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COLUMBUS BUSINESS FIRST

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Ohio's portfolio of medical devices firms ranked 2nd in Midwest

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Among Midwestern states, Ohio's more than 600 medical devices manufacturers and distributors are second in numbers only to those in Illinois, a new industry analysis states.

A report from **BioEnterprise Corp.**, a Cleveland biosciences business incubator, found Ohio had the second-highest concentration of medical devices makers and distributors registered with the federal **Food and Drug Administration** at 625 companies. Among Midwestern states, Ohio trails Illinois, home to 966 such businesses.

The showing in Ohio points to a shift in manufacturing in the state, to medical-related production from automotive and industrial markets, BioEnterprise officials said.

"The existing manufacturing base provides a strong foundation for Ohio's growing bioscience economy," BioEnterprise CEO Baiju R. Shah said in a release.

While the sector's economic impact on Ohio trails that of agricultural biotechnology and pharmaceuticals, medical devices producers and distributors were the largest employers in Ohio's bioscience industry, according to a December 2007 report by another group, BioOhio. That devices sector employed more than 12,000 workers and had an economic impact of \$2.8 billion in 2006.

The biosciences industry's estimated economic impact on the state exceeded \$27.3 billion in 2006.

According to BioOhio, the biosciences industry now accounts for nearly 18 percent of the state's economic output.

Ranking behind Ohio in the Midwest analysis by BioEnterprise were:

- Minnesota, with 577 medical devices manufacturers and distributors companies.
- Michigan, with 448 such firms.
- Indiana, with 359 similar companies.

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