

Table SINV-60

## USPTO utility patents granted in pharmaceuticals, 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	4,686	5,007	4,714	5,177	5,321	4,931	3,718	3,353	4,221	3,799	3,801	4,084	5,739	5,849	6,836	7,848	8,322	8,012	7,601	8,211	7,769	8,170	8,379
North America	na	3,052	3,214	3,006	3,246	3,405	3,087	2,310	2,079	2,618	2,319	2,276	2,409	3,393	3,353	3,936	4,471	4,741	4,535	4,389	4,805	4,486	4,798	4,844
Canada	High	147	151	144	150	168	153	129	96	127	120	124	127	156	174	149	182	188	182	157	170	181	171	169
Mexico	Upper middle	1	2	5	3	0	6	2	2	2	1	3	4	5	6	10	14	12	8	11	9	8	16	8
United States	High	2,903	3,061	2,858	3,093	3,237	2,929	2,179	1,981	2,489	2,198	2,149	2,278	3,232	3,173	3,777	4,275	4,540	4,346	4,222	4,626	4,296	4,611	4,667
Central America and Caribbean	na	2	2	3	4	10	3	2	1	1	2	7	2	9	6	8	12	16	11	12	8	4	10	10
Puerto Rico	High	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	2	2	3	2	2	4	1	2	3	4
South America	na	10	8	7	10	12	16	7	5	16	9	9	13	18	19	26	30	40	33	37	31	31	43	30
Argentina	Upper middle	6	5	4	7	8	9	4	1	7	4	3	5	1	6	7	10	6	5	11	9	7	16	7
Brazil	Upper middle	1	2	3	2	2	7	1	3	7	2	4	5	12	7	12	15	19	11	18	12	14	14	11
Europe	na	1,119	1,200	1,184	1,263	1,248	1,212	904	807	985	929	964	1,023	1,469	1,499	1,720	1,940	2,050	1,937	1,742	1,849	1,718	1,752	1,831
EU-27 + UK <sup>a</sup>	na	1,030	1,108	1,096	1,166	1,157	1,124	835	745	910	864	888	934	1,336	1,337	1,561	1,734	1,823	1,753	1,539	1,626	1,526	1,548	1,611
United Kingdom	High	231	249	266	266	251	228	168	154	203	192	182	181	246	241	292	296	292	295	270	303	300	300	301
EU-27 <sup>b</sup>	na	799	859	831	900	906	896	667	591	707	671	706	753	1,090	1,096	1,268	1,438	1,531	1,457	1,269	1,324	1,227	1,248	1,310
Austria	High	23	27	16	17	17	15	11	14	11	17	14	19	35	33	30	43	56	35	41	42	34	44	40
Belgium	High	37	42	44	37	53	41	41	30	42	38	40	42	57	51	54	74	79	82	81	76	77	63	75
Denmark	High	44	47	31	48	37	45	37	29	33	35	34	33	64	65	71	88	93	75	69	67	73	60	70
Finland	High	16	20	16	19	17	16	14	11	13	9	10	9	16	13	18	11	20	15	17	14	22	13	21
France	High	204	193	196	215	207	220	139	132	157	144	160	169	220	229	280	328	320	311	271	270	254	252	264
Germany	High	247	281	297	303	310	307	236	199	250	229	232	243	368	349	424	463	501	456	384	409	359	371	388
Hungary	High	8	6	7	9	12	12	7	8	7	6	10	7	14	11	12	9	8	14	9	14	10	15	12
Ireland	High	4	4	9	6	8	7	7	7	6	3	4	6	9	12	11	13	14	17	14	18	19	16	19
Italy	High	87	95	86	100	91	75	66	60	65	71	74	74	121	128	149	162	178	167	147	130	126	134	130
Netherlands	High	33	41	36	41	38	39	36	34	32	38	36	45	56	70	61	70	74	76	74	81	68	91	87
Spain	High	23	16	12	16	24	23	15	13	21	22	27	32	41	41	56	64	65	87	59	74	70	64	65
Sweden	High	64	66	69	69	81	74	43	45	49	41	52	45	65	66	74	68	79	82	65	82	76	73	93
Other Europe	na	89	92	87	97	90	88	69	61	75	65	76	89	133	162	159	206	227	184	203	222	191	204	220
Other Europe-2020 <sup>b</sup>	na	320	341	353	363	342	316	237	216	278	258	258	270	379	403	451	502	519	479	473	525	491	504	521
Belarus	Upper middle	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Moldova	Lower middle	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norway	High	11	12	17	15	8	10	8	8	7	11	7	11	16	18	19	23	31	24	24	28	25	26	32
Russia	Upper middle	13	14	10	9	12	8	5	7	5	8	7	9	14	12	13	25	22	24	26	32	22	19	17
Switzerland	High	61	60	55	66	62	60	54	44	58	45	60	63	100	122	121	145	154	124	144	142	128	150	163

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Ukraine	Lower middle	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	2	2	4	1	3	3
Asia	na	400	452	412	534	506	482	401	370	500	437	427	499	695	775	927	1,120	1,175	1,206	1,158	1,238	1,236	1,282	1,371
China	Upper middle	7	10	11	16	18	21	25	26	34	40	42	45	60	66	104	153	172	188	228	253	285	349	413
India	Lower middle	11	14	17	32	37	53	32	42	51	42	42	40	58	68	106	130	148	157	166	178	149	148	152
Japan	High	348	378	332	430	383	338	271	240	333	274	252	319	426	466	481	548	541	538	425	427	407	388	396
Malaysia	Upper middle	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	1	1	2	0	3	2	5	3	9	5	5	5	7	3	4
Singapore	High	1	2	4	1	1	3	3	2	4	4	7	4	6	10	14	17	19	23	23	22	26	35	25
South Korea	High	23	34	35	37	41	44	46	34	44	50	41	46	76	85	116	143	165	168	197	220	227	221	249
Taiwan	High	8	13	12	15	22	21	22	24	31	24	38	42	63	73	94	121	117	120	109	129	130	131	123
Middle East	na	44	63	49	48	68	72	48	47	51	55	65	75	87	103	118	148	174	165	148	159	177	163	192
Israel	High	43	61	47	46	66	70	48	44	49	54	65	73	85	100	111	145	157	146	127	137	134	125	140
Africa	na	5	4	6	7	6	8	3	3	3	6	3	6	10	9	10	17	10	11	10	9	12	15	6
South Africa	Upper middle	3	3	1	4	4	5	2	1	2	2	1	3	3	4	6	11	4	7	7	5	8	8	4
Australia and Oceania	na	53	62	44	64	64	52	42	40	46	41	50	56	59	85	92	107	115	112	103	110	105	107	95
Australia	High	48	51	36	58	49	40	32	32	39	33	43	44	47	65	76	91	103	103	91	98	91	93	84
New Zealand	High	5	11	9	6	15	11	10	8	7	8	7	12	12	20	15	16	12	9	12	12	14	14	11
Unclassified	na	2	2	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	2	1	1	3	0

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

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

<sup>a</sup> The United Kingdom was a part of the EU for data purposes from 1973 to 2019.<sup>b</sup> 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.