

TABLE 92

**Importance of design patents, by industry: 2017**

(Percent)

| Industry   | NAICS code              | Companies (number) | Very important | Somewhat important | Not at all important |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| All industries   | 11, 21–23, 31–33, 42–81 | 4,603,606          | 2.8            | 4.9                | 92.3                 |
| Manufacturing industries   | 31–33                   | 220,930            | 7.8            | 10.4               | 81.8                 |
| Food   | 311                     | 18,180             | 4.3            | 8.2                | 87.5                 |
| Beverage and tobacco products                                    | 312                     | 6,724              | 5.9            | 6.9                | 87.2                 |
| Textile, apparel, and leather products                           | 313–16                  | 10,569             | 9.1            | 11.3               | 79.6                 |
| Wood products  | 321                     | 10,850             | 3.0            | 6.2                | 90.8                 |
| Paper  | 322                     | 2,276              | 6.5            | 16.1               | 77.4                 |
| Printing and related support activities                          | 323                     | 21,903             | 3.6            | 6.5                | 89.9                 |
| Petroleum and coal products                                      | 324                     | 624                | 8.1            | 11.1               | 80.8                 |
| Chemicals  | 325                     | 7,910              | 10.6           | 14.0               | 75.4                 |
| Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemicals          | 3253                    | 542                | 12.0           | 10.8               | 77.2                 |
| Pharmaceuticals and medicines                                    | 3254                    | 1,412              | 10.6           | 17.7               | 71.7                 |
| Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation                  | 3256                    | 1,615              | 11.0           | 13.0               | 76.0                 |
| Other chemicals  | other 325               | 4,341              | 10.3           | 13.6               | 76.1                 |
| Plastics and rubber products                                     | 326                     | 8,412              | 12.3           | 13.6               | 74.2                 |
| Nonmetallic mineral products                                     | 327                     | 8,021              | 4.9            | 7.1                | 88.0                 |
| Primary metals   | 331                     | 2,679              | 7.6            | 9.6                | 82.8                 |
| Fabricated metal products  | 332                     | 47,340             | 6.0            | 9.2                | 84.8                 |
| Machinery  | 333                     | 18,792             | 14.7           | 14.8               | 70.4                 |
| Computer and electronic products                                 | 334                     | 9,566              | 15.1           | 18.3               | 66.6                 |
| Communications equipment   | 3342                    | 916                | 17.5           | 19.8               | 62.8                 |
| Semiconductor and other electronic components                    | 3344                    | 3,214              | 14.1           | 17.4               | 68.5                 |
| Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments | 3345                    | 3,958              | 16.2           | 17.9               | 65.8                 |
| Other computer and electronic products                           | other 334               | 1,478              | 13.0           | 20.3               | 66.7                 |
| Electrical equipment, appliances, and components                 | 335                     | 4,223              | 15.8           | 14.5               | 69.6                 |
| Transportation equipment   | 336                     | 8,039              | 11.7           | 12.8               | 75.5                 |
| Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts                         | 3361–63                 | 5,018              | 10.9           | 12.8               | 76.2                 |
| Aerospace products and parts                                     | 3364                    | 1,109              | 16.9           | 7.9                | 75.1                 |
| Other transportation   | other 336               | 1,912              | 10.8           | 15.6               | 73.6                 |
| Furniture and related products                                   | 337                     | 12,430             | 4.7            | 7.7                | 87.6                 |
| Miscellaneous  | 339                     | 22,315             | 9.1            | 11.9               | 78.9                 |
| Medical equipment and supplies                                   | 3391                    | 8,202              | 8.8            | 12.5               | 78.8                 |
| Other miscellaneous manufacturing                                | 3399                    | 14,113             | 9.3            | 11.6               | 79.0                 |
| Nonmanufacturing industries                                      | 11, 21–23, 42–81        | 4,382,677          | 2.5            | 4.7                | 92.8                 |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting                      | 11                      | 21,054             | 0.9            | 3.2                | 95.9                 |
| Mining, extraction, and support activities                       | 21                      | 15,546             | 2.0            | 4.6                | 93.5                 |
| Utilities  | 22                      | 2,534              | 2.0            | 4.4                | 93.5                 |
| Construction   | 23                      | 607,403            | 1.6            | 3.6                | 94.8                 |
| Wholesale trade  | 42                      | 252,134            | 6.4            | 9.0                | 84.6                 |
| Retail trade   | 44–45                   | 545,440            | 3.0            | 5.8                | 91.2                 |
| Transportation and warehousing                                   | 48–49                   | 144,404            | 1.6            | 3.9                | 94.5                 |
| Information  | 51                      | 56,053             | 4.9            | 7.9                | 87.3                 |
| Publishing   | 511                     | 17,031             | 7.2            | 9.9                | 82.9                 |
| Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers            | 5111                    | 9,593              | 3.0            | 6.3                | 90.6                 |
| Software publishers  | 5112                    | 7,438              | 12.5           | 14.5               | 73.0                 |
| Telecommunications   | 517                     | 6,045              | 3.6            | 6.7                | 89.7                 |
| Data processing, hosting, and related services                   | 518                     | 8,414              | 6.1            | 10.5               | 83.4                 |
| Other information  | other 51                | 24,563             | 3.2            | 5.8                | 90.9                 |
| Finance and insurance  | 52                      | 192,345            | 1.3            | 2.1                | 96.6                 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing                               | 53                      | 229,923            | 1.0            | 2.3                | 96.6                 |

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| Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works)     | 533        | 1,701              | 6.2            | 7.5                | 86.3                 |
| Other real estate and rental and leasing                                 | other 53   | 228,222            | 1.0            | 2.3                | 96.7                 |
| Professional, scientific, and technical services                         | 54         | 639,985            | 3.3            | 5.0                | 91.7                 |
| Legal services   | 5411       | 146,441            | 1.1            | 1.5                | 97.4                 |
| Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services           | 5412       | 99,782             | 0.8            | 1.5                | 97.7                 |
| Architectural, engineering, and related services                         | 5413       | 83,492             | 6.2            | 8.3                | 85.6                 |
| Specialized design services  | 5414       | 25,140             | 8.6            | 9.2                | 82.2                 |
| Computer systems design and related services                             | 5415       | 90,056             | 5.6            | 9.7                | 84.7                 |
| Management, scientific, and technical consulting services                | 5416       | 109,247            | 2.8            | 4.9                | 92.3                 |
| Scientific research and development services                             | 5417       | 9,293              | 15.9           | 15.0               | 69.1                 |
| Advertising, public relations, and related services                      | 5418       | 25,626             | 4.4            | 6.8                | 88.8                 |
| Other professional, scientific, and technical services                   | 5419       | 50,907             | 1.7            | 3.4                | 94.9                 |
| Management of companies and enterprises                                  | 55         | 2,276              | 3.9            | r 4.6              | 91.5                 |
| Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services | 56         | 266,751            | 1.6            | 3.3                | 95.1                 |
| Educational services   | 61         | 51,288             | 2.4            | 4.8                | 92.8                 |
| Health care and social assistance  | 62         | 509,529            | 1.7            | 3.4                | 94.9                 |
| Health care services   | 621-23     | 447,069            | 1.7            | 3.5                | 94.8                 |
| Social assistance  | 624        | 62,461             | 1.6            | 2.7                | 95.7                 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation                                      | 71         | 74,256             | 2.0            | 3.8                | 94.3                 |
| Accommodation and food services  | 72         | 441,426            | 3.2            | 6.5                | 90.3                 |
| Other services   | 81         | 330,331            | 2.1            | 4.7                | 93.2                 |

r = relative standard error &gt; 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.

**Source(s):**

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