

Table 68. U.S. patent applications and patents issued to companies located in the United States that performed or funded R&D, by industry and company size: 2024

(Number)

Industry and company size	NAICS code	Applications							Patents issued ^c	
		Total	Nonprovisional utility patents							
			Total	To foreign jurisdictions ^a		From within organized R&D activity ^b				
All industries	21–23, 31–33, 42–81	151,573	102,955	50,413		83,666		101,145		
Manufacturing industries	31–33	109,980	71,013	39,803		57,850		70,687		
Food	311	996	590	247		560		493		
Beverage and tobacco products	312	843	675	375		601		1,078		
Textile, apparel, and leather products	313–16	372	232	135		221		178		
Wood products	321	106	58	41		48		41		
Paper	322	472	248	127		241		389		
Printing and related support activities	323	111	78	1		56		41		
Petroleum and coal products	324	538	283	75		86		352		
Chemicals	325	19,744	10,215	7,759		8,955		8,593		
Basic chemicals	3251	1,413	584	461		512		634		
Resin, synthetic rubber, and artificial synthetic fibers and filaments	3252	1,114	605	435		573		556		
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemicals	3253	170	93	51		60		70		
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	14,871	7,671	5,916		6,666		5,941		
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparations	3256	1,338	742	527		630		903		
Paint, coating, adhesive, and other chemicals	3255, 3259	839	518	370		513		490		
Plastics and rubber products	326	1,071	515	308		486		558		
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	1,765	i 1,602	i 1,083	i	1,575	i	855	i	
Primary metals	331	549	289	212		271		232		
Fabricated metal products	332	3,424	1,715	1,161		1,559		1,082		
Machinery	333	11,824	7,375	4,105		6,420		7,183		
Agricultural implement	33311	1,599	1,149	576		1,034		1,093		
Semiconductor machinery	333242	3,103	1,208	1,064		1,178		1,421		
Engine, turbine, and power transmission equipment	3336	1,550	1,205	570		1,052		936		
Other machinery	other 333	5,572	3,812	1,895		3,155		3,733		
Computer and electronic products	334	36,527	26,380	10,239		18,971		28,657		
Communications equipment	3342	3,740	2,760	1,054		1,292		2,855		
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	21,043	15,190	6,380		10,364		14,432	i	
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	3,611	2,786	1,347		2,081		2,455		
Electromedical, electrotherapeutic, and irradiation apparatus	334510, 334517	1,280	939	418	i	451	i	834		
Search, detection, navigation, guidance, aeronautical, and nautical system and instruments	334511	737	622	137		586		490		
Other measuring and controlling devices	other 3345	1,594	1,224	792		1,043		1,131		
Other computer and electronic products	other 334	8,132	i 5,644	i 1,457		5,235	i	8,916		
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	3,109	2,090	1,306		1,860		2,404		
Transportation equipment	336	11,994	9,564	6,152		7,251		8,410		
Motor vehicles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361–63	4,814	3,597	2,646		3,283		2,970		

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Aerospace products and parts	3364	6,234		5,340		3,355		3,730		5,190	
Aircraft, aircraft engine, and aircraft parts	336411–13	3,061		2,519		1,386		D		2,353	
Guided missile, space vehicle, and related parts	336414–15, 336419	3,172		2,821		1,969		D		2,837	
Military armored vehicle, tank, and tank components	336992	10		5		4		5		5	
Other transportation	other 336	936		623	i	147		234		245	
Furniture and related products	337	282		99		50		65		113	
Miscellaneous	339	16,253		9,006		6,426		8,622		10,029	
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	13,515		7,791		5,963		7,488		8,874	
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	2,738	i	1,215		464	i	1,134		1,155	i
Nonmanufacturing industries	21–23, 42–81	41,593		31,942		10,610		25,816		30,458	
Mining, quarrying, oil and gas extraction, and support activities	21	824		465		391		421		514	
Utilities	22	91		47		11		46		27	
Wholesale trade	42	962		388	i	143		323		354	i
Electronic shopping and electronic auctions	454111–12	2,184	i	2,042	i	151	i	2,028	i	1,936	i
Transportation and warehousing	48–49	734		553		140		517		297	
Information	51	22,234		16,979		6,835		15,140		15,402	
Publishing	511	7,247		5,557		3,177	i	5,396		5,654	
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	7	r	7	r	0		0		0	
Software publishers	5112	7,239		5,550		3,177	i	5,396		5,654	
Telecommunications	517	2,398		2,042		186		905		1,779	
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	5,818		4,723		619		4,494		3,621	
Other information	other 51	6,772		4,658		2,853		4,344		4,348	
Finance and insurance	52	5,100		4,509		556		2,394		5,285	
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	43		23		14		4		22	
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works)	533	0		0		0		0		0	
Other real estate and rental and leasing	other 53	43		23		14		4		22	
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	8,671		6,463		2,119		4,487		6,185	
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	773		273		93		152		518	r
Computer systems design and related services	5415	3,964		3,569		675		2,122		3,632	
Scientific research and development services	5417	3,317		2,180		1,240		1,853		1,507	
Research and development in nanotechnology	541713	246		110		59		101		60	
Research and development in biotechnology (except nanobiotechnology)	541714	631		380		223		372		192	
Research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences (except nanotechnology and biotechnology)	541715	2,437		1,690		958		1,381		1,238	
Research and development in the social sciences and humanities	541720	2		1		0		0		18	
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	other 54	617		441		111		359	i	527	i
Health care services	621–23	331		160		127		156		94	

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Other nonmanufacturing	23, 44–45 (excluding 454111–12), 55–56, 624, 71–72, 81	418	312	123		300		343	
All companies (number of domestic employees)	–	151,573	102,955	50,413		83,666		101,145	
Small companies									
10–19 ^d	–	2,180	1,199	571		937		770	
20–49	–	5,821	3,029	1,104		2,412		2,404	
Medium companies									
50–99	–	4,725	2,740	1,368		2,151		1,733	
100–249	–	7,037	4,614	2,907		4,053		3,537	
Large companies									
250–499	–	5,196	3,188	1,583		2,909		2,656	
500–999	–	7,219	4,016	1,823		3,379		3,765	
1,000–4,999	–	20,690	14,372	7,355		12,889		13,595	
5,000–9,999	–	14,886	8,763	4,745		7,988		9,734	
10,000–24,999	–	31,601	21,172	12,617		17,338		21,089	
25,000 or more	–	52,219	39,862	16,341		29,610		41,861	

D = data withheld to avoid disclosing operations of individual companies; i = more than 50% of the estimate is imputation to account for nonresponse; r = relative standard error is more than 50%.

NAICS = 2017 North American Industry Classification System.

^a To foreign jurisdictions also includes patent applications for which company planned to apply for in foreign jurisdictions.
^b From within organized R&D activity includes patent applications in which the named inventors were R&D employees.
^c For a small number of companies issued more than 100 patents by the Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), counts from USPTO.gov were used to supplement survey data.
^d The Business Enterprise Research and Development Survey does not include companies with fewer than 10 domestic employees.

Note(s):
Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Industry classification is based on the dominant business code for domestic R&D performance, where available. For companies that did not report business codes, the classification used for sampling was assigned. Statistics are representative of companies located in the United States that performed or funded \$50,000 or more of R&D. Statistics are based on companies in the United States that reported to the survey. No systematic item imputation was applied. These statistics include an adjustment to the weight to account for unit nonresponse. *Total nonprovisional utility patents* can be counted in both *To foreign jurisdictions* and *From within organized R&D activity*, or it can be counted in one of the categories or neither of them. As a result, *To foreign jurisdictions* and *From within organized R&D activity* do not add to *Total nonprovisional utility patents*. *Patents issued* reflect patent applications for 2024 and prior years while the counts in *Total applications* are counts of applications in 2024, therefore *Patents issued* is not a subset of *Total applications*.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics and Census Bureau, Business Enterprise Research and Development Survey, 2024.