



CAREER FEATURE

Second-quarter biotech job picture

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

The second quarter kicked off with Pfizer's announcement of a \$450-million expansion of its largest manufacturing facility, in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The expansion is estimated to add approximately 450 new jobs to the area.

Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine co-developer, the German biotech company BioNTech, said in May that it would begin construction this year in Singapore on a manufacturing plant and Southeast Asia regional headquarters. The plant will produce a range of mRNA vaccines and therapeutics and is expected to be completed in 2023, bringing up to 80 jobs.

Singapore was also chosen as a vaccine production center by Sanofi. In a \$474 million investment over five years, the French pharma will partner with the Singapore Economic Development Board on the facility, which will mainly supply the Asia region. The project will create up to 200 local jobs.

In the San Francisco Bay Area, Bayer is planning to expand its footprint in Berkeley. The ambitious \$1.2 billion, 30-year project includes almost a million square feet in new buildings and a doubling of current jobs to 2,000 employees by 2052. The company also said it would shutter its research hub near UCSF's Mission Bay campus when its lease expires in October.

Finally, Amgen is set to spend \$365 million on a new manufacturing plant near Columbus, Ohio. The 270,000 square foot facility will create 400 jobs and have automated features such as self-driving vehicles to move materials within the site and smart sensors to evaluate the products. Amgen will partner with the Ohio State University to create an internship and other education programs.

Advertised biotechnology and pharmaceutical sector jobs in the job databases tracked by *Nature Biotechnology* grew in the second quarter of 2021 (Tables 1 and 2) as compared with the previous quarter (*Nat. Biotechnol.* **39**, 643, 2021). □

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	865	905	881
Gilead Sciences	13,600	410	526	417
bioMérieux	12,800	82	54	0
Biocon	12,609	0	16	0
IDEXX	9,300	222	55	0
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals	9,123	157	662	513
Biogen	9,100	252	486	0
Illumina	7,800	453	707	0
Novozymes	5,903	28	30	1
BeiGene	5,300	83	1,516	0
Opko Health	5,269	11	11	0
Exact Sciences	4,800	349	335	0
GenScript Biotech	4,601	20	16	0
Alexion Pharmaceuticals	3,837	0	202	0
BGI Genomics	3,778	2	40	0
Evotec	3,572	27	258	53
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	3,400	303	318	0
Endo Pharmaceuticals	3,397	20	95	0
Innovent Biologics	3,279	7	20	5
BioMarin Pharmaceutical	3,059	151	201	134
Gan & Lee Pharmaceuticals	2,934	8	41	0
Myriad Genetics	2,700	150	163	0
Junshi Biosciences	2,453	0	0	0
Alkermes	2,245	93	150	0
Emergent BioSolutions	2,200	185	212	181
Total		3,878	7,019	2,185

^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 July 2021. 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	1,782	4,865	0
Abbott Laboratories	107,000	1,628	3,032	6
Novartis	105,800	3,244	1,354	64
Roche	101,500	352	2,281	1
Bayer	100,600	417	1,831	0
Sanofi	100,400	566	1,589	12
GlaxoSmithKline	99,400	58	3,007	0
Pfizer	88,300	608	3,679	0
Merck & Co.	71,000	321	331	0
AstraZeneca	70,600	879	637	0
Total		9,855	21,969	83

^aData obtained from Statista. ^bAs searched on Indeed.com, LinkedIn.com and Biospace.com, 7 July 2021. Jobs may overlap.

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