

Patent applications

Dimension - Science & Technology

Associated Key Factor:

Diffusion and uptake of technologies by the market

Data Source:

Eurostat

L-2920 Luxembourg

http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/ne-wcronos/info/notmeth/en/theme1/string/innore_pat.htm

<http://europa.eu.int/eurostat>

General Availability:

Reporting unit: Patents

Reporting level: national, regional, european

Reporting period: annually

Data available from 1989 to 2000

Availability by country:

1989 - 2000: EU-15+AC

The indicator:

Patents applications to the European Patent Office (EPO)

Description

Patent applications are counted per country and per million inhabitants per country.

How is it measured?

"Patent applications are counted according to the year in which they were filed at the EPO from national bureaus and are broken down according to the International Patent Classification (IPC). They are assigned according to the inventor's place of residence, using fractional counting if multiple inventors or IPC classes to avoid double counting." (Eurostat)

What are the advantages of the indicator?

The fixed definition of a patent makes this indicator very comparable across EU countries.

What are the disadvantages of the Indicator?

The existence of a patent does not give an indication on whether or when the invention is realised or applied.

What is the policy relevance of the indicator?

Patent applications is a standard measure for innovation.

The Indicator is relevant for the following pathways of the FORESIGHT FOR TRANSPORT exercise:

	Transport Impact	External Determining Variable	Intermediate Variable	Contextual Information
Technological innovation and diffusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>