THE TOP FIVE SECTORS INC. 500 CEOs SAY ARE RIPE FOR DISRUPTION

HEALTH CARE
- It’s hard not to see the potential. Americans spent $2.9 trillion on health care in 2013; how many people do you know who are happy with what they get for their portion of that figure? Still, two huge challenges loom: giant, well-funded incumbents, and reams of regulation.

FINANCIAL SERVICES, BANKING
- Payment startups Stripe and Square boast 10-digit valuations. Late last year, Apple announced Apple Pay, and alternative lender Lending Club had a successful IPO. But many sense big opportunities lurking herein (see “Fintech Finally Lifts Off,” page 154). As they say, it’s where the money is.

ENERGY
- A sector that’s long attracted serious money. In the past decade, VCs plowed billions into the green-tech startups that take on portions of the fossil-fuel ecosystem. Disappointing results led many to pull back on such investments, but Inc. 500 CEOs still sense huge potential.

MEDIA, CABLE, BROADCASTING
- The ongoing digitization of media experiences has led to significant change and challenges for newspapers, radio, and—yes—magazines, while television’s fortunes remained relatively stable. But one glimpse at your kids’ smartphone-centric ways lets you know more change is coming.

AUTOMOTIVE
- Bulls point to Tesla; bears point to Fisker Automotive, which went bankrupt in 2013. But deep-pocketed players in Silicon Valley (like Google and Uber) and Detroit are making bets on self-driving cars. Such shakeups of this notoriously staid industry will breed new prospects for founders.

OTHER RESPONSES THAT RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE VOTE
- THE U.S. GOVERNMENT; THE STOCK MARKET; MOBILE PHONES; AIRLINES; PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION; CANNABIS; SALES SOFTWARE; WATCHES; “TECH VALUATIONS”