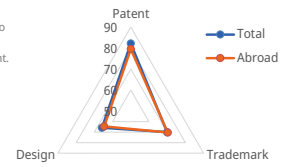




South Africa

Rankings are delineated on a scale of 0 to 100, designating first place as 100, last place as 0, and 50 indicating the midpoint.



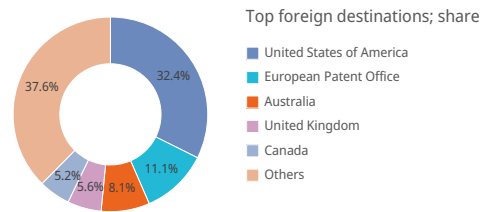
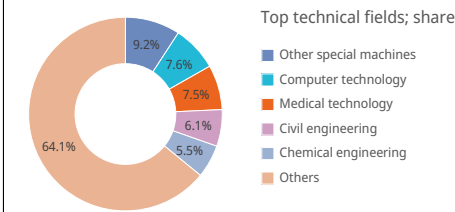
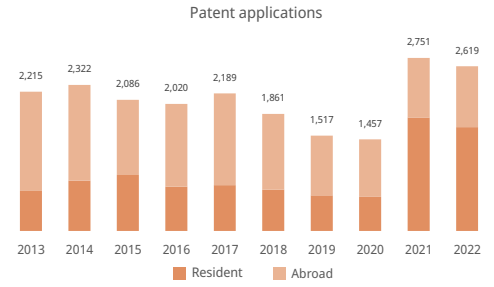
► [WIPO IP Statistics Data Center](#)

► [Find out more about the Global Innovation Index ranking](#)

Patent

Statistics for applicants residing in this country

Patent applications; global rank	2,619	↓4.8%	31 st
Resident applications	1,651	↓8.5%	
Abroad applications; global rank	968	↑2.2%	35 th
Regional rank and share	Africa - 1 st		30.7%
	Southern Africa - 1 st		97.8%
Resident applications per million inhabitants; global rank	27.6		47 th
Resident applications per 100 billion USD GDP; global rank	205		34 th
Utility model applications; global rank	8	↓46.7%	79 th
PCT international applications; global rank	214	↓5.3%	34 th
PCT applications per million inhabitants; global rank	3.6		48 th
PCT publications relating to renewable energy (2020-2022)	13		1.9%
Share of university applications (2020-2022)	14.1%		
Share of women inventors (2020-2022)	11.8%		
PCT national phase entries; global rank	930	↑5.3%	31 st
Share of abroad applications using the PCT System	78.3%		
PCT top applicants (2020-2022)			
	Detnet South Africa (pty) Ltd		23
	Stellenbosch University		20
	University of Cape Town		19
	University of Pretoria		17
	University of Johannesburg		10



Statistics for the IP office

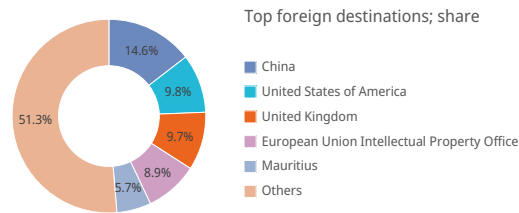
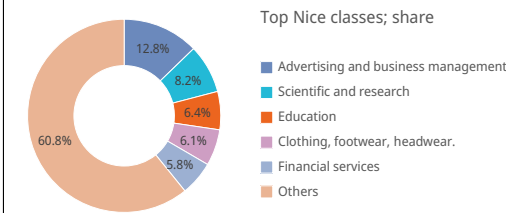
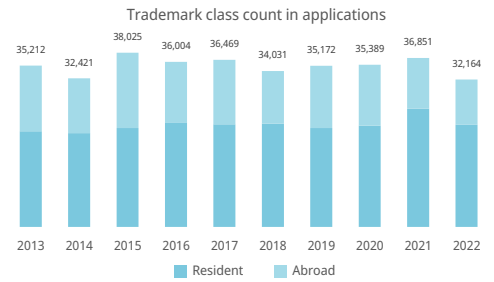
Total applications; global rank	13,990	↑27.6%	17 th
Resident; share	1,651	↓8.5%	11.8%
Non-resident; share	12,339	↑34.8%	88.2%
Patent Grants	11,267	↑84.5%	
Patents in force; global rank	92,226		24 th
National IP office - applications per examiner			
National IP office - grant delay in months			

Country	Count	Share
China	5,762	46.9%
United States of America	2,670	21.7%
India	615	5%
Germany	475	3.9%
United Kingdom	272	2.2%

Trademark

Statistics for applicants residing in this country [1]

Trademark filings; global rank	32,164	↓12.7%	59 th
Resident filings	22,297	↓13.5%	
Abroad filings; global rank	9,867	↓10.8%	58 th
Regional rank and share	Africa - 3 rd		13.6%
	Southern Africa - 1 st		98%
Resident filings per million inhabitants; global rank	372		76 th
Resident filings per 100 billion USD GDP; global rank	2,764		75 th
Madrid international applications; global rank	1	↓50%	102 nd
Madrid applications per million inhabitants; global rank			
Abroad filings via the Madrid System	10	↓44.4%	111 th
Share of abroad filings using the Madrid System	0.1%		
Madrid top applicants (2020-2022)			
	Jesslor Cc T/a Eezi-awn		1
	Sasol Limited		1
	Shield Chemicals (pty) Ltd		1
	Thoroughtec Capital (pty) Ltd		1
	Ttv Fluval (pty) Ltd		1



Statistics for the IP office [1]

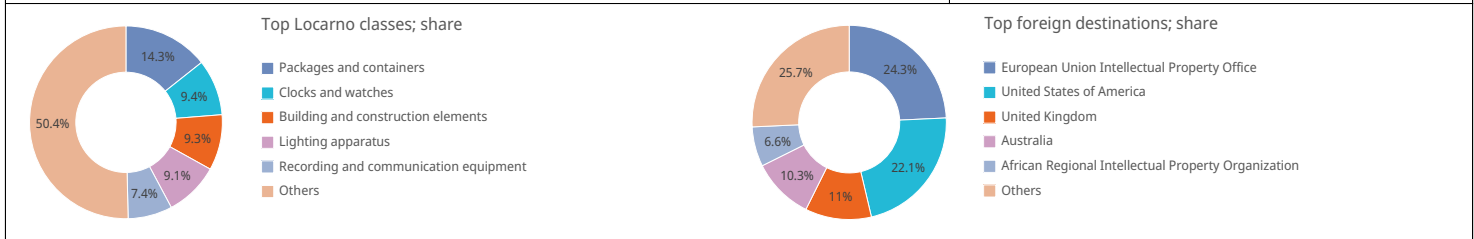
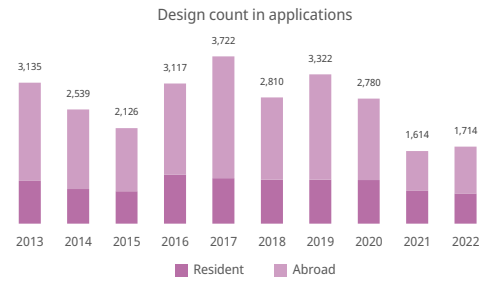
Total filings; global rank	39,120	↓1.9%	39 th
Resident; share	22,297	↓13.5%	57%
Non-resident; share	16,823	↑19.5%	43%
Number of Classes Specified in Trademark Registrations	32,998	↑95.6%	
Trademarks in force; global rank	398,390		26 th
National IP office - applications per examiner			
National IP office - registration delay in days			

Country	Count	Share
United States of America	4,767	28.8%
United Kingdom	1,478	8.9%
Germany	1,457	8.8%
China	1,321	8%
France	855	5.2%

Industrial design

Statistics for applicants residing in this country [2]

Designs in applications; global rank	1,714	↑6.2%	55 th
Resident filings	672	↓7.7%	
Abroad filings; global rank	1,042	↑17.6%	52 nd
Regional rank and share	Africa – 4 th		9.1%
	Southern Africa – 1 st		97.4%
Resident filings per million inhabitants; global rank	11.2		68 th
Resident filings per 100 billion USD GDP; global rank	83.3		67 th
Hague international filings; global rank	4		53 rd
Abroad filings via the Hague System	107		50 th
Share of abroad filings using the Hague System	10.3%		
Hague top applicants (2020-2022)	Magdalena Henrietta Elizabetha Pieters		2
	John Sebastian Turner Kirkland		1



Statistics for the IP office [2]

Total filings; global rank	1,700	↑8.9%	32 nd	Country of origin of non-resident filings; share
Resident; share	672	↓7.7%	39.5%	
Non-resident; share	1,028	↑23.4%	60.5%	
Number of Designs in Industrial Design Registrations	1,594	↓4.4%		
Industrial designs in force; global rank	18,361		21 st	
National IP office – applications per examiner				
National IP office – registration delay in days				

United States of America	270	26.4%
Germany	205	20%
Switzerland	114	11.1%
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	58	5.7%
Australia	51	5%

Geographical indications

Geographical indications in force by product category	Geographical indications in force by legal means

Plant variety

Plant variety applications filed by applicants residing in this country	Plant variety in force
Resident	47
Abroad	239
Regional	8
	Community Plant Variety Office
	National
	3,637

Note

- (1) For trademarks, filings refer to the number of classes specified in applications.
- (2) For industrial designs, filings refer to number of designs contained in applications.
- (3) Statistics are produced regardless of whether the home office of the applicants supplied statistics or not. An asterisk symbol indicates that the home IP office did not supply statistics.
- (4) Statistics relating to "technical fields" are extracted from the Patstat database and are based on the publication date.
- (5) The indicator "resident applications per million population" is available for countries with a population greater than one million. The "indicator per GDP" is available for countries whose total GDP exceeds 10 billion US Dollar.
- (6) Shares of the top foreign destinations are based on absolute count of applications, that is, one application filed at a regional office is counted as one application only.
- (7) One application filed at the Eurasian Patent Organization, the African Intellectual Property Organization, the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property, the European Union Intellectual Property Office or the Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf is multiplied by the corresponding number of member states. One application filed at the European Patent Office or the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization is counted as one application abroad if the applicant does not reside in a respective member state, or as one resident application and one application abroad if the applicant resides in a respective member state.
- (8) Percentage with a plus or minus symbol indicates the percentage change from the previous year.
- (9) Both national and regional data are used to establish the list of countries relating to non-resident filings.

Source: WIPO statistics database; last updated: 12/2023