

2.c. TOP 20 GREAT INVENTORS  
RANKED IN TERMS OF LIFETIME PATENTS, SAMPLED CITATIONS AND HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

Inventor	PATENT		PATENT		INVENTOR		INVENTOR	
	No.	Index	Inventor	No.	Index	Inventor	No.	Index
Thomas Edison	1093	453	Henry A. Wood	63	104	Charles Kettering	85	183
Carleton Ellis	753	138	Elihu Thomson	52	252	Thomas Edison	79	453
Elihu Thomson	696	252	Thomas E. Murray	51	105	George Westinghouse	76	272
Henry A. Wood	440	104	Carleton Ellis	44	138	John M. Browning	53	107
Walter Turner	343	78	Thomas Edison	43	453	Elihu Thomson	44	252
George Westinghouse	306	272	Howard R. Hughes	37	95	Carleton Ellis	37	138
Thomas E. Murray	270	105	Simon Lake	33	192	Elmer Sperry	36	210
Elmer Sperry	264	209	Elmer Sperry	29	210	John R. Rogers	35	80
John W. Hyatt	205	130	Hiram P. Maxim	27	106	Walter Turner	30	78
Luther Crowell	192	140	Peter Hewitt	24	82	Louis Goddu	27	73
Peter Hewitt	187	82	Henry A. House	24	78	Ottmar Mergenthaler	27	127
Horace Wyman	179	81	Marshall B. Lloyd	24	89	Nikola Tesla	27	285
Rudolf Eickemeyer	169	85	George Westinghouse	23	272	Benjamin Lamme	26	121
Reginald Fessenden	168	103	Thomas Midgley	22	198	Peter Hewitt	22	82
John Thomson	165	78	Charles VanDepoele	22	142	Henry E. Warren	19	103
Charles Fortescue	157	113	James H. Rand	21	125	Elisha Gray	17	98
Sidney H. Short	153	91	Nikola Tesla	21	303	Alexander G. Bell	16	472
Charles Kettering	147	183	James E. Emerson	16	72	John Appleby	15	73
James J. Wood	139	87	Richard H. Rice	15	79	Charles Fortescue	15	113
Patrick Delany	136	98	John M. Browning	14	107	Herman Hollerith	14	103

*Notes and Sources:*

For a description of the data set, see the text and notes to other tables. The index of historical importance comprises a measure of the space allocated to the inventor in the *Dictionary of American Biography*, relative to the average (index=100) for all inventors.