

TABLE 86-1

## Patenting companies and total number of patent applications and patents currently owned, by industry: 2017

(Number)

Industry	NAICS code	All companies	Patenting companies	Patents pending	Patents owned
All industries	11, 21–23, 31–33, 42–81	4,603,606	73,149	342,312	1,056,487
Manufacturing industries	31–33	220,930	20,636	100,940	446,884
Food	311	18,180	661	2,063	6,816
Beverage and tobacco products	312	6,724	180	252	1,976
Textile, apparel, and leather products	313–16	10,569	687	1,843	4,000
Wood products	321	10,850	333	416	2,331
Paper	322	2,276	215	2,608	8,717
Printing and related support activities	323	21,903	257	340	6,380
Petroleum and coal products	324	624	83	389	1,578
Chemicals	325	7,910	1,583	8,340	45,032
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemicals	3253	542	118	706	1,841
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	1,412	391	1,791	6,814
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	1,615	235	1,045	3,072
Other chemicals	other 325	4,341	839	4,799	33,304
Plastics and rubber products	326	8,412	1,365	4,234	20,121
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	8,021	431	1,805	9,972
Primary metals	331	2,679	345	763	2,319
Fabricated metal products	332	47,340	3,013	6,038	24,261
Machinery	333	18,792	3,912	22,184	92,976
Computer and electronic products	334	9,566	2,575	25,044	110,528
Communications equipment	3342	916	243	658	2,425
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	3,214	576	13,836	61,526
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	3,958	1,444	8,245	33,277
Other computer and electronic products	other 334	1,478	312	2,305	13,301
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	4,223	908	5,327	21,494
Transportation equipment	336	8,039	1,166	11,115	36,119
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361–63	5,018	685	8,011	28,300
Aerospace products and parts	3364	1,109	171	1,599	3,706
Other transportation	other 336	1,912	310	1,506	4,113
Furniture and related products	337	12,430	498	1,004	7,326
Miscellaneous	339	22,315	2,424	7,174	44,939
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	8,202	909	4,543	30,478
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	14,113	1,515	2,631	14,460
Nonmanufacturing industries	11, 21–23, 42–81	4,382,677	52,512	241,372	609,603
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	11	21,054	121	85	783
Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	15,546	314	5,475	10,309
Utilities	22	2,534	46	75	195
Construction	23	607,403	2,860	3,474	5,798
Wholesale trade	42	252,134	11,384	57,408	224,265
Retail trade	44–45	545,440	5,826	9,120	35,146
Transportation and warehousing	48–49	144,404	853	1,286	2,181
Information	51	56,053	3,487	48,227	114,341
Publishing	511	17,031	1,858	36,152	71,151
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	9,593	105	73	380
Software publishers	5112	7,438	1,753	36,079	70,771
Telecommunications	517	6,045	170	3,746	22,844
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	8,414	913	3,244	4,732
Other information	other 51	24,563	546	5,085	15,614
Finance and insurance	52	192,345	754	7,365	10,228
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	229,923	827	9,514	26,352

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(Number)

Industry	NAICS code	All companies	Patenting companies	Patents pending	Patents owned
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works)	533	1,701	146	8,467	20,576
Other real estate and rental and leasing	other 53	228,222	681	1,047	5,775 r
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	639,985	14,521	80,411	127,425
Legal services	5411	146,441	328	5,682	3,168 r
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	5412	99,782	231	85	295
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	83,492	3,388	8,527	20,642
Specialized design services	5414	25,140	383	513	1,476
Computer systems design and related services	5415	90,056	3,885	10,851	22,228
Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	5416	109,247	1,713	2,971	5,916
Scientific research and development services	5417	9,293	3,761	50,595	71,726
Advertising, public relations, and related services	5418	25,626	434	507	810
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	5419	50,907	399	680	1,164
Management of companies and enterprises	55	2,276	88	166 i	1,626
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	56	266,751	1,859	1,900	4,075
Educational services	61	51,288	667	3,100	9,032 i
Health care and social assistance	62	509,529	2,721	8,019	18,981
Health care services	621-23	447,069	2,449	7,446	18,619
Social assistance	624	62,461	272	573	361
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	71	74,256	519	469	792
Accommodation and food services	72	441,426	3,450	3,601 r	12,949
Other services	81	330,331	2,217	1,676	5,124

i = > 50% of the estimate is a combination of imputation and reweighting to account for nonresponse; r = relative standard error > 50%.

NAICS = 2017 North American Industry Classification System.

**Note(s):**

Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Industry classification is based on the dominant establishment payroll. Statistics are representative of companies located in the United States. Patenting companies include those that own patents and those that have applied for a patent.

**Source(s):**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Business Survey, 2017.