

Life Sciences in Austria

Where innovation moves mountains



The biotope

Companies, initiatives and research centres comprise a stable network for complementary expertise and joint projects.

Your project will enjoy healthy growth in Austria. Get a little taste of what is going on with this small selection of companies, educational institutions and research centres which you will find in this country.

Universities and projects

Austrian Institute of Technology
Centre for Precision Medicine Vienna
Research Centre for Molecular Medicine, Vienna (CeMM)
Institute for Molecular Pathology (IMP)
Institute of Molecular Biotechnology of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (IMBA)
Medical University of Vienna
Medical University of Innsbruck
Biobank Graz, Medical University of Graz
CBmed GmbH Centre for Biomarker Research in Medicine, Graz

Companies

3D Spine Matrix Biotechnologie GmbH
Affiris AG
APEIRON Biologics AG
Ares Genetics GmbH
Biocrates Life Sciences AG
Boehringer Ingelheim Austria
BioNTech/ PhagoMed Biopharma GmbH
f-star Biotechnologische F&E GmbH
Haplogen Bioscience GmbH
Hookipa Pharma
Lexogen GmbH
Marinomed Biotech AG
Novartis
Pfizer
Takeda Austria
Valneva Austria

Service providers and suppliers

Biomay
Validogen
Eucodis
Polymun

Startups

Ablevia biotech GmbH
Allcyte GmbH
Akribes Biomedical GmbH
Antagonis Biotherapeutics GmbH
BlueSky Immunotherapies GmbH
CALYXHA Biotechnologies GmbH
Delta 4 GmbH
DirectSens
emergentec biodevelopment GmbH
F2G Biotech GmbH
FemPulse GmbH
Genspeed Biotech (diagnostics)
G.ST Antivirals GmbH
Hypericum LifeScience GmbH
MacroArray Diagnostics GmbH
Myelopro Diagnostics and Research
Neurolentech GmbH
OncoLab Diagnostics GmbH
Pregenerate GmbH
QUANTRO Therapeutics GmbH
Sola Diagnostics GmbH
TAmiRNA GmbH
TissueGnostics
THT BIOMATERIALS GmbH
Tridem Bioscience GmbH
UpNano GmbH
usePAT GmbH

Networks and platforms

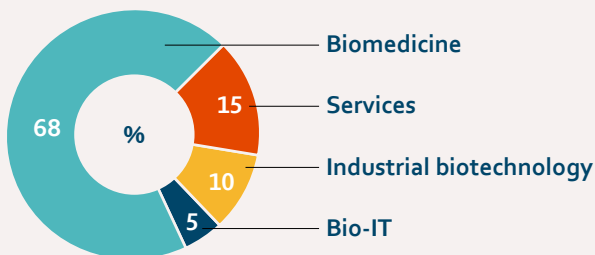
Syndena
LISAvienna
Life Sciences Tirol
ecoplus/Technopol Krems
ecoplus/PlattformGesundheitstechnologien
Human.technology Styria
Medizintechnik-Cluster Oberösterreich
Medizintechnik-Cluster Salzburg

Austria as a growth market

Revenue increase of more than 10% p.a.

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 982 | companies generate |
| € 25.1 billion | in revenue |
| 60,000 | are employed |
| € 1.27 billion | spent for R&D |

Featuring projected annual global double-digit revenue growth, life sciences rank among the technologies of the future across the globe. This was the case even before the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic. In Austria, the life sciences sector has been growing at a breathtaking pace driven by spin-offs from 55 excellent research facilities.



151 highly innovative firms operate in Austria's biopharmaceutical sector. On average, they are a mere nine years old. For the most part, they are small biotechnology companies complemented by 35 Big Pharma companies as well as 40 service providers, 30 suppliers and 100 sales organisations at the gateway to Eastern Europe.

With about 11.5% of its GDP, Austria is among the top ten countries regarding health expenditures in the world – and the number is steadily increasing. The medical technology industry specialising in telemedicine, implants and in vitro diagnostics generates annual revenue of € 9 billion, employing a workforce of 28,420 people. More than one-third of all medtech companies focus on eHealth and advanced medical technology.

Austria is a leader in technologies such as 3D printing of implants, interactive 5G biosensors and wearables for patient monitoring as well as AI-based diagnostics Apps (Diabetes/mySugr, antimicrobial resistance/Ares Genetics. X-ray images/ ImageBiopsy Lab). Austria was ranked seventh in the world in 2021 with respect to the number of medtech patients per capita.

Life sciences in Austria

Headlines

The German company BioNTech SE expanded its portfolio of promising anti-infectives by acquiring the Viennese precision antibiotics developer PhagoMed GmbH for € 150 million.

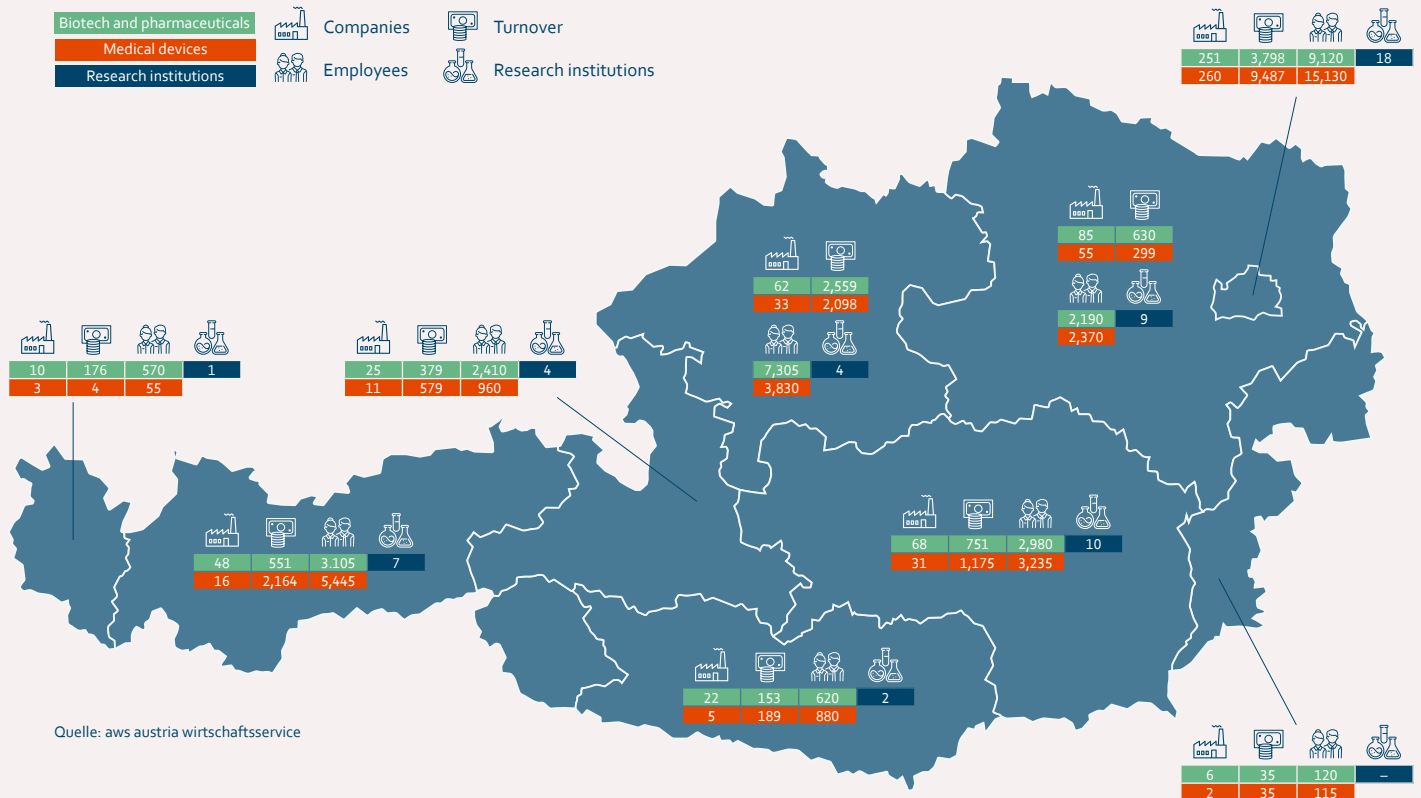
The pharmaceutical company Boehringer Ingelheim will build a new plant in Bruck an der Leitha, Lower Austria. About € 1.2 billion will be invested in the production facility, creating more than 800 jobs. Austria won out against sites in the USA, Germany and Spain. In October 2021, the company already concluded the largest single investment in its history (€ 700 million), opening a state-of-the-art plant in Vienna to manufacture biopharmaceutical substances.

The industrial association established in April 2021 is making plans for a professionally managed life sciences fund in which the federal government and Austrian billionaires would contribute as business angels. The fund is designed to enable an even higher commercialisation pace for biomedical innovations on the part of Austria's dynamically growing biotech ecosystem.



Tradition, Innovation and Translation

Research as a growth driver



Thanks to their outstandingly educated life sciences personnel and new talents, Austria's internationally high-ranking research institutions are a key driver for the immensely rapid translation of biomedical research in Austria. This particularly applies to the fields of biology, medicine and health sciences, veterinary medicine, biotechnology, bioinformatics and medical technology. Third-party funding for research projects featuring a high share of 28% demonstrates the high level of scientific excellence.

The 24,000 excellently trained academic employees provide a fertile environment for the increasingly interwoven and dynamic life sciences ecosystem throughout the country. Vienna General Hospital (AKH Wien) is one of the largest hospitals in Europe and part of Medical University of Vienna.

More than € 1 billion of public sector funding alone have been invested in the commercialisation of the sector up until now.

The research facilities of the five COMET competence centres and application-oriented Christian Doppler Laboratories - as well as clusters such as LISAVienna, Life Sciences Tirol, Human.technology Styria, Technopol Krems, Medical Technology Cluster of Business Upper Austria and Medical Technology Cluster Salzburg - comprise an interface to the highly innovative companies.

The rapidly growing life sciences flagship cluster of Vienna encompasses about half of all biopharmaceutical companies in the country and offers an outstanding quality of life which attracts top-notch scientists and companies.

Did you know this?

Vienna is the plasma capital of Europe and looks back on more than 60 years of research in this field.

Research tax credit and innovation promotion

Companies benefit quickly and unbureaucratically

14% Research tax credit

In contrast to other countries, Austria unbureaucratically pays an uncapped research tax credit in cash to companies equalling 14% of R&D expenses (e.g., in-house and outsourced research expenditures and staff costs). In 2020 and 2021, the research tax credit applied for by firms exceeded the € 1 billion threshold in both years.

Tax deduction on income from scientific work

Whoever comes from abroad to conduct research in Austria can take advantage of tax benefits. The so-called "Zuzugsfreibetrag" is a tax deduction of 30% limited to five years on income from scientific work in Austria and abroad.

Project funding

- The Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) provides direct support to R&D projects of companies along the entire value chain. A total of € 860 million in funds were distributed in the year 2020.
- The Austrian Science Fund (FWF) supports basic research.
- Austria Wirtschaftsservice GmbH (aws) is the promotional bank of the Austrian federal government assisting companies which aim to take advantage of low-interest loans and grants. 73% of all applications are approved. More than € 1 billion in funding was made available in the year 2021.

The proof

Takeda Vienna is one of the largest plasma processing plants in the world and a global R&D center for plasma innovations.

Life sciences in Austria

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The Japanese pharmaceutical group Takeda is investing € 130 million in a new research centre in Vienna, where 250 scientists will work on developing cancer therapies and drugs for rare diseases starting in 2025. Evotec Austria and Takeda are conducting research into five new gene therapy programmes at the facility in Orth an der Donau.

The cancer startup Allcyte was taken over by Exscientia for € 50 million. Co-financed by Boehringer Ingelheim the spin-off of the Research Centre for Molecular Medicine Vienna (CeMM) combines high-content imaging of cancer biopsies and self-learning algorithms to identify the best cancer medicine to treat individual tumours.

The Swiss firm Novartis AG has invested € 100 million at its Kundl manufacturing plant to modernise the production facilities for antibiotics. This was complemented by € 50 million from the federal government and the Federal State of Tyrol. Moreover, the company is investing € 17.2 million in plasma production to expand its gene therapy production network.



Innovative startups & spin-offs

Young international companies hit the ground running in Austria



The core business of the Dedalus Group founded in Florence primarily focuses on offering hospital information systems (HIS) in healthcare for inpatient care as well as carrying out imaging procedures, for example in radiology. Today the company ranks among the leading providers of complete solutions for all medical areas.

//We are investing more than ever before in our development teams operating in all segments. This comprises a major challenge. However, we see that we can achieve these targets in Austria. Here we find highly qualified employees. In this way we can concentrate on our customers and generate ongoing remarkable growth. Another advantage of the site is the central geographical location and outstanding infrastructure enabling us to quickly reach other sites and customers. Thanks to Austrian Business Agency, we also have unbureaucratic access to Austria's funding landscape.//

Davor Dadic
Head of the IT Department for Diagnostic Imaging



The biotech company founded in Vienna at the beginning of 2021 develops antigen-specific vaccines as well as new treatments for autoimmune diseases. Cutanos makes use of a modular and highly flexible transport system for active substances, the so-called Langerhans Cell Target Delivery System (LC-TDS). With this technology Cutanos wants to create innovative immune therapies based on a minimally invasive administration. Established as a spin-off of the Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces in Potsdam, the research team will demonstrate the entire range of its platform technology from the Austrian capital city with financing from an investor consortium (e.g., KHAN-I, HTGF and IST cube) along with aws Seed Financing.



Apeiron Biologics GmbH spun-off the company invIOs (innovative Immuno-Oncology) GmbH which has been operating since January 2022. The Viennese startup develops autologous cancer cell therapies to silence intracellular targets in solid tumours. The company currently has three products in its development pipeline. The phase 1b programme APN401, which deactivates the immune checkpoint Clb-1, INV441, which targets the activation of tumour infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) in solid tumours, and INV501, an oral small molecule for tumour-specific immune activation.

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The Erich Kandel Institute for Precision Medicine will be created at the Medical University of Vienna, involving construction costs of € 75 million. It will be located in close proximity to Vienna General Hospital, one of the world's largest university hospitals. This investment will create 400 new jobs in biomedical research.

Co-Location Centre Austria was founded in Vienna as part of the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) Health funded to the amount of € 1.5 billion. It will serve as a founder incubator for life sciences companies.

Featuring a budget of € 50 million, „Austrian Life Sciences“ is the largest funding package ever established by the Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs. The focus will be on the areas of pharmaceuticals, medical products, digitalisation and production processes. The package also includes funding possibilities for corporate clinical studies.

Sanofi SA acquired Origimm Biotechnology GmbH founded in 2012 and based in Vienna for an undisclosed amount. The Austrian company was responsible for the world's first clinically developed acne vaccine ORI001.

What ABA does for you

We inform and advise you before you come to Austria, support you on your way here and also remain at your side even after project completion.

ABA informs

Data, facts, trends on Austria as a business, work and film location
Legal and tax framework

ABA researches

Potential cooperation and research partners
Individual packages based on funding programmes

ABA supports

Site inspections
Relocation

ABA advises on

Expansion investments
Clearing house for residence visas and the Red-White-Red Card





Your easy access to Austria

INVEST in AUSTRIA

We are there to provide help and support when foreign companies want to set up business operations in Austria or expand existing facilities.

WORK in AUSTRIA

Austrian companies offer many attractive jobs for skilled workers from abroad. We are the advisory centre for both sides.

FILM in AUSTRIA

Tom Cruise climbs down a rope from the Vienna State Opera and James Bond flies across Tyrol. We work "behind the scenes" so that the world sees these images.

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