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Companies located in the United States that performed or funded R&D and engaged in intellectual property transfer activities, by type of activity and industrial sector: 2015

(Number)

Type of intellectual property (IP) transfer activity	Industrial sector		
	All	Manufacturing	Nonmanufacturing
Transferred IP to others not owned by your company through participation in technical assistance or "know how" agreements	599	372	227
Received IP from others not owned by your company through participation in technical assistance or "know how" agreements	693	509	184
Transferred IP to a spin-off or spin-out of your company	162	82	80
Received IP from a parent company as part of a spin-off or spin-out	49	35	14
Acquired more than 50% ownership in another company for the primary purpose of acquiring its IP	166	90	76
Acquired any financial interest in another company in order to gain access to its IP	168	109	59
Participated in cross-licensing agreements—the agreements in which two or more parties grant a license to each other for the use of the subject matter claimed in one or more of the patents owned by each party	491	305	186
Allowed free use of patents or other IP owned by your company (e.g., allowing free use of software patents by the open-source community)	296	123	172
Made use of open-source patents or other freely available IP not owned by your company	1,209	467	742

Note(s)

Statistics are representative of companies in the United States that were eligible to receive Form BRDI-1 and performed or funded R&D. Industrial sector is based on the dominant business code for domestic R&D performance, where available. For companies that did not report business codes, the classification used for sampling was assigned.

Source(s)

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, and U.S. Census Bureau, Business R&D and Innovation Survey, 2015.