

Table 61. Companies with intellectual property protection, by industry and type of intellectual property protection: 2023

(Percent)

Industry	NAICS code	All companies (number)	All companies with any kind of IP protection (number)	All companies with any kind of IP protection	Utility patents	Design patents	Copyright	Trademarks	Design complexity	Nondisclosure agreements or noncompete clauses	Branding and product image	Trade secrets
All industries	11, 21–23, 31–33, 42–81	5,033,879	1,108,733	22.0	7.1	7.1	27.9	38.8	12.0	51.8	60.0	21.3
Manufacturing industries	31–33	207,352	78,336	37.8	20.7	19.2	23.6	48.9	23.2	60.2	56.8	35.8
Food	311	18,929	8,131	43.0	7.7	7.1	23.1	58.8	11.3	46.0	72.6	48.2
Beverage and tobacco products	312	9,236	5,673	61.4	2.2	r 4.5	21.0	75.0	7.1	27.4	77.6	19.4
Textile, apparel, and leather products	313–16	9,223	2,370	25.7	10.6	r 11.7	30.5	55.9	19.7	46.6	64.3	19.2
Wood products	321	9,572	1,754	18.3	7.3	r 11.2	17.0	54.8	26.4	39.2	60.0	36.1
Paper	322	2,042	811	39.7	12.0	r 14.5	12.0	52.4	14.5	76.0	46.0	42.9
Printing and related support activities	323	18,767	4,070	21.7	4.9	r 7.1	30.1	43.9	15.3	52.6	66.0	17.1
Petroleum and coal products	324	222	105	47.3	r 21.0	20.0	35.2	r 73.3	r 31.4	r 72.4	r 67.6	70.5
Chemicals	325	7,878	5,125	65.1	25.7	r 17.7	29.0	67.0	21.3	71.1	59.3	64.9
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemicals	3253	499	252	50.5	28.2	r 11.1	r 19.4	r 85.3	16.3	r 41.3	r 75.0	65.5
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	1,702	1,154	67.8	39.9	24.0	34.6	73.9	25.9	75.6	62.0	59.9
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	1,817	1,283	70.6	14.5	16.4	34.5	79.7	11.8	61.3	67.0	62.1
Other chemicals	other 325	3,860	2,436	63.1	24.7	16.1	24.6	55.0	24.7	77.1	52.3	68.6
Plastics and rubber products	326	6,787	3,762	55.4	32.6	29.1	24.0	47.4	27.3	78.0	41.8	35.9
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	7,659	1,885	24.6	14.4	18.9	16.7	41.1	20.7	52.1	57.0	30.8
Primary metals	331	1,933	837	43.3	20.4	18.9	22.1	r 41.2	31.9	83.9	38.5	40.7
Fabricated metal products	332	47,168	14,654	31.1	17.4	16.0	14.9	30.2	18.9	71.3	34.3	24.4
Machinery	333	17,417	8,777	50.4	35.9	33.9	25.0	45.4	32.2	71.7	52.5	39.4
Computer and electronic products	334	8,108	5,492	67.7	38.3	30.5	36.2	51.2	42.7	76.6	57.9	50.1
Communications equipment	3342	973	724	74.4	33.4	26.1	27.9	49.0	36.3	68.9	50.7	41.4
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	2,583	1,528	59.2	24.9	16.7	26.0	30.7	34.9	84.3	39.5	46.1
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	3,674	2,693	73.3	47.8	40.7	44.2	60.8	50.4	75.7	68.8	54.3
Other computer and electronic products	other 334	878	547	62.3	35.3	25.0	36.0	64.0	34.9	69.3	65.4	51.9
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	4,012	2,295	57.2	29.0	28.7	29.7	48.7	39.0	65.4	57.2	39.7
Transportation equipment	336	7,200	3,428	47.6	27.5	30.2	23.5	46.4	31.4	60.2	63.4	33.5
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361–63	4,517	1,926	42.6	28.6	34.9	22.0	44.0	25.2	61.5	66.3	33.3
Aerospace products and parts	3364	907	492	54.2	19.7	23.4	22.0	28.5	39.6	72.0	44.1	36.6
Other transportation	other 336	1,776	1,009	56.8	29.4	24.8	27.4	60.0	39.1	52.1	67.5	32.4
Furniture and related products	337	11,432	2,310	20.2	7.0	11.4	15.8	33.0	23.5	38.8	67.1	32.6
Miscellaneous	339	19,766	6,859	34.7	31.7	26.5	28.5	53.2	28.3	51.7	67.6	38.9
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	7,071	1,772	25.1	46.7	37.9	27.1	59.3	31.4	62.2	62.3	43.6
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	12,695	5,087	40.1	26.4	22.5	29.0	51.1	27.2	48.0	69.5	37.3
Nonmanufacturing industries	11, 21–23, 42–81	4,826,527	1,030,397	21.3	6.1	6.2	28.3	38.0	11.1	51.2	60.3	20.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	11	18,408	1,905	10.3	8.0	7.0	20.9	35.7	4.6	r 35.3	53.5	17.8

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Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	14,212	1,938	13.6	11.2	6.9	13.4	20.0	6.1	73.6	33.8	30.0
Utilities	22	3,367	858	25.5	16.7	9.9	20.2	48.6	16.8	76.0	53.1	32.6
Construction	23	697,532	81,780	11.7	3.9	4.6	14.7	26.7	12.2	49.5	56.3	18.7
Wholesale trade	42	236,689	69,112	29.2	13.0	16.6	24.4	55.0	11.1	55.0	55.6	23.5
Retail trade	44–45	542,047	107,455	19.8	7.4	8.4	28.6	49.7	11.6	33.1	71.3	19.9
Transportation and warehousing	48–49	184,207	20,240	11.0	5.5	6.4	17.4	37.9	9.5	56.2	49.7	18.0
Information	51	67,109	33,241	49.5	9.0	5.9	58.1	47.4	18.0	58.7	58.6	24.6
Publishing	511	19,008	13,389	70.4	12.2	7.5	69.2	54.7	25.2	59.3	60.9	31.5
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	8,557	5,185	60.6	1.3	1.1	81.6	41.4	7.0	28.9	47.1	7.5
Software publishers	5112	10,451	8,204	78.5	19.1	11.6	61.4	63.1	36.7	78.5	69.7	46.7
Telecommunications	517	6,886	2,000	29.0	9.8	7.2	27.3	36.2	17.4	71.8	62.9	27.1
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	8,312	4,571	55.0	16.6	9.0	42.6	51.6	28.7	76.9	57.9	34.7
Other information	other 51	32,903	13,281	40.4	3.0	3.0	56.8	40.2	7.1	49.8	55.8	13.8
Finance and insurance	52	195,489	51,357	26.3	3.8	3.7	23.5	36.8	8.3	66.0	63.8	23.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	282,087	49,474	17.5	2.4	2.7	17.0	26.7	6.1	44.0	70.7	10.8
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works)	533	1,783	891	50.0	4.7	16.4	50.1	84.4	6.4	71.6	83.1	49.0
Other real estate and rental and leasing	other 53	280,304	48,584	17.3	2.4	2.5	16.4	25.7	6.1	43.5	70.5	10.1
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	730,285	228,128	31.2	7.6	5.8	35.6	29.9	16.0	66.1	50.1	20.9
Legal services	5411	153,500	25,730	16.8	3.4	3.7	30.8	33.0	3.8	55.9	49.2	16.9
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	5412	108,031	17,160	15.9	1.2	2.2	11.8	14.5	6.9	75.6	38.0	12.9
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	88,454	32,143	36.3	8.9	8.5	45.0	18.6	26.2	55.4	37.9	19.7
Specialized design services	5414	28,137	12,235	43.5	3.8	7.0	46.4	35.1	30.7	46.8	75.2	14.7
Computer systems design and related services	5415	99,385	42,469	42.7	10.2	6.0	38.2	36.9	22.2	78.4	52.9	28.6
Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	5416	156,771	59,104	37.7	4.6	4.3	34.2	32.1	12.3	71.8	50.5	20.2
Scientific research and development services	5417	11,544	7,879	68.3	62.4	26.4	29.7	43.8	28.1	82.4	38.1	56.5
Advertising, public relations, and related services	5418	27,216	12,320	45.3	3.4	5.2	34.9	36.9	13.7	62.4	66.9	17.1
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	5419	57,246	19,087	33.3	2.9	2.7	41.8	23.2	8.0	52.7	53.1	11.7
Management of companies and enterprises	55	2,682	735	27.4	13.9	13.9	37.8	60.5	8.7	85.4	50.3	30.5
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	56	305,400	62,434	20.4	4.0	3.8	20.7	33.0	8.4	59.5	57.9	18.7
Educational services	61	61,684	26,734	43.3	3.6	3.8	50.8	44.7	8.4	52.8	69.9	14.4
Health care and social assistance	62	549,826	97,393	17.7	3.9	3.8	20.1	26.3	5.8	57.9	56.8	12.0
Health care services	621–23	482,098	82,990	17.2	4.1	3.8	18.4	24.6	5.9	58.1	55.3	11.6
Social assistance	624	67,728	14,404	21.3	2.5	3.7	29.6	36.3	5.7	56.4	65.2	14.6
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	71	97,837	36,005	36.8	2.7	2.7	50.8	35.7	8.2	39.9	58.9	10.5
Accommodation and food services	72	492,801	110,697	22.5	6.1	8.2	27.2	56.3	9.7	26.7	74.2	31.8

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Other services	81	344,866		50,910		14.8		4.5	5.0		22.4		37.8		10.1		41.5		63.4	20.1	

r = relative standard error > 50%.

IP = intellectual property; NAICS = 2022 North American Industry Classification System.

Note(s):
Detail may not add to total because of rounding or unavailable NAICS detail for select records beyond the 4-digit industry classification. Industry classification is based on dominant establishment payroll. Statistics are representative of companies located in the United States.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics and Census Bureau, 2024 Annual Business Survey: Data Year 2023.