

Table SINV-56

USPTO utility patents granted in control, 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	2,478	2,582	2,640	2,625	2,637	2,835	2,983	2,667	3,363	2,820	2,825	2,893	3,787	3,931	4,799	5,317	5,669	5,440	5,874	6,892	7,306	8,723	8,736
North America	na	1,518	1,573	1,604	1,579	1,577	1,756	1,854	1,632	2,092	1,733	1,787	1,821	2,382	2,495	2,928	3,349	3,492	3,267	3,537	4,101	4,254	5,004	4,945
Canada	High	54	62	55	54	62	45	61	49	65	45	58	55	80	81	85	133	136	113	119	153	171	206	192
Mexico	Upper middle	2	0	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	0	0	3	2	3	3	1	2	2	3	4	8	9	12
United States	High	1,462	1,511	1,549	1,525	1,513	1,710	1,792	1,582	2,025	1,688	1,729	1,763	2,300	2,410	2,840	3,215	3,353	3,151	3,415	3,943	4,075	4,789	4,742
Central America and Caribbean	na	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	2	2	1	3	1	2	1	2	1	4	3	2	3	5
Puerto Rico	High	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	3	1	0	1	2
South America	na	3	3	4	3	1	4	4	3	7	2	1	4	4	8	9	7	7	13	11	14	19	19	19
Argentina	Upper middle	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	3	3	2	2	3	3	3
Brazil	Upper middle	2	0	3	1	0	2	3	2	5	1	0	2	3	6	8	4	4	9	9	9	15	14	14
Europe	na	350	360	394	410	438	423	426	422	476	377	411	383	511	529	697	743	836	776	861	991	1,036	1,223	1,185
EU-27 + UK ^a	na	328	335	373	377	412	402	405	399	449	352	386	363	475	494	657	692	779	724	805	927	958	1,138	1,099
United Kingdom	High	56	67	70	71	87	74	68	72	74	75	69	67	90	100	104	109	125	109	138	147	153	175	167
EU-27 ^b	na	272	268	303	306	325	328	336	328	375	276	317	296	385	394	553	583	654	615	666	781	805	963	932
Austria	High	4	7	12	10	3	10	10	6	10	5	11	11	12	15	25	30	32	28	38	45	39	54	44
Belgium	High	4	4	7	8	5	2	4	4	3	4	5	3	6	4	8	7	9	7	13	16	17	20	16
Denmark	High	4	6	5	1	5	6	4	4	6	1	3	4	4	8	4	8	10	6	12	14	16	16	19
Finland	High	4	3	5	8	6	3	8	5	12	11	5	7	7	10	5	16	19	13	22	26	27	28	27
France	High	56	54	51	45	63	57	55	55	48	46	61	55	92	94	139	145	148	116	121	128	117	161	138
Germany	High	140	134	148	163	174	187	196	196	218	146	166	157	197	182	252	244	277	277	279	321	353	445	427
Hungary	High	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	2	2	4
Ireland	High	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	4	8	6	4	11	7	6	4	4	12	10	13	15	19	18	21
Italy	High	18	18	27	29	22	23	19	19	23	17	20	15	18	21	38	34	47	42	46	50	50	56	61
Netherlands	High	16	15	17	15	13	12	12	11	16	11	15	11	12	13	18	25	22	25	33	47	45	38	32
Spain	High	7	4	6	5	8	4	5	4	2	2	5	5	7	5	8	15	18	19	13	19	18	20	26
Sweden	High	15	16	22	19	16	18	19	17	25	22	16	14	20	28	34	33	35	39	44	54	61	63	62
Other Europe	na	22	24	21	32	26	21	22	23	28	25	25	20	36	35	40	51	58	52	57	64	78	85	86
Other Europe-2020 ^b	na	78	92	91	103	113	95	90	94	102	101	94	87	126	136	144	161	183	161	195	210	231	260	253
Belarus	Upper middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	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	1	5	4	5	5	2	4	2	7	7	5	3	7	8	8	9	10	9	8	8	16	14	18
Russia	Upper middle	1	1	2	3	2	3	1	4	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	5	7	5	8	8	8	9	10
Switzerland	High	20	16	12	23	18	16	16	15	17	16	17	14	25	24	26	33	38	34	37	44	48	51	49

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Ukraine	Lower middle	1	1	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2
Asia	na	574	609	595	587	580	598	638	562	723	638	570	621	794	793	1,011	1,044	1,152	1,208	1,293	1,543	1,774	2,231	2,346
China	Upper middle	5	2	2	4	9	5	6	7	11	20	21	16	38	38	49	56	97	103	109	189	245	316	343
India	Lower middle	0	1	1	2	4	1	6	6	7	7	7	13	17	26	20	48	64	56	82	119	134	177	176
Japan	High	482	504	485	486	484	482	510	434	563	482	418	442	560	540	701	708	683	705	735	837	979	1,235	1,307
Malaysia	Upper middle	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	3	3	2	2	2	3	6	4
Singapore	High	2	2	5	3	3	5	5	7	3	3	6	8	9	11	7	7	8	16	19	24	22	29	24
South Korea	High	44	63	53	55	32	50	43	43	49	59	48	67	75	93	94	107	151	183	201	213	240	282	307
Taiwan	High	39	36	49	37	47	54	67	65	87	66	70	74	89	82	137	115	139	141	138	154	146	179	178
Middle East	na	15	17	20	20	17	23	25	16	25	25	18	24	28	38	33	43	62	70	64	99	103	133	122
Israel	High	15	16	17	19	16	23	23	15	22	22	17	23	25	31	27	31	48	56	52	78	82	102	97
Africa	na	5	4	1	7	5	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	4	3	7	9	7	8	8	7	12	8	7
South Africa	Upper middle	5	4	1	6	5	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	4	3	6	8	4	6	5	4	8	6	5
Australia and Oceania	na	9	15	21	18	19	26	32	29	33	39	34	36	60	62	111	118	110	96	94	134	105	100	106
Australia	High	9	13	20	16	16	25	29	26	31	34	32	33	57	60	107	114	106	88	89	125	96	92	100
New Zealand	High	0	1	1	2	3	1	3	3	2	5	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	7	5	8	9	8	6
Unclassified	na	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	3	1	1	2	1	0	1	1

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.