

Table 6**Factors interfering with innovation among innovating companies, by company size: 2015–17**

(Percent)

Factors interfering with innovation	All companies	Micro companies (1–9 employees)	Small companies (10–49 employees)	Medium companies (50–249 employees)	Large companies (≥250 employees)
All companies (count of companies)	1,989,523	1,418,216	464,339	88,947	18,021
Lack of internal financing	57.5	58.6	56.5	48.1	43.0
Lack of credit or private equity	42.3	43.6	40.9	32.5	27.4
Innovation costs too high	52.4	52.2	53.8	50.3	51.7
Lack of skilled employees within the business	58.2	55.8	64.6	62.9	56.4
Lack of collaboration partners	33.8	34.0	33.7	31.4	31.7
Difficulties in obtaining government grants or subsidies	23.0	23.7	22.1	17.6	15.4
Uncertain market demand for your ideas	40.7	41.0	40.2	39.5	41.9
Too much competition in your market	53.0	53.1	53.0	52.1	51.6

Note(s):

Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Statistics are representative of companies located in the United States. Innovating companies are defined here as those with product, process, marketing, or organizational innovation. Percent shares include companies indicating the factor is very important as well as companies indicating the factor is somewhat important.

Source(s):

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