

# W&B IP Newsletter



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## Patent

### January to April: China Witnesses a “V” Trend in Patent Applications – Patent Creates Vigor in Emerging Industries

#### 1. Patent Applications in China Embrace a Quick Recovery

From January to April, 2020, the number of patent applications filed in China reached 1.323 million, at a growth rate of 5.7% with respect to the same period of 2019.

On a monthly basis, a “V”-shaped trend was found in the growth rates of patent applications filed in China with respect to each corresponding month of 2019.

	February	March	April
<b>Patent Applications Growth Rates</b> (with respect to each corresponding month of 2019)	33.2% ↓	10.5% ↑	15.7% ↑
<b>Invention Patent Applications Growth Rates</b> (with respect to each corresponding month of 2019)	29.7% ↓	5.9% ↑	8.7% ↑

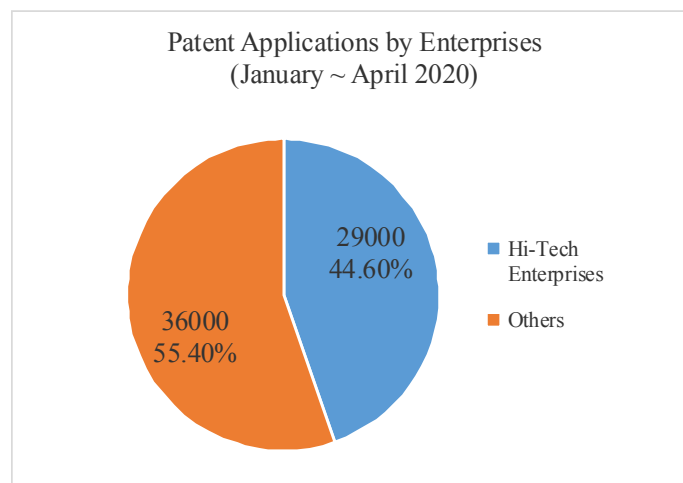
Note: the symbols “↑” and “↓” stand for increase and decrease respectively.

The quick recovery in patent applications fully shows the positive attitude of market entities in the face of the COVID-19 situation. Instead of a standstill, they prefer empowering transformation and upgrading with innovation and thereby expediting the pace of scientific innovation.

#### 2. Patent Applications by Enterprises Take the Lead in Accomplishing Positive Growth

From January to April, patent applications filed by domestic enterprises reached a growth rate of 8.1% with respect to the same period of 2019; among them, invention patent applications totaled 259,000 at a growth rate of 4.2%.

High-tech enterprises are the backbone force for the enterprises’ patent innovation. During the first four months of 2020, as shown in the diagram below, the 29,000 high-tech enterprises out of the 65,000 domestic applicant enterprises (excluding enterprises from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) accounted for a percentage of 44.6. On the average, each high-tech enterprise owns 4.9 invention patents, overtopping other types of enterprises with a difference of 1.7 patents.



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### 3. New Innovative Power in Sturdy Growth in Emerging Industries

From January to April, patent applications filed in China that relate to the new-generation information technology industry reached a growth rate of 1.8% with respect to the same period of 2019.

	High-Tech Enterprises			Innovative High-Tech Enterprises		
	HUAWEI	Tencent	Byte Dance	Sense Time	Cloud Minds	iFlytech
<b>Invention Patent Applications Growth Rate</b> (with respect to the same period of 2019)	35.2%	178.9%	67.7%	36.9%	70.3%	88.9%

As revealed by the data above, with the expedited iteration in the Internet, big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, robots, among other innovative technologies, new business models and industry trends are emerging, and new growth points and poles are getting stronger more rapidly. All these are injecting new energy into long-term steady development of China's economy.

### 4. Patent Applications by Foreign Applicants Keep on Stable Growth Rates

From January to April, patent applications filed by foreign applications in China can be summarized as follows:

	Number of Patent Applications Filed in China	Growth Rates (with respect to the corresponding month of 2019)
<b>Foreign Applicants</b>	60,000	1.7% ↓
<b>Applicants from "Belt and Road" Countries</b>	10,000	3.8% ↑

(Note: The symbols "↑" and "↓" above stand for increase and decrease respectively.)

On a monthly basis, said data incorporates the following changes:

	February	March	April
<b>Patent Applications by Foreign Applicants Growth Rates</b> (with respect to each corresponding month of 2019)	39.9% ↓	31.3% ↑	1.2% ↑

(Note: The symbols "↑" and "↓" above stand for increase and decrease respectively.)

The data above preliminarily shows the general confidence of foreign enterprises in the Chinese market, without being overly affected by the COVID-19 situation.

### 5. Overseas Patent Portfolios of Innovative Entities Keep on Steady Developments

From January to April, PCT applications submitted by Chinese applications to the CNIPA and invention patent applications submitted to overseas patent offices can be summarized in the table below.

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	Number	Growth Rates (with respect to the corresponding month of 2019)
<b>PCT applications submitted to the CNIPA</b>	17,000	18.3% ↑
<b>Invention patent applications submitted to overseas patent offices</b>	/	15.1% ↑

(Note: The symbols “↑” and “↓” above stand for increase and decrease respectively.)

As revealed by the data above, despite the changes brought by the COVID-19 outbreak, Chinese enterprises still have confidence in overseas markets and keep on their positive explorations of international markets.

(Source: National Intellectual Property Administration)

## Intellectual Property

### CNIPA Publishes Statistical Data of IP Rights from January to May 2020

Recently, China National Intellectual Property Administration publishes major statistical data of IP rights from January to May, 2020. Compared with the same period of 2019, changes can be found in the following table:

	Applications Filed Increase/Decrease	Rights Granted	
		Increase/Decrease	Growth Rate (compared with the same period of 2019)
Inventions	7,437 ↑	33,672 ↓	16.85% ↓
Utility Models	164,802 ↑	134,424 ↑	21.53% ↑
Designs	20,616 ↓	66,881 ↑	30.27% ↑
<b>Total (in validity)</b>	10,459,569		
Trademarks	Increase		Growth Rate (compared with the same period of 2019)
	430883		15.08%

Note: the symbols “↑” and “↓” above stand for increase/decrease (rate) respectively.

Further classified by the patent types, the relevant figures are shown in the tables below:

A Comparison between the Same Periods of 2020 and 2019			
Inventions	Type \ Year	2020	2019
		Filed	549536
	Granted	166117	199789
	In Validity	2779642	

A Comparison between the Same Periods of 2020 and 2019			
Utility Models	Type \ Year	2020	2019
		Filed	995531
	Granted	758775	624351
	In Validity	5738912	

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A Comparison between the Same Periods of 2020 and 2019				
Designs	Type	Year	2020	2019
	Filed		250339	270955
	Granted		287852	220971
	In Validity		1941015	

Also, figures of trademark applications filed and granted are shown in the table below:

A Comparison between the Same Periods of 2020 and 2019			
Type	Year	2020	2019
Filed		3287476	2856593
Granted		2316597	2941312
In Validity		27174794	22212477

(Source: National Intellectual Property Administration)