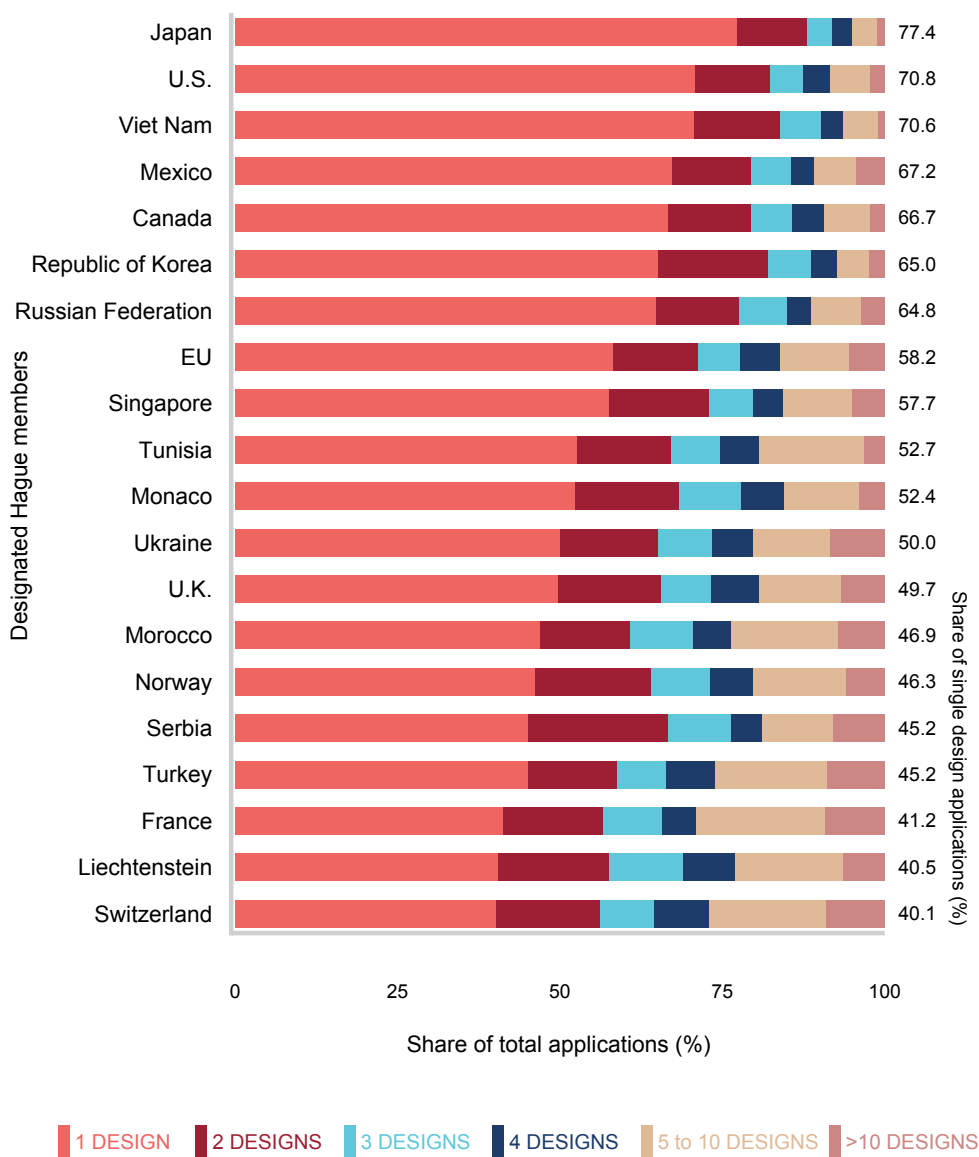


Note: The top 20 designated Hague members as reported in figure A22.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Among the top 20 designated Hague members, the proportion of single-design applications ranged from 40.1% for Switzerland to 77.4% for Japan.

A24. Distribution of designs per application for the top 20 designated Hague members, 2020



Note: The top 20 designated Hague members as reported in figure A22.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Applicants from Germany accounted for the largest share of designations in eight of the top 15 designated Hague members.

A25. Designs contained in applications for the top 15 origins and the top 15 most designated Hague members, 2020

Origin	Designated Hague member (number of designs)														
	EU	Switzerland	U.K.	U.S.	Turkey	Japan	Norway	Canada	Russian Federation	Singapore	Republic of Korea	Ukraine	France	Morocco	Germany
China	787	6	366	481	28	207	6	114	86	131	191	41	..	44	..
Denmark	180	127	46	124	31	32	157	20	21	16	31	1	..	..	..
France	525	555	310	215	304	200	148	129	188	128	216	113	130	202	71
Germany	2,228	2,805	1,283	670	1,148	238	406	184	229	197	283	239	394	65	333
Italy	849	825	485	243	470	139	267	103	134	190	123	98	59	97	4
Japan	771	95	269	356	41	134	37	68	113	158	284	34	7	25	20
Netherlands	359	203	247	70	378	119	127	69	233	234	152	169	70	1	1
Norway	126	25	44	97	3	52	95	42	30	34	21	..	..	..	..
Republic of Korea	1,538	25	107	524	22	695	14	129	84	68	66	4	4	..	15
Spain	177	104	60	200	156	9	19	5	27	105	4	105	39	52	39
Sweden	228	132	126	111	81	59	230	70	53	21	39	23	48	..	48
Switzerland	1,607	1,539	1,060	470	602	269	339	380	234	452	235	450	3	411	4
Turkey	480	47	194	120	152	7	20	54	38	16	5	57	7	..	7
U.K.	274	169	172	204	105	67	114	82	116	90	28	35	1	..	2
U.S.	1,669	399	1,012	190	285	352	177	382	233	190	276	68	163	17	201
Others/ Unknown	1,470	797	713	963	859	307	421	584	486	252	171	543	160	12	174
Total	13,268	7,853	6,494	5,038	4,665	2,886	2,577	2,415	2,305	2,282	2,125	1,980	1,085	926	919

Origin	Designated Hague member (share of total, %)														
	EU	Switzerland	U.K.	U.S.	Turkey	Japan	Norway	Canada	Russian Federation	Singapore	Republic of Korea	Ukraine	France	Morocco	Germany
China	5.9	0.1	5.6	9.5	0.6	7.2	0.2	4.7	3.7	5.7	9.0	2.1	..	4.8	..
Denmark	1.4	1.6	0.7	2.5	0.7	1.1	6.1	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.5	0.1	..	..	..
France	4.0	7.1	4.8	4.3	6.5	6.9	5.7	5.3	8.2	5.6	10.2	5.7	12.0	21.8	7.7
Germany	16.8	35.7	19.8	13.3	24.6	8.2	15.8	7.6	9.9	8.6	13.3	12.1	36.3	7.0	36.2
Italy	6.4	10.5	7.5	4.8	10.1	4.8	10.4	4.3	5.8	8.3	5.8	4.9	5.4	10.5	0.4
Japan	5.8	1.2	4.1	7.1	0.9	4.6	1.4	2.8	4.9	6.9	13.4	1.7	0.6	2.7	2.2
Netherlands	2.7	2.6	3.8	1.4	8.1	4.1	4.9	2.9	10.1	10.3	7.2	8.5	6.5	0.1	0.1
Norway	0.9	0.3	0.7	1.9	0.1	1.8	3.7	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.0	..	..	..	..
Republic of Korea	11.6	0.3	1.6	10.4	0.5	24.1	0.5	5.3	3.6	3.0	3.1	0.2	0.4	..	1.6
Spain	1.3	1.3	0.9	4.0	3.3	0.3	0.7	0.2	1.2	4.6	0.2	5.3	3.6	5.6	4.2
Sweden	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.2	1.7	2.0	8.9	2.9	2.3	0.9	1.8	1.2	4.4	..	5.2
Switzerland	12.1	19.6	16.3	9.3	12.9	9.3	13.2	15.7	10.2	19.8	11.1	22.7	0.3	44.4	0.4
Turkey	3.6	0.6	3.0	2.4	3.3	0.2	0.8	2.2	1.6	0.7	0.2	2.9	0.6	..	0.8
U.K.	2.1	2.2	2.6	4.0	2.3	2.3	4.4	3.4	5.0	3.9	1.3	1.8	0.1	..	0.2
U.S.	12.6	5.1	15.6	3.8	6.1	12.2	6.9	15.8	10.1	8.3	13.0	3.4	15.0	1.8	21.9
Others/ Unknown	11.1	10.1	11.0	19.1	18.4	10.6	16.3	24.2	21.1	11.0	8.0	27.4	14.7	1.3	18.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

.. indicates zero.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Non-resident applications by filing route

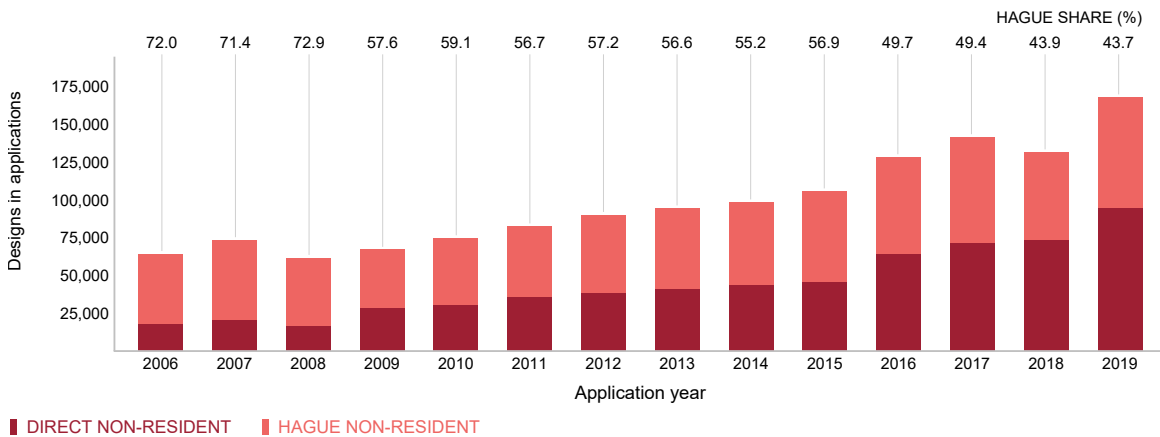
A26	Trends in non-resident application design counts by filing route (direct and Hague), 2006–2019	45
A27	Non-resident application design counts by filing route for selected Hague members, 2019	45

Non-resident applications by filing route

Applicants seeking design protection in foreign jurisdictions can either file applications directly with a national or regional intellectual property (IP) office (i.e., the Paris route) or, where requirements are met, make use of the Hague System. This subsection presents non-resident application statistics by filing route in order to provide insights into the use of these two alternative routes for non-resident applications.

Around 44% of non-resident applications were filed via the Hague System in 2019.

A26. Trends in non-resident application design counts by filing route (direct and Hague), 2006–2019

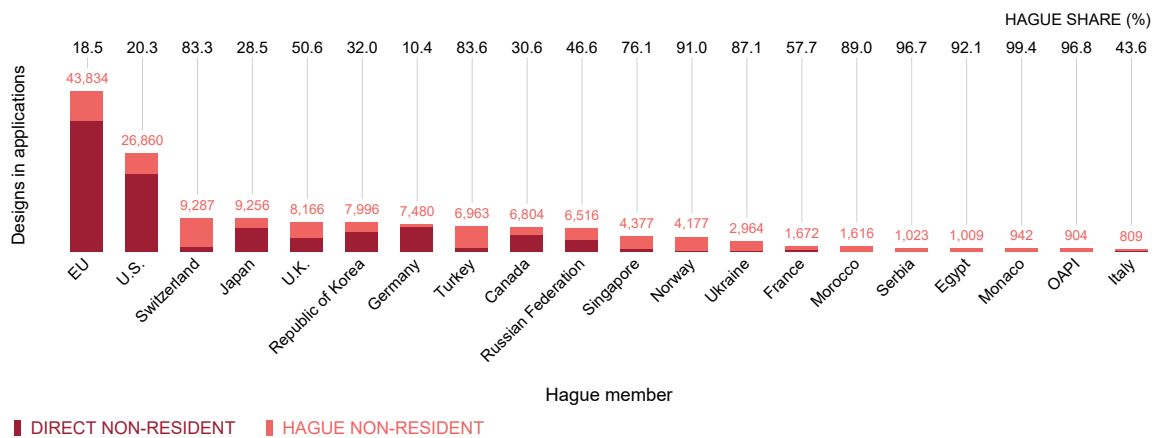


Note: Direct application data are available only up to 2019, therefore 2020 Hague designation data are not reported. The direct route refers only to applications filed directly with the national or regional IP offices of Hague members. The Hague route refers to designations received by offices via the Hague System. For the sake of simplicity, designations are referred to as applications received via the Hague route.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Germany, Japan and the U.S. had the lowest Hague share of non-resident applications.

A27. Non-resident application design counts by filing route for selected Hague members, 2019



Note: Direct application data are available only up to 2019, therefore 2020 Hague designation data are not reported. The direct route refers only to applications filed directly with national or regional IP offices of Hague members. The Hague route refers to designations received by offices via the Hague System. For the sake of simplicity, designations are referred to as applications received via the Hague route.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Hague international applications by class and by industry sector

A28	Designs contained in international applications by class, 2017–2020	47
A29	Designs contained in international applications by class for the top 10 origins, 2020	48
A30	Distribution of designs contained in applications by the top three sectors for the top 10 origins, 2020	49
A31	Designs contained in international applications by class and designated Hague member, 2020	50

Hague international applications by class and by industry sector

The Hague System makes it possible to file, via a single application, up to 100 industrial designs belonging to the same class of the International Classification for Industrial Designs established under the Locarno Agreement. This subsection presents Hague design statistics by class and by industry sector in order to provide insights into the goods incorporating the designs.

Designs related to means of transport (10.1%) accounted for the largest share of total designs in 2020.

A28. Designs contained in international applications by class, 2017–2020

Class	2017	2018	2019	2020	Growth rate (%): 2019–2020	2020 share of total (%)
Class 12: Means of transport	1,499	1,662	2,075	1,879	-9.4	10.1
Class 14: Recording and communication equipment	2,038	2,031	2,971	1,653	-44.4	8.9
Class 9: Packages and containers	1,251	1,220	1,441	1,568	8.8	8.4
Class 6: Furnishing	2,031	2,352	2,187	1,379	-36.9	7.4
Class 26: Lighting apparatus	1,354	1,196	1,357	1,278	-5.8	6.9
Class 11: Articles of adornment	856	866	960	1,033	7.6	5.6
Class 23: Heating and cooling equipment	1,280	1,064	1,173	998	-14.9	5.4
Class 7: Household goods	802	709	773	836	8.2	4.5
Class 25: Building units and construction elements	404	505	812	793	-2.3	4.3
Class 28: Pharmaceutical and cosmetic products	510	785	542	774	42.8	4.2
Class 32: Graphic symbols and logos	1,081	867	1,060	734	-30.8	3.9
Class 10: Clocks and watches	1,375	1,289	1,001	690	-31.1	3.7
Class 24: Medical and laboratory equipment	441	415	453	657	45.0	3.5
Class 2: Clothing	1,094	698	953	634	-33.5	3.4
Class 21: Games, toys, tents and sports goods	440	561	695	613	-11.8	3.3
Class 15: Machines, not elsewhere specified	633	609	673	578	-14.1	3.1
Class 13: Equipment for production of electricity	298	466	551	462	-16.2	2.5
Class 3: Travel goods	426	420	439	366	-16.6	2.0
Class 8: Tools and hardware	448	460	484	313	-35.3	1.7
Class 4: Brushware	223	115	61	215	252.5	1.2
Class 27: Tobacco and smokers' supplies	138	150	173	195	12.7	1.0
Class 19: Stationery and office equipment	234	291	258	169	-34.5	0.9
Class 29: Accident prevention and rescue equipment	69	51	37	134	262.2	0.7
Class 16: Photographic apparatus	123	292	176	131	-25.6	0.7
Class 31: Machines for preparing food or drink	33	147	108	116	7.4	0.6
Class 20: Sales and advertising equipment	259	123	81	98	21.0	0.5
Class 5: Textile piecegoods	185	183	135	94	-30.4	0.5
Class 1: Foodstuffs	43	50	37	54	45.9	0.3
Class 22: Arms, articles for hunting and fishing	61	54	48	49	2.1	0.3
Class 18: Printing and office machinery	73	49	34	48	41.2	0.3
Class 30: Animal care articles	100	95	81	41	-49.4	0.2
Class 17: Musical instruments	4	17	26	11	-57.7	0.1

Note: For full class definitions, visit: www.wipo.int/classifications/locarno.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Designs related to pharmaceutical and cosmetic products accounted for the largest share of designs from the Netherlands.

A29. Designs contained in international applications by class for the top 10 origins, 2020

Class	Origin									
	China	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	Netherlands	Republic of Korea	Switzerland	Turkey	U.S.
Class 1: Foodstuffs	..	..	17	..	..	..	1	4	..	6
Class 2: Clothing	12	78	153	56	36	81	16	37	1	61
Class 3: Travel goods	9	47	45	34	11	2	50	88	2	33
Class 4: Brushware	..	4	39	2	..	5	1	11	1	137
Class 5: Textile piecegoods	..	1	66	1	2	..	..	..	10	2
Class 6: Furnishing	7	31	361	144	13	301	47	88	41	51
Class 7: Household goods	64	40	101	46	18	38	90	63	59	211
Class 8: Tools and hardware	12	4	64	22	13	1	11	29	11	35
Class 9: Packages and containers	11	49	145	59	41	21	20	186	24	614
Class 10: Clocks and watches	22	22	132	10	37	1	17	319	6	12
Class 11: Articles of adornment	..	56	31	297	22	1	5	285	1	19
Class 12: Means of transport	126	222	722	54	125	64	111	98	13	40
Class 13: Equipment for production of electricity	21	17	64	12	78	..	43	95	..	48
Class 14: Recording and communication equipment	369	32	96	17	156	21	512	51	34	240
Class 15: Machines, not elsewhere specified	34	..	122	31	64	4	210	18	42	12
Class 16: Photographic apparatus	9	13	8	1	30	..	13	18	2	12
Class 17: Musical instruments	..	..	1	..	4	..	2	2	..	1
Class 18: Printing and office machinery	..	1	27	..	..	..	13	..	1	1
Class 19: Stationery and office equipment	..	21	51	..	13	..	9	25	6	19
Class 20: Sales and advertising equipment	3	9	32	..	..	..	15	15	..	4
Class 21: Games, toys, tents and sports goods	17	26	116	22	56	11	51	14	15	48
Class 22: Arms, articles for hunting and fishing	..	4	6	..	..	..	1	..	2	2
Class 23: Heating and cooling equipment	62	33	394	94	41	8	88	58	35	35
Class 24: Medical and laboratory equipment	..	14	84	6	70	96	46	38	4	192
Class 25: Building units and construction elements	3	12	35	17	10	10	138	44	187	17
Class 26: Lighting apparatus	8	56	526	209	19	16	80	23	6	40
Class 27: Tobacco and smokers' supplies	..	..	..	..	29	..	..	118	..	36
Class 28: Pharmaceutical and cosmetic products	12	38	97	22	21	306	38	16	2	179
Class 29: Accident prevention and rescue equipment	..	8	13	25	14	..	28	18	..	3
Class 30: Animal care articles	..	4	..	..	2	..	8	10	6	2
Class 31: Machines for preparing food or drink	25	..	12	4	3	3	7	17	14	4
Class 32: Graphic symbols and logos	..	94	106	46	13	9	..	157	3	96

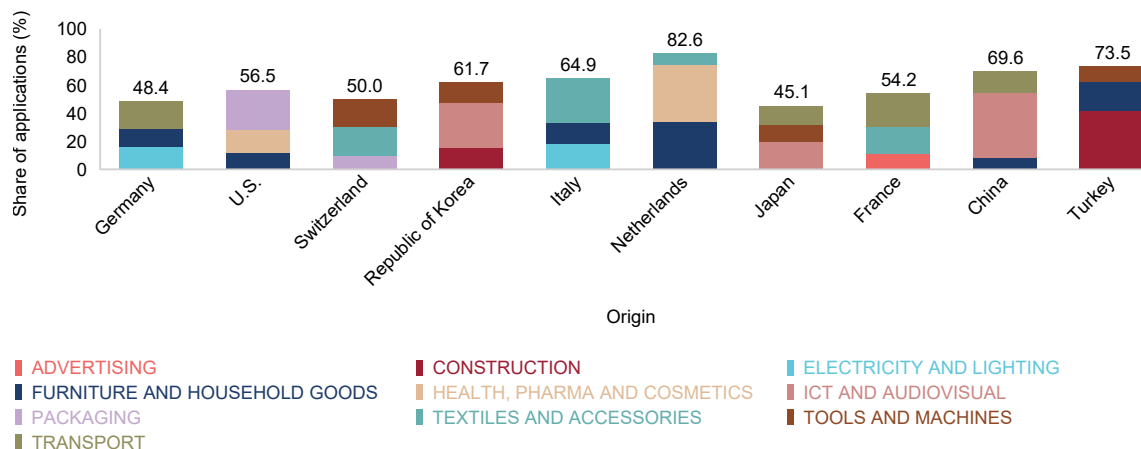
Note: For full class definitions, visit: www.wipo.int/classifications/locarno.

.. indicates zero.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The distribution of designs by sector is highly concentrated in the Netherlands and Turkey.

A30. Distribution of designs contained in applications by the top three sectors for the top 10 origins, 2020



Note: See the annex for definitions of sectors. The top 10 origins as reported in figure A10.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

For the EU, Japan and the U.S., designs related to recording and communication equipment accounted for the largest share of all designations, whereas for Norway, Switzerland and Turkey it was means of transport.

A31. Designs contained in international applications by class and designated Hague member, 2020

Class	Designated Hague member									
	EU	Switzerland	U.K.	U.S.	Turkey	Japan	Norway	Canada	Russian Federation	Singapore
Class 1: Foodstuffs	35	17	17	17	1	4	1	22	9	1
Class 2: Clothing	404	343	228	195	239	128	160	95	102	87
Class 3: Travel goods	272	139	185	154	64	131	55	57	78	71
Class 4: Brushware	151	117	72	28	82	28	7	32	14	7
Class 5: Textile piecegoods	79	54	5	49	50	2	7	2	12	51
Class 6: Furnishing	1,208	710	294	293	221	94	169	84	76	127
Class 7: Household goods	564	178	324	234	85	173	62	135	76	101
Class 8: Tools and hardware	213	117	65	133	44	72	69	85	54	22
Class 9: Packages and containers	1,032	560	554	401	233	220	232	240	279	158
Class 10: Clocks and watches	598	520	349	145	233	106	146	66	80	198
Class 11: Articles of adornment	843	686	463	298	232	69	162	199	35	257
Class 12: Means of transport	1,104	951	432	375	886	139	265	120	158	134
Class 13: Equipment for production of electricity	321	185	122	128	72	85	86	73	44	53
Class 14: Recording and communication equipment	1,400	139	444	514	50	231	79	123	93	151
Class 15: Machines, not elsewhere specified	492	150	127	141	127	127	22	55	68	24
Class 16: Photographic apparatus	87	52	38	42	20	42	16	21	14	29
Class 17: Musical instruments	10	..	4	10	..	5	1	1	..	..
Class 18: Printing and office machinery	35	30	23	29	18	2	19	3	22	2
Class 19: Stationery and office equipment	123	94	53	50	28	39	36	28	34	42
Class 20: Sales and advertising equipment	71	36	24	32	14	29	19	7	26	4
Class 21: Games, toys, tents and sports goods	475	176	297	299	200	218	95	197	182	45
Class 22: Arms, articles for hunting and fishing	32	6	20	23	10	3	12	9	7	5
Class 23: Heating and cooling equipment	806	548	340	181	252	158	170	120	102	91
Class 24: Medical and laboratory equipment	446	128	219	275	49	197	64	117	117	65
Class 25: Building units and construction elements	650	302	376	345	326	151	207	238	31	36
Class 26: Lighting apparatus	643	817	508	198	478	68	186	35	51	105
Class 27: Tobacco and smokers' supplies	51	167	76	97	105	72	28	32	145	52
Class 28: Pharmaceutical and cosmetic products	329	97	380	144	243	209	36	84	264	215
Class 29: Accident prevention and rescue equipment	84	35	41	78	24	40	21	59	26	26
Class 30: Animal care articles	37	26	26	22	4	8	7	11	3	3
Class 31: Machines for preparing food or drink	84	38	38	72	16	20	21	47	20	16
Class 32: Graphic symbols and logos	588	435	349	35	259	15	117	18	83	104

Note: For full class definitions, visit: www.wipo.int/classifications/locarno.

.. indicates zero.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Hague international registrations, refusals and grants of protection

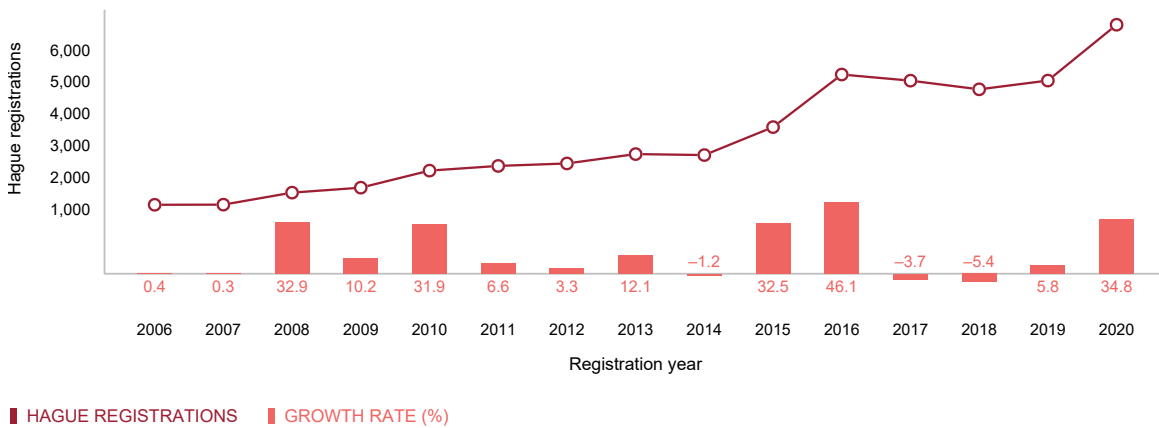
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Hague international registrations, refusals and grants of protection

International applications are recorded in the International Register, if they fulfill all the requirements of the formal examination conducted by the IB. Designated offices can refuse to grant protection for an international registration. If an IP office refuses to grant protection, it must notify the IB of its decision within six or 12 months from the date on which the registration was published in the *International Designs Bulletin*. This subsection presents statistics for international registrations, refusals and grants of protection.

International registrations grew by 34.8% in 2020 to 6,795 registrations.

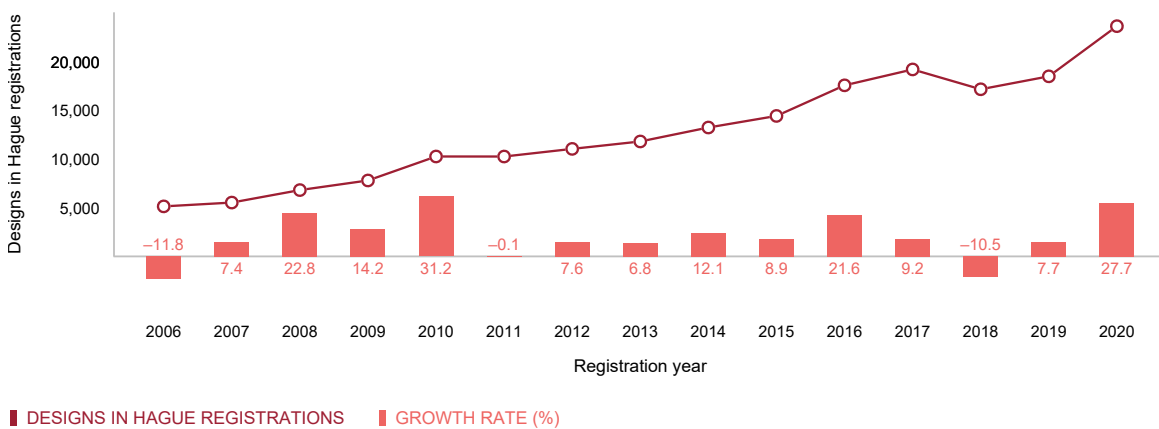
A32. Trend in international registrations, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Designs contained in international registrations grew by 27.7% in 2020 – the fastest year-on-year increase since 2010.

A33. Trend in the number of designs contained in international registrations, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The top four origins accounted for over half of all designs in registrations in 2020.

A34. International registrations and registration design counts for the top 20 origins, 2018–2020

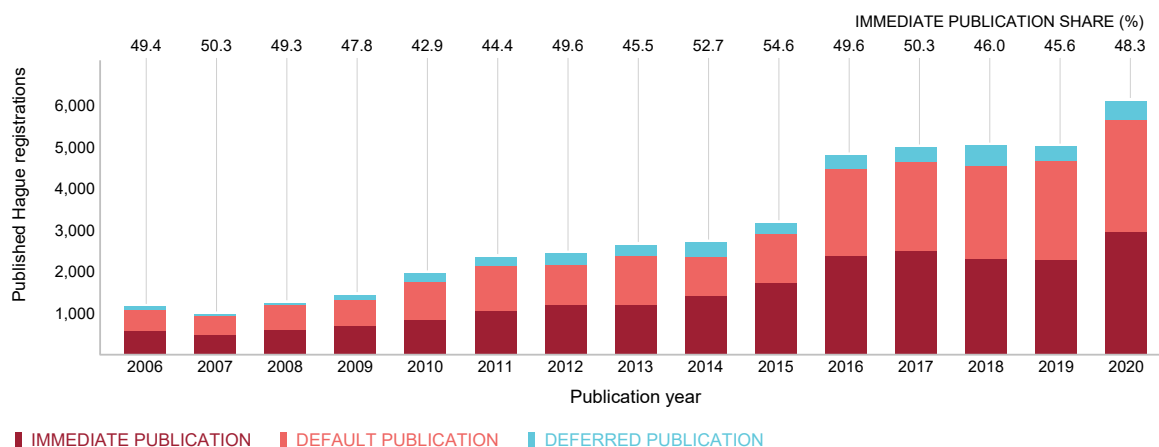
Origin	Number of registrations					Designs in registrations				
	2018	2019	2020	Growth rate (%): 2019–2020	2020 share of total (%)	2018	2019	2020	Growth rate (%): 2019–2020	2020 share of total (%)
Germany	660	703	823	17.1	12.1	3,773	3,468	5,279	52.2	22.3
U.S.	320	344	583	69.5	8.6	1,193	1,392	2,569	84.6	10.9
Switzerland	594	562	602	7.1	8.9	2,234	2,090	2,303	10.2	9.7
Republic of Korea	865	940	1,429	52.0	21.0	1,478	2,217	2,273	2.5	9.6
Italy	283	401	322	-19.7	4.7	1,066	1,871	1,437	-23.2	6.1
France	413	385	500	29.9	7.4	1,407	1,067	1,272	19.2	5.4
Netherlands	163	173	156	-9.8	2.3	953	1,354	1,265	-6.6	5.3
Japan	361	344	491	42.7	7.2	962	1,166	1,216	4.3	5.1
China	95	196	391	99.5	5.8	259	482	989	105.2	4.2
Turkey	94	73	133	82.2	2.0	431	322	570	77.0	2.4
Sweden	96	94	137	45.7	2.0	358	308	559	81.5	2.4
U.K.	120	131	197	50.4	2.9	320	391	456	16.6	1.9
Denmark	80	90	108	20.0	1.6	247	299	431	44.1	1.8
Spain	72	66	90	36.4	1.3	157	188	327	73.9	1.4
Cyprus	11	25	28	12.0	0.4	182	320	268	-16.2	1.1
Norway	42	51	73	43.1	1.1	111	111	245	120.7	1.0
Austria	38	40	57	42.5	0.8	167	164	243	48.2	1.0
Canada	1	23	57	147.8	0.8	1	37	172	364.9	0.7
Belgium	66	48	89	85.4	1.3	214	128	158	23.4	0.7
Luxembourg	25	35	41	17.1	0.6	150	132	153	15.9	0.6
Others/ Unknown	368	318	488	53.5	7.2	1,549	1,028	1,486	44.6	6.3
Total	4,767	5,042	6,795	34.8	100.0	17,212	18,535	23,671	27.7	100.0

Note: The top 20 origins were selected based on the number of designs contained in registrations in 2020.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Immediate publication accounted for the largest share all publications in 2020.

A35. Publication of international registrations, 2006–2020

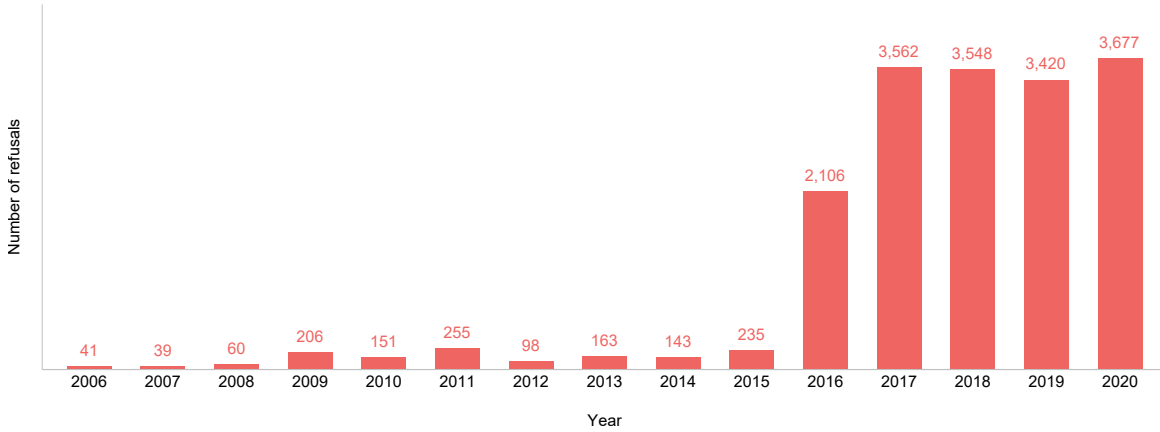


Note: International registrations are published in the *International Designs Bulletin (IDB)* six months after the date of registration, unless applicants request immediate publication or a deferment of publication. The publication of international registrations can be deferred for up to 12 months under the Hague Act, or for up to 30 months under the Geneva Act.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The IB recorded 3,677 refusals in 2020, up 7.5% on the previous year.

A36. Trend in refusal of international registration, 2006–2020

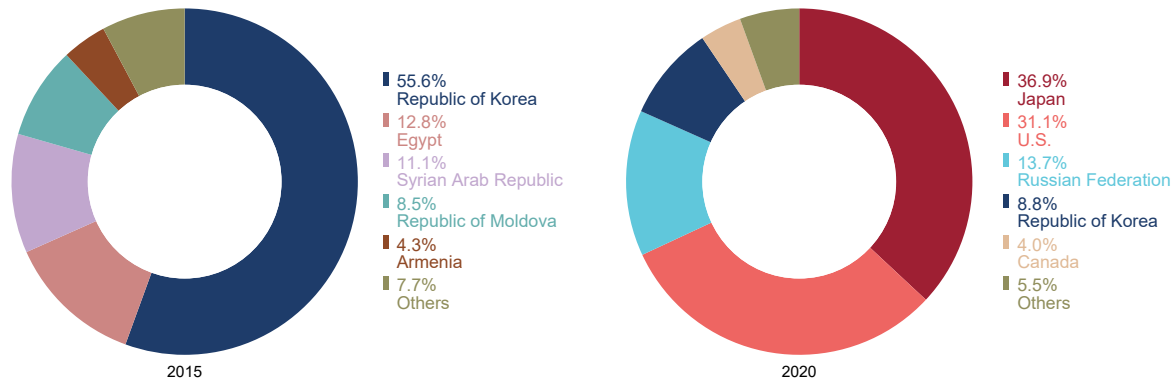


Note: The high number of refusals since 2016 could in part be due to the Japan Patent Office (JPO) which issues one notification of refusal per design if an international registration contains more than one industrial design. The JPO became a Hague member in 2015.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Japan and the U.S. together accounted for over two-thirds of all refusals in 2020.

A37. Refusal of international registration by designated Hague member, 2015 and 2020

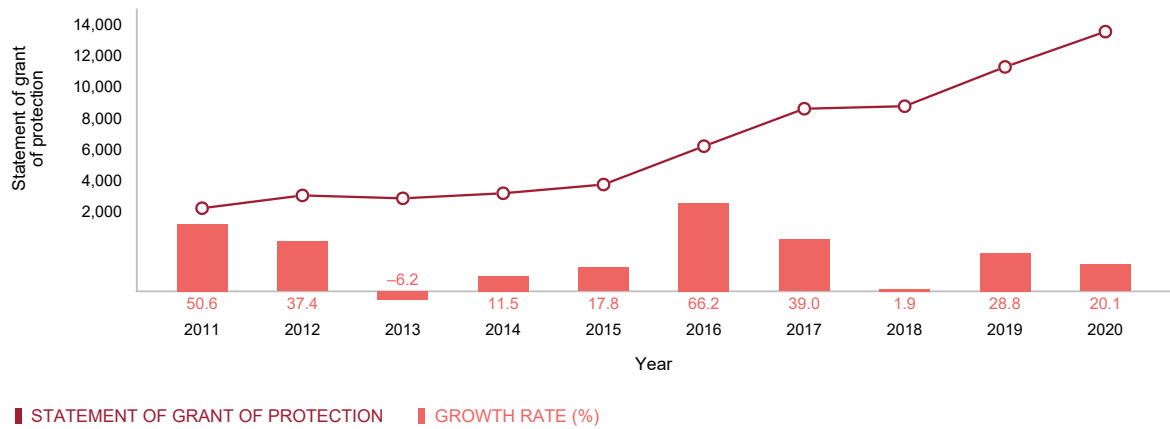


Note: The Japan Patent Office (JPO) issues one notification of refusal per design if the international registration contains more than one industrial design.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Hague members issued over 13,500 statements of grant of protection in 2020.

A38. Trend in statement of grant of protection, 2011–2020

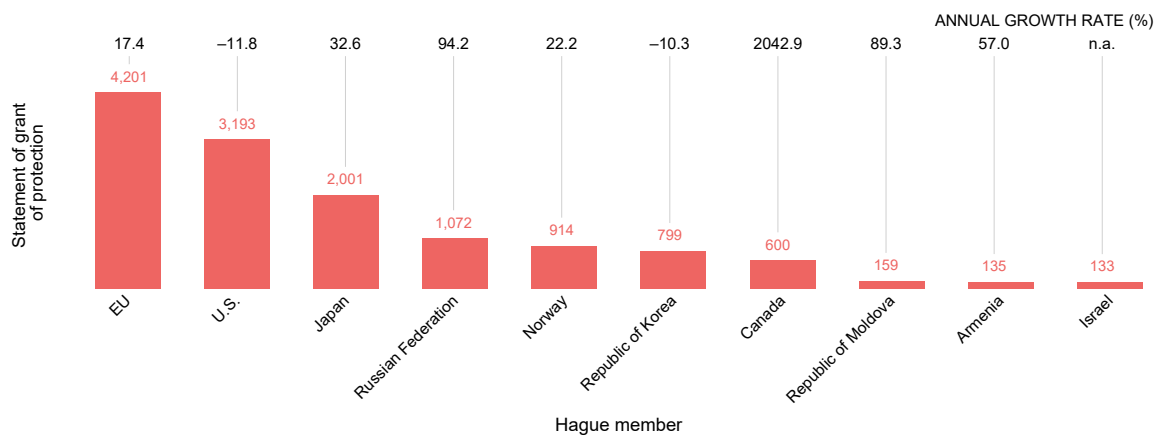


Note: The Japan Patent Office (JPO) issues a statement of grant of protection per design, rather than per international registration.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The EU issued the most statements of grant of protection in 2020.

A39. Grant of protection by designated Hague member, 2020



Note: The Japan Patent Office (JPO) issues a statement of grant of protection per design, rather than per international registration.

n.a. indicates not applicable.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Renewals of international registrations and registrations in force

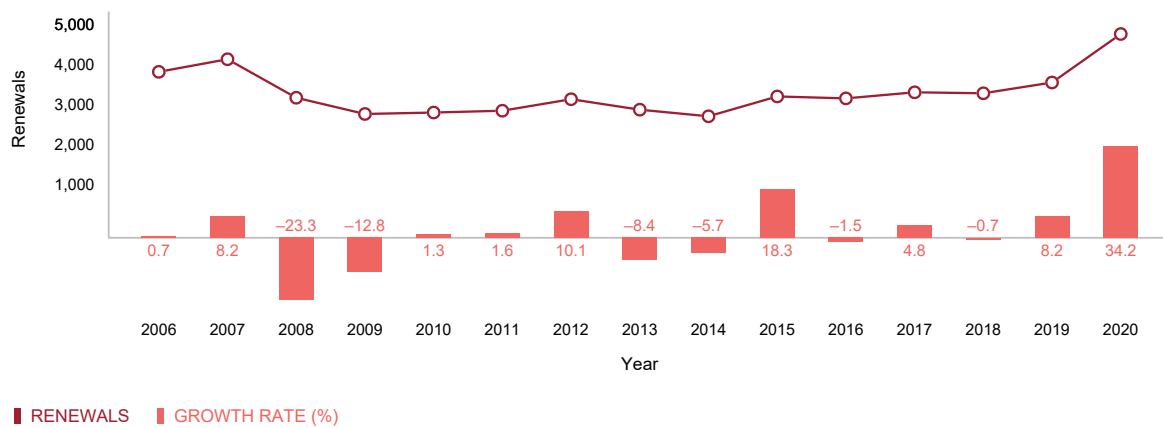
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Renewals of international registrations and registrations in force

International registrations are valid for a period of five years and can be renewed for at least two additional five-year periods. The maximum duration of protection in each Hague member's jurisdiction depends on the legislation of the granting authority. International registrations must be renewed in order to remain valid. During the renewal process, holders can designate all or only some of the Hague members designated in the initial registration. Holders can also opt to renew all or only some of the designs contained in the initial registration.

Renewal of international registrations grew sharply to reach around 4,760 renewals in 2020.

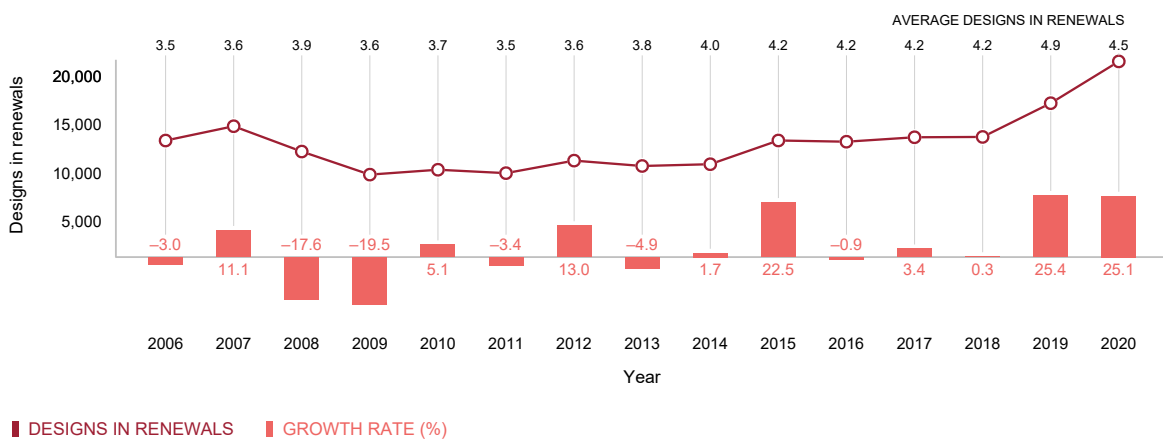
A40. Trend in renewals of international registrations, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Double-digit growth in the number of designs contained in renewals for a second successive year.

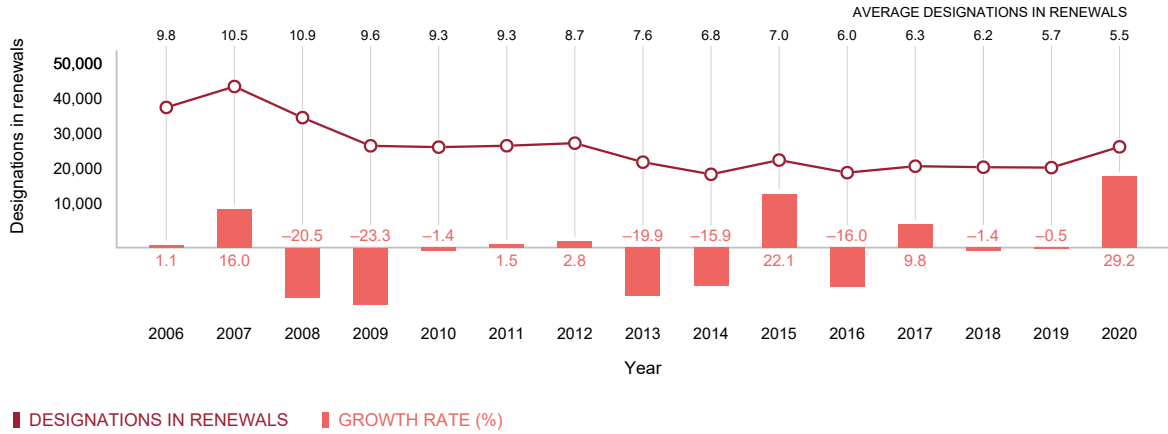
A41. Trend in renewals of designs contained in international registrations, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Designations in renewals grew by 29.2% in 2020 – the first increase since 2017.

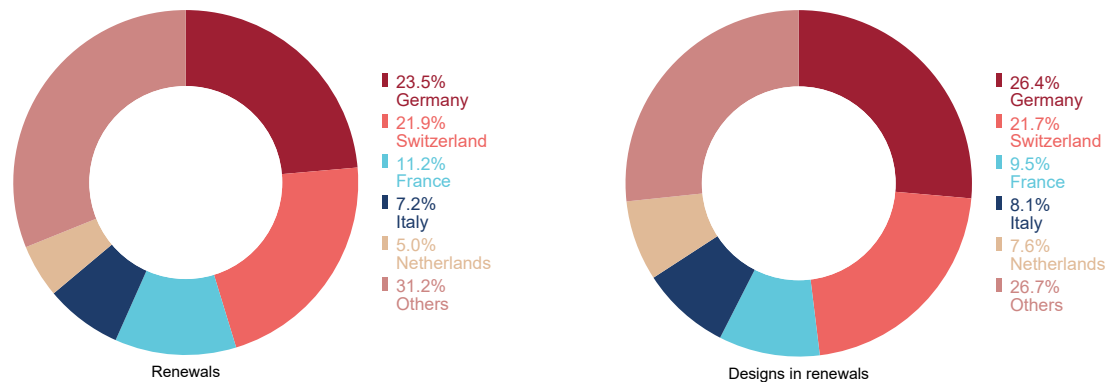
A42. Trend in designations in renewals of international registrations, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

International registration holders from Germany accounted for more than a quarter of all designs in renewals in 2020.

A43. Renewals of international registrations for the top five origins, 2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Switzerland was the most designated Hague member, with over 14,500 design renewals in 2020.

A44. Top designated Hague members in renewals of registrations, 2010, 2015 and 2020

Designated member	Renewals of registrations				Design renewals			
	2010	2015	2020	2020 share of total (%)	2010	2015	2020	2020 share of total (%)
Switzerland	2,250	2,431	2,792	10.7	8,643	10,753	14,501	12.2
EU	n.a.	1,072	2,933	11.2	n.a.	5,275	14,216	11.9
Turkey	183	882	1,654	6.3	597	3,933	7,858	6.6
Ukraine	333	635	915	3.5	1,100	2,700	4,478	3.8
Germany	2,101	1,347	857	3.3	7,959	5,560	4,412	3.7
France	2,172	1,428	854	3.3	8,111	5,777	4,358	3.7
Italy	2,194	1,400	764	2.9	7,919	5,600	3,994	3.4
Monaco	728	750	821	3.1	3,200	3,454	3,961	3.3
BOIP	2,218	1,390	759	2.9	8,602	5,753	3,904	3.3
Morocco	493	632	851	3.3	1,959	2,736	3,876	3.3
Singapore	147	514	862	3.3	425	2,004	3,374	2.8
Liechtenstein	690	692	721	2.8	2,808	2,880	3,285	2.8
Norway	n.a.	145	730	2.8	n.a.	583	3,012	2.5
Montenegro	625	629	664	2.5	2,149	2,369	2,821	2.4
Greece	883	655	475	1.8	3,574	3,075	2,623	2.2
North Macedonia	430	549	606	2.3	1,303	1,939	2,427	2.0
Croatia	312	579	449	1.7	1,173	2,520	2,411	2.0
Serbia	637	628	524	2.0	2,189	2,245	2,272	1.9
Republic of Korea	n.a.	n.a.	677	2.6	n.a.	n.a.	2,019	1.7
Republic of Moldova	379	432	506	1.9	1,116	1,589	1,877	1.6
Others/Unknown	9,277	5,573	6,744	25.8	33,514	21,886	27,426	23.0
Total	26,052	22,363	26,158	100.0	96,341	92,631	119,105	100.0

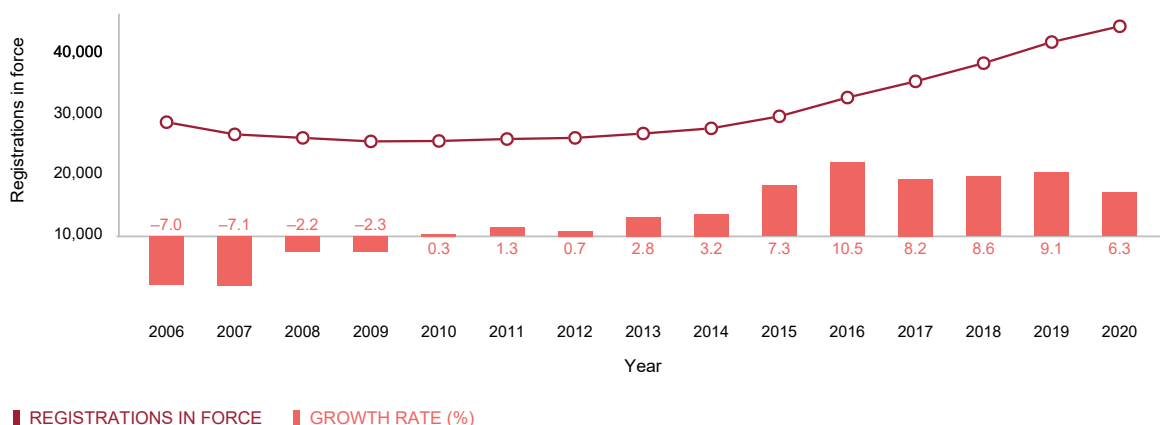
Note: Selection of the top 20 designated Hague members was based on the numbers of renewals of designs contained in Hague registrations in 2020. BOIP is the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property. The Benelux countries are Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

n.a. indicates not applicable.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Around 44,100 international registrations were in force in 2020 – a 6.3% increase on the previous year.

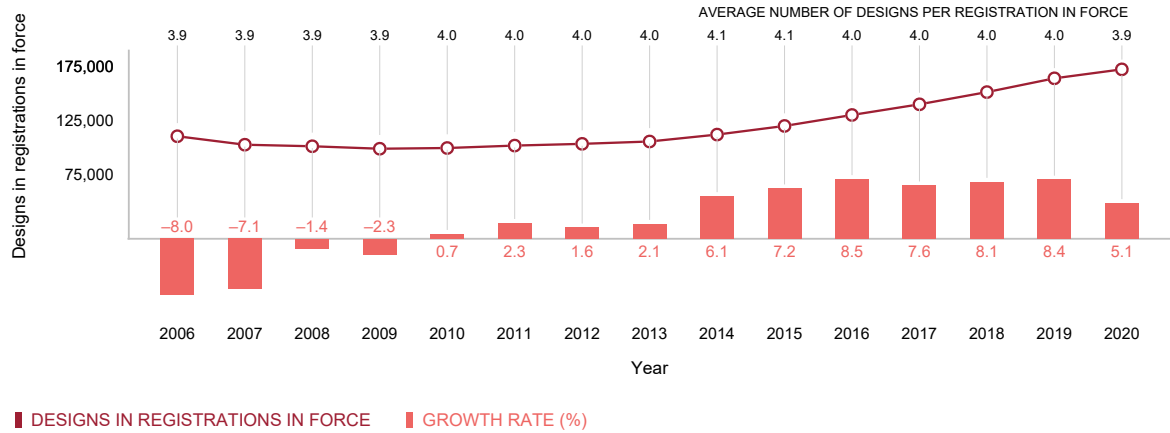
A45. International registrations in force, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The approximately 44,100 international registrations in force in 2020 contained around 172,200 designs.

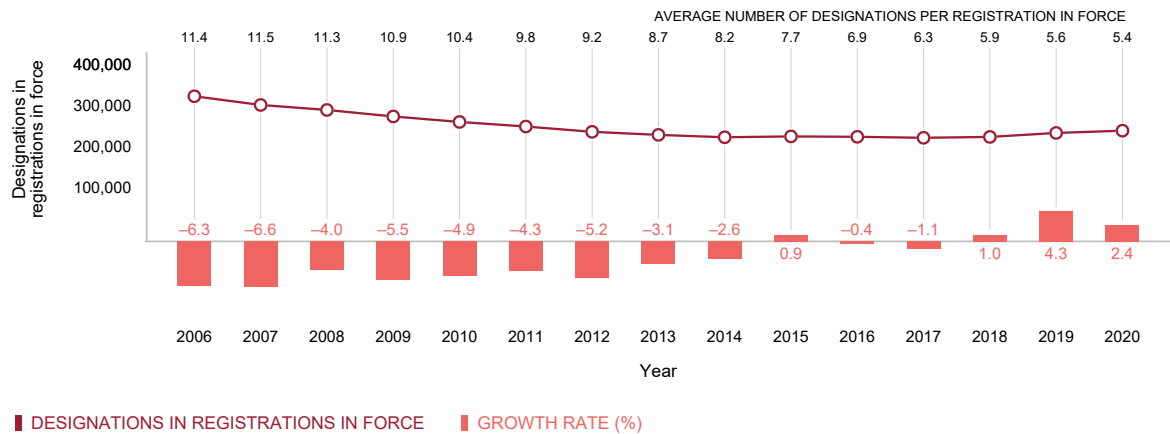
A46. Designs contained in international registrations in force, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Designations in international registrations in force saw a modest growth in 2020.

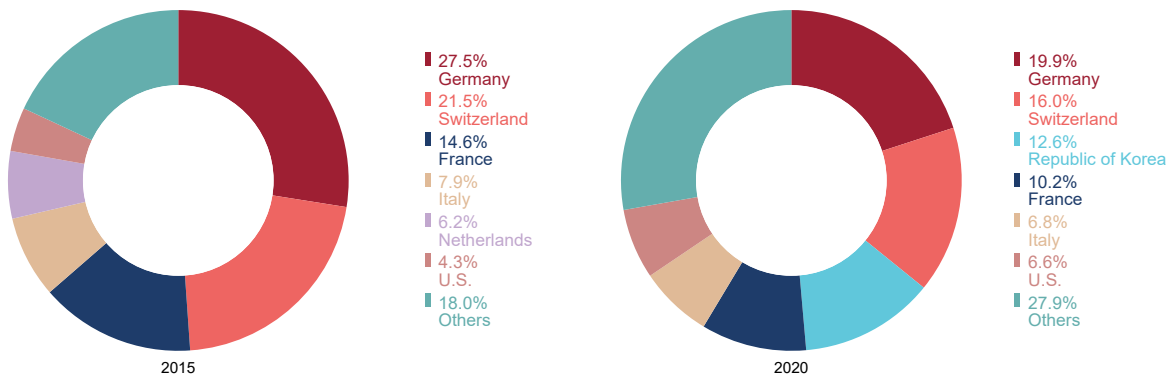
A47. Designations contained in international registrations in force, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Holders from Germany accounted for one-fifth of all registrations in force in 2020.

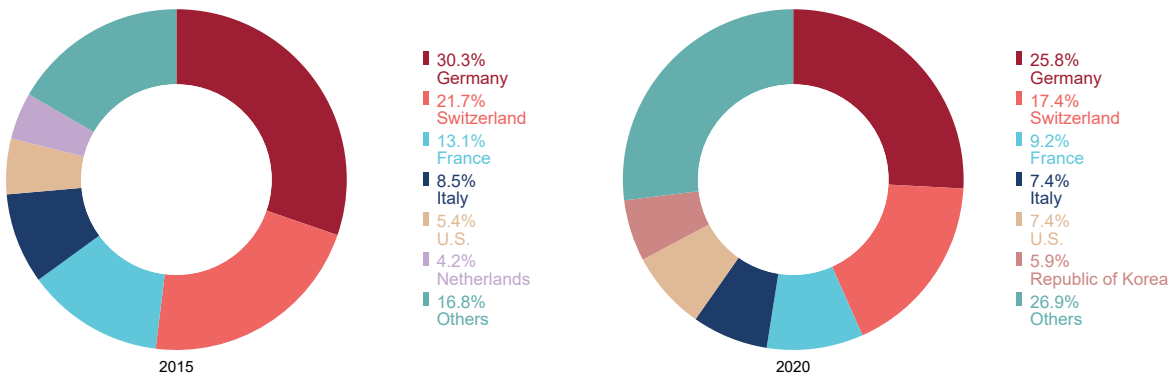
A48. Share of international registrations in force for the top six origins, 2015 and 2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

The combined share of holders residing in Germany and Switzerland decreased from 52% in 2015 down to 43.2% in 2020.

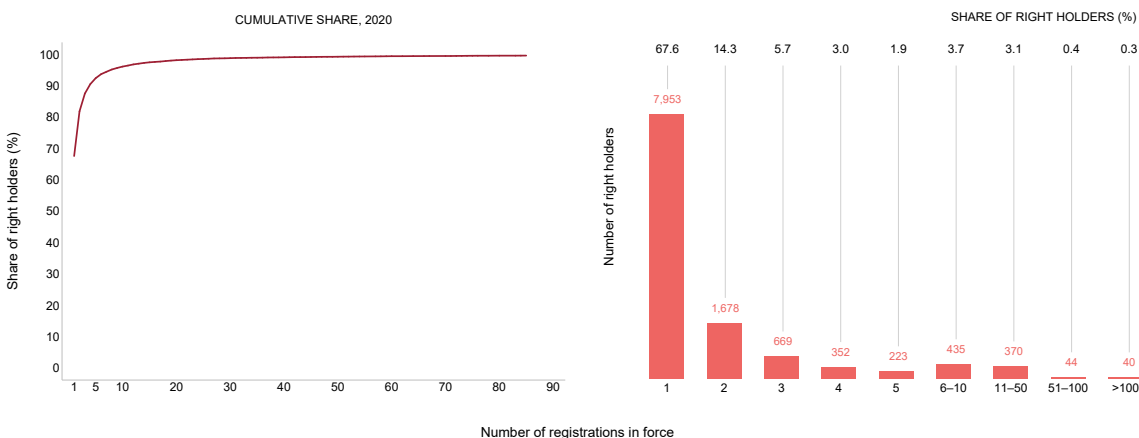
A49. Share of designs contained in international registrations in force for the top six origins, 2015 and 2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

More than two-thirds of international registration holders had only one registration in their portfolio in 2020.

A50. Distribution of international registrations in force by right holder portfolio size, 2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Fees collected and distributed by the International Bureau

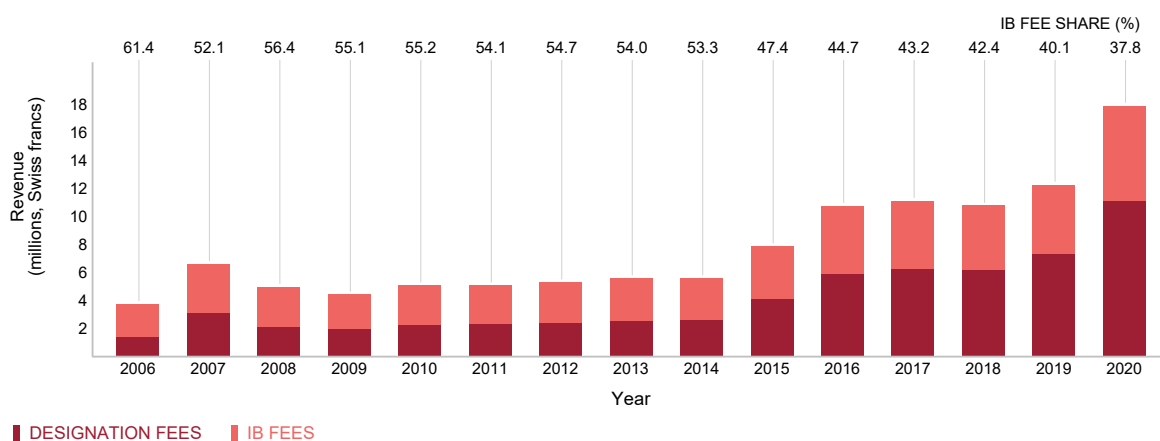
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A52	Fees distributed to designated offices by the IB, 2019–2020	65
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Fees collected and distributed by the International Bureau

The International Bureau (IB) of WIPO collects fees for services relating to the registration, renewal and maintenance of industrial designs. These comprise a basic standard fee per application and per design, together with a fee for each reproduction to be published. The IB also collects standard and individual designation fees on behalf of designated member and distributes them accordingly.

The IB fee share declined by 2.2 percentage points to 37.8% in 2020.

A51. Trend in fees collected by the IB, 2006–2020



Source: WIPO, March 2021.

Combined, the EU, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the U.S. received 71.5% of the CHF 11.1 million distributed to designated members in 2020.

A52. Fees distributed to designated offices by the IB, 2019–2020

Office	2019	2020	2020 share of total (%)
African Intellectual Property Organization	52,034	110,203	1.0
Albania	13,387	14,822	0.1
Armenia	11,036	18,919	0.2
Azerbaijan	12,137	12,511	0.1
Belize	9,481	9,820	0.1
Benelux Office for Intellectual Property	21,315	22,866	0.2
Benin	1,648	1,853	0.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	15,916	17,831	0.2
Botswana	2,034	2,932	0.0
Brunei Darussalam	6,680	8,273	0.1
Bulgaria	7,891	12,006	0.1
Cambodia	4,160	8,540	0.1
Canada	394,200	888,208	8.0
Cote d'Ivoire	1,799	1,899	0.0
Croatia	20,522	34,329	0.3
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	13,423	12,056	0.1
Denmark	7,218	8,057	0.1
Egypt	15,315	16,437	0.1
Estonia	3,137	4,814	0.0
EU	1,285,606	1,569,473	14.1

(Continued)

(A52 continued)

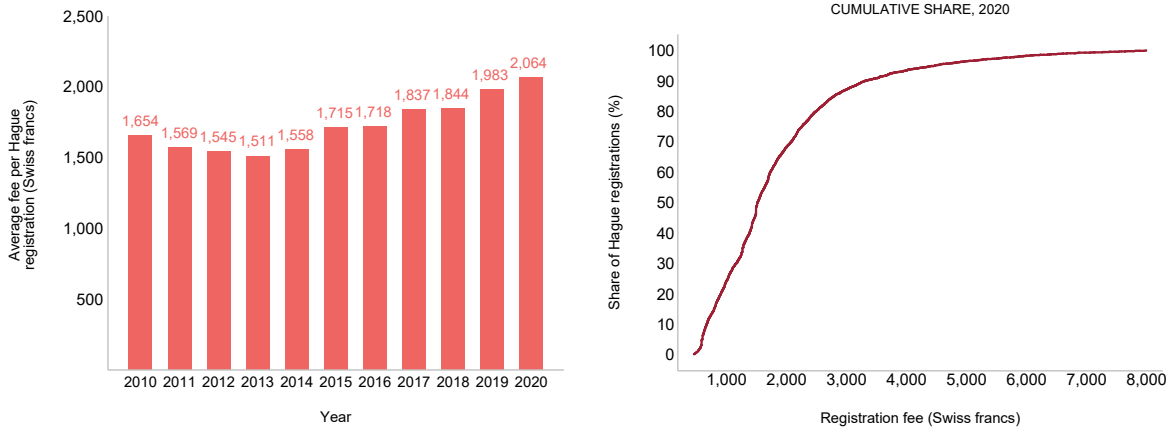
Office	2019	2020	2020 share of total (%)
Finland	5,743	6,446	0.1
France	28,981	32,811	0.3
Gabon	1,709	1,188	0.0
Georgia	38,207	37,955	0.3
Germany	44,349	50,620	0.5
Ghana	4,074	7,321	0.1
Greece	13,121	14,534	0.1
Hungary	10,108	20,586	0.2
Iceland	17,348	33,047	0.3
Israel	n.a.	47,633	0.4
Italy	20,102	20,148	0.2
Japan	1,429,085	2,846,889	25.6
Kyrgyzstan	49,134	52,016	0.5
Latvia	1,594	2,738	0.0
Liechtenstein	26,293	28,440	0.3
Lithuania	22,570	36,720	0.3
Mali	86	345	0.0
Mexico	n.a.	16,649	0.1
Monaco	30,537	31,189	0.3
Mongolia	12,520	12,824	0.1
Montenegro	25,155	26,326	0.2
Morocco	56,491	57,602	0.5
Namibia	2,379	3,169	0.0
Niger	64	459	0.0
North Macedonia	22,969	23,550	0.2
Norway	114,325	121,704	1.1
Oman	14,891	15,722	0.1
Poland	4,783	5,950	0.1
Republic of Korea	584,045	1,166,557	10.5
Republic of Moldova	51,693	73,347	0.7
Romania	25,475	33,685	0.3
Russian Federation	237,661	262,851	2.4
Rwanda	1,355	2,075	0.0
Samoa	n.a.	908	0.0
San Marino	726	2,466	0.0
Sao Tome and Principe	1,318	2,035	0.0
Senegal	1,820	1,959	0.0
Serbia	63,951	75,039	0.7
Singapore	52,721	66,105	0.6
Slovenia	12,696	13,815	0.1
Spain	7,528	7,946	0.1
Suriname	2,059	2,489	0.0
Switzerland	299,019	350,934	3.2
Syrian Arab Republic	6,034	6,562	0.1
Tajikistan	10,631	11,013	0.1
Tunisia	36,726	36,228	0.3
Turkey	91,932	101,602	0.9
Turkmenistan	1,830	4,028	0.0
U.K.	42,052	81,801	0.7
U.S.	1,837,770	2,383,249	21.4
Ukraine	89,521	93,184	0.8
Viet Nam	n.a.	30,030	0.3
Total	7,354,120	11,140,338	100.0

n.a. indicates not applicable.

Source: WIPO, March 2021.

On average, each applicant paid CHF 2,064 per registration in 2020.

A53. Registration fees, 2010–2020



Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

Statistical tables

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A56	Renewals of international registrations via the Hague System, 2020	73

Statistical tables

A54. International applications via the Hague System, 2020

Origin/designated member	Origin ¹		Designated member	
	Number of applications	Number of designs	Number of applications	Number of designs
African Intellectual Property Organization	n.a.	n.a.	150	507
Albania	3	3	147	508
Andorra (a)	1	7	n.a.	n.a.
Argentina (a)	2	2	n.a.	n.a.
Armenia	2	7	109	375
Australia (a)	8	8	n.a.	n.a.
Austria (b)	41	197	n.a.	n.a.
Azerbaijan	..	..	131	527
Belgium (c)	77	142	n.a.	n.a.
Belize	..	..	82	266
Benelux	n.a.	n.a.	94	414
Benin	..	..	27	53
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5	6	199	677
Botswana	..	..	56	90
Brunei Darussalam	..	..	59	110
Bulgaria	6	8	63	243
Cambodia	..	..	86	199
Cameroon (a)	2	3	n.a.	n.a.
Canada	62	146	1,071	2,415
China (a)	361	826	n.a.	n.a.
Côte d'Ivoire	..	..	30	70
Croatia	20	37	122	696
Cyprus (b)	17	99	n.a.	n.a.
Czech Republic (b)	24	77	n.a.	n.a.
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	..	..	61	153
Denmark	88	242	76	278
Egypt	1	24	181	737
Estonia	7	16	45	101
Eswatini (a)	1	3	n.a.	n.a.
European Union	n.a.	n.a.	4,149	13,268
Finland	22	45	46	95
France	400	936	228	1,085
Gabon	..	..	24	43
Georgia	..	..	123	427
Germany	702	3,666	213	919
Ghana	2	6	57	97
Greece	8	118	53	286
Hungary	5	23	36	80
Iceland	..	..	124	402
India (a)	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Ireland (b)	5	7	n.a.	n.a.
Israel	49	101	217	635
Italy	273	1,231	33	205
Japan	408	942	1,710	2,886
Jordan (a)	1	7	n.a.	n.a.
Kyrgyzstan	1	13	111	327
Latvia	15	35	34	72

(Continued)

(A54 continued)

Origin/designated member	Origin ¹		Designated member	
	Number of applications	Number of designs	Number of applications	Number of designs
Liechtenstein	5	24	222	828
Lithuania	13	23	104	504
Luxembourg (c)	31	182	n.a.	n.a.
Malaysia (a)	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Mali	..	..	14	21
Malta (b)	5	163	n.a.	n.a.
Mexico	2	2	229	623
Monaco	2	9	231	712
Mongolia	..	..	121	391
Montenegro	..	..	212	840
Morocco	2	7	224	926
Namibia	..	..	57	93
Netherlands (c)	136	999	n.a.	n.a.
New Zealand (a)	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Niger	..	..	16	35
North Macedonia	4	11	185	614
Norway	65	208	739	2,577
Oman	1	1	150	474
Philippines	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Poland	24	54	56	119
Portugal (b)	14	19	n.a.	n.a.
Republic of Korea	1,145	1,669	1,027	2,125
Republic of Moldova	8	11	166	589
Romania	5	10	92	355
Russian Federation	57	106	934	2,305
Rwanda	..	..	46	82
Samoa	..	..	40	62
San Marino	1	4	62	119
Sao Tome and Principe	..	..	44	77
Senegal	..	..	26	52
Serbia	20	28	228	840
Singapore	19	54	777	2,282
Slovakia (b)	4	4	n.a.	n.a.
Slovenia	30	153	94	583
Spain	86	288	70	152
Suriname	..	..	37	71
Sweden (b)	117	379	n.a.	n.a.
Switzerland	531	1,944	1,728	7,853
Syrian Arab Republic	..	..	45	81
Tajikistan	..	..	78	168
Tunisia	..	..	222	708
Turkey	111	524	1,005	4,665
Turkmenistan	..	..	63	135
Ukraine	33	78	478	1,980
United Arab Emirates (a)	1	2	n.a.	n.a.
United Kingdom	167	416	1,734	6,494
United States of America	526	2,211	2,337	5,038
Viet Nam	2	4	286	526
Others/Unknown	2	6	..	..
Total	5,792	18,580	24,126	75,345

Note: Only countries/territories of origin and designated Hague member countries or jurisdictions for which Hague System statistics exist for 2020 are listed. The Benelux countries are Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

¹ Origin is defined as the country/territory of the stated address of domicile of the holder of the international application.

(a) Not a member of the Hague System. Applicants from this country can file via the Hague System by claiming commercial activity or domicile in a country or in the jurisdiction of a regional office that is a member of the Hague System. The IP office of the country cannot be designated by an applicant that uses the Hague System.

(b) The country is a member of the Hague System via its membership of the European Union.

(c) The IP office is the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property.

n.a. indicates not applicable.

.. indicates zero.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

A55. International registrations via the Hague System, 2020

Origin/designated member	Origin ¹		Designated member	
	Number of registrations	Number of designs	Number of registrations	Number of designs
African Intellectual Property Organization	n.a.	n.a.	167	425
Albania	1	1	150	505
Andorra (a)	1	7	n.a.	n.a.
Argentina (a)	2	2	n.a.	n.a.
Armenia	4	9	118	412
Australia (a)	8	8	n.a.	n.a.
Austria (b)	57	243	n.a.	n.a.
Azerbaijan	..	..	142	512
Belgium (c)	89	158	n.a.	n.a.
Belize	..	..	80	257
Benelux	n.a.	n.a.	89	468
Benin	..	..	19	40
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6	43	200	675
Botswana	..	..	60	96
Brunei Darussalam	..	..	60	108
Bulgaria	9	19	61	190
Cambodia	..	..	108	211
Cameroon (a)	1	2	n.a.	n.a.
Canada	57	172	1,239	2,948
China (a)	391	989	n.a.	n.a.
Côte d'Ivoire	..	..	21	48
Croatia	23	58	133	910
Cyprus (b)	28	268	n.a.	n.a.
Czech Republic (b)	27	132	n.a.	n.a.
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	..	..	63	149
Denmark	108	431	69	201
Egypt	1	24	193	651
Estonia	7	16	37	71
European Union	n.a.	n.a.	4,888	17,084
Finland	24	58	39	82
France	500	1,272	243	1,233
Gabon	..	..	21	23
Georgia	1	1	127	442
Germany	823	5,279	219	1,055
Ghana	1	3	52	91
Greece	8	77	55	385
Hungary	8	69	29	64
Iceland	1	1	125	508
Ireland (b)	9	13	n.a.	n.a.
Israel	43	81	161	440
Italy	322	1,437	30	195
Japan	491	1,216	2,031	3,471
Jordan (a)	1	7	n.a.	n.a.
Kazakhstan (a)	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Kyrgyzstan	..	..	119	333
Latvia	13	33	25	42
Liechtenstein	12	67	235	911
Lithuania	13	24	108	613
Luxembourg (c)	41	153	n.a.	n.a.
Malaysia (a)	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Mali	..	..	6	8
Malta (b)	4	141	n.a.	n.a.
Mexico	1	1	156	365
Monaco	1	1	247	749
Mongolia	..	..	132	385
Montenegro	..	..	218	894
Morocco	3	21	306	1,236
Namibia	..	..	60	107
Netherlands (c)	156	1,265	n.a.	n.a.
New Zealand (a)	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Niger	..	..	7	9
North Macedonia	5	11	201	624
Norway	73	245	888	3,439

(Continued)

(A55 continued)

Origin/designated member	Origin ¹		Designated member	
	Number of registrations	Number of designs	Number of registrations	Number of designs
Oman	..	..	162	473
Poland	31	82	49	170
Portugal (b)	20	29	n.a.	n.a.
Republic of Korea	1,429	2,273	1,272	3,038
Republic of Moldova	9	15	183	689
Romania	10	18	104	462
Russian Federation	51	84	1,101	2,828
Rwanda	..	..	43	74
Samoa	..	..	21	34
San Marino	..	..	56	113
Sao Tome and Principe	..	..	40	69
Senegal	..	..	19	40
Serbia	18	34	268	1,037
Singapore	22	56	991	3,079
Slovakia (b)	3	3	n.a.	n.a.
Slovenia	39	130	99	623
South Africa (a)	2	12	n.a.	n.a.
Spain	90	327	63	142
Suriname	..	..	24	52
Sweden (b)	137	559	n.a.	n.a.
Switzerland	602	2,303	2,039	10,070
Syrian Arab Republic	..	..	43	82
Tajikistan	..	..	75	149
Tunisia	1	1	267	874
Turkey	133	570	1,266	5,663
Turkmenistan	..	..	62	125
Ukraine	35	75	562	2,444
United Arab Emirates (a)	2	9	n.a.	n.a.
United Kingdom	197	456	1,721	6,523
United States of America	583	2,569	2,845	6,612
Viet Nam	1	2	227	419
Others/Unknown	3	3	..	..
Total	6,795	23,671	27,339	89,549

Note: Only countries/territories of origin and designated Hague member countries or jurisdictions for which Hague System statistics exist for 2020 are listed. The Benelux countries are Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

¹ Origin is defined as the country/territory of the stated address of domicile of the holder of the international application.

(a) Not a member of the Hague System. Applicants from this country can file via the Hague System by claiming possession of a real and effective commercial or industrial establishment, or a residence, in the territory of a member of the Hague System. This country cannot be designated by an applicant using the Hague System.

(b) Not a member of the Hague System but a member of the European Union. Applicants from this country can file via membership of the European Union. This country cannot be designated by an applicant using the Hague System.

(c) IP office is the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property.

n.a. indicates not applicable.

.. indicates zero.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

A56. Renewals of international registrations via the Hague System, 2020

Origin/designated member	Origin ¹		Designated member	
	Number of renewals	Number of designs	Number of renewals	Number of designs
African Intellectual Property Organization	n.a.	n.a.	120	510
Albania	1	1	330	1,458
Antigua and Barbuda (a)	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Armenia	1	8	300	1,115
Austria (b)	43	369	n.a.	n.a.
Azerbaijan	..	..	252	850
Belgium (c)	46	163	n.a.	n.a.
Belize	..	..	257	1,077
Benelux	n.a.	n.a.	760	5,261
Benin	..	..	35	313
Bosnia and Herzegovina	..	..	360	1,545
Botswana	..	..	16	42
Brunei Darussalam	..	..	21	53
Bulgaria	12	34	248	1,109
Canada	3	6	..	..
China (a)	24	36	n.a.	n.a.
Côte d'Ivoire	..	..	41	164
Croatia	9	16	449	2,529
Curaçao (a)	1	9	n.a.	n.a.
Cyprus (b)	3	97	n.a.	n.a.
Czech Republic (b)	20	172	n.a.	n.a.
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	..	..	84	438
Denmark	42	291	53	217
Egypt	..	..	313	1,772
Estonia	5	10	86	194
European Union	n.a.	n.a.	2,934	14,598
Finland	25	73	34	106
France	549	2,093	854	5,598
Gabon	..	..	13	42
Georgia	1	1	461	1,750
Germany	1,111	5,673	858	5,853
Ghana	..	..	31	93
Greece	7	38	476	3,300
Hungary	2	3	321	1,428
Iceland	1	1	85	418
Ireland (b)	1	1	n.a.	n.a.
Italy	337	1,740	765	5,434
Japan	118	405	332	695
Kyrgyzstan	..	..	292	1,146
Latvia	..	..	36	181
Liechtenstein	32	178	721	3,558
Lithuania	3	5	70	663
Luxembourg (c)	26	141	n.a.	n.a.
Malaysia (a)	2	4	n.a.	n.a.
Mali	..	..	4	9
Monaco	3	10	821	4,920
Mongolia	..	..	292	1,070
Montenegro	..	..	665	3,020
Morocco	4	30	851	4,510
Namibia	..	..	24	97
Netherlands (c)	257	1,428	n.a.	n.a.
Niger	..	..	7	21
North Macedonia	1	5	606	2,484
Norway	28	62	730	3,026
Oman	2	2	356	1,325
Poland	14	50	25	90
Portugal (b)	2	37	n.a.	n.a.
Republic of Korea	435	1,023	677	2,019
Republic of Moldova	1	2	506	1,930
Romania	..	..	263	1,533
Rwanda	..	..	9	27
Sao Tome and Principe	..	..	14	39
Senegal	..	..	41	299

(Continued)

(A56 continued)

Origin/designated member	Origin ¹		Designated member	
	Number of renewals	Number of designs	Number of renewals	Number of designs
Serbia	5	9	525	2,464
Singapore	6	9	862	3,526
Slovakia (b)	1	7	n.a.	n.a.
Slovenia	9	28	362	2,014
Spain	47	262	221	1,253
Suriname	..	..	49	445
Sweden (b)	67	261	n.a.	n.a.
Switzerland	1,038	4,950	2,793	15,913
Syrian Arab Republic	..	..	34	117
Tajikistan	..	..	24	83
Tunisia	..	..	338	1,390
Turkey	59	212	1,654	8,149
Ukraine	1	5	915	4,633
United Kingdom	51	163	..	..
United States of America	299	1,408	495	1,411
Viet Nam	1	22	..	..
Others/Unknown	2	5	..	..
Total	4,759	21,559	26,171	131,327

Note: Only countries/territories of origin and designated Hague member countries or jurisdictions for which Hague System statistics exist for 2020 are listed. The Benelux countries are Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

¹ Origin is defined as the country/territory of the stated address of domicile of the holder of the international application.

(a) Not a member of the Hague System. Applicants from this country can file via the Hague System by claiming possession of a real and effective commercial or industrial establishment, or a residence, in the territory of a member of the Hague System. This country cannot be designated by an applicant using the Hague System.

(b) Not a member of the Hague System but a member of the European Union. Applicants from this country can file via membership of the European Union. This country cannot be designated by an applicant using the Hague System.

(c) IP office is the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property.

n.a. indicates not applicable.

.. indicates zero.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2021.

A brief presentation of the Hague System

Introduction

The WIPO-administered Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs comprises two international treaties: the Hague Act (1960) and the Geneva Act (1999). If the Hague System had not been established, the procedure for protecting designs in multiple jurisdictions would have involved filing a separate application with each national or regional intellectual property (IP) office. The Hague System simplifies this process by creating a single international procedure for the protection of a design in multiple jurisdictions. This makes it possible for an applicant to obtain protection for up to 100 industrial designs for products belonging to the same class in multiple jurisdictions by filing a single application with the International Bureau (IB) of WIPO. It also simplifies the subsequent management of the industrial design, since it is possible to record changes or renew the registration through a single procedural step.

As of December 31, 2020, the Hague System comprised 74 members. This means that applicants can obtain protection for their designs in a geographical area incorporating a total of 91 countries. The difference between the number of Hague members and the number of countries

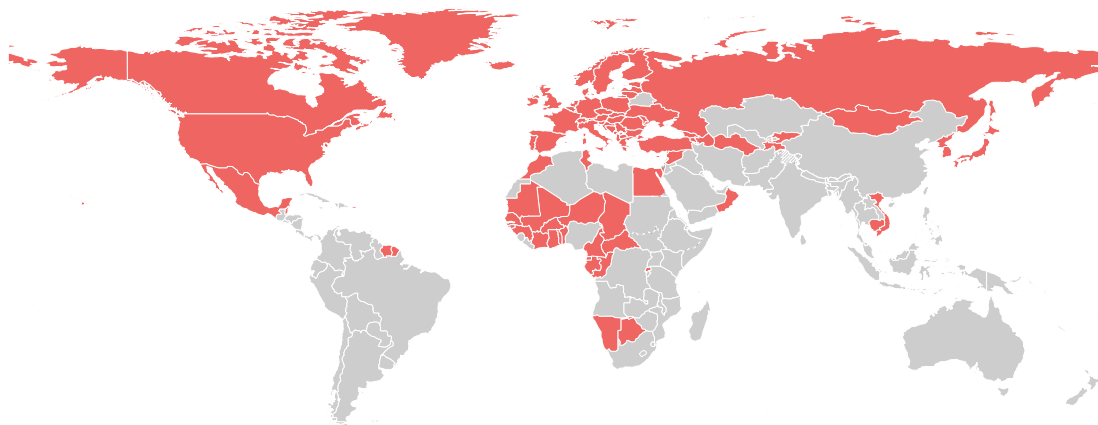
covered by the System is due to the fact that the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and the European Union (EU) are Hague members. By choosing to designate either of these intergovernmental organizations within an application, protection can be sought simultaneously within all their respective member states.

Advantages of the Hague System

The Hague System lowers transaction costs for design registrations through the creation of a single application in one language, with one set of fees in a single currency denomination. Applicants are therefore not burdened by having to apply at multiple offices, which would entail having to deal with different formalities in different languages, and involve purchasing several currency denominations with which to pay varying fees.

The System also simplifies the subsequent management of international registrations. Applications are handled through a single institution, which allows future amendments to registrations and renewals of registrations to be carried out by a single office (i.e., the IB) rather than requiring the designer/holder of the registration to request such amendments at multiple IP offices.

Hague members in 2020



International application and registration procedures

When deciding to seek protection for designs in multiple jurisdictions, an applicant can file separate applications with each office directly (the Paris route) or file a single international application through the Hague System. The overview of the industrial design registration process shown opposite illustrates the procedure for filing applications in multiple jurisdictions via the Hague System.

An international application⁵ is normally filed directly with the IB,⁶ which is responsible for carrying out an examination to verify that it meets all formal requirements. In the case of non-compliance, applicants are invited to correct the application within a three-month period. If corrections are not made during that time, the application is considered abandoned. The IB does not undertake substantive examination (e.g., for novelty of design) and therefore cannot reject an application on substantive grounds. The decision whether to grant protection remains the prerogative of national or regional offices, and rights limited to the jurisdiction of the granting authority.

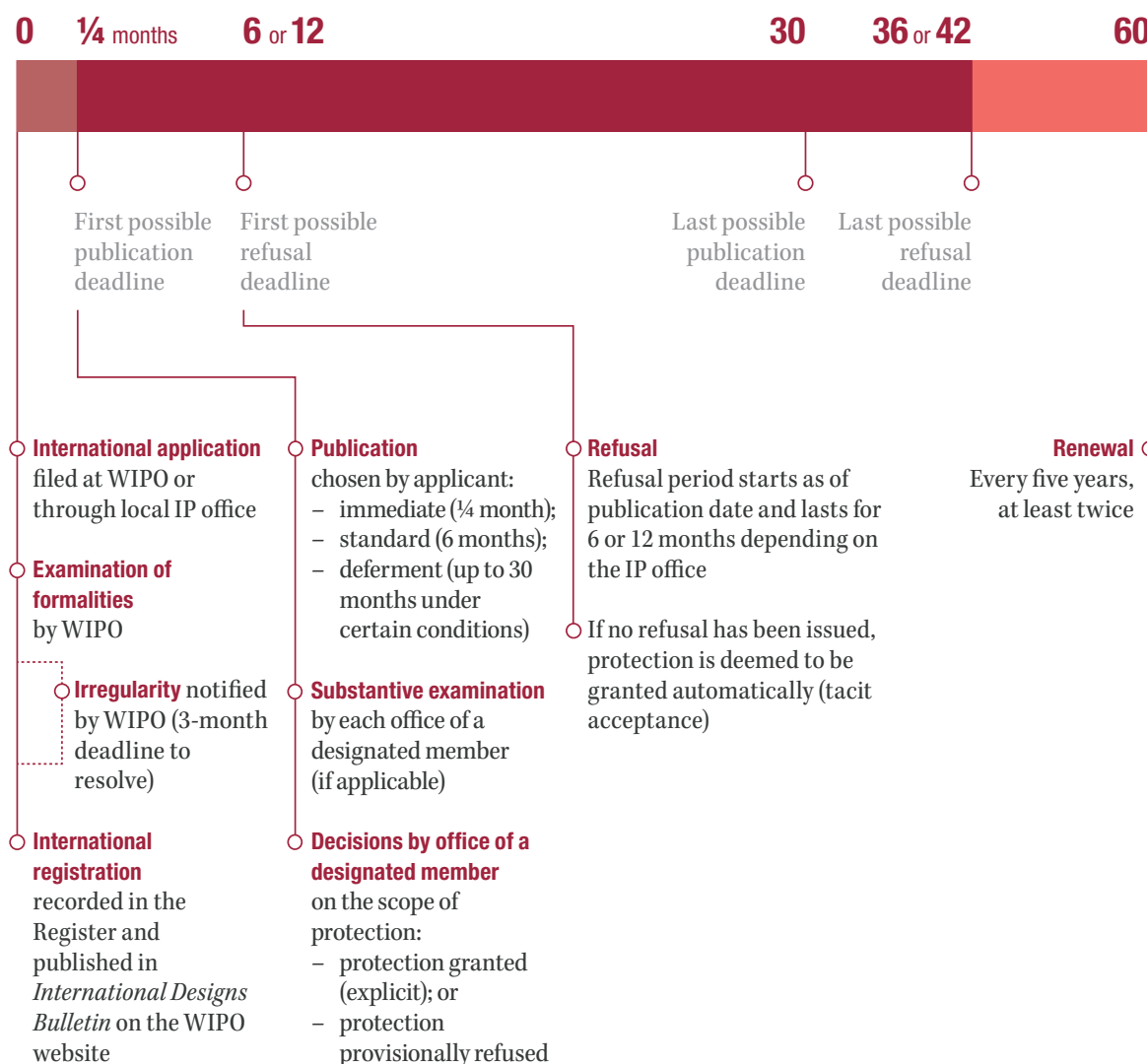
International applications are recorded in the International Register, if they fulfill all the requirements of the formal examination conducted by the IB. The general rule is that international registrations are published in the *International Designs Bulletin (IDB)* six months after the date of international registration, unless applicants request an immediate publication or a deferment of publication.⁷ Once the registrations are published in the *IDB*, national and regional offices identify those international registrations that have designated their country or intergovernmental organization, and then carry out a substantive examination according to their respective national or regional legislation, if any.⁸ If an office refuses to issue protection, it must notify the IB of its refusal within six months of the date of publication of the international registration in the *IDB*.⁹ In the case of a refusal, applicants have the same right of appeal as those who file directly with a national or regional office.¹⁰ However, if the IB does not receive a notification of refusal from a national or regional office within the prescribed time period, the international registration is considered valid within that jurisdiction and has effect as a grant of protection in the jurisdiction concerned.¹¹

International registrations are valid for a period of five years and may be renewed for at least two additional five-year periods. The maximum duration of protection afforded by each designated Hague member depends on the locally applicable legislation. The IB administers the renewal process.

For more information on the Hague System, visit:
www.wipo.int/hague.

- 5 An international application does not require a prior national application or registration. It must be filed in one of three working languages – English, French or Spanish – and list the designated members (i.e., states or intergovernmental organizations such as the EU or the OAPI) in which protection is sought.
- 6 An international application may be filed directly with the IB or indirectly through a national/regional IP office of the applicant's choice. Under certain conditions, and under the Hague Act only, an international application must be filed through a national IP office.
- 7 An applicant can defer publication for up to 12 months under the Hague Act, or for up to 30 months under the Geneva Act.
- 8 Some offices carry out a substantive examination for every design, whereas others automatically issue protection for designs, barring opposition by third parties.
- 9 Under certain circumstances, and under the Geneva Act only, the time period for notifying the IB of a refusal is 12 months instead of 6 months.
- 10 The applicant can appeal against a refusal according to the rules and regulations outlined in the domestic/ regional legislation of the office refusing protection. The IB is not involved in this procedure.
- 11 In some cases, national or regional offices notify the IB that protection is granted for an international registration by sending a statement of grant. However, where an office does not provide the IB with a statement, the international registration is nevertheless valid, unless the office refuses the registration and communicates the refusal to the IB within the prescribed time limit (i.e., within 6 months or 12 months, as the case may be).

Overview of the industrial design registration process



Benefits

- Apply just once in one language for registration of up to a 100 industrial designs for products belonging to one and the same class in multiple jurisdictions
- Pay one set of fees in a single currency
- Time the publication of your registration to fit your business strategy
- Manage renewals and registration changes through a single central system

Data description

Data are compiled by WIPO on the processing of international applications, registrations and renewals through the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. Complete data exist up to calendar year 2020. However, figures shown in this *Review* are subject to change; for example, country of origin information for a few international Hague applications was missing at the time of data extraction. When this information becomes available, the applications by origin statistics for a few countries may change, but this will be minimal. Regular updates are available at: www.wipo.int/ipstats.

Statistics on direct non-resident (the Paris route) applications at national and regional IP offices are extracted from the WIPO Statistics Database, primarily based on WIPO's Annual IP Survey. The latest available year for complete direct applications data is therefore 2019.

Income groups correspond to those used by the World Bank (<https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519>) and groupings by region are based on the United Nations (UN) definition of regions (<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49>). Although the geographical terms used by WIPO may differ slightly from those defined by the UN, the composition of regions and sub-regions is identical.

Acronyms

BOIP	Benelux Office for Intellectual Property
EU	European Union
EUIPO	European Union Intellectual Property Office
IB	International Bureau of WIPO
<i>IDB</i>	<i>International Designs Bulletin</i>
IP	intellectual property
IPR	intellectual property rights
JPO	Japan Patent Office
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
OAPI	African Intellectual Property Organization
RCD	Registered Community Design
U.K.	United Kingdom
U.S.	United States of America
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

Glossary

This glossary provides definitions of key technical terms and concepts.

Applicant: An individual or other legal entity that files an application for an industrial design. There may be more than one applicant in an application. For the statistics in this publication, the name of the first named applicant is used to determine the origin of the application.

Application: The formal request for the protection of an industrial design at a national or regional IP office, which usually examines the application and decides whether to grant or refuse protection in the jurisdiction concerned. (See “Hague international application”.)

Application date: The date on which an IP office or the International Bureau of WIPO receives an application that meets the requirements for registration of an industrial design. This may also be referred to as the filing date.

Class: Refers to the classes defined in the Locarno Classification. Classes indicate the categories of products for which industrial design protection is requested. (See “Locarno Classification”.)

Design count: The number of designs contained in an industrial design application or registration. Under the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs, it is possible for an applicant to obtain protection for up to 100 industrial designs for products belonging to one and the same class by filing a single application. Some national or regional IP offices allow applications to contain more than one design for the same product or within the same class, whereas others permit only one design per application. In order to capture the differences between application and registration numbers across offices, it is useful to compare their respective application and registration design counts.

Designation: The request made in an international application or registration by which the applicant/international registration holder specifies the jurisdiction(s) in which they seek protection for their industrial designs.

European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO): The EUIPO is the office responsible for managing the EU trademark and the registered community design. The validity of these two intellectual property rights extends across the jurisdictions of all the EU’s 27 member states.

Filing: See “Application”.

Hague international application: An application for the international registration of an industrial design filed under the WIPO-administered Hague System.

Hague international registration: An international registration issued via the Hague System that facilitates the acquisition of industrial design rights in multiple jurisdictions. An application for the international registration of an industrial design leads to its recording in the International Register and the publication of the registration in the *International Designs Bulletin*. If the registration is not refused by the IP office of a designated Hague member, the international registration will have the same effect as a registration made in that jurisdiction.

Hague member (Contracting Party): A state or inter-governmental organization that is a member of the Hague System. Includes any state or intergovernmental organization which is party to the Geneva Act of 1999 and/or the Hague Act of 1960. Entitlement to file an international application under the Hague Agreement is limited to natural persons or legal entities having a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment, or a domicile, in at least one of the Contracting Parties to the Agreement, or being a national of one of those Contracting Parties or of a member state of an inter-governmental organization that is a Contracting Party. In addition – but only under the 1999 Act – an international application may be filed on the basis of habitual residence in the jurisdiction of a Contracting Party.

Hague route: An alternative to the Paris route (i.e., the direct national or regional route), the Hague route enables an application for international registration of industrial designs to be filed using the Hague System.

Hague System: The abbreviated form of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. The System comprises two international treaties: the Hague Act of 1960 and the Geneva Act of 1999. The Hague System makes it possible for an applicant to register up to 100 industrial designs in multiple jurisdictions by filing a single application with the International Bureau of WIPO. It simplifies multinational registration by reducing the requirement to file separate applications with each IP office. The System also simplifies the subsequent management of the industrial design, since it is possible to record changes or renew a registration through a single procedural step.

Holder: The individual or legal entity in whose name an international registration is recorded.

Industrial design: Industrial designs are applied to a wide variety of industrial products and handicrafts. They refer to the ornamental or aesthetic aspects of a useful article, including composition of lines or colors or any three-dimensional forms that give a special appearance to a product or handicraft. The holder of a registered industrial design has exclusive rights against unauthorized copying or imitation of the design by third parties. Industrial design registrations are valid for a limited period. The term of protection is usually 15 years in most jurisdictions. However, differences in legislation exist, notably in China (which provides for a 10-year term from the application date).

Intellectual property (IP): Refers to creations of the mind: inventions, literary and artistic works, and symbols, names, images and designs used in commerce. IP is divided into two categories: industrial property – which includes patents, utility models, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications of source – and copyright, which includes literary and artistic works (such as novels, poems, plays, films), musical works, artistic works (such as drawings, paintings, photographs and sculptures) and architectural designs. Rights related to copyright include those of performing artists in their performances, those of producers of sound recordings in their recordings, and those of broadcasters in their radio and television programs.

International Bureau (IB): In the context of the Hague System, the International Bureau of WIPO acts as a receiving office for international applications. International applications are filed directly with the IB or indirectly through the IP office of a Contracting Party. The IB handles processing tasks with respect to these applications and the subsequent management of Hague System registrations.

International Designs Bulletin (IDB): The official publication of the Hague System, containing data on new international registrations, as well as renewals and modifications affecting existing international registrations. It is published on the WIPO website at: www.wipo.int/hague/en/bulletin.

International Register: A register maintained by the IB in which it registers industrial designs applied for in international applications that conform to the applicable requirements.

International registrations in force: International registrations that are currently valid. To remain in force, international registrations must be renewed by paying a renewal fee to the IB after each five-year term of protection. The period of protection of a designation of a Contracting Party in an international registration must be at least 15 years, subject to renewal of that designation. However, depending on the domestic laws of individual Contracting Parties, the period of protection may be longer than 15 years. For example, under the legislation of Switzerland, the period of protection of industrial design registrations is 25 years, subject to renewal.

Locarno Classification: The abbreviated form of the International Classification for Industrial Designs under the Locarno Agreement, used for registering industrial designs. The Locarno Classification consists of 32 classes and their respective subclasses with explanatory notes plus an alphabetical list of the goods in which industrial designs are incorporated and an indication of the classes and subclasses into which they fall.

Maintenance: An act by the applicant to keep an IP grant/registration valid (in force), primarily by paying the required fee to the IP office of the state or jurisdiction providing protection. That fee is also known as a “maintenance fee.” Industrial designs can be maintained for only a limited number of years.

National route: Applications for IP protection filed directly with the national office of, or acting for, the relevant state or jurisdiction (see also “Hague route”). The national route is also called the “direct route” or “Paris route.”

Non-resident application: For statistical purposes, a “non-resident” application refers to an application filed with an IP office of a given country/territory/region in which the applicant does not reside or does not have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment. Non-resident applications are sometimes referred to as foreign applications. A non-resident registration is an IP right issued on the basis of a non-resident application.

Opposition: An administrative process for disputing the protection of an industrial design that is often limited to a specific time period after the industrial design has been published. For the Hague System, opposition rules are defined by national laws; however, national IP offices must provide any refusal process on the grounds of opposition within 6 or 12 months (depending on the Hague member concerned) from the publication date of the international registration in the *International Designs Bulletin*.

Origin (country or region): For statistical purposes, the origin of an application means the country or territory of residence of the first named applicant in the application. In some cases (notably in the U.S.), the country of origin is determined by the residence of the assignee rather than that of the applicant.

Paris Convention: The Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, signed on March 20, 1883, is one of the most important IP treaties, as it establishes the general principles applicable to all IP rights. It establishes the “right of priority” that enables an IP applicant, when filing an application in countries other than the original country of filing, to claim priority of an earlier application filed up to 12 months previously for patents and utility models, and up to six months previously for trademarks and industrial designs.

Paris route: An alternative to the Madrid route, the Paris route (also called the “direct route”) enables individual IP applications to be filed directly with an IP office of a country/territory that is a signatory of the Paris Convention.

Priority date: The filing date of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed. (See “Paris Convention”.)

Publication date: The general rule is that international registrations are published in the *International Designs Bulletin* six months after the date of registration, unless applicants request an immediate publication or a deferment of publication. Publication of an international registration can be deferred for up to 12 months under the Hague Act, or for up to 30 months under the Geneva Act.

Regional application (registration): An application filed with (registered) by an IP office having regional jurisdiction over more than one country. There are currently three regional offices that are members of the Hague System: the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO).

Registered Community Design (RCD): A registration issued by the EUIPO based on a single application filed directly with the office by an applicant seeking protection within the EU as a whole.

Registration: An exclusive set of rights legally accorded to the applicant when an industrial design is registered or issued. Registrations are issued to applicants to make use of and exploit their industrial designs for a limited period of time.

Renewal: The process by which an industrial design right is maintained (kept in force). This usually consists of paying renewal fees to an IP office at regular intervals. If renewal fees are not paid, the registration may lapse.

Resident application: For statistical purposes, a “resident” application refers to an application filed with an IP office by an applicant residing or having a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment in the country/territory/region in which that office has jurisdiction. Resident applications are sometimes referred to as domestic applications. A resident registration is an IP right issued on the basis of a resident application.

Statement of grant: A voluntary communication from an IP office to the IB informing it that an industrial design has been granted protection within its jurisdiction.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO): A United Nations specialized agency dedicated to the promotion of innovation and creativity for the economic, social and cultural development of all countries through a balanced and effective international IP system. WIPO was established in 1967 with a mandate to promote the protection of IP throughout the world through cooperation between states and in collaboration with other international organizations.

Locarno classes and industry sectors

Locarno classes	Sector
20, 32	Advertising
1, 27, 31	Agricultural products and food preparation
23, 25, 29	Construction
13, 26	Electricity and lighting
6, 7, 30	Furniture and household goods
24, 28	Health, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics
14, 16, 18	Information Communication Technologies (ICT) and audiovisual
17, 19, 21, 22	Leisure and education
9	Packaging
2, 3, 5, 11	Textiles and accessories
4, 8, 10, 15	Tools and machines
12	Transport

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Hague members

As of December 31, 2020, the Hague System comprised 74 members covering 91 countries/territories.

African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	Mali
Albania	Mexico
Armenia	Monaco
Azerbaijan	Mongolia
Belgium	Montenegro
Belize	Morocco
Benin	Namibia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Netherlands
Botswana	Niger
Brunei Darussalam	North Macedonia
Bulgaria	Norway
Cambodia	Oman
Canada	Poland
Côte d'Ivoire	Republic of Korea
Croatia	Republic of Moldova
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Romania
Denmark	Russian Federation
Egypt	Rwanda
Estonia	Samoa
European Union	San Marino
Finland	Sao Tome and Principe
France	Senegal
Gabon	Serbia
Georgia	Singapore
Germany	Slovenia
Ghana	Spain
Greece	Suriname
Hungary	Switzerland
Iceland	Syrian Arab Republic
Israel	Tajikistan
Italy	Tunisia
Japan	Turkey
Kyrgyzstan	Turkmenistan
Latvia	Ukraine
Liechtenstein	United Kingdom
Lithuania	United States of America
Luxembourg	Viet Nam



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