Northern California was home to over 96,000 life sciences jobs in 2016, an increase of more than 12,000 (15%) in the past five years. The 2016 average wage in the life science sector was $156,000, substantially higher than other California regions, the closest of which stands at $117,253. Life science industry employment is also expected to increase in Northern California at a faster rate than state averages, gaining about 3% to 99,546 jobs by 2021.

The industry generates about $114 billion in annual economic activity.

Research and Lab Services are expected to grow the most, adding 3,182 jobs in the next five years, an increase of 7%.

There are 2,472 life science establishments in Northern California.

NIH Funding

Private and public institutions, including universities, labs, and companies in Northern California received $1.44 billion—slightly half of California’s total $3.6 billion of NIH funding in 2016—a tremendous source of support for industry innovation and cutting-edge research.

Northern California received $1.44 Billion in Research Funding from National Institutes of Health (NIH) for FY2016.

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2017 Biocom Economic Impact - Northern California

Economic Impact data prepared by TCLower & Associates
The most competitive industry subsectors in Northern California are Biopharmaceuticals; Medical Devices & Diagnostic Equipment; and Research & Lab Services.

About Biocom

Biocom is the largest, most experienced leader and advocate for California’s life science sector. We work on behalf of more than 900 members to drive public policy, build an enviable network of industry leaders, create access to capital, introduce cutting-edge STEM education programs, and create robust value-driven purchasing programs.

Founded in 1995 in San Diego, Biocom provides the strongest public voice to research institutions and companies that fuel the local and state-wide economy. Our goal is simple: to help our members produce novel solutions that improve the human condition. In addition to its San Diego headquarters, Biocom has continuous staff presence in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, Washington, D.C. and Tokyo. Our broad membership benefits apply to biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device, genomics and diagnostics companies of all sizes, as well as to research universities and institutes, clinical research organizations, investors and service providers.