



Al & Data Technologies

2022 / 2023 Atlas

Strategic Analysis for AI & DataTech Fundraising & M&A



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# Al & DataTech overview

## ICON's AI & DataTech expertise

Identify strategic opportunities. Leverage competitive dynamics. Achieve execution advantage.

Data-driven advice for a data-driven industry – ICON's AI & DataTech platform is a curated, proprietary data platform utilized to achieve optimal results.

Company & transaction database



>4,900 M&A transactions by

>2,900 acquirers



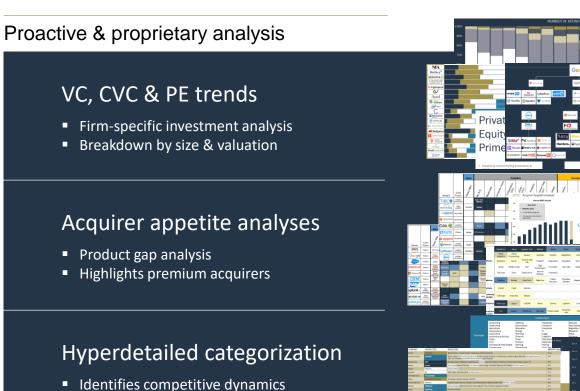
>4,200 VC financings from

>3,300 investors



>2,200 companies

>160 sectors



Vendor financial sizing

### Detailed market segmentation

Master Data Management

**VERTICAL APPS HORIZONTAL APPS** Industrial Oil & Gas Asset Management Loss Prevention Security Accounting Construction Farming Shipping **Smart Buildings** Advertising CPG Finance Insurance Pharma **Smart Cities Contact Center** Marketing **Supply Chain** Agriculture Credit Food PR Sports **Customer Support** Networking Al & Data Apps Law Enforcement **Public Safety Supply Chain Automotive** Defense Drone Data Payroll Translation Forestry Auto. Driving **Pricing Analytics** eCommerce Gaming Legal **Publishing** Telecom **Economics Batteries** Education Geopolitical Logistics Railroad Traffic Fraud Product Cities Government Manufacturing **Real Estate** Research Energy Transportation Civic Entertainment Healthcare Materials Regulatory Utilities Industrial Risk Commercial RE Environmental Hospitality Mining Retail Weather Sales **MARKETING ANALYTICS REPORTING** ADVANCED ANALYTICS ВΙ ΑI **Computer Vision** Media Intelligence Log Analytics Predictive Semantic Analytics Behavioral Analytics Analytics BPM AutoML **Social Analytics** Content Analytics Prescriptive Customer Churn Mobile Analytics **BPM** Conversational Al Model Ops Sound Recognition CDP **Social Analytics CPM** Prog. Languages Collaborative Analytics Decision Support Optimization/Solvers Quantum Computing Spatial AI Customer Journey VoC **Embedded Analytics Community Geo Analytics** Platform Real-time Analytics CX Analytics Web Analytics Interactive Visual. DATA MANAGEMENT **DATA SECURITY** DATA PROVIDER **Archiving & Recovery** DataOps Metadata Management Search Data Discovery & Privacy Data as a Service Data Governance Data Catalog Data Exchange **eDiscovery** Platform Sharing **Data Loss Prevention** Data Lineage **Document Data Extraction** Integration Prep **Training Data** Encryption

Quality

Data Infrastructure

DATABASES			PROCESSING	QUERY ENGINE		MANAGEMENT		
DBaaS	GPU	laaS	NoSQL/NewSQL Time Series	Acceleration IMDG	Access	Virtualization	Administration	Deployment
Edge Comp.	Graph	Real-Time	SQL/on-Hadoop	Computing	Data Lake	Warehousing	Automation	Monitoring

Platform

Al & DataTech - 2022/23 Atlas

**Data Quality** 

Web Scraper

# Key insights



#### Valuation pullback

AI & DataTech companies have not been spared the pullback in valuations that has coincided with rising interest rates & geopolitical turmoil. However, DataTech valuations remain above the general software sector



#### **Emerging acquirers**

On a deal volume basis, traditional West Coast tech incumbent acquirers have been replaced by emerging upstarts, buyout firms & reinvigorated European acquirers. The new target pool enables creativity in competitive deal marketing



#### App explosion

Data-driven decision-making is becoming common practice across industry verticals & horizontal departments, leading to specialized vertical & horizontal data apps vendors accounting for a growing share of the overall DataTech market

#### Summing it up

Although the coronavirus pandemic is largely behind us, an almost self-fulfilling recession is looming ahead. A series of knee-jerk reactivity followed by periods of promising strength will prevail in the near-& mid-term. However, the overall trend in DataTech VC & M&A will follow the likely economic trend downward

Large, transformative deals will continue but financing & acquisition deal volume will increasingly favor innovative emerging companies, even if they haven't yet demonstrated significant commercial success

### DataTech stack



#### Al & Data Apps

Vertical Apps Horizontal Apps



#### Analytics

Advanced Analytics Marketing Analytics Reporting



#### Data Governance

Data Management
Data Security
Data Provider





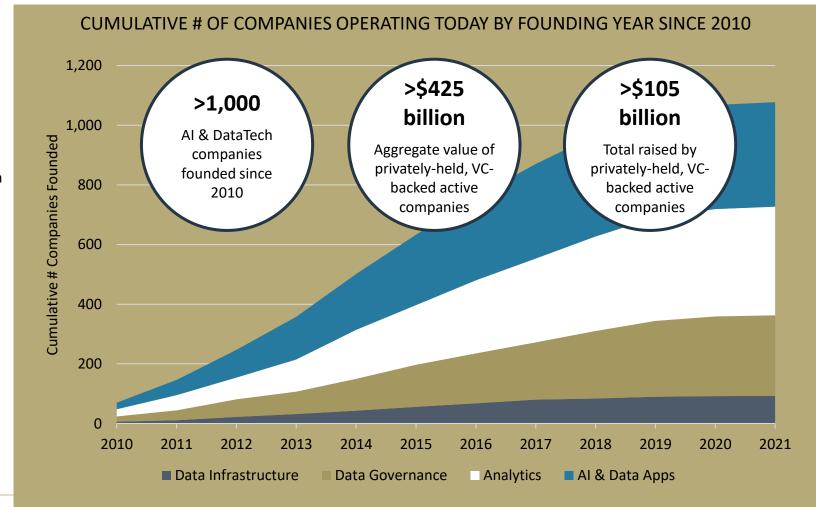
Databases Processing Query Engine Management

# Identifying opportunities

# Needle in a haystack

Al & DataTech companies have generated higher returns than the overall software industry. However, finding & understanding specific investment & acquisition opportunities is becoming increasingly difficult due to the rapid pace of innovation & company formation. Value creation challenges persist for startups, investors & acquirers

- Creation & competition: of all still-active AI & DataTech companies that ICON is tracking today, nearly half were founded within the past 12 years
- 75% of the \$425 billion aggregated value of all DataTech companies is held by just 10% of the companies in ICON's dataset. Less expensive DataTech investment opportunities exist, but quality deals are like finding a needle in a haystack
- Are we reaching a peak? The sector has generated hundreds of billions in returns, but nearly a halftrillion dollars of shareholder value has yet to be realized – the equivalent of roughly 10 Snowflakes or 25 Tableau acquisitions
- Startups seeking investment or an acquisition are oftentimes just as challenged in standing out from the crowd as investors & acquirers are challenged in finding them



# Uncovering opportunities: Snowflake's hints

Snowflake represents an emerging opportunity for startups & their investors: both for investment & for acquisition. The company launched a corporate venture capital (CVC) arm in November 2020 & its two largest acquisitions were both announced in 2022

- Snowflake has proven itself as one of the most successful DataTech vendors of all time, however, that success is largely built on its data infrastructure origins
- As it continues to expand, the company offers hints at where it may make its next moves...

#### SELECT ICON ANALYSIS OF SNOWFLAKE'S 2022 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Application development

Snowflake is placing significant emphasis on its application development framework, which was bolstered by the \$800m acquisition of Python-powered startup Streamlit. Opportunities exist for developer & data science communities & emerging analytics tools

Data collaboration

As it seeks to become the global manager & analyzer of actionable data, Snowflake is increasingly enabling data collaboration among its customers. <u>Data security, authenticated user access, workflow orchestration & industry-specific opportunities exist</u>

Ecosystem development Snowflake is expanding its partnership development efforts, including with large companies like Salesforce Tableau, Dell & Pure Storage, but also with early-stage startups with as little as 5 employees or less. <u>There are try-before-buy opportunities to first partner with Snowflake before a closer relationship later</u>

New product launches

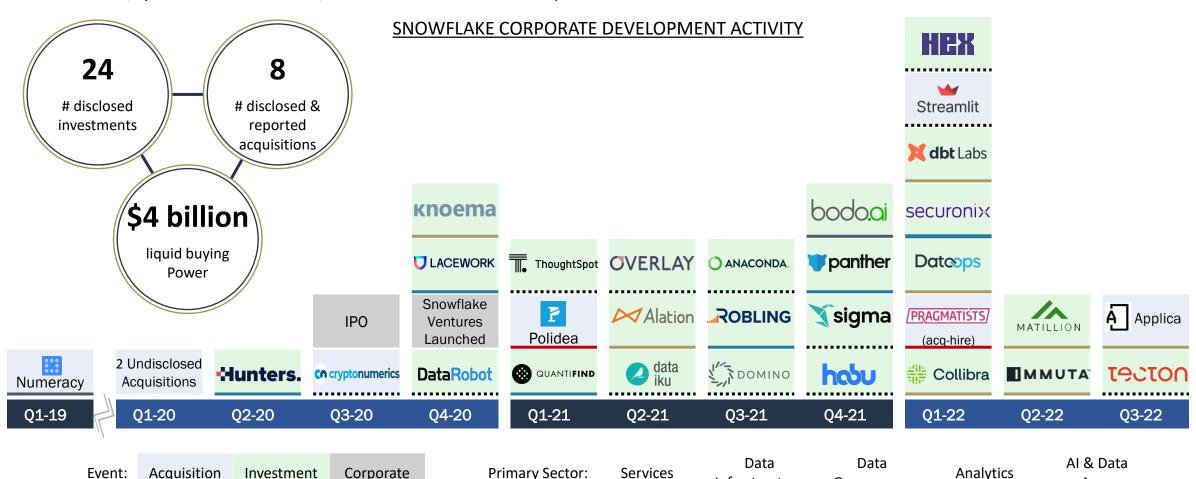
Snowflake's motto could be "move fast & launch things" – the majority of its press releases mentioned new or recently launched products. Its ambitions to expand quickly could open the opportunity for accelerated growth via more M&A

#### **ELASTIC PERFORMANCE ENGINE**

All things Python Many of its new products are supported by Python. Meanwhile, Snowflake's largest acquisition to-date – Streamlit – was driven in part by the target's Python community & many of its strategic investments have Python underpinnings (such as Bodo.ai & Anaconda)

# Snowflake's past points toward its future

In addition to organic development, Snowflake is increasingly acquiring & investing in complementary businesses. Its strategic transactions suggests future opportunities exist in data collaboration, Python tools & communities, as well as vertical- and functional-specific use cases



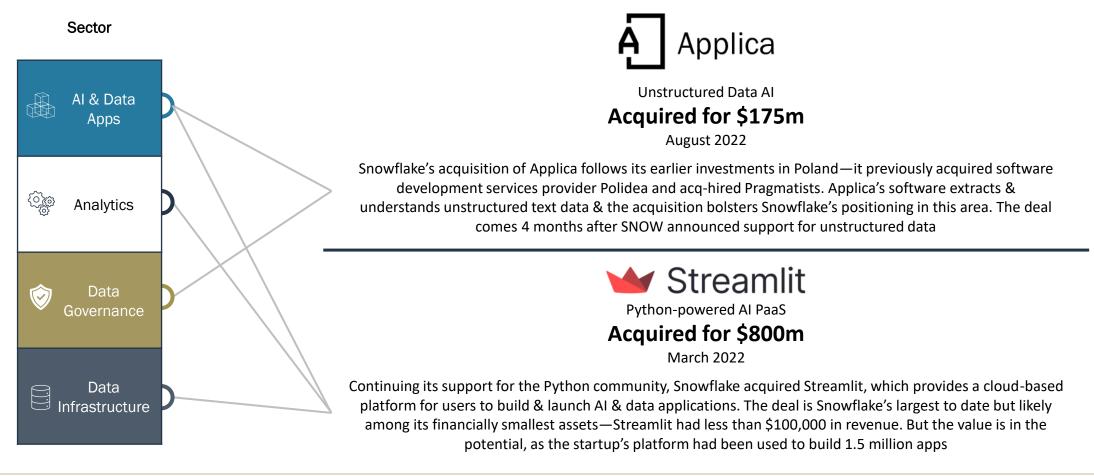
Apps

Infrastructure

Governance

# Snowflake's major M&A

Although the majority of Snowflake's corporate development transactions have been strategic investments, its largest disclosed deals have been acquisitions. So far, Snowflake has taken a neutral approach to M&A, instead preferring to partner. However, as it continues expanding its TAM & as targets become more attractive, we expect the company will break its neutrality & become more acquisitive, even acquiring in sectors where it currently partners



# Emerging sectors & vendors

Logo = Acquired

Despite sector chaos & confusion, opportunities exist for investors & acquirers: ICON is tracking >2,300 stillactive vendors across >160 subsectors

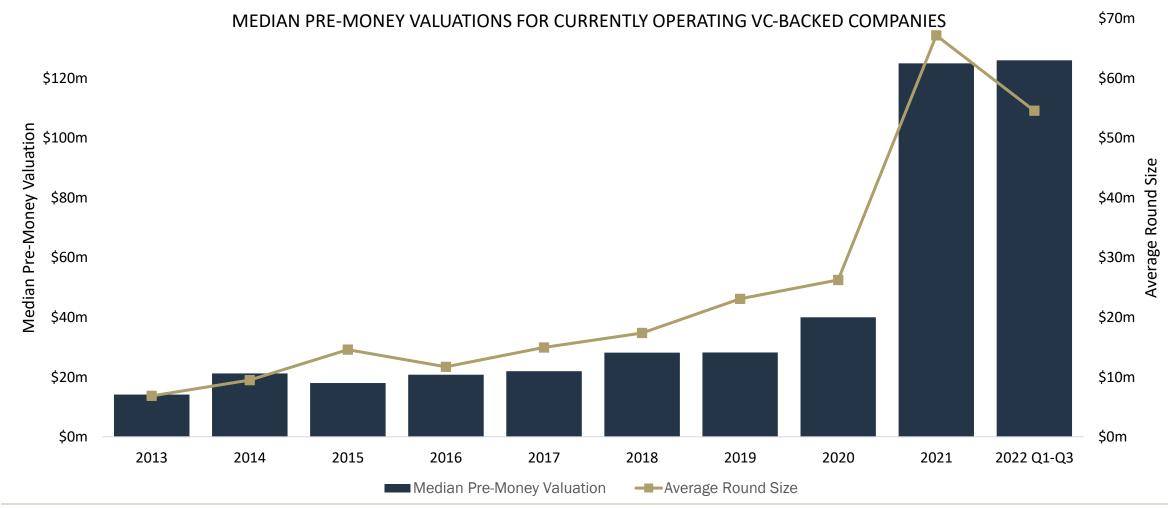
- Companies in our proprietary database span from pre-revenue early-stage startups to fast-growth heavily funded unicorns up to large, publicly traded companies
- Rapid innovation is occurring throughout the DataTech stack, with many companies developing new markets & rethinking established sectors
- Given the quick pace of change, some strategic acquirers & VCs may be challenged by keeping up with promising new & emerging startups. For example, ICON is tracking more than 100 data integration companies serving various use cases
- This analysis gives a sampling of privately held companies defining each emerging subsector, though note that some companies may fit in many subsectors

Sector	<b>Select Subsectors</b>	Sampling Of Privately Held Vendors				
	FinTech (Vertical Apps)	EZOPS  TH MFathom Global C SMART DATA				
Al & Data Apps	Cybersecurity (Horizontal Apps)	NETENRICH O orpheus Query.ai				
	eCommerce (Vertical Apps)	CommercelQ Profitero wwiser°				
	Alops & Model Ops	ForePaaS Model p UbiOps by Dutch Analytics				
Analytics	Semantic Analytics	bitext CLARABRIDGE Relative				
	Computer Vision	Always Al Clarifai VILYNX >				
	Data Catalogs	► Alation ‡ Collibra ⊖ Solidatus				
© Data Governance	Streaming & Real-Time Data Integration	equalum CHVR StreamSets				
	DataOps	DataKitchen Reboola Saagie				
	Data Processing	anyscale bodooi Coiled				
Data Infrastructure	Graph Databases	neo4j ontotext TigerGraph				
	Cloud Data Platforms	Airtable 👸 aiven FIREBOLT				

# Fundraising trends

### VC valuations continue their climb...

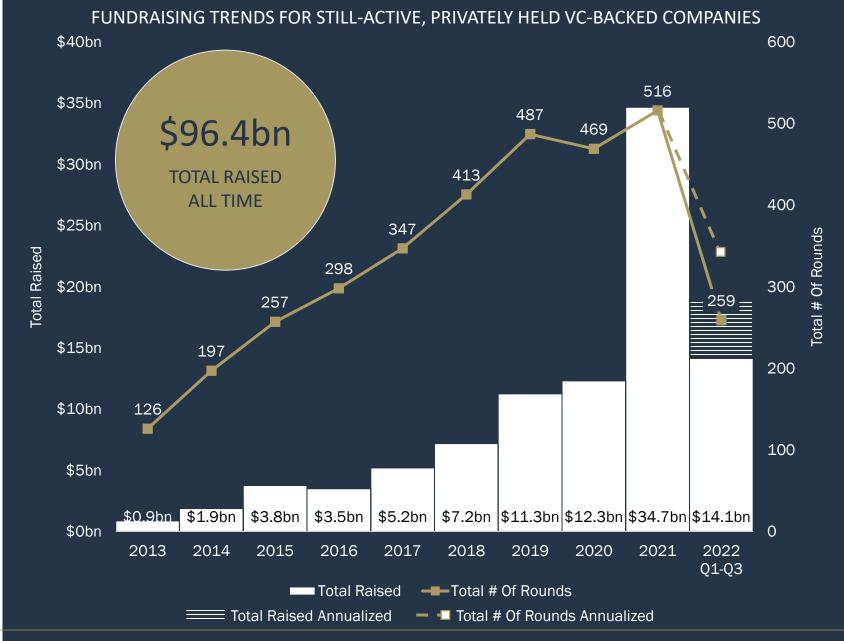
Valuations for still-active VC-backed startups more than tripled in 2021 & just barely eked out a new record so far in 2022



# ...while VC volume hits the breaks

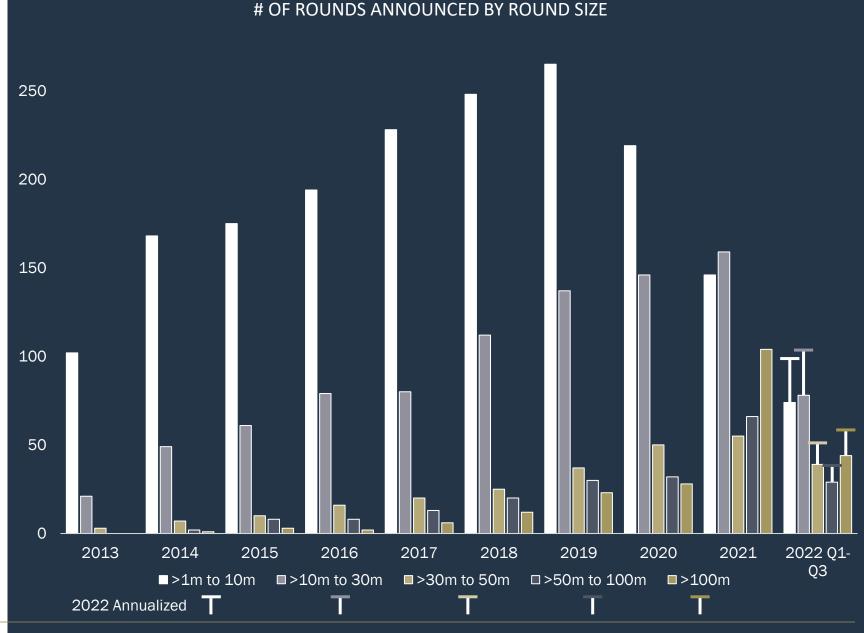
- While fundraising valuations rose, the number of rounds & total amount raised is declining
- Last year accounts for more than one-third of the all-time total VC raised by still-active, privately held companies
- 2021 saw 104 rounds of \$100m or more raised, including 3 rounds of \$1bn or more
- However, tides began turning earlier this year
- Annualizing 2022 data shows only about half of 2021's total dollar amount will be raised this year, with the number of financings coming in 33% lower
- Overall, fewer companies are raising capital, but their valuation demands are still being met

DataTech - 2022/23 Atlas



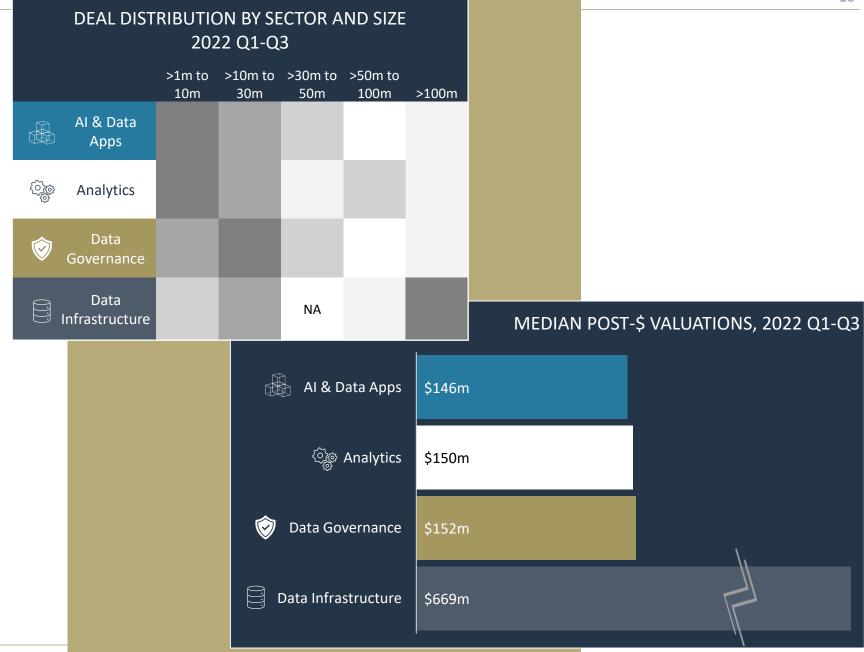
# Trends in transaction sizes

- Through to 2021, the number of announced rounds of all sizes continued climbing
- Early-stage activity remained healthy in 2021, but the highlight of the year was the \$100m+ round size category. However, that stage of investment is shrinking in 2022
- Annualized 2022 numbers show declines across almost all ranges of rounds, though rounds in the \$30m to \$50m range have remained steady
- Part of the slowdown in earlier stage investments is a pullback from investors who more commonly invest in later stages, such as Tiger Global. The firm reportedly began slowing earlier stage activity in mid-2022



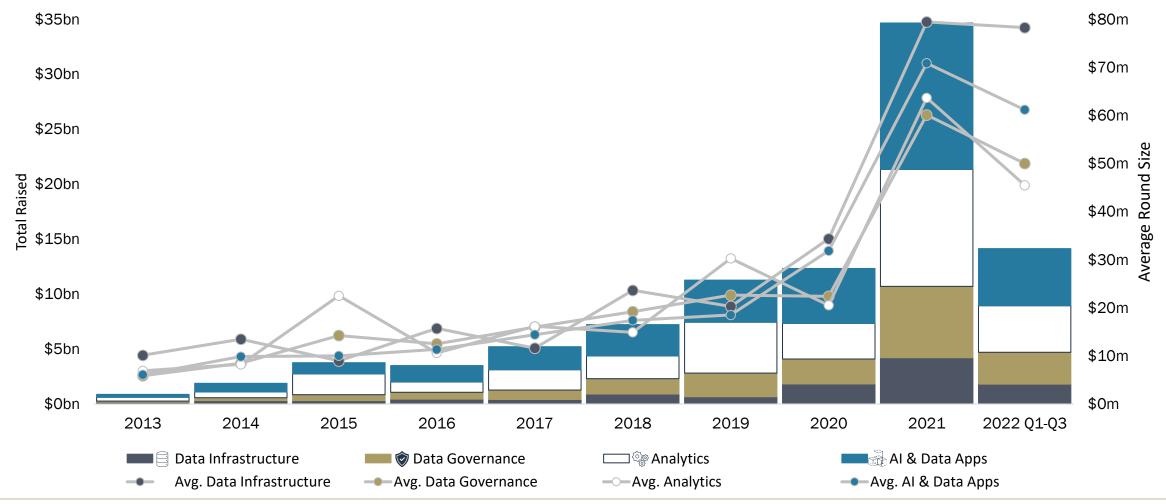
# Financing frequency & valuations

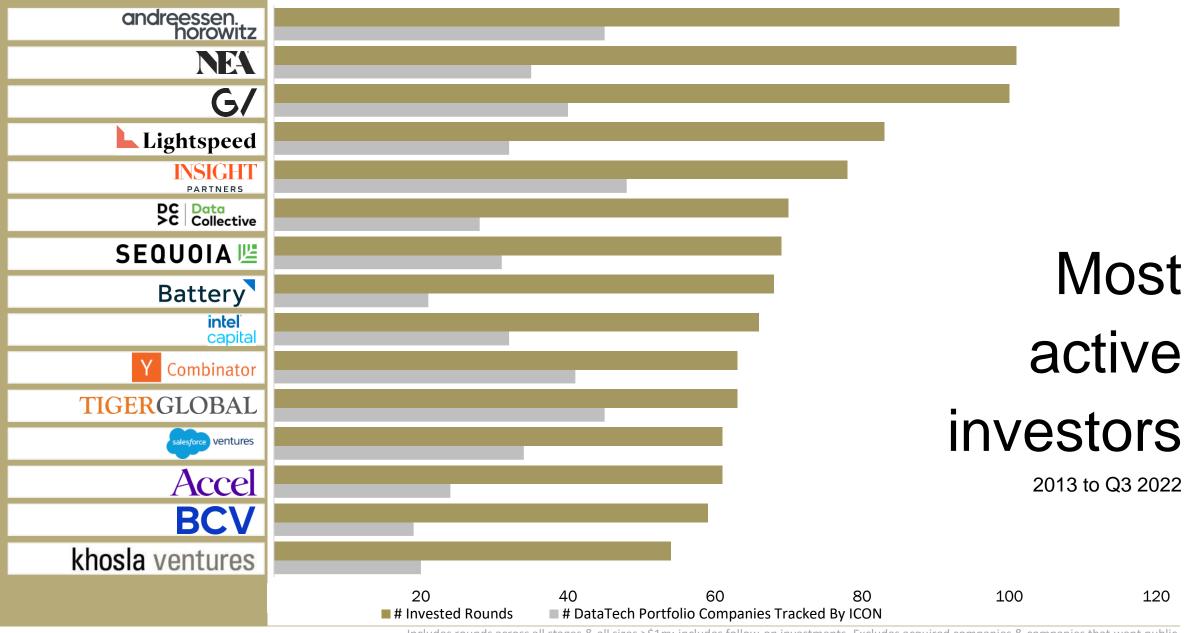
- Despite all the hype around \$100m+ rounds, earlier stage financings of \$30m or less were the most common rounds throughout the DataTech stack
- Valuations have climbed significantly, with each DataTech sector reporting median post-money valuations of at least \$100m
- The Data Infrastructure sector stands out for its median \$669m post-money valuation, however, that is mostly a factor of the quick maturing of Data Infrastructure vendors that ICON tracks the most common round size in that sector for the first three quarters of 2022 was >\$100m



# Total raised by sector by year

2013 through to Q3 2022







# M&A activity

# Soft landing

- This year, corporate & financial acquirers were caught off guard by geopolitical events & the US Fed's aggressive stance toward tackling inflation
- As a result, deal volume is declining
- However, continued strong competition for deals is supporting rising deal values, with the median deal size in the first three quarters of 2022 rising 32% from the yearago period, to \$40m
- Deal volume & values will change in 2023 due in part to a shift in risk: whereas corporate & financial acquirers were comfortable with risky, cash-burning companies in 2021, priorities trended toward cash flow & profitability (or a path to it) in 2022
- This trend will inhibit prospective acquisition targets who do not meet this new acquisition criteria



### DataTech deal volume is down but not out

DataTech deal volume is declining alongside the overall software industry, however, DataTech M&A dealmaking remains robust & trends suggest sector strength will continue

#### **Declining Volume**

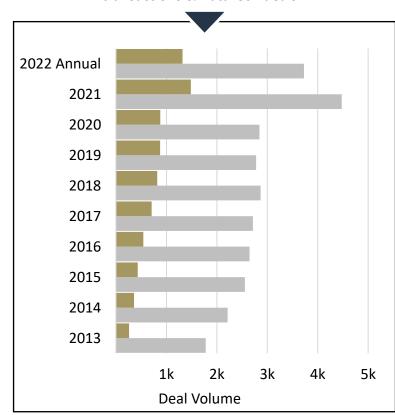
After an unprecedented surge in 2021, deal volume is declining across the board, for both general software transactions & DataTech deals

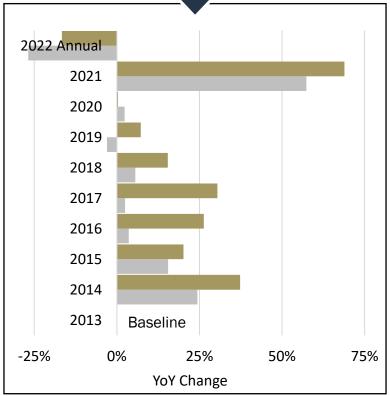
#### **DataTech Resilience**

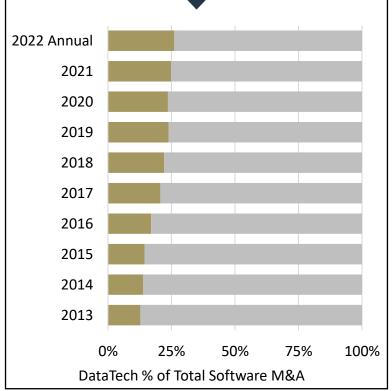
However, annualized DataTech volume is showing resilience compared to general software deals, declining 17% compared to 27% for all software

#### **Growth Trends**

Adoption of data-driven decision-making is resulting in DataTech transactions accounting for a growing share of total software M&A







Acquirer Funding & Post-\$ Valuation

# Emerging acquirers >> unicorn platforming

Backed by record fundraises, a new class of acquirers is emerging...

- Heavily funded unicorns are becoming more active & more aggressive in their acquisition strategies
- They are oftentimes paying valuations on par with publicly traded strategic counterparts
- For example, Paddle disclosed paying \$200m for ProfitWell, Celonis paid \$100m for Process Analytics Factory, Starburst reportedly paid \$60m for Varada & last year, Fivetran paid \$700m for HVR Software
- Some unicorns are minting their first acquisitions, starting out with tiny tuck-ins. For example, Aiven acquired Kafkawize in its first acquisition; the target showed only 1 employee on LinkedIn
- Others are looking outside their core geographic territories—in its third acquisition, San Francisco-based 6sense acquired Saleswhale, which was HQ'ed in Singapore

Acquirer	Target	Date	Description	Before/At Acquisition Date
👸 aiven	• <b>:</b> KAFKAWIZE	Nov 29	Kafka connector platform	\$210m Series D @ \$3.2bn valuation
<b>⇒</b> DEVO	LogicHub	Nov 20	Al-based security detection (horizontal apps)	\$100m Series F @ \$2bn valuation
<b>Starburst</b>	<b>VARVDV</b>	June 23	Data indexing & data lake acceleration	\$250m Series D @ \$3.4bn valuation
Clari	wingman	June 15	Conversational AI & sales analytics	\$225m Series F @ \$2.7bn valuation
paddle	ProfitWell	May 23	Subscription provider operating analytics	\$200m Series D equity & debt @ \$1.4bn valuation
<u>Al</u> phaSense	Sentieo	May 10	Financial text & data discovery (vertical apps)	\$225m Series D @ \$1.7bn valuation (May 20)
<b> </b>	<b>=</b> cortex	Apr 25	Cloud infrastructure for scalable ML	\$1.6bn Series H @ \$38bn valuation
ASTRONOMER	∳ data <mark>kin</mark>	Mar 22	Data lineage	\$213m Series C @ \$1.35bn valuation
<b>6</b> sense	<b>Sales</b> sales whale	Jan 22	Conversational AI & sales analytics	\$200m Series E @ \$5.2bn valuation



2022



# Broadening of the buyer pool

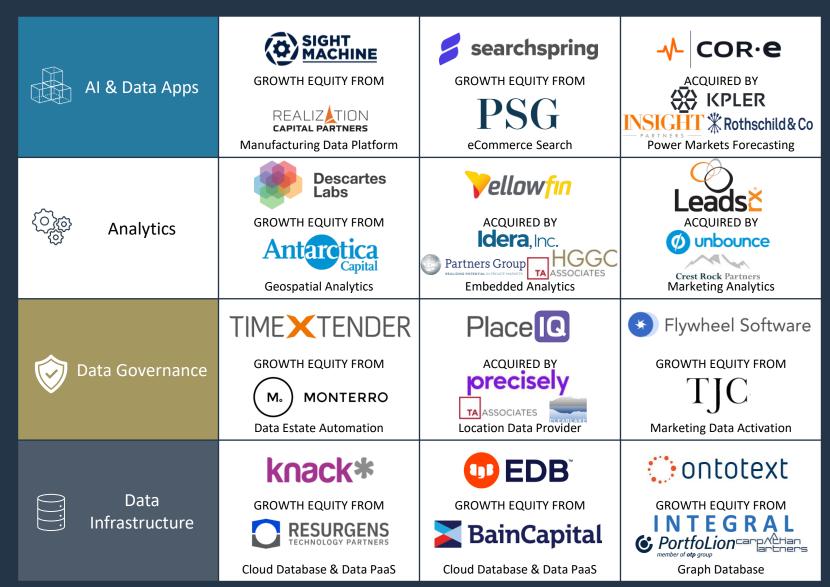
- Just as unicorns are emerging as a new acquirer class, so too are companies outside the technology industry
- As the need to become data-driven has grown over the years, the pool of acquirers of data vendors has grown. The diversity of the buyer pool has expanded to include agriculture, publishing & even fast-food conglomerates
- In some instances, these atypical acquirers may have overstepped their comfort zones
  - For example, McDonalds divested its Dynamic Yield and Apprente businesses in 2021; both were acquired in 2019
  - McDonalds sold Dynamic Yield to MasterCard for the same price it bought the company; IBM acquired Apprente, though terms were not disclosed.
  - These deals are exceptions to the trend
- We expect this 'broadening' trend to continue as VCs fund ever more data-driven applications vendors that can become data empowerment targets for digitizing industries



#### SELECT TRANSACTIONS BY SECTOR, Q1-Q3 2022

# Private Equity primetime

- Historically, PE generally were underbidders on acquisitions that traded to strategic acquirers. That's all in the past they are now offering competitive valuations & should be considered in nearly every M&A or financing process
- Their platform acquisitions essentially become deal accelerators—each with their own inorganic growth goals & oftentimes their own dedicated corporate development teams
- PE & growth equity's interest in DataTech continues to be predominantly in the vertical & functional apps layer, though Data Governance interest has grown as well



# Premium valuations for deep technology

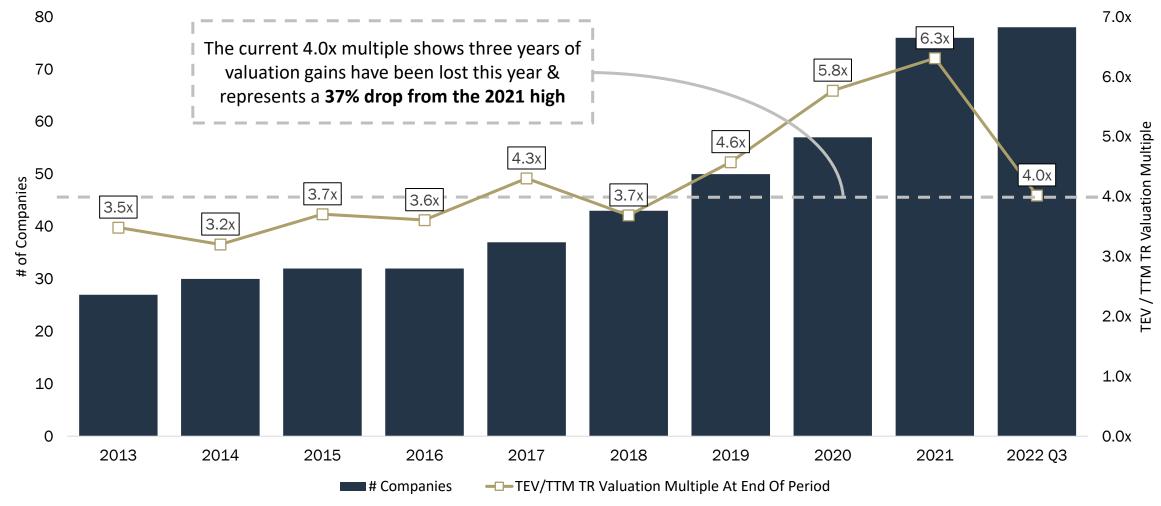
- Financial performance is typically the greatest influencer on M&A valuations.
   However, in DeepTech sectors such as AI & DataTech, the value of a startup's technology & talent oftentimes rivals financial metrics
- This selection of 12 acquisitions over the past two years highlights technical value: more than \$3 billion spent for far less than \$100 million of revenue
- Noticeably absent from this updated
   DataTech Atlas are ServiceNow and Apple;
   in our last report, we highlighted three
   ServiceNow acquisitions & two for Apple
  - Apple overall has become less acquisitive, reportedly buying only two companies so far in 2022
  - ServiceNow was previously among the top acquirers of DataTech companies, both in terms of valuations paid & deal volume

Acquirer / Target	Date	EV (\$m)	Rev. (\$m)*	EV/Rev.*	Description
Ui Path™ / Re:infer	8/1/22	44.5	<3m	>10x	Semantic analytics
IBM / 🐧 Databand	7/6/22	150*	<5m	>30x	Data observability & DataOps
Starburst / V∧R∧D∧	6/23/22	60*	<3m	>17x	Data indexing & data lake acceleration
OVHcloud / 👶 ForePaaS	4/21/22	NA	NA	NA	Multi-cloud AI PaaS
intel. / @ GRANULATE	3/31/22	650*	5*	>13x	Al infrastructure & acceleration
snowflake / Streamlit	3/2/22	800	<100k	NM	Python-based AI PaaS
Matterport / @ENVIEW	1/6/22	60	<3m	>67x	3D spatial data analytics
alteryx / 🔾 TRIFACTA	1/6/22	400	<20m	>20x	Cloud data engineering
qualtrics. M / SurveyVitals	12/6/27	37*	<3m	>12x	Healthcare surveys
stewart /	11/12/21	175	<10m	>20x	Residential real estate analytics
zoominfo / CH@RUS	7/13/21	575	NA	>50x	Conversational AI & sales analytics
smart eye / :) Affectiva	5/25/21	73.5	5	15x	Computer vision

# Public company valuations

# Annual public company valuation multiples

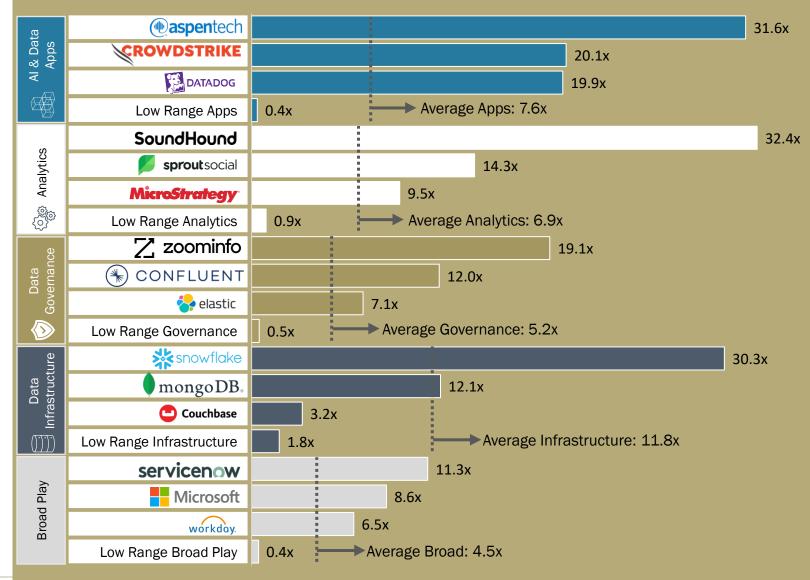
After soaring to record heights, valuation multiples for public DataTech companies have shrunk to pre-pandemic levels



# Valuations by DataTech sector

- Much has changed since our January 2021 DataTech Atlas. At that time, Snowflake had recently gone public and was valued at 159x trailing revenue.
   Nowadays, SNOW is worth one-fifth that amount
- Similar to what we're hearing from VCs & growth equity firms, AI & Data apps vendors in the public markets have among the highest valuations. Industrial AI vendor Aspen Technology, for example, tops this analysis at 32x trailing revenue
- Despite its strong customer retention & NRR upside, the Data Governance layer continues to represent price-conscious buying opportunities—the sector has the lowest average EV/trailing revenue valuation of any layer of ICON's DataTech stack. In the private markets, growth equity firms in particular have taken note of this sector's potential

#### SNAPSHOT EV/TRAILING REVENUE VALUATIONS FOR SELECT PUBLIC DATATECH COMPANIES



# About ICON Corporate Finance

### About ICON Corporate Finance



# Specialists in AI & DataTech dealmaking

#### Select experience across deal structures & DataTech sectors









# Strategic Investment F A T H O M STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FROM FROM J.P.M.C octopus CommerzVe Weather Analytics FinTer







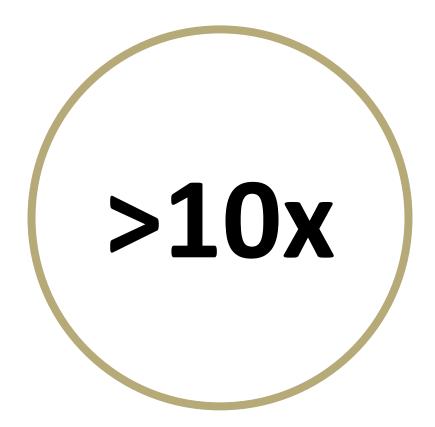
#### **Across geographies**



#### **Backed by unrivalled analysis**



## Our results



Average EV/ARR valuation for ICON's recent DataTech transactions



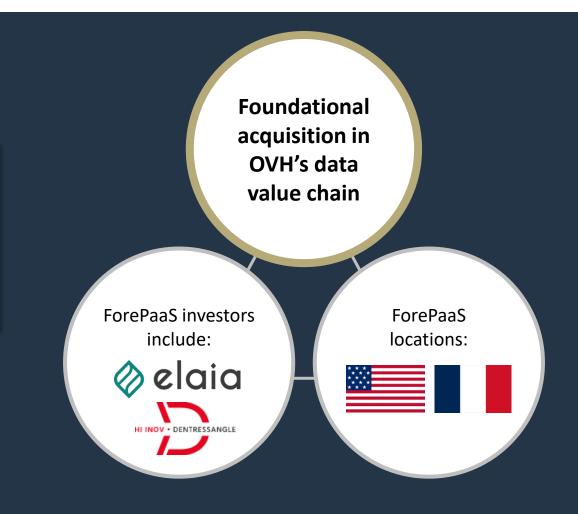
## ICON DataTech deal experience

#### ICON advises AI PaaS innovator ForePaaS on its acquisition by OVHcloud



Sectors: AI; PaaS; Alops; DataOps; No-Code; Multi-Cloud; Automation

European cloud computing leader OVHcloud has acquired ICON Corporate Finance client ForePaaS, which provides a unified platform specializing in data analytics, machine learning & AI. The acquisition will actively contribute to the deployment of OVHcloud's growth acceleration strategy by enriching its Platform as a Service (PaaS) offering





## ICON DataTech deal experience

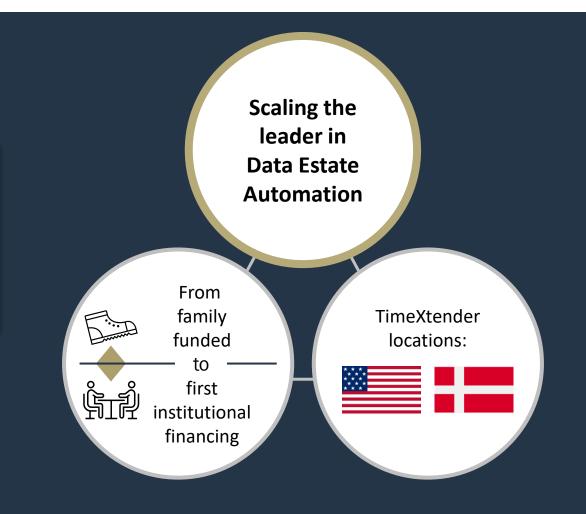
#### ICON data orchestration client TimeXtender raises growth equity from Monterro





Sectors: Data Integration; Automation; No-Code; Analytic Enablement

TimeXtender is a pioneering innovator in data management automation. Its no-code data estate builder enables business analysts to build & deploy seamless & self-healing data estates at a fraction of the time & cost required by manual solutions. The company's growth equity financing by Monterro will able TX to continue scaling its advanced data platform & its unique & exclusively partner-driven GTM business model





## ICON DataTech deal experience

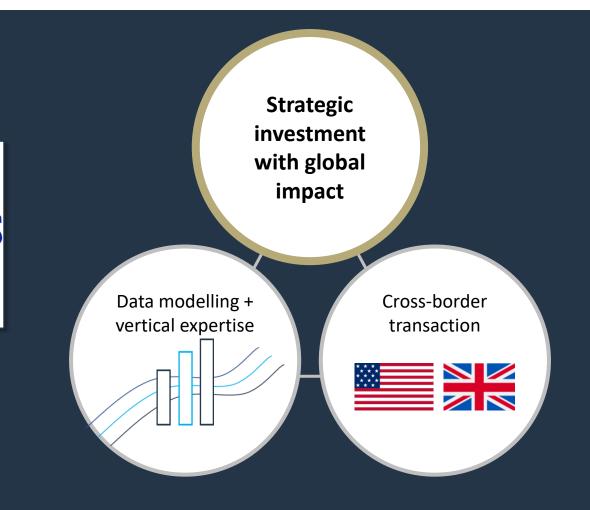
ICON advises flood analytics startup Fathom Global on strategic investment from risk ratings giant Moody's



STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FROM Moody's

Sectors: Data Modelling; ESG; Environmental; Vertical Data Apps

Fathom Global offers a flood risk modelling & mapping platform underpins climate risk decision making for customers & partners in (re)insurance, banking, engineering & corporate risk management, including Microsoft, Nasdaq, Aon & The World Bank. The investment from US risk ratings giant Moody's aims to develop Moody's already complex climate considerations as part of its commitment to help organizations make informed decisions.



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