

TABLE 98

Importance of trade secrets, 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	7.3	9.0	83.7
Manufacturing industries	31–33	220,930	18.5	15.7	65.7
Food	311	18,180	23.8	17.2	59.1
Beverage and tobacco products	312	6,724	21.1	19.2	59.7
Textile, apparel, and leather products	313–16	10,569	14.3	16.2	69.5
Wood products	321	10,850	6.6	11.6	81.8
Paper	322	2,276	17.1	19.2	63.7
Printing and related support activities	323	21,903	8.6	12.6	78.8
Petroleum and coal products	324	624	30.6	11.6	57.8
Chemicals	325	7,910	43.0	19.3	37.7
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemicals	3253	542	27.4	23.0	49.6
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	1,412	47.3	22.3	30.4
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	1,615	46.7	17.0	36.3
Other chemicals	other 325	4,341	42.2	18.7	39.0
Plastics and rubber products	326	8,412	25.2	18.8	56.0
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	8,021	13.9	12.5	73.6
Primary metals	331	2,679	22.3	16.3	61.5
Fabricated metal products	332	47,340	14.6	14.0	71.3
Machinery	333	18,792	25.7	19.9	54.4
Computer and electronic products	334	9,566	38.4	18.9	42.7
Communications equipment	3342	916	38.2	19.6	42.2
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	3,214	35.7	15.7	48.5
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	3,958	42.3	19.8	38.0
Other computer and electronic products	other 334	1,478	33.6	23.3	43.0
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	4,223	28.4	19.7	52.0
Transportation equipment	336	8,039	22.3	17.9	59.8
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361–63	5,018	21.2	19.6	59.2
Aerospace products and parts	3364	1,109	32.9	15.1	51.9
Other transportation	other 336	1,912	19.2	14.9	65.8
Furniture and related products	337	12,430	7.6	12.6	79.8
Miscellaneous	339	22,315	17.3	15.9	66.8
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	8,202	13.6	13.8	72.6
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	14,113	19.5	17.0	63.5
Nonmanufacturing industries	11, 21–23, 42–81	4,382,677	6.8	8.7	84.6
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	11	21,054	2.7	5.6	91.8
Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	15,546	5.8	7.4	86.8
Utilities	22	2,534	7.3	6.2	86.5
Construction	23	607,403	4.2	7.1	88.7
Wholesale trade	42	252,134	13.1	14.0	72.8
Retail trade	44–45	545,440	6.1	9.2	84.8
Transportation and warehousing	48–49	144,404	4.8	6.7	88.4
Information	51	56,053	16.2	15.9	68.0
Publishing	511	17,031	22.6	18.6	58.7
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	9,593	8.7	14.4	77.0
Software publishers	5112	7,438	40.7	24.1	35.2
Telecommunications	517	6,045	10.7	13.8	75.4
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	8,414	25.4	18.6	56.0
Other information	other 51	24,563	9.8	13.6	76.6
Finance and insurance	52	192,345	8.3	7.2	84.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	229,923	3.7	5.5	90.7

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Industry	NAICS code	Companies (number)	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all important
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works)	533	1,701	31.1	13.6	55.2
Other real estate and rental and leasing	other 53	228,222	3.5	5.5	91.0
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	639,985	9.0	9.8	81.1
Legal services	5411	146,441	3.4	4.8	91.8
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	5412	99,782	3.8	4.4	91.8
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	83,492	11.4	12.2	76.3
Specialized design services	5414	25,140	9.8	13.3	76.9
Computer systems design and related services	5415	90,056	17.6	16.2	66.2
Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	5416	109,247	10.5	12.2	77.3
Scientific research and development services	5417	9,293	44.3	16.1	39.6
Advertising, public relations, and related services	5418	25,626	11.1	13.9	74.9
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	5419	50,907	5.6	9.5	84.9
Management of companies and enterprises	55	2,276	9.9	9.3	80.8
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	56	266,751	6.3	8.1	85.6
Educational services	61	51,288	9.2	10.9	80.0
Health care and social assistance	62	509,529	3.9	5.8	90.3
Health care services	621-23	447,069	3.8	5.9	90.3
Social assistance	624	62,461	4.5	5.1	90.4
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	71	74,256	6.0	8.5	85.5
Accommodation and food services	72	441,426	9.3	11.7	79.0
Other services	81	330,331	5.3	7.9	86.9

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.