

Top Countries in USPTO and EPO Patents in 2013








2014-06-11









A sum total of 303,658 inventions have been patented in United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in 2013 and more than half of the granted patents in this office belonged to the USA, StatNano reported.

According to the report, [Japan](#), [South Korea](#) and [Germany](#) possessed the next positions in this ranking. 68,137 patents have been granted in the European Patent Office (EPO) in 2013.

USPTO and EPO are known as the two important patent offices in the world. According to statistical data obtained from Orbit website, a sum total of 371,795 patents have been registered in USPTO and EPO in 2013, among which 303,658 were patented in USPTO and 68,137 belonged to EPO. The number of patents in USPTO was four times higher than that in EPO, which shows special attention of global inventors and assignees in registration of patents in USPTO. Table 1 lists the number of total patents published by different countries across the world in USPTO and EPO in 2013. The countries have been ranked according to their position in USPTO ranking due to the importance of this patent office.

Table 1: Top Countries in Number of Patents in USPTO in 2013

Rank	Country	No. of Patents in USPTO	Share of Nano Patents from All Patents (%)	No. of Patents in EPO	Ratio of EPO Patents to USPTO
1	 USA	154972	7.9	15392	0.10
2	 Japan	55933	5.7	12433	0.22
3	 South Korea	16012	5.9	2009	0.13
4	 Germany	15421	5.7	14166	0.92
5	 Taiwan	13488	4.8	492	0.04
6	 France	6502	8.6	5118	0.79
7	 China	6495	6.5	998	0.15

8	 Canada	5746	4.6	932	0.16
9	 UK	4206	6.3	2208	0.52
10	 Switzerland	3942	6.7	3008	0.76
11	 The Netherlands	3652	10.9	2137	0.59
12	 Sweden	2949	2.8	1840	0.62
13	 Italy	2224	4.4	2440	1.10
14	 Australia	1522	6.6	342	0.22
15	 Finland	1372	4.4	681	0.50

By publishing 154,972 patents in USPTO, the [USA](#) has published more than 50% of all patents in this office, and it ranked first in the world. [Japan](#), [South Korea](#), [Germany](#), [Taiwan](#), [France](#), [China](#), [Canada](#), [UK](#) and [Switzerland](#) ranked second to tenth, respectively. A comparison between the top 10 countries in the publication of patents in all scientific and technological aspects and the top 10 countries in the publication of nanotechnology patents shows that except for [Canada](#), all other countries have the same rank in the both rankings. The abovementioned 10 countries have published more than 90% of all USPTO patents.

The [United States](#) ranked first in EPO by publishing 153,92 patents that included over 45% of all patents in this office. The top 10 countries in EPO have published more than 90% of all EPO patents as well.



Figure 1: Share of Different Continents in the Number of Patents in USPTO.



Figure 2: Share of Different Continents in the Number of Patents in EPO.

There is observed a growth of more than 8.7% in the number of patents in the both offices

EPO and USPTO in 2013 in comparison with 2012. In addition, the growth in nanotechnology patents has been higher than that in other scientific and technological fields in 2013. It proves that nanotechnology has been among the advanced sciences in the world, and it has had higher growth in comparison with the average growth in other sciences.



Figure 3: Growth of Patents in 2013 Compared to 2012 in EPO and USPTO.

Nanotechnology patents have a share of about 7% and 6.8% of all patents in USPTO and EPO, respectively. About half of [Romania](#)'s patents in USPTO are related to nanotechnology, and this country ranked first from this point of view. [Lithuania](#), [Iran](#), [Estonia](#) and [Croatia](#) possessed the highest ranks in this regard after [Romania](#) by possessing 33.3%, 30.8%, 29.4% and 24% respectively.



Figure 4: Ratio of Nanotechnology Patents to All Patents in USPTO for Different Countries.