



Southern California Life Science Community Facts

There are approximately **40,000 employees** in the life science community in San Diego County at more than 700 companies, including traditional biotech, medical device, diagnostic and technology companies and institutes ([Rich's California BioScience Directories](#), 2008).

There are four major academic institutions ([UCSD](#), [Scripps](#), [Salk](#), [Burnham](#)) and many smaller ones in San Diego County.

In 2007, Southern California received more than **\$1.79 billion** in research funding from the [National Institutes of Health](#), well over half of California's total (\$3.1B) and third to the entire states of Massachusetts (\$2.2B) and New York (\$1.9B), respectively, in overall funding (Source: [NIH](#)).

Southern California healthcare venture capital was **\$1.68 billion** in 2007, with VC investment in the region exceeding Boston's in 2007. San Diego alone took in **\$1.22 billion** in 2007 (Source: [Dow Jones Venture One](#)).

Annual economic impact in San Diego (direct and indirect): **\$8.5 billion** (Source: San Diego Association of Governments).

Major Accomplishments and Industry Leaders

Cancer- Rituxan, Sutent, Avastin and Leustatin

[Rituxan](#), the leading treatment for Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and one of the most successful cancer therapeutics ever, was created here in San Diego by Idec Pharmaceuticals, now [Biogen Idec](#). Oncology leader Biogen Idec bases all of its cancer work in San Diego.

[Sutent](#), approved in 2006, was developed at [Pfizer's research center in La Jolla](#), one of Pfizer's four research centers around the world, and now its global center for oncology.

[Avastin](#), a therapeutic to treat colorectal and breast cancers, is manufactured in [Oceanside by Genentech](#), one of the world's largest biotechnology companies, in a massive 400,000 square foot biologics manufacturing facility.

[Leustatin](#) used to treat hairy cell leukemia, was discovered by [Dr. Dennis Carson, now at UCSD](#).

Diabetes- Symlin and Byetta

[Symlin](#) and [Byetta](#), two of the first [new therapeutics to treat diabetes](#) in decades, were approved by the FDA in 2005. The new diabetes treatments were both developed in La Jolla by [Amylin Pharmaceuticals](#).

Diagnostics

More than 80 percent of the nation's blood supply is screened for sexually transmitted diseases with tests made by [Gen-Probe](#) in Sorrento Mesa.

Most hospital patients with chest pain are given a rapid test made by [Biosite](#) to identify congestive heart failure (acquired by Inverness in 2007).

Medical Devices

[DJO](#), which makes non-surgical orthopedic devices, had sales of \$492 million in 2007 (acquired by ReAble Therapeutics in 2007).

[ResMed](#), which makes sleep apnea devices, had annual sales of \$716 million in 2007.

Research tools

[Invitrogen](#) makes more than 35,000 lab supply products and had sales of \$1.28 billion in 2007. Almost every lab in the world has one of their phone book-sized product catalogs.

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