



PHARMA FIGURES 2015



pharma.be
ASSOCIATION GÉNÉRALE DE L'INDUSTRIE DU MÉDICAMENT
ALGEMENE VERENIGING VAN DE GENEESMIDDELENINDUSTRIE



The pharmaceutical sector in Belgium:

A cornerstone of the Belgian economy, a laboratory of hope for patients

The core figures of 2015 confirm the strength of the pharmaceutical sector as a job creator, as a leader in research and development, and as an export champion.

For the sector, 2015 signified:

- + **1.8%** more jobs
- + **2.9%** more researchers investigating new medicines
- + **3.7%** more export
- + **5.5%** more investments in R&D
- + **21.7%** greater value of the production.

Each day 35,000 employees in Belgium make every effort to research, to develop, to manufacture and to distribute promising, innovative medicines. Large investments and excellent cooperation with the academic world have resulted in exceptional pharmaceutical know-how. And that know-how is held in high esteem internationally. Nearly half (47%) of our export goes to countries outside the European Union!

Belgium increasingly profiles itself as a laboratory of hope for patients around the world.



Catherine Rutten, CEO of pharma.be
April 2016

A strong job creator

The pharmaceutical sector proves to be a strong and consistent job creator in Belgium: the number of jobs **increased by 1.8%** to a total of **34,698** in 2015. In addition, well over **200** pharmaceutical companies provide at least three times as many jobs in other sectors such as supply companies and the distribution sector.

There is a good mix between men and women: almost as many women (**49.4%**) as men (**50.6%**) are active in the industry. Four out of ten managers are women, and in R&D the portion of women increases to **60%**. Six out of ten employees in the pharmaceutical industry have completed higher education; this enables us to keep scientific knowledge in Belgium and to remain competitive.

The value of the medicines produced in Belgium in 2015 is estimated to be **€11.3 Bn**

Important Belgian industrial producer

Spectacular growth was noted in the total value of medicines and vaccines that were produced in Belgium in 2015: **+21.7%** to a total value of **11.3 billion euros**. Therefore, the share of the manufactured biopharmaceutical products in the entire manufacturing industry rose from **6.3%** in 2014 to **7.8%** in 2015.

The added value per employee in the pharmaceutical sector remains particularly high: **181,500 euros** per person. As a result, the pharmaceutical sector is in second place of all industrial sectors in Belgium.

Leading investor in Research & Development of medicines

The R&D-investments in new medicines in Belgium rose by **5.5%** in 2015 to almost **2.6 billion euros**. The pharmaceutical sector in Belgium remains an important pioneer in the area of innovation. These investments also translate into new jobs: the number of researchers in Belgium rose to about **4,200** (**+2.9%** since 2014). Thanks to top-level scientific research, Belgium increasingly profiles itself as a laboratory of hope for patients from every corner of the world.

The number of researchers in Belgium rose in 2015 to about **4,200**

Belgium exports more than **€ 41 Bn** worth of medicines and vaccines, also to markets far afield

Remarkable export champion

More than **41 billion euros** in medicines and vaccines were exported from Belgium in 2015. This is a growth of **+3.7%** and a historic record. It resulted in a positive trade balance of **6.1 billion euros**.

Almost half (**46.9%**) of that export goes to countries outside the European Union. That is a tremendous amount, and almost double as much as when we look at all sectors in Belgium put together (**28.2%** of export goes to countries outside the EU). It is a clear illustration of worldwide recognition of Belgian know-how in the area of development, production and distribution of medicines and vaccines.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL

A strong job creator

HIGH CONCENTRATION OF KNOWLEDGE

60.2% 

has a higher education degree

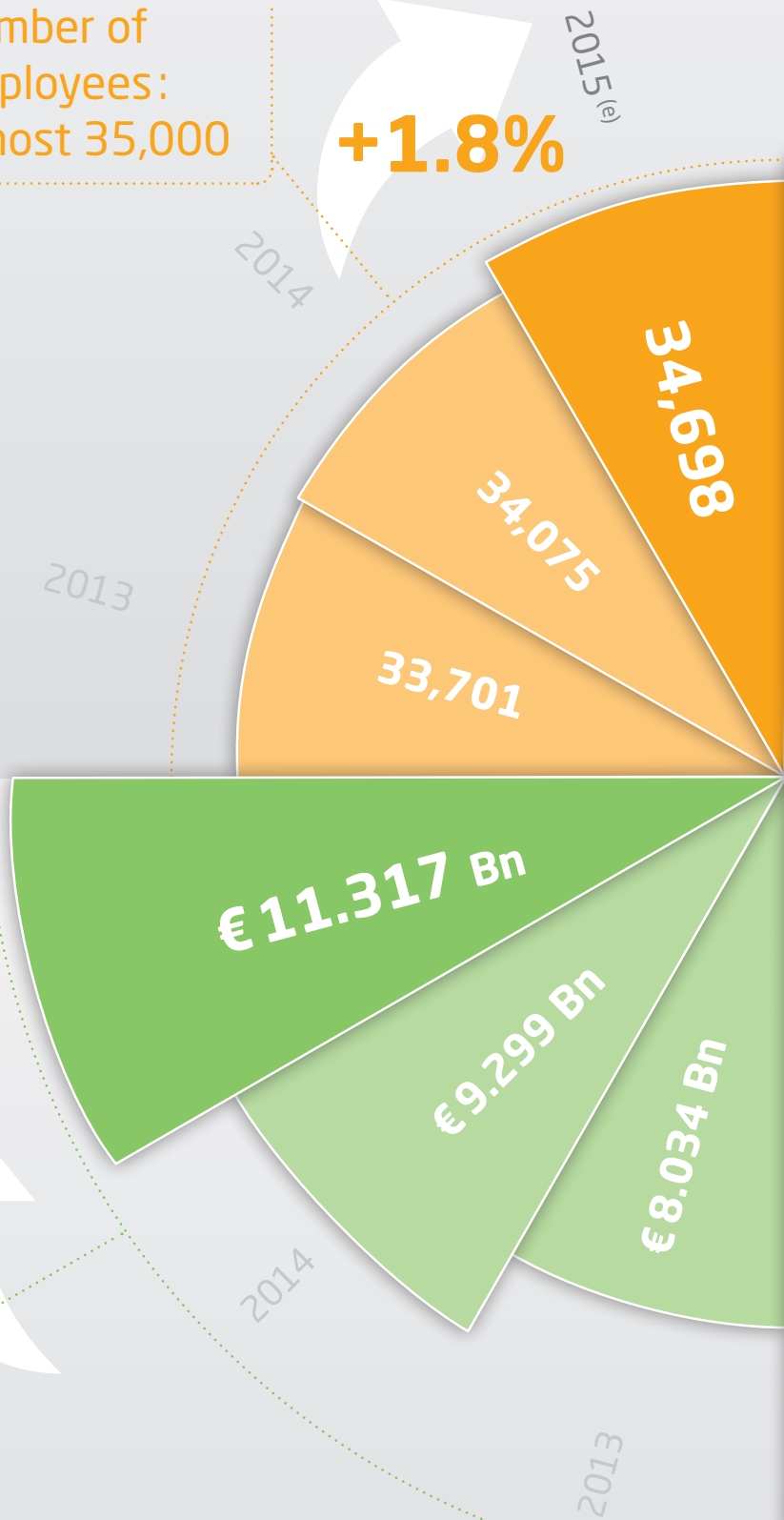
MIX BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN



49.4% **50.6%**

Number of employees:
almost 35,000

+1.8%

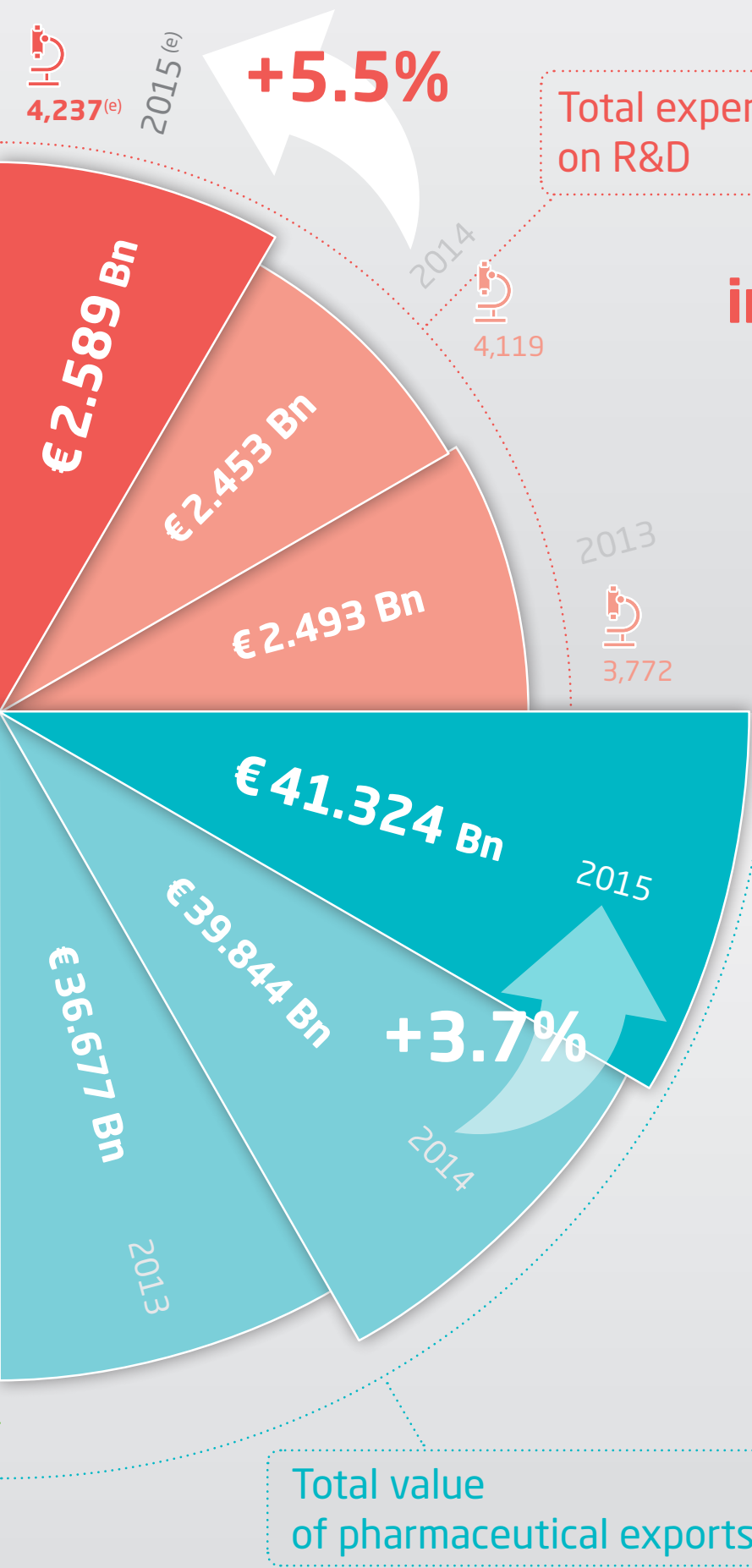


+21.7%


Total production value

Important Belgian industrial producer

INDUSTRY IN BELGIUM

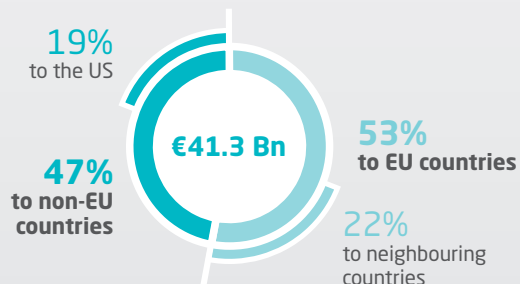


Leading investor in Research & Development of medicines

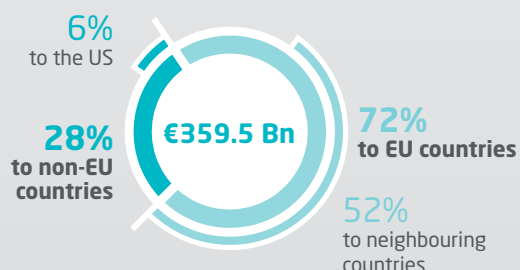
Number of researchers 

Remarkable export champion

Export of the pharmaceutical sector



Export of the entire manufacturing industry



The way forward

With regard to employment, investments, export and production, the pharmaceutical sector in Belgium showed remarkable growth figures in 2015. Now it is up to Belgium to maintain this pole position as a pharmaceutical country.

As an umbrella organisation, pharma.be calls for the continued support of the innovative pharmaceutical companies in Belgium so that they can maintain their mission to do research into new medicines and to find solutions for unmet medical needs.

The Pact of the Future, concluded between the Minister of Public Health Maggie De Block and the pharmaceutical sector in Belgium in July 2015, offers the entire industry stability and predictability. It includes encouraging measures regarding biotechnology companies and SMEs, and a strategic plan to reinforce Belgium's leading position in the area of clinical studies.

Catherine Rutten:

“The pharmaceutical industry offers strong support to the Belgian economy. Its nearly 35,000 employees contribute to economic growth and every day they use their energy and resources to improve the quality of life of patients. In short: an industry that we must proudly cherish.”

Sources:

1. Employment
 - Evolution: 'customised' statistics Social Security; calculations pharma.be; 2015(e); data on 30 September 2015
 - Indirect jobs: EFPIA - key figures 2014
 - Level of education: Statbel; Employee questionnaire
 - Mix of men and women: figures related to the members of the Board of Directors of pharma.be - November 2015
2. Research & Development
 - Expenditures on R&D: pharma.be estimate based on the figures of members of pharma.be; 2015(e)
 - Employment in R&D: pharma.be estimate based on the figures of members of pharma.be; 2015 (e)
3. Export
 - Evolution of exports: NBB-INR, statistics related to international trade (SITC - section 54) - Communal concept; pharma.be calculations
 - Evolution of the trade balance: NBB-INR, statistics related to international trade (SITC - section 54) - Communal concept; pharma.be calculations
 - Distribution: pharma.be; Agency for Foreign Trade, Statistics related to foreign trade 01-09/2015
4. Production
 - Evolution of production value: Statbel; statistics Prodcom (total production value); 2015(e): an estimate based on the first 10 available months

(e) = estimate