

F/PRIME

F/

State of Fintech

2026



About F-Prime

We create and invest in healthcare and technology companies that impact lives all over the world. We have over 370 companies in our portfolio including 23 that we started. Our global portfolio is spread across the Americas, Europe, and Asia.



State of Fintech team



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Learn more about F-Prime



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Summary

2025 in fintech felt like a year when nothing big happened, and yet so much became clearer. The fintech craze abruptly ended in 2021 (when the F-Prime Fintech Index peaked at \$1.3T), followed by a swift correction in 2022-2023 (when the F-Prime Fintech Index bottomed out below \$400B). The sector found its footing in 2024 and began recovery into 2025, reaching a market cap of \$947B by year-end. At the same time, many LPs and investors turned their attention away from fintech and on to AI.

After several years of a frozen fintech IPO market, it is thawing. 16 (11 VC-backed) fintech companies went public this year. Of these 11, only 2 were trading above their initial IPO price and 6 above their last private round valuation as of year-end 2025. Despite subpar performance for some, the IPO window is open and there are signals that more are on the way. Elsewhere in the exits world, fintech M&A has rebounded to pre-2021 levels.

Revenue multiples continue rising, and the last two years have shown that investors place a premium on 'goldilocks' companies – neither growing too fast nor too slow, while approaching profitability. Company fundamentals only grow stronger: Fintech Index companies grew at an average 29% over the last year, and every sector increased its net income margins since the growth-at-all-costs era in 2021.

2025 is the year we can definitively say that new financial services giants were forged over the last decade. Much like Uber, PayPal, and Square were initially dismissed yet became leaders in their respective categories, so too have companies like Nubank, Affirm, Stripe, Toast and Robinhood become leaders in theirs.

The last decade of venture capital investment has returned an estimated \$2.4T, yet \$4.2T worth of liquidity remains locked in some of the most innovative private companies. Fintech makes up ~\$0.6T, including some of the most valuable private fintech companies in the world like Stripe (\$107B), Revolut (\$75B) and Ramp (\$32B).

2025 is also the year that crypto earned a front-row seat next to TradFi. Stablecoins became a real, non-speculative digital asset crossing \$1T in monthly volume. Over 75 new crypto ETFs were launched, and we are now allowed to wonder whether any financial asset will not be tokenized in 10 years. Regulatory posture towards crypto meaningfully shifted in 2025, paving the way for even more financial institution adoption in 2026.

2025 was not the year of AI in fintech, but we knew financial services would lag other sectors – challenging integrations, complex workflows, PII, and regulation. However, we expect 2026-2030 will be exciting years for AI in financial services and commerce and it's time to put the building blocks in place.

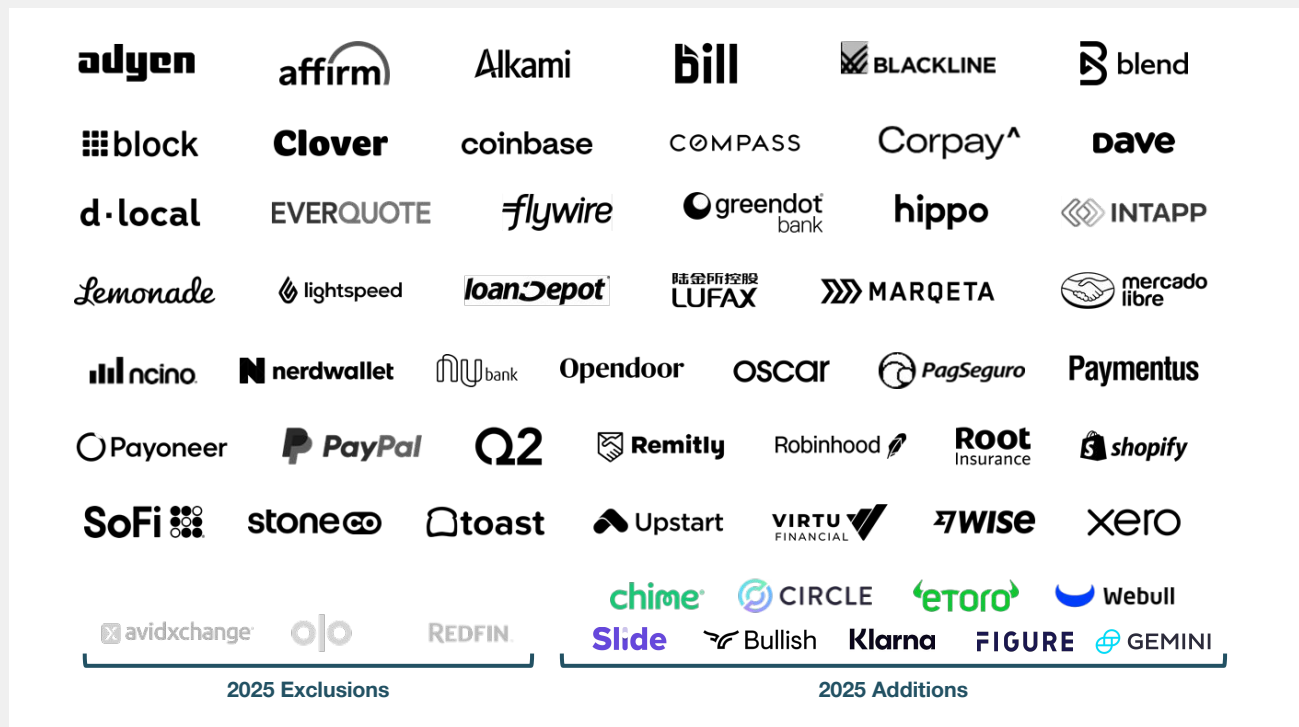
We are optimistic as ever on the future of fintech – if you are building or investing here, let's connect!

F-Prime Fintech Index

F-PRIME

Summary

The F-Prime Fintech Index comprises the following emerging financial technology companies. Criteria include capitalization, liquidity, growth rates, founding year, and listing exchange.



54

Companies

\$947B

Market Cap

5.6x

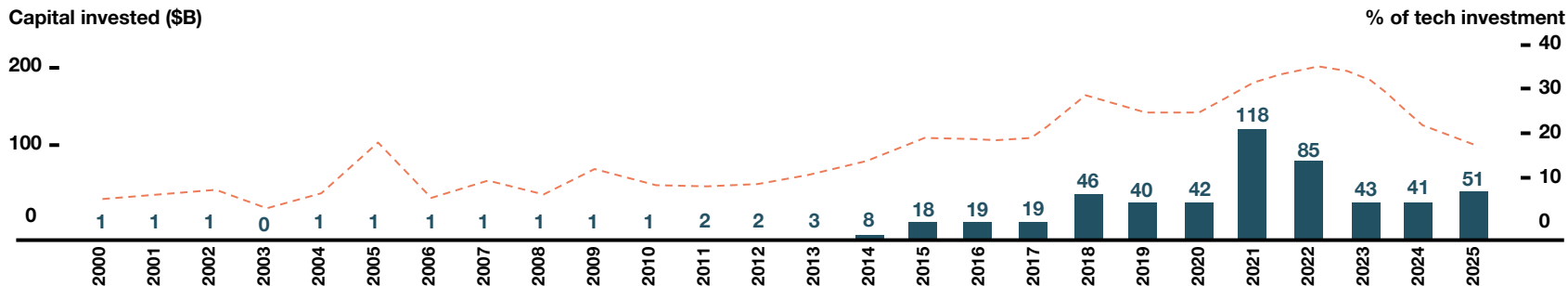
revenue multiple

29%

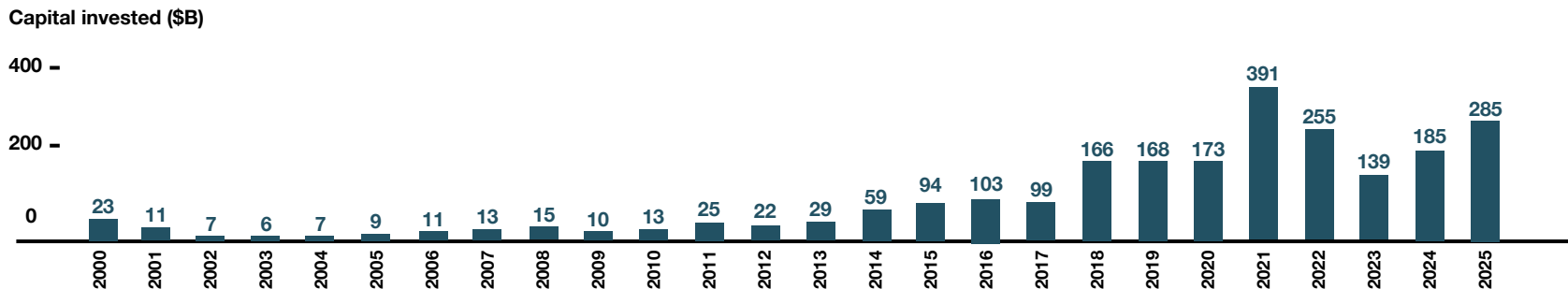
LTM average growth rate

VC investment in fintech peaked in 2021 and found its footing at pre-2021 levels, however, many VCs shifted their focus to AI

VC investment in fintech, 2000-2025



VC investment in technology, 2000-2025



Meanwhile the F-Prime Fintech Index rebounded from \$391B to \$947B reflecting the strong and sustained performance of many fintech disruptors

Market Cap

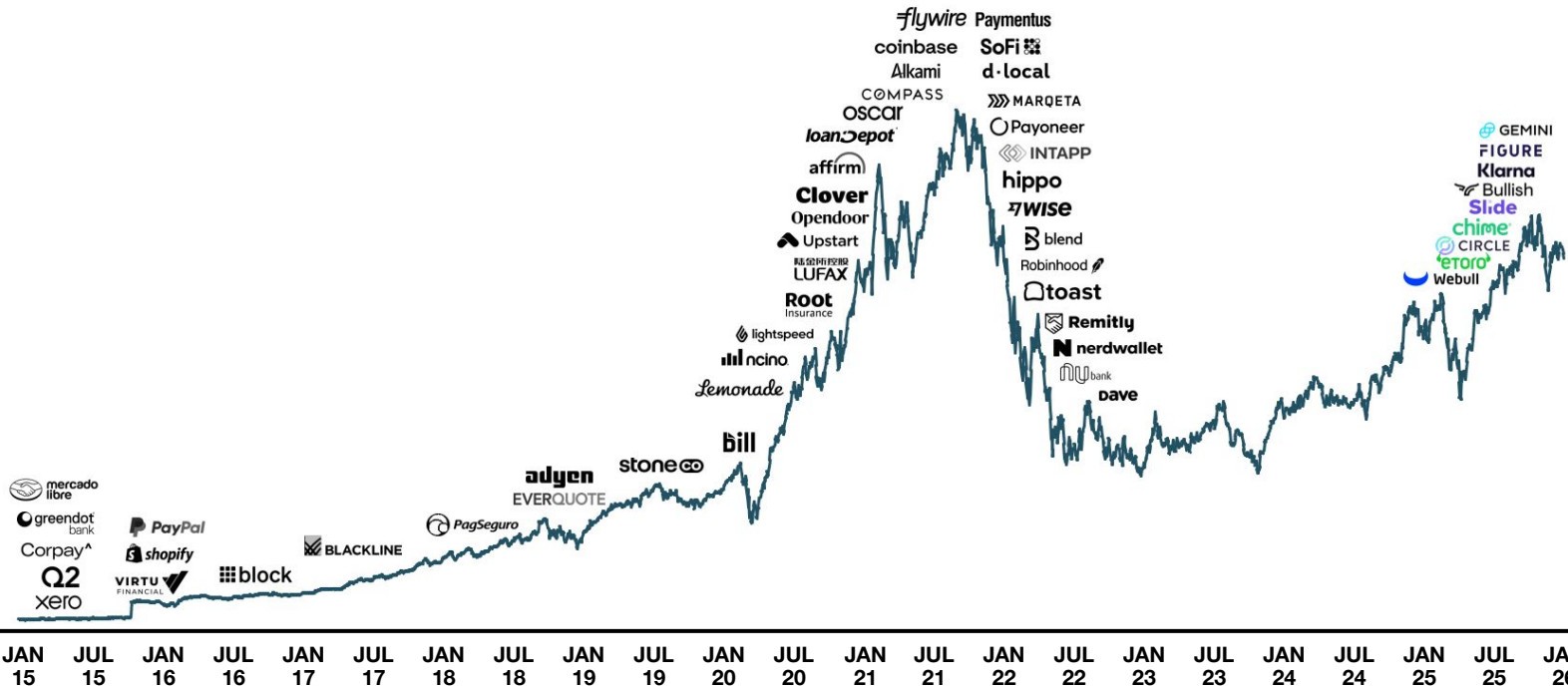
\$1,500B -

\$1,000B -

\$500B -

0

JUL 14 JAN 15 JUL 15 JAN 16 JUL 16 JAN 17 JUL 17 JAN 18 JUL 18 JAN 19 JUL 19 JAN 20 JUL 20 JAN 21 JUL 21 JAN 22 JUL 22 JAN 23 JUL 23 JAN 24 JUL 24 JAN 25 JUL 25 JAN 26

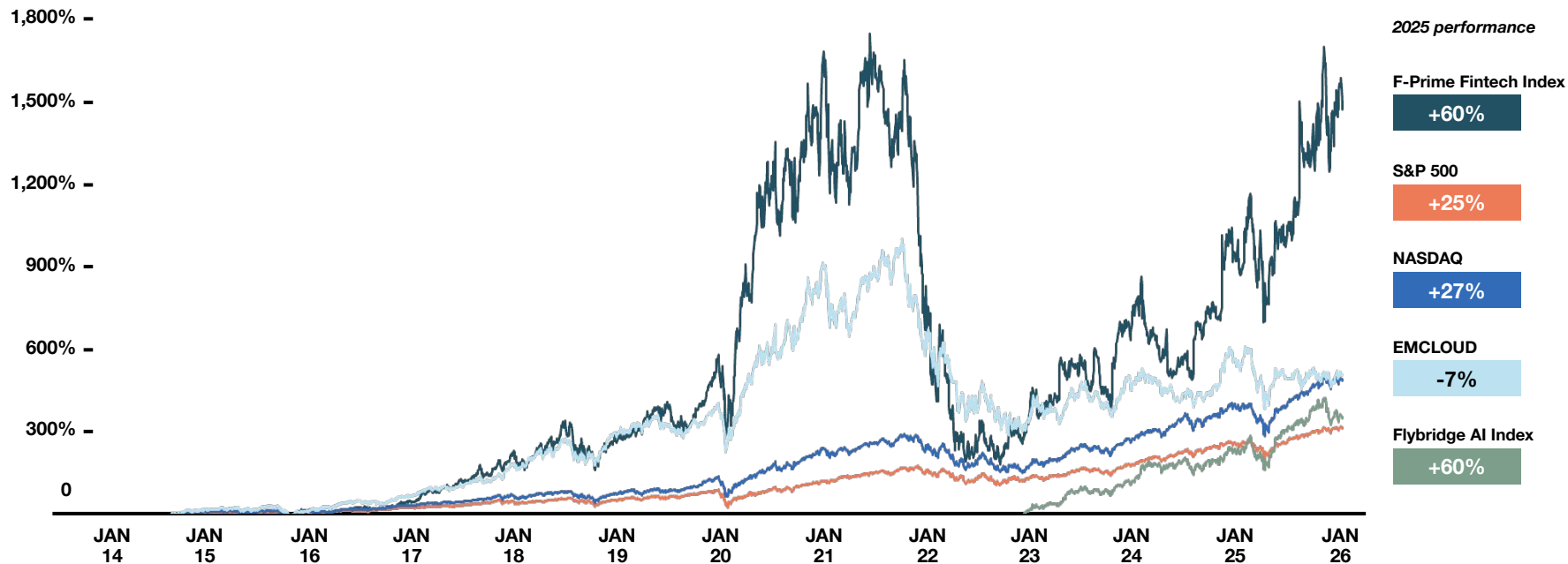


F-PRIME

Source: S&P Capital IQ, F-Prime team analysis. Note: data pulled as of 12/31/2025.

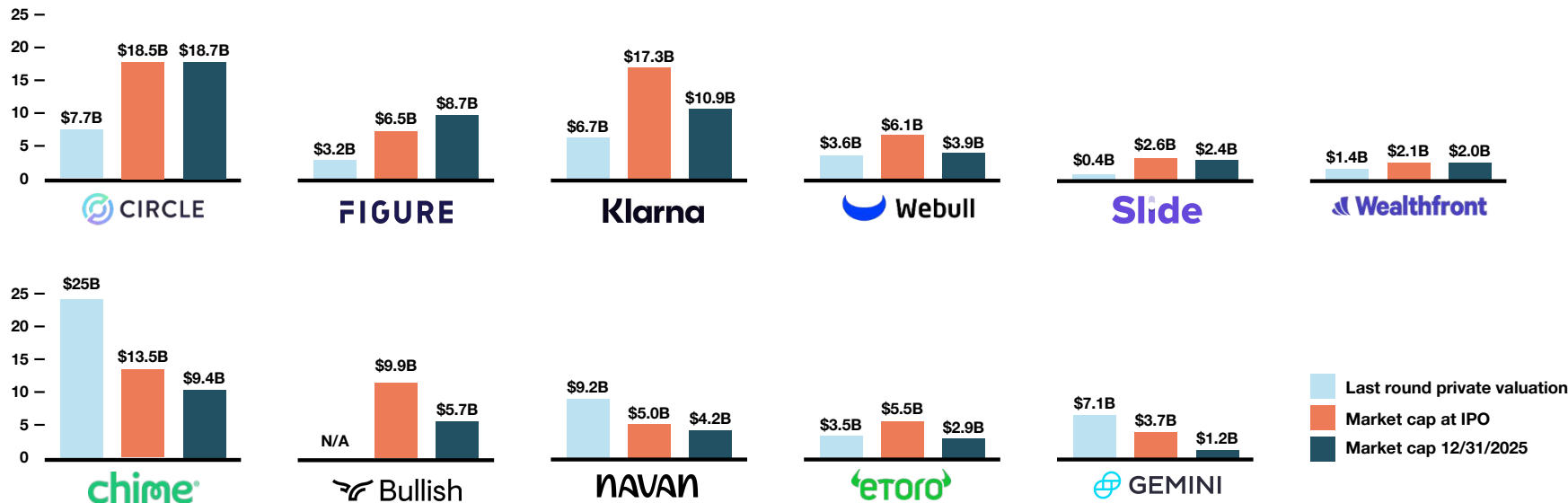
In 2025, the F-Prime Fintech Index rose 60%

Index Performance

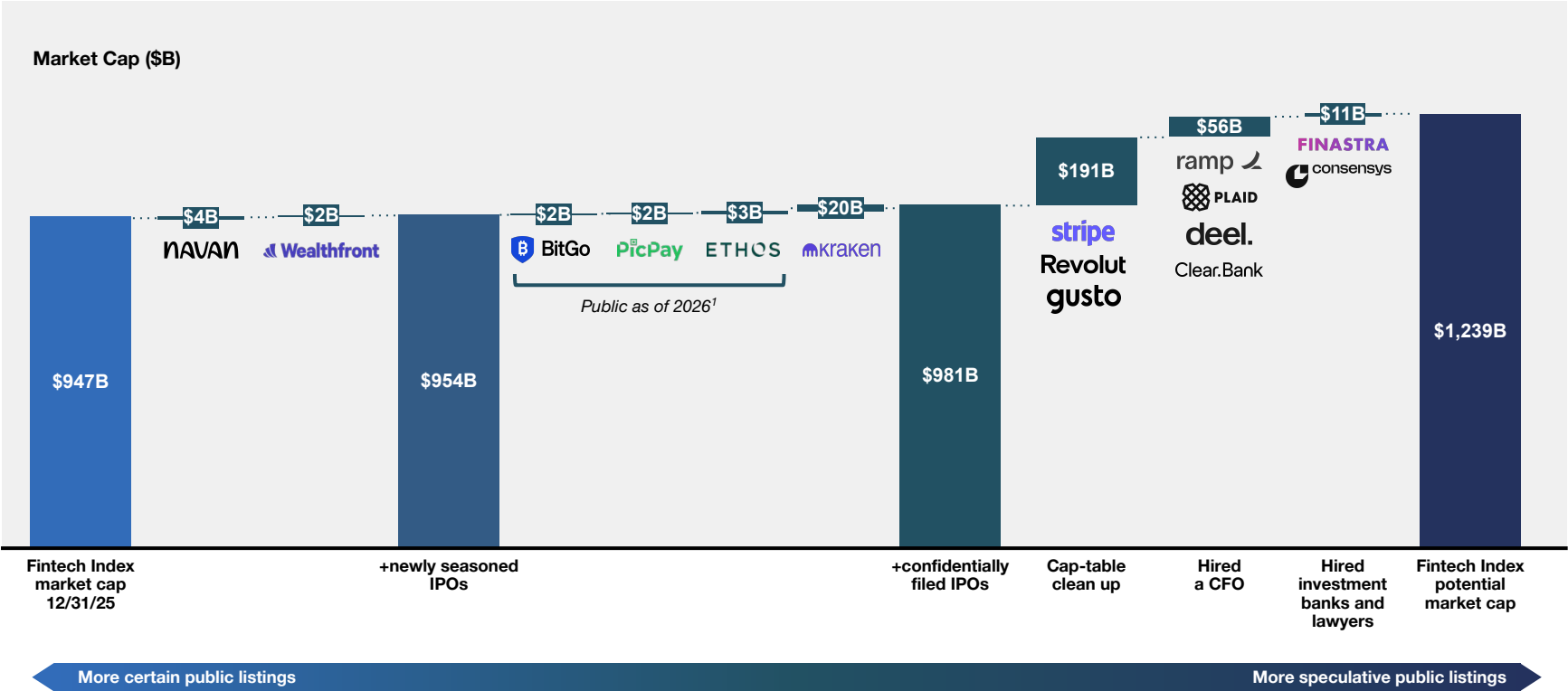


The IPO window opened and 11 VC-backed fintech companies went public; as of year end, only 2 traded above IPO price and 6 above their last private valuation

Market Cap (\$B)



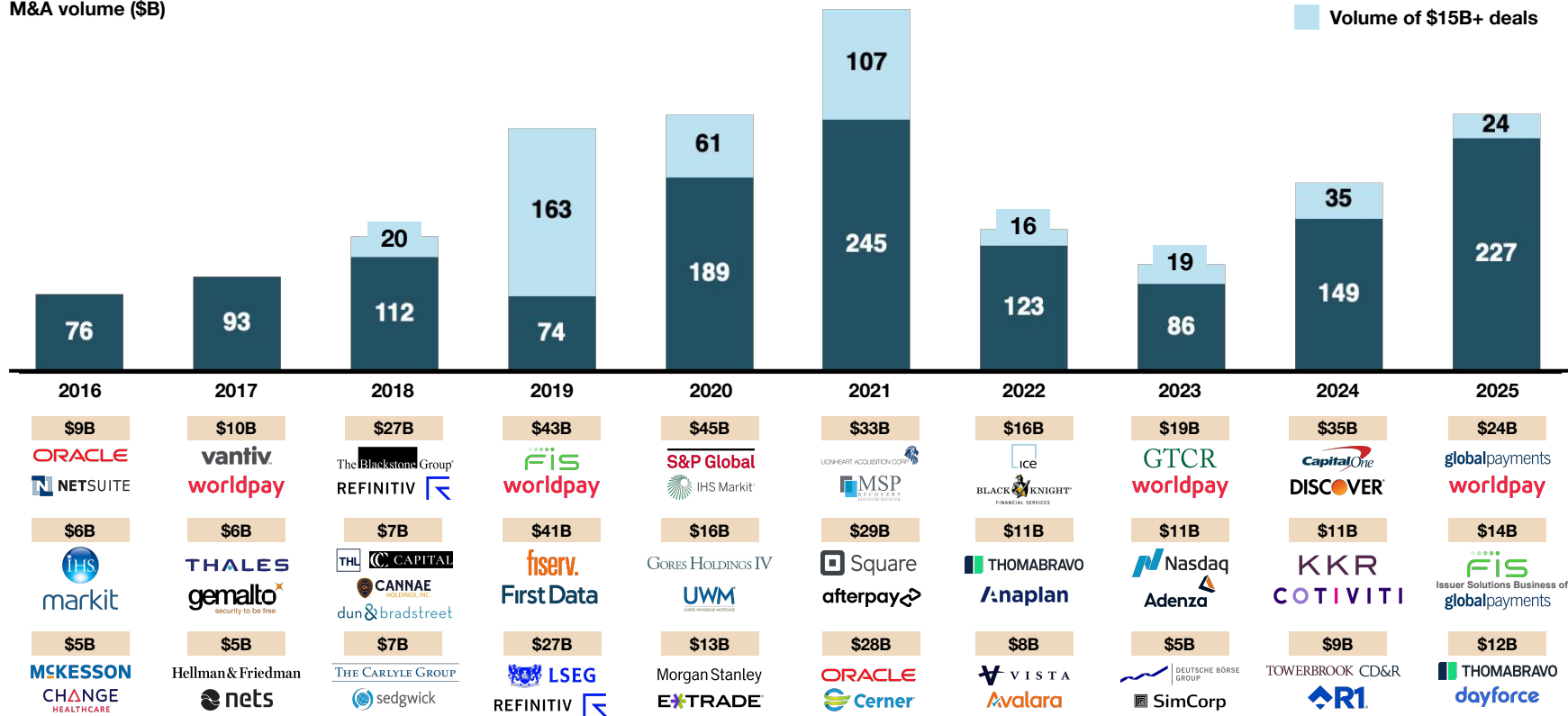
As of year end 2025, there are signals that more fintech IPOs are on the way



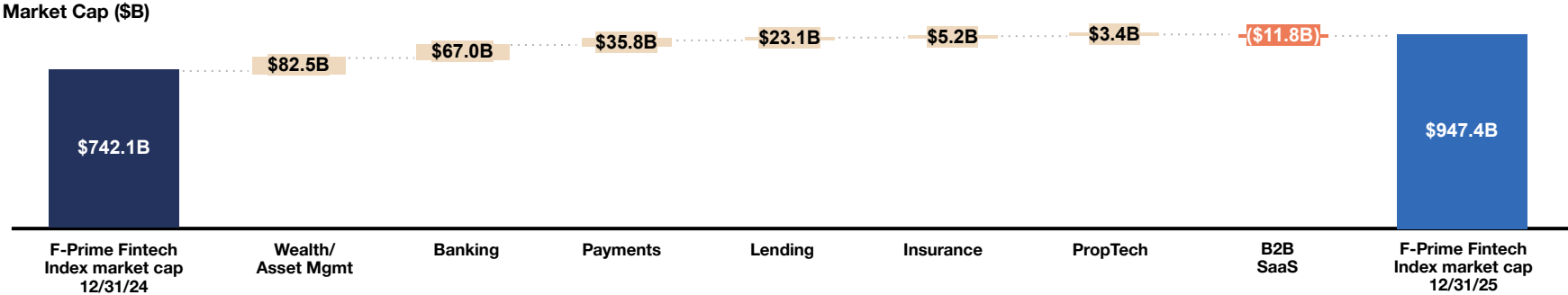
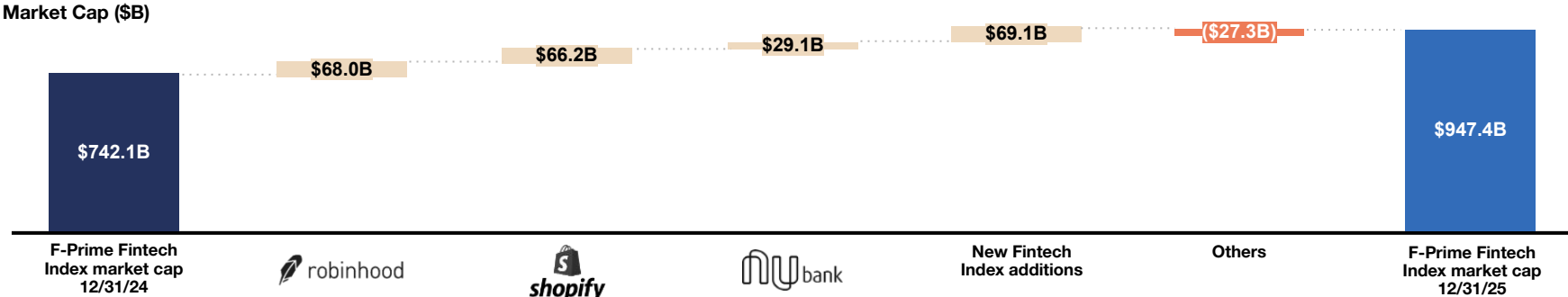
Fintech M&A volume also rebounded to pre-2021 levels

M&A volume (\$B)

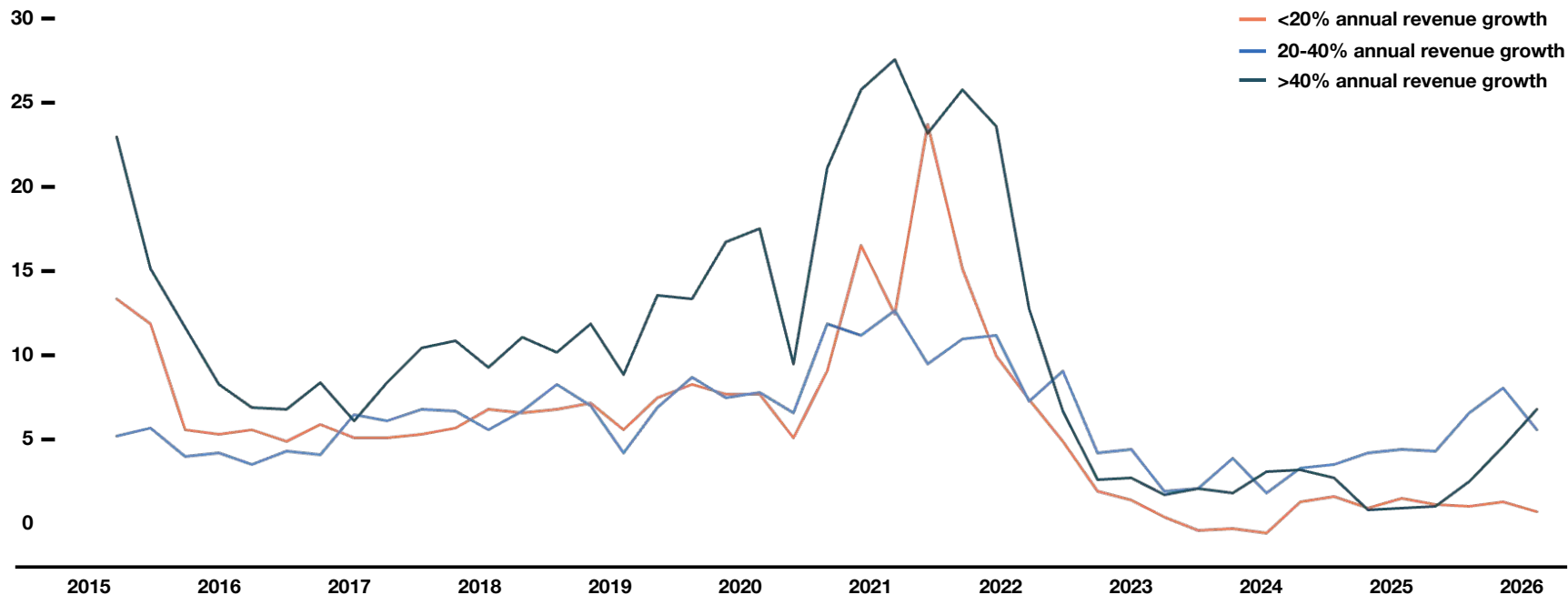
Volume of \$15B+ deals



The Fintech Index added over \$200B market cap in 2025, but gains were concentrated – Robinhood, Shopify, and Nubank contributed nearly 80%

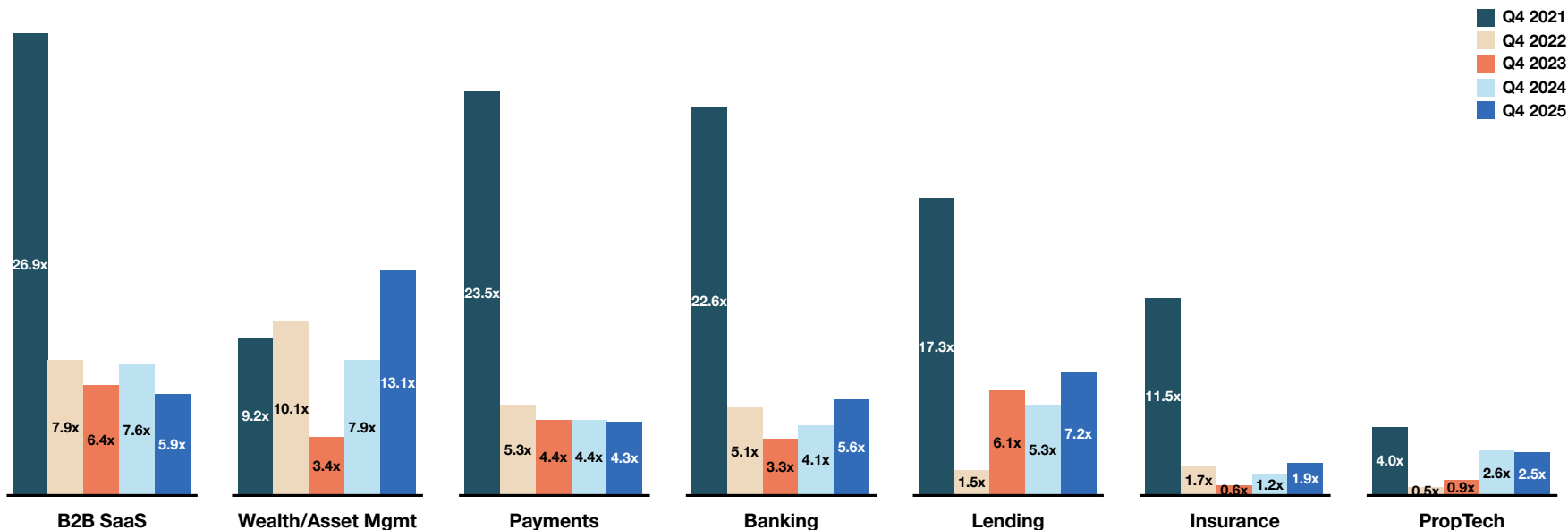


20-40% annual growers have been the highest valued cohort for seven of the last eight quarters

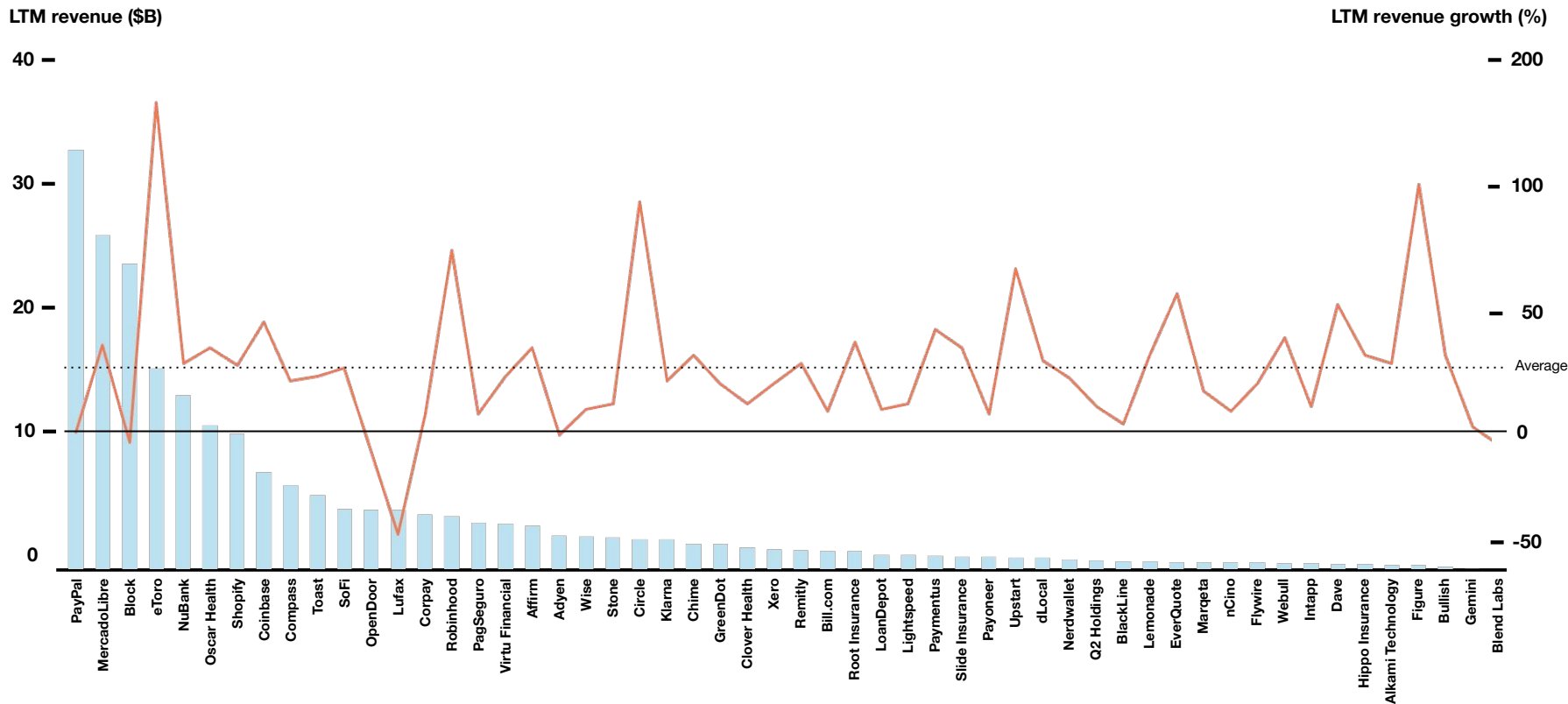


Most sectors have seen relatively stable revenue multiples over the last 2 years

EV/LTM revenue multiple

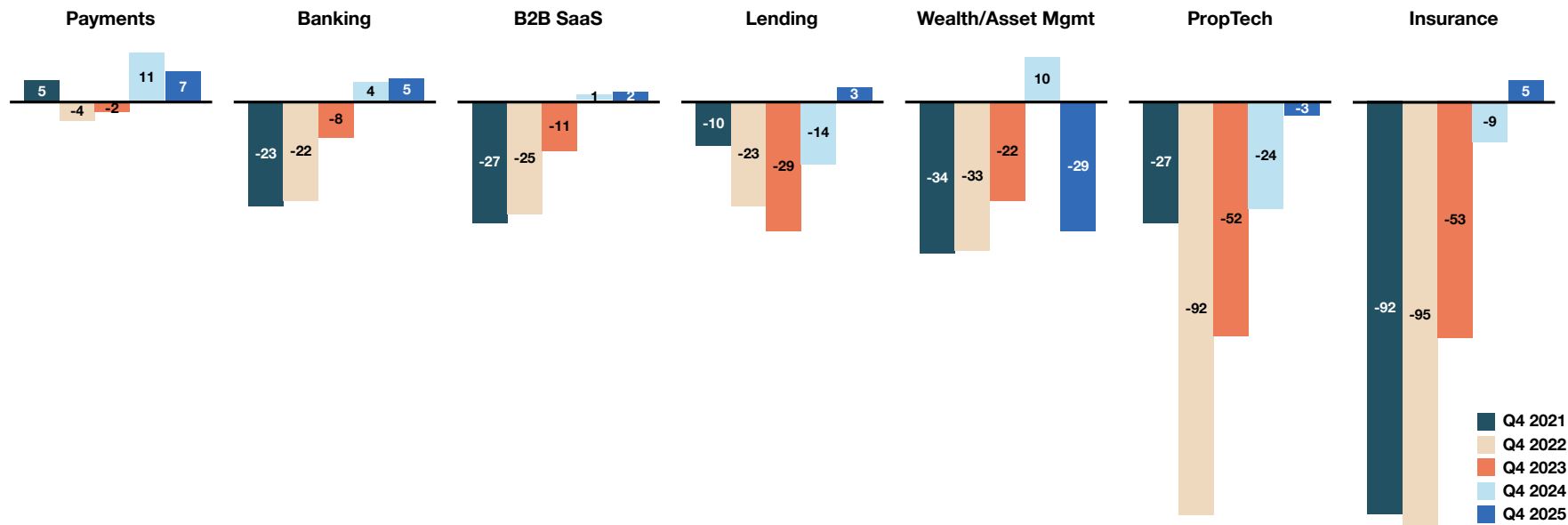


Fintech Index companies have scaled and continue to grow revenue at an average 29% annually



All sectors have meaningfully improved net income margin since the 'growth-at-all-costs' era five years ago


Net income margin, %



2025 made clearer than ever that fintech has forged the next generation of great financial services companies

Banking

Top 1.5% of US banks by deposit

Company	Deposits	Rank
Revolut	\$30.0B	Top 1.35%
SoFi	\$29.7B	Top 1.38%
 ny bank	\$28.9B	Top 1.44%



Lending

Top 25 of US issuers by credit card purchase volume

Company	GMV	Rank
Klarna	\$105.0B	#10
 affirm	\$26.6B	#21


Payments

Top 5 global merchant acquirers

Company	TPV	Rank
 stripe	\$1.4T	#5 (tie)
 adyen	\$1.4T	#5 (tie)

Vertical SaaS

~15% market share of restaurant payment volume

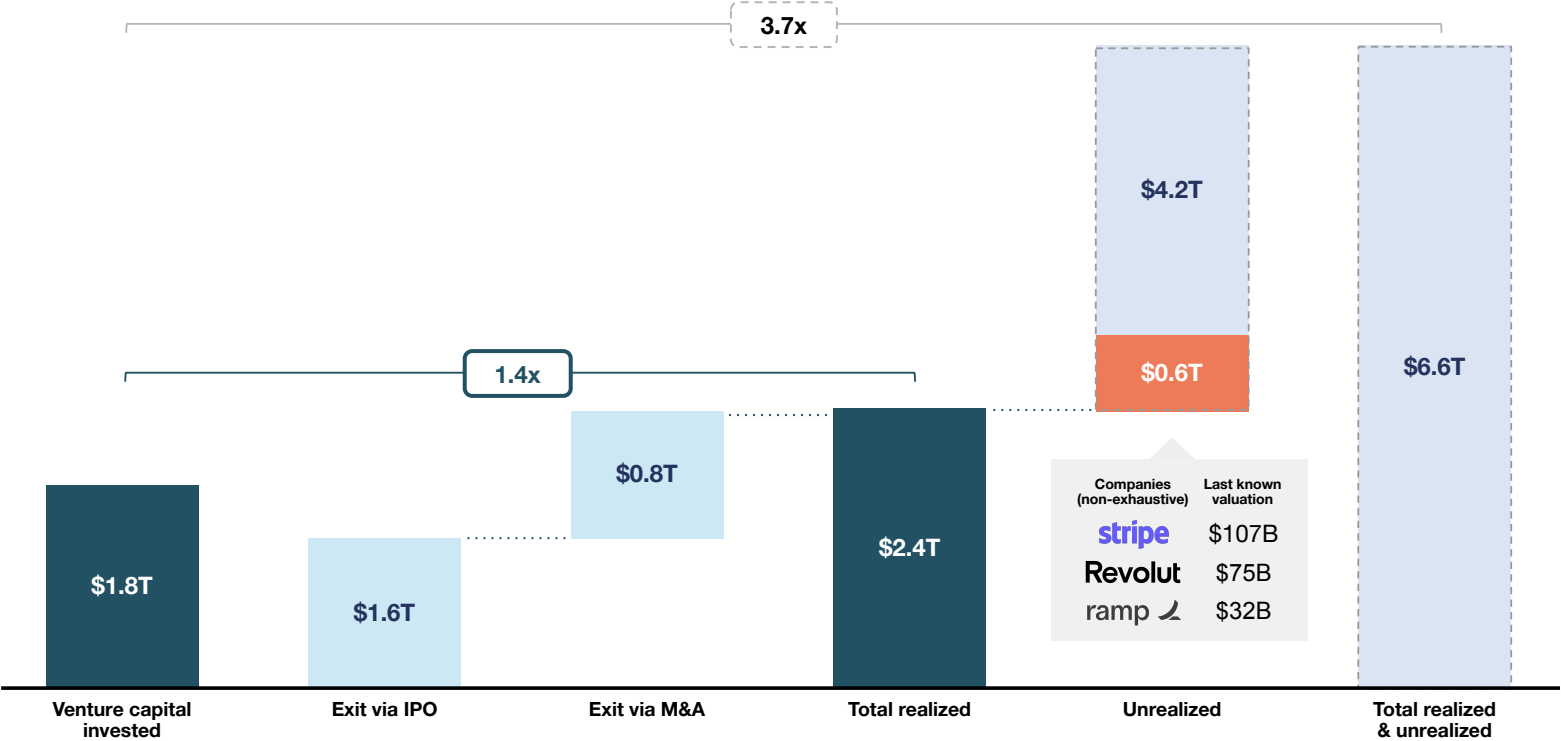
Company	GPV	Rank
 toast	\$42.2B	#3

Wealth Management

Top 10 US online brokerages by assets on platform

Company	Assets on platform	Rank
 coinbase	\$516B	#8
 Robinhood	\$333B	#9

Over the last decade, ~\$1.8T of venture capital invested has returned ~\$2.4T, with an additional \$4.2T in unrealized private valuation – fintech makes up ~\$0.6T of that





Crypto

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F-Prime Crypto partnership



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Managing Partner



Bala Varadhan
Principal



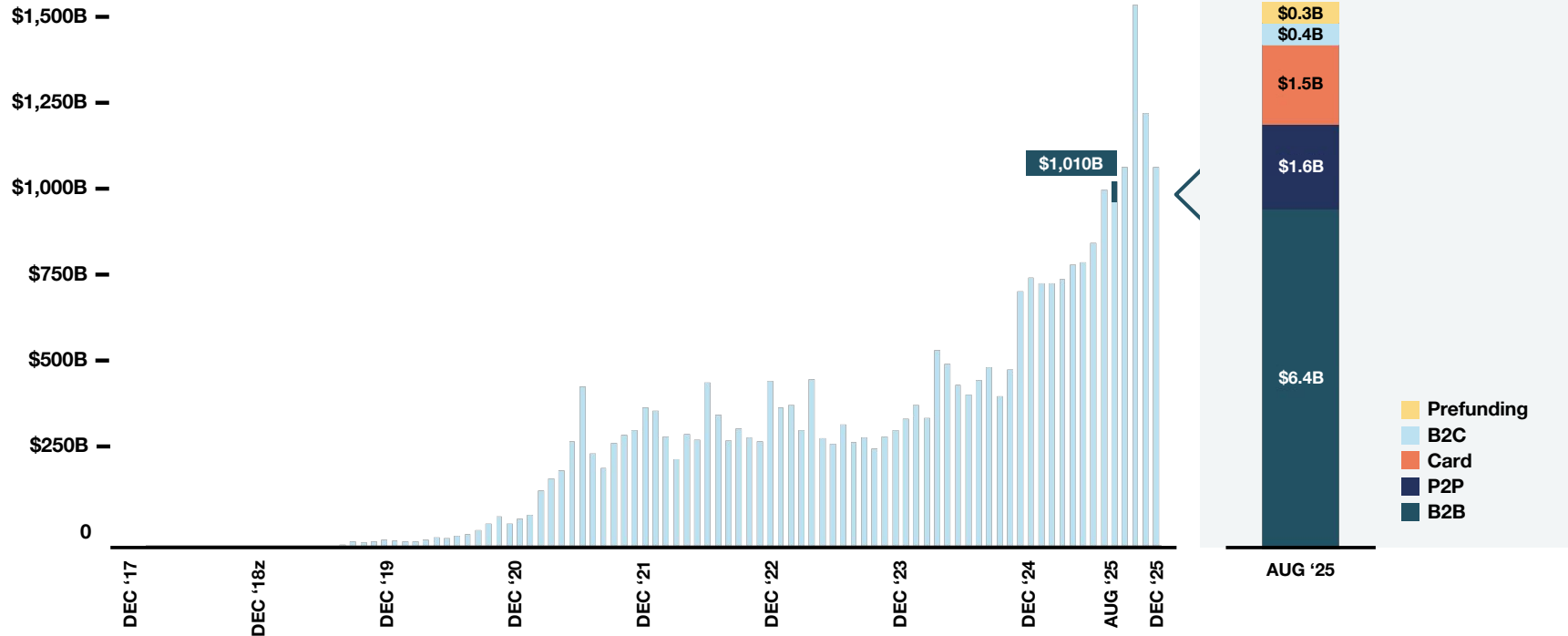
Jingwei Li
Senior Associate



Jack Neureuter
Associate

Stablecoin transaction volume crossed \$1T monthly in August 2025; ~\$10B of this can be attributed to off-chain economic activities

Adjusted transaction volume



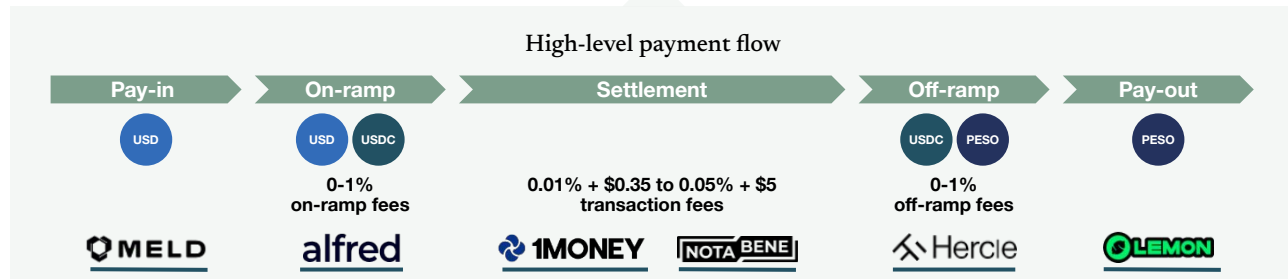
Stablecoins meaningfully improve the speed, transparency, and economics of cross-border payments

Traditional cross-border payment rails



- Settled in up to 6 days
- 4.97% to 14.55%
- Cost to remit \$200: \$9.94 to \$29.10

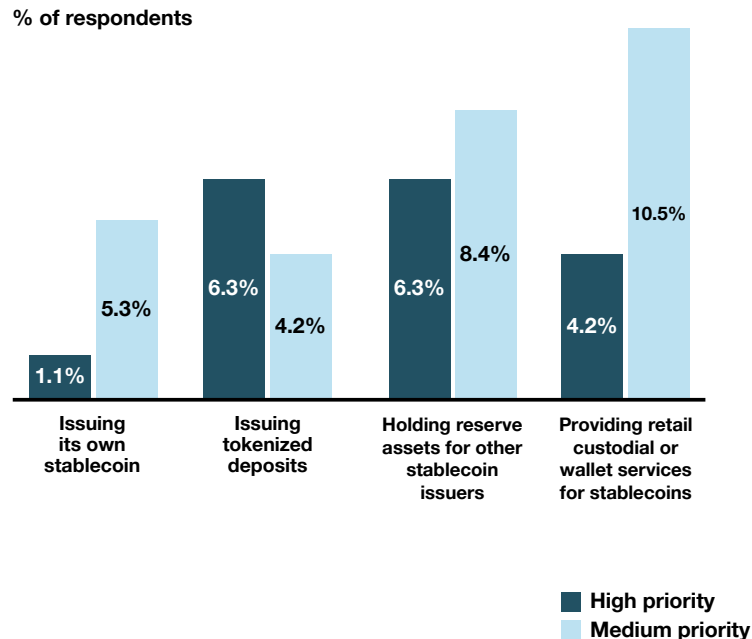
Stablecoins



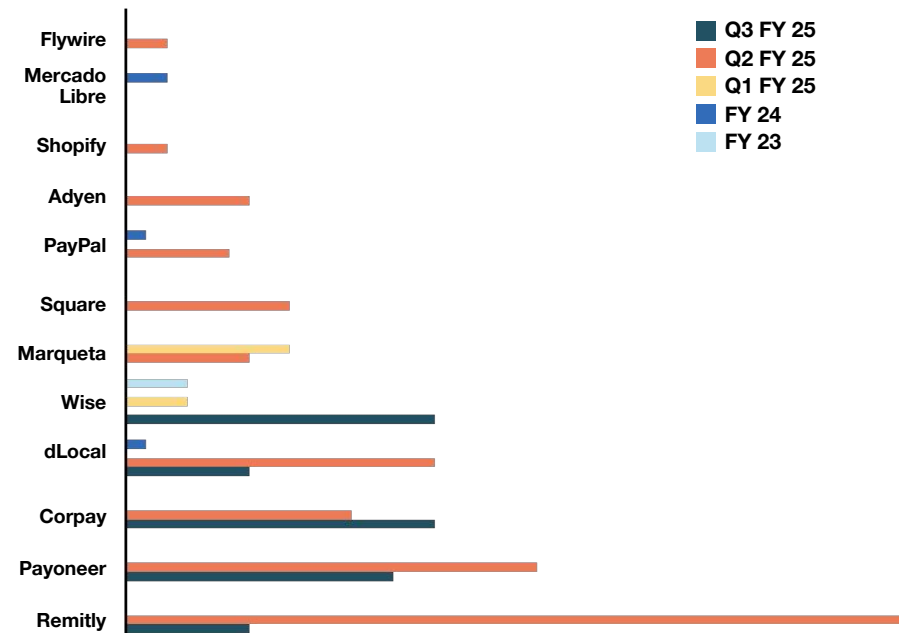
- Typically settled in <24 hrs
- 0.01% + \$0.35 to 2.05% + \$5
- Cost to remit \$200: \$0.37 to \$9.10

Banks are more interested in holding reserve assets or providing retail services than issuing; cross-border payments players increasingly mention stablecoins

Bank priorities for stablecoins and digital assets

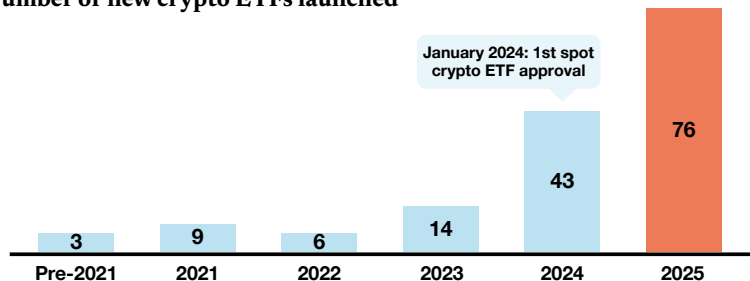


Stablecoin mentions in quarterly earnings reports



The arrival of crypto ETFs marks a structural shift in crypto market participation and unlocks new pools of long-term capital

Number of new crypto ETFs launched

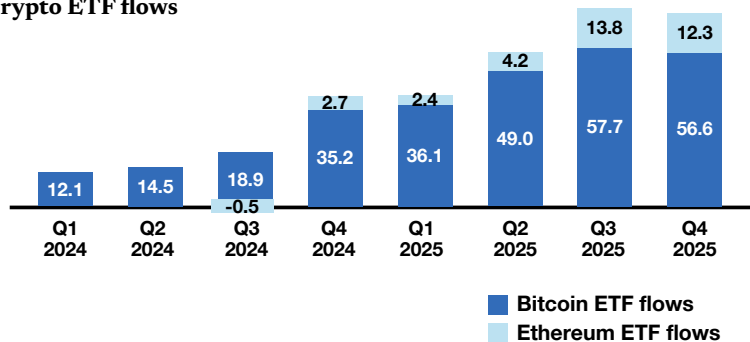


Asset coverage is expanding: approval of longer-tail, single-asset ETPs and launch of index-like products that provide market cap-weighted or similar broad-based exposure

More complex yield-based offerings, such as covered call or staked asset ETFs, are making their way into the market – eventually, expect to see DeFi derived yield and exposures available via traditional fund vehicles

Digital Asset Treasuries (DATs) have become the single largest buyer of crypto assets and are now competitive with ETFs for proxy market exposure to crypto

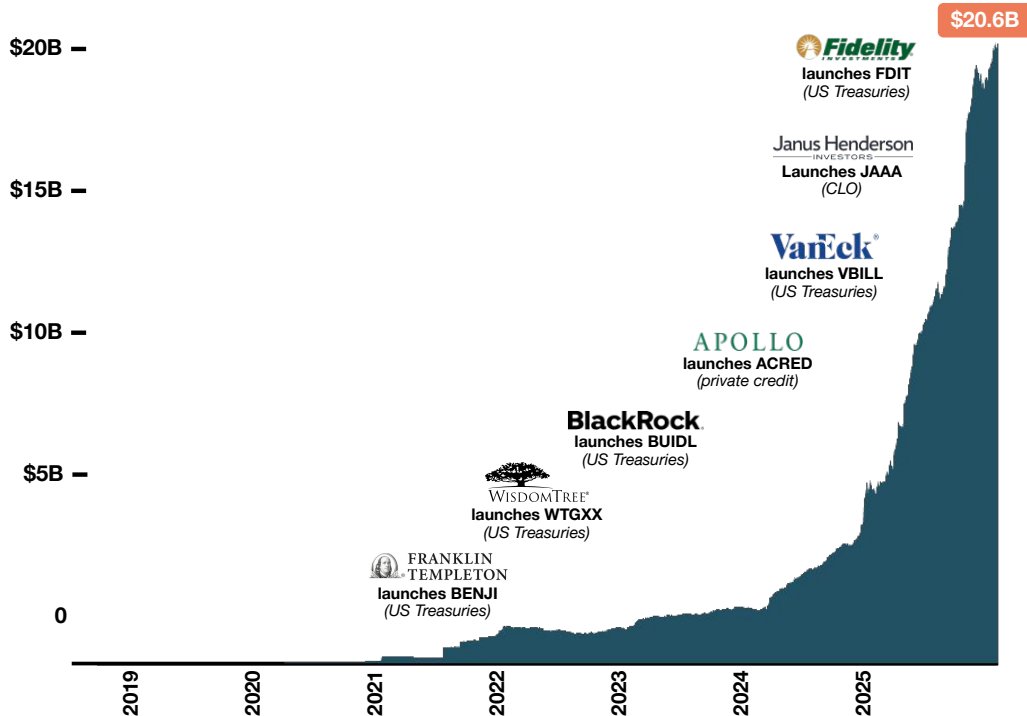
Crypto ETF flows



Symbol	Issuer	Asset	Cumulative flow
IBIT	Blackrock	Bitcoin	\$62.9B
ETHA	Blackrock	Ethereum	\$12.5B
FBTC	Fidelity	Bitcoin	\$11.5B
FETH	Fidelity	Ethereum	\$2.74B
BITB	Bitwise	Bitcoin	\$2.16B

Following initial adoption in stablecoins and tokenized treasuries, 2026 will see expansion of tokenization across a wider spectrum of asset classes

RWA value (\$B)



Sector	RWA value (as of 12/31/25)	Providers
Government debt	\$9.5B	SECURITIZE, ONDO, Superstate, FRANKLIN TEMPLETON
Commodities	\$3.5B	PAXOS, tether
Private funds	\$2.9B	SECURITIZE, Republic, Superstate, KAIO
Private credit	\$2.4B	FIGURE, Maple, Tradable, PACT
Corporate bonds	\$1.5B	BACKED, spiko
Public equities	\$0.9B	BACKED, DINORI, kraken, Robinhood

Crypto regulatory posture underwent a major shift in 2025; 2026 will see more regulatory clarity driving increased participation from traditional FIs

SEC policy shift & executive orders

January 23rd EO: Strengthening American Leadership in Digital Financial Technology

March 6th EO: Establishment of the Strategic Bitcoin Reserve and U.S. Digital Asset Stockpile

August 7th EO: Democratizing Access to Alts for 401(k) Investors

SEC policy shift: launched crypto task force, dropped major enforcement actions against leading crypto firms, adopted streamlined listing standards for spot crypto ETFs

GENIUS Act – July 18, 2025

Stablecoin legislation prioritizing consumer protection, strengthening U.S. dollar reserve currency status, and bolstering national security. Creates reserve requirements, aligns State & Federal frameworks, and adds consumer protections.

Impact: Increase in the integration and usage of stablecoins by traditional financial institutions for payment processing and cash-like activities. Sets the stage for banks to begin issuing stablecoins themselves.

CLARITY Act – 2026

Market structure bill aiming to provide clear rules for digital assets, defining what should be treated as securities (SEC-regulated) vs. commodities (CFTC-regulated). The Senate Agriculture Committee advanced the bill as of January 29th, 2026 – the next step is a hearing held by the Senate Banking Committee.

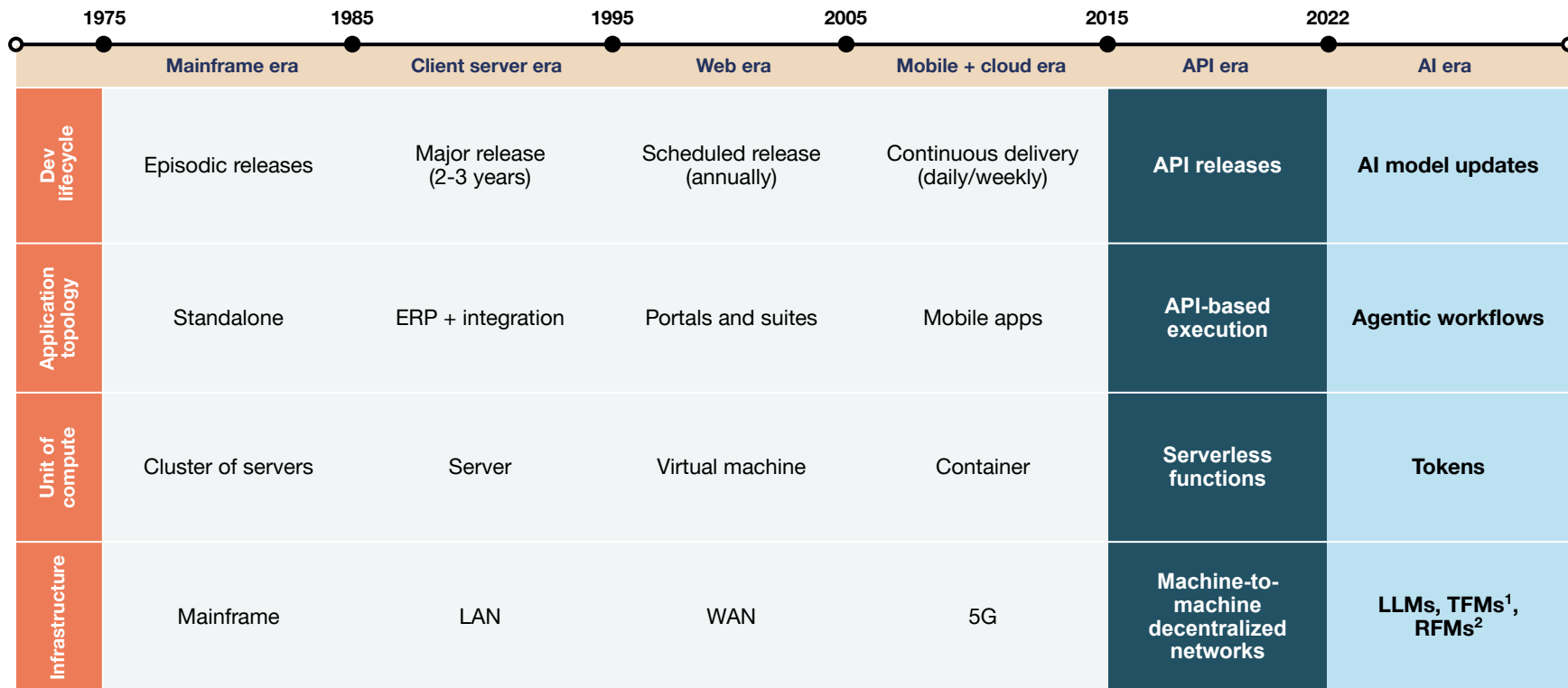
Impact: If passed, the CLARITY Act would provide clearer compliance for crypto businesses, investors, and traditional financial institutions.



AI

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Every 10 to 15 years, there is a shift in technology architecture



Financial services is the largest industry by GDP but sees one of the lowest rates of scaled AI adoption

AI agent use that has reached the scaling phase, by industry and business function; % of respondents

	Technology	Healthcare	Energy and materials	Advanced manufacturing	Professional services	Travel and logistics	Engineering and construction	Consumer goods and retail	Financial Institutions
IT	22	13	10	9	6	6	6	7	3
Knowledge Mgmt	12	14	6	5	12	6	4	6	4
Knowledge Mgmt Marketing and sales	16	6	8	5	6	8	4	7	4
Service operations	21	6	7	3	6	3	3	1	5
Product and/or service development	18	7	6	6	4	6	6	3	3
Software Engineering	24	1	7	0	3	4	2	1	3
Risk, legal, and compliance	9	6	4	0	3	5	0	3	7
Strategy and corporate finance	6	5	3	4	5	6	4	3	4
Human Resources	9	2	5	1	4	0	4	1	4
Supply chain/ inventory management	4	3	2	3	1	2	0	3	0
Manufacturing	2	4	4	3	0	0	2	2	1
% of GDP	5.4%	7.5%	3.9%	9.8%	13.0%	9.2%	4.5%	10.7%	21.4%

There are structural reasons why financial services is adopting more slowly

Attributes of accelerated AI adoption

Content is text heavy

LLMs are ideal for finite, structured text for training and inference (contracts, documents, case notes vs. heavy tabular, numerical data key to financial services).

Ease of integration with existing systems of record

Agentic workflows benefit from easier to access source systems often with established APIs (e.g., CRM, Google calendar, data lakes) vs. proprietary bank cores, brokerage mainframes, and policy admin systems in financial services.

Higher error tolerance where imperfect outputs still create value

Clear workflow boundaries, easy-to-insert agents, and relatively mundane tasks that can be automated with low risk vs. consequences of even small errors in consumer bank data, loan origination, and insurance payouts.

Low regulatory exposure leading to faster experimentation

Bottoms-up, PLG motion accelerates organizational innovation (e.g., developers); many FIs still restricting employee usage out of concern for client data exposure risk.

Examples of early adoption outside financial services

Harvey

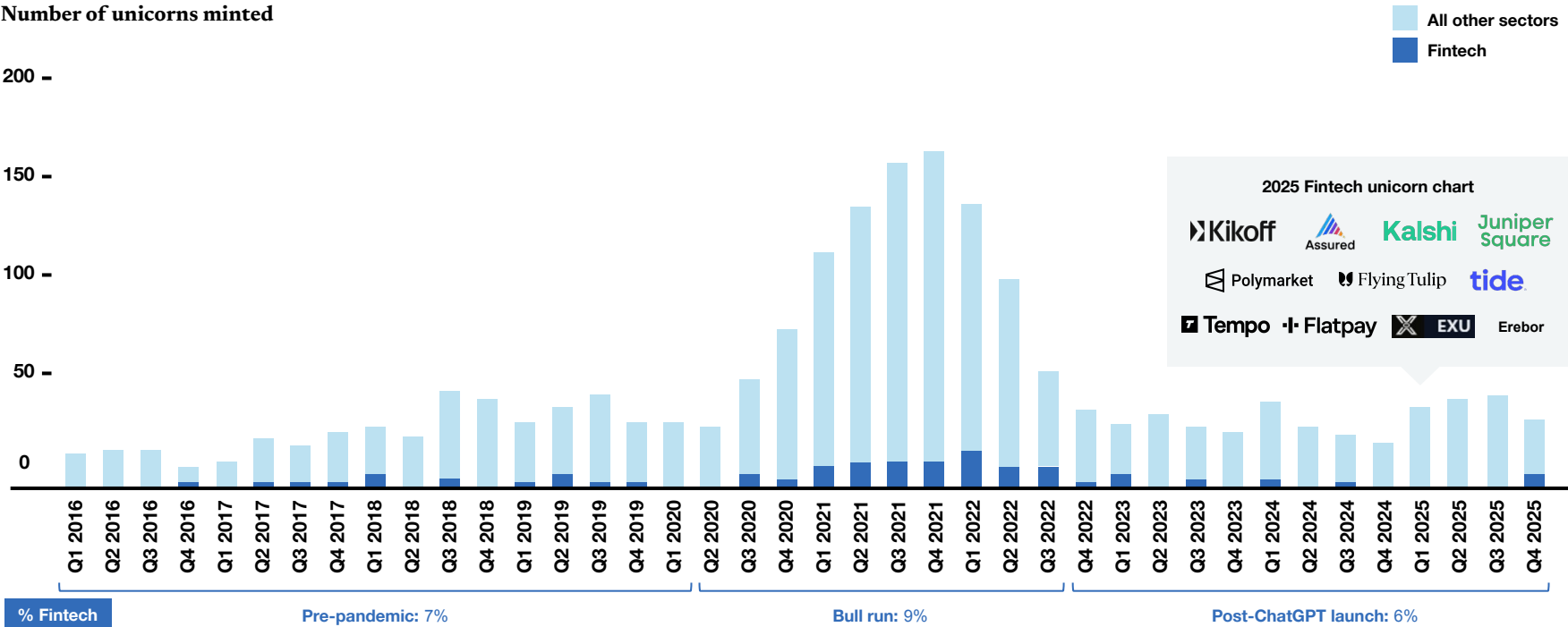


IIElevenLabs

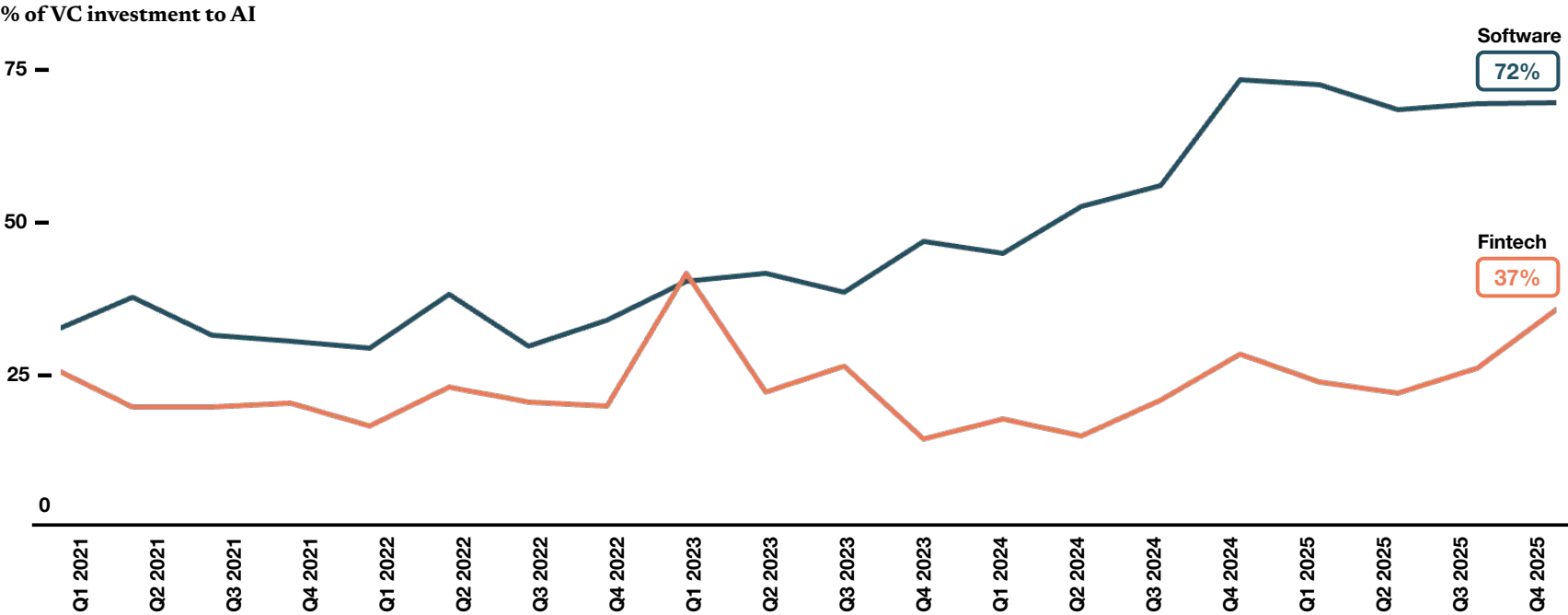


Fintech is making up a lower percentage of new unicorns—and those that surpass \$1B are not AI-native

Number of unicorns minted



AI first swept the horizontal functions, but is coming after verticals like fintech next



Large model labs are prioritizing financial services as a sector, but startups can differentiate on workflow, integrations, and domain knowledge

Large models are building for financial services...



- Stripe partnership to power instant checkout in ChatGPT
- Agentic Commerce Protocol co-developed with Stripe
- LSEG partnership to expand access to licensed market data within ChatGPT

ANTHROPIC

- Launched Claude for Financial Services in July 2025, particularly focused on financial analysts (+ Claude for Excel)
- Multiple Claud Connectors launched to support FS workflows: LSEG, Moody's, Chronograph



- Agent Payment Protocol (AP2) for secure agent-led payments across platforms
- Gemini/Excel spreadsheets for financial analysis

...but will be limited in their success – startups can differentiate on industry-specific integrations and ability to handle proprietary data



Lack of industry-specific integrations hinders workflows
(e.g., financial planning tools in wealth, LOS in lending, policy admin system in insurance)

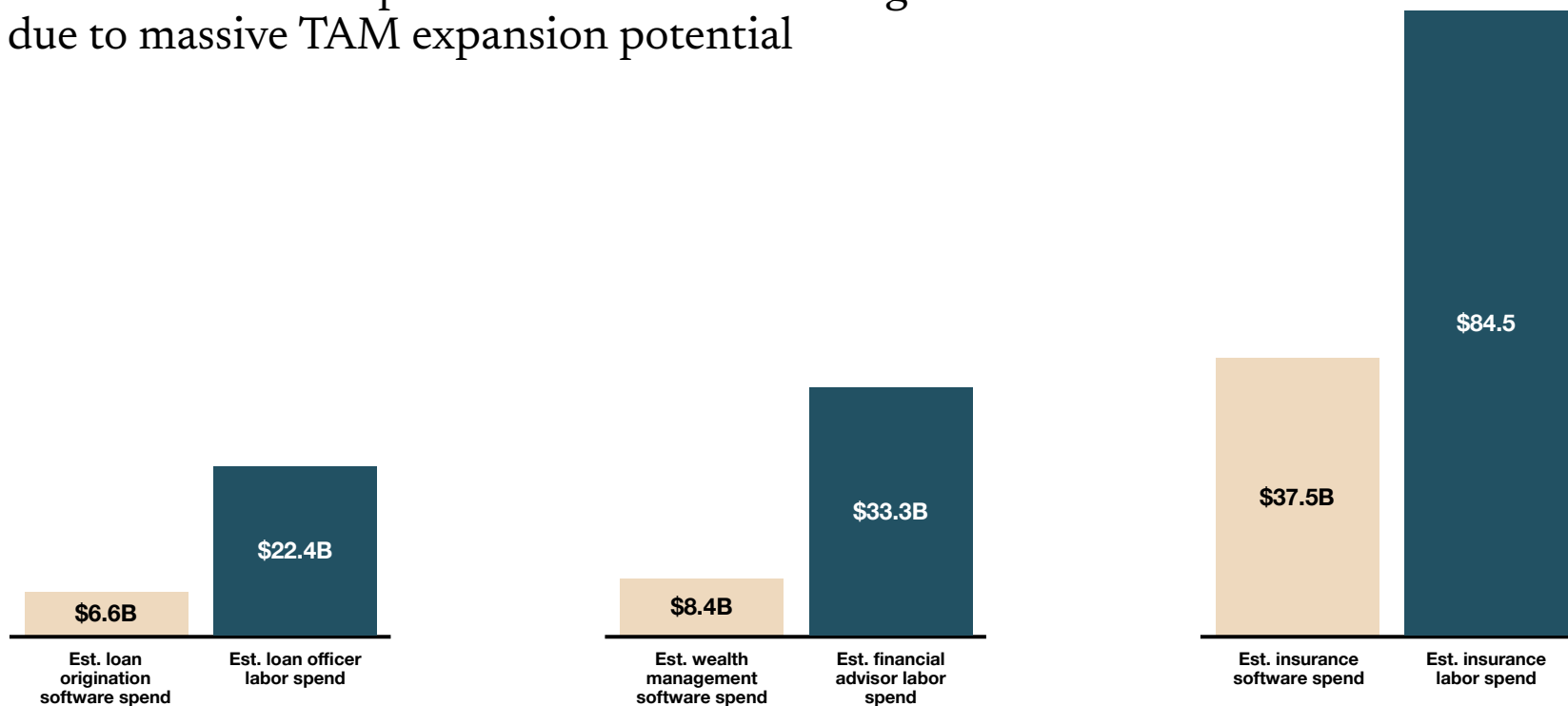


Proprietary & confidential data restricts training and deployment depth

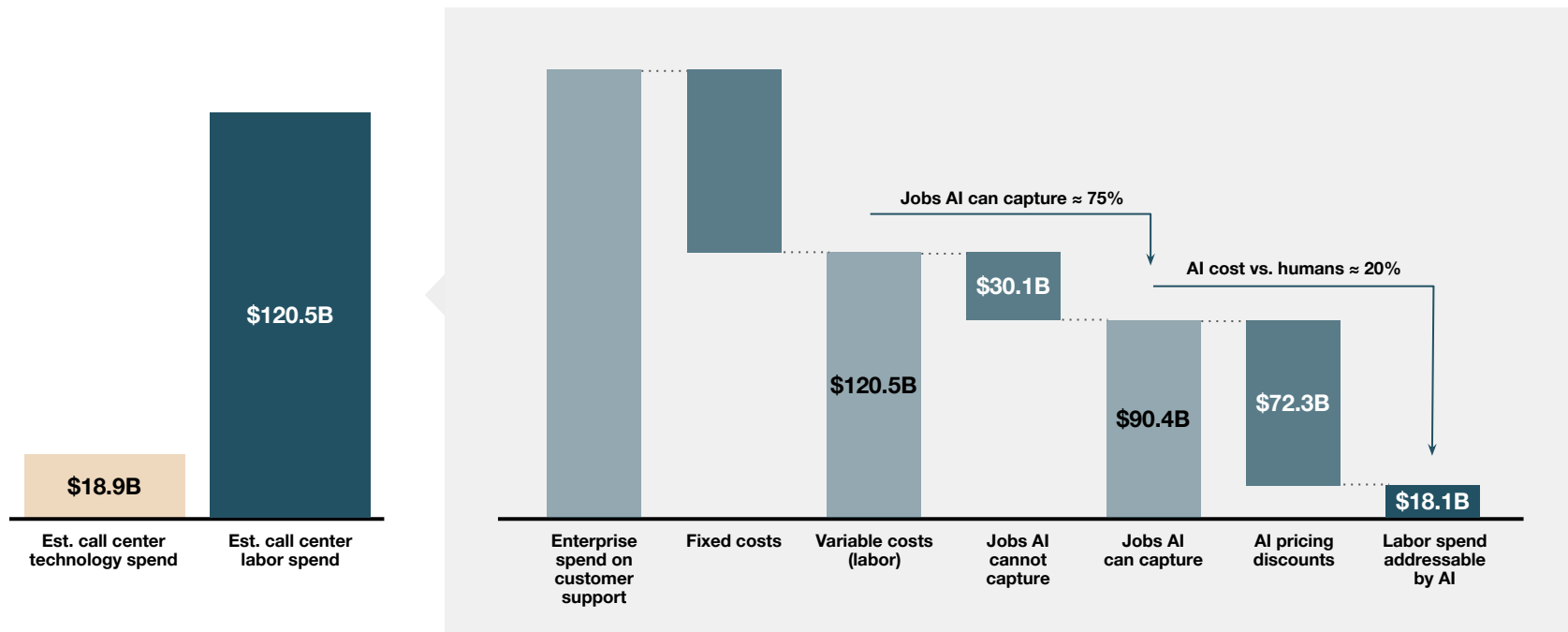


Compliance requirements constrain deployment in core workflows







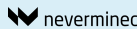





















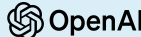




Investors and entrepreneurs love the idea of agentic workflows due to massive TAM expansion potential



While labor spend is multiples larger than SaaS spend, it's probable that only 10-20% of it is accessible to AI today in many financial services categories



By 2025, the building blocks for nearly every functional area of financial services have been built – now, new AI infrastructure and applications are emerging

Emerging AI applications	AI-native version	Range <i>AI-native wealth manager</i>		Catena <i>Agentic payments and banking</i>		BOOM <small>Real Estech</small> <i>AI-driven STR manager</i>		
	Automating business workflows							
Fintech stack		Payments	Wealth	Banking	Lending	Insurance	Real estate	Crypto
Data access								
Transactions								
Middle / back office								
Emerging AI infrastructure					ANTHROPIC			
IT infrastructure								

In agentic commerce, 2025 was all about enhancing product discovery and standard setting; payment volume will follow, but may take time

Agents can autonomously control a massive global ecommerce market



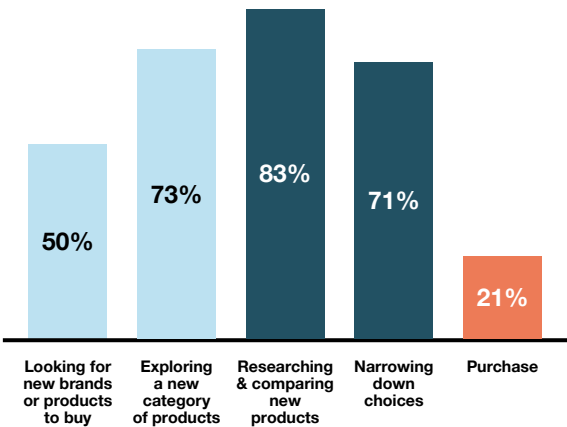
LLMs help with discovery and research, but checkout is still happening in traditional channels – for now



2025 saw a wave of agentic payments protocols emerge, but broad adoption requires convergence around shared industry standards

If AI agents can autonomously discover, negotiate, and execute purchases on behalf of users, it will disrupt the global **\$6T+ e-commerce market** and **\$250B+ payments revenue stream**.

Where shoppers say AI is most effective in their journey





Protocol	Creator(s)	Type
MCP	Anthropic	Agent communication & orchestration
A2A	Google	
ACP	OpenAI, Stripe	Commerce flow orchestration
UCP	Google	
AP2	Google	Payment authorization & execution
x402	Coinbase, Cloudflare	
VIC + TAP	Visa	Network-level payment infrastructure
Agent Pay	Mastercard	
ACK	Catena Labs	Identity, trust & credentials

Themes we're tracking

Agentic commerce

Shift from static checkout flows to autonomous agents that discover, negotiate, and transact on behalf of users

Catena  nekuda  circuit+chisel

Tabular foundation models

Foundation models built natively for structured data, unlocking for tables what LLMs unlocked for text

 kumo  PRIOR  Fundamental

Stablecoins

Internet-native money enabling, faster, cheaper, and more programmable money movement around the globe

alfred  1MONEY  MELD

Alternative assets

Modernized infrastructure layer supporting the rapid rise of alternative asset AUM and retail investor participation

canoe  Astraeus  monark

AI x CFO stack

Rebuild of the CFO stack replacing manual work with real-time financial decisioning, dynamic pricing, and automated close

FAZESHIFT  paygenic  Rillet

AI x institutional finance

Platforms that synthesize data, documents, and workflows into decision-grade intelligence for large financial institutions

 FARSIGHT Rowspace  Metal

AI x insurance

Automation across the policy lifecycle including underwriting, pricing, claims management, and reconciliation

 Sixfold  Elysian  DIESTA

AI x lending

Automation across the loan lifecycle enabling faster decisioning, better risk management, and scalable loan book growth

 Spinwheel.  EnFi  Lama^{AI}

AI x proptech

Automation across real estate operations including asset acquisition, property management, and tenant experience

 BOOM^{Real Estech}  Blanket  Elise^{AI}

About F-Prime

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F-Prime Tech partnership



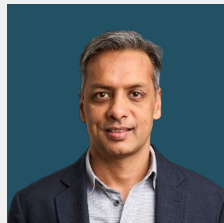
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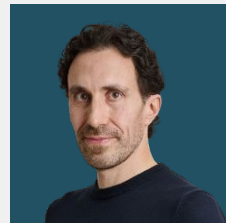
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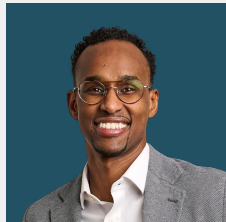
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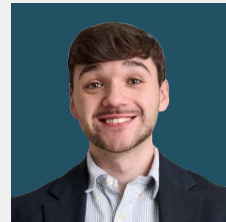
Abdul Abdirahman
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Betsy Mulé
Principal



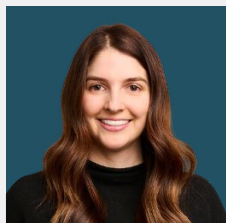
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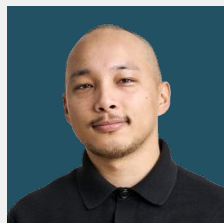
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Jillian Enos
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Henry Trapnell
Industry Networks Director



Tenzin Jampa
Data Scientist