

U.S. patent applications, by country/economy of origin of first-named inventor: 1990–2003

Country/economy	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
All applications	164,558	164,306	173,075	174,743	189,857	212,377	195,187	215,257	243,062	270,187	295,926	326,508	334,445	342,441
U.S. origin.....	90,643	87,955	92,425	99,955	107,233	123,958	106,892	120,445	135,483	149,825	164,795	177,511	184,245	188,941
Foreign origin	73,915	76,351	80,650	74,788	82,624	88,419	88,295	94,812	107,579	120,362	131,131	148,997	150,200	153,500
Japan.....	34,113	36,846	38,633	34,816	37,768	39,872	39,510	41,767	45,260	47,821	52,891	61,238	58,739	60,350
Germany	NA	10,874	11,652	10,500	11,324	11,853	11,550	12,333	13,885	16,978	17,715	19,900	20,418	18,890
Taiwan	2,035	2,252	2,667	2,874	3,560	4,054	4,766	5,492	7,412	9,411	9,046	11,086	12,488	13,786
South Korea.....	775	1,321	1,471	1,624	2,354	2,820	4,248	4,920	5,452	5,033	5,705	6,719	7,937	10,411
Canada.....	3,511	3,641	3,761	3,910	4,255	4,745	4,443	4,694	5,689	6,149	6,809	7,221	7,375	7,750
United Kingdom.....	4,959	4,557	4,587	4,414	4,856	5,202	4,791	5,147	6,110	6,948	7,523	8,362	8,391	7,700
France.....	4,771	4,723	4,828	4,320	4,528	5,001	4,486	4,759	5,249	6,216	6,623	6,852	6,825	6,603
Italy.....	2,093	2,123	2,288	1,906	1,998	2,128	2,062	2,119	2,313	2,577	2,704	2,967	2,980	3,011
Israel.....	608	633	780	803	1,040	1,072	1,042	1,198	1,442	2,009	2,509	2,710	2,645	2,539
Sweden.....	1,057	1,086	1,072	1,157	1,405	1,500	1,481	1,980	2,359	2,570	2,825	2,827	2,410	2,314
Australia.....	811	783	863	781	921	1,007	1,057	1,006	1,420	1,462	1,800	1,995	2,160	2,310
Switzerland.....	1,931	1,902	1,922	1,759	1,852	1,917	1,609	1,637	1,875	2,144	2,233	2,337	2,338	2,275
Netherlands.....	1,588	1,397	1,547	1,472	1,455	1,570	1,559	1,726	1,816	2,058	2,289	2,712	2,602	2,257
Finland.....	595	592	576	568	707	745	836	891	970	1,376	1,530	1,840	1,811	1,935
Belgium.....	592	614	692	685	862	1,001	930	894	1,059	1,204	1,245	1,286	1,293	1,395
India.....	58	51	64	54	70	91	115	137	180	271	438	643	919	1,164
China (People's Republic)	111	126	129	135	100	144	142	117	181	257	469	626	888	1,034
Denmark.....	370	358	378	376	445	618	496	634	748	863	859	1,113	1,065	1,002
Austria.....	560	516	566	526	599	619	543	552	710	823	881	961	1,115	933
Singapore.....	36	63	89	104	134	144	176	213	336	460	632	786	807	771
China, Hong Kong SAR.....	86	132	150	155	219	163	222	207	274	403	473	626	681	729
Spain.....	289	258	313	269	315	357	359	370	409	464	549	601	564	606
Norway.....	164	169	212	190	203	243	227	303	337	415	447	475	531	449
New Zealand.....	105	91	107	85	130	137	174	174	187	240	279	318	375	387
Ireland.....	130	116	103	104	149	131	114	138	228	252	362	366	440	368
Russian Federation.....	NA	NA	183	153	206	221	254	249	273	388	382	433	377	341
Brazil.....	88	124	112	105	156	115	145	134	165	186	220	219	243	259
Malaysia.....	11	22	16	20	37	30	30	61	41	76	104	116	142	237
South Africa.....	185	186	207	246	238	187	189	174	211	179	209	231	241	224
Mexico.....	76	106	105	82	105	99	97	110	141	147	190	196	157	185
Argentina.....	56	59	59	56	75	65	78	77	119	96	137	137	95	125
Hungary.....	138	103	76	69	76	70	59	40	73	120	107	103	128	118
Czech Republic.....	NA	NA	NA	1	15	14	17	30	34	30	52	77	58	61
Luxembourg.....	32	36	39	35	39	20	31	32	36	59	57	61	69	60
Thailand.....	8	4	11	15	19	21	20	21	26	41	92	70	61	60
Poland.....	13	21	16	27	20	19	22	19	19	31	33	39	46	59
Iceland.....	3	10	16	3	6	6	13	8	25	31	30	51	41	56
Greece.....	27	20	28	19	27	29	23	30	45	50	44	49	58	50
Ukraine.....	NA	NA	4	16	14	17	18	24	28	22	40	32	43	45
Philippines.....	9	10	10	9	7	12	9	15	13	20	32	51	58	42
Slovenia.....	NA	NA	8	19	11	13	19	24	29	21	27	20	36	38
Chile.....	13	12	12	11	11	10	23	17	17	16	24	23	38	33

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Liechtenstein.....	13	14	19	13	15	13	17	19	24	26	28	29	34	32
Saudi Arabia.....	8	12	11	17	23	24	19	17	26	11	28	26	37	32
Venezuela.....	48	43	47	38	43	32	38	40	35	42	45	53	36	29
Turkey.....	6	3	2	3	5	6	7	10	16	29	28	28	36	28
Croatia.....	NA	NA	NA	6	9	15	16	20	20	12	21	21	16	24
Colombia.....	10	5	13	3	18	19	10	6	12	20	21	29	16	20
Portugal.....	6	3	11	9	14	10	16	12	17	28	17	28	27	20
Kenya.....	4	2	3	1	3	2	0	1	1	5	5	10	10	15
Panama.....	4	1	1	4	4	8	4	2	7	5	6	6	2	14
Egypt.....	3	4	10	4	6	2	2	10	11	16	20	16	11	12
United Arab Emirates.....	3	1	2	NA	2	2	2	3	3	4	7	2	6	12
Costa Rica.....	4	2	1	8	12	7	4	6	13	8	16	3	8	11
Ecuador.....	4	2	1	6	NA	2	3	5	4	4	6	5	8	11
Romania.....	1	1	2	5	4	7	5	12	11	8	12	14	8	11
Uruguay.....	5	2	3	8	6	6	1	4	1	3	4	7	8	11
Yugoslavia.....	34	30	28	10	6	8	3	7	7	4	6	2	7	11
Bulgaria.....	31	11	7	3	4	6	5	4	3	11	18	13	8	10
Lithuania.....	NA	NA	NA	1	2	3	NA	3	2	4	4	5	1	10
Belarus.....	NA	NA	4	8	5	7	9	3	5	10	7	10	5	8
Indonesia.....	4	11	11	7	5	4	11	3	9	12	9	5	27	8
Peru.....	7	1	4	5	6	5	4	3	6	5	5	8	8	8
Slovakia.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	13	7	2	3	6	5	10	6	8	5

NA = not available

NOTE: Country of origin determined by residence of first-named inventor.

SOURCE: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Office of Electronic Information Products, Patent Technology Monitoring Division, special tabulations (December 2004).