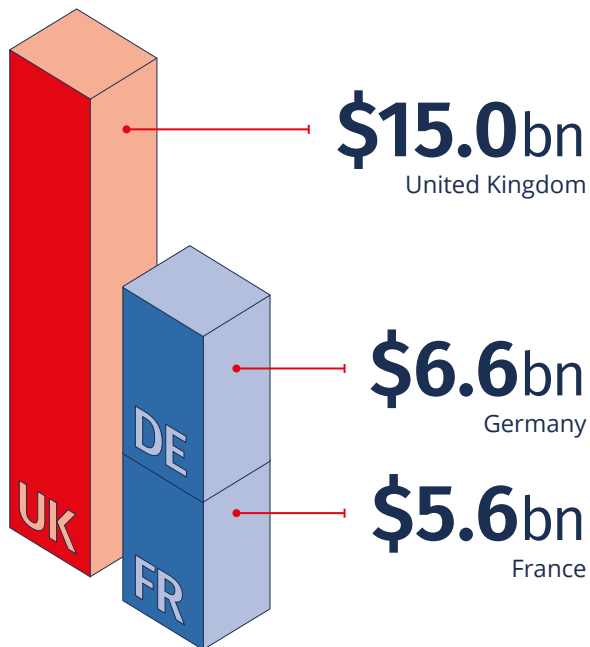




# The UK: opportunities for venture capital and private equity funds

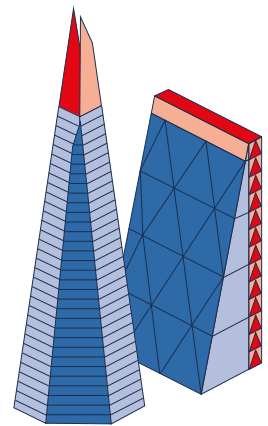
The UK is Europe's leading centre for venture capital (VC) and private equity (PE), capturing almost a third of all venture capital investment in Europe in 2020

**UK tech continues to outperform its European neighbours.** Hitting a record high of \$15bn in 2020, it raised more venture capital investment than Germany and France combined.



London's **startup ecosystem ranks second globally**, behind Silicon Valley.

This provides a wealth of opportunities to investors.



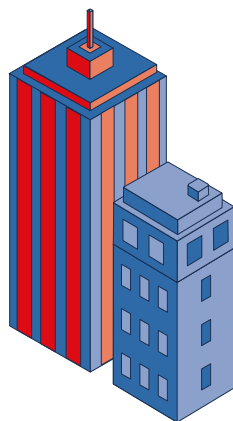
**Half of Europe's top ten largest fintech deals** were in the UK in 2021.

Of Europe's 268 unicorns – startup companies valued at more than \$1bn.

**71**

have their home in London.

This makes the UK's capital by far the **biggest unicorn hub in Europe**, and the fourth biggest in the world.

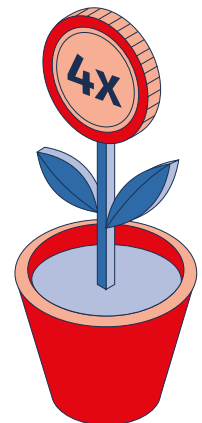


The UK tech startup and scaleup ecosystem is valued at

**\$585bn**

This is more than double the next most valuable ecosystem in Europe, Germany, at \$291bn.

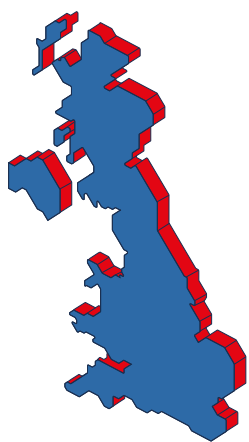
The UK's ecosystem is almost **four times larger** than in 2015 (\$148bn).





# The UK: venture capital and private equity

The UK is home to a concentration of tech, fintech, artificial intelligence and other fast growing sectors that provide excellent investment targets.



During a challenging year due to the global pandemic, more than

**1,300**

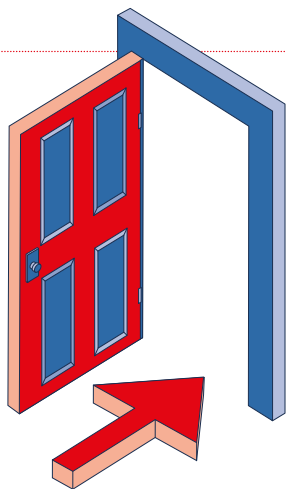
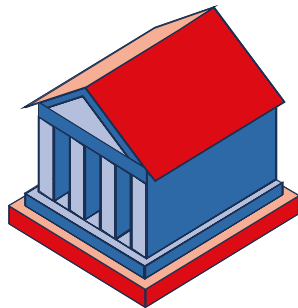
UK companies received

**\$9.5bn**

in venture capital and private equity investment in 2020.

**9 in 10**

of these investments were directed at SMEs, and the number of UK companies receiving investment is on the rise.



Over

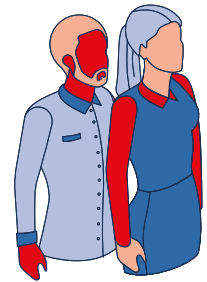
**550**

UK companies were successfully exited in 2020, a 10% increase on the previous year.

Over

**1m**

people work for UK companies which have been backed by private equity and venture capital investors.



**Over half** of all PE and VC investment in the UK was raised **outside of London.**

The number of companies in the UK reaching unicorn status has been steadily rising, **from 7 in 2020 to 22 in 2021.**

In total, the UK has:



**40**  
active unicorns



**153**  
futurecorns  
(high growth companies with the potential to become unicorns)



**14**  
successful exits  
since achieving unicorn status