

BVCA Report on Investment Activity 2020

Statistics from our
annual member survey



About this report

This report has been produced by the British Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (“BVCA”) to demonstrate the activities of our members in 2020. The statistics in this report are the results of the BVCA’s Investment Activity Study, a detailed and comprehensive survey of our members’ activity in the year, covering fundraising, business investments and business exits.

With a significant presence in the UK, developed over the past 30 years, private equity and venture capital provide companies with the finance and know-how to deliver sustainable business growth. Active ownership, over the medium to long term, delivers economic and social value to those involved in the businesses (from employees, management and owners on the one hand, to customers and suppliers on the other) and a wide group of stakeholders (from local communities and local and regional economies, to national policy makers focused on issues such as climate change, diversity and inclusion and social justice).

Both private equity and venture capital are focused on delivering sustainable growth for the companies in which they invest: venture capital firms typically support early stage and younger companies, holding minority stakes in the businesses, while private equity firms typically acquire controlling stakes in more established businesses.

In 2020 we received responses from 194 members out of a total eligible pool of 264 members, a response rate of 73%. For comparison, in 2019 we received response from 191 members out of a total of 246 who were eligible.

The survey is of BVCA members only. Although our membership changes over time, 79% of the respondents in 2020 also provided us with data in 2019. We are comfortable that the year-on-year data is broadly comparable.

This publication is a companion document to our **‘Investing with Integrity’** report, which uses the survey data to tell the story of private equity and venture capital through 2020 and the coronavirus pandemic.

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Robust, accurate and transparent data is of the utmost importance and underpins our ability to articulate our economic contribution to society. Gathered from over 190 BVCA members, this represents the largest primary research survey of its kind in the UK. I want to thank all firms who provided us with data and enabled us to tell the full story of 2020.

Kerry Baldwin
BVCA Chair 2021/2022, Co-Founder
and Managing Partner, IQ Capital

For ease of analysis, the numbers behind the charts are available in an Excel document [\[here\]](#).

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Executive summary

Fundraising

Total fundraising in 2020 reached £44.05bn. The number of funds raising new capital was 116.

Buyout fundraising reached £35.09bn. Pension funds are the largest institutional investor in UK buyout funds contributing 40%, followed by sovereign wealth funds (12%) and fund of funds (11%).

Growth capital reached £5.97bn. Pension funds were the largest contributor at 28% followed by fund of funds at 9%.

Venture capital fundraising reached £2.15bn. Fund of funds contributed 20% to the total VC fundraising amount, followed by private individuals (15%), government agencies (13%) and pension funds (12%).

Investments

The total equity amount invested in portfolio companies in 2020 increased by 12% year-on-year to £25.10bn. The number of companies receiving investment rose 9% to 1672.

Buyout investment increased by 11% year-on-year to £18.77bn. The number of companies backed decreased by 4% to 218. Mega buyouts accounted for 57% of the buyout market, followed by large buyouts at 25%. Small buyouts ended 2020 with £278m with 85 companies backed. Mid-market saw a slight year-on-year decrease of 5% at £3.2bn investing in 89 companies.

Growth capital investments increased by 7% to £3.87bn. 555 companies were backed, a 19% increase year-on-year.

Venture capital investment increased by 2% year-on-year to £1.68bn with 883 companies backed, an 8% increase. Seed investments increased to £121m in 2020. Start-up contracted to £160m, an reduction of 24%. Early stage investments decreased 3% year-on-year in size to £843m. Later stage venture investments increased by 12% to £522m.

Divestments

563 companies were exited in 2020, a 10% increase from 2019. By amount of former equity investments (divestments at cost), the total value exited was £7.96bn.

Buyout divestments represented 80% by amount at cost and around 29% by number of companies of all exits in 2020.

Growth divestments represented 13% of all exits by amount at cost and 43% by number of companies.

Venture capital comprised around 5% of all divestments with 141 companies. The most prominent exit route was write offs, which represented 32% of number of companies divested in 2020.



Fundraising statistics explained

Funds managed by UK private equity and venture capital firms for both UK and overseas investments are included.

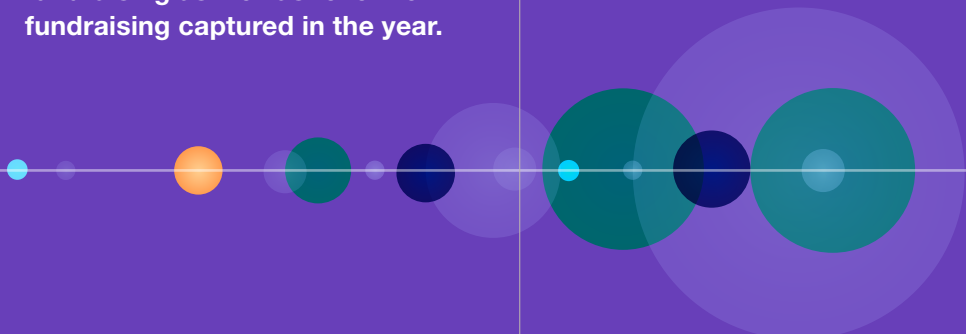
Funds managed by UK-based offices of international private equity and venture capital firms are included.

Funds managed by the overseas headquarters of international private equity and venture capital firms (which have UK-based offices that are BVCA members) are excluded.

Statistics include first-time fundraising as well as follow-on fundraising captured in the year.

The following funds are included in the statistics: private equity and venture capital funds making direct private equity and venture capital investments; mezzanine funds; infrastructure funds; co-investment funds; replacement capital funds and rescue/turnaround funds.

The following funds are excluded from the statistics: real estate funds, distressed debt funds, primary funds of funds and secondary funds of funds.



Fundraising definitions

Fund stage focus

Buyout fund: Funds acquiring companies by purchasing majority or controlling stakes, financing the transaction through a mix of equity and debt.

Generalist fund: Funds investing in all stages of private equity.

Growth fund: Funds that make private equity investments (often minority investments) in relatively mature companies that are looking for primary capital to expand and improve operations or enter new markets to accelerate the growth of the business.

Mezzanine fund: Funds using a hybrid of debt and equity financing, comprising equity-based options (such as warrants) and lower-priority (subordinated) debt.

Rescue/turnaround fund: Funds investing equity in companies that are in financial distress with the view to restoring the company to profitability.

Venture capital

- **Early-stage fund:** Venture capital funds focused on investing in companies in the early stages of their lives.

- **Later-stage fund:** Venture capital funds providing capital for an operating company, which may or may not be profitable. Typically, in C or D rounds.
- **Venture fund (all stages):** Venture capital funds focused on both early and later stage investments.

Type of investors

Corporate investor: Corporations manufacturing products or delivering non-financial services.

Endowment: An investment fund established by a foundation, university or cultural institution providing capital donations for specific needs or to further a company's operating process. They are generally structured so that the principal amount invested remains intact (for perpetuity, for a defined period of time or until sufficient assets have been accumulated to achieve a designated purpose).

Family office: An entity that provides services to one or more affluent families, including investment management and other services (accounting, tax, financial and legal advice etc.).

Foundations: A non-profit organisation through which private wealth is distributed for the public good. It can either donate funds and support other organisations, or provide the sole source of funding for their own charitable activities.

Fund of funds: A private equity fund that primarily takes equity positions in other funds.

Government agencies: Country, regional, governmental and European agencies or institutions for innovation and development.

Other asset manager: A financial institution (other than a bank, endowment, family office, foundation, insurance company or pension fund) managing a pool of capital by investing it across different asset classes with the purpose of generating financial returns. It may include private equity direct funds that occasionally do indirect investments, but excludes fund of funds that are a standalone option.

Pension funds: A pension fund that is regulated under private or public sector law.

Sovereign wealth funds: State-owned investment funds investing in foreign direct private equity funds to diversify their portfolio

Note: Fundraising amounts exclude capital gains.



Fundraising at a glance

- Total fundraising in 2020 reached £44.05bn. The number of funds raising new capital was 116.
- Pension funds provided 37% of all capital raised followed by fund of funds (11%) and sovereign wealth funds (10%). Institutional investors from outside the UK contributed approximately 82% (£35.89bn).
- Buyout fundraising reached £35.09bn. Pension funds are the largest institutional investor in UK buyout funds contributing 40%, followed by sovereign wealth funds (12%), fund of funds (11%), and insurance companies (7%).
- Growth capital reached £5.97bn. Pension funds were the largest contributor at 28% followed by other asset managers at 10%.
- Venture capital fundraising reached £2.15bn. Fund of funds contributed 20% to the total VC fundraising amount, followed by private individuals (15%), government agencies (13%) and pension funds (12%).

2020	All private equity ⁽²⁾	Buyout ⁽¹⁾	Growth ⁽¹⁾	Venture capital ⁽¹⁾	Other ⁽¹⁾
Incremental – Amounts raised	£44.05bn	£35.09bn	£5.97bn	£2.15bn	£0.84bn
Incremental – No. of funds	116	42	18	52	4

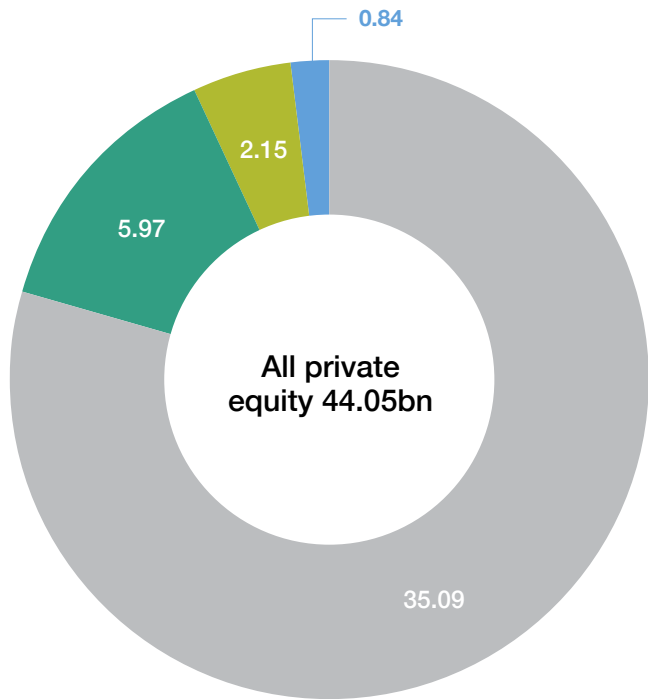
Note: (1) relates to fund focus

Note: (2) refers to all private equity and venture capital

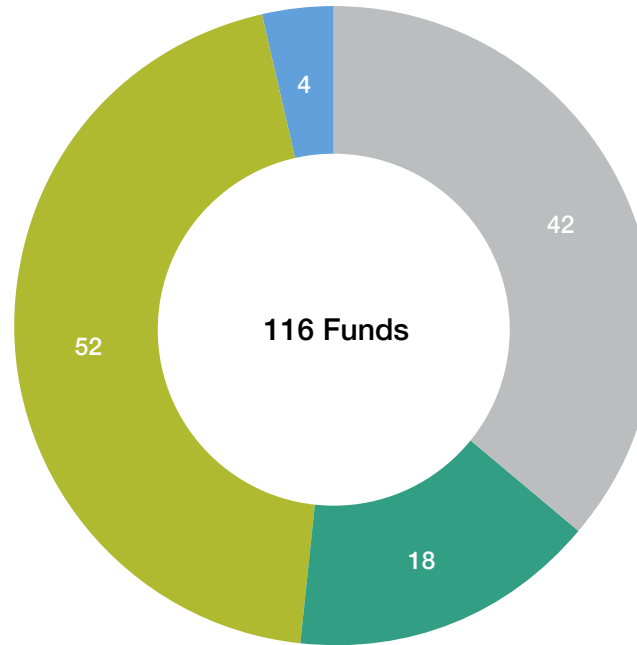


Funds raised and number of funds by fund stage focus

Incremental amounts raised during the year (£ billion)



Number of funds by fund stage focus



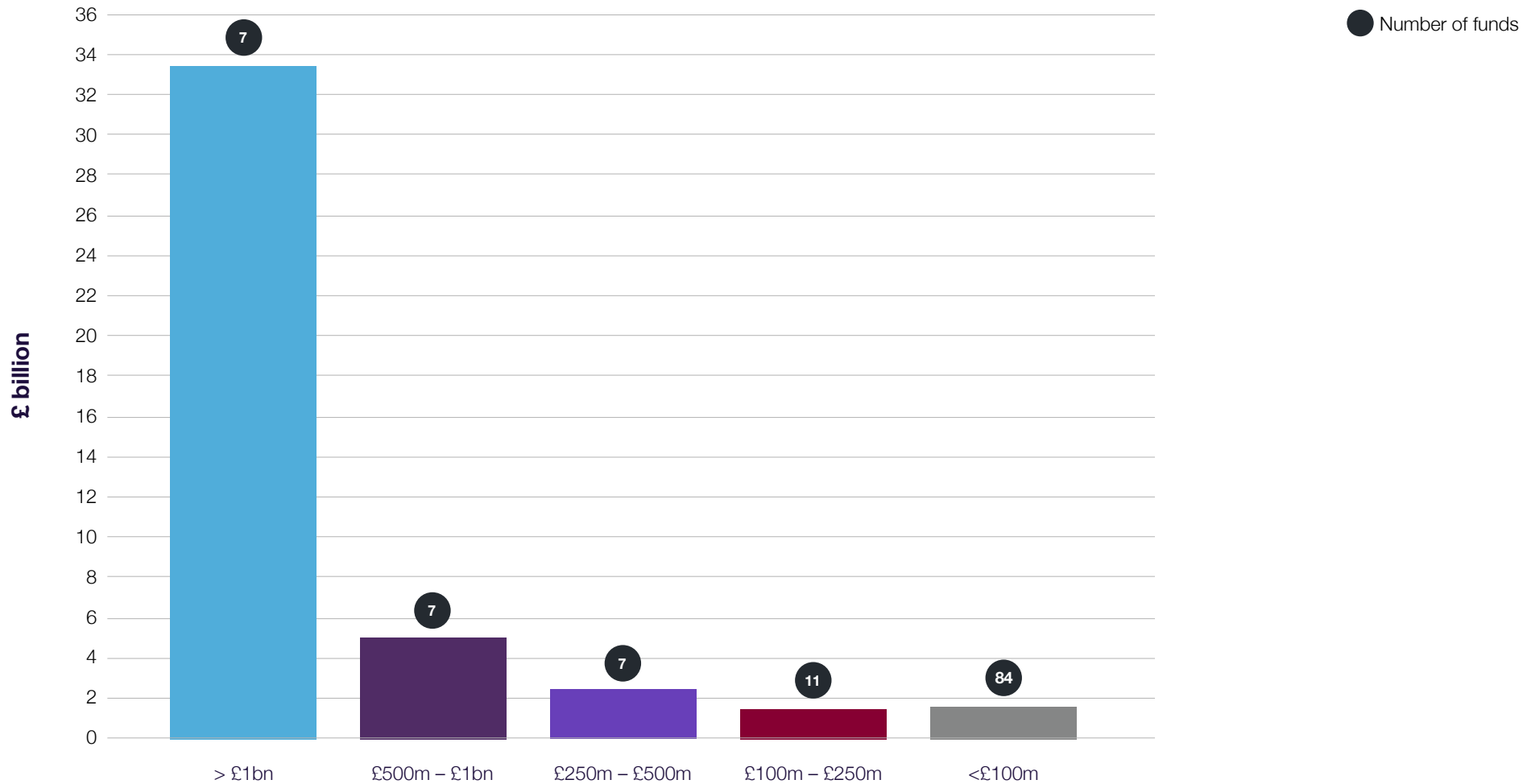
- Buyout
- Growth
- Venture Capital
- Other (1)

Note: (1) Other includes generalist funds



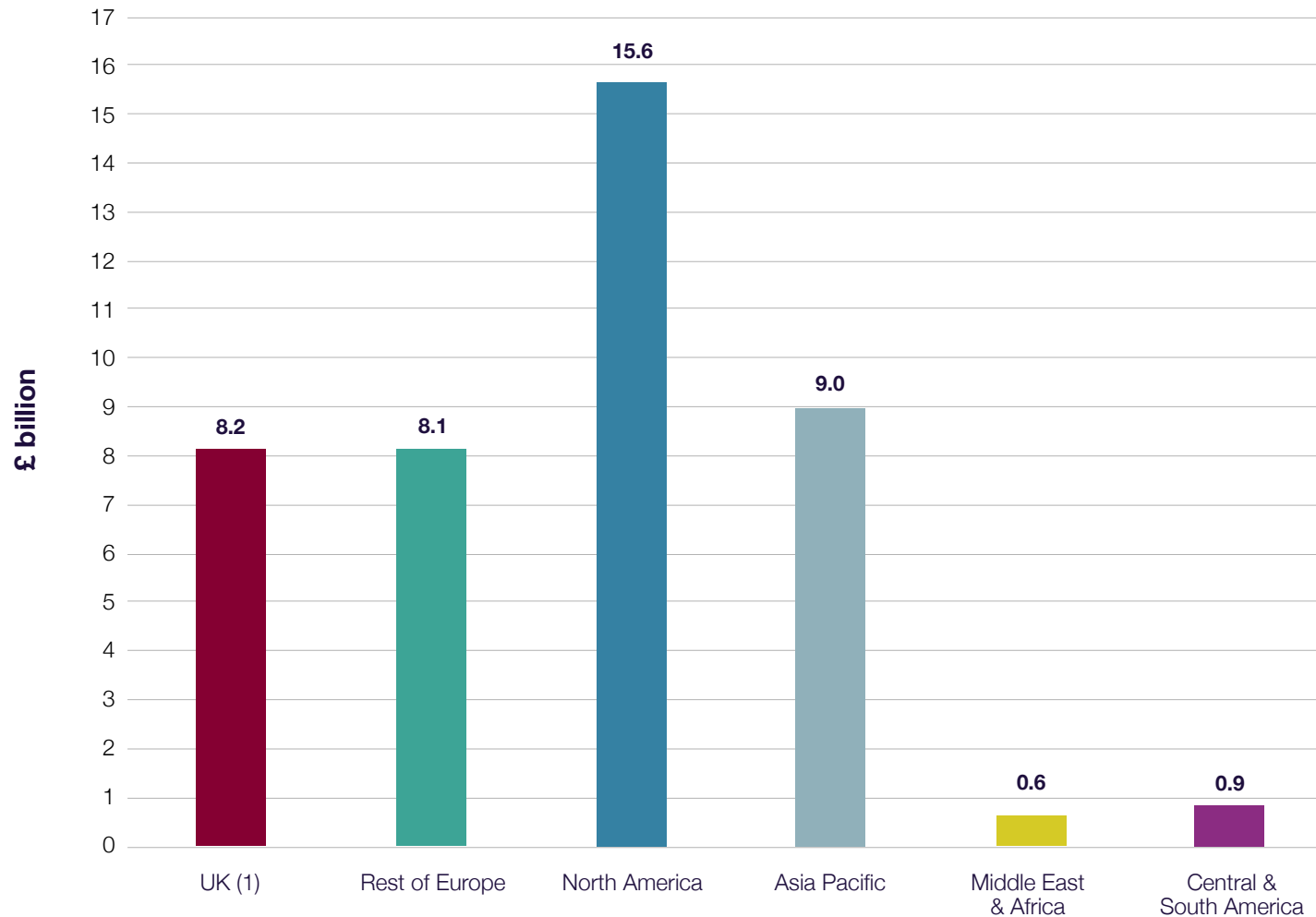
All PE and VC – Concentration of capital

2020 – Incremental fundraising by amount bracket per fund during the year



All PE and VC – Funds raised by location of investor

2020 – Incremental amount raised during the year



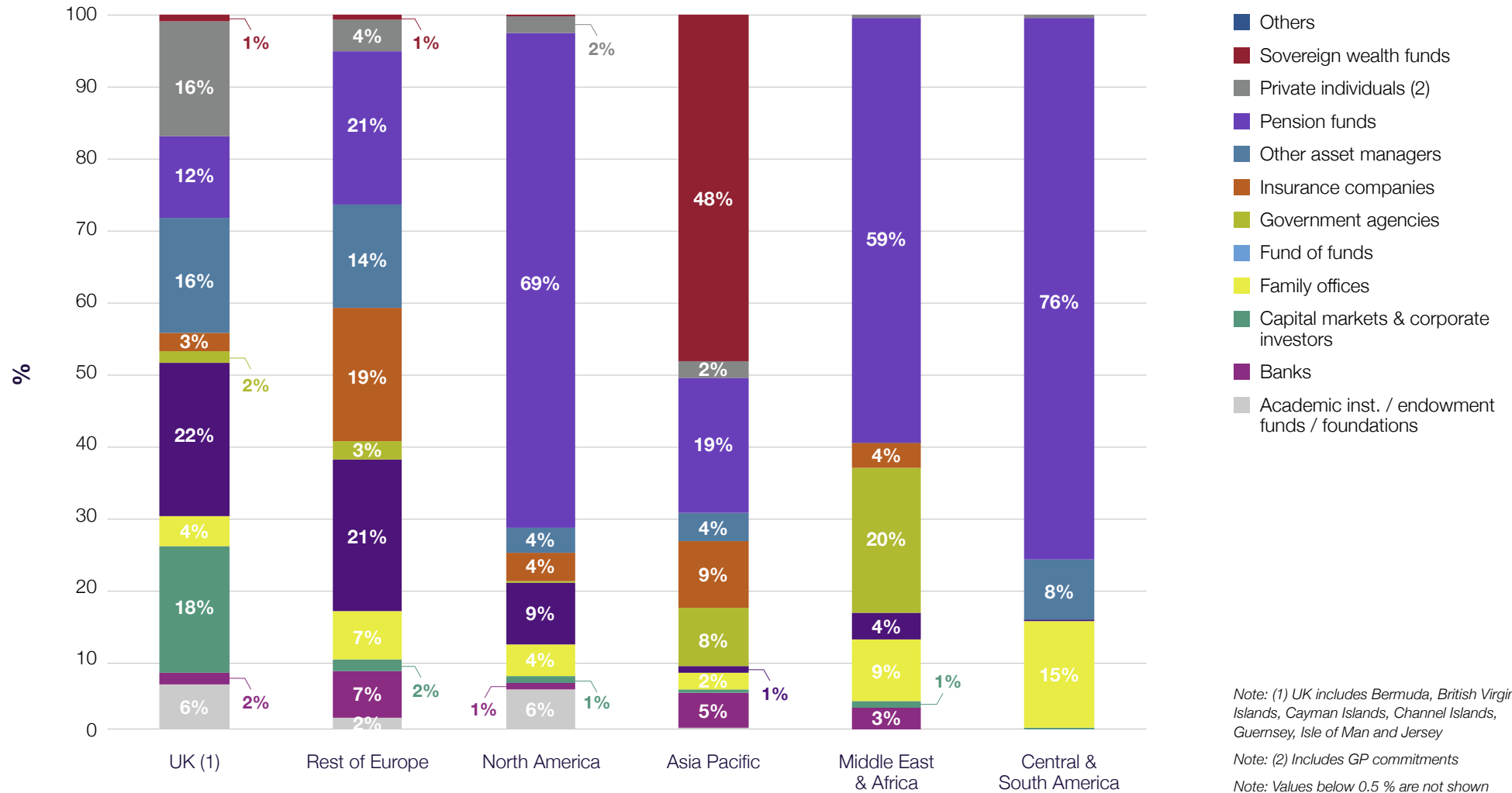
Note: (1) UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey

Note: £1.7bn of total funds raised with unclassified location of investor



All PE and VC – Funds raised by location and type of investor

2020 – Incremental amount raised during the year – % of amount



Note: (1) UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey

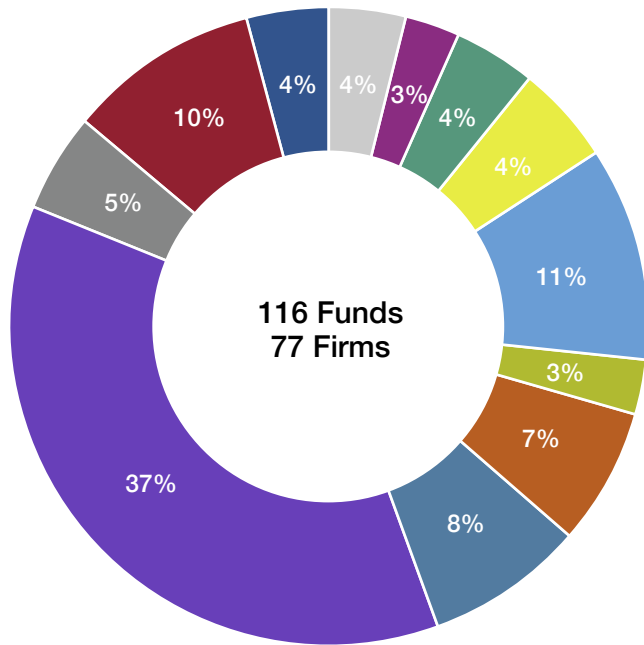
Note: (2) Includes GP commitments

Note: Values below 0.5 % are not shown

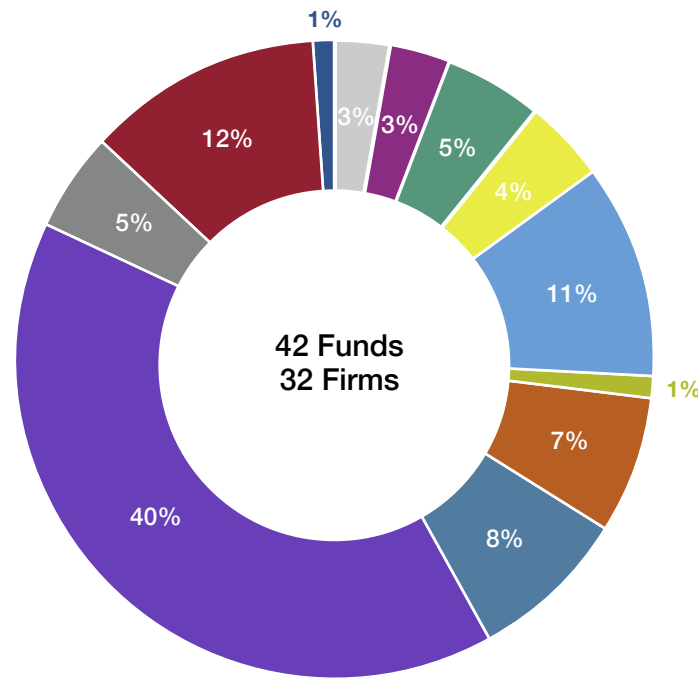
Funds raised by type of investor

2020 – Incremental amount raised during the year – % of amount

All private equity and venture capital funds



Buyout funds



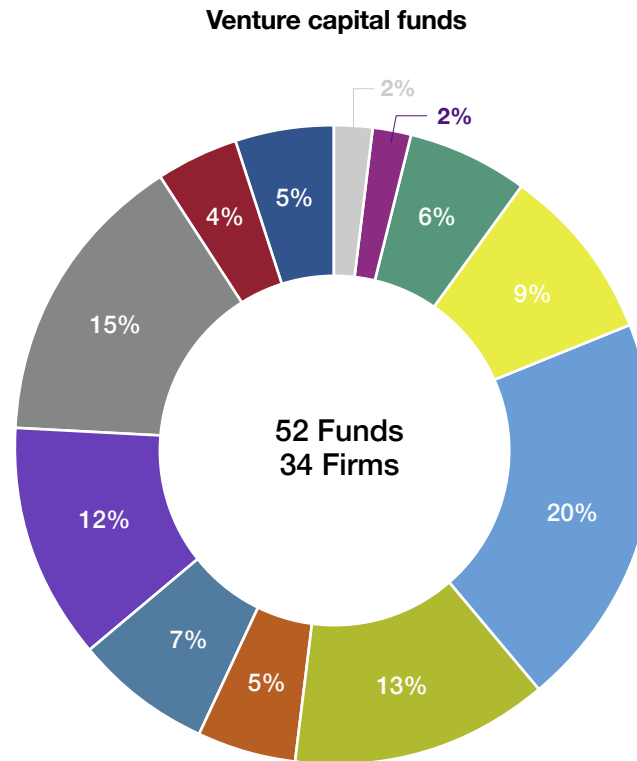
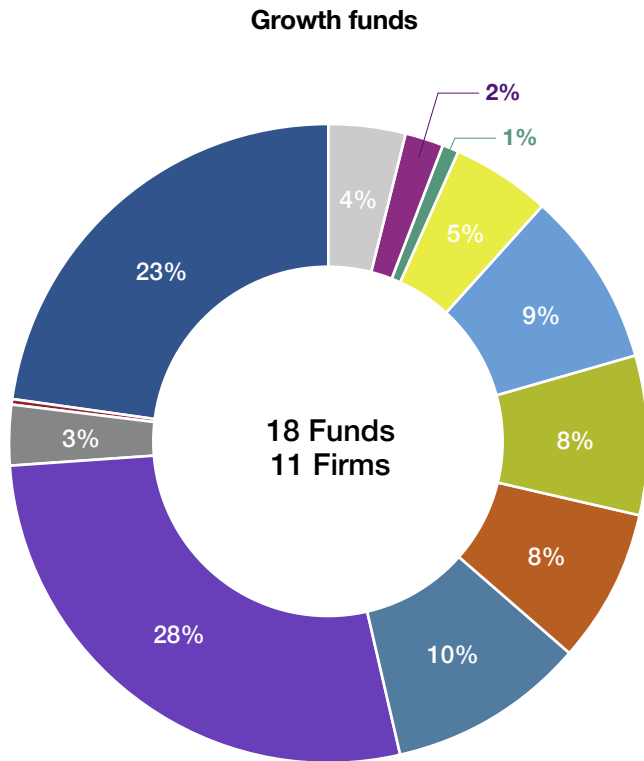
- Academic inst. / endowment funds / foundations
- Banks
- Capital markets & corporate investors
- Family offices
- Fund of funds
- Government agencies
- Insurance companies
- Other asset managers
- Pension funds
- Private individuals (1)
- Sovereign wealth funds
- Others

Note: (1) Includes GP Commitments
 Note: Values below 0.5 % are not shown



Funds raised by type of investor

2020 – Incremental amount raised during the year – % of amount



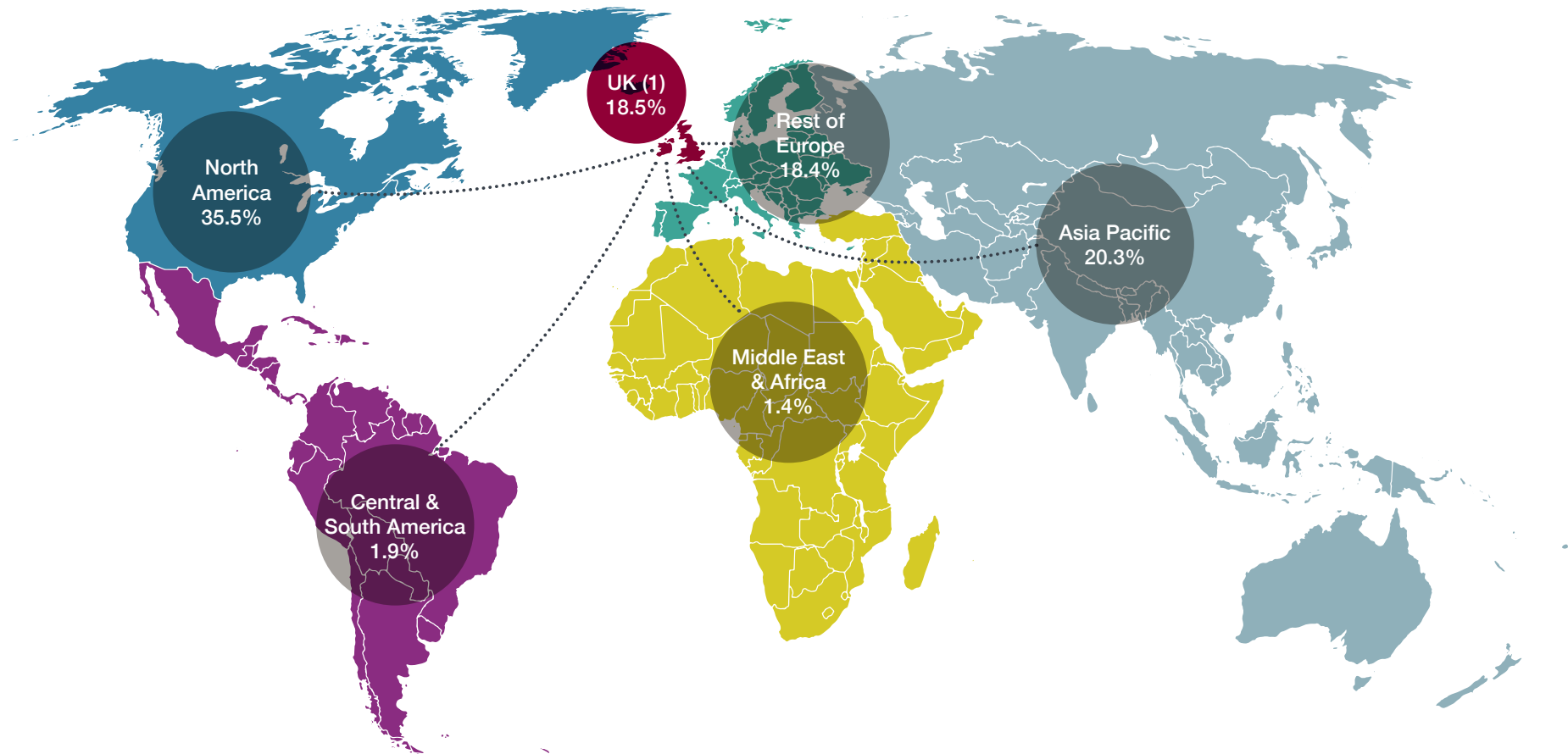
- Academic inst. / endowment funds / foundations
- Banks
- Capital markets & corporate investors
- Family offices
- Fund of funds
- Government agencies
- Insurance companies
- Other asset managers
- Pension funds
- Private individuals (1)
- Sovereign wealth funds
- Others

Note: (1) Includes GP Commitments
Note: Values below 0.5 % are not shown



All PE and VC – Fundraising geographic breakdown

2020 – Sources of funds – % of total amount

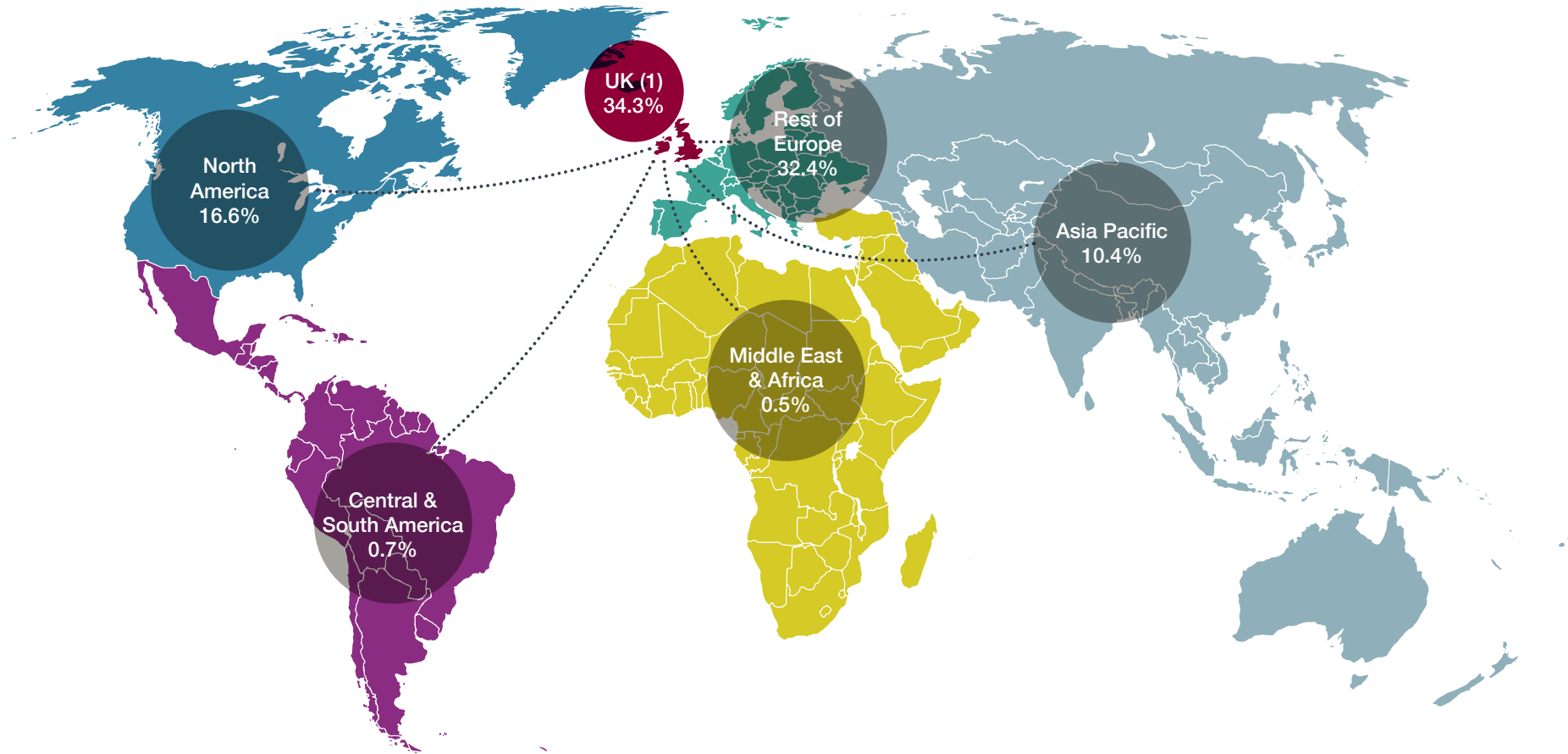


Note: (1) UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey

Note: 3.8% of total funds raised with unclassified location of investor

Venture capital – Fundraising geographic breakdown

2020 – Sources of funds – % of total amount



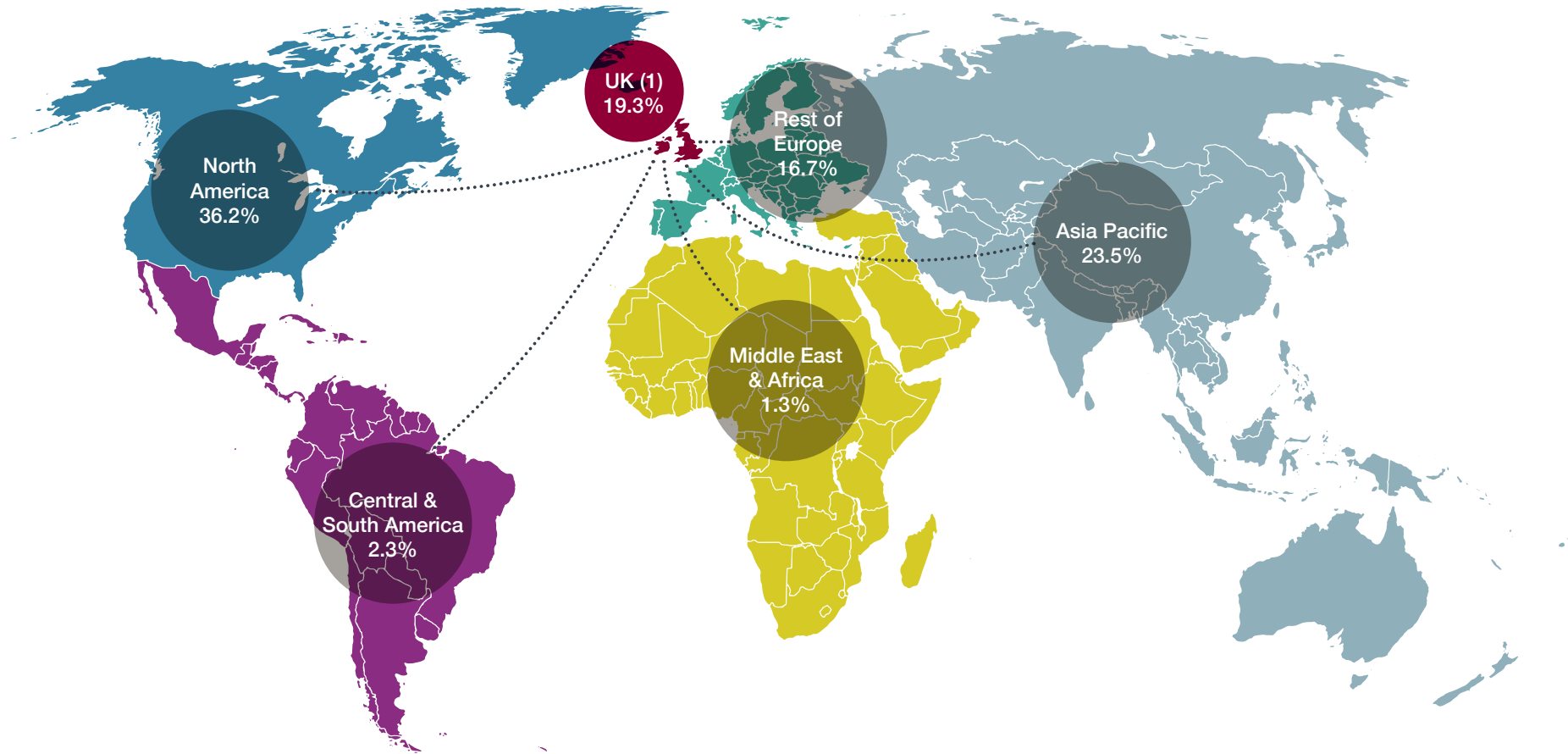
Note: (1) UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey

Note: 5.1% of total funds raised with unclassified location of investor



Buyout – Fundraising geographic breakdown

2020 – Sources of funds – % of total amount



Note: (1) UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey

Note: 0.6% of total funds raised with unclassified location of investor



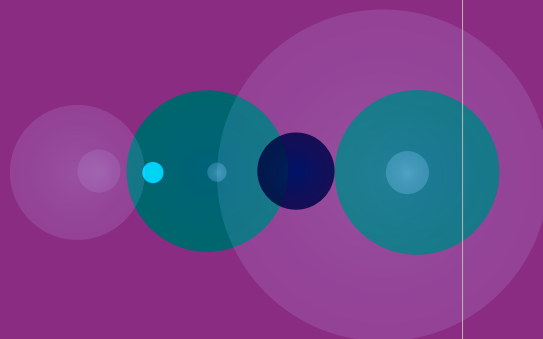
Investments statistics explained

Industry statistics: figures relate to investments undertaken by BVCA full member firms based in the UK, and to those undertaken through an overseas office where the UK office was the lead adviser, 'regardless of whether the investing fund was UK or overseas based'. As a result, cross-border investments have been included in the BVCA data to reflect more accurately the activity of BVCA members, particularly those that invest through pan-European or global funds. Statistics include first-time investments as well as follow-on investments captured in the year.

Equity value: The amount of capital invested to acquire shares in an enterprise. The equity value includes equity, quasi-equity, mezzanine, unsecured debt and secured debt provided by the private equity and venture capital firm.

The following funds are included in the statistics: private equity and venture capital funds making direct private equity and venture capital investments; mezzanine funds; infrastructure funds; co-investment funds and rescue/ turnaround funds.

The following funds are excluded from the statistics: real estate funds, distressed debt funds, primary funds of funds and secondary funds of funds.



Investment definitions

Venture capital

Seed: Funding provided before the investee company has started mass production/distribution with the aim to complete research, product definition or product design, also including market tests and creating prototypes. This funding will not be used to start mass production/distribution.

Start-up: Funding provided to companies, once the product or service is fully developed, to start mass production/distribution and to cover initial marketing. Companies may be in the process of being set up or may have been in business for a shorter time, but have not sold their product commercially yet. The destination of the capital would be mostly to cover capital expenditures and initial working capital.

Other early-stage financing: Financing provided to companies that have initiated commercial manufacturing but require further funds to cover additional capital expenditures and working capital before they reach the break-even point. They will not be generating a profit yet.

Later-stage financing: Financing provided for an operating company, which may or may not be profitable. Late stage venture tends to be financing into companies already backed by VCs. Typically, in C or D rounds.

Buyout

Management buyout (MBO): Funds provided to enable current operating management and investors to acquire an existing product line or business. Institutional buyouts (IBOs), leveraged buyouts (LBOs) and other types of similar financing are included under MBOs for the purposes of this report.

Management buy-in (MBI): Funds provided to enable an external manager or group of managers to buy into a company.

Secondary buyout: Financing provided to acquire a company from another private equity firm. It may use a significant amount of borrowed capital to meet the cost of acquisition.

Add-on/bolt-on/build-up acquisition: The purchase of a company (Target Company) by an existing portfolio company (Platform Company) funded by a private equity fund.

PIPE: A private investment in public equity (PIPE) purchases of stock in a company at a discount to the current market value per share for the purpose of raising capital.

Public to private: Purchase of quoted shares with the purpose of de-listing the company.

Infrastructure: Purchase of controlling stakes in infrastructure businesses, often related to transportation and communications systems, water and power lines and public institutions, including schools and care homes.

Growth capital

A type of private equity investment (often a minority investment) in relatively mature companies that are looking for primary capital to expand and improve operations or enter new markets to accelerate the growth of the business.

Rescue / turnaround

Financing made available to an existing business, which has experienced financial distress, with a view to re-establishing prosperity.

Replacement capital

Minority stake purchase from another private equity investment organisation or from another shareholder or shareholders.

Refinancing bank debt

Funds provided to enable a company to repay or restructure existing bank debt.

Investments at a glance

- The total equity amount invested in portfolio companies in 2020 increased by 12% year-on-year to £25.1bn. The number of companies receiving investment rose 9% to 1672.
- Buyout investment increased by 11% year-on-year to £18.77bn. The number of companies backed decreased by 4% to 218. Mega buyouts accounted for 57% of the buyout market, followed by large buyouts at 25%. Small buyouts ended 2020 with £278m with 85 companies backed. Mid-market saw a slight year-on-year decrease of 5% at £3.2bn investing in 89 companies.
- Growth capital investments increased by 7% to £3.87bn. 555 companies were backed, a 19% increase year-on-year.
- Venture capital investment increased by 2% year-on-year to £1.68bn with 883 companies backed, an 8% increase. Seed investments increased to £121m in 2020. Start-up contracted to £160m, an reduction of 24%. Early stage investments decreased 3% year-on-year in size to £843m. Later stage investments increased by 12% to £522m.

2020 – Industry statistics	All Private Equity ⁽²⁾	Buyout ⁽¹⁾	Growth ⁽¹⁾	Venture Capital ⁽¹⁾	Other ⁽¹⁾
Amount	£25.1bn	£18.77bn	£3.87bn	£1.68bn	£0.78bn
No. of companies	1672	218	555	883	39
No. of firms	163	61	85	94	20
No. of funds	386	111	169	196	25

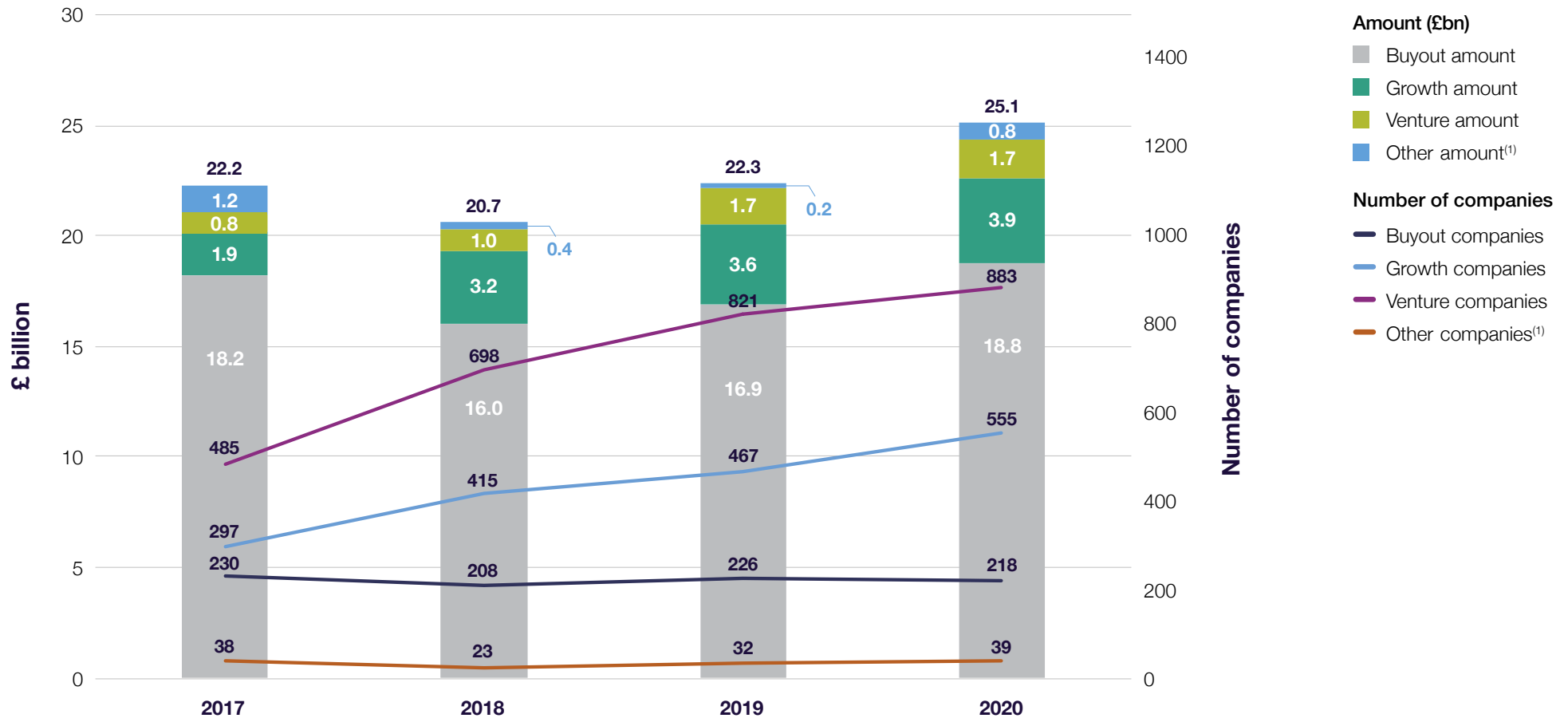
Note: (1) relates to investment stage of portfolio company

Note: (2) refers to all private equity and venture capital



Investments at a glance

2017-2020 – Industry statistics – Amount & number of companies

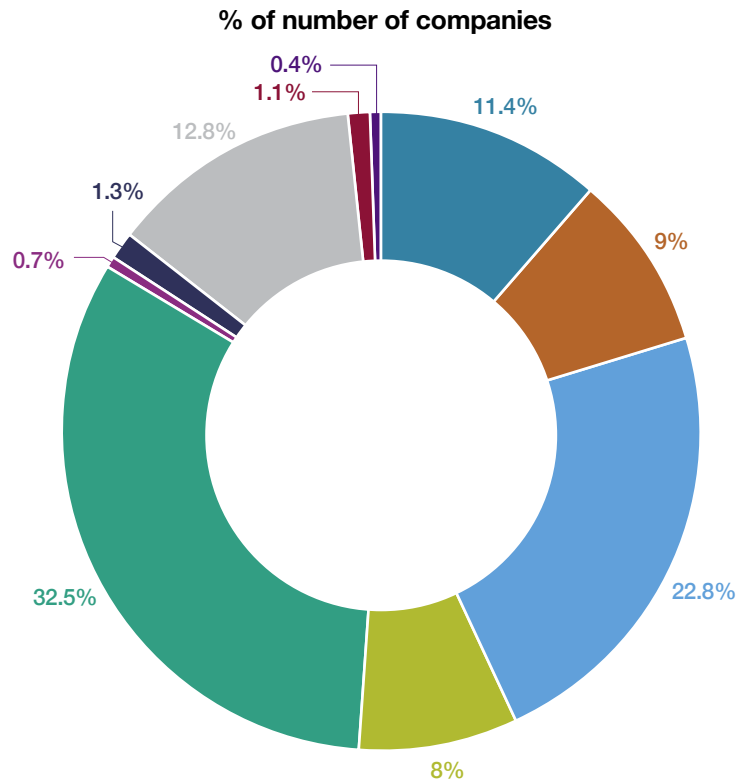
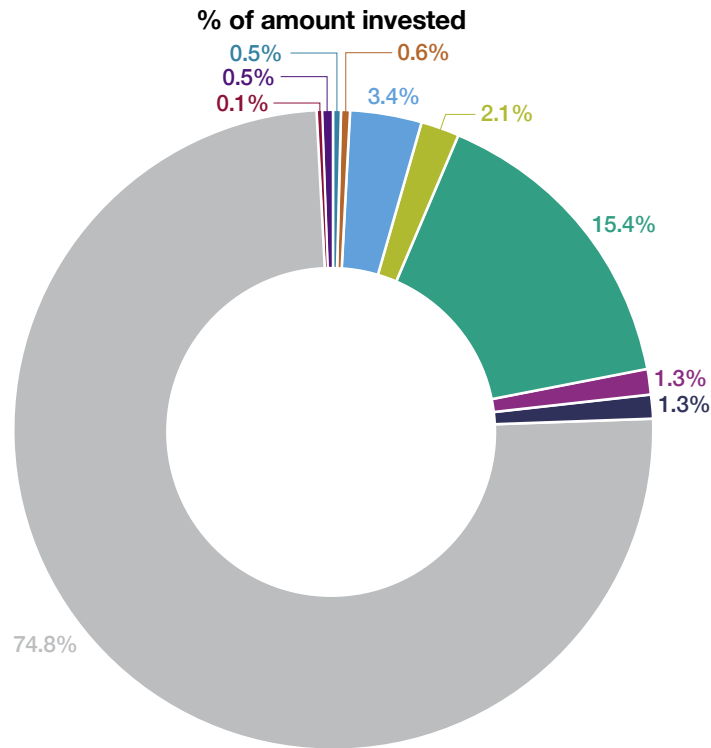


Note: (1) Other Includes Replacement Capital, Refinancing bank debt and Rescue/Turnaround

Note: The number of companies in some financing stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of companies invested in. This is due to some companies receiving more than one investment within the year at different financing stages.

Investments by stage

2020 – Industry statistics – % of amount and number of companies

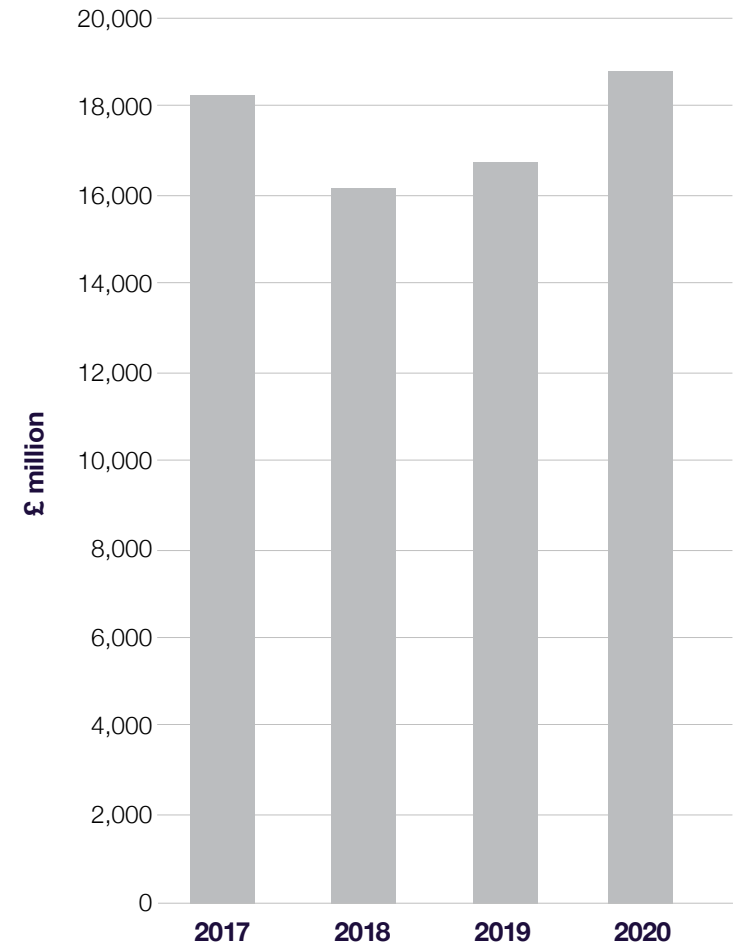
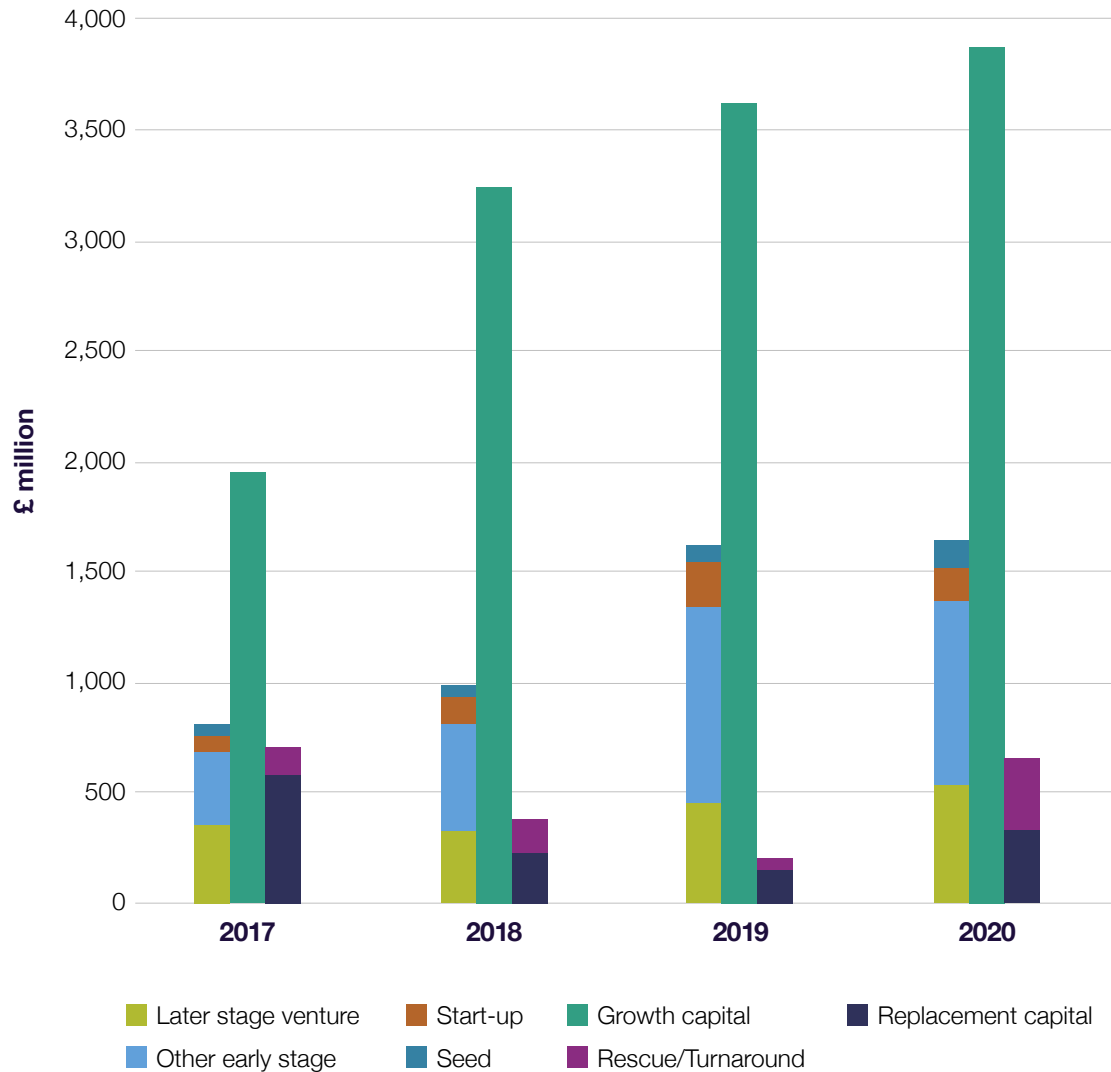


- Seed
- Start-up
- Other early stage
- Later stage venture
- Growth capital
- Rescue/Turnaround
- Replacement capital
- Buyout
- Bridge equity financing
- Refinancing bank debt



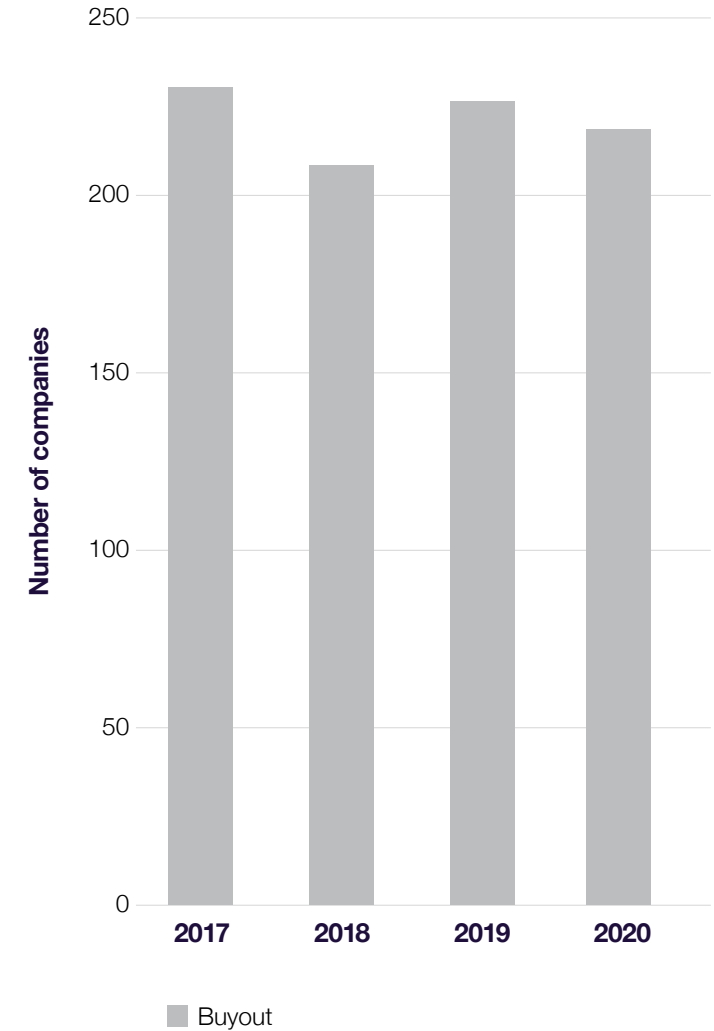
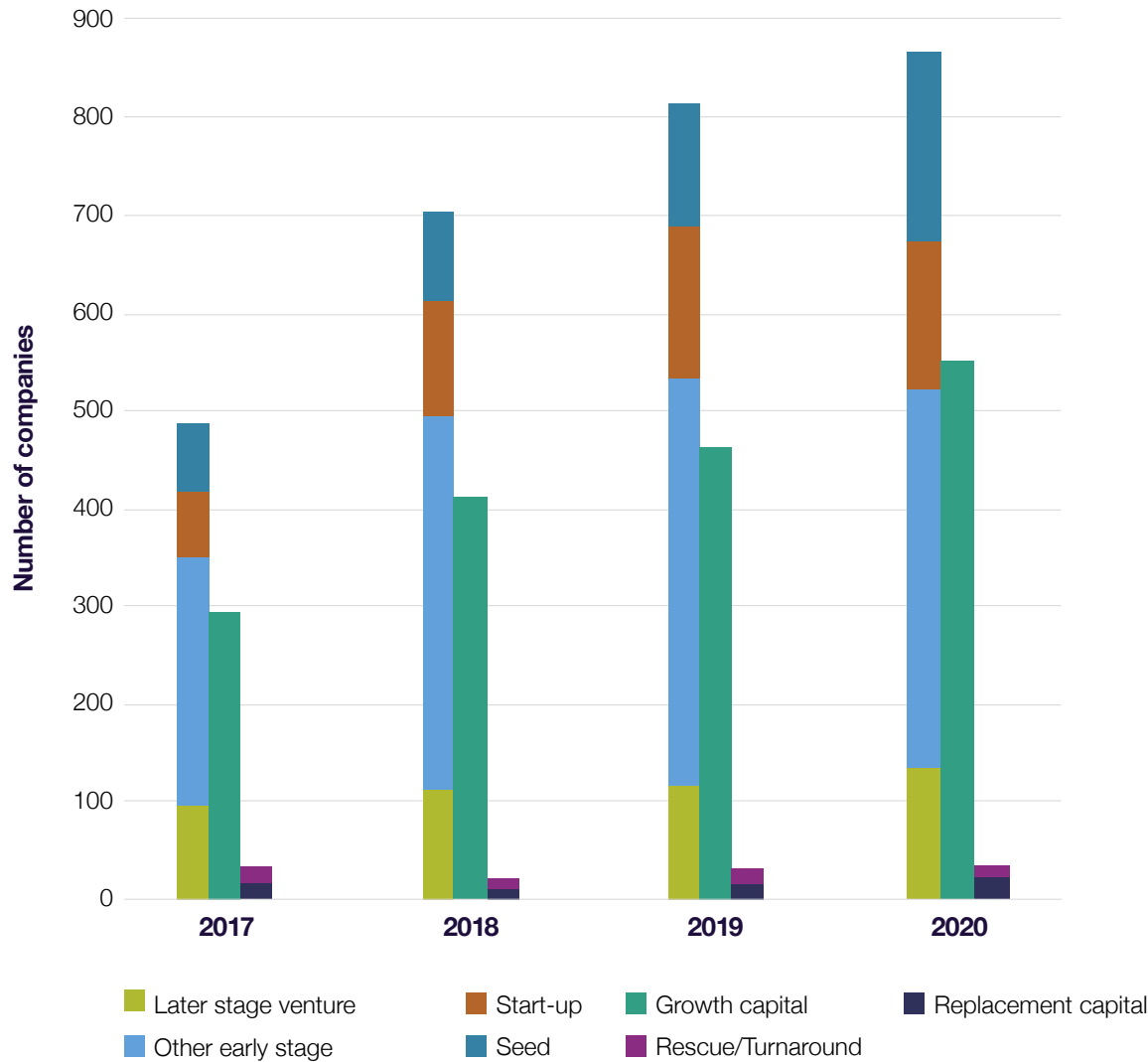
Investments by stage

2017-2020 – Industry statistics – Amount



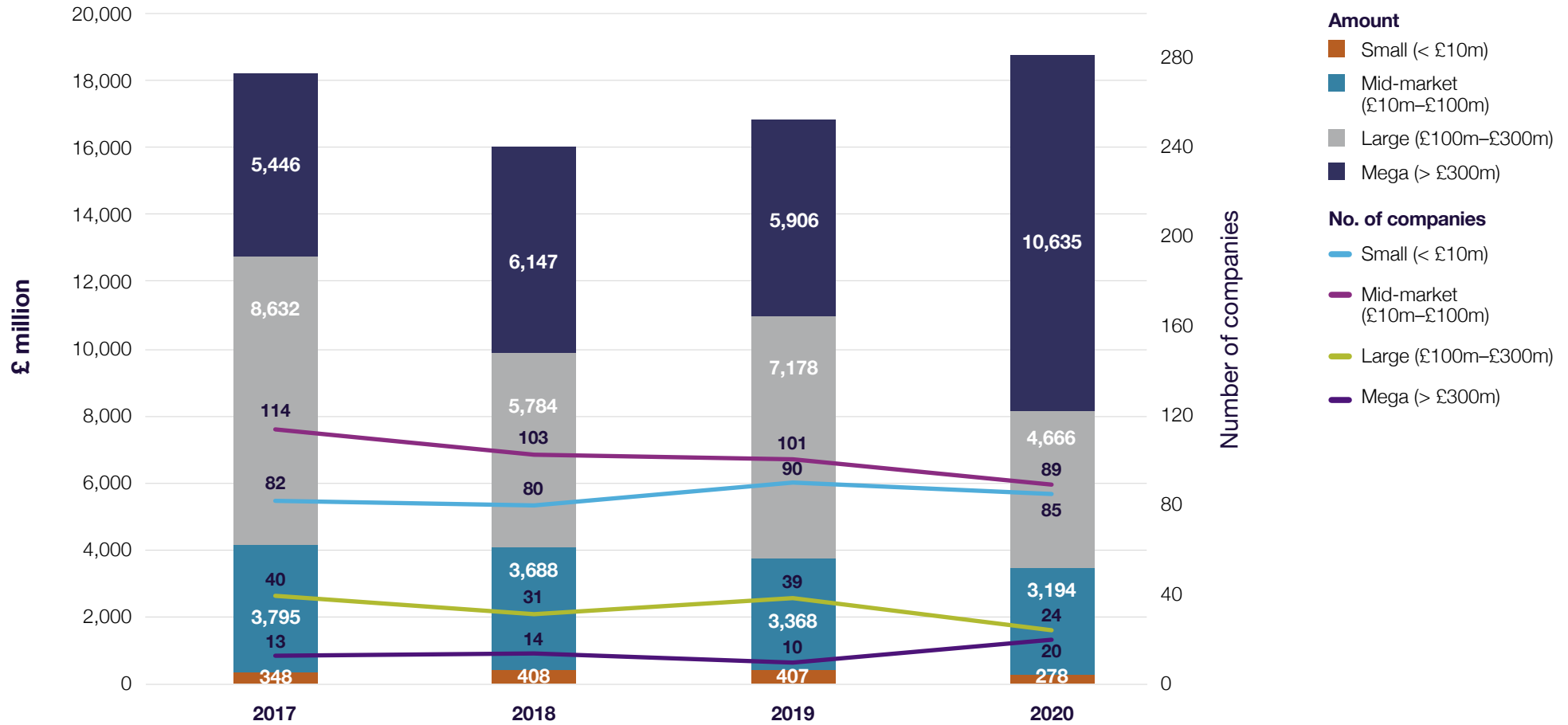
Investments by stage

2017-2020 – Industry statistics – Number of companies



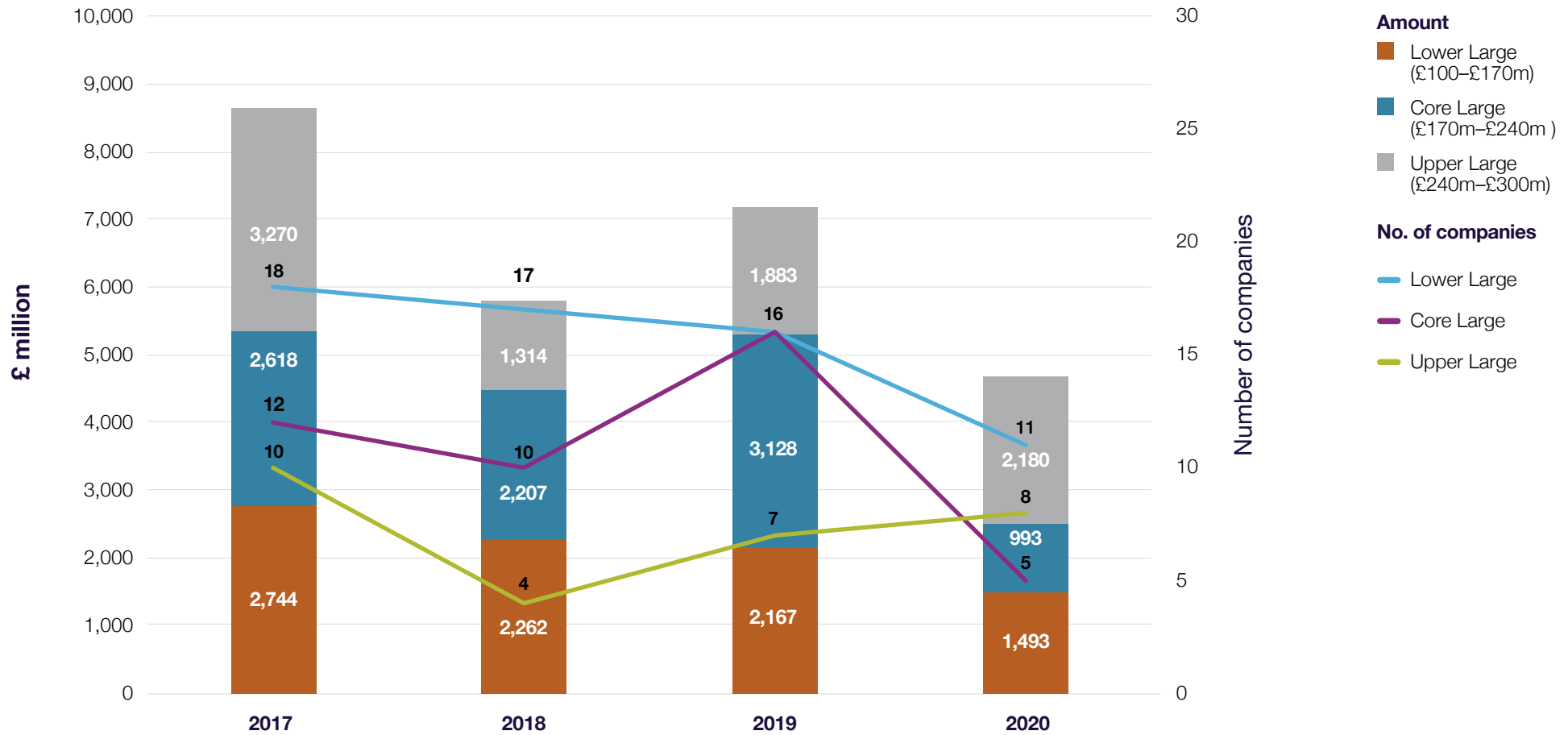
Buyout – Investments by equity bracket

2017–2020 – Industry statistics – Amount and number of companies



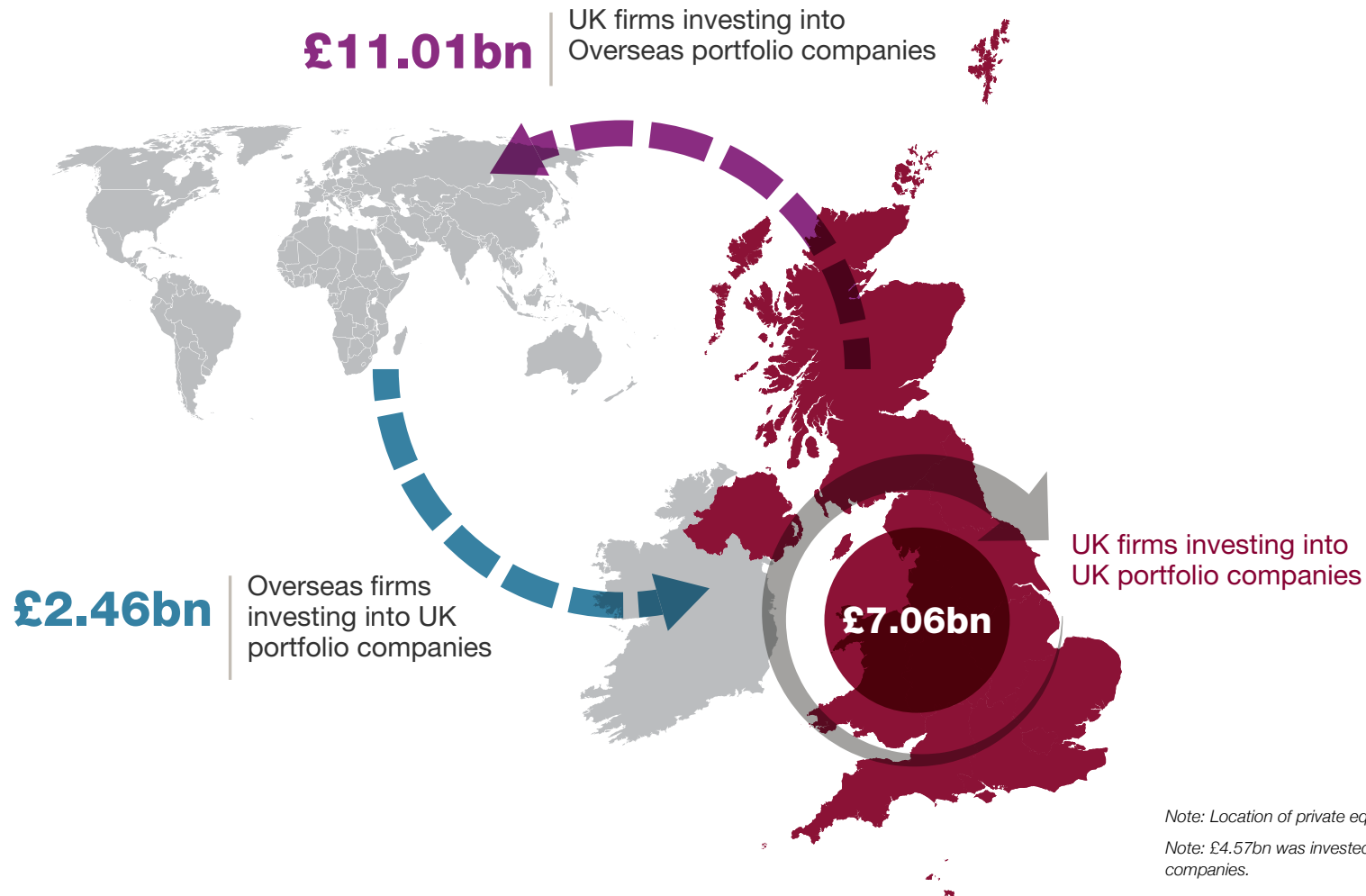
Large buyout – Investments by equity bracket

2017–2020 – Industry statistics – Amount and number of companies



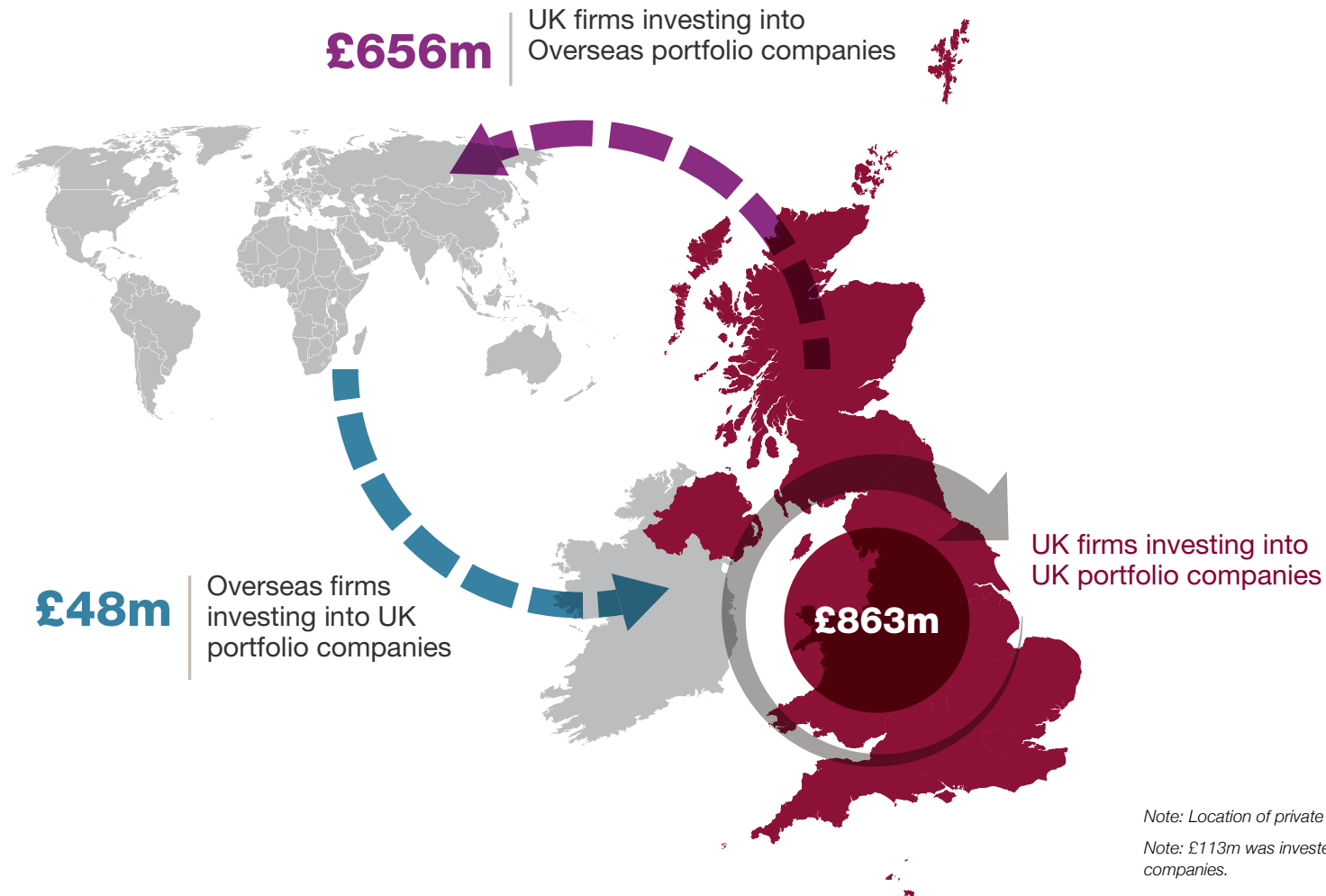
All PE and VC – International investment flows

2020 – Amount



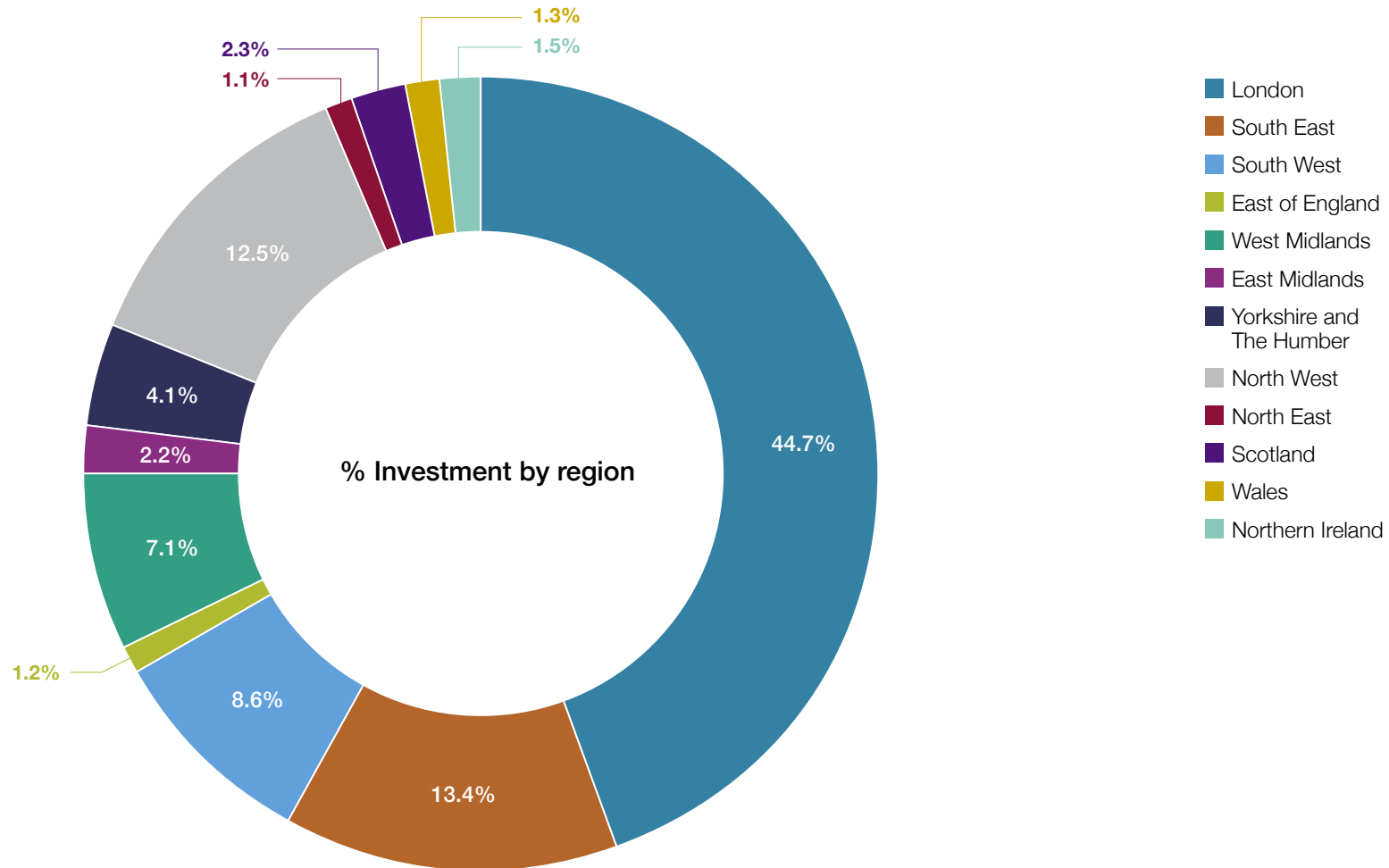
Venture capital – International investment flows

2020 – Amount



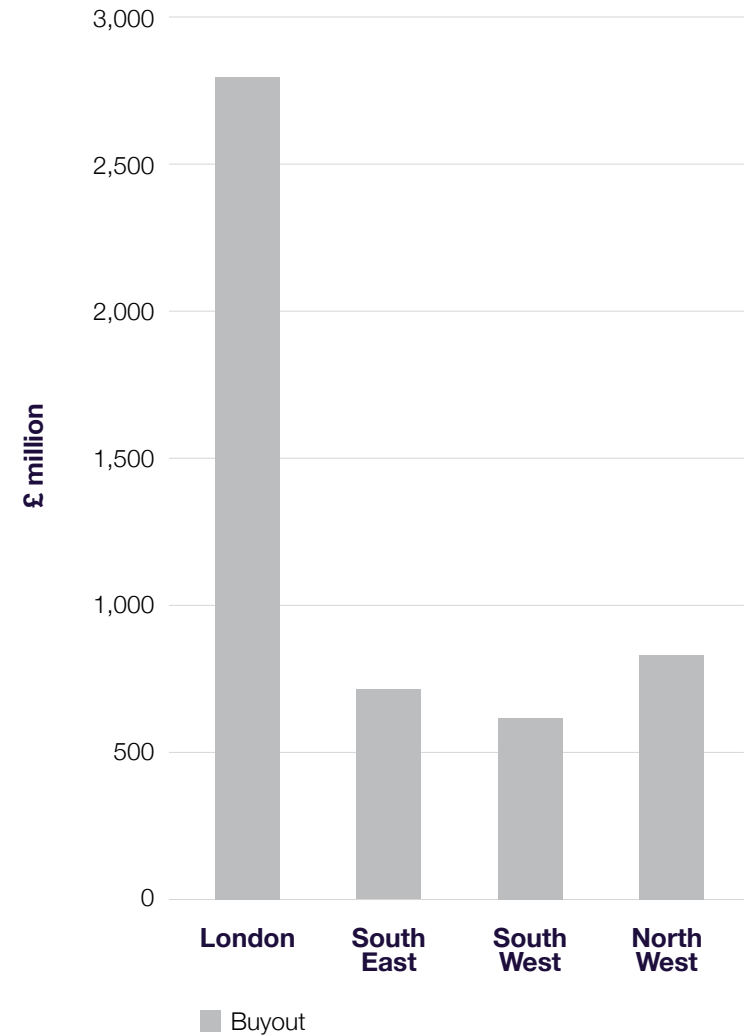
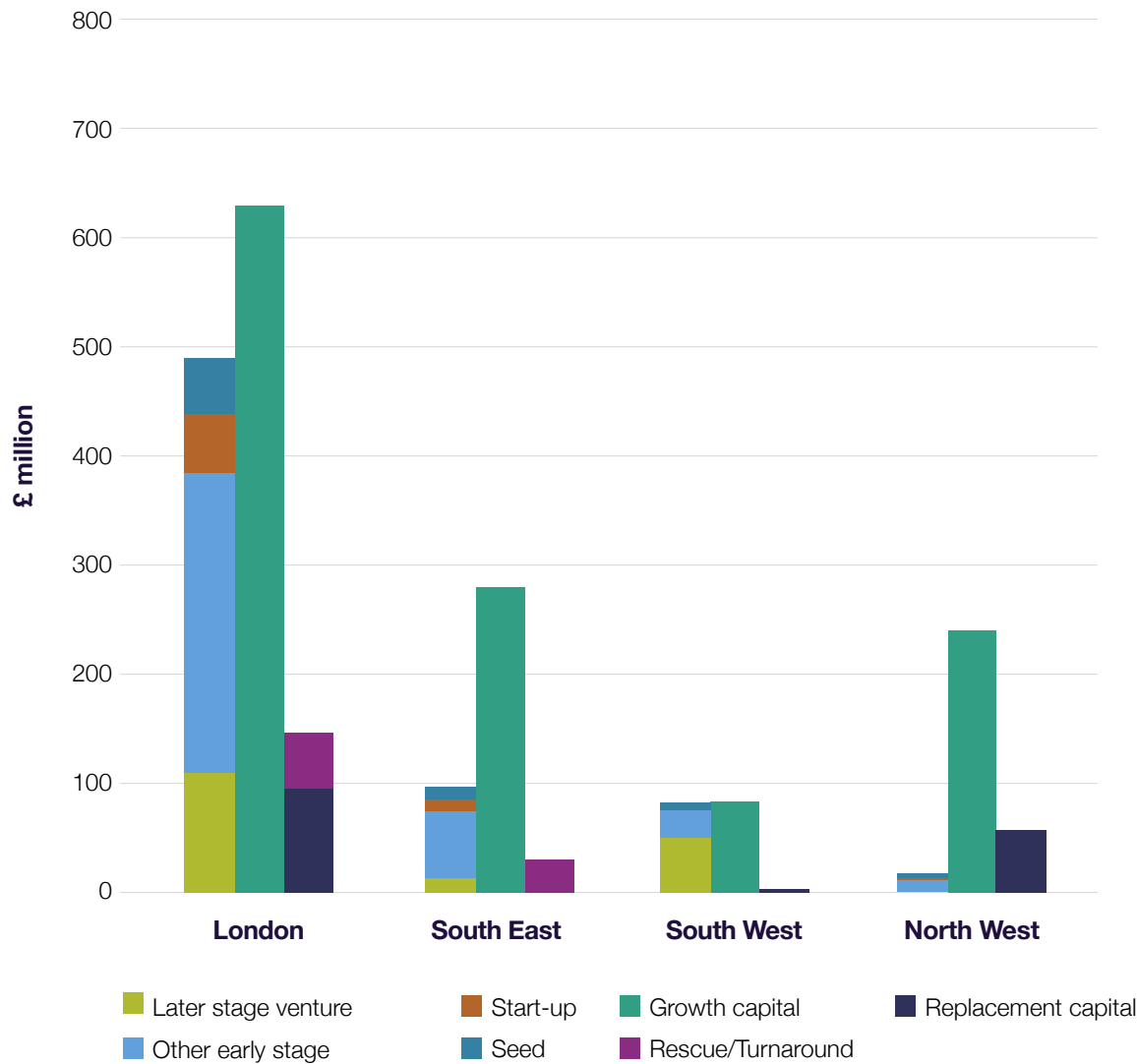
All PE and VC – Investments by region

2020 – Industry statistics – % of amount



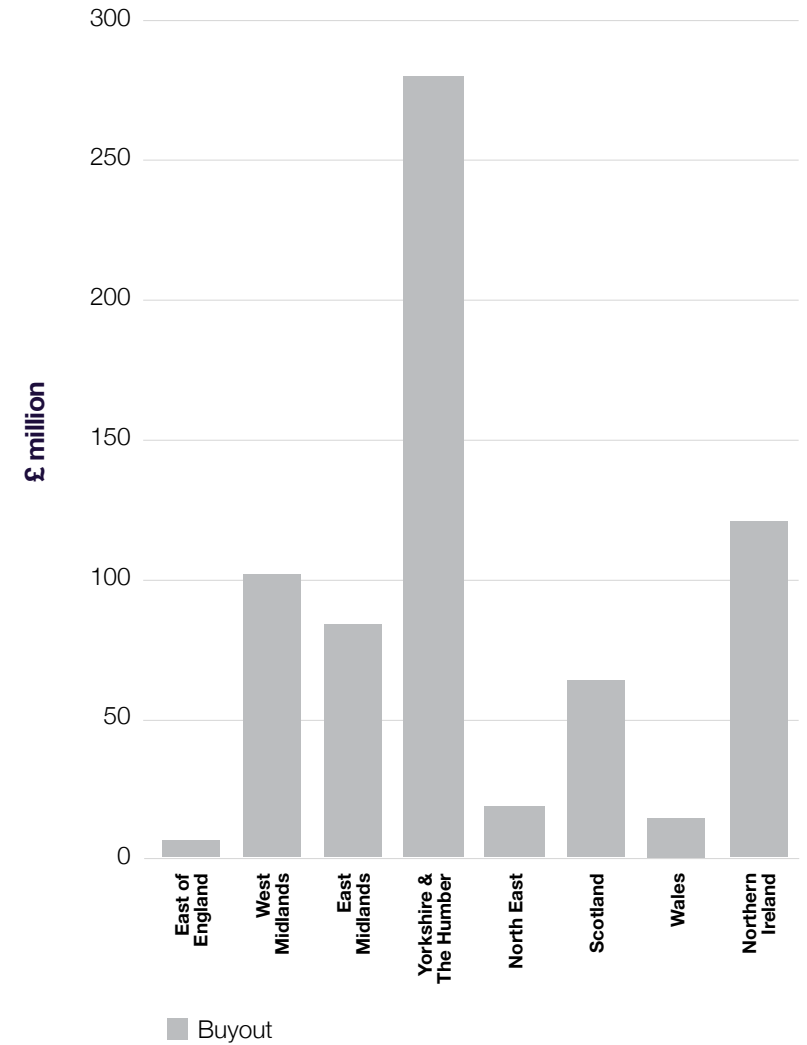
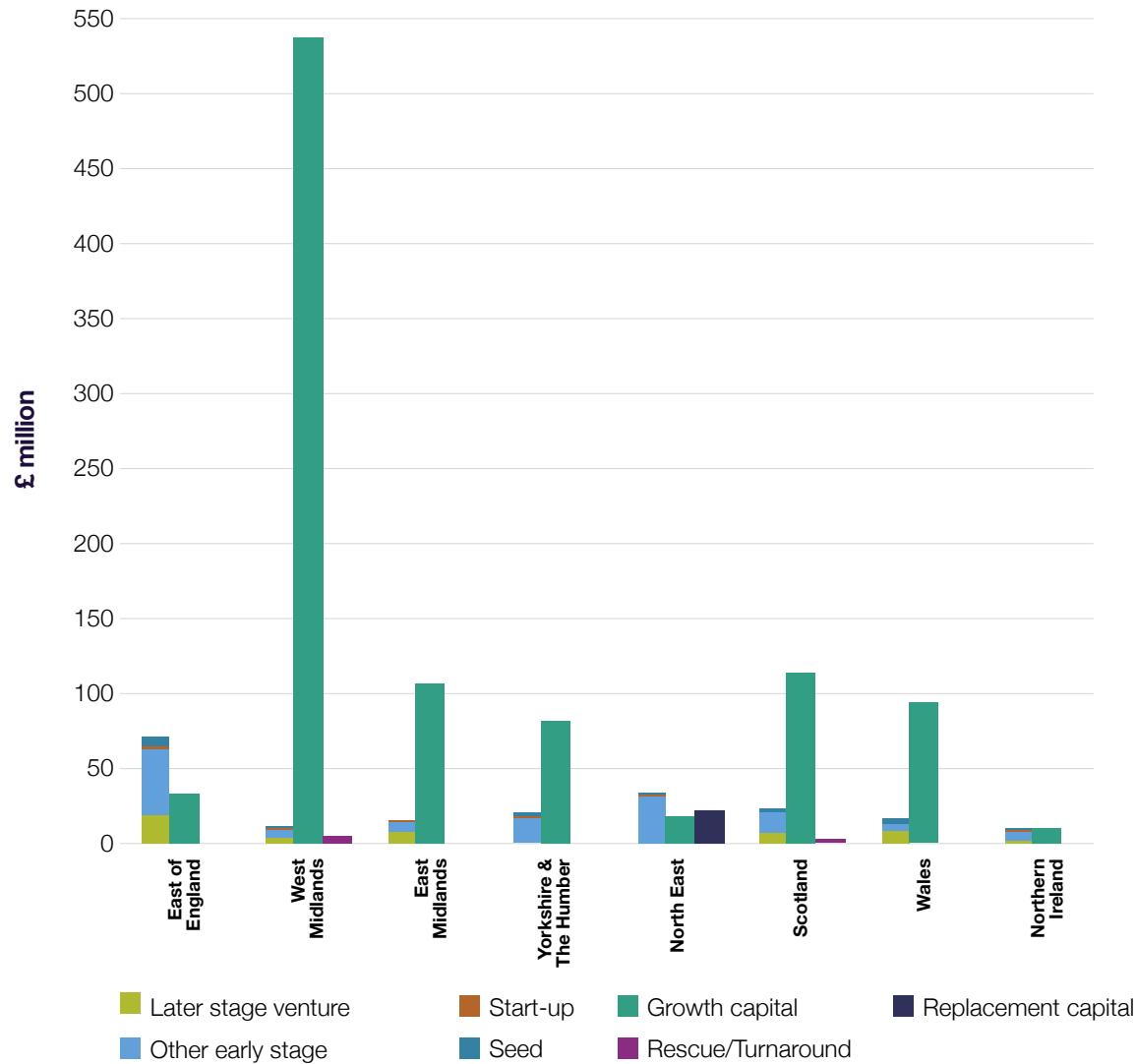
Investments by stage and regions

2020 – Industry statistics – Amount



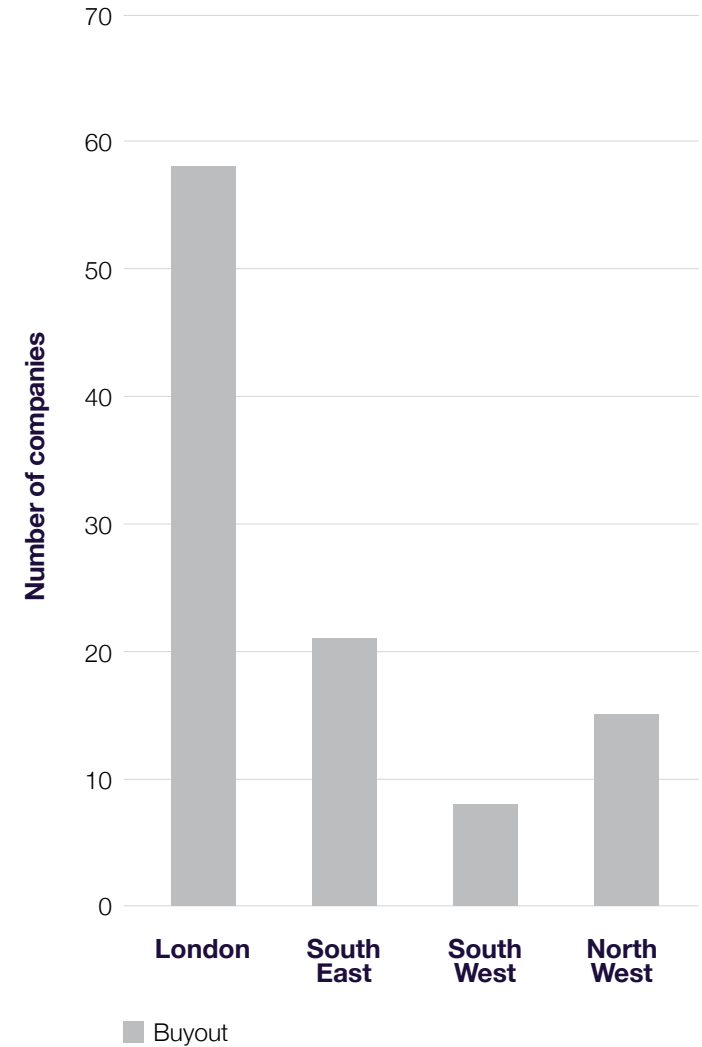
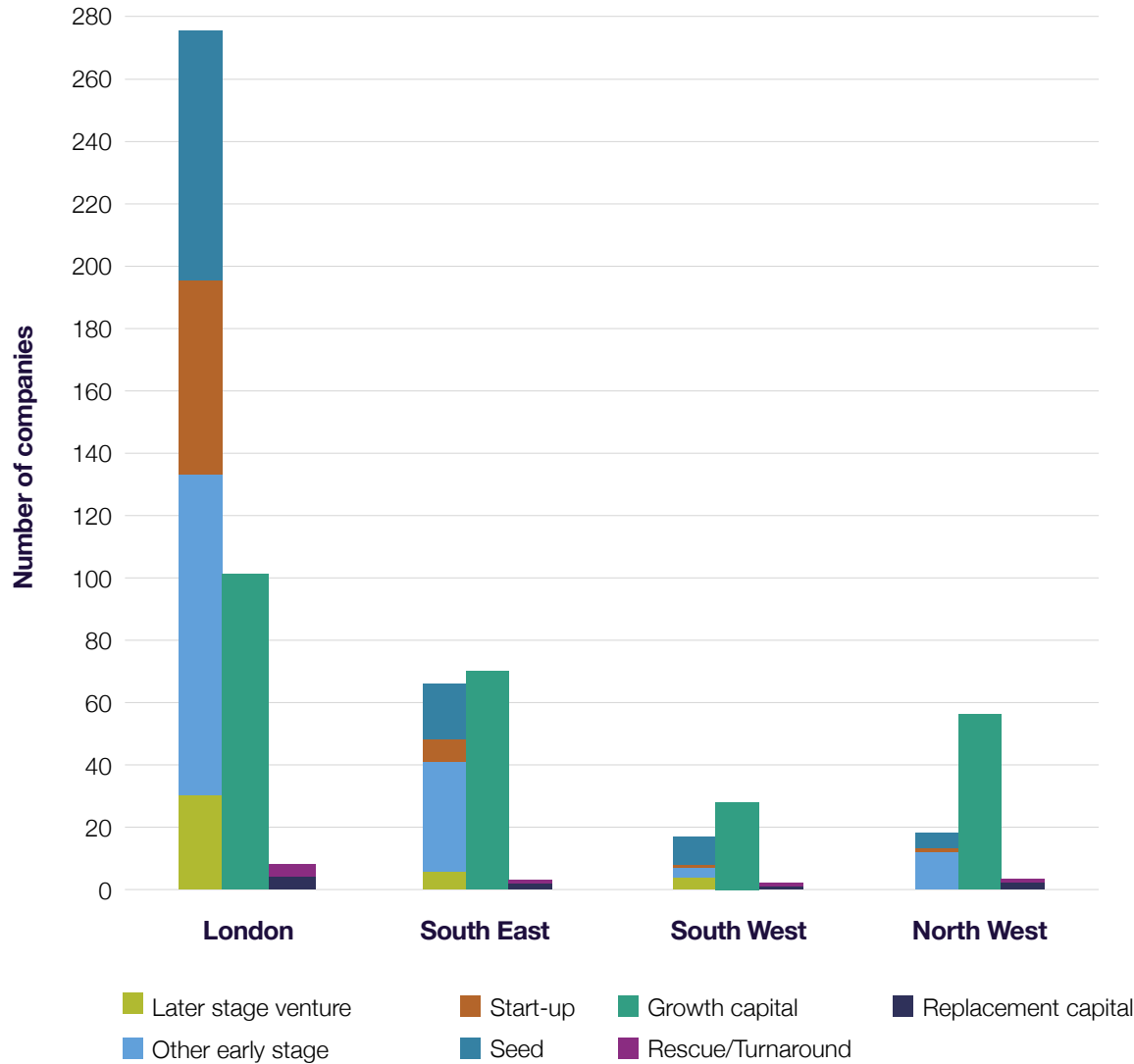
Investments by stage and regions

2020 – Industry statistics – Amount



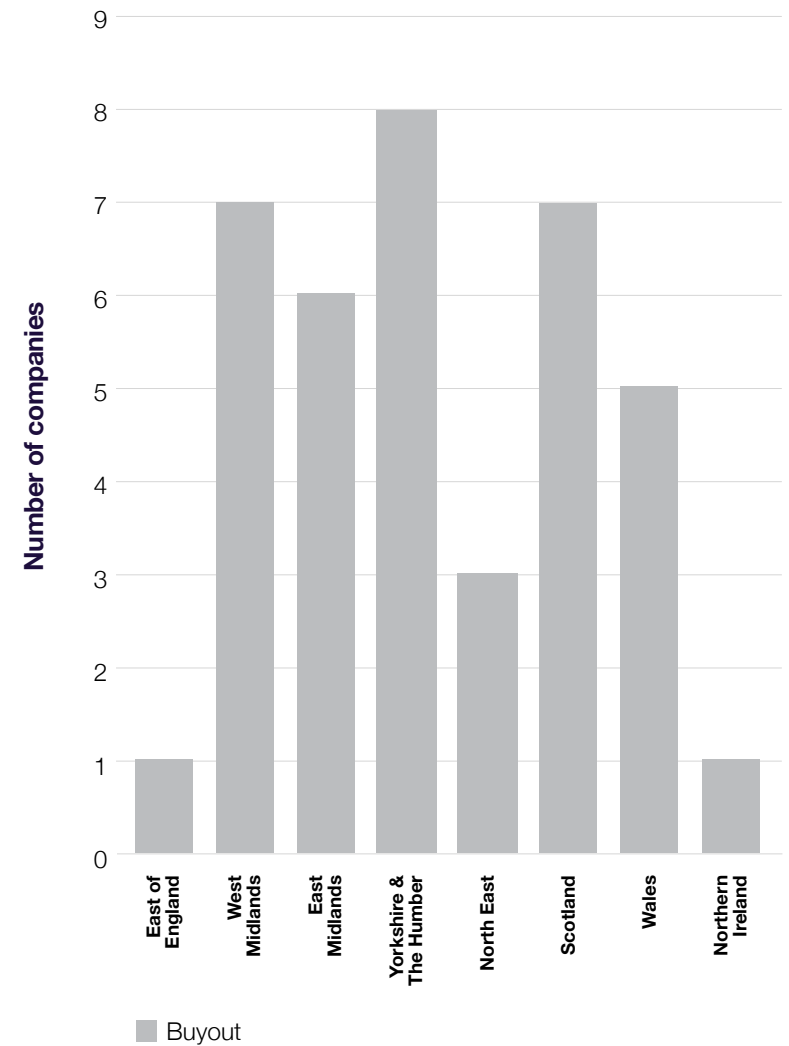
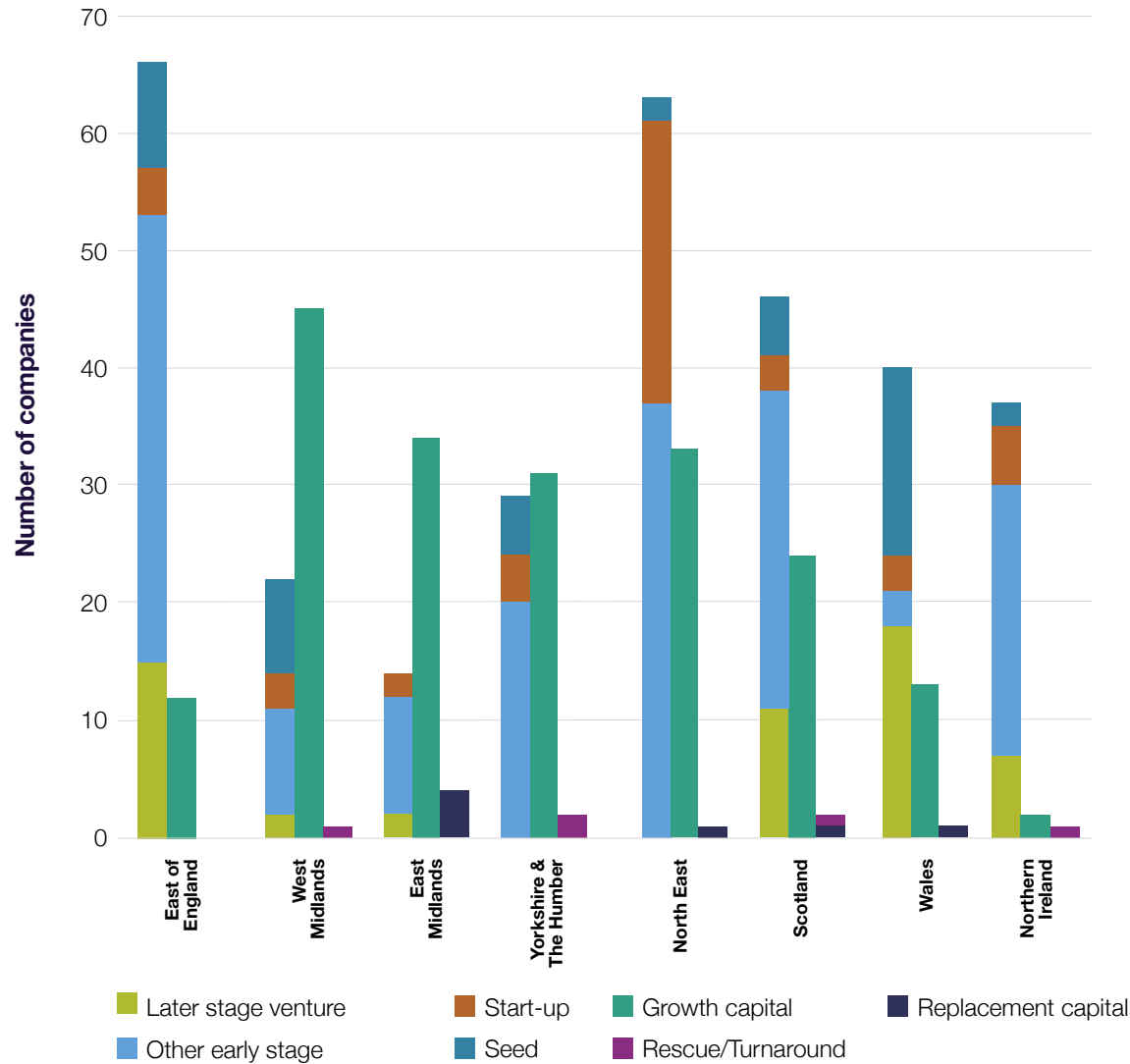
Investments by stage and regions

2020 – Industry statistics – Number of companies



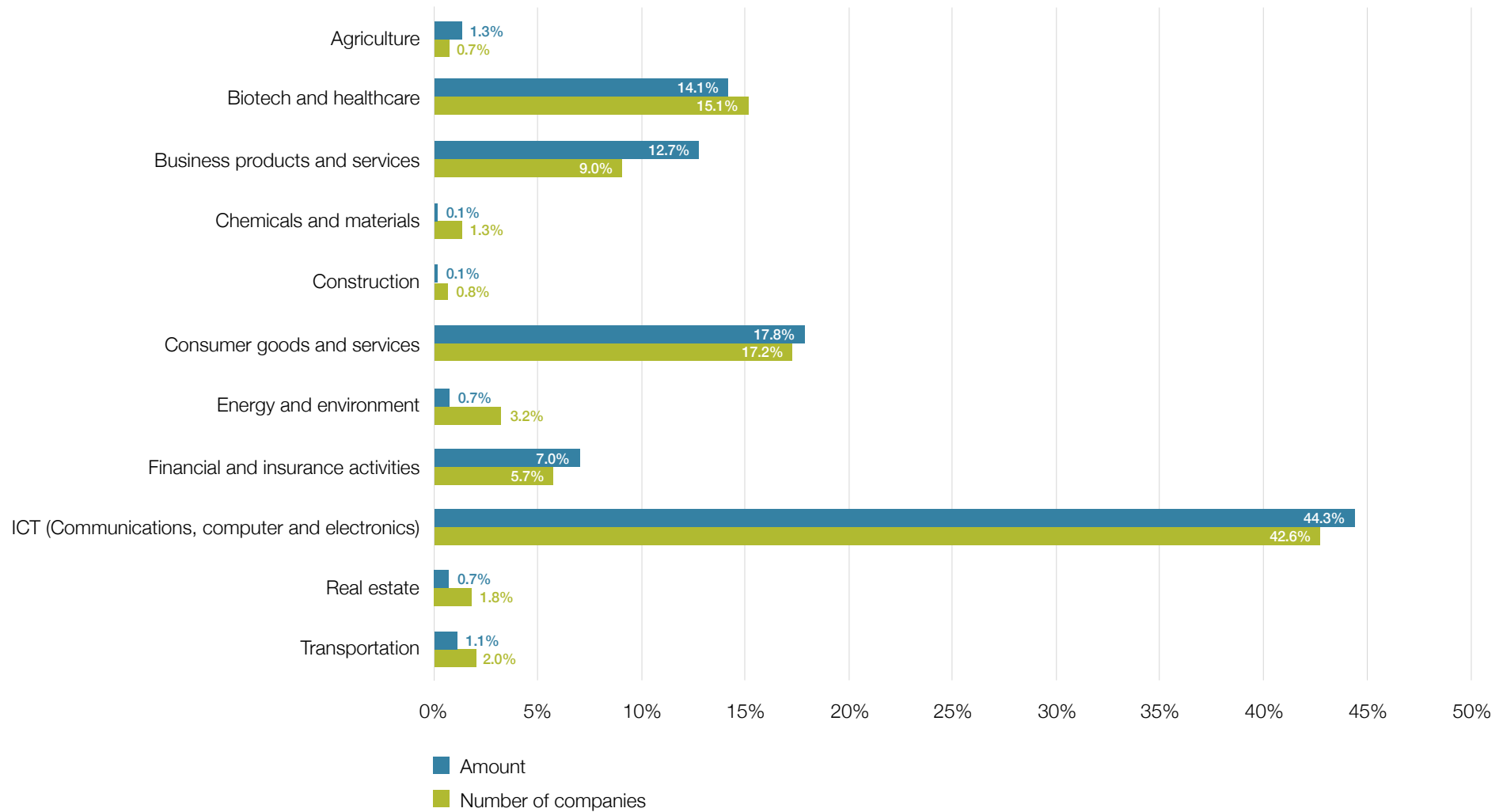
Investments by stage and regions

2020 – Industry statistics – Number of companies



All PE and VC – Investments by sector

2020 – Industry statistics – % of amount and number of companies

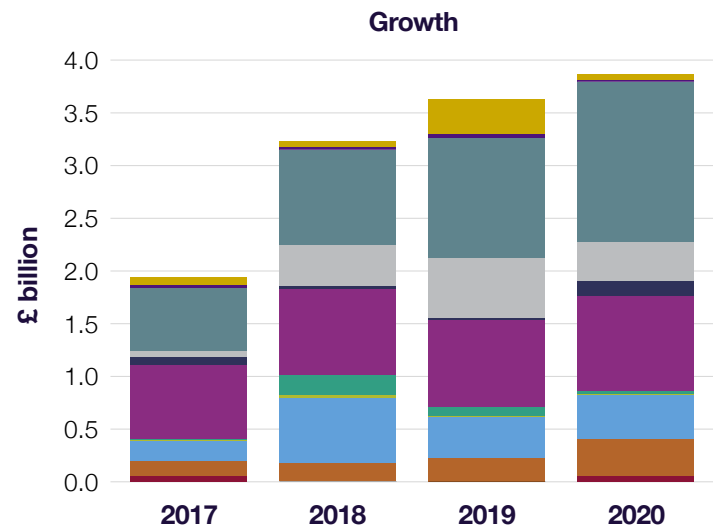
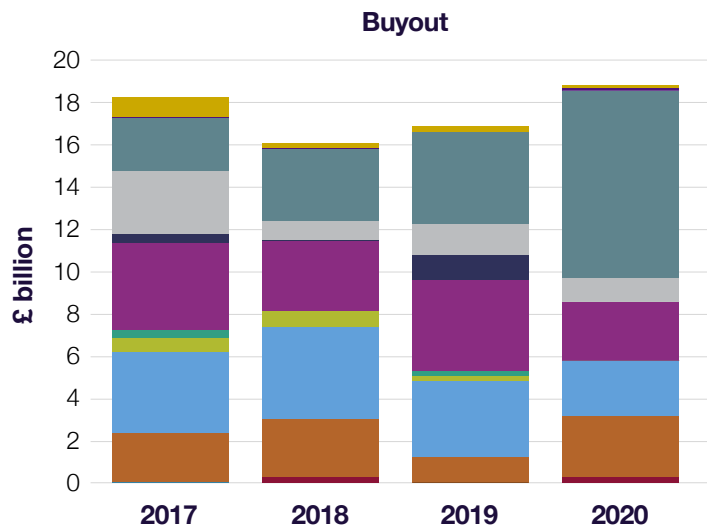
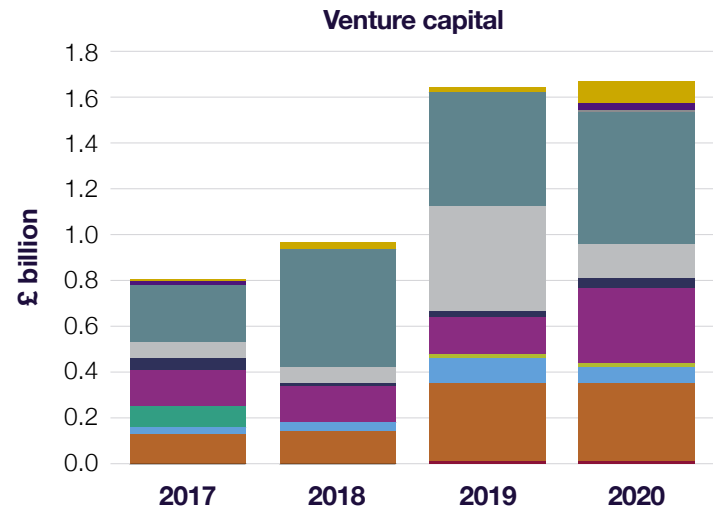
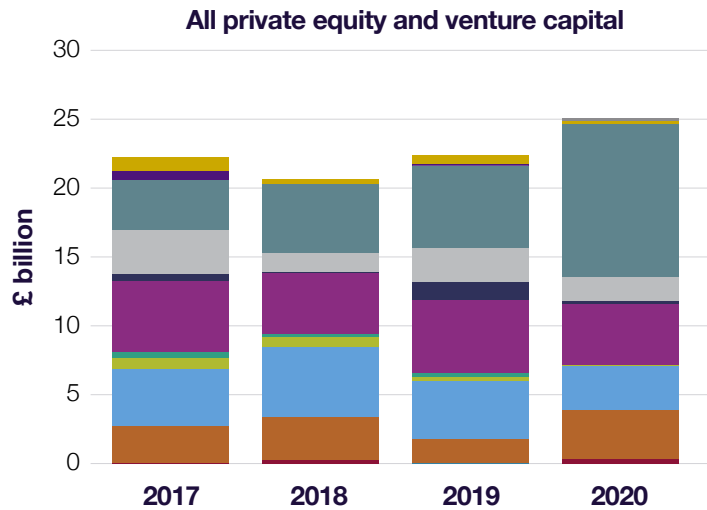


Note: Values below 0.05% are not shown



Investments by sector

2017–2020 – Industry statistics – Amount

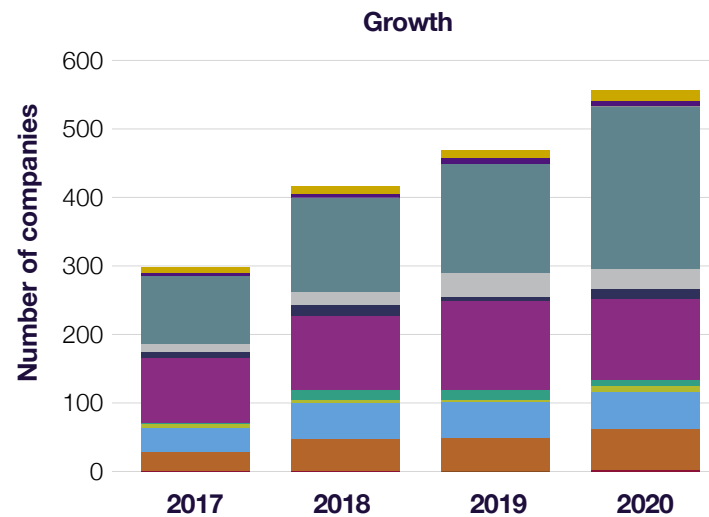
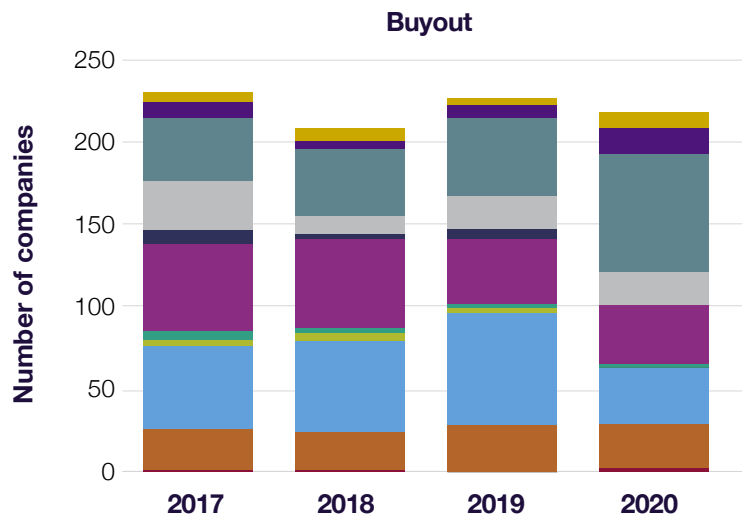
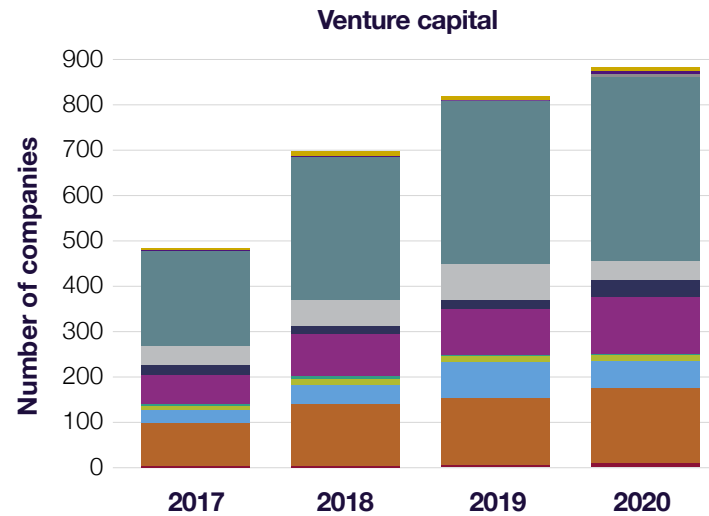
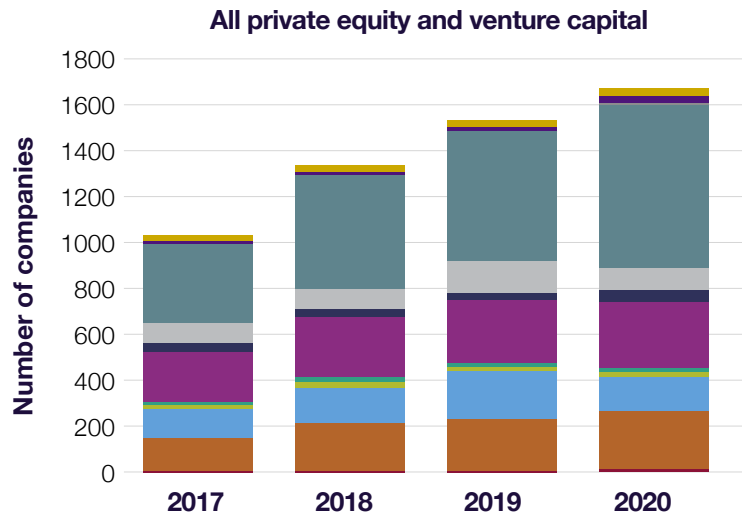


- Transportation
- Real estate
- Infrastructure
- ICT (Communications, computer and electronics)
- Financial and insurance activities
- Energy and environment
- Consumer goods and services
- Construction
- Chemicals and materials
- Business products and services
- Biotech and healthcare
- Agriculture



Investments by sector

2017–2020 – Industry statistics – Number of companies

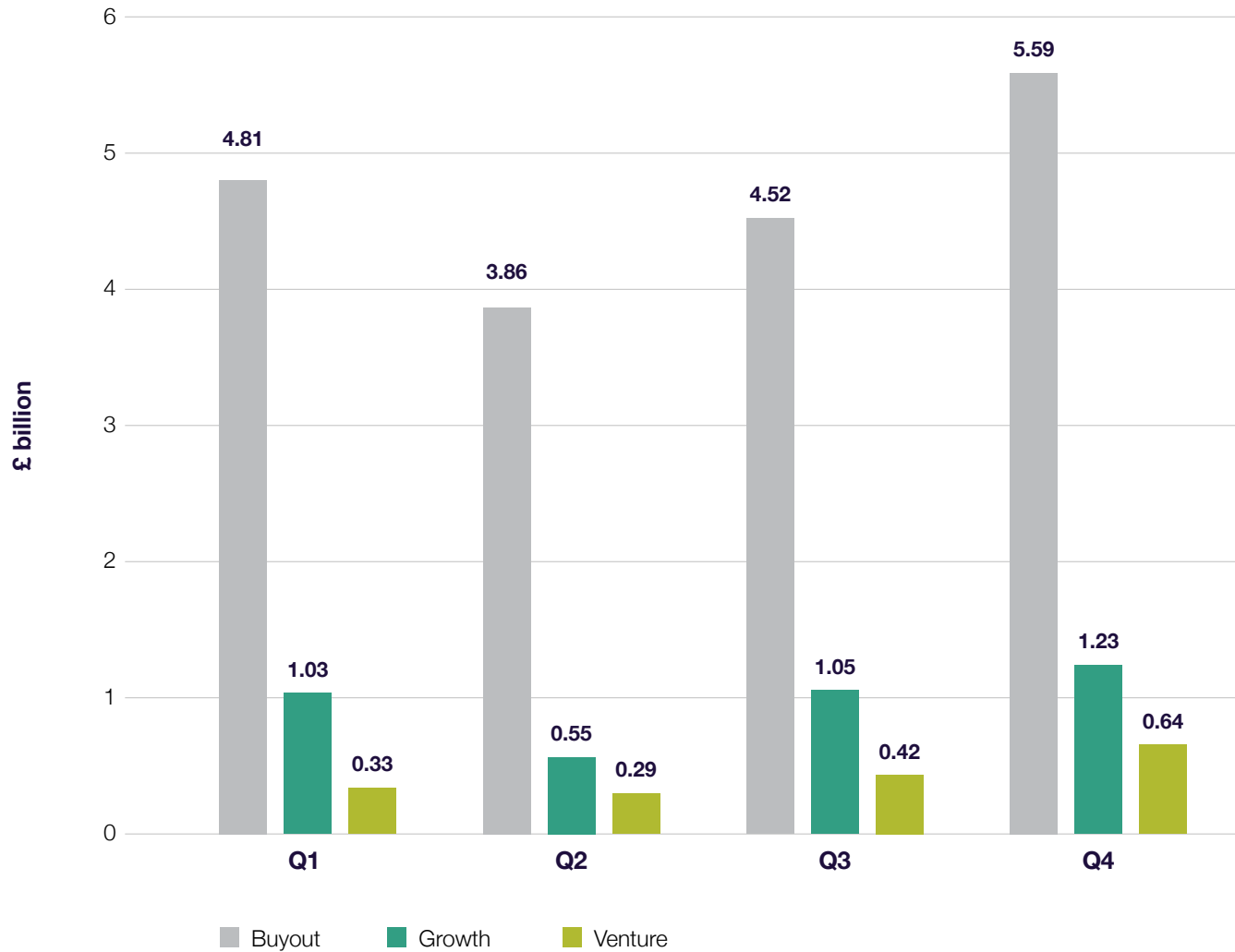


- Transportation
- Real estate
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- ICT (Communications, computer and electronics)
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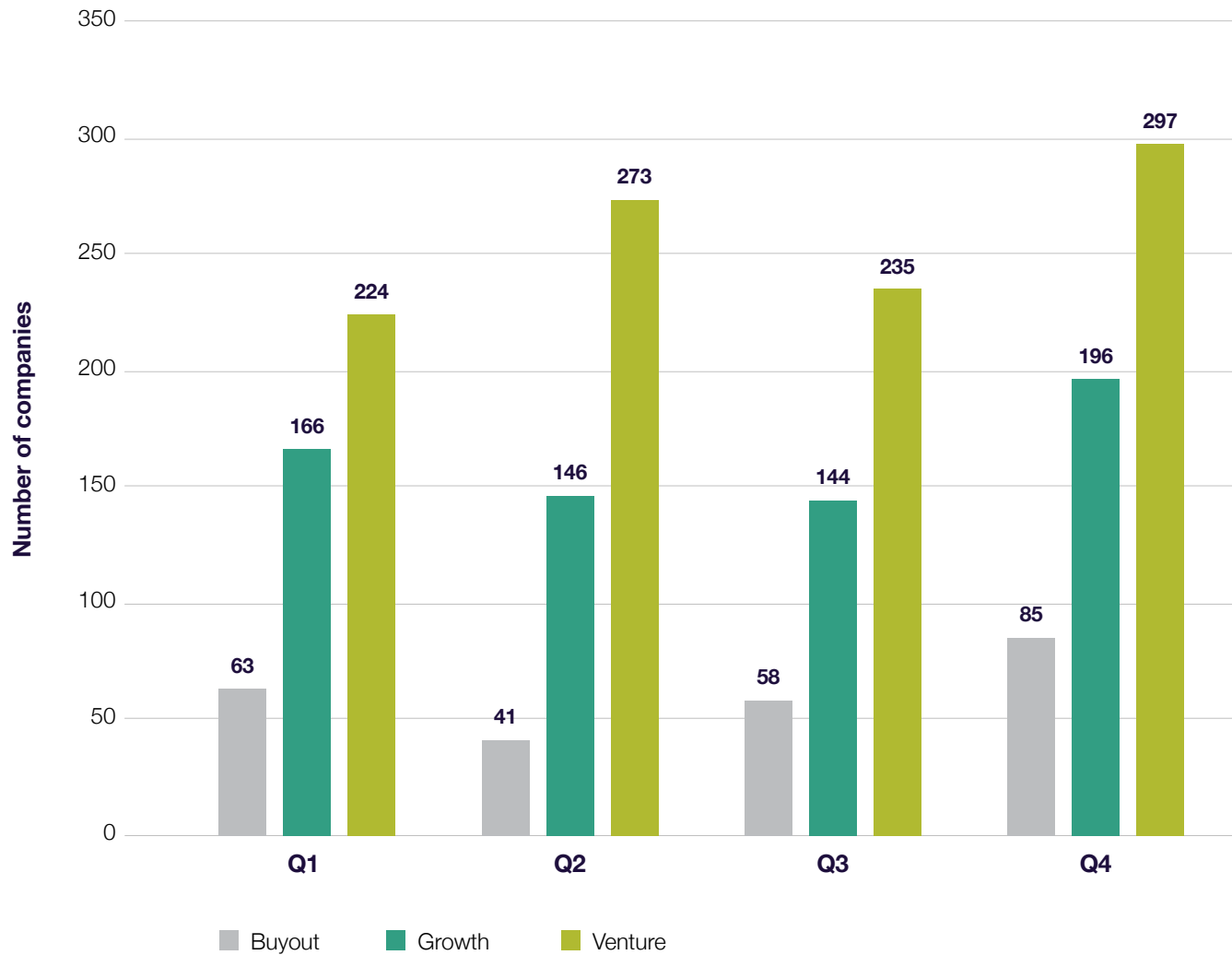
Investments by stage and quarters

2020 – Industry statistics – Amount



Investments by stage and quarters

2020 – Industry statistics – Number of companies



Note: Some companies receive investments in more than one quarter in each year, meaning that the total number of unique companies receiving investment in the year is less than the sum of the amounts in each quarter.



Divestments statistics explained

Industry statistics: figures relate to divestments undertaken by BVCA full member firms based in the UK, and to those undertaken through an overseas office where the UK office was the lead adviser, 'regardless of whether the divesting fund is UK or overseas based'. As a result, more cross-border divestments have been included in the BVCA data which therefore reflect more accurately the activity of BVCA full members, particularly those that divest through pan-European or global funds.

Divestment amounts: (including write-offs) are recorded at cost (i.e. the total amount divested is equal to the total amount invested before).

The following funds are included in the statistics: private equity and venture capital funds making direct private equity and venture capital investments; mezzanine funds; infrastructure funds; co-investment funds; replacement capital funds and rescue/ turnaround funds.

The following funds are excluded from the statistics: real estate funds, distressed debt funds, primary funds of funds and secondary funds of funds.



Divestments definitions

Sale to management: The buyer of the company is its management team.

Public offering:

- **First divestment following flotation (IPO):** The sale or distribution of a private company's shares to the public for the first time by listing the company on the stock exchange.
- **Sale of quoted equity post flotation:** It includes sale of quoted shares only if connected to a former private equity investment, e.g. sale of quoted shares after a lockup period.

Repayment of preference shares/ loans or mezzanine: If the private equity firm provided loans or bought preference shares in the company at the time of investment, then their repayment according to the amortisation schedule represents a decrease of the financial claim of the firm into the company, and hence a divestment.

Sale to another private equity and venture capital firm: The buyer of the portfolio company is a private equity firm.

Sale to financial institution: A financial institution is an entity that provides financial services for its clients:

- **Depository Institutions:** deposit-taking institutions that accept and manage deposits and make loans, including banks, building societies, credit unions, trust companies, and mortgage loan companies
- **Contractual Institutions:** Insurance companies and pension funds
- Investment Institutes other than direct private equity firms.

Trade sale: The sale of a company's shares to industrial investors.

Write-off: The value of the investment is eliminated and the return to investors is zero or negative.



Divestments at a glance

- 563 companies were exited in 2020, a 10% increase from 2019.
- By amount of former equity investments (divestments at cost), the total value was £7.96bn.
- The most prominent exit routes by amount at cost were sale to another private equity firm (28.5%), public offering (18.3%) and trade sale (14.9%).
- Buyout divestments represented 80% by amount at cost and around 29% by number of companies of all exits in 2020.
- Growth divestments represented 13% of all exits by amount at cost and 43% by number of companies.
- Venture capital comprised around 5% of all divestments with 141 companies. The most prominent exit route was write offs, which represented 32% of number of companies divested in 2020.

2020 – Industry statistics	All Private Equity ⁽²⁾	Buyout ⁽¹⁾	Growth ⁽¹⁾	Venture Capital ⁽¹⁾	Other ⁽¹⁾
Amount	£7.96bn	£6.33bn	£1.03bn	£0.39bn	£0.22bn
No. of companies	563	164	246	141	24
No. of firms	100	42	61	37	7
No. of funds	242	89	133	68	8

Note: (1) Relates to the initial investment stage of the company

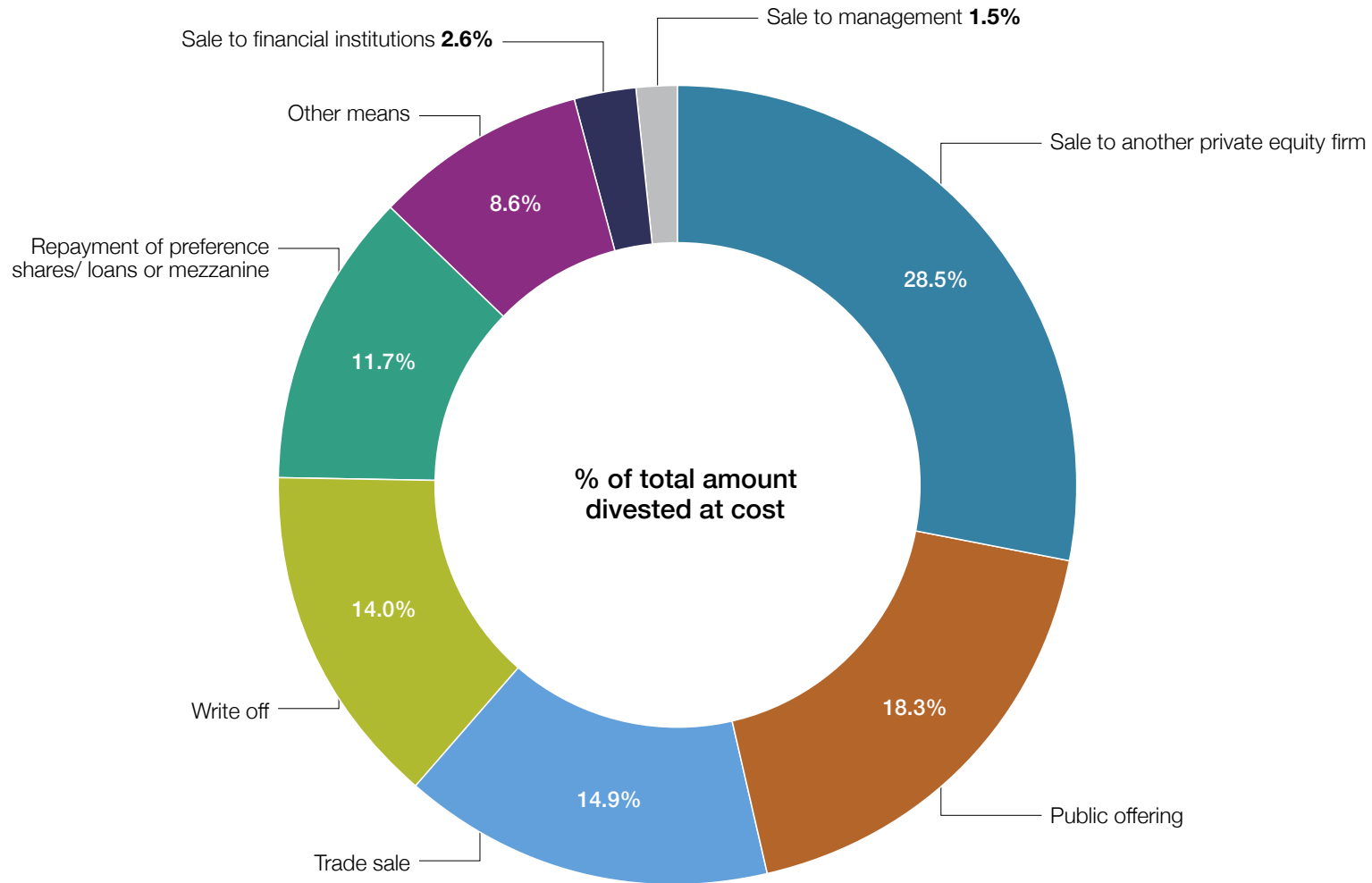
Note: (2) refers to all private equity and venture capital

Note: Please refer to the appendix for further information



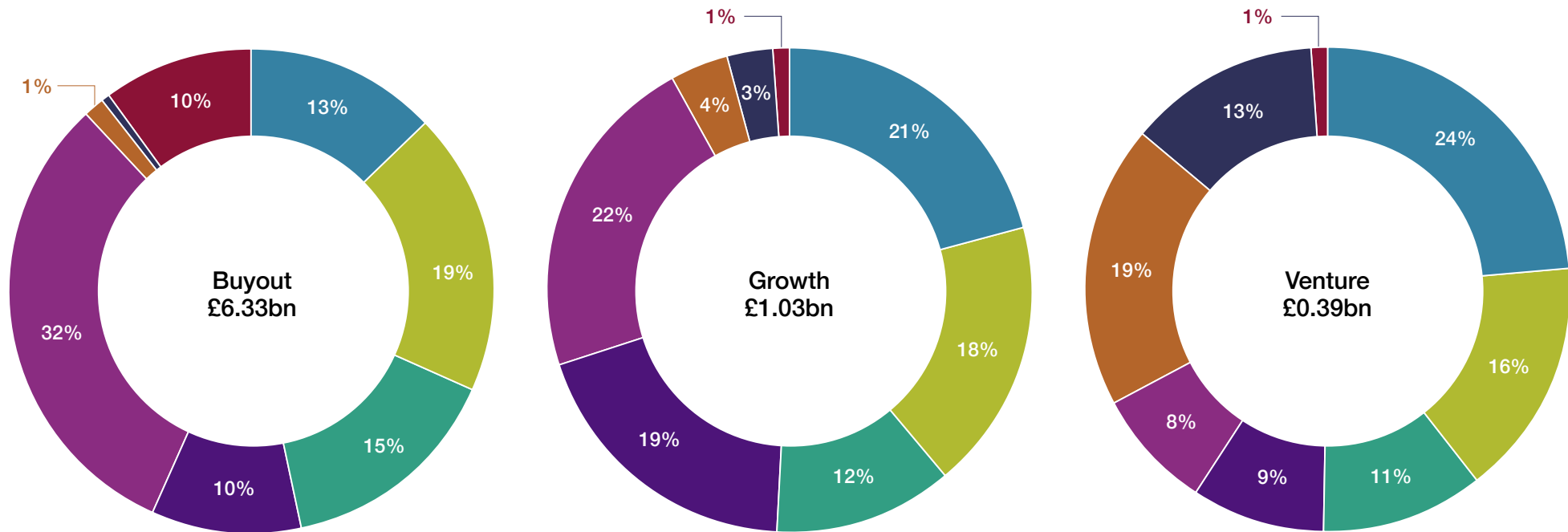
Divestments at a glance

2020 – Divestments – Industry statistics – % total amount divested at cost



Divestments at cost by exit route – Buyout/Growth/Venture Capital

2020 – Industry statistics – % of amount

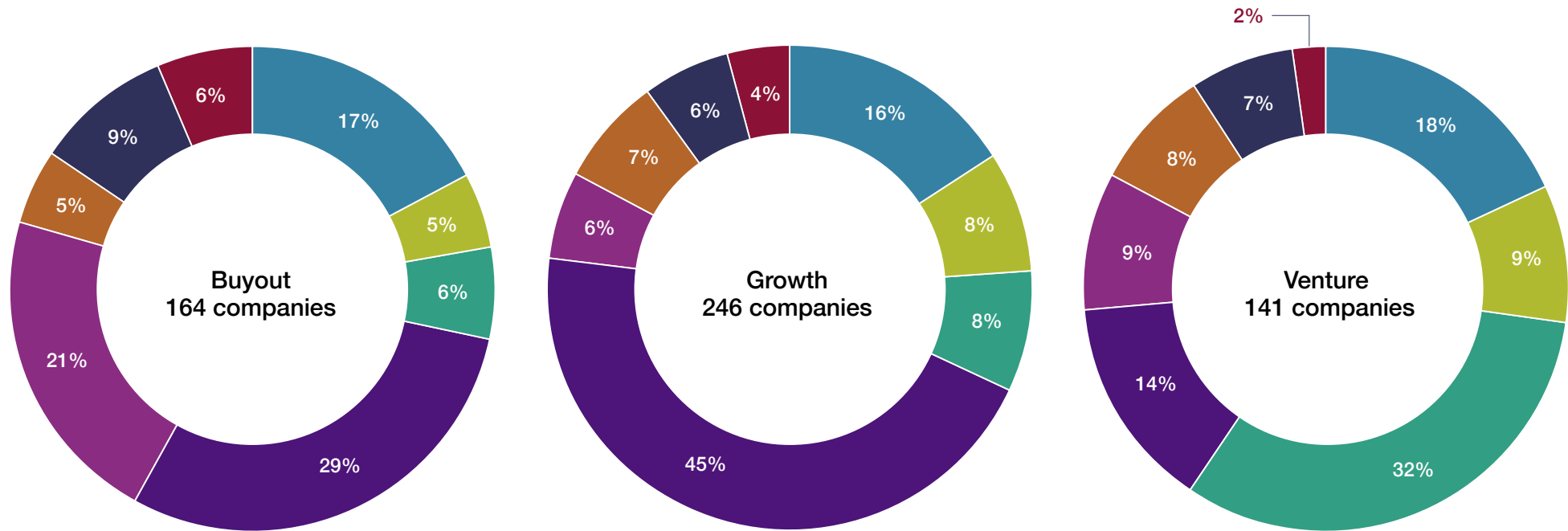


- Trade sale
- Write off
- Sale to another private equity and venture capital firm
- Sale to management
- Public offering
- Repayment of preference shares/loans or mezzanine
- Sale to financial institutions
- Other means



Divestments at cost by exit route – Buyout/Growth/Venture Capital

2020 – Industry statistics – % of number of companies

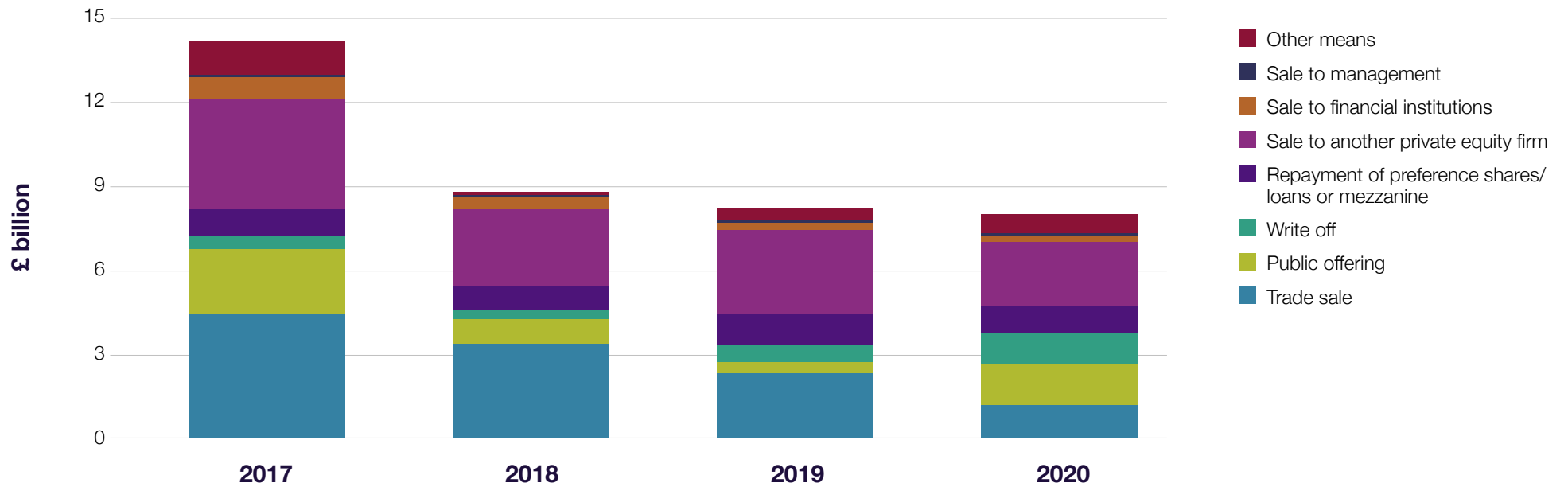


- Trade sale
- Write off
- Sale to another private equity and venture capital firm
- Sale to management
- Public offering
- Repayment of preference shares/loans or mezzanine
- Sale to financial institutions
- Other means



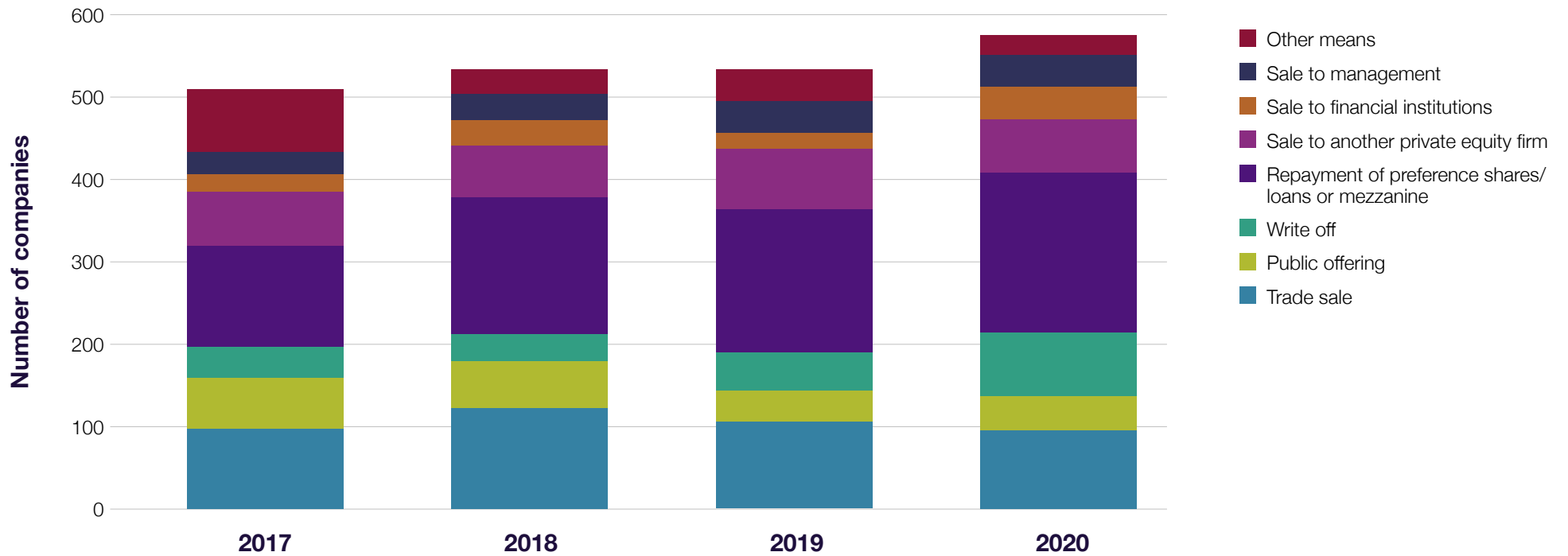
Divestments at cost by exit route

2017-2020 – Industry statistics – Amount at cost



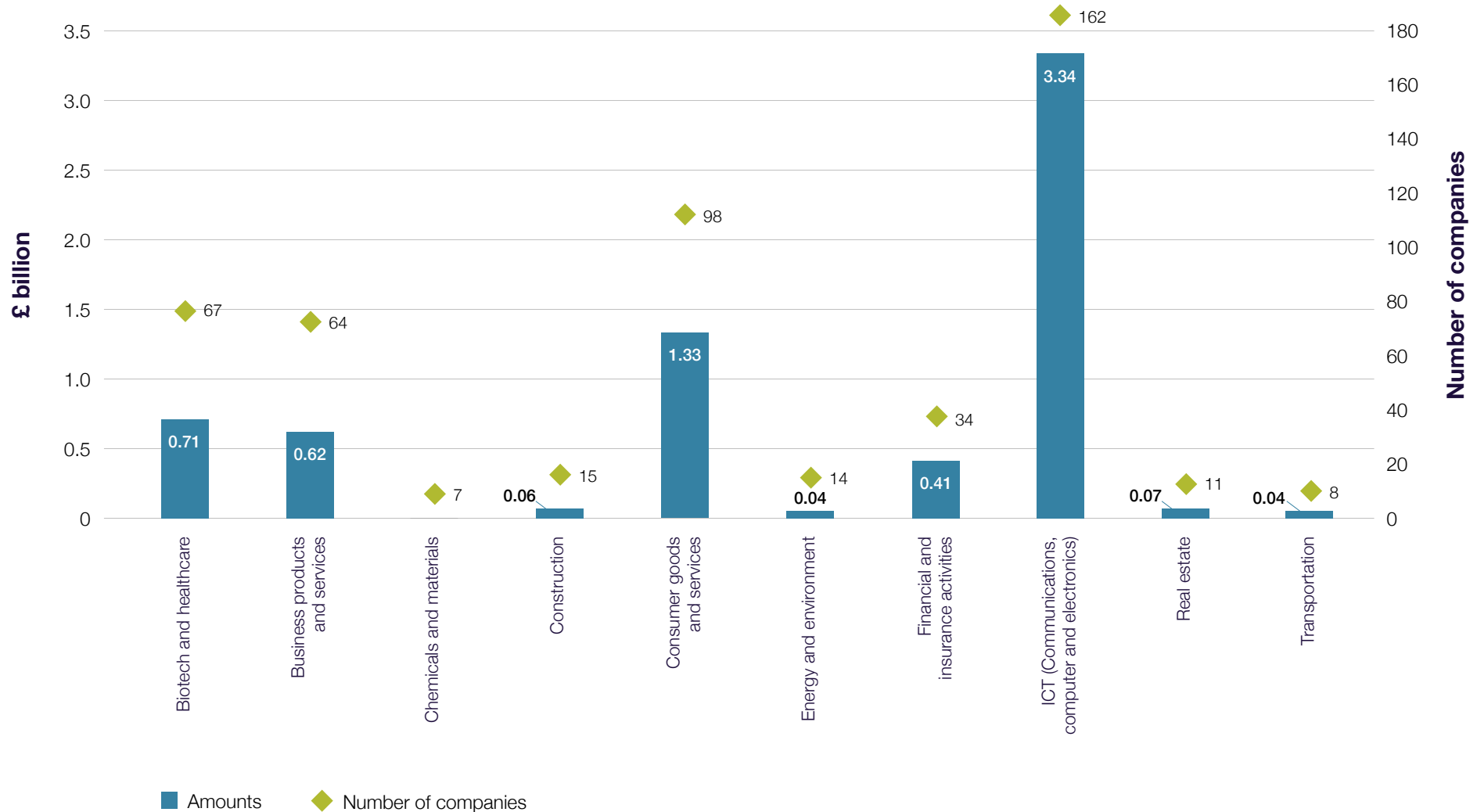
Divestments at cost by exit route

2017–2020 – Industry statistics – Number of companies



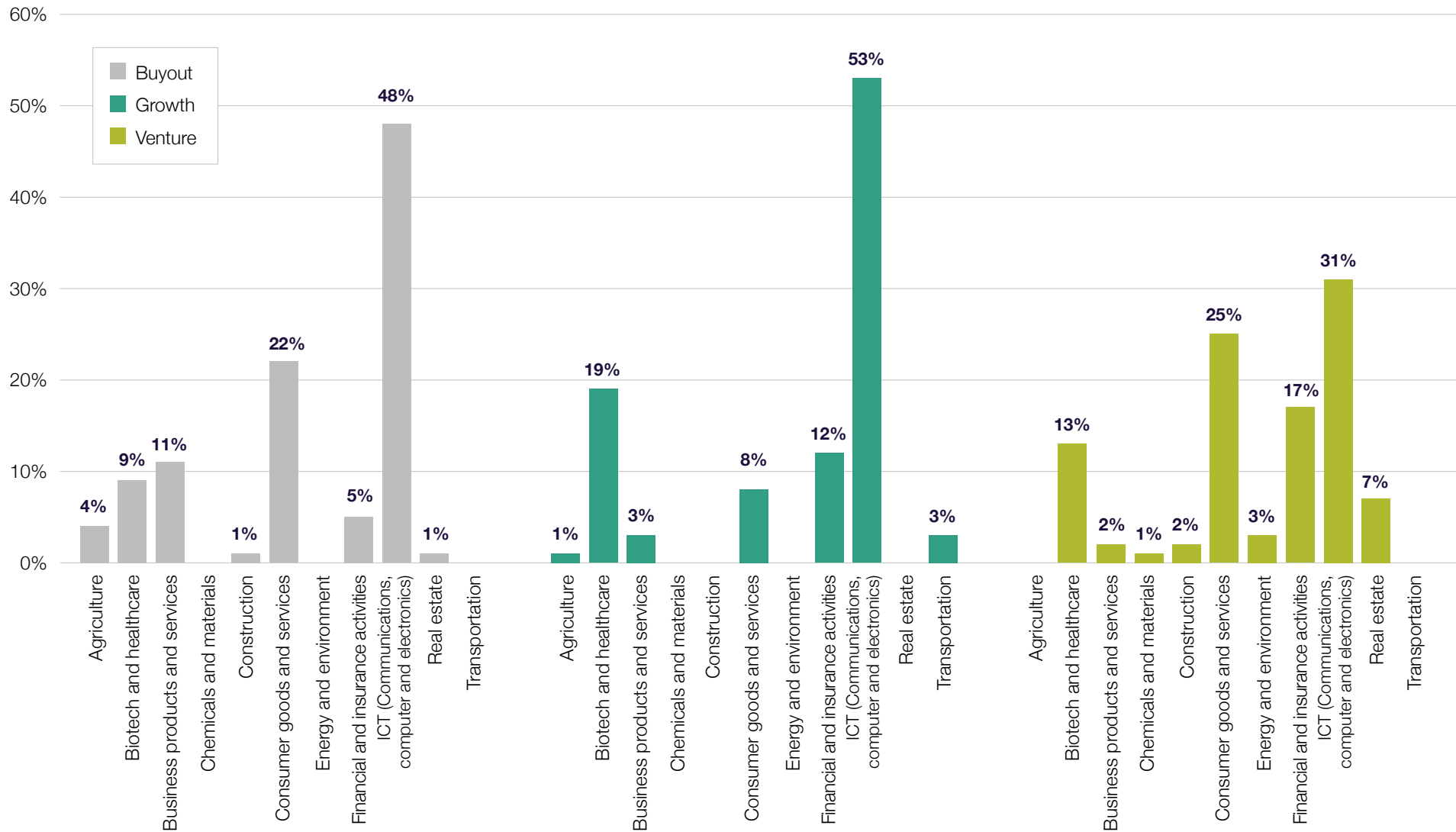
All PE and VC – Divestments at cost by sector

2020 – Industry statistics – Amount and number of companies (excluding write off)



Divestments at cost by sector – Buyout/Growth/Venture Capital

2020 – Industry statistics – % of amount (excluding write off)

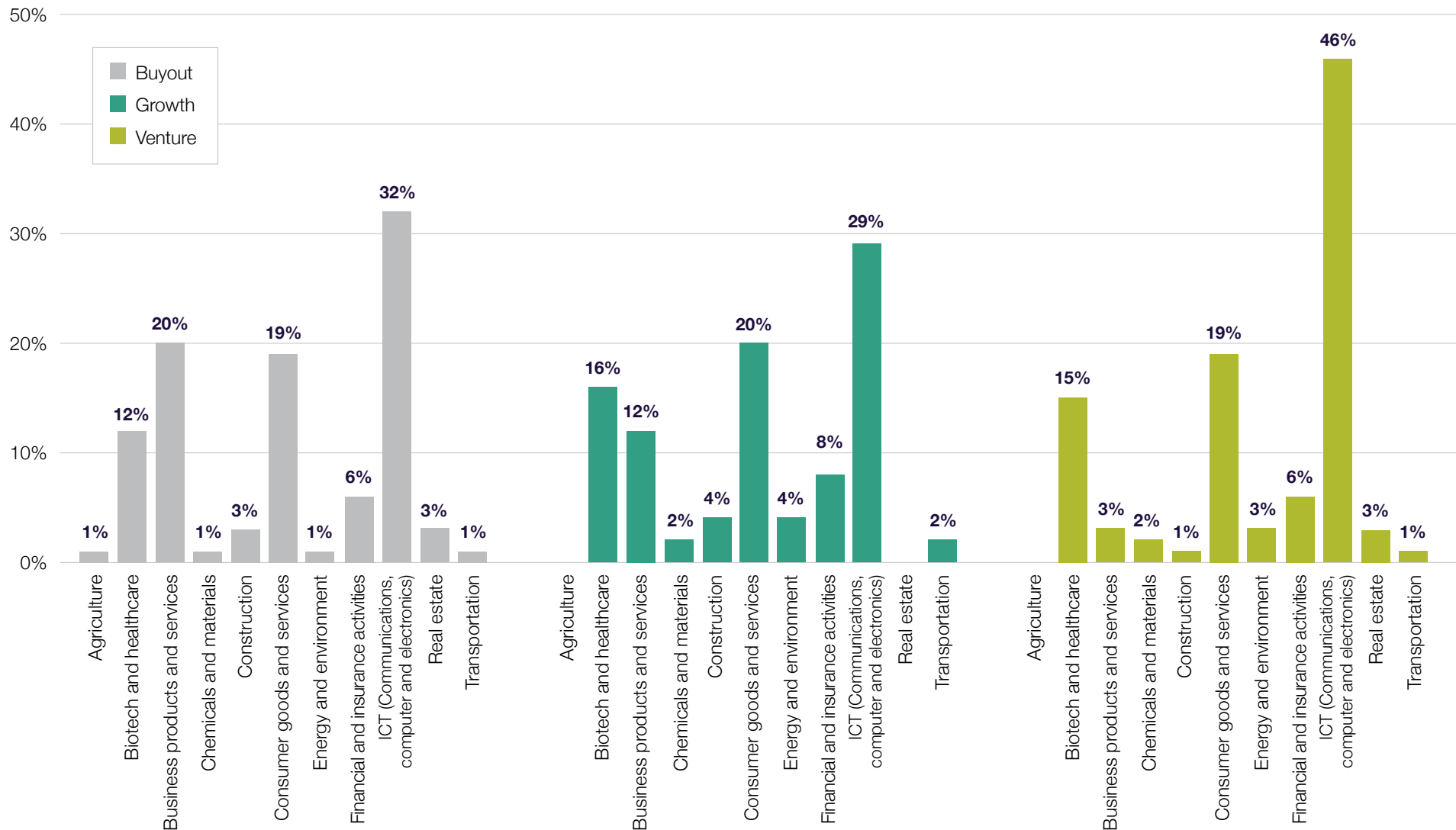


Note: Values below 0.5% are not shown



Divestments at cost by sector – Buyout/Growth/Venture Capital

2020 – Industry statistics – % of companies (excluding write off)

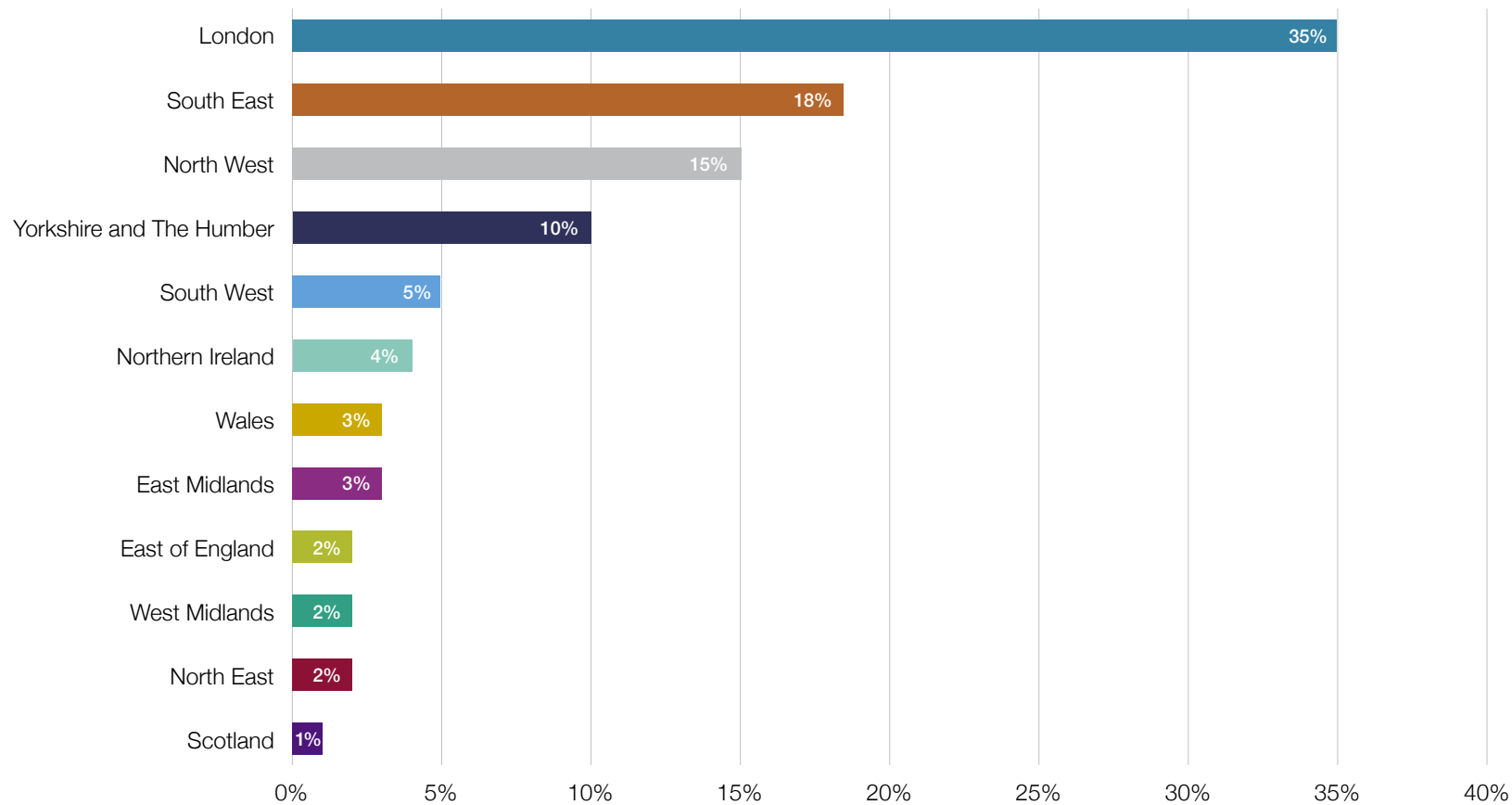


Note: Values below 0.5% are not shown



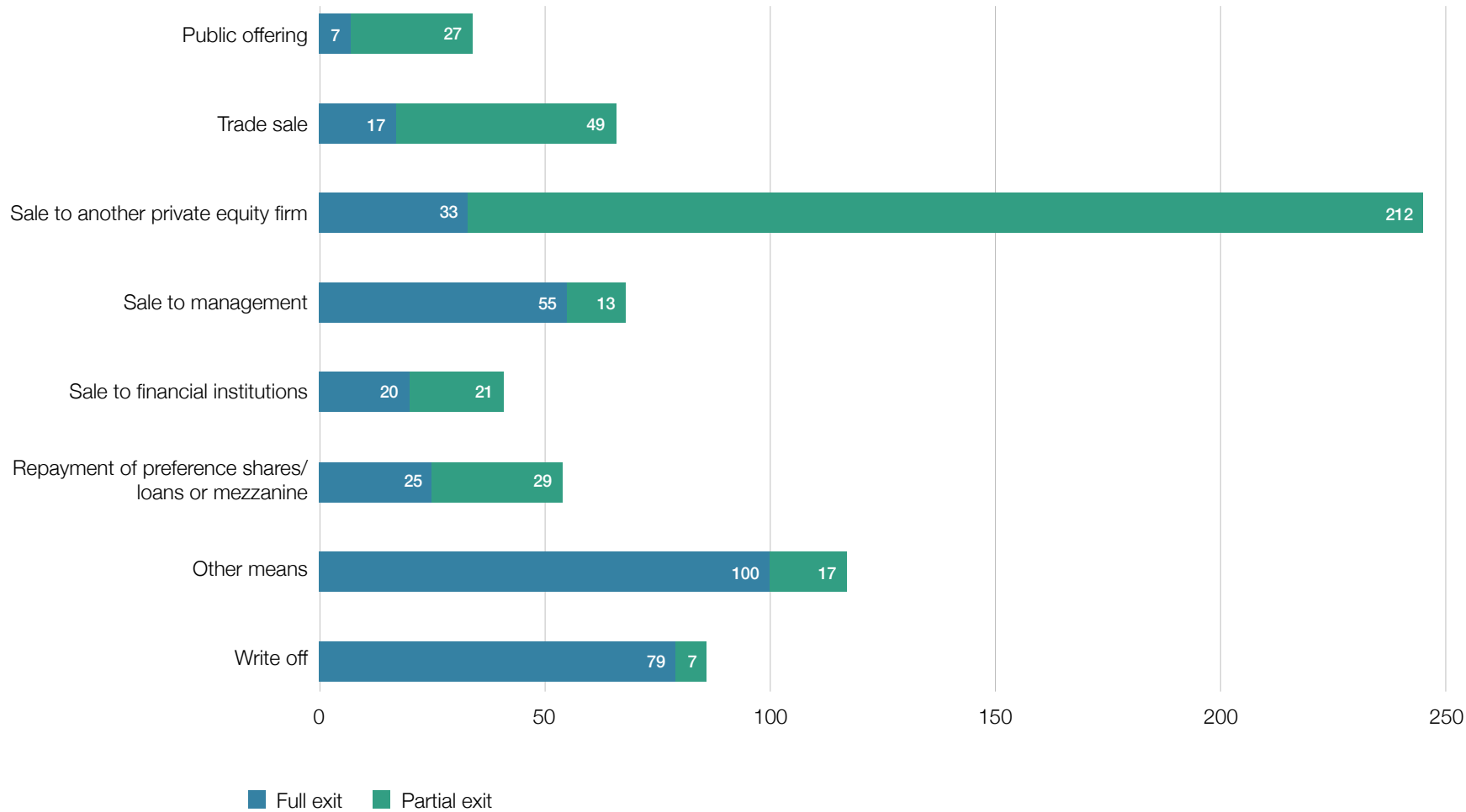
All PE and VC – Divestments at cost by region

2020 – Industry statistics – % of amount



All PE and VC – Number of exits by type

2020 – Divestment method – by number of exit transactions



Note: A company may have been exited in more than one method in the year, hence a greater number of exit transactions than total companies divested from

Note: The exit is related to the fund structure not to the fund manager. An exit from a portfolio company can be partial for one fund and full for another.



Data Tables



Data tables

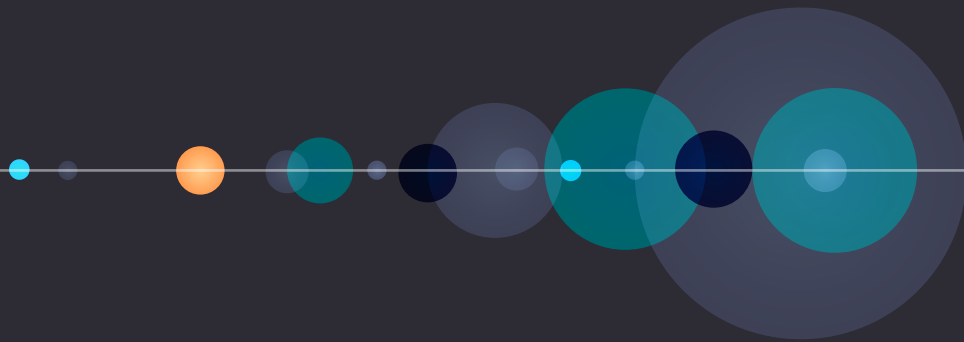


Table 1 // 2020 – Funds raised by source

Type of source		Amount raised					
		2020		2019		2018	
		£m	%	£m	%	£m	%
Academic inst. / endowment funds / foundations	UK	526	1.2	680	1.4	255	0.7
	Overseas	1039	2.4	2,226	4.7	1,467	4.3
	Unclassified	–	–	165	0.3	–	–
	Total	1564	3.6	3,070	6.5	1,722	5.0
Banks	UK	129	0.3	207	0.4	160	0.5
	Overseas	1082	2.5	2,171	4.6	1,129	3.3
	Total	1210	2.7	2,378	5.0	1,289	3.8
Capital markets & corporate investors	UK	1443	3.3	337	0.7	155	0.5
	Overseas	380	0.9	1228	2.6	876	2.6
	Total	1823	4.1	1,565	3.3	1,031	3.0
Family offices	UK	338	0.8	318	0.7	331	1.0
	Overseas	1640	3.7	1,932	4.1	1,437	4.2
	Unclassified	8	0.0	9	0.0	–	–
	Total	1986	4.5	2,259	4.7	1,768	5.2
Fund of funds	UK	1758	4.0	733	1.5	787	2.3
	Overseas	3192	7.2	4,189	8.8	3,686	10.8
	Unclassified	–	–	167	0.4	–	–
	Total	4950	11.2	5,089	10.7	4,472	13.1

Table 1 // 2020 – Funds raised by source

Type of source		Amount raised					
		2020		2019		2018	
		£m	%	£m	%	£m	%
Government agencies	UK	124	0.3	431	0.9	313	0.9
	Overseas	1081	2.5	559	1.2	181	0.5
	Total	1205	2.7	991	2.1	494	1.4
Insurance companies	UK	225	0.5	157	0.3	291	0.9
	Overseas	3012	6.8	4,254	8.9	3,157	9.3
	Unclassified	–	–	8	0.0	–	–
	Total	3236	7.3	4,419	9.3	3,448	10.1
Other asset managers	UK	1296	2.9	77	0.2	273	0.8
	Overseas	2167	4.9	378	0.8	1,183	3.5
	Unclassified	–	–	1	0.0	–	–
	Total	3463	7.9	455	1.0	1,456	4.3
Private pension funds	UK	601	1.4	189	0.4	666	2.0
	Overseas	3295	7.5	1,973	4.1	2,947	8.6
	Total	3896	8.8	2,161	4.5	3,614	10.6
Public pension funds	UK	340	0.8	762	1.6	530	1.6
	Overseas	11961	27.2	14,948	31.4	9,125	26.7
	Unclassified	–	–	65	0.1	–	–
	Total	12301	27.9	15,775	33.1	9,655	28.3

Table 1 // 2020 – Funds raised by source

Type of source	Amount raised						
	2020		2019		2018		
	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	
Private individuals	UK	1320	3.0	1462	3.1	937	2.7
	Overseas	953	2.2	1,008	2.1	550	1.6
	Unclassified	8	0.0	–	–	–	–
	Total	2281	5.2	2,470	5.2	1,487	4.4
Sovereign wealth funds	UK	63	0.1	–	–	–	–
	Overseas	4420	10.0	6,665	14.0	3,467	10.2
	Unclassified	–	–	33	0.1	–	–
	Total	4482	10.2	6,698	14.1	3,467	10.2
Others	UK	–	–	12	0.0	49	0.1
	Overseas	–	–	117	0.2	166	0.5
	Unclassified	1656	3.8	136	0.3	–	–
	Total	1656	3.8	265	0.6	215	0.6
Total UK		8,160	19	5,365	11.3	4,748	13.9
Total Overseas		34,220	78	41,647	87.5	29,371	86.1
Total Unclassified		1,672	4	583	1.2	0	0.0
Grand total		44,053	100.0	47,595	100.0	34,119	100.0

Note: UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey

Note: Private individuals includes GP commitments

Table 2a // 2020 – Funds raised by country

Country	Amount raised	
	2020	
	£m	%
UK	8,160	18.5
Belgium	110	0.3
Denmark	358	0.8
Finland	245	0.6
France	803	1.8
Germany	1,085	2.5
Italy	142	0.3
Luxembourg	668	1.5
Netherlands	1,010	2.3
Norway	141	0.3
Spain	171	0.4
Sweden	432	1.0
Switzerland	1,410	3.2
Rest of Europe	1,550	3.5
United States	13,903	31.6
Canada	1,740	4.0
Bahamas	3	0.0
Barbados	3	0.0
Asia Pacific	8,965	20.3
Middle East & Africa	624	1.4
Central & South America	858	1.9
Unclassified	1672	3.8
Total	44,053	100

Note: UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey

Table 2b // 2019 – Funds raised by country

Country	Amount raised	
	2019	
	£m	%
UK	5,365	11.3
Belgium	100	0.2
Denmark	523	1.1
Finland	1113	2.3
France	526	1.1
Germany	2077	4.4
Ireland	129	0.3
Italy	179	0.4
Luxembourg	996	2.1
Netherlands	2,251	4.7
Norway	121	0.3
Spain	187	0.4
Sweden	275	0.6
Switzerland	1,053	2.2
Rest of Europe	503	1.1
United States	15,231	32.0
Canada	3,536	7.4
Bahamas	2	0.0
Asia Pacific	9,031	19.0
Middle East & Africa	2,796	5.9
Central & South America	1,019	2.1
Unclassified	583	1.2
Total	47,595	100

Note: UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey

Table 2c // // // 2018 – Funds raised by country

Country	Amount raised	
	2018	
	£m	%
UK	4,748	13.9
Denmark	173	0.5
Finland	723	2.1
France	835	2.4
Germany	1,326	3.9
Ireland	123	0.4
Italy	211	0.6
Liechtenstein	255	0.7
Luxembourg	746	2.2
Netherlands	2,010	5.9
Norway	82	0.2
Spain	160	0.5
Sweden	626	1.8
Switzerland	1,212	3.6
Rest of Europe	89	0.3
United States	12,531	36.7
Canada	2,089	6.1
Asia Pacific	4,141	12.1
Middle East & Africa	1,592	4.7
Central & South America	446	1.3
Total	34,119	100

Note: UK includes Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey



Table 3a /// Investments by country

Country	Number of companies			% of companies			Amount invested (£m)			% amount invested		
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
UK	1,305	1,198	1,073	78	78	80	9,515	10,163	9,776	38	46	47
US	105	113	95	6	7	7	3,594	3,086	2,023	14	14	10
Europe	226	189	139	14	12	10	10,994	8,428	7,974	44	38	39
Rest of the world	36	30	28	2	2	2	996	655	865	4	3	4
Total	1,672	1,530	1,335	100	100	100	25,100	22,331	20,638	100	100	100

Table 3b /// 2020 Quarterly investments by country

Country	Number of companies					% of companies					Amount invested (£m)					% amount invested				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
UK	375	361	341	457	1534	24	24	22	30	100	3,522	1,929	1,525	2,539	9,515	37	20	16	27	100
US	27	36	26	36	125	22	29	21	29	100	937	466	1,254	936	3,594	26	13	35	26	100
Europe	46	62	67	85	260	18	24	26	33	100	1,614	2,439	3,289	3,652	10,994	15	22	30	33	100
Rest of the world	9	10	9	13	41	22	24	22	32	100	113	227	72	585	996	11	23	7	59	100
Total	457	469	443	591	1960	23	24	23	30	100	6,186	5,062	6,140	7,712	25,100	25	20	24	31	100

Note: Some companies receive investments in more than one quarter in each year, meaning that the total number of unique companies receiving investment in the year is less than the sum of the amounts in each quarter.

Table 4 // Overseas investments by investment stage

Investment stage	Number of companies			% of companies			Amount invested (£m)			% of amount invested		
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
Seed	35	27	14	9	8	5	36	30	9	0	0	0
Start-up	34	27	18	9	8	7	88	98	34	1	1	0
Other early stage	69	82	72	18	24	27	343	408	210	2	3	2
Later stage venture	42	37	34	11	11	13	303	147	107	2	1	1
Bridge equity financing		5	0		1	0		5	0		0	0
Total venture capital	180	178	138	48	52	52	770	687	360	5	6	3
Growth capital	106	91	64	28	27	24	1,643	1,810	956	11	15	9
Total growth capital	106	91	64	28	27	24	1643	1810	956	11	15	9
MBO/MBI	48	46	41	13	13	16	7,584	5,824	5,827	49	48	54
Secondary buyout	9	14	14	2	4	5	3,624	3,514	3,353	23	29	31
PIPE	4	2	2	1	1	1	219	146	65	1	1	1
Public to private	2	0		1	0		950	0		6	0	
Add-on/bolt-on/build-up acquisition	15	7	2	4	2	1	398	107	159	3	1	1
Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total buyout	78	69	59	21	20	23	12,775	9,591	9,403	82	79	87
Refinancing bank debt	8	0	0	2	0	0	156	0	0	1	0	0
Replacement capital		3	2		1	1		81	143		1	1
Rescue/turnaround	2	0	2	1	0	1	240	0	143	2	0	1
Total other stages	10	3	2	3	1	1	396	81	143	3	1	1
Total	367	332	262	100	100	100	15,584	12,169	10,862	100	100	100

Note: The number of companies in some investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of companies invested in. This is due to some companies receiving more than one investment within the year at different investment stages

Note: Some investment stages have been amalgamated where there are instances of single deals, in order to preserve confidentiality.

Table 5 // UK investments by investment stage

Investment stage	Number of companies			% of companies			Amount invested (£m)			% of amount invested		
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
Seed	160	100	77	12	8	7	85	57	43	1	1	0
Start-up	119	129	99	9	10	9	71	113	83	1	1	1
Other early stage	321	339	311	24	28	29	500	457	270	5	5	3
Later stage venture	95	81	81	7	7	7	219	320	229	2	3	2
Bridge equity financing	18	12	2	1	1	0	35	11	1	0	0	0
Total venture capital	713	661	570	53	54	52	911	958	626	10	9	6
Growth capital	449	376	351	34	31	32	2,225	1,820	2,281	23	18	23
Total growth capital	449	376	351	34	31	32	2,225	1,820	2,281	23	18	23
MBO/MBI	91	113	102	7	9	9	4,314	4,928	3,835	45	48	39
Secondary buyout	13	12	25	1	1	2	685	965	2,315	7	9	24
PIPE	2	0	0	0	0	0	102	0	0	1	0	0
Public to private	2	6	2	0	0	0	661	1,100	273	7	11	3
Add-on/bolt-on/build-up acquisition	21	24	15	2	2	1	153	211	175	2	2	2
Infrastructure	15	10	4	1	1	0	83	64	25	1	1	0
Total buyout	144	165	148	11	13	14	5,998	7,269	6,623	63	72	68
Refinancing bank debt	5	14	11	0	1	1	116	67	210	1	1	2
Replacement capital	16			1			176			2		
Rescue/turnaround	10	16	10	1	1	1	89	48	37	1	0	0
Total other stages	31	30	21	2	2	2	381	115	247	4	1	2
Total	1,305	1,198	1,073	100	100	100	9,515	10,163	9,776	100	100	100

Note: The number of companies in some investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of companies invested in. This is due to some companies receiving more than one investment within the year at different investment stages.

Note: Some investment stages have been amalgamated where there are instances of single deals, in order to preserve confidentiality.

Table 6 // 2020 – MBOs/MBIs by investment size (UK)

Size	Number of companies		Amount invested	
	Number	%	£m	%
Small (<£10m)	33	36	104	2
Mid-sized (£10m – £100m)	48	53	1,489	35
Large (£100m – £300m)	6	7	1,162	27
Mega (>£300m)	4	4	1,557	36
Total	91	100	4,314	100

Note: The number of companies in some investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of companies invested in. This is due to some companies receiving more than one investment within the year at different investment stages.

Note: Size bandings are based on the amount of equity invested by BVCA private equity members, not the total transaction size.

Table 7 // Average amount invested by stage (UK)

Investment stage	Amount invested, £000s		
	2020	2019	2018
Seed	531	569	555
Start-up	601	874	838
Other early stage	1,558	1,349	868
Later stage venture	2,307	3,950	2,829
Bridge equity financing	1,951	924	347
Total venture capital	1,277	1,449	1,097
Growth capital	4,956	4,842	6,497
Total growth capital	4,956	4,842	6,497
MBO/MBI	47,402	43,614	37,600
Secondary buyout	52,719	80,446	92,599
PIPE	50,884	0	0
Public to private	330,498	183,293	136,311
Add-on/bolt-on/build-up acquisition	7,300	8,806	11,663
Infrastructure	5,528	6,408	6,338
Total buyout	41,652	44,054	44,751
Refinancing bank debt	23,243	4,812	19,064
Replacement capital	11,017		
Rescue/turnaround	8,887	2,993	3,713
Total other stages	12,302	3,842	11,754
Total	7,291	8,483	9,111

Note: Some investment stages have been amalgamated where there are instances of single deals, in order to preserve confidentiality.

Table 8 // Investments by industry sector (UK)

Industry sector	Number of companies			% of companies			Amount invested (£m)			% of amount invested		
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
Agriculture	9	4	3	1	0	0	64	6	1	1	0	0
Biotech and healthcare	197	175	166	15	15	15	1,745	1,036	890	18	10	9
Business products and services	124	165	134	10	14	12	1,419	2,806	3,473	15	28	36
Chemicals and materials	18	18	22	1	2	2	12	103	127	0	1	1
Construction	12	19	21	1	2	2	16	225	208	0	2	2
Consumer goods and services	222	209	199	17	17	19	1,531	1,991	1,752	16	20	18
Energy and environment	47	29	34	4	2	3	178	98	57	2	1	1
Financial and insurance activities	58	87	57	4	7	5	841	1,171	608	9	12	6
ICT (Communications, computer and electronics)	557	454	404	43	38	38	3,400	2,524	2,472	36	25	25
Infrastructure	10	0	0	1	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0
Real estate	29	18	13	2	2	1	172	79	41	2	1	0
Transportation	22	20	20	2	2	2	122	122	147	1	1	1
Total	1,305	1,198	1,073	100	100	100	9,500	10,163	9,776	100	100	100

Table 9 // Investments by region (UK)

Regions	Number of companies			% of companies			Amount invested (£m)			% of amount invested		
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
London	442	397	348	34	33	32	4,143	3,650	4,278	44	36	44
South East	158	153	126	12	13	12	1,238	1,672	1,623	13	16	17
South East & London	600	550	474	46	46	44	5,381	5,321	5,902	57	52	60
South West	56	52	50	4	4	5	795	1,140	537	8	11	5
East of England	79	66	53	6	6	5	109	642	430	1	6	4
West Midlands	76	69	62	6	6	6	659	765	296	7	8	3
East Midlands	55	43	39	4	4	4	204	255	333	2	3	3
Yorkshire and The Humber	68	65	59	5	5	5	380	216	705	4	2	7
North West	93	93	84	7	8	8	1,162	942	735	12	9	8
North East	100	93	80	8	8	7	99	136	365	1	1	4
Scotland	76	63	66	6	5	6	213	271	177	2	3	2
Wales	58	58	74	4	5	7	125	99	241	1	1	2
Northern Ireland	41	40	32	3	3	3	141	38	53	1	0	1
Other (1)	3	6	0	0	1	0	246	338	0	3	3	0
Total	1,305	1,198	1,073	100	100	100	9,515	10,163	9,776	100	100	100

Note: (1) Other includes Channel Islands, Jersey and Isle of Man

Table 10 // Investment stage analysis by region (UK) – Number of companies

Regions	Venture capital						Growth capital						Buyout						Other stages					
	Number			%			Number			%			Number			%			Number			%		
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
London	279	253	191	40	39	34	101	88	97	22	23	28	58	50	54	41	31	36	10	11	8	34	38	38
South East	66	73	51	9	11	9	70	56	42	16	15	12	21	21	29	15	13	19	3	3	5	10	10	24
South East & London	345	326	242	49	50	43	171	144	139	38	38	40	79	71	83	56	45	56	13	14	13	45	48	62
South West	18	11	14	3	2	3	28	28	31	6	7	9	8	11	5	6	7	3	2	2	0	7	7	0
East of England	68	48	38	10	7	7	12	11	6	3	3	2	8	7	6	6	4	4	0	2	4	0	7	19
West Midlands	22	22	29	3	3	5	45	34	24	10	9	7		13	8		8	5		2		3	4	
East Midlands	14	11	12	2	2	2	34	22	18	8	6	5	6	9	9	4	6	6	4	3	0	14	10	0
Yorkshire and The Humber	29	30	23	4	5	4	31	30	22	7	8	6	8	3	12	6	2	8	0	2	2	0	7	10
North West	18	24	25	3	4	4	56	53	52	12	14	15	15	14	6	11	9	4	4	3		14	10	
North East	64	67	60	9	10	11	33	22	16	7	6	5	3	4	6	2	3	4		0	2		0	10
Scotland	46	32	35	7	5	6	24	17	26	5	5	7	7	13	6	5	8	4	4	3	0	14	10	0
Wales	40	40	56	6	6	10	13	12	13	3	3	4	5	6	6	4	4	4						
Northern Ireland	37	35	26	5	5	5	2	3	4	0	1	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (1)	2	0	0	0	0	0																		
Total	703	646	560	100	100	100	449	376	351	100	100	100	141	159	149	100	100	100	29	29	21	100	100	100

Note: (1) Other includes Channel Islands, Jersey and Isle of Man

Note: The number of companies in some investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of companies invested in. This is due to some companies receiving more than one investment within the year at different investment stages.

Note: Some regions have been amalgamated where there are instances of single deals, in order to preserve confidentiality.



Table 11 // Investment stage analysis by region (UK) – Amount invested

Regions	Venture capital						Growth capital						Buyout						Other stages					
	Amount (£m)			%			Amount (£m)			%			Amount (£m)			%			Amount (£m)			%		
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
London	501	526	326	55	55	52	628	756	711	28	42	31	2,862	2,315	3,066	48	32	46	151	53	175	40	46	71
South East	95	130	60	10	14	10	279	181	155	13	10	7	729	1,354	1,387	12	19	21	135	7	21	35	6	9
South East & London	597	656	386	66	68	62	906	937	866	41	51	38	3,592	3,669	4,454	60	50	67	286	60	196	75	52	79
South West	77	10	62	8	1	10	83	130	185	4	7	8	632	978	290	11	13	4	3	22	0	1	19	0
East of England	70	122	67	8	13	11	33	61	9	1	3	0	106	458	351	2	6	5	0	0	39	0	0	16
West Midlands	10	12	15	1	1	2	539	66	141	24	4	6		671	105		9	2	10	19		3	17	
East Midlands	15	7	10	2	1	2	107	55	121	5	3	5	83	190	202	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yorkshire and The Humber	20	31	11	2	3	2	82	166	94	4	9	4	279	16	599	5	0	9	0	4	1	0	3	0
North West	13	54	24	1	6	4	240	254	602	11	14	26	851	626	99	14	9	1	58	8	24	15	7	4
North East	41	26	12	5	3	2	18	64	34	1	4	1	18	46	320	0	1	5	0	10		0	0	
Scotland	34	19	19	4	2	3	114	34	57	5	2	2	63	216	100	1	3	2	24	2	0	6	2	0
Wales	17	13	17	2	1	3	94	44	140	4	2	6	14	42	84	0	1	1				0	0	
Northern Ireland	11	10	3	1	1	0	10	10	31	0	0	0	359	26	20	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (1)	7	0	0	1	0	0			0					330	0									
Total	911	958	626	100	100	100	2,225	1,820	2,281	100	100	100	5,998	7,269	6,623	100	100	100	381	115	247	100	100	100

Note: (1) Other includes Channel Islands, Jersey and Isle of Man

Table 12 // 2020 – Industry sector analysis by region (UK) – Number of companies

Regions	Consumer goods and services		Business products and services		Financial and insurance activities		ICT (Communications, computer and electronics)		Biotech and healthcare	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
London	91	41	40	32	38	66	203	36	45	23
South East	23	10	16	13	3	5	56	10	40	20
South West	12	5	6	5			28	5	3	2
East of England	3	1	9	7	0	0	26	5	28	14
West Midlands	19	9	7	6	2	3	21	4	12	6
East Midlands	10	5	6	5	2	3	16	3	8	4
Yorkshire and The Humber	10	5	6	5	3	5	31	6	11	6
North West	16	7	11	9	4	7	38	7	14	7
North East	21	9	4	3	0	0	49	9	10	5
Scotland	6	3	10	8	0	0	38	7	8	4
Wales	6	3	5	4	3	5	28	5	11	6
Northern Ireland	5	2	4	3	3	5	23	4	7	4
Other (1)				0				0		
Total	222	100	124	100	58	100	557	100	197	100

Note (1) Other includes Channel Islands, Jersey and Isle of Man

Note: Some regions have been amalgamated where there are instances of single deals, in order to preserve confidentiality

Table 13 // 2020 – Industry sector analysis by region (UK) – Amount invested

Regions	Consumer goods and services		Business products and services		Financial and insurance activities		ICT (Communications, computer and electronics)		Biotech and healthcare	
	Amount (£m)	%	Amount (£m)	%	Amount (£m)	%	Amount (£m)	%	Amount (£m)	%
London	460	30	161	11	449	53	1,885	55	1,150	66
South East	263	17	413	29	110	13	322	9	104	6
South West	162	11	19	1			501	15	19	1
East of England	7	0	6	0	0	0	39	1	43	2
West Midlands	298	19	165	12	1	0	82	2	7	0
East Midlands	30	2	30	2	10	1	85	2	25	1
Yorkshire and The Humber	39	3	114	8	17	2	24	1	94	5
North West	219	14	415	29	8	1	248	7	207	12
North East	22	1	17	1	0	0	49	1	7	0
Scotland	11	1	45	3	0	0	33	1	9	1
Wales	6	0	35	2	2	0	8	0	74	4
Northern Ireland	14	1	1	0	243	29	123	4	6	0
Other (1)			1	0				0		0
Total	1,531	100	1,419	100	841	100	3,400	100	1,745	100

Note: (1) Other includes Channel Islands, Jersey and Isle of Man

Table 14 // 2020 – Divestments

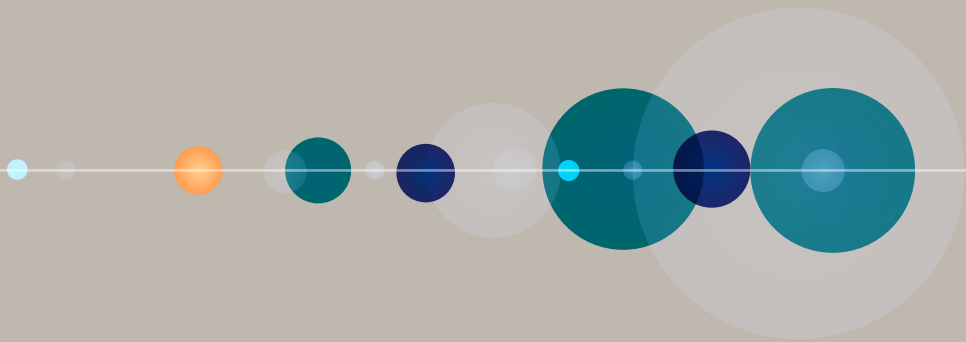
Type of divestment	Amount divested		Number of divestments		Number of companies	
	£m	%	Number	%	Number	%
Trade sale	1,183	15	152	17	95	17
Public offering	1,457	18	92	10	41	7
Write off	1,116	14	117	13	78	14
Repayment of preference shares/ loans or mezzanine	935	12	287	31	194	34
Sale to another private equity firm	2,266	28	85	9	65	11
Sale to financial institutions	204	3	71	8	39	7
Sale to management	116	1	71	8	39	7
Other means	686	9	45	5	24	4
Total	7,962	100	920	100	575	100

Note: The number of companies in some divestment categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of companies divested from. This is due to some companies being divested from by more than one method within the year.

Methodology and data sources



Appendix



Methodology and data sources

Data sources

The BVCA collects data from members on an annual basis covering fundraising, investments and divestments in each calendar year.

The information is collected alongside other European venture capital associations, using a common platform, the European Data Cooperative ('EDC'). Further information about the EDC can be found later in this report.

Information is provided directly by BVCA member firms.

Survey eligibility

All BVCA members who hold General Partner membership and are primarily based in the UK are required to complete the investment activity survey.

Number of respondents and year on year comparability

In 2020 we received responses from 194 members out of a total eligible pool of 264 members, a response rate of 73%. For comparison, in 2019 we received response from 191 members out of a total of 246 who were eligible.

The survey is of BVCA members only. Although our membership changes over time, 79% of the respondents

in 2020 also provided us with data in 2019. We are comfortable that the year-on-year data is broadly comparable.

Checks and quality controls

The EDC data collection system allows data providers to review information prior to submission, and our members can see their prior year submissions.

The BVCA research team will process any amendments that are required to prior year data which have been flagged by data providers.

The BVCA research team reviews all submissions for completeness and queries any obvious errors, however we do not independently verify the data submitted as this is frequently not in the public domain. As a result, the BVCA cannot guarantee the ultimate accuracy of the data and therefore BVCA does not accept responsibility for any decision made or action taken based on the information provided in this report.

Industry sector definitions

The classification of individual company investments by industry and subsector is based on statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE) code. A detailed breakdown is provided later in this report.

Currency conversion

Where investment information was collected in currencies other than Pounds Sterling on the EDC platform, the amounts were converted into Sterling using mid-market exchange rates on the date of transaction.

Confidentiality

All data received is treated with the utmost confidentiality. Data is published in an aggregated form only, and only the research team at the BVCA has access to the underlying data.

Transparency and access to data

The BVCA is committed to transparency and making the data we collect easily accessible to the public in a usable form, subject to the confidentiality requirements previously mentioned.

In addition, we have made the numbers behind the charts available in Excel for ease of analysis which can be found [\[here\]](#). No underlying data relating to individual firms or transactions is made available, purely the aggregated figures. We hope this report will continue to be a valuable data source for other researchers with an interest in private equity and venture capital.



Methodology: Explanatory notes

Investments

The number of companies in some investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of companies invested in. This is due to some companies receiving more than one investment within the year at different investment stages.

The number of firms in some investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of all private equity firms. This is due to some firms investing in companies at different investment stages within the year.

The number of funds in some investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of all private equity funds. This is due to some funds investing in companies at different investment stages within the year.

Divestments

The number of companies in initial investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of companies divested from. This is due to some companies receiving more than one investment at different investment stages.

The number of firms in initial investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total number of all private equity firms that divested from their portfolio. This is due to some firms divesting from multiple companies at different initial stages of investment.

The number of funds in initial investment stage categories and their subtotals add up to more than the total amount of all private equity funds that divested from their portfolio. This is due to some funds divesting from multiple companies at different initial stages of investment.



Data collection platform: European Data Cooperative

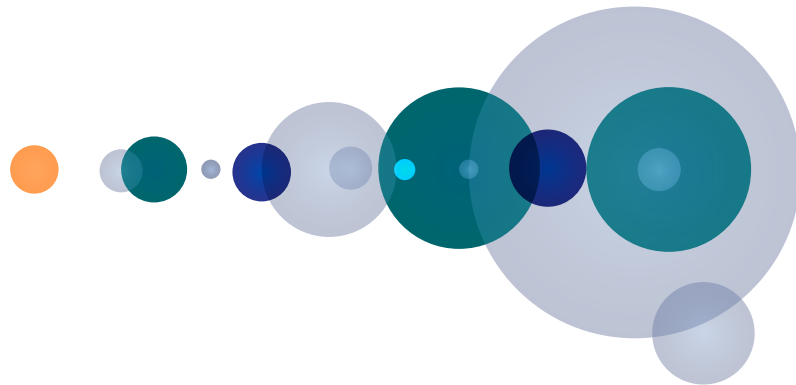
Since 2011, the BVCA has supported the European Data Cooperative (EDC), working with Invest Europe, France invest, AIFI and 20 other private equity and venture capital associations across Europe to develop a single system for collecting data.

A standardised methodology supports the creation of pan-European statistics that are comparable across different countries and regions. This ensures that the most comprehensive insight of UK's private equity and venture capital industry is available to inform fund managers, institutional investors, policymakers, regulators and other stakeholders.

The platform is jointly owned, operated and open to all private equity and venture capital associations across Europe. A separate legal entity (EDC GmbH) was set up in which all associations are shareholders. Statistics derived from the EDC platform are reported in aggregate to ensure anonymity.



The EDC database brings together:



Definitions: Types of private equity firms

The term private equity is generally used in Europe to cover the industry as a whole, including both buyouts and venture capital. Private equity describes equity investments in unquoted companies, often accompanied by the provision of loans and other capital bearing an equity type risk.

Types of private equity firms

Independents: These can either be firms, funds or investment trusts, either publicly listed or private, which raise their capital from external sources. An example of an independent private equity firm is KKR.

Captives: These organisations invest their own money, and/or manage or invest funds on behalf of a parent organisation. In the latter case, the private equity firm would be a wholly owned subsidiary or division of the parent, usually a financial institution. An example of a captive private equity firm is Lloyds Development Capital (LDC).

Semi-captives: These organisations invest funds on behalf of a parent company, or their own funds, in addition to investing funds raised within the last five years from external sources.

This study captures the activity of BVCA members within all of these categories.

UK regions

The UK regions (formerly known as Government offices for the regions) are used throughout this report to classify the location of individual company investments. The composition of regions is listed below

North East

Cleveland
Durham
Northumberland
Tyne and Wear

East Midlands

Derbyshire
Leicestershire
Lincolnshire
Northamptonshire
Nottinghamshire

South East

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
East Sussex
Hampshire
Isle of Wight
Kent
Oxfordshire
Surrey
West Sussex

North West

Cumbria
Cheshire
Greater Manchester
Lancashire
Merseyside

West Midlands

Hereford and Worcester
Shropshire
Staffordshire
Warwickshire
West Midlands
London

Yorkshire and The Humber

Humberside
North Yorkshire
South Yorkshire
West Yorkshire

East of England

Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Essex
Hertfordshire
Norfolk
Suffolk

South West

Avon
Cornwall
Devon
Dorset
Gloucestershire
Somerset
Wiltshire

Wales

Northern Ireland

Scotland

Definitions: Business sectors and subsectors

Main business sector	Subsector 1	Subsector 2	
Agriculture	Agriculture	Crop cultivation	
		Forestry, logging and related services	
		Fishing, hunting and animal husbandry	
		Mixed farming	
Business products and services	Business products	Industrial measurement, sensing and control equipment	
		Business and industrial products	
	Business services	Business and industrial services	
Chemicals and materials	Materials	Materials	
		Coal and metal ores	
		Plastic	
		Textile fibres	
	Chemicals	Specialty chemicals	
		Organic chemicals	
	Chemical and materials: other	Chemical and materials: other	
		Chemical and materials: services	
	ICT (Communications, computer and electronics)	Online platforms	Online platforms
		Software	Application software
Systems software			
Software: other			
Computer hardware		Computer hardware	
Computer services		Data management services	
		Computer: retail/ wholesale and repair activities	
Telecom hardware		Communications equipment	
Telecom services		Telecom carriers	
		Broadcasting, publications and content providers	
	Communications: retail/ wholesale and repair activities		

- Data tables
- Appendix
- Contacts

Definitions: Business sectors and subsectors

Main business sector	Subsector 1	Subsector 2
Construction	Construction	Construction materials
		Construction: related activities
Consumer goods and services	Consumer products manufacturing	Food and beverages
		Fashion industry
		Household articles
		Household furniture
		Other consumer products manufacturing
	Consumer related services	Restaurants, food services
		Art galleries and related services
		Educational and training products/services
		Public services (excl. education)
		Hospitality, sports and entertainment facilities
	Consumer products retailing	Consumer services: other
		Retail of food and beverages
		Retail of fashion products
		Retail of household articles
	Energy and environment	Energy
Gas and Oil		
Hydroelectricity		
Alternative energy		
Energy related products and equipment		
Energy related services		
Environment		Energy: other
		Sorting, recycling and processing of waste
		Environmental services: other (pollution measurement, noise abatement services, nature and landscape protection services ...)

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Definitions: Business sectors and subsectors

Main business sector	Subsector 1	Subsector 2
Financial and insurance activities	Financial institutions and services	Banks
		Insurance
		Financial services: other
Real estate	Real Estate	Real Estate
Healthcare and biotech	Biotechnology	Biotechnology laboratories and services
		Biotechnology products and equipment
	Healthcare	Healthcare institutions and services
		Pharmaceuticals and drug delivery
		Medical devices and supplies
		Medical equipment
Transportation	Transportation: services	Logistics services
		Courier services
		Means of transport: repair and maintenance
	Transportation: manufacturing	Means of transport: manufacturing

Disclaimer

The data provided has been collected from 194 member GPs. The number of respondents may fluctuate year-on-year due to eligibility and other criteria.

BVCA has taken steps to ensure the reliability of the information presented. However, BVCA cannot guarantee the ultimate accuracy of the data and therefore BVCA does not accept responsibility for any decision made or action taken based on the information provided.

List of contributing firms

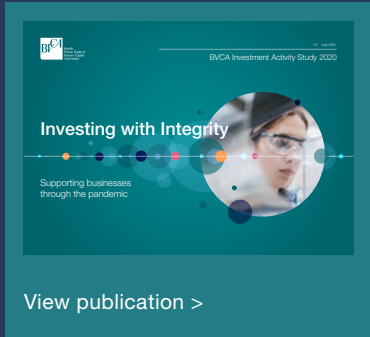
3i	Bain Capital Europe LLP	Clean Growth Investment Management LLP	Frog Capital Limited
7percent Ventures	Baird Capital	Connection Capital LLP	G Square Healthcare Private Equity LLP
Abingworth LLP	Balderton Capital	Cordovan Capital Management	General Atlantic
Accel	BC Partners	Crane Venture Partners	Graphite Capital Management LLP
Advent International Ltd	Beech Tree Private Equity	CVC Advisers Limited	Greyhound Capital Europe LLP
Agathos Management LLP	Beringea LLP	Dawn Capital LLP	Growth Capital Partners LLP (GCP)
Albion Capital	Bestport Ventures LLP	Development Bank of Wales	Helios Investment Partners LLP
Alchemy Partners LLP	BGF	DN Capital	Herald Investment Management Limited
Aliter Capital LLP	Blackstone Group International Partners LLP	Downing LLP	Hg
ALSA Ventures	BlueGem Capital Partners LLP	Draper Esprit	Highland Europe (UK) LLP
Amadeus Capital Partners Limited	Bowmark Capital LLP	Duke Street	Hiro Capital LLP
AnaCap Financial Partners Limited	Bregal Capital LLP	Dunedin LLP	Horizon Capital LLP
Anthemis Group	Bridgepoint	ECI Partners LLP	IK Investment Partners
Anticus Partners Limited	Bridges Fund Management Limited	EKA Ventures	Inflexion Private Equity
AP Ventures LLP	Cairngorm Capital	Elysian Capital LLP	Inverleith
Apax Partners UK Ltd	Calculus Capital Ltd	EMK Capital	IQ Capital Partners LLP
Apiary Capital LLP	Caledonia Investments plc	Endless LLP	IW Capital Limited
Apposite Capital LLP	Cambridge Innovation Capital	EOS Investment Management Ltd	JamJar Investments
Ardian Investment	CBPE Capital	Epiris LLP	Kester Capital LLP
Ascension Ventures	Charme Capital Partners	Equistone Partners Europe Limited	Key Capital Partners LLP
Astanor Ventures	Cinven Limited	ETF Partners	Kindred Capital
Atlantic Bridge Capital LLP	Circularity Capital	Exponent Private Equity LLP	Kings Park Capital
Atomico (UK) Partners LLP	Clarendon Fund Managers Limited	Felix Capital	KKR & Co.
August Equity LLP	Clayton Dubilier & Rice (CD&R) LLP	Fordhouse Capital LLP	Lakestar VC
B.P. Marsh & Partners Plc		FPE Capital LLP	LDC



List of contributing firms

LEGO Ventures	Outward VC	SEP	Tikehau Capital
Livingbridge EP LLP	Oxford Capital	SFC Capital	Top Technology Ventures Limited
Lonsdale Capital Partners	Oxford University Innovation	Shackleton Ventures Ltd	TowerBrook Capital Partners (UK) LLP
Love Ventures	PAI Partners SAS	Silverfleet Capital	Triple Point Ventures
Luminous Ventures	Palamon Capital Partners, LP	Smedvig Capital Limited	Triton Advisers Limited
Magenta Partners LLP	Palatine Private Equity LLP	Solingen Private Equity Limited	True.
Maven Capital Partners UK LLP	Panoramic Growth Equity	Souter Investments Limited	Turquoise International Limited
Mayfair Equity Partners	Par Equity LLP	Sovereign Capital	Ufi VocTech Trust
Mercia Asset Management	Parkwalk Advisors	Speedinvest GmbH	Unilever Ventures Limited
Midven Limited	Pembroke VCT	STAR Capital Partnership LLP	Verdane
MMC Ventures Ltd	Penta Capital LLP	Stirling Square Capital Partners LLP	Vespa Capital LLP
MML UK Advisor LLP	Pentech Ventures LLP	Sussex Place Ventures	VGC Partners LLP
Mobeus Equity Partners	Permira Advisers (London) Ltd	SV Health Managers LLP	Vision Capital LLP
Mott MacDonald Ventures	Perwyn	Symvan Capital	Vitruvian Partners LLP
Mustard Seed Impact Limited	PHD Equity Partners	Synova LLP	Volpi Capital LLP
NCL Technology Ventures Ltd	Phoenix Equity Partners	TDR Capital LLP	Waterland Private Equity
Nekko Capital	Piper PE LLP	Technology Venture Partners	WestBridge Fund Managers Limited
Nesta Investment Management LLP	Praetura Ventures Limited	Techstart Ventures	White Star Capital
Next Wave Partners LLP	Primary Capital Partners LLP	TempoCap	YFM Equity Partners
Nordic Capital Limited	Providence Equity LLP	Tenzing	Zouk Capital LLP
NorthEdge Capital LLP	Puma Investments	Tern PLC	
Northstar Ventures Limited	Quadrivio International	Terra Firma Capital Partners Limited	
NVM Private Equity LLP	Roundshield Partners	THCP Advisory Limited	
Oakley Capital Limited	Rutland Partners LLP	The Pension SuperFund	
Old College Capital	Salonica Capital Limited	The Summit Group Ltd	

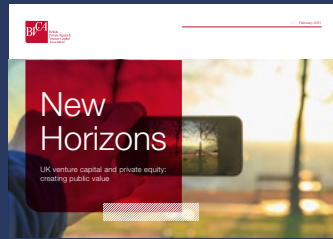
Contacts and useful resources



Investing with Integrity
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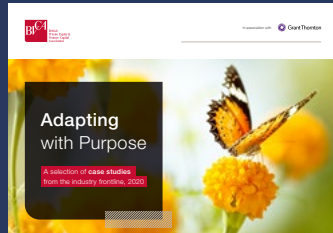
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Adapting with Purpose
A selection of case studies from the industry economic 2020

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Quarterly Review
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If you would like to discuss this report or the industry's contribution more generally please contact any of the following:



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About the BVCA

The British Private Equity & Venture Capital Association (BVCA) voices the private equity and venture capital industry's economic and social benefits to the UK. We represent the industry to politicians, policymakers, media, institutional investors, the business community, and the general public – our external stakeholders.

Our work enables the Government to have a deeper understanding of the value we provide when shaping new policy and how our industry operates. We have 750 members, including 470 private equity and venture capital firms and their investors, as well as advisers and financial institutions.

We help our members develop best practice, develop relationships, and make informed decisions by sharing the latest knowledge and expertise.

We provide training for the industry to ensure the highest standards of skills and competencies.



