

Data Desk

Quick start guide

1. Overview

The Data Desk is a public web interface and a gated exchange platform for official EPO data and statistics. It allows users to navigate, access and download EPO data and indicators based on specific methodologies and definitions. By using dedicated dashboards, visualisations and expert views, users can explore a wide range of topics in greater detail.

It will be continuously updated and expanded to reflect new developments and user needs. It is aimed at data scientists, policymakers, scholars, journalists and anyone interested in the dynamics of innovation.

2. Getting started

Welcome to the Data Desk! This section will help you to access and begin exploring the tool with ease.

2.1 Accessing the Data Desk

You can access the Data Desk at datadesk.epo.org. There is no need to create an account, so you can start exploring right away.

2.2 Supported browsers and devices

For the best experience, we recommend using the latest version of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari. The platform is designed for use on desktop computers and tablets.

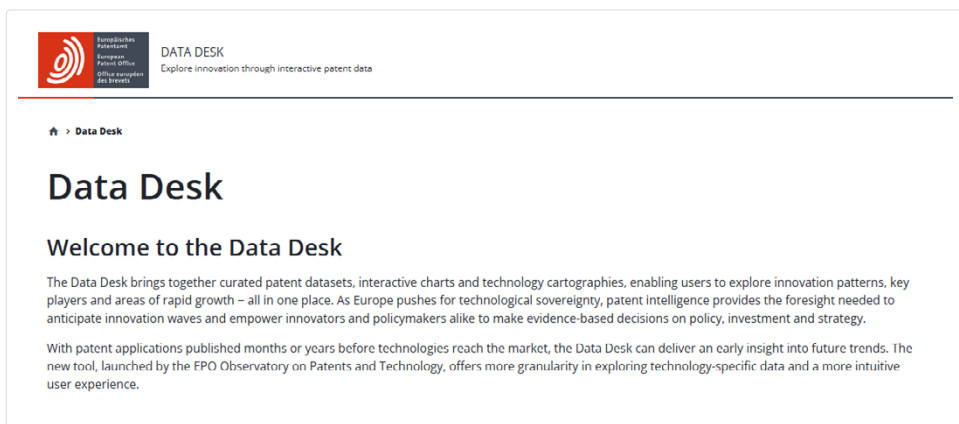
3. Navigating the Data Desk

The Data Desk is designed to facilitate intuitive exploration and quick access to a wide range of data and statistics. Here's how to find your way around:

3.1 Homepage overview

The Data Desk home page provides an overview of the available content and helps you quickly access relevant datasets and tools. It is divided into three main sections: an introduction, a set of thematic collections, and additional data services.

At the top of the page, the header and introductory section present the purpose of the Data Desk and highlight its role in exploring innovation through interactive patent data. This section includes a short description of the tool and its key benefits, along with a visual banner.



The screenshot shows the top section of the Data Desk homepage. At the top left is the EPO logo. To its right is the text 'DATA DESK' followed by the tagline 'Explore innovation through interactive patent data'. Below this is a horizontal line. Under the line, on the left, is a small icon of a house and the text '> Data Desk'. To the right of this is the main heading 'Data Desk' in a large, bold font. Below the heading is the subheading 'Welcome to the Data Desk'. Underneath this is a paragraph of text: 'The Data Desk brings together curated patent datasets, interactive charts and technology cartographies, enabling users to explore innovation patterns, key players and areas of rapid growth – all in one place. As Europe pushes for technological sovereignty, patent intelligence provides the foresight needed to anticipate innovation waves and empower innovators and policymakers alike to make evidence-based decisions on policy, investment and strategy.' Below this paragraph is another paragraph: 'With patent applications published months or years before technologies reach the market, the Data Desk can deliver an early insight into future trends. The new tool, launched by the EPO Observatory on Patents and Technology, offers more granularity in exploring technology-specific data and a more intuitive user experience.'

The **Collections** section allows you to browse patent data by topic. Each collection brings together curated datasets and interactive visualisations, making it easier to explore specific aspects of innovation. The main collections include:

- **Key trends and indicators**, providing an overview of patent activity and major developments
- **Regional and country profiles**, enabling comparisons across countries and regions
- **Strategic technologies in focus**, offering detailed insights into specific technology fields
- **Performance of deep tech startups**, highlighting the performance of European startups with patent applications at the EPO

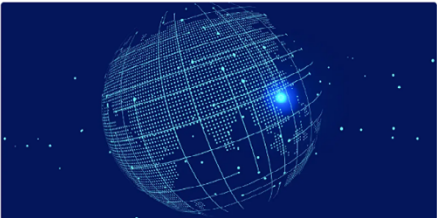
Over time, new collections may be added to expand the range of topics covered.

Collections

Browse our collections to explore patent data by topic. Each collection brings together curated historical datasets to help you track key developments.



Key trends and indicators
Get a quick overview of European patent activity. Explore main trends in filings, grants and the Unitary Patent across technologies and countries.



Regional and country profiles
Compare patent activity across EPO countries and other world regions. Discover national technology strengths and innovation capacity.



Strategic technologies in focus
Dive deeper into specific technology fields. Explore detailed maps of selected emerging technologies with even greater granularity and identify leading countries and top applicants.



Performance of deep tech startups
Monitor the performance of European startups with patent applications at the EPO.

Finally, the **last section** provides access to additional tools and resources.

EPO technology dashboard 2025



EPO Technology Dashboard
See our comprehensive yearly review of the figures for recent activity in the global patent system. Get insights into emerging technology trends over the last year.

4. Accessing data displays

4.1 Data collections

All data displays in the Data Desk are categorised into thematic collections, making it easier to explore patent data from different perspectives:



Key trends and indicators

Get a high-level snapshot of European patent activity, with key figures on filings, grants and the Unitary Patent across technologies and regions.



Regional and country profiles

Explore how patent activity varies across countries and regions and identify national strengths and innovation performance.



Strategic technologies in focus

Analyse specific technology fields in depth with the help of detailed visualisations, highlighting leading countries, emerging areas and top applicants.



Performance of deep tech startups

Monitor the performance of European startups with patent applications at the EPO.

On entering each collection, you will see a variety of interactive data displays allowing you to explore patent data from different angles. These displays typically include charts, maps and tables that you can navigate and customise according to your needs. See section 4.2 below for some examples of how to navigate a dashboard.

4.2 Interacting with a dashboard

The various dashboards in the Data Desk follow different structures, depending on the type of data presented. To demonstrate how to interact with these dashboards, this section showcases key features and navigation elements, using the technology cartography for energy storage – part of the Strategic technologies in focus collection – as an example.

4.2.1 Interacting with a technology cartography

Selecting the time period

Select one or more years

- 2025 is selected by default.
- To display a different year, select the one you want.
- Use Ctrl + click to select more than one year at the same time.

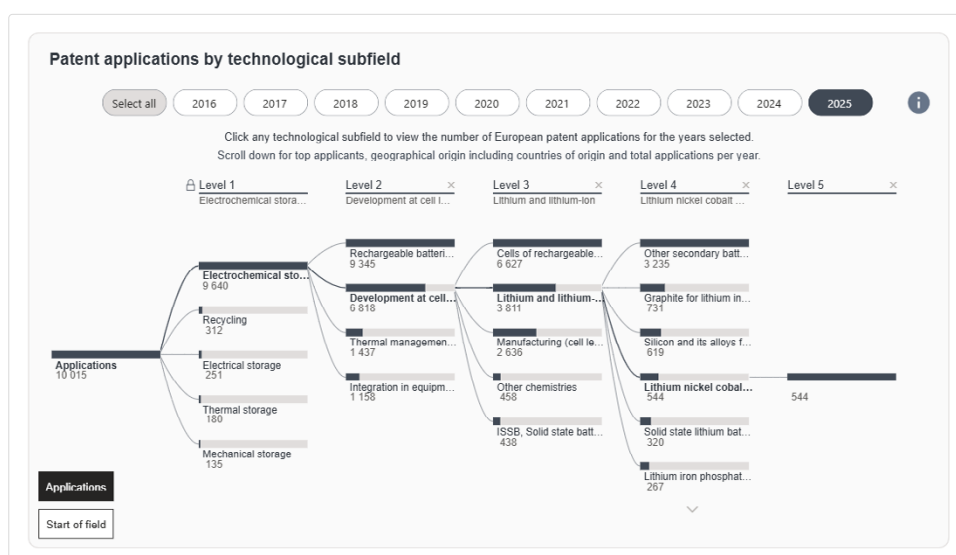
Deselect all and **Select all** options are also available on the left-hand side.



Exploring the cartography visual

The default cartography visual shows, for example:

- around 10k European applications were filed with the EPO in 2025,
- 9.6k of which were in “Electrochemical storage”,
- 6.8k of which were in “Development at cell”,
- 3.8k of which were in “Lithium and lithium-ion”,
- 544 of which were in “Lithium nickel cobalt manganese oxide”



Select the bottom left button “Start of field” to switch from Applications count to view the year by which 5% of European Patent applications in each field had been filed.

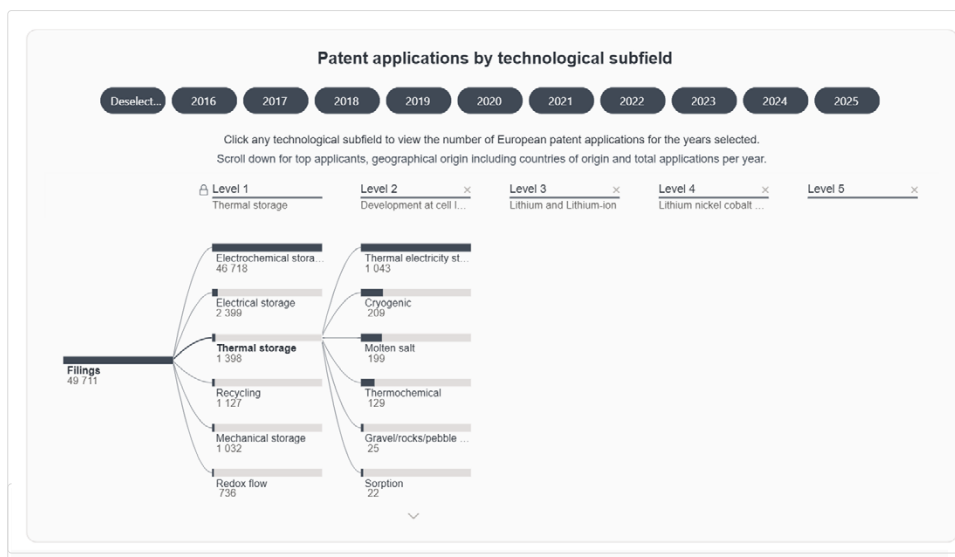
Note 1: Selecting all years displays total activity over the full ten-year period. Selecting specific years or year ranges (e.g. 2016–2018 vs. 2023–2025) helps you compare how technologies have evolved and identify a growth or decline in sub-technologies.

Note 2: Selecting a dark horizontal bar displays the full name of the selected technology field below the visual. All related charts update automatically (e.g. top applicants, geographic origin, yearly totals).

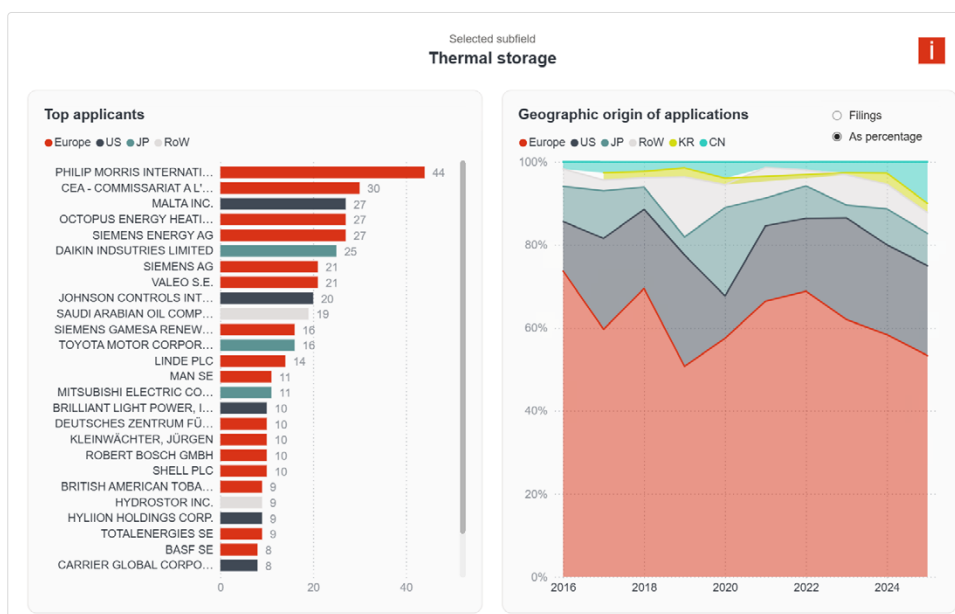
Note 3: Hovering over a bar displays a trend line, allowing you to quickly assess whether a technology field has grown over the past ten years.

Interactivity – typical use case

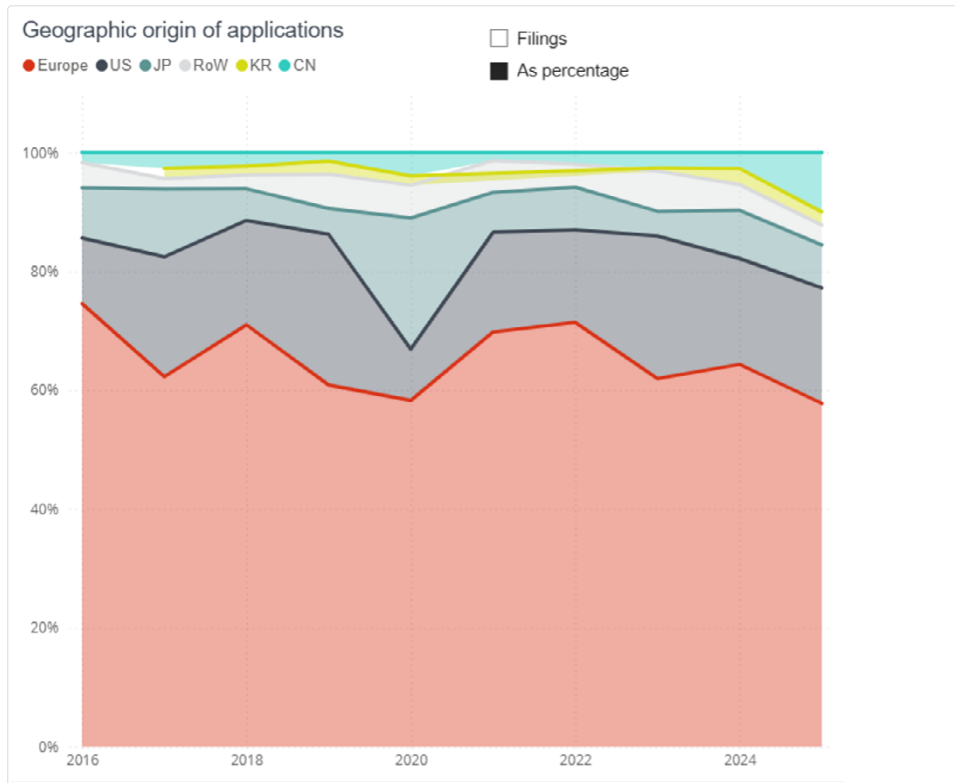
- Select all years, then choose **Thermal storage** (Level 1, 3rd item).



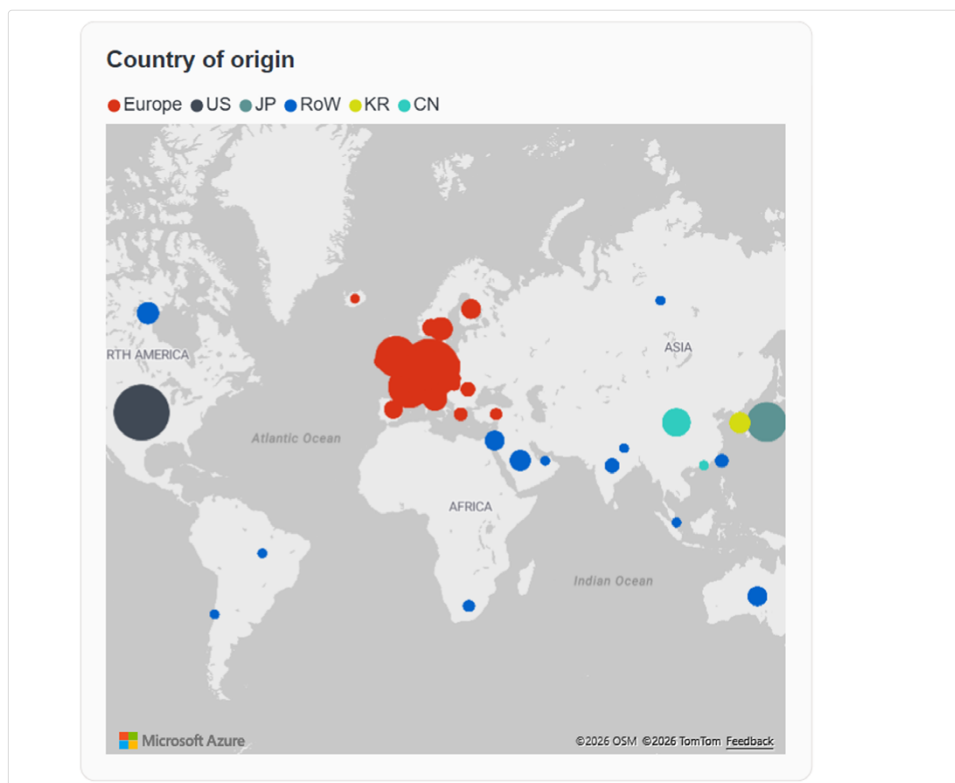
- Scroll down to view the top applicants in **Thermal storage** over the last ten years.



- In the chart on the right, select **As percentage** to analyse changes in market share (e.g. Europe's share).



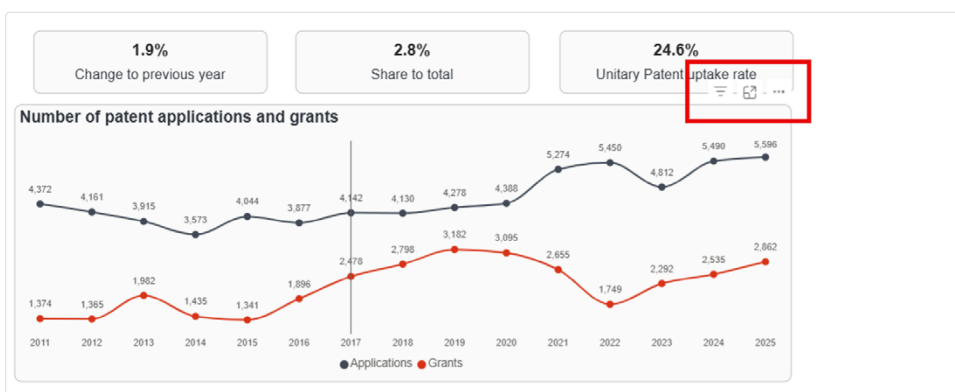
- Scroll to **Filings by country** and zoom into Europe.



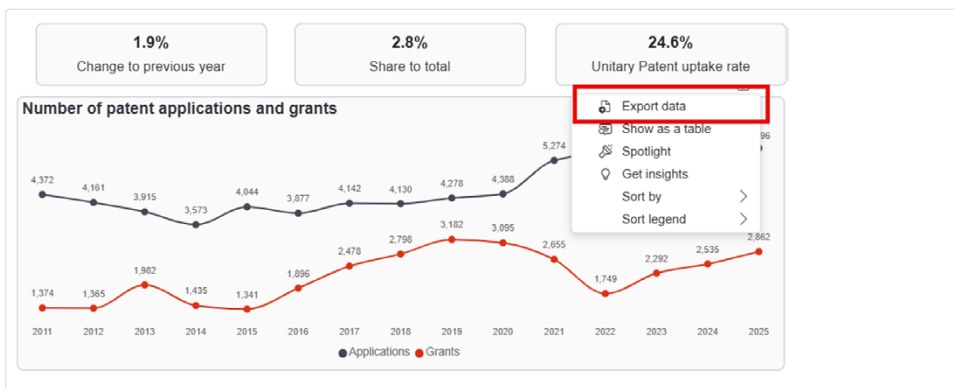
5. Exporting the data

It is possible to export data from the dashboards by following the steps below, enabling you to download and reuse the information for further analysis. Please appropriately cite the European Patent Office and its Data Desk product when using the data.

- i. Select the visual from which you would like to download data.
A small menu will appear in the top right-hand corner



- ii. Select the three dots icon to display the further menu options, then select **Export data**.



- iii. A new window will appear with different download options. Select the option and file format that best suits your needs, then hit the **Export** button on the bottom right-hand side.

Which data do you want to export?

Export your data in the format that suits your needs. If you have a lot of data, the number of rows you export might be limited depending on the file type you select. [Learn more about exporting data](#)

☐

Data with current layout

This option is only available for table and matrix visuals

☒

Summarized data

Export the summarized data used to create your visual (for example, sums, averages, and medians).

☐

Underlying data

The report author turned off this option

File format:

.xlsx (Excel 150,000-row max)

Export Cancel

6. Troubleshooting and support

Contact: If you require support with accessing displays, encounter any technical issues or have suggestions to help improve our services, you can fill in our [contact form](#) or send us an email at support@epo.org. We value your input and are committed to ensuring a positive experience for all users of the Data Desk.

FAQ: You can also visit our [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#), where we answer some common queries and provide additional guidance on using the Data Desk. This is a quick and convenient way to find solutions and learn more about the available features and resources.