

# GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS: CHINESE APPLICANTS IN THE US

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LIGHTHOUSE IP MONTHLY REPORT

### INTRODUCTION

The competition and cooperation between the United States and China has always been one of the hot topics in the world. As a country with the fastest patent growth, how are Chinese applicants in the United States? You will get the answer in this report.



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#### GENERAL INFORMATION

As the largest economy in the world, the United States has attracted applicants from all over the world to distribute patents here to improve their market competitiveness.

At present, of the more than 16 million patent applications in the United States, more than 700,000 are related to Chinese applicants, accounting for 4.38%, ranking second among all foreign countries, and Japan ranks first (As shown in **Figure 1**).

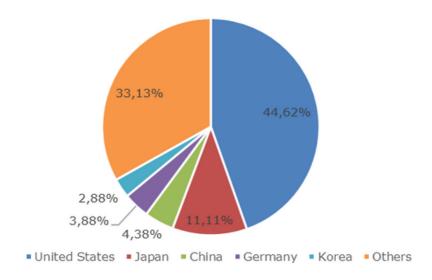


Figure 1 Patent applications of applicants from different countries in the United States



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#### GENERAL INFORMATION

In the past two decades, the number of patents applied by Chinese applicants in the United States has shown a trend of rapid growth over time (As shown in **Figure 2**). At the same time, more than 30,0000 patents are in force (As shown in **Figure 3**). It can be seen that the enthusiasm of Chinese applicants to apply for patents in the United States has gradually increased.

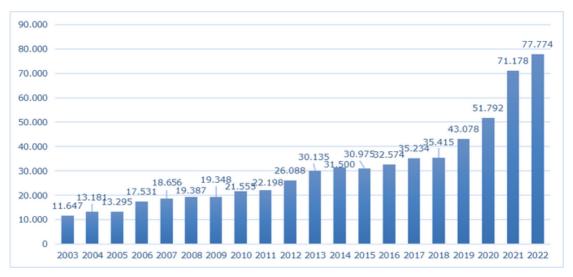


Figure 2 Patent publication trend

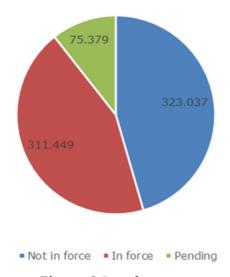


Figure 3 Legal status



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#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Among all patents applied by China, more than half of them are from Taiwan, and the rest are from Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong (As shown in **Figure 4**). It can be seen that patent applicants in Taiwan pay more attention to applying for patents from the United States.

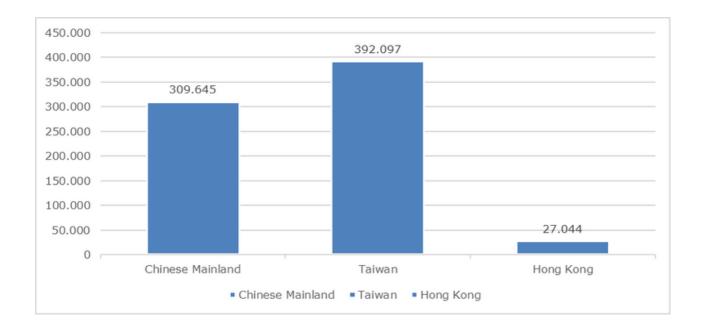


Figure 4 Regional ranking



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#### KEY TECHNOLOGIES

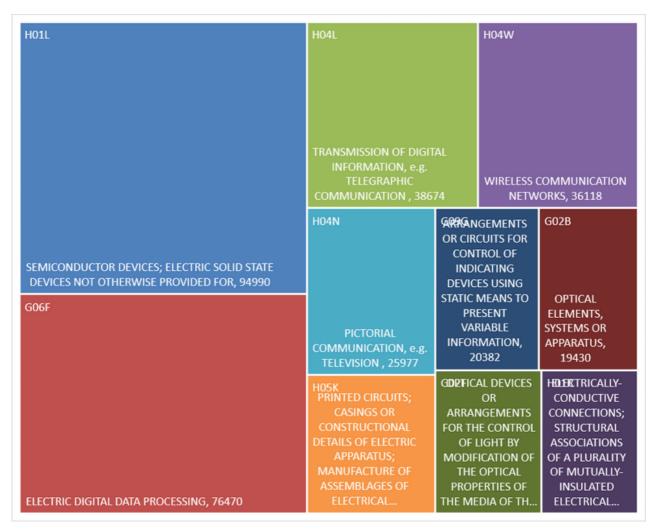


Figure 5 The top 10 IPC classification numbers

In terms of specific technical fields, Chinese applicants have applied for the largest number of patents in the United States in the fields of semiconductor, information technology and optical devices (As shown in **Figure 5**). It can be seen that cutting-edge technology is the focus of Chinese applicants' patent layout.



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## STANDARDIZED CURRENT ASSIGNEES

Among all Chinese applicants, TSMC, Hon Hai Precision and Huawei have applied for the largest number of patents. It is also found that the top ten applicants are all companies in high-tech related fields (As shown in **Figure 6**).



Figure 6 The top 10 standardized current assignees

Further analysis shows that TSMC, Huawei and BOE have significantly increased the volume of patents applied in the United States in recent years, which corresponds to a significant decline in the volume of Hon Hai Seiko applications (As shown in **Figure 7**).

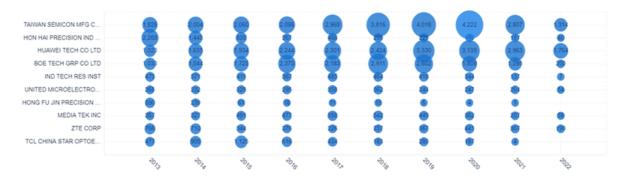


Figure 7 Application trend of the top 10 standardized current assignees



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#### CONCLUSION

With the continuous improvement of China's technological innovation capability, the volume of patents applied by Chinese applicants in the United States is increasing, which undoubtedly enhances their overseas competitiveness. Especially for some high-tech companies, these Chinese applicants will apply for more patents in the United States in the future.

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