



REPORT ON BUSINESS

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Biotechnology Funds and Stocks Yield Amazing Returns

Again this year at the Biotechnology Conference, Ernst and Young released their survey of the global state of the biotech business. "Global" in this context really refers to North American, European and Australian pharmaceutical and biotech sectors, which are large majority of the world's biotech business. The data suggests a generally healthy industry which achieved record profits in 2012 and doing amazingly well in 2013 as well. Mutual funds yield more than 50% and ETFs yield more than 60% with stocks yielding more than 90%.

Stock	Price	3 mth	1 year
ALXN	122.42	8.88	30.14
AMGN	113.05	0.04	26.93
BIIB	284.75	24.99	89.04
BIO	121.11	4.44	15.91
CELG	165.61	13.79	108.65
GILD	72.97	19.58	95.95

The approximately 600 public companies surveyed, overall revenue increased 8% over last year to almost \$90 billion—two-thirds of which was from US companies. Even more impressively, the net income increase went up a whopping 32% to \$5.2 billion worldwide. However, all the growth came from just a handful of 16 industry leaders—large dominant companies such as [Amgen](#), [Biogen-Idec](#), [Bio-Rad](#), and [Gilead](#) that have revenues greater than \$500 million each. For the majority of companies in the sector, the hundreds of biotechs with annual revenue below \$500 million, 2012 revenues were flat or declined.

In the US, for example, the revenue for the small biotech part of the industry declined 10%, whereas US industry leaders bumped up 12%. The R&D spending differential between market leaders and the majority of companies was even a bit more pronounced than the revenue spread. Spending on R&D for the leaders increased 18% in US, where as it decreased by 5% smaller enterprises. Large companies added about 3,500 new employees whereas the smaller businesses lost 2,000.

The 2013 returns for the Biotechnology stocks have been amazing. Please refer to table. Investing in Biotechnology can be risky so it is prudent to seek professional advice. A better option is to invest in Biotechnology Mutual Funds or ETF. Example TD Health Sciences fund has yield an amazing return of 56% over 1 year. ETF called iShares Nasdaq Biotechnology (IBB:Nasdaq) has yield a handsome 61% in 1 year. Please always check our www.muslims-businesses.com home page and investing page for top Stocks and ETFs.

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