

Table INV-2

University technology licenses or license options executed, by company characteristic: 2009, 2014, and 2019

(Number)

Company characteristic	2009	2014	2019
New licenses or options executed	5,222	6,327	7,974
Startups	800	1,131	1,481
Small companies	2,597	3,064	4,684
Large companies	1,825	2,132	1,809
All licenses, total active	33,523	42,015	49,477

Note(s):

AUTM collects data on invention and patent-related activities of its member universities and hospitals. The number of member universities varies slightly from year to year. There were 248 in 2009, 252 in 2014, and 236 in 2019. Responding institutions may report for any 12-month period ending in the identified year. Startup companies reported by universities in AUTM data refer only to those companies that were formed in the reporting year specifically to develop the technology being licensed. Counts of licenses to startups and small companies are mutually exclusive. Small companies are those with fewer than 500 employees.

Source(s):

AUTM, AUTM Licensing Survey (various years), accessed February 2021.

Science and Engineering Indicators