

W&B IP Newsletter



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Contents

Patent

CNIPA Releases Patent Statistics for January-September 2024	2
New IP Regulations Effective October 1, 2024	3

Trademark

CNIPA Releases Trademark Statistics for January-September 2024	5
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Intellectual Property Developments

CNIPA Releases Statistics on Geographical Indications and Integrated Circuit Layout Designs for January-September 2024.....	5
CNIPA Releases 2023 Social Satisfaction Survey Report on IP Protection	6



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Patent

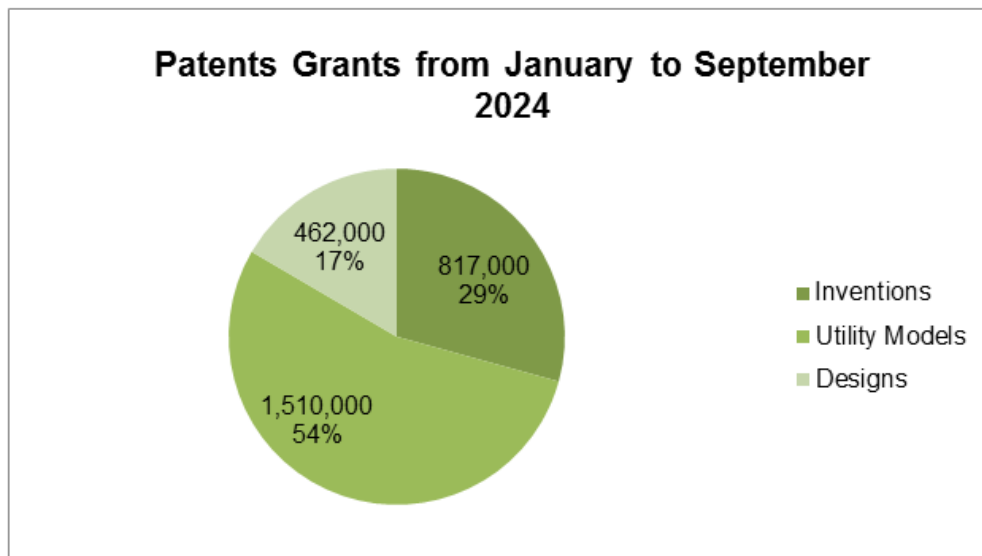
CNIPA Releases Patent Statistics for January-September 2024

Recently, the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) released the main intellectual property statistical data report for January-September 2024. Compared to January-September 2023, the number of invention patents granted increased by 16.91% year-on-year, utility models decreased by 5.45%, and design patents decreased by 5.32%.

Patent Grants (Piece)	Invention Patents	Utility Model Patents	Design Patents	Total
Jan-Sep 2023	698,822	1,596,992	487,977	2,783,791
Jan-Sep 2024	817,000	1,510,000	462,000	2,789,000
Growth Amount	118,178	-86,992	-25,977	5,209
Growth Rate	16.91%	-5.45%	-5.32%	0.19%

(Data Comparison: Jan-Sep 2023 vs. Jan-Sep 2024)

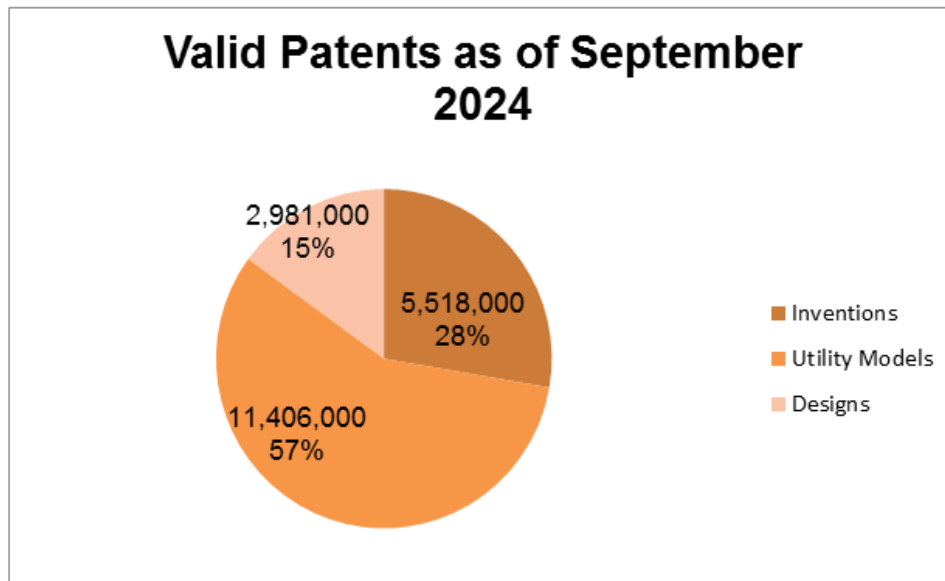
For the first nine months of 2024, the CNIPA granted 817,000 invention patents, 1,510,000 utility model patents and 462,000 design patents.



As of September 30, 2024, China's patent landscape shows:

- Total valid invention patents: 5.518 million
- Of which, domestic invention patents (excluding Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan): 4.533 million
- Valid utility model patents: 11.406 million
- Valid design patents: 2.981 million

Patent



From January to September, the CNIPA received 53,000 PCT international patent applications. Among these, domestic applicants submitted 49,000 applications.

From January to September, Chinese applicants submitted a total of 1,594 international design applications, and 1,813 published international design applications designated China.

(Source: China National Intellectual Property Administration)

New IP Regulations Effective October 1, 2024

(1) EPO Transitions to Paperless Patent Literature Citations

The European Patent Office (EPO) has announced that from October 1, 2024, patent literature cited in European Patent Convention (EPC) and Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) search and examination procedures will be accessible exclusively through Espacenet. Paper copies will no longer be provided.

This initiative, aligned with EPO's SP2028 strategic plan, leverages state-of-the-art tools to offer instant access to cited patent documents during the grant process. The move is expected to save approximately 6 million pages of paper annually, marking a significant step towards sustainability.

Since October 1, 2024, EPO will email cited patent literature electronically to MyEPO users. Users relying on physical mail can access cited documents in search reports, written opinions, and international preliminary examination reports via Espacenet.

(Source: Yezhima IP)

Patent

(2)USPTO Proposes Substantial Fee Increases for FY2025

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has published a notice in the Federal Register on April 3, 2024, proposing significant adjustments to its patent fee structure for the 2025 fiscal year. Public comments will be accepted until June 3, 2024, with implementation planned for October 1, 2024.

Notable changes include:

- Increased design application fees to account for inflation.
- New excess claim fees to encourage more concise and focused applications.
- Higher fees for second and subsequent Requests for Continued Examination (RCE) to promote examination efficiency.
- Reduced late reply fees for provisional applications.
- Surcharges for continuation applications filed more than 5 and 8 years to make up for the loss of maintenance fee as a result of examination.
- Tiered fee structure for Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filings to reduce practitioners' professional risks;
- Introduction of fees for the After Final Consideration Pilot 2.0 (AFCP 2.0) program.

(Source: U.S. Federal Register)

(3) Australian Patent/Trademark Fee Adjustments Effective October 2024

IP Australia has released a draft Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS) for 2024-2025, outlining fee increases for Australian patent and design applications, as well as trademark registrations. The new fee structure will take effect in October 2024.

Key modifications:

- 10% increase in patent application and examination fees.
- Doubling of fees for patent oppositions and hearings.
- Excess claim fees (for claims over 20) due at substantive examination request, rather than at grant.
- Reduced design application fees, but increased post-grant substantive examination fees.
- Higher fees for trademark cancellation requests.
- Trademark opposition requests citing more than three grounds will now incur additional charges

(Source: Yezhima IP)

Trademark

CNIPA Releases Trademark Statistics for January-September 2024

The China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) has recently published its trademark statistics for the period of January to September 2024 on its official website.

Key highlights for the first nine months of 2024:

- Trademark applications received: 5.296 million
- Trademark registrations granted: 3.586 million
- Total valid registered trademarks as of September 2024: 48.897 million

International filings:

- Madrid international trademark registration applications from Chinese applicants: 5,431

	Cumulative Registrations	Valid Trademarks	Oppositions	Rejection Review Applications	Invalidation Declaration Applications	Cancellation Review Applications
2024	3,168,740	48,565,535	81,389	222,759	47,250	12,228
2023	2,718,370	44,781,027	71,793	193,222	45,583	13,548
Net Change	450,370	3,784,508	9,596	29,537	1,667	-1,320
Growth Rate	16.57%	8.45%	13.37%	15.29%	3.66%	9.74%

(Source: China National Intellectual Property Administration)

Intellectual Property Developments

CNIPA Releases Statistics on Geographical Indications and Integrated Circuit Layout Designs for January-September 2024

	Approved GI Products	Approved GI Trademarks to be Registered as Collective or Certification Marks	Approved Market Entities Using GI and Special Signs
January-September 2024	15	116	6,820
Cumulative Total as of September 2024	2,523	7,393	31,744

Intellectual Property Developments

Integrated Circuit Layout Designs:

For the period of January to September 2024:

- IC layout design registration applications received: 8,325
- IC layout design certificates issued: 7,703

(Source: China National Intellectual Property Administration)

CNIPA Releases 2023 Social Satisfaction Survey Report on IP Protection

The China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) has recently published its "2023 Social Satisfaction Survey Report on Intellectual Property Protection" on its official website. According to the survey, the national social satisfaction score for IP protection in 2023 reached 82.04 points, representing a 0.79-point increase from 2022 and an 18.35-point improvement since the survey's inception in 2012. The satisfaction score has demonstrated a consistent upward trend in recent years (refer to Figure 1.1.1).

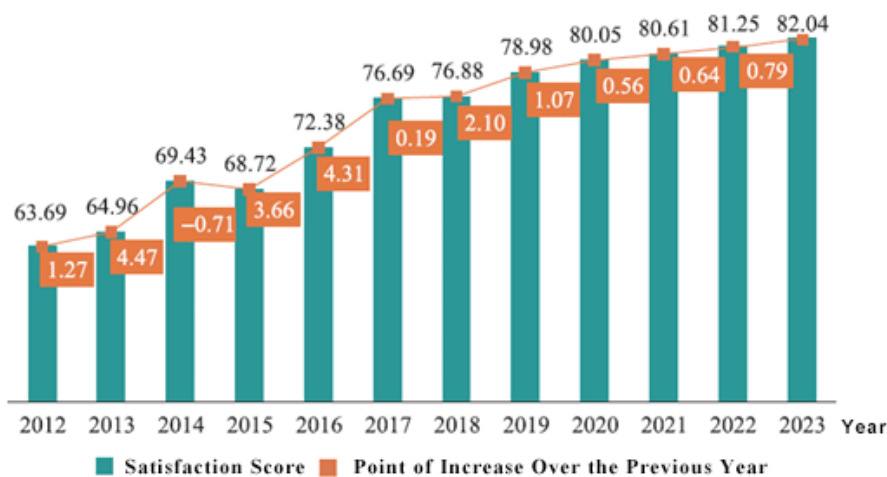
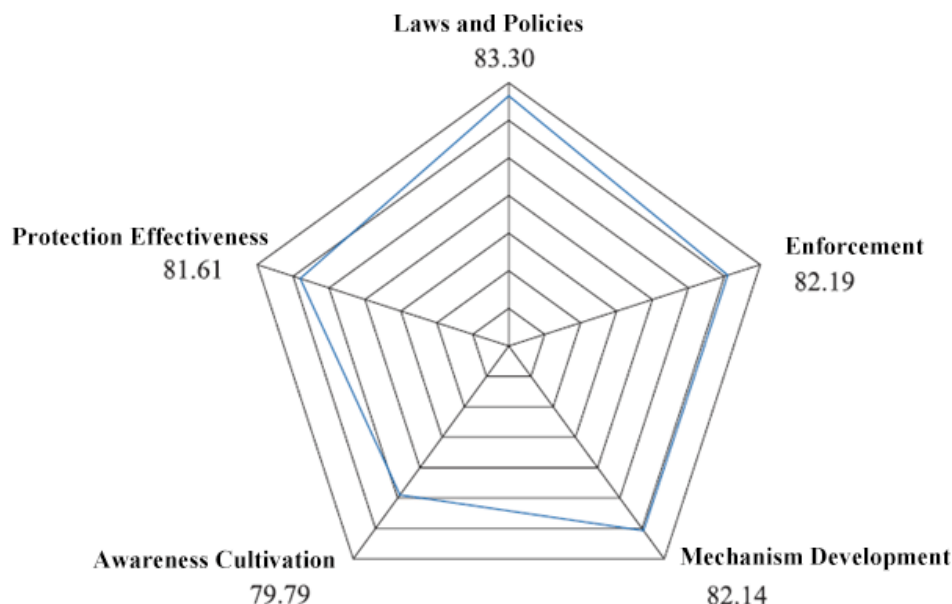


Figure 1.1.1: National Social Satisfaction on Intellectual Property Protection from 2012 to 2023

Satisfaction Score for Primary Indicators



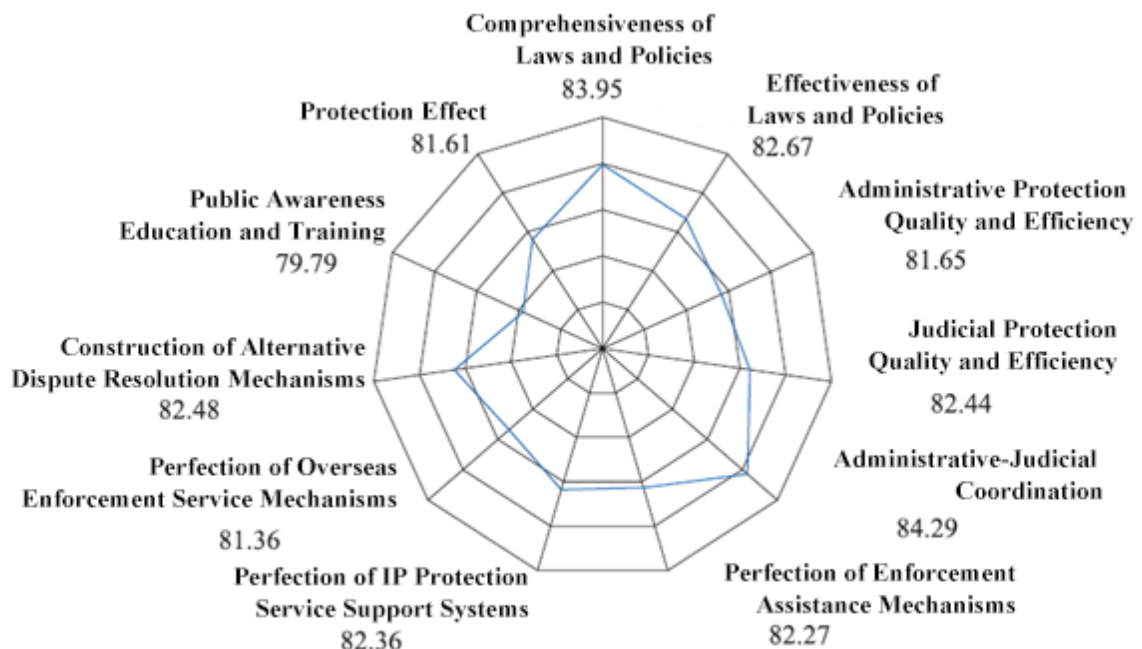
Intellectual Property Developments

Primary Indicator	2023 Score	2022 Score	Change
Laws and Policies	83.30	82.46	+0.84
Enforcement	82.19	81.37	+0.82
Mechanism Development	82.14	81.62	+0.52
Awareness Cultivation	79.79	78.57	+1.22
Protection Effectiveness	81.61	80.59	+1.02

Figure 1.2.1: 2023 National IP Protection Social Satisfaction - Primary Indicator Scores^o

The radar chart values increase from center to periphery, with polygon vertices representing analysis dimensions. The chart area indicates the overall IP satisfaction level.

Satisfaction Score for Secondary Indicators



Intellectual Property Developments

Secondary Indicator	2023 Score	2022 Score	Change
Comprehensiveness of Laws and Policies	83.95	82.99	+0.96
Effectiveness of Laws and Policies	82.67	81.95	+0.72
Administrative Protection Quality and Efficiency	81.65	80.98	+0.67
Judicial Protection Quality and Efficiency	82.44	81.51	+0.93
Administrative-Judicial Coordination	84.29	83.13	+1.16
Perfection of Enforcement Assistance Mechanisms	82.27	81.03	+1.24
Perfection of IP Protection Service Support Systems	82.36	81.51	+0.85
Perfection of Overseas Enforcement Service Mechanisms	81.36	82.65	-1.29
Construction of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms	82.48	81.33	+1.15
Public Awareness Education and Training	79.79	78.57	+1.22
Protection Effect	81.61	80.59	+1.02

Figure 1.2.2: 2023 National Intellectual Property Protection Social Satisfaction - Secondary Indicator Scores

IP Protection Satisfaction Levels across Stakeholder Groups

The 2023 survey results reveal varying levels of satisfaction with intellectual property protection among three key stakeholder groups: 1. IP Professionals: 82.99 points 2. Rights Holders: 82.35 points 3. General Public: 78.65 points (These findings are illustrated in Figure 1.3.1 below.)



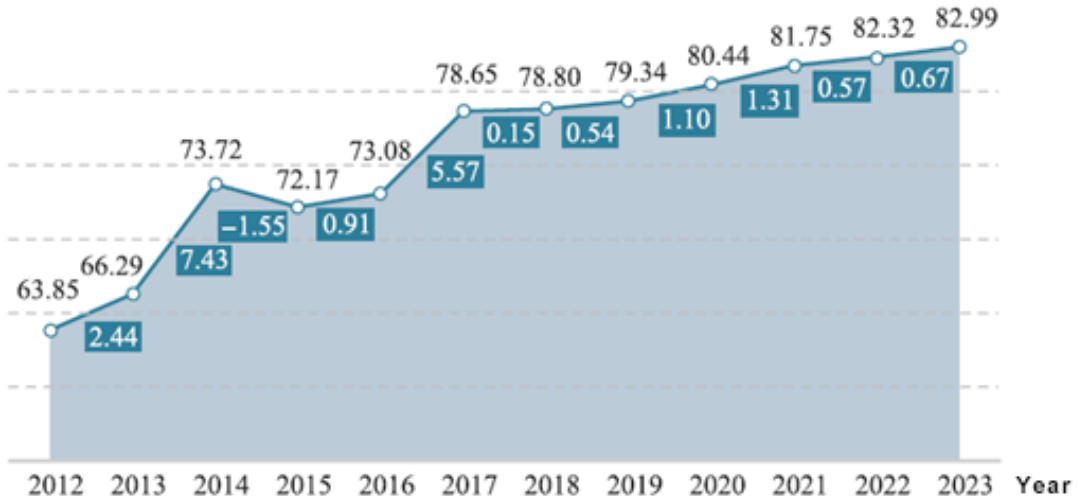
Figure 1.3.1: 2023 National IP Protection Satisfaction Scores by Stakeholder Group

Notably, all three stakeholder groups have shown substantial improvements in satisfaction levels since the survey's inception:

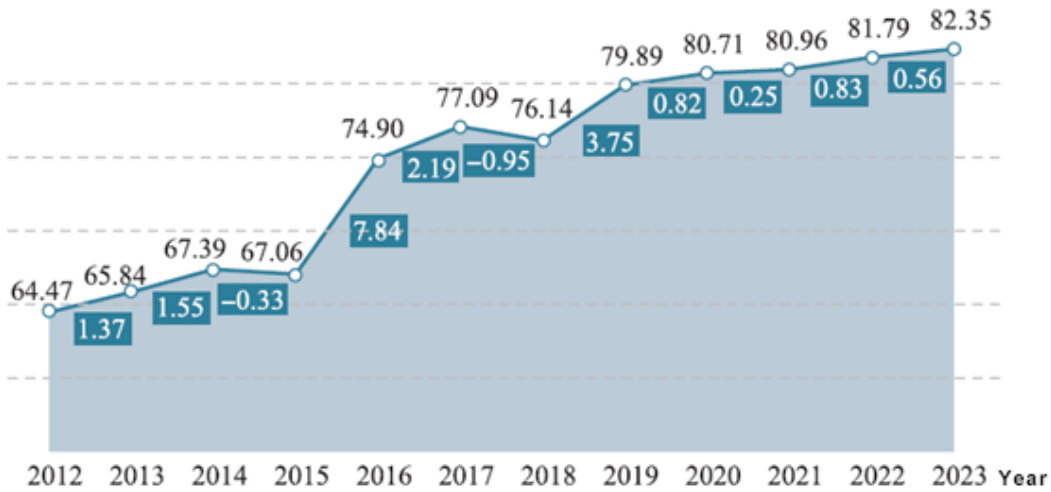
- IP Professionals: Largest increase of 19.14 points - Rights Holders: Increase of 17.88 points - General Public: Increase of 17.87 points

(These long-term trends are depicted in Figure 1.3.2.)

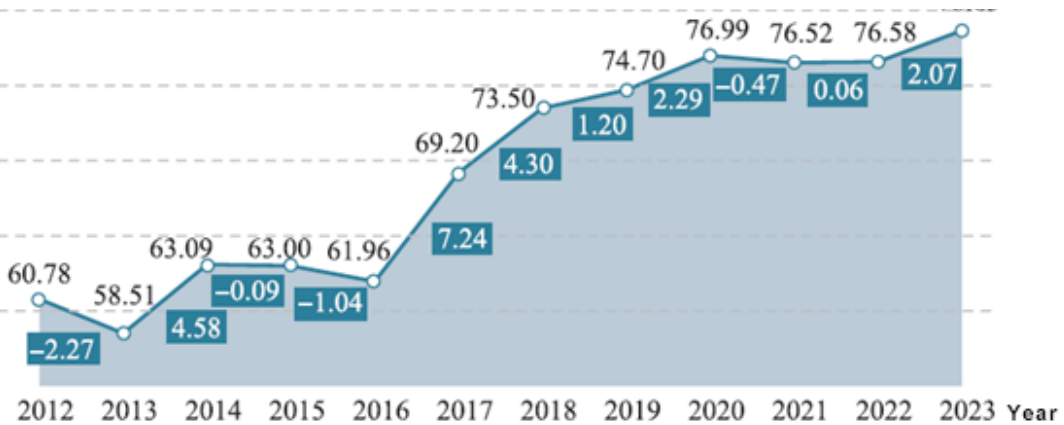
Intellectual Property Developments



(a) IP Professionals



(b) Rights Holders



(c) General Public

■ Score increase over the previous year

Figure 1.3.2: National IP Protection Social Satisfaction Scores by Stakeholder Group from 2012 to 2023

(Source: China National Intellectual Property Administration)