

India Private Equity Report 2020





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#### India Private Equity Report 2020

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### **Executive Summary**

#### Looking back at 2019

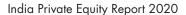
Private equity in India thrived and enjoyed a record year in 2019. Private equity (PE) and venture capital (VC) investments rose to their highest level in the last decade at \$45.1 billion, primarily due to the increasing number of large deals greater than \$100 million as well as an increase in their average deal size. Record VC investments also contributed to the surge. In absolute terms, the usual sectors banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) and consumer technology continued to be the top two sectors, while investments in real estate and infrastructure, telecom and IT and ITES also grew. Following the trend from previous years, the total share of buyouts increased, with a rise in growth and late-stage investments.

Asia-Pacific (APAC)-focused fundraising continued to decline due to the Chinese government's tightened restrictions on PE investments. That said, India-focused dry powder remained healthy with no lack of capital for good deals.

India also witnessed a decline in exit value in 2019, relative to the previous two years, resulting from a decreasing number of exits throughout the year. Investors highlighted IPO market unpredictability and macroeconomic softness to be the principal reasons for weak exit opportunities. Despite the decline, returns (multiple on invested capital) remained strong.

We believe there will be a short-term dip in investment activity with Covid-19, as already evidenced globally. However, price correction across the board will present an investment opportunity. Investors should pay close attention to their portfolios and take actions to adapt to changes in the economy.

A strong exit track record will be important for future investments. Having seen record investments this year, Software as a Service (SaaS) and cross-sector technologies will be the most attractive opportunities for investors in the future. A majority of investors believe that top-line growth and capital/cost efficiency will be the largest value creators in the future and see high-seller pricing expectations, macroeconomic softness and the Covid-19 pandemic as key concerns amid current market conditions.



#### Investments: A record high

India continued to be the second largest private equity deal market in APAC with the most growth in the region. The country drew record investments, the highest in the last decade, to the tune of \$45 billion from 1,053 deals during the year. Investment value was about 70% higher than 2018 and nearly 110% higher than the previous five-year average. However, the China PE market retracted with a decline in both deal value and volume due to trade war concerns, social unrest and stringent Renminbi fundraising regulations.

From a sector perspective, real estate and infrastructure, telecom, IT and ITES, and BFSI contributed to more than 90% of the growth in investment value. Growth in real estate and infrastructure was driven by a few large infrastructure deals, as well as the use of real estate investment trusts (REITs) as an investment vehicle, whereas telecom was driven by two large deals—Reliance Jio Infratel and Bharti Airtel.

BFSI and consumer technology displayed strong performance, remaining the largest sectors by investment value, and contributing about 35% of the total deal value. BFSI continued strong growth with investments of \$8.4 billion. As in previous years, BFSI investments were fueled by deals in banks as well as nonbanking financial companies (NBFCs) that continue to flourish in the ecosystem, including Aadhar Housing Finance, Bajaj Finance and DMI Finance. NBFCs have thrived in segments that are either inaccessible or unattractive for traditional banks. For example, micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) lending continues to be a huge opportunity to meet the large unaddressed debt demand.

The other sector to remain dominant was consumer technology, which attracted \$7.7 billion of investments in 2019. Almost half of the investments were in vertical e-tailers/marketplaces and fintech companies. After the rise of broad-based/horizontal e-commerce in the early part of the decade, recent years have seen a shift toward vertical-focused e-commerce players, especially in niche and high engagement and frequency categories such as beauty and grocery. This year specifically saw investment activity in companies such as Lenskart, Zilingo, Grofers and FirstCry.

Regarding fintech, there was a flurry of investments in consumer payments and lending, including Paytm, CRED, Tala and Razorpay. Consumer lending increased due to the growth of online purchases in Tier 2+ markets, and consumer payments rose on the back of instantaneous and direct-to-bank transfers, and innovation with new models like CRED.

The top 15 deals constituted about 35% of total investment value in 2019. This is slightly lower than last year, when the top 15 deals made up almost 40% of the total value. Of the top 15 deals, five were in real estate; three in IT and ITES; and the rest across BFSI, telecommunications, energy and consumer technology. Notable large investments in 2019 included stakes in Reliance Jio Infratel, Pipeline Infrastructure, Axis Bank, GMR Airports, GVK Airport Holdings and Paytm.



Similar to previous years, the total share of buyouts rose, with an increase in growth and late-stage investments. These featured a few large individual buyouts like Reliance Jio Infratel (\$3.5 billion) and Pipeline Infrastructure (\$1.8 billion).

With recent investments from global players, competitive intensity in the Indian investment market has progressively increased, with 662 active funds in 2017-19 compared with 553 funds in 2015-17. A majority of surveyed investors viewed large global PE funds and local and regional PE firms as the strongest competitive threat in the future.

Funds expect to continue investing in IT and ITES and consumer technology with a special focus on certain subsectors like SaaS, cross-sector technologies and other B2C online services. At the same time, investors see short-term dealmaking impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and a potential financial crisis as the biggest macro risk to their portfolio.

#### Covid-19 impact and key takeaways

The macroeconomic backdrop is evolving real-time with Covid-19 expected to have a more significant impact than other major epidemics due to its high spread rate and increased global interconnectedness. Countries are pulling varying levers to contain the virus, creating economic uncertainty, and China's trajectory suggests that countries will face a near-term shock from contraction in economic activity. India is also beginning to face the impact of Covid-19, with major import and export destinations affected and the stock market taking a hit in recent months.

In this context, investors should pay close attention to their portfolios and take actions to adapt to a continually changing economy. Considerations include meeting evolving customer demand, determining cost-saving methods, planning contingencies, and strategizing for long-term growth.

China is starting to see early signs of economic recovery since March 1, when the country moved to a controlled recovery phase. From a consumer perspective, the prolonged lockdown (late January to the end of February) has resulted in long-lasting consumer behavioral changes in China, including increased time spent on activities like digital productivity and digital leisure. Consequently, in India too, a few sectors could benefit from the behavioral changes and increase in user bases. These could include sectors such as digital entertainment (video streaming, gaming), fresh e-commerce, telemedicine, remote work and remote study.

While we will likely see a reduction in investments in H<sub>I</sub> 2020, it will be accompanied by a price correction across the board. Based on global financial crisis (GFC) experience, deals invested during or after a downturn tend to do well. The market disruption caused by Covid-19 will likely lead to growth in select pockets and create investment opportunities.



#### Fundraising: No lack of capital for good deals

APAC-focused fundraising slowed considerably, dropping from nearly \$200 billion in 2017 to about \$80 billion in 2019, which represented a significant decrease from around 25% of global fundraising in 2017 to about 13% in 2019. This was largely driven by weakening Renminbi-based funds, reflecting the Chinese government's tightened restrictions on PE investments.

In the Indian context, dry powder decreased to 2016 levels, at \$8.3 billion in 2019. While this is lower than the levels witnessed in the previous two years, there is sufficient capital for high-quality deals.

Investors expect the fundraising environment to be more challenging in the next 12 months, driven by record-setting previous years, cautiousness of a slow economy and limited partnerships being highly selective with increasing competition. However, fundraising is not a major concern for investors as compared to last year, with high-seller pricing, macroeconomic softness, increased competition and challenging exit conditions as greater concerns.

#### **Exits: Some slowdown**

Exits decreased finishing at nearly \$13 billion, slightly lower than the last two years (ex-Flipkart 2018 exit). This fall was primarily driven by a reduction in exits from 265 to 200.

Investors attributed the drop in exit volume to IPO market unpredictability and macroeconomic softness through 2019. With an unpredictable public market, strategic sales became the preferred mode of exit, accounting for about 50% of exit volume.

Among the various sectors, IT and ITES and consumer technology together represented nearly 40% of exit volume. A few large exits dominated in 2019, with the top 10 exits accounting for nearly 50% of total exit value, albeit lesser than 70% in 2018. Major exits included Oyo (Sequoia, Lightspeed), GMR Airports Holding (multiple funds), CitiusTech (General Atlantic), Ruchi Soya Industries (multiple funds) and Genpact (GIC, Bain Capital).

In the last five years, returns (multiple on invested capital) have seen an upward trajectory, increasing from an average of about 3x in 2014-15 to nearly 4x in 2018-19. Consumer technology, IT and ITES and BFSI have seen above-average returns and the highest multiples. Investors cited strong management, superior market growth and keen buyers as the main sources of success at their recent exits. However, management issues such as capability, bandwidth and alignment, and unfavorable disruptions post-close in the industry, as well as competitive dynamics were given as reasons for unsuccessful exits.

Over the next five years, investors believe that top-line growth and capital and cost efficiency will be the largest value creators for the deals they exit. Given the significant overhang of PE investments accumulated over the last decade, a sound exit track record will be important for future growth in investments.



#### Sectors in focus: SaaS and fintech

India's vibrant consumer technology and IT and ITES sectors have expanded rapidly, fueled by abundant access to private equity and venture capital, ample dry powder, growing internet penetration, falling prices of data, underpenetrated markets, high-quality domestic talent and innovative start-ups. The majority of surveyed investors cited SaaS and cross-sector technologies as the most attractive opportunities in the next three to five years.

As companies race to harness big data, advanced analytics and machine learning, they are turning to software on demand, based in the cloud. In this context, the underlying Indian SaaS market is expected to grow around 50% annually from nearly \$6 billion in 2019 to over \$20 billion in 2022.

A growing number of Indian SaaS companies are targeting both enterprises and small and medium-size businesses (SMB) across domestic and global markets. In the global markets, these companies are able to offer high-quality products with cost arbitrage due to local talent and thus satisfy the demand for a high degree of verticalisation. They are also benefitting from an increased digital penetration across verticals and a growing adoption of SMBs in the local market.

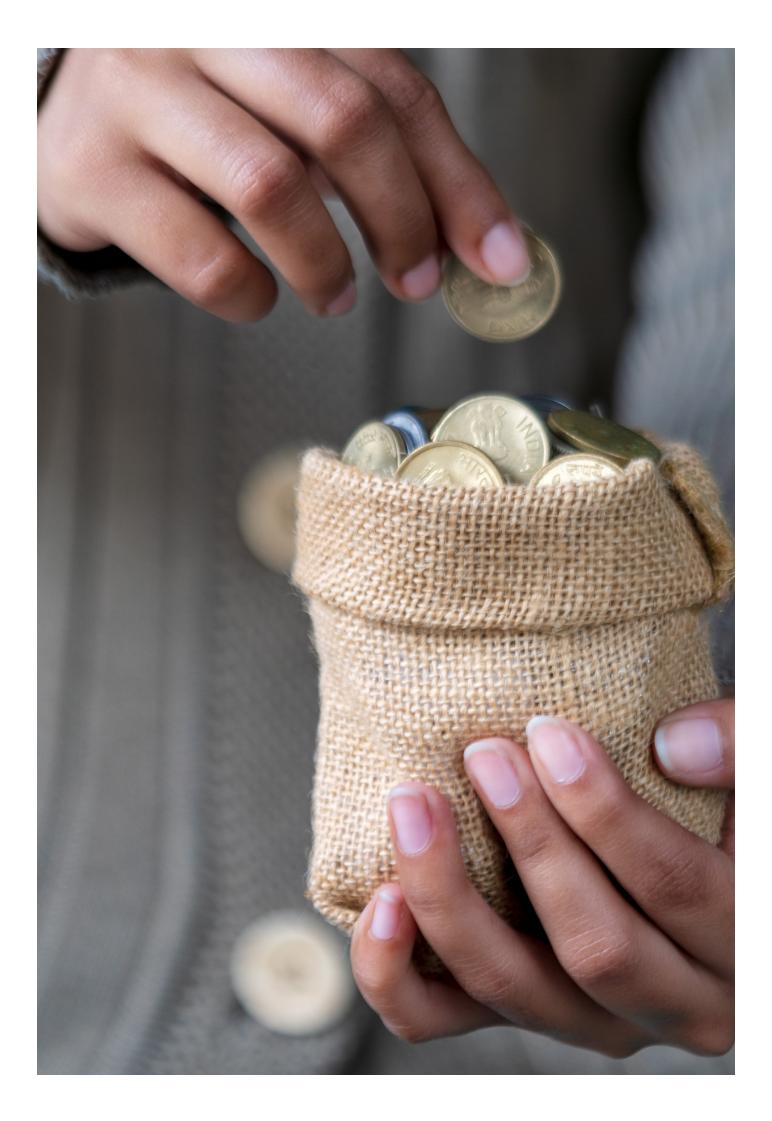
Annual investments in SaaS companies grew across all three distinct archetypes—horizontal business software, vertical-specific business software and horizontal infrastructure software. Horizontal business software was the largest subsegment growing in deal volume, with the top 10 deals accounting for about 65% of the total deal value in 2019. Notable large investments included funds raised by Freshworks, Druva, Icertis, Near (Allspark) and OkCredit.

In evaluating a SaaS company for investment, key determinants include a large addressable market, an established proof of concept, strong customer stickiness, a diversified customer base, a high degree of product standardization, marquee customers in quality conscious global markets and cost-competitiveness.

Companies that deploy new technologies in existing industries can create fast-growing start-ups based on new business models. For example, health technology leaders are building wearable devices that monitor patients remotely. Fintechs have developed mobile payment systems and stock-trading apps that disrupt traditional financial services. These cross-sector technologies are being monitored closely by investors in planning their future investments.

Fintech continues to be the largest cross-sector technology segment in India, both in terms of deal value and volume, substantially growing from \$0.7 billion investments (49 deals) in 2018 to \$2.4 billion investments (83 deals) in 2019. This impressive growth was driven by investments in payments and lending companies, together accounting for nearly 80% of total investment in fintech in 2019. Payments and lending comprised eight of the top 10 deals including Paytm, CRED, Tala, Razorpay and Zeta.

The MSME debt demand is expected to almost double in the next five years and presents a massive opportunity due to the large, unaddressed demand. Multiple archetypes of lenders including banks, NBFCs, fintech firms and e-commerce players are trying to tap into this new opportunity which is likely to gain investor traction in the future.



# 1.

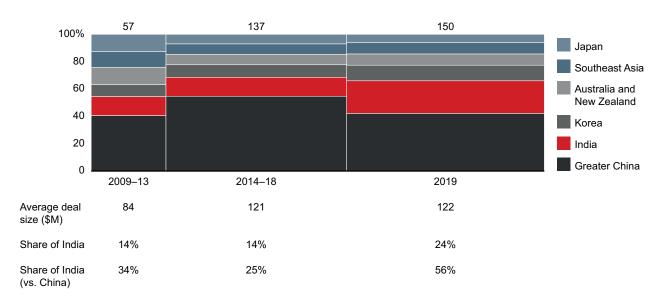
# **Investments:** A record high

- India continued to be the second largest deal market in the Asia-Pacific region, and grew more than other countries in 2019. India's share of the APAC deal market increased to nearly 25% in 2019, while China's PE market retracted over the last year.
- The total investment value rose to \$45.1 billion, the highest in the last decade, with the largest amount of VC investments and an increase in the number and average deal value of \$100 million+ deals.
- BFSI investments were concentrated in nonbanking financial companies and banks, and consumer tech investments were in fintechs and vertical e-tailers and marketplaces.
- The top 15 deals constituted more than 35% of the total deal value. As in previous years, the total share of buyouts and late-stage investments increased, featuring a few large individual buyouts.
- The number of active participating funds continued to grow, and investors expect local and global private equity firms to represent the biggest competitive threat in 2020.



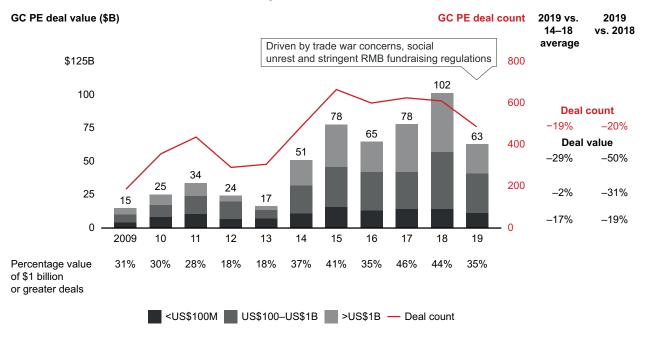
Figure 1.1: India continued to be the second-largest deal market in APAC with the highest growth in the region

APAC deal value: 5-year average (\$B)



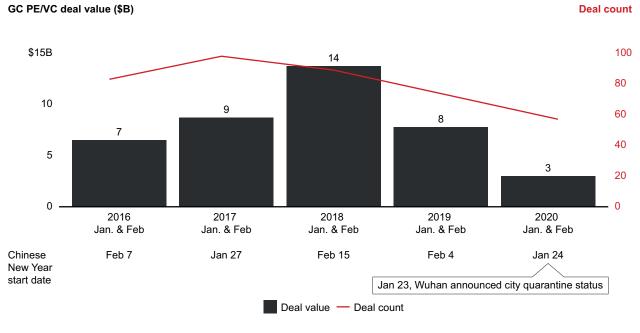
Note: Excludes real estate and infrastructure Source: Bain PE deals database

Figure 1.2: The private equity market in China retracted in 2019, as both deal value and count declined because of fewer \$1 billion or greater deals



Note: Excludes real estate and infrastructure Sources: AVCJ: Bain analysis

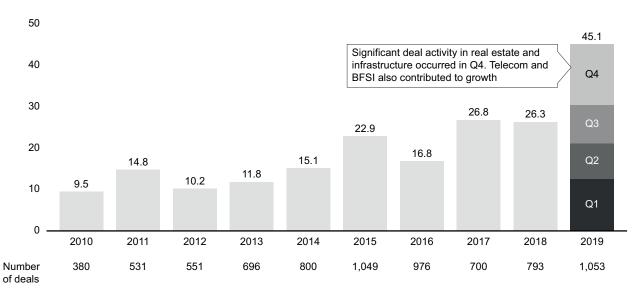
**Figure 1.3:** Additionally, China experienced a dip in investment activity in early 2020 as a result of the Covid-19 crisis



Note: Excludes real estate and infrastructure Source: AVCJ; Bain analysis

Figure 1.4: Investment momentum in India accelerated in 2019, with total investment value being the highest in the last decade

#### Annual investments in India (including real estate and infrastructure, \$B)

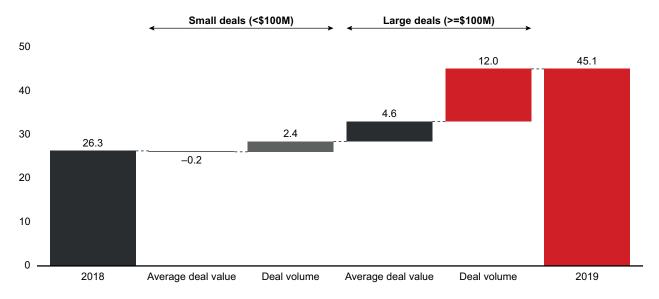


Notes: Includes real estate and infrastructure, private investment in public equity (PIPE) and venture capital (VC) deals; deal volume includes deals where deal value is unknown Source: Bain PE deals database



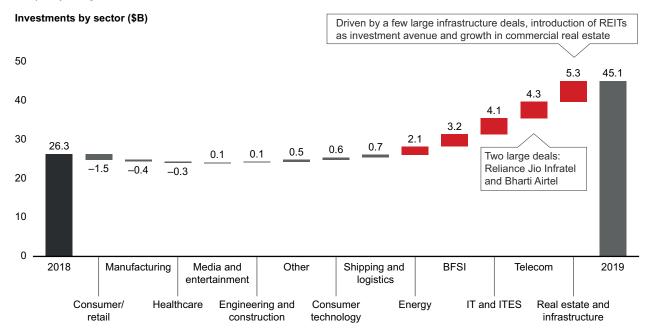
Figure 1.5: Almost 90% of growth from 2018 to 2019 was driven by an increase in the number of large deals as well as their average value

Investment evolution across deal sizes (2018 to 2019, \$B)



Notes: Includes real estate and infrastructure deals; deal volume and average deal value are only for deals with a known value Source: Bain PE deals database

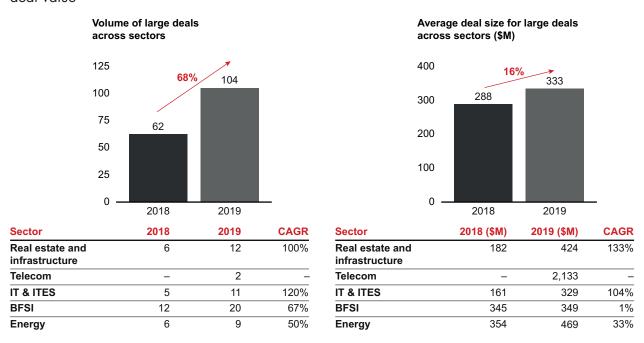
Figure 1.6: Real estate and infrastructure, telecom, IT and ITES, BFSI and energy contributed to the majority of growth



Note: Others includes a variety of industries such as education, sports, hospitality and talent management Source: Bain PE deals database

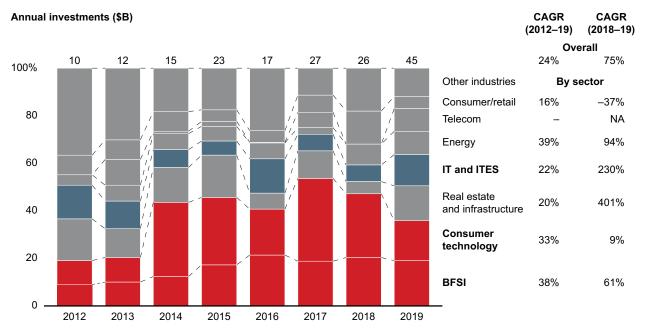
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Figure 1.7: High-growth sectors of 2019 witnessed an increase in both deal volume and average deal value



Notes: We define large deals as deal of \$100 million or more; deal volume as well as average deal value are only for deals with a known value Source: Bain PE deals database

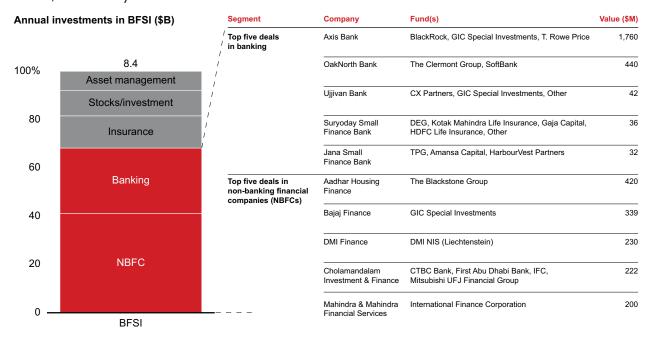
Figure 1.8: In absolute terms, BFSI and consumer tech continue to be the largest sectors in 2019, while IT and ITES experienced significant growth in the last year



Source: Bain PF deals database

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**Figure 1.9:** BFSI investments consist largely of deals in nonbanking financial companies and banks, with nearly 65% of deal value



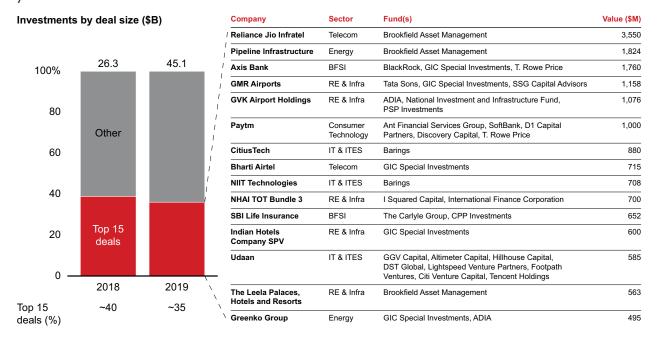
Note: Bajaj Finance received additional investments through mutual funds Source: Bain PE deals database

**Figure 1.10:** Consumer tech investments consist largely of deals in fintech and vertical e-tailers and marketplaces, with about 50% of deal value

Annual investments in consumer tech (\$B)		Segment	Company	Subsegment	Funds	Value (\$M)
		Top five deals in vertical e-tailers/	Lenskart	Eyewear	SoftBank	275
100%	7.7	/ marketplaces /	Zilingo	Apparel	Sequoia Capital, Temasek, Burda Principal Investments, Sofina	226
00	Other Horizontal e-commerce Food tech	 	Pharmeasy	Healthcare	Temasek, CDPQ, LGT, KB Financial Partners, Bessemer Venture Partners, Orios Venture Partners, Eight Roads	220
80	Media and entertainment Ed tech	1	Grofers	Grocery	Sequoia Capital, SoftBank, Tiger Global Management, KTB Network	200
60	Real estate tech	1 1	FirstCry	Baby care	SoftBank	150
	Travel and	i				
	transportation	Top five deals in Fintech	Paytm	Payments	Ant Financial Services Group, SoftBank, D1 Capital Partners, Discovery Capital, T. Rowe Price	1,000
40	Verticalized e-tailers marketplaces		PolicyBazaar	Insurtech	Tencent Holdings	150
20			CRED	Payments	RTP Global, Sequoia Capital, Ribbit Capital, Tiger Global Management, Hillhouse Capital, Greenoaks Capital Partners, Other	120
	Fintech		Tala	Lending	Lowercase Capital, DCVC Data Collective, IVP, PayPal Ventures, Other	110
0 —	Consumer technology		Razorpay	Payments	Tiger Global Management, Ribbit Capital, Sequoia Capital, Y Combinator	75

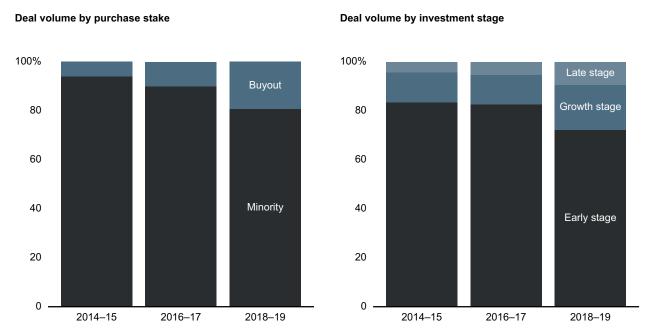
Source: Bain PE deals database

**Figure 1.11:** The top 15 deals constituted about 35% of total deal value, below the previous year's 40%



Note: Does not include deals where deal value is unknown Source: Bain PE deals database

Figure 1.12: Share of buyouts, and growth and late-stage investments continued to increase



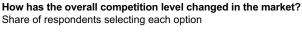
Notes: Includes only deals where stake/deal size is known; buyout refers to >50% stake; does not include real estate, infrastructure or energy deals; deals worth <\$20M have been classified as early, \$20-85M as growth and >\$85M as late stage
Source: Bain PE deals database

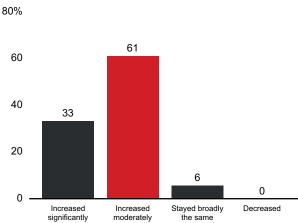
Figure 1.13: Competitive intensity in the market increased, as number of participating funds grew

#### Number of active players in India by type Number of active players in India 533 662 <sub>┌</sub> Other 800 100% Corporate 662 80 LP institutional investors 600 533 P government affiliates 60 **GP** domestic 400 40 GP regional 200 20 GP global 0 0 2015-17 2017-19 2015-17 2017-19

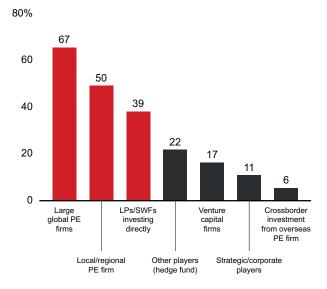
Notes: An active player has made an investment in the designated time period; GP global indicates any venture capital or private equity player that is active globally; GP regional indicates any private equity investor that focuses on deals between countries in Asia-Pacific; GP domestic focuses on one country with very limited external presence; LP government affiliate is controlled by a government; LP institutional includes investment banks, asset management, financial institutions, insurance, corporate pension funds and corporations; other includes private investors and family offices; excludes real estate and infrastructure Source: AVCJ

Figure 1.14: Investors also concur that competitive intensity has moderately increased





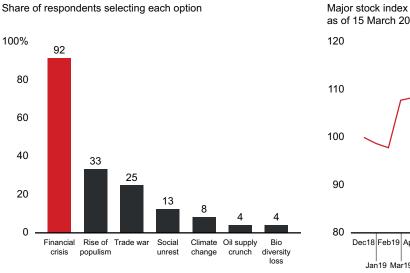
What do you see as the biggest competitive threat in 2020? Share of respondents selecting each option

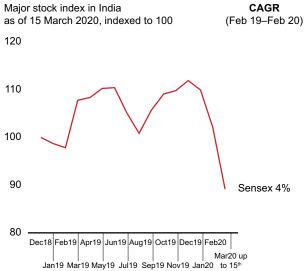


Source: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28)

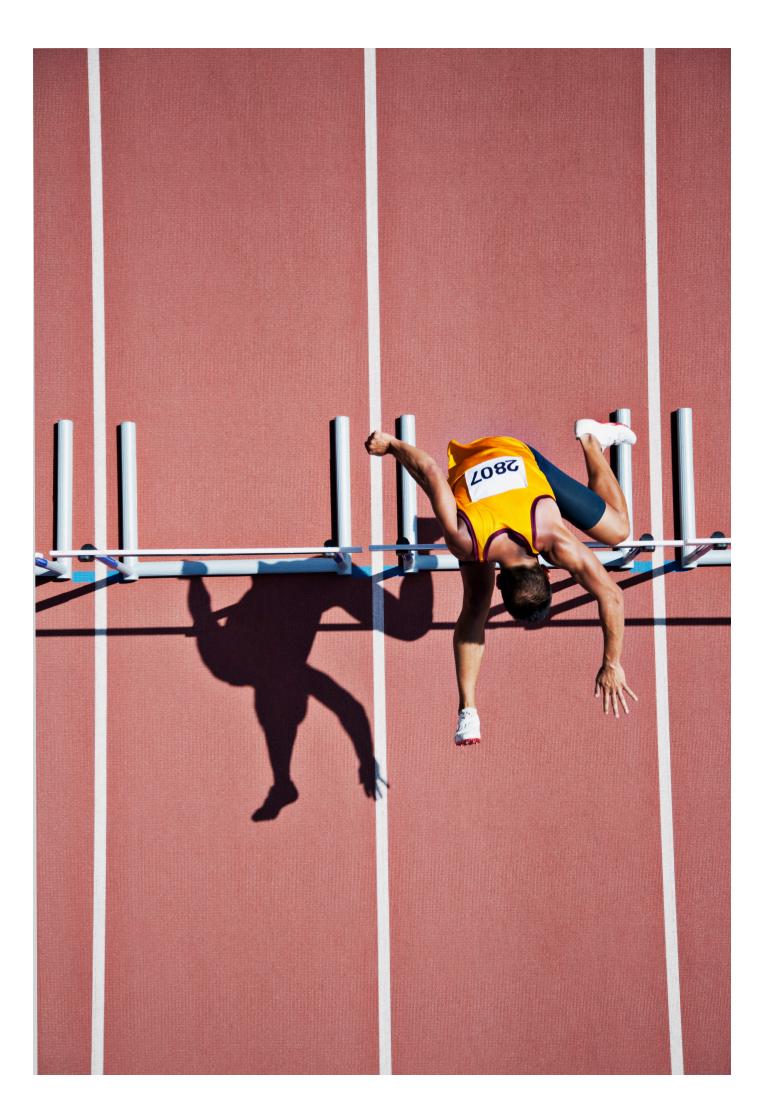
Figure 1.15: Investors are cautious about the financial crisis, and India's stock market took a hit as a result of the Covid-19 slowdown and sharp oil price cut

#### Rank of greatest macro risks to PE portfolios





Source: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28)

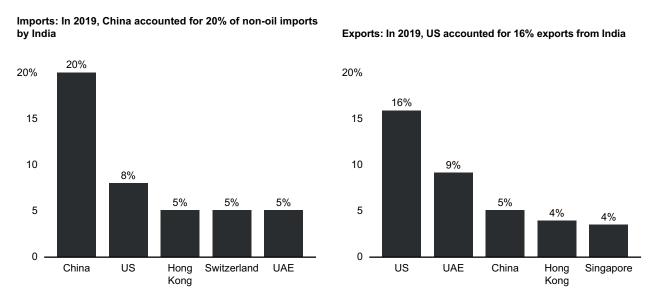


# 2.

# Covid-19 impact and key takeaways

- India is beginning to face the impact of Covid-19, with major import and export destinations impacted as well as the stock market which has taken a hit in recent months.
- In the near term, investors need to triage their portfolio companies to understand the impact and determine suitable actions for portfolio companies. Portfolio company CEOs need to take immediate actions to ensure business continuity and plan for value creation to retool their businesses for the future.
- From an investment perspective, we will likely see a reduction in investments in H1 2020 along with a price correction across the board. Investors could act differently according to types of industry consumption patterns to minimize the Covid-19 impact.
- Based on global financial crisis (GFC)
   experience, deals invested during or after
   a downturn tend to do well. The market
   disruption caused by Covid-19 will likely
   lead to growth in select pockets (e-commerce,
   enterprise technology/SaaS, healthcare,
   on-demand services) and create
   investment opportunities.

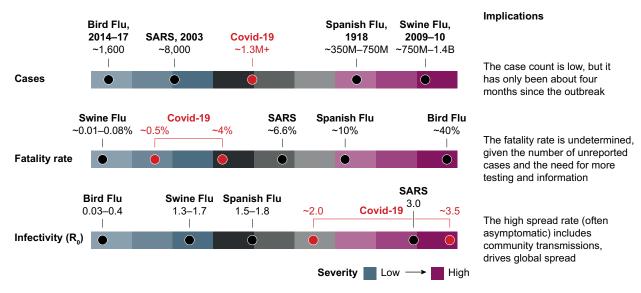
Figure 2.1: Covid-19 is starting to affect India as well as its major import and export destinations



Government of India announced a nationwide lockdown, starting 25th March, restricting the movement of goods and people in an attempt to prevent the spread of Covid-19

Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India

Figure 2.2: The impact of Covid-19 is expected to be more severe than other major epidemics



The combination of a relatively low fatality rate, a fast rate of spread and a high proportion of cases with symptoms similar to cold/flu make this uncommonly difficult to address with containment measures

Note: All Covid-19 epidemiology figures are as of April  $6^n$ ;  $R_0$  refers to the average number of people infected by one sick person Sources: National Health Commission of the PRC; Bain Macrotrends Group analysis

Figure 2.3: Early signs of recovery from Covid-19's impact are emerging in China

#### Significant near-term shock the from the sharp Early signs of a recovery starting to emerge contraction in activity Coal consumption has picked up since Estimated China Q1 2020 GDP drop, ~40% YoY decline in January with compared to Q4 2019 ~25% YoY current decline Five million Chinese citizens lost their Rate of work resumption for businesses jobs in January and February, adding ~1% to unemployment PMIs also fell significantly from January Manufacturing capacity utilization after to February lockdown lifted Month on month point decrease in Daily automobile load returned to manufacturing PMI, down from 51.1 points pre-Covid levels on China's highways Month on month point decrease in services PMI, down from 51.8 points; transportation, tourism and catering sectors most affected

Sources: China National Bureau of Statistics; TOMTOM traffic index; China Association of Metros; Bain Macrotrends Group analysis

Figure 2.4: India can learn from various interventions seen around the world

#### Lessons for companies

- 1 Set up a war room to make rapid decisions ahead of business need
- 2 Establish health and safety measures
- 3 Focus on existing customers to reduce churn
- (4) Reduce functional spending by going virtual
- (5) Invest for the future by building new capabilities
- (6) Open new channels of communication to customers, employees and suppliers
- Give back to the community via subsidies and low-interest loans or by hiring short-term staff from affected industries

## Lessons for government: Socioeconomic interventions

- (1) Supply chain management
  - Divert public and private transportation assets as needed to ease logistical concerns
  - Assist in sourcing by consolidating fresh produce in a region
- 2 Fiscal relief: Defer business tax payments by one quarter
- 3 Stimulus packages: Offer no-interest loans to retailers to support sellers

## Lessons for government: Medical interventions

- Dedicated health facilities and widespread testing
  - Building or dedicating healthcare facilities exclusively for Covid patients
  - Large-scale testing efforts and/or targeted testing of risk groups
- 2 Smartphone alerts: Applications built to notify users of potential Covid risk and track health outcomes

Source: Bain & Company

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Figure 2.5: Investors need to triage their portfolio companies to determine what actions to take

#### Couple portfolio company risk assessment with controllability to guide priorities

# Controllable value at stake High Priority 2 Priority 1 Portfolio Co. 1 Portfolio Co. 2 Portfolio Co. 7 Moderate Portfolio Co. 6 Portfolio Co. 8 Portfolio Co. 6 Portfolio Co. 3 Portfolio Co. 4 Low Low Moderate High

Portfolio company risk

Ability Can fund help mitigate the risks? to impact What share of fund does Share of fund portfolio company make up? Factors for portfolio company risk Use Demand reduction exposure Bain's risk Supply chain and ops exposure framework Labor and talent risks Financial strength

Factors for controllable value at stake

Priority 1: Large at risk portfolio companies with problem(s) that can be addressed Priority 2: Portfolio companies that have lower risk with issues that can be addressed Funds next steps

- Develop custom action plans to address key risk for prioritized portfolio companies (financial, labor, operational requirements for successful implementation)
- Develop action plans for other high risk issues
- Create phased execution roadmap to drive change while keeping focus on high priority actions
- Commence execution in line with roadmap
- Establish structure for continuous follow up
- Identify best practices and share across portfolio
- Mobilize resources to support priority portfolio companies (OPEX/CAPEX injections)

Source: Bain & Company

Figure 2.6: Portfolio company CEOs need to Act Now and Plan Now

Mission	Act Now to protect and run the business today	Plan Now to retool the business for the future
	Safety and security of Business people and communities continuity	Recovery New normal
Management approach	Crisis management war room Mobilize the organization to protect the compa employees, customers and strategic flexibility	iny's
		"New normal" transformation office Prepare company and strategy to adjust to accelerated structural changes resulting from a pandemic-driven recession
Common tools	Lead: Manage disruption  Do: Agile teams with daily results rhythm	Orchestrate: Structured work streams Track: Management tool

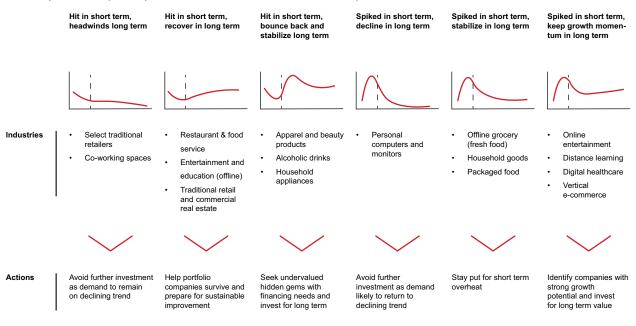
Source: Bain & Company

**Figure 2.7:** Portfolio company CEOs can safeguard companies and prepare for the future across six areas

	Act Now Immediate actions to ensure business continuity	Plan Now Plan for value creation to retool for the future		
	Safety and security of our Business continuity people and communities	Recovery New normal		
	Example action plan: largely similar across industries	Example action plan: highly tailored between industries		
Balance sheet	Preserve cash and manage liquidity	Optimize net working capital (NWC) for mid to long-term; prepare for opportunistic transformative M&A		
Prepare for multiple scenarios requiring different levels of cost reduction; take no-regrets actions		Target and achieve sustainable cost structure		
Customers	Invest in customers and frontline employees; hone value propositions; digitize marketing and selling	Address emerging needs and behaviors with new value propositions and digital capabilities		
Operations	Stabilize operations including adjustments in sourcing, production and supply chain	Restructure to create greater visibility, flexibility and resiliency		
People and organization	Safeguard your people and contingency-plan your workforce while adopting remote ways of working	Adapt operating model to new ways of working		
Strategy	Triage in-flight initiatives; respond to government actions; Use resources to help societies and communities defeat Covid-19	Refresh future-back vision and execution agenda; strengthen crisis management capabilities; navigate new regulatory environment		
	Protect business from current risks	Build a winning business for the future		

Source: Bain & Company

**Figure 2.8:** From an investment perspective, investors could act differently according to types of industry consumption patterns to minimize Covid-19 impact



Source: Bain & Company

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India Private Equity Report 2020

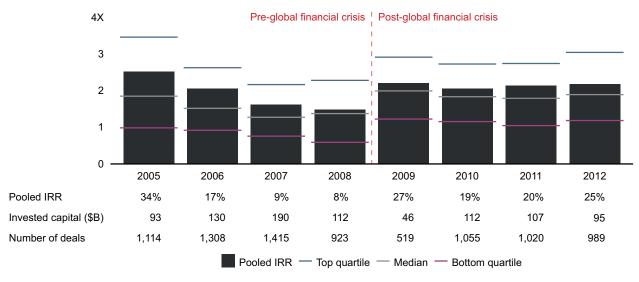
Figure 2.9: In this environment, potential target assessment should consider these five questions

Questions to answer	Considerations		What good looks like		
How will industry demand recover	Define industry's demand profiles over time and potential recovery timelines, considering		Companies that are likely to bounce back quickly post-crisis		
post-Covid-19?	government restrictions, consumption pattern and consumer shift to substitutes	+	Companies with offerings unaffected by substitutes		
Is current distress caused by company	Understand target's historical financial and operating performance prior to Covid-19	+	Market leaders/successful companies prior to Covid-19		
specific issues?	Assess whether target has resources to address potential internal factors	+	Companies with internal issues that can be addressed with low investment		
Is the company poised to succeed post Covid-19?	Assess target's 'ability to win' in new competitive landscape driven by its flexibility to modify operations, sales structure and customer engagement	+	Companies that are likely to capture increased demand due to resilient supply chain		
		+	Companies that can respond timely to changes in customer behaviors		
Can we ensure short-term stability of the company?	Assess target's flexibility to scale operations given short-term disruption risks and short-term		Companies with flexibility to temporarily scale operations up or down		
	liquidity needs to determine capital investment required (including potential government aid)	+	Companies that are likely to receive government support		
Do we have a plan for longer-term differential value creation?	Identify what value creation levers investors can pull to retool the target for the future (new value propositions for emerging needs, M&A, cost management)	+	Companies where investor playbook can add significant long-term value		

Source: Bain & Company

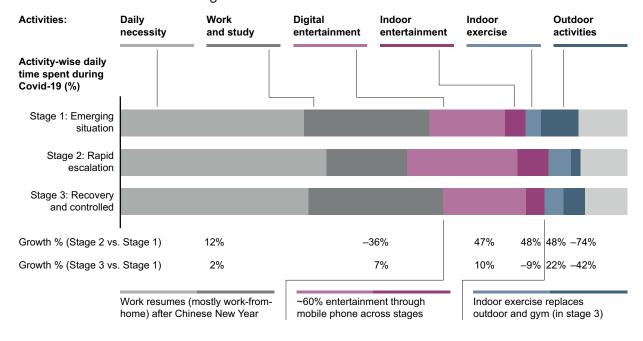
**Figure 2.10:** Deals invested during or after a downturn tend to do well based on global financial crisis experience

#### Gross buyout deal MOIC by investment year



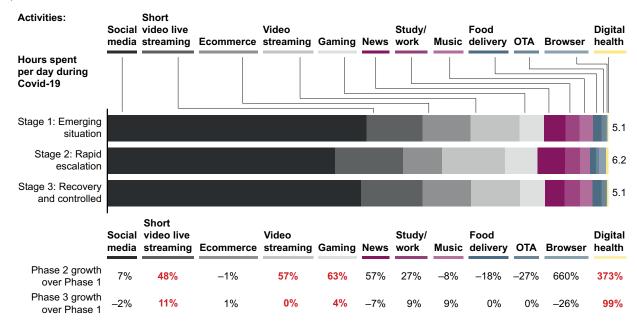
Notes: Deal-level data obtained from PE fund managers connected to CEPRES, all locations, all deal-sizes, grouped by investment year, pooled average weighted by deal invested capital, buyout includes all buyout strategies, private debt includes all private debt strategies, turnaround includes investments into struggling businesses and special situation includes investments into distressed assets where litigation, liquidation, or other unique but unusual situations are concerned Source: CEPRES

**Figure 2.11:** Based on China's experience, consumers spend significant time using their mobiles for at-home entertainment during the lockdown



Sources: China consumer survey post Covid-19 (n=981); Bain analysis

**Figure 2.12:** For mobile use, most app categories show significant growth in average time spent per user



Sources: China consumer survey post Covid-19 (n=981); Bain analysis

Figure 2.13: Consumer behavior changes continue beyond lockdown (during "control and recovery" phase)

Change in consumer time spent in different mobile app categories across various stages of Covid-19 (indexed to emerging situation)

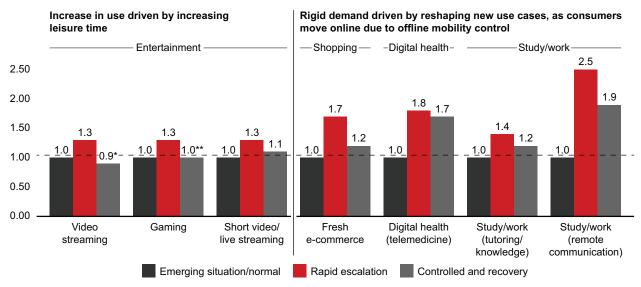


Figure 2.14: As a result, the market disruption caused by Covid-19 will likely lead to growth in select pockets and create investment opportunities

#### Certain industries and companies will likely see more demand Examples of companies outperforming S&P 500 since outbreak Increase in demand of grocery Stock development (2020, base in 100 on Jan 6th) Organized and staples from organized retail retail Larger Covid-19 200 and modern trade breakout outside Greater China 180 E-commerce Increased use during restricted movement due to ease of access and availability of products 160 ZOOM 140 **Enterprise** As offices and schools close tech/SaaS down, rising need for enabling services to work from home MODERNA 120 Healthcare Accelerated innovation and surge 100 NETFLIX of demand for healthcare (Covid-19 vaccine development) **LEIDOS** 80 S&P 500 Services Social distancing increases from home demand for services from home January February such as entertainment and food March

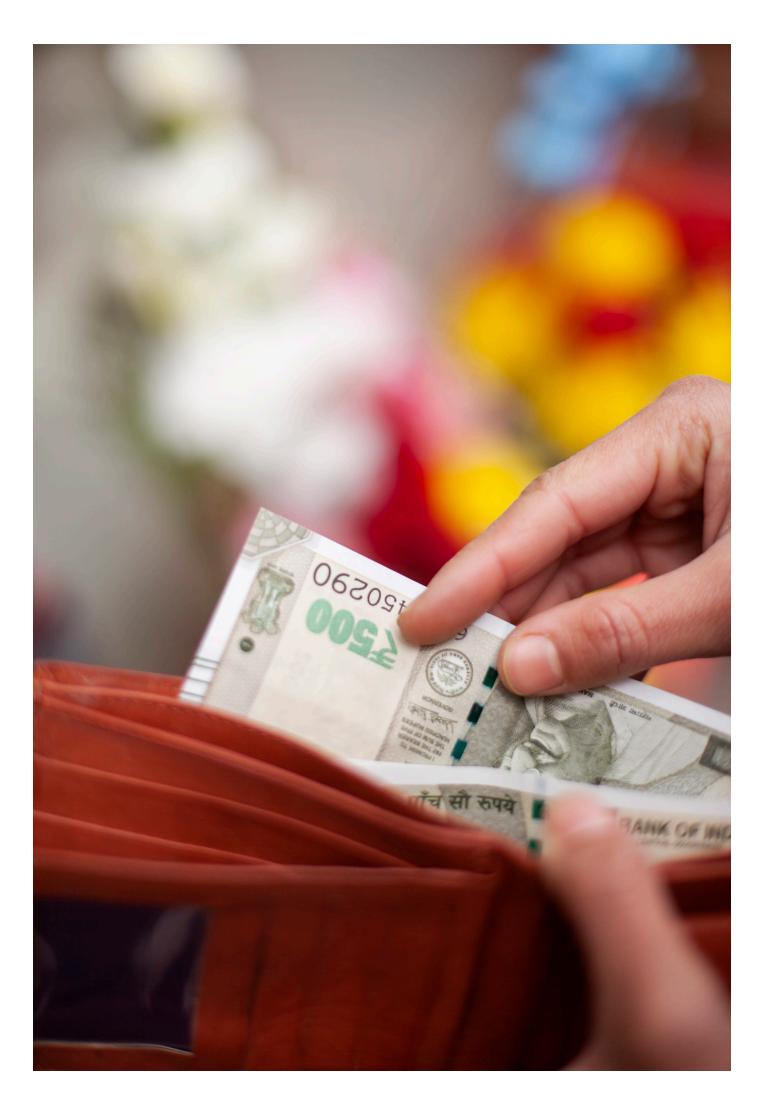
Sources: Refinitiv: Bain analysis

<sup>\*</sup> Consumer spend time on video streaming highly depends on availability of new content

\*\* Survey audience includes people > 18 years old, miss younger consumer who may stay longer for gaming apps
Sources: China consumer survey post Covid-19 (n=981); Bain analysis

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# 3.

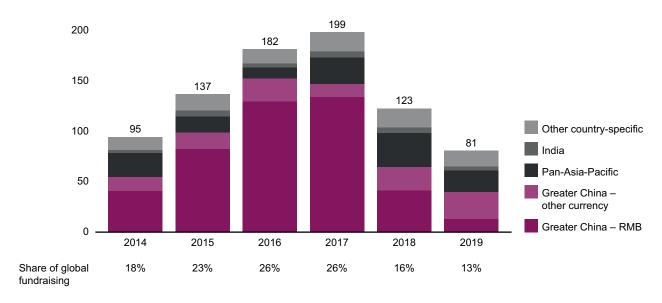
## Fundraising: No lack of capital for good deals

- Throughout the Asia-Pacific region, PE fundraising slowed in 2019, largely reflecting the Chinese government's tightened restrictions on PE investments. APAC's share in global fundraising dropped from more than 26% in 2016 and 2017 to 13% in 2019.
- India-focused dry powder remained healthy at \$8.3 billion, albeit below the previous two years, which were upwards of \$11 billion.
- A majority of investors believe the fundraising environment in the next 12 months will be more challenging than in 2019, primarily due to a decline in fundraising, a slowing economy and highly selective limited partnerships (LPs) as a result of increasing competition.
- However, fundraising is not a key concern amid current market conditions, featuring well behind high-seller pricing expectations, macroeconomic softness, increased competition and challenging exit conditions.



Figure 3.1: APAC fundraising plunged as Renminbi-based funds continued to soften

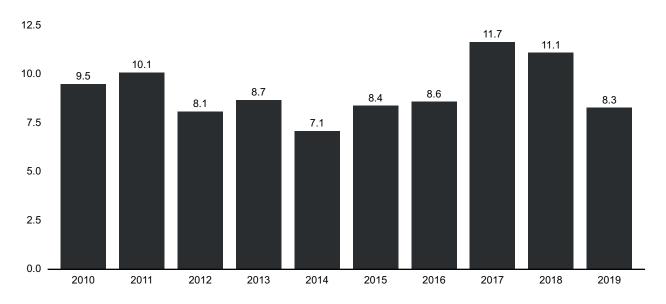
#### Asia-Pacific-focused capital raised by final year of close (\$B)



Notes: Includes regional and country funds; excludes real estate and infrastructure Source: Preqin

Figure 3.2: However, India-focused dry powder is more than adequate and will ensure sufficient capital for high-quality deals

#### Dry powder from India-focused funds (\$B)

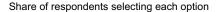


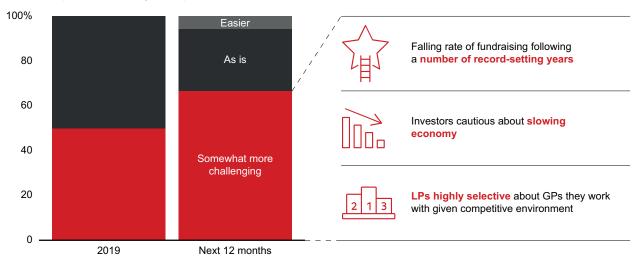
Notes: Value excludes real estate and infrastructure; figures as of December of each year Source: Pregin

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Figure 3.3: Fundraising in 2020 is expected to become more challenging than in 2019

How was the fundraising environment in 2019 and how do you expect it to change in the next 12 months?



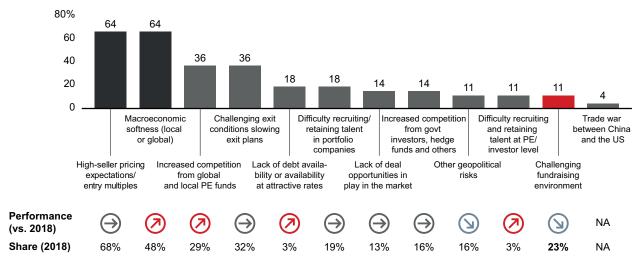


Note: No respondent selected the option "Very challenging" Source: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28)

Figure 3.4: Investors are less concerned about fundraising as compared to last year

#### What are the key concerns you have amid current market situations?

Share of respondents selecting each option as top 3 concerns (2019)



Note: No respondent selected the option "Climate change" Sources: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28); Bain Private Equity Survey 2018 (n=31)



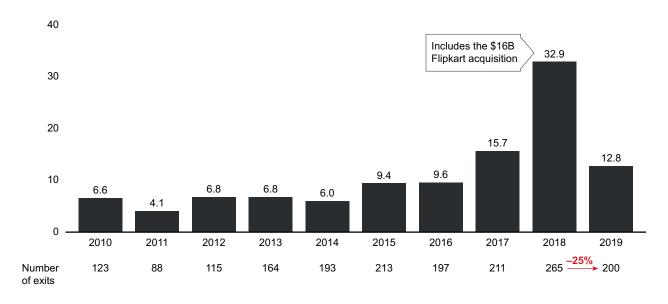
# 4.

## **Exits:**Some slowdown

- India exits witnessed some slowdown in 2019 relative to the previous two years. That said, it was the third-highest exit year of the last decade at \$12.8 billion. The fall over last year's \$17 billion (excluding Flipkart) was driven by a decrease in the number of exits from 265 to 200.
- Most investors found the 2019 exit environment more challenging than 2018.
   IPO market unpredictability and macroeconomic softness were highlighted as key reasons for weak exit opportunities.
- The top 10 exits accounted for just over half of total exit value. Three of the top exits were in IT and ITES, two in consumer tech, and the rest across consumer/retail, real estate and infrastructure, BFSI, energy and healthcare.
- Most sectors have earned reasonable returns on exits over the past five years, with return multiples trending upwards. Consumer tech, IT and ITES and BFSI reaped the highest multiples on invested capital.
- Investors attributed successful exits to strong management teams, market growth and clear exit strategy. Management issues and unfavorable disruption in the industry post-close were cited in exits that weren't so successful.

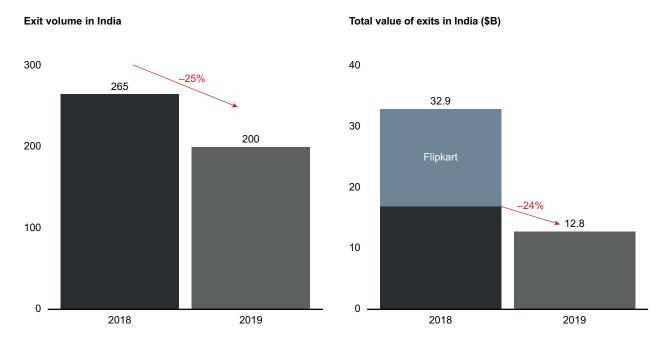
Figure 4.1: India PE exits finished 2019 slightly below the last two-year levels, excluding Flipkart

#### Annual exits in India (\$B)



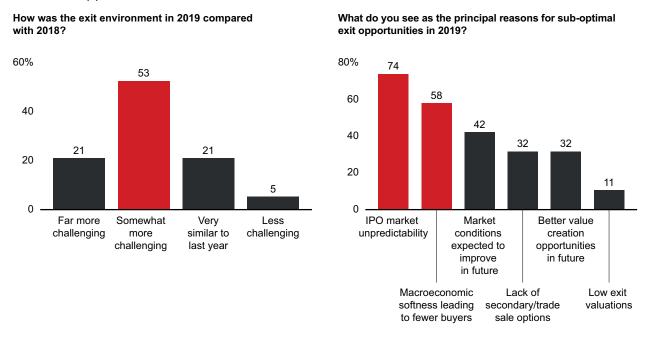
Notes: Includes real estate and infrastructure exits; no filter on exit value has been applied to the overall figures; number of exits includes deals where exit value is not known Source: Bain PE exits database

Figure 4.2: Exit momentum slowed with a decline in both exit value and volume



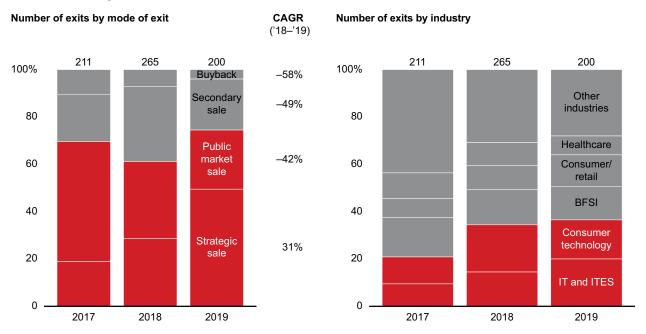
Notes: Includes real estate and infrastructure exits; no filter on exit value has been applied to the overall figures; exit volume includes deals where exit value is not known Source: Bain PE exits database

**Figure 4.3:** Investors cited IPO market unpredictability and macroeconomic softness as reasons for weak exit opportunities in 2019



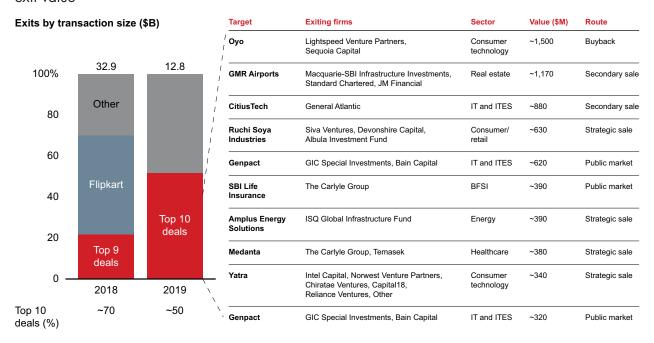
Source: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28)

**Figure 4.4:** Strategic sales were the most common exit mode, while IT and ITES, and consumer tech had the highest number of exits across sectors



Notes: Includes real estate and infrastructure exits; no filter on exit value has been applied to the overall figures Source: Bain PE exits database

**Figure 4.5:** A few large exits dominated, with the top 10 exits accounting for over half of the total exit value

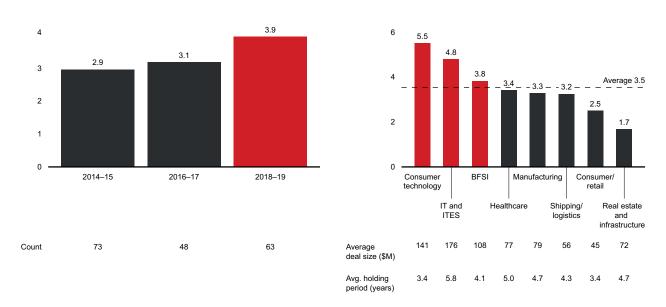


Note: Represents exits where value was reported and available Source: Bain PE exits database

**Figure 4.6:** Return multiples are trending upwards; exits in consumer technology, IT and ITES and BFSI have been more successful than others

### Multiples on invested capital for exits

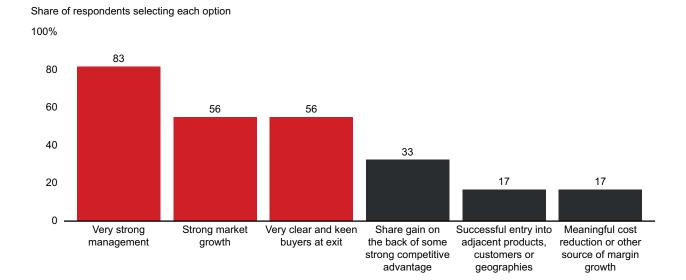
#### Multiples on invested capital for exits, 2012-2019



Notes: MoIC calculation: (distributions + unrealized value)/paid-in capital; simple average of MoICs considered; overall MOICs available for ~25% of exits from 2012–19 Source Bain PE deals database

**Figure 4.7:** Strong management teams, market growth and clear exit strategy are key to deal success

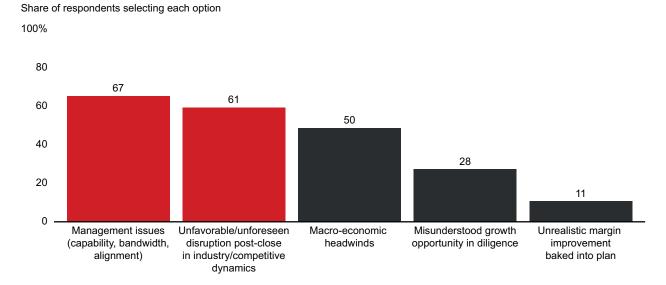
What are the main sources of deal success for the recent exits you have had?



Source: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28)

Figure 4.8: Management issues and unfavorable disruption in industry post-close were cited most often in less successful exits

In situations where exits were not as successful, which of the following reasons apply?

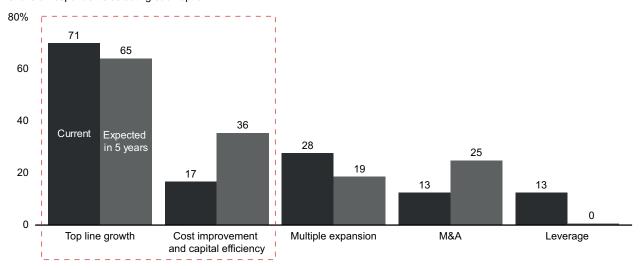


Source: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28)

Figure 4.9: Investors believe top-line growth and cost/capital efficiency will be the largest creators of future value

What was the biggest contributor of return on the deals you exited, and how do you see it changing over time?

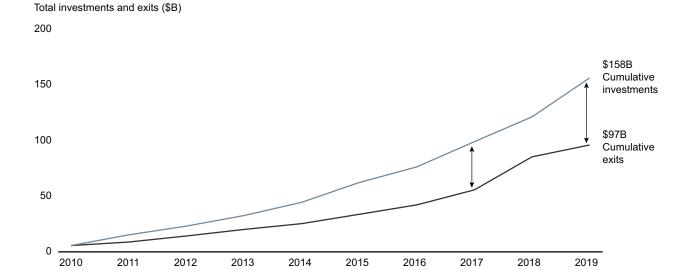
Share of respondents selecting each option



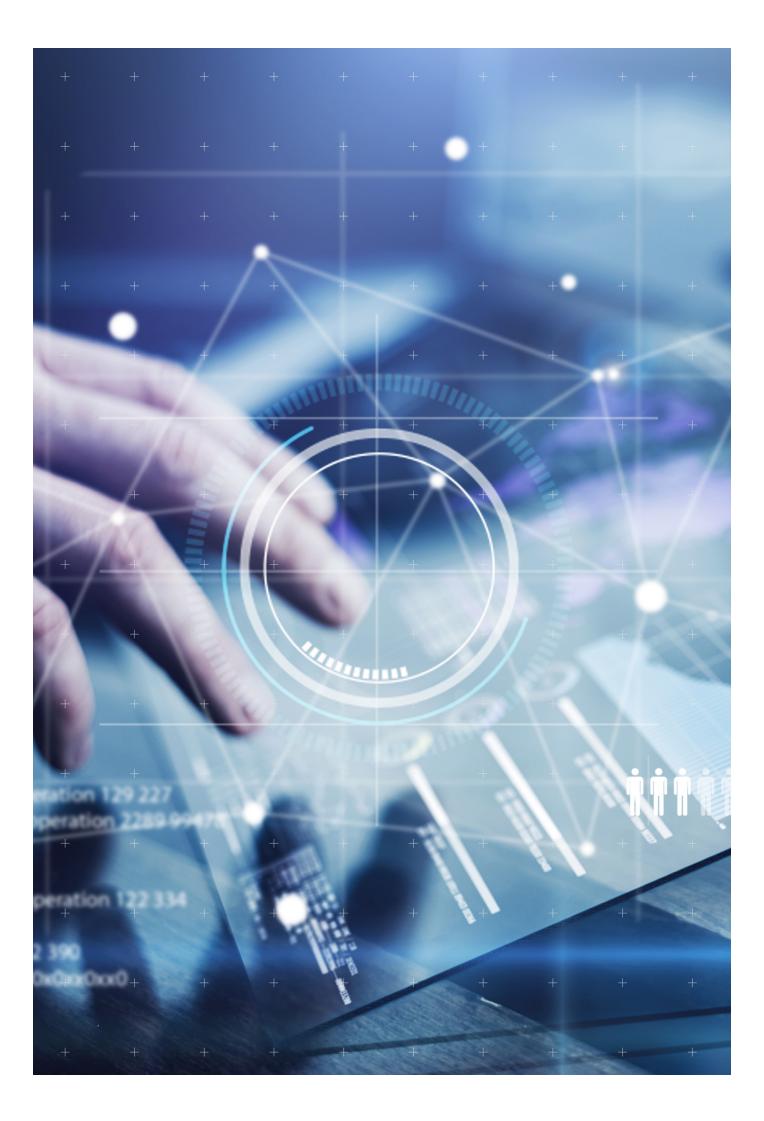
Source: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28)

Figure 4.10: Overall, a good exit track record will be important to pave the way for more investments in the future

Significant overhang of PE investments over the last 10 years



Notes: Includes only deals with known value; excludes real estate, infrastructure and energy deals Source: Bain PE deals and exits database



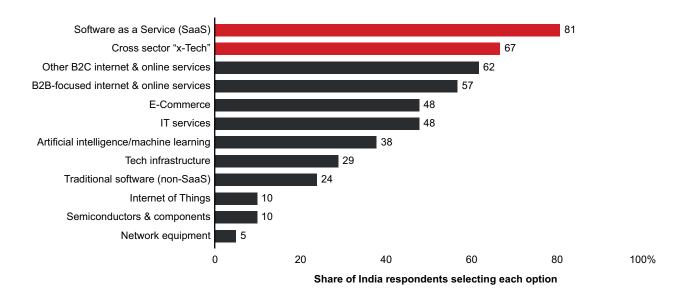
# **5**.

# **Sectors in focus:**SaaS and fintech

- Over the next few years, investors see attractive investment opportunities in SaaS and cross-sector x-tech in India.
- The underlying India SaaS market is forecast to grow from about \$6 billion in 2019 to more than \$20 billion in 2022.
- The investment value in SaaS rose to \$1.3 billion, a 60% increase over the last year's \$840 million. Horizontal business software was the largest subsegment in 2019 and grew in deal volume.
- Investors look for large addressable market, established proof of concept, strong customer stickiness, diversified customer base, high degree of product standardization, marquee customers in quality conscious global markets and cost-competitiveness, as they evaluate SaaS companies for investment.
- Fintech is the largest cross-sector x-tech segment in India, both in terms of deal value, at \$2.4 billion and deal volume at 83.
   Payments and lending were the largest subsegments and witnessed maximum growth over the previous year.
- Lending is expected to be an attractive opportunity due to the large unaddressed MSME debt demand. Multiple archetypes of lenders including banks, nonbanking financial companies, fintech firms and e-commerce players are trying to tap into this new opportunity.

Figure 5.1: SaaS and cross-sector "x-tech" are expected to drive investments in the coming years in India

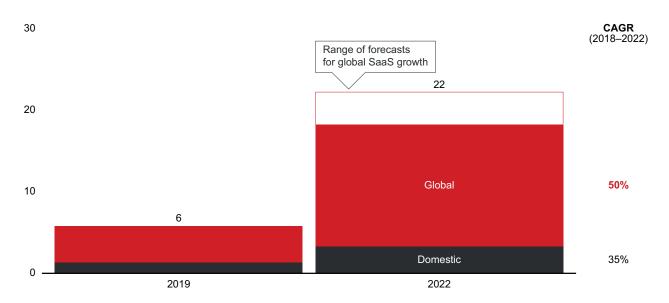
Which technologies/sub-sectors do you expect your firm will focus on in the next 3 to 5 years?



Source: Bain Private Equity Survey 2019 (n=28)

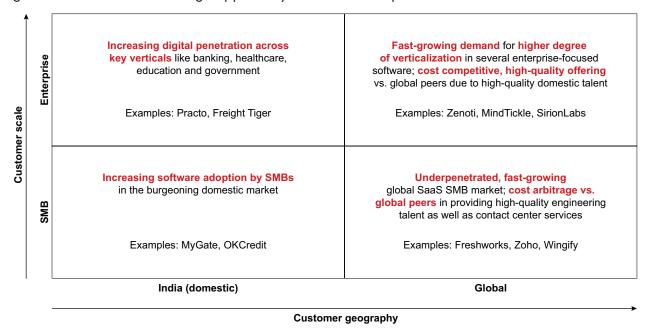
**Figure 5.2:** Underlying India SaaS market is forecast to grow from about \$6 billion in 2019 to more than \$20 billion in 2022

Indian SaaS market (\$B)



Sources: IDC; NASSCOM; Gartner; SMB cloud market in APAC region (Technavio); India SaaS survey 2017 (Signal Hill, Ispirit; n=70); Bain analysis

**Figure 5.3:** Indian SaaS companies are targeting both enterprises and SMBs across domestic and global markets due to the large opportunity across all four quadrants



Source: Bain analysis

**Figure 5.4:** SaaS companies can be classified into three distinct archetypes; and all had investment growth in 2019

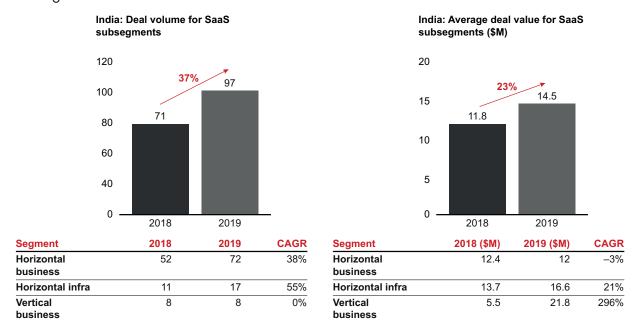
### Archetypes of software/SaaS companies

### Split of investments in software/SaaS

Archetype	Description	Subsegments	Illustrative list of players	India: SaaS investments by type			CAGR
Vertical- specific business software	Software used to support business processes in specific verticals	Fintech	Vymo, PayNearby	(\$B) 100%	0.8	1.3	(2018–19) <b>57%</b>
		Other (health tech, edu tech)	POSist, Practo, Locus			specific business software	294%
		Security	Druva, K7, Lucideus	80		Horizontal infra	90%
Horizontal intra software	Software used to build, run and manage the performance of IT resources	App. dev. and deployment	BrowserStack, Progress, Wingify	00	,	software	
		Other infra (data mgmt., middleware, storage mgmt., data integration, IT ops)	IndusOS, iValue	60			
Horizontal business software	Software used to support business processes in companies across verticals	CRM, omni-commerce, martech	Freshworks, InMobi	40		Horizontal business software	34%
		BI/analytics	Dataweave, Moengage, Crayon	20		Software	
		Content, comm. and collaboration	Ameyo, Flock, Wooqer				
		ERP and others (SCM, HCM, F&A)	SirionLabs, MindTickle, Whatafix	0 —	2018	2019	

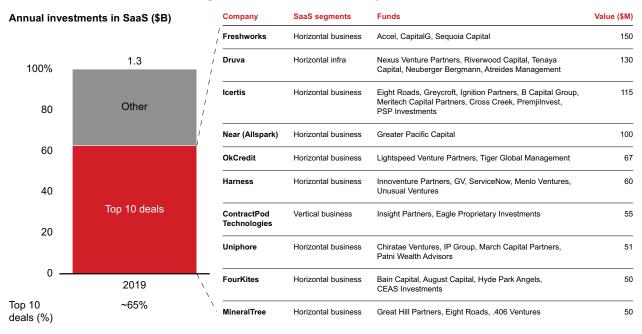
Note: Deal volume includes deals where value is unknown, while average deal value is only for deals with a known value Source: Bain PE deals database

**Figure 5.5:** Horizontal business software was the largest SaaS subsegment in 2019, with growth resulting from an increase in deal volume



Note: Deal volume includes deals where deal value is unknown whereas average deal value is only for deals with known value Source: Bain PE deals database

**Figure 5.6:** Top 10 deals accounted for about 65% of the total deal value in 2019; and the horizontal business software segment attracted 8 out of top 10 deals



Note: Does not include deals where deal value is unknown Source: Bain PE deals database

Figure 5.7: Investors look for key markers in evaluating SaaS companies for investment



Playing in a large addressable market (typically \$1 billion-plus), with a focus on niche underpenetrated verticals such as scheduling software for spas and salons, or a differentiated horizontal software offering such as AI-enabled CRM



Established proof of concept (minimum scale of ~\$1 million ARR) with robust growth (typically 100%+ annual ARR growth)



Strong customer stickiness (an annual revenue churn of <10%) driven by both positive customer feedback and high switching costs (solutions that require significant end-client data migration)



Diversified customer base (typically top 10 contribute <50%) with limited concentration of start-ups or customers with high insourcing risk



High degree of product standardization (limited custom solutions at premium pricing) to propel scalability



Track record of selling software solutions to stable or large customers in competitive and quality-conscious global markets, especially the US market



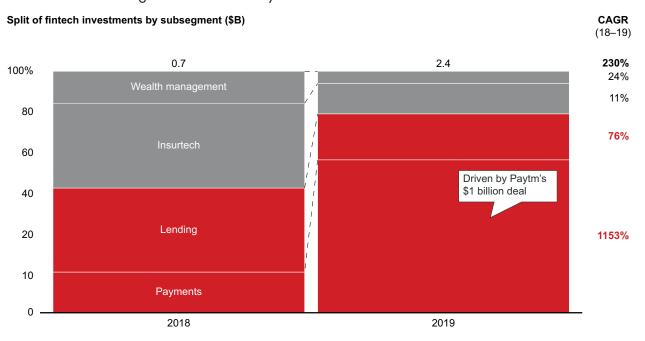
Leveraging high-quality India-based STEM talent to drive cost competitiveness vs. global peers

Figure 5.8: Fintech is the largest cross-tech segment in India in deal value and deal volume

#### Cross-tech deal value in India (\$B) Cross-tech deal volume in India 292 7 300 6.6 Othe Other Food tech 6 - e-Mobility 6.3 Media and entertainment e-Mobility Media and entertainment 211 5 RE tech Edt ech 200 Food tech Mobility Mobility 4 Ed tech Health tech 3 Health tech 100 2 Fin tech 1 Fin tech 2018 2018 2019

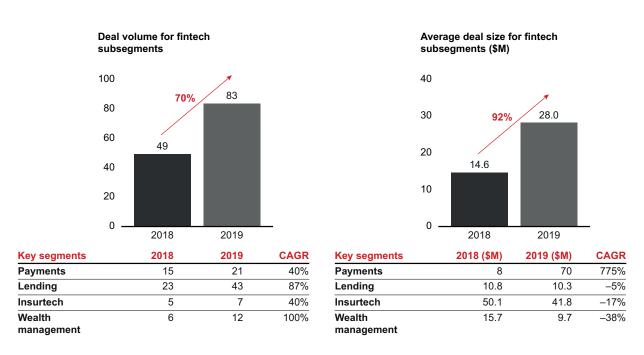
Notes: Others include various sectors such as logistics, gaming, online travel and social network; deal volume includes deals where value is unknown Source: Bain PE deals database

Figure 5.9: Lending and payments contributed nearly 80% of fintech investments in 2019 and witnessed maximum growth over the last year



Source: Bain PE deals database

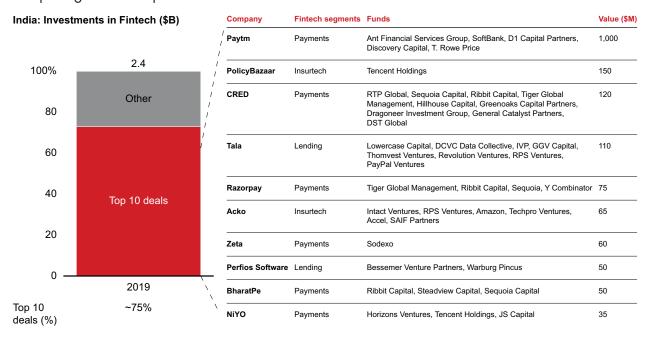
Figure 5.10: Increased deal volume across fintech subsegments led to substantial growth



Note: Deal volume includes deals where deal value is unknown whereas average deal value is only for deals with known value. Source: Bain PE deals database

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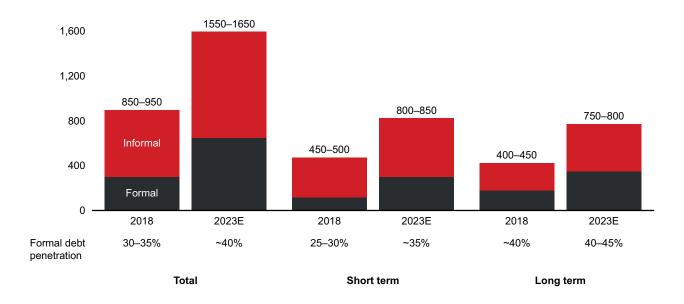
Figure 5.11: Top 10 deals account for about 75% of the total deal value in 2019 with payments comprising 6 of the top 10 deals



Note: Does not include deals where deal value is unknown Source: Bain PE deals database

Figure 5.12: Micro, small and medium enterprise lending is expected to grow in coming years due to the large unaddressed debt demand

Micro, small and medium enterprise debt demand (FY 2018, 2023E, \$B)



Source: Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; International Finance Corporation (IFC); Accord database; Bain analysis

**Figure 5.13:** Four broad archetypes of lenders trying to tap into the unaddressed micro, small and medium enterprise lending opportunity

	Banks	<ul> <li>Offer largely secured and high-ticket-size loans to medium enterprises</li> <li>Differentiation: Fund availability, competitive interest rates and long-standing relationships</li> </ul>
	Nonbanking financial companies	<ul> <li>Focus more on small enterprises than banks; NBFCs targeting emerging micro and small enterprises</li> <li>Differentiation: Faster turnaround time and less documentation compared with banks</li> </ul>
Tel.	Fintechs	Focus on unsecured short-term capital to micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) with smaller ticket sizes (including alternate lending products)
		<ul> <li>Greater risk appetite and nontraditional credit risk assessment methods allow lending to underserved segments</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Current and potential player types: Fintech lenders, MSME marketplaces, payment players and business platforms</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Differentiation: Extremely fast turnaround times and lesser documentation compared to NBFCs; provide higher flexibility in terms of loan tenure and repayment methods</li> </ul>
	E-commerce players	Partner with fintechs and NBFCs to provide <b>unsecured loans</b> for short periods; emerging or soon-to-emerge as standalone players
		• Differentiation: Lower customer acquisition costs due to existing relationships with sellers



# About Bain's Private Equity practice

Bain & Company is the management consulting firm the world's business leaders come to when they want enduring results. Together, we find value across boundaries, develop insights to act on and energize teams to sustain success. We're passionate about always doing the right thing for our clients, our people and our communities, even if it isn't easy. Bain advises clients on strategy, operations, technology, organization, private equity, and mergers and acquisitions. We develop practical, customized insights that clients act on and transfer skills that make change stick. Founded in 1973, Bain has 58 offices in 37 countries as well as deep expertise and a long client roster across every industry and economic sector. Our clients have outperformed the stock market 4 to 1.

Bain is also the leading consulting partner to the private equity industry and its stakeholders. Private equity consulting at Bain has grown eightfold over the past 15 years and now represents about onequarter of the firm's global business. We maintain a global network of more than 1,000 experienced professionals serving PE clients.

In India, we have a leadership position in PE consulting and have reviewed most of the large PE deals that have come to the market. Our practice is more than triple the size of the next-largest consulting firm serving private equity firms both globally and within India.

Bain's work with PE firms spans fund types, including buyout, infrastructure, real estate and debt. We also work with hedge funds, as well as with many of the most prominent institutional investors, including sovereign wealth funds, pension funds, endowments and family investment offices. We support our clients across a broad range of objectives:

**Deal generation.** We help develop differentiated investment theses and enhance deal flow, profiling Industries, screening companies and devising a plan to approach targets.

Due diligence. We help support better deal decisions by performing due diligence, assessing performance improvement opportunities and providing a post-acquisition agenda.

**Immediate post-acquisition.** We support the pursuit of rapid returns by developing a strategic blueprint for the acquired company, leading workshops that align management with strategic priorities and directing focused initiatives.

**Ongoing value addition.** We help increase a company's value by supporting revenue enhancement and cost reduction and by refreshing strategy.

**Exit.** We help ensure funds maximize returns by identifying the optimal exit strategy, preparing the selling documents and prequalifying buyers.

Firm strategy and operations. We help PE firms develop their own strategy for continued excellence by devising differentiated strategies, maximizing investment capabilities, developing sector

specialisation and intelligence, enhancing fundraising, improving organizational design and decision making, and enlisting top talent.

**Institutional investor strategy.** We help institutional investors develop best-in-class investment programs across asset classes, including PE, infrastructure and real estate. Topics we address cover asset-class allocation, portfolio construction and manager selection, governance and risk management, and organizational design and decision making. We also help institutional investors expand participation in PE, including through coinvestment and direct investing opportunities.

# About Indian Private Equity & Venture Capital Association

IVCA is the oldest and most influential PE and VC Industry body in India, with a focus on promoting the AIF asset class within India and overseas. IVCA's mission is to promote a healthy environment for the growth of private equity and venture capital which is much needed to support economic growth, good governance, entrepreneurship, innovation, and job creation in India.

IVCA stands for the values of good governance, protecting the environment and reducing poverty through growth of the private sector. It establishes high standards of governance, ethics, business conduct and professional competence. We reach out to the far-flung areas of India and also assist on a global scale to contribute significantly.

IVCA is a nonprofit organization powered by its members. The members are influential firms from around the world, including private equity and venture capital funds, corporate advisors, lawyers and institutional advisors.

## Considering the crucial role our industry plays in the economy, IVCA aims to:

- Develop and promote India's private equity sector and actively demonstrate its impact to the government, media, and the public at large.
- Establish high standards of ethics, business conduct and professional competence.
- Serve as a platform for investment funds to interact with each other and develop India's PE and VC industry ecosystem.

#### How we do it:

• With noteworthy committee members on our panel, we advocate for a seamless private equity and venture capital industry in India by representing the views and concerns of our members in front of governmental and other relevant bodies, thereby promoting pro-growth public policy initiatives, international best practices and standards.



- Having members from leading PE and VC firms, institutional investors, corporate advisers, lawyers and other service providers, IVCA serves as an unequalled platform for investment funds to interact with each other and develop the ecosystem.
- We provide a professional development forum for members and those interested in the venture capital and private equity industry through educational and training events. IVCA also has a partnership with Invest Europe, focused exclusively on the professional development of investment professionals.
- In association with its knowledge partners, IVCA promotes, researches and analyses private equity and venture capital in India, and collects and disseminates commercial statistics and information related to the private equity and venture capital industry.



# About the authors

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