For more than two decades, Clayton, North Carolina, has been home to one of Novo Nordisk’s U.S. manufacturing facilities. Currently, Novo Nordisk is investing $2 billion in a new active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) production facility in Clayton. The expansion is considered the largest single manufacturing economic development investment in state history and will help Novo Nordisk meet the increasing global demand for our diabetes medicines, and the new API facility is expected to be operational in 2020.

Our current diabetes finished products facility

In addition to the API production facility that is currently under construction in Clayton, our 464,602 square foot aseptic manufacturing facility in Clayton, NC currently employs more than 800 people. The facility is part of a global network of manufacturing sites responsible for several key steps in the diabetes and obesity treatment manufacturing process, including sterile formulation, filling, inspection, assembly and packaging.

The facility supports 24/7 continuous operations with four dedicated day and night shift production teams, as well as on-site engineers, quality professionals and administrative staff in areas like HR, Finance, Accounting, IT and Supply Chain Procurement.

Expansion

Once complete, the new API production facility will measure 825,000 square feet and have a footprint of 95 acres — the equivalent to approximately seven football fields. It will be the first location outside of Denmark where Novo Nordisk diabetes active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) will be produced. This expansion is expected to create hundreds of jobs once fully operational. Novo Nordisk also expects to create a significant employment effect during the construction period, with up to 2,500 people working on the project at peak construction.

Economic impact

Novo Nordisk’s Clayton facility functions with the help of nearly 397 North Carolina suppliers and vendors, with a total annual expenditure of more than $76 million in 2018. We have supplier relationships with 262 small businesses, including female-, veteran- and minority-owned businesses. Additionally, we have paid more than $2.7 million to Johnston County in property tax in 2018.
For the community
We are parents, colleagues, neighbors and friends—people living with the complexities of serious diseases. And we believe in the combination of science and soul to help nurture each other back to good health. We live this mission at Novo Nordisk every day to benefit patients, their families, as well as the broader community.

Novo Nordisk is committed to making a difference in North Carolina. We partner with policy makers to address the community’s needs for improved diabetes and obesity care and provide support for and partner with organizations that share similar visions and goals. Other organizations we work with on the front lines include:

- Johnston Community College and Johnston County Workforce Development Center Board of Trustees, Scholarship Fund, and In-Kind Donations
- North Carolina State University Biotechnology Education Center, Center for Innovation Management Studies, and Women’s Center
- JDRF, North Carolina Triangle Chapter annual fundraising initiatives and advisory board
- United Way of the Greater Triangle annual fundraising initiatives
- Carolina Hurricanes/Kids ‘N Community Foundation Presenting Sponsor of the Power Play youth fitness program
- Johnston Health Foundation Healthy Kids Fund and advisory board
- Clayton Chamber of Commerce Champion Sponsor, Advisory Board and Workforce Development Committee
- JoCo Works Presenting Sponsor

Clinical research partnerships
We believe that partnerships, based on long-term commitment and mutual interest, are key to fostering innovation and bringing next generations of safe and effective medicines to our patients. Clinical activity conducted in North Carolina includes collaborating directly with investigators at institutions such as the University of North Carolina, UNC Diabetes Care Center.

Environmental Sustainability
Novo Nordisk’s focus is to be a sustainable business. Our Triple Bottom Line (TBL) principle is anchored in the way we do business, ensuring that our decisions balance financial, environmental and socially responsible considerations while always keeping in mind the best interests of the patients we serve.

The Clayton facility is involved in a variety of sustainability efforts, including:

- Implementing systems to support reusing, recycling and repurposing water and other raw materials
- $70 million investment in a solar panel installation in Pender County, NC, that will provide renewable electricity to all existing Novo Nordisk offices, laboratories and manufacturing facilities including the new manufacturing facility under construction in Clayton