

Table 8**Companies reporting barriers of innovation: 2017–19**

(Number and percent)

Barriers of innovation	All companies	Very discouraging	Somewhat discouraging	A little discouraging	Not at all discouraging	Did not answer
Lack of internal finance for innovation	4,857,473	61.9	13.5	9.3	14.3	1.0
Lack of credit or private equity	4,857,473	68.5	12.1	6.9	11.4	1.1
Difficulties in obtaining government grants or subsidies	4,857,473	71.5	9.2	8.9	9.3	1.1
Costs too high	4,857,473	55.5	13.6	13.4	16.5	1.1
Lack of skilled employees within the business	4,857,473	61.4	14.5	9.1	14.0	1.1
Lack of collaboration partners	4,857,473	73.4	11.6	4.7	9.1	1.1
Lack of access to external knowledge	4,857,473	73.1	12.6	4.1	9.1	1.1
Uncertain market demand for your ideas	4,857,473	67.3	14.2	5.5	11.9	1.1
Too much competition in your market	4,857,473	61.2	15.9	8.3	13.5	1.1
Different priorities within this business	4,857,473	67.3	14.0	6.2	11.5	1.1
Government regulations	4,857,473	66.4	12.0	9.7	10.8	1.1

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, 2020 Annual Business Survey: Data Year 2019.