

A detailed map of the Stockholm-Uppsala region in Sweden. The map shows major cities like Uppsala, Stockholm, and Södertälje, along with the Mälaren lake system. Major roads and highways are marked with numbers like 55, 76, and E20. The text is overlaid on the map, centered over the Stockholm area.

Life science in the Stockholm-Uppsala region

**Facts and figures about the region,
higher education institutions,
the business sector
and healthcare**

Published: March 2022
Publisher: Stockholm Science City
Analyst and author: Per Lek

 **Stockholm**
The Capital of Scandinavia

STOCKHOLM SCIENCE CITY
FOUNDATION 

A globally strong cluster

The Stockholm-Uppsala region has a long tradition of research and development in life science. The region includes Stockholm, Uppsala, Södertälje and Strängnäs. There are life science companies (global, small and medium-sized and start-ups), six universities and three university hospitals. There are also several state agencies in the region that are important for the life science industry, including the Swedish Medical Products Agency. The global strength of the region as a cluster is clear from its high rankings in international evaluations.

The region is highly ranked in the following areas:

- **Most innovative region in Europe (1st place)**
Stockholm, Regional innovation score board, European Commission, 2021
- **Number of tech unicorns per capita globally (2nd place)**
Stockholm, State of European Tech 2020 by Atomico
- **Europe's largest tech hubs by invested capital (4th place)**
Stockholm, State of European Tech 2021 by Atomico
- **Europe's largest start-up hubs (8th place)**
Stockholm, EU-startups.com, 2020
- **Talent attraction in Europe (7th place)**
Stockholm, Global Cities Talent Competitiveness index 2021, Insead



A leading knowledge hub

The Stockholm-Uppsala region is renowned as a leading national and international knowledge hub. The education, applied research and basic research conducted at the universities and colleges in the region ensure a broad competence base and a steady stream of scientific breakthroughs.

The six universities are an important component of the life science cluster. In Stockholm we have Karolinska Institutet, the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm University, and the Stockholm School of Economics, while Uppsala has Uppsala University and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

Each of the universities is prominent in its fields and they complement each other in areas such as medicine, technology, science, humanities, economics, law and social sciences.

- **82 000 full-year students**

Compiled from annual reports in 2020

- **26 000 employees**

Compiled from annual reports in 2020

- **1 900 professors**

Compiled from annual reports in 2020

- **1/3 of Sweden's doctoral candidates are to be found in Stockholm**

Stockholm Academic Forum, 2019

- **385 peer-reviewed publications per week**

Compiled from annual reports in 2020

- **SciLifeLab – a national centre for large-scale research**

Focus on molecular biology within life science

- **Allocated 50% of Swedish funding from Horizon 2020**

Source: h2020viz.vinnova.se, January, 2022.

Refers to Stockholm-Uppsala, higher or secondary education

- **Stockholm ranked 4th in the world as a university city**

Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2018

- **22 Nobel laureates have worked or studied at the region's universities**

www.nobelprize.org

- **Four Nobel Prize committees are based in the region**

www.nobelprize.org



**Karolinska
Institutet**



**KUNGL
TEKNISKA
HÖGSKOLAN**



**Stockholms
universitet**



**Handelshögskolan
i Stockholm**



**UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET**



**SWEDISH UNIVERSITY OF
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES**

A vital engine for business and industry

The region is a vital engine for life science and innovation in Sweden, of which the corporate sector is also a key component.

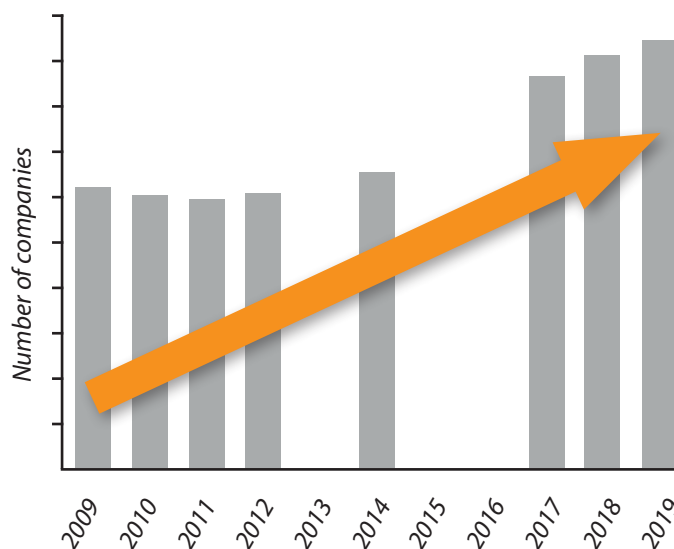
- **More than 1 000 life science companies***
- **More than 32 000 employees***
- **12 venture capital companies active in the field of life science**
- **50% of the employees working in the Swedish life science sector**
Source: The Swedish Agency for Growth Policy Analysis, 2018
- **50% of Sweden's patent applications**
Source: European Patent Office, 2020
- **Sting ranked as the world's best accelerator/incubator**
Source: Global Startup Awards, 2021
- **Uppsala Innovation Centre is ranked among the top 5 business incubators in the world**
Source: UBI Global, 2019

**Based on analysis by Stockholm Science City. Includes companies with at least 1 employee and/or with a turnover of at least SEK 1 million.*

Growth: 48%

Over a ten-year period, the number of life science companies increased by 48%, while the number of employees in life science increased by 41%.

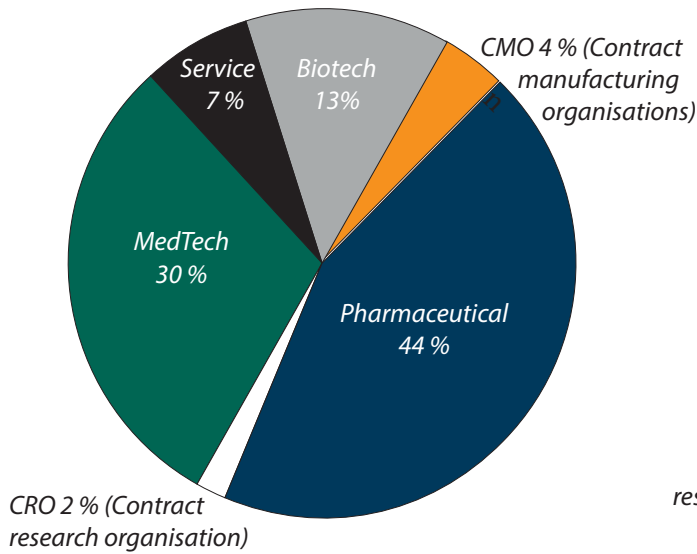
Figures based on an analysis conducted by Stockholm Science City.



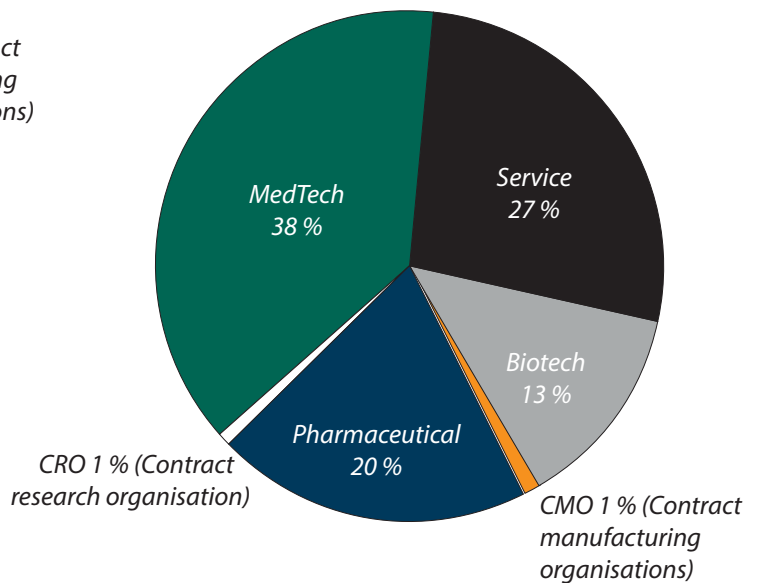
Facts and figures about life science companies

Representatives of all sectors within life science can be found in the Stockholm-Uppsala region, including start-ups, small, medium-sized and global companies.

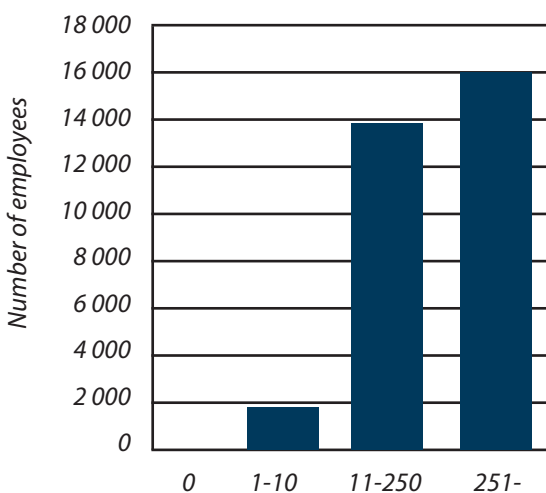
Measured by number of *employees*, pharmaceuticals companies are the largest



Measured by number of *companies*, medtech is the largest

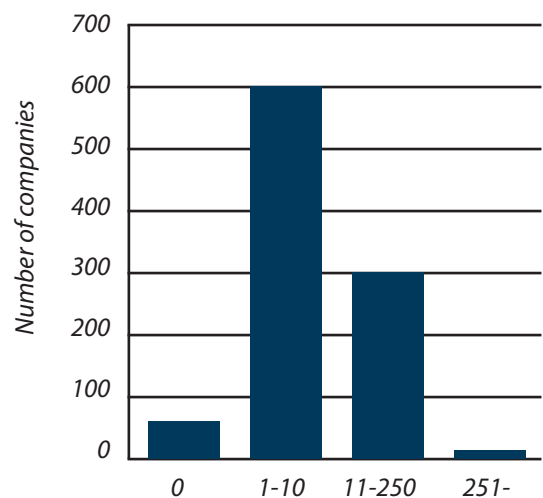


The majority of the employees are in companies with more than 250 staff



Distribution of number of employees, including companies ≥ 1 employee and/or \geq SEK 1M in turnover.

The majority of companies have between one and ten employees



Distribution of companies according to number of employees including ≥ 1 employee and/or \geq SEK 1M in turnover (i.e. also companies with 0 employees).

Healthcare

- **3 university hospitals:**



- **21 hospitals**
- **2,8 million people**
- **20 million healthcare visits**
- **350 000 healthcare interventions**
Data compiled from annual reports
- **1 000 active clinical trials**
Clinicaltrials.gov, 21 January 2022

Key actors in the healthcare sector

Karolinska University Hospital

- Ranked as the world's 8th best hospital in 2021
Source: Newsweek, 2022
- One of Europe's biggest university hospitals

Uppsala University Hospital

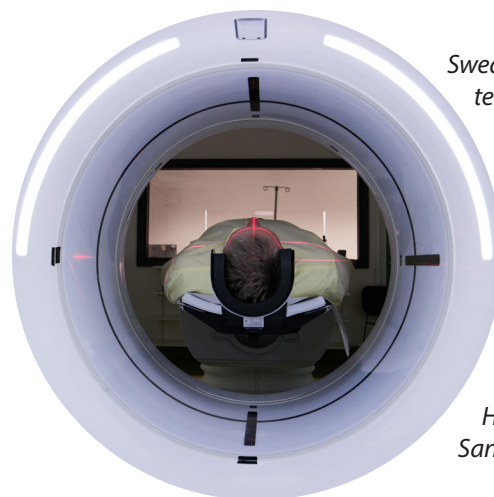
- Operates one of Sweden's two burn units
- Ranked as the world's 51st best hospital in 2022
Source: Newsweek, 2022

St. Erik Eye Hospital

- Sweden's only eye hospital
- National and international competence centre for research on eye diseases and treatments

BioClinicum

- A hub for pre-clinical research
- 100 research teams within six fields of research



Swedish innovative technology from the Royal Institute of Technology is tested in a clinical research environment at BioClinicum, Karolinska University Hospital. Photo: Sanne Jonsson

Let us help you!

At Stockholm Science City, our passion is to support and strengthen Stockholm's competitiveness in life science. We develop concepts, build relationships and spread knowledge.

Contact us to find out how we can help you.

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Stockholm Science City is funded by



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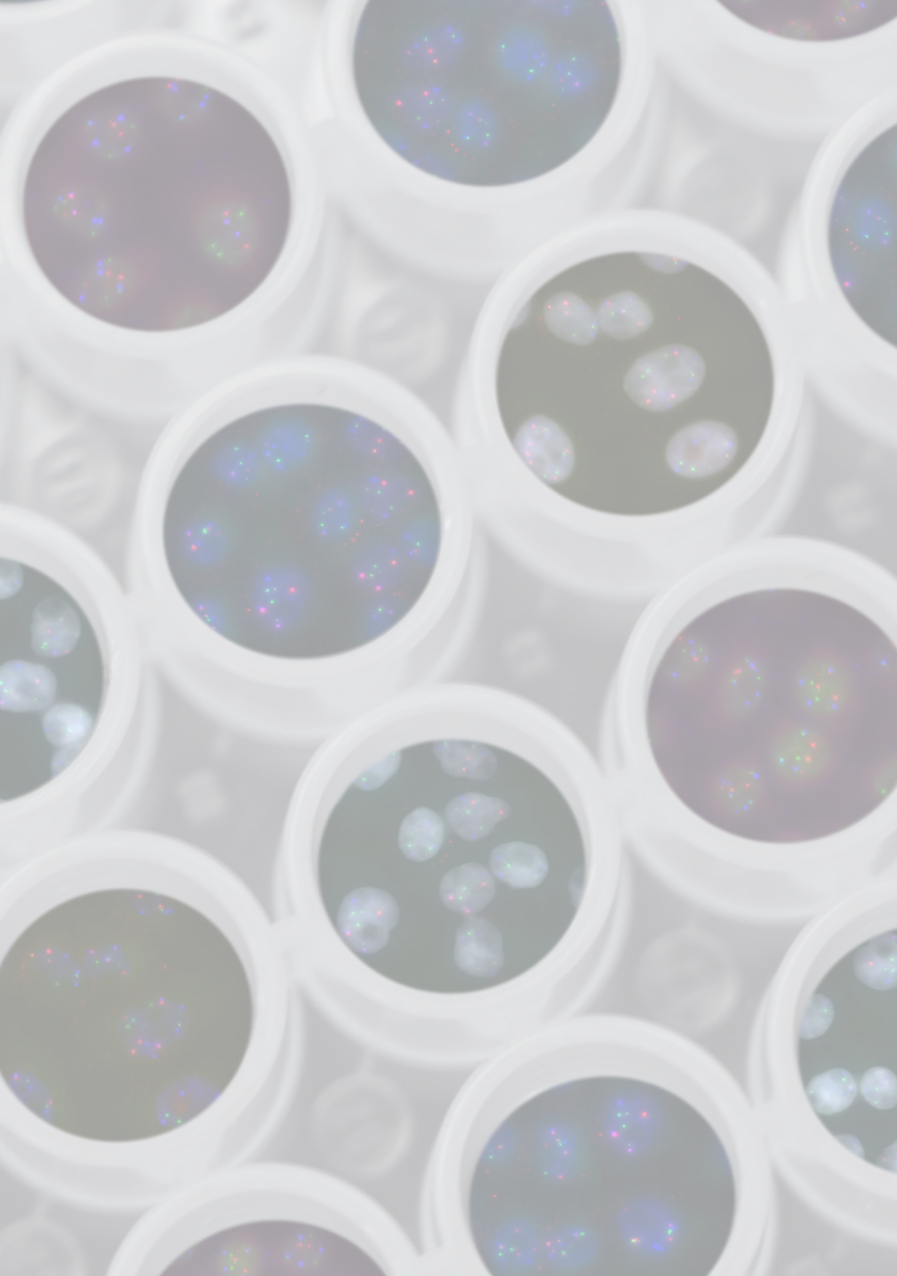


Photo: Sophia Hober



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