



Patents in Brazil: Key Developments and Trends in 2024

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The Brazilian Patent and Trademark Office (BPTO) Industrial Property Statistical Yearbook 2024, recently released, provides a comprehensive overview of the recent developments in Brazil’s innovation and intellectual property (IP) landscape. The document presents updated statistics and indicators on the use of IP rights across the country, offering valuable input for public policy design, corporate strategies, and academic research on innovation.

The 2024 edition underscores that innovation in Brazil is advancing, with private R&D investments growing by 2%. The sectors leading R&D efforts include automotive, extractive industries, pharmaceuticals, and oil & gas.

The paper also highlights important developments in Brazil’s patent landscape. **A total of 27,701 patent applications were filed last year**, reflecting a stable number of applications compared to 2023. This overall stability, however, underscores contrasting dynamics between residents and foreign applicants.

Countries of Origin of Patent Applications

In 2024, Brazil became the leading country of origin for patent filings at the BPTO, accounting for 30% of total applications and surpassing the United States (25%) for the first time.

Figure A3 – Main Countries of Origin of Patent Filings at BPTO

Position (2024)	Country and share (%) of total filings in 2024	Number of filings			Variation (%)	
		2015	2023	2024	2024/2023	2024/2015
1st	Brazil (30%)	7,376	7,435	8,301	11.6	12.5
2nd	United States (25%)	10,29	7,683	7,034	-8.4	-31.6
3rd	China (7%)	771	1,665	2,015	21.0	161.3
4th	Germany (5%)	2,504	1,634	1,411	-13.6	-43.7
5th	Switzerland (4%)	1,297	1,365	1,121	-17.9	-13.6
6th	Japan (4%)	2,154	1,077	1,069	-0.7	-50.4
7th	France (3%)	1,778	880	813	-7.6	-54.3
8th	United Kingdom (3%)	747	749	811	8.3	8.6
9th	Italy (2%)	695	618	547	-11.5	-21.3
10th	Netherlands (2%)	1,135	526	495	-5.9	-56.4
Top 10 countries		28,747	23,632	23,617	-0.1	-17.8
Total patent filings		33,084	27,918	27,701	-0.8	-16.3



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Technological Fields

In 2024, foreign patent applicants focused on Pharmaceuticals (11.2%), Digital Communication (9.9%), Biotechnology (9.3%), Fine Organic Chemistry (8.1%), and Basic Materials Chemistry (5.9%).

Position	Foreing Patent Applicants 	
	Technological Field	Participation
1st	<i>Pharmaceuticals</i>	11,2%
2nd	<i>Digital communication</i>	9,9%
3rd	<i>Biotechnology</i>	9,3%
4th	<i>Fine organic chemistry</i>	8,1%
5th	<i>Basic material chemistry</i>	5,9%
6th	<i>Medical technology</i>	4,7%
7th	<i>Other special machines</i>	4,3%
8th	<i>Transport</i>	3,3%
9th	<i>Computer technology</i>	3,2%
10th	<i>Civil engineering</i>	3,1%
		62,9%
Total		100%

Patent Grants

In 2024, the BPTO granted 12,914 patents (12,096 invention patents, 781 utility models, and 37 certificates of addition).

Looking ahead

The year 2024 marked a significant milestone in Brazil's patent system, positioning the country as the leading recipient of patent applications in Latin America. The increasing participation of major Tech and Pharma companies, along with universities, highlights Brazil's growing innovation capacity. This achievement is largely attributed to the efforts of the BPTO, supported by the Brazilian Ministry of Development, Industry, and Commerce, in raising awareness about the importance of intellectual property within the country's innovation ecosystem. In addition, the BPTO has announced the hiring of 120 new staff, 40 of whom will join the patents sector. The new recruits are expected to begin working in six months, following the completion of their training program.

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