

TABLE 87. Importance of utility patents for R&D-active and non-R&D-active companies, by industry: 2009
(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	2	96	20	14	66	1	2	97
Manufacturing industries	31–33	8	6	86	24	14	62	2	1	98
Food	311	3	3	95	8	6	87	1	2	97
Beverage and tobacco products	312	2	2	96	3	12	85	D	2	97
Textiles, apparel, and leather products	313–316	5	4	91	15	8	78	2	3	95
Wood products	321	1	2	97	11	12	76	D	2	97
Paper	322	4	3	92	23	13	64	1	D	D
Printing and related support activities	323	1	1	98	11	8	81	0	1	95
Petroleum and coal products	324	7	2	90	21	7	72	2	1	D
Chemicals	325	27	7	67	43	7	49	4	1	98
Basic chemicals	3251	28	8	63	47	15	38	8	1	99
Resin, synthetic rubber, fibers, and filaments	3252	17	18	65	27	17	55	1	D	D
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemical	3253	15	9	76	33	10	58	D	5	90
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	52	5	43	64	4	32	1	2	90
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	8	6	86	17	7	76	2	D	1
Paint, coating, adhesive, and other chemical	3255, 3259	23	5	72	38	4	58	3	8	D
Plastics and rubber products	326	9	9	82	22	18	60	3	1	86
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	3	5	93	9	13	77	2	5	94
Primary metals	331	2	9	88	16	23	61	0	5	92
Fabricated metal products	332	3	5	91	16	14	70	1	5	92
Machinery	333	12	8	80	24	14	62	6	3	95
Agricultural implements	33311	14	20	67	26	31	42	7	7	92
Semiconductor machinery	333295	62	5	32	76	6	18	D	4	95
Engine, turbine, and power transmission equipment	3336	11	10	79	41	23	36	0	5	89
Other machinery	other 333	11	7	82	22	13	66	6	13	79
Computer and electronic products	334	23	15	62	35	23	42	7	0	D
Communications equipment	3342	16	24	60	22	32	45	0	D	D
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	23	8	69	46	16	38	6	5	89
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	25	19	56	32	24	43	9	4	89
Electromedical, electrotherapeutic, and irradiation apparatus	334510, 334517	50	4	47	78	6	16	D	3	97
Search, detection, navigation, guidance, aeronautical, and nautical system and instruments	334511	33	15	52	41	17	42	D	3	91
Other measuring and controlling instruments	other 3345	20	22	58	24	28	48	9	7	84
Computer and peripheral equipment and other computer and electronic products	3341, 3343, 3346	25	11	64	38	20	42	D	D	87
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	13	18	68	23	33	44	4	D	87
Transportation equipment	336	12	9	79	27	15	57	4	9	83
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361–3363	9	6	84	20	6	75	5	D	84
Aerospace products and parts	3364	24	19	57	36	28	36	D	5	91
Aircraft, aircraft engine, and aircraft parts	336411–336413	24	18	57	35	28	36	D	5	91

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Guided missile, space vehicle, and related parts	336414, 336415, 336419	22	32	46	44	23	32	0	7	88
Military armored vehicle, tank, and tank components	336992	D	D	72	D	D	45	0	D	D
Other transportation equipment	other 336	11	6	83	37	19	44	D	D	D
Furniture and related products	337	2	1	97	13	7	80	1	D	D
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	14	7	79	28	14	57	6	0	100
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	14	9	76	38	18	43	2	1	D
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	13	6	80	23	12	64	8	1	99
Nonmanufacturing industries	21-23, 42-81	1	2	97	16	14	70	1	2	97
Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	1	1	98	56	18	26	1	1	99
Utilities	22	9	4	86	32	36	32	7	1	92
Construction	23	1	2	97	15	20	65	1	2	97
Wholesale trade	42	3	4	93	17	13	70	3	4	93
Retail trade	44, 45	1	1	98	4	4	91	1	1	98
Electronic shopping and mail-order houses	4541	3	1	96	24	33	43	3	1	97
Other retail trade	other 44, 45	1	1	98	3	2	94	1	1	98
Transportation and warehousing	48, 49	1	2	97	1	1	1	D	2	D
Information	51	6	5	89	14	15	72	3	1	96
Publishing	511	5	6	89	12	15	72	1	0	99
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	0	0	99	D	D	D	0	0	100
Software publishers	5112	12	15	73	14	18	68	D	4	D
Telecommunications	517	3	4	93	7	9	84	2	2	96
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	14	9	78	23	13	64	9	7	84
Other information	other 51	5	3	93	13	16	71	3	0	97
Finance and insurance	52	0	1	99	31	12	57	0	1	99
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	1	0	99	38	16	45	D	0	D
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	4	4	93	18	14	69	1	3	96
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	2	4	94	8	16	76	2	2	96
Computer systems design and related services	5415	10	11	79	20	15	65	4	8	87
Scientific R&D services	5417	46	5	49	52	6	42	19	4	76
Biotechnology R&D	541711	61	3	35	63	3	35	D	D	53
Physical, engineering, and life sciences (except biotechnology) R&D	541712	45	8	48	47	8	45	35	6	59
Social sciences and humanities R&D	541720	2	3	95	6	11	84	0	0	100
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	other 54	1	3	96	6	14	79	1	2	97
Health care services	621-623	1	1	98	3	1	96	1	1	98
Other nonmanufacturing	55, 56, 61, 624, 71, 72, 81	1	2	97	3	31	67	1	1	97
All companies	21-23, 31-33, 42-81	2	2	96	20	14	66	1	2	97
Small companies (number of domestic employees) ^b										
5-499	-	2	2	96	19	14	67	1	2	97
5-99	-	2	2	96	18	14	68	1	2	97

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5-49	-	2	2	96	17	12	71	1	2	97
5-24	-	2	2	96	15	12	72	1	2	97
25-49	-	3	3	94	22	12	66	1	2	96
50-99	-	2	4	93	21	23	56	1	2	97
100-249	-	3	3	94	24	19	57	1	1	98
250-499	-	6	5	89	34	15	51	2	3	95
Medium and large companies (number of domestic employees)										
500-999	-	12	5	83	38	18	44	6	1	93
1,000-4,999	-	11	8	81	51	16	33	1	6	93
5,000-9,999	-	26	6	67	55	9	36	2	4	94
10,000-24,999	-	45	12	42	73	17	10	5	7	88
25,000 or more	-	35	15	50	72	13	14	D	D	81

D = data withheld to avoid disclosing operations of individual companies.

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: Detail may not add to total because of rounding. 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, 2009.