

Venture Capital Deals Market Sees Rush of New Players

Number of venture capital deal makers* surpasses 10,000 for the first time

2018 was a record year for venture capital deals, with the year seeing 14,889 deals worth a total of \$274bn. This growth has been driven by a number of new participants in the deal making space: 2013 saw 4,789 investors involved with at least one funding round – in 2018 this had risen to 10,620. Despite more deal makers entering the venture capital space, the most active deal makers have maintained their dominance of total activity: in 2018, the 20 most active deal makers accounted for 14% of the total number of deals, on par with the 15% they were involved with in 2013. The rising number of active deal makers is partly due to growing participation in Asia. Five years ago, investors in North America accounted for over half of venture capital deal activity, compared to around 10% involving Asia-based investors. In 2018, however, almost three out of 10 deals that involved deal makers in Asia.

For more information and analysis, see the full *Venture Capital Deal Makers* factsheet here:

<http://docs.preqin.com/data/VC-Deal-Makers-Jan-19-Data-Pack.xlsx>

Richard Stus, Head of Private Capital Research:

“The venture capital deal making market is in a period of unprecedented activity, with more deal makers deploying more capital than ever before. While the rise in capital totals is partly due to mega funding rounds for multi-billion-dollar unicorns, the rise in the number of players is symptomatic of venture capital’s growing importance. Especially in emerging markets, venture capital funding is a valuable part of the SME and startup landscape – as evidenced by the enthusiasm with which China and other emerging economies have embraced the industry in recent years.”

Key Venture Capital Deal Makers Facts:

- There were 14,889 venture capital-backed deals announced in 2018 worth a total of \$247bn. This marked a record high for deal value, and the second-highest number of deals ever announced.
- **More than 10,000 entities were involved with at least one venture capital-backed deal in 2018**, more than twice the number that were involved with deal making in 2013 (4,789).
- Collectively, these **deal makers made 31,317 investments in venture capital-backed companies**, almost twice the 17,655 unique financings that were recorded in 2013.
- **North America-based investors have been involved with a decreasing proportion of venture capital deals**, accounting for 61% of global investments in 2013, but just 44% in 2018.
- By contrast, **Greater China-based investors represent a growing proportion of venture capital activity**, being involved with 6% of deals in 2013 and 25% in 2018.
- The 20 most active investors have maintained their dominance in recent years, being involved with 15% of venture capital-backed deals in 2013 and 14% in 2018.

****Deal makers’ refers to any entity involved in a venture capital-backed deal. This includes venture capital fund managers, corporate investors, and institutional investors making direct investments. It does not include angel investors or HNWIs.**

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