

Table SINV-54

USPTO utility patents granted in measurement, by region, country, or economy: 1998–2020

(Number)

Region, country, or economy	Economy by income status	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
World	na	6,567	6,419	6,847	7,288	7,937	8,579	8,358	7,499	8,949	8,703	8,840	8,862	10,233	9,828	10,671	11,462	12,094	12,369	13,102	14,415	13,903	16,498	15,905
North America	na	3,864	3,877	4,041	4,198	4,442	4,855	4,705	4,216	5,061	4,735	4,723	4,640	5,120	4,982	5,232	5,518	5,721	5,822	6,163	6,718	6,362	7,496	7,225
Canada	High	134	133	125	137	139	163	173	135	151	160	158	165	183	186	202	237	241	231	268	289	303	364	348
Mexico	Upper middle	0	4	0	2	3	8	8	8	9	6	3	3	3	2	2	3	4	6	7	7	9	15	8
United States	High	3,730	3,740	3,916	4,058	4,300	4,685	4,523	4,073	4,902	4,569	4,562	4,472	4,934	4,794	5,028	5,278	5,476	5,585	5,887	6,423	6,050	7,117	6,869
Central America and Caribbean	na	2	1	0	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	4	3	2	5	4
Puerto Rico	High	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	3	2
South America	na	6	5	4	6	3	7	5	4	8	10	9	6	12	10	15	15	17	16	13	39	31	38	35
Argentina	Upper middle	1	0	1	1	1	3	2	0	1	2	2	2	5	5	3	2	6	2	4	11	5	10	12
Brazil	Upper middle	3	4	2	3	2	3	1	2	4	6	7	3	7	4	8	8	9	10	8	23	19	23	19
Europe	na	1,195	1,107	1,288	1,420	1,589	1,697	1,611	1,445	1,674	1,673	1,699	1,663	2,110	2,038	2,307	2,645	2,905	2,898	3,120	3,438	3,259	3,886	3,569
EU-27 + UK ^a	na	1,066	1,012	1,160	1,284	1,421	1,514	1,438	1,286	1,492	1,479	1,469	1,436	1,821	1,796	2,015	2,325	2,562	2,505	2,681	3,024	2,871	3,434	3,210
United Kingdom	High	166	157	180	213	218	209	241	210	234	214	198	239	303	275	324	362	384	377	418	404	392	497	421
EU-27 ^b	na	900	855	980	1,071	1,203	1,305	1,197	1,076	1,258	1,265	1,270	1,196	1,519	1,522	1,691	1,963	2,178	2,127	2,263	2,620	2,479	2,937	2,789
Austria	High	16	17	16	17	28	25	30	24	36	31	29	31	47	50	46	67	70	83	112	123	105	137	147
Belgium	High	12	15	11	16	18	15	15	16	17	24	20	13	18	27	31	32	52	41	41	60	50	70	55
Denmark	High	13	13	12	11	12	16	21	20	27	21	13	16	23	30	24	26	38	36	38	46	44	63	61
Finland	High	26	24	39	27	43	50	48	34	43	44	48	50	65	43	54	54	67	63	77	98	77	83	70
France	High	190	159	176	176	165	189	155	159	182	197	212	184	250	262	306	383	406	416	424	497	431	501	489
Germany	High	485	467	540	621	707	787	728	652	730	730	718	667	832	798	890	988	1,075	1,039	1,085	1,276	1,263	1,371	1,336
Hungary	High	1	4	1	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	3	4	5	3	4	7	4	7	6
Ireland	High	1	7	8	2	6	13	10	3	11	13	8	13	17	11	10	17	20	15	26	23	19	30	36
Italy	High	43	42	44	62	58	61	63	46	55	61	59	53	75	85	83	119	119	125	120	122	145	169	161
Netherlands	High	52	44	52	51	66	65	56	46	55	57	73	72	77	93	106	117	148	143	150	164	160	259	196
Spain	High	4	2	6	4	9	3	3	9	10	7	15	17	13	23	25	24	29	26	29	27	23	45	36
Sweden	High	49	57	68	76	77	67	55	55	74	64	59	56	74	75	85	95	117	95	114	112	103	129	121
Other Europe	na	129	95	128	136	168	183	173	159	182	194	231	228	288	242	291	320	343	394	439	413	388	452	359
Other Europe-2020 ^b	na	295	252	308	349	386	392	414	369	416	408	429	467	591	516	616	682	727	771	857	817	780	950	780
Belarus	Upper middle	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	2	3	1	3	1
Moldova	Lower middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norway	High	11	15	16	16	20	31	28	30	32	33	54	43	60	60	56	66	70	84	69	77	59	90	68
Russia	Upper middle	18	10	11	22	20	22	14	10	17	20	14	19	23	17	22	30	38	26	35	40	34	27	34
Switzerland	High	98	67	96	95	121	123	129	116	125	134	152	160	200	158	199	213	223	273	320	274	278	314	239

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Ukraine	Lower middle	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	4	3	2	2	3	4	4	3	2	7	6	2	5	2
Asia	na	1,414	1,356	1,417	1,554	1,788	1,905	1,908	1,721	2,065	2,131	2,251	2,386	2,799	2,613	2,904	3,044	3,207	3,350	3,520	3,857	3,885	4,615	4,611
China	Upper middle	3	2	9	9	17	16	30	30	41	59	93	131	174	154	202	218	264	296	341	438	540	740	850
India	Lower middle	2	1	2	2	8	12	16	14	13	34	35	25	30	33	51	77	95	101	96	127	133	154	156
Japan	High	1,240	1,185	1,192	1,300	1,499	1,607	1,569	1,341	1,658	1,638	1,691	1,763	2,023	1,834	1,963	2,063	2,122	2,088	2,132	2,195	2,192	2,563	2,510
Malaysia	Upper middle	0	1	4	3	3	6	6	7	21	25	24	19	18	12	12	11	9	17	14	17	11	15	11
Singapore	High	8	9	15	19	22	24	19	20	13	20	23	18	22	20	27	23	29	31	43	63	68	78	80
South Korea	High	93	73	79	86	95	90	112	134	147	175	192	205	247	259	314	318	333	467	511	610	564	642	604
Taiwan	High	67	83	116	133	136	144	153	172	171	178	192	223	281	300	330	330	347	342	374	399	372	410	389
Middle East	na	46	38	60	69	79	68	70	67	84	83	99	97	118	105	135	137	148	194	193	260	269	338	358
Israel	High	46	38	59	69	76	64	69	59	79	77	92	90	109	90	113	113	109	148	140	204	196	211	243
Africa	na	4	6	5	3	2	1	4	2	5	8	3	3	1	3	4	11	10	8	10	17	10	11	11
South Africa	Upper middle	4	5	5	3	2	1	3	0	5	5	2	2	1	1	1	4	5	3	7	10	6	6	7
Australia and Oceania	na	36	27	32	36	33	44	53	44	49	62	54	64	71	73	71	90	83	77	78	82	82	108	91
Australia	High	30	16	23	28	26	37	46	36	45	55	44	53	63	62	56	69	67	59	61	63	61	84	77
New Zealand	High	5	10	9	8	7	6	7	8	4	7	9	11	8	11	15	20	17	18	17	19	21	24	13
Unclassified	na	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	2	4	2	2

na = not applicable, metric not calculated at this level.

EU = European Union; UK = United Kingdom; USPTO = U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

^a The United Kingdom was a part of the EU for data purposes from 1973 to 2019.^b Beginning in 2020, the United Kingdom was no longer a member of the EU.**Note(s):**

USPTO patents are allocated according to patent inventorship information. USPTO patents are fractionally allocated among regions, countries, or economies based on the proportion of residences of all named inventors. Patents are classified under the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) classification of patents, which classifies International Patent Classification (IPC) codes under 35 technical fields. IPC reformed codes take into account changes that were made to the WIPO classification in 2006 under the eighth version of the classification and were used to prepare these data. However, because PatentsView only provides the original IPC codes as they appeared on patents and not the IPC reformed codes, current Cooperative Patent Classification codes on patents were converted back to the most recent IPC classification to prepare these statistics. Fractional counts of patents were assigned to each technological field on patents to assign the proper weight of a patent to the corresponding technological fields under the classification. China includes Hong Kong.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics; Science-Metrix; PatentsView, USPTO, accessed June 2021.