

FOI Release
Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Statistics of patents filed from UK locations

Date of release: 11 July 2014

Information request:

I'm interested in the volume of UK patents by local authority for work we're doing on how HS2 will help to rebalance the UK economy.

Table 4: Patents granted per 100,000 population of [Cities Outlook 2014](#) (Centre for Cities, 2014) cites the source of their LA level data as 'Intellectual Property Office 2013, FOI release: Patents granted registered by postcode, 2012 data'.

I've had a look for this data in the FOI log on your website at <http://www.ipo.gov.uk/foi/foi-disclosure/foi-log.htm> but it doesn't appear to have been updated since March 2013.

Please could we have a copy of the FOI data release sent to the CfC? Unfortunately their report doesn't contain the data for all of the local authorities I am interested in, and the version in their published database collates the results for local authorities into groups they have defined as 'Primary Urban Areas'. If there is a 2013 update for this data that would be preferable, however, if not available, the 2012 data would be fine.

Information released:

The Intellectual Property Office cannot provide you with figures of patents applied for or granted to applicants within specific UK geographical areas, however we have recently published an analysable dataset which includes the post code areas of applicants, which can be compared with a standard list of post codes in use within any area you care to define.

There is a link to the data on our web page <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ipo-patent-data>.

A few of points to note:

- 1) This is patent publication data. Patents are published twice, the first time between search and examination stage, as indicated by the date in the 'A' publication column. This usually occurs about 18 months after application. If a patent is eventually granted, on average about 4-5 years following application, this is indicated by a date in the 'B' publication column. (If you are not familiar with patent processing you may find the timetable at <https://www.gov.uk/patents-step-by-step> useful).
- 2) This long timescale means that the information on applications for 2013 and the latter half of 2012 will not be complete as we cannot legally disclose any pre-publication information beyond the brief bibliographic details entered into the Searchable Patents Journal (applicant/title/date lodged). This also means that any applications which never reached 'A' publication stage will not be included in the dataset.
- 3) The dataset is a 'snapshot' taken on 31 December 2013, so some applications will since have been granted and others already granted may since have lapsed.
- 4) To identify patents from UK based applicants/owners, filter for 'GB' patents in the country code column and by year as required.
- 5) A number of patents will not be identifiable as being filed from a specific region if the

post code was omitted upon application – it is not mandatory to include the post code as part of an applicant’s address.

- 6) We also publish UK economic regional data in our Facts & Figures, available as PDF and in Excel from the same web page:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/patent-trade-mark-design-and-hearing-data-2013-and-2014> .