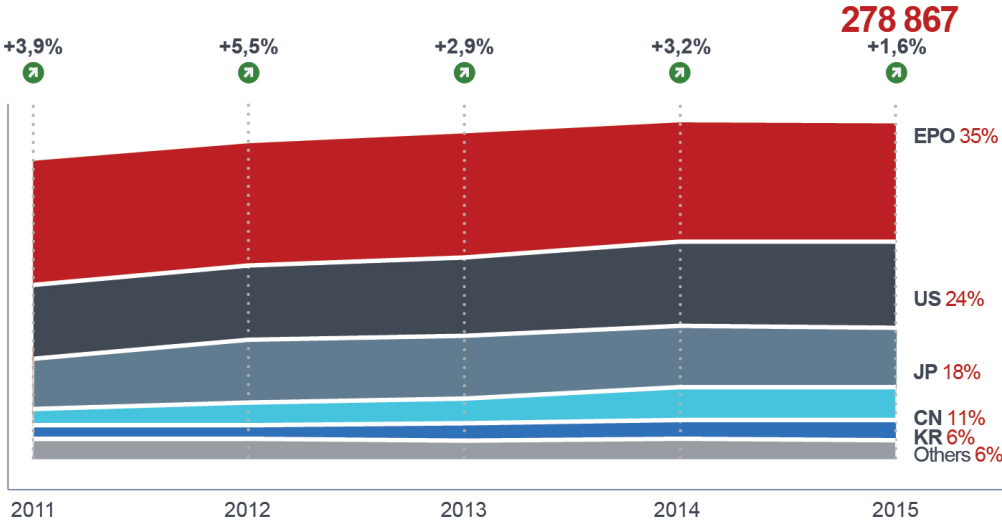


European patent filings

Total Filings

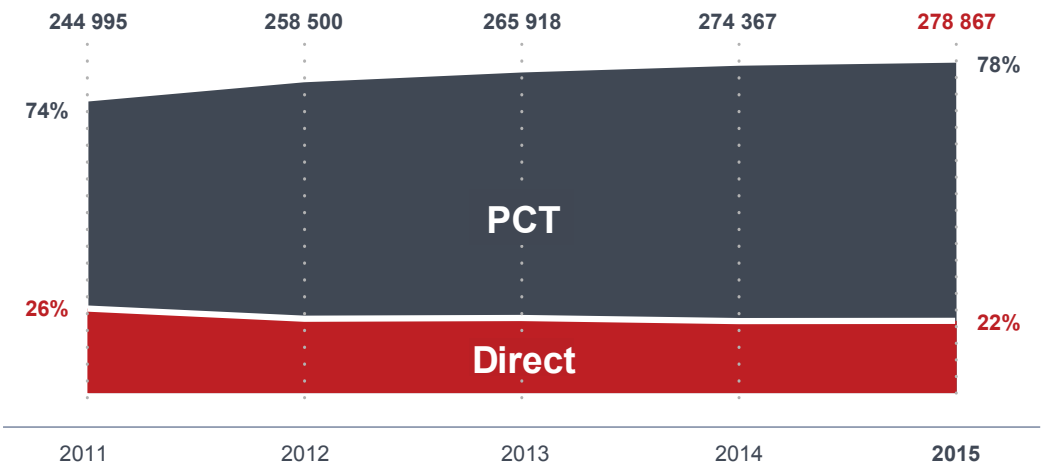
European patent filings, which are an indicator of the overall demand for patent protection, grew again in 2015 (+1,6%) reaching a new high of nearly 279 000.



Analysis based on the European patent filings 2014-2015 (Direct European filings under the EPC and international filings under the PCT)
 Statistics are based on the first-named applicant.
 Figures are based on data from the EPO and WIPO (for PCT filings) as available on 26/01/2016. The PCT filings for 2015 are therefore estimates.
 EPO: the 38 member states of the European Patent Organisation, including EU28

Filing routes

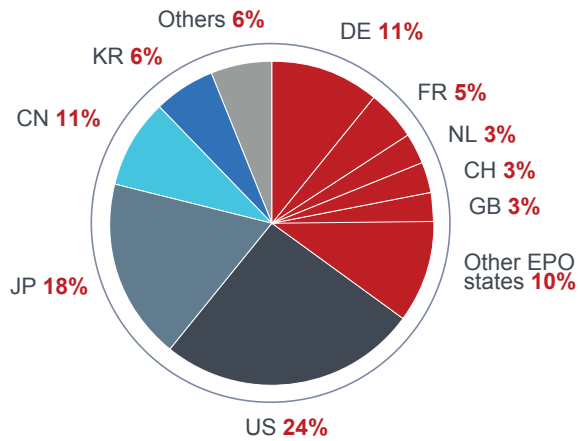
The share of international filings under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) has increased significantly over the past five years. In 2015, total filings at the EPO included close to 62 000 direct European filings under the European Patent Convention and around 217 000 international filings under the PCT.



Figures are based on data from the EPO and WIPO (for PCT filings) as available on 26/01/2016. The PCT filings for 2015 are therefore estimates.

European patent filings per country of origin























Roughly a third of the total filings in 2015 came from the EPO member states and two-thirds from outside Europe. The top five countries were again the US, Japan, Germany, China and South Korea.



Country	2015	2014	Change
● US	65 754	70 681	-7,0% ↓
● JP	50 597	49 007	3,2% ↑
● DE	31 670	31 691	-0,1% ↓
● CN	31 504	26 437	19,2% ↑
● Other EPO states	28 304	28 007	+1,1% ↑
● KR	18 215	16 528	10,2% ↑
● Other	15 553	15 781	-1,4% ↓
● FR	13 370	13 194	1,3% ↑
● NL	8 451	8 163	3,5% ↑
● CH	8 354	7 961	4,9% ↑
● GB	7 095	6 917	2,6% ↑

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Breakdown by EPO member state

Country	2015	2014	Change
Germany	31 670	31 691	-0,1% 
France	13 370	13 194	1,3% 
Netherlands	8 451	8 163	3,5% 
Switzerland	8 354	7 961	4,9% 
United Kingdom	7 095	6 917	2,6% 
Sweden	5 075	5 083	-0,2% 
Italy	5 034	4 744	6,1% 
Austria	2 486	2 503	-0,7% 
Spain	2 387	2 482	-3,8% 
Belgium	2 381	2 305	3,3% 
Finland	2 371	2 544	-6,8% 
Denmark	2 318	2 341	-1% 
Turkey	1 090	1 013	7,6% 
Poland	842	699	20,5% 
Norway	775	809	-4,2% 
Ireland	743	742	0,1% 
Luxembourg	586	580	1% 
Liechtenstein	457	412	10,9% 
Czech Republic	314	284	10,6% 
Portugal	218	192	13,5% 
Hungary	176	189	-6,9% 
Slovenia	165	224	-26,3% 
Greece	153	187	-18,2% 

Analysis based on the European patent filings 2014-2015 (Direct European filings under the EPC and international filings under the PCT)

Statistics are based on the first-named applicant.

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Country	2015	2014	Change
Malta	113	89	27% ↑
Bulgaria	72	70	2,9% ↑
Cyprus	67	60	11,7% ↑
Lithuania	67	67	0% →
Iceland	59	47	25,5% ↑
Estonia	58	55	5,5% ↑
Slovakia	57	80	-28,8% ↓
Latvia	55	30	83,3% ↑
Monaco	54	43	25,6% ↑
Romania	54	44	22,7% ↑
Croatia	36	56	-35,7% ↓
Serbia	31	21	47,6% ↑
San Marino	5	5	0% →
Albania	3	3	0% →
Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of	2	4	-50% ↓

Analysis based on the European patent filings 2014-2015 (Direct European filings under the EPC and international filings under the PCT)

Statistics are based on the first-named applicant.

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