

Inventions & Startups in Figures

Figures from the European Patent Office (EPO), 2008¹:

| | | |
|---|---------|--|
| Total number of European patent applications filed: | 146,561 | |
| Number of European patents granted: | 59,819 | |
| Number of patent applications from Germany: | 26,653 | |
| Number of patents granted for Germany: | 13,498 | |

Countries that filed the most patent applications with the EPO, 2008¹:

| | | |
|--------------|--------|--|
| USA: | 25.5 % | |
| Germany: | 18.2 % | |
| Japan: | 15.7 % | |
| France: | 6.2 % | |
| Netherlands: | 5.0 % | |

Average age and share of women among inventors in Germany (by sector)²:

| Sector | Age | Share of women |
|------------------------|-----|----------------|
| Agriculture | 51 | 2 % |
| Metallurgy | 53 | 3 % |
| Biotechnology | 44 | 20 % |
| Information technology | 43 | 1 % |

Share of adult population involved in a startup or new company, 2008 (total entrepreneurial activity, TEA)³:

| | | |
|--------------|--------|--|
| USA: | 10.8 % | |
| France: | 5.6 % | |
| Netherlands: | 5.2 % | |
| Germany: | 3.8 % | |
| Belgium: | 2.9 % | |

Startups in technology-intensive industries (2002-2008)⁴:

| | | |
|----------|------|--|
| Germany: | 12 % | |
| UK: | 7 % | |
| USA: | 6 % | |

Number of new businesses set up in Germany⁵:

| | | |
|-------|---------|--|
| 2003: | 508,600 | |
| 2004: | 572,600 | |
| 2005: | 495,450 | |
| 2006: | 471,300 | |
| 2007: | 426,000 | |
| 2008: | 399,000 | |

Share of scientists in public sector research institutions in Germany who leave each year to set up a company: 1.25 %⁶

Sources

- 1 → **European Patent Office, 2008 annual report:** [http://documents.epo.org/projects/babylon/eponet.nsf/o/7943587024b8e445c12575a00056831b/\\$FILE/epo_annual_report_2008.pdf](http://documents.epo.org/projects/babylon/eponet.nsf/o/7943587024b8e445c12575a00056831b/$FILE/epo_annual_report_2008.pdf)
- 2 → **Tivig, T., P. Hetze, Deutschland im Demografischen Wandel (2007)**
- 3 → **International Entrepreneurship:** http://www.internationalentrepreneurship.com/total_entrepreneur_activity.asp
- 4 → **Global Entrepreneurship Monitor:** <http://www.wigeo.uni-hannover.de/fileadmin/wigeo/GEM/gem2008.pdf>
- 5 → **GründerZeiten Nr. 01: Existenzgründung in Deutschland (published by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology):** <http://www.bmwi.de/Dateien/BMWi/PDF/foerderdatenbank/gruenderzeiten-thema1-existenzgruendungen-in-deutschland,property=pdf,bereich=bmwi,sprache=de,rwb=true.pdf>
- 6 → **Spinoff-Gründungen aus der öffentlichen Forschung in Deutschland (published by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research):** http://www.exist.de/imperia/md/content/studien/16_zew_studie_spinoff_gruendungen.pdf