

MASSBIO

2025 Massachusetts Biopharma Funding and Pipeline Report

massbio.org/industry-reports/funding-report





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Executive Summary



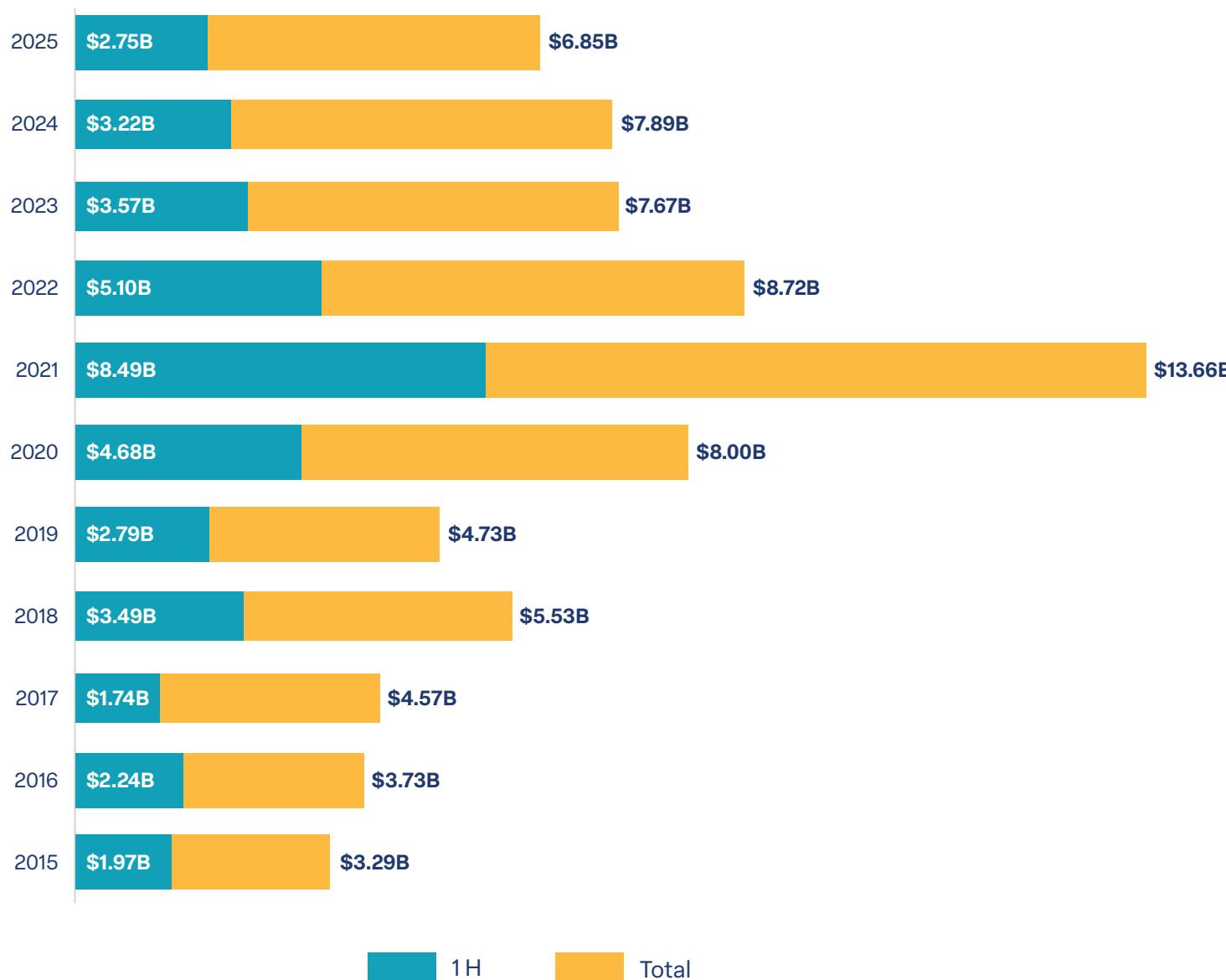
- Massachusetts biopharma companies advanced their innovation pipelines by nearly 14% year-over-year in 2025, outpacing the U.S. growth rate of 6.8%, despite venture capital (VC) activity stalling amid uncertainty in federal policy. VC funding fell to \$6.85 billion (though eclipsing the highest pre-2020 mark), with reluctant private investors, a closed IPO window, cautious pharma, and layoffs defining the first half of the year. Although early-stage capital remained muted, a decrease in interest rates and increasing clarity on pricing and tariffs enabled a stronger second half, particularly in mergers and acquisitions (M&A) activity.
- In 2025, biopharma companies headquartered in Massachusetts received \$6.85 billion, the fewest venture capital dollars since 2019—though still significantly higher than any pre-2020 year. The second half contained 60% of the venture dollars. Massachusetts's share of all U.S. venture dollars remained at historical levels, accounting for 26.2% (down from 28.3% in 2024 and 31% in 2023) compared to California at 43.3% (up from 41.6% last year). All other states were below 5%.
- Massachusetts life sciences companies raised 197 rounds in 2025, reflecting a more selective funding environment with fewer deals but sustained investor confidence in the Commonwealth's innovation ecosystem. While the number of funded companies declined to 187 from 215 in 2024, Massachusetts companies continued to command premium valuations, with average round sizes of \$34.8 million—significantly above the national average of \$24.3 million. The geographic distribution of capital continued to broaden beyond traditional hubs, with 71% of funding flowing to companies outside Cambridge, and Boston surpassed Cambridge in total venture capital for the second consecutive year.
- IPOs remained elusive in 2025. Waltham-based Sionna Therapeutics (SION) entered the U.S. public market in February, ending the year at \$41 per share (up from \$18 per share), while Insilico Medicine (3696.HK) completed its IPO on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange on December 30, 2025. M&A activity, conversely, ended the year strongly, with 36 Massachusetts-based companies being acquired for a total of \$20 billion, more than doubling the first half of 2025 in both quantity and deal value.
- The Massachusetts pipeline of drug candidates increased nearly 14% year-over-year, outpacing the U.S. increase of 6.8%. Meanwhile, China's pipeline increased by more than 37%, continuing its meteoric rise after years of investment and regulatory streamlining. As of December, Massachusetts represents 16.1% of the U.S. pipeline, an increase of 1 percentage point over last year.
- Surveys indicate that policy uncertainty is the top concern of biopharma executives heading into the new year. While FDA approvals rose from 23 to 28, persistent regulatory instability disproportionately affects small biotechs with one or two drug candidates, the backbone of the Massachusetts industry. NIH funding rebounded beginning in September, following successful court challenges and policy changes, though its future remains uncertain, especially in research hubs like Massachusetts. The ongoing lapse in congressional authorization for the SBIR/STTR program, a crucial early-stage funding source for biotechs, is adding to the uncertainty.

Venture Capital Investment: Massachusetts- Headquartered Companies

- Biopharma companies headquartered in Massachusetts received \$6.85 billion in VC funding in 2025, the fewest VC dollars since 2019, further indicating a return to pre-2020 levels.
- Massachusetts-headquartered biopharma companies received 26.2% of U.S. funding—down from 28.3% last year—second only to California (43.3%, up from 41.6%). All other states were below 5%.
- Sixty percent of funding was announced in the second half of the year.
- R&D programs of companies receiving VC funding were focused on oncology at 33%, central nervous system (CNS) at 19%, and anti-infectives at 8%.



Venture Capital Investment: Massachusetts-Headquartered Companies



Source: Pitchbook, December 2025

Top VC Financing Rounds for Massachusetts-Headquartered Companies

- The \$6.85 billion of VC funding in 2025 was awarded to 187 companies across 197 rounds of investment, down from 215 companies and 222 rounds of investment in 2024. The average round was \$34.8 million for Massachusetts companies, down from \$35.5 million in 2024 but well above the national average (\$24.3 million).
- The average seed round for Massachusetts companies was \$8.1 million, down from \$8.85 million in 2024 and \$10.1 million in 2023.
- The average Series A round was \$76.7 million, up from \$65.3 million in 2024, but 28 deals versus 2024's 41 deals.
- Post-Series A rounds averaged \$74.0 million, down from \$99.2 million in 2024.



Top VC Financing Rounds for Massachusetts-Headquartered Companies

Organization	Funding Amount (in millions)	City
Treeline Biosciences	621.78	Watertown
Kailera Therapeutics	600.00	Waltham
Odyssey Therapeutics	213.00	Boston
Aviceda Therapeutics	207.50	Cambridge
Soufflé Therapeutics	200.00	Watertown
Abcuro	200.00	Newton
Antares Therapeutics	177.00	Boston
AIRNA	155.00	Cambridge
Strand Therapeutics	153.00	Boston
Parabilis Medicines	145.00	Cambridge
ARTBIO	132.00	Cambridge
Alzheon	126.26	Framingham
InSilico Medicine	123.00	Boston
Merida Biosciences	121.00	Cambridge
Atavistik Bio	120.00	Cambridge
Triveni Bio	115.00	Watertown
Avalyn Pharma	100.00	Boston
Atalanta Therapeutics	97.00	Boston
Newleos Therapeutics	93.50	Boston
Bambusa Therapeutics	88.88	Boston

Source: Pitchbook, December 2025

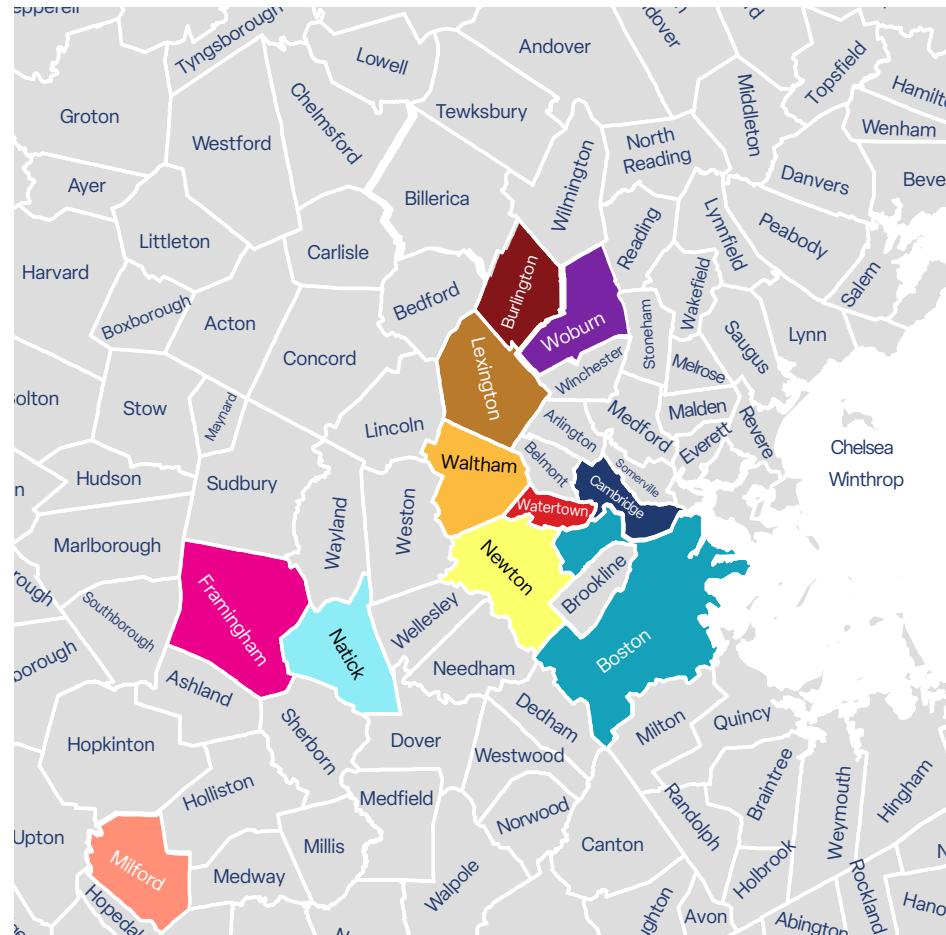
Location of VC-Backed Companies

- Seventy-one percent of funding in 2025 went to companies outside of Cambridge.
- For the second straight year, Boston surpassed Cambridge's total venture capital funding.
- Eleven municipalities had at least 1%, down from 14 in 2024.



Location of VC-Backed Companies

MA VC Investment by Municipality



Municipality	Total \$ Invested (in millions)	% of MA Total
Boston	\$2,124	31%
Cambridge	\$1,954	29%
Watertown	\$1,082	16%
Waltham	\$773	11%
Newton	\$267	4%
Framingham	\$126	2%
Burlington	\$122	2%
Natick	\$83	1%
Woburn	\$78	1%
Milford	\$61	1%
Lexington	\$42	1%
Other	\$143	2%
Grand Total	\$6.85B	100%

Source: Pitchbook, December 2025

Massachusetts-Headquartered Biopharma IPOs (Initial Public Offerings)

- Massachusetts had two IPOs in 2025, down from the six Massachusetts companies that went public in 2024. One was on December 30 on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.



Massachusetts- Headquartered Biopharma IPOs (Initial Public Offerings)

sionna					
Location	Date	Deal Size	Initial Price Per Share	Price Per Share at Close on 12/31/25:	NASDAQ
Waltham	2/6/25	\$191M	\$18	\$41.14	SION

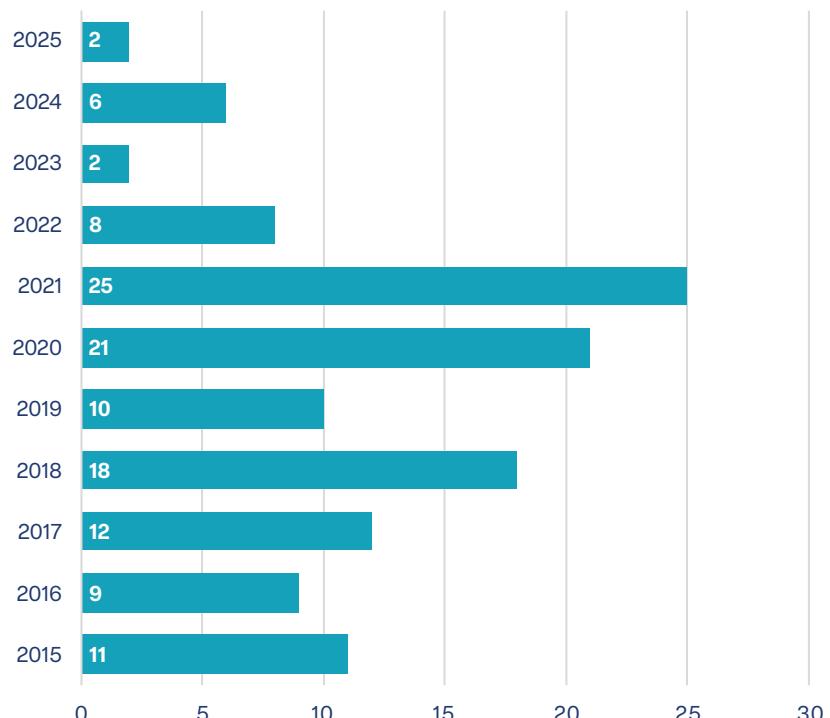
Insilico Medicine					
Location	Date	Deal Size	Initial Price Per Share	Price Per Share at Close on 12/31/25:	HKEX
Cambridge	12/30/25	\$293M	\$24 HKD	\$37.14 HKD	3696.HK



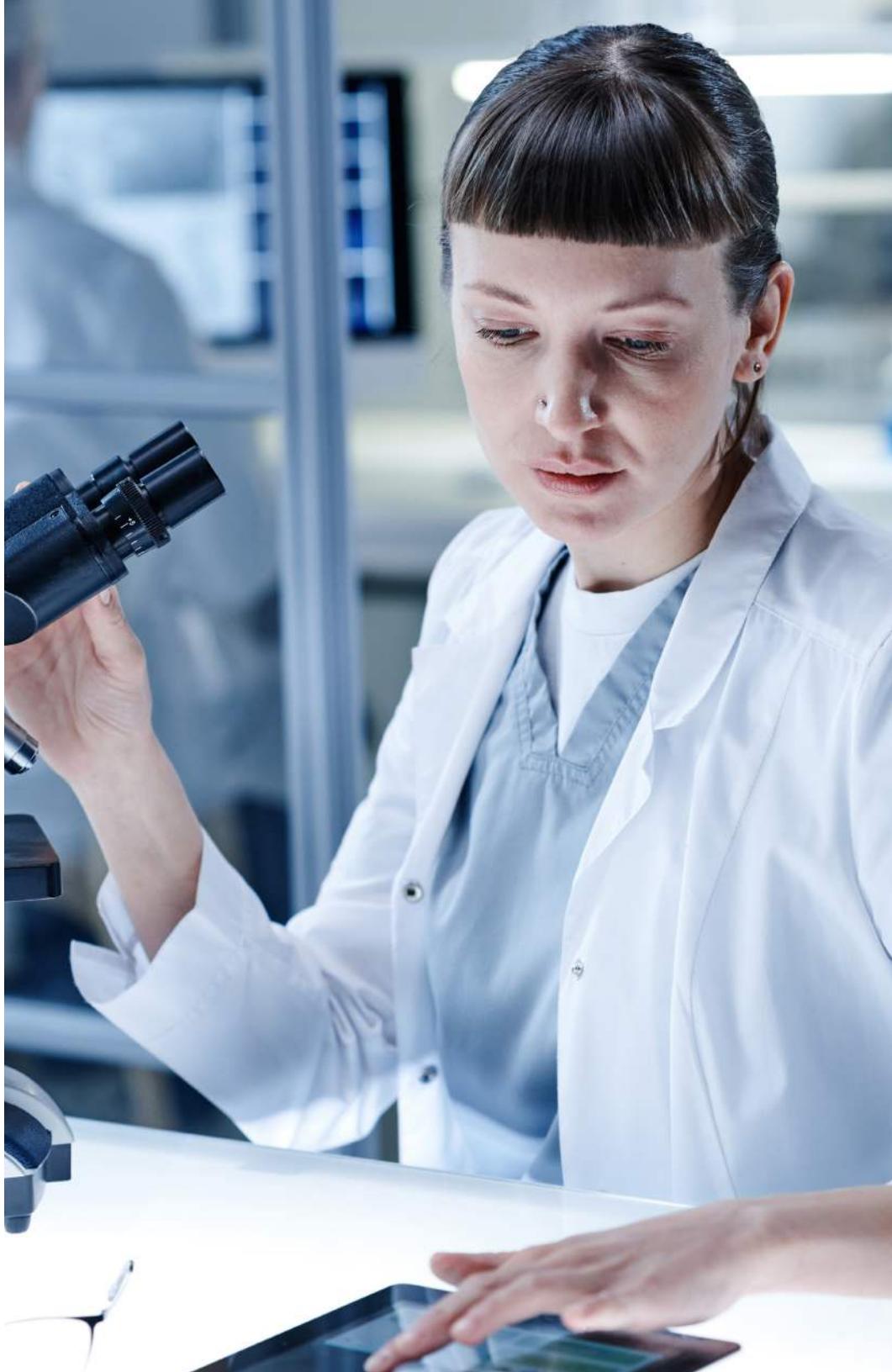
Source: Pitchbook, December 2025

Massachusetts-Headquartered Biopharma IPOs (Initial Public Offerings)

Massachusetts IPOs Over the Last 10 Years



Source: Pitchbook, December 2025

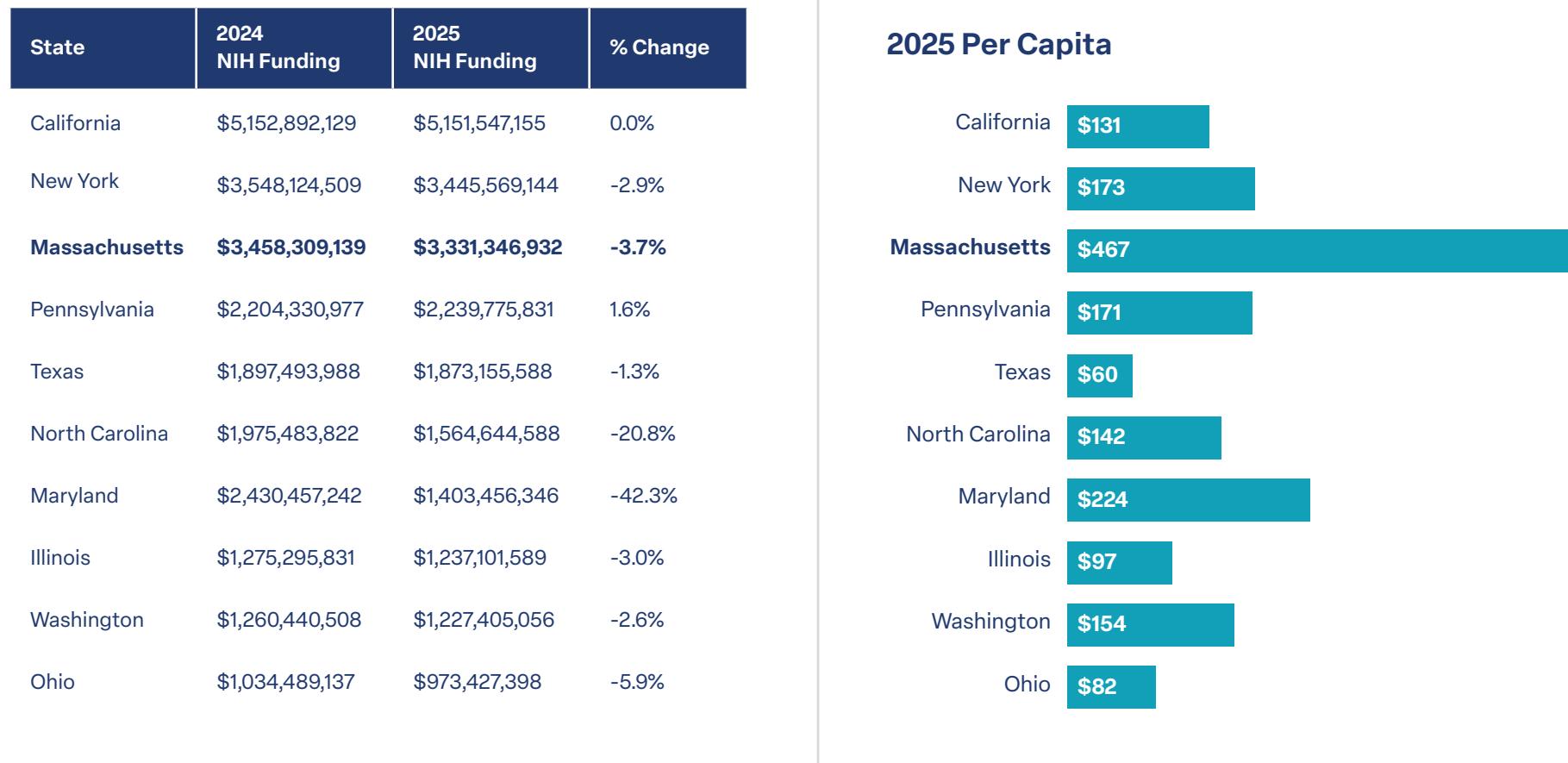


Top NIH-Funded States by Total Funding and Per Capita

- Massachusetts organizations received 9.4% of all NIH (National Institutes of Health) funding, compared to 9.3% in 2024. Massachusetts has just 2% of the U.S. population.
- Massachusetts organizations received 9.9% of all research project grants.
- Based on July 2025 data, MassBio predicted a \$500 million shortfall if NIH funding continued at pace. However, following court rulings, policy changes, and frantic grant awarding in September, NIH funding ended the year with funding cuts of around \$125 million, with additional funding data yet to be released. That said, it will be important to monitor the use of multi-year awards, a stated preference by the NIH, and any impact that they have on annual totals going forward.



Top NIH-Funded States by Total Funding & Per Capita



Source: Pitchbook, December 2024 & 2025

Top Massachusetts Biopharma Mergers and Acquisitions

- Thirty-six companies from Massachusetts were acquired for a total of \$20 billion in 2025, significantly down from \$42.51 billion in 2024 (which included the \$13.88 billion Bristol Myers Squibb acquisition of Karuna Therapeutics).
- Twelve Massachusetts companies made acquisitions in 2025 for a disclosed total of just \$299 million. By contrast, 25 companies from Massachusetts made acquisitions totaling \$10.62 billion in 2024.



Top Massachusetts Biopharma Mergers and Acquisitions

Massachusetts-Headquartered Companies Acquired in 2025

Date	Target Company	Acquiring Company	Amount
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7/18/25	 blueprint MEDICINES	 sanofi	\$8.9B
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3/1/25	 SCORPION	 Lilly	\$2.5B
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12/8/25	 ORBITAL THERAPEUTICS	 Bristol Myers Squibb	\$1.5B
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7/25/25	 verve THERAPEUTICS	 Lilly	\$1.13B
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2/24/25	 IDRx	 GSK	\$1.15B
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11/18/25	 elektrofi	 Halozyme	\$900M
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7/31/25	 Sage Therapeutics	 Supernus Pharmaceuticals	\$795M
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Date	Target Company	Acquiring Company	Amount
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8/29/25	 iTEOS THERAPEUTICS	 Concentra	\$635M
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5/13/25	 2seventybio	 Bristol Myers Squibb	\$502M
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8/5/25	 vigil NEURO	 sanofi	\$406M
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10/7/25	 scPharmaceuticals	 mannkind	\$360M
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5/30/25	 Checkpoint Therapeutics	 SUN PHARMA	\$329M
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11/10/25	 DAMORA THERAPEUTICS	 Galelecto	\$285M
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7/1/25	 inozyme pharma	 BIOMARIN	\$270M
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Source: Pitchbook, December 2025

Top Massachusetts Biopharma Mergers and Acquisitions

Massachusetts-Headquartered Companies Making Acquisitions in 2025

Date	Acquiring Company	Target Company	Amount
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4/1/25



LANTHEUS[®]



EVERGREEN[®]
THERAGNOSTICS

\$250M

Source: Pitchbook, December 2025



Massachusetts-Headquartered Total Pipeline

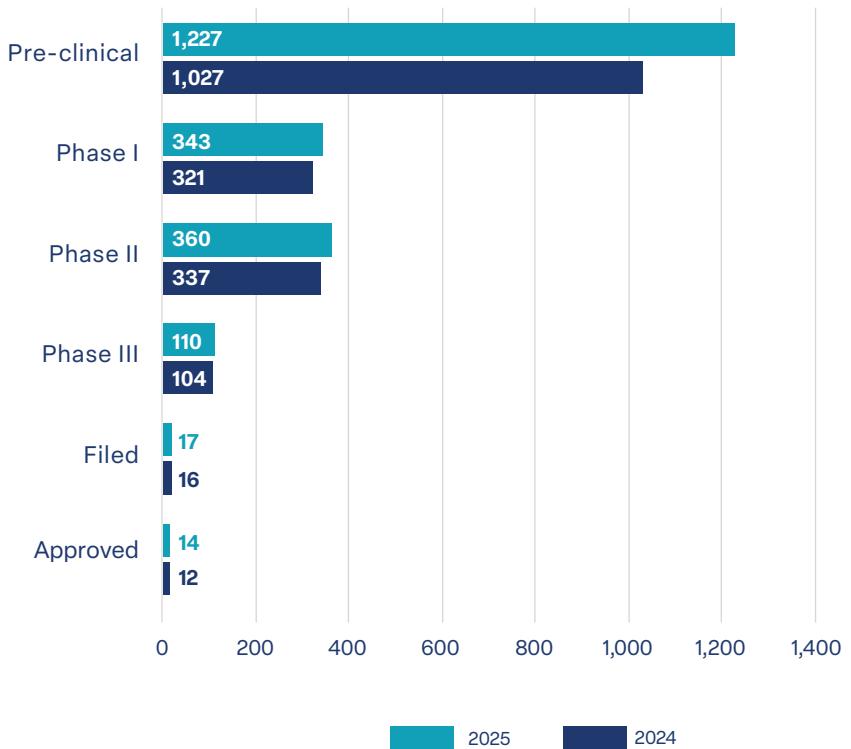
- The drug pipelines of Massachusetts-headquartered companies comprise 16.1% of the U.S. pipeline, up from 15.1% in last year's report, and 6.4% of the global pipeline, on par with the previous report.
- The pre-clinical phase was responsible for the largest jump in drug candidates, demonstrating the continued strength of the Massachusetts ecosystem in support of new innovation.
- The most common therapeutic areas of the Massachusetts pipeline are oncology (32.8%), CNS (15.8%), and anti-infectives (8.1%).



Massachusetts-Headquartered Total Pipeline

Therapeutic Areas	% of Massachusetts-Headquartered Pipeline
Oncology	33%
Central Nervous System	16%
Systemic Anti-infectives	8%
Immunomodulators	7%
Gastro-Intestinal	6%
Various	6%
Musculoskeletal	5%
Sensory Organs	4%
Cardiovascular	3%
Respiratory	3%
Blood	3%
Endocrine	2%
Dermatology	2%
Genito-Urinary	2%
Grand Total	100%

MA-Headquartered Drug Pipeline by Phase



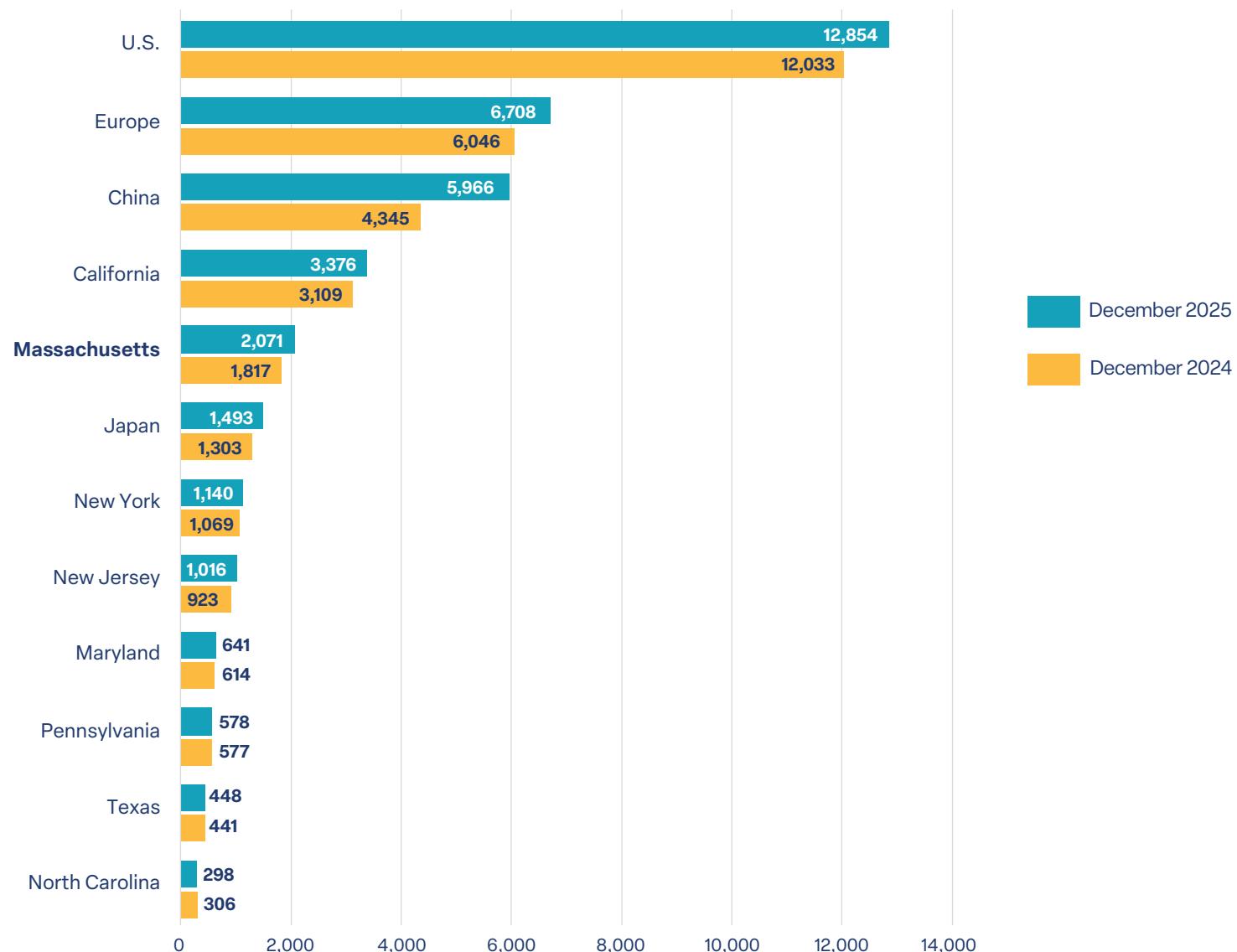
Source: Evaluate, December 2024 & 2025

Regional Pipeline Comparison

- While Massachusetts outpaced the U.S. in pipeline growth (13.9% to 6.8%) year-over-year, China far surpassed both, growing its total pipeline by 37.3% between December 2024 and December 2025.



Regional Pipeline Comparison



Source: Evaluate, December 2024 & 2025

FDA Approvals

We are highlighting both companies that are headquartered in Massachusetts and those with a presence here to better represent the scale of drug development happening locally. This should not be construed as indicating that a specific drug was developed here for companies not headquartered here.



FDA Approvals

2025 Novel Drug Approvals

Company	Drug Name	Modality	Disease Area	MA Presence
Bayer	Hyrnuo	Small Molecule	metastatic non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer	Administrative
GSK	Exdensur	Monoclonal Antibody	asthma	R+D
Kura Oncology	Komzifti	Small Molecule	refractory acute myeloid leukemia	Administrative
UCB	Kygevvi	Small Molecule	thymidine kinase 2 deficiency	R+D, Manufacturing
Bayer	Lynkuet	Small Molecule	menopause	Administrative
Novartis	Rhapsido	Small Molecule	chronic spontaneous urticaria	R+D
Lilly	Inluriyo	Small Molecule	metastatic breast cancer	R+D
Merck	Keytruda Qlex	Recombinant Antibody	solid tumor indications	R+D
Sanofi	Wayrilz	Small Molecule	chronic immune thrombocytopenia	R+D, Manufacturing
Ionis Pharmaceuticals	Dawnzera	DNA & RNA Therapeutics	hereditary angioedema	Administrative
Kalvista Pharmaceuticals	Ekterly	Small Molecule	hereditary angioedema	HQ, R+D
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals	Lynozyfic	Monoclonal Antibody	multiple myeloma	R+D
CSL	Andembry	Monoclonal Antibody	hereditary angioedema	R+D
Nuvation Bio	Ibtrozi	Small Molecule	non-small cell lung cancer	Administrative
Merck	Enflonsia	Monoclonal Antibody	RSV	R+D
AbbVie	Emrelis	Monoclonal Antibody	non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)	R+D, Manufacturing
Verastem Oncology	Avmapki Fakzynja	Small Molecule	low-grade serous ovarian cancer (LGSOC)	HQ, R+D
Johnson & Johnson	Imaavy	Monoclonal Antibody	myasthenia gravis	R+D
Akeso	penpulimab-kcqx	Monoclonal Antibody	metastatic non-keratinizing nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC)	R+D
Novartis	Vanrafia	Small Molecule	immunoglobulin A nephropathy	R+D
Sanofi and Alnylam	Qfitlia	DNA & RNA Therapeutics	hemophilia A or B	R+D, Manufacturing
GSK	Blujepa	Small Molecule	urinary tract infections	R+D
Ono Pharma	Romvimza	Small Molecule	tenosynovial giant cell tumor	R+D
Vertex	Journavx	Small Molecule	moderate to severe acute pain	HQ, R+D, Manufacturing
AstraZeneca	Datroway	Recombinant Antibody	metastatic breast cancer	R+D

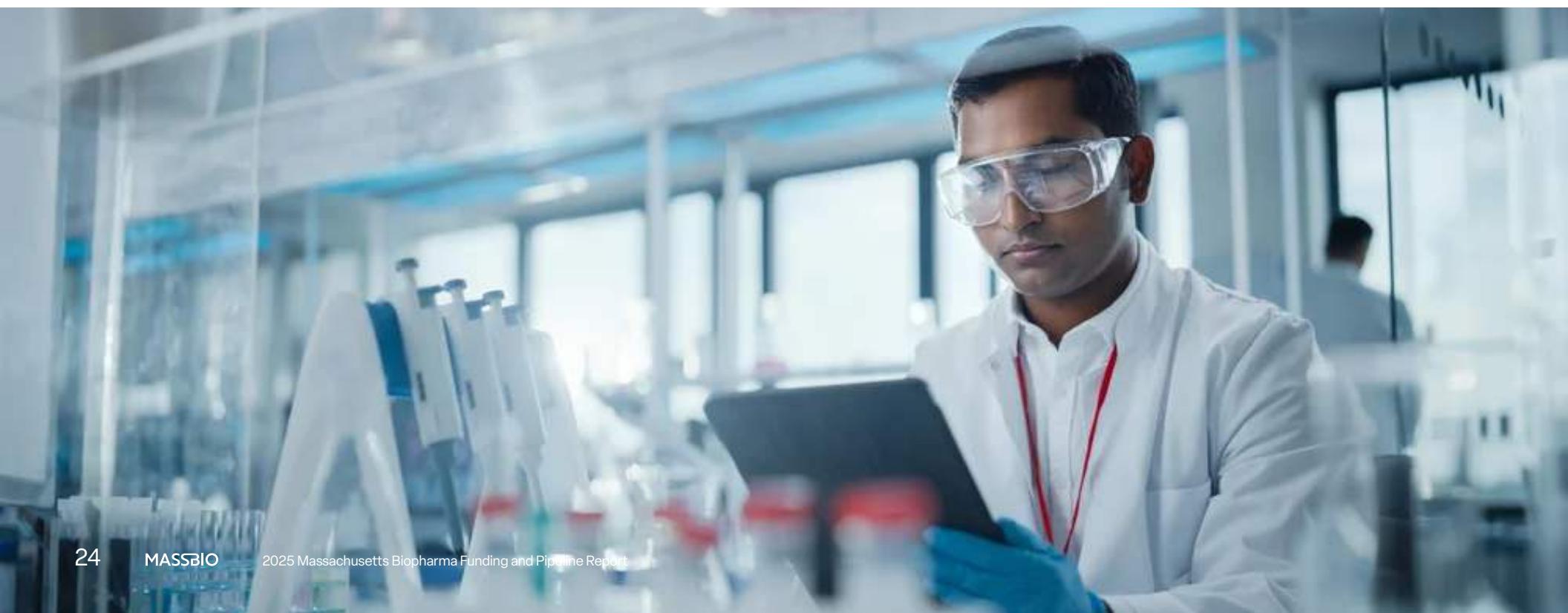
Source: FDA.gov, December 2025

FDA Approvals

Biological Licensing Application Approvals

Company	Drug Name	Modality	Disease Area	MA Presence
Moderna	Mnexspike	Vaccine	Covid-19	HQ, R+D, Manufacturing
Novartis	Itivima	Gene Therapy	Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)	R+D
GSK	Penmenvy	Vaccine	Meningitis prophylaxis	R+D

Source: FDA.gov, December 2025



About MassBio

MassBio is the driving force behind Massachusetts's life sciences ecosystem, supporting innovation and industry growth by offering best-in-class resources to over 1,700 member organizations at all stages of the biopharma lifecycle. Founded in 1985, MassBio aspires to extend Massachusetts's impact as the global center of excellence in biomedical breakthroughs.

Learn more at massbio.org

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