

Top 25 Companies Engaged in Biotechnology for 2025 - Who are they ?, and When & How did they achieve the Top Level ?, and What are their Profiles for Success ?

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Abstract

Profiles for success in the business and science of biotechnology depend on substantial and continued achievements in both the research and development [R&D] and sales and marketing [S&M] of biotechnology products, resulting in significant disease management and meaningful patient care improvements. A reasonably comprehensive profile of the top companies in biotechnology, as represented here-in, explores 17 traits and actions, as enumerated below;

Sales [annual worldwide leadership]

Percentage of biotech vs drugs in their product list [high]

Number of products [reasonable impact]

Blockbuster sales status [as many as possible (AMAP)]

Co-marketing activity involving other leading companies [expanded marketing commitments]

Cumulative biotech products sales over the 45 year history of product marketing [leadership]

Types of molecules [breadth vs focus, favorable]

Medical usage areas [meaningful & AMAP]

In-licensing key products [expanded access]

Discovery success in-house R&D, AMAP]

Acquisitions of companies [number and costs] [offering both novel R&D and S&M expansion]

Timeframes and circumstances for biotech engagement [timing & opportunities in R&D + S&M]

Their geographic base of operations,

Biotech vs pharma vs combined focus [all successful]

Previous company developments over the last 50 years leading to biotech product success

Phase 3 biotech pipelines [size & importance]

A biotechnology product in this report includes 10 categories; cell therapies, gene therapies, liposomal molecules, monoclonal antibodies including antibody-drug conjugates and fragments, oligonucleotides, peptides [recombinant and engineered], proteins [recombinant and engineered], tissue therapies, vaccines [recombinant and engineered], and polymer engineered constructs. Four tables of company and product data are provided here-in to explore their attributes and justify the status as these top 25 companies [AbbVie, Amgen, Argenx, Astellas, AstraZeneca, Bayer, Biogen, Bristol Myers Squibb, Daiichi Sankyo, Eli Lilly, Gilead, GlaxoSmithKline, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Merck KGaA, Moderna, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche, Regeneron, Sandoz, Sanofi, Takeda, and UCB]. The abbreviations used in the tables are listed collectively for all four tables after table one. The data sources for all the statistics and information about the companies and products are the twenty-plus biotechnology databases maintained over the last 50 years and updated weekly by the author.

Keywords: Biotechnology, Product development, In- Licensing, Mergers & acquisitions, Product Discovery, Product Sales, Product Molecular Types, Product Blockbusters, Medical Usage,uct

Introduction

For overall context, some key pharma and biotech companies' activities in biotechnology for 2025 are provided as follows; 192 companies marketed 783 biotech products worldwide. The listed products are approved in the United States and Europe primarily for the largest markets, and also include Australia, Canada, and Japan. Growth rate for biotech product approvals in United States is provided subsequently in 5-year intervals. USA approvals started slowly for 1980-1994, picked up in rate for 1995-2009, and grew quite rapidly 2010-2025: 5 in pre-1980 years; followed by + 5 in 1980-1984; + 19 in 1985-1989; + 24 in 1990-1994; + 56 in 1995-1999; + 66 in 2000-2004; + 48 in 2005-2009; + 81 in 2010-2014; + 158 in 2015-2019; + 207 in 2020-2024; + 73 in 2025-6/2026 [1&1/2 years]. A total of 742 product approvals occurred in USA, of which 81 have been discontinued because mostly being superseded by a superior product. An additional 123 biotech products have been approved by the European Union and Japan. Their worldwide cost was calculated to be \$662 billion in 2025. The specific indications for these biotech products number over 750 addressing all therapeutic areas, often achieving substantial disease control, which could not be accomplished without them. Forty private companies do not report openly annual sales for their 76 products, and sales data were estimated. China's reporting of their biotech products outcomes is partially incorporated in worldwide sales reports of international companies selling into China. China data otherwise are not included [only data for Henlius Shanghai, BeOne, and 3SBio were publically available]. Biosimilar biotech products number 175 in Europe and United States as of June 2026.

Table 1. Top 25 Biotech Companies by Biotech Sales for 2005 vs 2015 vs 2025

Rk	2005 Companies / # Prod.	Sales	2015 Companies / # Pr	Sales	2025 Companies / #Pr	Sales
1	Amgen -7	\$ 11.8	Roche -18	\$ 30.3	Eli Lilly -23	\$ 52.5
2	Roche -11	\$ 11.2	Amgen -12	\$ 19.5	Roche -34 EU B	\$ 49.5
3	<i>Genentech -11 [to Roche]</i>	\$ 7.98	AbbVie -7	\$ 15.6	Novo Nord. -27 EU B	\$ 46.8
4	Johnson Johnson -8	\$ 5.85	Novo Nordisk -17	\$ 15.3	Merck -12	\$ 41.7
5	Novo Nordisk -6	\$ 4.79	Sanofi -25	\$ 13.6	Sanofi -42 EU	\$ 36.8
6	<i>Wyeth -8 [to Pfizer]</i>	\$ 3.74	Pfizer -19	\$ 12.7	Johnson Jhnsn -15	\$ 33.7
7	Eli Lilly -8	\$ 3.51	Johnson Jhnsn -9	\$ 11.1	AbbVie -13	\$ 31.1
8	<i>Schering Plo.* -4 [Merck]</i>	\$ 2.85	Merck -12	\$ 7.93	Amgen -33 B	\$ 31.1
9	Sanofi -7	\$ 2.79	Novartis -13	\$ 7.91	AstraZeneca -18 EU	\$ 24.3
10	Biogen -3	\$ 2.25	Eli Lilly -14	\$ 7.54	Pfizer -42	\$ 24.1
11	Abbott -3 [sp-ot AbbVie]	\$ 2.40	Biogen -5	\$ 7.35	Bristol Myers Sq. -12	\$ 23.8
12	<i>Schering AG* -2 [to Bayer]</i>	\$ 2.27	<i>Shire -8* [to Takeda] B</i>	\$ 7.09	Novartis -17 EU	\$ 23.3
13	<i>Serono*9 [to Merck KG.] B</i>	\$ 2.16	Bristol Myers Sq. -7	\$ 6.10	GlaxoSmithKl. -15 EU	\$ 15.5
14	Novartis -6	\$ 1.85	Merck KGaA -11	\$ 4.30	Takeda -26 JP	\$ 14.0
15	<i>Genzyme -7 [to Sanofi] B</i>	\$ 1.68	Bayer -3	\$ 4.22	Biogen -15 B	\$ 7.31
16	Teva -1	\$ 1.50	Teva -5 Isr	\$ 4.20	Regeneron -10 B	\$ 6.31
17	Baxter -2 [Baxalta sp-ot]	\$ 1.53	<i>Baxalta -8 [to Shire] B</i>	\$ 4.04	Astellas -12 JP	\$ 5.51
18	GlaxoSmithKline -5	\$ 1.32	Regeneron -3	\$ 2.68	UCB -5 EU	\$ 5.50
19	AstraZeneca -1	\$ 1.01	<i>Allergan*13[to AbbVie]</i>	\$ 2.58	Merck KGaA -9 EU	\$ 5.42

20	Bayer -1	\$.83	GlaxoSmithKline -11	\$ 2.55	Daiichi Sankyo -5 JP	\$ 5.25
21	<i>Allergan* -1 [to Abbvie]</i>	\$.83	<i>Alexion -2 [to AZ] B</i>	\$ 2.51	Sandoz -29 EU	\$ 4.64
22	Pfizer -4	\$.81	AstraZeneca -5	\$ 2.37	Bayer -6 EU	\$ 4.35
23	Takeda -1	\$.70	Takeda -6	\$ 2.13	Argenx -2 EU B	\$ 4.15
24	Bristol Myers Squibb -2	\$.20	Ipsen -2 EU B	\$ 1.28	Gilead -4	\$ 4.11
25	BioMarin -1 B	\$.08	UCB -1 EU	\$ 1.19	Moderna -4 B	\$ 3.82
	Totals #112 products	\$75.1	Totals #192 products	\$197.0	Totals #410 products	\$504.4
			163.5% Incr. products		155.3% Incr. products	

These top 25 companies for biotech sales in 2025 achieved \$504.4 billion for their 410 products, which is 81.0% of total 2025 worldwide sales for the 192 companies marketing products and 52.5% of the number of all products marketed. Table one displays the top 25 companies over the past 20 years at 3 timeframes, 2005 vs 2015 and 2025, and who has been engaged at this top 25 level, along with how many products that they marketed. Only 5 companies were in top10 at each timeframe of these 20 years; Roche, Novo Nordisk, Eli Lilly, Amgen, and Johnson and Johnson. Thirty-eight companies have been in the top 25 for at least one time-point from 2005 to 2025. In 2005, two pharmaceutical companies were very low ranked in products and sales in biotechnology, but they rose to high rankings by 2025 [AstraZeneca 19th to 9th, Pfizer 22nd to 10th], and two companies were not listed in top 25 in 2005 and grew dramatically [AbbVie to 7th, and Merck to 4th]. Ten major companies have been acquired over these 20 years at a later date which is displayed by italic print, along with the acquiring company listed in parens. Growth in biotechnology was exceptionally strong over these three timeframes in total sales [\$75 B to \$197 B to \$504 B] and also the number of biotech products being marketed [112 to 192 to 410]. The headquarters of company operations are 11 in United States, 11 in Europe and 3 in Japan in 2025. Eight companies each marketed over 20 biotech products in 2025; Pfizer and Sandoz – 42, followed by Roche at 34 and Amgen at 33, plus Novo Nordisk and Sandoz at 29, Takeda at 27, and Eli Lilly at 23. Total annual sales exceeded \$20 billion for twelve companies in 2025 as can be observed in table 1, led by the top 5; Eli Lilly - \$52 billion, Roche - \$49, Novo Nordisk - \$47, Merck - \$42, and Sanofi - \$37.

Table 2. These Top 25 Companies & Their Engagement History with Biotech Products

Early Biotech Research Companies later Product Approvals [min. 4] via out-Licensing to Top 25 Comp. & Others: 1970s - 5 companies/54 products, 1980s – 20/130, 1990s – 5/27 [39 Co. 1-3 molecules / 56 prod.]			
Out-Licen. Co.: Genentech 25 products, Genzyme 13, Serono 9, GenMab 8, Centocor & MedImmune 7, Ionis & Genetics Inst. 6, Medarex & Amgen - 5, 4 - Alexion, CAT, Chiron, CellTech, HGS, ImmunoGen , Seagen, Shire			
1. Biotech Company Day 1 - 1980 Before	Major events for top 25	In-Licenses vs Discovery/Development	Company \$1,170 Acquisitions #366
Amgen 1980 [3]	Epogen Appr. 1989 & Acq. Immunex 16/ <i>Horizon</i> 28	12 of 34 products from 12 comp, - 35%; D&Dvl - 22	#19 for \$70 B [9]
Biogen 1978 [17]	Intron Appr. 1985	19 of 23 frm 9 - 83%; D&Dvl - 14	#10 for \$23 B [#16]
Novo Nordisk 1989 [6]	Novolins Appr. 1991	2 of 27 frm 2 - 7.4%; D&Dvl - 25	#9 for \$14 B [#19]
Regeneron 1988 [16]	Arcalyst Appr. 2008	0 of 10 – 0%; D&Dvl - 10	#2 for \$.36 B
2. Early Pharma Commitments - Pre-2000 Start			

Eli Lilly 1982 [5]	Genentech & rH-insulins	8 of 24 frm 4 - 33%; D&Dvl. - 16	#19 for \$26 B [#15]
Johnson & Jn 1989 [4]	ProCrit/Centocor Acq. \$4.9	19 of 21 frm 14 - 90%; D&Dvl - 2	#17 for \$37 B [#13]
Pfizer 1992 & 1998 & 2009 [7]	Genetics Insti. [6] Acq. 2Acq. Wyeth [4] 2009 6 8	33 of 42 frm 14 - 79%; D&Dvl - 9	#36 for \$145 B [#1]
Roche 1990/2009 [1]	Genentech Acq. 47	28 of 40 frm 12 - 67%; D&Dvl - 12	#30 for \$91 B [#5]
3. 2000 – 2010 Start-up in Biotech			
AstraZeneca [13]	Acq. CAT 15.6	12 of 21 frm 8 - 100%; D&Dvl - 0	#23 for 68B[#10][Alexion 2020 39]
Bayer [20]	Schering AG Acq 2006 \$20	4 of 6 frm 5 - 67%; D&Dvl - 2	#8 for \$27 B [#14]
GlaxoSmithKline [15]	Vaccines molecular engin.	8 of 18 frm 8 - 44%; D&Dvl - 10	#19 for \$20 B [#17]
Merck [8]	Schering Pl. Acq. \$32 2009 Keytruda/Organon 2007	15 of 23 frm 10 - 65%; D&Dvl - 8	#28 for \$115 B [#3]
Merck KGaA [18]	Serono Acq. 2007 \$13.3	12 of 12 frm 2 - 100%; D&Dvl - 0	#8 for \$16 B [#18]
Novartis [9]	Chiron Acq. 2006 \$4.8	17 of 18 frm 14 - 94%; D&Dvl - 1	#30 for \$73 B [#8]
UCB [21]	Acq. Celltech 2004 \$2.7 Cimzia Apr. 2008	1 of 5 frm 1 - 20%; D&Dvl - 4	#8 for \$10 B [#20]
4. 2010 – 2015 Commitments			
AbbVie [11]	Abbott spin out 2013 Acq. Allergan 2019 \$39	14 of 16 frm 6 - 88%; D&Dvl - 2	#12 for \$118 B [12]
Bristol Myers Squ. [14]	Acq. Amylin 2012 2.4	11 of 13 frm 8 - 85% D&Dvl - 2	#18 for \$97 B [#4]
Sanofi [2]	Acq. Genzyme 2011 \$20.1	33 of 46 frm 13 - 72%; D&Dvl - 13	#30 for \$64 B [#11]
Takeda [12]	Acq. Millenium 2008 8.8Acq. Shire 2018 64	29 of 29 frm 6 - 100%; D&Dvl - 0	#12 for \$80 B [#6]
5. 2015 – 2020 Commitments			
Gilead [22]	Kite Acq. 2017 21	5 of 5 from 4 - 100%; D&Dvl - 0	#28 for \$76 B [#7]
6. Post-2020			
Moderna [20]	SpikeVax Appr. 2020	0 of 3 from 1 - 100%; D&Dvl - 3	0
Argenx [23]	Vyvgart Approv	0 of 2 - 100%; D&Dvl - 2	0
Sandoz [19]	Spin-Out from Novartis	1 of 26 from 1 - 4%; Div. of Novartis	0
Drug Delivery Comp.; Alza 3, Elan 5, Enzon 6, Halozyme 11, Nektar 12, NeXstar 3, PDL Biopharma 11			

The biotech company story began in the 1970s and especially 1980s with the founding of many leading full-time biotechnology companies focused mostly on recombinant technologies and molecular engineering to create and modify proteins, peptides, and monoclonal antibodies. In table 2, the 25 companies are presented in four contexts; 1. Six different timeframes of engagement [“eras”] with the designated companies and their overall ranking in the top 25, 2. Major events leading to a biotech focus, 3. In-licensing activity for products versus Internal company discovery and development, and 4. Company acquisitions. For further context of product discovery and early research, many biotech research focused companies discovered and created novel biotech molecules in the 1970s through the 2000s, where-in they were acquired by these leading top 25 by methods of in-licensing or acquisitions of the company. Table 2 presents that 46 such biotech research companies created 238 biotech molecules marketed later by a top 25 company. Also noted are 18 companies that were most successful in creating novel biotech molecules that became marketed products through out-licensing and company acquisitions [15 of these 18 companies were acquired at later date], led by Genentech [25 molecules to products], Genzyme [13], and Serono [9].

Six eras are suggested to exist for the engagement of the 20 major pharma companies with a focus in biotechnology and the 5 full-time biotech companies, based mostly on timing and major events. In the first era, four biotechnology companies were founded at or before 1980 and continue as full-time independent biotech operations, based on their own biotech product approvals as noted [Amgen, Biogen, Novo Nordisk, and Regeneron]. For era #2, pharma companies initiated their biotech engagement [4 companies] at an early timeframe at least 25 years ago before the year 2000. Eli Lilly, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, and Roche acquired biotech products through in-licensing or especially company acquisitions and then marketed the products. Eli Lilly is generally considered the first to market an engineered biotech product in 1982 [recombinant human insulin obtained from Genentech], followed by further robust development in biotechnology for 67% of their current products. Johnson & Johnson marketed in 1989 ProCrit, acquired from Amgen [epoetin alfa], plus they acquired companies for technologies and future products [90% of their molecules/products acquired & 17 companies for \$37 billion]. Pfizer acquired two companies in the 1990s and received 10 products for marketing, plus other biotech technologies [company acquisitions were substantial #36 for \$145 billion leading to 79% of their products being biotech]. Roche was transformed into a full-time biotech company in the 1990s with the acquisition of the most successful biotech research company, Genentech, 51% in 1990 and remaining 49% in 2009. Roche uniquely had marketing rights of first refusal for all Genentech molecules after 1990, leading to 20 of 28 [67%] of their marketed biotech products being acquired, especially monoclonal antibody technologies and patents.

Third era from 2000-2010 is comprised of 7 companies and fourth era from 2010-2015 involves 4 companies, all of which is primarily based on the respective dates of biotech company acquisitions [their products, technologies, and patents]. The magnitude of these acquisitions is profoundly large for both timeframes; Era 3 - 124 companies were acquired for \$329 billion, resulting in 69 acquired molecules that became marketed products [67% of all marketed biotech products]. Era 4 - 72 companies were acquired for \$359 billion resulting in 87 molecules acquired that became marketed products [92% of their marketed products]. Two-thirds to 100% of their marketed products [#133] were achieved by acquisitions for 9 of the 11 companies. AstraZeneca, Merck KGaA, and Takeda obtained 100% of their biotech products through acquisition.

Era 5 for 2015 to 2020 and Era 6 for Post-2020 involved one company and 3 companies, respectively, of the top 25. Gilead has been and is a major player with anti-viral drugs, and joined the biotech engagements much later than most, with major near-term actions as noted in table. Gilead became a leader in cell therapies. Sandoz was a unique situation as a spin-out from Novartis for their biosimilars and generics businesses including a variety of peptides. Argenx and Moderna are new biotech companies with early successful products for major medical disorders, myasthenia gravis and covid-19 viral infections, respectively. Moderna also launched novel mRNA technology for vaccine development. Table 2 also offers a listing of the companies focusing on product delivery mechanisms that contribute to enhancing biotech product use for patients. Further, most of the rest of the top 26 to 50 companies are listed with the number of their marketed products for a general informational purpose.

Table 3. Top 25 Biotech Companies in 2025 By Biotech Sales + USA/EU headquarters + # Products + Co-Marketing + %

Biotech + # Blockbusters + Phase 3 Trials # Products + Molecules + Medical Uses

Rnk	Comp. name / Biotech focus B / HQ EU vs USA	Sales \$B / # Prod. / # Co-mrktg / Cum.Sales	Sales %Biot	#Bb Ph3	Types of Molecules	Medical Usage Areas
1	Eli Lilly USA	52.5/23/3Cum.184	80.5	6 &10	Mab - 8, Pep - 11, Prot - 4	D - 2, E - 11, GE - 1, IM/Ob - 3, N - 2, On - 3
2	Roche B EU	49.5/34/5Cum.681	86.3	16 -30	Mab - 28, Prot - 6, GT - 1	CV -2, E-Gr -1, H -3, N -2, Ne -2, On -18, Oph -5, P -2, Rh -2 [#5-9]
3	Novo Nordisk B EU	46.8/28/0Cum.310	100	7 &8	Mab - 1, Oligo - 1, Pep - 19, Prot - 7	E - 16, E-Gr -2, H - 8, IM/Ob - 6
4	Merck USA	41.7/12/1Cum.268	72.3	4 &12	Mab - 4, Prot - 1, Vac - 7	CV - 1, ID - 9, On - 2, P - 1
5	Sanofi EU	36.5/42/9Cum.201	74.0	7 &13	Oligo - 1, Mab -10, TT -1, Pep -13, Prot -12, Vac 5	CV -1, D -10, E -3, Gen -7, H -4, ID -6, N -3, On -6, OP -1, P -1, Ur -1 [#4-10]
6	Johnson Johnson USA	33.7/15/4Cum.289	55.8	6 &6	CT - 1, Mab - 12, Pep - 1, Prot - 1	D -4, GE -2, H -1, N-1, Ne -1, On -8, Rh -2 [#8-7]
7	AbbVie USA	31.1/13/5Cum.269	50.9	3 &10	Mab -7, Pep - 5, Prot - 1	D -3, GE -3, ID -2, N -1, On -5, Rh -1, Tr -1 [#8-7]
8	Amgen B USA	31/33/15Cum.490B	88.4	13 &16	Mab - 20, Pep - 2, Prot - 10, Vac - 1	CV 1, D 4, E 1, GE 2, Gyn 2, H 4, IM 3, N -1, Ne 5, On 15, Oph 3, Rh 6 [#3-12]
9	AstraZeneca EU	24.3/18/5Cum.66 B	53.8	9 & 12	Mab - 13, Oligo - 1, Pep - 1, Prot - 3	Gen -2, H -1, ID -2, N -3, On - 6, Oph -1, P -1, Rh -1, Sx -1 [#4-10]
10	Pfizer USA	24.1/42/6Cum.261	46.6	6 &14	Cho -1, GT - 1, Mab - 14, Pep -5, Prot - 5, Vac - 6	CV -2, D -3, E-Gr -2, GE -5, Gen -2, Gyn -2, H -9, ID -7, Ne -1, On -12, OP -1, Oph - 1, Rh - 6, Sx -1 [#1-14]
11	Bristol Myers Squibb USA	23.8/12/2Cum.122	49.3	6 & 7	CT -2, Mab - 5, Pep - 1, Prot - 3, Poly - 1	H -1, Ne -1, On - 9, Rh - 1, Tr -1

12	Novartis EU	23.1/17/3Cum.138	42.4	8 &13	CT - 1, GT - 4 , Olig- 1, Mab - 9 , Pep - 2	CV -2, D -1, H -3, N -4, On -4, Oph -3, P -1, Tr - 1 [#7-8]
13	GlaxoSmithKli. EU	17.1/15/0Cum.73 B	35.4	5 &9	Mab - 5, Vac - 10	ID -10 , On -2, P -2, Rh -1
14	Takeda JP	14.0/26/6Cum.65 B	50.0	6 &9	CT -1, Mab -3, Pep -5, Prot - 16 , TT - 1	D -4, E -2, GE - 5 , Gen -4, H -9 , IM - 1, N -1, On - 2, Rh -1 [#5-9]
15	Biogen B USA	7.50/15/5Cum.87 B	87.9	2 &7	Mab - 6 , Oligo - 2, Pep - 3, Prot - 4	D -2, GE - 2, H -2, N -7, Oph -2, Rh - 4
16	Regeneron B USA	\$6.31 /10 /4 Cum. 120	100	2 &7	Mab - 10	CV -1, Gen -1, H -1, ID -1, On - 3, Oph -2, Rh -1 [#8-7]
17	Astellas Jp	\$5.51 /12 /8	36.8	0 &1	Lipo - 1, Mab - 6 , Olig -1, Pep - 3, Prot - 1	CV -1, E- 1, GE -1, Gyn -1. ID -1, IM - 1, On -7 , Oph -1 [#8-7]
18	UCB EU	\$5.50 / 5 /2	65.9	3 / 3	Mab - 5	D -1, GE -1, Gyn -1, Oph -1, N -2
19	Merck KGaA EU	\$5.42 /9 / 1	55.8	1/	Mab - 2, Pep - 1, Prot - 6	E-Gr -2, GE -1, Gyn -3, N -1, On -2
20	Daiichi Sank. Jp	\$5.25 /5 /3	38.7	0 / 5	Mab - 5	Gyn -1, IM -1, N -1, On -3
21	Sandoz EU	\$4.64 /29 /4	44.8	0 &0	Mab -9, Pep -10, Prot -10	CV 2, D 3, E 3, GE 5 , Gyn 2, H 2, IM 1, N 4, Ne 2, On 5, Oph 4, Rh 4 , Tr 2, U 1 #1
22	Bayer EU	\$4.35 / 6 / 2	21.6	1 / 1	Mab - 2, Prot - -4	H -3, N -1, Oph -2
23	Argenx B USA	\$4.15 / 2 / 0	100	1 / 2	Mab - 2	N -2
24	Gilead USA	\$4.11 / 4 / 1	14.2	2 / 3	GT - 2, Lipo -1, Mab -1	ID -1, On -3
25	Moderna B USA	\$3.82 / 4 / 1	100	1/	Vac - 4	ID -4

Further key features in the company profiles in table 3 include especially the types of their biotech molecules plus their medical usage areas, along with key marketing activities, that is, the number of biotech products, biotech sales, the percentage of sales in biotech, and the number of blockbuster products. The top 10 companies for number of biotech marketed products in 2025 range from 17 to 42; Pfizer & Sanofi – 42, Roche – 34, Amgen – 33, Novo Nordisk – 28, Sandoz – 29, Takeda – 26, Eli Lilly – 23, AstraZeneca – 18, Novartis – 17. Blockbuster products [\$ 1 + billion in sales] for top 6 companies number 16 – Roche, 13 – Amgen, 9 – AstraZeneca, 8 – Novartis and 7 - Novo Nordisk & Sanofi, along with 6 -for Eli Lilly, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, Bristol Myers Squibb, and Takeda. Predominant performances in biotech sales, as evidenced by percentage of biotech sales versus

all sales, were demonstrated quite strongly by 11 companies by exceeding two-thirds of all their drug sales in 2025. Regeneron, Novo Nordisk, Amgen, & Moderna were/are 100% biotech. Above 80% sales was accomplished for Eli Lilly, Roche, Amgen & Biogen, 70% for Merck & Sanofi, and 65% for UCB. Five companies followed with about 50% biotech sales for Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca, AbbVie, Merck KGaA, and Takeda. Co-marketing of biotech products was a common practice especially for 9 companies; Amgen, 15 of 33, Sanofi, 9 of 42, Astellas 8 of 12, plus 6 for Pfizer & Takeda, and 5 for Roche, AbbVie, AstraZeneca & Biogen.

Yet another parameter for company commitment to biotechnology is the size of their late-stage clinical research pipelines for phase three trials [novel new molecules and follow-up indications for marketed products]. Also, the phase 3 trial engagement offers promising future benefits for patients and the companies. The most significant clinical research levels for biotech are Roche [30 products with new trials -14 new products & 16 marketed products], Amgen [16 – 6 & 10], Pfizer [14 – 11 & 3], Sanofi [13 – 8 & 5], Novartis [13 – 7 & 6], Merck [12 – 11 & 1], and AstraZeneca [12 – 7 & 5], plus AbbVie [10 – 5 & 5], Eli Lilly [10 – 5/ & 5], GlaxoSmithKline [9 – 3 & 6], and Takeda [9 – 6 & 3], Novo Nordisk [8 – 8 & 0], Bristol Myers [7 – 5 & 2], Biogen [7 – 6 & 1], Regeneron [7 – 4/ & 3], Johnson & Johnson [6 – 2 & 4].

The types of biotech molecules for the top 25 companies were led by monoclonal antibodies [24 companies], Proteins [17], Peptides [15], and Vaccines [6], followed by Oligonucleotides [6], Gene therapy [4]. Bold print in the table for molecules indicated the top usage areas for each company. Monoclonal antibody leaders were led by Roche [28 products], Amgen [20], Pfizer [14], AstraZeneca [13], Johnson & Johnson [12], and Sanofi [10]. Protein area was led by Takeda [16], Pfizer [15], Sanofi [12], Amgen [10], and Sandoz [10]. Peptide companies were Novo Nordisk [19], Sanofi [13], Eli Lilly [10], Sandoz [10]. Vaccines were found most commonly at GlaxoSmithKline [10], Merck [7], Pfizer [6], and Sanofi [5]. Gene therapies are marketed by Novartis [4] and Gilead [2]. Biosimilar products were common with Sandoz, Pfizer and Amgen among the top 25 companies; other major players were/are Biocon [12 products], Celltrion [14], and Samsung Bioepis [20], but their sales were much less.

The medical usage areas involve 20 areas; Cardiovascular, Dermatology, Endocrinology Diabetes, Endocrinology Growth, Gastroenterology, Genetic diseases, Gynecology, Hematology, Infectious disease, Internal medicine, Nephrology, Neurology, Oncology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Pulmonary, Rheumatology, Surgery, Transplants, and Urology. Companies incorporating the various medical areas are summarized as follows; Oncology [20 companies, 80%], Neurology [17, 68%], Hematology [13, 52%]; 40%-48% of the top 25 companies, including five areas, Gastroenterology [12]; [11] for Dermatology, Ophthalmology, and Rheumatology, and [10] for Infectious disease, and finally about one-third of companies [9] for four areas, Cardiovascular, Endocrinology, Gynecology and [8] Internal Medicine. Bold print indicates the focused usage areas for each company. A major breadth of a company's medical usage areas was observed for 8 companies; 14 areas [70%] for Pfizer & Sandoz, additionally [12, 60%] for Amgen, [10, 50%] for AstraZeneca & Sanofi, [9, 45%] for Roche & Takeda and [8, 40%] for Novartis. The leading company for oncology was/is Roche [18 products], followed by Amgen [15], Pfizer [12], BMS [9], Johnson & Johnson [8], Astellas [7], and AstraZeneca [6]. Endocrinology companies were headed by Novo Nordisk [16] & Eli Lilly [11], especially for their diabetes, as well as for Internal medicine for their obesity medications. Dermatology was addressed the most by Sanofi [10]. Hematology especially for hemophilia was led by Pfizer [9] and Takeda [9]. Infectious diseases were a focus for GSK [10], Merck [9], Pfizer [7], and Sanofi [6], primarily for vaccines. Neurology was addressed by Biogen [7] the most. Gastroenterology was a focus for Pfizer, Sandoz, Takeda with 5 products each. Ophthalmology was an area for Roche [5] and Sandoz [4]. Genetic disease was a focus for Sanofi [7 products] and Takeda [4].

Cumulative biotech products' sales data by company also can illuminate which companies are the top biotech performers over extended time frames [1990 to 2026]. Eight companies exceeded \$250 billion in total cumulative sales; led by Roche [\$681/16 products] and Amgen [\$490/13], and also Novo Nordisk [\$310/10], Johnson & Johnson [\$289/5], AbbVie [\$269/5], Merck [\$268/3], Pfizer [\$261/6], and Eli Lilly [\$254/8].

Table 4. Top 50 Biotech Products by Cumulative Sales from Date of First Marketing to 2025

Rk	Product Use	Sale WW	No. Yrs.	Company	Rk	Product Use	Sale WW	No. Yrs.	Company
1	Humira D/GE/Rh	194.4	23	Abbott--AbbVie	14	Pprevnar+ ID	71.1	26	Wyeth—Pfizer
2	Keytruda + On	162.2	12*	Merck	15	Ozempic E/IM	69.4	8	Novo Nordisk
3	Rituxan+ On	150.8	29	Genen—Roche	16	Gardasil+ I D	67.1	20	Merck
4	Enbrel D/Rh	145.8	28	Imx/Wye--Amg/Pzr	17	Neulasta On	66	24	Amgen
5	RemicadeD/GE/Rh	134.5	27	Johnson&Jn/Mrk/Mit	18	Botox D/N	62	28	Allrgn--AbbV/Tak
6	Comirnaty ID	117.9	5*	Pfizer/BioNTech	19	Copaxone N	63.2	27	Teva/Sanofi
7	Herceptin+ On	107.5	28	Genen.—Roche	20	Novolins+ E	59.6	36	Novo Nordisk
8	Avastin On	106.1	22	Genen.—Roche	21	Darzalex+ On	58.4	10*	Johnson & Jhnsn
9	Eylea+ Oph	97.7	14*	Regeneron/Bayer	22	Lucentis Oph	56.3	20	Roche/Novartis
10	Lantus E	88	26	Sanofi	23	Dupixent D/Pul	54.1	9*	Sanofi/Regen.
11	Stelara GE/D	83.1	16	Johnson & Jnsn/Mit	24	ProCritH/Ne/On	50.2	37	Johnson & Jhnsn
12	Opdivo+ On	82.8	12*	Bristol MyrSq./Ono	25	Humalogs+ E	50.1	28	Eli Lilly
13	Epogen H/Ne/On	71.5	38	Amgen					
26	Aranesp H/Ne/On	49.2	25	Amgen	39	Advate H	38.2	28	Baxt/Bax/ShirTak
27	Xolair P	47.9	23	Roche/Novartis	40	Perjeta On	38	14	Roche
28	SpikeVax ID	47.5	5*	Moderna	41	Simponi GE/Rh	37.3	17	Johnson&J/Mrk
29	Ocrevus N	47.1	10*	Roche	42	Prolia Gyn/Op	36.5	16	Amgen
30	Skyrizi D/GE/Rh	47	7*	AbbVie	43	Rebif N	35.9	23	Merck KGaA
31	Trulicity E	46.5	12	Eli Lilly	44	Erbitux On	34.7	20	Eli Lilly/Mrk KGaA
32	Avonex N	45.3	27	Biogen	45	Actemra Rh	33.5	16	Roche
33	NovoRapid E	45.3	25	Novo Nordisk	46	Entyvio GE	32.9	12	Takeda
34	Mounjaro E/IM	40.1	3*	Eli Lilly	47	Neupogen On	32.8	34	Amgen/Roche
35	Soliris H	41	19	Alexion—AstraZen	48	Victoza E	32.4	16	Novo Nordisk
36	Cosentyx Rh	40.9	11	Novartis	49	Tysabri N	31.7	21	Biogen
37	Orencia Rh	39	21	Bristol My. Sq./Ono	50	NeoRe.H/Ne/On	29.7	31	Roche
38	Lupron On	38.3	23	AbbVie/Takeda					

Cumulative biotech product sales for the lifespan of individual products [minimum of \$10 billion in cumulative sales] were tabulated [106 products achieved this minimum with 28 companies involved]. Table 4 displays the top 50 products with the highest cumulative sales from launch to 2025. These products achieved blockbuster sales [\$1 billion], often for many years. Also, accompanying the products are the company, years on the market, plus the usage areas. A full-time biotech company is noted with bold print. More than one company is often listed for a product as acquisitions occurred over a product's life-span. For ten products, an asterisk in the table indicates that the product was formulated over time in more than one formulation and

was reported as a group in company annual sales reports. Data covers the 46 years of biotech product sales [1982 to 2025]. The top 11 companies with the best number of these top 50 cumulative products' sales were Roche – 7, 5 for Amgen, AbbVie, and Eli Lilly, 4 for Johnson & Johnson, Novo Nordisk, Novartis, and Takeda 3 for Merck, Pfizer, and Sanofi. The types of medical uses for these 50 products were led by oncology at 15 products, 8 for rheumatology, 7 for dermatology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, hematology, and neurology. The types of products were predominated by far by monoclonal antibodies [25], followed by peptides [10], proteins [10], and vaccines [5].

In summary, over the last 50 years and especially from 2005 through to 2025, the top 8 companies in their commitment to and top line success in biotechnology have been the four big biotechs, Roche, Amgen, Eli Lilly, and Novo Nordisk, along with next five major pharma companies, AbbVie, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Pfizer, and Sanofi. A further 4 companies down the list include AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis, and Takeda. The bases for this ranking are the myriad of data presented herein in R&D and S&M collectively, especially their longevity and extent of biotech focus, number and types of marketed products, sales success, acquisitions [number, size, products], usage areas, and clinical research commitments.

Key

Italics indicates company being acquired at a later date and to what company

Abbreviations

Acq: Acquired

Amg: Amgen

Appr: FDA approval

AZ: AstraZeneca

B: billions or biotech

Bb: Blockbuster [>\$1 billion sales]

Biotech: Biotechnology

Co.: Company

Co-mktg: Co-marketing

D&Dvl: Discovery of molecules & Development (clinical trials & launch]

EU or *: European Union

Frm: from

Genen: Genentech

Imx: Immunex

Incr: Increase

Isr: Israeli

Johnson & Jhnsn: Johnson & Johnson

JP: Japanese

Mrk: Merck

Nord: Nordick

Plo: Plough

Prod: Products

Pzr: Pfizer

Shir: Shire

sp-ot: Spin-out

Myr. Sq: Myers Squibb

Tak: Takeda

Types of Products

CT: Cell therapy

Cho: Carbohydate

GT: gene therapy

Lipo: liposome

Mab: Monoclonal antibody

Ol: Oligonucleotide

Pep: Peptide

Prot: Protein

TT: Tissues Therapy

Vac: Vaccine

Medical Usage Areas

CV: Cardiovascular

D: Dermatology

E: Endocrinology

E/Gr: Growth

GE: Gastroenterology

Gen: Genetic diseases

Gyn: Gynecology

H: hematology

ID: Infectious disease

IM: Internal medicine

N: Neurology

Ne: Nephrology

Ob: Obesity

On: Oncology

OP: Orthopedics

Oph: Ophthalmology

P: Pulmonary

Rh: Rheumatology

Sx : Surgery

Tr: Transplant

Ur: Urology

Reference Material

1. Company Annual reports for 2005, 2010 and 2025 for the 38 companies incorporated in this manuscript.
2. Biotechnology Databases [#10], M.A.P.S 4 Biotech, Inc, Ronald P. Evens; Companies, Sales, Products, Types of Molecules, Usage areas, Company acquisitions, In-Licensing & Out-Licensing for Molecules & Products & Companies, Mergers & Acquisitions, Discovery Companies, Development Companies, Marketing Companies.

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