

Table 62. Companies with intellectual property protection, by company size and type of intellectual property protection: 2023

(Percent)

Company size (number of employees)	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 companies	5,033,879		1,108,733		22.0		7.1		7.1		27.9		38.8		12.0		51.8		60.0		21.3	
Micro companies																						
1–4	2,859,754		520,813		18.2		6.0		5.5		31.0		33.7		11.6		46.5		58.4		18.8	
5–9	941,906		205,550		21.8		7.4		7.3		25.6		39.2		12.0		52.1		61.0		21.4	
Small companies																						
10–19	601,238		164,011		27.3		6.8		7.3		23.9		41.4		11.9		56.5		60.5		22.6	
20–49	409,021		129,622		31.7		7.4		8.7		25.2		46.4		12.0		57.8		63.0		24.1	
Medium companies																						
50–99	120,787		44,939		37.2		8.8		10.2		23.2		47.6		11.1		62.9		60.3		26.0	
100–249	67,846		27,296		40.2		13.2		13.6		26.3		52.7		13.9		64.9		61.8		28.5	
Large companies																						
250–499	18,154		8,247		45.4		16.5		18.7		27.9		51.8		17.5		69.9		61.7		29.8	
500–999	7,356		3,660		49.8		24.5		26.6		38.6		66.8		24.4	r	69.6		66.1		36.7	
1,000–4,999	5,942		3,276		55.1		31.1		29.8		46.3		72.3		26.0		76.6		72.9		44.0	
5,000–9,999	922		629		68.2		41.8		39.1		62.8		83.3		32.3		78.7		79.8		53.7	
10,000–24,999	594		412		69.4		55.6		47.3		68.0		88.6		42.7		82.0		81.8		62.9	
25,000 or more	360		279		77.5		55.2		52.0		76.7		90.0		44.1		79.2		86.7		65.2	

r = relative standard error > 50%.

IP = intellectual property.

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, 2024 Annual Business Survey: Data Year 2023.