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# 2018 PREQIN GLOBAL PRIVATE EQUITY & VENTURE CAPITAL REPORT

# SAMPLE PAGES



ISBN: 978-1-912116-05-8 \$175 / £125 / €150 www.preqin.com

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#### PREQIN'S PRIVATE EQUITY DATA

Preqin's private equity data has helped thousands of private equity professionals raise capital, identify investment opportunities, develop new business and form new partnerships. Constantly updated by a team of dedicated analysts, this comprehensive resource provides the most up-to-date information on all areas of private equity.

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#### DATA PACK FOR 2018 PREQIN GLOBAL PRIVATE EQUITY & VENTURE CAPITAL REPORT

The data behind all of the charts and infographics featured in this report is available to purchase in Excel format. Ready-made charts and graphs are also available, and can be used for marketing materials, presentations or company reports.

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Industry Focus: Internet

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS: FINDING OPPORTUNITY IN THE CURRENT MARKET - Johannes Huth, KKR

## Christopher Elvin: Let's start with the market environment. What are your views?

Johannes Huth: In almost every meeting we have with investors today, we are asked where we think we are in the market cycle. How can we put money to work in an expensive environment, are we concerned by the overhang of dry powder in the industry, and so on.

In part, the high valuation environment is a reflection of the economic resurgence that has occurred, largely uninterrupted in the developed economies, since the Global Financial Crisis of 2008-2009. The question of high valuations with respect to private equity is perhaps particularly pertinent given the continued outperformance of the asset class relative to public equity, and this strong relative performance is driving more investors to increase their allocations to the asset class. At the same time, a highly favourable exit environment has been generating sizeable distributions, much of which we believe will be channelled back into successor funds. All told, the volume of unused commitments in the private equity industry has been estimated at ~\$1tn today, 76% of which is held in 2015-2017 vintage funds.1

In addition to these increasing amounts of private equity capital available, loose monetary policy and an environment of "easy money" mean that we see increased engagement from strategic investors in Europe, including foreign buyers that often have a significantly lower cost of capital than our own. As a result, we find that the average purchase price multiple for deals in Europe has increased to an average of 10.6x EV/EBITDA in 2017, higher than the 9.7x recorded in 2008.<sup>2</sup>

The reality is there have been concerns over high purchase prices for at least the last three years, but to have held back from the market during this timeframe would

<sup>1</sup>Preqin <sup>2</sup>LCD News; Q3 2017 Review <sup>3</sup>Invest Europe, "2016 European Private Equity Activity", 2016.

undoubtedly have been a mistake - there have been some excellent deals executed during this period that have already demonstrated impressive results. The European private equity market is large, and is less well penetrated than it is in the US. To put this in context, European private equity investments in recent years have accounted for between 0.2% and 0.3% of total European GDP, as compared to over 1.0% in the US.<sup>3</sup> We are not, therefore, deterred by the volume of dry powder, and regard buyers prepared to pay higher multiples as an opportunity, rather than a threat. Provided we can continue to find businesses where we can help optimize performance, we think we can deliver strong investment returns to our investors, regardless of the point in the market cycle.

#### **CE:** How do you view political risk in today's investment environment, in particular the potential impact of Brexit?

JH: I think that in reality Europe is politically more stable now than at any point over the last decade. The one exception I would make to this observation is the UK's decision to leave the European Union. The result of the Brexit referendum unleashed considerable volatility in the sterling exchange rate, and it is clear that the full consequences of this event are yet to play out. Consistent with this, our team of macro specialists are following the economic indicators of the UK very closely. Of particular note is the UK's substantial current account deficit, which leaves it vulnerable to shocks, and is in contrast to the eurozone which has a substantial current account surplus. Additionally, the UK consumer appears to be in especially shaky territory: UK unsecured consumer credit has grown by an extraordinary 50% in the last five years, a rate which we believe is untenable over the longer or even medium term. While an outright recession in the UK is not our base case for now, it is worth remembering the extent to which periods of economic contraction in the UK

have been both deep and prolonged, with GDP declining on average between 2% and 4% from peak to trough. Our assessment of the UK does not mean to say that we are not investing there, however we remain cautious. We favour UK companies with a large proportion of their revenue base coming from overseas, and where the investment thesis is about expansion globally. We seek to avoid domestically oriented businesses with significant exposure to the UK consumer. Our ultimate goal is to build diversified, pan-European portfolio, which will include exposure to the UK.

Outside the UK, the picture looks more robust, politically as well as economically. Looking back on the elections we have seen in 2017, radical political forces were marginalized in both the Netherlands and in France, and it is our view that Germany will continue to provide stability within the eurozone. We think that the economy is currently well positioned, and our macro team are forecasting GDP growth in the eurozone of 2.0% for 2018. Although ECB tapering is top of mind for many investors, we do not believe that this will derail Europe's recovery. Indeed, even with the proposed tapering, we expect the ECB to add over a third of a trillion euros to its balance sheet in 2018. Together with other tailwinds, such as lower unemployment and a relatively weak euro supporting exports, we feel optimistic about the European economic outlook.

#### CE: You have spoken about market cycles – what did you learn from 2008/2009?

JH: We made a number of changes to our investment approach following the last market downturn. Firstly, the majority of deals we are doing in Europe today are different from the deals we were pursuing in the 2006-2007 period – these typically targeted higher levels of leverage and were often executed in consortia with other

1. 2018 PREQIN GLOBAL PRIVATE EQUITY & VENTURE CAPITAL REPORT

financial sponsors. This sometimes comes as a surprise to people, but in contrast to our reputation for "mega-buyout" deals, our average equity cheque since 2009 has been €200m. Over the same period, our average entry leverage has been relatively conservative, at 3.3x net debt/EBITDA. That said, we can leverage our balance sheet and established co-investment program to enable us to review a very broad spectrum of opportunities, and will still consider large deals - like the recent carve-out of the spreads business from Unilever. However, our most typical deal today is in what we term the "upper mid-market", or roughly between €500m and €2bn in enterprise value. We think this is an attractive area of the market given the wealth of deal flow we see, and because this size of business is often best positioned to benefit from the resources that we can bring as a partner.

Secondly, we deepened our local footprint in our core European markets and established local investment and portfolio management committees. We still have global representation on these committees in the form of KKR's co-founders, Henry Kravis and George Roberts, and copresident, Joe Bae; however, the majority of both committees are members of our European teams. I believe this helps to ensure deeper accountability from the investment team, and means that our local expertise is genuinely shaping our investment decisions.

Beyond these enhancements to our investment approach and process, we have proactively developed significant resources that can help support our investment businesses. I have mentioned our macro team already, who bring a very important dimension to our understanding of each opportunity we consider. They provide a top-down perspective that helps identify investment themes and secular trends, and they assist with portfolio construction, where their work can help us avoid unintended overexposure to key macro risks. Additional capabilities include the incorporation of ESG criteria into our investment screening and management practices, an area in which we believe we have become thought leaders for the industry.

## **CE:** How is KKR positioning itself for investment opportunities in Europe today?

JH: Our starting point is always asking: what can we bring to an investment beyond being simply providers of capital? We have an experienced private equity team in Europe, but KKR also has a wealth of resources globally that we believe make us better investors and more attractive partners to the businesses we invest in. For example, we have one of the largest private equity businesses in the US and Asia; we have a group of operating experts, KKR Capstone, with over 50 people worldwide; and we have a network of over 100 portfolio companies globally, with approximately \$100bn in annual revenues, which can help our European companies gain access to new markets.

We think that the power of our firm-wide resources makes us an attractive partner to businesses, and we see this thesis being proved out in our deal track record. Over two-thirds of the portfolio companies we have invested in since 2009 have been partnership transactions, where a family owner, founding entrepreneur or corporate shareholder has rolled a significant portion of their stake in a business into a new partnership with us. We work together with our partners to implement value creation initiatives that impact top-line growth as well as EBITDA margin expansion, support accretive M&A, and utilize our global footprint to help internationalize local

European businesses. Often, we find that we are selected as the partner of choice by the owners of a company on the basis of the toolkit that we can bring, even in instances where we are not offering the highest price.

#### CE: What do you believe the main challenges are for LPs looking to invest in 2018?

JH: Investors drafting their asset allocation plans for 2018 face difficult choices about where to find the best risk-adjusted returns for their capital. As a practitioner of private equity, I think that the continued outperformance of private equity relative to public equity makes as strong a case as any for allocations to the asset class. I think another important point is that consistent and disciplined deployment to funds across vintages is critical, given how notoriously difficult it is to time markets. One of the advantages of illiquid funds is that they are structured to invest across market cycles, in our case over investment periods of six years, so by committing to a given vintage investors should get some comfort from the fact that not all their capital is being put at risk on day one.

In my view, one of the greater potential challenges to investors in 2018 will actually be getting access to the right managers. We have seen record volumes of capital distributed to investors, the demand for reups has been high and target allocations are growing. Many limited partners are placing pressure on managers not to drastically increase the size of their funds, but at the same time we have also had the experience, in KKR's most recent series of private equity fundraises globally, of having to cut back on investor allocations. As such, I believe that some growth of fund size - within reason - is appropriate, as this is a reflection of the continued (and in our view sustainable) growth of the private equity industry as it continues to perform and evolve.

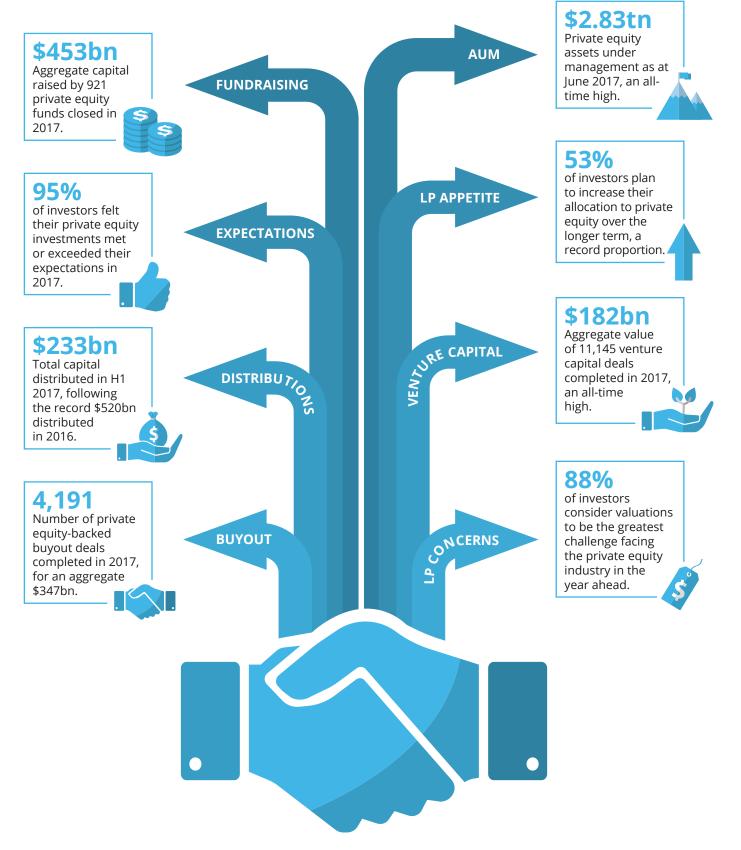
#### KKR

KKR is a leading global investment firm that manages multiple alternative asset classes, including private equity, energy, infrastructure, real estate, credit and, through its strategic manager partnerships, hedge funds. KKR aims to generate attractive investment returns by following a patient and disciplined investment approach, employing world-class people, and driving growth and value creation with KKR portfolio companies. KKR invests its own capital alongside its partners' capital and provides financing solutions and investment opportunities through its capital markets business.

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## PRIVATE EQUITY: 2017 IN NUMBERS





## PRIVATE EQUITY IN 2018 - Christopher Elvin, Preqin

n my introduction to last year's report I wrote "private equity is well positioned for another strong year in 2017," and that "fundraising has rarely looked so appealing". Hindsight is a wonderful thing; however, it is fair to say that 2017 surpassed my expectations, particularly in terms of fundraising and the continued growth of the industry. Total AUM for the asset class now stands at \$2.83tn as at June 2017 (the latest data available), an increase of \$248bn since the end of 2016.

#### UNPRECEDENTED PERIOD FOR FUNDRAISING

While many in the industry anticipated 2017 would be another strong year for private equity fundraising, I suspect few would have predicted that 2017 would witness the largest amount of capital (\$453bn) raised in any year. Not only was a record amount of capital raised but the speed and success with which fund managers raised their capital was unparalleled: of the funds to reach a final close, 30% spent less than six months in market and 79% of funds met or exceeded their fundraising target. 2017 marked the fifth consecutive year in which private equity fundraising has surpassed \$300bn; even in the build-up to the GFC, only three consecutive years (2006-2008) saw fundraising surpass \$300bn, which illustrates the unprecedented period of private equity fundraising that we are in.

Despite the success that many fund managers are having, one of the clear, persisting trends within the industry is the growing concentration of capital among fewer funds. Although a record amount of capital was raised in 2017, 322 fewer funds reached a final close than in 2016, resulting in the average fund size increasing to \$535mn from \$384mn. In short, the gap between the haves and have nots is widening – first-time funds accounted for just 6% of capital secured by funds in 2017.

#### CONCERNS PERSIST OVER HIGH PRICES

Preqin's survey results show that entry prices for assets have been at the forefront

of investors' and fund managers' minds for the past three years. This concern has reached new highs though as we move into 2018, with the latest survey results showing that 88% of LPs and 62% of GPs perceive pricing, and the impact it may have on future returns, to be the biggest challenge facing the private equity industry in 2018.

Despite these concerns, strong fundraising and the resulting rise in dry powder levels meant that the number of private equitybacked buyout deals completed in 2017 remained on par with the past four years, with over 4,000 deals completed. Aggregate deal value increased slightly on 2016 to \$347bn; however, this still represents a 19% fall from 2015 and less than half of the value seen back in 2007. Venture capital, however, saw fewer transactions completed in 2017 (11,145), but the value of transactions increased by 28% compared to 2016 to reach an all-time high of \$182bn.

While high pricing is common to most asset classes today, many GPs remain confident in their ability to innovate and find value. LPs, however, appear to be more pessimistic: 34% of LPs expect current valuations to result in lower returns in the longer term.

#### ONGOING MARKET EVOLUTION

Given the illiquid and long-term nature of private equity, change within the asset class can sometimes appear somewhat slow paced; however, we are probably in a period when there has never been so much change.

We have seen GPs expand their offerings to include multi-product strategies, longlife funds and, more recently, using the secondary market to extend ownership of assets. Meanwhile, ESG and responsible investment practices have come to the fore and there is a real focus among fund managers to provide excellent returns to their investors by building best-practice businesses. LPs too are innovating and becoming increasingly sensitive around anything that impacts net performance, and are set to increase their use of alternative structures to access the asset class.

2017 witnessed further fines from the SEC to private equity firms for inaccurate disclosure of fees as well as new reporting guidelines from ILPA over the use of subscription credit lines by GPs. Demand for even greater transparency, particularly surrounding fees paid by LPs, is only going to continue. We are also in a period of extraordinary technological advancement which is having a significant impact on private equity firms, both in terms of the underlying portfolio companies that they are looking to invest in but also from an internal operations and reporting standpoint.

#### OUTLOOK FOR 2018

With dry powder levels now exceeding \$1tn, bull market conditions and increased competition from direct investors, high entry prices for assets look set to continue for the foreseeable future.

The reality is that fund managers will have to continue to put capital to work irrespective of market conditions, and while exit activity has declined for three consecutive years, more than a third of fund managers expect exit activity to increase in the next 12 months; a further 50% expect exit activity to remain at the same level.

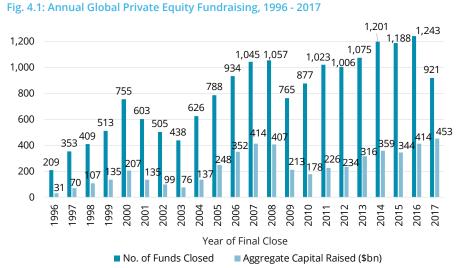
Despite concerns over the impact of high pricing on future returns, Preqin's investor survey results show LPs remain satisfied with the returns their private equity portfolios are delivering and continue to have an avid appetite for the asset class. While H1 2017 data shows that net distributions are not at the levels seen between 2014 and 2016, they continue to exceed capital calls and increase LP liquidity. As a result, 2018 is likely to be another very strong fundraising year – a given if SoftBank Vision Fund reaches a final close!



## **2017 FUNDRAISING MARKET**

n 2017, 921 private equity funds reached a final close, securing just over \$453bn, the largest amount of capital ever raised in any year. This marks the second consecutive year in which annual fundraising has surpassed \$400bn, a landmark that has only been achieved once previously in 2007/2008 (Fig. 4.1). Although 26% fewer funds closed in comparison to 2016, \$39bn more capital was raised by private equity funds closed in 2017 and this figure will increase as more data becomes available. The private equity asset class accounted for 60% of all private capital raised in 2017, an increase from 57% of capital raised in 2016.

The positive net distributions that LPs have received since 2011 have driven the stellar fundraising activity seen in recent years (see page 24). The latest data shows that, while positive net distributions continue, momentum does appear to be slowing: LPs received \$66bn in net distributions in H1 2017, compared to \$149bn over the whole of 2016. Nonetheless, the results of Preqin's interviews with investors in December 2017 show that 63% of LPs have a positive perception of private equity, and 53% plan to increase their allocation to private equity in the longer term (see pages 76-78). As a result, LP capital is



Source: Preqin Private Equity Online

likely to continue to flow back into the asset class as LPs strive to maintain their allocations.

#### QUARTERLY FUNDRAISING

The capital flow into private equity funds via interim and final closes each quarter can be seen in Fig. 4.2. To calculate this, the capital raised for each close that took place in each quarter is examined; only fresh capital is considered, which therefore excludes capital that has been raised via previous closes held in an earlier quarter. There was a large influx of capital in Q2 2017, 39% of which can be attributed to the \$93bn initial closing of SoftBank Vision Fund, a global hybrid investment vehicle. Excluding this fund, over \$147bn was raised in Q2 2017, making it the strongest fundraising quarter of all time.

#### **CAPITAL CONCENTRATION**

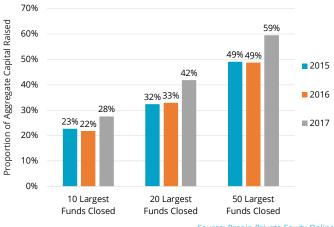
There were a number of high-profile mega fund (funds greater than \$4.5bn) final closures in 2017, including Apollo Investment Fund IX on \$24.7bn, the largest



#### Fig. 4.2: Quarterly Aggregate Capital Raised by Private Equity Funds Closed, 2010 - 2017\*

\*SoftBank Vision Fund held its first close on \$93bn in Q2 2017.

Fig. 4.3: Proportion of Aggregate Capital Raised by the Largest Private Equity Funds Closed, 2015 - 2017



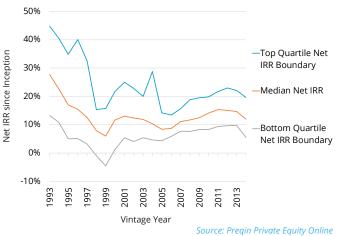
Source: Preqin Private Equity Online



## PRIVATE EQUITY PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

FUND STRATEGY: All Private Equity				GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS: All Regions					<mark>ΑS ΑΤ:</mark> 30 Jι			
		Median Fund			Net M	ultiple Quart	iles (X)	Net	IRR Quartiles	5 (%)	Net IRR M	ax/Min (%)
Vintage	No. of Funds	Called (%)	Dist (%) DPI	Value (%) RVPI	Q1	Median	Q3	Q1	Median	Q3	Мах	Min
2017	33	10.0	0.0	94.8	1.00	0.95	0.88	n/m	n/m	n/m	n/m	n/m
2016	141	23.0	0.0	96.5	1.07	0.98	0.86	n/m	n/m	n/m	n/m	n/m
2015	138	40.9	0.0	105.0	1.27	1.10	0.98	n/m	n/m	n/m	n/m	n/m
2014	129	64.5	3.9	107.8	1.32	1.18	1.06	19.6	12.0	5.5	80.0	-30.2
2013	126	80.0	15.5	112.4	1.45	1.30	1.18	22.1	14.7	9.7	93.4	-21.8
2012	110	86.0	25.2	104.7	1.75	1.40	1.24	23.0	15.0	9.6	284.9	-14.5
2011	99	93.2	46.0	99.7	1.91	1.47	1.32	21.7	15.3	9.3	87.7	-13.6
2010	72	96.9	67.6	85.7	1.90	1.55	1.30	19.8	14.1	8.3	80.3	-27.1
2009	70	96.1	77.6	65.0	1.92	1.65	1.35	19.5	12.4	8.3	40.6	-11.9
2008	129	97.2	94.9	61.0	1.93	1.64	1.34	18.8	11.7	7.6	60.5	-32.6
2007	158	98.3	113.3	43.0	1.93	1.61	1.37	15.6	11.1	7.7	53.7	-66.7
2006	163	98.0	114.7	30.3	1.87	1.57	1.26	13.4	8.7	5.9	79.0	-25.1
2005	147	99.5	130.6	10.4	1.76	1.50	1.23	14.2	8.4	4.3	105.5	-38.2
2004	86	99.1	151.6	1.4	2.25	1.63	1.21	28.8	10.3	4.6	89.2	-79.2
2003	84	100.0	153.4	0.0	2.19	1.63	1.24	20.0	11.9	5.4	239.8	-49.9
2002	85	97.8	152.6	0.0	2.04	1.55	1.21	22.8	12.3	4.0	93.0	-47.2
2001	122	100.0	158.3	0.0	2.16	1.61	1.13	25.0	13.0	5.4	64.4	-26.0
2000	193	99.0	149.0	0.0	2.10	1.50	0.94	21.7	11.7	1.2	52.9	-40.0
1999	154	100.0	124.2	0.0	1.84	1.28	0.66	15.7	6.0	-4.6	154.7	-43.4
1998	166	100.0	136.2	0.0	1.84	1.37	0.88	15.3	7.9	-1.0	514.3	-100.0
1997	154	100.0	149.9	0.0	2.34	1.50	1.12	32.5	12.5	3.2	267.8	-30.0
1996	90	100.0	181.3	0.0	2.51	1.81	1.14	40.1	15.4	5.1	188.4	-33.3
1995	88	100.0	190.1	0.0	2.72	1.90	1.21	34.8	17.0	5.0	447.4	-22.0
1994	95	100.0	198.0	0.0	3.09	1.98	1.46	40.4	22.6	10.8	318.0	-22.6
1993	77	100.0	247.5	0.0	3.52	2.48	1.59	44.8	27.7	13.2	105.7	-29.1
										C		. Frankt Ordina

Source: Pregin Private Equity Online



#### Fig. 7.15: All Private Equity: Median Net IRRs and Quartile Boundaries by Vintage Year (As at June 2017)

#### Fig. 7.16: All Private Equity: Median Net Multiples by Vintage Year (As at June 2017)



Source: Preqin Private Equity Online

## INVESTOR APPETITE FOR PRIVATE EQUITY IN 2018

Preqin surveyed over 250 institutional investors in private equity in December 2017 to determine their satisfaction with the asset class, their key concerns and their plans for the year ahead. Although the majority (63%) of investors have a positive perception of private equity at present, this is a 21-percentage-point decrease from the results of December 2016's survey (84%). This is perhaps unsurprising given that the survey results also showed that 37% of LPs feel portfolio companies are currently overpriced and a market correction is imminent or likely in the next 12 months.

#### **INVESTOR EXPECTATIONS**

Despite this, the same proportion (95%) of LPs feel that their private equity investments have met or exceeded their expectations in 2017 as in 2016, with a two-percentage-point rise in the proportion with surpassed expectations (Fig. 8.10). Strong performance resulting in high distributions back to LPs has helped to sustain positive investor sentiment when asked about the performance of their private equity investments over the past three years, over a third (38%) of investors stated that their expectations had been exceeded, and a further 57% reported that their expectations had been met.

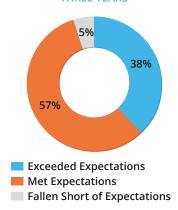


Fig. 8.10: Extent to Which Investors Feel Their Private Equity Fund Investments Have

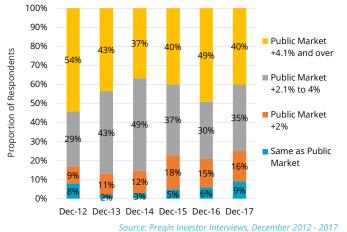
Investor sentiment with respect to venture capital is less optimistic: the proportion of LPs with a positive perception of the strategy has decreased from 41% in 2016's survey to 34% in 2017, and the proportion of LPs with a negative perception has increased to 23% from 10% the previous year.

Furthermore, venture capital investments have fallen short of expectations according to 29% of those surveyed, although this is perhaps unsurprising given the higher risk profile of venture capital investments.

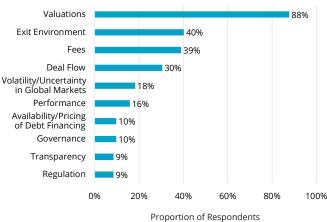




#### Fig. 8.11: Investors' Return Expectations for Their Private Equity Portfolios, 2012 - 2017



### Fig. 8.12: Investor Views on the Key Issues for Private Equity in 2018



Source: Pregin Investor Interviews, December 2017

## LARGEST BUYOUT DEALS AND EXITS

#### Fig. 11.38: Largest Private Equity-Backed Buyout Deals in 2017

Portfolio Company	Investment Type	Deal Date	Deal Size (mn)	Deal Status	Investor(s)	Bought from/Exiting Company	Location	Industry
Toshiba Memory Corporation	Buyout	Sep-17	2,000,000 JPY	Announced	Apple Inc., Bain Capital*, Dell Inc., Hoya Corporation, Kingston Technology Company, Inc., Seagate Technology Holdings, SK Hynix, Toshiba Corporation	Toshiba Corporation	Japan	Electronics
Calpine Corporation	Public-to- Private	Aug-17	17,000 USD	Announced	Access Industries, CPP Investment Board, Energy Capital Partners*	-	US	Power
Global Logistic Properties Limited	Public-to- Private	Jul-17	16,000 SGD	Announced	Bank of China Group Investment, China Vanke Co. Ltd., Hillhouse Capital Management, Hopu Investment Management, Schwartz-Mei Group Limited	-	Singapore	Logistics
Unilever's margarine and spreads business	Buyout	Dec-17	6,825 EUR	Announced	KKR	Unilever	UK	Food
Staples, Inc.	Public-to- Private	Jun-17	6,900 USD	Completed	Sycamore Partners	-	US	Retail
Belle International Holdings Limited	Public-to- Private	Apr-17	53,100 HKD	Completed	CDH Investments, Hillhouse Capital Management	-	China	Retail
Stada Arzneimittel AG	PIPE	Aug-17	5,240 EUR	Completed	Bain Capital*, Cinven*, Partners Group	-	Germany	Pharmaceuticals
Nets Holding A/S	Public-to- Private	Sep-17	33,100 DKK	Announced	Advent International, Bain Capital, GIC, Hellman & Friedman*	-	Denmark	Financial Services
West Corporation	Public-to- Private	May-17	5,100 USD	Completed	Apollo Global Management	Quadrangle Group, Thomas H Lee Partners	US	IT
PAREXEL International Corporation	Public-to- Private	Jun-17	5,000 USD	Completed	Pamplona Capital Management	-	US	Pharmaceuticals

#### Source: Preqin Private Equity Online

#### Fig. 11.39: Largest Private Equity-Backed Buyout Exits in 2017

Portfolio Company	Investment Type	Deal Date	Deal Size (mn)	Investor(s)	Exit Date	Exit Type	Exit Value (mn)	Acquiror (Exit)	Location	Industry
Lightower Fiber Networks, LLC.	Merger	Dec-12	2,000 USD	ABRY Partners, Berkshire Partners, Lightower Fiber Networks, LLC.*, Pamlico Capital, Sidera Networks*	Jul-17	Trade Sale	7,100 USD	Crown Castle International Corporation	US	Telecoms
lsta International GmbH	Buyout	Apr-13	3,100 EUR	CPP Investment Board, CVC Capital Partners	Jul-17	Trade Sale	4,500 EUR	Cheung Kong Property Holdings Limited, CK Infrastructure Holdings	Germany	Energy
West Corporation	Public-to- Private	May-06	4,100 USD	Quadrangle Group*, Thomas H Lee Partners*	May-17	Sale to GP	5,100 USD	Apollo Global Management	US	IT
VWR International	Buyout	May-07	3,500 USD	Avista Capital Partners, Madison Dearborn Partners*	May-17	Trade Sale	4,380 USD	Avantor Performance Materials, Inc.	US	Medical Instruments
USI Holdings Corporation	Buyout	Nov-12	2,300 USD	Onex Corporation	Mar-17	Sale to GP	4,300 USD	CDPQ, KKR	US	Insurance

\*Indicates lead investor(s)/acquiror(s).

Source: Preqin Private Equity Online

# **VENTURE CAPITAL DEALS**

n 2017, 11,145 venture capital deals were completed globally for an aggregate value of \$182bn, representing both a four-year low in the number of deals completed and a record high for aggregate annual deal value (Fig. 12.15).

#### **2017 IN CONTEXT**

2017 saw 7% fewer deals than in 2016, which followed an 8% decline in the number of venture capital deal financings between 2015 and 2016. However, in 2017 aggregate deal value was 28% higher than in 2016, reaching the highest level on record. The rise in value was driven by a high number of \$1bn+ transactions, as well as larger late-stage funding rounds. Higher valuations have seen the average deal size grow 120% in the past decade (\$10mn in 2007 vs. \$22mn in 2017).

Prior to 2016, deal activity had been on the rise for six consecutive years; 2015 was a record year for deals, with 13,019 venture capital financings completed. The trend of fewer but higher valued deals that started in 2016 continued in 2017.

#### **REGIONAL SHIFTS**

Regionally, venture capital deal flow has remained generally consistent from 2016. As shown in Figs. 12.16-12.19, there is continued movement away



Source: Preqin Private Equity Online

from North American markets, shifting towards European markets and emerging opportunities in Greater China:

- With 4,303 financings, deal flow in North America reached its lowest level since 2010, and the region's 2017 market share (39%) was substantially lower than its 58% historical average (2007-2016).
- Greater China saw an increase in the number of deals in 2017 (2,633 vs. 2,547 in 2016), and its share of the market has also increased for the fifth consecutive year to 24%, well above

the 11% average in 2007-2016. **European** deal activity in 2017 was at its lowest level since 2012, although its 19% share of the market is only one percentage point short of its historical average in 2007-2016.

India saw the most variation in deal activity in 2017 of all regions: there were 23% fewer venture capital financings, but aggregate deal value has more than doubled versus the previous year (\$10.4bn vs. \$4.5bn).

### Fig. 12.16: Number of Venture Capital Deals\* Completed by Region, 2007 - 2017

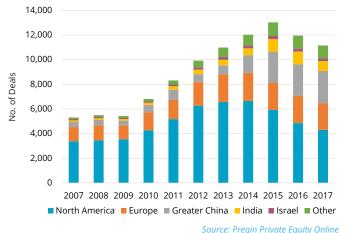
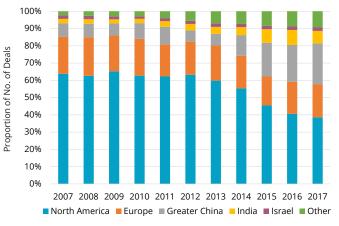


Fig. 12.17: Proportion of Number of Venture Capital Deals\* Completed by Region, 2007 - 2017



Source: Preqin Private Equity Online

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