

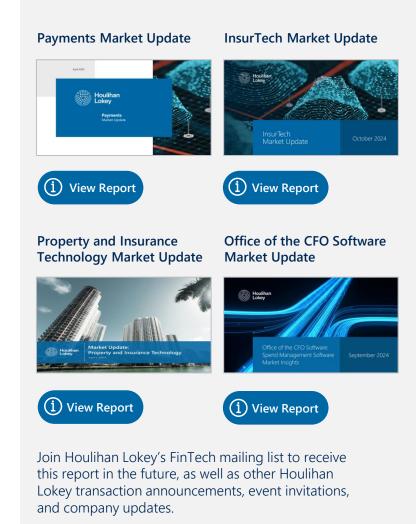
**FinTech Group:** Capital Markets Technology Market Update

Spring 2025

## **Executive Summary:** Capital Markets Technology Report

We remained highly active in 2024 Key thematic trends across the T	
across the capital markets   technology ecosystem, with multiple   closed or announced advisory   engagements.     Image: Conserve and the capital markets   Image: Conserve and the capital markets	The index of public capital markets technology companies has traded above the S&P 500, though there is meaningful variability by the underlying subsector. Alongside this performance, we anticipate the M&A market to intensify in 2025 for both strategic and PE deals as market conditions stabilize, acquirer demand intensifies, and willingness to transact grows. $\overbrace{O}$ Refer to: Section 3: Market Maps Section 4: Valuation Section 5: Deal Activity

### Other Houlihan Lokey Sector Spotlight Publications





#### Houlihan Lokey



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Houlihan Lokey and Capital Markets Technology Advisory Overview



### Leading Independent, Global Advisory Firm

Houlihan Lokey is the trusted advisor to more top decision-makers than any other independent global investment bank

<b>2,707</b> Global Employees <sup>(1)</sup>	36 Locations Worldwide	\$12.75B Market Cap <sup>(2)</sup>	1 -	2.2B venue <sup>(3)</sup>	~25% Employee- owned		No Debt	HLI LISTED NYSE
CORPORATE FINANCE		FINANCIAL RESTRUCTURING		FINANCIAL AND VAI	LUATION ADVISORY	FINAN	ICIAL SPONSORS COVERAGE	E
2024 M&A Advisory Rankings All Global Transactions		2024 Global Distressed Debt & Bankruptcy Restructuring Rankings		2000–2024 Global M8 Fairness Advisory Ran			Most Active Investment Banks to te Equity – Globally	)
Advisor	Deals	Advisor	Deals	Advisor	Deals		Advisor	Deals
1 Houlihan Lokey	415	1 Houlihan Lokey	88	1 Houlihan Lol	key 1,243	1	Houlihan Lokey	217
2 Rothschild & Co	406	2 PJT Partners Inc	59	2 Duff & Phelps,	A Kroll Business 1,045	2	Lincoln International	156
3 Goldman Sachs & Co	371	3 Rothschild & Co	48	3 JP Morgan	1,020	3	William Blair & Co	112
4 JP Morgan	342	4 Lazard	44	4 UBS	792	4	Lazard	96
5 Morgan Stanley	309	5 Perella Weinberg Partners LP	40	5 Morgan Stanle	ey 698	5	Raymond James Financial	85
Source: LSEG (formerly Refinitiv). Excludes accounting firms and brokers.		Source: LSEG (formerly Refinitiv).		Source: LSEG (formerly Refine Announced or completed tra		Source	:: PitchBook. Excludes accounting firms and	brokers.
No. 1		No. 1		No. 1		No.	. 1	
Global M&A Advisor		Global Restructuring Advisor		Global M&A Fair Advisor Over the	1	Globa Advis	al Private Equity M&A sor	
Leading Capital Markets Advisor		<b>1,800+</b> Transactions Completed Valued More Than \$3.8 Trillion Collective		2,000+ Annual Valuation	n Engagements	<b>1,30</b> Spon	) <b>) +</b> sors Covered Globally	

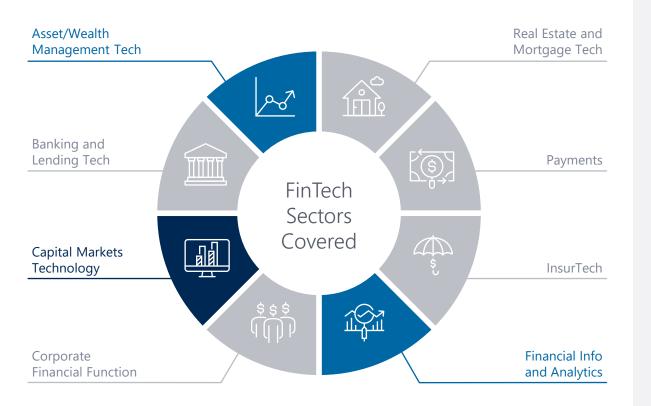
As of December 31, 2024.
 As of January 31, 2025.

(2) As of Junuary 31, 2023.
 (3) LTM ended December 31, 2024.

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## Global, Market-Leading FinTech Group

Houlihan Lokey's dedicated FinTech Group builds on the firm's leading technology and financial services expertise and underscores its belief in and commitment to the future of FinTech. Our coverage is arranged around deep end-market expertise with dedicated seniorlevel financial professionals across every vertical of FinTech.



### Houlihan Lokey's FinTech Practice



Global, Specialized FinTech Practice Within a Newly Dedicated Industry Group

140+ Total Technology Finance Professionals







22

#### Fully Integrated Team Across the World

Based in New York and London, with additional financial professionals on the ground in Frankfurt, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Countries Represented by Parties in FinTech Transactions Since 2021

## Complementary Industry Coverage and Broad Product Capabilities

### Technology

2024 M&A Advisory Rankings All Global Technology Transactions<sup>(1)</sup>

	Advisor	Deals
1	Houlihan Lokey	101
2	Goldman Sachs	98
3	JP Morgan	93

#### **Financial Services**

2024 M&A Advisory Rankings All Global Financial Services Transactions<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

	Advisor	Deals
1	Houlihan Lokey	56
2	Goldman Sachs	46
3	JP Morgan	41

### **Product Capabilities**

- M&A Advisory (Sellside and Buyside)
- Private Capital Markets (Equity and Debt)
- Board and Special Committee Advisory
- Fairness Opinions and Valuation Services
- Financial Restructuring and Special Situations



Houlihan Lokey

### Houlihan Lokey's Integrated Team Built to Advise Modern FinTech Platforms











Mark Fisher in Managing Director Andrew.Atherton@HL.com MFisher@HL.com



Scott Kirkby in Managing Director Scott.Kirkby@HL.com



Chris Pedone in

Managing Director

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Tobias Schultheiss in

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Director

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Director



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Alfie Pike in

Callum Pirie in Senior Vice President Senior Vice President Alfie.Pike@HL.com CPirie@HL.com

Elliot Reader in EReader@HL.com



Senior Vice President

Tim Shortland in

Managing Director



Additional Senior Officers With End-Market and Business-Model Expertise

### **Financial Services**

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Jeff Levine James Anderson Global Co-Head of Global Co-Head of Financial Services **Financial Services** 



**Steven Levitt** Mike McMahon **James Page** Managing Director Managing Director Managing Director Wealth Management Asset Management Mortgage

**Brent Ferrin** Managing Director

Specialty Finance



Jennifer Fuller **David Helms** Managing Director Managing Director Insurance, Investment



Gagan Sawhney John Waller Managing Director Managing Director Capital Markets Insurance



PropTech

Global Head of Technology



John Lambros Co-Head of U.S. Technology



**Chris Gough** Managing Director

Luiz Greca **Shane Kaiser** Managing Director Managing Director Managing Director Healthcare IT Transportation Tech Vertical Software

**Geoff Rhizor** 

**Ryan Lund** 

Co-Head of Global

Software & U.S. Tech Technology



Sascha Pfeiffer

Head of European

**Keith Skirbe** Managing Director Cybersecurity



Houlihan Lokey

Mortgage

Services





















### Houlihan Lokey's Dedicated Capital Markets Technology Team



Alec Ellison in Global Head of FinTech Alec.Ellison@HL.com



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Mark Fisher in Managing Director MFisher@HL.com

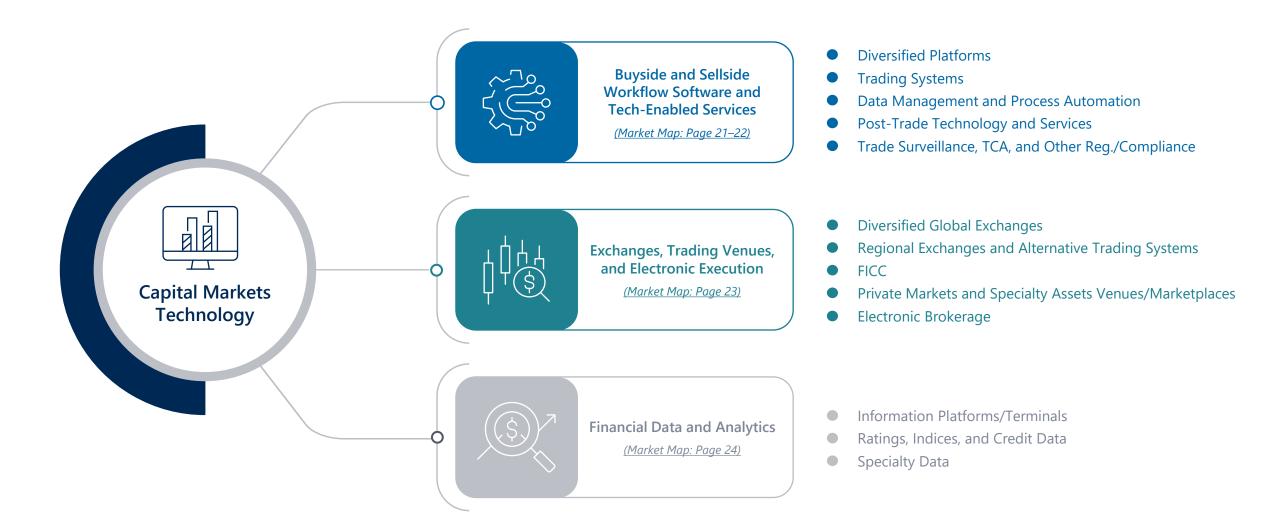


Ciara Chen in Associate CChen@HL.com

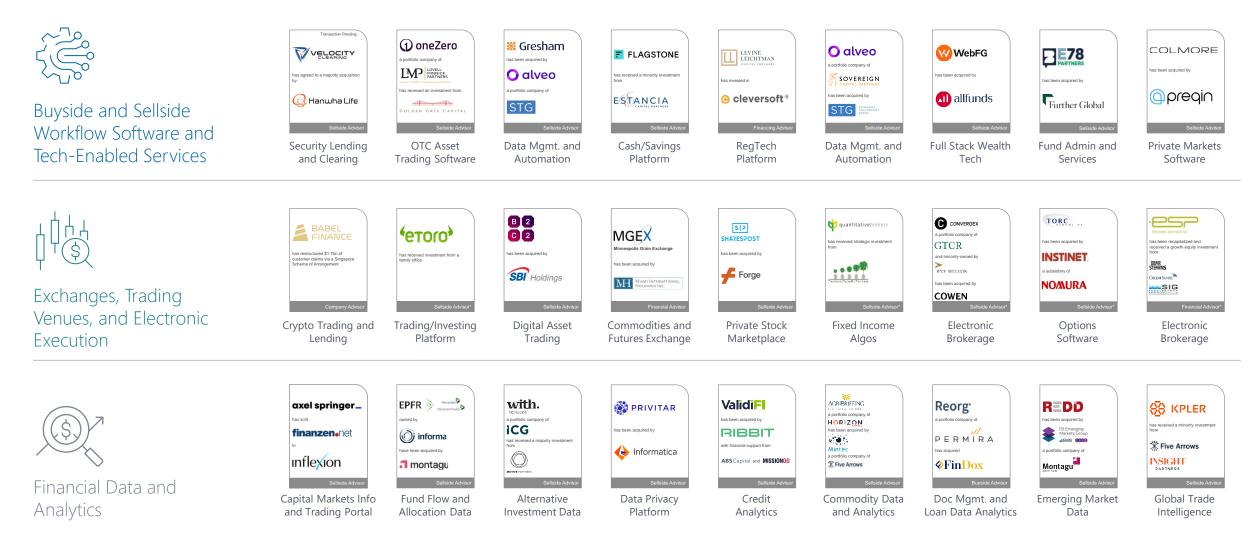
### How We Look at the FinTech Opportunity | Illustrative Companies



### How We Cover Capital Markets Technology



### Deep Capital Markets Technology Domain Expertise Across the Ecosystem



\_\_\_\_\_ Note: List of transactions shown is illustrative, not exhaustive.

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Tombstones included herein represent transactions from 2007 forward.

\*Selected transactions were executed by Houlihan Lokey professionals while at other firms acquired by Houlihan Lokey or by professionals from a Houlihan Lokey joint venture company.

### **Marquee Transaction Spotlight**

Houlihan Lokey has driven exceptional outcomes for capital markets technology clients with highly curated processes.

finanzen-net KKR

Sale to

inflexion

Germany's Premier Financial Info and Digital Brokerage Platform

- Sellside advisor to KKR-backed Axel Springer and its business line, Finanzen.
- Finanzen is a leading German B2B2C financial info and brokerage provider.
- Transaction will drive future growth and strengthen position in the DACH region.

Received an Investment From

oneZero LMP

GOLDEN GATE CAPITAL

Global Leader in Multi-Asset Trading Software—Marquee 2024 Deal

- Sellside advisor to LMP-backed oneZero on its majority recap by GGC.
- oneZero provides critical software for OTC asset execution, distribution, and analytics to brokers, banks, and more.
- Marquee transaction in capital markets technology space for 2024.

**TIVIT** NORDIC CAPITAL

Sale to

🔀 Broadridge<sup>,</sup>

Transformational Acquisition of Connectivity and Trading Tech Provider

- Buyside advisor to Broadridge on its ~\$2.5 billion acquisition of Itiviti.
- Itiviti services the connectivity needs of the top 25 global investment banks and 2,000+ brokers and asset managers.
- Transaction drives significant additional global scale and reach for Broadridge.



Sale to



#### Cutting-Edge Private Markets Portfolio Monitoring Technology

- Sellside advisor to Colmore on its sale to Preqin, later acquired by BlackRock.
- Colmore provides software and services to asset allocators, helping them monitor underlying private markets investments.
- Transaction further enhanced Preqin's position as a private markets leader.

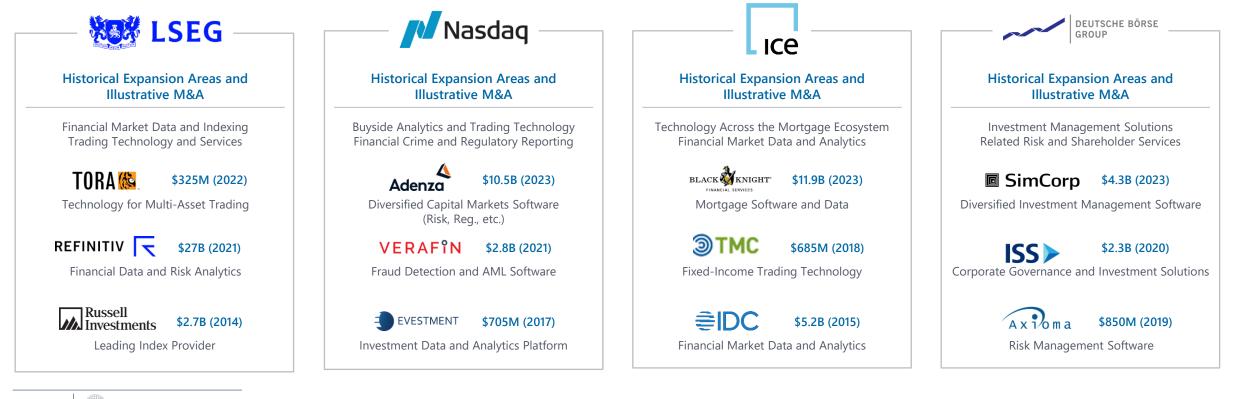
Key Themes

## Top Trends in Capital Markets Technology

	01	Exchanges Continue to Diversify	Exchanges continue to expand well beyond their traditional role as securities marketplaces. Their progression into software, data, and technology has been accelerated through M&A.
¢¢ €	02	Buyside Investment Decision-Making Is Evolving	From "old school" research to today's alternative data, algorithmic trading, and AI, the buyside's approach to investing has evolved significantly.
	03	Digital Transformation and Data Management Is Empowering Capital Markets	Data management is revolutionizing the capital markets, empowering participants to leverage insights and reap the benefits of access to proliferating data sets.
	04	Market Forces Are Driving Significant Growth in Private Markets and Evolution in Digital Assets	Private markets continue to gain on publics with persistent allocations from asset owners and after fits and starts, the environment for digital assets is structurally improving.
	05	Increasing AI Adoption and Usage in Capital Markets	Al's ability to process vast amounts of data in real time creates use cases across the front- to-back office and a variety of asset classes.

## 1 Exchanges Continue to Diversify

- Exchanges are the largest creators of data in the financial services market, carving a natural path for them to also offer the subsequent analytics and information services.
- Workflow technology focused on data/analytics and trading capabilities has also proven to be complementary to more traditional securities transactions and clearing.
- Historically, exchanges have been nimbler and better positioned for new regulation than other market players like banks, who have instead been forced to separate technology and brokerage.
- Diversification has also been critical to finding new areas of growth as on-exchange trading is already an oligopoly and off-exchange trading has proliferated through the rise of alternative trading systems (ATS).
- Exchanges have primarily expanded through M&A, growing data, analytics, and technology to 50% or more of their revenues.



Houlihan Lokey Sources: Press releases, PitchBook

### 2 Buyside Investment Decision-Making Is Evolving



#### Sellside Research

For a long time, brokered sellside research was the sole source to inform buyside investment decisions.

#### Rise of Quantitative Analysis

Advanced statistical methods allowed a more data-driven approach, enabling quantitative valuation models.

Direct Market Access Tech advancements have since provided direct access to

Tech advancements have since provided direct access to the market, allowing more efficient trade execution.

#### Alternative Data Integration

Data like social media sentiment has provided new insights into companies and trends, enhancing investment analysis.

#### Algorithmic Trading

Advancements in computing power and algorithms have enabled faster and more precise trade executions.

### Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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Machine learning and the ability to process vast data have provided valuable insights, improving decision-making.

Uncovering Insights From Unstructured Data

Tech advancement is transforming investing/trading by uncovering insights from unstructured data, like earnings reports and market trends, via models that synthesize large volumes of text.

Predictive analytics enables more accurate forecasting and informed decision-making, such as in post-earnings market reactions. Prevailing models show accuracy levels from 50% to 60%+.

**AI-Powered Funds** 

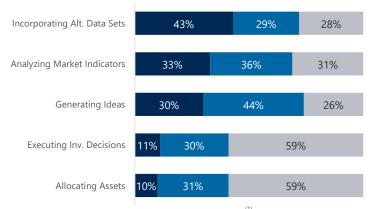
While still a small portion of the market, AI-driven funds, including ETFs, are gaining traction by adjusting portfolios to evolving market conditions, which is improving responsiveness and returns.

Automation is streamlining research analyst tasks, reducing research teams' time spent on manual data review by up to 95%, and enabling more efficient and effective analysis.

Research Analysis Automation

**Predictive Analytics** 

#### Use of AI by Investment Managers: Adoption in Decision-Making Is Still Nascent



■ Already Integrated ■ Partly Integrated or Planning to<sup>(1)</sup> ■ Do Not Plan to Integrate

#### Al in Investment Management

- While Al's involvement in trading and investment decisionmaking is still nascent, there is widespread agreement on Al/ML benefits across efficiency and productivity, cost savings in trading algorithms, processing unstructured data, and execution in more compressed bid-ask spreads.
- However, it's important to note that data often needs to be cleaned/standardized before it can be fully utilized by Al.
- Prospects for creating value through AI appear to be most promising in publicly traded liquid asset classes such as equities, government bonds, and listed derivatives, which offer a wealth of real-time data and transparency.

#### Sources: IMF, TabbFORUM, Blackrock.

(1) "Partly Integrated or Planning to" includes managers who also "use AI" for these functions but haven't necessarily integrated yet.

## 3 Digital Transformation and Data Management Is Empowering Capital Markets

- Capital markets have access to more data than ever, obtaining it from various sources in multiple different formats and structures—creating significant complexity.
- This has made it difficult to generate insight from the data with firms attempting to solve the complexity through labor-intensive manual processes, which have resulted in error-prone analyses and scalability issues.
- In more recent years, capital markets players have invested in technology and digital transformations to combat this struggle with data management and allow them to extract the most value from their data/team.

Firms Are Prioritizing Investments in Data Management % of Respondents Making Moderate-to-Large Tech Investments<sup>(1)</sup>

83%

Asset Owners Plan to Invest in the Latest Data Technology % of Asset Owners Have Expressed Plans in the Next 12 Months

57%

Firms See Significant Opportunity in Data Management % of Firms at Advanced Stage<sup>(1)</sup>



Sources: Broadridge, Firebrand Research, J.P. Morgan. (1) Group-weighted percentages.

### The Pains



Rollercoaster Markets



The Requirement to Pass Tasks Between Teams



Escalating Costs



Legacy Application Risk



Pressure to Allocate Demands Appropriately System Retirement Planning

Eliminating Duplicative Data-Related Processes

The Remedies

Investment in

Support

டூய

Real-Time Data

A Move to Data

Virtualization



Tech That Is More Agile, Flexible, and Scalable

### Tech Shifts for Capital Markets Participants

#### Banks

Upgrading systems to increase efficiency, minimize risks, and reduce cost. Navigating regulatory compliance while also adding infrastructure and technology. Managing huge data volumes and real-time reporting.

#### **Brokers and Dealers**

Mitigating operational risks across the trade lifecycle while volumes surge and regulations tighten. Seeking to smooth the settlement and risk process with automated compliance and accurate, reliable data.

#### Exchanges

Diversifying from traditional exchange services to adjacent technology, data, and analytics. Supporting market surveillance, regulatory reporting, risk management, and more to stave off declining core growth.

#### Market Makers

Specialized solutions for price discovery and corresponding data pressures. Cutting-edge technology enhancing trade operations across their intermediary role is essential for market makers to succeed.

#### Asset Managers

Enhancing integration with both upstream and downstream systems. Curating solutions for their data catalog and workflows to better service clients. Automating more manual processes in risk management. 4 Market Forces Are Driving Significant Growth in Private Markets and Evolution in Digital Assets

### **Commitment to Private Markets**

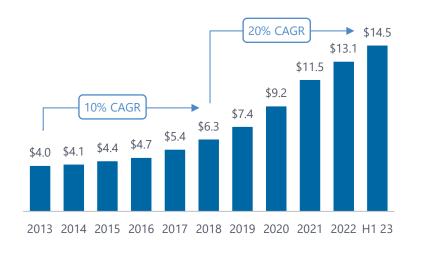
- In 2023, LPs boosted their average alternative asset allocations to 20%, up 8.7% from 2022. Over 55% of asset owners are expected to increase their exposure further.
- Sentiment around private markets remains upbeat with investors expecting further growth from rate cuts. Sept-24 private market deal activity was up 36% YoY (by value).
- A record 26% of the \$1.2 trillion of global buyout dry powder is now four years or older. General partners are under immense pressure to do deals and return capital.

### **Structural Shift From Public to Private**

- Record dry powder in the private markets ensures firms will have ample fuel for continued growth without going public.
- With this capital, companies have been able to remain private for longer periods than ever before, accumulating more and more value in the private markets.
- Shareholders in search for liquidity have also led to a proliferation of tech-enabled marketplaces and alternative distribution platforms that seek to democratize access.

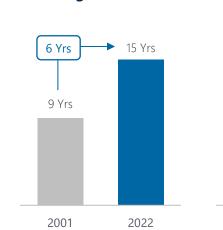
#### **Maturation of Digital Assets**

- As digital asset/crypto markets experience creative destruction through cycles, each winter lessons learned are applied.
- With a favorable U.S. government view on the asset class and continued evolution of much-needed regulation (two opposing concepts that can hopefully co-exist), we expect convergence in traditional and digital asset players.



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#### Global Private Market AUM (\$ in Trillions)



Median Company Age at IPO

#### Total Unicorn Count

1207

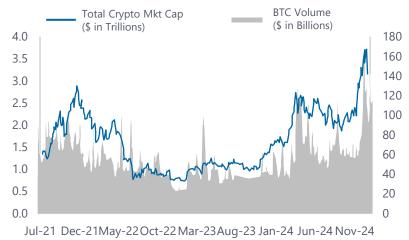
2022

~950

260

2018

### Total Crypto Market Cap and Bitcoin Volumes



### 5 Increasing AI Adoption and Usage in Capital Markets

### **Overview of AI Usage**

- Capital markets generate a tremendous volume of transactions, leading to vast amounts of data, making it a prime candidate for AI applications.
- Advancement in AI, including large language models and natural language processing, is reshaping the market, with shifts we haven't seen since high-frequency trading transformed the industry in the 2010s.
- Al's ability to process vast amounts of data in real time creates opportunities from the front- to back-office and across a variety of asset classes, including fixed income, equities, and commodities; however, data often needs to be cleaned and standardized before fully leveraged.
- As AI continues to gain traction, it's being increasingly used in revenue generation, risk management, operations, and customer support.

### **Benefits of AI Adoption**

(jail)	Revenue Generation	<ul> <li>Asset Allocation and Asset Price Forecasting</li> <li>Trading Insights and High-Frequency Trading</li> <li>Sales and Marketing Leads, Tracking, etc.</li> </ul>
ટેહેંસ્ટ્ર્	Better Risk Management	<ul><li>Trade Surveillance and Monitoring</li><li>Data Management and Quality Improvement</li><li>Hedging Identification and Execution</li></ul>
	Efficiency Improvement	<ul><li>General Process Automation</li><li>Ideas and Insights From Unstructured Data</li><li>Execution Quality Improvement</li></ul>
	Customer Service Enhancement	<ul> <li>Personalized Customer Services</li> <li>Streamlined Reporting and Response Rate</li> <li>AI-Generated End-User Interfaces</li> </ul>

#### Priority Areas for AI Investments: Now and Over the Next Two Years

Percent of Firms Prioritizing: 

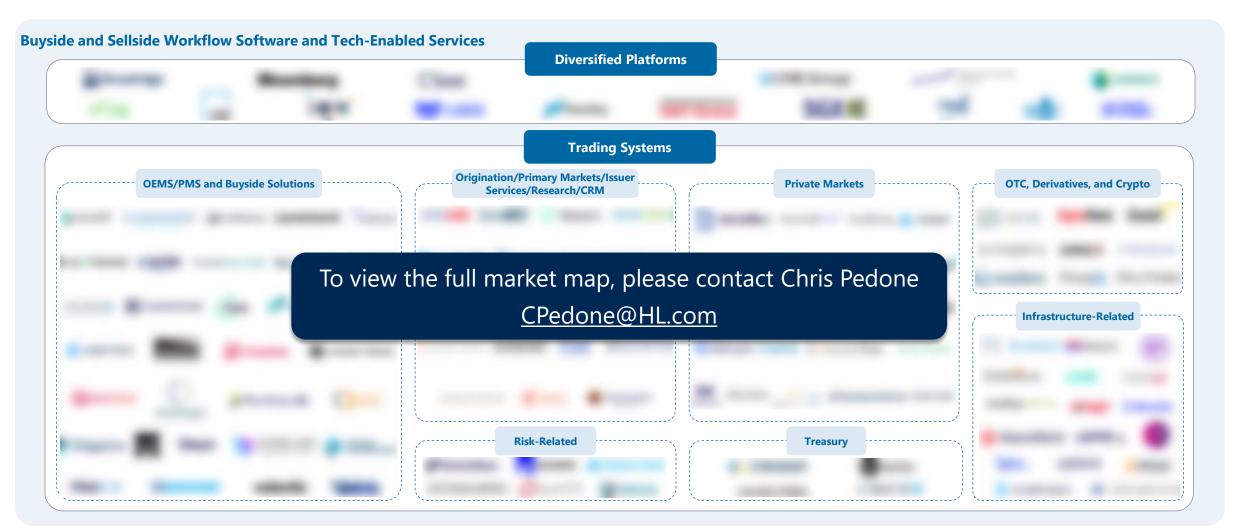
Now (2024) In Two Years

	Customer Interaction					52%	• •	57%
	Research and Analysis				44%	•	• 52%	
	Portfolio Management			32%	• •	40%		
Front-Office AI Priorities	Product/Service Development			29% •		• 45%	)	
	Customer Onboarding/ID		24%		• 32%			
	Trading, Transactions, and Loans		23%	• •	29%			
	Sales and Marketing		22%	•	• 33%			
	Risk and Fraud Management				43%	•	• 54	%
Aiddle- and	Data Management				41% ●			56%
Back-Office	Operations		17% •	• 2	7%			
	Compliance	11%	• • 16%	,				
	Data Security and Privacy			34	₩ ●		• 51%	
	Strategic Planning		17% •	•	29%			
Corporate	Finance/Accounting	13%	6		• 31%			
nd IT AI	Employee Experience	11%	•	21%				
riorities	Training	8% •	• 15%					
	Software Development	6% •	•	20%				
	Human Resources	4% •	• 12%					

Market Maps

### **Capital Markets Technology Landscape** Buyside and Sellside Workflow Software and Tech-Enabled Services

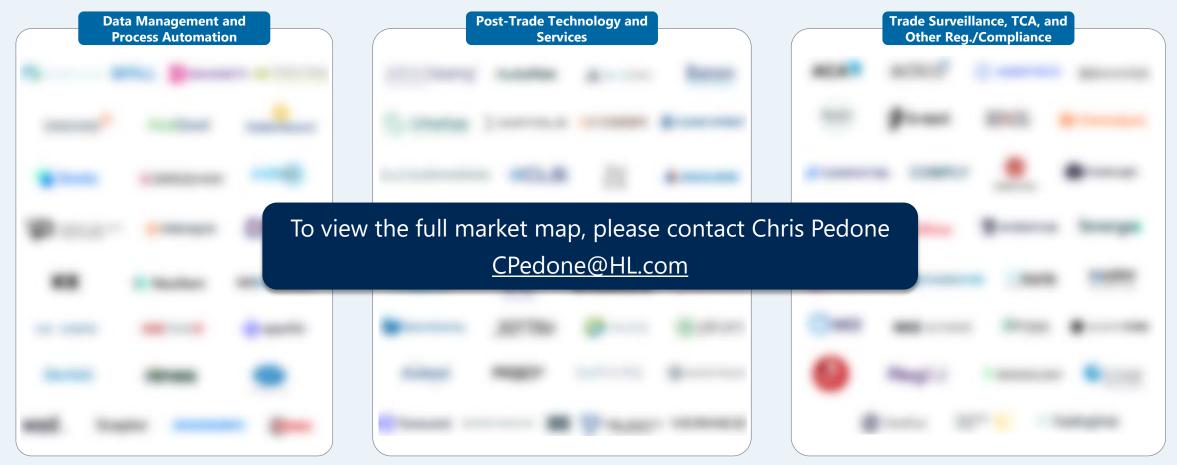
**Illustrative** Capital Markets Technology Companies (Public, Investor-Backed, and Privately Held)



### **Capital Markets Technology Landscape** Buyside and Sellside Workflow Software and Tech-Enabled Services (cont.)

Illustrative Capital Markets Technology Companies (Public, Investor-Backed, and Privately Held)

#### Buyside and Sellside Workflow Software and Tech-Enabled Services



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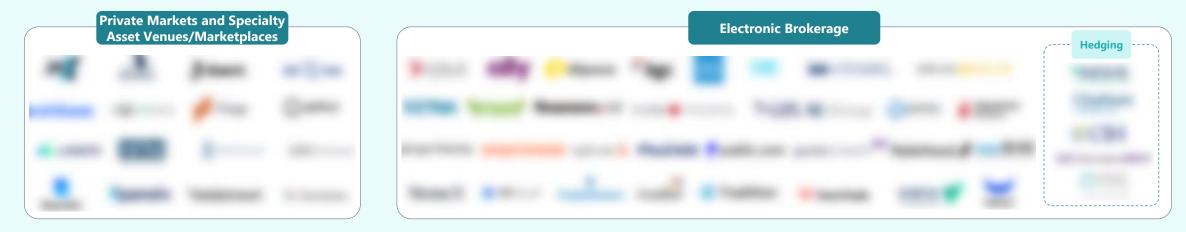
Note: The market map does not include wealth tech (including TAMPS, data aggregation, reporting, retirement solutions), fund admin and distribution, and commodities.

### Capital Markets Technology Landscape | Exchanges, Trading Venues, and Electronic Execution

**Illustrative** Capital Markets Technology Companies (Public, Investor-Backed, and Privately Held)

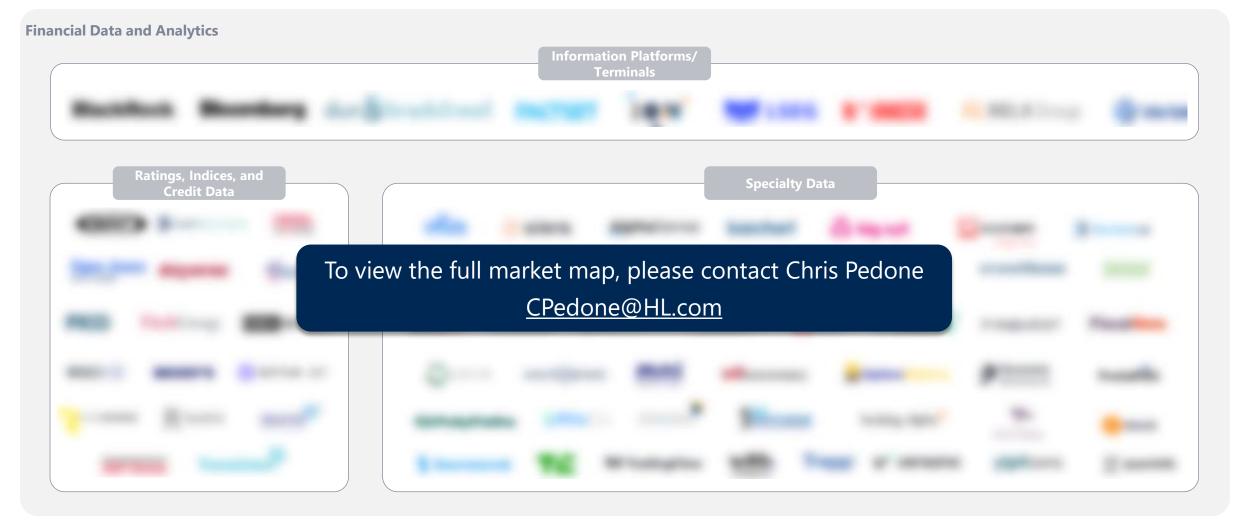
#### Exchanges, Trading Venues, and Electronic Execution





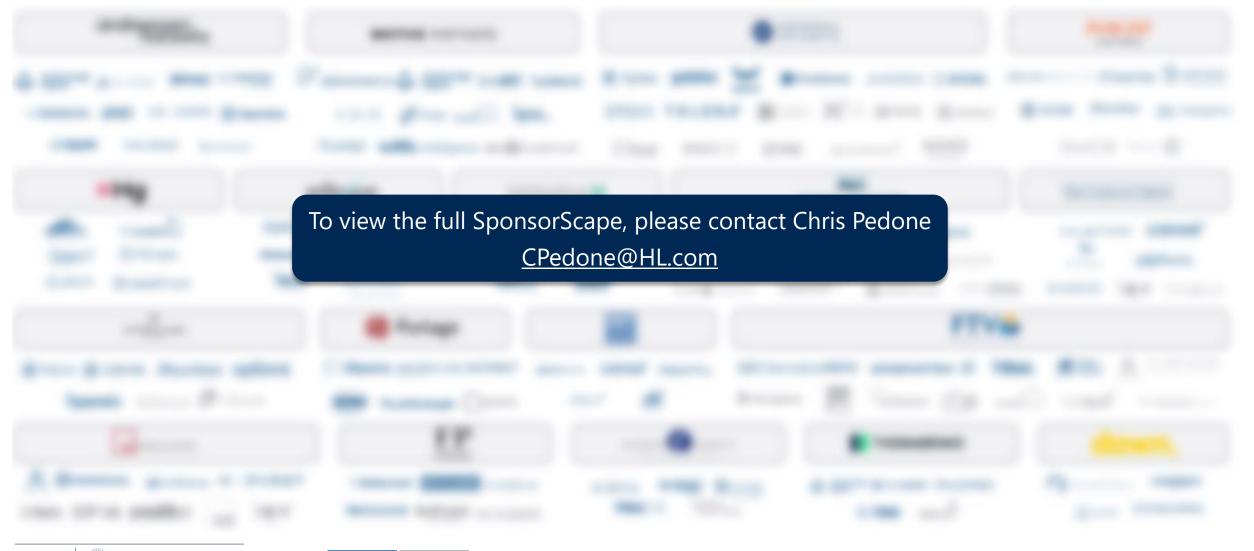
### **Capital Markets Technology Landscape** | Financial Data and Analytics

Illustrative Capital Markets Technology Companies (Public, Investor-Backed, and Privately Held)



### Capital Markets Technology SponsorScape (Current and Prior) | Investor Field Is Broad and Diversified

Illustrative Investors: Capital Markets Technology Portfolio Companies



Current

Key:

### Capital Markets Technology SponsorScape (Current and Prior) | Investor Field Is Broad and Diversified (cont.)

Illustrative Investors: Capital Markets Technology Portfolio Companies



Current

Kev:

Public Market Performance and Valuation Update

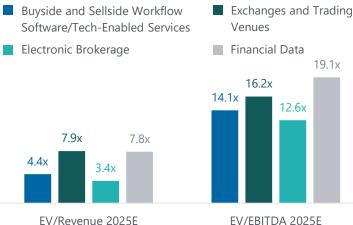


19.1x

### Public Valuation and M&A Activity Continue to Rise While Financing Activity Sees a Slight Decline

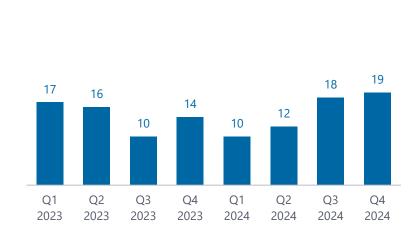
### **Public Company Trading**

#### Median Valuation Multiples



### **Mergers and Acquisitions**

Quarterly Deal Count

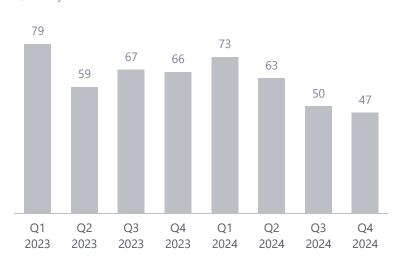


- Capital markets technology experienced gradually increasing M&A deal activity throughout 2024.
- We anticipate the M&A market intensifying in 2025 for both strategic and PE deals as market conditions stabilize, acquirer demand intensifies, and willingness to transact grows.
- Featured control deals and acquisitions in 2024 include:



### **Growth and Venture Capital**

Quarterly Deal Count



- Activity within capital markets technology growth and venture deals slowed, with volume down ~15% year-overyear in 2024.
- We expect interest to rebound, particularly for high-growth companies that can demonstrate profitability. Attention has continuously shifted to "Tier A" assets since post-COVID-19 days.
- Featured growth and venture deals in 2024 include:



EV/EBITDA 2025E

- Overall, the Capital Markets Technology Index has traded above the S&P 500, but recent performance has varied across the underlying type of company and business model.
- Financial data and analytics and exchange and trading venues continue to trade at sector highs given their size, scalability, recurring revenues, proprietary data angles, and more.
- While electronic brokerage has demonstrated strong stock performance with a 129% increase since Q1 2023, its valuation multiples remain lower than peers, largely due to lower revenue visibility and a greater reliance on volumes.

Source: S&P Capital IQ, PitchBook.

Note: Trading multiples are based on share price, other market data, and broker consensus future estimates as of January 31, 2025; deal counts are non-exhaustive but highly representative of market trends.

### Index Performance: Capital Markets Technology Versus Broad Market

Significant variability of performance by capital markets tech subsector.

#### Indexed Share Price Performance Since January 2023



Index	Since Jan. '23	Since Jan. '24
S&P 500	57%	27%
Capital Markets Technology <sup>(1)</sup>	81%	39%
Buyside and Sellside Workflow Software and Tech-Enabled Services	42%	37%
Exchanges and Trading Venues	84%	29%
Electronic Brokerage	129%	79%
Financial Data and Analytics	41%	9%

	nd Sellside Word Sellside W		Exchanges and Tradi	ng Venues	Elec	tronic Brokerage	Financi	ial Data and Ana	alytics
Altus Group	Веекѕ	X Broadridge	interview ASX interview Bakkt.			fbgc     charles sciences     Circ markets       galaxy     IG Group     Image: Backnown		© Enento	EQUIFAX FICO
CLEARWATER	enfusion	FACTSET	C'boe @CMEGroup coinbase ~	CEUTSCHE BORSE 🌞 EURONEXT 🗲 Forge		galaxy IG Group (Interactive Brokers	experion.	FACTSET MarketWise	MOODY'S
FDTechnologies	Ē	iress	GPW HKEX □Ce Ⅲ JS     JS	E Korrent LSEG X Market Axess			MORNINGSTAR	MSCI 🗇	S&P Global
P Lir	nedata SS	<sup>e</sup> C	Nasdaq OTC Markets SGX	TMX *Tradeweb		XP inc.	TransUnion	Tracxn	Value Line <sup>,</sup>

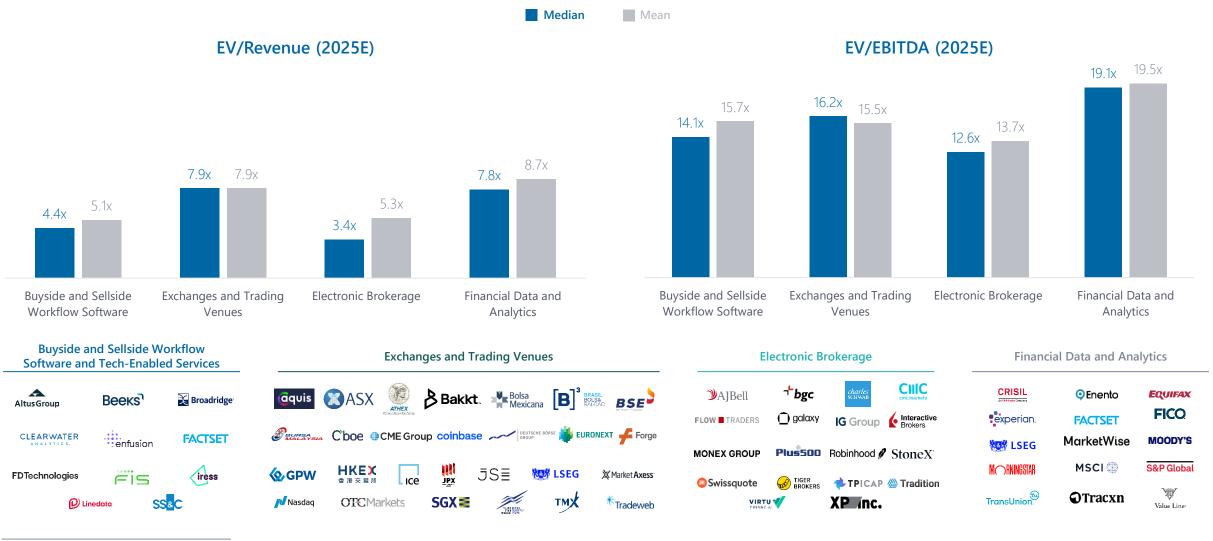
Notes: Indices shown are equal-weighted with all share prices rebased to 100. Data derived from S&P Capital IQ as of January 31, 2025.

(1) Total Capital Markets Technology Index includes all companies depicted across all segments of capital markets technology as shown at the bottom of this page. Individual company performance details are shown on pages 38 and 39.

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## Capital Markets Technology Public Company Valuation Multiples

Valuation multiples vary by business model and underlying operating metrics.



#### Source: S&P Capital IQ.

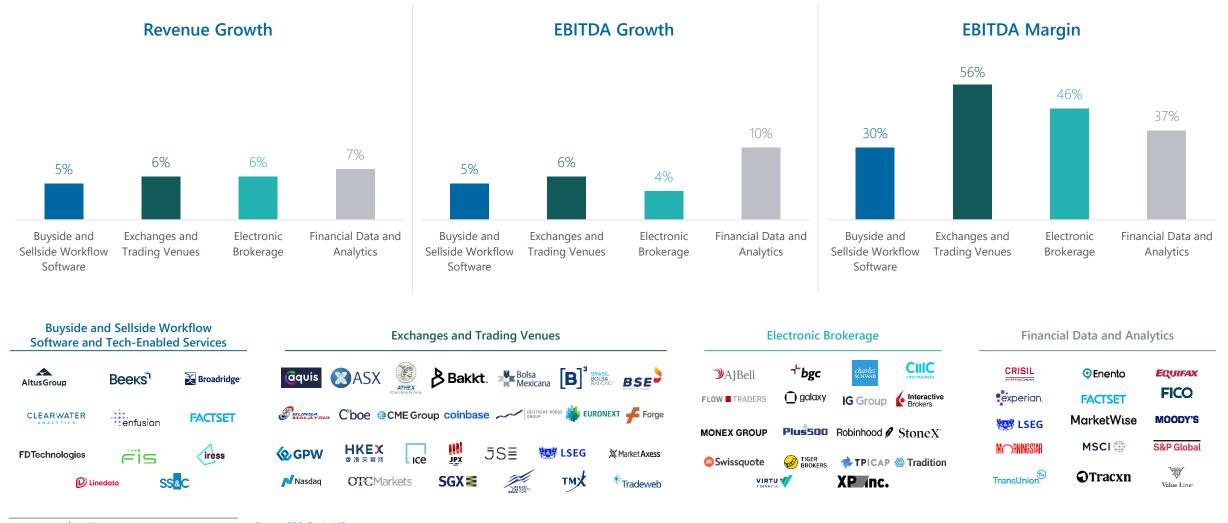
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Note: Trading multiples are based on share price, other market data, and broker consensus future estimates as of January 31, 2025.

### Capital Markets Technology Public Company Operating Metrics

2025E median growths are largely similar across subsectors, but 2025E median EBITDA margins vary by business model.



#### Houlihan Lokey Source: S&P Capital IQ. Note: Metrics are based

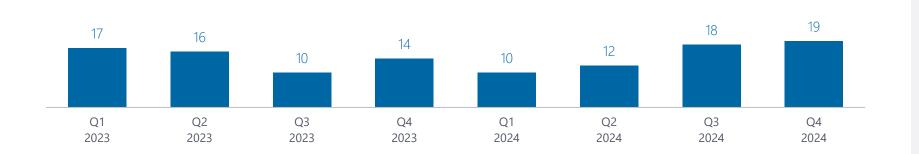
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Note: Metrics are based on market data and broker consensus future estimates as of January 31, 2025; all figures shown are 2025E medians.

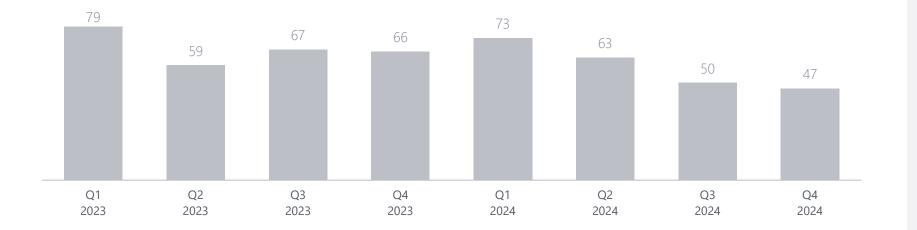
Notable Deal Activity

### **M&A and Financing Transaction Activity**

### Quarterly Deal Count: M&A/Control Transactions



### **Quarterly Deal Count: Financing/Minority Transactions**



#### Key Takeaways

#### M&A/Control Transactions

- Capital markets technology M&A activity remained steady from 2023 to 2024.
- The sector experienced gradually increasing deal activity throughout 2024.
- We anticipate the market to intensify into 2025 for both strategic and PE deals alike, as conditions stabilize, acquirer demand intensifies, and willingness to transact grows.

#### Financing/Minority Transactions

- Activity within capital markets tech growth and venture deals slowed, with volume down ~15% year-over-year in 2024.
- Both valuations and capital raised were lower in 2024 as firms in need of cash increasingly came to terms with flat and down rounds.
- We expect activity to rebound, particularly among high-growth companies that can demonstrate profitability or a path to breakeven. Attention has continuously shifted to these "Tier A" assets.

Houlihan Lokey Source: PitchBook. Note: Deal counts are non-

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Note: Deal counts are non-exhaustive but highly representative of market trends.

### Featured 2024 Notable Deal Activity | Strategic M&A and Private Equity Investments

Target

HQ

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\*:

### Strategic M&A

Month Target	Acquirer	Ent. Value (\$M)	Target HQ	Month Target	Acquirer	Ent. Value (\$M)
Nov. Aer Compliance	Star Compliance			Oct. <b>Δαςυραγ</b>   <sup>system</sup>	Euronext	
	Hanwha Life			Sept. SPACESHIP	eToro	\$55
	GFF Brokers			Sept. Battea	SS&C Tech	\$670
Nov. vinter	Kaiko			Sept. ARCHER	BNY Mellon	
Nov. <b>@quis</b>	SIX Group	\$287		s <sub>ept.</sub> crwdunit	Spectral Capital	
Nov. Matterhorn Reporting Services	FE Fund Info			Sept. fidectus®	Enmacc	
	Neologica		٢		NeoXam	
Nov. PrimeOne	TS Imagine			Aug. chaindebrief.	PEXX	
Oct. T 🔨 C T Y C	Carta				Trading 212	
Oct. <b>irwin</b>	FACTSET		*	Aug. 🛞 <b>BWARE</b> LABS	Alchemy	
Oct. PACKETSZDISK	Options Technology			Aug. <i>flovtec</i> .	STS Digital	
	Komainu		6	June Lonsec	Generation Development	\$197
Oct. Oct Course Reading Contactory	BGC Group			June Dpenstory	Ava Labs	
Oct.	Numerix				Corpay	
Oct. CG3-1	Regnology			June Rio Network	EigenLayer	

Month	Target	Acquirer	Ent. Value 1 (\$M)	Target HQ
June	tegus	AlphaSense	\$930	
June	Trailstone	Engelhart Commodities		
June	Bitstamp	Robinhood	\$200	
June	<b>FX</b> LOADER	Insightsoftware		
June	😋 polygon	Toposware		
May	kyndryl Services Business	Broadridge		•
Apr.	T REX	FINSIGHT		
Apr.	<b>íCD</b>	Tradeweb	\$785	
Mar.	TPG	Abrigo		
Mar.	វៀ investo	Van Eck Associates		
Mar.	FX Institutions	WonderFi		
Mar.	LayerOne	Neovest		
Feb.	TORSTONE	FIS		
Feb.	truepnl *	Magic Square		G
Feb.	🕵 visible alpha	S&P Global		

### **Private Equity Investments**

Month Target	Sponsor	Ent. Value (\$M)	Target HQ
Nov. 🕦 oneZero	Golden Gate Capital		
oct. Options	Vitruvian		
Apr. rimes	Five Arrows	\$2,166	
Apr. Gresham 💥	STG	\$179	
Feb. ActiveViam	Nordic Capital		
Jan. 🔺 EQUILEND	WCAS		

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### Featured 2024 Notable Deal Activity Growth Capital Raises

### **Growth Capital Raises**

Month Target	Lead Investor	Amount (\$M)	Post-Val. (\$M)	Target HQ
Dec. 📑 REGNOLOGY	CPP Investments	\$483		
Dec. J   K O	Upfront Ventures	\$29		
Nov.	Peak XV Partners	\$80		<u>©</u>
Nov. > CAPITOLIS	Citigroup	\$20		
Nov. CopenYield	Canapi Ventures	\$7		
Nov. ጰ One Chronos	Addition	\$32	\$570	
Nov. 😻 wyden	Truffle Capital	\$17		+
oct. Reflexivity	Greycroft, IBKR	\$30	\$120	
Oct. BondBloxx	Macquarie Asset Management	\$27		
Oct. Mmonark	Garuda Ventures	\$2		
Oct. <b>Yellow</b>	Consortium	\$33		
Oct. Blockstream	Fulgur Ventures	\$210		+
Sept. SDAX	MPMR	\$50		<u>(</u>
Sept. 竁 DeCurret	Internet Initiative Japan	\$42		
Sept. 🛕 exohood	Livsquare	\$186		

Month	Target	Lead Investor	Amount (\$M)	Post-Val. (\$M)	Target HQ
Sept.	CELESTIA	Bain Capital	\$100	\$3,500	۵
Aug.	CHAOS LABS	Haun Ventures	\$55		
July	@Allium	Theory Ventures	\$17	\$72	
June	🖯 нит 8	Coatue Management	\$150		+
June	Alpha Sense	Viking Global; BDT & MSD	\$650	\$4,000	
June	TXSE STOCK EXCHANGE	Blackrock; Citadel Securities	\$120		
June	M^0	Bain Capital Crypto	\$35		
June	avail	Founder's Fund, Dragonfly	\$43		
May	BITDEER	Tether	\$150		<u>(</u> ;
May	SAXO	Mandatum	\$325	\$1,650	
Apr.	<b>t</b> urnkey	Lightspeed Faction; Galaxy	\$15		
Apr.	🕖 BITCOIN DEPOT	Sopris Capital			
Apr.	<b>.\\</b> midas	Portage	\$45		C+
Apr.	BRIDGEWISE	SIX Group	\$21		
Apr.	🐺 🏹 Berachain	Brevan Howard Digital; Framework	\$100		

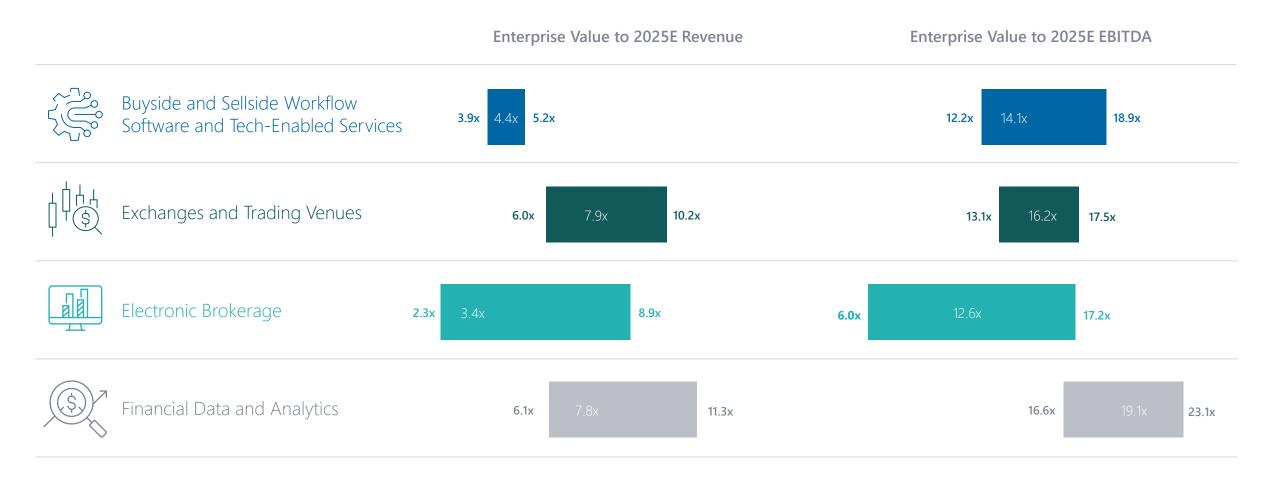
Month	Target	Lead Investor	Amount (\$M)	Post-Val. (\$M)	Target HQ
Apr.	🔍 azuro	SevenX Ventures, Fenbushi Capital	\$11		
Apr.	O MONAD	Paradigm	\$225		
Apr.	mezo	Pantera Capital	\$21		
Mar.	💥 Espresso	a16z Crypto	\$28		
Mar.	Succinct	Paradigm	\$55		
Mar.	T⊗kenize Xchange	Trive	\$12		
Mar.	u <mark>x</mark> uy	Binance Labs			6
Mar.	abaxx. <sup>Exchange</sup>	Abaxx Technologies	\$23		*
Feb.	두 flare	Kenetic, Aves Lair	\$35		
Feb.	dub	Tusk Venture	\$17		
Feb.	NPM Nastag Private Market	Nasdaq	\$63		
Feb.		Centana	\$15	\$60	
Jan.	Integral	Vistara Growth	\$30		
Jan.	< SYGNUM	Azimut	\$40		+
Jan.	flowdesk <sup>®</sup>	Cathay Innovation	\$50	\$250	

Public Comparables Detail by Subsector



### **Key Valuation Metrics by Subsector**

Metrics reflect first quartile, median, and upper quartile, respectively.



### Valuation Metrics by Subsector



Buyside and Sellside Workflow Software and Tech-Enabled Services



### Exchanges and Trading Venues

	Market				Valuation Metrics									
Company Name	market	Enterprise	YTD	% of 52-	EV/Rev	venue	EV/EB	ITDA	Revenue	EBITDA	EBITDA	FCF	Rule	
20mpany Name C	Cap (\$M)	ap (\$M)	Value (\$M)	Return	Week High	CY 2025E	CY 2026E	CY 2025E	CY 2026E	Growth	Growth	Margin	Margin	of 40
Buyside and Sellside Workflow Software	and Tech-Er	nabled Services		_								-	,	
FIS Global	\$43,860	\$53,540	36%	89%	5.1x	4.8x	12.3x	11.6x	4%	5%	41%	32%	36%	
Broadridge	\$27,876	\$31,453	16%	99%	4.4x	4.2x	18.6x	17.1x	6%	2%	24%	23%	29%	
SS&C Technologies	\$20,050	\$26,807	32%	99%	4.3x	4.2x	10.9x	10.2x	6%	8%	40%	35%	41%	
FactSet	\$18,042	\$19,305	(1%)	95%	8.3x	7.8x	21.0x	19.4x	5%	1%	39%	35%	40%	
Clearwater Analytics	\$6,644	\$6,540	41%	79%	12.3x	10.2x	n.a.	28.4x	20%	27%	34%	33%	52%	
Altus Group	\$1,884	\$2,110	29%	97%	5.4x	5.0x	26.8x	20.3x	(16%)	(3%)	20%	19%	3%	
Iress	\$1,058	\$1,287	6%	85%	3.5x	3.4x	14.5x	13.3x	(1%)	9%	24%	21%	20%	
Enfusion	\$1,058	\$1,057	15%	98%	4.4x	3.8x	19.1x	14.5x	17%	30%	23%	19%	36%	
Linedata	\$417	\$486	37%	93%	2.5x	2.4x	8.5x	8.2x	2%	2%	30%	24%	25%	
FD Technologies	\$512	\$283	58%	87%	1.9x	2.2x	13.7x	9.7x	(43%)	(14%)	14%	(11%)	(54%)	
Beeks Group	\$237	\$231	180%	93%	4.4x	n.a.	12.1x	n.a.	24%	21%	36%	16%	40%	
Median	ΨLUI	φ <b>ε</b> υ 1	32%	93%	4.4x	4.2x	14.1x	13.9x	5%	5%	30%	23%	27%	
Average			41%	92%	5.1x	4.8x	15.7x	15.3x	2%	8%	30%	22%	24%	
				0270	0117	nox	10177	1010X	270	070	5670	== //		
Exchanges and Trading Venues														
Intercontinental Exchange	\$91,771	\$112,574	24%	95%	11.5x	10.8x	17.6x	16.5x	5%	6%	65%	59%	65%	
LSEG	\$79,326	\$91,347	27%	99%	7.8x	7.2x	16.2x	14.7x	7%	10%	48%	38%	45%	
CME Group	\$85,233	\$86,754	12%	95%	13.9x	13.2x	19.7x	18.7x	3%	3%	70%	69%	71%	
Coinbase	\$72,935	\$69,707	68%	83%	11.3x	10.6x	24.6x	21.0x	4%	(1%)	46%	44%	48%	
Nasdag	\$47,326	\$56,611	42%	98%	11.2x	10.4x	19.6x	17.9x	8%	9%	57%	53%	62%	
Deutsche Börse	\$45,448	\$55,430	20%	99%	8.8x	8.4x	15.3x	14.4x	4%	4%	58%	52%	56%	
Tradeweb	\$27,050	\$26,492	40%	90%	13.2x	11.9x	24.8x	22.0x	16%	17%	53%	50%	66%	
Cboe Global Markets	\$21,390	\$22,238	14%	92%	10.3x	9.8x	16.1x	15.4x	4%	3%	64%	61%	65%	
HKEX	\$49,010	\$19,998	13%	76%	6.7x	6.4x	9.1x	8.7x	5%	5%	73%	67%	71%	
Euronext	\$12,079	\$13,883	34%	99%	7.9x	7.5x	12.9x	12.3x	5%	4%	61%	56%	61%	
B3	\$10,333	\$12,461	(36%)	83%	7.2x	6.7x	10.2x	9.3x	12%	11%	71%	68%	80%	
Japan Exchange Group	\$11,085	\$11,020	(30%)	76%	10.2x	9.9x	15.4x	14.7x	4%	5%	66%	56%	60%	
TMX Group	\$8,634	\$10,082	28%	97%	9.3x	8.8x	16.7x	14.7X 15.7x	8%	11%	56%	52%	60%	
Singapore Exchange	\$9,691	\$9,492	28%	94%	9.5x	9.0x	16.5x	15.7x	4%	7%	57%	52%	56%	
MarketAxess	\$9,691	\$9,492	(25%)	74%	9.5x 8.9x	9.0x 8.0x	17.3x	15.2x	9%	11%	51%	44%	54%	
BSE (formerly Bombay Stock Exchange)	\$8,319	\$7,948	(25%)	87%		16.4x		29.7x	25%	28%	51%	44%	54% 74%	
ASX	\$8,417	\$7,068	(8%)	91%	n.a. 10.1x	9.7x	n.a. 16.3x	29.7x 15.7x	6%	4%	62%	48%	52%	
Bursa Malaysia	\$1,516	\$1,371	(8%)	83%	7.9x	9.7x 7.6x	13.9x	13.4x	(1%)	(1%)	57%	52%	52%	
Tel Aviv Stock Exchange	\$1,037	\$963	114%	88%	7.3x	6.5x	16.7x	14.6x	12%	14%	44%	44%	55%	
Bolsa Mexicana de Valores	\$1,037	\$963	(26%)	83%	7.3x 3.5x	6.5x 3.3x	6.3x	5.8x	6%	4%	56%	53%	55%	
OTC Markets	\$605		( )	83%		5.0x	0.3x 13.3x	5.6x 12.4x	3%	4% 5%	39%	38%	40%	
	\$613	\$592 \$448	(7%) 25%	90%	5.2x 2.6x	2.5x			3% 8%					
Johannesburg Stock Exchange	\$542 \$430	\$448 \$389		90% 85%		2.5x 3.1x	n.a.	n.a.	8% 5%	n.a. 17%	n.a. 38%	n.a. 28%	n.a. 33%	
Warsaw Stock Exchange Hellenic Exchanges - Athens	\$430 \$299	\$389 \$226	(5%) (12%)	85%	3.2x 3.7x	3.1x 3.5x	8.5x 7.8x	7.8x 7.5x	5% 7%	9%	38% 47%	28% 40%	33% 46%	
2		\$226	(12%) 87%	84% 99%			21.7x	7.5x 17.0x	15%	9% 29%	47% 28%	40%	46% 29%	
Aquis Exchange	\$230				6.0x	5.3x								
Bakkt	\$114 \$142	\$161	(69%)	47% 22%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a. 35%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a. (6%)	n.a.	
Forge Global Median	\$142	\$40	(78%) <b>20%</b>	88%	0.4x 7.9x	0.3x 7.8x	n.a. 16.2x	n.a. 15.0x	35% <b>6%</b>	n.a. 6%	(5%) 56%	(6%) 52%	28% 57%	
Median Average			20% 17%	88% 85%	7.9x 7.9x	7.8x 7.8x	16.2x 15.5x	15.0x 14.8x	6% 8%	6% 9%	56% 53%	52% 47%	57%	

#### Source: S&P Capital IQ.

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### Valuation Metrics by Subsector (cont.)



### Electronic Brokerage



Financial Data and Analytics

All \$ USD in Millions	Capital	Capitalization		Stock Performance		Valuation Metrics				Calendar Year 2025E Operating Metrics			
	Market	Enterprise	YTD	% of 52-	EV/Re	venue	EV/EB	BITDA	Revenue	EBITDA	EBITDA	FCF	Rule
Company Name	Cap (\$M)	Value (\$M)	Return	Week High	CY 2025E	CY 2026E	CY 2025E	CY 2026E	Growth	Growth	Margin	Margin	of 40
Electronic Brokerage			1						1				
Charles Schwab	\$151,424	\$219,528	20%	99%	9.8x	8.7x	17.2x	14.8x	15%	30%	57%	53%	68%
Robinhood	\$45,923	\$48,718	308%	97%	14.7x	13.1x	29.8x	25.7x	17%	24%	49%	48%	65%
nteractive Brokers	\$23,675	\$48,621	162%	98%	8.8x	8.2x	13.2x	12.8x	5%	(5%)	67%	65%	70%
XP Inc.	\$7,330	\$30,969	(48%)	52%	9.4x	8.3x	26.9x	23.8x	17%	17%	35%	33%	50%
StoneX	\$3,509	\$13,780	48%	98%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
/irtu Financial	\$3,443	\$8,283	98%	98%	4.9x	4.8x	8.6x	8.7x	6%	5%	57%	53%	59%
ΓΡ ΙCAP	\$2,532	\$6,082	36%	98%	2.1x	2.0x	12.6x	11.9x	3%	3%	17%	15%	17%
BGC Partners	\$4,578	\$5,792	32%	81%	2.3x	2.1x	n.a.	n.a.	10%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Flow Traders	\$1,082	\$4,060	26%	99%	9.6x	9.0x	26.5x	23.7x	(1%)	(5%)	36%	33%	32%
G Group	\$4,474	\$3,754	30%	92%	2.9x	2.7x	6.0x	5.8x	10%	2%	48%	45%	55%
Galaxy Digital	\$2,510	\$2,509	152%	81%	2.7x	2.1x	n.a.	n.a.	36%	n.a.	n.a.	(4%)	32%
AJ Bell	\$2,281	\$2,035	39%	84%	5.4x	5.0x	13.6x	12.6x	8%	6%	40%	39%	47%
Monex Group	\$1,507	\$1,695	16%	75%	3.8x	3.8x	n.a.	n.a.	(6%)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Tradition	\$1,653	\$1,629	52%	97%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Plus500	\$2,594	\$1,603	66%	96%	2.2x	2.1x	4.8x	4.6x	(5%)	(1%)	46%	46%	41%
Swissquote	\$6,509	\$1,236	80%	99%	1.7x	1.5x	2.8x	2.5x	3%	4%	61%	51%	54%
Figer Brokers (UP)	\$1,318	\$1,065	60%	49%	2.6x	2.4x	11.2x	9.3x	7%	37%	24%	23%	30%
CMC Markets	\$777	\$609	109%	64%	1.4x	1.4x	4.4x	4.3x	0%	2%	32%	28%	29%
Median	+		50%	97%	3.4x	3.3x	12.6x	11.9x	6%	4%	46%	42%	48%
Average			71%	87%	5.3x	4.8x	13.7x	12.3x	8%	9%	44%	38%	46%
Financial Data and Analytic S&P Global	<b>s</b> \$161,619	\$176,362	18%	98%	11.8x	11.0x	23.8x	22.0x	6%	6%	49%	48%	55%
Moody's	\$90,514	\$96,084	28%	99%	12.7x	11.8x	26.3x	23.9x	6%	7%	48%	44%	50%
SEG	\$79,326	\$91,347	27%	99%	7.8x	7.2x	16.2x	14.7x	7%	10%	48%	38%	45%
VISCI	\$46,369	\$50,595	6%	93%	16.3x	14.9x	26.9x	24.5x	9%	9%	60%	57%	65%
Experian	\$45,582	\$50,575	22%	100%	6.5x	5.9x	17.7x	16.2x	7%	10%	37%	28%	35%
FICO	\$45,795	\$47,897	61%	78%	n.a.	19.9x	n.a.	33.6x	16%	22%	56%	55%	70%
Equifax	\$34,060	\$39,201	11%	89%	6.2x	5.6x	18.2x	15.5x	10%	17%	34%	27%	37%
FransUnion	\$19,344	\$24,073	44%	88%	5.4x	4.9x	14.7x	13.0x	7%	10%	37%	29%	36%
FactSet	\$18,042	\$19,305	(1%)	95%	8.3x	7.8x	21.0x	19.4x	5%	1%	39%	35%	40%
Morningstar	\$14,093	\$14,583	15%	90%	5.9x	5.5x	20.0x	17.8x	8%	12%	30%	23%	32%
CRISIL	\$4,590	\$4,595	20%	78%	10.8x	9.6x	n.a.	34.3x	9%	11%	27%	26%	35%
Enento Group	\$429	\$582	(16%)	87%	3.6x	3.4x	9.9x	9.2x	3%	8%	36%	29%	32%
/alue Line	\$370	\$363	(19%)	68%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Fracxn Technologies	\$87	\$87	(37%)	66%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
MarketWise	\$25	(\$292)	(80%)	23%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	(21%)	(33%)	16%	15%	(6%)
	ΨĽJ	(4575)	15%	89%	7.8x	7.5x	19.1x	18.6x	7%	10%	37%	29%	36%
Median													
Median Average			7%	83%	8 7 v	9 0 v	19 5 v	20 3 x	6%		40%	35%	
			7%	83%	8.7x	9.0x	19.5x	20.3x	6%	7%	40%	35%	40%
Median Average Overall Sector Median			7% 25%	83% 90%	8.7x 6.5x	9.0x	19.5x 16.2x	20.3x 14.7x	6%	7%	40%	35%	40%

#### Source: S&P Capital IQ.

Note: Trading multiples and other data are based on share price, other market data, and broker consensus future estimates in each case as of January 31, 2025; Rule of 40 calculated as % revenue growth plus % FCF margin.

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