

Table 3.  
**Patents Pending Prior to Allowance<sup>1</sup>**

(FY 1979 - FY 1998)

Year	Awaiting action by examiner	Total applications pending <sup>2</sup>
1979	50,085	151,702
1980	64,289	167,533
1981	71,033	181,727
1982	87,659	216,509
1983	102,532	223,101
1984	90,687	219,567
1985	90,648	215,512
1986	80,547	207,774
1987	65,010	209,911
1988	75,678	215,280
1989	92,377	222,755
1990	104,179	244,964
1991	104,086	254,507
1992	112,201	269,596
1993	99,904	244,646
1994	107,824	261,249
1995	124,275	298,522
1996	139,943	303,720
1997	112,430	275,295
<b>1998</b>	<b>224,446</b>	<b>379,484</b>

<sup>1</sup>Includes patents pending at end of period indicated, and includes utility, reissue, plant, and design applications.

<sup>2</sup>Applications under examination, including those in preexamination processing.