

Facts about the life sciences industry

The Basel Area is Europe's most successful life sciences cluster - a thriving life sciences innovation hub at the heart of Europe. Home to over 700 life sciences companies and more than 1,000 research groups, it boasts an unrivalled life sciences talent pool with 32,000 well-qualified employees in the region, compared to the Geneva region with 8,100 and the Zurich region with 10,700.

The region has a very high density of successful life sciences companies such as global giants Novartis and Roche and other worldwide players like Lonza, Abbott, Actelion, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim and Syngenta. But it is not just about big pharma, one also finds many biotech companies like Idorsia, Roivant Sciences, Galapagos, Anaveon, Basilea, Beigen, Halozyme, Mirum Pharmaceuticals, NBE Therapeutics, Nouscom Polyneuron, Santhera, Skyhawk Therapeutics and many others. Numerous small and medium-sized companies and a large number of successful startups and spin-offs enrich the integrated life sciences landscape.

Biotechnology, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, medtech, healthtech, chemistry and agricultural sciences, together with complementary technologies such as nanoscience and bioinformatics – the Basel Area fulfills all the conditions necessary for a top life sciences cluster. Alongside the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical technology companies, the other sectors in the region also benefit from the dynamism generated by the life sciences cluster.

In particular, ICT companies collaborate with biotech startups, medium-size companies or big pharma to innovate and bring better medicines to patients faster. Furthermore, the promising healthtech sector is growing fast which makes the Basel Area the location where the future of healthcare is taking place. The region is leading the healthcare transformation.

Local initiatives like DayOne connect the industry with academia, healthcare providers and government to drive innovation and accelerate startups. Innovators develop clinical decision support technologies, patient applications, precision medicine and diagnostics, or optimize the healthcare system. This community has already grown to over 5'000 participants.

BaseLaunch supports therapeutic ventures and is among the leading accelerators of its kind in Europe. Each venture is financed with up to 500,000 USD. BaseLaunch helps build the company from scratch to a point where the venture can raise financing. Since early 2018, BaseLaunch has supported 13 ventures. Eight of them have raised over 200 million USD in financing with an average raise of 25 million USD per company.

Both DayOne and BaseLaunch are managed by Basel Area Business & Innovation, the investment and innovation promotion agency of the Basel Area.



The Basel Area offers attractive premises for laboratories, offices and production sites. The region is strategically connected to the excellent transport infrastructure, so you can quickly and efficiently expand your sales on the European and global market. With Germany and France, two of the largest European pharma markets are right at your doorstep.