



Startups worldwide

STARTUPS WORLDWIDE

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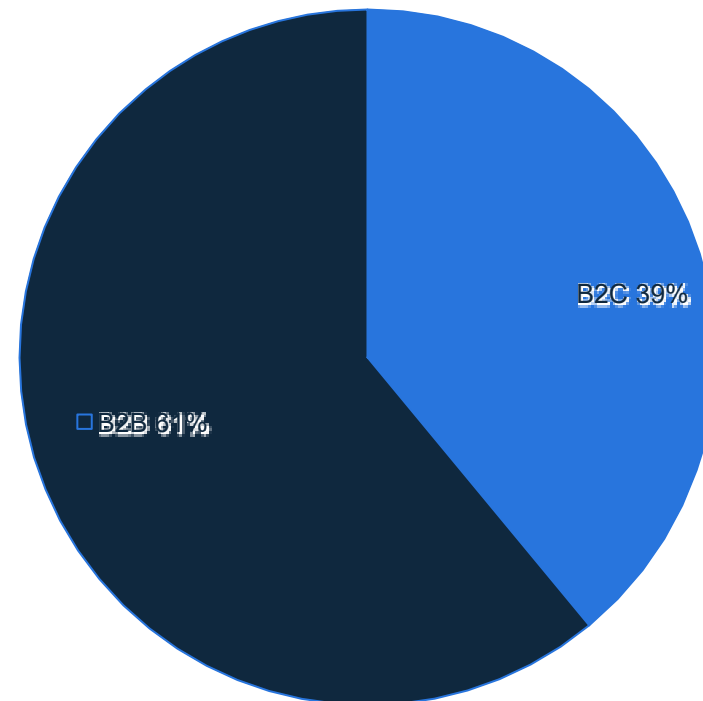
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Overview

Distribution of super startup companies offering B2B and B2C solutions worldwide in 2020

Distribution of super startups focused on B2B and B2C worldwide 2020



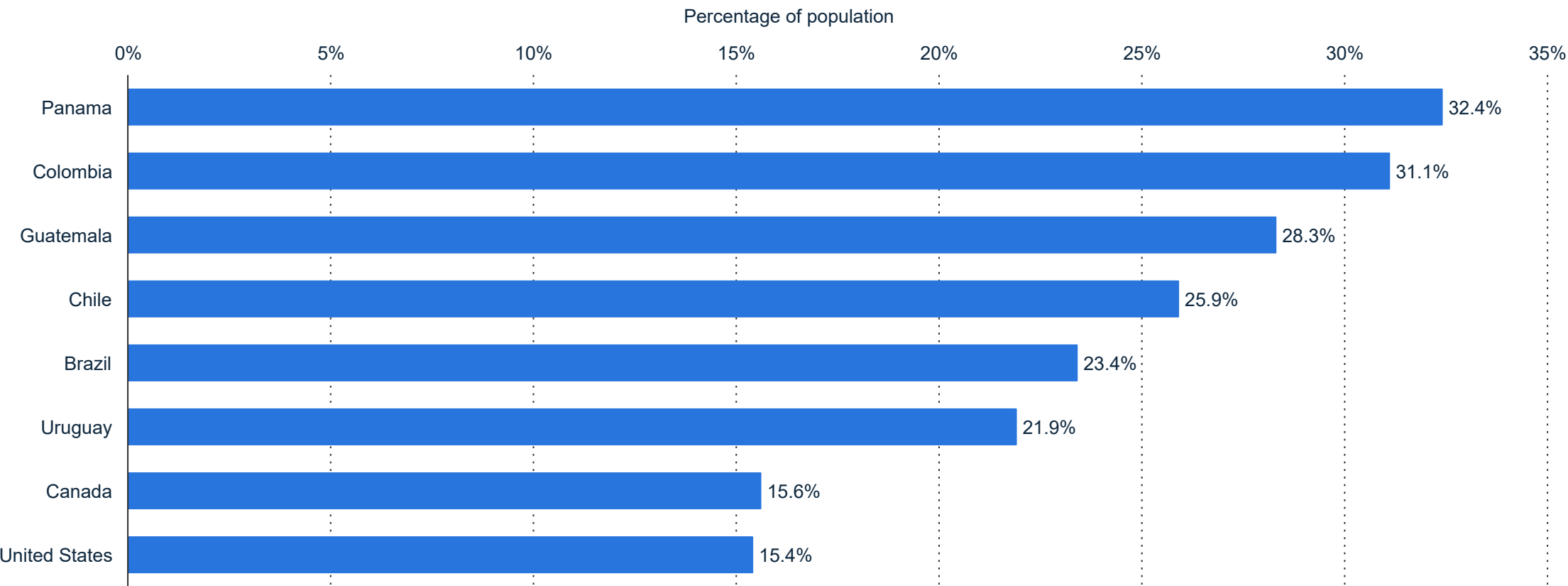
Note(s): Worldwide; 2020

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 27](#).

Source(s): Tech Tour; PitchBook; [ID 1098800](#)

Percentage of population involved in business start-ups in the Americas in 2020, by country

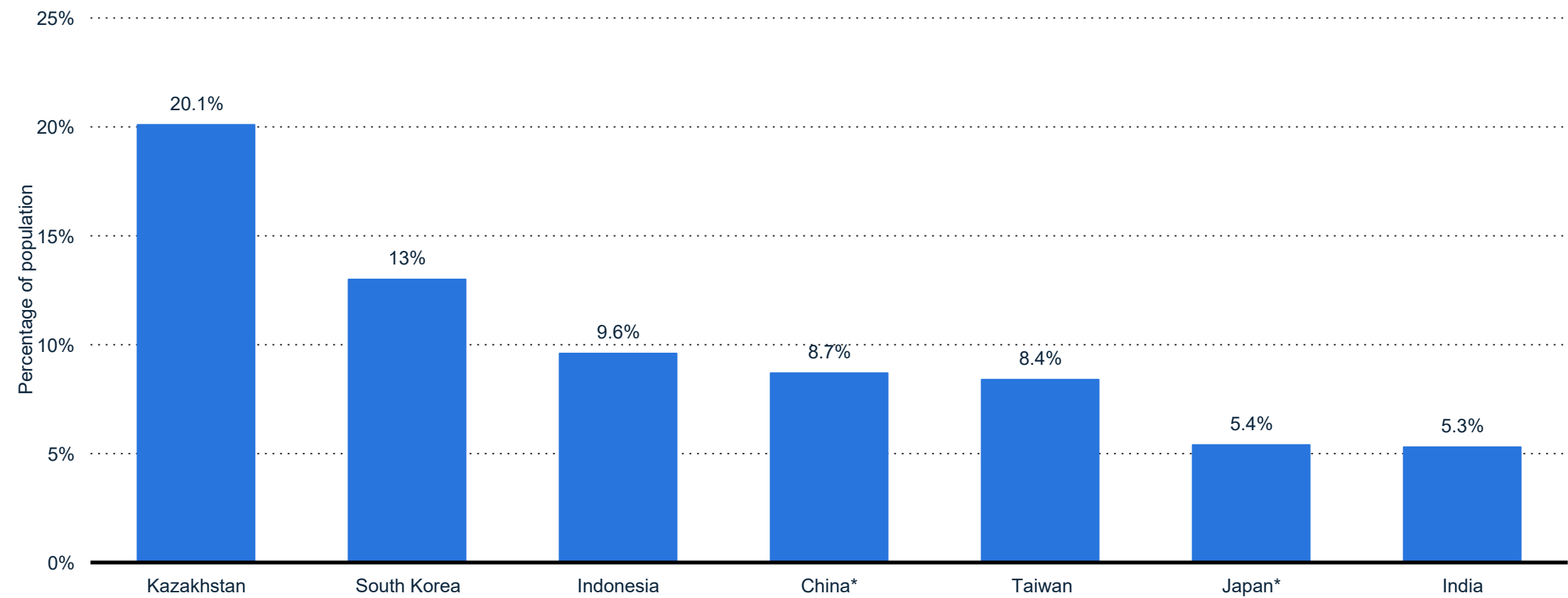
Early-stage entrepreneurial activity in the Americas 2020, by country



Note(s): North America, Central and South America; 2020; 18-64 years; about 2,000 per country; data is composed of the Adult Population Survey and the National Expert Survey
Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 28](#).
Source(s): GEM; [ID 315492](#)

Percentage of population involved in business start-ups in Asia in 2020, by country

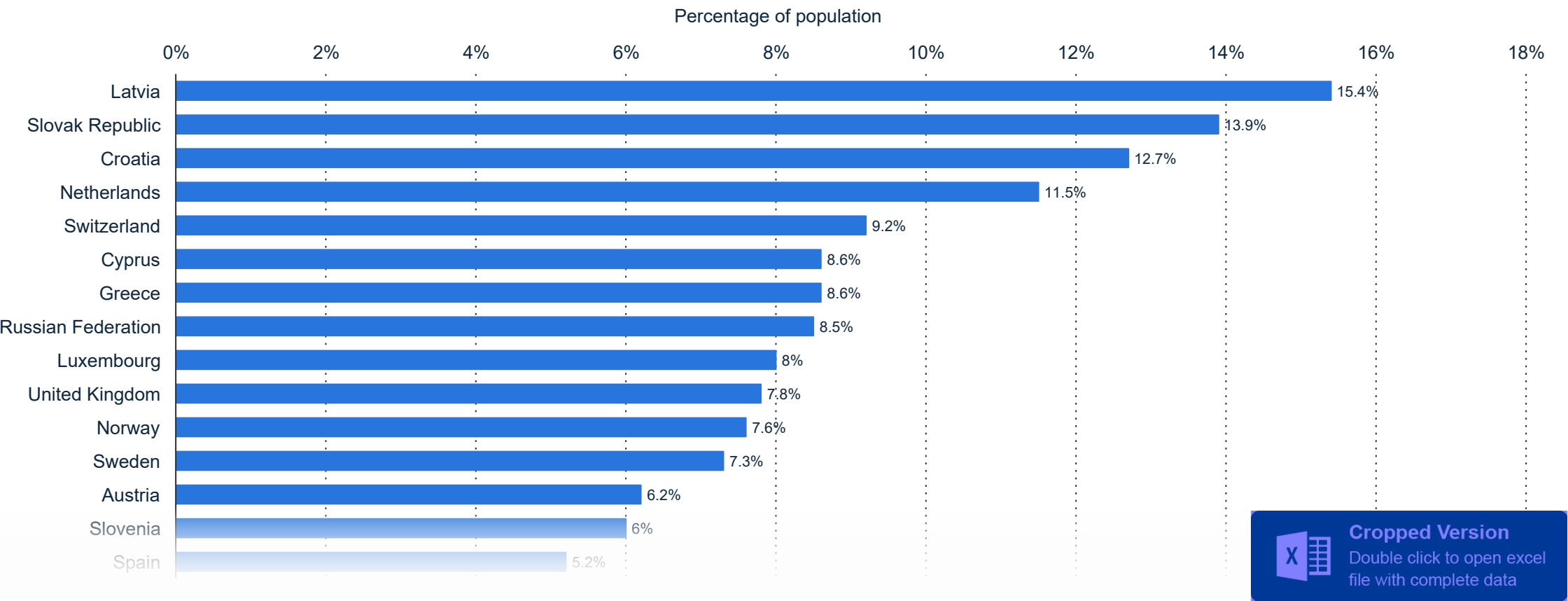
Early-stage entrepreneurial activity rate in Asia by country 2020



Note(s): Asia; 2020; 18-64 years; about 2,000 per country; data is composed of the Adult Population Survey and the National Expert Survey
Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 29](#).
Source(s): GEM; [ID 315499](#)

Percentage of population involved in business start-ups in Europe in 2020, by country

Early-stage entrepreneurial activity rate in Europe, by country 2020



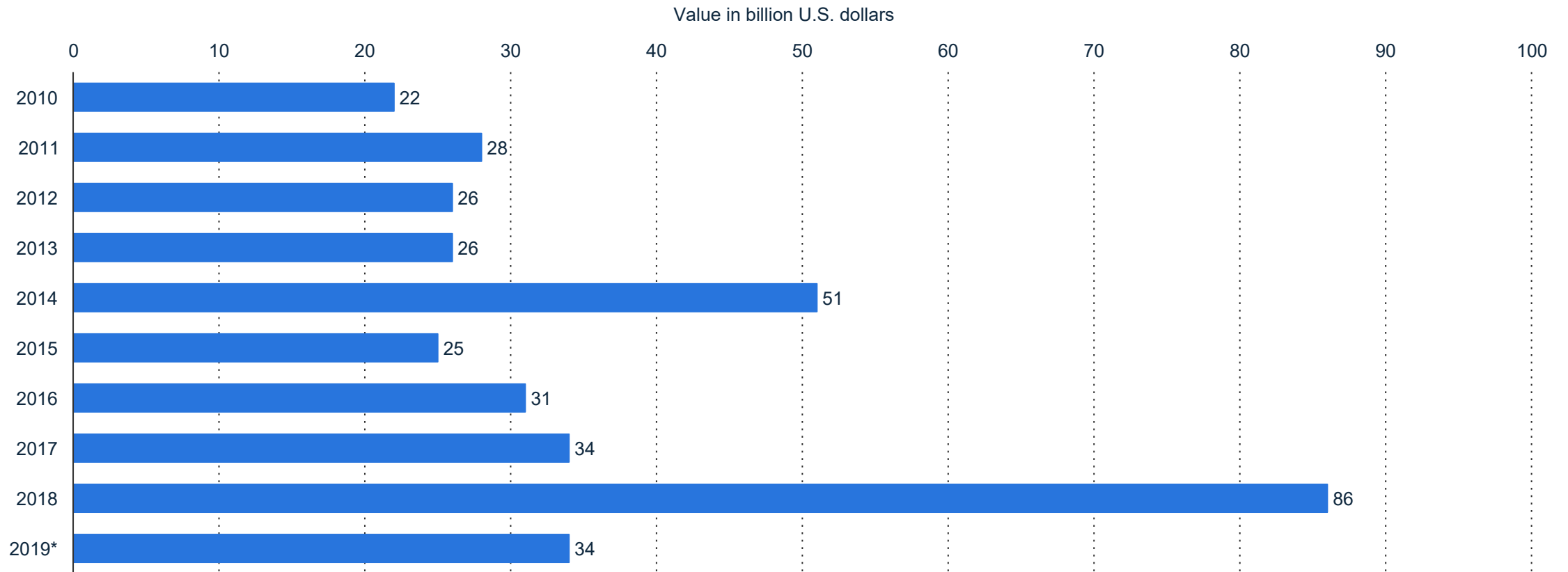
Note(s): Europe; 2020; 18-64 years; about 2,000 per country; data is composed of the Adult Population Survey and the National Expert Survey
Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 30](#).
Source(s): GEM; [ID 315502](#)

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Funding

Value of venture capital activity globally 2010 to 2019 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Value of venture capital activity globally 2010-2019



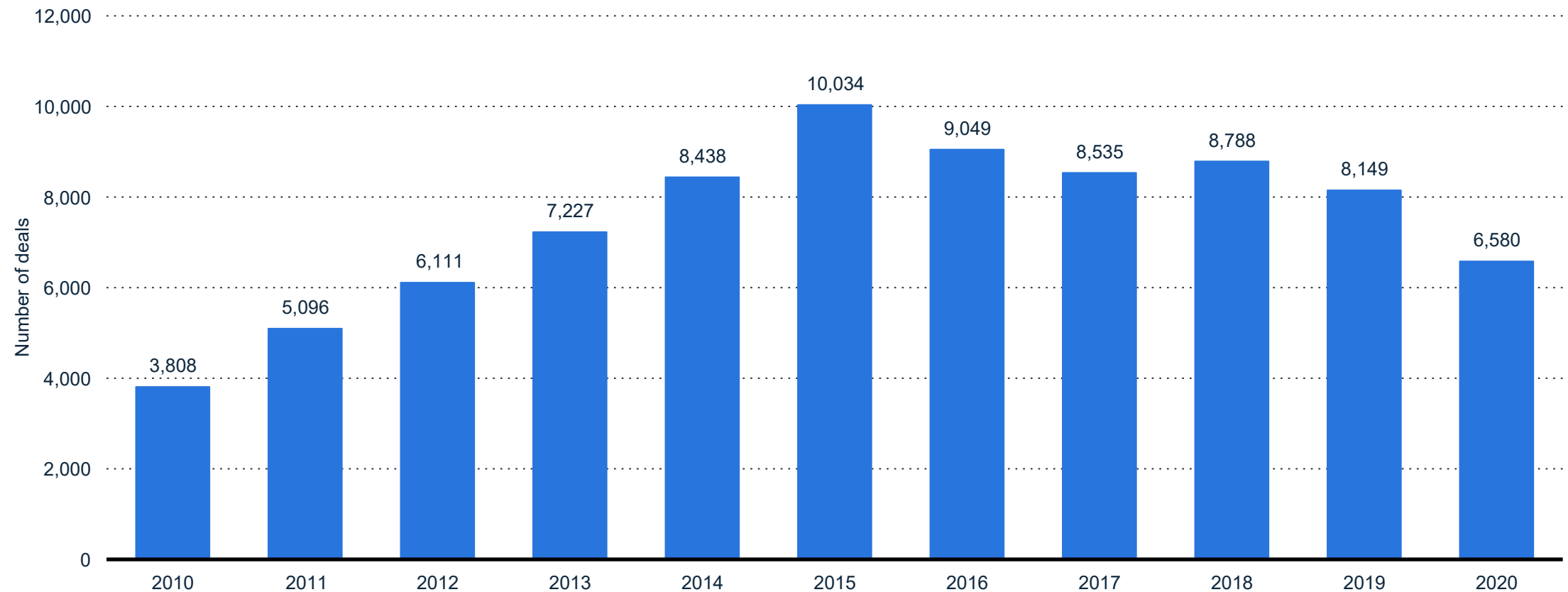
Note(s): Worldwide; 2010 to 2018

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 31](#).

Source(s): Various sources (451 Research); [ID 1054990](#)

Number of first-time venture capital financing deals worldwide from 2010 to 2020

Volume of first-time VC financing deals globally 2010-2020



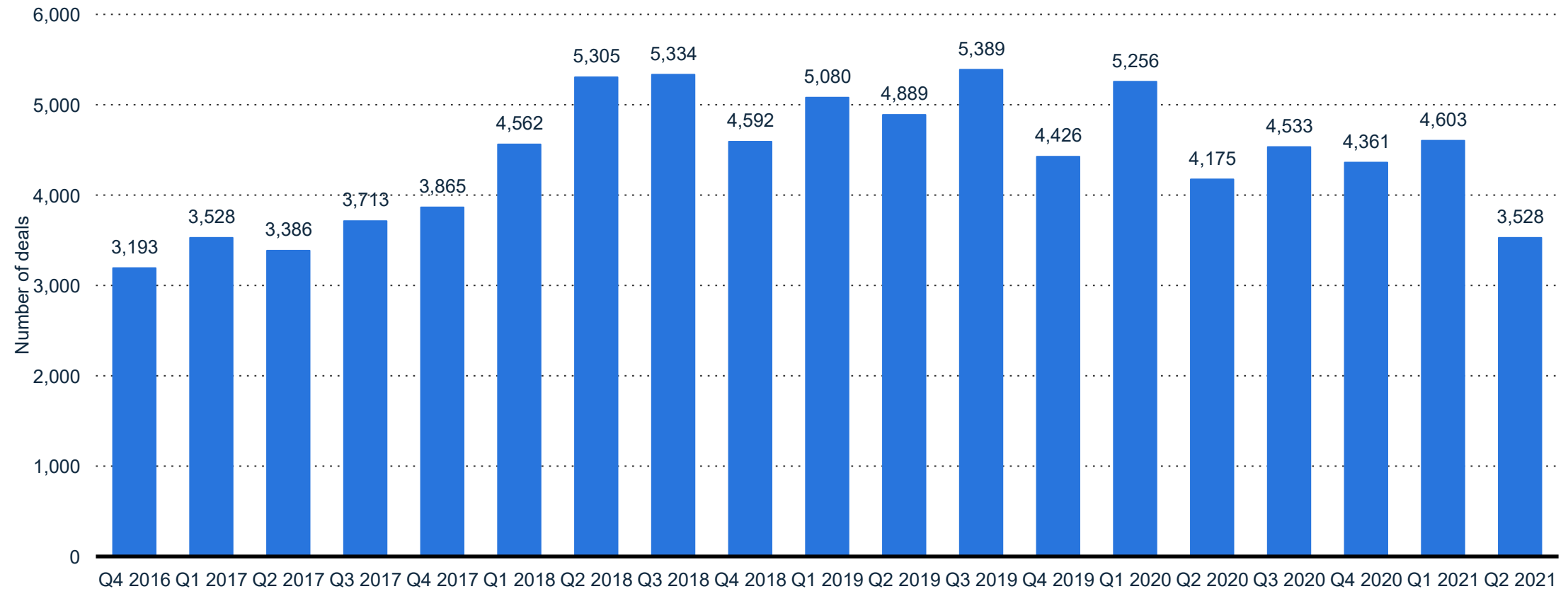
Note(s): Worldwide; 2012 to 2020

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 32](#).

Source(s): KPMG; PitchBook; [ID 828878](#)

Number of seed and angel venture capital deals worldwide from Q4 2016 to Q2 2021

Seed and angel venture capital deals worldwide Q4 2016-Q2 2021



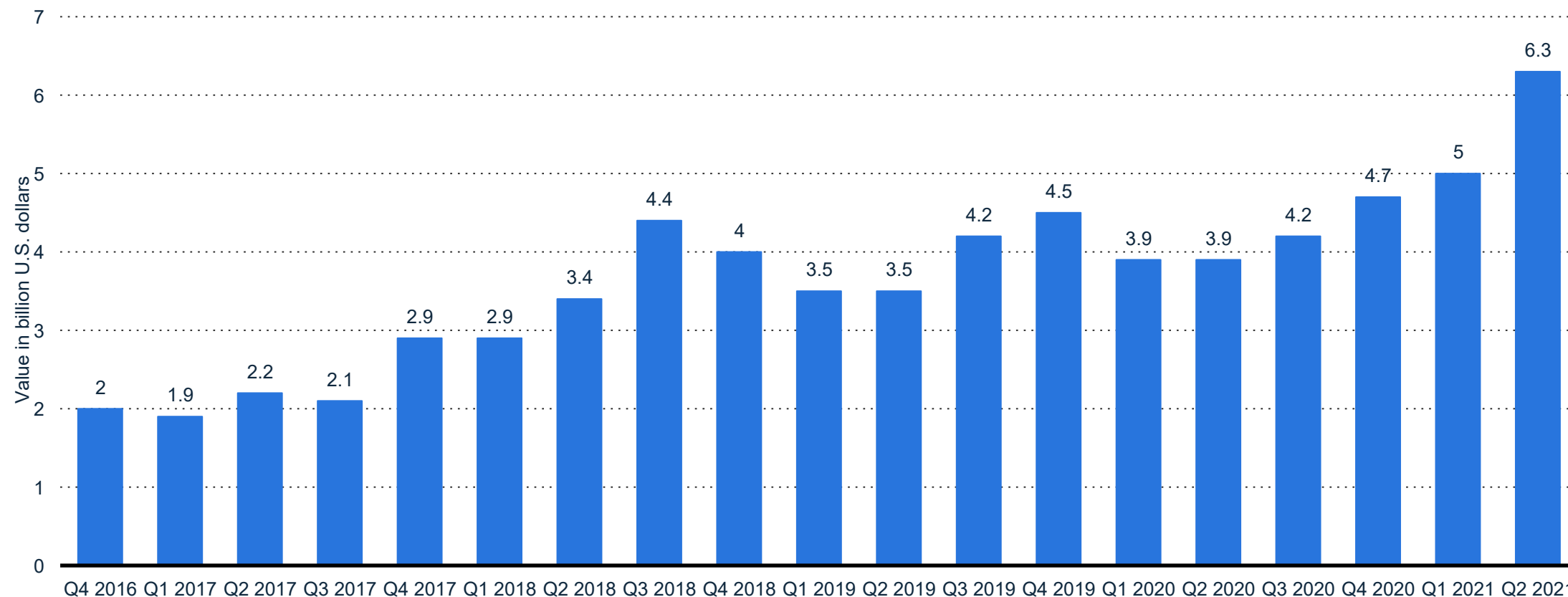
Note(s): Worldwide; Q4 2016 to Q2 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 33](#).

Source(s): CrunchBase; [ID 1243973](#)

Value of seed and angel venture capital deals worldwide from Q4 2016 to Q2 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Seed and angel venture capital deal size worldwide Q4 2016-Q2 2021



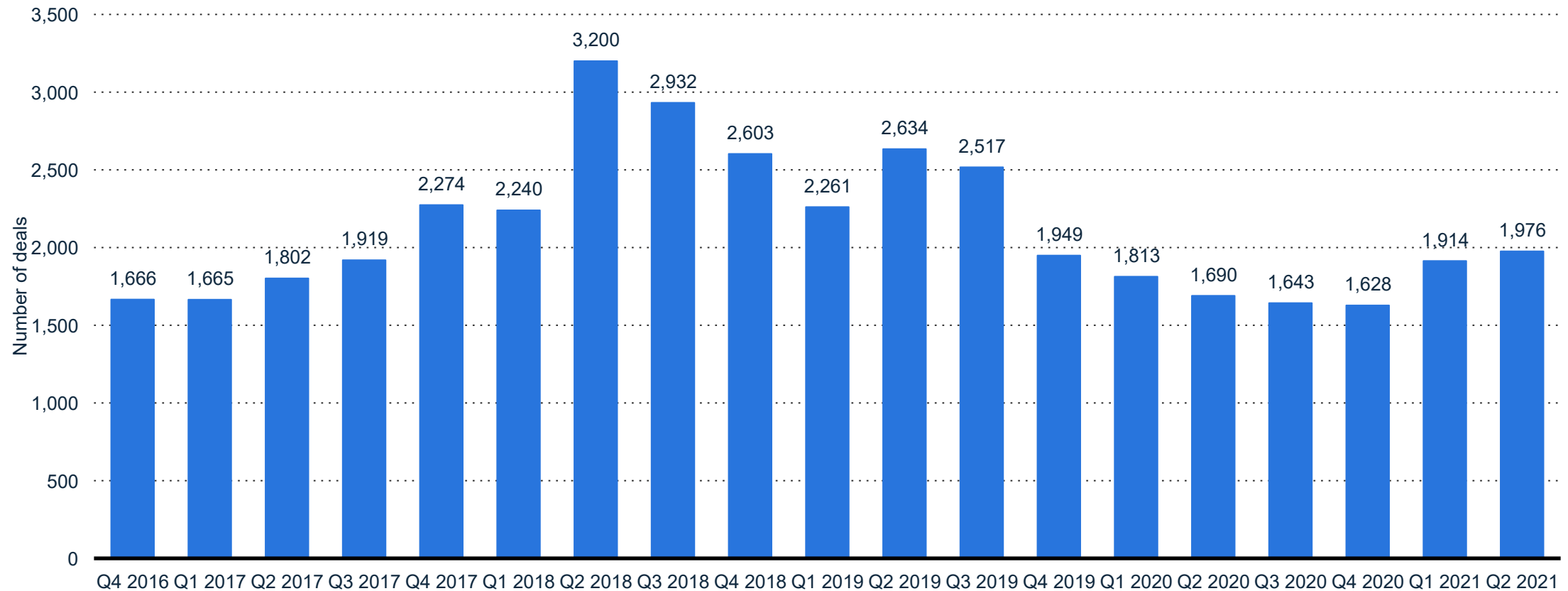
Note(s): Worldwide; Q4 2016 to Q2 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 34](#).

Source(s): CrunchBase; [ID 1243983](#)

Number of early-stage venture capital deals worldwide from Q4 2016 to Q2 2021

Early-stage venture capital deals worldwide 2016-2021



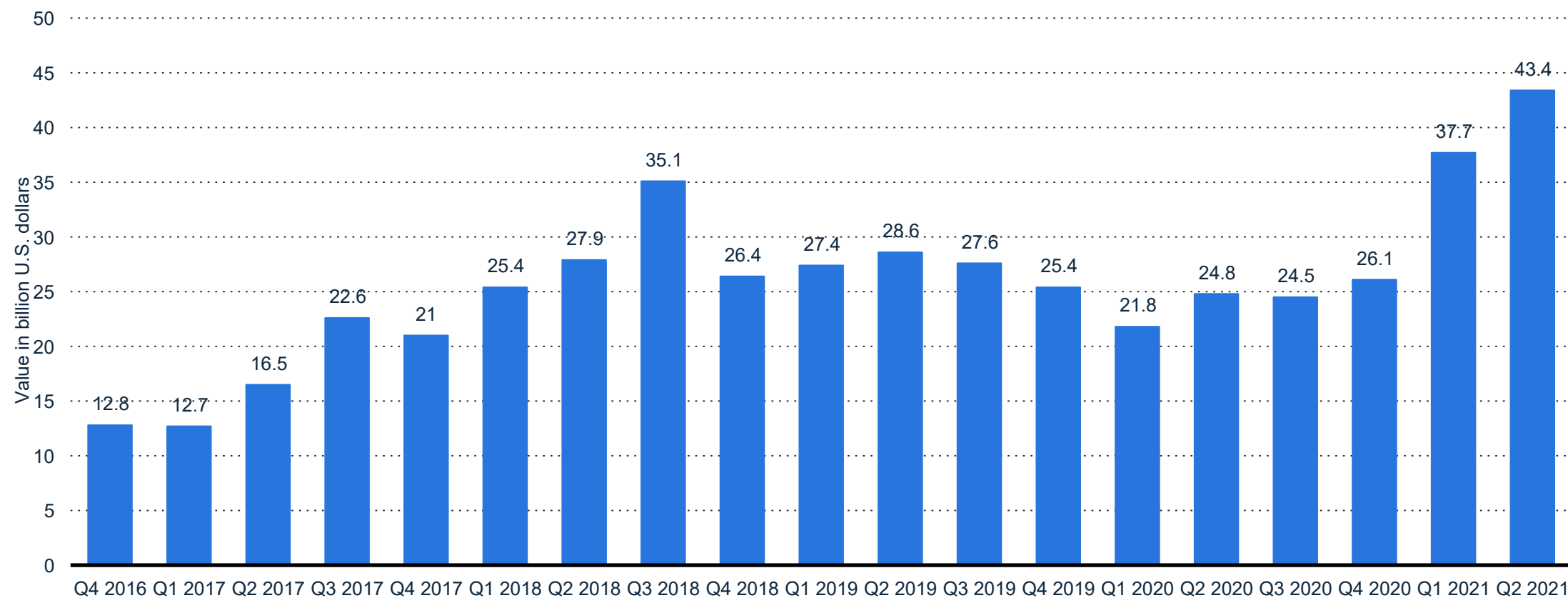
Note(s): Worldwide; Q4 2016 to Q2 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 35](#).

Source(s): CrunchBase; [ID 1243870](#)

Value of early-stage venture capital deals worldwide from Q4 2016 to Q2 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Early-stage venture capital deal size worldwide 2016-2021



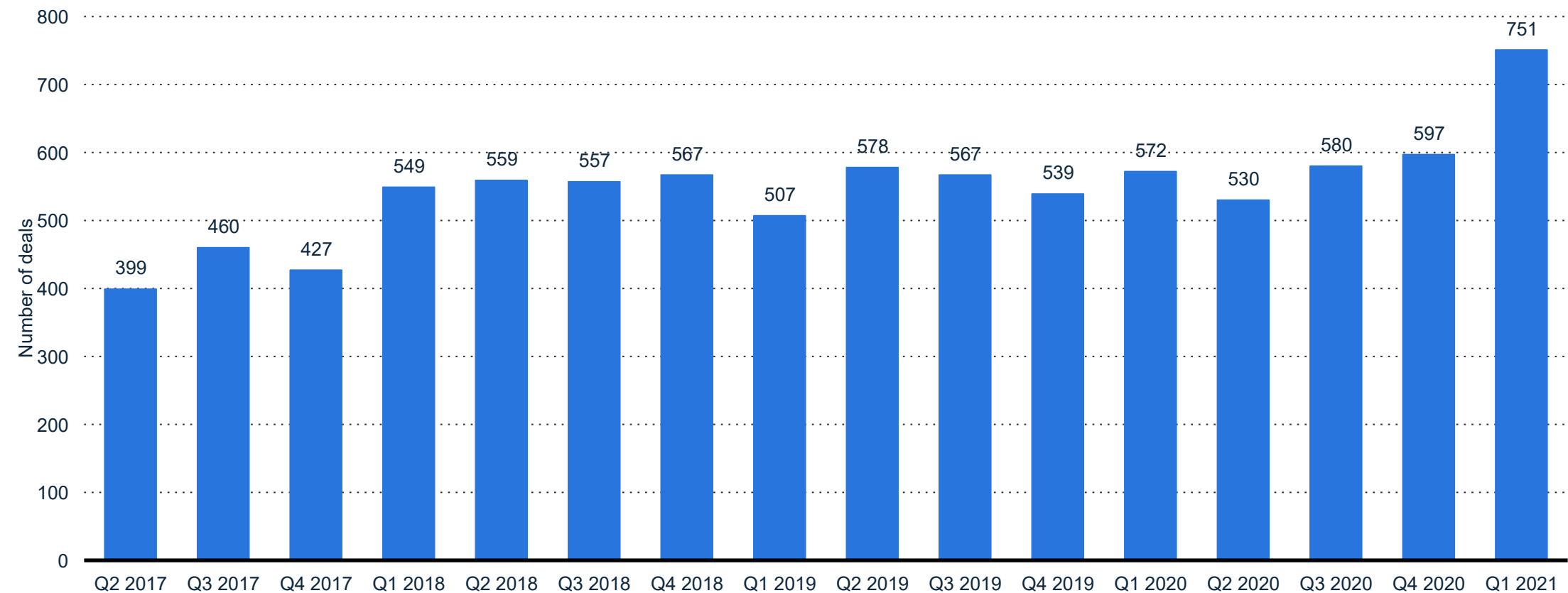
Note(s): Worldwide; Q4 2016 to Q2 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 36](#).

Source(s): CrunchBase; [ID 1243891](#)

Number of late-stage venture capital deals worldwide from Q2 2017 to Q1 2021

Late-stage venture capital deals worldwide 2017-2021



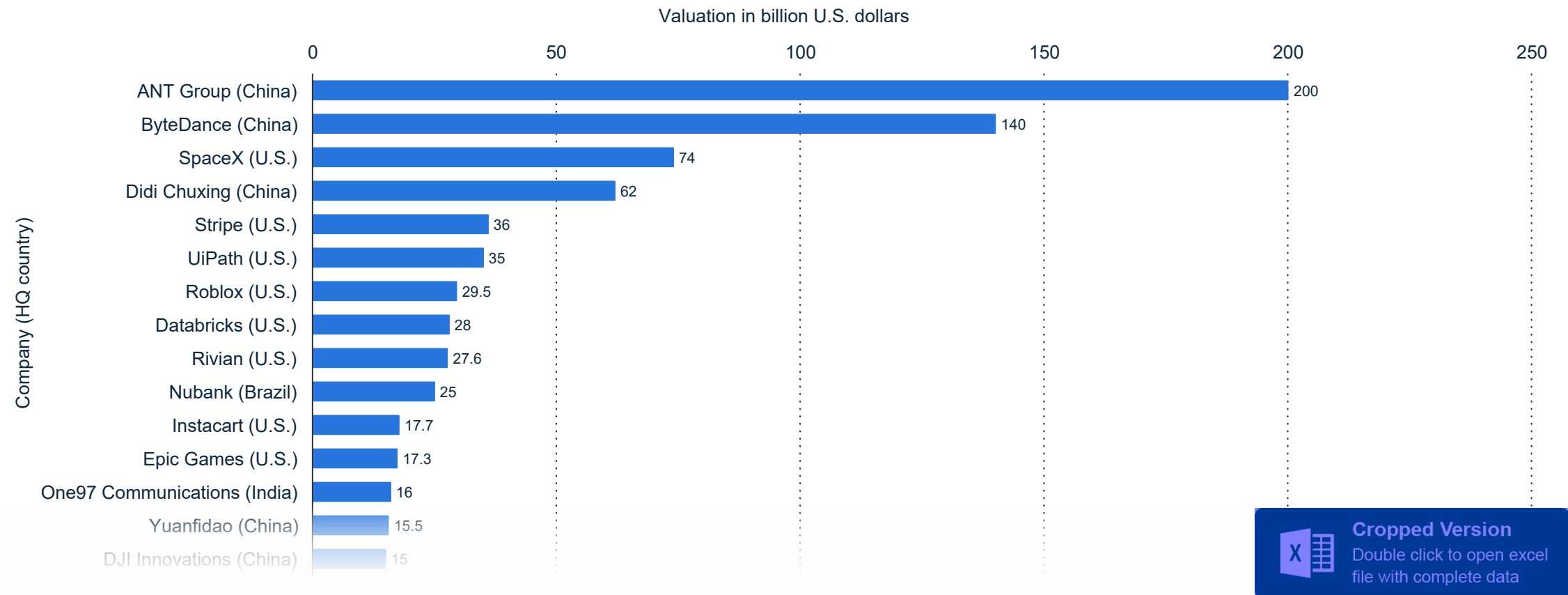
Note(s): Worldwide; Q2 2017 to Q1 2021
Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 37](#).
Source(s): CrunchBase; [ID 881173](#)

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High-performing startups

Leading unicorns worldwide as of April 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Highest valued unicorn companies worldwide 2021



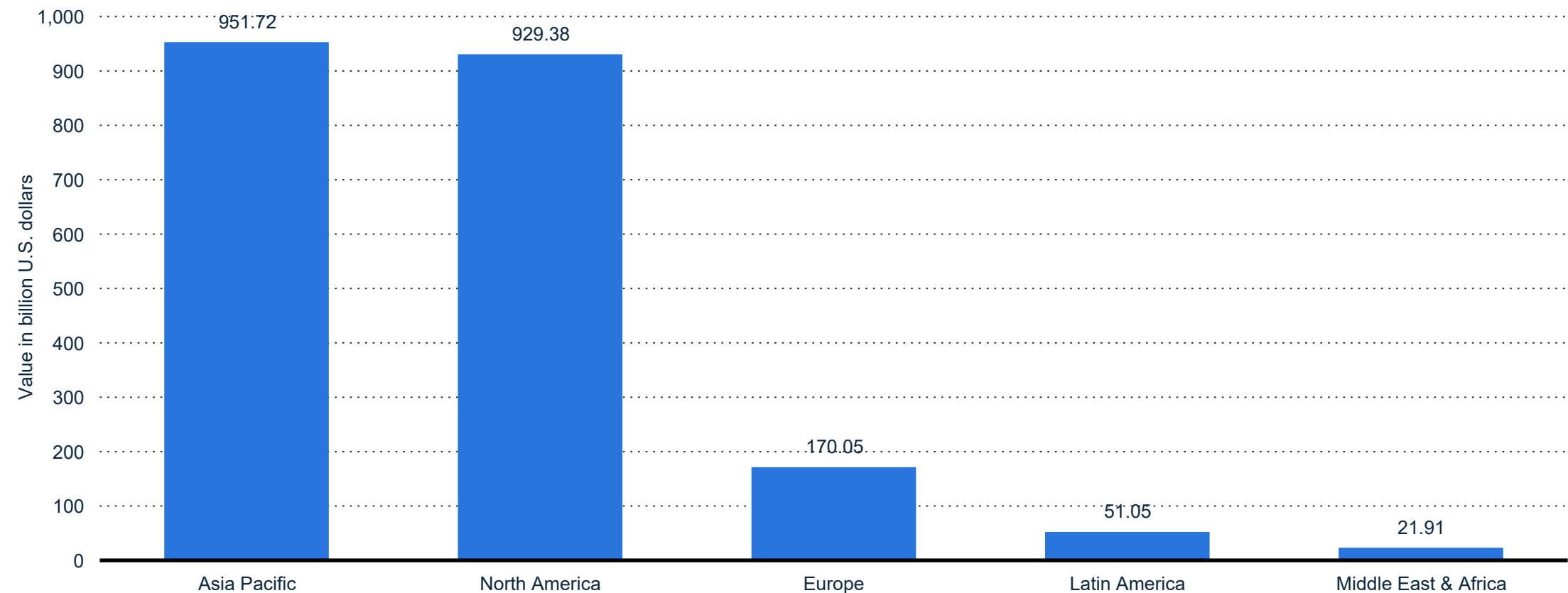
Note(s): Worldwide; April 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 38](#).

Source(s): CB Insights; Statista estimates; CrunchBase; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ; [ID 407888](#)

Market valuation of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by region (in billion U.S. dollars)

Market value of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by region



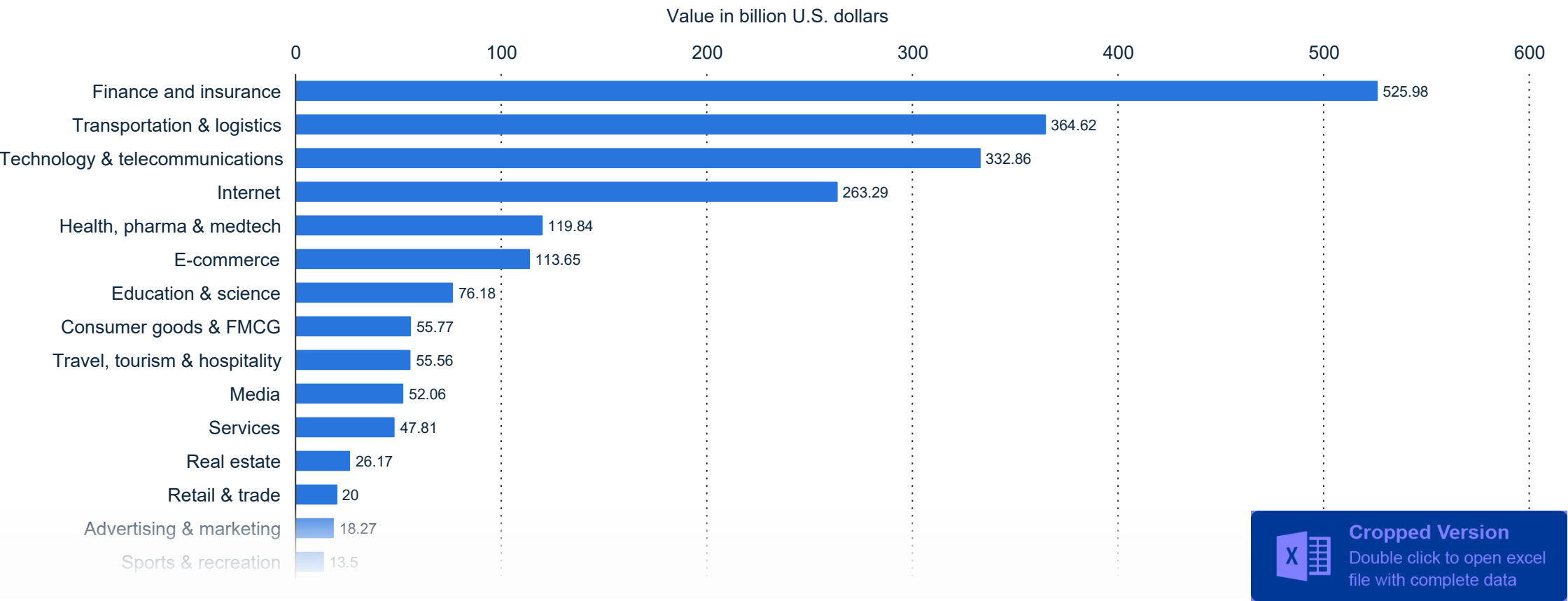
Note(s): Worldwide; April 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 39](#).

Source(s): Statista estimates; CrunchBase; CB Insights; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ; [ID 1092609](#)

Market valuation of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by industry (in billion U.S. dollars)

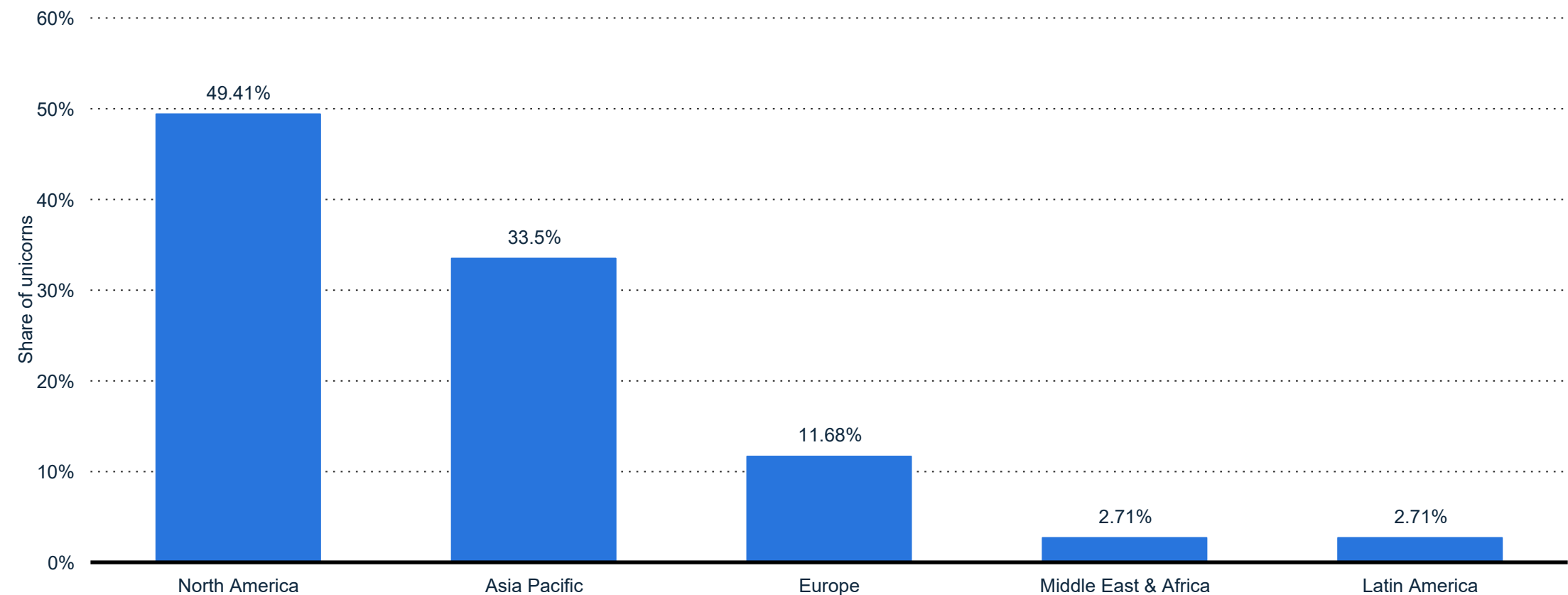
Market value of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by industry



Note(s): Worldwide; January 2020
Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 40](#).
Source(s): Statista estimates; CrunchBase; CB Insights; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ; [ID 1093213](#)

Distribution of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by region

Share of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by region



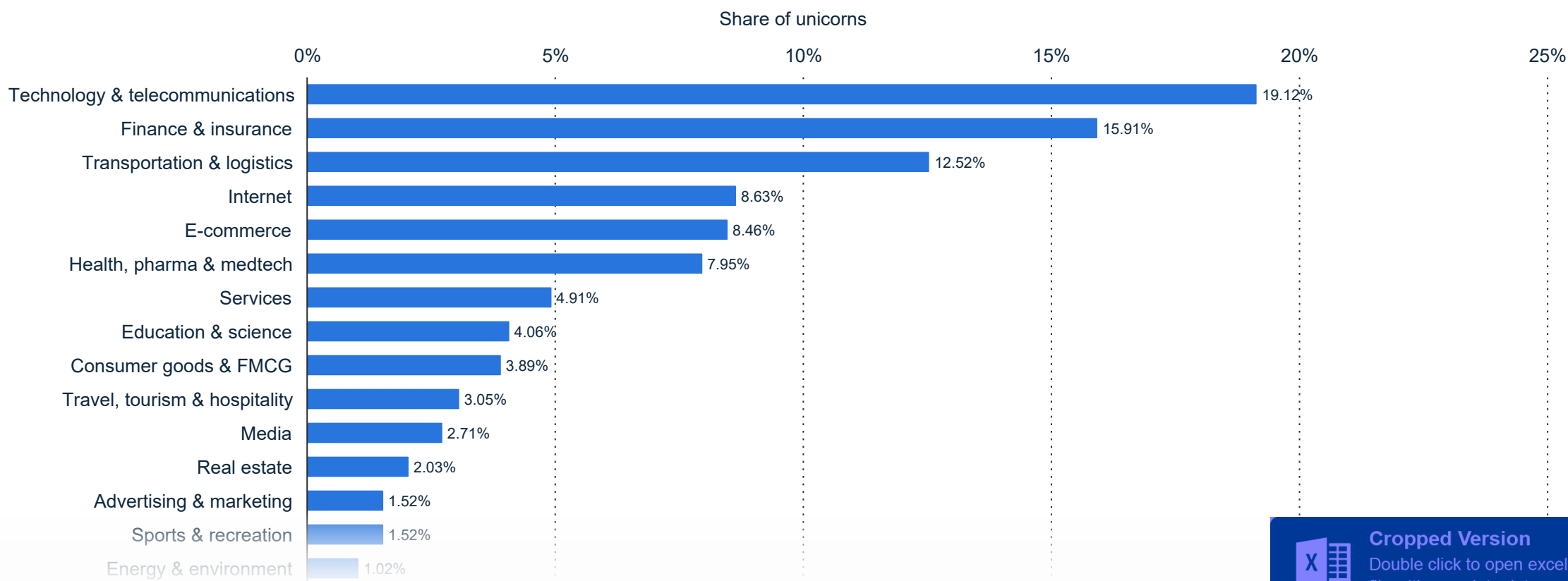
Note(s): Worldwide; April 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 41](#).

Source(s): Statista estimates; CrunchBase; CB Insights; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ; [ID 1092625](#)

Distribution of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by industry

Share of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by industry



Cropped Version

Double click to open excel file with complete data

Note(s): Worldwide; April 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 42](#).

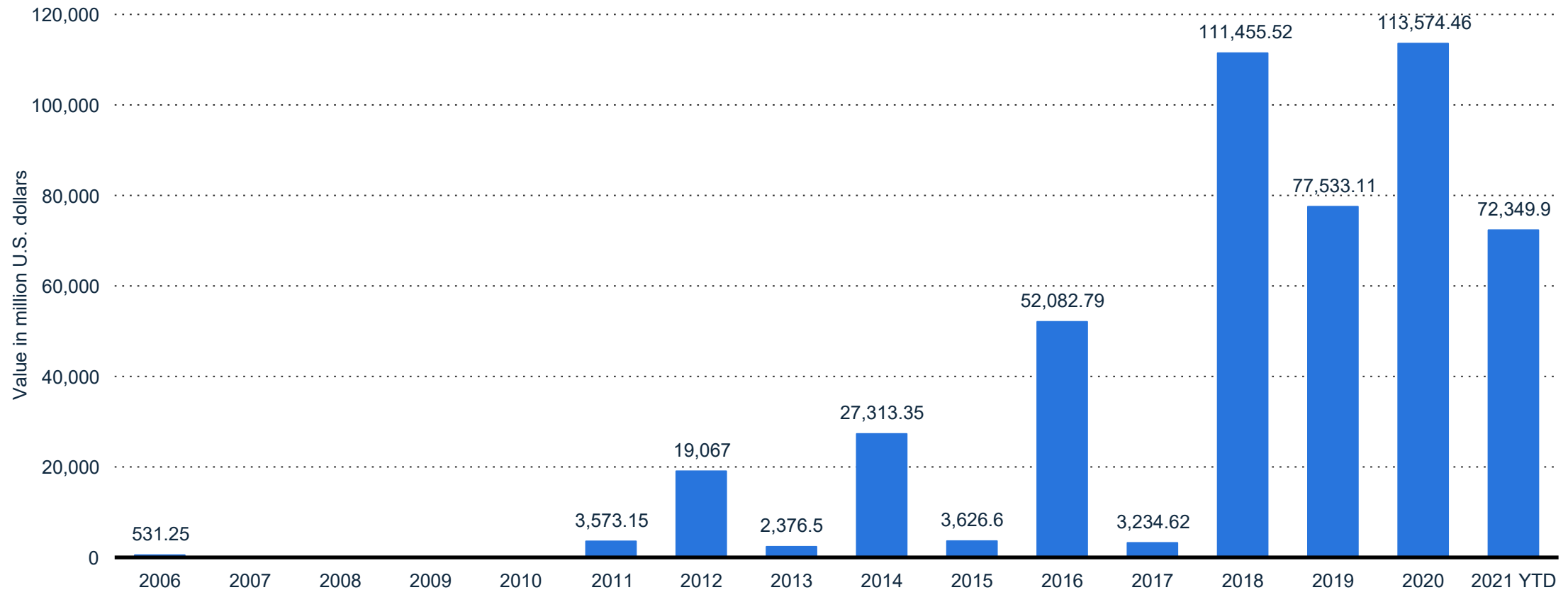
Source(s): Statista estimates; CrunchBase; CB Insights; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ; [ID 1092753](#)

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Exits & acquisitions

Value of unicorn exits worldwide from 2006 to July 2021 (in million U.S. dollars)

Value of global unicorn exits 2006-2021



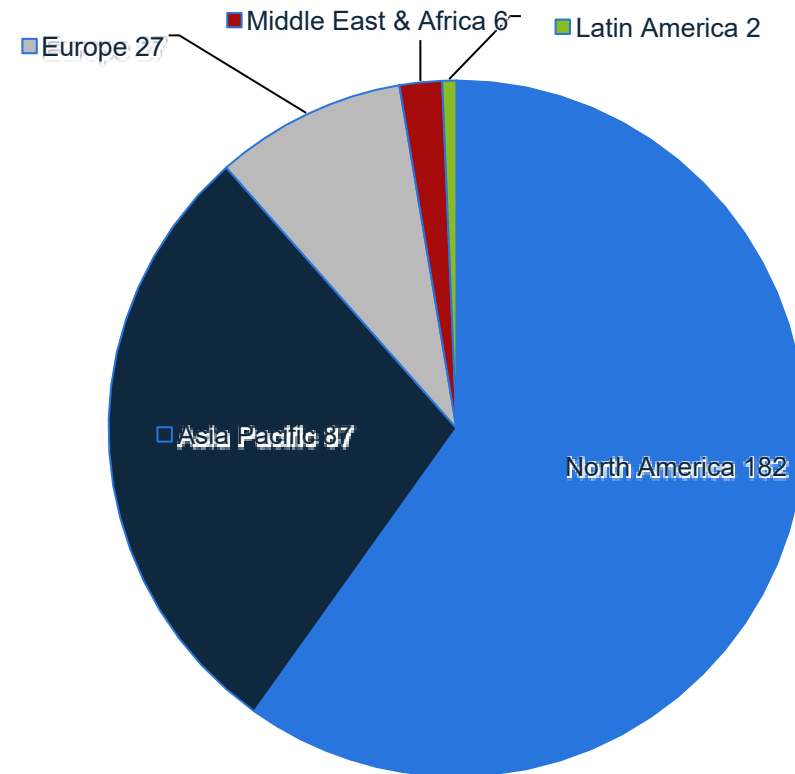
Note(s): Worldwide; 2006 to July 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 43](#).

Source(s): Statista estimates; CrunchBase; [ID 1095235](#)

Number of unicorn exits worldwide as of July 2021, by region

Number of unicorn exits globally 2021, by region



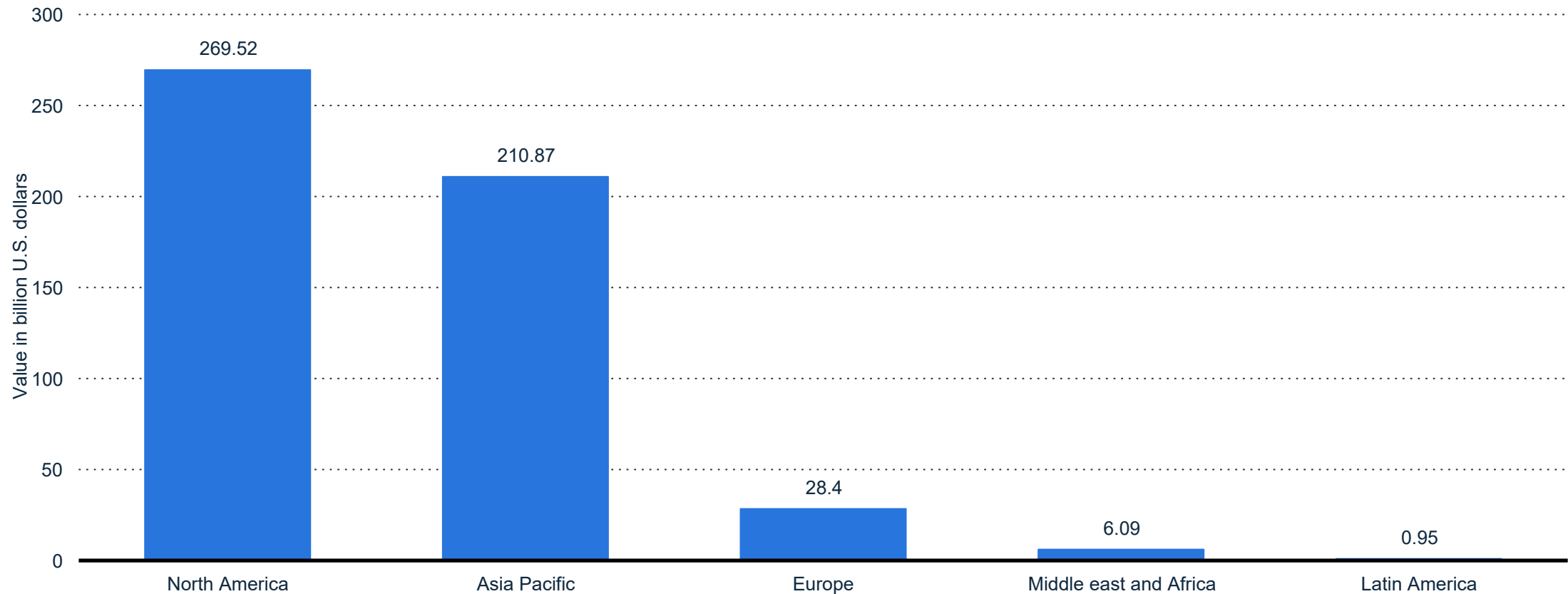
Note(s): Worldwide; 2006 to July 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 44](#).

Source(s): CrunchBase; Statista; [ID 1096058](#)

Value of unicorn exits worldwide from 2006 to July 2021, by region (in billion U.S. dollars)

Value of global unicorn exits 2006-2021, by region



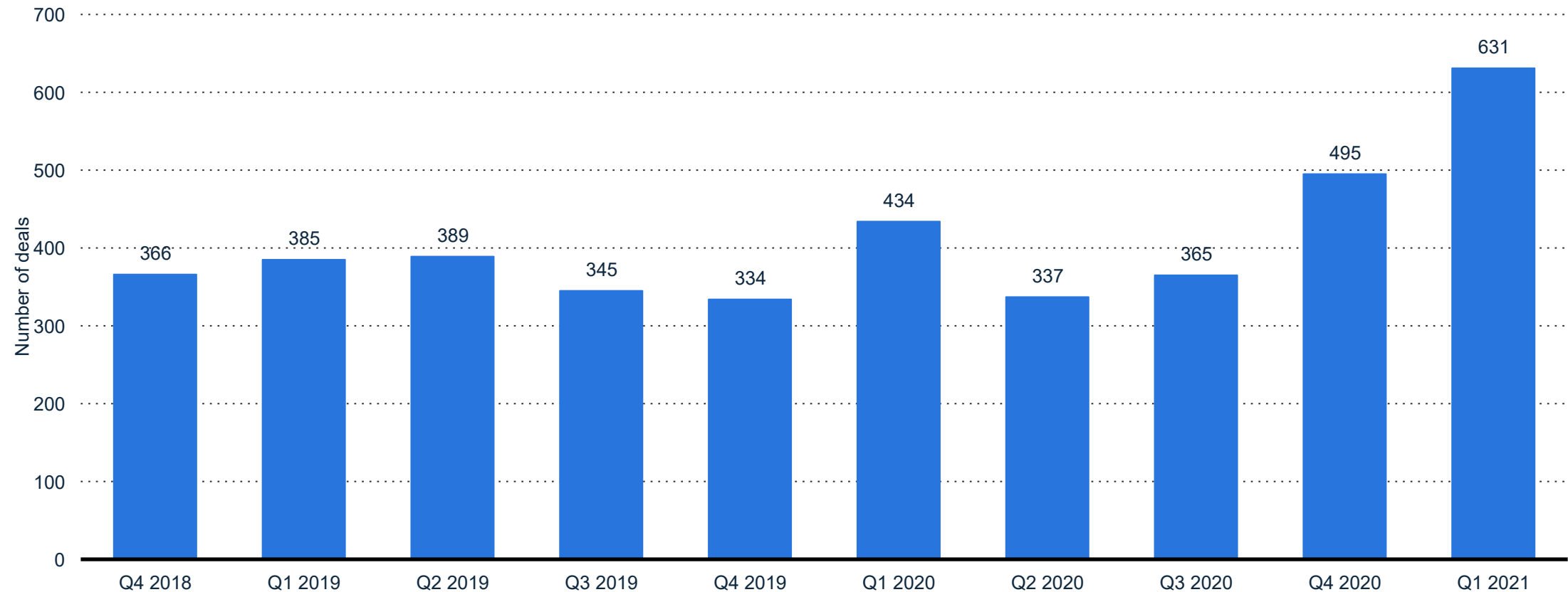
Note(s): Worldwide; 2006 to July 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 45](#).

Source(s): Statista estimates; CrunchBase; [ID 1096039](#)

Number of acquisitions of venture-backed companies worldwide from Q4 2018 to Q1 2021

Acquisitions of VC-backed companies worldwide 2018-2021



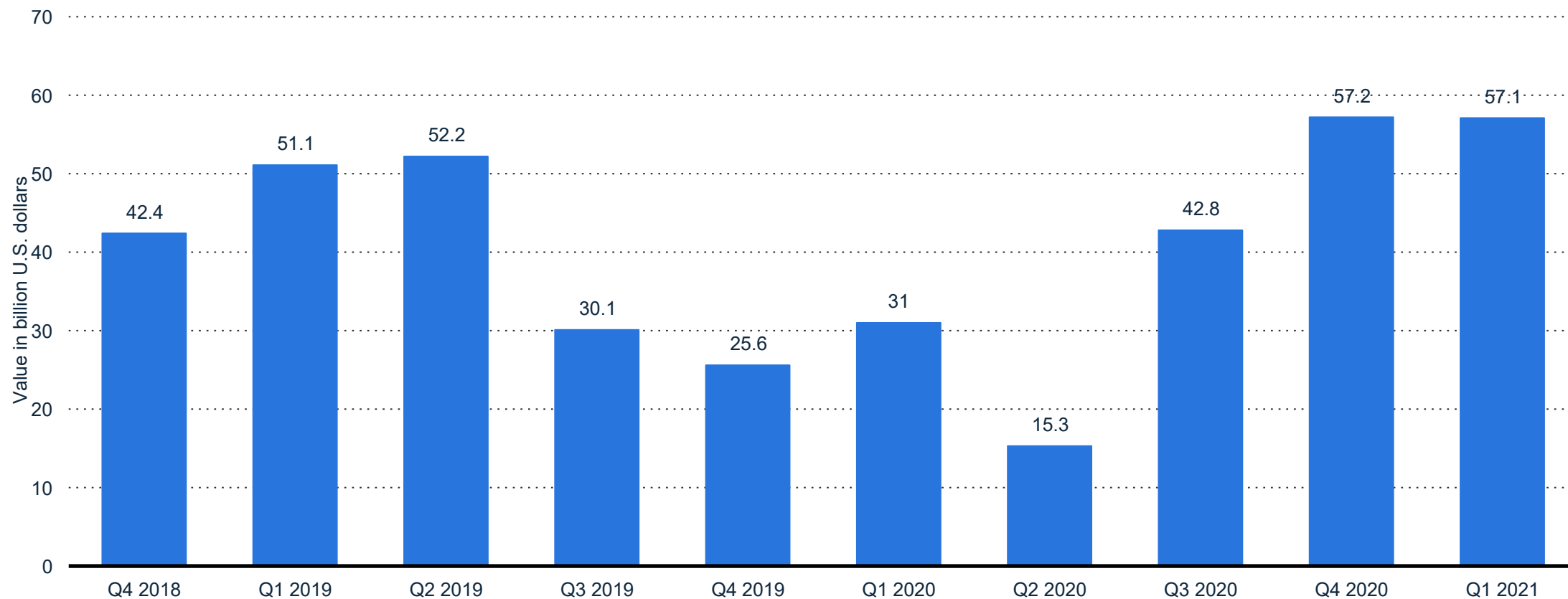
Note(s): Worldwide; Q4 2018 to Q1 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 46](#).

Source(s): CrunchBase; [ID 1244037](#)

Value of acquisitions of venture-backed companies worldwide from Q4 2018 to Q1 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Acquisition deal size of VC-backed companies worldwide 2018-2021



Note(s): Worldwide; Q4 2018 to Q1 2021

Further information regarding this statistic can be found on [page 47](#).

Source(s): CrunchBase; [ID 1244053](#)

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References

Distribution of super startup companies offering B2B and B2C solutions worldwide in 2020

Distribution of super startups focused on B2B and B2C worldwide 2020

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	Tech Tour; PitchBook
Conducted by	Tech Tour; PitchBook
Survey period	2020
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Tech Tour
Publication date	February 2020
Original source	Tech Tour Growth 50, page 10
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

In 2020, 61 percent of super start-ups across the world offered B2B solutions, whereas the other 39 percent offered B2C solutions. B2C and B2B are both forms of commercial transactions. B2C stands for “business-to-consumer,” and is a process for selling products or services directly to consumers. On the other hand, B2B stands for “business-to-business,” and is a process for selling products or services to other businesses.

Which social media marketing platforms are optimal?
B2B and B2C companies have different target markets (other businesses vs direct consumers), and as such, different social media marketing platforms work more effectively for each type of company. A study conducted at the beginning of 2020 revealed that Facebook was most important platform for B2C marketers, while LinkedIn was the most important platform for B2B marketers. In France, however, the majority of B2C companies used both Facebook and LinkedIn as of the beginning of 2021, whereas just more than half of B2B companies used LinkedIn, and less than half of them used Facebook.

What does the worldwide distribution of unicorns look like?
Super start-ups are privately held companies which haven't yet reached unicorn status, which refers to a private company with a market valuation of one billion U.S. dollars or more. As of April 2021, almost half of all unicorns globally were headquartered in the United States. At the same time, the market valuation of unicorns was highest in the Asia-Pacific region, followed closely by the U.S.

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Percentage of population involved in business start-ups in the Americas in 2020, by country

Early-stage entrepreneurial activity in the Americas 2020, by country

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	GEM
Conducted by	GEM
Survey period	2020
Region(s)	North America, Central and South America
Number of respondents	about 2,000 per country
Age group	18-64 years
Special characteristics	data is composed of the Adult Population Survey and the National Expert Survey
Published by	GEM
Publication date	May 2021
Original source	Global entrepreneurship monitor 2020/2021, pages 182-185
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	n.a.

Description

In 2020, the early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate in Panama was 32.4 percent, making it the country with most population involved in business startups in the Americas, among the countries depicted. An economy's total early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate is defined as the prevalence rate of individuals in the working age population who are actively involved in business startups, either in the phase in advance of the birth of the firm, or the phase spanning 42 months after the birth of the firm.

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Percentage of population involved in business start-ups in Asia in 2020, by country

Early-stage entrepreneurial activity rate in Asia by country 2020

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	GEM
Conducted by	GEM
Survey period	2020
Region(s)	Asia
Number of respondents	about 2,000 per country
Age group	18-64 years
Special characteristics	data is composed of the Adult Population Survey and the National Expert Survey
Published by	GEM
Publication date	May 2021
Original source	Global entrepreneurship monitor 2020/2021, pages 182-185
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>* 2019 data for China and Japan as the latest figure was not included in the 2020 report.</i>

Description

This statistic shows the total early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate in Asian countries in 2020. An economy's total early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate is defined as the prevalence rate of individuals in the working age population who are actively involved in business startups, either in the phase in advance of the birth of the firm, or the phase spanning 42 months after the birth of the firm. In 2020, the early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate in India was 5.3 percent.

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Percentage of population involved in business start-ups in Europe in 2020, by country

Early-stage entrepreneurial activity rate in Europe, by country 2020

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	GEM
Conducted by	GEM
Survey period	2020
Region(s)	Europe
Number of respondents	about 2,000 per country
Age group	18-64 years
Special characteristics	data is composed of the Adult Population Survey and the National Expert Survey
Published by	GEM
Publication date	May 2021
Original source	Global entrepreneurship monitor 2020/2021, pages 182-185
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

This statistic shows the total early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate in Europe in 2020, by country. An economy's total early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate is defined as the prevalence rate of individuals in the working age population who are actively involved in business startups, either in the phase in advance of the birth of the firm (nascent entrepreneurs), or the phase spanning 42 months after the birth of the firm (owner managers of new firms). In 2020, the early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate in the United Kingdom was 7.8 percent.

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Value of venture capital activity globally 2010 to 2019 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Value of venture capital activity globally 2010-2019

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	Various sources (451 Research)
Conducted by	Various sources (451 Research)
Survey period	2010 to 2018
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Various sources (451 Research)
Publication date	September 2019
Original source	the451group.com
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>*Projection.</i>

Description

Exit activity for venture-funded startups globally was projected to fall to 34 billion U.S. dollars in 2019, down from an astonishing 86 billion U.S. dollars in 2018. In the last decade, only 2014 and 2018 exceeded 34 billion U.S. dollars in venture capital activity.

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Number of first-time venture capital financing deals worldwide from 2010 to 2020

Volume of first-time VC financing deals globally 2010-2020

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	KPMG ; PitchBook
Conducted by	KPMG ; PitchBook
Survey period	2012 to 2020
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	KPMG
Publication date	January 2021
Original source	Venture Pulse Q4 2020, page 15
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>Figures from 2012 and earlier came from previous editions of the same publication.</i>

Description

Over the past five years, the number of first-time venture capital financing deals completed has been falling worldwide. In 2020, there were only 6,580 first-time financing deals, down from a peak of 10,034 in 2015.

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Number of seed and angel venture capital deals worldwide from Q4 2016 to Q2 2021

Seed and angel venture capital deals worldwide Q4 2016-Q2 2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CrunchBase
Conducted by	CrunchBase
Survey period	Q4 2016 to Q2 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	CrunchBase
Publication date	July 2021
Original source	crunchbase.com
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

The number of seed and angel venture capital deals closed globally fell overall since early 2020. In the second quarter of 2021, approximately 3,528 seed and angel deals were completed, which was over six hundred deals less than the second quarter of 2021.

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Value of seed and angel venture capital deals worldwide from Q4 2016 to Q2 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Seed and angel venture capital deal size worldwide Q4 2016-Q2 2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CrunchBase
Conducted by	CrunchBase
Survey period	Q4 2016 to Q2 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	CrunchBase
Publication date	July 2021
Original source	crunchbase.com
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

The size of seed and angel venture capital deals globally have risen slightly over the past two years, and was unaffected by the pandemic. In the second quarter of 2021, seed and angel deals were valued at 6.3 billion U.S. dollars, the highest value obtained since the beginning of the time period and approximately 2.5 billion U.S. dollars higher than deals closed in the second quarter of 2020.

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Number of early-stage venture capital deals worldwide from Q4 2016 to Q2 2021

Early-stage venture capital deals worldwide 2016-2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CrunchBase
Conducted by	CrunchBase
Survey period	Q4 2016 to Q2 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	CrunchBase
Publication date	July 2021
Original source	crunchbase.com
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

The number of early-stage venture capital deals closed globally fell steadily from mid-2019 to the end of 2020. In the first quarter of 2021, the number of early-stage deals completed had partially recovered, reaching almost 300 more deals than in the previous year's final quarter. In the second quarter of 2021, approximately 1,976 early-stage deals were completed.

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Value of early-stage venture capital deals worldwide from Q4 2016 to Q2 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Early-stage venture capital deal size worldwide 2016-2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CrunchBase
Conducted by	CrunchBase
Survey period	Q4 2016 to Q2 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	CrunchBase
Publication date	July 2021
Original source	crunchbase.com
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

The value of early-stage venture capital (VC) deals peaked in the second quarter of 2021. As of June 2021, early-stage VC deals reached over 40 billion U.S. dollars in value, approximately 5.7 billion U.S. dollars up from the first quarter quarter. The previous record-high occurred in the third quarter of 2018, when the deals equaled 35.1 billion U.S. dollars.

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Number of late-stage venture capital deals worldwide from Q2 2017 to Q1 2021

Late-stage venture capital deals worldwide 2017-2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CrunchBase
Conducted by	CrunchBase
Survey period	Q2 2017 to Q1 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	CrunchBase
Publication date	April 2021
Original source	crunchbase.com
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

Global late-stage venture capital deals reached their four-year peak in the first three months of 2021. The volume of late-stage deals in the global venture capital market amounted to 751 in the first quarter of 2021.

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Leading unicorns worldwide as of April 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Highest valued unicorn companies worldwide 2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CB Insights; Statista estimates; CrunchBase; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ
Conducted by	Statista estimates
Survey period	April 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Statista
Publication date	April 2021
Original source	<i>n.a.</i>
Website URL	visit the website

Notes: *A unicorn company is a privately owned startup that has a current valuation of one billion U.S. dollars or over. Once a company has gone public (IPO) or has been acquired it is no longer termed as a unicorn. All published figures are best estimations based on latest publications of sources. Figures [...] For more information visit our Website*

Description

As of April 2021, ANT Group, a Chinese fintech company which spun off from Alibaba's Alipay, was valued at about 200 billion U.S. dollars, which made it the highest valued unicorn globally. A unicorn is a privately held company with a market valuation of one billion U.S. dollars or more. As of April 2021, there were over 590 unicorns globally , with the majority based in the United States and China.

The ANT Group
Headquartered in Hangzhou, China, Ant Group a subsidiary of the Chinese Alibaba Group, is the nation's largest payments provider and a leading technology company globally. As of April 2021, the industry with the highest valued unicorns in China was the finance and insurance industry, to which the market value of Ant Group contributed significantly.

Unicorns in the U.S. and China

China and the United States remain the locations with highest volume of unicorns worldwide, as well as the highest valued unicorns. While the Chinese market dominated the global unicorn scene in terms of the market values of its unicorns, the United States surpasses them in terms of the number of unicorns within the country.

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Market valuation of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by region (in billion U.S. dollars)

Market value of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by region

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	Statista estimates; CrunchBase; CB Insights; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ
Conducted by	Statista estimates
Survey period	April 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Statista
Publication date	April 2021
Original source	<i>n.a.</i>
Website URL	visit the website

Notes: *A unicorn company is a privately owned startup that has a current valuation of one billion U.S. dollars or over. Once a company has gone public (IPO) or has been acquired it is no longer termed as a unicorn. All published figures are best estimations based on latest publications of sources. Figures [...] For more information visit our Website*

Description

The market valuation of Asian and North American unicorns accounted for almost 90 percent of the total value of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021. Unicorns headquartered in Asia-Pacific had a cumulative market valuation of 952 billion U.S. dollars, which put them ahead of the North American unicorns at 929 billion U.S. dollars. Two Chinese unicorns, ANT Group and Bytedance, accounted for over one third of this 952 billion U.S. dollars.

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Market valuation of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by industry (in billion U.S. dollars)

Market value of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by industry

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	Statista estimates; CrunchBase; CB Insights; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ
Conducted by	Statista estimates
Survey period	January 2020
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Statista
Publication date	April 2021
Original source	<i>n.a.</i>
Website URL	visit the website

Notes: *A unicorn company is a privately owned startup that has a current valuation of one billion U.S. dollars or over. Once a company has gone public (IPO) or has been acquired it is no longer termed as a unicorn. All published figures are best estimations based on latest publications of sources. Figures [...] For more information visit our Website*

Description

As of April 2021, unicorns operating in the finance and insurance sector had the largest market valuation when compared with other sectors. They had a cumulative market valuation of 526 billion U.S. dollars, which put them ahead of both the transportation and logistics, and technology and telecommunications unicorns. A unicorn is a privately held company worth one billion U.S. dollars or more.

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Distribution of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by region

Share of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by region

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	Statista estimates; CrunchBase; CB Insights; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ
Conducted by	Statista estimates
Survey period	April 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Statista
Publication date	April 2021
Original source	<i>n.a.</i>
Website URL	visit the website

Notes: *A unicorn company is a privately owned startup that has a current valuation of one billion U.S. dollars or over. Once a company has gone public (IPO) or has been acquired it is no longer termed as a unicorn. All published figures are best estimations based on latest publications of sources. Figures [...] For more information visit our Website*

Description

As of April 2021, North America and Asia Pacific were home to over 80 percent of all unicorn companies worldwide. North America has the highest distribution, but unicorns headquartered in Asia-Pacific had a higher overall market valuation .

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Distribution of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by industry

Share of unicorns worldwide as of April 2021, by industry

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	Statista estimates; CrunchBase; CB Insights; Hurun Research Institute; Tracxn Technologies; HolonIQ
Conducted by	Statista estimates
Survey period	April 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Statista
Publication date	April 2021
Original source	<i>n.a.</i>
Website URL	visit the website

Notes: *A unicorn company is a privately owned startup that has a current valuation of one billion U.S. dollars or over. Once a company has gone public (IPO) or has been acquired it is no longer termed as a unicorn. All published figures are best estimations based on latest publications of sources. Figures [...] For more information visit our Website*

Description

As of April 2021, unicorns active in the industries of technology and telecommunications, as well as finance and insurance, accounted for approximately 35 percent of all unicorn companies worldwide. Whereas, in terms of volume North America had the highest distribution, in terms of overall market value , Asia Pacific is out in front.

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Value of unicorn exits worldwide from 2006 to July 2021 (in million U.S. dollars)

Value of global unicorn exits 2006-2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	Statista estimates; CrunchBase
Conducted by	Statista estimates
Survey period	2006 to July 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Statista
Publication date	July 2021
Original source	<i>n.a.</i>
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>There were no unicorn exits between 2007 and 2010. Any unicorn exits via direct listing, reverse IPO, or SPAC merger were excluded because any capital raised was not disclosed.</i>

Description

2020 was the most successful year for unicorn companies, when comparing the exit values of global unicorns between 2006 and July 2021. The value of unicorn exits between January and July 2021 reached 72.35 billion U.S. dollars and are on track to meet or even surpass the 2020 peak of 113.57 billion U.S. dollars. Unicorns are private companies that are valued at over one billion U.S. dollars or over. If that company subsequently goes public or is acquired, it is no longer referred to as a unicorn. When a unicorn company does one of these two things, it is called an exit.

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Number of unicorn exits worldwide as of July 2021, by region

Number of unicorn exits globally 2021, by region

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CrunchBase; Statista
Conducted by	CrunchBase; Statista
Survey period	2006 to July 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Statista
Publication date	July 2021
Original source	<i>n.a.</i>
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>A unicorn company is a privately owned startup that has a current valuation of one billion U.S. dollars or over. Once a company has gone public (IPO) or has been acquired it is no longer termed as a unicorn. Figures are correct as of July 2021.</i>

Description

In the world of venture capital, unicorns are companies that are valued at over one billion U.S. dollars or over. If that company subsequently goes public or is acquired, it is no longer referred to as a unicorn. When a unicorn company does one of these two things, it is called an exit. As of July 2021, over 180 unicorns had exited via IPO or acquisition in North America.

Since the term unicorn was coined in 2013, the number of unicorns globally has grown massively, with the majority headquartered in North America and Asia Pacific. 2018 saw the highest number of exits through acquisition or initial public offerings (IPO). The preferred method of exit for unicorns is via an initial public offering

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Value of unicorn exits worldwide from 2006 to July 2021, by region (in billion U.S. dollars)

Value of global unicorn exits 2006-2021, by region

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	Statista estimates; CrunchBase
Conducted by	Statista estimates
Survey period	2006 to July 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	Statista
Publication date	July 2021
Original source	<i>n.a.</i>
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

North America and Asia-Pacific were responsible for responsible for the highest-valued unicorn exits in the world as of July 2021. This is due to large IPOs from the likes of Alibaba and Facebook between 2006 and July 2021. Unicorns are private companies that are valued at one billion U.S. dollars or over. If that company subsequently goes public or is acquired, it is no longer referred to as a unicorn. When a unicorn company does one of these two things, it is called an exit. As the leading regions for unicorns, it is unsurprising that the highest number and value of exits as of July 2021 came from North America and Asia-Pacific.

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Number of acquisitions of venture-backed companies worldwide from Q4 2018 to Q1 2021

Acquisitions of VC-backed companies worldwide 2018-2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CrunchBase
Conducted by	CrunchBase
Survey period	Q4 2018 to Q1 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	CrunchBase
Publication date	April 2021
Original source	crunchbase.com
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

Almost 140 more venture capital-backed companies were acquired in the first quarter of 2021 than in the previous quarter. In the first quarter of 2021, 631 VC-backed companies were acquired, up from only 495 in the fourth quarter of 2021.

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Value of acquisitions of venture-backed companies worldwide from Q4 2018 to Q1 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Acquisition deal size of VC-backed companies worldwide 2018-2021

Source and methodology information

Source(s)	CrunchBase
Conducted by	CrunchBase
Survey period	Q4 2018 to Q1 2021
Region(s)	Worldwide
Number of respondents	<i>n.a.</i>
Age group	<i>n.a.</i>
Special characteristics	<i>n.a.</i>
Published by	CrunchBase
Publication date	April 2021
Original source	crunchbase.com
Website URL	visit the website
Notes:	<i>n.a.</i>

Description

Between October 2020 and March 2021, venture capital-backed companies were acquired for record high sums globally. In the first quarter of 2021 alone, these acquisition deals reached 57.1 billion U.S. dollars in value, which was greater than the value of deals closed in the first two quarters of 2020 combined.

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