



2025年の特許出願件数

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2026年2月26日に、日本国特許庁より2025年12月までの出願件数の速報値が公開されました。

国内移行を除いた各月の特許出願件数を整理すると、下表のとおりです。

表 2025年の各月の特許出願件数

1月	2月	3月	4月	5月	6月	上半期
15,789	16,776	27,806	15,729	15,680	19,748	144,128
7月	8月	9月	10月	11月	12月	合計
17,818	15,392	20,757	20,195	24,855	75,562	286,108

(特許庁「特許出願等統計速報」より筆者作成)

特筆すべきは12月の特許出願件数が各月の出願件数に比べて5万件程度増加していることです。ソフトバンクグループ株式会社が2023年9月に行った大量(約9000件)の特許出願を遥かに上回る出願件数であると共に出願人が明らかになっていないことから、出願人の特定や今後の知財業界の在り方等が各所で話題になっています。

ただし、この出願件数の速報値について特許庁に問い合わせたところ、速報値は特許庁として受け付けた出願の件数にすぎないとのことでしたので、方式不備(例えば、出願料金未納)で却下される出願も含まれているようです。また、特許庁によれば、正式に受理された出願のみ件数の公表は行っていないとのことですので、全容解明は出願公開を待つことになりそうです。

(参考) 日本では方式不備の出願にも出願番号が付与されるため、出願番号と正式受理された出願の件数とは厳密に対応しません。

Number of patent applications in 2025

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On February 26, 2026, the Japan Patent Office released preliminary filing statistics covering patent applications through December 2025.

When the monthly patent filing figures are organized so as to exclude national-phase entries, the results are as shown in the table below.

Table : Number of patent applications for each month in 2025

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	First half
15,789	16,776	27,806	15,729	15,680	19,748	144,128
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	total amount
17,818	15,392	20,757	20,195	24,855	75,562	286,108

(Compiled by the author from the JPO's "Statistical Bulletin on Patent Applications, etc.")

What is particularly noteworthy is that the number of patent applications filed in December increased by roughly 50,000 compared with the monthly figures for the other months. This far exceeds the large-volume filing by SoftBank Group Corp. in September 2023 (approximately 9,000 applications), and, because the identity of the applicant or applicants has not been disclosed, the issue of who filed these applications—and what this may mean for the future of the IP profession—has become a subject of discussion in various quarters.

That said, when the JPO was contacted regarding these preliminary figures, it explained that the figures merely represent the number of applications received by the Office. They therefore appear to include applications that may later be dismissed for formal defects, such as non-payment of filing fees. In addition, according to the JPO, it does not publish figures limited only to applications that have been formally accepted. Accordingly, it appears that a full understanding of the situation will have to await publication of the applications.

(Reference) In Japan, even applications with formal defects are assigned application numbers. Therefore, the number of application numbers assigned does not correspond exactly to the number of formally accepted applications.