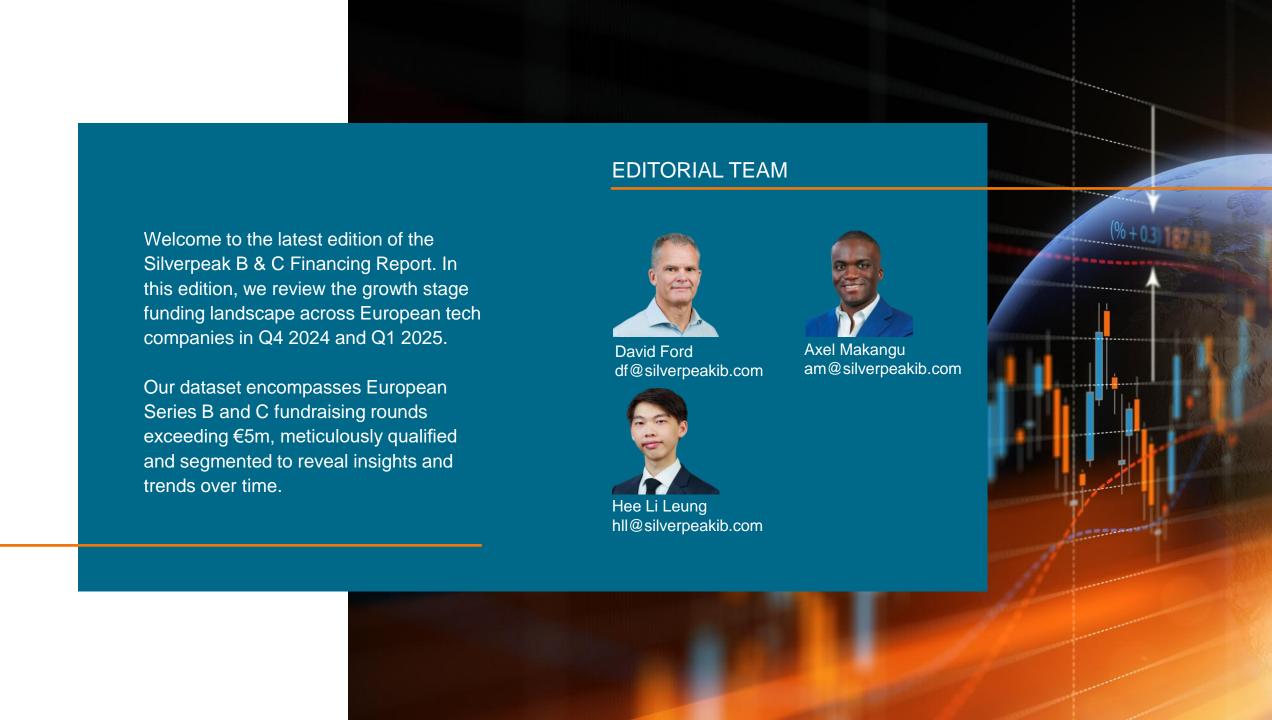


B & C FINANCING REPORT Q1 2025

Resilient European tech funding shows momentum shifting towards series B rounds

APRIL 2025

SILVERPEAK LLP ©2025







Series B funding is rebounding thanks to AI, cleantech, and fintech interest, while Series C has stalled amid cautious capital deployment. US investor activity remains muted, with European investors stepping up. Despite economic uncertainty, sectors like Vertical AI, deeptech, and crypto infrastructure are sparking renewed optimism in Europe's growth-stage ecosystem."

DAVID FORD PARTNER, SILVERPEAK

KEY FINDINGS

- Series B rebounds, Series C stalls

 Series B funding saw a significant resurgence in Q1 2025, reaching the highest levels in two years, powered by a surge in €50m+ rounds. In contrast, Series C funding plateaued at late-2023 levels.
- AI & ML and fintech continue to lead
 AI & ML and fintech led investment activity, with crypto infrastructure quietly regaining investor attention.
- Geographical shifts
 Germany maintained its leading position in terms of deal value, while the UK topped deal count, especially in Series C. However, overall, UK investment remained relatively flat since Q1 2023.
- Challenges in US investor participation
 US investor participation remains bleak, leading to more sporadic funding patterns, with European investors stepping in to fill the gap.
- Valuations and dilution remain stable

 Pre-money valuations for both Series B and C rounds have shown moderate growth, whereas dilution levels for both have fallen, reflecting investor confidence in growth-stage resilience.

SILVERPEAK PREDICTIONS FOR 2025

We predict B rounds will dominate, AI goes vertical, and crypto makes a quiet comeback

Series B expected to dominate

Series B rounds are likely to continue driving the bulk of growth-stage capital deployment across Europe, buoyed by sector rebounds in deeptech and Applied AI. We anticipate mega-rounds (>€50m) will become increasingly common.

Series C to favour quality over quantity

Series C volume is expected to remain flat. However, successful raises are likely to be led by capital-efficient, revenue-mature companies, with investors placing greater emphasis on clear exit narratives over pure top-line growth.

Al sector to shift from hype to vertical adoption

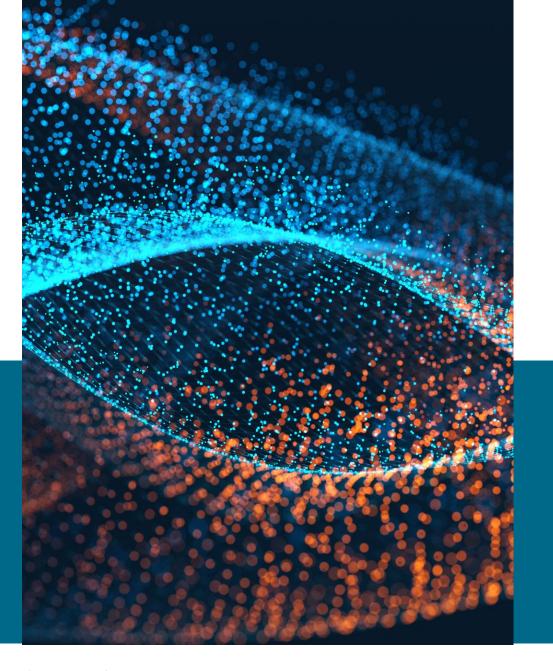
Investment in AI is predicted to move away from generalist LLM platforms towards infrastructure and vertical applications – particularly in legaltech, healthtech, and climate tech – where tangible use cases and commercial traction can be demonstrated.

Crypto's resurgence could gain momentum

Following signs of renewed interest, investment into crypto infrastructure – including B2B wallets, compliance solutions, and cross-border payments – is expected to grow, supported largely by European capital.

Transatlantic investment gap likely to persist

Repeat US investor activity has dropped to multi-year lows. With political and macroeconomic headwinds unlikely to abate, European VCs and growth funds are set to further consolidate their leadership role in later-stage financings.



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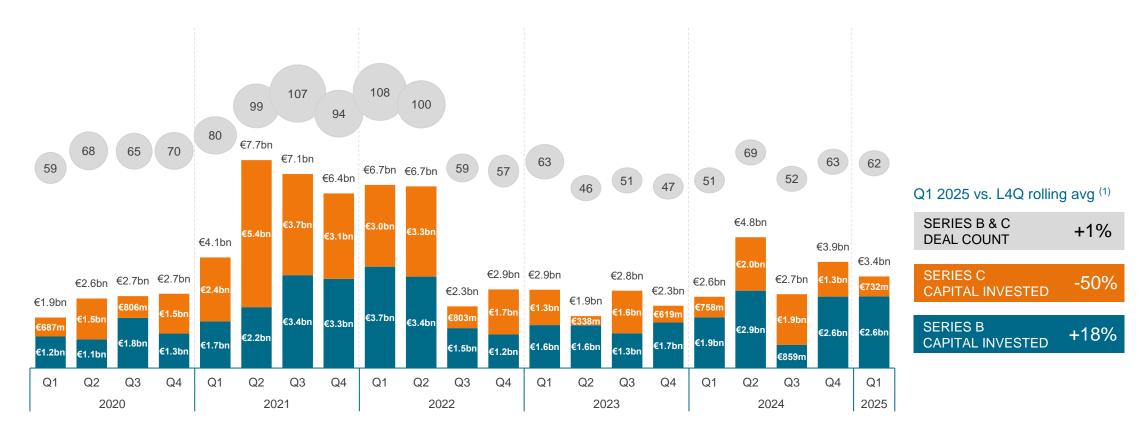
SECTION 1

Venture growth investment trends



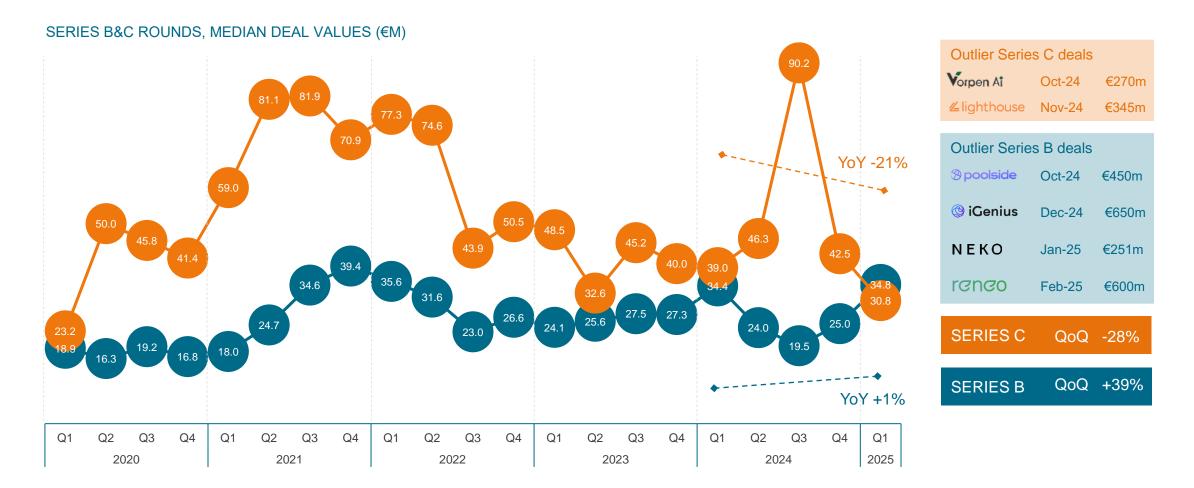
Series B momentum drives year on year (YoY) growth, whilst Series C lags behind

SERIES B&C TOTAL CAPITAL INVESTED





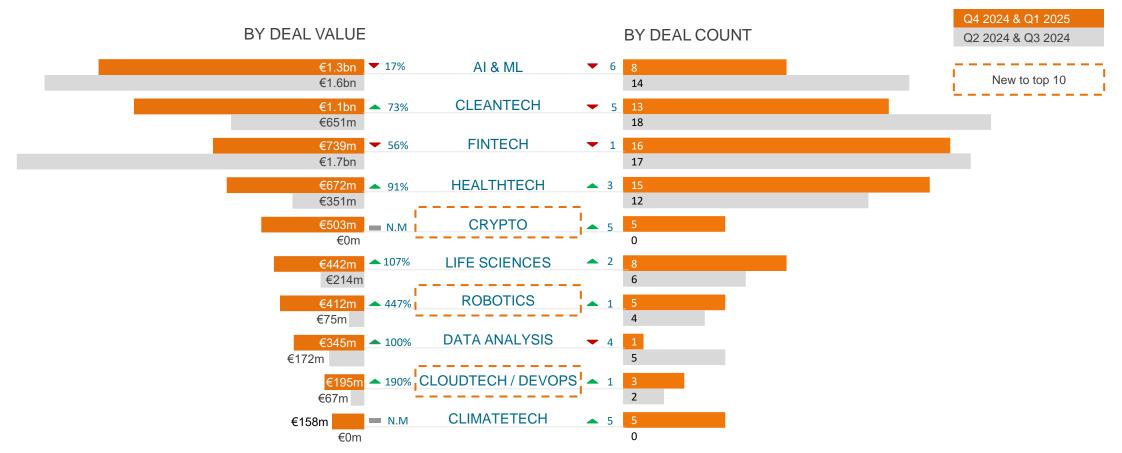
Diverging paths: Series B rebounds with mega-rounds as Series C deal values retreat





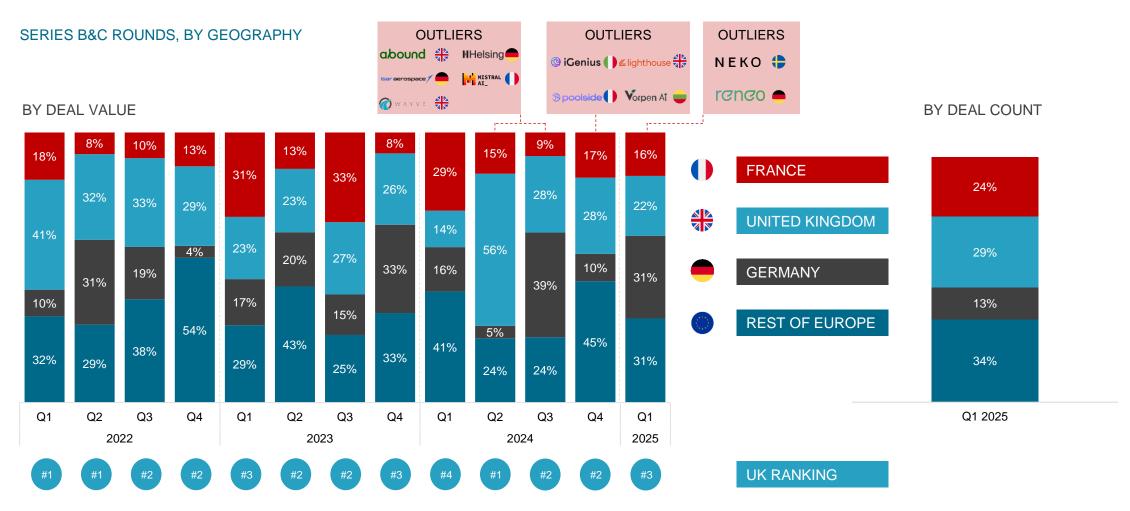
AI & ML and Fintech continue to drive Series B & C investments, accompanied by an increased focus in cryptocurrency platforms

SERIES B&C ROUNDS, BY VERTICAL





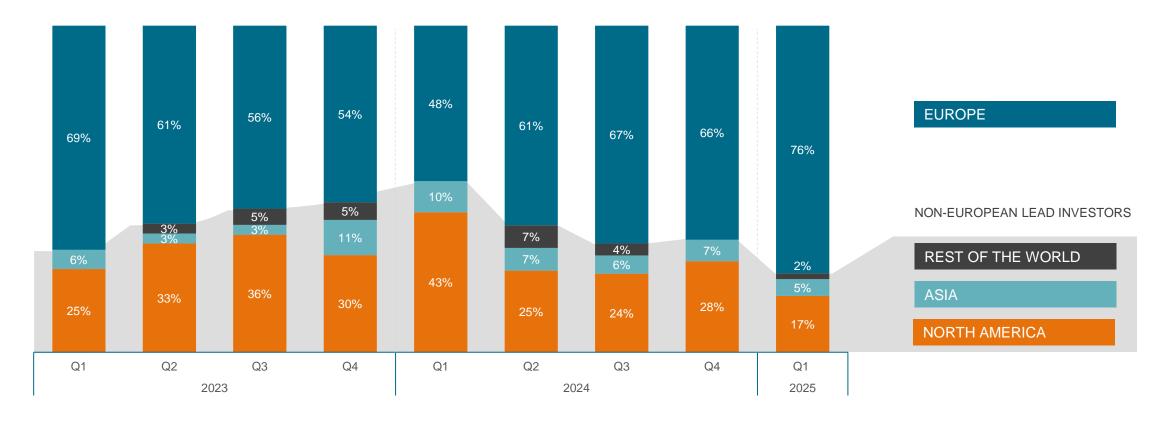
Geographic split of funding rounds remains unpredictable, with Germany leading the pack





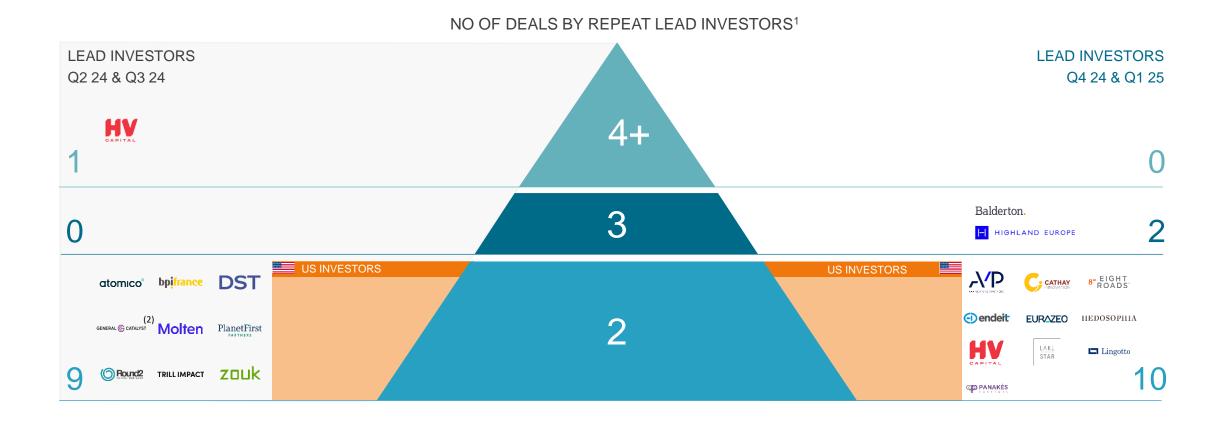
Non-European lead investor activity hits multi-year low, driven by US decline

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF LEAD INVESTORS FOR SERIES B&C ROUNDS (BY DEAL COUNT)





European VCs step-up as US investors stay on the sidelines for a second consecutive half-year





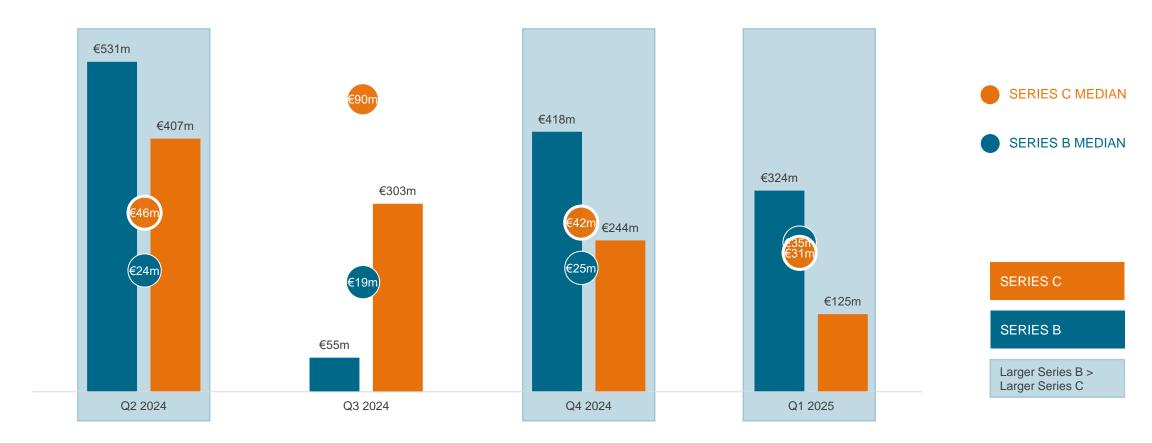
UK market holds steady: Flat growth across Series B & C compared to 2023

UK SERIES B&C TOTAL DEAL COUNT AND CAPITAL INVESTED **OUTLIER OUTLIER OUTLIER** abound# WAYVE ∠ lighthouse Nov-24 | €345m Jun-24 | €933m May-24 | €980m 43 KKR **GSR Ventures** 36 35 34 25 7 Q1 2025 vs. L4Q rolling avg.(1) TOTAL DEAL COUNT -11% €1.3bn SERIES C €344m -56% **CAPITAL INVESTED** €1.1bn **SERIES B** €902m -30% €656m **CAPITAL INVESTED** €361m €291m €190n Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q1 2021 2022 2023 2025 2020 2024



Series B rounds are now rivalling and surpassing Series C in size

AVERAGE OF TOP THREE SERIES B AND SERIES C DEAL SIZES PER QUARTER, PLUS MEDIAN DEAL SIZES



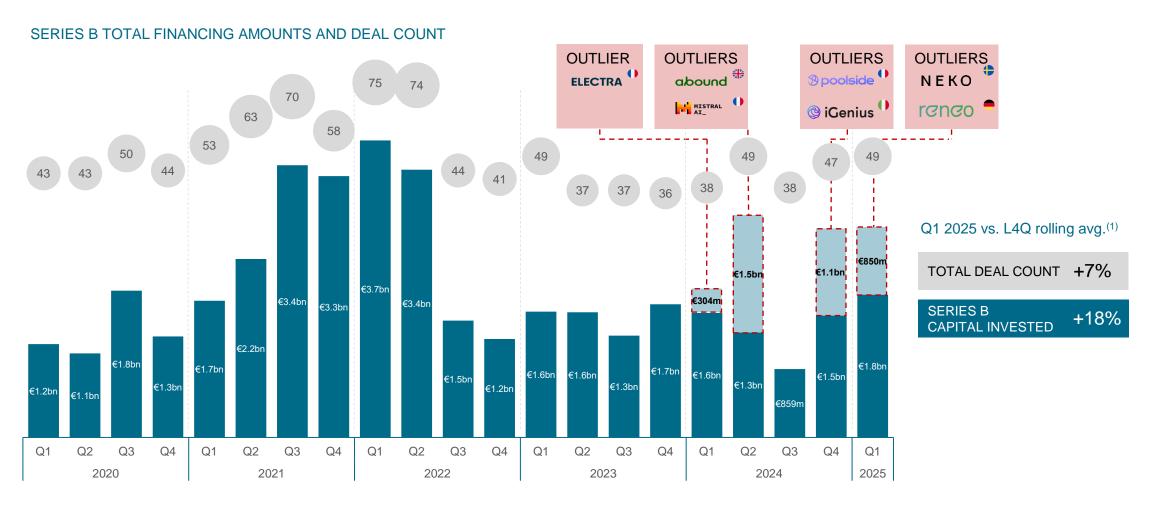


SECTION 2

Series B rounds



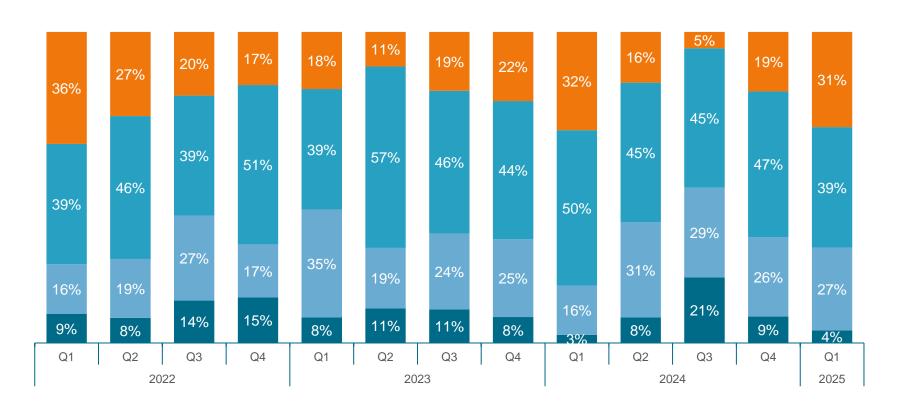
Mega-rounds drive Series B to its highest levels of invested capital in two years

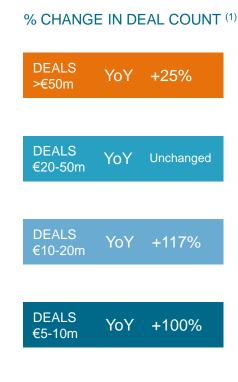




Share of €50m+ Series B rounds rises sharply

BREAKDOWN OF SERIES B ROUNDS BY VALUE







Series B valuations edge higher amidst cautious optimism

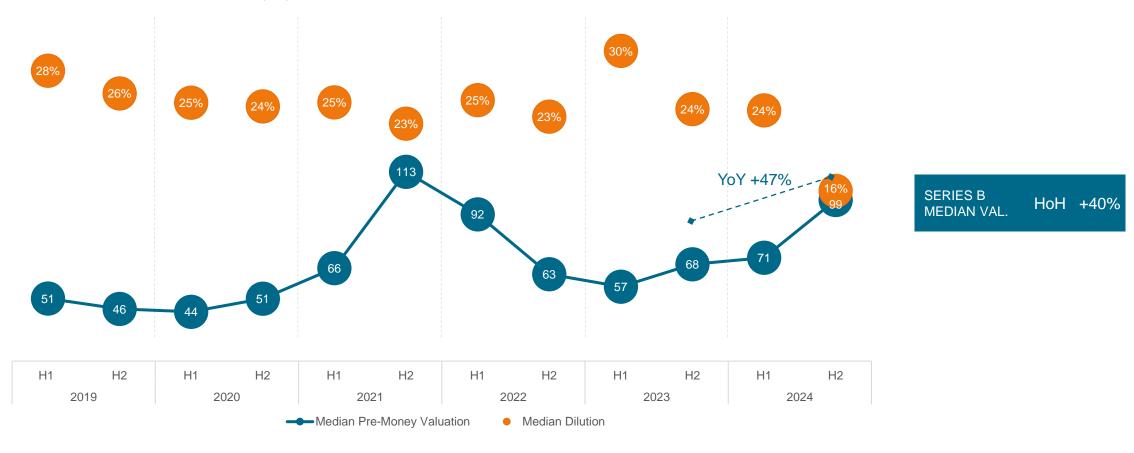
MEDIAN AND AVERAGE SIZE OF SERIES B ROUNDS





2024 exhibits an uplift in pre-money valuations with lower dilution for existing shareholders

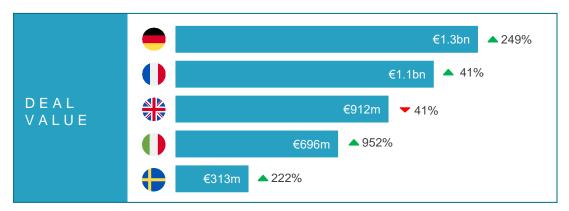
MEDIAN PRE-MONEY VALUATION (€M) AND DILUTION OF SERIES B ROUNDS, H1 2019 – H2 2024





Despite UK leading in deal count, Germany and France drives European financing activity in capital invested

SERIES B ROUNDS BY COUNTRY, Q4 2024 & Q1 2025





.3.5	DEAL VALUE	DEAL COUNT
GERMANY	€1.3bn	13
FRANCE	€1.1bn	20
UNITED KINGDOM	€912m	26
ITALY	€696m	4
SWEDEN	€313m	4
SWITZERLAND	€233m	8
SPAIN	€191m	4
IRELAND	€103m	4
NETHERLANDS	€90m	2
PORTUGAL	€88m	2



An increased focus in deeptech Series B, with a rebound in AI/ML mega-rounds

LARGEST SERIES B ROUNDS, Q2 2024 - Q1 2025

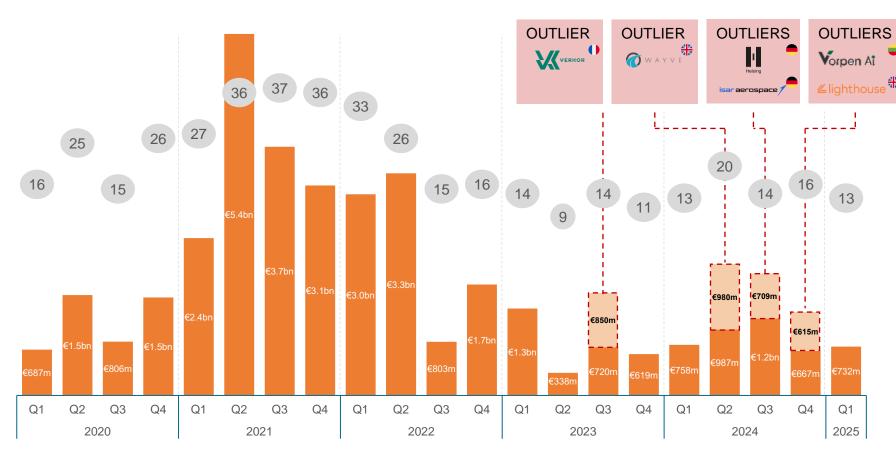
	DEAL SIZE	DATE	HQ	COMPANY	SECTOR	SELECTED INVESTORS
Q2 2024	€933m ⁽²⁾	Jun-24	<u> </u>	abound	FINTECH	GSR Ventures Salica Investments K3 VENTURES
	€600m ⁽³⁾	Jun-24	0	MISTRAL AI_	AI & ML	DST GENERAL © CATALYST
	€60m	Jun-24		AXELERA	SEMICON	cdp"
	€63m	Sep-24		∧ MarvelFusion	CLEANTECH	HV DAPITAL
Q3 2024	€53m	Sep-24	•	B BASELOAD CAPITAL	FINTECH	INGKA" INVESTMENTS
	€49m	Sep-24		Qualifyze	LIFE SCIENCES	INSIGHT PARTNERS
				'		
	€650m	Dec-24		(iGenius	AI & ML	ACV Cangel EURIZON ANNET MANAGEMENT
Q4 2024	€450m	Oct-24	0	⊕ poolside	AI & ML	BCV DST 20VC CAPITAL ONE Redpoint.
	€155m	Dec-24		The Exploration Company	SPACETECH	Balderton. plural Bayern Bessemer Venture Capital for Experim
Q1 2025	€600m	Feb-25		reneo	CLEANTECH	EURAZEO BAUWENS FOUNDAMENTAL GOLDBECK
	€251m	Jan-25	+	NEKO	HEALTHTECH	Lightspeed atomico General & Catalyst
	€120m	Jan-25		FEURA	ROBOTICS & DRONES	Lingotto BlueCrest ventures © C4 Ventures



SECTION 3 Series C rounds **SILVERPEAK**

Series C momentum stalls: capital deployed reverts to pre-rebound levels

SERIES C TOTAL FINANCING AMOUNTS AND DEAL COUNT



Q1 25 vs. L4Q rolling avg.(1)

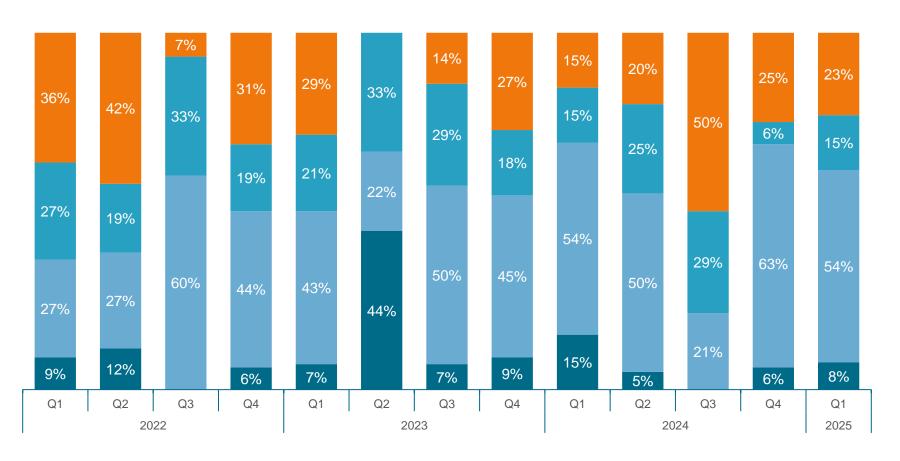
TOTAL YoY -17%

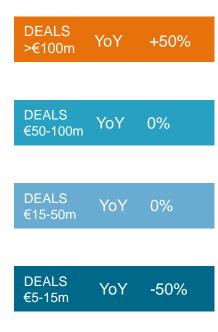
SERIES C YOY -50%



Mid-sized Series C rounds dominate as mega deals decline

BREAKDOWN OF SERIES C ROUNDS BY VALUE

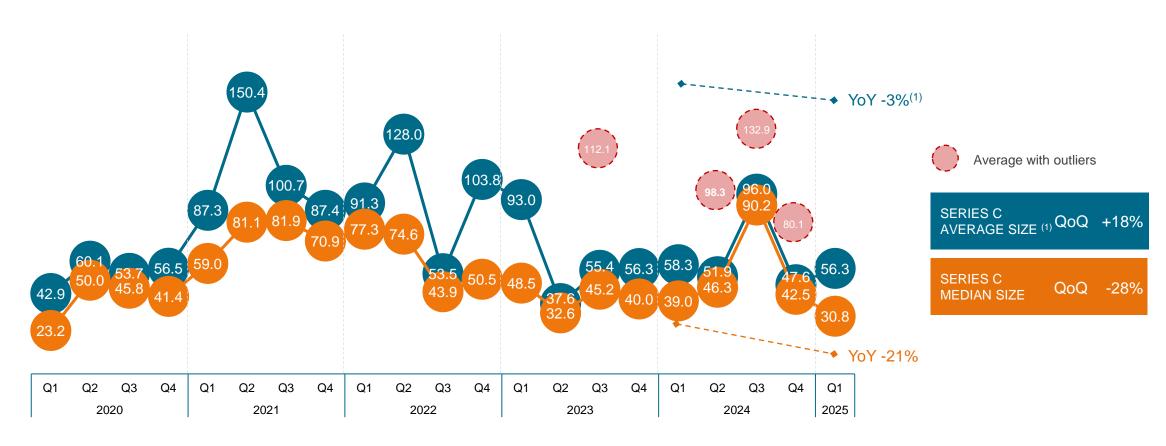






Series C deal sizes have reverted to stable levels after an uplift in mid-2024

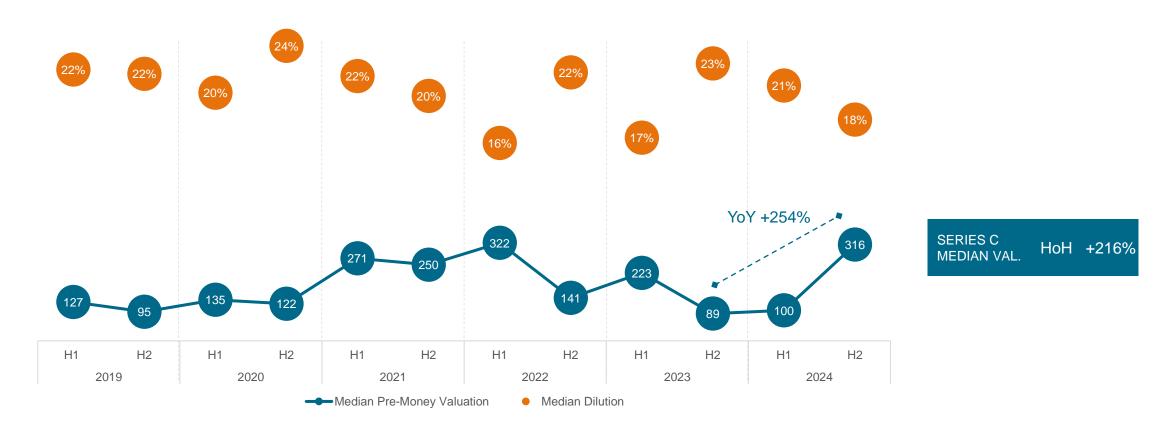
MEDIAN AND AVERAGE SIZE OF SERIES C ROUNDS





Valuations recover to 2022 highs as dilution edges lower

MEDIAN PRE-MONEY VALUATION (€) AND DILUTION OF SERIES C ROUNDS, H1 2019 – H2 2024

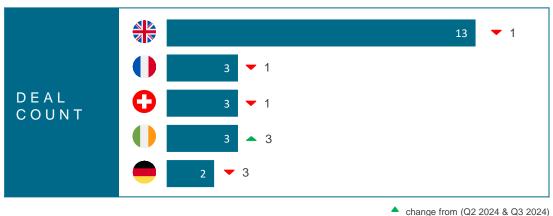




UK maintains its top position in European Series C across both round sizes and deal count

SERIES C ROUNDS BY COUNTRY, Q4 2024 & Q1 2025









UK remains the core hub for Series C deals

LARGEST SERIES C ROUNDS, Q2 2024 - Q1 2025

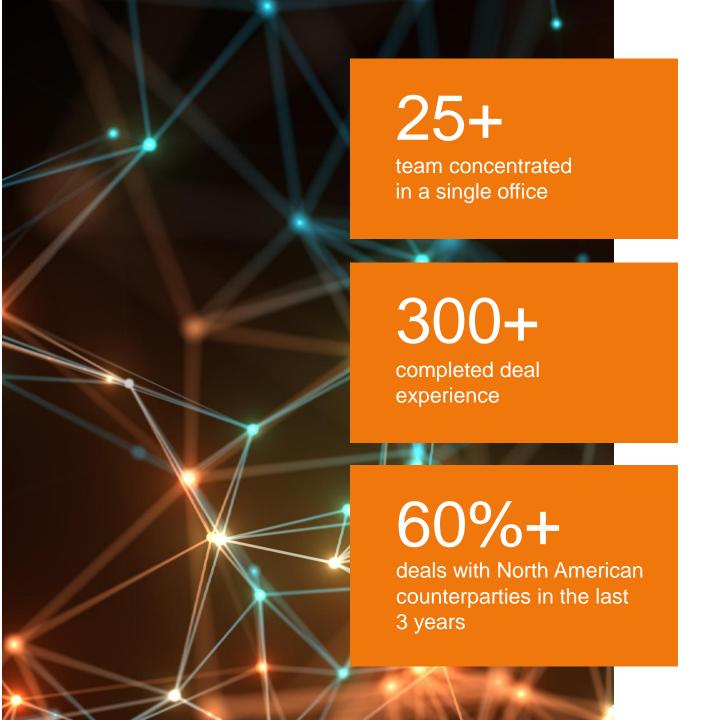
	DEAL SIZE	DATE	HQ	COMPANY	SECTOR	SELECTED INVESTORS
Q2 2024	€980m	May-24		₩ A Y V E	MOBILITYTECH	ECLIPSE INVIDIA. SoftBank
	€140m	Apr-24		OTES Hydrogen for life	CLEANTECH	azimut
	€102m	Apr-24	<u> </u>	Skyports	MOBILITYTECH	ACS HARMANIAN S
	€450m	Jul-24		Н	AI & ML	GENERAL G CATALYST
	€45UIII	Jui-24		Helsing	AI & IVIL	GENERAL & CATALYST
Q3 2024	€259m	Jul-24		isar aerospace/	SPACETECH	-∜- NIF
	€199m	Sep-24	<u> </u>	FORM ³	FINTECH	Goldman Sachs
	€345m	Nov-24		∠ lighthouse	DATA ANALYSIS	KKR 8-EIGHT. F'PRIME & SPECTRUM EQUITY
Q4 2024	€270m	Oct-24		V orpen Ai	CRYPTOCURRENCY	Angel investor
	€116m	Nov-24		Tokamak Energy	CLEANTECH	Lingotto EAST X Patient Capital Patient
						DOVO Composer
Q1 2025	€187m	Jan-25	0	□ □ M \ B □ M \ B □ M	LIFE SCIENCES	novo holdings Cormorant holdings HBMPartners BlackRock.
	€116m	Jan-25	<u> </u>	Moniepoint (1)	FINTECH	DPI Development Partners International NOVASTAR / Mightrock Alphabet
	€72m	Jan-25		№ Luminance	LEGALTECH	POINT72 A Forestay MARCH Schroders capital



SECTION 4

About Silverpeak





We are mid-market technology specialists representing European growth businesses in M&A and financing transactions involving the most relevant investors and acquirers, wherever they are.

Silverpeak's three pillars for success

Passion for technology

A high energy team of technology enthusiasts with the creativity and courage to overcome any challenges 2

Ability to articulate your full value

Deep business and product understanding focused on discovering the full strategic value and demonstrating this to the right acquirers and investors 3

Exceptional global execution

The experience and connections to execute your transaction flawlessly, with global reach, within a process built just for you

Sector coverage

Software

Application software

Applied Al

Data analytics

Infrastructure software

RPA/LowCode

Vertical software

- > Construction
- > Edtech
- > Fintech
- Martech
- Mobility
- Sustainability
- → Travel

Deeptech

Additive manufacturing

Algorithms/AI & ML

AR/VR

Cleantech

High perf. computing

Networking and IoT

NewSpace

Photonics

Quantum Computing

Robotics & Computer Vision

Security software

Semiconductors

Digital services

Data services

IT consulting

Managed services

Marketplaces

Telecom services



SILVERPEAK

We go further to understand a company's full value

We identify the hidden value in the technology, growth potential, management team and their vision.

Only when we unlock all of the potential value do we articulate it to the acquirers or investors that would benefit most.

Selected recent transactions

































Selected recent transactions

FINANCING































