

## EPO patent applications for selected regions/countries/economies: 1996–2004

Region/country/economy	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
All regions/countries/economies	71,111	79,956	90,144	97,404	107,714	112,973	110,583	113,003	113,911
United States	21,722	22,992	25,694	27,760	29,918	29,959	29,298	30,826	30,126
EU	31,588	36,693	41,915	45,234	49,642	51,437	51,125	50,571	50,223
Austria	679	767	997	981	1,078	1,187	1,220	1,252	1,309
Belgium	795	978	1,210	1,212	1,314	1,258	1,215	1,260	1,291
Bulgaria	5	5	9	8	10	5	19	21	15
Czech Republic	21	34	54	57	69	65	70	94	109
Denmark	503	622	662	812	853	908	907	934	927
Finland	722	852	1,049	1,192	1,390	1,452	1,369	1,195	1,177
France	5,173	5,727	6,418	6,765	7,238	7,270	7,332	7,500	7,657
Germany	13,173	15,694	17,982	19,697	21,491	22,144	21,823	21,550	21,437
Greece	30	38	58	60	48	62	74	82	72
Hungary	59	58	73	69	114	112	122	102	123
Ireland	98	120	136	180	247	206	231	209	209
Italy	2,621	2,932	3,279	3,412	3,792	3,991	4,097	4,303	4,106
Luxembourg	38	48	53	72	63	77	80	79	98
Netherlands	1,804	2,180	2,453	2,644	3,054	3,415	3,892	3,464	3,355
Poland	12	28	35	24	37	49	56	82	123
Portugal	15	20	21	38	31	45	31	46	53
Romania	7	2	8	6	7	8	12	10	13
Slovenia	23	22	18	37	37	51	52	85	75
Spain	378	483	609	683	743	837	915	903	879
Sweden	1,541	1,829	2,050	2,086	2,257	2,292	2,137	2,063	1,935
United Kingdom	3,871	4,237	4,709	5,171	5,727	5,960	5,428	5,285	5,194
All others	19	20	30	28	41	44	43	52	67
Asia	13,442	15,199	16,375	17,753	20,489	23,504	22,319	23,616	25,238
China	102	103	135	166	269	368	435	673	777
India	42	66	88	118	155	203	382	418	343
Japan	12,660	14,292	15,207	16,121	18,543	21,063	19,175	19,526	20,330
Malaysia	441	495	658	967	1,086	1,330	1,640	2,243	3,000
Philippines	7	12	11	11	23	34	36	42	46
Singapore	3	2	5	7	4	13	4	4	7
South Korea	53	80	95	122	140	147	188	180	195
Taiwan	125	143	161	222	238	320	440	514	527
Thailand	5	3	9	9	20	18	14	12	8
All others	2	3	6	9	11	7	6	5	5
Other	4,359	5,071	6,160	6,658	7,666	8,073	7,842	7,989	8,324
Argentina	503	458	611	675	996	943	940	938	982
Australia	817	941	1,226	1,368	1,587	1,620	1,606	1,761	1,877
Brazil	9	14	19	22	34	34	22	38	29
Canada	25	26	40	32	39	35	44	55	51
Chile	67	79	114	101	147	159	141	175	188
Iceland	241	276	312	330	366	394	366	354	324

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Israel .....	1,774	2,143	2,367	2,396	2,582	2,734	2,647	2,656	2,740
Mexico .....	5	18	15	32	25	46	56	72	71
New Zealand .....	19	34	30	42	46	44	31	40	44
Norway.....	60	56	78	81	129	112	142	146	154
Russian Federation.....	7	9	11	4	4	11	12	17	14
South Africa.....	367	473	657	757	814	987	899	841	946
Switzerland .....	156	166	175	223	213	223	221	189	184
Turkey .....	79	89	138	156	131	146	124	121	129
All others.....	230	289	366	437	552	586	589	583	591

EPO = European Patent Office; EU = European Union

NOTES: Patent applications assigned to year based on application date to EPO. Patent applications on fractional-count basis. For patent applications with multiple inventors from different countries, each country receives fractional credit based on proportion of its participating inventors. 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: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Patent database, [http://stats.oecd.org/wbos/default.aspx?DatasetCode=PATS\\_IPC](http://stats.oecd.org/wbos/default.aspx?DatasetCode=PATS_IPC), accessed 15 February 2007.

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