

Fastest-Growing Medical Device Hub — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Albany-Schenectady-Troy Leads U.S. Medical Device Growth

28.6% surge since 2019 — ALEX Intelligence, 2026

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THE DATA

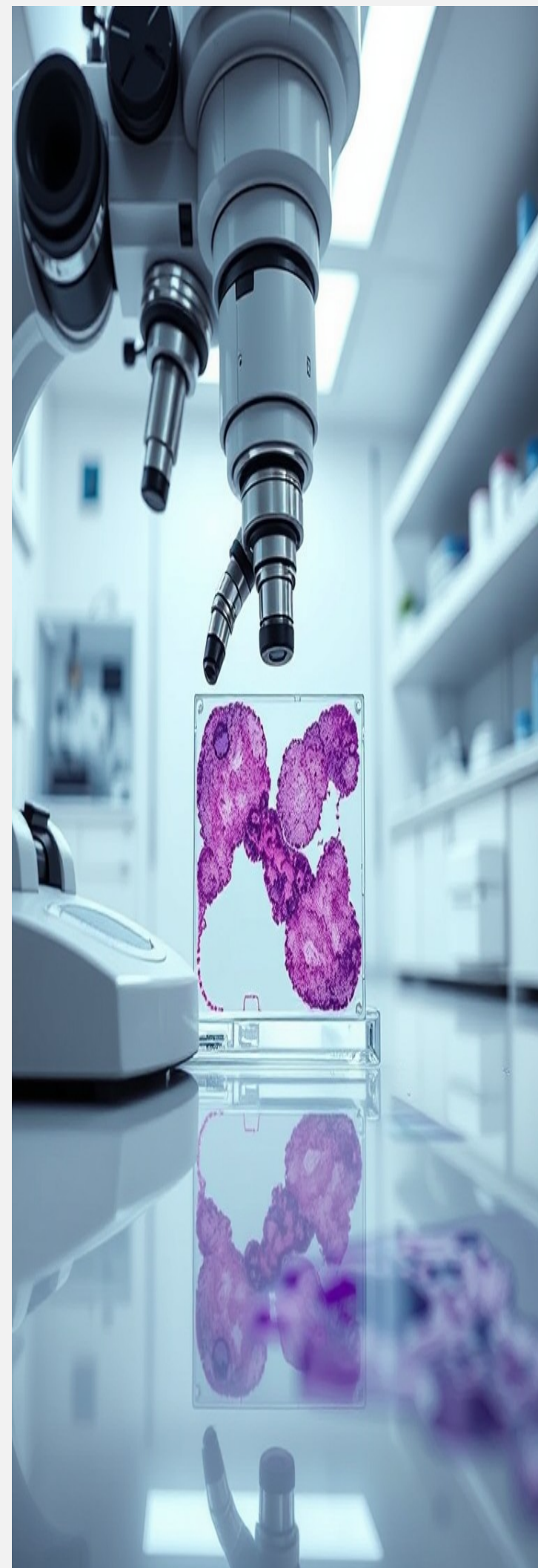
28.6%

Change in Medical Device Plants Since 2019

Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY, saw the highest growth in medical device manufacturing plants among all U.S. metros between 2019 and 2022.

This surge reflects a strategic shift in where advanced healthcare infrastructure is being built — not in traditional biotech corridors, but in a region with deep engineering roots and strong public-private R&D ecosystems. The 28.6% growth suggests that manufacturing innovation is increasingly tied to localized supply chain resilience and workforce specialization, not just proximity to hospitals or universities.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2019 and 2022, NAICS 3391 (Medical equipment and supplies manufacturing) • ALEX Intelligence computation
<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-26-ai-healthcare-igrow-3391-msa>



01

Manufacturing Growth Precedes Clinical Innovation

The data reveals a critical lag: medical device plants are expanding in regions that may not yet host the clinical trials or regulatory approvals needed to validate new products. This suggests that capital is betting on future demand rather than current infrastructure, signaling a forward-looking investment in the entire healthcare innovation lifecycle. The rise of 'pre-validated' manufacturing hubs may become a new benchmark for where next-generation therapies are developed and scaled.

02

Geographic Arbitrage in Healthcare R&D

Albany-Schenectady-Troy's dominance shows that high-value healthcare manufacturing is no longer confined to coastal innovation zones. Instead, it's relocating to areas with strong engineering talent, lower operational costs, and stable public investment — particularly in states with active semiconductor and energy technology ecosystems. This shift may reduce geographic concentration in biotech and enable more equitable distribution of high-skill healthcare jobs across the U.S.



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