

At Astria, a leading software-enabled service, by Wellspring, we offer unmatched oversight of your patent renewal deadlines, ensuring precision in cost management and data accuracy.

This series of Spotlight Articles developed by the Astria team, provide organizations with insights on the nuanced rules of IP renewals at Patent Offices worldwide. This article highlights Japan, a key market for many of Wellspring's clients.



Japan

In Japan, renewals are paid after the patent grants. Applicants are required to pay the first, second and third renewal fee at the time of grant. The fourth and future years must be paid annually on the anniversary of the grant date. When docketing Japanese renewal information, the grant number, grant date and number of granted claims are required.

Astria then checks these data points to accurately calculate and display the renewal year and deadline date. The renewal costs in Japan are calculated based on the number of granted claims of the patent.

Japan Patent Office

Here is a useful link to search patents listed on the Japan Platform for Patent Information:

Renewal process

Application **FILED**



Application **GRANTED**



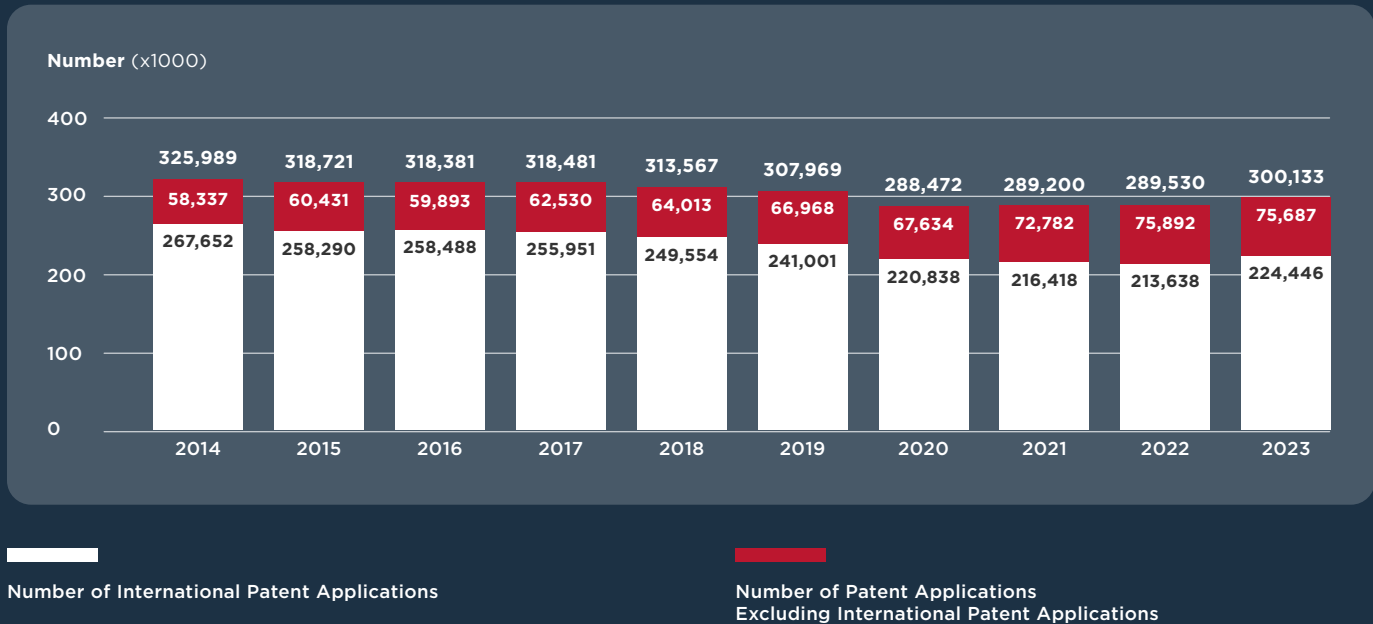
Renewals due throughout patents lifespan

Patent **EXPIRES**



Number of Patent Applications | 特許出願件数

Source: [Japanese status report 2024](#)



Since 2014 to 2018, the number of applications filed annually in Japan have been relatively flat. In 2020, as in many patent and trademark offices (PTOs) globally, there was a large decline due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with filings slowly trending upwards. However, 2023 was still below filing rates prior to 2017.

Understanding patent renewal rules in Japan

As mentioned, renewals in Japan are payable after the patent grants. Therefore, if an example patent has the grant date of 07/08/2024, the 4th year renewal fee would be due on 07/08/2027.

Astria displays the routine renewal payment deadline for Japan renewals. Organizations do have the option through Astria to pause payment, as it is still possible to pay the Japan renewal during the grace period.

The grace period in Japan lasts up to 6 months with late fees applied by the PTO in Japan. The incremental, official late fee increases are displayed to Astria clients in the portal to aid the decision on when to pay a Japan renewal.

Effortless IP Renewals with Astria is One Step Away, [get in touch](#) with our expert team today at:

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