

TABLE 19

Companies with 1–4 employees with and without R&D that participated in intellectual property activities: 2016

(Percent)

Intellectual property activities	Companies (number)	Yes	No
With R&D			
Transferred intellectual property (IP) to others not owned by your company through participation in technical assistance or "know how" agreements	30,900	7.3	92.7
Received IP from others not owned by your company through participation in technical assistance or "know how" agreements	30,924	7.1	92.9
Participated in cross-licensing 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	30,922	3.8	96.2
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)	31,219	2.6	97.4
Made use of open source patents or other freely available IP not owned by your company	31,234	12.1	87.9
Without R&D			
Transferred intellectual property (IP) to others not owned by your company through participation in technical assistance or "know how" agreements	1,012,118	0.4	99.6
Received IP from others not owned by your company through participation in technical assistance or "know how" agreements	1,011,763	0.5	99.5
Participated in cross-licensing 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	1,011,456	0.2	99.8
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)	1,019,195	0.1	99.9
Made use of open source patents or other freely available IP not owned by your company	1,016,282	0.7	99.3

Note(s)

Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Statistics are representative of companies located in the United States.

Source(s)

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, and U.S. Census Bureau, Microbusiness R&D and Innovation Survey, 2016.