

Barcelona, a thriving Life Sciences hub

LIFE SCIENCES

Barcelona & Partners®

An initiative by



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01

Introduction



Introduction

Life Sciences has become an extremely attractive sector both for talent development and for the investment community. As an industry, it encompasses companies operating in research, development and manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, medical devices, biomedical technologies and other products.

From a Real Estate perspective, interest in creating Life Sciences clusters is growing considerably as it is widely accepted that bringing these types of companies closer together with their main competitors boosts their productivity. As a result, this trend is creating strong demand from leading Real Estate players who are beginning to see the sector as an asset class in its own right and are actively seeking better-located developments that will allow them to take advantage of this opportunity.

Barcelona ticks all the boxes in terms of what is needed to play a prominent role in the Life Sciences industry: outstanding infrastructures, world-renowned hospitals, a vibrant business ecosystem and a city that is at the cutting-edge of science and offers an exceptional quality of life that continues to attract talent to the city.

There are also numerous projects underway that will further enhance what Barcelona can offer in terms of medicine and science. These projects will also provide space for Life Sciences companies to set themselves up, helping to further raise the city's profile and deliver new investment opportunities.



Life Sciences



Biotech



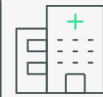
Genomics Industry



CROs CMOs



Medical Devices



Pharma



Big Data



Agrotech

02

Why Barcelona is a leading hub for Life Sciences



“

Barcelona has everything you need: talent, location, infrastructure and a vibrant business ecosystem. It's a top-level Biohub, with first-rate hospitals and research centres, and a unique mix of startups and corporates in southern Europe

”

Manuel del Castillo Rey
Managing Director of the Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, Barcelona



Hospital Sant Joan de Déu (Barcelona) is a teaching hospital specialising in paediatrics, gynaecology and obstetrics. Having helped patients for more than 150 years, the Hospital Sant Joan de Deu is the largest children's hospital in Spain, one of the five largest in Europe.

02.1

The ecosystem up close



Barcelona in figures

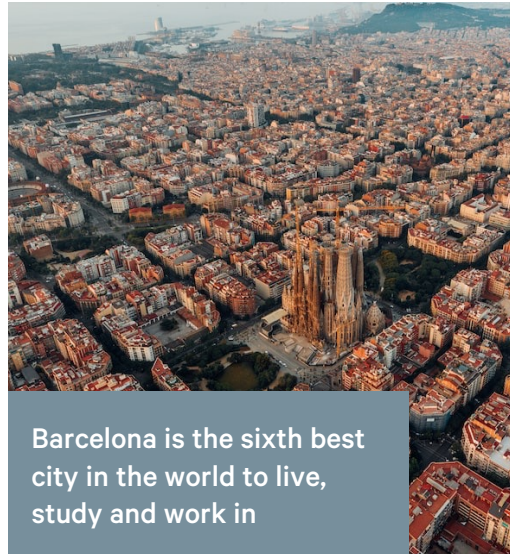
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The Barcelona brand is renowned worldwide, and that helps when approaching investors. It’s also a great place for attracting talent

”

Esther Rimbau,
CEO ONIRIA Therapeutics

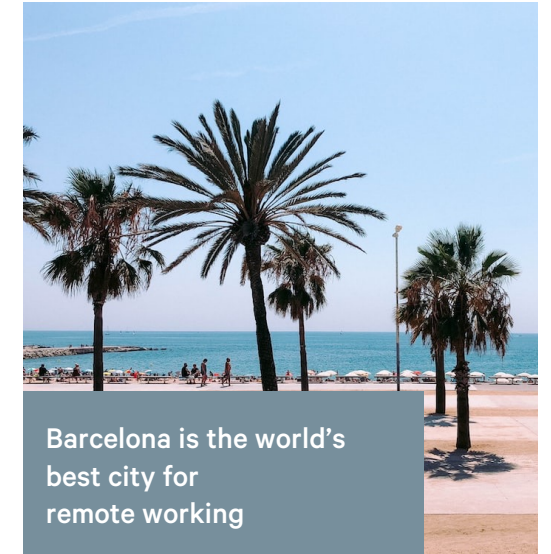
ONIRIA Therapeutics is a biotech company, spin-off of VHIO, UB and ICREA, focused on the development of new drugs to modulate and eliminate dormant tumour cells as a novel strategy for overcoming disease persistence.



Barcelona is the sixth best city in the world to live, study and work in



Barcelona ranks among the top 10 best cities in the world for digital experts



Barcelona is the world’s best city for remote working

Demographic indicators (2022)

- Catalonia has a total population of 7,792,611 inhabitants, 4,938,404 of which live in the Barcelona Metropolitan Area.
- 23.6% of the city's population are foreign nationals, topping the national average of 11.21%.
- The average age of the population in Barcelona is 43.35 years old.

Source: Barcelona in figures 2021/2022.
Ajuntament de Barcelona

Economy

- In 2022, the Catalonia region represented 20.4% of the country’s GDP.
- The GDP per capita in Catalonia is €34,534.72.
- The unemployment rate in the city of Barcelona is 9.7%, below Spain’s national rate of 12.9%.

Source: Idescat and INE

Quality of life

Barcelona is the sixth most attractive city in the world to live and work in. It has:

+ 30 km of beachfront	2,500 hours of sunshine a year
+ 300 km of bicycle lines	+ 8,900 international companies
+ 11,000 architectural spaces	+ 1,900 public sports spaces
+ 60 parks	67 museums

Source: World’s Best Cities report 2022,
Resonance Consultancy

A highly competitive city

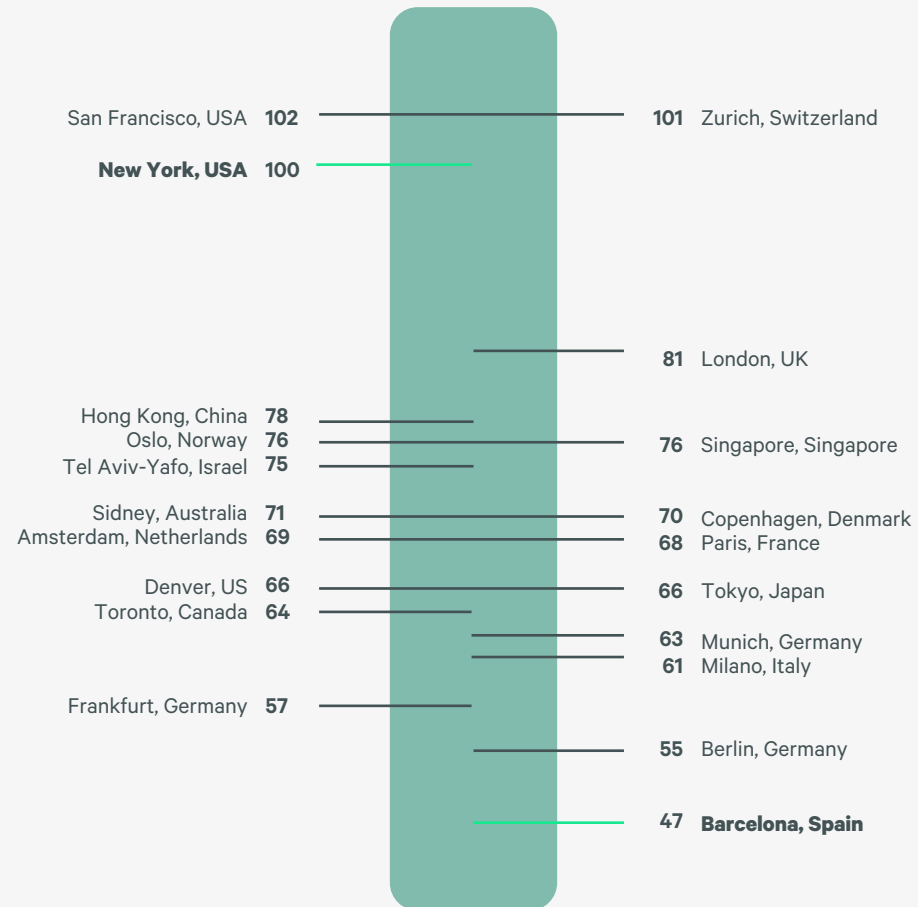
Barcelona offers an unparalleled balance between quality of life, talent and cost structure.

Barcelona offers a very attractive European and global investment proposition thanks to a favourable mix of factors. The city's local innovation culture, strong industrial base and pool of qualified professionals are all complemented by highly competitive salaries, office spaces and service providers.



Cost of living index, 2022

Relative indicator of consumer goods prices, including groceries, restaurants, transportation and utilities, including accommodation expenses such as rent or mortgage.



Source: Cost of Living Index by City 2022 by Numbeo

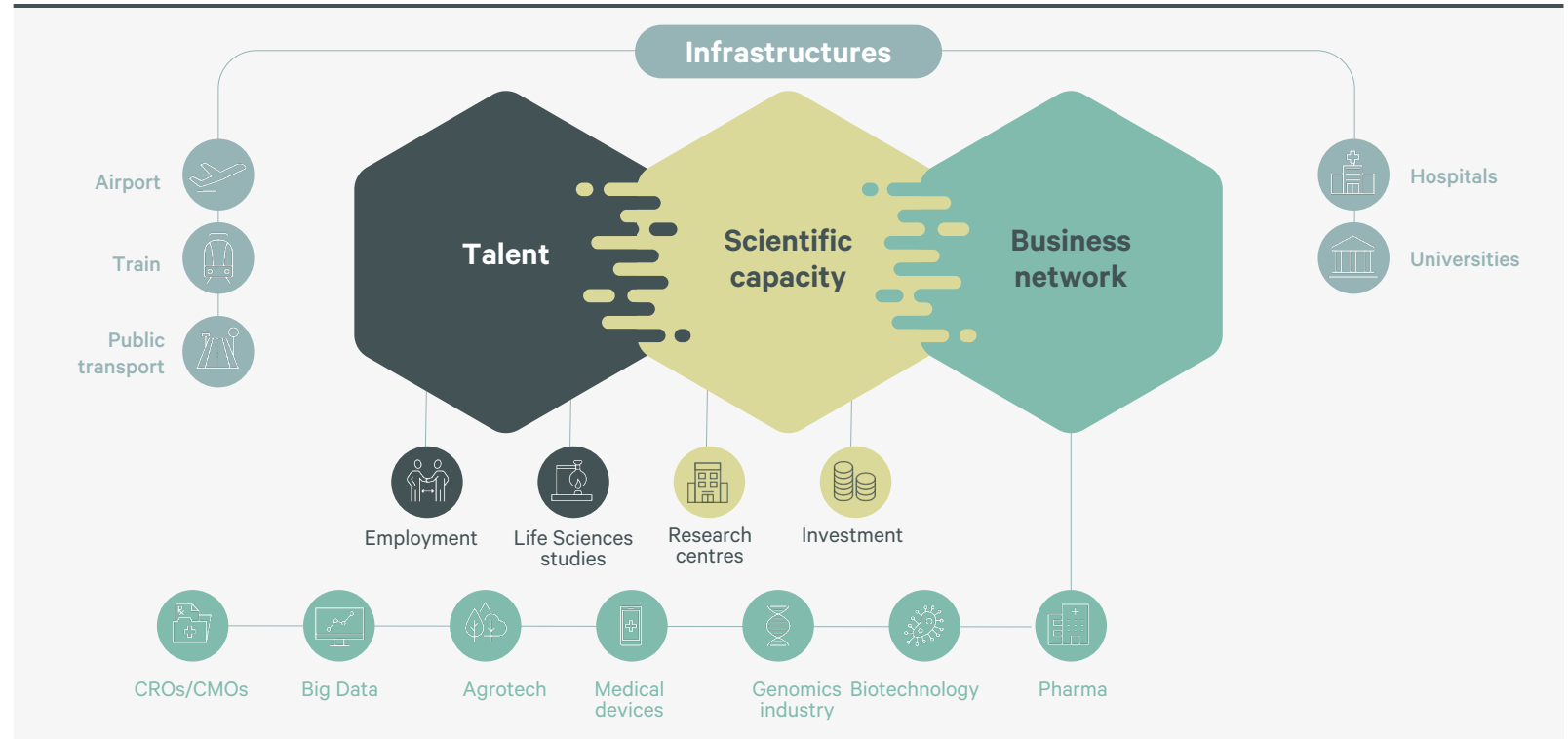
“

Barcelona offers an attractive combination of diverse talent, quality of life, infrastructures, scientific capacity and a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem. These factors make Barcelona an enticing place to do business, live and work.

”

Marc Ferre,
Managing Director at Bayer GBS Barcelona

Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the Life Science fields of health care and nutrition. Its products and services are designed to help people and planet thrive by supporting efforts to master the major challenges presented by a growing and aging global population. The Bayer brand stands for trust, reliability and quality throughout the world. In the 2022 fiscal year, the Group employed around 101,000 people and recorded sales of €50.7 billion. R&D expenses before special items amounted to €6.2 billion.



What does a cluster need?

To become a Life Science hub, a city must have strong offering in the following areas:

- **Infrastructure:** the city's communications, educational and health facilities are key in its ability to attract the Life Sciences sector.
- **Talent:** the city's provision of top-level universities that train professionals in the sector and work to integrate them into the working environment are an essential pre-requisite for Life Sciences hubs.

- **Scientific capacity:** the R&D projects carried out in any given area, with both private and public funding, are a clear indication of its potential to become a Life Sciences hub.
- **Business network:** how many Life Sciences companies are currently located in the area and their fields of activity are important factors to consider when it comes to creating a Life Sciences hub.

Barcelona's a dynamic business network is complemented by the perfect mix of infrastructure, talent, scientific capacity.

Infrastructure

A Life Sciences hub, following the trends of the most advanced and developed markets in the European Union, must be close to universities and hospitals in order to increase the transfer between researchers, the health system and the business world.

Only a handful of cities in the world have an international airport, a port, and a platform for free trade and logistics activities within a radius of just five kilometres. Barcelona is one of them. It is also part of the Mediterranean Corridor, which crosses six EU countries and covers more than 6,000 km.



Transport connections

Airport

- More than 41 million passengers and 4.4 million intercontinental passengers in 2022.

Train

- 12.1 million passengers travelling between Madrid and Barcelona in 2022.

Port

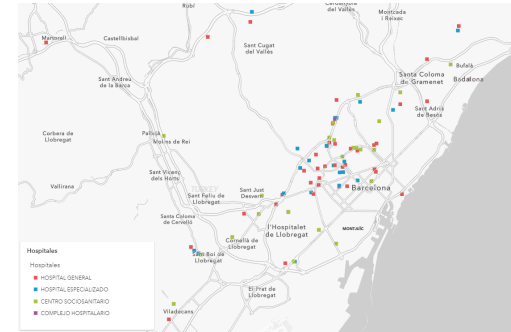
- The Port of Barcelona received 2.3 million cruise passengers in 2022 and has exported and imported 70.9 tons.

Public transport

- The Barcelona metropolitan area has 12 metro lines with more than 186 metro stations and 108 bus lines.

Fairgrounds

- Barcelona has more than 500,000 sqm where more than 150 events are held every year.



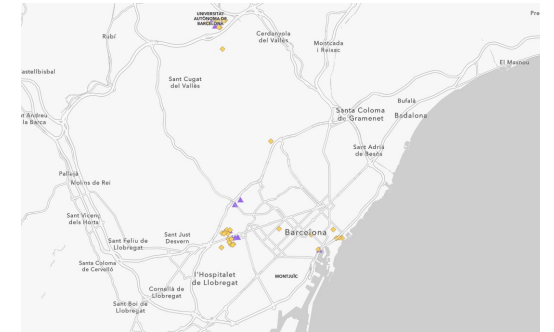
Hospitals

One of the main components of Barcelona's ecosystem is its network of high-quality hospitals. Barcelona has 58 hospitals, 12 of which are public and 46 private.

Barcelona's hospitals have achieved global recognition for their excellence in oncology, thoracic and cardiac surgery, kidney transplants and ophthalmologic surgery.

Some of the city's hospitals are considered benchmarks at global level, such as the Hospital Clínic and Hospital de la Vall d'Hebron, both ranked among top 100 best hospitals in the world, according to Newsweek magazine.

58 hospitals, 12 of which are public and 46 private



Universities

Catalonia has 12 universities, with more than 282,000 students enrolled. The Barcelona metropolitan area alone, with its eight public and private universities, accounts for 82% of total enrolled students.

Barcelona is the only city in Europe to have two of its teaching institutions ranked among the ten best business schools: IESE and ESADE are ranked in the top five of the world's best business schools for executive education, according to Financial Times 2023.

Barcelona is the only city in Europe to have two of its teaching institutions ranked among the ten best business schools: IESE and ESADE.

Source: 2022 BioRegion Report, Biocat and Barcelona in figures 2021-2022, Ajuntament de Barcelona

Talent



Barcelona offers unique access to highly talented professionals with a very good command of English and an innovative ecosystem which has attracted a range of leading multinationals. This combination also makes Barcelona an attractive destination for international talent.

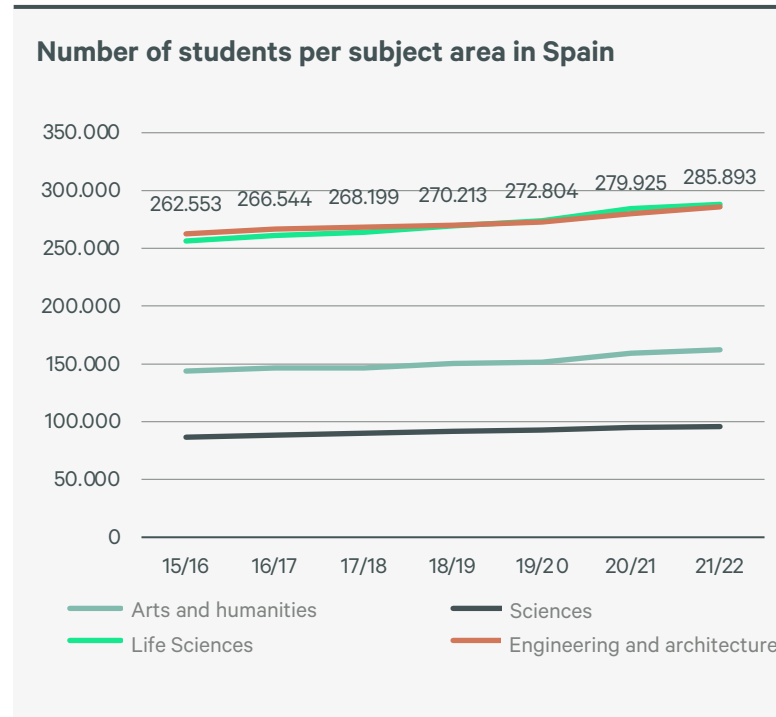


Carlos Nueno,
President at Teladoc Health International

Teladoc Health, the world leader in whole-person virtual care, has set up an international headquarters in Barcelona to manage all its international business.

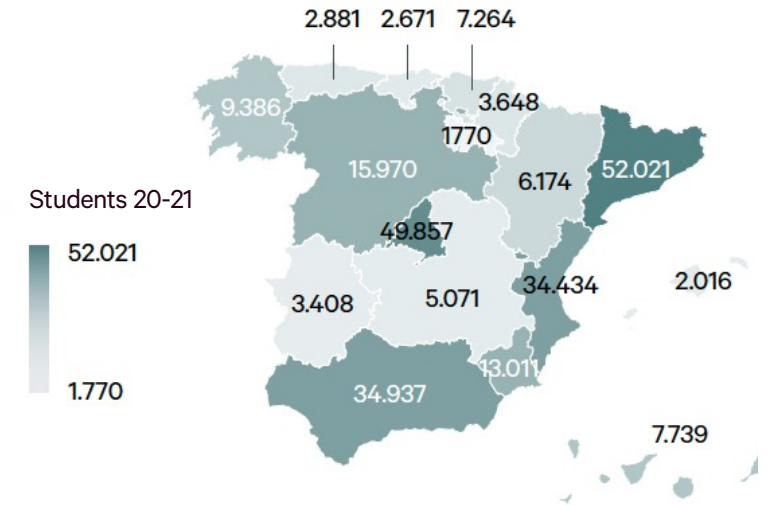
With one of Europe’s highest student populations and international campuses of excellence, Barcelona is a hive of local and international talent, with students having access to a wide range of Life Sciences degrees and master’s courses. This is a key factor that continues to attract international companies to the city.

With more than 1,050 degrees and master’s courses and more than 265,000 university students (over 30% of these from overseas), Barcelona has one of the highest student populations in Europe. 46.9% of Catalonia’s working population are university graduates.



Source: Ministerio de Universidades and Idescat

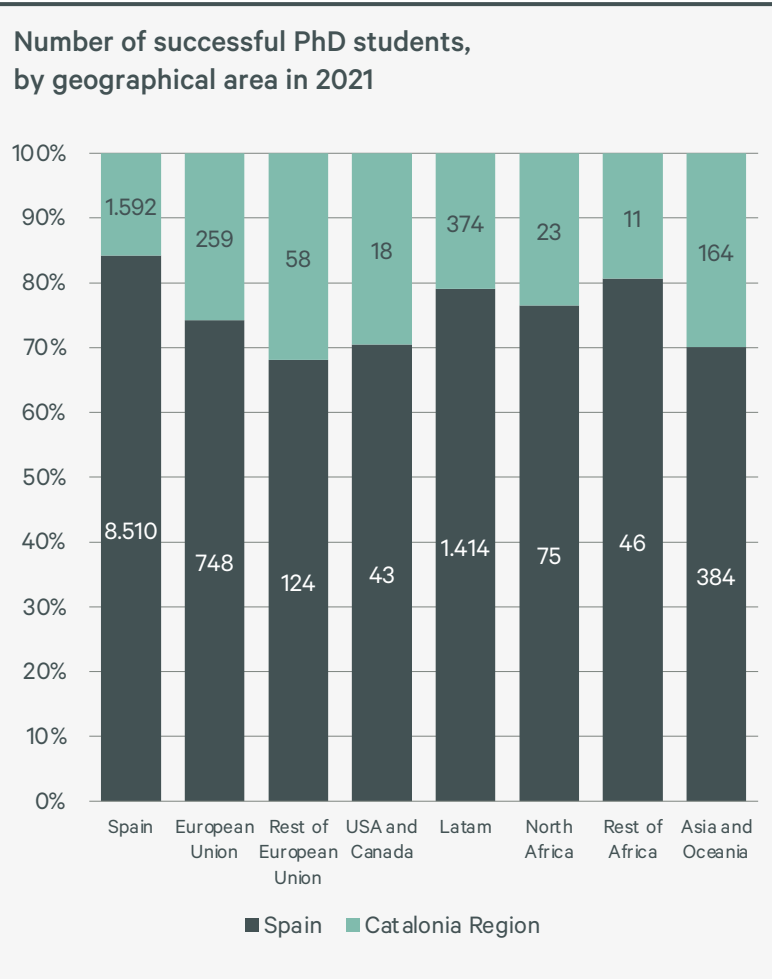
Number of Life Sciences students in Spain



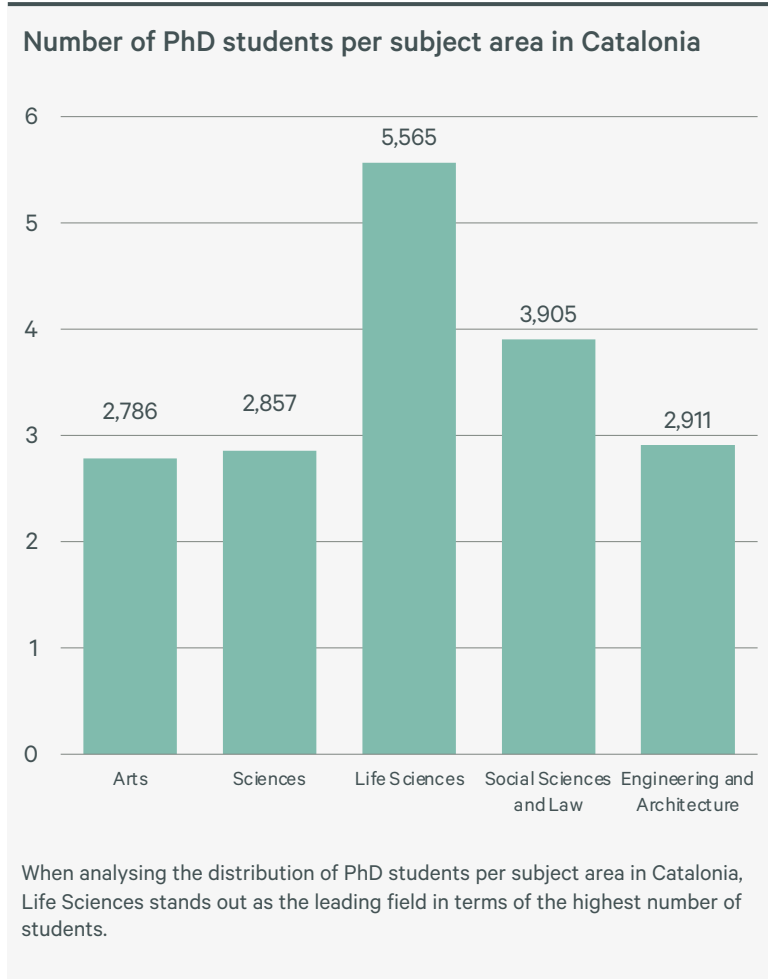
The autonomous region of **Catalonia** has more than 200 academic degree programmes and over 52,000 students enrolled in Life Sciences, making it **the region with the highest number of students enrolled in Spain**.

Barcelona is one of the leading regions for research both at the European and global level, **ranking as the fifth city in scientific production in the European Union and 20th worldwide in 2022**.

Talent



Source: Ministerio de Universidades and Idescat



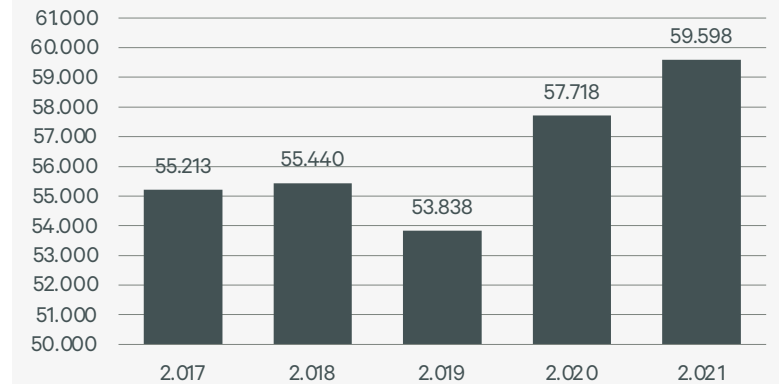
Source: Ministerio de Universidades and Idescat

Employment

Employing almost 264,000 people, the Life Sciences sector accounts for 7% of the employed population in Catalonia:

- **194,000** employees on health services
- **69,927** employees in industry

Catalonia Life Sciences sector employment



In the Barcelona area, Life Science accounts for 11,700 innovation-intensive employees out of more than 59,000 total sector employees:

- **9,300** in pharmaceutical manufacturing and research
- **2,400** in medical technology manufacturing and services

Talent



Catalonia is among the **top five in Europe** (per million inhabitants) for indicators like scientific publications, competitive resources secured for research projects, and grants from the European Research Council (ERC) in Life Sciences and health.

57.786

scientific publications in Catalonia
(2016-2021)

€571 M

H2020 funds secured
(2016-2021)

85

ERC grants (2016-2021)

Life Science research highlights in the Barcelona area:

- UB - Medical: 519 active researchers.
Top fields: medical research, surgery, clinical sciences, oncology, disease diagnostics, nutrition and nutriomics, clinical psychology, bioengineering, pathologies and therapeutics and odontology.
- UB - Pharma and Biotech: 574 active researchers.
Top fields: evolutive biology, genetic research, clinical trials, physiology, and cellular biology.
- IGTP Complex in Badalona: 697 researchers, and 254 active researchers.
Top fields: oncology/cancer research, leukaemia, viral diseases, surgery, and infectious diseases.
- Sant Joan de Déu: 235 active researchers in pediatrics.
Top fields: pediatric disease diagnostics, child epidemiology, juvenile mental health, neurogenetics and molecular biology and endocrinology.
- UIC: 152 active researchers.
- URL network: 210 active researchers.
- IQS: 67 active researchers.

Scientific capacity

Barcelona is home to leading science facilities, giving the city the potential to play a key role in advancing health sciences and the production of new medicines.



91 Research Institutes

40

research centres (32 of which are CERCA)

20

university hospitals

12

universities offering Life Sciences studies

3

large scientific infrastructures (the ALBA synchrotron, the Barcelona Supercomputing Centre, and the National Centre for Analysis and Genomics)

2

technology centres

14

science and technology parks with businesses involved in Life Sciences

Barcelona is a leading force in genomics and structural biology, excelling in areas such as medical chemistry, nanomedicine, omics sciences, bioinformatics and big data.

The city is also renowned for oncology and immunotherapy, neurosciences, global health, veterinary, genomics and epigenetics, nanotechnology, bioengineering, photonics, and medical chemistry.

Barcelona, a leading destination for clinical trials

The Barcelona region is currently participating in over 1,240 active clinical trials to test new therapies and drugs in patients. 75% of the clinical trials run in Spain involve the participation of a Catalan centre.

The region is ranked sixth in Europe and eighth in the world in terms of the number of active clinical trials.

In oncology, the Catalan life sciences and healthcare ecosystem ranks fifth in Europe and seventh in the world.

Scientific capacity

Barcelona boasts prominent science institutions, positioning the city to be a pivotal player in the progression of health sciences and the development of novel medications



Excellence Research

Barcelona, a leading destination for clinical trials

The Barcelona region is currently participating in over 1,242 active clinical trials to test new therapies and drugs in patients. 75% of the clinical trials run in Spain involve the participation of a Catalan centre.

8th

in the world and 6th in Europe in terms of the number of active clinical trials

7th

In the world and 5th in Europe in **Oncology** in terms of the number of active clinical trials

A gateway to academic excellence and talent

3rd

in number of publications on advanced therapies in Europe

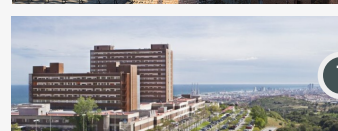
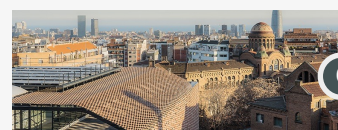
Top 3

For highly cited papers with patent citations

Scientific capacity

Life Sciences Research and Scientific Institutes

- Hospitals & Research Institutes
- Pharma & Biotech companies
- Research Centres
- Life Science & Technology Infrastructures
- Science & Technology Parks
- Life Science Universities
- Life Sciences
- Venture Capital
- Hubs & Ecosystem Supporters



CRG:
International biomedical research institute of excellence focused on genomics.

IBEC:
Multidisciplinary research institution specializing in bioengineering and nanomedicine. Recently partnered with Fraunhofer

IDIBAPS:
A leading biomedical center dedicated, t to the ongoing pursuit of knowledge regarding diseases, their treatment clinical application, and dissemination.

IDIBELL:
It is a research centre in biomedicine focused on cancer, neuroscience, translational medicine and regenerative medicine.

IRB:
A biomedical research centre with the mission to carry out research of excellence to cure cancer and other diseases linked to ageing.

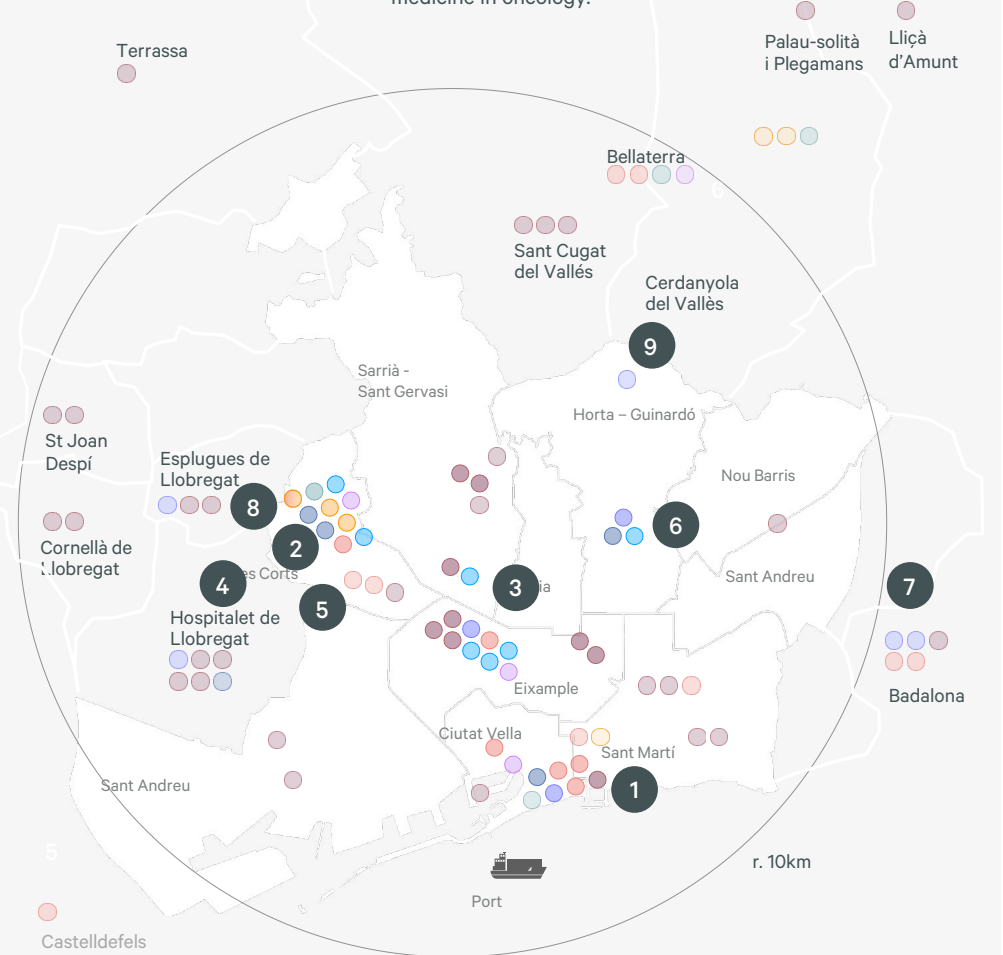
IR Sant Pau:
Committed to advancing research in basic, clinical, epidemiological, and healthcare services within health sciences and biomedicine.

IRSI Caixa
An international leader in HIV/AIDS research and a reference in the study of emerging infectious diseases, the microbiome, and cancer.

IRSIJD:
A European reference in comprehensive biomedical research into the health of individuals in the pediatric age.



VHIR & VHIO
VHIR conducts cutting-edge research in oncology, neurosciences, infectious diseases among others. VHIO is a reference center for personalized medicine in oncology.



Source: Barcelona & Partners and Biocat

Scientific capacity

Multi-sector Research and Scientific Centres

- Hospitals & Research Institutes
- Pharma & Biotech companies
- Research Centres
- Life Science & Technology Infrastructures
- Science & Technology Parks
- Life Science Universities
- Venture Capital
- Hubs & Ecosystem Supporters



Though we are not a life-science research centre, we do work in nanobased applications for health and medicine. We are deeply committed with transferring our technologies to society, and in this sense, of the 14 spin-offs that have been generated at ICN2 over the years, half of them have health related products.



Margarita Navia de Roux,
Head of Strategy at ICN2



Barcelona Super Computing Centre:
National supercomputing centre in Spain



ICN2:
Flagship research centre in nanoscience and nanotechnology



Alba Synchrotron:
Prominent research facility that attracts scientists from all over Europe



IFAE:
Performs research in high-energy physics, astroparticle physics and cosmology



ICFO:
Centre of excellence with research encompassing a range of areas in which photonics plays a decisive role



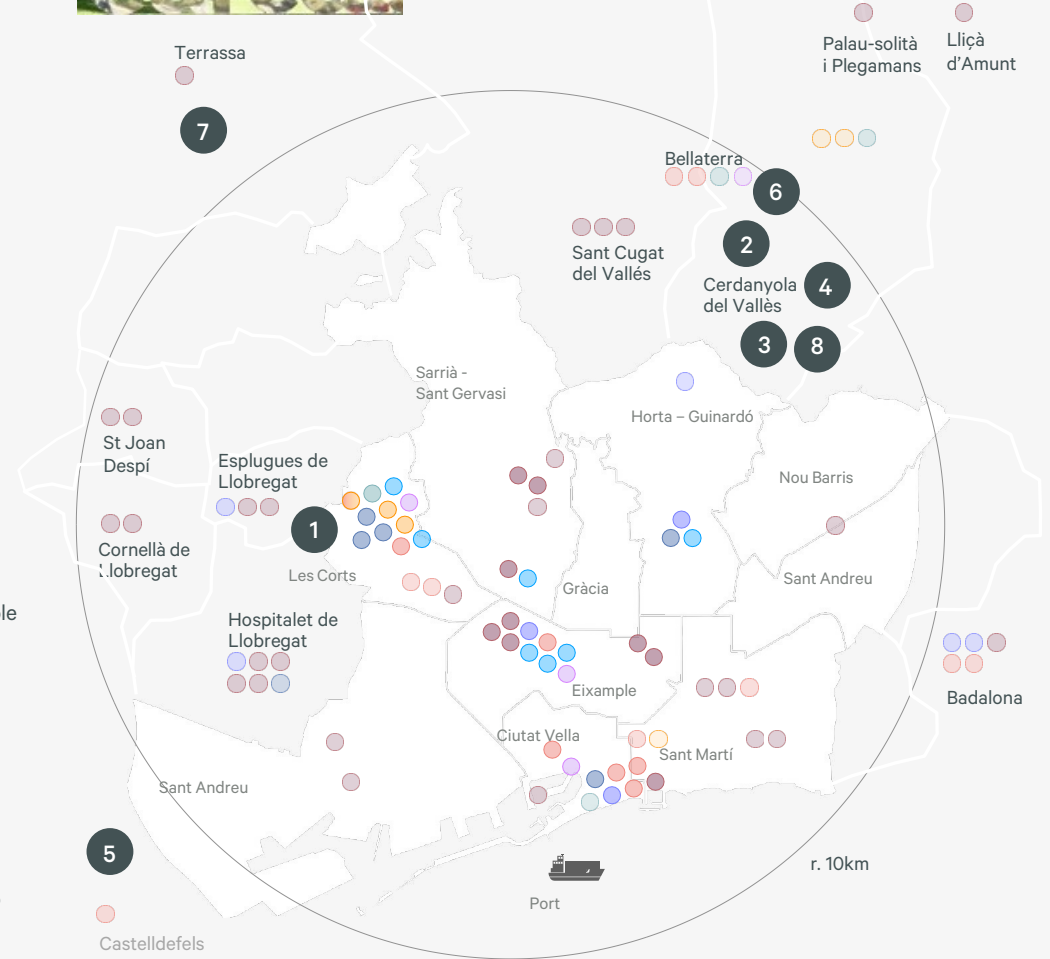
IMB-CNM:
Spain's largest centre for R&D in micro and nano technology (MNTs), with unmatched capabilities in silicon technology



Leitat:
The centre manages technology to create sustainable value for businesses and organisations



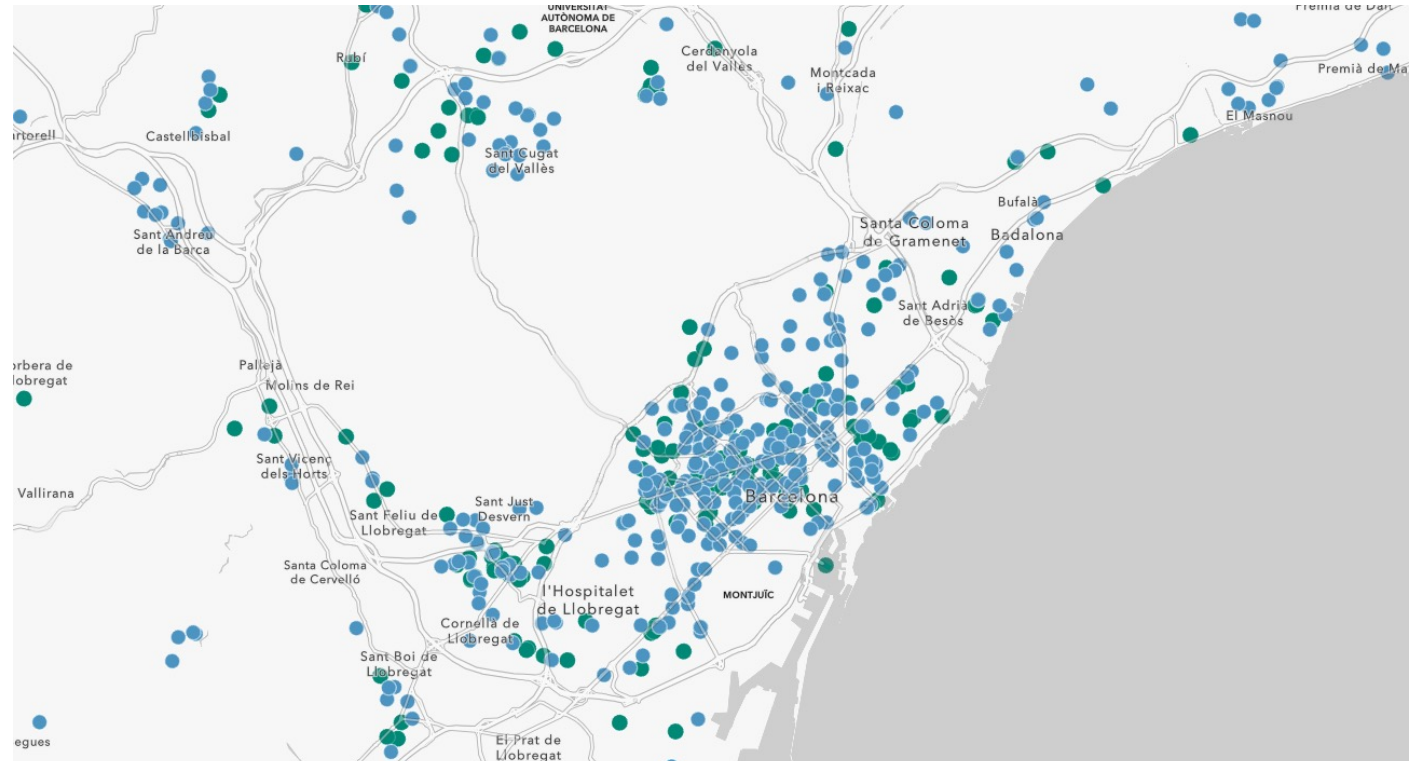
Eurecat:
Research and Technology organization that offers services to various industries and businesses



Source: Barcelona & Partners and Biocat

Business network

The Life Sciences ecosystem in Catalonia is principally located in the Barcelona region (98%). Along with healthcare services, they generate a combined turnover of €39.4 billion (8.7% of Catalonia's GDP) and employ more than 247,500 workers.

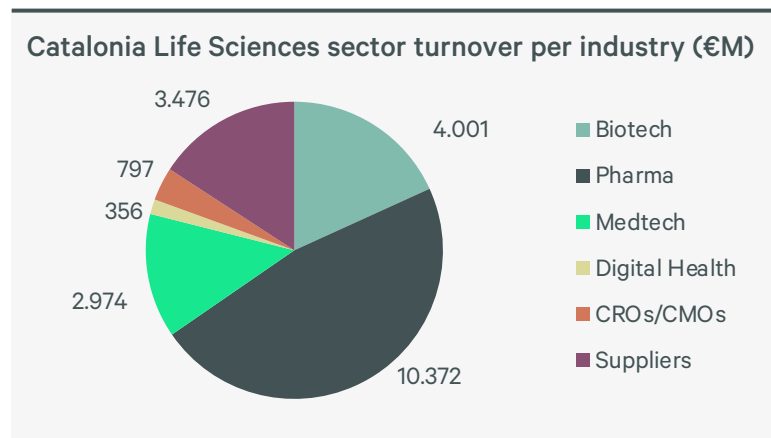
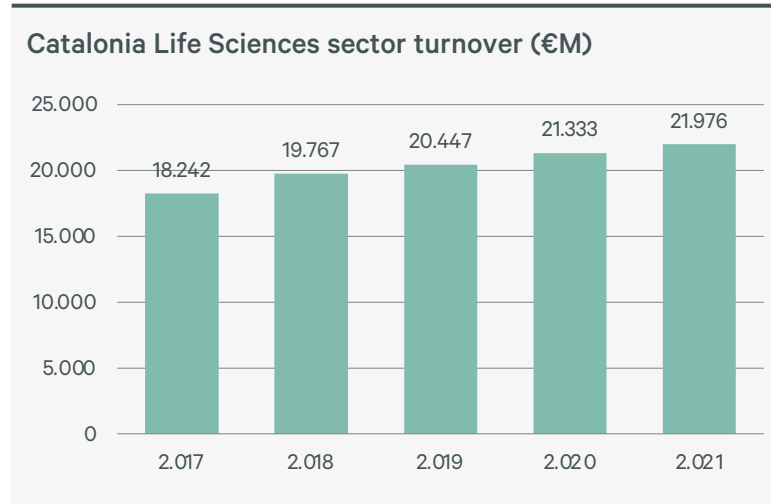


<p>The Catalan healthcare and Life Sciences sector, known as the BioRegion, comprises more than 1,400 companies.</p>	<p>353 Biotech companies</p>	<p>126 Pharmaceutical companies</p>	<p>210 MedTech companies</p>	<p>212 Digital health companies</p>
	<p>227 Professional services and consultancies</p>	<p>194 Suppliers</p>	<p>71 Investors</p>	

Source: Biocat and CBRE

Business network

Based on the Biocat’s latest report, ‘The 2022 BioRegion Report’, the Life Science sector in the region of Catalonia has seen an increase (CAGR) of around 3% in terms of both employment and turnover. This is largely down to the growth registered in the subsectors of digital health (+16%) and suppliers (+37%).



Source: Biocat

A leading destination for investing in tech:

Between 2017 and 2021, Barcelona was Spain’s number one destination for foreign direct investment.

- Barcelona ranks as Europe’s 2nd best place to invest in biotech.
- Barcelona has been named the best city in Europe for attracting foreign investment (Financial Times, 2023).
- Barcelona ranks among the top 20 cities for global competitiveness (Global Power City Index, 2022).

Business network

The Barcelona region is Europe's densest pharma ecosystem and accounts for 45% of the industry's total exports in Spain.



Barcelona is home to the biggest pharma and biotech companies in the world

Based on the latest Biocat report, Catalonia is home to 46% of all medicine production plants in Spain, including biological medicines and chemical synthesis medicines for human use, APIs, and veterinary medicines.

Catalonia also houses half of the industrial pharma companies in Spain: a total of 79 industrial plants are located in the region employing 15,806 people.

More than 50% of the industry's leading multinationals operate within the Barcelona region.

A number of top global pharma and biotech companies have chosen to invest and develop their businesses in the region, setting up production centres and R&D departments.

AMGEN

NOVARTIS

sanofi

janssen

MSD

BRAUN
SHARING EXPERTISE

AstraZeneca

Roche

BAYER

Chiesi

MERCK

KERN
PHARMA

Pfizer

ORYZON

Abbott

HARTMANN

GRUPO
MENARINI
www.menarini.es

Pierre Fabre

Boehringer
Ingelheim

Spain's top pharmaceutical companies all originated out of Barcelona.

almirall

ESTEVE
Advancing health together

ferrer
for good

GRIFOLS

Uriach

werfen

REIG JOFRE

Source: Biocat

Business network

Barcelona, one of the most attractive cities for startups

Home to more than 2,000 startups (76% work with Industry 4.0 technologies and 79% invest in R&D) and employing over 19,100 people, Barcelona is one of Europe's most dynamic cities, and one of the world's most popular cities to live in.



Life Sciences startups in the Barcelona area

420 out of the more than 2,000 startups in the Barcelona area are Life Sciences related to:

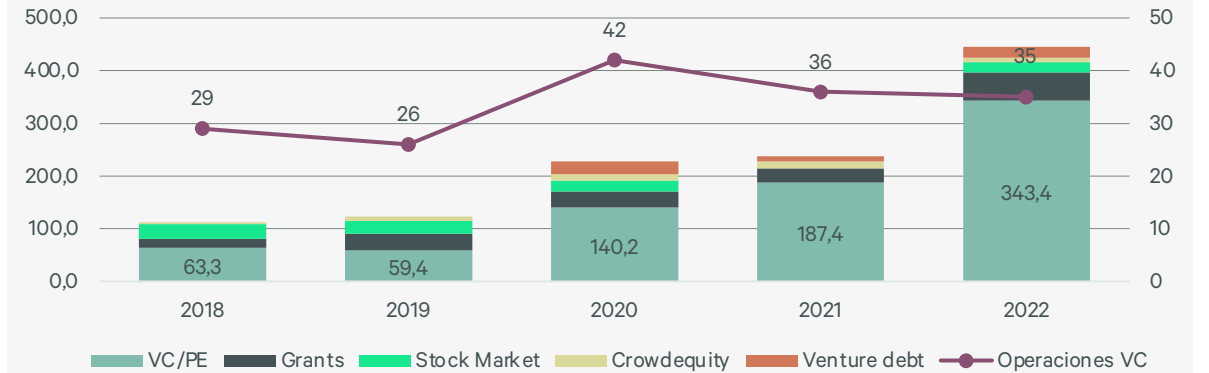
- Healthcare (290 startups): digital health, bioengineering and regenerative medicine, frontier materials, AI and Big Data health applications, etc.
- Cutting-edge R+D Services (121 startups).
- Food and nutrition science-related (97 startups).
- AI and Data Science for medical and pharmaceutical services (62 startups):
 - Bioengineering startup (45)
 - Digital health startups (30)
 - Automation for medical procedures, devices and equipment (24)
- Beauty and personal care (27 startups).

Barcelona is the second most preferred EU hub for founders of startups, it also has the second-highest number of startup founders among local university alumni in Europe.

The healthcare startup ecosystem in Catalonia defies the downward trend being seen at the global level. According to the 'Study on investment in Life Sciences & Health sector in Catalonia 2022' promoted by CataloniaBio & HealthTech and EY, with investment in these startups registering a year-on-year increase of no less than 87% to reach €445 million in 2022.

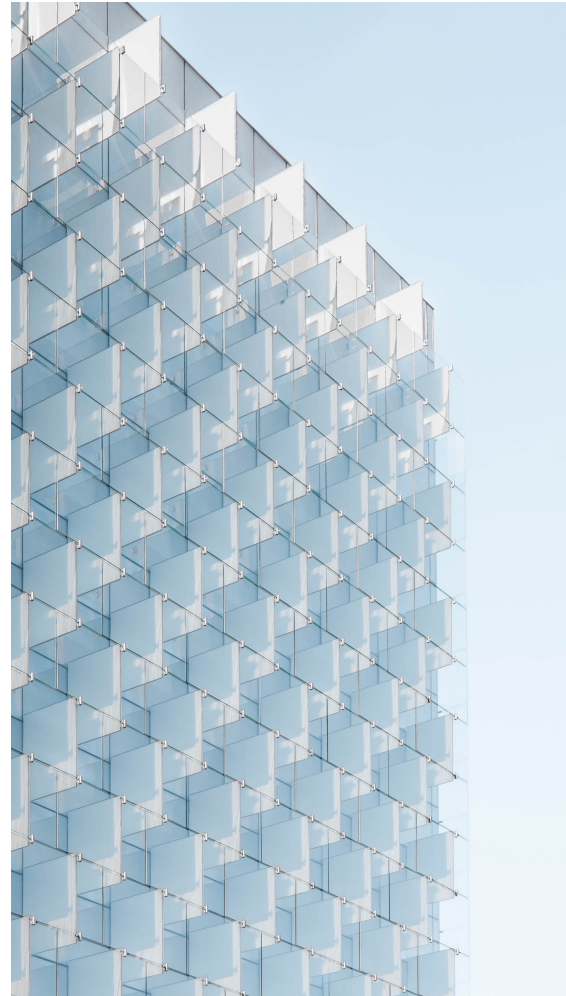


Investment in startups in the BioRegion (€M)



Source: Biocat

Business network



Some of the most promising Barcelona-based Life Sciences startups



Supporting associations that foster the Life Sciences ecosystem in Catalonia



BHH is a private non-profit association that promotes innovation in digital health and its transfer to the sector, linking startups, health organizations, companies, and investors.



Farmaindustria is the National Trade Association of the pharmaceutical industry.



Biocat coordinates and promotes the biosciences sector in Catalonia.



Tech Barcelona, the private, non-profit association that represents the city's digital and technological ecosystem, has presented Pier07, the benchmark hub for business innovation in the health and life sciences sector.



Catalonia Bio&HealthTech represents the biomedicine and health companies in Catalonia. It boosts their competitiveness and size and creates value by promoting innovation, entrepreneurship and the network.



FENIN is an intersectoral federation that brings together manufacturing companies, importers, and distributors.



ACCIÓ offers financial aid, guidance, and resources for research and innovation, facilitating networking and international growth for Life Science companies.



Barcelona Activa offers programs, funding, and resources, fostering innovation and growth in research, development, and commercialization.

Hubs in Barcelona

The Barcelona metropolitan area has everything needed for Life Sciences hubs.

Science Park Area – Hospital Clínic extension (New location)

- Hospital Clínic (pending relocation)
- Parc Científic de Barcelona (PCB)
- Parc de Recerca i Innovació de la UPC (Parc UPC)
- Institut de Recerca en Biomedicina (IRB)
- Institut de Bioenginyeria de Catalunya (IBEC)
- Hospital de Barcelona
- Clínica Corachan
- Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)
- Universidad de Barcelona (UB)
- Barcelona Supercomputing Centre (BSC)
- Biocat
- CataloniaBio & Health tech
- Caixa Capital Risc (investor)
- Inbeyond (investor)
- Ferrer (company)

Ciutadella Knowledge Hub (Current location)

- Hospital del Mar
- Parc de Recerca Biomèdica de Barcelona (PRBB)
 - Instituto de investigaciones médicas Hospital del Mar (IMIM)
 - Centre de Regulació Genòmica (CRG)
 - Instituto de Salud Global de Barcelona (ISG)
 - Instituto de Biología Evolutiva (IBE)
 - Barcelona Laboratorio Europea de Biología Molecular EMBL
 - IRAB Instituto de Radiofarmacia aplicada de Barcelona
- Fundacio Pascual Maragall
- Mercat del Peix (in construction)
- Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF)
- Amgen (company)
- Barcelona Tech City – Pier 07
- Asabys (Investors)

Vall d'Hebron

- Vall d'Hebron Campus Hospitalari de Barcelona
- Instituto de investigación Vall d'Hebron – VHIR
- Vall d'Hebron Instituto de Oncología (VHIO)

Cluster Hospital Clínic (Current location)

- Hospital Clínic
- Instituto de Investigaciones Biomédicas August Pi i Sunyer (IDIBAPS)
- Alta Life Sciences (Investors)
- Invivo Ventures (Investors)
- Universidad de Barcelona (UB)

Innovation and Health BioCluster

- Hospital Infantil SJD de Barcelona (SJD)
- Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge
- Institut Català d'Oncologia (ICO)
- Institut de Recerca Biomèdica de Bellvitge (IDIBELL)
- Universidad de Barcelona (UB)
- Centre d'Innovació en Ciències de la Salut de Nestlé

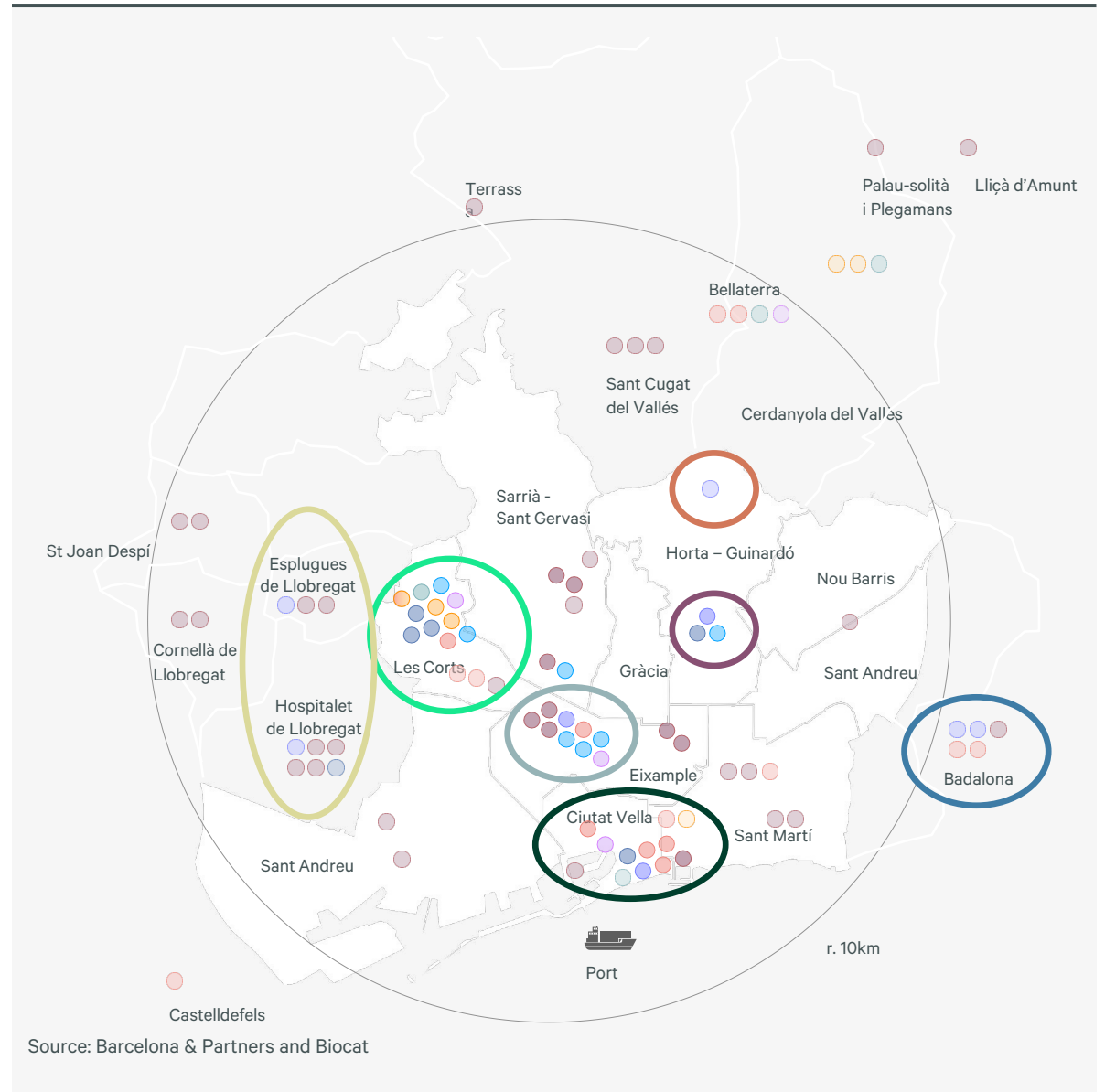
Can Ruti

- Hospital Universitaru Germans Trias i Pujol
- Instituto de Investigación Germans Trias i Pujol (IGTP)
- Institut Guttmann
- Institut de Recerca de la Sida (IRSI Caixa)
- Institut de Recerca contra la Leucèmia Josep Carreras
- Invivo Ventures (investor)
- Universidad de Barcelona (UB)

Sant Pau

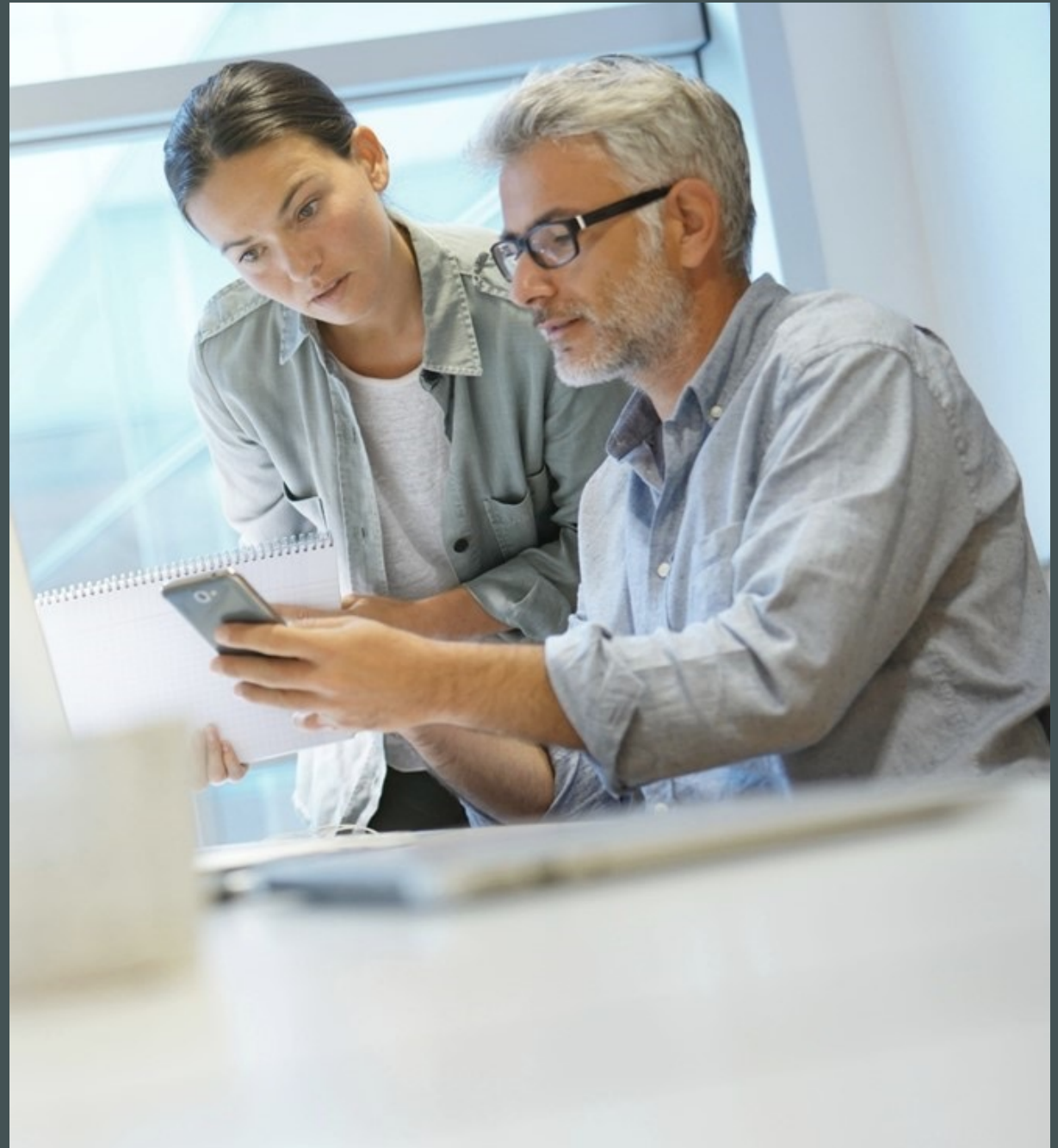
- Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau
- Investigación Biomédica – Sant Pau (IB)
- Institut de Recerca – Sant Pau (IR Sant Pau)
- Barcelona Health Hub
- Nina Capital (investor)

- Hospitals & their Research Institutes
- Pharma & Biotech firms
- Research Centres
- Life Science & Technology Infrastructure
- Science & Technology Parks
- Life Science Universities
- Life Sciences
- Venture Capital
- Hubs & Ecosystem Sponsors



02.2

New projects



Barcelona has everything a city needs to become a fast-growing Life Sciences hub

Barcelona is home to a number of ongoing projects that will enhance the city's medical and scientific capacity and provide space for Life Sciences companies to set themselves up; raising the profile of the city and opening up new investment opportunities.



IDIBELL, with over 1,000 researchers in oncology, neuroscience and regenerative and translational medicine, strongly supports the BioCluster Innovation and Health project.

Gabriel Capellá,
Director at IDIBELL



Innovation and Health BioCluster
Bellvitge area

556,000
sqm

50,000
new jobs

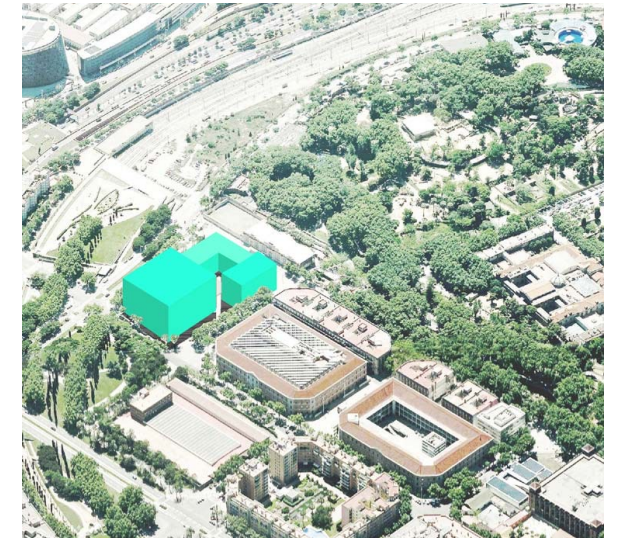
€7 billion
in annual revenue



Science Park Area
Hospital Clínic extension

330,000
sqm

- 290.000 sqm. Hospital Clínic
- 15.000 sqm. Sant Joan de Déu
- 15.000 sqm. Campus Esplugues
- 10.000 sqm. Parc Científic



Ciutadella Knowledge Hub
Mercat del Peix extension

45,000
sqm

3 buildings
dedicated to biomedicine, biodiversity
and the well-being of the planet

“

What holds the greatest value for us is the close proximity to other companies, clients, consultants, technology hubs, research centres and laboratories. That's why we put efforts to locate Vitala Technologies at Barcelona's Scientific Park (PCB), as it offers infrastructure and proximity to other players.

There is need to promote more ecosystems like this one because the demand and initiatives in life sciences in the city are growing considerably.

”

María Alejandra Ortega
Phd. WomenTech EU 2023 and
co-founder, COO and CTO at Vitala technologies



Vitala brings together technologies to develop an efficient and ethical treatment analysis that will revolutionise drug discovery as well as personalised medicine.

Innovation and Health BioCluster Bellvitge area

Over the next decade, the new Life Sciences hub will be developed in the area surrounding the Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge in Hospitalet de Llobregat.

The BioCluster project aims to completely transform the area, which extends more than one million sqm. The goal is to create a leading R&D Life Sciences hub that will benefit from access to a world-class hospital with close to 1,000 beds, the Catalan Oncology Institute and its proximity to the University of Barcelona's Bellvitge Life Sciences Campus which houses the medical and nursing faculties.

■ Hospitals

- Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge – 958 beds
- Institut Català d'Oncologia – 126 beds
- Hestia Duran i Reinalts – 428 beds

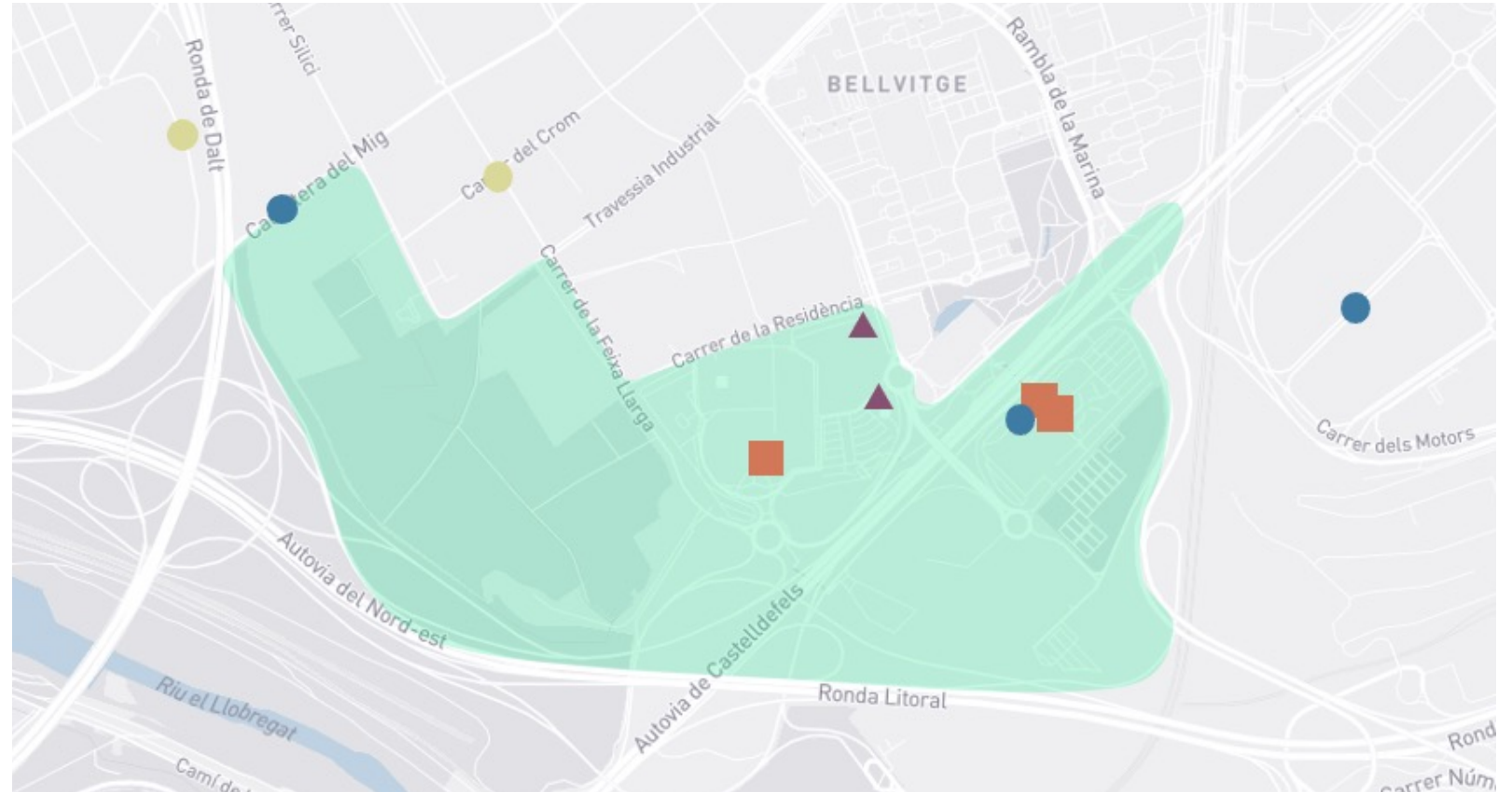
▲ Universities – Science Parks

- Bellvitge Life Sciences Campus– University of Barcelona

● Companies

- Werfen, Olympus, GP Pharma, Chiasi, Palex Medical, Sincrofarm, Merck, AstraZeneca, Qualix Pharma, Laboratorio Genove, Antonio Puig, Dermofarm, Zimmer Biomet, etc...

◆ CSIC Centres



The BioCluster project aims to completely transform the area, which extends more than one million sqm

556,000
sqm

498,000
sqm of
green areas

A project set to create 50,000 new jobs and €7 billion in annual revenue.

“

The Innovation and Health BioCluster - Smart Health Community - a project headed up by L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, and in collaboration with Hospital de Bellvitge, IDIBELL, the Catalan Institute of Oncology, Hospital de Sant Joan de Déu and the University of Barcelona (the Bellvitge Campus Health Sciences Faculty) seeks to enhance and further consolidate the health innovation ecosystem by promoting personalised medicine, championing an innovation and knowledge-based economy in the Barcelona metropolitan area. A project that will attract new companies to the prized Gran Via de l'Hospitalet hub.

”

Francesc Josep Belver
Deputy Mayor of Planning, Territory and Economy
at L'Hospitalet City Council



L'Hospitalet is a strategically-located city, situated right next to Barcelona. It offers a broad range of infrastructure, such as the Fira de Barcelona Exhibition Centre, the Gran Via – Plaça Europa hub, the Ciutat de la Justícia combined court centre, several industrial estates, a wide array of hotels and restaurants, cultural facilities, health institutions, universities and research centres.

Ciudadella Knowledge Hub

Mercat del Peix extension

The Mercat del Peix extension project will see the development of a new 45,000 sqm research and innovation centre comprising three buildings dedicated to biomedicine, biodiversity and planetary welfare. The project will be located on the site once occupied by the market and next to the Universitat Pompeu Fabra's Ciudadella campus.

The project, headed up by UPF, also benefits from the joint collaboration of three strategic partners: the Barcelona Institute of Science and Technology (BIST), the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and the University of Barcelona (UB), and is supported by the Barcelona City Council and the Generalitat de Catalunya.

■ Hospitals

- Hospital del Mar – 418 beds

▲ Universities – Science Parks

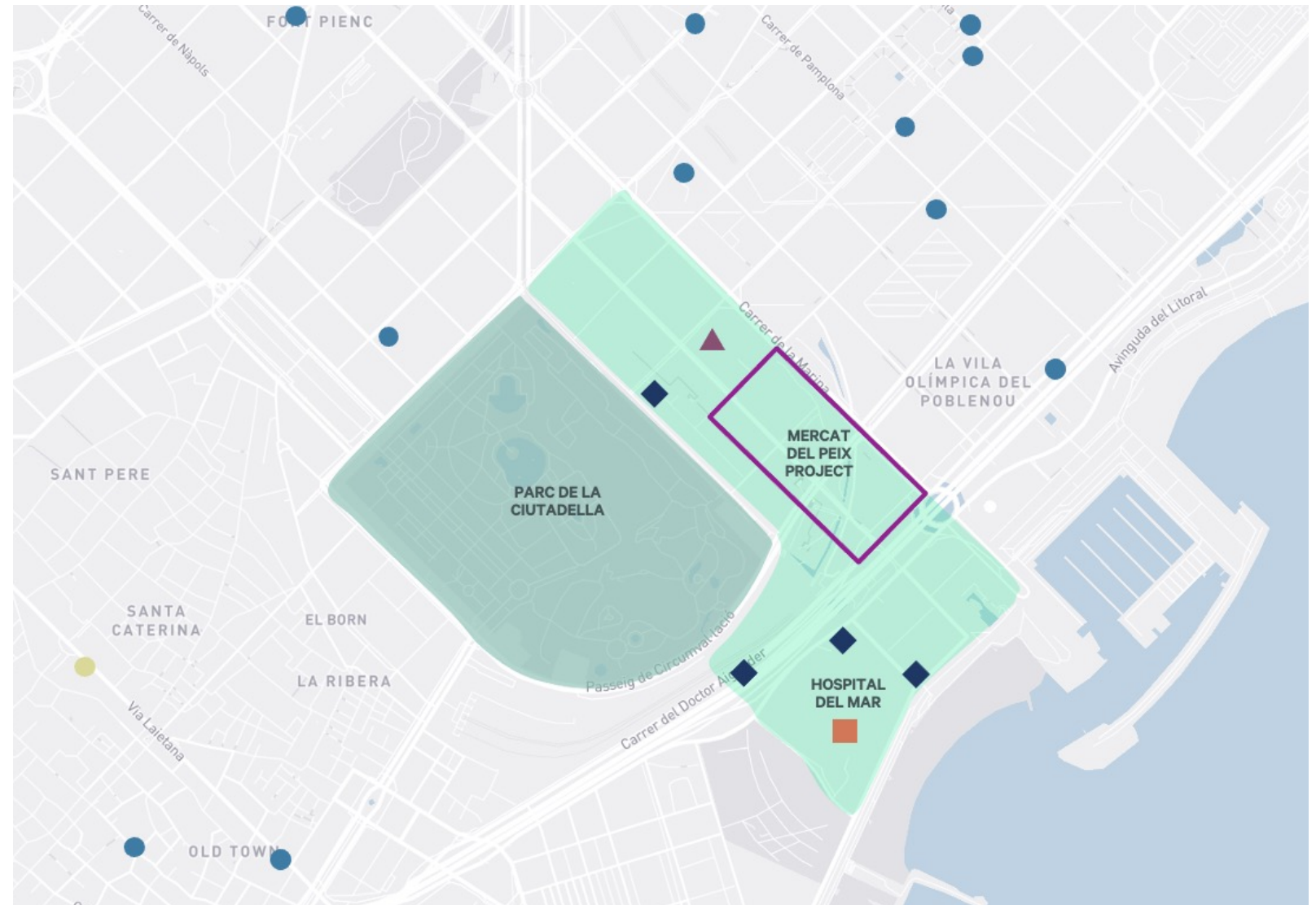
- Parc de Recerca Biomèdica de Barcelona
- Parc de Recerca Universitat Pompeu Fabra

● Companies

Fundación Centre Regulació Genòmica, Robapharma España, Pierre Fabre Iberica, Fresenius Kabi España, Sanofi Aventis, Merck, Grunenthal Pharma, etc...

◆ CSIC Centres

- Barcelona Graduate School of Economics
- Centro de Regulación Genómica
- Institut de Ciències del Mar



Other ongoing projects

CaixaResearch Institute

Barcelona will unveil the CaixaResearch Institute in 2025, which will be **Spain's first research center specialized in immunology** and one of the first in Europe. Spearheaded by the La Caixa Foundation, it will involve an investment of 100 million euros and will have the capacity for up to 700 professionals when operating at full capacity.

The CaixaResearch Institute will focus on examining the interactions of the immune system prevalent pathologies, including neurological, oncological, and infectious diseases, while also analyzing associated environmental factors. The institute will conduct independent research, emphasizing a multi- and interdisciplinary approach, the advancement of state-of-the-art technologies, and the dissemination of findings to society.

The CaixaResearch Institute will carry out its own scientific program of maximum impact, but it will also generate a stable ecosystem for collaboration between the four leading centers with which "la Caixa" Foundation has a particular connection:

- The IrsiCaixa AIDS Research Institute
- The Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)
- The Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology (VHIO)
- The Barcelona β Brain Research Center (BBRC).

19,000

sqm

+300

researches



03

Conclusions



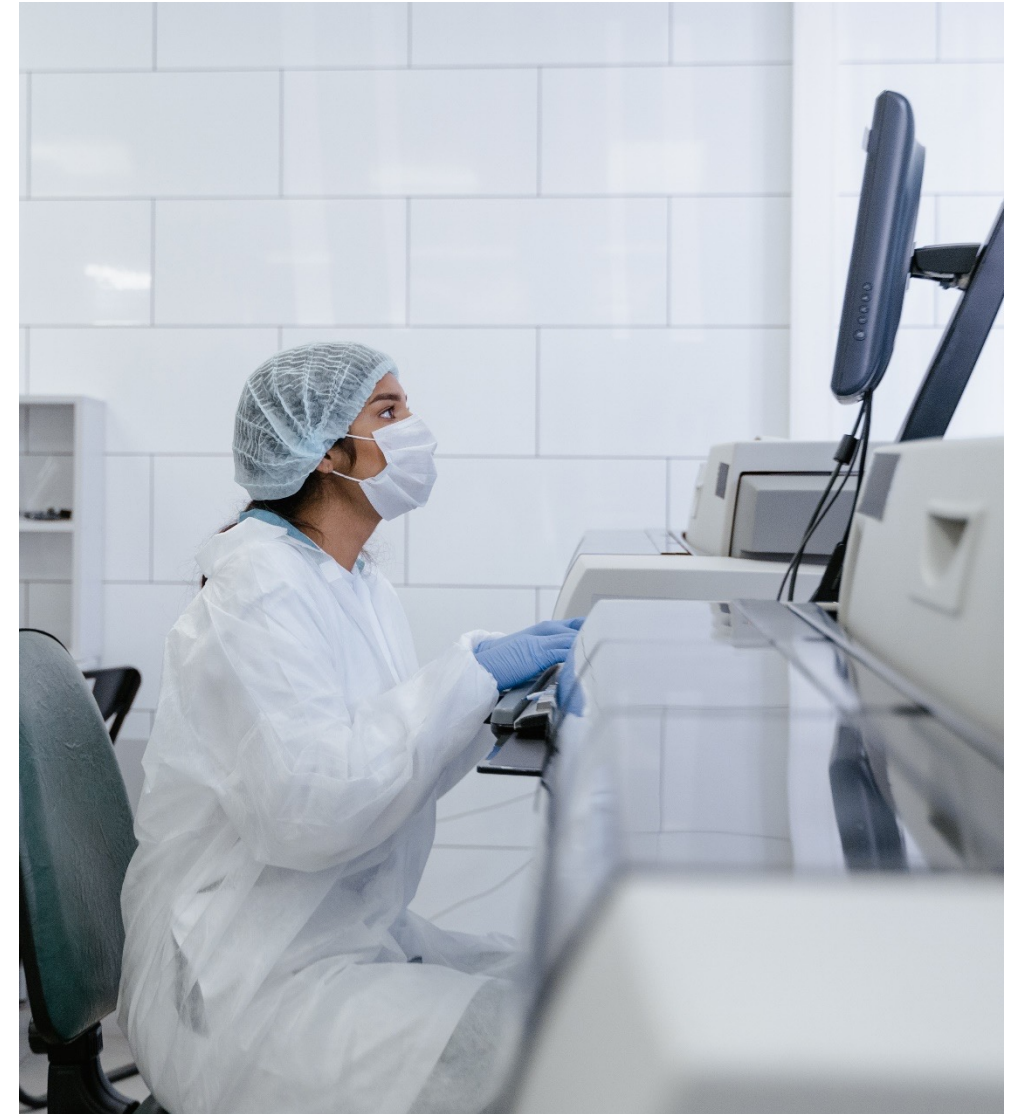
Conclusions

Barcelona is home to world-class scientific and research institutes, boasting cutting edge facilities that generate a remarkable impact on the science industry as a whole. The city is a leading light in genomics and structural biology and in areas such as medical chemistry, nanomedicine, omics sciences, bioinformatics and big data.

Barcelona also has a remarkable public health system that offers the highest quality of services and innovation, with a rich offering of exceptional public and private hospitals. The city has one of the world's best healthcare systems, with care accessible to all residents. Its hospitals are world-renowned in the fields of oncology, thoracic and cardiac surgery, kidney transplants and ophthalmologic surgery.

Barcelona is also a European and world leader in clinical trials and has the densest pharma ecosystem in Europe. Its location, infrastructure, talent pool and quality of life continue to attract innovation centres, multinational corporations such as Top global Pharma and biotech companies such as AstraZeneca, Sanofi, Roche, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Novartis and Amgen, among others; just some example of firms that have chosen to invest, develop their businesses and set up production centres in Barcelona.

Five of Spain's largest pharmaceutical companies all originated out of Barcelona (Almirall, Esteve, Ferrer, Grifols, Werfen and Uriach).



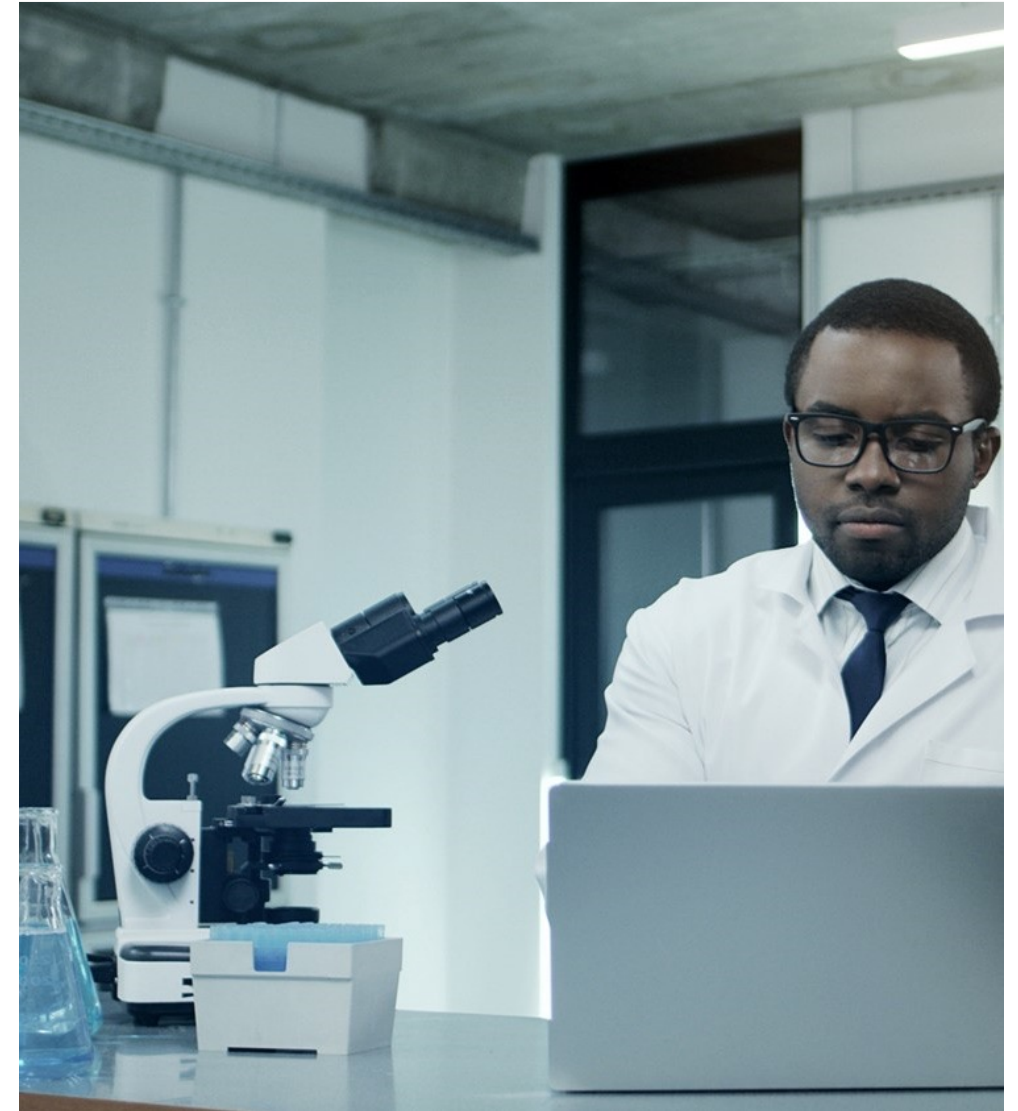
Conclusions

Barcelona is on the cusp of exponentially increasing its scientific capacity, with major new developments expected to break ground in 2024. Projects that will take this capacity to the next level and provide additional space for companies looking to set themselves up in the area. Standout projects include:

Health BioCluster – This Innovation and Health Cluster is a unique business park for entrepreneurs and companies working at the forefront of healthcare innovation. With more than 550,000 sqm, it is expected to create 50,000 new jobs and generate €7 billion in annual revenue.

The Hospital Clínic, a leader in transplant procedures, infectious diseases, and research, is preparing a major project for a new site next to the University of Barcelona's Science Park.

Ciutadella Knowledge Hub. With an area of more than 150,000 sqm and headed up by the Pompeu Fabra University, along with the collaboration of three strategic partners, the Barcelona Institute of Science and Technology (BIST), the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and the University of Barcelona (UB); this hub will champion multidisciplinary research and innovation in the fields of biodiversity, biomedicine, and planetary welfare. This new hub will house 1,200 researchers and is expected to start operations by the end of 2025.



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Barcelona & Partners is a private and selective investment agency which aims to attract innovative companies, ambitious projects and initiatives that will have a significant socio-economic impact on Barcelona. Barcelona & Partners is an initiative created by Barcelona Global (a private, independent and non-profit association composed by 244 of the city's leading companies, research centres, entrepreneurs, business schools, universities and cultural institutions, and more than 930 professionals aiming to make Barcelona one of the world's best cities for talent, and economic activity).

Barcelona & Partners is funded by major corporations and public institutions, allowing us to provide companies with unique and direct access to key stakeholders in the ecosystem, ensuring them a successful landing in the city.

Since its creation in 2021, Barcelona & Partners has helped leading global companies expand their operations to Barcelona, with one standout project being the 37th America's Cup Barcelona 2024.

Acknowledgements

This report was made possible thanks to the collaboration of:



Ajuntament de L'Hospitalet

ARETIAN

Urban Analytics and Design

asabys



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