





Foreword



The Sweden Tech Ecosystem database and this annual report are the result of a collaborative effort between Business Sweden, Vinnova, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, the Swedish Energy Agency, the Swedish Institute, and Swedish Incubators and Science Parks (SISP). It plays a key role in our ongoing mission to make ecosystem data freely available to all. The Swedish Tech Ecosystem website acts as a digital showcase for activities within our innovation ecosystem.

Through this platform, our ambition is to connect investors and startups, foster partnerships and business opportunities, and inspire the media to uncover and share compelling stories. It also provides talent with a way to explore new opportunities, while enabling companies to highlight their recruitment and collaboration needs—all within an increasingly international

Despite ongoing global economic uncertainty, Swedish startups continue to demonstrate remarkable resilience—and investor confidence remains strong. In 2024, Swedish startups raised a total of €2.4 billion in venture capital, maintaining Sweden's position as a European leader in VC investment per capita. However, there is still significant untapped potential—particularly if more later-stage capital were made available to support scaling companies..

Sweden continues to solidify its reputation as one of the world's most innovative nations. It now ranks among the global top 10 in terms of the number of unicorns and leads Europe in unicorns per capita, with particular strengths in advanced technology, the green transition, and life sciences.

Sweden hosts one of Europe's strongest climate tech sectors, with more than 500 active companies and a combined valuation of \$28 billion—representing a 4.5x increase since 2019. The country has also produced six climate tech unicorns to date. In the deep tech sector, where breakthroughs in science fuel transformative innovation, Swedish startups are reshaping industries from energy and logistics to security and advanced manufacturing.

Since 2020, Swedish companies with at least one female founder have raised €2.3 billion in venture capital—the highest in the Nordics and fourth highest in Europe. Investments in female-founded startups continued to rise in 2024. However, only 9.9% of total VC funding went to companies with at least one female founder, underscoring the continued need for inclusive investment strategies.

Sweden's strong position on global innovation indexes, coupled with its ability to attract international investment, top talent, and high-quality ventures—even in times of global uncertainty—is a source of national pride. We remain deeply committed to fostering an open, world-class environment where startups from all backgrounds can grow, scale, and contribute to solving global challenges."

What you need to know

Sweden is one of Europe's top tech ecosystems, but VC has been concentrated in just a few companies

Sweden ranks 4th in Europe by total VC investment since 2020 and 1st per capita. It is also the top ecosystem in Europe for unicorn creation per capita.

But funding remains highly concentrated: six companies alone have raised nearly half of all capital since 2020.

Fewer Swedish startups progressing to Series A/B, especially compared to the US, but, those that do, scale beyond the European average.

Sweden has a strong pipeline of 2.2K+ startups, with most at early stage

Swedish startups are now worth €319B and have a strong focus on Deep tech, Climate tech, Medtech and Biotech.

Late-stage funding remains reliant on foreign investors, with further opportunities to support female-founded startups.

Unlocking Sweden's next growth phase

Sweden consistently ranks as one of the world's most innovative countries, backed by a strong national support system and deep EU integration.

Public actors and programmes, from local incubators to EU support, are essential to help startups turn world-class research into high-growth companies, particularly in sectors like deep tech, climate, and health.



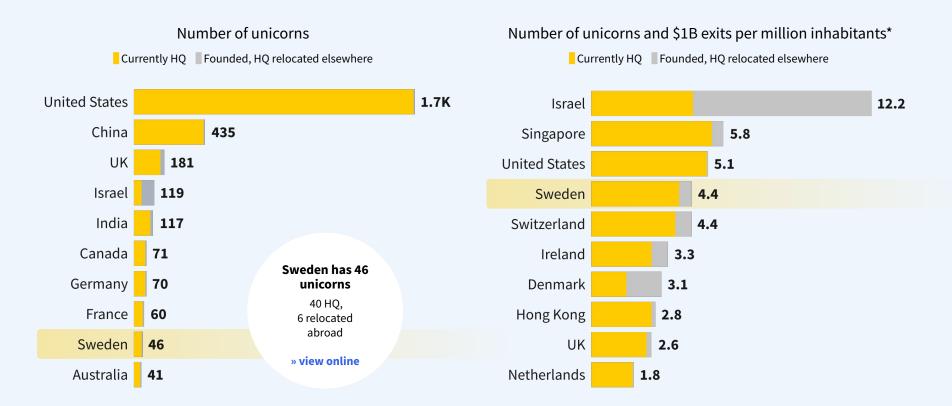
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Sweden ranks #4 in Europe by VC investment since 2020, and first per capita



Sweden is among the top 10 countries globally by number of unicorns, and first per capita in Europe





Source:

Sweden's VC investment is highly concentrated—six companies have accounted for almost half of all capital raised since 2020

€23.5 billion VC in Sweden

Since 2020

€11B raised by the top 6 VC successes



northvolt

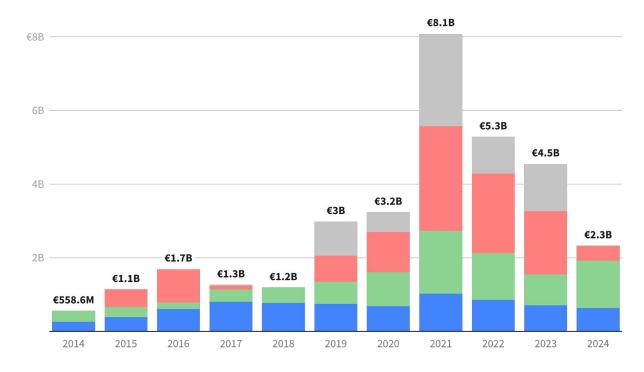
- Stegra

Klarna

Sweden's funding landscape has shifted in 2024

Fewer megarounds, while breakout stage investment is on the rise.





Dealroom.co. VC investment raised by startups HQ'd in Sweden. Northvolt represents €6.3B of investment between the years 2017 and 2023. Convertible rounds included in overall VC.

Source:

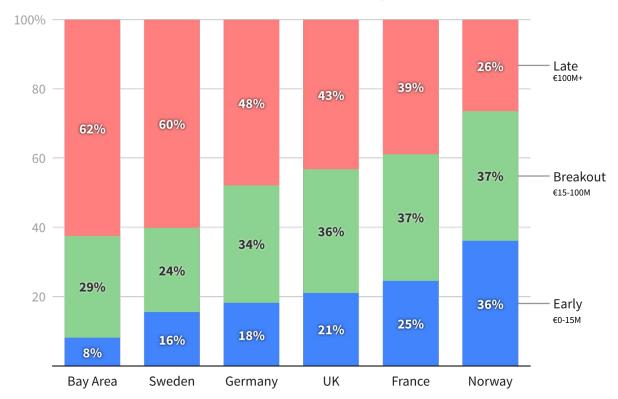




Sweden has a much higher share of late stage funding than other European countries and almost as much as the Bay Area

60% of Sweden's VC investment has gone to late stage funding

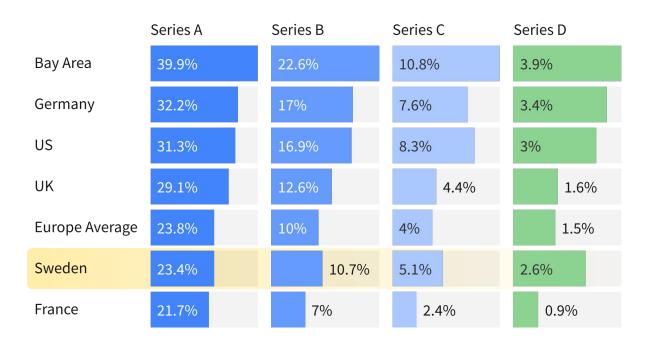
VC investment benchmarked by stage, 2020 - 2024



Sweden sees fewer startups progressing to Series A/B, but those that do scale beyond the European average

The gap with Bay Area and the US overall is stark at all stages

Graduation rate of startups from Seed, with seed year between 2015 - 2020





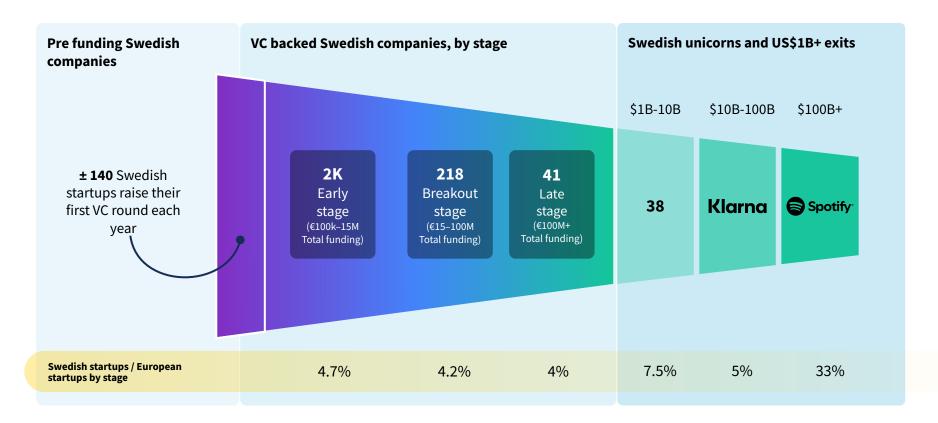
erige dealroom.co

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Sweden has a strong pipeline of companies, with most still at early stage

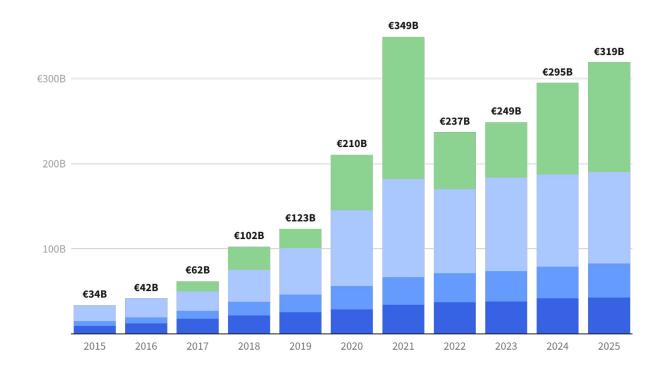


Swedish startups are now worth €319B, growing 1.5x since 2020

Excluding short-term fluctuations, both unicorns and the rest of the ecosystem have grown at similar rates since 2020, contributing equally to Sweden's overall EV growth.

Combined ecosystem value of Swedish startups









Sweden's largest successes like Klarna and Spotify are breeding grounds for



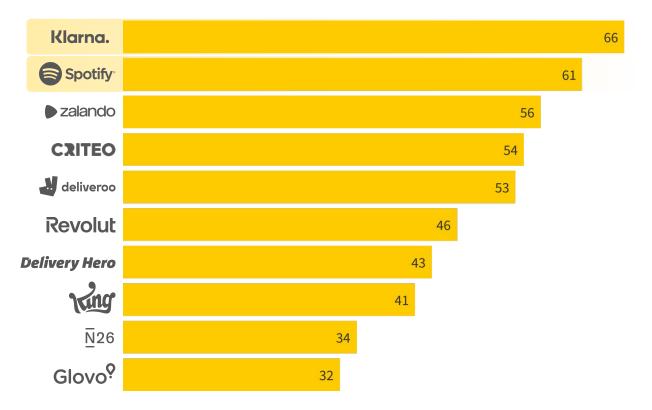
Startups founded by former employees of Swedish unicorns



Klarna and Spotify are Europe's biggest founder factories

127 VC-backed startups were launched by former employees of the two Swedish unicorns

Founder factories in Europe and Israel



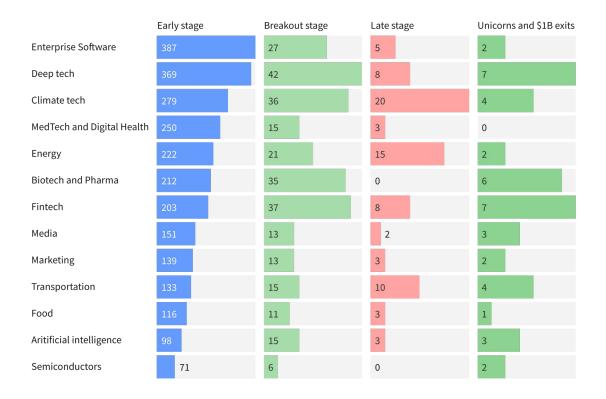


Source:

Swedish startups have a strong focus on Deep tech, Climate tech, Medtech and Biotech

These frontier sectors make up a large share of the early-stage pipeline, with strong breakout potential

Pipeline of Swedish companies by stage and segment

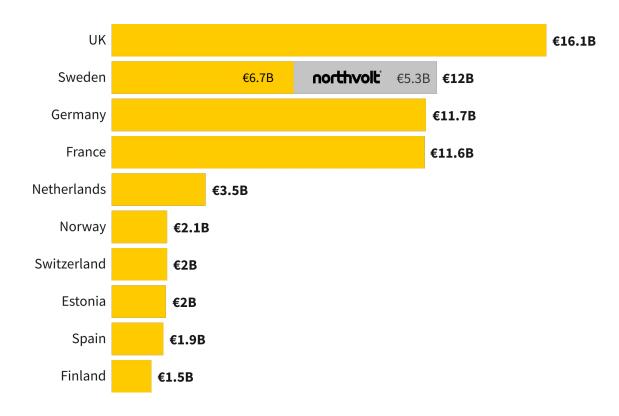






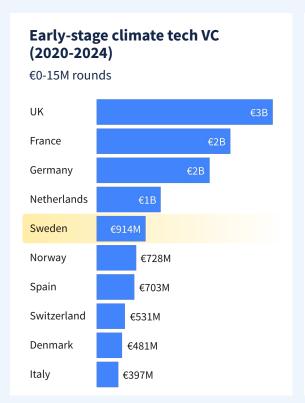
Sweden is Europe's #2 climate tech ecosystem by total VC raised since 2020

VC investment in climate tech in Europe (2020-2024)





Strong late-stage climate tech investment positions Sweden ahead, with Sweden ranking #5 in Europe for early stage VC







Sweden's climate tech investment is diversifying

In 2024, top rounds span frontier sectors including steel (Stegra), green buildings (Aira), renewable energy (Baseload Capital, CorPower Ocean), electric mobility startups like (Candela and Voi)

» 2024 rounds

VC funding into Swedish climate tech sub-sectors in 2024 » view online







Top Swedish Climate Segments

>> Explore visualization online

Sector	Enterprise Value (EV)	EV per \$ VC invested	EV growth (2020- today)	Climate tech startups	Startups (\$100K-\$1M raised)	Startups (\$1M-\$4M raised)	Startups (\$4M-\$15M raised)	Breakouts (\$15- 100M raised)	Scaleups (\$100M+ raised)
Electric Mobility	\$12B	1x	1.4x	49 100%	2 4.1%	5 10.2%	8 16.3%	7 14.3%	8 16.3%
EV Manufacturing	\$11B	5x	4.6x	18 100%	0%	1 5.6%	2 11.1%	5 27.8%	5 27.8%
Urban Tech	\$7B	2x	6.3x	57 100%	6 10.5%	6 10.5%	11 19.3%	3 5.3%	4 7%
Green Buildings	\$6B	2x	16.2x	28 100%	2 7.1%	4 14.3%	9 32.1%	2 7.1%	3 10.7%
Advanced Materials	\$5B	2x	5.5x	21 100%	2 9.5%	5 23.8%	3 14.3%	2 9.5%	2 9.5%
Sustainable Building Construction	\$5B	2x	443.5x	7 100%	0%	1 14.3%	2 28.6%	1 14.3%	1 14.3%
Hydrogen	\$4B	2x	47.7x	15 100%	1 6.7%	1 6.7%	2 13.3%	1 6.7%	2 13.3%
Steel	\$4B	2x	0.0x	3 100%				1 33.3%	2 66.7%
								11 19,6%	Sweden Sverige

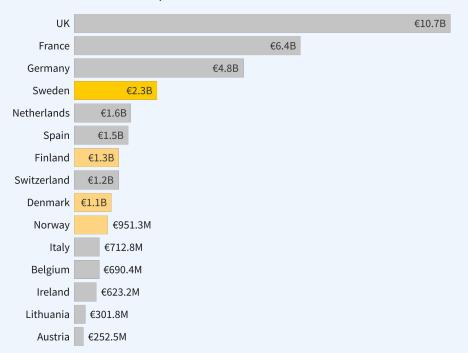


"Sweden's tech ecosystem stands as a global benchmark for innovation, shaped by visionary policy, world-class education, and a vibrant entrepreneurial spirit. At CMPC Ventures, we are proud to deepen our engagement in this dynamic environment. Our collaboration with exceptional Swedish partners has already led to our first investment in Modvion — a testament to Sweden's power to turn bold ideas into sustainable solutions.

We are very excited about our investment in Modvion, as it aligns with our sustainability and innovation commitments and represents a concrete step in fostering timber construction with disruptive developments that allow showing and exploring its versatility for high-technology uses. As in all of our investments, we have put a team of technical, commercial and strategic experts in place to contribute to Modvion's growth, and we hope to keep working with them side by side, sharing our vision of the tremendous role the forest plays in contributing to sustainability in industries such as construction or energy."

Sweden ranks 4th in Europe and 1st in the Nordics for VC investment in female-founded startups

Top European countries by VC investment in female founded companies 2020-2024 » view online



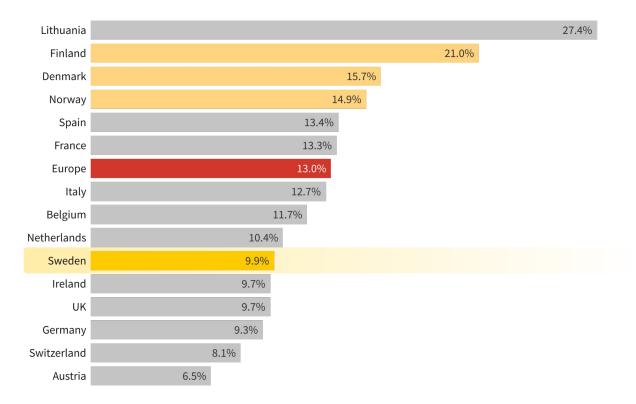
Top 10 female founded VC rounds in Sweden in 2024 » view online

Company	Amount	Round	Date	Industry
Heart Aerospace	€97M	Series B	Feb 2024	Energy/Space
syre	€91M	Series A	May 2024	Fashion
NC°	€50M	Series C	May 2024	Health
Sana Sana	€50M	Series B	Oct 2024	Education
Doconomy	€33.5M	Early VC	May 2024	Fintech
asgard THERAPEUTICS	€27.3M	Series A	Mar 2024	Health
AirForestry	€8.9M	Early VC	Oct 2024	Robotics
N A-K D	€7.6M	Late VC	Jan 2024	Fashion
kodiak HUB	€6.2M	Early VC	Nov 2024	Enterprise Software
≣ Epishine	€6.1M	Early VC	May 2024	Real Estate/Energy

10% of VC investment raised by Swedish companies goes to female-founded companies

Female entrepreneurship remains an untapped potential as Sweden remains behind the European average and Nordic peers

Female founded VC as a % of total VC between 2020 and 2024



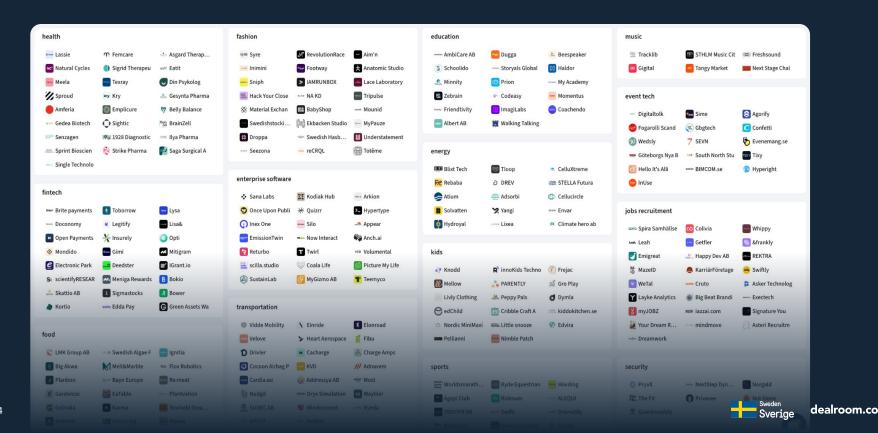




Source:

Swedish female-founded companies mapped

» Explore the landscape



Swedish startups are spreading out geographically, with 8 counties being home to over 100 startups

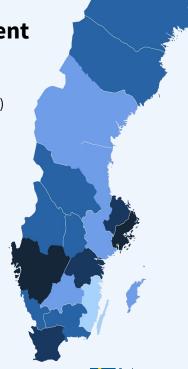
Number of VC-backed startups

<25 25-50 50-100 100≤



Whilst VC still remains concentrated in Stockholm, Västra Götaland has seen increased investment in recent years

VC investment raised (2020-2024)



Swedish investors have dominated at Seed since 2020

Investor name	Preferred round	Round count
Chalmers Ventures	SEED	98
Almi Invest	SEED	98
• Antler	SEED	89
Industrifonden	SEED	62
EQT Ventures	SERIES A	33
Luminar Ventures	SEED	32
Norrsken VC	SEED	25
J12 Ventures	SEED	24
EIC Fund	SEED	24
┿ Inventure	SEED	23

Series A investors show more diversity, with 30% foreign presence in the top 10 since 2020

Investor name	Preferred round	Round count
EQT Ventures	SERIES A	35
Creandum	SERIES A	22
Northzone	SERIES A	20
Fairpoint Capital	SERIES A	14
Halfvén & Didrikson	SERIES A	14
Sciety	SERIES A	11
♣ NordicNinja VC	SERIES A	10
Flerie Invest	SERIES A	8
Novax	SERIES A	7
CommerzVentures	SERIES A	6

Swedish investors in Series B+ rounds lead the top 10 since 2020 with more international presence

Investor name	Preferred round	Round count
VNV Global	SERIES B	14
: Kinnevik	SERIES B	13
Temasek	SERIES C	
B yggmästaren	SERIES C	5
Oxx	SERIES B	5
GIC	SERIES B	4
Ingka Group	SERIES C	4
Insight Partners	SERIES B	4
L Mubadala Cap.	SERIES B	4
SEB Greentech	SERIES B	4





"Sweden is a jewel in the European tech ecosystem. Its progressive values and commitment to building a sustainable future have enabled an impressive lineup of visionary companies, from Einride to Voi and CorPower, and we are proud to support the exciting talent emerging from the country. Yet one thing we hear time and again from founders is the gap in late-stage funding, which is preventing promising ventures from reaching their full potential.

If Sweden wants to remain a premier startup hub, it must ensure the right conditions to graduate early-stage companies into global scaleups—this includes a more active industrial policy, unlocking state aid for large-scale infrastructure projects, and creating the right incentives for institutional investors. At the same time, it's crucial that Sweden continues to lead on forward-thinking regulation, particularly in strategic sectors like AI, where targeted policies can help translate deep tech excellence into real-world industrial impact."

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Unlocking the next phase of growth: the Swedish Innovation **Ecosystem**

Sweden is known as one of the world's most innovative countries, consistently ranking high in international rankings year after year. In the 2024 Global Innovation Index, Sweden ranked **2nd among** 133 economies worldwide, and in the European Innovation Scoreboard 2023, Sweden ranked 1st place among all EU member states.

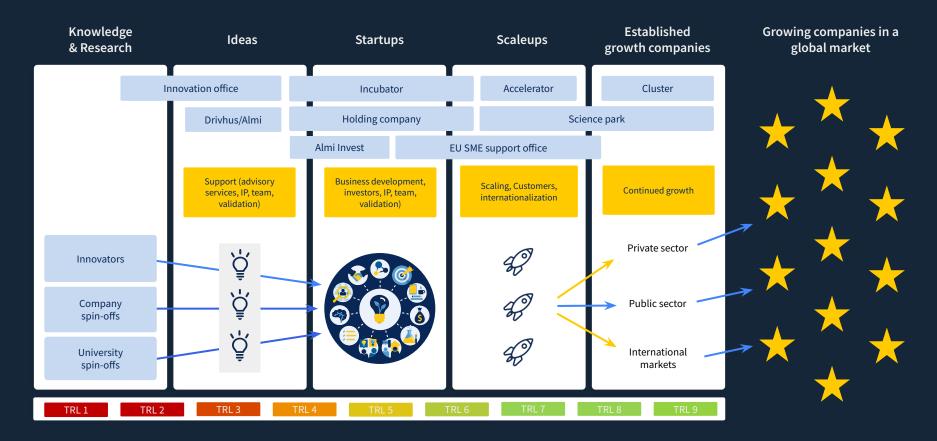
Swedish universities produce a high volume of scientific research, particularly in fields like information technology, engineering, and life sciences. Thanks to the unique Professor's Privilege policy, researchers own the IP they develop, creating fertile ground for academic spinouts and deep tech entrepreneurship. Most universities also have holding companies that commercialize this research and invest at very early stages. Sweden's national support system includes 16+ universities, 19 holding companies, 13 innovation offices, 38 university-close incubators, and 30 Triple Helix-based science parks. This ecosystem plays a pivotal role in turning knowledge into impact through entrepreneurship, collaboration, and public-private partnerships.

Sweden is well-positioned to lead the next wave of tech innovation. Unlocking this potential, especially in high-impact sectors like deep tech, climate, and health, will require continued coordination across the ecosystem. Universities, holding companies, incubators, science parks, and funding agencies all play a crucial role in helping startups move from research and ideas to scale.



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Sweden's support system covers the full startup journey



Incubators, accelerators and science parks span the country

	North Sweden	Central Sweden	South Sweden	
Incubator	Peak Innovation expression with a continuous and a cont	Sting St	HETCH BBusiness LAMBERS LAM	
Accelerator		THINGS SynerLeap <norrsken> Combient Foundry TestaCenter repicenter</norrsken>	mobilityXlab SweDISH SCALEUPS	
Incubator & Science Park	MOVOXUM PAIR PAIR BIZMAKER Making good libras prop	SPO SCIENCE PARK SCIENCE PARK SCIENCE PARK SCIENCE PARK COMPARI MARA MOITAVONITATION PARK	REINOVA KALMAR SCIENCE PARK	
Science Park	PITEA SCIENCE CITY PARK PARK SCIENCE CITY CANCEL CIT	LINKÖPING SCIENCE SCIENCE PARK SODERTÄUE SCIENCE PARK SODERTÄUE	WEXIGIANDER SCIENCE PARK BLUE SCIENCE PARK PARK BORAS MEDICON VILLAGE INNOVATION SKANE MEDEON	



Universities are key drivers of innovation and entrepreneurship

Selected Universities

Uppsala University

Lund University

University of Gothenburg

Stockholm University

Karolinska Institutet

Umeå University

KTH Royal Institute of Technology

Linköping University

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Luleå University of Technology

Karlstad University

Örebro University

Mid Sweden University

Linnaeus University

(Växjö University + Kalmar University)

Malmö University

Holding companies

Chalmers Ventures

GU Ventures

Högskolan i Borås Holding

Högskolan Kristianstad Holding

HHU AB (Halmstads högskola)

Karlstad Universitet Holding

KI Holding

KTH Holding

LiU Holding

LUD AB (Linnaeus University)

LU Holding

Holding

Mau Holding

Miun Holding (Mittuniversitetet)

SLU Holding

SU Holding

UmU Holding

Uppsala University Invest

Örebro University Holding

Innovation offices

Chalmers Innovation Office

Research & Innovation Office at Gothenburg University

KI Innovation

KTH Innovation

LiU Innovation

LTU Business

LU Innovation Innovation Office South:

Fyrklövern Innovation Office

Malmö Innovation Office

Stockholm University Innovation

SLU Holding

Innovation Office North at Umeå University

UU Innovation

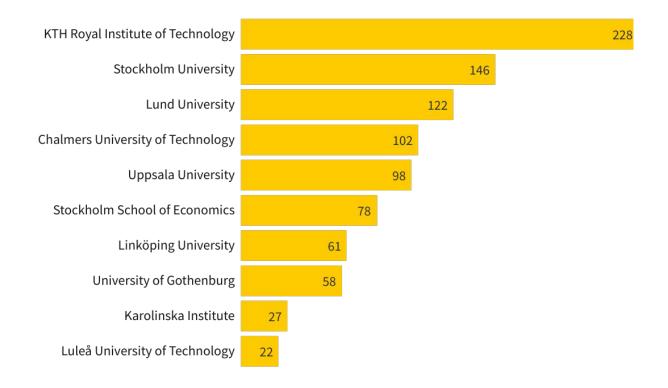




Sweden's leading universities serve as hubs for nurturing entrepreneurial talent, both within the country and internationally

KTH ranks 12th in Europe by number of alums raising more than \$10M

Number of university alumni founders that raised > \$10M » view online







"Through the universities' innovation offices and holding companies, as well as incubators and science parks, knowledge, capital, and expertise are mobilized across the country.

Together, we build bridges from research to market and create the conditions for more strong companies to emerge. It's a model that not only fosters groundbreaking innovation but also contributes to increasing the share of venture capital invested in female-founded and mixed-gender teams. Together, we are shaping a more inclusive and competitive innovation nation."

Beyond national programs, EU support plays a key role in strengthening Sweden's innovation and venture capital ecosystem

Support of the funding ecosystem



Venture debt and equity co-investing



Grant and equity investment

Swedish companies funded by EU Framework Programmes (including EIC, EIC fund, EITs, etc.)**

















Swedish startups are major beneficiaries of EU Framework Programmes, ranking among the highest in funded startups per capita

Number of funded startups backed by EU Framework Programmes







SI. Swedish

Global startup and venture capital intelligence platform

Dealroom.co is a global intelligence platform for discovering and tracking the most promising companies, technologies and ecosystems. Clients include many of the world's foremost organizations such as Accel, Index Ventures, McKinsey, BCG, Deloitte, Google, AWS, Microsoft, Stripe. Dealroom partners closely with local tech ecosystem development agencies and enablers, to create a comprehensive multi-dimensional blueprint of the tech ecosystem, including capital, talent, innovation, entrepreneurship and overall economic dynamism.

Business Sweden helps Swedish companies grow global sales and international companies invest and expand in Sweden

Business Sweden is commissioned by the Government and the Swedish industry with a unique mandate and a mission to help international companies gain access to the Swedish market and help domestic ones utilize it as a platform for expansion. Their clients range from startups via small- and medium-sized businesses to multinational enterprises – with tailor-made services catering to all of these segments.

Public agency that promotes interest and trust in Sweden around the world

The Swedish Institute operates in the fields of culture, education, science and business in seeking to strengthen international relations ties, and promote development. The agency builds up lasting relations between Sweden and other countries to enhance Sweden's nation brand and international relevance. To this end, the Swedish Institute disseminates information, develops skills, promotes cultural exchange and cooperation, and provides funding and grants.









VINNOVA



Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth (Tillväxtverket), is a government agency under the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, tasked to promote sustainable business development and regional growth in all parts of Sweden.

Tillväxtverket supports companies and regions by offering knowledge, networks for collaboration and financing.

Swedish Incubators & Science Parks

Swedish Incubators & Science
Parks (SISP) is the member
association for Sweden's
incubators and science parks as
regional areas of innovation across
the country. SISPs members
support knowledge and
technology based startups and
scaleups, as well as established
industries and the public sector, to
develop a sustainable society
through innovation. Several
members also run business angel
networks and seed capital funds.

Sweden's Innovation Agency

Vinnova is Sweden's government innovation agency. Our mission is to strengthen Sweden's innovative capacity and contribute to sustainable growth. We identify areas where our efforts can make a difference, and we create opportunities and incentives for organisations to work together to meet important societal challenges. Our financial support gives companies and organisations the opportunity to experiment and test new ideas before they become profitable. Through open calls, Vinnova invests approximately €300M annually in research and innovation in the form of grants.

Swedish Energy Agency

The Swedish Energy Agency is dedicated to its vision of sustainable energy for all and catalysing Swedish energy innovations within and beyond Sweden's borders. Our assignment is to unite sustainability, competitiveness, and security of energy supply for cost-efficient energy systems with minimum impact on health, environment and the climate.

We are contributing to sustainable development across the world, while strengthening Sweden's competitiveness and position as a prioritized partner for green and digital transition.





Methodology

What are startups and scaleups?

Startups are companies designed to grow fast. Generally, such companies are VC-investable businesses. Sometimes they can become very big (e.g. €/\$1B+ valuation).

When startups are successful, they develop into **scaleups**, considered in this report as companies which raised above €15M in total VC investment and/or companies which reached €/\$1B valuation or exit at one point in time (unicorns and €/\$1B exits). and result in big companies. Only companies founded since 1990 are included in this report.

What is a startup?

What is a unicorn?

Unicorns are (former) startups that reached €/US\$ 1B valuation or exit at one point in time.

What is a Unicorn?

Underlying Data

Dealroom's proprietary database and software aggregate data from multiple sources: harvesting public information, user-submitted data verified by Dealroom, data engineering. All data is verified and curated with an extensive manual process.

The data on which this report builds is available via app.dealroom.co. For more info please visit dealroom.co or contact support@dealroom.co. Data for this report was taken in Q1 2025.

Venture Capital, Investors

Investment are referred to by their round labels such as Seed, Series A, B, C, ... late stage, and growth equity. VC investments exclude debt, non-equity funding, lending capital and grants.

Corporate VC and rounds include activity by at least one corporate investor.

Scope of the report

Unless specified otherwise on the respective slide, this report encapsulates all startups which maintain their main center of business (HQ) in their country of origin. Therefore, the scope of this report is based on startups HQ'd in Sweden.

Climate Tech

Climate tech is used as an umbrella term for all startups that have environmental sustainability at the core of their business model. It includes startups focusing on GHGs emissions, biodiversity and environmental protection, pollution (e.g. plastic, chemicals), water usage, and so on.

For more info visit our **Climate tech Glossary & Definitions guide**.





