

Venture Capital Deals Activity Continues Slide in Q4 2012

6% Drop in the Number and 5% Decline in Value of Deals in Comparison to Previous Quarter

In Q4 2012, 1,216 venture capital financings were announced, with an aggregate value of \$8.9bn – a 6% drop in the number and a 5% decline in the value of deals in comparison to Q3 2012, and a 13% and 23% decline in number and value from Q2 2012. Between 2011 and 2012 the aggregate value of deals announced dropped by 22%, from an aggregate value of \$50bn in 2011 to \$39.1bn in 2012.

However, the number of venture capital deals announced in 2012 increased by 13% compared to 2011. With the increasing prominence of smaller early stage deals – seed, angel and Series A deals made up a third of financing in Q4 2012 – the number of venture capital deals taking place has remained strong but there has been a decrease in aggregate deal value. The aggregate value of announced deals in Q4 2012 was 9% lower than the five-year average quarterly figure from 2008-2012, but the number of deals was 16% higher than the quarterly average over the same period.

Other Key Facts:

- North America once again saw the greatest amount of venture capital investment in Q4 2012, with 787 deals valued at \$6.1bn, accounting for 65% and 69% of the global number and aggregate value of deals respectively. However, the number of deals announced and their aggregate value saw drops of 14% and 15% respectively compared to Q3 2012.
- In contrast, 267 deals valued at \$1.3bn were announced in Europe, an increase of 36% in number and 22% in aggregate value compared to Q3 2012; the region comprised 22% of the global number of deals and 14% of the global aggregate value.
- 36 venture capital investments were announced in China, a decrease in the number of deals in the country of 20% compared to Q3 2012; however, the aggregate value of these deals was, at \$815mn, 88% higher than the previous quarter, although 2012 as a whole saw venture capital investment levels drop significantly.
- Angel/seed stage deals once again accounted for a significant proportion (22%) of the number of venture capital deals globally in Q4 2012. Meanwhile, Series A deals witnessed a slight drop in prominence, accounting for 12% of deals in Q4 2012 compared to 16% in Q3 2012.
- The average value of venture capital deals in 2012 was lower for each stage than in 2011, with the differences most notable for later stage deals, as the average value of Series C deals fell from \$25.2mn in 2011 to \$21mn in 2012, and Series D and later deals saw their average value fall from \$38.6mn to \$31.4mn.
- Yet again, companies in the internet sector received a higher number of financings than any other industry, with 27% of all deals in Q4 2012 globally.

For more information, please see the factsheet that follows.

Comment:

“Venture capital deal activity has witnessed further drops in Q4 2012, following on from declines in venture capital activity witnessed during the previous quarter; Q4 2012 posted a 6% drop in the number and a 5% decline in the value of deals in comparison to Q3 2012, and a 13% and 23% decline in number and value from Q2 2012.

These figures for Q3 and Q4 2012 bring the aggregate value of venture capital deal flow back to levels of activity witnessed in late 2010 and move away from gains in the number and aggregate value of venture capital deals during 2011 and early 2012. However, while the value of deals has declined, the volume of deals remains strong, as investors flock towards smaller-sized early stage seed and angel deals. With seed and angel deals now making up almost a quarter of all venture capital financings during the year, compared to 10% of all deals in 2008 and 2009, it is likely that the coming months will see investors continuing to favour very early stage deals in comparison to larger, later-stage deals.”

Anna Strumillo, Manager – Buyout and Venture Capital Deals

For more information and analysis, please see the PDF factsheet that follows.

Note to Editors:

- Preqin is spelled without the letter 'U' after the 'Q', the company name being an amalgamation of the former name, Private Equity Intelligence.

About Preqin:

Preqin is the leading source of information for the alternative assets industry, providing data and analysis via online databases, publications and bespoke data requests.

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Fig. 1: Number and Aggregate Value of Venture Capital Deals Globally: Q1 2008 - Q4 2012

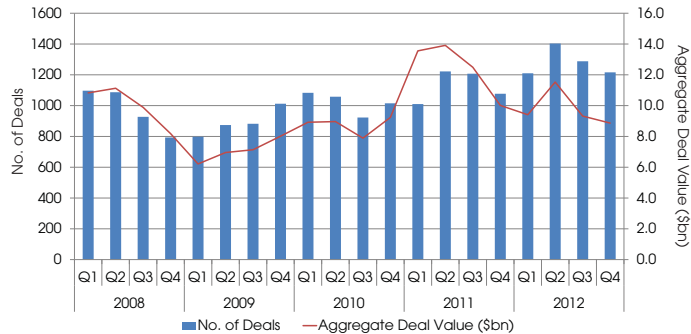


Fig. 3: Proportion of Number of Venture Capital Deals by Stage: Q4 2012

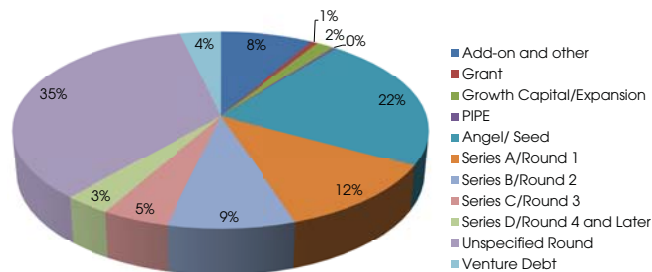


Fig. 5: Proportion of Number and Aggregate Value of VC Deals by Industry: Q3 2012

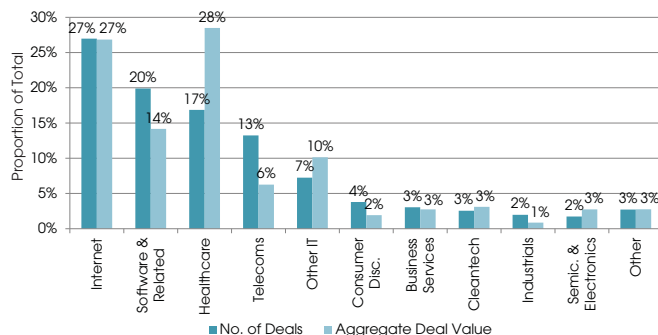


Fig. 2: Number of Venture Capital Deals by Region: Q1 2008 - Q4 2012

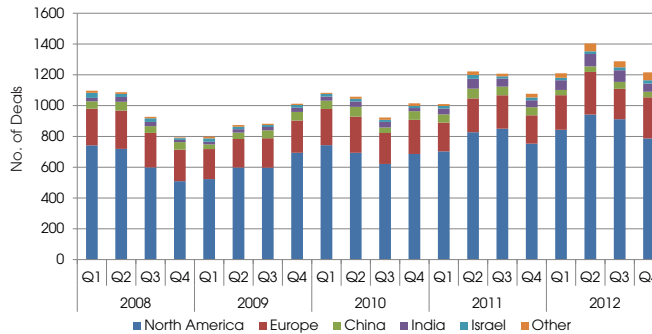
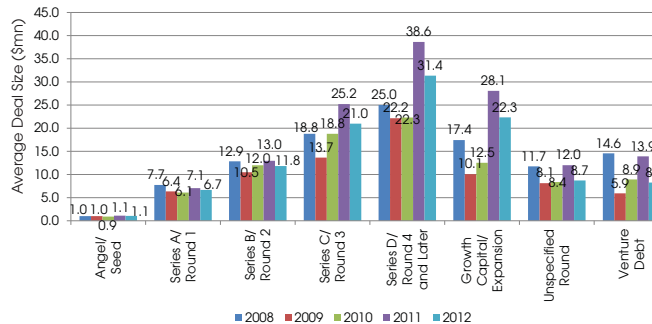


Fig. 4: Average Value of Venture Capital Deals (\$mn): 2008 - 2012



Preqin data shows that 1,216 venture capital financings were announced in Q4 2012, with an aggregate value of \$8.9bn – a 6% drop in the number and 5% decline in the value of deals in comparison to Q3 2012.

The number of deals in the quarter was around 16% higher than the average quarterly figure for Q1 2008 to Q3 2012, yet the aggregate value was around 9% lower than the quarterly average over the same period, clearly indicating the increasing prominence of low-value early stage venture capital deals.

North America once again saw the greatest amount of venture capital investment in Q4 2012, with 787 deals valued at \$6.1bn, accounting for 65% and 69% of the global number and aggregate value of deals respectively. However, the number of deals announced and their aggregate value saw drops of 14% and 15% respectively compared to Q3 2012.

In contrast, 267 deals valued at \$1.3bn were announced in Europe, an increase of 36% in number and 22% in aggregate value compared to Q3 2012; the region comprised 22% of the global number of deals and 14% of the global aggregate value.

Thirty-six venture capital investments were announced in China, a decrease in the number of deals in the country of 20% compared to Q3 2012; however, the aggregate value of these deals was, at \$815mn, 88% higher than the previous quarter, although 2012 as a whole saw venture capital investment levels drop significantly.

The number of deals announced in India fell by 30% in Q4 2012 compared to Q3 2012, to 53 deals, along with a 57% decrease in aggregate value, to \$179mn over the same time period.

The aggregate value of deals in Israel rose by 25% between Q3 and Q4 2012 to \$161mn, with the number of deals increasing by 3% to 22, representing the third consecutive quarterly increase in the number of deals in the country.

Angel/Seed stage deals once again accounted for a larger proportion of the number of venture capital deals globally in Q4, with 22% of investments falling into this category.

Meanwhile Series A deals witnessed a slight drop in prominence, accounting for 12% of deals in Q4 2012 compared to 16% in Q3 2012. Series B, C, D and later investments again accounted for a relatively small proportion of the global number of deals, at 16%, due largely to the greater value of these deals and the smaller pool of companies reaching later stages of investment.

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Fig. 6: 10 Largest Venture Capital Deals: Q4 2012

Name	Date	Stage	Deal Size (mn)	Currency	Investors	Industry	Location
Fisker Automotive, Inc.	Apr-12	Unspecified Round	392	USD	Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, New Enterprise Associates	Clean Technology	US
360Buy	Nov-12	Series F/Round 6	300	USD	Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, Tiger Global Management	Internet	China
SquareTrade Inc.	Jan-12	Growth Capital/Expansion	238	USD	Bain Capital	Financial Services	US
Xiaomi	Jun-12	Series C/Round 3	216	USD	DST Global	Telecoms	China
Mogujie.com	Oct-12	Series C/Round 3	200	USD	IDG Ventures, Qiming Venture Partners, Bertelsmann AG	Internet	China
Square, Inc.	Sep-12	Series D/Round 4	200	USD	Citi Ventures, Rizvi Traverse Management, Starbucks	Financial Services	US
Drillinginfo, Inc.	Mar-12	Growth Capital/Expansion	165	USD	Battery Ventures, Eastern Advisors, Insight Venture Partners	Oil & Gas	US
Intarcia Therapeutics, Inc.	Nov-12	Unspecified Round	160	USD	Baupost Group, Farallon Capital Management, New Enterprise Associates, New Leaf Venture Partners, Venrock	Pharmaceuticals	US
Flipkart	Aug-12	Series D/Round 4	150	USD	Accel Partners, Iconiq Capital, Naspers, Tiger Global Management	Internet	India
Fanatics, Inc.	Jun-12	Unspecified Round	150	USD	Andreessen Horowitz, Insight Venture Partners	Internet	US

Fig. 7: 5 Notable VC Exits: Q3 2012

Name	Date of First Investment	Investors (Entry)	Total Known Funding (mn)	Exit Type	Exit Date	Acquiror (Exit)	Exit Value (mn)	Currency	Primary Industry	Location
Facebook, Inc.*	Sep-04	Accel Partners, DST Global, Elevation Partners, Firsthand Technology Value Fund, Goldman Sachs, Greylock Partners, GSV Capital, Hercules Technology Growth Capital, Meritech Capital Partners, Microsoft, T Rowe Price, The Founders Fund Management, TriplePoint Capital	2,391 USD	IPO	May-12	-	16,000	USD	Internet	US
Kayak Software Corporation	Jan-04	Accel Partners, AOL Inc., General Catalyst Partners, Gold Hill Capital, Lehman Brothers, Norwest Venture Partners, Oak Investment Partners, Sequoia Capital, Silicon Valley Bank, Trident Capital	229 USD	Trade Sale	Nov-12	Priceline.com	1,800	USD	Internet	US
Nicira Networks	Jun-09	Andreessen Horowitz, Lightspeed Venture Partners, New Enterprise Associates	40 USD	Trade Sale	Jul-12	VMware	1,260	USD	Network	US
Meraki Inc.	Dec-06	Duff Ackerman & Goodrich Ventures, Google, Northgate Capital, Sequoia Capital	80 USD	Trade Sale	Nov-12	Cisco	1,200	USD	IT Infrastructure	US
Yammer, Inc.	Jan-09	Capricorn Venture Partners, Charles River Ventures, CrunchFund, Draper Fisher Jurvetson, Emergence Capital Partners, Founders Fund, Goldcrest Investments, Khosla Ventures, Meritech Capital Partners, SV Angel, The Founders Fund Management, The Social+Capital Partnership, US Venture Partners	142	Trade Sale	Jun-12	Microsoft Corp.	1,200	USD	Internet	US

* Denotes partial exit



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