



Intellectual
Property
Office

The Patent Prosecution Highway and PCT(UK) Fast Track Process

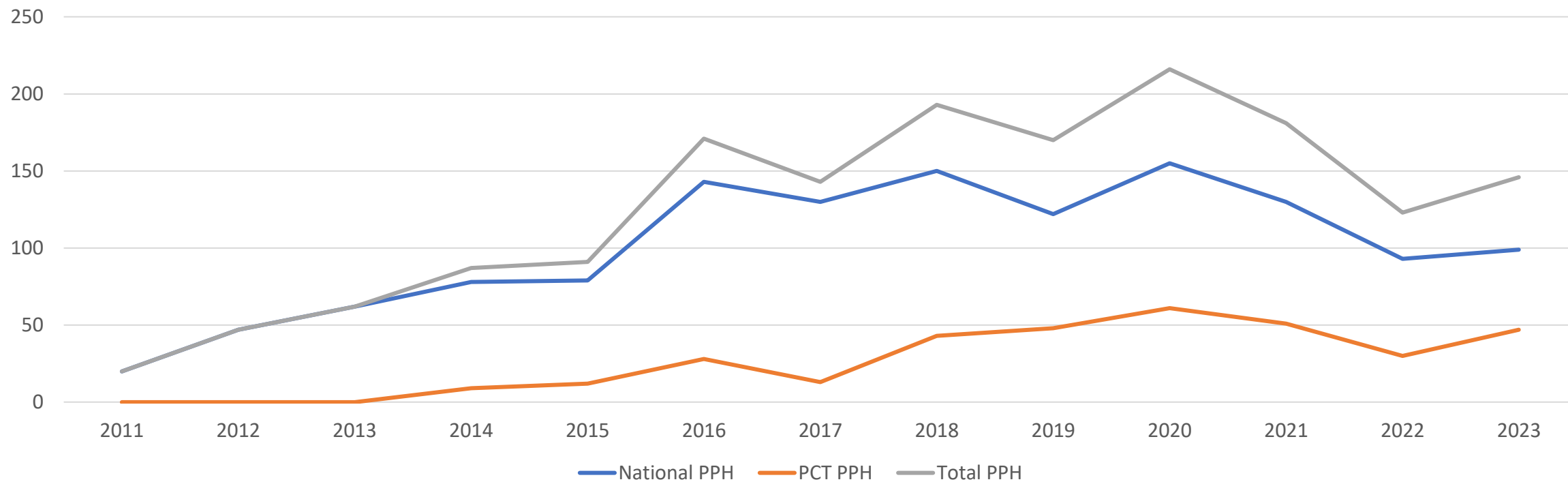
United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office

PPH Agreements

- UKIPO started first PPH agreement with Japan in July 2007
- UKIPO currently has PPH agreements with 28 offices
 - 26 offices via the Global PPH
 - Bi-lateral agreements with China and Brazil

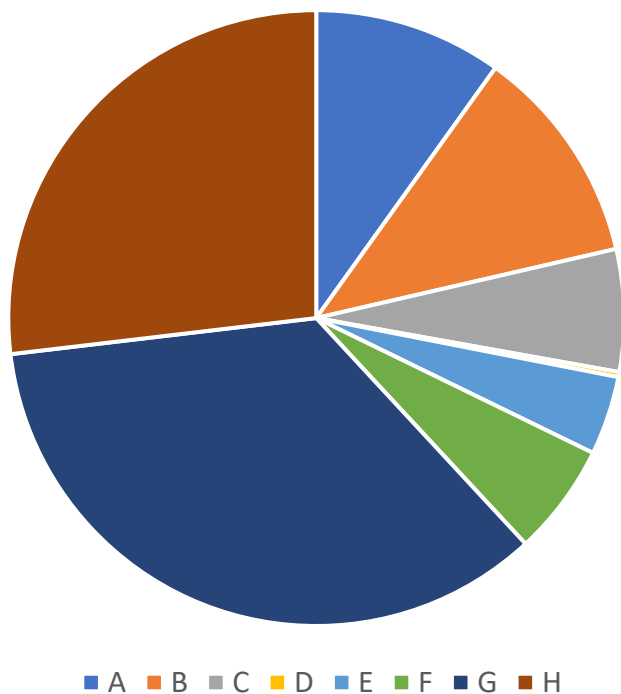
Overall PPH filing numbers at the UKIPO (2011-2023)

Chart Title

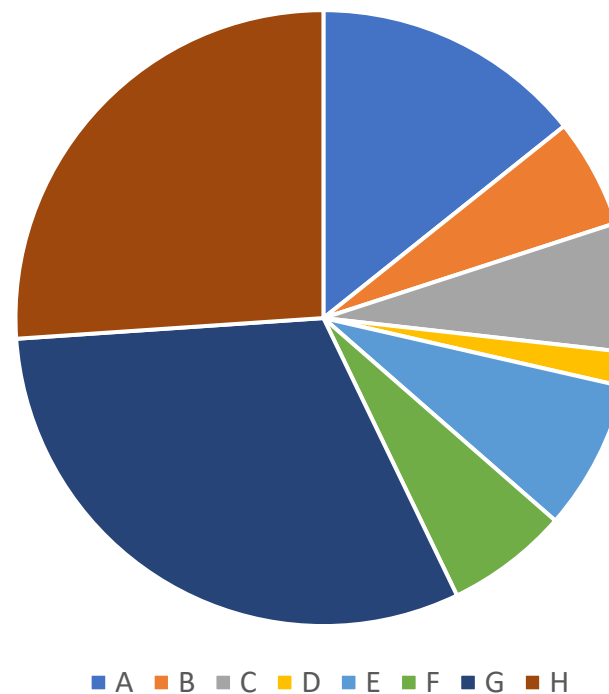


PPH + PCT-PPH requests by IPC Section (2018-2023)

National PPH requests



PCT-PPH requests



PPH Statistics at the UKIPO for 2023

	National PPH	PCT-PPH
Grant Rate (%)	95.24	90.63
First Action Allowance Rate (%)	38.10	28.13
Average Pendency from PPH Request to First Office Action	1.72	1.44
Average Pendency from PPH Request to Final Decision	11.48	9.58
Average number of Office Actions	0.84	0.79

UKIPO Experience of the PPH

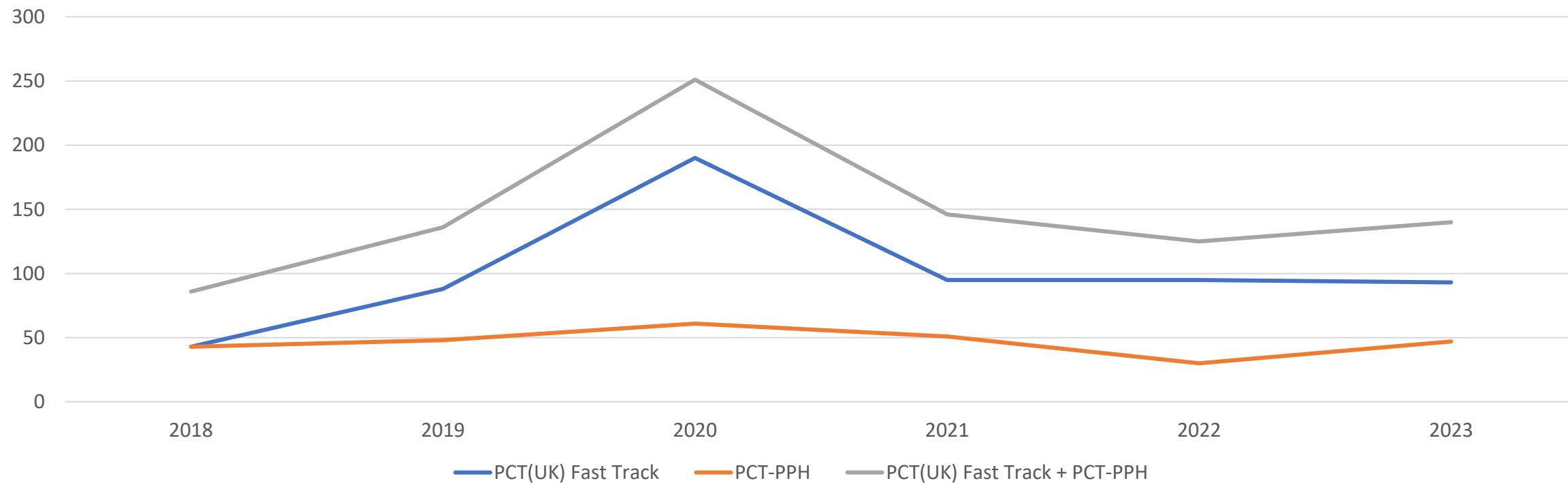
- The UKIPO experience of the PPH has been entirely positive
- Applications with PPH requests are more efficient to process as they generally have:
 - Fewer office actions per application
 - Easier examination
 - Improved quality due to utilisation of work from other offices
- The PPH is beneficial for both Offices and Applicants

PCT(UK) Fast Track Process

- The PCT(UK) Fast Track enables any applicant who has a PCT application with claims found to be allowable in a PCT International Preliminary Report on Patentability or Written Opinion to request accelerated processing at the UKIPO in the National Phase
- Launched in May 2010, with eligibility requirements (claim correspondence) changed to match those of the PPH in June 2012

PCT(UK) Fast Track (+ PCT-PPH)

Chart Title



PCT(UK) Fast Track Process

- PCT(UK) Fast Track provides the same benefits to both applicants and the IPO as the PPH
 - Fewer office actions per application
 - Easier examination
 - Improved quality due to utilisation of work from other offices
- PCT(UK) Fast Track encourages applicants to make the best use of the PCT International Phase to put their application in order, which should benefit all offices where the application then enters the national phase

Thank You

www.gov.uk/government/publications/patent-prosecution-highway

www.gov.uk/government/publications/practice-notice-pctuk-fast-track

www.gov.uk/guidance/patents-accelerated-processing