

## The Belgian biopharmaceutical sector at a glance



### R&D

**No.1** in biopharmaceutical R&D expenditure per inhabitant

**No.3** in biopharmaceutical R&D employment per inhabitant

**No.3** in number of clinical trials



### Patents

**No.2** in biopharmaceutical patent applications per inhabitant

**No.2** in share of biopharmaceutical patent applications in total number of patent applications within the country



### Employment

**No.3** in share of bio-pharmaceutical employment (direct, indirect and induces) in total employment within the country

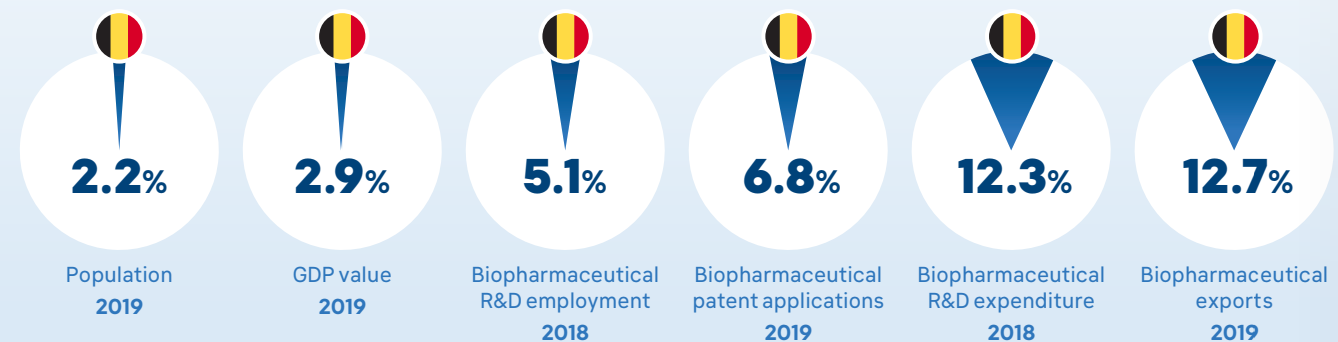


### Exports

**No.2** in exports of biopharmaceuticals

**No.2** in biopharmaceutical exports per inhabitant

## Share of Belgium in the European Union



## pharma.be

pharma.be, the General Association of the Innovative Medicines Industry, brings together more than 125 innovative (bio)pharmaceutical companies operating in Belgium. These companies focus on research and development of new medicinal products for both human and veterinary use and employ more than 38,500 employees in Belgium.

## Partner in health and innovation

As a committed partner of physicians, pharmacists, hospitals, authorities, and other health partners, pharma.be's mission is to promote the best healthcare by promoting therapeutic innovation in the field of medicinal products for human use. Its top priority is therefore to allow patients the fastest possible access to the most recent treatments from research and development.

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## THE BELGIAN BIOPHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR

# A vibrant and leading biopharmaceutical valley in Europe



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## THE BELGIAN BIOPHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR

# A vibrant and leading biopharmaceutical valley in Europe

We are proud to present our latest figures which once again demonstrate the dynamism of Belgium's biopharmaceutical sector. Belgium continues to achieve a solid performance for every aspect of the biopharmaceutical value chain, i.e., research and development, clinical trials, production and logistics, and exports.

A well-developed ecosystem, a highly-skilled workforce and support from public authorities all combine to foster and boost research and innovation, more than ever making Belgium the biopharmaceutical valley of Europe.

The indicators on the next pages show the strong position of Belgium, compared with other EU countries. At pharma.be, we see this as a message of encouragement, to continue working on our leading position and strengthen it in the coming years, together with our biopharmaceutical companies, researchers and scientific institutions, public authorities, other industry sectors and stakeholders.

I wish you a pleasant discovery of the vibrant Belgian biopharmaceutical valley!

### Ann Adriaensen

CEO ad interim & general secretary, pharma.be

The indicators developed in this brochure are based on the following sources: Statbel – Eurostat – EFPIA, *The Pharmaceutical Industry in Figures, Key Data 2020* – European Patent Office (EPO) – PWC, Technical Report June 2019: *The economic and societal footprint of the pharmaceutical industry in Europe* – Deloitte, *Belgium as clinical trial location in Europe, Results for 2018*.

\* In addition to direct employments in the sector itself, we also take into account indirect jobs (for example with subcontractors suppliers of raw materials and services) and induced jobs (jobs created in Belgium by the expenditures made by workers in the biopharmaceutical sector).



## A leader in biopharmaceutical Research & Development

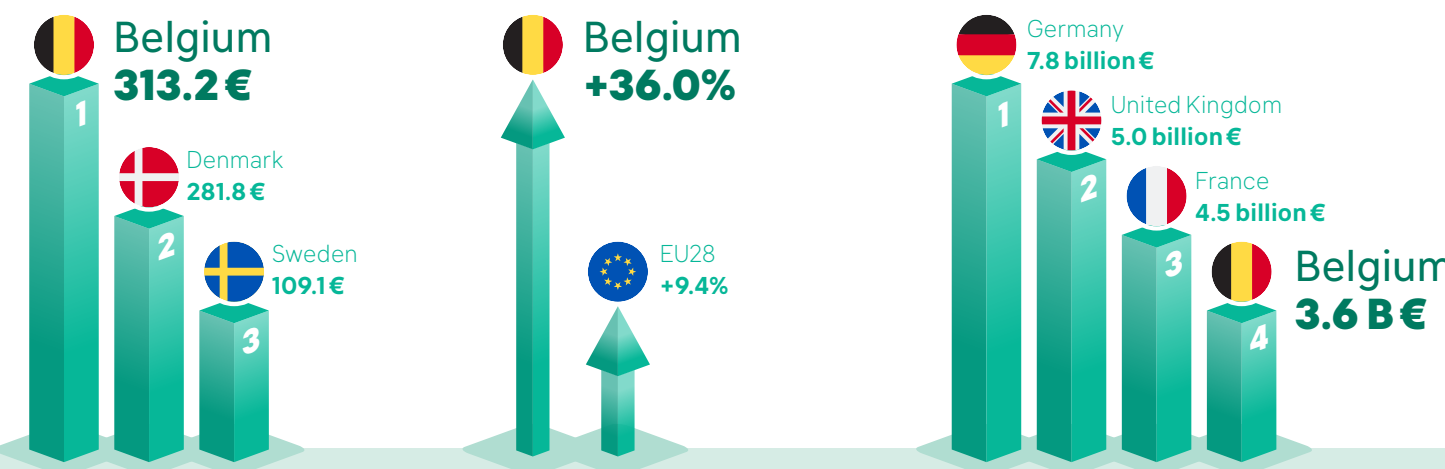
thanks to a unique biopharmaceutical ecosystem

### No.1 in biopharmaceutical Research & Development expenditure per inhabitant

Belgium is the country with the **highest biopharmaceutical R&D expenditure per inhabitant** in Europe.

Belgian R&D expenditure per inhabitant **increased by 36%** between 2015 and 2018, compared with just 9.4% for EU28.

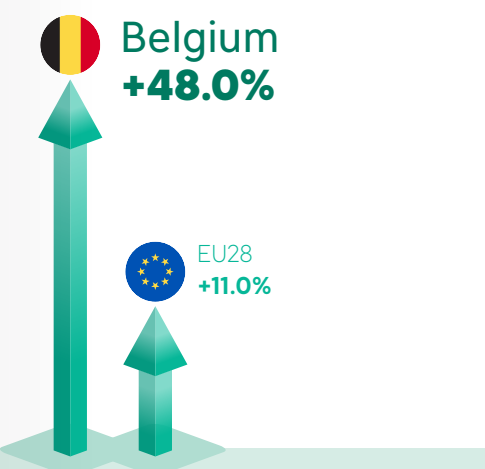
Biopharmaceutical companies in Belgium **invest 10 million euros every day** in R&D.



Biopharmaceutical R&D expenditure per inhabitant (2018)  
 Evolution of biopharmaceutical R&D expenditure per inhabitant evolution (2015-2018)  
 Top 4 yearly biopharmaceutical R&D investments (2018)

### No.2 in number of patent applications per inhabitant

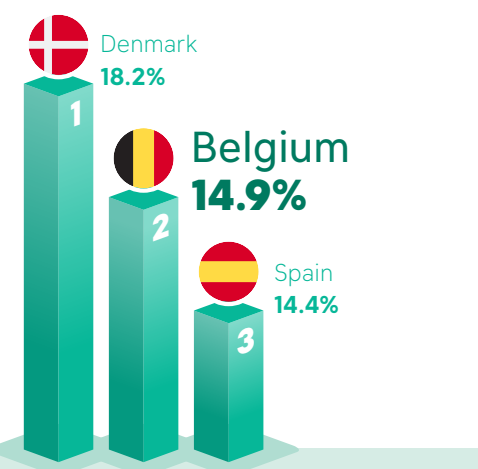
Over the period 2015-2019, the increase in the **number of biopharmaceutical patent applications** was **four times higher in Belgium** compared to the EU28, leading to one patent application filed per day in Belgium in 2019.



Evolution of biopharmaceutical patent application evolution (2015-2019)

### No.2 share of biopharmaceutical patent applications in total number of patents within the country

The importance of the biopharmaceutical sector for Belgium's overall R&D output is significant.



Top 3 share of biopharmaceutical patents in total number of patents (2019)

### No.3 in number of clinical trials authorised per inhabitant

In 2018, **525 clinical trials were given the go-ahead** by the Belgian authorities.



Top 3 number of authorised clinical trial per inhabitant (2018)



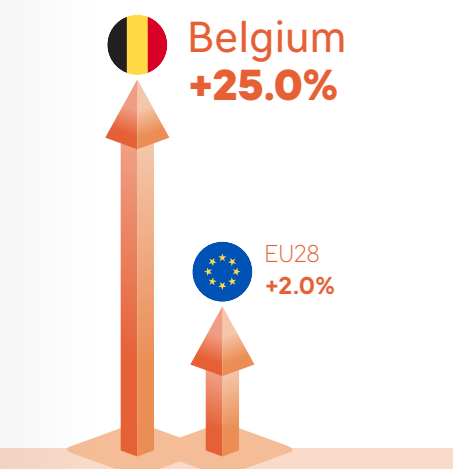
## A highly skilled workforce

boosting the entire biopharmaceutical value chain

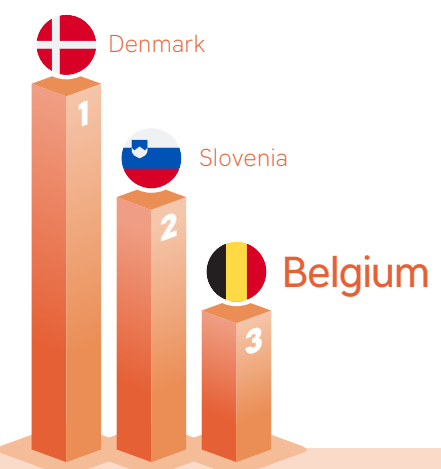
### No.3 in biopharmaceutical R&D employment per inhabitant

Belgium is **in the leading group** when looking at its R&D personnel working for biopharmaceutical companies.

Amongst the **38,489 employees** in the Belgian biopharmaceutical sector, the already vast pool of researchers increased considerably the last years to **5,369 motivated R&D employees** in 2019.



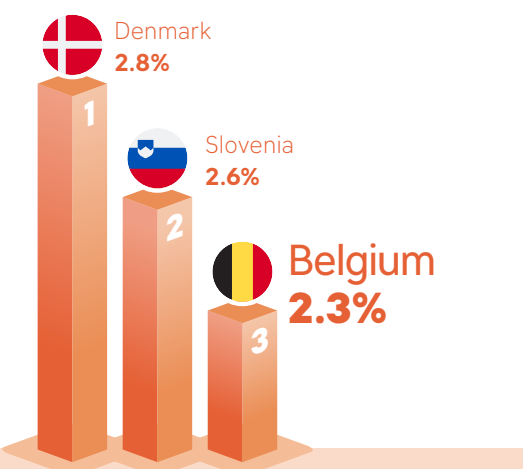
Increase of biopharmaceutical R&D employment (2015-2018)



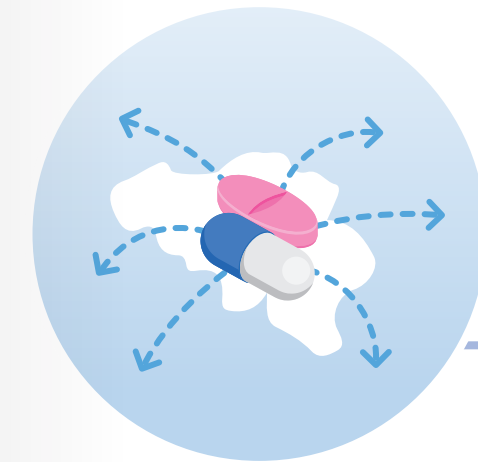
Top 3 biopharmaceutical R&D personnel per inhabitant (2018)

### No.3 in share of biopharmaceutical employment (direct, indirect and induces) in total employment within the country

With **116,705 jobs depending on the biopharmaceutical value chain** (direct, indirect and induced\*), Belgium does very well again.



Top 3 share of biopharmaceutical sector (direct, indirect, and induced) employment (2018)



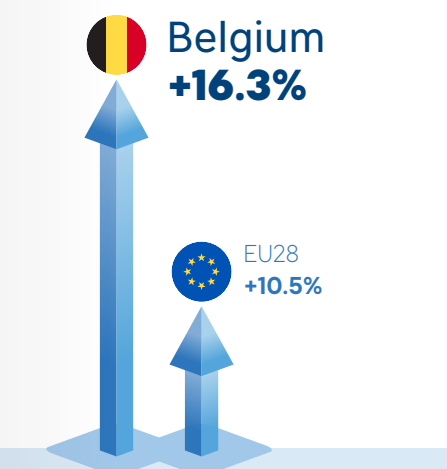
## Growing exports

with a global logistics hub for medicines and vaccines

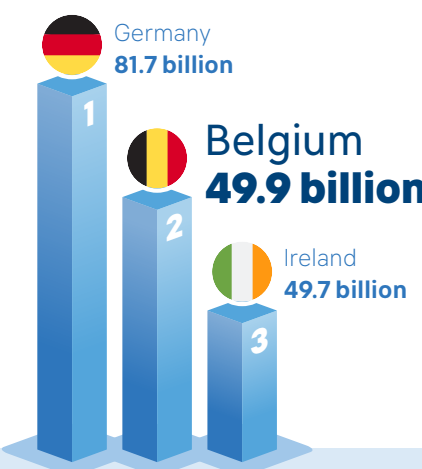
### No.2 in exports of biopharmaceuticals

In absolute numbers, Belgium comes just after Germany when looking to the export of biopharmaceuticals.

Belgium strengthened its position as biopharmaceutical logistics hub, which is reflected in the **increasing export activities**.



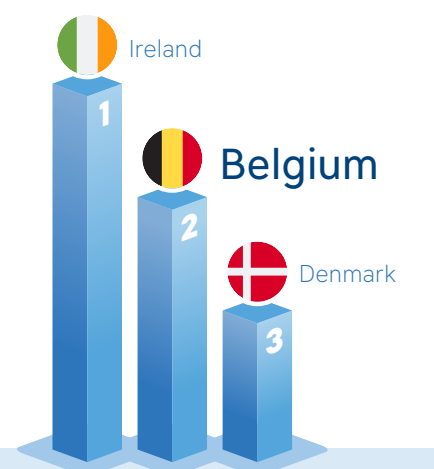
Evolution of exports of biopharmaceuticals (2018-2019)



Top 3 exports of biopharmaceuticals (2019)

### No.2 in biopharmaceutical exports per inhabitant

Also in relative numbers, Belgium is leading in terms of biopharmaceutical exports.



Top 3 exports of biopharmaceuticals per inhabitant (2019)