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Facts and Rankings
Metro Orlando's Life Science and Biotechnology Industry

- Orlando, Florida, is home to the world's newest life science cluster.
- *bioOrlando* is a council of the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission (EDC) and serves as the Central Florida Chapter of BioFlorida. It is a group of over 180 community leaders dedicated to accelerating the growth of the life science and biotechnology industry in Central Florida.
- The Tavistock Group's Lake Nona development near Orlando International Airport is the home for an emerging 'medical city' – anchored by the new University of Central Florida (UCF) College of Medicine and the Burnham Institute for Medical Research.
- In addition to the new UCF College of Medicine and the Burnham Institute for Medical Research at Lake Nona, several other facilities will co-locate in 'medical city' including: M. D. Anderson – Orlando Cancer Research Institute, Nemours Children's Hospital, Orlando VA Medical Center and a University of Florida Research Center.
- A recent economic impact study revealed that Orlando's life science cluster could create more than 30,000 jobs and an economic impact of \$7.6 billion by year 10 of operation.
- This fall, UCF College of Medicine welcomes its inaugural class of 40 students, each of whom will receive a full four-year scholarship from nearly \$7 million in community donations – a first of its kind in history.
- The Burnham Institute at Lake Nona recently opened doors to its 175,000-square-foot, \$80 million facility in 'medical city' that will eventually employ 300.
- Nemours Children's Hospital is under construction with plans to open its \$400 million, 95-bed children's hospital in 2012.
- Metro Orlando's emerging biotechnology and life science sector has 150+ biotechnology and life science companies.
- Orlando is home to several of the world's largest pharmaceutical distribution companies including CuraScript, Axium and Advanced Care Scripts.
- Metro Orlando's biotechnology and life sciences companies' areas of concentration include: evidenced-based clinical lab testing, bioterrorism defense, functional foods, medical training simulation, plant pathology, disease management and telemedicine services.

- Metro Orlando's biotechnology and life science sector has grown from a renowned regional healthcare system, comprising some of the top hospitals in the country, including Florida Hospital and Orlando Health.
- Orlando's life science industry has also developed from a prominent agricultural base and the joint efforts of the region's photonics and modeling, simulation and training sectors.
- Metro Orlando's roots in agriculture, combined with a growing technology industry base, have prompted an agro-technology boom that is integrating high tech processes for use in everything from industrial food ingredients, to cosmetics, to plant reproduction.
- Metro Orlando is home to a family of leading agro-technology companies such as U.S. Nutra, Florida Food Products and AgriStarts.
- For emerging stage technology companies, Metro Orlando offers university-driven business incubators providing enabling tools, training and infrastructure to create financially stable high growth enterprises.
- UCF boasts the nationally recognized Center for Research and Education in Optics and Lasers and the Florida Photonics Center of Excellence.
- Metro Orlando has a rapidly growing \$13.4 billion technology industry employing 53,000 people.
- Orlando has nationally recognized clusters of innovation in digital media, agritechnology, aviation and aerospace, and software.
- The University of Central Florida is now the 5th largest university in the country with over \$122 million in research; international reputations in innovations in lasers/optics AND hospitality; AND a new medical school opening this fall.
- Metro Orlando has the 7th largest research park in the country (Central Florida Research Park) with over 1,025 acres. It is home to over 120 companies, employs more than 8,500 people, and is the hub of the nation's military simulation and training programs.
- *FierceBiotech* recently named Florida as one of the "top five regions in the world targeting biotech."
- Florida ranks as the #3 state to do business, according to *Chief Executive* magazine's 2009 "Best & Worst States" survey.
- According to *BizJournals*, Orlando ranks as the 7th best city in which to start a small business.

- Orlando ranks as the 4th most popular city, based on where people want to live, according to Pew Research Center.
- According to *Yahoo!*, Orlando is a "Great City for Salary Growth" in large part due to our emerging 'medical city'.
- *Forbes.com* ranks Metro Orlando fourth on their annual list of "Most Wired Cities."
- Metro Orlando ranks 11th among *Milken Institute's* 2008 "Best Performing Cities."
- UCF ranks 3rd in the "Top 10 Most Impactful Patent Portfolios" according to *The Patent Scoreboard*.
- Florida ranks as the 8th top state for business, 17th in America's top states for business, #1 in workforce in America's top states for business, and #9 in technology and innovation in America's top states for business according to *CNBC*.
- *Business Facilities* ranks Florida 9th in overall biotechnology strength, 20th of the top 20 greenest states, and 9th of the top 10 states for business climate.
- Orlando International Airport tied for 2nd "Best Large Airport for Customer Satisfaction" according to *J.D. Power & Associates*.
- According to *Bizjournal* studies, Orlando is ranked as the 9th "Most Attractive Metro for Young Adults."
- Surveys show that Florida ranks 11th for entrepreneurial activity according to the *Kauffman Foundation*.
- *Fast Company* magazine names Orlando as one of the "12 Best Cities for Innovation."
- Florida ranks second on the list of "most pro-business states" in a survey conducted by *Pollina Corporate Real Estate*.
- Florida ranked 4th in the nation for A.P. student performance.
- Orlando International Airport is busiest airport in Florida, according to aviation authority statistics.
- According to *Forbes*, Orlando is the 9th fastest growing metro.
- *Global Insight* says Orlando will be #1 for job growth from 2007–2012.
- *The Tax Foundation* ranks Florida as the 5th "Business Friendly Tax State" for 2008.

- *BusinessWeek* featured Metro Orlando among its picks of "global hot spots" in its issue titled "What Makes a Winner: The Competition Issue." Orlando is one of three communities in the world to be featured.
- Simultaneously, Orlando has been ranked the No. 1 spot to grow a small business by *Bizjournal*, No. 1 for America's best jobs in the hottest markets by Business 2.0, and the No. 4 hottest spot for job creation by *Expansion Management*.
- For the fourth consecutive year, the Metro Orlando economy ranks among the strongest economies in the U.S. and the strongest in the state of Florida according to the annual *POLICOM Economic Strength Rankings*.
- Orlando is the 12th "Hottest Job Market" according to *Business2.0*.
- *Inc.* magazine names Orlando as the fourth "Best City for Business" in the large cities category.
- *fDi* magazine recognizes Orlando as one of the "North American Cities of the Future"; No. 3 in "Most Business Friendly;" and No. 4 in "Quality of Life."
- *Southern Business & Development* names Orlando as one of the "Top 10 Places in the South for Emerging Industries."
- *AeA* says Florida is the "Fourth-Largest and Second-Fastest Growing Cyberstate by Tech Employment."
- *Bizjournal* ranks Florida as the ninth "Best Market for Young Adult Job Seekers."
- Orlando is the third "Best Pro-Business State," according to *Pollina Corporation*.
- According to *Forbes* magazine, Orlando is the fourth "Best City in the Country for creating jobs."
- *Expansion Management* names Orlando as one of the "50 Hottest Cities."
- Grubb & Ellis Market Strength Forecast for 2007 named Orlando's office market No. 8 in U.S. survey as an investment opportunity.
- *Wired* magazine names Orlando as one of the nation's "Best Geek Cities", citing the area as a top ten place to "get your geek on."
- Metro Orlando was named one of ten "Blooming U.S. Cities for Tech" according to *eWEEK.com*.
- *Forbes* magazine lists Metro Orlando among the "Best Places for Business and Careers."

- *U.S. News and World Report's* ranking of "America's Best College" names Rollins College as the number one university in the South.
- Florida has been ranked as a "Top 10 Places for Film Production in the U.S." by *P3/Production Update* magazine.
- Metro Orlando ranks 3rd among *Inc.* magazine's "Hottest Large Cities for Doing Business" and 28th in the nation for entrepreneurs.
- Metro Orlando ranks second on the list of "Six Great Relocation Destinations" published by *Retirement Solutions Foundation*.
- Metro Orlando is the "Number One City for Entrepreneurs" by *Entrepreneur Magazine*.
- Metro Orlando has been named in previous years as a "Major Market of the Year" by *Southern Business & Development*.
- Metro Orlando has been ranked as one of the top five "Cities for Moviemakers" by *MovieMaker Magazine*.
- Florida ranks as one of the top five states for start-ups in twelve of twelve business categories by *Global Corporate Xpansion* magazine and *BizMiner*.
- According to *Harris Poll*, Florida is the 2nd "Most Popular Place to Live."
- Florida ranks among the top three states with best workforce training programs, according to *Expansion Management*.
- *Wall Street Journal* ranks Orlando 7th for "Business Vitality."