

Table 64. Companies with intellectual property activities, by company size and type of intellectual property: 2023

(Percent)

Company size (number of employees)	All companies (number)	Licensed or purchased IP from businesses that are not affiliated	Licensed or sold IP to businesses that are not affiliated	Transferred IP to businesses that are not affiliated through participation in technical assistance or "know-how" agreements	Received IP from businesses that are not affiliated through participation in technical assistance or "know-how" agreements	Participated in cross-licensing agreements with businesses that are not affiliated	Acquired or merged with businesses that are not affiliated to acquire their IP	Transferred IP to a spin-off or spin-out of this business	Received IP from a parent company as part of a spin-off or spin-out	Allowed free use of patents or other IP owned by this business	Made use of open source patents or other freely available IP not owned by this businesses
All companies	5,033,879	1.3	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.1
Micro companies											
1–4	2,859,754	1.2	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	1.2
5–9	941,906	1.2	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.1
Small companies											
10–19	601,238	1.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.0
20–49	409,021	1.5	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.8
Medium companies											
50–99	120,787	1.8	0.9	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.1	1.3
100–249	67,846	1.9	1.0	0.3	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.3
Large companies											
250–499	18,154	2.8	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.6
500–999	7,356	4.6	3.7	1.1	2.0	1.9	3.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	2.8
1,000–4,999	5,942	8.9	6.5	3.7	4.3	4.3	5.8	1.8	0.9	1.4	6.5
5,000–9,999	922	17.5	12.9	7.2	8.6	10.1	11.3	3.3	1.6	4.1	11.5
10,000–24,999	594	24.6	19.4	10.6	10.6	13.5	17.7	6.7	3.0	6.6	17.3
25,000 or more	360	30.8	26.9	14.4	16.1	20.8	17.5	5.6	3.3	10.0	20.8

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.