

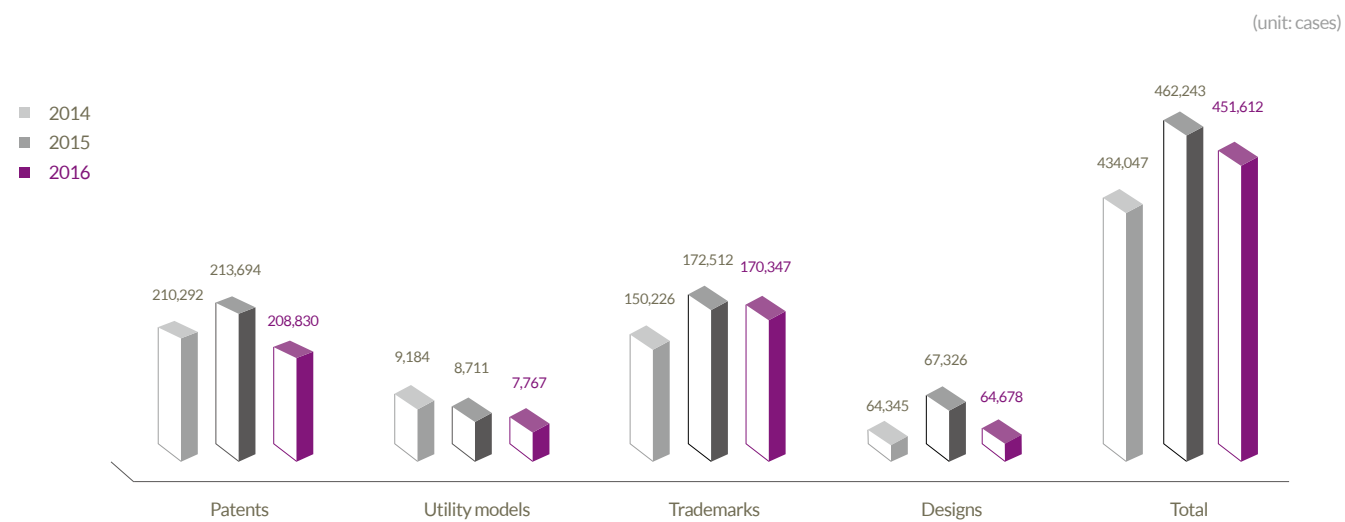
2016 Statistical Overview

Applications

The total preliminary number of IPR applications, including patents, utility models, designs, and trademarks, submitted to KIPO in 2016 amounted to 451,622; this was a 2.5% decrease from 2015. In 2016, patent applications totaled 208,830, showing a 2.3% decrease since 2015. Utility model applications decreased 5.2% since 2015, totaling 7,767, and this was the highest decline rate among all IPRs. Design applications decreased 3.9% for a total of 64,678 and trademark applications for 2016 totaled 170,347, a 1.3% decrease from 2015.

Volatility caused by the financial crisis lowered the number of patent applications by 4.2% in 2009, but this was soon rectified in 2010 by a 4.0% increase which kicked off an upward trend that has since continued unabated. Patent applications stood at around 200 in 1949, before jumping to around 5,000 in 1980, and 100,000 in 2000. This number has more than doubled to over 200,000 throughout the past 16 years.

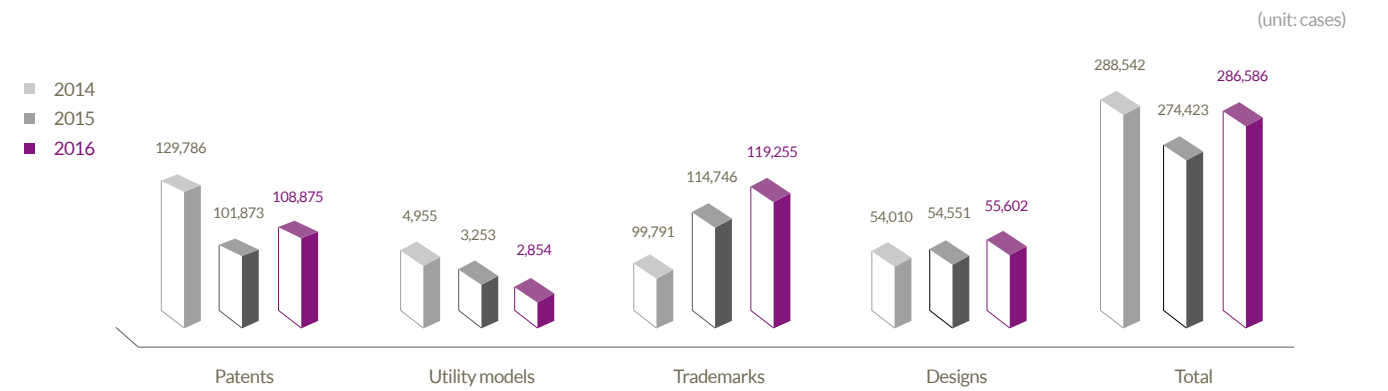
There were 45,406 foreign applications, accounting for 21.7% of the total number of patent applications. The greatest number of patent applications (14,773) was from Japan, which was a 3.3% decrease from 2015. This was followed by the United States (13,643, a 6.9% decrease from 2015), Germany (4,111), France (1,766), China (2,829, a 45.3% increase from 2015), and Switzerland (1,411).



Registrations

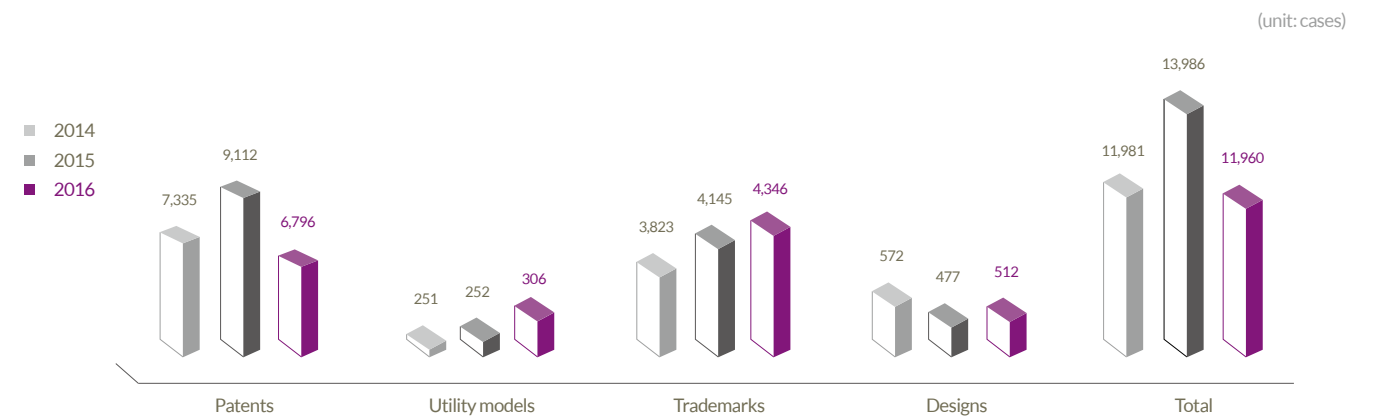
The total number of registrations for intellectual property rights in 2016 reached 286,586, a 6.9% increase from 274,423 in 2015.

A breakdown of IP rights shows that: patent registrations reached 108,875, a 6.4% increase from 2015; utility models decreased by 12.3% to 2,854; and designs increased by 1.9% to 55,602. Further, trademark registrations increased by 3.9%, totaling 119,255.



Trials

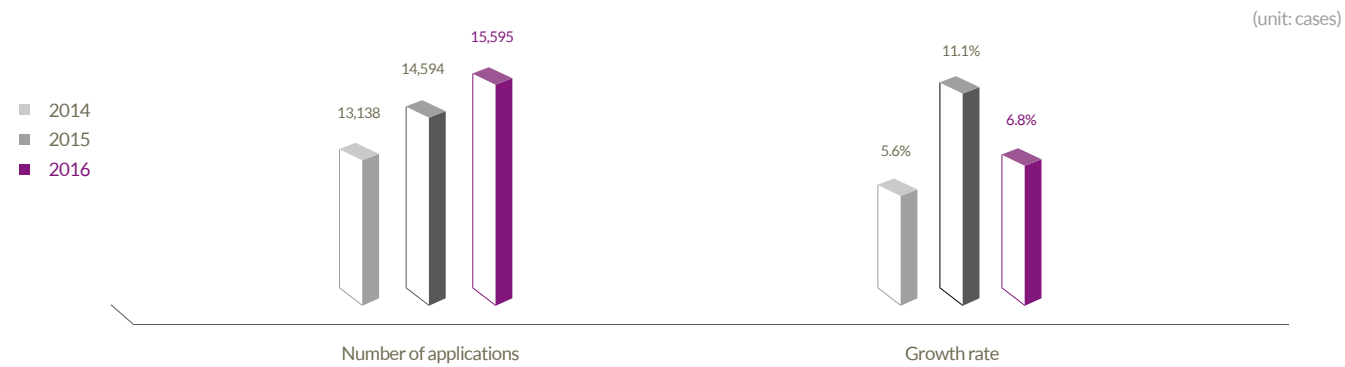
The number of trial requests decreased by 14.5% to 11,960, from 13,986 in 2015. A look at IP statistics shows that: patents decreased by 25.4% to total 6,796, while utility models increased by 21.4% to total 306, trademarks increased by 4.8% for a total of 4,346, and designs increased by 7.3% to total 512.



PCT system

PCT applications

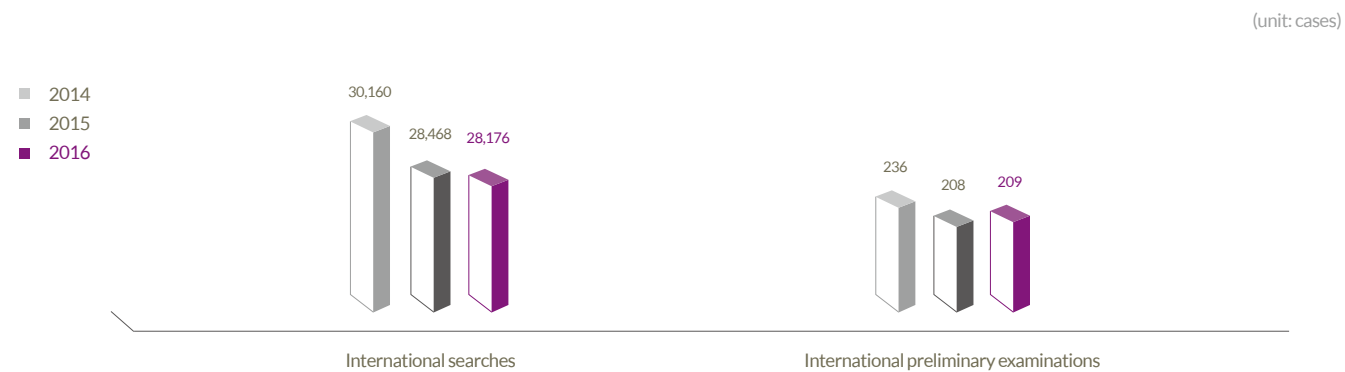
The number of international applications filed under the PCT by Korean applicants has experienced a steady annual increase primarily due to a clearer understanding of the advantages of the PCT system, increased awareness as to the importance of IPRs, and continued efforts toward the consolidation of international patent rights.



PCT international searches and international preliminary examinations

The number of PCT international searches undertaken by KIPO totaled 28,176 in 2016, this was a 1.0% decrease from 2015 which was 28,468. The number of international preliminary examinations undertaken by KIPO in 2016 was 209, an increase of 0.5% from 208 in 2015. The numbers have continuously decreased over the past few years due to the PCT regulation amendments in 2002, which extended the time taken to enter the designated states from 20 months to 30 months, even if international preliminary examination had not been requested.

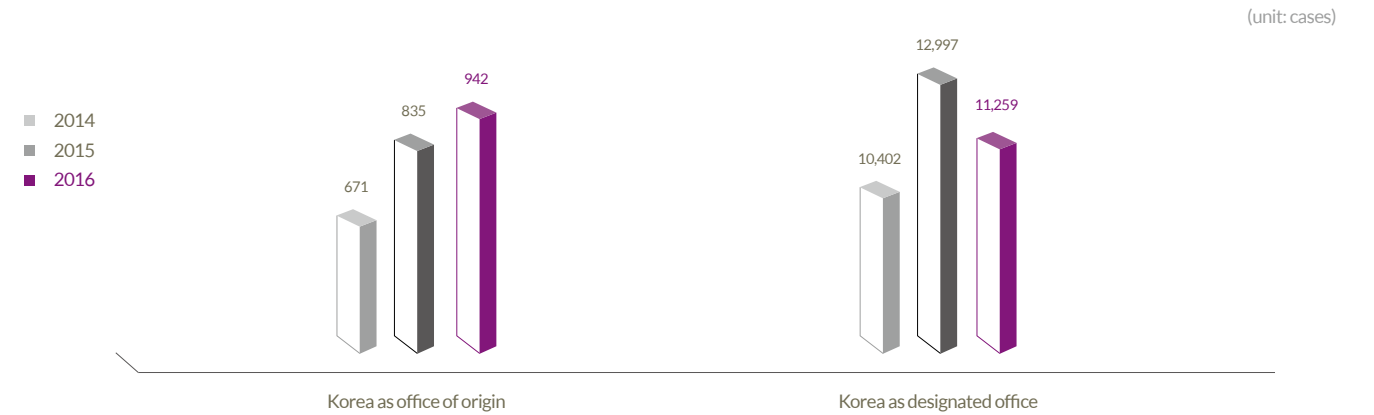
This trend is also partly due to International Searching Authorities reviewing the patentability of applications since 2004.



Madrid and Hague system

Madrid

The number of Madrid international applications, that designate Korea as office of origin, submitted by foreigners reached 11,259 in 2016, a 13.4% decrease from 12,997 in 2015.



Hague

As a result of Korea joining the Hague Agreement in July 2014, in 2016, we were designated for a total of 104 international trademark applications as the office of origin, and 981 international applications as the designated office.

