

TABLE 38. Importance of utility patents for R&D-active and non-R&D-active companies, by industry: 2008
(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	3	96	26	15	60	1	2	97
Manufacturing industries	31-33	7	6	86	31	20	49	3	4	94
Food	311	3	4	93	6	18	75	2	2	96
Beverage and tobacco products	312	1	4	95	5	14	81	D	3	D
Textiles, apparel, and leather products	313-316	4	5	90	28	31	41	1	2	97
Wood products	321	1	2	97	12	8	80	0	1	98
Paper	322	2	7	91	27	27	46	1	5	94
Printing and related support activities	323	1	2	97	3	11	86	1	1	98
Petroleum and coal products	324	4	12	84	20	10	70	2	12	86
Chemicals	325	22	15	64	38	21	41	6	8	87
Basic chemicals	3251	20	18	62	46	29	26	1	10	89
Resin, synthetic rubber, fibers, and filaments	3252	8	19	73	19	43	37	1	4	94
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemical	3253	16	3	81	71	14	16	0	D	D
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	49	14	37	58	15	27	D	D	86
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	17	8	75	35	11	53	10	7	84
Paint, coating, adhesive, and other chemical	3255, 3259	11	17	72	15	24	61	8	10	82
Plastics and rubber products	326	9	9	82	24	14	62	5	7	88
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	3	6	91	20	37	43	1	3	96
Primary metals	331	4	4	92	20	12	68	2	3	95
Fabricated metal products	332	3	6	91	19	18	63	2	5	94
Machinery	333	14	6	81	39	13	48	7	4	90
Agricultural implements	33311	17	17	66	24	22	53	D	D	76
Semiconductor machinery	333295	96	2	2	97	2	2	D	D	D
Engine, turbine, and power transmission equipment	3336	20	4	76	35	8	57	D	D	D
Other machinery	other 333	12	5	83	36	13	51	6	3	90
Computer and electronic products	334	25	12	63	44	21	34	8	4	88
Communications equipment	3342	35	17	48	39	26	35	D	D	70
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	17	5	77	53	14	34	1	1	97
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	34	16	51	50	20	29	15	1	75
Electromedical, electrotherapeutic, and irradiation apparatus	334510, 334517	61	1	9	78	13	8	D	D	1
Search, detection, navigation, guidance, aeronautical, and nautical system and instruments	334511	40	21	38	36	36	28	D	0	D
Other measuring and controlling instruments	other 3345	28	12	60	48	17	35	9	8	83
Computer and peripheral equipment and other computer and electronic products	3341, 3343, 3346	14	15	71	25	29	46	3	1	96
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	18	12	70	43	20	37	3	7	89
Transportation equipment	336	7	7	86	28	23	49	1	3	96
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361-3363	7	6	87	34	24	42	2	3	96
Aerospace products and parts	3364	9	9	82	22	22	56	1	D	D
Aircraft, aircraft engine, and aircraft parts	336411-336413	9	5	86	24	15	61	D	D	D
Guided missile, space vehicle, and related parts	336414, 336415, 336419	1	1	1	1	1	1	D	D	D
Military armored vehicle, tank, and tank components	336992	D	D	87	D	D	D	D	D	D
Other transportation equipment	other 336	8	10	82	24	21	55	D	5	D

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Furniture and related products	337	3	3	94	30	18	52	1	2	97
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	11	11	78	34	30	37	4	5	91
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	19	16	66	37	34	29	10	8	82
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	7	8	84	31	26	43	1	4	95
Nonmanufacturing industries	21–23, 42–81	1	2	96	22	10	69	1	2	97
Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	1	2	97	17	8	75	1	1	97
Utilities	22	7	12	80	15	65	20	6	2	92
Construction	23	0	2	97	1	1	1	0	2	97
Wholesale trade	42	3	4	94	31	20	49	2	3	94
Retail trade	44, 45	1	2	98	D	D	D	1	2	98
Electronic shopping and mail-order houses	4541	1	3	96	D	D	D	1	3	96
Other retail trade	other 44, 45	1	2	98	0	D	D	1	2	98
Transportation and warehousing	48, 49	1	1	98	47	1	51	1	1	99
Information	51	5	5	90	21	11	68	1	4	95
Publishing	511	6	5	90	18	11	71	1	2	97
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	0	1	99	D	D	87	D	1	D
Software publishers	5112	14	11	75	18	11	71	3	11	87
Telecommunications	517	6	6	88	52	4	43	1	6	93
Internet service providers, Web search portals, and data processing services	518	7	8	84	21	10	70	2	8	91
Other information	other 51	1	4	94	12	33	54	1	3	96
Finance and insurance	52	2	1	98	26	14	60	2	1	98
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	2	1	97	D	D	38	D	D	D
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	2	2	95	23	13	64	1	2	97
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	2	3	95	26	20	54	1	2	97
Computer systems design and related services	5415	6	9	85	18	17	65	3	6	91
Scientific R&D services	5417	37	6	57	47	6	46	21	5	74
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	other 54	1	1	98	13	9	78	1	1	99
Health care services	621–623	1	2	97	24	3	74	1	2	97
Other nonmanufacturing	55, 56, 61, 624, 71, 72, 81	1	3	96	14	1	85	1	3	96

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

NAICS = 2002 North American Industry Classification System.

^a Statistics are representative of companies located in United States that performed or funded R&D.

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, 2008.