

FOI Release
Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Measuring the success of patent private applicants

Date of release: 27 September 2016

Information request:

Over the last 10 years, how many private applicants, i.e. applicants that at the time of applying for a patent were not professionally represented, obtained a granted patent, as a proportion of total private applicants and total applicants on a year-by-year basis?

I'm trying to better understand the chances of success of private applicants in obtaining protection for their inventions.

Is it possible to provide tabulated data as follows?

- Year (of application)
- No. private applications
- No. total applications
- No. private applications filed that year still pending
- No. total applications filed that year still pending
- No. private applications filed that year withdrawn before grant
- No. total applications filed that year withdrawn before grant
- No. private applications filed that year granted
- No. total applications filed that year granted

Information released:

Please find attached an Excel spreadsheet of the figures requested. It comes with a caveat though; you should be aware that the private applicant marker is applied for the current/last status for the given patent. This measure does not historically suggest what was and was not owned by a private applicant at a given time. An applicant may hire, change and not use agents at any point during the patents life. Therefore, this information is an estimate based on current information and not an official statistic.