

TABLE 71-3

Importance of intellectual property protection, by type, for companies with 10 or more employees: 2018

(Number and percent)

Type of intellectual property	Companies (number)	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all important
Utility patents (patents for inventions)	1,200,849	4.3	6.8	88.9
Design patents (patents for appearance)	1,200,849	4.9	7.9	87.2
Trademarks	1,200,849	11.9	13.4	74.7
Copyrights	1,200,849	9.0	11.6	79.4
Trade secrets	1,200,849	13.0	14.2	72.8
Nondisclosure agreements	1,200,849	14.7	17.0	68.3

Note(s):

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

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics and Census Bureau, 2019 Annual Business Survey: Data Year 2018.