

TABLE 132. Importance of utility patents for R&D-active and non-R&D-active companies, by industry: 2010
(Percent)

Industry and company size	NAICS code	All companies			R&D-active companies ^a			Non-R&D-active companies		
		Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
All industries	21–23, 31-33, 42–81	2.0	1.8	96.2	20.9	13.3	65.8	1.2	1.3	97.5
Manufacturing industries	31–33	8.1	5.9	86.0	25.6	15.1	59.3	2.6	3.0	94.4
Food	311	2.9	2.2	94.8	7.6	7.2	85.2	1.7	0.9	97.3
Beverage and tobacco products	312	0.7	7.1	92.2	11.2	9.0	79.8	0.0	S	93.0
Textiles, apparel, and leather products	313–316	7.5	4.5	88.0	9.7	15.2	75.1	6.8	1.4	91.8
Wood products	321	1.9	2.2	95.8	21.9	6.2	71.9	0.7	2.0	97.3
Paper	322	5.0	4.5	90.5	24.1	18.7	57.2	2.9	3.0	94.2
Printing and related support activities	323	1.4	2.9	95.8	3.3	11.8	84.9	1.2	2.2	96.6
Petroleum and coal products	324	13.1	3.5	83.4	33.2	9.2	57.6	D	0.0	D
Chemicals	325	21.2	15.4	63.5	31.8	20.2	48.0	5.7	8.2	86.1
Basic chemicals	3251	21.3	12.3	66.4	35.5	14.8	49.6	S	S	S
Resin, synthetic rubber, fibers, and filaments	3252	18.6	11.9	69.5	41.3	22.3	36.5	S	S	85.2
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemical	3253	9.5	25.9	S	30.2	19.9	49.9	D	27.9	D
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	35.6	20.4	44.0	39.4	21.8	38.9	S	S	S
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	9.3	15.1	75.5	12.0	24.7	63.3	6.5	4.8	88.8
Paint, coating, adhesive, and other chemical	3255, 3259	14.6	11.4	74.0	23.7	17.4	58.9	6.0	5.6	88.4
Plastics and rubber products	326	9.0	7.1	83.9	24.1	14.5	61.4	3.7	4.6	91.7
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	4.4	5.7	90.0	14.0	12.7	73.3	2.5	4.3	93.2
Primary metals	331	3.8	2.8	93.5	17.1	15.6	67.3	1.3	0.4	98.4
Fabricated metal products	332	3.5	4.7	91.9	15.5	11.8	72.7	1.6	3.5	94.9
Machinery	333	13.2	8.3	78.5	27.6	15.2	57.2	4.8	4.3	90.9
Agricultural implement	33311	22.6	17.7	59.7	33.9	19.5	46.6	12.4	16.1	71.5
Semiconductor machinery	333295	38.7	17.4	S	48.5	12.6	S	S	S	S
Engine, turbine, and power transmission equipment	3336	18.0	10.3	71.6	33.5	9.5	57.0	5.2	11.0	83.8
Other machinery	other 333	12.1	7.5	80.4	26.1	15.3	58.6	4.5	3.3	92.3
Computer and electronic products	334	28.5	9.8	61.7	41.0	15.0	44.0	11.2	S	86.1
Communications equipment	3342	22.8	10.1	67.2	31.4	12.1	56.5	S	D	D
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	32.4	9.5	58.1	51.4	16.3	32.3	14.5	3.1	82.4
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	32.6	11.4	56.0	46.9	16.8	36.4	7.1	1.8	91.1
Electromedical, electrotherapeutic, and irradiation apparatus	334510, 334517	55.6	13.2	31.1	67.4	18.2	14.4	S	0.0	76.1
Search, detection, navigation, guidance, aeronautical, and nautical system and instruments	334511	47.4	13.1	39.5	55.0	14.4	30.5	S	D	D
Other measuring and controlling instruments	other 3345	25.0	10.7	64.3	39.2	17.0	43.8	5.2	1.9	92.9
Other computer and electronic products	other 334	19.4	7.7	72.9	23.5	12.4	64.1	14.0	1.6	84.3
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	20.6	10.7	68.7	38.1	15.6	46.3	2.0	5.4	92.6
Transportation equipment	336	10.6	10.4	79.0	24.7	20.4	54.9	1.9	4.2	93.9
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361–3363	11.0	12.8	76.2	25.7	25.6	48.7	1.5	4.7	93.8
Aerospace products and parts	3364	S	S	S	14.7	12.7	S	S	D	D
Aircraft, aircraft engine, and aircraft parts	336411–336413	S	S	S	17.2	11.2	71.6	S	D	D
Guided missile, space vehicle, and related parts	336414, 336415, 336419	S	S	S	S	S	S	D	0.0	D
Military armored vehicle, tank, and tank components	336992	D	0.0	D	D	0.0	D	0.0	0.0	100.0
Other transportation	other 336	10.9	7.5	81.5	35.7	12.8	51.4	1.3	5.5	93.2
Furniture and related products	337	2.6	3.0	94.4	12.2	11.2	76.6	1.4	1.9	96.7

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Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	13.6	6.9	79.6	36.2	18.5	45.3	3.0	1.4	95.6
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	21.5	4.5	74.0	51.5	9.2	39.3	2.4	1.5	96.1
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	8.8	8.3	82.9	23.2	26.5	50.3	3.3	1.4	95.3
Nonmanufacturing industries	21–23, 42–81	1.4	1.5	97.1	16.6	11.6	71.8	1.1	1.2	97.7
Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	2.2	2.3	95.4	25.8	2.4	71.7	0.2	2.3	97.5
Utilities	22	4.0	2.5	93.4	42.9	19.7	37.4	D	D	98.8
Construction	23	0.8	1.4	97.9	2.3	4.7	93.0	0.8	1.3	97.9
Wholesale trade	42	2.6	2.4	95.0	20.1	6.4	73.5	2.0	2.2	95.8
Retail trade	44, 45	1.2	1.2	97.6	2.9	2.1	94.9	1.2	1.2	97.6
Electronic shopping and electronic auctions	454111, 454112	3.9	1.2	94.9	3.9	D	D	3.9	1.2	94.8
Other retail trade	other 44, 45	1.1	1.2	97.7	2.4	2.9	94.6	1.1	1.2	97.7
Transportation and warehousing	48, 49	1.8	0.9	97.3	2.3	36.1	61.7	1.7	0.0	98.2
Information	51	4.1	6.3	89.6	14.4	17.6	68.0	1.3	3.3	95.4
Publishing	511	5.5	6.2	88.4	17.1	15.8	67.1	1.3	2.7	96.0
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	0.8	2.7	96.5	1.5	1.3	97.2	D	D	96.4
Software publishers	5112	16.8	14.7	68.5	20.2	18.8	61.0	6.3	D	D
Telecommunications	517	6.5	5.4	88.1	49.8	7.1	43.1	3.4	5.3	91.3
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	5.8	12.4	81.8	11.7	15.8	72.5	2.1	10.3	87.6
Other information	other 51	0.9	4.6	94.5	5.4	24.5	70.1	0.1	1.1	98.8
Finance and insurance	52	0.7	0.7	98.5	1.5	1.2	97.3	0.7	0.7	98.6
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	1.5	0.2	98.3	31.7	D	D	1.5	0.2	98.3
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	3.1	2.7	94.3	20.2	15.3	64.6	1.3	1.4	97.3
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	3.4	3.0	93.6	17.5	20.0	62.5	1.1	0.3	98.6
Computer systems design and related services	5415	6.8	8.3	84.9	13.3	14.8	71.9	3.0	4.4	92.6
Scientific R&D services	5417	43.6	8.1	48.3	58.3	9.6	32.1	S	S	S
Biotechnology R&D	541711	57.7	9.8	32.5	66.4	9.5	24.1	S	D	D
Physical, engineering, and life sciences (except biotechnology) R&D	541712	41.2	8.0	50.8	56.2	9.8	33.9	S	S	S
Social sciences and humanities R&D	541720	6.8	D	D	13.5	D	D	D	0.0	D
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	other 54	1.3	1.4	97.3	10.6	13.3	76.1	1.2	1.2	97.6
Health care services	621–23	1.4	0.6	98.1	1.9	0.8	97.3	1.4	0.6	98.1
Other nonmanufacturing	55–56, 624, 71–72, 81	0.9	1.3	97.7	28.4	5.5	66.1	0.7	1.3	98.0
All companies (number of employees)	–	2.0	1.8	96.2	20.9	13.3	65.8	1.2	1.3	97.5
Small companies (number of employees) ^b										
5–499	–	1.9	1.8	96.3	19.8	13.1	67.1	1.2	1.3	97.5
5–99	–	1.8	1.6	96.5	18.2	12.7	69.1	1.2	1.2	97.6
5–49	–	1.7	1.6	96.7	17.4	12.7	69.9	1.1	1.2	97.7
5–9	–	1.2	1.4	97.4	12.7	13.1	74.1	0.8	1.1	98.1
10–24	–	2.2	1.6	96.2	21.1	11.9	67.0	1.5	1.2	97.2
25–49	–	1.8	2.1	96.2	17.5	13.2	69.3	0.7	1.3	97.9
50–99	–	3.4	2.5	94.1	23.3	13.3	63.4	2.0	1.7	96.4
100–249	–	4.5	5.0	90.5	30.7	15.7	53.7	1.1	3.6	95.2
250–499	–	4.4	5.7	89.9	32.6	16.9	50.5	0.8	4.2	95.0

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Medium and large companies (number of employees)										
500-999	-	7.0	3.4	89.7	40.2	16.9	42.9	0.6	0.8	98.6
1,000-4,999	-	14.7	7.7	77.6	49.2	17.2	33.6	4.4	4.9	90.6
5,000-9,999	-	27.6	7.5	64.9	67.1	12.9	20.0	4.0	4.3	91.7
10,000-24,999	-	33.2	10.2	56.6	70.4	18.6	11.0	4.1	3.7	92.2
25,000 or more	-	38.8	15.6	45.6	69.6	16.5	13.9	8.0	14.7	77.3

D = data withheld to avoid disclosing operations of individual companies; S = data withheld because more than 50% of 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 located in United States that performed or funded R&D.

^b Upper bound based on U.S. Small Business Administration's definition of small business; Business R&D and Innovation Survey (BRDIS) 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, 2010.