

Table SINV-51

USPTO utility patents granted in IT methods for management, 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	637	816	941	845	950	1,085	1,172	1,513	2,346	2,332	2,905	3,464	5,934	5,990	7,084	7,928	7,372	4,613	4,348	5,639	5,747	8,133	8,481
North America	na	519	640	758	680	759	849	904	1,159	1,787	1,800	2,264	2,778	4,856	4,896	5,794	6,555	5,964	3,607	3,355	4,448	4,505	6,369	6,490
Canada	High	9	11	16	14	16	11	21	29	34	42	66	74	121	138	166	189	184	139	117	157	136	187	197
Mexico	Upper middle	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	3	4	2	4	2	2	2	2	7	5
United States	High	510	629	740	666	743	838	882	1,130	1,752	1,757	2,198	2,702	4,732	4,755	5,624	6,364	5,775	3,466	3,236	4,288	4,367	6,175	6,287
Central America and Caribbean	na	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	1	2	4	1	1	3	3	4
Puerto Rico	High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	2
South America	na	1	0	1	0	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	5	6	10	6	9	12	7	12	11	14	16	31
Argentina	Upper middle	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	4	3
Brazil	Upper middle	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	4	6	7	3	6	9	5	9	9	11	9	24
Europe	na	33	51	60	53	64	66	76	109	162	173	236	285	503	480	584	644	642	415	383	429	431	573	606
EU-27 + UK ^a	na	33	50	58	52	59	63	74	103	151	155	216	264	471	448	548	599	587	387	352	384	394	511	546
United Kingdom	High	8	16	13	18	21	26	23	28	45	39	60	81	121	107	134	167	153	90	87	105	124	168	171
EU-27 ^b	na	24	34	45	34	38	37	51	75	106	116	156	183	350	341	413	432	434	297	265	278	270	343	375
Austria	High	1	0	1	1	0	2	2	1	1	2	2	3	6	4	4	6	6	5	3	7	4	8	7
Belgium	High	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	2	1	3	4	3	5	7	10	11	11	10	6	12	16	18	15
Denmark	High	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	2	4	0	4	15	3	7	8	4	2	4	7	6	8	3
Finland	High	0	1	2	1	4	5	6	10	14	9	11	10	17	18	20	27	28	28	24	23	17	22	19
France	High	11	10	9	9	11	6	15	18	18	22	29	24	49	54	70	61	63	47	45	49	48	58	69
Germany	High	6	13	15	11	9	12	19	24	42	50	76	97	185	167	201	217	188	112	91	81	84	98	105
Hungary	High	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	3	1
Ireland	High	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	2	3	4	8	9	12	17	16	16	33	25	27	31	32	43	57
Italy	High	1	0	3	1	2	3	2	2	4	4	4	7	13	19	19	26	22	15	14	12	13	15	21
Netherlands	High	1	5	8	2	5	1	2	5	8	5	6	8	18	12	16	11	8	10	6	12	9	17	17
Spain	High	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	2	2	4	10	13	5	16	7	12	6	8	7	8
Sweden	High	4	2	3	5	3	9	2	7	10	6	11	10	17	16	17	15	23	18	18	13	16	22	19
Other Europe	na	1	1	2	1	5	3	2	6	11	18	20	21	32	32	36	45	55	28	31	45	37	62	60
Other Europe-2020 ^b	na	9	17	15	19	26	29	25	34	56	57	80	103	153	139	170	211	208	118	118	150	161	230	231
Belarus	Upper middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	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	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	2	4	7	6	2	2	3	7	7	8
Russia	Upper middle	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	3	2	3	3	2	4	4	11	6	7	8	6	10	11
Switzerland	High	0	0	2	1	2	3	2	5	7	13	15	17	25	27	26	29	36	19	20	29	21	37	32
Ukraine	Lower middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	3
Asia	na	76	115	105	97	112	147	168	213	355	308	346	323	446	461	560	577	606	466	493	613	662	965	1,146

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China	Upper middle	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	4	5	5	10	23	36	49	64	81	55	71	114	110	177	285
India	Lower middle	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	9	10	9	17	24	46	62	92	140	152	113	133	158	188	266	293
Japan	High	71	109	100	87	101	123	137	172	292	256	284	246	306	270	310	254	249	184	182	205	221	333	362
Malaysia	Upper middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	4	3	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
Singapore	High	0	1	0	0	2	1	3	2	2	3	4	4	3	8	5	10	16	10	10	9	12	26	28
South Korea	High	2	1	4	6	2	9	10	4	10	10	17	18	41	56	66	69	73	81	75	94	101	126	135
Taiwan	High	3	3	0	3	6	11	14	23	33	23	18	18	21	24	33	33	31	20	17	27	23	27	35
Middle East	na	4	5	8	7	8	9	7	11	18	12	21	30	45	56	72	78	83	75	68	90	80	136	127
Israel	High	4	5	8	7	8	9	7	11	18	12	19	29	39	51	69	73	75	69	66	79	73	128	115
Africa	na	2	0	1	3	1	2	1	0	1	0	3	3	5	7	12	7	9	5	7	6	6	11	11
South Africa	Upper middle	2	0	1	3	1	2	1	0	1	0	2	3	4	7	11	6	7	4	4	4	4	7	6
Australia and Oceania	na	2	4	8	4	5	9	14	19	22	35	32	38	71	79	53	54	54	33	30	41	45	59	67
Australia	High	2	4	8	3	3	7	14	16	21	33	32	35	66	73	49	48	46	26	27	35	40	50	62
New Zealand	High	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	3	1	1	0	3	5	6	4	6	7	6	3	7	5	9	5
Unclassified	na	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	0

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

EU = European Union; IT = information technology; 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