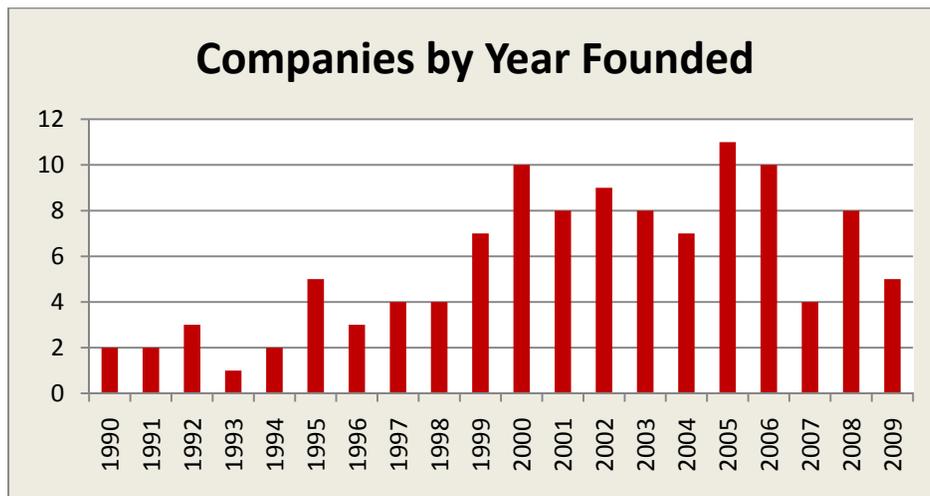# BIOTECHPROFILES
Madison's Biotechnology Industry: Companies by Year Founded

Several metrics are often used to assess the health and vibrancy of an industry. A key one is assessed here – the rate at which new companies are being created. This metric also closely tracks the concept of "critical mass"; the more frequently companies are formed and the larger they become, the more the industry becomes self-sustaining and/or a growth industry, able to generate new businesses and job opportunities.

The data below are based on the active companies in the *BiotechProfiles* database (as of April 2010) founded within the past twenty years.

What it shows is a healthy, steady rate of new biotech companies being formed in Madison over a span of two decades. From modest beginnings, the rate of new company formation surpassed 10 companies for the first time in 2000, followed by a decade of solid growth. Overall the most recent decade averaged 8.0 new company formations annually, a marked improvement over the 3.3 average in the preceding decade. Even in the turbulent period since 2007, new companies continue to be formed.

One caveat to interpreting the table above is that it utilizes the date on which a company was founded, irrespective of where the company was located at the time. This may understate or overstate a given year's activity. For example, during 2009 four companies were founded as legal entities in Madison: Aldevron Madison, CRV USA, VistaMotif, and AlgaXperts. However, two companies that were founded in earlier years relocated to Madison from Massachusetts: Flex Biomedical (founded 2007), Exact Sciences Corporation (founded 1995) and three other companies opened local research units while maintaining headquarters elsewhere: Procyon Pharmaceuticals (founded 2008), AimsBio (founded 2006), and Phyllotech (founded 2009). One company – Integrated Genomics – opened a lab early in the year but closed it in December due to financial hardship. So the net gain in 2009 was actually 9 companies, in line with the historical average for the decade.

If you'd like to see a current table that displays all companies sorted by the year in which they were founded, on the navigation menu select Company Search > Companies By Age.

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