

CAREER FEATURE

First-quarter biotech job picture

A quarterly snapshot of job expansions, reductions and availability in the biotech and pharma sectors.

The biotech industry's presence in North Carolina continues to expand with the announcement in January of a 109-acre, mixed-use life sciences campus in Morrisville, part of the Research Triangle. The project, called Spark LS, will include 1.5 million square feet of lab and biomanufacturing space, a STEM education center, restaurants, retail and recreational areas. Additionally, contract development and manufacturing company Fujifilm Diosynth said it will double its existing laboratory footprint in North Carolina, adding 89,000 square feet and 145 skilled jobs by 2024. And Eli Lilly announced a \$1 billion investment in a new manufacturing facility in Concord, North Carolina, creating up to 600 jobs.

BioNTech has added 200 jobs to its Marburg, Germany, manufacturing facility since 2020, and said it will add another 250 this year as demand for COVID-19 boosters remains high. The expansion will cost \$56.5 million.

Moderna announced a plan to open four new subsidiaries, in Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan, to expand its commercial network across Asia, adding to existing Asia-Pacific offices in South Korea, Japan and Australia. Job functions will include medical, regulatory, pricing, reimbursement, market access, government affairs and commercial operations.

In layoff news, Sanofi announced it would reduce its head count by 6,000 employees worldwide and trim its pipeline after overhauling its corporate structure and simplifying its brand. "We are embracing digital change, streamlining our portfolio, and collaborating with partners in geographies to balance or reduce infrastructure while improving access to our medicines," CFO Jean-Baptiste Chasseloup de Chatillon said on the company's quarterly investors call.

Finally, Biogen said it would eliminate up to 1,000 jobs in a bid to save about \$500 million in the wake of the disappointing rollout of the company's Alzheimer's disease drug Aduhelm (aducanumab).

Advertised biotechnology and pharmaceutical sector jobs in the job databases tracked by *Nature Biotechnology* grew slightly in the first quarter of 2021 (Tables 1 and 2) as compared with the previous quarter (*Nat. Biotechnol.* **40**, 279, 2022). □

Table 1 | Who's hiring? Advertised openings at the 25 largest biotech companies

Company ^a	Number of employees	Number of advertised openings ^b		
		Indeed	LinkedIn	Biospace
Amgen	24,300	777	782	629
Gilead Sciences	13,600	523	895	29
bioMérieux	12,800	565	59	0
Biocon	12,609	0	4	0
IDEXX	9,300	216	428	0
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals	9,123	957	1,313	911
Biogen	9,100	250	380	0
Illumina	7,800	324	705	0
Novozymes	5,903	35	50	0
BeiGene	5,300	181	1,093	0
Opko Health	5,269	5	0	0
Exact Sciences	4,800	278	315	0
GenScript Biotech	4,601	61	82	0
Alexion Pharmaceuticals	3,837	287	609	0
BGI Genomics	3,778	5	44	0
Evotec	3,572	101	440	74
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	3,400	384	447	0
Endo Pharmaceuticals	3,397	24	0	0
Innovent Biologics	3,279	18	27	0
BioMarin Pharmaceutical	3,059	151	206	157
Gan & Lee Pharmaceuticals	2,934	18	62	0
Myriad Genetics	2,700	116	117	0
Junshi Biosciences	2,453	0	0	0
Alkermes	2,245	96	107	0
Emergent BioSolutions	2,200	256	260	240
Total		5,628	8,425	471

^aAs defined in *Nature Biotechnology's* survey of public companies (<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41587-021-00973-w>). ^bAs searched on Indeed.com, LinkedIn.com and Biospace.com, 7 April 2022. Jobs may overlap.

Table 2 | Advertised job openings at the ten largest pharma companies

Company ^a	Number of employees	Number of advertised openings ^b		
		Indeed	LinkedIn	Biospace
Johnson & Johnson	132,200	2,939	5,647	0
Abbott Laboratories	107,000	2,151	3,589	494
Novartis	105,800	500	2,716	0
Roche	101,500	584	3,130	0
Bayer	100,600	667	2,212	0
Sanofi	100,400	1,346	2,387	7
GlaxoSmithKline	99,400	223	3,936	0
Pfizer	88,300	890	2,398	832
Merck & Co.	71,000	599	567	0
AstraZeneca	70,600	1,234	1,063	0
Total		11,133	27,645	1,333

^aData obtained from Statista. ^bAs searched on Indeed.com, LinkedIn.com and Biospace.com, 7 April 2022. Jobs may overlap.

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