

TABLE S8-1

USPTO utility patents granted, by sector: 1998–2018

(Number)

Owner and sector	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total	147,576	153,592	157,595	166,158	167,400	169,077	164,384	143,891	173,822	157,331	157,788	167,463	219,848	224,871	253,633	278,518	301,643	299,382	304,126	320,003	308,853
Assigned to foreign owner	63,777	66,133	69,159	75,096	77,850	79,061	78,097	67,453	82,055	76,011	77,992	82,843	108,922	112,847	128,432	139,075	149,933	150,879	152,539	159,492	154,302
Assigned to owner from unknown location	42	26	38	44	50	37	23	177	213	233	220	238	281	274	250	353	384	376	434	397	595
Assigned to U.S. owner	83,757	87,432	88,398	91,018	89,500	89,979	86,264	76,261	91,554	81,087	79,577	84,382	110,645	111,749	124,951	139,090	151,326	148,127	151,153	160,114	153,956
Academic	3,432	3,628	3,308	3,438	3,496	3,497	3,261	2,876	3,518	3,213	3,022	3,264	4,514	4,413	5,040	5,619	6,081	6,177	6,628	7,002	6,885
Business	61,196	64,155	66,153	69,605	70,286	71,413	69,386	61,741	74,626	66,566	66,171	70,655	91,849	93,764	105,234	117,520	128,660	125,701	128,690	136,451	131,121
Government	1,130	1,095	1,047	1,137	1,122	1,078	1,019	844	1,008	946	905	931	1,257	1,195	1,358	1,446	1,429	1,376	1,299	1,340	1,310
Individual	17,279	17,862	17,282	16,366	14,116	13,535	12,173	10,473	11,996	10,034	9,197	9,204	12,546	11,892	12,789	13,903	14,397	14,060	13,875	14,330	13,572
Other	502	468	388	421	406	383	361	292	371	303	262	300	449	446	491	562	565	540	484	612	556
Unclassified	218	225	220	50	73	73	62	34	36	25	20	28	30	39	40	40	193	274	178	379	512

USPTO = U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Note(s)

Patents are allocated according to patent ownership information. Patents are credited on a fractional-count basis (i.e., for articles with collaborating institutions, each institution receives fractional credit on the basis of its proportion among participating institutions). Business covers the for-profit business sector. Government includes federal, state, local, and municipal and federally funded research and development centers. Other includes private nonprofits, including foundations, associations, nonacademic hospitals, and research-performing institutions.

Source(s)

Science-Metrix; PatentsView, USPTO, accessed June 2019.

Science and Engineering Indicators