

LIFE SCIENCES INDUSTRY IN CANADA

Canada has emerged as a centre of discovery, development and commercialization for innovative life sciences and health care solutions.

Highlights and growth opportunities

The **world's ten largest biopharmaceutical companies are in Canada**, most with research and development (R&D) and manufacturing operations. Canada is also the **world's 10th largest pharmaceuticals market**.¹

Biopharmaceuticals sector strengths:

- A health-research network increasingly commercially-oriented, providing value and advantages in infrastructure to firms securing partnerships
- A pharmaceutical and biotechnology sector spanning the industry's spectrum, operating at all levels of the value chain, from basic R&D and innovation to product development and contract services

Medical devices and digital imaging sector strengths:


- Medical imaging, such as In-Vitro diagnostics, picture archiving and communications systems (PACS)
- Wireless and mobile health
- Robotic surgery and surgical simulation
- Cardiovascular devices
- Wearables, assistive and rehabilitative devices


Programs and incentives

- **Genome Canada** provides large-scale investments that develop new technologies, and **create solutions**.



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Canada

\$9.6B

Annual **pharmaceutical manufacturing production** in 2017.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2018

44%

Increase in pharmaceutical exports from 2001 to 2017.

Source: Global Affairs Canada, 2018

\$27.3B

In pharmaceutical sales in 2017;

Source: Patented Medicine Prices Review Board (PMPRB), 2017

#1

Among G7 countries for **available engineers**.

Source: Canadian Trade Commissioner Service, 2018

#2

Ontario's **innovation corridor** is the **2nd largest in the world**.

Source: The Corridor, Toronto-Waterloo Region

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- **Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)** is a funding agency composed of 13 institutes that collaborate with partners and researchers to support innovation.
- **Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)** funds infrastructure to strengthen the capacity of Canadian universities, colleges, research hospitals, and non-profit research institutions to carry out world-class research.
- **The Canada Brain Research Fund (CRF)** is a public-private partnership designed to fund Canadian brain science research to advance knowledge and understanding of the brain and brain disorders.
- **National Research Council (NRC)** is Canada's premier research organization. It is working with a private partner to develop new therapeutic models that could lead to improved treatments in the future and better outcomes for patients suffering from brain disease.²
- **The Digital Technology Supercluster**, an industry-led consortium, funds data-driven and digital innovations transforming life sciences and manufacturing of pharmaceuticals.

Canada has exceptional institutions leading innovation:

- **The Medical Image Analysis Lab (MIAL)** at Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, is developing new techniques for image analysis of brain structures.
- **The Montreal Diabetes Research Centre** in Montreal, Quebec, coordinates new technologies for better diagnostic tools and treatments for diabetes.

- **The Brain Repair Centre** in Halifax, Nova Scotia, develops technology that will prevent, repair and reverse damage to brain cells.
- **IBM** has partnered with the **University of Ontario Institute of Technology** and **Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children** on advanced analytic platforms to predict when a hospitalized baby is at risk of life-threatening infection.

Recent life sciences investments

Sanofi Pasteur (France) is investing \$500 million in a **new vaccine facility** in Toronto to produce antigens used in diphtheria and tetanus vaccines. The new facility will be operational in 2021.³

Bayer AG (Germany) and Versant Ventures (USA) invested \$292 million to create **BlueRock Therapeutics** in 2016, a stem cell therapy company based in Toronto, Ontario.⁴

Jubilant Medical Devices (India) announced in 2018 it is investing \$100 million to expand operations in medical devices manufacturing facility in Kirkland, Quebec.⁵

Ypsomed (Switzerland) established a new subsidiary in Pointe-Claire, Quebec, in 2018, to capitalize on growth opportunities for its diabetes-treatment products.⁶

Notable companies



CONTACT

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¹ Pharmaceutical industry profile, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, 2018
² The National Research Council of Canada and Aspect Biosystems work toward new ways to deliver therapeutics to the brain, the holy grail of biopharmaceutical sciences, National Research Council Canada, February 2019
³ Sanofi to invest 350 million Euros in Canadian vaccine facility, Sanofi Pasteur, April 2018
⁴ Bayer and Versant Ventures Join Forces to Launch Stem Cell Therapy Company BlueRock Therapeutics with USD 225 Million Series A Financing, BlueRock Therapeutics, 2016
⁵ India companies to invest millions into Canada, creating 5,800 jobs, Global News, February 2018
⁶ Ypsomed expands to more countries, Ypsomed SelfCare Solutions, March 2018