

Table SINV-75

USPTO utility patents granted in mechanical elements, 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	4,254	4,560	4,814	4,893	4,944	4,625	4,265	3,758	4,165	3,493	3,290	3,309	4,266	4,434	5,288	5,862	6,303	6,819	6,766	7,542	7,231	8,283	8,014
North America	na	2,111	2,232	2,317	2,286	2,238	2,093	1,958	1,731	1,958	1,562	1,409	1,413	1,880	1,909	2,197	2,547	2,672	2,984	3,020	3,358	3,213	3,595	3,379
Canada	High	79	94	87	92	115	97	94	87	91	78	54	66	79	87	109	111	138	145	153	186	160	182	176
Mexico	Upper middle	4	3	5	5	6	3	5	7	2	5	6	1	3	2	3	4	8	8	10	12	19	17	17
United States	High	2,028	2,135	2,225	2,189	2,117	1,993	1,858	1,637	1,865	1,480	1,349	1,345	1,798	1,819	2,084	2,431	2,526	2,831	2,857	3,159	3,033	3,396	3,186
Central America and Caribbean	na	0	0	5	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	2	1	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	2
Puerto Rico	High	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	0
South America	na	13	11	9	13	6	13	15	6	13	7	6	7	6	8	16	20	13	21	23	25	21	26	21
Argentina	Upper middle	1	3	4	3	0	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	4	3	0	1	1	1
Brazil	Upper middle	9	7	4	10	6	11	14	4	7	5	3	4	3	6	14	15	9	16	18	22	18	22	17
Europe	na	1,056	1,099	1,271	1,346	1,318	1,159	1,083	962	1,006	843	838	819	1,082	1,147	1,427	1,559	1,678	1,774	1,746	1,930	1,799	2,145	2,158
EU-27 + UK ^a	na	999	1,059	1,210	1,286	1,262	1,106	1,048	928	964	811	809	789	1,038	1,087	1,365	1,480	1,589	1,678	1,672	1,839	1,711	2,037	2,036
United Kingdom	High	127	118	132	142	156	119	102	90	96	80	80	84	111	104	129	125	148	171	183	178	222	245	210
EU-27 ^b	na	873	941	1,078	1,144	1,106	987	945	838	868	731	729	705	927	983	1,236	1,355	1,441	1,507	1,489	1,661	1,489	1,792	1,827
Austria	High	22	20	21	28	28	27	28	17	28	14	18	22	32	29	41	46	58	52	45	58	62	62	58
Belgium	High	12	12	12	10	11	9	10	18	21	13	9	17	25	13	9	18	17	23	26	37	27	27	27
Denmark	High	15	10	13	14	12	11	15	11	16	12	10	4	17	16	21	24	26	23	35	32	28	34	31
Finland	High	10	11	13	19	14	14	13	7	9	5	4	3	11	3	11	6	6	15	19	24	19	21	27
France	High	161	149	157	159	154	137	115	108	111	80	83	87	117	125	161	156	204	242	208	259	226	277	256
Germany	High	513	598	679	745	708	652	606	555	561	472	492	464	603	638	788	874	869	895	858	937	812	963	1,006
Hungary	High	0	1	1	3	2	2	2	1	3	1	0	2	3	2	4	6	2	1	3	3	3	3	8
Ireland	High	0	2	1	3	3	2	3	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	3	3	4	8	8	7	5	6	5
Italy	High	41	46	64	61	68	50	61	47	44	51	43	49	61	67	84	104	102	99	118	103	122	158	150
Netherlands	High	23	24	24	26	30	28	32	25	23	24	15	14	20	29	36	36	43	40	60	58	58	65	60
Spain	High	19	9	7	12	14	9	10	7	6	4	9	7	8	13	12	13	19	20	16	14	21	22	29
Sweden	High	52	54	80	63	57	37	43	38	40	49	41	28	22	38	57	57	77	66	66	96	79	99	96
Other Europe	na	57	39	61	60	56	53	36	33	42	32	29	30	43	61	62	79	88	96	74	92	88	108	122
Other Europe-2020 ^b	na	183	157	193	202	212	172	138	124	138	112	109	114	155	164	191	204	236	267	257	269	310	352	332
Belarus	Upper middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	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	1	0	0	0	0
Norway	High	16	13	7	11	12	16	10	15	16	9	7	9	15	19	17	15	29	23	20	28	24	31	36
Russia	Upper middle	3	3	4	5	2	2	4	0	3	4	2	1	1	6	6	10	8	7	4	6	6	6	9
Switzerland	High	36	23	46	41	39	31	18	17	21	18	20	18	25	35	35	50	42	57	43	49	51	58	63

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Ukraine	Lower middle	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Asia	na	1,040	1,174	1,172	1,196	1,340	1,322	1,168	1,021	1,147	1,047	1,004	1,032	1,255	1,327	1,590	1,678	1,861	1,962	1,884	2,133	2,105	2,419	2,343
China	Upper middle	2	5	9	11	6	11	11	13	11	11	18	15	39	57	90	113	89	120	125	180	179	244	290
India	Lower middle	0	1	0	0	1	2	5	1	3	2	2	4	6	6	10	14	17	24	21	31	34	41	55
Japan	High	864	977	1,012	1,009	1,102	1,100	967	821	943	822	754	760	936	1,000	1,162	1,192	1,270	1,287	1,237	1,315	1,328	1,513	1,428
Malaysia	Upper middle	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	1
Singapore	High	1	1	1	0	3	4	3	2	2	1	0	3	1	2	4	2	3	7	5	5	4	7	6
South Korea	High	86	93	52	53	83	69	52	56	55	78	89	95	127	107	131	149	228	271	286	406	379	404	355
Taiwan	High	87	96	95	120	144	136	130	127	133	129	137	154	143	153	190	204	248	248	206	191	177	203	206
Middle East	na	9	16	12	15	11	10	7	6	10	6	7	12	12	16	17	16	34	33	40	46	33	40	47
Israel	High	9	14	12	15	10	10	7	4	8	6	5	10	11	12	12	9	22	26	29	31	22	25	28
Africa	na	2	1	3	3	2	3	5	3	5	4	5	5	7	2	1	6	4	3	5	4	4	4	7
South Africa	Upper middle	2	1	3	3	2	3	5	2	5	4	5	5	5	1	1	6	3	3	4	4	3	3	6
Australia and Oceania	na	23	28	25	33	27	25	28	29	25	23	20	19	23	25	36	34	38	39	44	42	50	50	56
Australia	High	20	25	24	28	23	21	26	23	23	20	14	14	19	23	31	27	31	34	33	33	37	41	44
New Zealand	High	3	3	1	5	4	4	2	6	3	4	5	5	4	2	5	7	7	5	11	8	14	10	13
Unclassified	na	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	3	3	1	0

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.

Science and Engineering Indicators