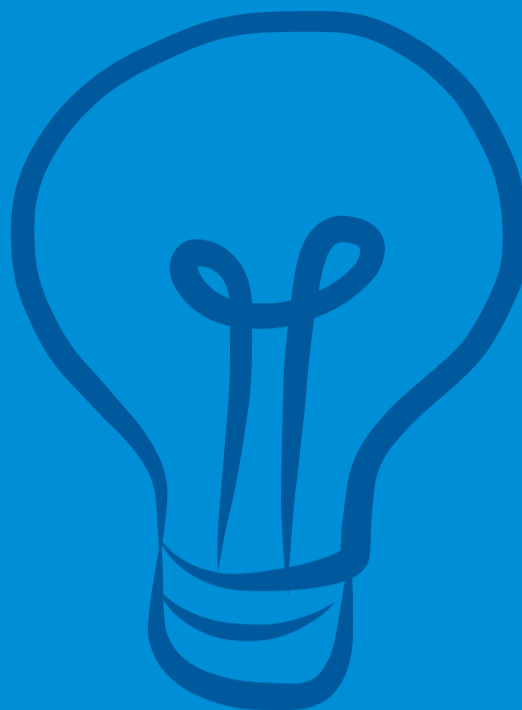


BOIP

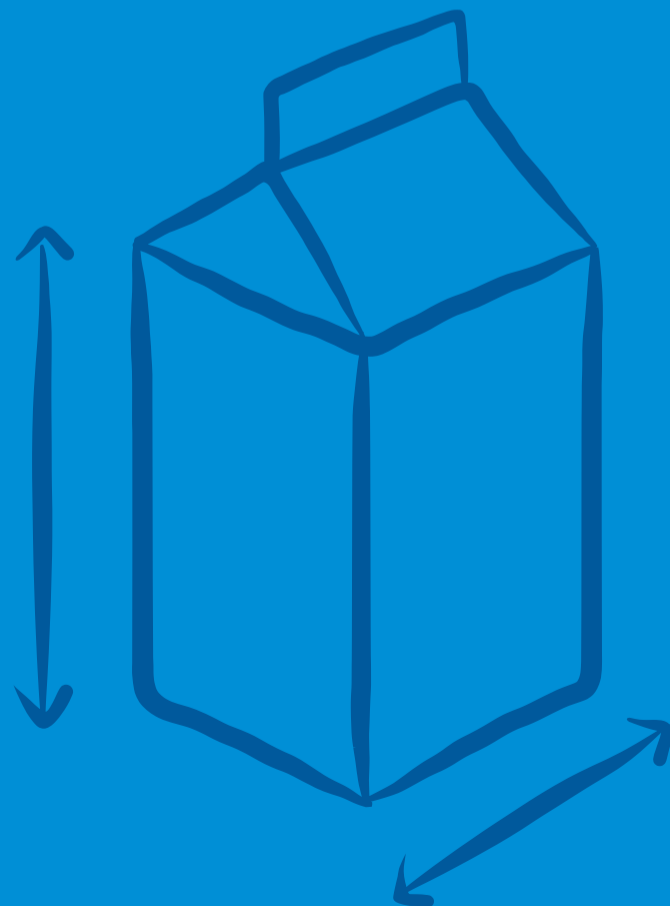
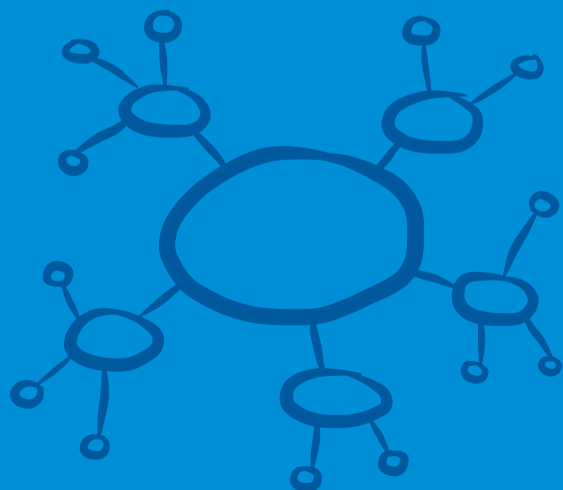


Benelux Office for  
**Intellectual  
Property**



# Annual Report 2018

[www.boip.int](http://www.boip.int)



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# Trademarks



## Benelux filings 2014-2018 <sup>12</sup>

2018	Benelux filings (in numbers)	20,723
	Of which submitted online (in %)	99.80
2017	Benelux filings (in numbers)	21,633
	Of which submitted online (in %)	98.92
2016	Benelux filings (in numbers)	21,778
	Of which submitted online (in %)	99.06
2015	Benelux filings (in numbers)	22,211
	Of which submitted online (in %)	98.56
2014	Benelux filings (in numbers)	20,478
	Of which submitted online (in %)	98.71

- 1 The numbers of filings are account for by the date of receipt of the application.
- 2 These statistics also comprise lapsed filings. Part of the lapsed filings is missing an application number and thus a country of origin. As a result, some discrepancies exist between the figures contained in this table and those contained in the table entitled 'Benelux filings by country of origin'.

## Collective trademarks 2014-2018 (in numbers) <sup>12</sup>

2018	53
2017	53
2016	88
2015	62
2014	70

- 1 The numbers of filings are account for by the date of receipt of the application.
- 2 These statistics also comprise lapsed filings. Part of the lapsed filings is missing an application number and thus a country of origin. As a result, some discrepancies exist between the figures contained in this table and those contained in the table entitled 'Benelux filings by country of origin'.

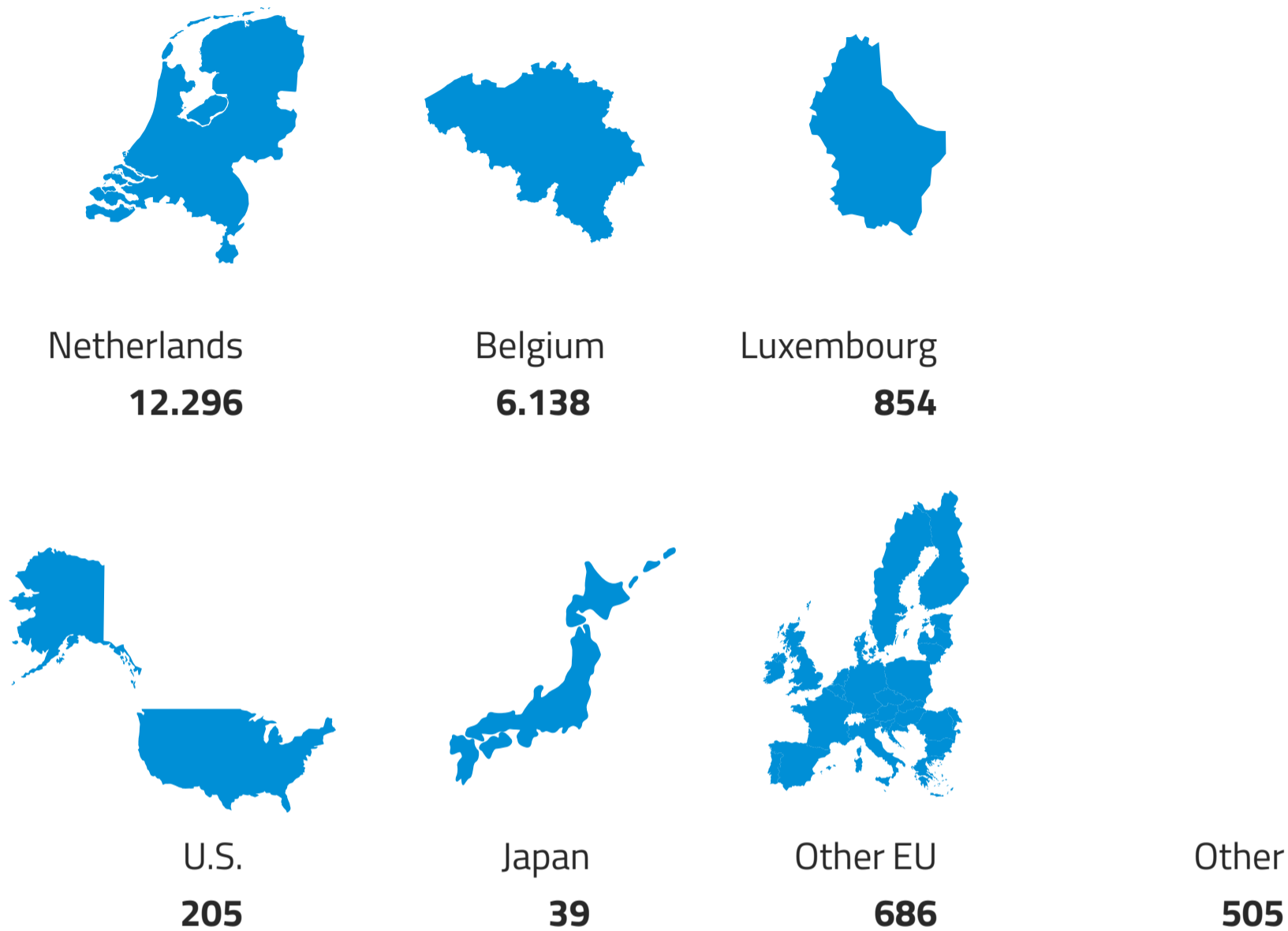
## Breakdown of Benelux filings by payment method 2014 - 2018 (in numbers)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
iDEAL	3,838	4,250	4,276	2,598	0
Bancontact/Mister Cash	563	945	815	416	0
Belfius Direct Net	142	0	0	0	0
Money transfer	5,333	7,554	8,195	14,582	20,468
CBC Online	17	0	0	0	0
DirectEbanking (BE)	4	0	0	0	0
ING HomePay	77	0	0	0	0
KBC Online	180	0	0	0	0
Current account	8,562	6,589	6,017	2,934	1
Maestro	60	0	0	0	0
MasterCard	1,113	1,208	1,327	884	0
Sofort Überweisung (DE)	3	0	0	0	0
VISA	831	972	1,062	723	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,723</b>	<b>21,518</b>	<b>21,692</b>	<b>22,137</b>	<b>20,469</b>

## Breakdown of Benelux filings by language 2014 - 2018

	2018		2017		2016		2015		2014	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
English	2,625	12.67	2,957	13.67	2,997	13.76	2,675	12.04	1,729	8.42
French	3,036	14.65	3,050	14.1	3,193	14.66	3,377	15.2	3,293	16.03
Dutch	15,062	72.68	15,626	72.23	15,588	71.58	16,158	72.75	15,521	75.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,723</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21,633</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21,778</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22,210</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20,543</b>	<b>100</b>

## Breakdown of Benelux filings by country of origin 2018



## Breakdown of Benelux filings by country of origin 2014 - 2018

	2018		2017		2016		2015		2014	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Netherlands	12,296	59.34	12,669	58.56	12,690	58.29	13,300	59.90	12,517	61.10
Belgium	6,138	29.62	6,296	29.10	6,305	29.00	6,208	28.00	5,475	26.80
Luxembourg	854	4.12	1,006	4.65	1,090	5.00	1,137	5.10	1,089	5.30
U.S.	205	0.99	254	1.18	298	1.40	339	1.50	287	1.40
Japan	39	0.19	18	0.09	25	0.10	32	0.10	44	0.20
Other EU	686	3.31	885	4.09	874	4.01	744	3.40	599	2.90
Other	505	2.43	505	2.33	489	2.25	451	2.00	467	2.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,723</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21,633</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21,771</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22,211</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20,478</b>	<b>100</b>

## Number of trademarks published 2014-2018 (in numbers)

	Individual	Collective	Total
<b>2018</b>	<b>16,623</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>16,662</b>
2017	18,532	54	<b>18,586</b>
2016	18,929	66	<b>18,995</b>
2015	19,149	54	<b>19,203</b>
2014	18,191	52	<b>18,243</b>

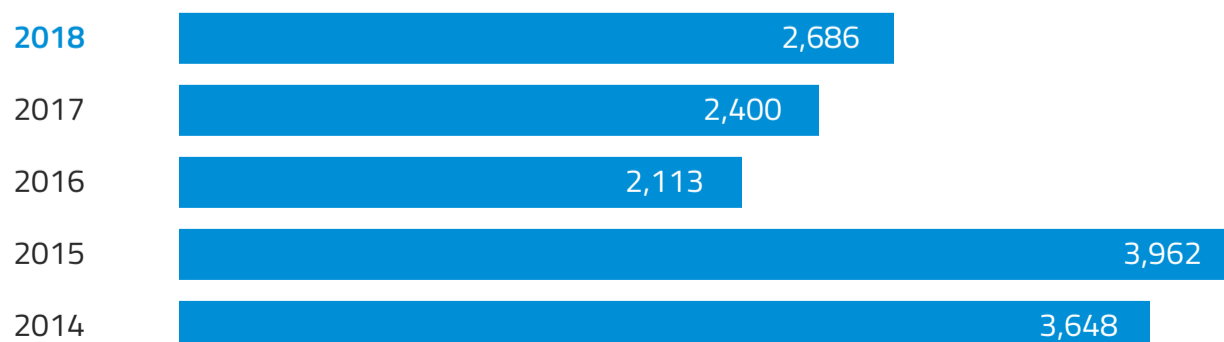
## Requests for renewal 2014-2018 (in numbers)

	Individual	Collective	Total
<b>2018</b>	<b>13,438</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>13,497</b>
2017	13,165	49	<b>13,214</b>
2016	13,153	60	<b>13,213</b>
2015	14,717	53	<b>14,770</b>
2014	12,436	47	<b>12,483</b>

## International registrations applied for via BOIP 2014-2018 (in numbers)



## International registrations valid in the Benelux region 2014-2018 (in numbers)



## Refusals on absolute grounds - 2017 Statistics <sup>1</sup>

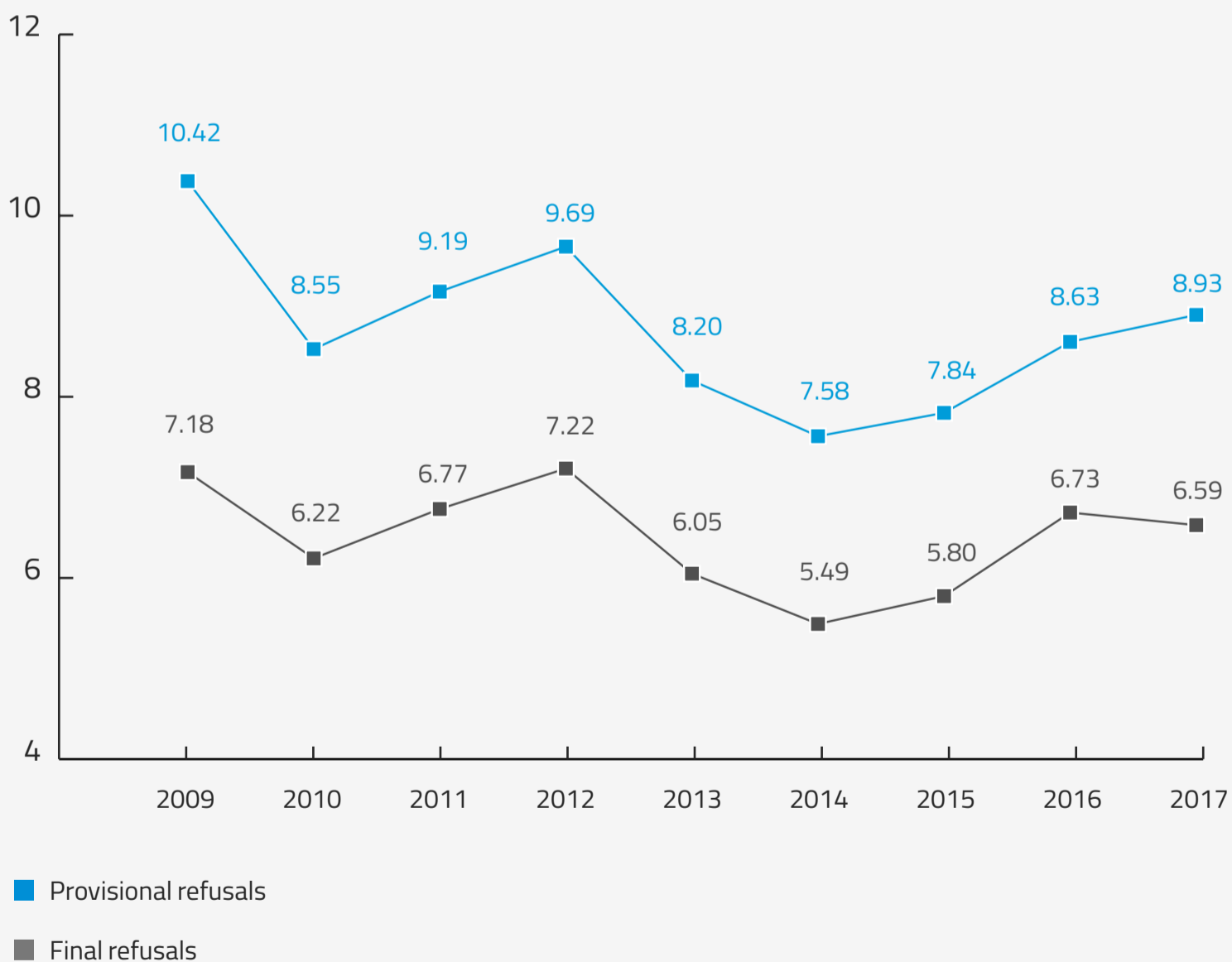
	Number	%
<b>Benelux filings</b>		
Total <sup>2</sup>	20,710	100
Filed by trademark proprietors	8,462	40.86
Filed by agents	12,248	59.14
<b>Provisional refusals</b>		
Total	1,850	8.93
Full	1,768	8.54
Partial	82	0.40
Filed by trademark proprietors	951	11.24
Filed by agents	899	7.34
Filings resulting in registration despite provisional refusal <sup>3</sup>	181	0.87
Filings withdrawn by request / cancelled priority registrations	267	1.29
Filings excluded from further processing	12	0.06
Objection period still underway (1,15 Implementing Regulations)	26	0.13
<b>Final refusals</b>		
Total <sup>4</sup>	1,364	6.59
Of which cancelled priority registrations	59	
Full	1,324	6.39
Partial	40	0.19
Filed by trademark proprietors <sup>5</sup>	847	10.01
Filed by agents <sup>5</sup>	517	4.22
Objections lodged	250	
No objections lodged	1,114	
Appeal lodged (Article 2,12 BCIP) <sup>6</sup>		
In Belgium	4	
In the Netherlands	0	
In Luxembourg	0	



## Notes to the table 'Refusal on absolute grounds'

- 1 The statistics for 2018 are not yet available due to the deadlines specified for this procedure.
- 2 Only the admissible filings are included in these statistics.
- 3 This mainly concerns provisional refusals that were reversed following a response from the trademark proprietors/agents, e.g. when the filing was limited or proof of naturalisation was produced.
- 4 The percentage of final refusals has risen considerably over the past few years. This can be explained in part by changes in the registration procedure, which have reduced the number of filings that are excluded from further processing.
- 5 These refusals percentages are calculated relative to the number of filings submitted by trademark proprietors/agents.
- 6 In contrast to all other figures in this table, the totals of which have been calculated based on the filing date in the relevant year, the number of appeals has been calculated on the basis of the appeal submission date.

## Development of refusals on absolute grounds versus the number of filings 2009 - 2017

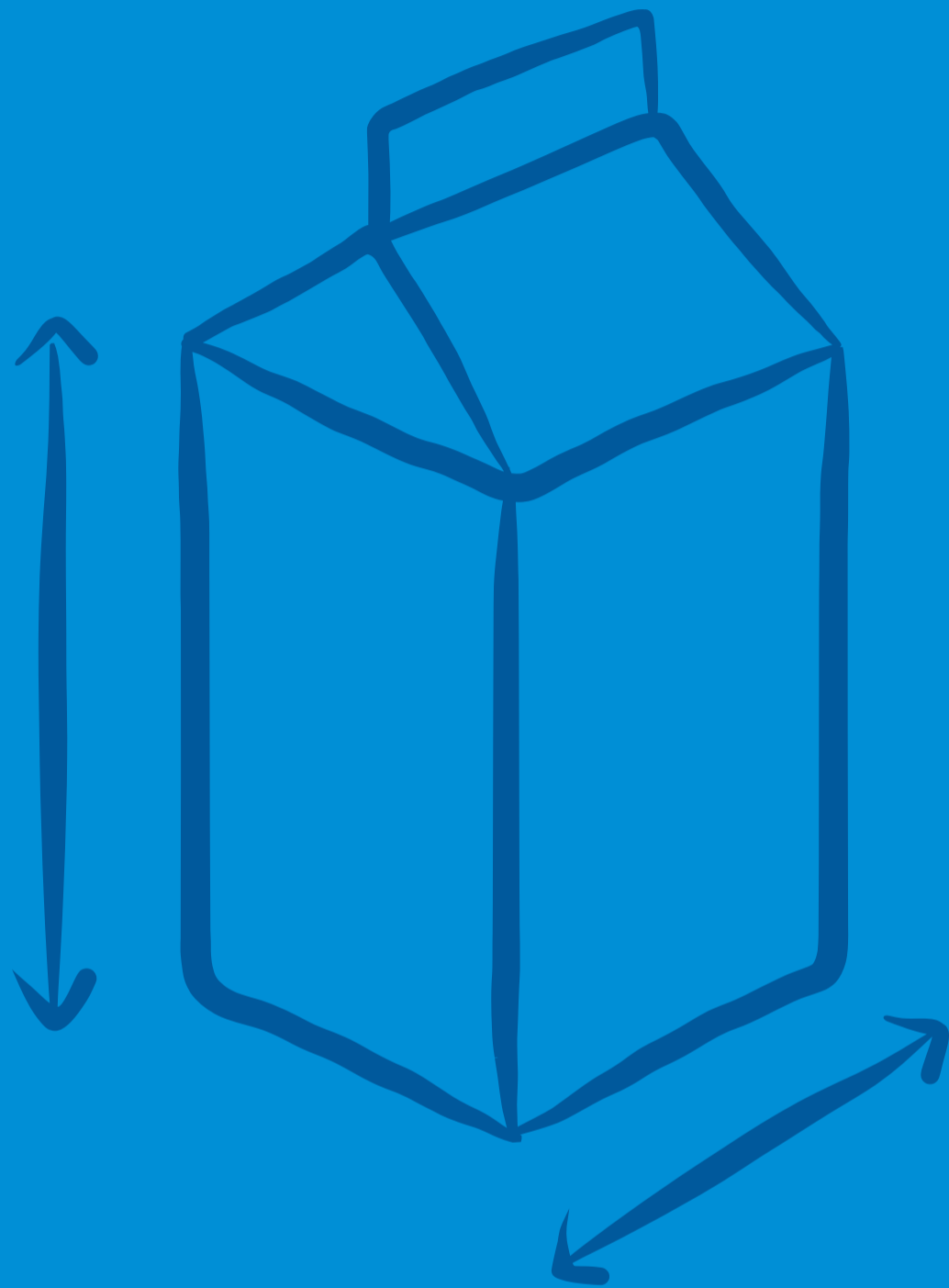


## Oppositions

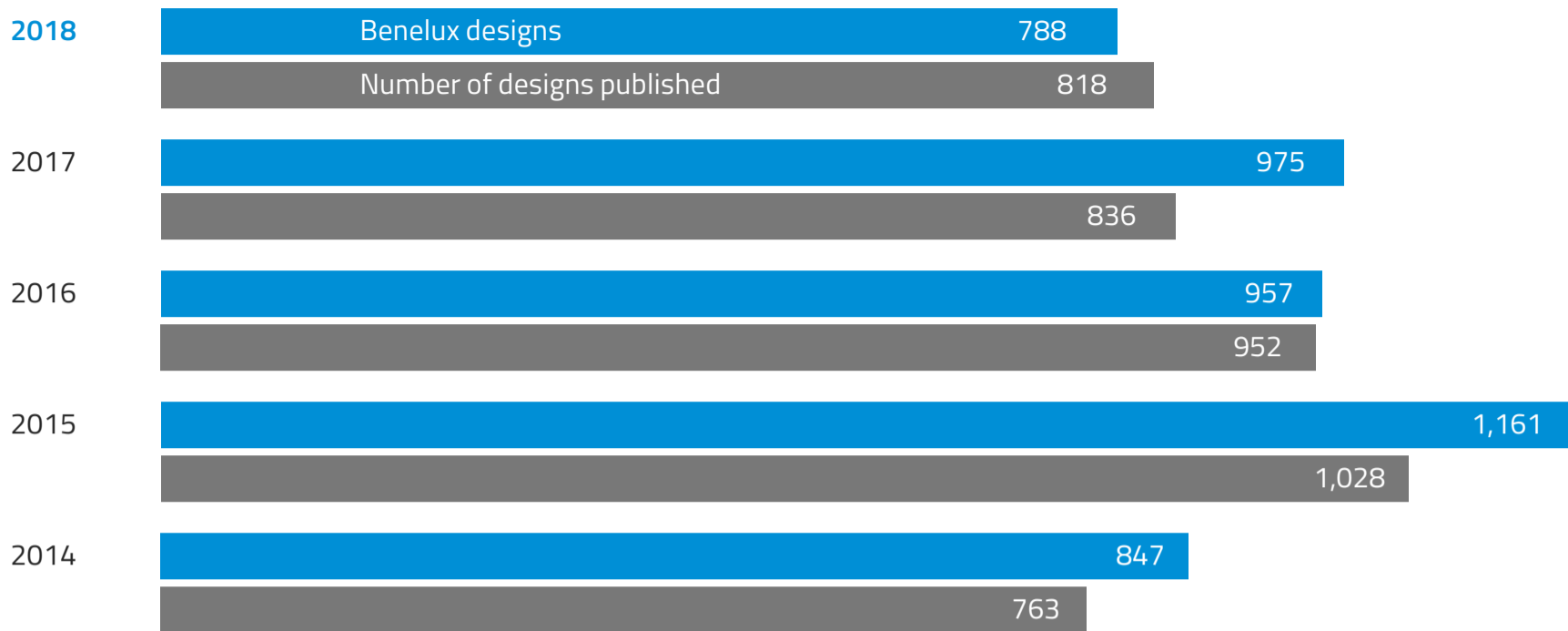
	Aantal	%
Admissable	888	98.1
Inadmissable	17	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>905</b>	
<b>Cancelled in 2018 (admissable oppositions)</b>		
Total	425	47.9
<b>Still under consideration (admissable oppositions)</b>		
Of 2018	463	52.1
<b>Preferred language (admissable oppositions)</b>		
Dutch	611	68.8
French	145	16.3
English	132	14.9
<b>Opposition filed against (admissable oppositions)</b>		
Benelux law	800	90.1
International law	88	9.9
<b>Opposition based on (admissable oppositions) <sup>1</sup></b>		
Benelux trademark	279	31.4
European Union trademark	594	66.9
International trademark	221	24.9

1 Multiple types of rights can be invoked for each opposition

# Designs

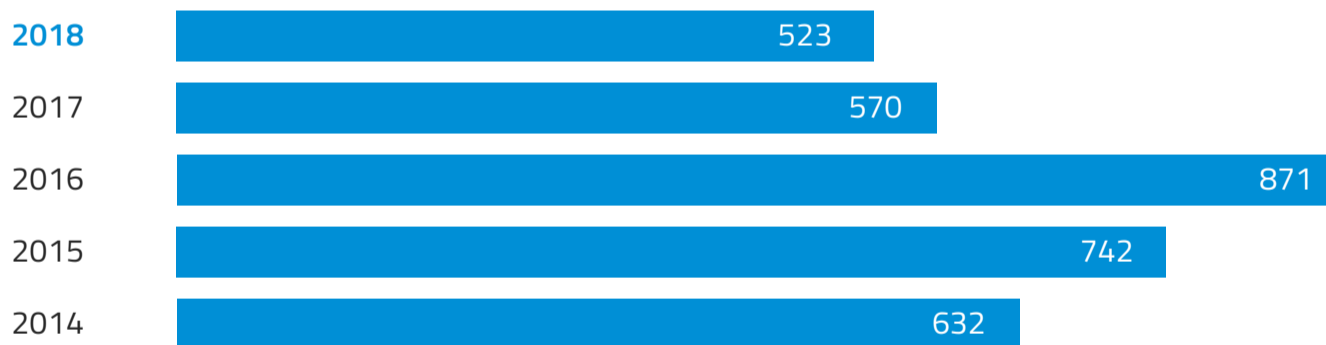


## Benelux designs 2014 - 2018 (in numbers) <sup>1</sup>



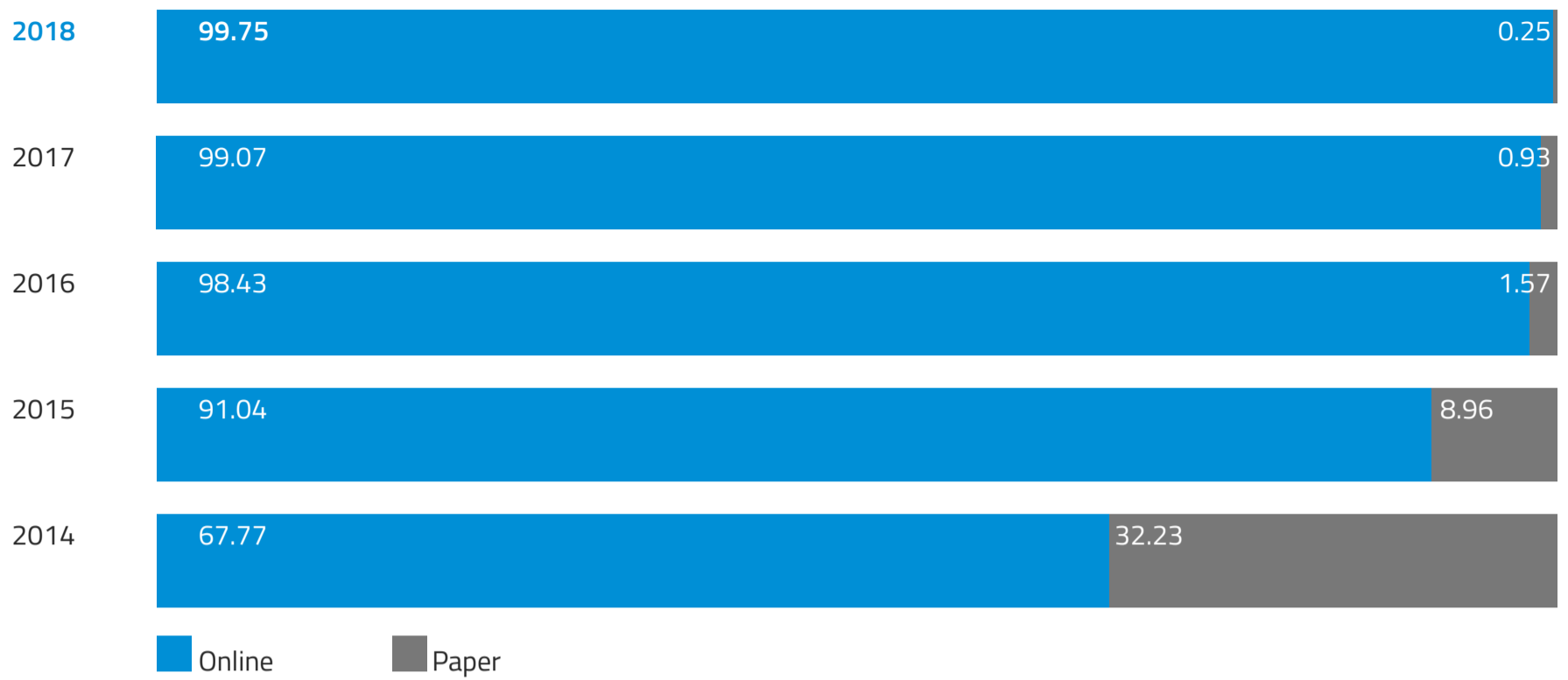
1 The figures contained in these tables are accounted for by the number of designs filed and not the number of filings. The figures only cover valid designs.

## Requests for renewal 2014 - 2018 (in numbers) <sup>1</sup>



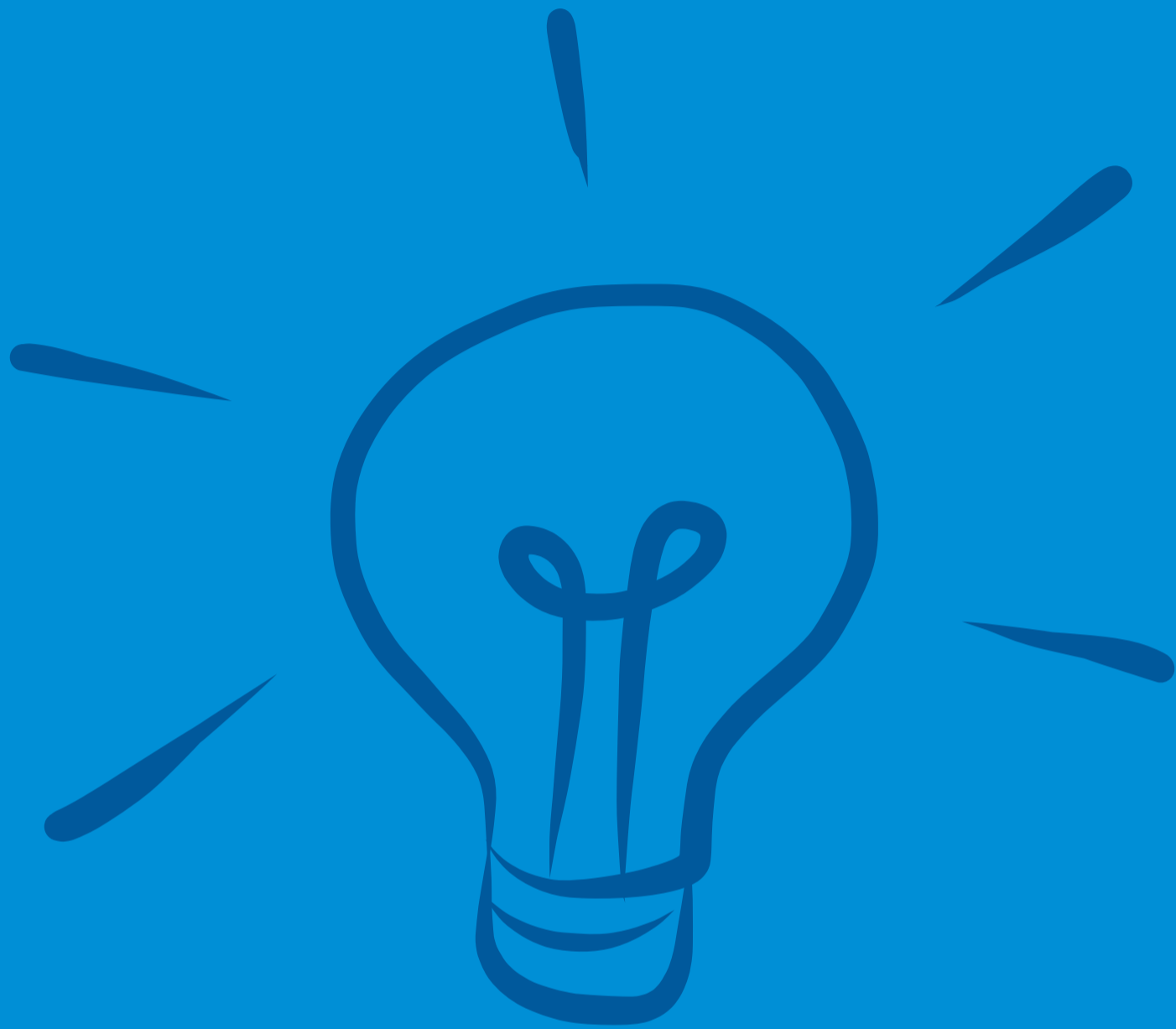
1 The figures contained in these tables are accounted for by the number of designs filed and not the number of filings. The figures only cover valid designs.

## Type of submission 2014 -2018 1 (in %) <sup>1 2</sup>

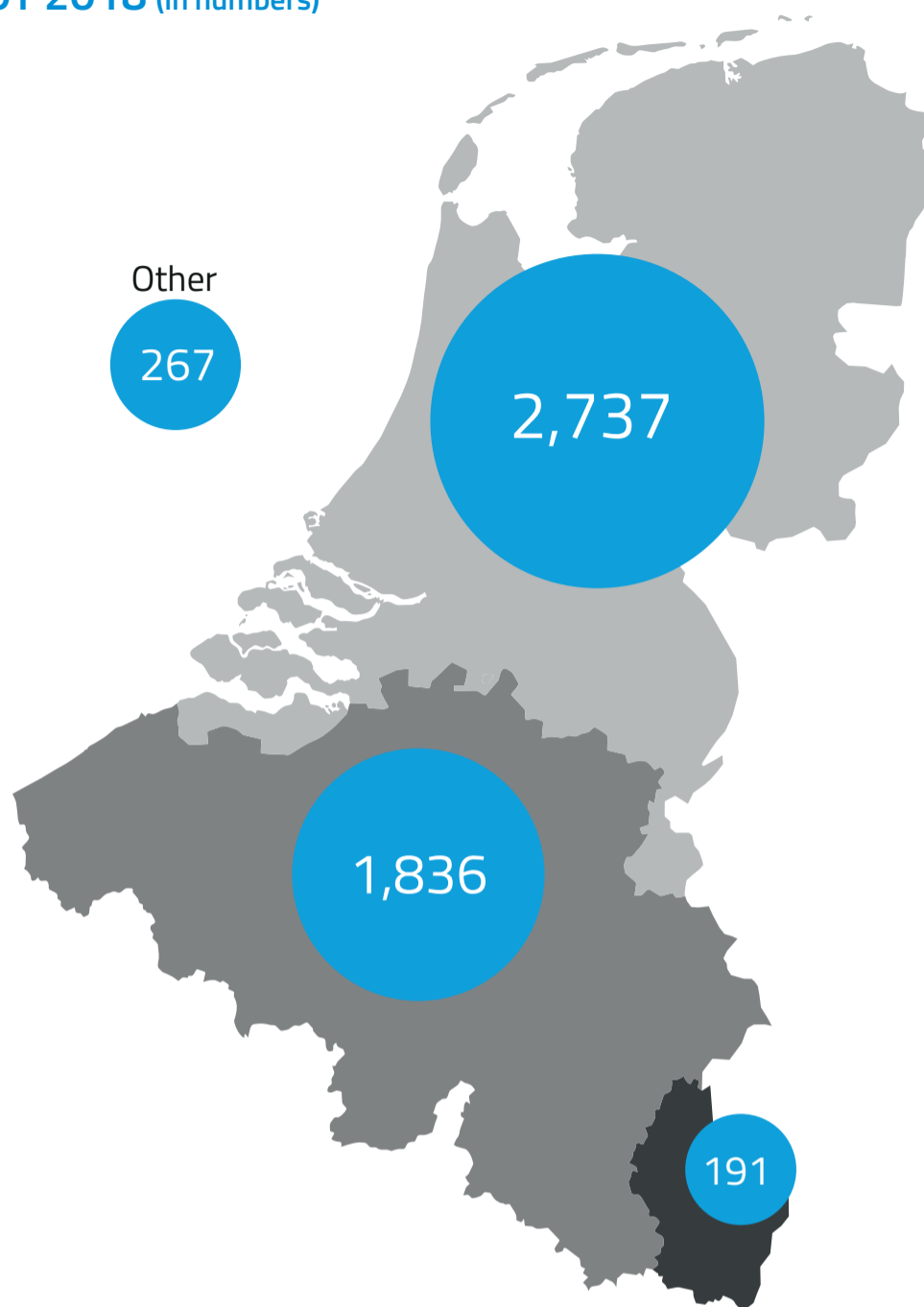


- 1 The figures contained in these tables are accounted for by the number of designs filed and not the number of filings. The figures only cover valid designs.
- 2 Since 2014 designs can be submitted online.

i-DEPOT



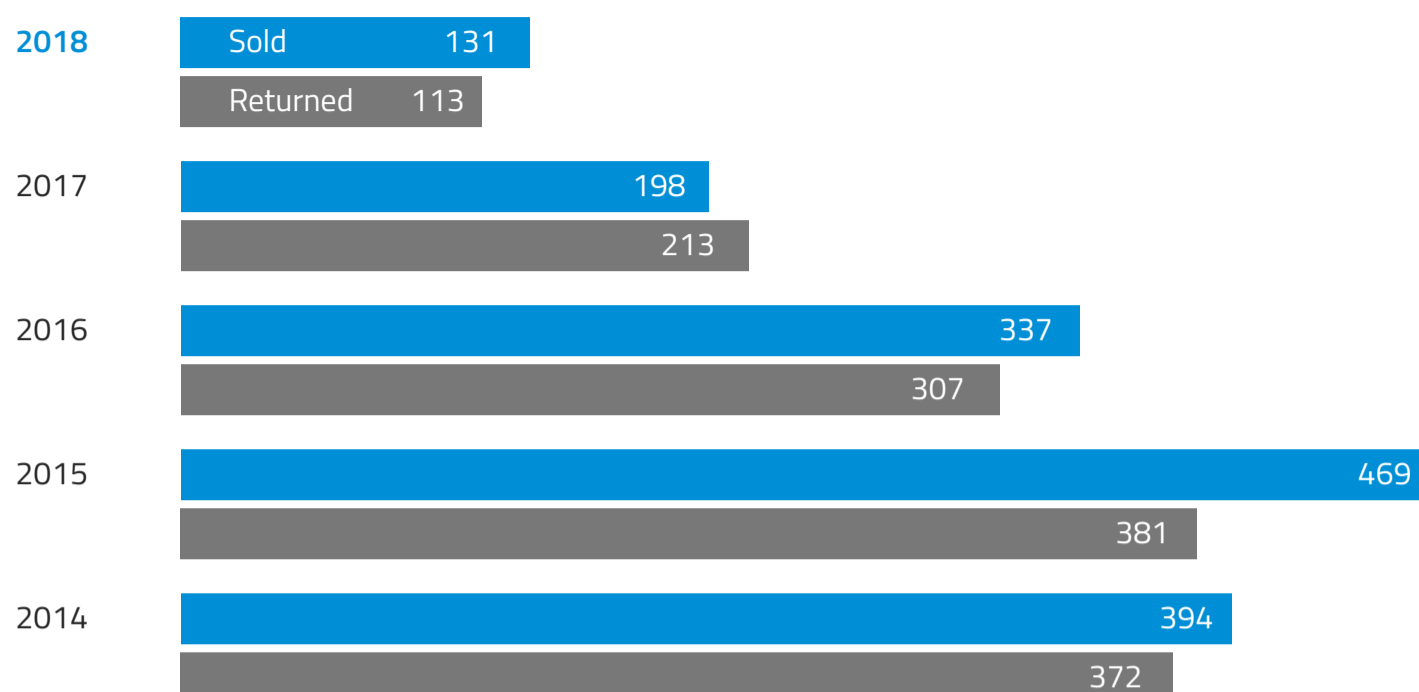
## Online i-DEPOT 2018 (in numbers)



## Online i-DEPOT 2014 - 2018 (in numbers)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Belgium	1,836	2,161	2,288	2,294	2,216
Netherlands	2,737	2,703	2,887	2,937	3,281
Luxembourg	191	172	245	177	247
Other	267	221	208	156	122
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,031</b>	<b>5,257</b>	<b>5,628</b>	<b>5,564</b>	<b>5,866</b>

## i-DEPOT envelopes 2014 - 2018 (in numbers) <sup>1</sup>



1 Sold envelopes are not always returned within the same year. Therefore in certain years the number of returned envelopes may be higher than the number of sold envelopes.

## Breakdown of i-DEPOT envelopes by country 2014 -2018 (in numbers)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Belgium	33	73	129	135	153
Netherlands	14	107	123	180	179
Luxembourg	65	27	45	43	25
Other	2	6	10	23	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>372</b>

## Number of i-DEPOT storage period extensions 2014 - 2018 (in numbers)





# Organisation



# Organisation

Our office is situated in The Hague. BOIP has 79 employees. We work closely with the national offices in Brussels and Luxembourg.

## Number of employees

	31-12-18	31-12-17
NL	59	67
B	16	18
L	3	3
FR	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>89</b>
Male	41	46
Female	38	43
<b>Number of FTEs (full-time equivalents)</b>	<b>69.87</b>	<b>78.06</b>



## National offices

### National office Belgium

Federal Economic Service  
Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and Energy  
Intellectual Property Unit  
City Atrium - Vooruitgangsstraat 50  
1210 Brussels  
T +32 2 277 90 11  
piie.trademarks@economie.fgov.be  
<https://economie.fgov.be/en/themes/intellectual-property>

### National office Luxembourg

Ministère de l'Économie et du Commerce extérieur  
Office de la propriété intellectuelle  
Boulevard Royal 19-21  
L -2914 Luxembourg  
T +352 247 841 13  
dpi@eco.etat.lu  
<https://meco.gouvernement.lu/fr.html>

# Summary financial statements



# Summary financial statements

## Notes

This chapter contains a summary of the internal financial statements for the 2018 financial year. The auditor's report only covers the balance sheet, the income statement, statement of movements in equity and the accompanying notes in the financial chapter of this Annual Report. There are no generally accepted criteria available for compiling summary financial statements. Therefore, the Management Board itself has developed these criteria. The purpose of this chapter is to provide a comprehensible summary of the BOIP's internal financial statements. The criteria and the aggregation level applied in this summary are based on this purpose.

The balance sheet as at 31 December 2018 and the 2018 income statement from the internal financial statements are fully incorporated in this summary, together with the statement of changes in equity.

The internal financial statements are based on IPSAS. These summary financial statements only state the accounting policies for a number of material items. The notes required under IPSAS are set out in a simplified manner, taking account of the intended purpose of these summary financial statements.

The accompanying summary was issued at a later date than the internal financial statements. Because this document only intends to provide a summary of the original internal financial statements for the 2018 financial year, the events in the interim period have not been taken into account.

Reading this summary may not substitute reading the original internal financial statements for the 2018 financial year due to the fact that various simplifications have been introduced. Users who need more information can view a copy of the internal financial statements at BOIP's office.

# Balance sheet 2018

(after appropriation of the result)

in thousands of euros	31 December 2018	31 December 2017
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash at bank and in hand	4,754	8,454*
Receivables, prepayments and accrued income	3,041	3,297
	<u>7,795</u>	<u>11,751</u>
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Financial fixed assets	18,012	12,715
Tangible fixed assets	5,547	6,062
Intangible fixed assets	5,571	5,709
	<u>29,130</u>	<u>24,486</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>36,925</b>	<b>36,237</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities, accruals and deferred income</b>	<b>7,117</b>	<b>6,733</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Employee benefits	22,028	20,013*
BPP	2,552	2,983
	<u>24,580</u>	<u>22,996</u>
<b>Equity</b>		
Cumulative surplus	5,228	6,508
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>36,925</b>	<b>36,237</b>

\* adjusted for comparison purposes

## Notes to the balance sheet

- The summary financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Articles 19 and 20 of BOIP's financial regulations.
- Bonds, shares and other investments are stated at fair value. The realised and unrealised results are recognised in the income statement. This applies to investments for the account and risk of BOIP and (pension) investments for the account and risk of participants.
- The tangible and intangible fixed assets are stated at cost or on the basis of the costs incurred, less accumulated depreciation and, if applicable, less impairments.
- Current liabilities mainly comprise deferred income (payments for services not yet rendered).
- Non-current liabilities largely consist of liabilities relating to employee benefit schemes, which under IPSAS are required to be recognised under liabilities. BOIP has among other things recognised a debt provision for future pension costs and future warranty costs. The total liability amounts to €15,891,000 (2017: €13,604,000).
- The cumulative surplus comprises the accumulated earnings as well as the movements in non-current liabilities that are taken directly to equity.

# Income statement 2018

in thousands of euros	Budget 2018	2018	2017
<b>Revenue</b>			
Turnover from filings	5,653	5,307	5,616
Turnover from renewals	3,878	4,099	3,846
Other	4,955	5,204	4,949
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>14,486</b>	<b>14,610</b>	<b>14,411</b>
<b>Operating costs</b>			
Salary costs	7,686	7,754	8,132
Social security contributions	1,622	1,472	1,420
Pension costs	3,054	3,230	3,082
Other staff costs	725	281	866
Internal tax and social levies	-2,410	-2,485	-2,593
<b>Staff costs</b>	<b>10,677</b>	<b>10,252</b>	<b>10,907</b>
Depreciation costs	2,256	2,101	1,850
Other operating costs	2,922	2,407	2,438
<b>Less: total operating costs</b>	<b>15,855</b>	<b>14,760</b>	<b>15,195</b>
<b>Exceptional income and expenses</b>	<b>-1,032</b>	<b>-708</b>	<b>6,292</b>
<b>Operating result</b>	<b>- 1,369</b>	<b>-858</b>	<b>5,508</b>
<b>Financial income and expenses</b>			
Interest income and dividend	373	402	383
Investment transaction results	-15	-1,070	150
Exchange gains and losses	0	-4	-33
Bank charges	-89	-90	-91
<b>Total financial income and expenses</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>-762</b>	<b>409</b>
<b>Surplus (+) / Deficit (-)</b>	<b>- 2,132</b>	<b>-1,620</b>	<b>5,917</b>

## Notes to the income statement

BOIP recorded a deficit of €1,620,000 (2017: €5,917,000 surplus). The surplus for 2017 can mainly be attributed to the release of a substantial part of the pension provision as a result of the pension scheme having been made conditional.

- The budgets included in the summary financial statements have not been audited.
- Revenue relates to the revenue derived from services rendered in the financial year.
- The investment income in 2018 for the first time includes the investment income from BOIP pensions, which are accounted for on the BOIP balance sheet.
- The cost price of services rendered is allocated to the same period as the revenue. If the bottom-line result of a service cannot be determined in a reliable manner, but is expected to be positive, only the revenue amounting to the sum of the costs is recognised. If these costs cannot be reliably determined, revenues are not recognised in the interim period but on completion of the service. However, the costs already incurred are recognised in the income statement.
- At €14,610,000, turnover was slightly higher than budgeted (€14,486,000). The cause of this is the higher turnover from renewals (€253,000) due to the fact that applicants were anticipating the new fee structure with effect from 2019.
- At €10,252,000, staff costs were below budget (€10,677,000) as a result of lower costs of salaries and social security contributions (€326,000) and other staff costs (€585,000) offset by higher pension costs (€148,000) and lower internal tax and social levies (€108,000).
- The depreciation costs recorded of €2,101,000 remained well within budget (€2,256,000) as a result of depreciation on a number of projects/constituent projects commencing later than expected.
- At €2,407,000, other costs were also well within the budget (€2,922,000) as a result of implemented spending cuts.
- The exceptional income and expenses (€708,000) relate to the costs of the reorganisation that was implemented in 2018.



## Statement of changes in equity 2018

in thousands of euros	Other reserves	Reserve revaluation	Total
Equity as at 1 January 2017	2,826	-2,071	755
Pension			
Developments in stock	0	-360	-360
Healthcare after retirement			
Change in the notional interest rate	0	115	115
Developments in stock	0	81	81
Operating result 2017	5,917	0	5,917
<b>Equity as at 31 December 2017</b>	<b>8,743</b>	<b>-2,235</b>	<b>6,508</b>
Pension			
Developments in stock	0	-3,406	-3,406
Demographic assumptions	0	839	839
Change in the notional interest rate	0	1,571	1,571
Income from investments	0	1,000	1,000
Healthcare after retirement			
Change in the notional interest rate	0	49	49
Developments in stock	0	287	287
Operating result 2018	-1,620	0	-1,620
<b>Equity as at 31 December 2018</b>	<b>7,123</b>	<b>-1,895</b>	<b>5,228</b>

# Independent auditor's report



# Independent auditor's report

An auditor's report was issued for the Dutch version of this annual report. The figures in this external annual report correspond to those published in the Dutch annual report.