

Pharma Figures 2016

Belgium, a growing
pharmaceutical hub



2016 at a glance

2016 was again a successful year for the pharmaceutical sector in Belgium.

Belgium reinforced its position as a leading world player in the field of pharmaceutical development and production, employing **35,250** people in the sector. In 2016, **552 new jobs** were created, with almost half of these in Research and Development (R&D). **Investment in R&D** in the pharmaceutical industry was also at a high: **2.89 billion euros in 2016**. That is an increase of **11.6%** compared to the previous year.

The record export figures for 2015 in the pharmaceutical industry were practically matched in 2016 with **40.7 billion euros**. The **sector accounts for more than one-tenth (11.3%) of all Belgian export**. The strong pharma figures in 2016 underline the growing importance of the sector for the Belgian economy.

Key figures of the pharmaceutical sector in Belgium in 2016

35,250
jobs

= **552 additional jobs**
since 2015 (+1.6%)

4,472
researchers

= **5.5% increase**
since 2015

€ 2.89 Bn
in R&D investment

= **11.6% increase**
since 2015

€ 40.7 Bn

in export
of medicines
and vaccines

= **11.3%**
of all Belgian Export

1

Growing and diversified talent pool

Huge job creator

In 2016, **35,250 people** were employed in the pharmaceutical sector in Belgium, an increase of **1.6%** compared to 2015. In one year the sector created 552 new jobs. The growing employment figure is mainly due to the expansion of R&D and production activities. The employment share of the pharmaceutical sector in the entire manufacturing industry is **7.6%**.

Thanks to the excellent Belgian universities and the attractive reputation of the sector, the pharmaceutical industry is able to count on highly qualified and diversified staff. More than half (57.5%) has taken higher education and almost **1 in 3 employees** (29%) a **university education**. The sector also attracts talent from across the border: almost one in 5 researchers (18%) comes from abroad.

The presence of pharmaceutical companies also creates a large number of jobs in other sectors, for example in hospitals (clinical trials), the logistics sector and in other sectors which supply goods or services for the development or distribution process of pharmaceutical products. **Each job in the pharmaceutical sector creates approximately 4.6 additional jobs in other sectors.**

Towards a gender balance

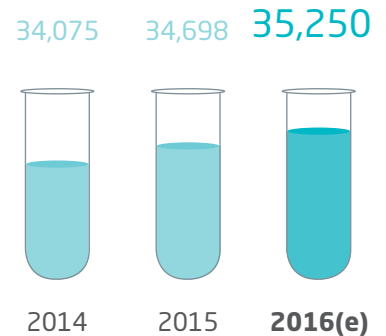
The number of female employees in the pharmaceutical industry is also continuously increasing. In 2016, the proportion of women in the sector increased to **50%**. This is a slight increase of 0.6% since 2015. In leadership positions in pharma, the proportion of women stands at 31.5%. These figures are far higher than in most other sectors.

	Proportion of women	Proportion of women in leadership positions
Pharmaceutical sector	50.0%	31.5%
Chemical sector	21.9%	15.8%
Food sector	31.1%	23.1%
Telecommunications	27.2%	25.5%
Energy sector	22.5%	12.7%

In management teams in the sector the percentage of women rises to 41%. In research teams almost 2 out of 3 positions (62%) are filled by women.

Employment in figures

jobs



+1.6%
since 2015

552 additional jobs
including 235 jobs (43%)
in R&D

1 job

in the pharmaceutical sector
creates

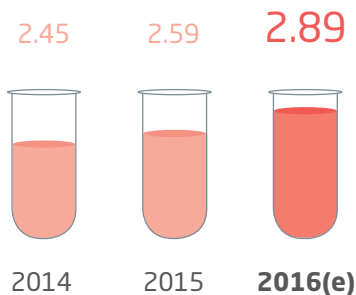
4.6 jobs

in other sectors



2 Innovative R&D hub

R&D investment in figures in € Bn



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R&D investment has risen for the

3rd

successive year

Record investment in R&D

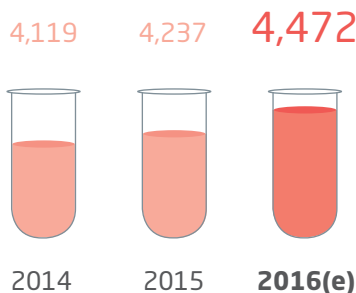
The pharmaceutical sector remains the most innovative sector in Belgium. Together the R&D departments of the pharmaceutical companies in Belgium have invested **2.89 billion euros in 2016** in research into new and innovative treatments for patients. This is an increase of **11.6%** compared to the previous year, a new record amount.

Belgium is known worldwide as an attractive country for research due to a large number of **leading universities and research centres, and a regulatory framework that encourages research.**

Growing number of researchers

The increasing investment in R&D also translates in additional jobs for highly qualified researchers. Almost **4,500 employees** in the pharmaceutical sector are actively involved in research. This is an increase of **5.5%** compared to 2015. They are researchers with varying, but complementary types of training (medicine, biology, genetics, pharmacology, (bio-) engineering, etc.), committed to research into innovative medication.

R&D employment in figures # researchers



+5.5%
researchers
since 2015

+11.6%
R&D investment
since 2015

3

Globally recognised export champion

Large share in the total export figures

The direct economic importance of the pharmaceutical sector in Belgium can also be demonstrated by its impressive export figures. **More than one-tenth (11.3%)** of all Belgian export are realised in the pharmaceutical industry.

In 2016, the sector exported for **40.7 billion euros** in medicines and vaccines. The export record of 2015 (41.01 million euros) was practically matched.

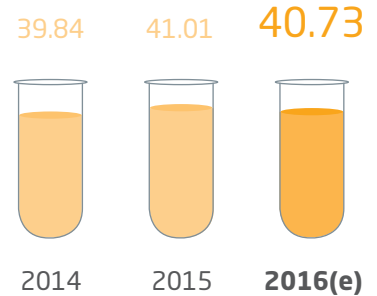
Gateway to Europe and even further

The Belgian pharmaceutical industry enjoys impressive export figures thanks to its unique location in Europe, its easy access to foreign markets and its excellent logistical infrastructure for the distribution of medicines and vaccines.

Almost half of the export (47.6%) goes to countries **outside the EU**. Approximately one-fifth (20.5%) of the exported medicinal products is intended for the North American market, and one-eighth (12.6%) goes to the Asian market. The *know-how* of the Belgian pharmaceutical sector is clearly generally recognised, also outside Europe.

Export of pharmaceuticals in figures

in € Bn



4

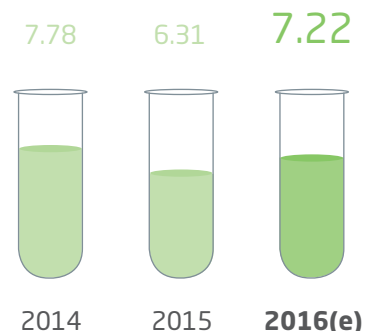
Important share in the positive Belgian trade balance

The pharmaceutical industry is a cornerstone of the Belgian economy, the importance of which cannot be overestimated. The sector realised a positive trade balance of more than **7.2 billion euros** in 2016. This is **an increase of nearly 1 billion euros or 14.3%** compared to the year before. In doing so, the sector made an important contribution to the positive Belgian trade balance (24.1 billion euros) in 2016.

+14.3% since 2015

Trade balance in figures

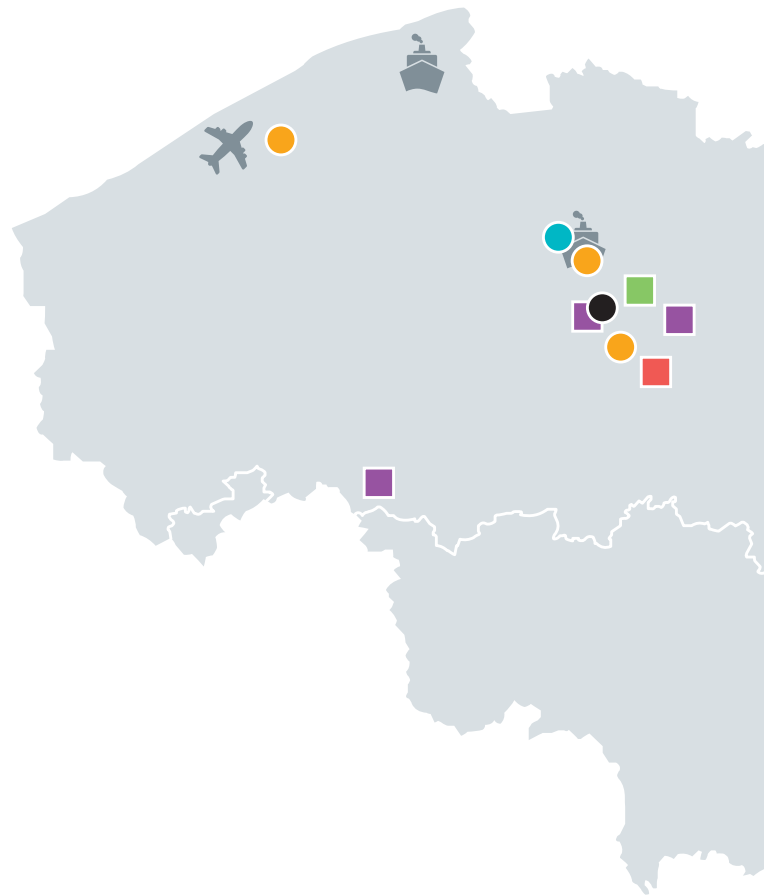
in € Bn



The pharmaceutical landscape of Belgium

pharma.be figures based on member companies - March 2017

- Headquarters of pharma companies
- Pharma R&D sites
- Pharma production sites
- Universities and research centres
- Bio-incubators
- Academic hospitals



Innovative pharmaceutical companies with state-of-the-art R&D and production sites

The Belgian pharmaceutical sector has a large number of R&D and production facilities. This creates a positive environment where smaller pharmaceutical start-ups, university spin-offs, and small and medium-sized enterprises can work closely together with larger multinationals.

Strongly anchored ecosystem

The Belgian pharmaceutical ecosystem, characterised by its diversity, creates a fertile and favourable environment for innovation. The pharmaceutical companies, universities, research centres and hospitals all work closely together.

15

Headquarters

14

R&D facilities

32

Production sites

12

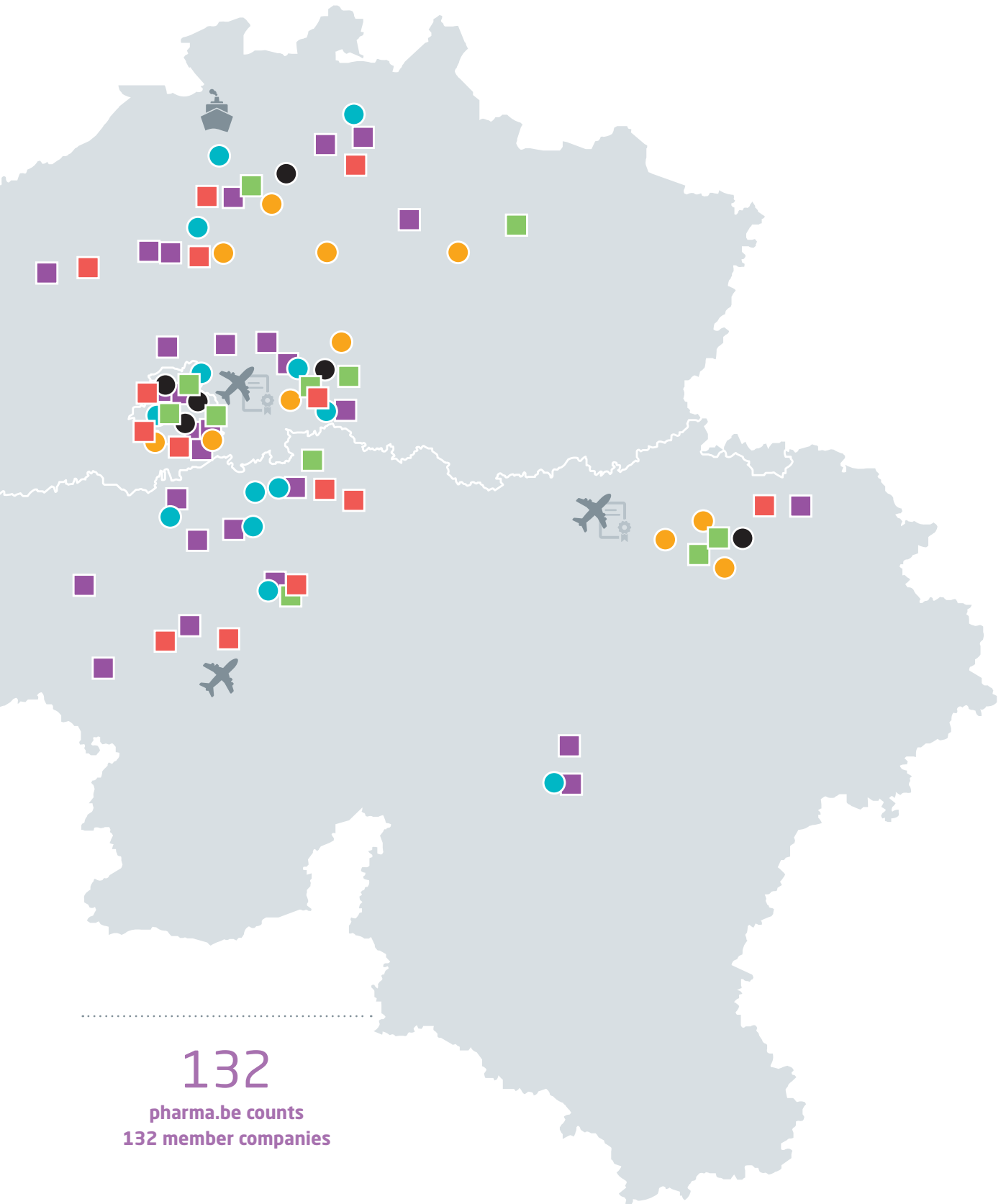
Universities and research centres

14

Bio-incubators

7

Academic hospitals



132

pharma.be counts
132 member companies



Catherine Rutten

“The pharmaceutical industry in Belgium had a particularly strong year!”

Catherine Rutten, CEO of pharma.be:

“The exceptional figures of 2016 show that the Belgian pharmaceutical industry is and remains one of the major growth poles of the Belgian economy.

The extensive exchange of information and cooperation with the universities and research centres contribute to a stimulating environment in Belgium for research and innovation. This also translates into high investment figures in the field of R&D.

Both multinationals as well as small and medium-sized pharmaceutical companies have an excellent infrastructure and skilled employees. This facilitates the research and development process, but also the production phase and the export of innovative medicines. Thanks to the efforts and the network of logistic partners, Belgium also enjoys worldwide recognition when it comes to high-quality distribution of medicinal products.

It is crucial that policy makers continue to encourage the attractive climate of Belgium for investment in pharmaceutical research.”

Sources

1. Employment

- Evolution: customised RSZ statistics; pharma.be calculations; 2016(e): data on 30.09.2016
- Indirect jobs: WifOR report 2017
- Educational level: Statbel; Employee survey
- Gender balance figures:
[1] 2016 report of the Belgian Institute for the equality of women and men
[2] pharma.be 2016 survey in 63 companies (representing 71% of total employment in the sector)

2. Research & Development

- Expenditure on R&D: pharma.be estimate based on the figures of pharma.be members; 2016(e)
- Employment in R&D: pharma.be estimate based on the figures of pharma.be members; 2016(e)

3. Export & trade balance

- Evolution of export: NBB-INR, international trade statistics (SITC - division 54) - Communal concept; pharma.be calculations

- Evolution of the trade balance: NBB-INR, international trade statistics (SITC - division 54) - Communal concept; pharma.be calculations
- Distribution: pharma.be; Agency for Foreign Trade, external trade statistics of 01-09-2016

(e) = estimate