

■ Table 1.8.4

### Patents relevant to the world market - an international comparison

Country	Number per one million inhabitants <sup>1</sup>								
	1991	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Denmark	m	255	319	335	351	358	372	384	423
Germany	156	332	385	371	381	398	390	386	361
Finland	113	383	394	366	381	407	408	406	439
France	96	155	181	193	184	193	191	187	172
Italy	44	86	96	100	102	102	106	109	107
Netherlands	m	263	237	301	292	315	316	316	313
Sweden	148	407	414	445	471	478	470	484	456
Spain	m	30	61	60	60	61	65	66	65
<b>European Union<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>65</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>161</b>
China	m	2	12	27	34	39	41	47	50
Japan	100	214	343	387	407	432	448	430	411
Canada	33	104	133	113	114	110	114	112	117
Korea	m	61	247	341	343	347	383	410	433
Russian Federation	m	5	8	8	9	10	9	9	9
Switzerland	m	520	620	612	614	631	650	640	643
United Kingdom	79	154	136	141	137	140	138	138	132
United States	89	193	174	200	201	204	203	204	204

m = data not available.

1 Inventions registered in the European Patent Office or at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

2 The category European Union represents those countries that were members of the EU in the respective year of reference (as of 2020, EU countries does not include United Kingdom).

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Source: Calculations of the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research; Data base: European Patent Office (PATSTAT), OECD, World Bank

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