Health care industry in Baden-Württemberg

Outstanding medical engineering, innovative pharmaceutical companies and modern biotechnology – Baden-Württemberg is one of the top locations of the European health care industry
## Outstanding innovations

### Population
10.8 million – this corresponds to 13.2% of the population of Germany

### Gross domestic product
477 billion euros – this corresponds to 15.2% of Germany’s GDP
GDP per inhabitant: 43,700 euros (Germany: 37,997 euros)

### Export
- Export volume: 192 billion euros
- Export volume per inhabitant: 17,600 euros (Germany: 14,600 euros)
- Export state No. 1 in Germany

### Research & development
- Research & development 2014: 4.9% of GDP (Germany: 2.9%)
- Patents applied for per 100,000 inhabitants: 132 (highest in Germany)
- Innovation region No. 1 in Europe

Baden-Württemberg is the 3rd largest state out of 16 in the Federal Republic of Germany; figures for 2016 (date: June 2017)
In the Federal Republic of Germany, Baden-Württemberg is one of the top regions for companies that are active in the health care industry. The state is the largest location for medical engineering and the pharmaceutical industry, as well as being the second largest biotechnology location in Germany. Moreover, Baden-Württemberg leads the way in the production of herbal and homoeopathic medicines. In the southwest, 1,054 companies operating in the areas of medical engineering, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology employ a total of 83,924 people (2014) and engage in production, research and/or development. In 2014, these companies together reported a taxable turnover of 23.35 billion euros. The health care industry is an attractive foreign trading partner and the third largest exporter in Baden-Württemberg. What all three sectors have in common is their above-average expenditure on research and development. There are also numerous material suppliers and service providers active on their behalf. The good network of suppliers, users, providers and sellers in the state ensures optimum utilisation of all resources along the value-added chains.

The great effectiveness of the health care industry is based on two factors: Baden-Württemberg’s strong nucleus of small and medium-sized companies and numerous large corporations that have their offices or factories here. Together, they represent a group of employers that are crisis-proof and exhibit a strong allegiance to the region.
Diversity of the health care industry in Baden-Württemberg

Three strong sectors

Medical technology and engineering
The long-standing medical technology and engineering sector includes 818 companies, with over 47,000 employees and a turnover amounting to 12.1 billion euros (2014). This makes it the strongest sector in Baden-Württemberg’s health care industry. In addition to the manufacture of classical products such as surgical instruments, endoscopy equipment and dental technology, the companies in the state are increasingly becoming involved in digitisation in so far as it relates to medical technology and engineering. The state government of Baden-Württemberg is supporting this development and has set up a coordination office for telemedicine.

Pharmaceutical industry
Baden-Württemberg is home to manufacturers of classical drugs and generica as well as producers of herbal medicines and homoeopathic remedies. These 80 pharmaceutical companies employ 18,150 people and, in 2014, achieved a turnover of 6.22 billion euros. Characterised by its small and medium-sized enterprises, the sector also includes large international corporations, which maintain important research and production facilities here. With an export rate of nearly 70 per cent (2015), the pharmaceutical industry in the southwest has a very strong international orientation.

Biotechnology
Biotechnology in Baden-Württemberg is a very young industry, most of the companies having been established in the last 15 years. The 156 biotechnology enterprises had a turnover of five billion euros in 2014. Due to the close relationship with scientific institutions and the intensity of research, the sector invests around 30 per cent of its turnover in research and development. The companies developing medicines and drugs focus on infectious diseases, oncology and immunotherapy.
Networks for innovations

Closely interconnected

In Baden-Württemberg, numerous small and medium-sized health care enterprises, material suppliers, research institutions, university clinics and non-sector technology fields all collaborate with each other closely and thus have a determining effect on the industry’s innovativeness. As a result, strong clusters, networks and health care areas have emerged and developed in different regions of the state. Regionally or throughout the state, they look after the interests of the health care industry and network the various players that are active in the German southwest.

The central contact point for the health care industry is the state-owned company BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH. Its aim is to strategically network partners in the region in order to activate the existing potential for innovation, exploit available synergies and make the various types of competence and focal orientation of the state’s health care industry visible internationally. When it comes to supporting innovative ideas in the form of products and services, BIOPRO also offers comprehensive assistance (advice on the establishment of a company, business plan check, advice on subsidies etc.).
Excellence in teaching and research

With more than 70 universities and over 100 non-university research institutions, Baden-Württemberg is one of the top science locations in Germany. Teaching and research are conducted on the very highest level. The health care industry also profits from this.

The state’s universities offer numerous courses of study in the areas of human medicine, health care and natural sciences, thus generating a continuous supply of highly qualified young academics. The companies in the health care industry are embedded in a multi-faceted and intersectorally active research landscape. In addition to the five university clinics (Freiburg, Heidelberg, Mannheim, Tübingen and Ulm) and the participation of Baden-Württemberg in six healthcare research centres, there are many well-known research institutions (Max-Planck-Institute, Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, Fraunhofer-Institutes). Science and industry in the state collaborate intensively, thus ensuring a smooth transfer of knowledge and safeguarding the competitiveness of the Baden-Württemberg health care industry as a whole.
Baden-Württemberg International

Your partner on the way to success

Baden-Württemberg International (bw-i) is Baden-Württemberg’s centre of competence for the internationalisation of business and science. We lend support to Baden-Württemberg companies, clusters, universities and research institutions as well as to regions and municipalities, in all questions relating to internationalisation. For foreign investors, we serve as our state’s central point of contact.

When looking to settle in a new region, companies are confronted with diverse questions and challenges. bw-i supports them in their projects – quickly, simply and competently. We provide information on Baden-Württemberg as a location, supply details regarding the general legal situation, identify suitable partners for business and research, assist in the search for a suitable site and stand by to help you in all phases of the planned settlement process.

For more information visit www.bw-invest.de/en.