



# LIFE SCIENCES SECTOR PROFILE



# Invest Jordan

## Life Sciences Sector Overview

### Unraveling the DNA of Opportunity

Jordan's life sciences sector is a shining example of innovation, resilience, and growth. Supported by a highly skilled talent pool, the country's strategic location, and a wealth of government initiatives, the sector has witnessed rapid development, positioning Jordan as a leading player in the region. As this thriving ecosystem continues to evolve, it presents numerous exciting opportunities for investors, entrepreneurs, and visionaries alike.

### Highlights of Jordan's Life Sciences Sub-sectors

#### - Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

The pharmaceutical industry in Jordan showcases the country's ability to compete on a global scale. As the third-largest exporter of pharmaceuticals in the Arab world, Jordan has more than 42 companies producing human (non-veterinary) pharmaceuticals within its borders. With a focus on the production of high-quality, branded generic medications that cater to both domestic and international markets, Jordan's pharmaceutical sales reached over USD 1 billion in 2022 and it is expected to continue to grow at a CAGR of 5% over the next five years. Arab countries accounted for more than 85% of the total Jordanian exports of pharmaceuticals.

#### - Biotechnology Development

The biotechnology industry in Jordan is composed of a diverse range of startups and well-established companies, all working on groundbreaking technologies and therapies. Some of these projects include innovative work in gene therapy, precision medicine, stem cell research, and regenerative medicine. These areas represent the cutting edge of biotechnology, with the potential to revolutionize healthcare and improve patient outcomes significantly. One particularly notable success story from Jordan's biotechnology industry is Stem Cells of Arabia, an innovative company focused on stem cell research and regenerative medicine that is working to develop advanced therapies and treatments for various diseases and medical conditions.

#### - Medical Devices

Revenues from Jordan's medical device production reached \$350 million in 2022. The country boasts more than 78 medical device manufacturing companies operating within its borders, which employ more than 1,300 workers. Jordan's medical device exports totaled USD19.7 million in 2022, and the industry continues to make significant progress in terms of innovation, quality, and regulatory compliance. In pursuit of next-generation healthcare solutions, Jordanian companies are adopting the latest technologies and manufacturing processes to develop a wide range of medical devices, including diagnostic equipment, surgical instruments, and orthopedic implants. Jordan has successfully leveraged its strategic location and abundance of free trade agreements to access countless regional and international markets. The country's medical device exports have steadily increased over the years, with key export markets including the United States, the European Union, and the Arab world.

#### - Research and Development

Research and development (R&D) play a crucial role in the growth and innovation of the life sciences sector. In Jordan, the government's commitment to fostering R&D is evident through its national development strategy, which aims to develop human capital, enhance research capabilities, and stimulate

innovation across various sectors, including life sciences. The country's strong focus on R&D is further supported by academic institutions featuring dedicated faculties for life sciences. These institutions serve as fertile grounds for research and innovation, helping to create a well-educated and highly skilled workforce that can contribute to advancements in the sector. Collaborations between universities and industry players can also lead to the development of cutting-edge technologies and solutions, further fueling the growth of the life sciences sector in Jordan.

## **Why Invest in Jordan's Life Sciences Sector?**

### **- Supportive Government Initiatives**

The Jordanian government has been highly proactive in fostering the growth of the life sciences sector. The government has introduced several reforms and initiatives designed to streamline business processes and promote a conducive environment for investment. This includes building support for the life sciences sector into numerous free trade agreements, thereby enhancing the competitiveness of Jordanian exports.

### **- Qualified Workforce**

A highly educated population is a critical asset for the life sciences sector. Jordan boasts an especially qualified and skilled talent pool, with over 30% of its population holding university degrees. The country has 10 universities with dedicated faculties for life sciences, further ensuring a continuous supply of skilled professionals capable of driving innovation and contributing to advancements in the sector.

### **- Prosperous Export Ecosystem**

Jordan's strategic location enables companies operating in the life sciences sector to distribute their products and services easily and efficiently. Through numerous free trade agreements, the Jordanian government has secured preferential market access for life science export products across a variety of countries and markets. These agreements include strategic partnerships with the United States, the European Union, and the Arab Free Trade Area.

### **- Competitive Operational Costs**

Operating costs in Jordan are considerably lower than other countries in the region, presenting a substantial benefit for businesses and investors seeking to initiate or broaden their ventures in the life sciences sector. This includes a relatively lower cost of living and more affordable real estate. These cost advantages transfer into significant savings compared to similar operations in neighboring countries.

### **- Technology Spillover**

Jordan's ICT sector is among the country's most developed sectors and continues to attract a large number of multinational companies to the Kingdom, while simultaneously promoting homegrown innovation. With the considerable overlap and spillover into life sciences, Jordan's life sciences sector can benefit enormously from the country's robust ICT sector, both from local technological advancements and through the potential for establishing partnerships with technology companies and key industry players.

## Insights

- GDP contribution 2.2%
- 1 Billion USD export value
- 10,000+ total workers (95% Jordanian, 35% female)



وزارة الاستثمار  
MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT

**Contact Us:**

Phone: +962 6 5608400  
PO Box: 893 Amman 11821 Jordan  
Email: [info@moin.gov.jo](mailto:info@moin.gov.jo)  
[www.invest.jo](http://www.invest.jo)