

Innovation and Firm Growth: A First Look at Linkage Data of Japanese Patent and Enterprise Census

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Abstract

This paper illustrates the structure of patenting activity for Japanese firms by using the linkage data of JPO patent (IIP patent database) and the Establishment and Enterprise Census by Japanese Statistical Bureau. The linkage dataset in 2004 shows that only 81,440 (1.42%) of 5,728,492 establishments apply patents. Patenting activities can be found not only in manufacturing sector, but a substantial number of patents are applied by whole sale retail and services firms. Patenting firms are larger than non patenting ones in employment size, and it is found that continuously patenting firms grow faster than those which apply patents periodically.