* Variables
  + **Patent**

Description: A patent grants to the owner an exclusive right to make, use, or sell (including license) the invention embodied by the patent, and is issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Generally, the term of a new patent is 20 years from the date on which the application for the patent was filed in the United States or, in special cases, from the date an earlier related application was filed, subject to the payment of maintenance fees. U.S. patent grants are effective only within the United States, U.S. territories, and U.S. possessions. Under certain circumstances, patent term extensions or adjustments may be available. The patent data provided on this website are for utility patents only. Utility patents may be granted to anyone who invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, article of manufacture, or compositions of matters, or any new useful improvement thereof.

* + **State**

Description: All U.S. states

* + **Year**

Description: Record year

* Source of Data
  + Clustermapping / [U.S. Census Bureau](http://www.census.gov/)
* Notes on how to update
  + Update annually