

San Francisco MSA

The San Francisco Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)¹ is home to one of the leading life sciences innovation hubs in both the state and country. San Francisco's leadership in research funding, employment, and academic excellence are significant drivers of the city's broader economy.



- San Francisco's life sciences sector produced **\$80.0 billion** in economic output in 2021.
- The life sciences sector in San Francisco employed more than **67,000 people in 2021**. In addition, the industry's supply chain and induced effects were responsible for another estimated **98,200 jobs**. Combined, the total employment contribution of the life sciences sector in the greater Bay Area was **approximately 165,700**.
- **More than 60 percent** of life sciences employment falls within the research, testing and medical laboratories sub-sector. San Francisco has a significant presence of research-oriented universities in the region, which is home to three of the top one-hundred universities in the world according to the Shanghai Index.
- The average wage paid in research, testing, and medical laboratories **exceeded \$271,000 in 2021**, eclipsing the average pay in any other major sub-sector. The average wage was highest in San Mateo County, where it **exceeded \$322,000**.
- The sector's overall location quotient, which measures the relative concentration of the industry locally against a national benchmark, was **approximately 3.60 in 2021**. This indicates that the industry is more than three times as concentrated in San Francisco than at the national level.
- **San Francisco ranks high nationally** in terms of attraction of venture capital (VC) investment. It leads all other regions of California in both the amount of VC funding and number of deals.
- The major research universities in the region, including Stanford University, University of California, Berkeley, University of California, San Francisco, and University of San Francisco, contribute to the region's prominence as a **world-class life sciences research hub**.

Economic Contribution Of Life Sciences Industry

Geography	San Francisco - Oakland - Berkeley MSA	
Employment		
Direct		67,482
Indirect and Induced		98,238
Total		165,720
Multiplier ²⁶	2.5	
Labor Income (\$B)		
Direct		22.2
Indirect and Induced		12.2
Total		34.9
Multiplier	1.5	
Output (\$B)		
Direct		50.9
Indirect and Induced		29.0
Total		79.9
Multiplier	1.6	

¹ The San Francisco MSA consists of San Francisco, San Mateo, Alameda, Marin, and Contra Costa Counties, as well as the areas of Oakland and Berkeley.

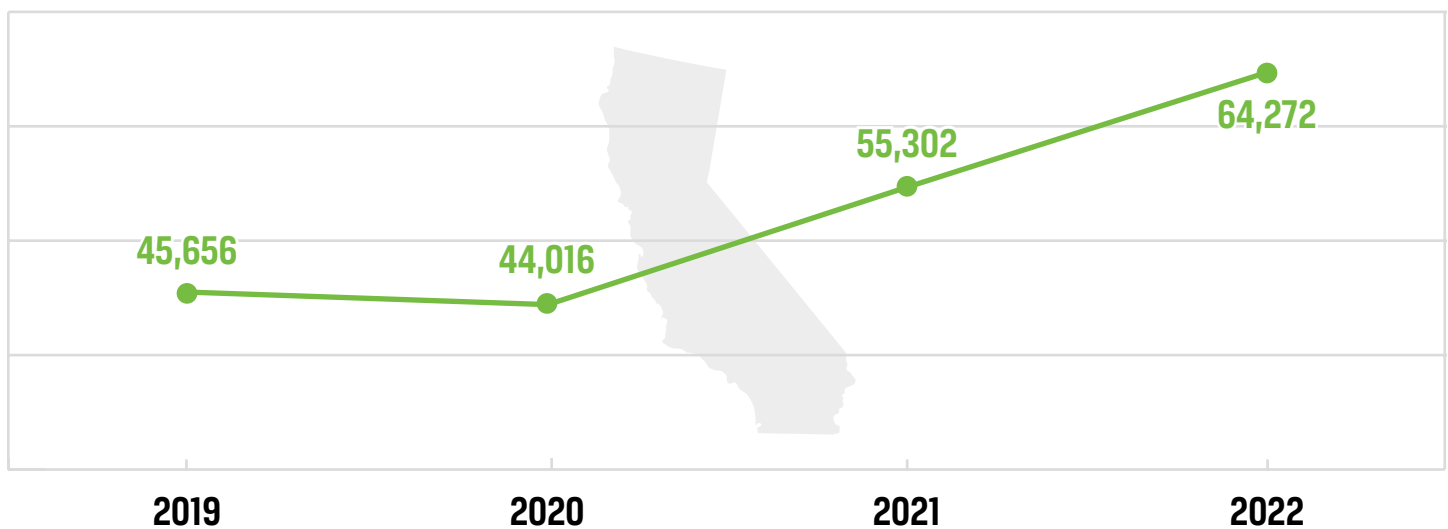
Employment, Establishments, And Average Wages For San Francisco MSA

Area Name	👤 Employment	🏛️ Establishments	💰 Average Wages (\$)
San Mateo County	23,376	554	322,984
Alameda County	26,633	641	150,688
San Francisco County	9,485	391	225,308
Marin County	301	82	117,494
Contra Costa County	1,931	229	126,344
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward MSA	67,482	1,987	240,539

San Francisco MSA Employment, Establishments, And Average Wages By Life Sciences Subsector

Life Sciences Category	👤 Employment	🏛️ Establishments	💰 Average Wages (\$)
🧪 Research, Testing, And Medical Laboratories	48,372	1,197	271,570
📺 Medical Devices And Equipment	11,198	248	140,206
🌐 Bioscience-Related Distribution	3,848	419	171,333
💊 Drugs And Pharmaceuticals	4,065	117	213,189
🌱 Agricultural Feedstock And Industrial Biosciences	–	6	–

Bay Area* Life Sciences Industry: Total Job Postings & Recent Trends, 2019-2022



*For this assessment, the CA Bay Area includes the following counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma.
Note: the individual years in trend analysis will not sum to cumulative totals due to unique postings that span across individual years.