

PROFILE REPORT

U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PATENTING

JANUARY 1, 1977 -- DECEMBER 31, 2015



March 2016

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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A PATENT TECHNOLOGY MONITORING TEAM REPORT

U.S. Federal Government Patenting Report
1/1/1977 - 12/31/2015
Explanation of Data

This Patent Technology Monitoring Team (PTMT) report profiles patent activity for all U.S. patent documents (design, plant, reissue, and utility patents, defensive publications, and statutory invention registrations) granted between **January 1, 1977** and **December 31, 2015** for which the first-named assignee (assigned owner), at the time of grant, was a Federal organization. Most of these patents are utility patents, also known as “patents for invention”. The source of the data used for this report is the TAF database maintained by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Data Distribution By Date of Grant and By Date of Application

Parts A1 and A2

Part A1 distributes patent GRANT data by year of patent grant ("Patents Granted By Date of Patent Grant"). Part A2 distributes grant data by the year in which the patented applications were filed ("Patents Granted By Date of Patent Application"). Parts A1 and A2 each provide patent counts (pages A1-1 and A2-1) and percent distributions (pages A1-2 and A2-2). Patent data, as shown in the "Pre 2002" column, correspond to the period **1977** through **2001**.

Part B

Part B of this report distributes patent GRANT data for organizations that have received U.S. patents since **1977**. Data are presented by the year in which the patent was granted ("Patents By Year of Grant") and by the year in which the patented application was filed ("Patents by Year of Application").

DATA FOR THOSE APPLICATIONS WHICH WERE FILED BUT NEVER ISSUED (HISTORICALLY ABOUT 35% OF TOTAL FILINGS) ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT.

Since the average time period between the filing for a utility patent and its final disposition (e.g., issued as a patent or abandoned) is now about **26** months (i.e., the patent's "pendency"), the patented application data for applications filed in the most recent years are incomplete.* This is because the patents included in this report are limited to those **granted** during the specified time period. However, a significant number of the applications filed during the most recent years of this time period were still pending at the end of the reporting period. While many of these applications eventually will be patented, they will not be patented until sometime following the end of the reporting period. Note that a patent's "pendency" can be quite variable from one patent to another thereby affecting the date of patent grant. Such variation in pendency is determined by many factors, including U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) workload which varies between technologies, budget and manpower levels, patent printing schedules, etc.

Patented application data are of significant value since the date an application was filed more accurately reflects when the technology was developed. Additionally, fluctuations in data based on application date are much more likely to reflect changes in technological activity since, for the most part, such fluctuations would be immune from many of the changes in USPTO processing such as those that occurred in years such as 1986 and 2005 when the USPTO issued fewer patents than would have normally been expected due to administrative reasons.

"Patents Granted By Date of Patent Application", as shown in the "**Pre 2002**" column, correspond to patents granted during the reporting period but filed prior to **2002**.

Parts of the Report

Parts A1 and A2 present tables which show, by number and percent, the patent activity. Part A1 presents data by year of patent grant ("Patents Granted By Date of Patent Grant"). Part A2 redistributes grant data by year of patent application ("Patents Granted By Date of Patent Application"). The location of **patent origin is determined by the residence of the first-named inventor at the time of grant**.

Patent ownership information reflects ownership at the time of patent grant and does not include subsequent changes in ownership. If more than one assignee was declared at the time of grant, the patent is attributed to the first-named assignee. The U.S. and Foreign Corporation ownership categories count predominantly corporate patents; however, patents assigned to other organizations such as small businesses, nonprofit organizations, universities, etc. are also included in these categories. While U.S. Government patent ownership includes only patents granted to the Federal Government, no similar distinction is made for Foreign Government patents.

Note that for a patent, the country of origin may differ from the country of ownership. Therefore, **the sum of U.S. origin patents may not equal the sum of U.S. ownership category patents**.

Part B is a ranked listing of Federal Government organizations that have received **1** or more U.S. patents since **1977**. Data line 1 for each listed organization distributes counts of patent grants by year of grant. **Data line 2 for each organization redistributes those same patent grants by year in which the patented applications were filed**. Patent ownership information reflects ownership at the time of patent grant. Although a substantial effort has been made to combine name variations into a single organizational name, many organizations continue to have patents listed under more than one organizational name.

* For example, in a report profiling utility patents granted through **December 2015**, patent grant data, as distributed by year of application, are approximately 97% complete for utility patent applications filed in 2007, 97% complete for filings in 2008, 91% complete for filings in 2009, 86% complete for filings in 2010, 83% complete for filings in 2011, 69% complete for filings in 2012, 43% complete for filings in 2013, and 16% complete for filings in 2014; data are essentially complete for applications filed prior to 2007. About 90% of all patent documents granted (i.e., utility, design, plant, and reissue patents, statutory invention registrations, and defensive publications) are utility patents. Currently, completion percentages restricted to **Federal Government patents** are not available.

Part A1

Patent Grants as Distributed By Year of Patent Grant

Ownership:

PERCENT OF PATENTS

Ownership:

Part A2

Patent Grants as Distributed By Year of Patent Application

	Pre 2002	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Total	30215	1017	944	885	884	769	791	752	840	802	806	696	500	173	23	40097
U.S. Origin	29977	1007	927	874	876	756	774	743	832	795	798	690	499	172	23	39743
Foreign Origin	238	10	17	11	8	13	17	9	8	7	8	6	1	1		354
GERMANY	30	2	4	2	3	1	1	2	3	1						49
UNITED KINGDOM	33	1	2		1	1	1	1				2				42
JAPAN	18		3	1		2	9			1	1			1		36
CANADA	31			1			1			1						34
ISRAEL	24	2	1		1	1		2			2					33
INDIA	19															19
FRANCE	7	2	1	1		1	1		1		1					15
ITALY	11			1	1		1									14
BRAZIL	4			1		1				2	2	2				12
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	8	1				2										11
KOREA, SOUTH	3	1	4				1									9
GREECE	7									1						8
AUSTRALIA	6								1							7
KENYA	2			1	1	1			2							7
SWITZERLAND	6															6
UKRAINE			1	1		1		1	1		1					6
SWEDEN	1			1			1				1		1			5
TURKEY	4											1				5
BELGIUM	3	1														4
NETHERLANDS	1							2		1						4
TAIWAN	3															3
NORWAY	2															2
YUGOSLAVIA / SERBIA-M	1		1													2
FINLAND	2															2
POLAND	1				1											2
CHINA, PEOPLE'S REPUB	2															2
SINGAPORE	1						1									2
THAILAND	1					1										2
EGYPT	2															2
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	1															1
VENEZUELA	1															1
BULGARIA	1															1
JORDAN	1															1
TANZANIA	1															1
AUSTRIA				1												1
DENMARK								1								1
Others (2)						1						1				2

[illegible]

Foreign Corporations	0
Foreign Government	0
Foreign Individuals	0

Part B

Ranked Listing of Organizations with Patent Grants

As Distributed By Year of Patent Grant
and
As Distributed By Year of Patent Application

---- Organizational Patenting (Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2015) ---- Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

	Pre 2002	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, NAVY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	7875	388	366	322	262	284	273	229	236	307	321	360	407	365	362	12357
Patents By Year of Application:	8715	351	355	325	288	247	303	268	324	310	322	246	205	82	16	12357
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ARMY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	5008	150	131	135	127	181	144	130	118	158	131	174	159	156	164	7066
Patents By Year of Application:	5355	163	168	193	185	146	97	109	122	134	128	133	97	31	5	7066
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	4540	45	43	40	22	22	23	17	23	38	27	37	44	29	29	4979
Patents By Year of Application:	4644	43	32	19	20	25	34	30	32	28	32	21	16	3	0	4979
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	2816	85	80	102	87	62	70	66	86	101	107	106	92	112	106	4078
Patents By Year of Application:	3023	116	96	87	88	97	99	81	93	89	84	70	43	12	0	4078
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AIR FORCE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	3261	76	68	55	55	49	43	46	51	46	46	52	58	54	60	4020
Patents By Year of Application:	3428	74	56	51	70	41	39	42	49	37	47	38	30	16	2	4020
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES																
Patents By Year of Grant:	1636	92	87	118	81	122	100	110	110	136	152	131	147	180	152	3354
Patents By Year of Application:	2092	146	127	97	112	105	107	100	118	120	93	71	54	12	0	3354
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	1288	51	63	41	29	39	26	31	27	41	56	54	57	71	61	1935
Patents By Year of Application:	1433	47	43	34	35	30	42	51	45	45	51	47	27	5	0	1935
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR																
Patents By Year of Grant:	457	12	7	11	9	1	7	1	5	3	1	3	1	2	4	524
Patents By Year of Application:	486	5	8	3	3	2	6	3	0	1	3	3	1	0	0	524
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	344	20	12	9	4	5	3	5	4	10	15	12	12	14	14	483
Patents By Year of Application:	382	12	2	4	8	4	7	16	13	9	7	9	7	3	0	483
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, POSTAL SERVICE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	11	1	4	2	13	14	19	20	12	42	25	37	35	23	23	281
Patents By Year of Application:	52	29	19	29	23	23	17	19	7	11	11	27	9	5	0	281
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DIRECTOR NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	99	10	15	10	9	17	12	19	12	27	11	8	12	7	0	268
Patents By Year of Application:	135	16	4	18	23	15	13	9	13	6	12	3	1	0	0	268

---- Organizational Patenting (Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2015) ---- Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

	Pre 2002	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	122	6	8	8	6	12	10	9	9	11	17	11	14	7	4	254
Patents By Year of Application:	138	7	17	10	17	15	9	10	11	6	6	6	2	0	0	254
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	153	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	160
Patents By Year of Application:	155	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	160
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS																
Patents By Year of Grant:	11	2	4	1	7	3	5	7	13	8	14	10	8	7	19	119
Patents By Year of Application:	24	5	10	10	8	7	9	9	6	4	6	14	5	2	0	119
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA																
Patents By Year of Grant:	62	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	65
Patents By Year of Application:	62	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	65
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	40	6	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	50
Patents By Year of Application:	48	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Patents By Year of Application:	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	3	3	2	0	14
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	1	2	2	3	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	14
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	3	10
Patents By Year of Application:	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	10
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	2	9
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	9
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Patents By Year of Application:	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ATTORNEY GENERAL																
Patents By Year of Grant:	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	6
Patents By Year of Application:	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6

--- Organizational Patenting

(Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2015) ---- Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

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