

## Patenting Trends Calendar Year 1999

In calendar year 1999, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office granted a record 169,154 patent documents, including 153,493 utility, 14,732 design, 421 plant, and 448 reissue patents, and 60 statutory invention registrations. Annual grants for all patents increased by 3.6 percent over the total for calendar year 1998 (163,208 grants in 1998). Utility patent grants (patents for invention) in 1999 represent a 4 percent increase over the total for 1998 (147,520).

In 1999, the share of all patents that were issued to U.S.-resident inventors was 55.6 percent, unchanged from the U.S. share for 1998. California resident inventors claimed a 20.0 percent share (18,865 patents) of these U.S.-resident inventor patents, followed by resident inventors from New York (7.3 percent, 6,900 patents), Texas (6.8 percent, 6,424 patents), New Jersey (4.6 percent, 4,372 patents), and Illinois (4.6 percent, 4,308 patents). U.S. resident-inventors of the following areas had the largest percentage increases in patent receipts from 1998 to 1999: Puerto Rico, Idaho, South Dakota, Kentucky, Arkansas, Kansas, and Wyoming.

There were 20,543 patents granted to U.S. independent inventors in 1999, slightly fewer than the 1998 count of U.S. independent inventor patents (20,765). The U.S. independent inventor patent share of all patents issued to U.S.-resident inventors in 1999 was 21.8 percent, down from a 22.9 percent share in 1998.

Foreign-resident inventors claimed a 44.4 percent share of all U.S. patents issued in 1999. The share of U.S. patents that were issued to Japan-resident inventors in calendar year 1999 was 19.2 percent, down from 19.7 percent in 1998. The 1999 share of U.S. patents that were issued to Germany-resident inventors remained at 5.9 percent.

In 1999, Taiwan moved ahead of France into third position among foreign countries whose residents patented in the United States. South Korea moved into sixth place, edging ahead of Canada. Countries with the largest percentage increases in annual patent receipts in 1999, as compared to 1998, include Ireland, Austria, Mexico, India, Taiwan, Denmark, Sweden, People's Republic of China, Singapore, and Brazil.

The eleven foreign countries that received the most U.S. patents during calendar year 1999 are displayed below. Also included below is a table that lists states and countries and their percentage change in patenting from 1998 to 1999.

Rank	1999 # Patents	1999 Share of All Patents	Country *	(Rank in 1998)	(# Patents)	(1998) (Change in # Patents)	(1998 to 1999)
1	32,515	19.2%	Japan	(1)	(32,119)	( + 1.2% )	
2	9,896	5.9%	Germany	(2)	(9,582)	( + 3.3% )	
3	4,526	2.7%	Taiwan	(4)	(3,805)	( +18.9% )	
4	4,097	2.4%	France	(3)	(3,991)	( + 2.7% )	
5	3,900	2.3%	United Kingdom	(5)	(3,726)	( + 4.7% )	
6	3,679	2.2%	South Korea	(7)	(3,362)	( + 9.4% )	
7	3,678	2.2%	Canada	(6)	(3,537)	( + 4.0% )	
8	1,686	1.0%	Italy	(8)	(1,820)	( - 7.4% )	
9	1,542	0.9%	Sweden	(11)	(1,346)	( +14.6% )	
10	1,396	0.8%	Netherlands	(9)	(1,382)	( + 1.0% )	

11	1,391	0.8%	Switzerland	(10)	(1,373)	( + 1.3% )
	94,096	55.6%	United States		(90,701)	( + 3.7% )
	169,154	100.0%	All Countries		(163,208)	( + 3.6% )

\* Please note that the country of origin is determined by the residence of the first-named inventor.

**Regional Patenting, Annual Percentage Change in Patenting, Calendar Year 1998 to 1999**  
(counts include utility, design, plant, and reissue patents, and statutory invention registrations)

STATE *	1998	1999	TOTAL 98-99	Annual % Increase
ALABAMA	422	469	891	11.1%
ALASKA	76	66	142	-13.2%
ARIZONA	1677	1622	3299	-3.3%
ARKANSAS	184	226	410	22.8%
CALIFORNIA	17828	18865	36693	5.8%
COLORADO	1916	1984	3900	3.5%
CONNECTICUT	2071	2026	4097	-2.2%
DELAWARE	424	444	868	4.7%
FLORIDA	3116	3043	6159	-2.3%
GEORGIA	1496	1545	3041	3.3%
HAWAII	93	97	190	4.3%
IDAHO	897	1261	2158	40.6%
ILLINOIS	4365	4308	8673	-1.3%
INDIANA	1561	1706	3267	9.3%
IOWA	720	819	1539	13.8%
KANSAS	404	495	899	22.5%
KENTUCKY	404	508	912	25.7%
LOUISIANA	543	519	1062	-4.4%
MAINE	143	145	288	1.4%
MARYLAND	1575	1642	3217	4.3%
MASSACHUSETTS	3735	3822	7557	2.3%
MICHIGAN	3825	4039	7864	5.6%
MINNESOTA	2780	2903	5683	4.4%
MISSISSIPPI	202	220	422	8.9%
MISSOURI	1049	1086	2135	3.5%
MONTANA	149	142	291	-4.7%
NEBRASKA	233	229	462	-1.7%
NEVADA	332	356	688	7.2%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	649	690	1339	6.3%
NEW JERSEY	4204	4372	8576	4.0%
NEW MEXICO	363	356	719	-1.9%
NEW YORK	7113	6900	14013	-3.0%
NORTH CAROLIN	1842	1953	3795	6.0%
NORTH DAKOTA	69	77	146	11.6%
OHIO	3897	4005	7902	2.8%
OKLAHOMA	542	545	1087	0.6%
OREGON	1560	1386	2946	-11.2%
PENNSYLVANIA	3763	4077	7840	8.3%
RHODE ISLAND	357	341	698	-4.5%
SOUTH CAROLIN	682	656	1338	-3.8%
SOUTH DAKOTA	57	78	135	36.8%
TENNESSEE	912	1018	1930	11.6%
TEXAS	5980	6424	12404	7.4%
UTAH	731	748	1479	2.3%
VERMONT	343	363	706	5.8%
VIRGINIA	1163	1152	2315	-0.9%
WASHINGTON	1998	2039	4037	2.1%
WEST VIRGINIA	211	166	377	-21.3%
WISCONSIN	1880	1999	3879	6.3%
WYOMING	49	58	107	18.4%
DISTR. OF COL.	85	63	148	-25.9%
GUAM	5	4	9	-20.0%
PUERTO RICO	21	33	54	57.1%
UNITED STATES	2	4	6	100.0%
VIRGIN (U.S.)	3	2	5	-33.3%
U.S. TOTALS	90701	94096	184797	3.7%

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## Patenting Trends, Annual Percentage Change in Patenting, Calendar Year 1998 to 1999

(counts include utility, design, plant, and reissue patents, and statutory invention registrations)

COUNTRY *	1998	1999	TOTAL 98-99	Annual % Increase	COUNTRY *	1998	1999	TOTAL	Annual % Increase
ALBANIA	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	MEXICO	77	94	171	22.1%
ALGERIA	1	0	1	-100.0%	MOLDOVA, REPUB	0	3	3	No 1998 Patents
ANDORRA	2	1	3	-50.0%	MONACO	7	15	22	114.3%
ANGUILLA	1	0	1	-100.0%	MOROCCO	2	2	4	0.0%
ANTIGUA + BARB	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	MYANMAR	1	0	1	-100.0%
ARAB EMIRATES	1	3	4	200.0%	NETH. ANTILLES	1	0	1	-100.0%
ARGENTINA	46	46	92	0.0%	NETHERLANDS	1382	1396	2778	1.0%
ARMENIA	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	NEW CALEDONIA	1	0	1	-100.0%
AUSTRALIA	830	832	1662	0.2%	NEW ZEALAND	145	134	279	-7.6%
AUSTRIA	408	505	913	23.8%	NICARAGUA	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents
AZERBAIJAN	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	NIGERIA	2	0	2	-100.0%
THE BAHAMAS	10	11	21	10.0%	NORFOLK ISLAND	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents
BAHRAIN	0	2	2	No 1998 Patents	NORWAY	232	246	478	6.0%
BARBADOS	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	PAKISTAN	2	0	2	-100.0%
BELARUS	8	5	13	-37.5%	PANAMA	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents
BELGIUM	755	718	1473	-4.9%	PARAGUAY	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents
BERMUDA	2	1	3	-50.0%	PERU	5	3	8	-40.0%
BOLIVIA	1	1	2	0.0%	PHILIPPINES	19	21	40	10.5%
BRAZIL	88	98	186	11.4%	POLAND	19	20	39	5.3%
BULGARIA	4	3	7	-25.0%	PORTUGAL	12	6	18	-50.0%
CANADA	3537	3678	7215	4.0%	ROMANIA	3	4	7	33.3%
CAYMAN ISLANDS	6	2	8	-66.7%	RUSSIAN FEDERA	194	185	379	-4.6%
CHILE	17	12	29	-29.4%	SAINT KITTS +	2	0	2	-100.0%
CHINA, HONG KON	373	413	786	10.7%	SAN MARINO	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents
CHINA, PEOPLE'	88	99	187	12.5%	SAUDI ARABIA	14	13	27	-7.1%
COLOMBIA	4	6	10	50.0%	SINGAPORE	136	152	288	11.8%
COSTA RICA	5	11	16	120.0%	SLOVAKIA	2	6	8	200.0%
CROATIA	14	16	30	14.3%	SLOVENIA	20	13	33	-35.0%
CUBA	5	3	8	-40.0%	SOUTH AFRICA	132	127	259	-3.8%
CZECH REPUBLIC	17	25	42	47.1%	SOUTH KOREA	3362	3679	7041	9.4%
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	9	5	14	-44.4%	SPAIN	308	265	573	-14.0%
DENMARK	500	588	1088	17.6%	SRI LANKA	2	0	2	-100.0%
DOMINICAN REPU	0	3	3	No 1998 Patents	SURINAME	0	2	2	No 1998 Patents
ECUADOR	6	4	10	-33.3%	SWEDEN	1346	1542	2888	14.6%
EGYPT	1	3	4	200.0%	SWITZERLAND	1373	1391	2764	1.3%
EL SALVADOR	1	0	1	-100.0%	SYRIA	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents
ESTONIA	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	TAIWAN	3805	4526	8331	18.9%
FINLAND	629	695	1324	10.5%	THAILAND	21	29	50	38.1%
FRANCE	3991	4097	8088	2.7%	TRINIDAD/TOBAG	2	1	3	-50.0%
GERMANY	9582	9896	19478	3.3%	TURKEY	2	4	6	100.0%
GHANA	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	TURKS AND CAIC	1	0	1	-100.0%
GREECE	17	24	41	41.2%	U. S. S. R.	6	3	9	-50.0%
GUATEMALA	2	1	3	-50.0%	UKRAINE	17	20	37	17.6%
HAITI	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	UNITED KINGDOM	3726	3900	7626	4.7%
HONDURAS	4	2	6	-50.0%	URUGUAY	3	4	7	33.3%
HUNGARY	52	39	91	-25.0%	UZBEKISTAN	1	1	2	0.0%
ICELAND	7	12	19	71.4%	VENEZUELA	29	39	68	34.5%
INDIA	94	114	208	21.3%	VIET NAM	0	2	2	No 1998 Patents
INDONESIA	10	5	15	-50.0%	VIRGIN (BRITIS	3	3	6	0.0%
IRAN	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents	YUGOSLAVIA	4	3	7	-25.0%
IRELAND	81	104	185	28.4%	ZIMBABWE	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents
ISRAEL	820	792	1612	-3.4%					
ITALY	1820	1686	3506	-7.4%	TOTAL	163208	169154	332362	3.6%
JAMAICA	1	1	2	0.0%					
JAPAN	32119	32515	64634	1.2%					
JORDAN	3	1	4	-66.7%					
KAZAKHSTAN	1	1	2	0.0%					
KENYA	1	2	3	100.0%					
KUWAIT	6	13	19	116.7%					
LATVIA	1	3	4	200.0%					
LEBANON	3	2	5	-33.3%					
LIECHTENSTEIN	16	15	31	-6.3%					
LITHUANIA	3	2	5	-33.3%					
LUXEMBOURG	46	35	81	-23.9%					
MADAGASCAR	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents					
MALAYSIA	35	34	69	-2.9%					
MALTA	2	0	2	-100.0%					
MARSHALL ISLAN	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents					
MAURITIUS	0	1	1	No 1998 Patents					

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