

TABLE 63. Importance of design patents, by industry and company size: 2013  
(Percent)<sup>a</sup>

Industry and company size	NAICS code	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
All industries	21–23, 31–33, 42–81	24.3	27.4	48.3
Manufacturing industries	31–33	30.2	29.5	40.4
Food	311	17.4	21.6	61.0
Beverage and tobacco products	312	21.1	36.9	42.0
Textile, apparel, and leather products	313–16	42.9	35.7	21.4
Wood products	321	33.3	D	D
Paper	322	14.3	31.1	54.6
Printing and related support activities	323	20.0	27.3	52.7
Petroleum and coal products	324	26.2	26.2	47.7
Chemicals	325	18.1	23.3	58.6
Basic chemicals	3251	11.0	18.8	70.1
Resin, synthetic rubber, and artificial synthetic fibers and filaments	3252	30.8	23.0	46.2
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemical	3253	22.7	15.2	62.1
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	17.3	23.7	59.0
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	35.9	36.5	27.6
Paint, coating, adhesive, and other chemicals	3255, 3259	11.9	22.9	65.2
Plastics and rubber products	326	27.5	28.2	44.2
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	26.4	38.2	35.4
Primary metals	331	27.6	23.8	48.6
Fabricated metal products	332	27.3	29.0	43.7
Machinery	333	23.5	37.0	39.5
Agricultural implement	33311	19.9	64.8	15.3
Semiconductor machinery	333295	21.1	25.5	53.4
Engine, turbine, and power transmission equipment	3336	24.4	26.0	49.6
Other machinery	other 333	24.2	35.3	40.6
Computer and electronic products	334	19.9	39.9	40.2
Communications equipment	3342	23.5	47.5	29.1
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	16.4	27.9	55.7
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	24.2	33.1	42.7
Electromedical, electrotherapeutic, and irradiation apparatus	334510, 334517	33.6	40.4	26.0
Search, detection, navigation, guidance, aeronautical, and nautical system and instrument	334511	30.4	31.6	38.0
Other measuring and controlling device	other 3345	18.6	30.1	51.3
Other computer and electronic products	other 334	17.1	61.4	21.5
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	34.7	33.7	31.6
Transportation equipment	336	49.1	21.4	29.5
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361, 3362, 3363	58.8	18.1	23.1
Aerospace products and parts	3364	29.7	27.8	42.5
Aircraft, aircraft engine, and aircraft parts	336411–13	31.1	28.2	40.7
Guided missile, space vehicle, and related parts	336414–15, 336419	D	D	60.2
Military armored vehicle, tank, and tank components	336992	D	D	D
Other transportation	other 336	42.0	22.6	35.4
Furniture and related products	337	60.0	23.3	16.7
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	59.0	20.2	20.8
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	38.4	29.6	32.0
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	77.7	11.7	10.6
Nonmanufacturing industries	21–23, 42–81	16.8	24.8	58.4
Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	18.4	33.0	48.6
Utilities	22	S	S	S
Wholesale trade	42	S	S	S
Electronic shopping and electronic auctions	454111–12	44.4	D	D
Transportation and warehousing	48–49	D	D	57.1
Information	51	14.0	27.2	58.8
Publishing	511	13.2	26.2	60.6
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	0.0	D	D

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Software publishers	5112	13.3	26.0	60.7
Telecommunications	517	12.7	35.5	51.7
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	15.1	28.0	56.9
Other information	other 51	14.8	24.2	61.0
Finance and insurance	52	8.3	10.4	81.3
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	D	D	55.6
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works)	533	D	D	D
Other real estate and rental and leasing	other 53	D	D	D
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	19.6	26.6	53.8
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	37.2	15.3	47.5
Computer systems design and related services	5415	19.3	29.7	51.0
Scientific research and development services	5417	20.6	15.1	64.2
Biotechnology research and development	541711	14.6	12.2	73.2
Physical, engineering, and life sciences (except biotechnology) research and development	541712	19.3	18.3	62.3
Social sciences and humanities research and development	541720	70.7	D	D
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	other 54	6.0	59.1	35.0
Health care services	621-23	D	D	71.6
Other nonmanufacturing	23, 44-45 (excluding 454111-12), 55-56, 624, 71-72, 81	5.2	8.6	86.2
All companies (number of domestic employees)	-	24.3	27.4	48.3
Small companies <sup>b</sup>				
5-499	-	23.9	26.1	50.1
5-99	-	24.3	26.7	48.9
5-49	-	24.2	27.6	48.2
5-9	-	22.8	29.0	48.2
10-24	-	19.2	34.6	46.2
25-49	-	28.3	22.0	49.6
50-99	-	24.7	24.4	50.9
100-249	-	21.3	24.2	54.5
250-499	-	25.8	25.8	48.4
Medium and large companies				
500-999	-	24.7	29.6	45.6
1,000-4,999	-	25.7	33.6	40.7
5,000-9,999	-	27.0	27.6	45.3
10,000-24,999	-	25.4	44.3	30.2
25,000 or more	-	31.1	37.8	31.1

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

NAICS = 2007 North American Industry Classification System.

<sup>a</sup> 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 prior to 2012 as those estimates are representative of all companies in the United States.

<sup>b</sup> Upper bound based on U.S. Small Business Administration's definition of a small business; Business R&D and Innovation Survey does not include companies with fewer than five domestic employees.

NOTES: Industry classification based on dominant business code for domestic R&D performance where available. For companies that did not report business codes, 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, 2013.