

## USPTO patents granted for selected regions/countries/economies: 1996–2005

Region/country/economy	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	Number									
All regions/countries/economies .....	109,645	111,984	147,518	153,485	157,494	166,036	167,331	169,023	164,291	143,806
United States.....	61,104	61,708	80,289	83,905	85,068	87,600	86,971	87,893	84,271	74,637
EU .....	16,807	17,606	22,820	23,611	25,082	27,192	27,088	26,841	24,906	21,124
Austria .....	362	376	387	479	505	589	530	592	540	462
Belgium.....	488	515	693	648	694	718	722	622	612	519
Bulgaria.....	1	5	1	2	1	3	3	9	3	3
Czech Republic.....	13	23	22	29	32	23	31	41	31	25
Denmark.....	241	333	392	487	436	479	426	529	414	358
Finland.....	444	452	595	649	618	732	809	865	918	720
France.....	2,788	2,958	3,674	3,820	3,819	4,041	4,035	3,868	3,380	2,866
Germany.....	6,818	7,008	9,095	9,337	10,235	11,260	11,280	11,444	10,779	9,011
Greece.....	18	12	16	23	18	26	20	22	15	15
Hungary.....	43	25	50	39	36	60	48	72	48	46
Ireland.....	77	71	71	90	121	141	127	163	186	156
Italy.....	1,200	1,239	1,584	1,492	1,714	1,709	1,751	1,722	1,584	1,296
Luxembourg.....	18	22	20	22	40	33	37	35	44	41
Netherlands.....	797	808	1,226	1,247	1,241	1,332	1,391	1,325	1,273	993
Poland.....	15	11	15	19	13	16	11	17	16	23
Portugal.....	3	8	11	5	11	12	11	12	17	10
Romania.....	4	1	3	4	4	10	3	7	9	7
Slovenia.....	10	7	18	10	16	21	16	18	21	12
Spain.....	157	177	248	222	270	269	303	309	264	273
Sweden.....	854	867	1,225	1,401	1,577	1,741	1,675	1,521	1,290	1,123
United Kingdom.....	2,454	2,680	3,467	3,576	3,669	3,967	3,843	3,631	3,450	3,148
All others.....	2	8	7	10	12	10	16	17	12	17
Asia.....	26,728	27,442	37,683	38,926	39,988	43,118	45,376	46,205	47,364	41,358
China.....	134	143	232	245	298	432	522	573	715	685
India.....	35	47	85	112	131	178	249	342	363	384
Japan.....	23,053	23,179	30,840	31,104	31,295	33,224	34,858	35,515	35,348	30,341
Malaysia.....	12	17	23	30	42	39	55	50	80	88
Philippines.....	4	4	8	11	2	12	14	22	21	18
Singapore.....	88	94	120	144	218	296	410	427	449	346
South Korea.....	1,493	1,891	3,259	3,562	3,314	3,538	3,786	3,944	4,428	4,352
Taiwan.....	1,897	2,057	3,100	3,693	4,667	5,371	5,431	5,298	5,938	5,118
Thailand.....	11	5	13	20	15	24	44	25	18	16
All others.....	1	5	3	5	6	4	7	9	4	10
All others.....	5,006	5,228	6,726	7,043	7,356	8,126	7,896	8,084	7,750	6,687
Share of USPTO applications	Percent distribution									
All regions/countries/economies .....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
United States.....	55.73	55.10	54.43	54.67	54.01	52.76	51.98	52.00	51.29	51.90
EU.....	15.33	15.72	15.47	15.38	15.93	16.38	16.19	15.88	15.16	14.69

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Region/country/economy	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Austria .....	0.33	0.34	0.26	0.31	0.32	0.35	0.32	0.35	0.33	0.32
Belgium .....	0.45	0.46	0.47	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.43	0.37	0.37	0.36
Bulgaria .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Czech Republic .....	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Denmark .....	0.22	0.30	0.27	0.32	0.28	0.29	0.25	0.31	0.25	0.25
Finland .....	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.42	0.39	0.44	0.48	0.51	0.56	0.50
France.....	2.54	2.64	2.49	2.49	2.42	2.43	2.41	2.29	2.06	1.99
Germany .....	6.22	6.26	6.17	6.08	6.50	6.78	6.74	6.77	6.56	6.27
Greece .....	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Hungary .....	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Ireland.....	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.10	0.11	0.11
Italy.....	1.09	1.11	1.07	0.97	1.09	1.03	1.05	1.02	0.96	0.90
Luxembourg.....	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03
Netherlands.....	0.73	0.72	0.83	0.81	0.79	0.80	0.83	0.78	0.77	0.69
Poland.....	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Portugal .....	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Romania.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Slovenia.....	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Spain .....	0.14	0.16	0.17	0.14	0.17	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.16	0.19
Sweden.....	0.78	0.77	0.83	0.91	1.00	1.05	1.00	0.90	0.79	0.78
United Kingdom.....	2.24	2.39	2.35	2.33	2.33	2.39	2.30	2.15	2.10	2.19
All others.....	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Asia.....	24.38	24.51	25.54	25.36	25.39	25.97	27.12	27.34	28.83	28.76
China .....	0.12	0.13	0.16	0.16	0.19	0.26	0.31	0.34	0.44	0.48
India.....	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.11	0.15	0.20	0.22	0.27
Japan.....	21.03	20.70	20.91	20.27	19.87	20.01	20.83	21.01	21.52	21.10
Malaysia .....	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.06
Philippines .....	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Singapore.....	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.14	0.18	0.25	0.25	0.27	0.24
South Korea .....	1.36	1.69	2.21	2.32	2.10	2.13	2.26	2.33	2.70	3.03
Taiwan .....	1.73	1.84	2.10	2.41	2.96	3.23	3.25	3.13	3.61	3.56
Thailand.....	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01
All others.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
All others.....	4.57	4.67	4.56	4.59	4.67	4.89	4.72	4.78	4.72	4.65

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

NOTES: USPTO patents are utility patents, which are patents of inventions. Design, plant, and reissue patents not included. Patents granted assigned to region/country/economy based on residence of first-named inventor. Asia includes China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand. China includes Hong Kong. Countries that have <0.01% world share of U.S. patent applications in 2005 grouped in All others.

SOURCE: USPTO, Historic Patents by Country, State, and Year, Utility Patents, [http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/cst\\_utilh.htm](http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/cst_utilh.htm), accessed 15 December 2006.