

Iran Health Sector Guide

2nd Edition

Table of Contents

- Message from the President of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) 2
- Message from the President of Organization for Investment, Economic & Technical Assistance of Iran 3
- Message from the Head of Investment Center 4
- Center Missions 5
- Overview 7
- Major Trade Figures 12
- Why to Invest 15
- Investment Incentives 27
- Government Vision/Outlook 35
- Health Sector Investment Opportunities 41

Content Producers | *Leila Zibakalam, Nazgol Tafti*
Editors | *Abdollah Ahmadi, Marjan Yazdanpanahi*
Graphic Designer | *Leila Oruji*
Publisher | *Public Relations Department Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture*

© *2023* | *Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture*



Message from the President of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA)



For centuries, Iran has been a central player in the Silk Road, fostering trade, commerce, and the interchange of ideas and knowledge between the East and West. Despite being a large economy, Iran has yet to fully tap into its potential in the global market by actively engaging with the international community.

At the **Tehran Chamber of Commerce**, our objective is to ensure the utilization of Iran's vast potential, including its valuable human resources, to drive robust economic growth. We achieve this by providing enticing investment opportunities that generate job prospects and contribute to high economic expansion.

To this end, TCCIMA has established an Investment Center comprising esteemed members of the TCCIMA board, who bring firsthand experience to facilitate connections between our members and their counterparts in the global ecosystem. The primary aim of this initiative is to provide a dynamic platform for exchanging ideas, sharing experiences, and developing new professional services. This platform is crucial for fostering new relationships and partnerships, which are imperative for creating and successfully realizing joint ventures that serve the interests of Iran and the region.

As the president of TCCIMA, I extend a warm invitation to you to visit Iran and witness the abundant opportunities our country has to offer as a foundation for mutually beneficial collaborations.

H.E. Dr. Mahmoud Najafi Arab
President of Tehran Chamber of
Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture

Message from the President of Organization for Investment, Economic & Technical Assistance of Iran



Foreign investment plays a significant and multifaceted role in driving the growth and economic development of nations. It encompasses not only the acquisition of skills, technical expertise, and market supply but also the creation of value, fostering entrepreneurship, stimulating employment, expanding exports, and facilitating the infusion of essential currency and capital into investment endeavors. The establishment of a favorable economic environment, along with ensuring the security of foreign investments and implementing robust legal frameworks, while concurrently formulating investment incentives, lays the fundamental groundwork for attracting foreign capital. It is widely recognized that these factors collectively contribute to bolstering foreign investment inflows.

The Islamic Republic of Iran holds a prominent status on the global stage as an investment destination, thanks to its abundant mineral resources, expansive domestic and regional market, and strategic regional position. In line with the policies of the 13th government, which focus on fostering interaction and economic cooperation with neighboring and like-minded countries, the **Organization for Investment, Economic &Technical Assistance of Iran** has emerged as the official entity entrusted with attracting foreign capital from these nations. The primary objective is to facilitate collaborative Iranian-foreign investments, fortify economic ties with partner nations, and address the economic needs of regional countries through joint production of goods and services. By directing these investments towards fruitful economic and developmental activities, the aim is to create a conducive environment that promotes shared prosperity and sustainable growth.

H.E. Dr. Ali Fekry
President of Organization for
Investment,Economic & Technical Assistance of Iran

Message from the Head of Investment Center



TCCIMA has been a key player in the private sector of Iran and plays a central role in attracting foreign investment and sustaining economic development. The Chamber effectively communicates with the competent official and private authorities and helps the private sector by all facilities aiming at creating a better climate for business in the country. To boost the country's economic growth, there is need for a joint collaboration between Iran and other countries. In the **Investment Center**, it is our aim to provide foreign and also domestic investors with services and facilitate their investing process in Iran on the one hand, and on the other, offer a platform to Iranian private sector to flourish and reach its potentials.

Today, Iran is in a critical phase in terms of its economic history and it is our firm belief in the Investment Center that through sustainable investment, economic development of our country is not out of reach. Extending its cooperation with the international community can help highlight Iran as a new market of global significance and provide insight into the best practices.It is essential for Iran to move fast to identify gaps and provide solutions for investment promotion and economic growth. To achieve this, the private sector itself, and its chief arm, the Chamber of Commerce, adopt a leading role in defining the way forward. In the series of brochures that the Center has accumulated, an introduction and insight into investment opportunities of various economic sectors of Iran has been provided which we look forward to sharing with you.

Ferial Mostofi
President of Center of Investment & Consultancy Services

Center Missions

- To provide a platform for networking, cooperation, sharing and dissemination of ideas and information
- To provide consultation to investors on related issues (i.e. laws, regulations, tax, insurance, etc.)
- To outline different economic sectors' landscape and introduce investment opportunities and projects
- To identify investment regulation gaps, and propose mechanisms for facilitating investment processes to the related government bodies
- To facilitate more active participation of the private sector in the global value chains
- To hold training courses related to finance and investment training purposes



Overview



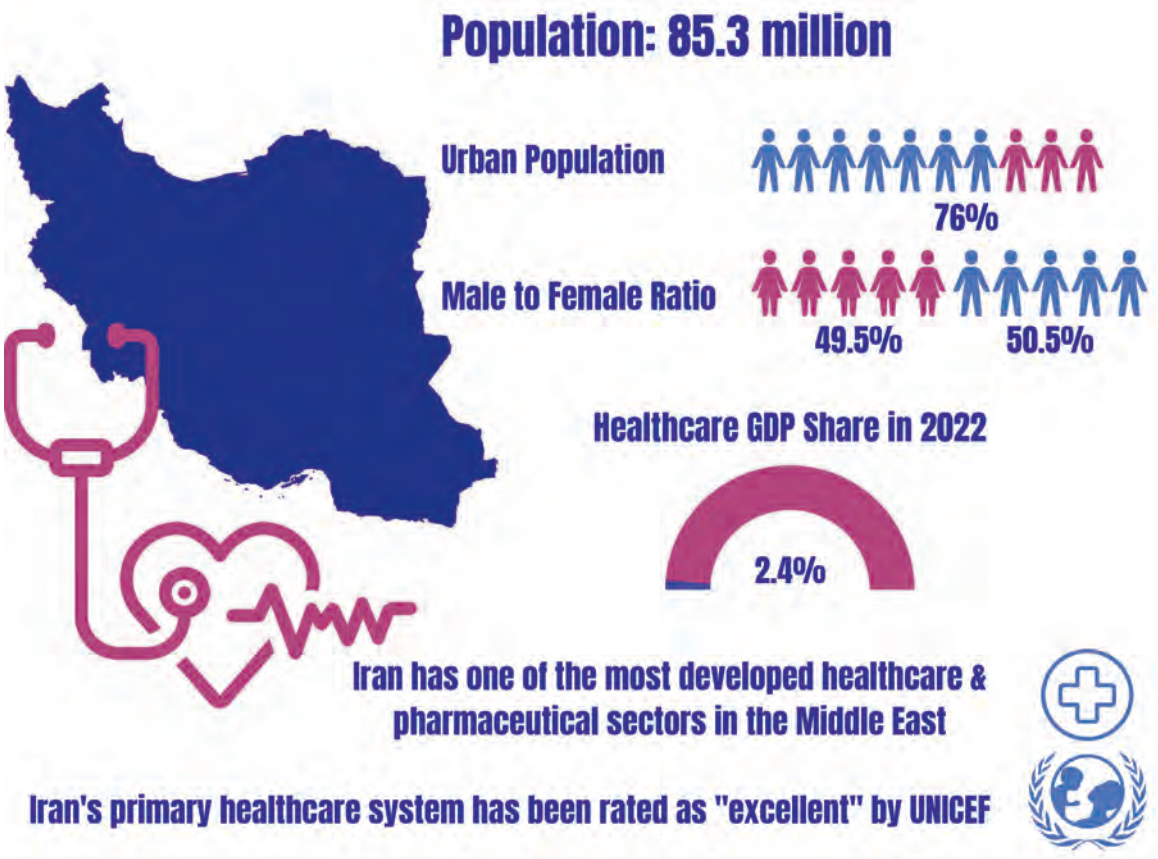
Overall Description of the Sector

The Islamic Republic of Iran's healthcare system has achieved the highest standards in the region approved by the World Health Organization.

The healthcare system in Iran is equipped with very well-trained and capable care team, a vast healthcare network and infrastructure and high standard teaching programs to educate the next generations of healthcare workers. Iran manufactures over 99% of its drug and nearly 50% of its medical equipment are domestically produced.

Healthcare in Iran is based on three pillars: **the public-governmental system, the private sector, and NGOs**.

The largest healthcare delivery network is owned and run by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME) through its network of health establishments and medical schools in the country. MOHME is in charge of provision of healthcare services through its network, medical insurance, medical education, supervision and regulation of the healthcare system in the country, policymaking, production and distribution of pharmaceuticals, and research and development.


Population: 85.3 million
Urban Population
76%
Male to Female Ratio
49.5%
50.5%
Healthcare GDP Share in 2022
2.4%
Iran has one of the most developed healthcare & pharmaceutical sectors in the Middle East
Iran's primary healthcare system has been rated as "excellent" by UNICEF

Additionally, there are other parallel organizations such as Medical Services Insurance Organizations (MSIO) that have been established to act as a relief foundation as well as an insurance firm.
Some hospitals, such as Mahak for children's cancer, are run by charitable foundations.
Iran's primary healthcare system has been rated as «excellent» by UNICEF.
The Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME) and the Social Security Organization (SSO) as the most important and the largest healthcare providers in Iran operate public hospitals. These hospitals are typically under the direct management of public universities.

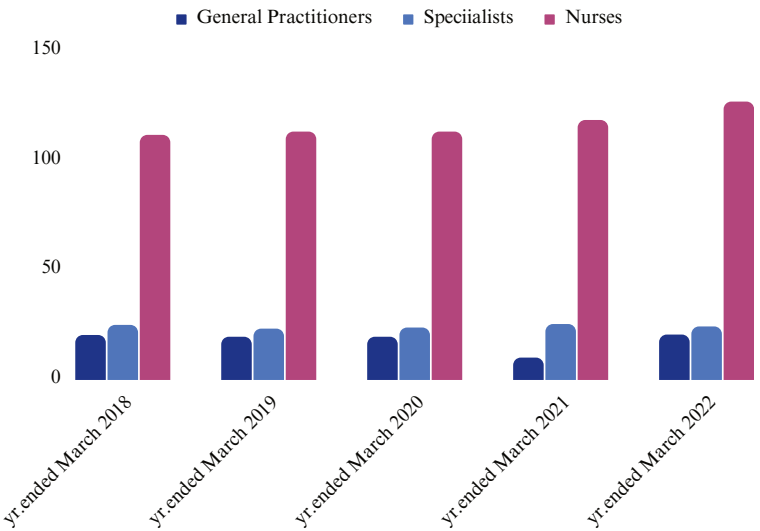


Hospitals, Hospital Beds, Pharmacies and Laboratories in the Year Ending in March 2022

	Number
Active Hospitals	1020
Active Hospital Beds	141607
Pharmacies	13052
Laboratories	4808

Source: Statistical Center of Iran

Ratio of General Practitioners, Specialists and Nurses in Every 10,000 people (2018-2022)



Source: Statistical Center of Iran

Major Trade Figures

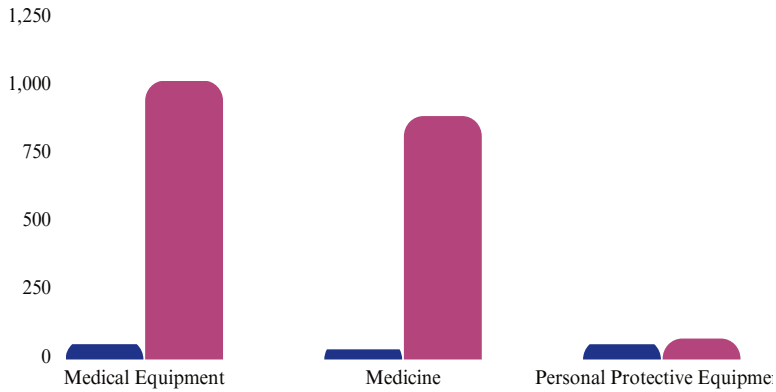
Iran's medical equipment and medicinal trade sector is a crucial component of the country's healthcare industry. The sector encompasses the import, export, manufacturing, and distribution of medical equipment, devices, and pharmaceutical products.

Iran has made significant strides in developing its domestic medical equipment manufacturing capabilities, producing a wide range of products such as diagnostic equipment, surgical instruments, imaging systems, and laboratory supplies. Additionally, the country imports medical equipment and devices from various international suppliers to meet the growing demand for advanced healthcare technologies. Iran's pharmaceutical industry is also robust, with domestic production meeting a significant portion of the country's medicinal needs.

The industry encompasses the manufacturing of generic and branded pharmaceuticals, vaccines, and biopharmaceuticals. Iran's pharmaceutical products are not only consumed domestically but are also exported to neighboring countries in the region.
The government of Iran has implemented policies to support the development of the medical equipment and medicinal trade sector, including investments in research and development, regulatory frameworks, and quality control standards. The sector plays a crucial role in improving healthcare services, enhancing access to medical technologies, and contributing to the overall well-being of the population in Iran.

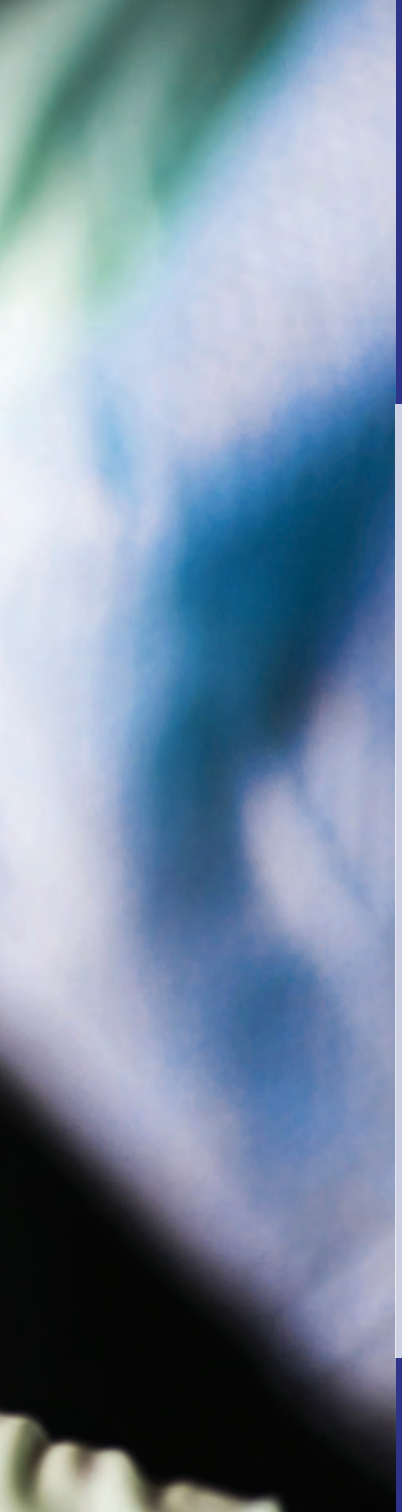
Iran's exports of pharmaceutical products reached USD 50 million, while its exports of medical equipment amounted to USD 30 million in the year ending 2022. In the year ending in March 2023 export of medical equipments and pharmaceutical products was USD 120 million.

Import and Export of Medical Equipment and Pharmaceutical Products (2020-2021)



Source: Statistical Center of Iran





Why to Invest

Iran is...

- Known to be one of the advanced countries in the region in the field of medical sciences education.
- Ranked 13th in the world in terms of production of scientific articles in the field of medical sciences education.
- Endowed with a well-established healthcare network and infrastructure and highly well-trained and capable care team.
- Home to a population of over 85 million which guarantees compelling investment opportunities in the country's healthcare division to investors.

Iran Offers...

- Great possibility for the engagement of the youth for effective health promotion programs as 50% of the population is under the age of 20 with a high level of literacy and education.
- An experienced workforce and is a regional leader in the development of science and health.
- An advanced medical care in a well-developed private health sector; if well-regulated, it can play a major role in the provision of quality primary, secondary and tertiary care as well as health tourism.
- Well-established research capacity and medical education nurturing the medical service.
- Good infrastructure for internationalization of medical universities and global partnership for public health and health diplomacy.





Medical Equipment

Iran boasts a thriving medical equipment industry, encompassing both domestic manufacturing and importation of state-of-the-art medical devices. The country has made substantial progress in producing a wide range of medical equipment, including diagnostic tools, imaging systems, surgical instruments, patient monitoring devices, and laboratory equipment. Iranian medical equipment manufacturers have invested in advanced technologies and quality control measures to ensure the production of reliable and effective devices. Additionally, Iran imports cutting-edge medical equipment from renowned international suppliers to meet the growing demand for advanced healthcare technologies.
The sector has witnessed significant growth, driven by the country›s commitment to improving healthcare infrastructure, expanding access to medical services, and enhancing patient care. The Iranian government has implemented policies to support the development of the medical equipment industry, encouraging research and development, promoting local manufacturing, and ensuring regulatory compliance.
There are currently approximately 1718 manufacturers of medical equipment operating in Iran that produce 1427 types of medical equipment and 70 to 80 of them export their products. Even though Iran is not considered a major foreign exporter of medical devices, over the recent decades, the export volume of these devices has steadily been growing.

Medicinal Plants

Iran is renowned for its rich biodiversity and abundant medicinal plants, making it a treasure trove for herbal medicine. The country's diverse climate and geographical features provide ideal conditions for the growth and cultivation of a wide range of medicinal plants. Iran is home to numerous indigenous species, such as **saffron, cumin, mint, chamomile, turmeric, and licorice**, which have been used for centuries in traditional Persian medicine. These plants possess valuable therapeutic properties and are utilized in various herbal remedies and natural healthcare products. The Iranian government recognizes the importance of preserving and harnessing the potential of medicinal plants and has implemented initiatives to support their cultivation, research, and sustainable harvesting. Iran's rich herbal heritage and the increasing global demand for natural remedies have also opened opportunities for the export of medicinal plants and herbal products, contributing to the country›s economy. The study and utilization of medicinal plants in Iran continue to play a significant role in promoting holistic health and traditional healing practices.

There are about 8 to 10 thousand types of plants in Iran about 2,300 of which are medicinal. Moreover, 1,728 species are domestically cultivated and they are the native plants of Iran which grow in this country only.





Health Tourism

Approximately 200 hospitals and clinics now have permission to accept foreign patients via IPD (International Patients Department) permits. In addition, a council was founded by the Iran Tourism Development Association, with the goal of raising investment and receiving support from government bodies to boost health tourism. The above-mentioned association is also responsible to promote and introduce authorized centers to Iranians and foreigners seeking medical care.
Iran is ranked 46th global destination in 2020-2021 Medical Tourism Index. What sets Iran apart in the medical tourism sector is not just the cost advantage, but also its unique specialties like infertility treatment, spinal surgeries, and eye surgeries, among others. Also, the short waiting times for treatments and procedures is a boon for medical tourists, allowing for quicker treatment plans and recovery times.





Iran's two most popular medical tourist cities are Tehran and Mashhad. 90% of foreign patients in Iran are from **Afghanistan, Iraq, Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.** Medical tourists travel to Iran for organ transplants (especially liver), orthopedic treatments, knee arthroplasty, dental care, cosmetic surgeries and so on. The Razavi hospital in Mashhad (Khorasan Razavi), Namazi hospital in Shiraz (Fars Province) and two health centers in Tehran are frontier hospitals that are very well-known in this line of work.





Pharmaceutical Industry

Iran is a large pharmaceutical market in the region and has witnessed a massive growth in this industry in comparison with other developing countries and the pharma emerging markets.

The market for this industry is expanding rapidly while a major share of it goes to biotechnology drugs, which implies the need for commercialization activities in novel fields like pharmaceutical biotechnology.

The pharmaceutical spending constitutes 20% of total treatment costs and the World Health Organization has predicted a growth of 15% in pharmaceutical industry's sales. Iran exported around USD 50 million worth of medicines mainly to the neighboring countries in the year ending March 2022.

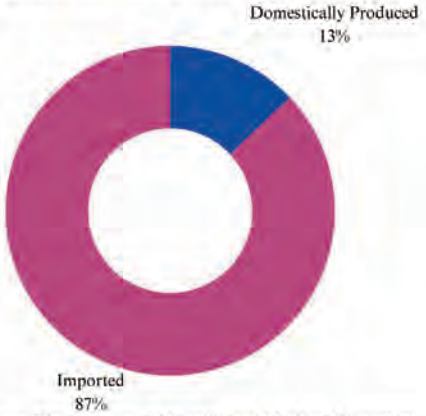


Sale of Imported and Domestically Produced Medicines by Volume in the year ended March 2023



Source: The Ministry of Health and Medical Education

Sale of Imported and Domestically Produced Medicines by Value in the year ended March 2023



Source: The Ministry of Health and Medical Education

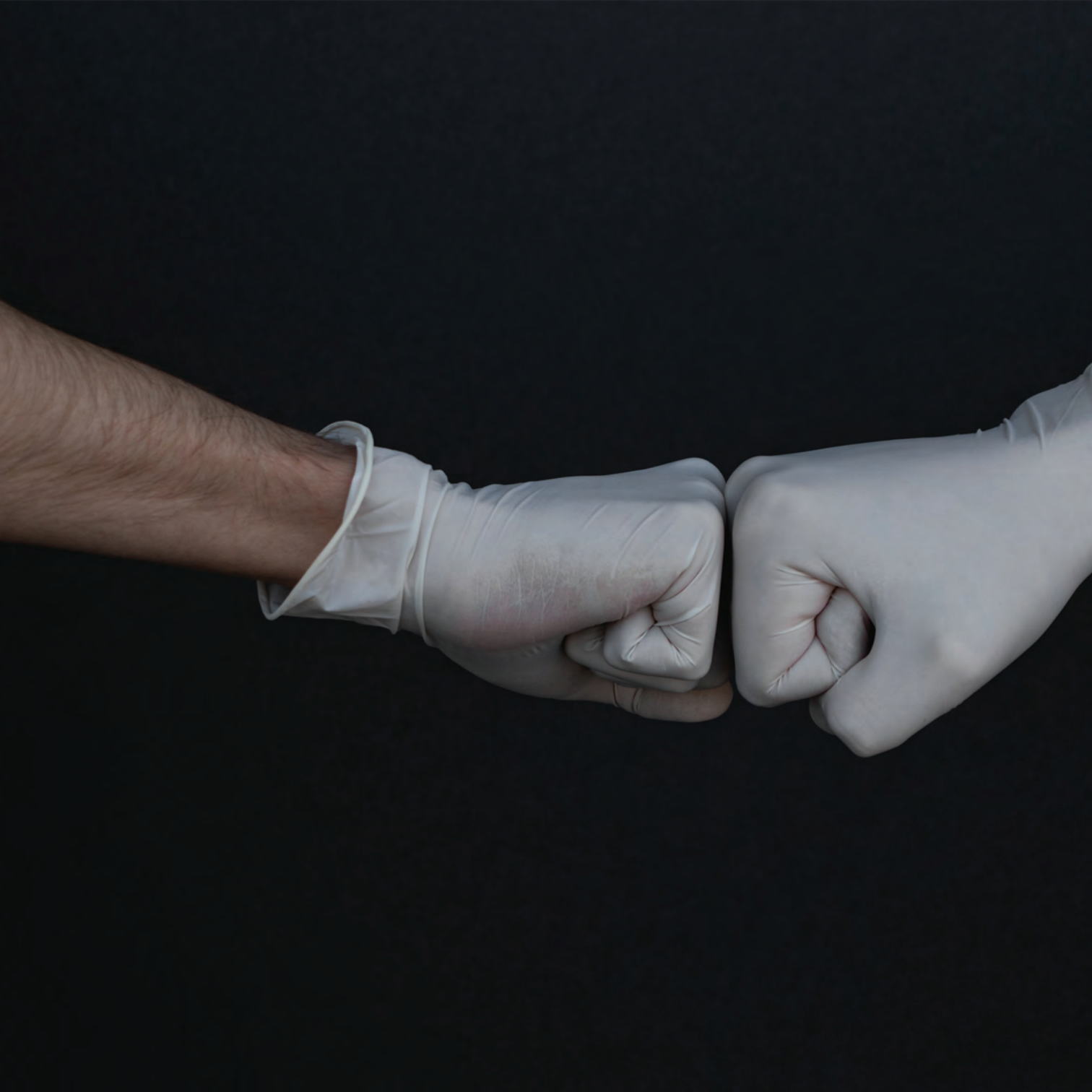




Status of Pharmaceutical Companies in the Year Ended March 2023

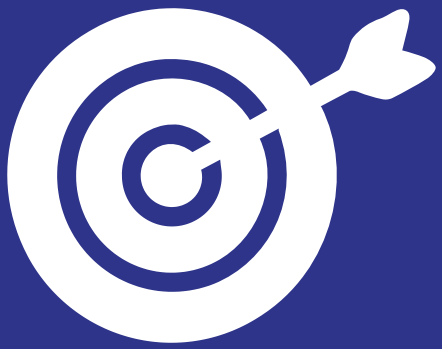
	Numbers
Manufacturers	172
Import companies	154
Supply Companies	307
Distribution Companies	42

Source: The Ministry of Health and Medical Education





Investment Incentives



Income Tax with Rate of 0.0%	Duration of Exemption
Industry, Mining & Services (Hospital & Hotels)	5 Years
Industry, Mining & Services (Hospital & Hotels) in Industrial Parks and Especial Economic Zones	7 Years
Industry, Mining & Services (Hospital & Hotels) in Less Developed Areas	10 Years
Industry, Mining & Services (Hospital & Hotels) in Less Developed Areas located at Industrial Parks and Especial Economic Zones	13 Years
100% of Income Derived Agricultural Activities	Perpetual
100 % of Income Derived From Export of Services, Non-oil goods, Agricultural Products and 20% of Income Derived from Export of Non – Processed goods	Perpetual

*Fixed Corporate Income Tax at a Flat Rate of 25%

Incentives Offered by Features & Advantages of Foreign Investment Promotion & Protection Act (FIPPA)

The decree that protects and encourages foreign investors and provides a framework for activities of foreign investors in Iran referred to as Incentives Offered by Features & Advantages of Foreign Investment Promotion & Protection Act (FIPPA) was passed in 2002. This decree enables foreign investors to make investment in all economic sectors in Iran while receiving incentives and protections that are offered by the Organization for Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran.

It needs to be noted though that only investors who have obtained FIPPA license will receive these incentives and protections. The Organization for Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran is responsible for granting foreign investors with these licences and upon receiving them, the investors will receive the services offered by this organization for as long as they are carrying their businesses in Iran.

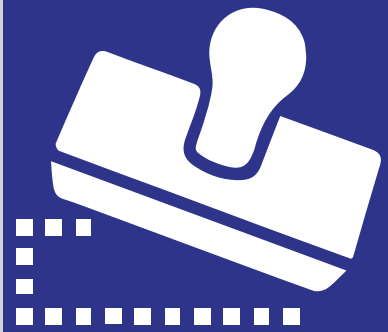
Upon receiving the FIPPA licence, all rights and interests of foreign investors are acknowledged and protection against non-commercial risks is granted.

Further, this licence ensures that the Iranian government would not only facilitate swift return of the investments made to the home country (or any other country for that matter) that the investors wish to transfer their assets to, but would also pay the full compensation price in occasions that the activities of foreign investors have been disrupted or delayed illegally.

The Organization for Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran has set up investment centers in Tehran and other major cities in Iran to offer services in all areas that are related to investment.

FIPPA License Facilities:

- Transfer of capital, dividend and the profits gained in the form of currency or goods.
- Unrestricted partnership percentage for foreign investors.
- Possibility of registering an Iranian company with 100% foreign capital.
- Same behavior with both foreign and domestic investors.
- Investment possibility for foreign real and legal persons and Iranians residing abroad.
- Investment possibility in all areas permitted to the private sector.
- Providing protection for all foreign investment plans.
- Fast and short application and approval process for foreign investors.
- Issuance of a 3 -year residence permit for investors, managers, foreign experts and their first-degree relatives.
- Receiving full protection by the government against all non-commercial risks.
- Paying towards due commitments of foreign investors by Iranian government in occasions that an investment project has been stopped or delayed by the government.
- If foreign companies use the capacity of domestic production units and export at least 20% of the total production, from the day they start their collaboration with the domestic unit, they will enjoy one year of tax-break followed by a 5-year tax exemption of 50% which is extended to 11 years in underdeveloped areas.



Other Tax Incentives

- Taxable incomes of knowledge-based institutions resulting from the contracts, research and development activities, commercialization and knowledge-based services are exempted from taxes for 20 years.
- Companies with more than 50 employees: in case of increasing the employment volume up to 50% in comparison to the previous year, will enjoy one added year of exemption.
- If foreign companies with the capacity of domestic production units start business with authentic brands and export at least 20% of total production, they can benefit 50% of tax exemption.
- If the total taxable income is equal to or less than registered capital, 50% of income will be tax free.

Less Developed Areas

- If the total taxable income capital is equal to or less than the double of registered capital, 100% of the income will be tax free.
- In case of each 5% foreign investment, 10% will be added to the two incentives for a maximum of 50%.

Export Tax Exemption

- 100% of the income gained through export of non-oil goods and services and agricultural products, and %20 of raw materials is exempted from tax.
- 100% of the income gained through export of products that have been imported to Iran in the form of transit is exempted from tax payment.
- 50% of tax rate discount is offered for exporting at least 20% of the manufactured goods that are produced with foreign investment input.

A comparison of Privileges and Legal Exemptions between Mainland, Free Zones and Special Economic Zones			
Topic	**Mainland**	**Free Zones**	**Special Economic Zones**
Foreign nationals visa	Visa Requirement	No Visa Requirement	No Visa Requirement
Foreigners' employment	Subject to the issuance of an employment permit and in accordance with the rules of employment of foreign nationals	Specific incentives in accordance with the regulations of the Employment of Manpower	Specific incentives in accordance with the regulations of the Employment of Manpower
Possibility of importing goods and raw materials without paying customs duties and customs benefit taxes	In limited particular cases	Exempted	Exempted
Customs duties on import of manufactured goods to mainland	Subject to customs procedures	In- part exemptions on the basis of added value and domestic raw materials (Value Added Commission)	In- part exemptions on the basis of added value and domestic raw materials (Value Added Commission)
Export of goods and equipment abroad	Subject to mainland export regulation	Without the changes subject to export regulations	Without the changes subject to export regulations
Import of commercial goods into mainland	Subject to customs procedures	Applying specific incentives to reduce customs benefit taxes	Subject to customs procedures
Tax exemption on economic activities	Only in industrial parks and deprived regions from 5 to 13 years	20-year exemption	Between 7 to 13 years
Monetary and banking operations	In accordance with national monetary and banking regulations	Establishment of bank and credit institutions with domestic and foreign capital is permitted	In accordance with national monetary and banking regulations
Cross border banking	Not allowed	Possibility to establish branch and foreign bank	Not allowed
External car traffic	Allowed temporary passage in limited time	Allowed in the authorized radius	Not allowed
Import of machinery and equipment	Tariff payment according to the year of manufacture required	Exempt from paying tariffs disregard of year of manufacture	Exempt from paying tariffs disregard of year of manufacture

Investment Incentives in Special Economic Zones

An overview of the performance of Special Economic Zones indicates that those zones are particularly points for production, export, transit, technology transfer and provision of resources, utilizing geographical capacities and economic advantages, within the goals set by the legislator for specific regions. So far, the Islamic Consultative Assembly (the Parliament) has approved the law on the establishment of 79 Special Economic Zones and 33 Zones have a State responsible organization.

The Most important Special Economic Zones include: ***Energy Pars, Bandar Imam Khomeini Petrochemicals, Persian Gulf Mining and Metal Industries, Persian Gulf Shipbuilding, Bushehr, Salafchegan, Shiraz, Sarakhs, Yazd, Sirjan, Arg Jadid Bam, Lorestan, Payam, Shahid Rajaee Port, Bushehr Port, Amirabad Behshahr Port, Lamard, Dogharoon, Imam Khomeini Port, Noshahr Port, Rafsanjan, Lavan, Kaveh, Zarandieh, Sahlan, Astara Port, Islam Abad Gharb.***

Investment Incentives in Trade-Industrial Zones

"Trade-Industrial Zones", have been included in the program of work of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran from two decades ago. Today, development of their domain of action, with the purpose of boosting and facilitating production of goods and services, and their export, alongside assisting with and contributing to the transfer of advanced technologies, boosting and facilitating the provision of requirements and urgent needs, as well as provision of financial resources and foreign investment, together with development of strategic ties and expansion of cooperation and participation of countries from the region and the world, have been all emphasized at the highest levels of policy-making of the country which have also been ratified by the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. To achieve the above-mentioned objectives, the eight Iranian trade-industrial free zones of ***Kish, Qeshm, Chabahar, Arvand, Aras, Anzali, Maku, Imam Khomeini Airport*** located in all around boundaries of the country, welcome investors and international economic activists to participate in a variety of opportunities for investment and business in those free trade industrial zones. They are ready to facilitate and expedite all the relevant process as they have prepared the physical infrastructures of utilities, transportation and communications, while introducing facilitating rules and regulations beside financial and tax incentives. The Iranian Free zones are prepared and attractive platforms for small European and non-European companies and enterprises.



Government Vision / Outlook



Health Outlook

The priorities set by the Islamic Republic of Iran in its Vision 2025, are health initiatives approved by the president and government and are aimed at improving the use of health services and providing acceptable healthcare services in the country. Since its implementation in 2015, the Health Transformation Program has improved the quality of public health services, particularly the hospital care, according to national and international reports.

Beside this program, the recent approved general 7th Development Plan also emphasizes on the quality of public health services via the 5-year health road map plan to provide complete health insurance coverage of 100% for the entire population of Iran

The Ministry of Health and Medical Education has carried out a needs assessment within the health sector to lay out the roadmap of this sector over the next five years. This road map consists of seven main areas of focus for the health sector that are as follows:



Hospital Complexes

The Islamic Republic of Iran's 7th Five Year Development Plan aims for a ratio of 2.6 beds/1000 people to get closer to the world average. To achieve this goal, 115 K new beds must be installed over five years, corresponding to about USD 15 billion of expenditure. This figure includes 20 super general hospitals with a capacity of 500 to 1000 patients. Further, the allocation of semi-completed civil projects can be determined through various means, such as outsourcing or involving both private and non-governmental public sectors in public-interest infrastructure initiatives. An example of this would be the partial completion of hospital bed facilities, which can be achieved through collaborative efforts.

Pharmaceutical Industry

Iranian pharmaceutical companies focus on the production of high-tech medicines which can be exported to emerging markets; in addition, they are working hard to meet the demands and maintain the sector's growth rate. In the 7th Development Plan, an emphasis has been placed on increasing production capacity of pharmaceutical production and expand to regional markets.

Health Tourism

Iran has set ambitious targets for its tourism industry, aiming to generate an annual revenue of USD 25 billion by 2025. A significant portion of this target, specifically USD 2.5 billion, is projected to come from the attraction of two million medical tourists per year by the end of 2025.

Central Laboratories

The diagnostic laboratory capacity of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which must be expanded in quantity and efficiency, is one of the key areas of interest within the health sector. More than fifty mega laboratories are expected to be designed on the basis of geographical and national needs according to the National Plan, in order to help increase the country's network quality and efficiency.

Comprehensive Cancer Center

The number of patients suffering from cancer, and the need for cancer centers, is growing. The Ministry of Health and Medical Education has divided the country into 13 hubs and according to the plan, every hub must have its own PET scan; some regular Type 2 and Type 3 satellite centers, and one to four linear accelerators (LINACs).

Imaging Centers

The Ministry of Health and Medical Education has decided to change its policy from purchasing equipment to the domestic procurement of it. Under the new strategy, The Ministry of Health and Medical Education has guaranteed the sufficient volume of facilities and resources that service providers should be able to use on the basis of the mutual agreement.









Health Sector Investment Opportunities

Hygiene plays a crucial role in all modern societies and is considered as a basic right for all the individuals. Given that the Islamic Republic of Iran's healthcare system has achieved the highest standards in the region approved by the World Health Organization and also the fact that Iran is equipped with highly well-trained health care team in various fields and specialties, there are plenty of investment opportunities in different areas of the health sector that investors can take advantage of.

Supplemental Insurance

The regular health insurance plans namely Social Security Organization plan and Iran Healthcare plan only cover basic healthcare costs and the majority of the costs are paid by the individuals. Also, with increasing healthcare costs, there is a need to offer supplemental insurance plans. Therefore, one of the areas in which there are great investment potentials is the insurance industry which is a very profitable area within the health sector.





Dialysis Centers

One of the facts indicating that Iranian health care status needs special attention is the continued growth of the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). In Iran it is predicted that this disease will have an upward trajectory dus to population, economic and cultural developments. ESRD patients' overhead, adverse effect and hospitalization rates are greatly affected by the health care economy and treatment patterns. In most of the hospitals' healthcare centers, there are 474 permanent centers of hemodialysis, 86% being public, 8% private and 8% charity. In the first step, due to the small number of dialysis centers in the country, as well as the limited profitability and poor service efficiency of many of them, a ,USD 130 million investment is required to establish new centers for the country.

Pharmaceutical Industry

Over the past decade, Iran's government has taken a shift toward manufacturing its medicine instead of importing it. Therefore, by investing in this fast-growing industry and the large market that is there for it, pharmaceutical industry offers valuable investment opportunities to investors. Using PPP (public private partnership) is one of the most popular approaches for attracting investment in this field.





Medicinal Plants

Iran's unique geographical position has provided suitable circumstances for cultivation of various types of medical plants in the country some of which are particular to Iran. Furthermore, Iran has a long history of using traditional medicine to treat diseases and illnesses. Therefore, making investment in this area can be very profitable as medical plants can be exported to other countries as well.

Imaging Centers

Medical imaging devices and technologies currently play a crucial role for diagnosis and treatment of illnesses . In different parts of the country, a vast number of public hospitals need to be equipped with multiple imaging systems or are in need of having their existing imaging centers upgraded.

The Iranian health-care industry needs to increase the number of imaging equipment in the following areas: hearing imaging, mammography, CT scan, angiography, gamma camera, MRI and optical radiology, in order to improve the diagnostic capability in the health system. Given that the existing number of imaging centers in Iran do not suffice the country's population of over 80 million, there is an investment opportunity to establish imaging centers.

Knowledge-based Institutions

Given the young and educated workforce in Iran and the importance of research and development within the new fields of science, there is great investment opportunity in this area.





Dental and Oral Medicine Hospitals

In the Islamic Republic of Iran, the need to provide dentistry services is growing because of higher life expectancy and population growth. Due to the population ratio to the number of dental clinics, the condition in megacities is more severe. In Iran, the expansion of basic and supplementary dental insurance coverage and deeds requires new therapy centers. The need to establish new service centers in Iran is intensified by expanding insurance coverage through regular and complimentary plans on preventive and diagnostic dental procedures.



Physiotherapy and rehabilitation Centers

Given the shortage of physiotherapy and rehabilitation centers in Iran, and also the country's aging population, making investment in this area is possible for investors.

Health Tourism

According to the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Iran receives between 500 to 600 thousand medical tourists every year and the ultimate goal is to gain USD 25 billion of annual income through attracting medical tourists which requires mega investments.

CIC Other Publications













Scan to receive brochures PDF files.

TEHRAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
INDUSTRIES, MINES AND AGRICULTURE
www.tccim.ir

Organization for Investment, Economic
and Technical Assistance of Iran
www.investiniran.ir

Cic.tccim.ir
Cic@tccim.ir

CENTER OF INVESTMENT AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Add: No. 82 ,Vozara Ave.
Tehran-Iran
Postal Code:1511917613
Tel:+98 21 88726793
Fax:+98 21 88720461-2