

Table SINV-69

USPTO utility patents granted in handling, 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	4,094	4,267	4,177	4,135	3,977	3,816	3,237	2,835	3,036	2,597	2,676	2,725	3,582	3,660	3,763	4,485	4,810	4,895	4,942	5,347	5,311	6,249	6,192
North America	na	2,449	2,624	2,507	2,411	2,278	2,114	1,775	1,632	1,693	1,426	1,326	1,352	1,757	1,861	1,815	2,170	2,286	2,342	2,477	2,586	2,586	3,099	3,079
Canada	High	125	123	131	137	96	115	94	68	80	64	65	57	87	91	97	106	116	113	129	139	146	170	147
Mexico	Upper middle	2	5	6	10	14	8	4	4	2	1	2	3	2	4	4	4	6	6	3	5	5	7	10
United States	High	2,322	2,497	2,370	2,263	2,168	1,991	1,677	1,560	1,611	1,361	1,260	1,292	1,668	1,765	1,714	2,061	2,165	2,223	2,345	2,442	2,435	2,921	2,922
Central America and Caribbean	na	3	2	1	0	0	4	0	3	3	2	2	3	0	1	3	1	0	0	3	1	2	2	3
Puerto Rico	High	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
South America	na	7	12	9	13	4	6	8	4	3	8	4	10	7	13	8	15	15	11	16	16	18	20	21
Argentina	Upper middle	1	3	5	4	3	1	2	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	2	2	0	2	4	1	3	5	4
Brazil	Upper middle	5	7	5	8	0	4	6	3	2	4	2	3	5	12	4	8	12	7	10	12	11	12	13
Europe	na	1,061	1,001	1,065	1,055	1,024	1,019	856	722	755	653	733	669	907	879	940	1,138	1,272	1,219	1,183	1,413	1,355	1,539	1,467
EU-27 + UK ^a	na	961	915	970	948	930	921	767	651	676	588	650	596	814	783	846	1,008	1,130	1,065	1,057	1,263	1,230	1,401	1,336
United Kingdom	High	116	106	112	111	94	99	78	81	61	64	64	59	80	86	99	105	113	109	85	94	126	124	133
EU-27 ^b	na	846	809	858	836	836	822	689	570	614	525	585	537	734	697	747	903	1,017	956	972	1,168	1,104	1,277	1,203
Austria	High	17	15	23	18	8	26	16	18	7	19	11	15	24	15	23	33	41	28	37	48	44	54	58
Belgium	High	25	19	15	14	12	6	13	9	9	11	9	6	10	15	8	11	17	16	17	29	31	31	27
Denmark	High	14	12	12	15	17	17	15	8	8	9	16	7	13	22	16	20	21	28	28	32	27	27	30
Finland	High	45	34	31	23	36	44	20	24	26	17	33	41	36	29	36	47	39	38	44	99	90	67	60
France	High	105	108	108	115	124	112	101	76	89	63	65	61	96	108	108	138	131	125	126	138	130	177	165
Germany	High	383	369	395	396	373	377	289	244	280	252	253	246	318	284	332	378	463	440	413	472	438	481	471
Hungary	High	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	2
Ireland	High	4	3	6	3	2	5	4	5	4	2	2	6	4	7	3	2	10	3	8	6	3	9	7
Italy	High	136	122	126	118	120	145	136	113	100	90	117	92	124	115	111	141	127	134	129	146	159	202	163
Netherlands	High	39	55	45	55	57	35	35	27	39	19	38	29	46	33	33	56	70	66	81	85	79	98	92
Spain	High	21	13	21	19	18	15	16	13	16	11	14	11	18	18	21	23	30	19	31	44	35	42	43
Sweden	High	54	53	72	58	62	38	42	31	34	30	25	21	42	42	46	45	61	45	43	54	51	67	60
Other Europe	na	100	86	95	108	94	99	89	71	80	65	84	73	92	96	94	130	142	154	126	150	125	138	130
Other Europe-2020 ^b	na	215	192	207	219	188	197	167	152	141	129	148	132	173	183	193	235	256	263	211	245	251	262	263
Belarus	Upper middle	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Moldova	Lower middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Norway	High	12	11	13	16	6	7	6	2	4	5	7	6	10	5	8	3	6	12	14	15	12	14	19
Russia	Upper middle	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	3	4	0	0	1	2	0	0	6	5	4	2	3	3	2
Switzerland	High	85	73	81	87	85	90	81	65	73	55	76	67	81	89	82	123	125	130	104	125	103	114	102

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Ukraine	Lower middle	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Asia	na	528	576	546	602	624	618	549	429	539	467	573	643	846	860	929	1,095	1,155	1,240	1,176	1,247	1,260	1,487	1,518
China	Upper middle	6	7	3	6	7	14	10	15	16	13	15	21	33	29	56	84	102	117	112	117	158	215	228
India	Lower middle	2	1	2	0	1	0	3	3	0	2	0	0	2	2	9	5	4	13	13	13	13	27	39
Japan	High	398	423	398	453	474	454	410	314	408	355	443	469	648	680	674	798	833	894	858	882	879	990	1,011
Malaysia	Upper middle	4	1	2	0	0	0	3	3	1	1	3	4	2	1	3	1	4	3	4	1	5	3	3
Singapore	High	3	1	5	4	4	8	3	4	6	8	3	4	5	6	6	7	6	10	6	9	7	13	10
South Korea	High	43	53	43	55	34	38	30	26	43	33	42	57	55	51	65	87	94	87	83	115	97	125	119
Taiwan	High	71	92	94	82	102	103	88	63	66	55	66	88	100	89	113	112	108	110	92	103	96	110	103
Middle East	na	10	8	14	6	10	12	8	9	7	9	6	9	14	12	20	20	30	26	33	29	32	47	43
Israel	High	8	6	13	5	9	12	8	9	6	9	6	8	13	9	16	17	23	24	26	22	26	34	30
Africa	na	7	9	7	6	7	7	7	10	5	4	5	6	8	4	10	4	4	9	6	6	8	6	4
South Africa	Upper middle	7	7	7	6	7	5	4	4	2	3	4	4	8	4	10	4	3	6	4	6	5	6	2
Australia and Oceania	na	28	33	27	41	31	37	34	26	32	28	28	33	43	30	37	41	47	47	47	47	49	47	54
Australia	High	19	25	24	34	27	34	27	22	26	25	26	32	36	26	28	33	39	37	40	39	43	39	43
New Zealand	High	9	8	3	7	3	3	6	5	6	4	3	2	7	4	8	8	8	11	6	8	6	8	11
Unclassified	na	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	2

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.