

TABLE 57. Importance of trade secrets, by industry and company size: 2012
(Percent)

Industry and company size	NAICS code	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
All industries ^a	21–23, 31–33, 42–81	58.3	20.8	20.9
Manufacturing industries	31–33	62.1	20.7	17.2
Food	311	74.6	10.9	14.5
Beverage and tobacco products	312	70.0	15.0	15.0
Textile, apparel, and leather products	313–16	55.1	27.3	17.6
Wood products	321	D	D	D
Paper	322	63.8	19.7	16.5
Printing and related support activities	323	66.7	D	D
Petroleum and coal products	324	D	D	D
Chemicals	325	69.7	18.1	12.2
Basic chemicals	3251	77.1	10.3	12.6
Resin, synthetic rubber, and artificial synthetic fibers and filaments	3252	D	D	D
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemical	3253	D	D	D
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	66.1	20.7	13.2
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	62.9	24.2	12.9
Paint, coating, adhesive, and other chemicals	3255, 3259	68.0	22.3	9.7
Plastics and rubber products	326	64.1	21.1	14.8
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	74.2	15.6	10.2
Primary metals	331	62.3	15.1	22.7
Fabricated metal products	332	51.5	22.3	26.2
Machinery	333	53.0	26.2	20.8
Agricultural implement	33311	39.2	37.8	23.0
Semiconductor machinery	333295	60.5	24.5	15.0
Engine, turbine, and power transmission equipment	3336	51.9	21.4	26.7
Other machinery	other 333	53.6	26.0	20.3
Computer and electronic products	334	70.6	17.4	12.1
Communications equipment	3342	59.1	31.1	9.8
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	79.2	11.6	9.2
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	70.6	13.4	16.0
Electromedical, electrotherapeutic, and irradiation apparatus	334510, 334517	72.1	23.1	4.8
Search, detection, navigation, guidance, aeronautical, and nautical system and instrument	334511	72.8	5.0	22.2
Other measuring and controlling device	other 3345	69.5	11.8	18.6
Other computer and electronic products	other 334	69.5	20.2	10.3
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	51.9	29.4	18.7
Transportation equipment	336	47.8	20.8	31.4
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361–63	63.2	20.8	16.0
Aerospace products and parts	3364	D	D	D
Aircraft, aircraft engine, and aircraft parts	336411–13	21.0	21.2	57.8
Guided missile, space vehicle, and related parts	336414–15, 336419	D	D	D
Military armored vehicle, tank, and tank component	336992	D	D	D
Other transportation	other 336	D	D	D
Furniture and related products	337	53.7	21.9	24.4
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	60.9	24.0	15.0
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	57.8	23.8	18.4
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	67.0	24.4	8.5
Nonmanufacturing industries	21–23, 42–81	54.3	21.0	S
Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	78.6	11.0	10.4
Utilities	22	36.2	42.2	21.6
Wholesale trade	42	S	S	S
Electronic shopping and electronic auctions	454111–12	S	S	S
Transportation and warehousing	48–49	D	D	D
Information	51	63.6	21.1	15.4
Publishing	511	69.0	16.1	15.0
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	S	S	S
Software publishers	5112	70.2	16.4	13.4
Telecommunications	517	51.8	25.9	22.3

TABLE 57. Importance of trade secrets, by industry and company size: 2012
(Percent)

Industry and company size	NAICS code	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	67.1	18.9	14.0
Other information	other 51	39.1	S	16.4
Finance and insurance	52	50.0	D	D
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	D	D	D
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works)	533	D	D	0.0
Other real estate and rental and leasing	other 53	D	D	D
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	49.9	S	S
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	45.1	19.5	35.4
Computer systems design and related services	5415	S	S	S
Scientific research and development services	5417	55.0	S	S
Biotechnology research and development	541711	D	D	D
Physical, engineering, and life sciences (except biotechnology) research and development	541712	S	S	S
Social sciences and humanities research and development	541720	D	D	D
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	other 54	60.3	11.5	28.1
Health care services	621–23	D	D	D
Other nonmanufacturing	23, 44–45 (excluding 454111–12), 55–56, 624, 71–72, 81	57.3	24.2	18.6
All companies (number of domestic employees)	–	58.3	20.8	20.9
Small companies ^b				
5–499	–	56.2	21.0	22.8
5–99	–	56.7	19.5	23.8
5–49	–	53.8	19.3	26.9
5–9	–	69.1	7.9	22.9
10–24	–	53.7	S	S
25–49	–	47.7	25.7	26.6
50–99	–	64.3	20.0	15.6
100–249	–	53.7	22.4	23.9
250–499	–	58.5	25.7	15.8
Medium and large companies				
500–999	–	61.2	22.9	16.0
1,000–4,999	–	65.3	20.1	14.6
5,000–9,999	–	69.8	20.5	9.7
10,000–24,999	–	76.5	16.2	7.3
25,000 or more	–	80.7	11.2	8.2

D = data withheld to avoid disclosing operations of individual companies; S = data withheld as more than 50% of the estimate is a combination of imputation and reweighting to account for nonresponse.

NAICS = 2007 North American Industry Classification System.

^a Statistics are representative of companies in the United States that were eligible to receive Form BRDI-1 and performed or funded R&D. These statistics are not comparable to estimates from previous years, as those estimates are representative of all companies in the United States.

^b The upper bound is based on the U.S. Small Business Administration's definition of a small business; the Business R&D and Innovation Survey does not include companies with fewer than five domestic employees.

NOTES: The industry classification is based on the dominant business code for domestic R&D performance, where available. For companies that did not report business codes, the classification used for sampling was assigned.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, and U.S. Census Bureau, Business R&D and Innovation Survey, 2012.