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# Colorado Venture Capital Report 2025

A deep dive into the dynamics  
shaping the Colorado VC ecosystem

January 2026  
Fort Collins, CO



# Colorado Venture Capital 2025

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# The Colorado Innovation Economy - Foreword

“

Colorado’s innovation ecosystem continues to generate high-quality science, technology, and entrepreneurial talent, **but the availability of Colorado-based risk capital has not kept pace with the state’s growing pipeline of investable companies.** Too many founders still rely on out-of-state capital to scale. **In response, Innosphere will launch its third advanced-industries-focused fund in 2026**, creating significant opportunities for family offices, foundations, and Colorado-based institutional investors to deploy capital locally and help ensure the state’s most promising companies can grow, scale, and remain anchored in Colorado.”



**Mike Freeman**  
CEO  
Innosphere

# Key Findings

## 1. Increased Colorado Capital Deployment

Total Capital Invested in 2025:  
**\$7.46B**

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## 2. Series A Valuations Decline From 2024 Highs

Later Stage Deals capture **73% of deal value**

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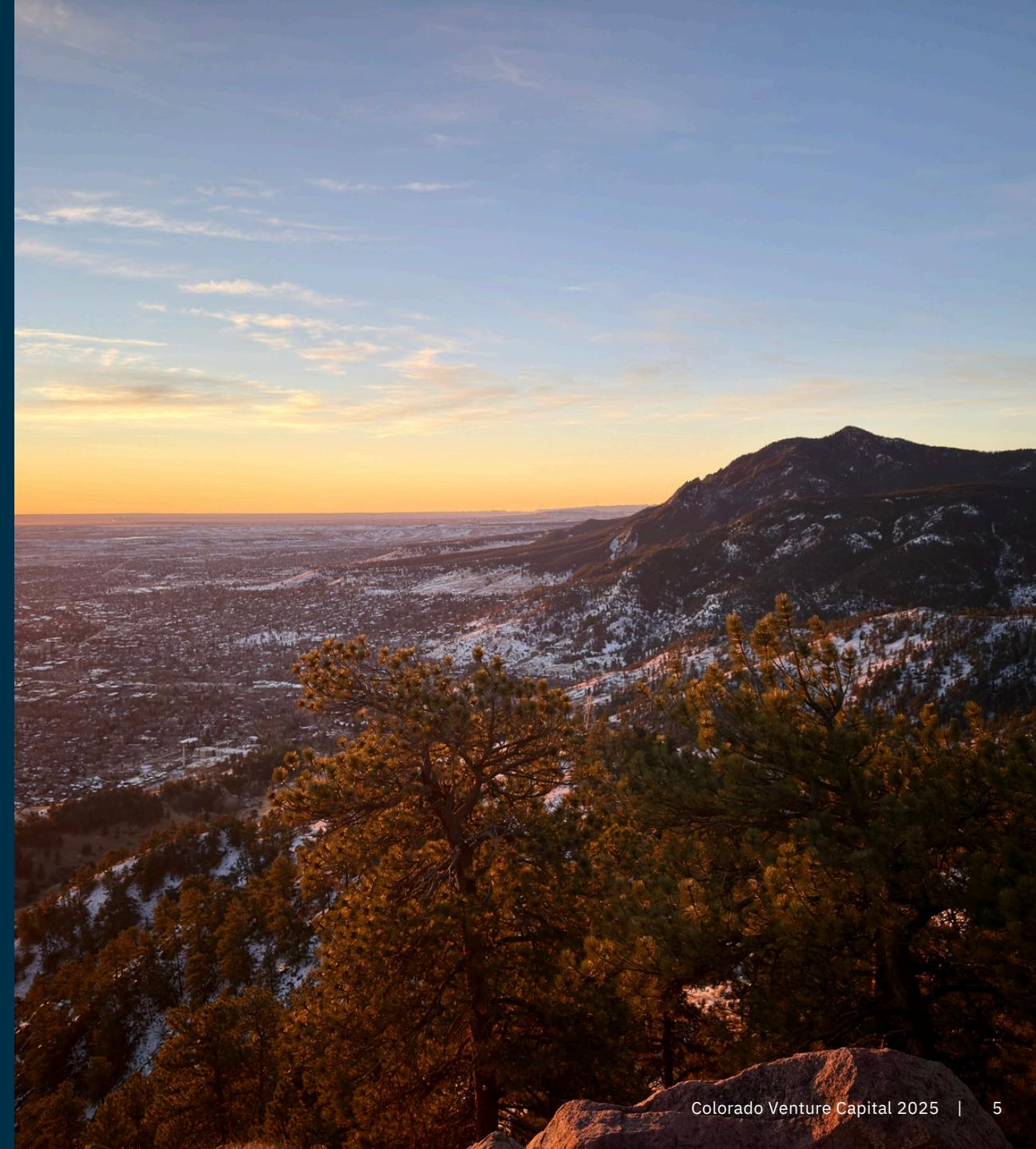


## 3. SaaS Dominates Dealmaking

SaaS made up over 33% of Capital Invested

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# Colorado Venture Capital Outlook



# Overview

Colorado continues to prove itself a national player in venture capital, as shown by both deal count across key growth verticals and the overall capital invested, which **increased by \$2.3B from 2024**.

As in 2024, deal activity remains split among seed, early-stage, and late-stage VC, **with the majority of capital being invested in late-stage deals**, underscoring the strength of the state's more established venture-backed companies. At the same time, **VC-backed exits increased slightly**, remaining roughly in line with the previous four years after peaking in 2021. M&A remains the dominant exit pathway.

Looking to 2026, national indicators point to a cautiously improving liquidity environment, while venture dollars continue to concentrate heavily on **AI and AI-enabled applications**.

## Colorado 2025 National Rankings

**\$475M** invested in Aerospace

**2nd in the nation**

**\$1.0B** invested in Quantum & Photonics

**3rd in the nation**

**\$704M** invested in ClimateTech & CleanTech

**6th in the nation**

**\$512M** invested in Bioscience

**8th in the nation**

**\$2.6B** invested in SaaS

**10th in the nation**

Based on CY 2025, all VC deal types for Colorado-headquartered companies. Source: PitchBook, Inc.

# Colorado Deal Activity

In 2025, Colorado saw **strong growth in total capital invested** despite relatively flat deal activity, **driven by a small number of outsized late-stage rounds**. While overall deal count increased marginally from 2024, **mega-financings such as Crusoe and Quantinuum** materially increased average round sizes. As a result, **late-stage deals accounted for most dollars deployed**, with early-stage and seed remaining stable in volume.



Overall, capital remains concentrated in late stage VC deals, **with continued support across the startup lifecycle.**

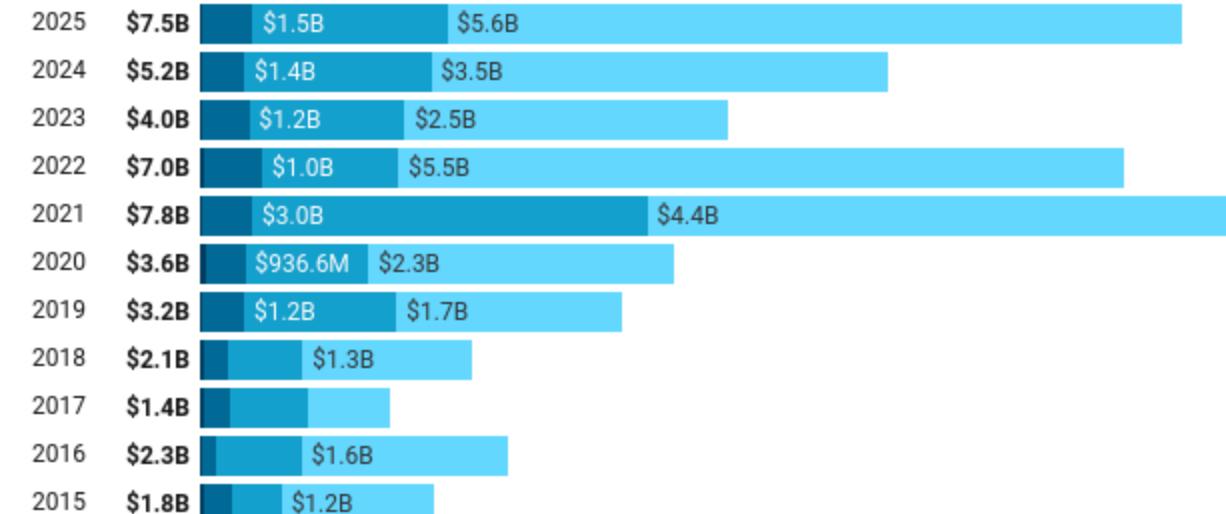
## Colorado Total Deal Count by Stage

■ Angel ■ Seed ■ Early Stage VC ■ Late Stage VC



## Colorado Total Capital Invested by Stage

■ Angel ■ Seed ■ Early Stage VC ■ Late Stage VC



## Colorado Median Series A Valuations



## Deal Distribution by Deal Size

■ % of 2025 Deals ■ % of 2025 Capital per Bucket

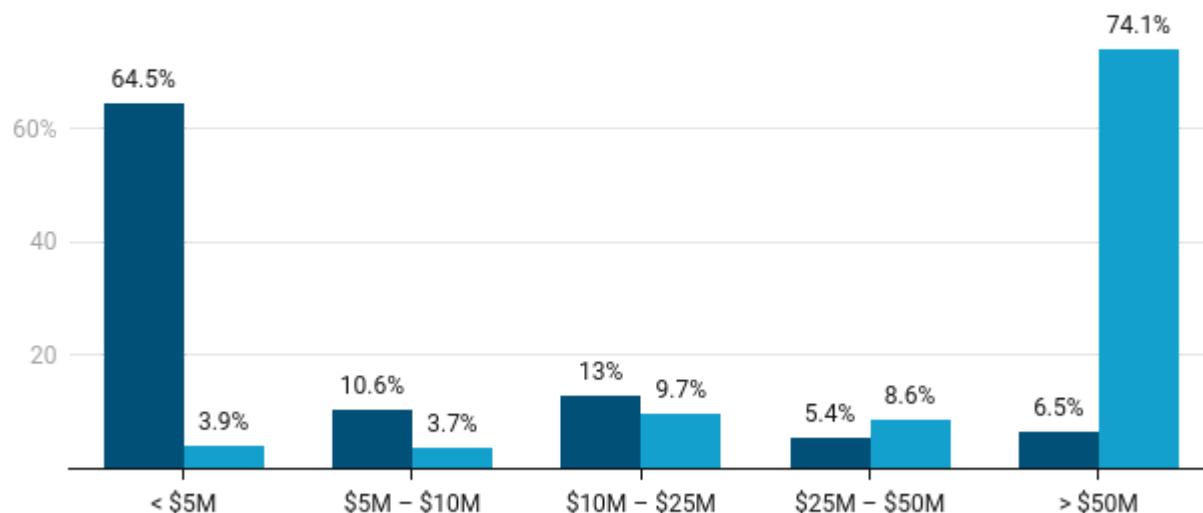


Chart: Innosphere Research • Source: PitchBook, Inc. • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

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## VC-Backed Valuations

By utilizing median deal data, we eliminate the volatility of outliers to provide a grounded view of the typical Colorado Series A experience. **The 2025 data reveals a significant cooling period following the record-shattering valuation peaks of 2024** suggesting a shift toward more sustainable pricing. Notably, the spread between pre- and post-money valuations remains wider than pre-2022 levels, indicating Series A check sizes in Colorado remain robust relative to historical norms despite reduced valuations.

2025 deal distribution data shows **sub-\$5 million rounds accounting for nearly two-thirds of all deals and less than 4% of total capital deployed**. In contrast, rounds larger than \$50 million make up just 6.5% of deal count but capture more than 74% of invested capital, signaling that a small number of late-stage financings continue to dominate overall dollars.

Colorado median Series A valuations were calculated using the aggregate of all venture capital deals involving Colorado-headquartered companies. Estimated ownership was derived using median pre-money & post money valuations across all Series A-stage deal types from 2015 to 2025. Source: PitchBook, Inc.

# Venture-Backed Exits

**In 2025, Colorado recorded a total of 41 venture-backed exit transactions** across buyouts, mergers, acquisitions, and IPOs, with M&A representing the dominant liquidity pathway.

**Strategic M&A represented 29, or over 70%, of transactions**, continuing the trend of Colorado effectively scaling valuable technology and IP. Buyout and LBO activity accounted for 11 exits, reflecting consolidation and strategic acquisitions by larger players. **The IPO market remained highly selective**, with only one venture-backed company reaching public markets during the year.

In summary, **Colorado's venture-backed exit activity remained consistent with broader national trends** of M&A dominated exit concentrations and steady exit counts.

*Data reflects Colorado-headquartered VC-backed companies. VC-backed exits are defined as liquidity events where venture capital-funded companies achieve a return through a sale, merger, acquisition, or IPO.*

## VC-Backed Exits by Type

M&A Buyout IPO

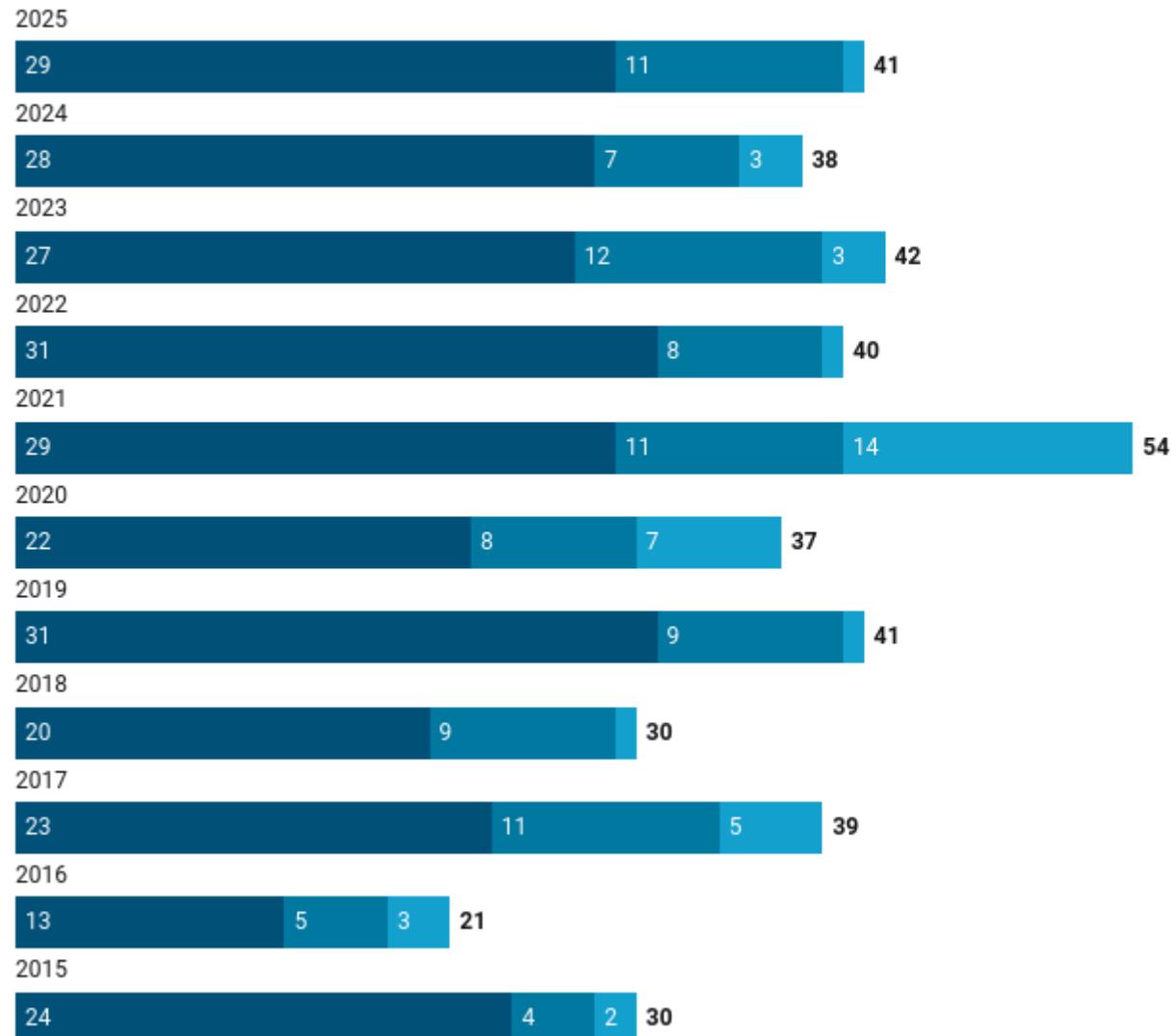


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## Colorado Cross State VC Deal Size

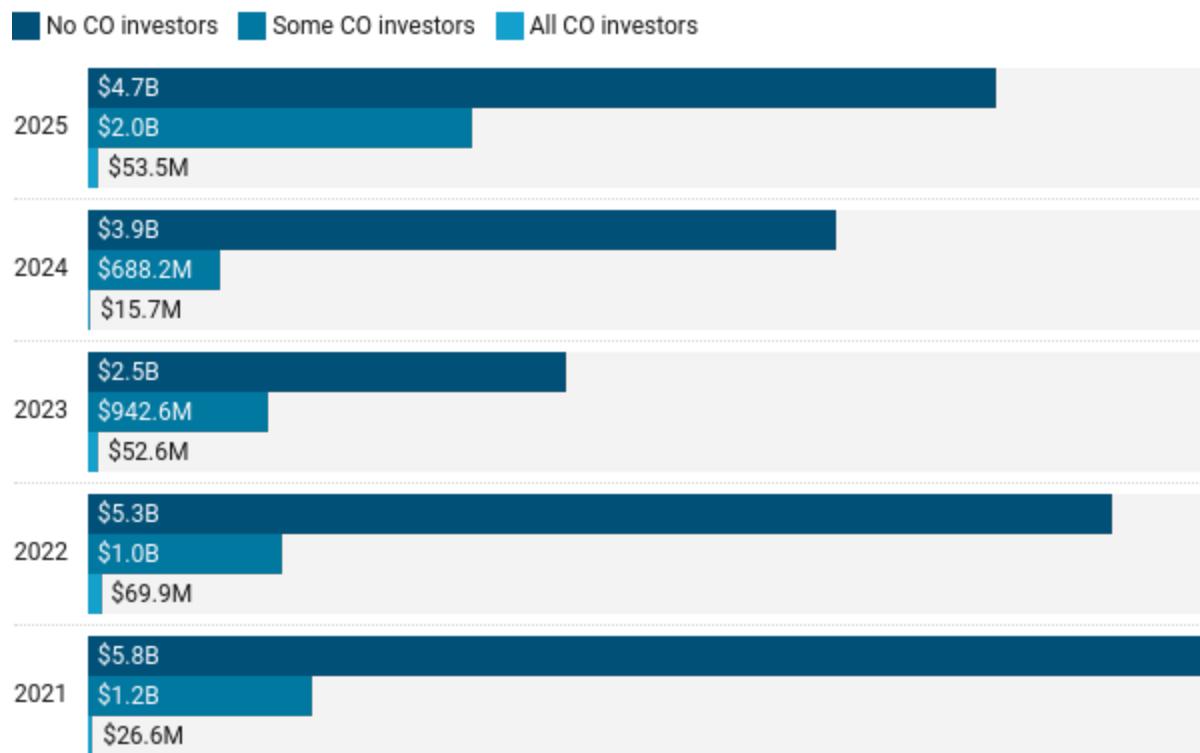


Chart: Innosphere Research • Source: PitchBook, Inc. • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

## 2025 Cross State Deal Count



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## In-State v. Out-of-State Capital

Similar to previous years, 2025 saw **out-of-state investors provide nearly 70% of venture funding for Colorado startups**. This continued reliance on out-of-state capital brings deeper pools of capital, broader networks, and sustained outside confidence in Colorado's companies; however, it also means that **more of the value created by Colorado companies at exit flows out of the state**. Over time, this weakens the in-state flywheel that provides founders with repeat capital, trusted connectivity, and rapid support between rounds, while also creating heightened opportunity for in-state investors.

**In-state investor participation increased in deal count in 2025, and total in-state-only capital also rose modestly year over year.** However, average check sizes remained small relative to mixed and out-of-state rounds, indicating that increased Colorado participation was concentrated at earlier stages rather than in large late-stage financings.

Data reflects all VC deal types of Colorado-headquartered companies. No CO investors = Deals containing 100% out-of-state capital. Some CO investors = Deals containing mixed out/in state capital All CO investors = Deals containing 100% in-of state capital. Source: PitchBook, Inc.

# Colorado Growth Industries



## 10 Year Colorado Growth Industry Investment

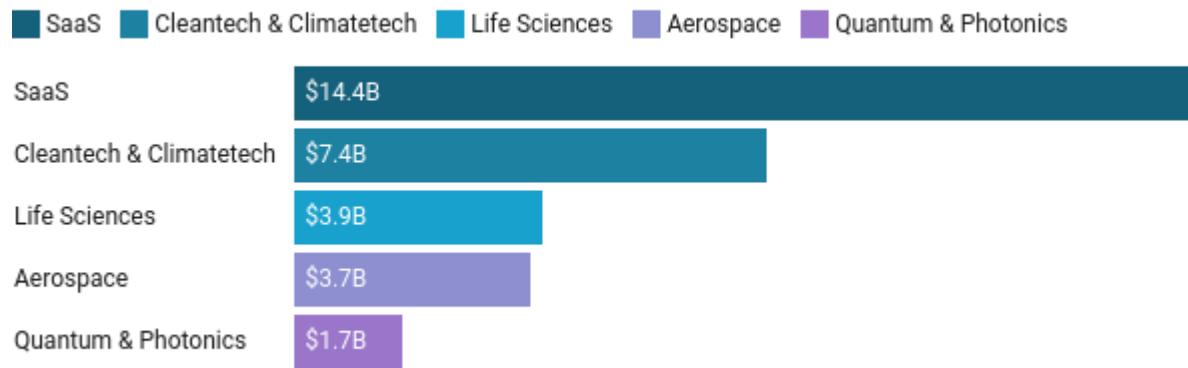


Chart: Innosphere Research • Source: PitchBook, Inc. • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

## Colorado Venture Deal Count by Growth Industry

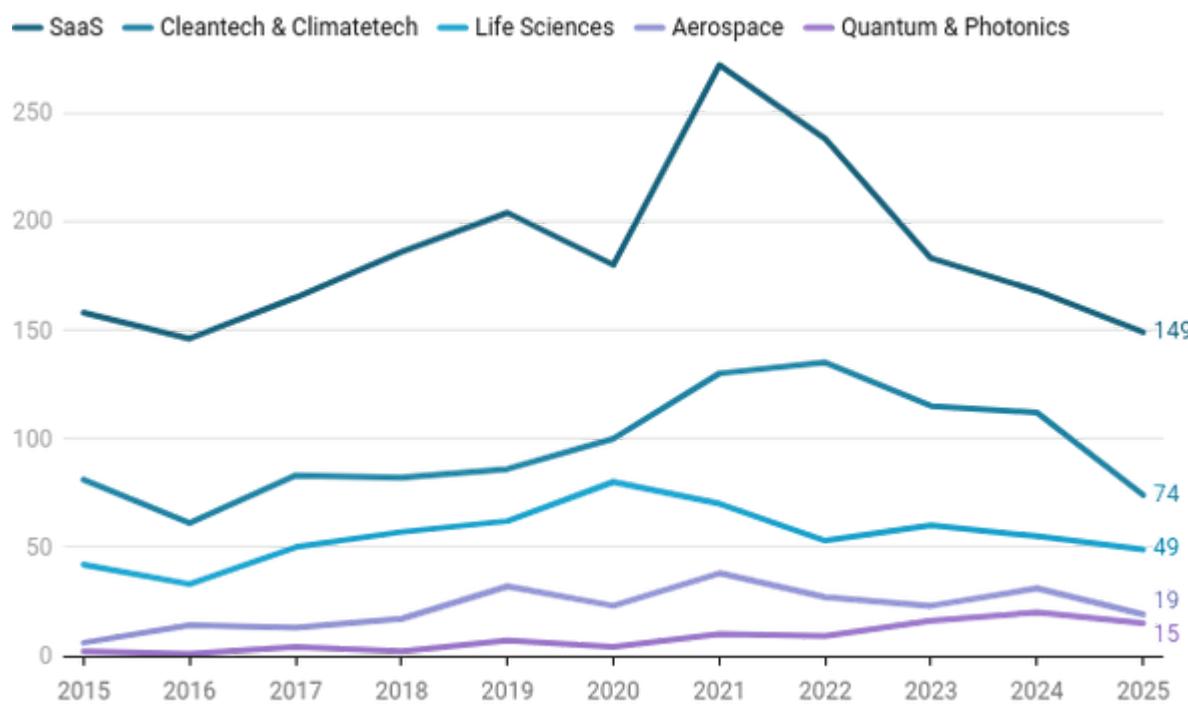


Chart: Innosphere Research • Source: PitchBook, Inc. • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

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## Key Growth Industries

In 2025, venture capital investment across Colorado's growth industries remained concentrated, **reflecting continued investor selectivity and sector-driven growth.**

SaaS led capital deployment at \$2.6B, rebounding sharply from \$1.5B in 2024. **CleanTech and ClimateTech investment totaled \$747M** in 2025, down from a 2024 peak, **reflecting more concentrated capital deployment.** Life Sciences investment increased to \$512M in 2025, up from \$368M in 2024. **Quantum and Photonics nearly tripled to \$1.0B, highlighting strong investor confidence in frontier technologies.** Aerospace investment totaled \$475M, modestly higher than in 2024. Together, these shifts illustrate investors' focus on sectors with **strong growth, durable demand, and high-impact opportunities**, highlighting Colorado's robust technology industries.

*Data reflects All VC Deal Types for Colorado-headquartered companies. Deal count and capital invested are based on all VC stages from 2015 to 2025. Source: PitchBook, Inc.*

- SaaS: Treated as a single vertical
- CleanTech & ClimateTech: Treated as a separate vertical
- Life Sciences: Includes Life Sciences, Medical Devices and Biotech
- Aerospace: Includes Space Technology and Aerospace
- Quantum & Photonics: Treated as a separate vertical

# Growth Industries Driving Colorado's VC Deal Volume

Colorado's venture activity remains driven by growth industries, mirroring Innosphere's strategic focus in Life Sciences, Earth & Space Systems, SaaS, CleanTech, and Quantum technology. **In 2025, growth industries accounted for 78% of all VC deals** statewide, signifying their critical role in the state's economy.

**Strong deal flow and a supportive local ecosystem** in Colorado accelerate early-stage commercialization, while more **developed industries allow investors and founders to realize long-term value**. As a result, these forces strengthen workforce development, fuel innovation, and **contribute to long-term economic growth across Colorado**.

*Data reflects All VC Deal Types for Colorado-headquartered companies in 2025. Source: PitchBook, Inc.*

- *SaaS: Treated as a single vertical*
- *CleanTech & ClimateTech: Treated as a separate vertical*
- *Life Sciences: Includes Life Sciences, Medical Devices and Biotech*
- *Aerospace: Includes Space Technology and Aerospace*
- *Quantum & Photonics: Treated as a separate vertical*

## 2025 Colorado VC Deal Count by Vertical

SaaS (38%) All Other Verticals (22%) Cleantech & Climatetech (19%) Life Sciences (12%) Aerospace (4.8%) Quantum & Photonics (3.8%)

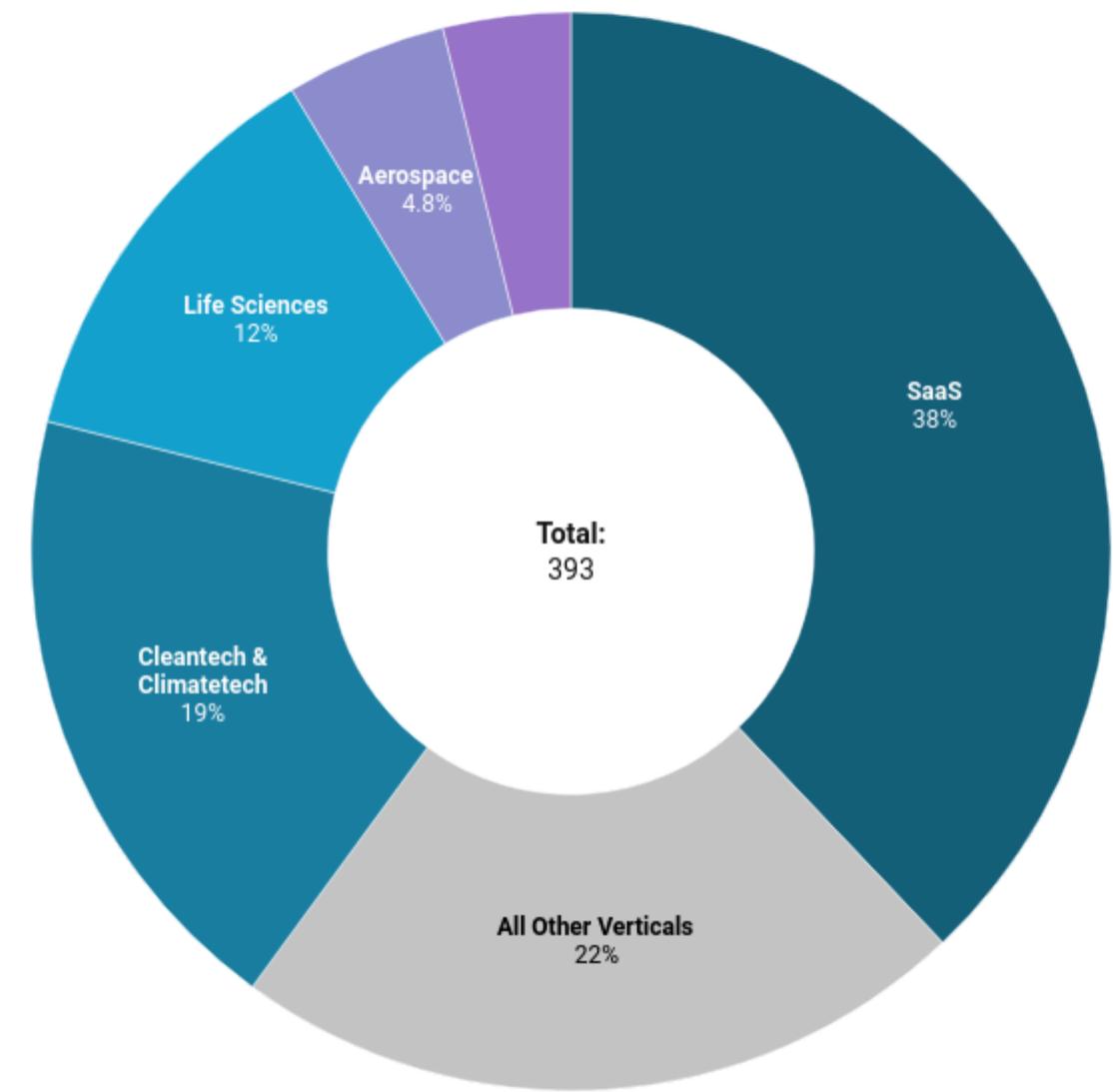


Chart: Innosphere Research • Source: PitchBook, Inc. • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

# Colorado Investor Landscape



# Leading Colorado-Based VC Firms



**Headquarters** - Fort Collins, Colorado

**Innosphere Ventures** is a venture capital firm supporting early-stage science and technology companies in cleantech, biosciences, aerospace, and SaaS across the mountain West region.



**Headquarters** - Denver, Colorado

**Range Ventures** is a venture capital firm that invests in Colorado tech companies, including quantum, biotech, healthtech, and consumer software.



**Headquarters** - Denver, Colorado

**Denver Ventures** is a venture capital firm focusing on pre-seed and seed organizations, creating a robust network of aerospace, health, agriculture, and waste management oriented companies.



**Headquarters** - Colorado Springs, Colorado

**FirstMile Ventures** is a venture capital firm focusing on investments in B2B software, infrastructure technology, and distributed ledger companies.

# Leading Colorado-Based VC Firms



STOUT STREET

**Headquarters** - Denver, Colorado

**Stout Street Capital** is a seed-stage fund that seeks to invest in early-stage technology companies in middle America.



**Headquarters** - Westminster, Colorado

**Access Venture Partners** is a VC firm that invests in information technology, B2B, B2C, SaaS, big data, cybersecurity, AI, cloud tech & e-commerce sectors.

## Top Out-of-State VC Investors in Colorado

**techstars**

**Headquarters** - New York City, New York

**Techstars** is an accelerator with a focus on financial services, healthcare, and consumer sectors.

**SEQUOIA**

**Headquarters** - Menlo Park, California

**Sequoia Capital** is a venture capital firm investing in IT, healthcare, energy, and AI/software infrastructure while maintaining a founder-first perspective.

# Colorado Angel Networks



## Rockies Venture Club

**Headquarters** - Denver, CO

**Rockies Venture Club** is an angel network that connects entrepreneurs with investors, universities, and partners to support Colorado's startup ecosystem.



**Headquarters** - Boulder, CO

**She's Independent Investments** is a women-first angel group focused on getting more women on the cap table, in boardrooms, and into positions of power.

## Denver Ventures

**Headquarters** - Denver, CO

**Denver Ventures** is a VC and angel group investing in consumer products, software, and engineering across Colorado.



**Headquarters** - Boulder, CO

**Southern Sun Angel Capital** is an angel group specializing in providing seed capital to new startups in areas including information technology, gaming, SaaS, and fintech.

# Research University Ecosystem Development Partners



Venture Partners

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

**Location** - Boulder, CO

**Venture Partners at CU Boulder** supports university researchers, inventors, and creators in translating their groundbreaking discoveries into new solutions, businesses, and partnerships that address the world's greatest challenges.

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**Location** - Golden, CO

**The Beck Venture Center** at Colorado School of Mines serves as a dynamic hub where entrepreneurs, investors, mentors, companies, and students converge to foster innovation. Founder support includes educational programming, capital access support, and industry mentorship.

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**Location** - Fort Collins, CO

**CSU Strata** supports affiliates of the CSU System through intellectual property management and technology transfer services, special project oversight, strategic real estate management and project development services, and operational asset management.

# Closing Remarks

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**Tim Jones**  
COO  
Innosphere



**Colorado carried over its strong venture momentum from last year**, with continued growth in Aerospace, Quantum, Photonics, Bioscience and SaaS verticals. **This year's data solidifies Colorado as a robust venture player**, driven by its strong network of investors and founders who collaborate to advance science and tech solutions.

**Across the state, we see the promise of increasingly clear commercialization pathways enabled by a dynamic venture capital landscape while we here at Innosphere remain committed to supporting the development of startups and emergent technology.”**

A wide-angle landscape photograph of a valley at sunset. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds ranging from deep blue to bright orange and yellow. In the foreground, the tops of several green trees are visible. The middle ground shows a valley with a winding road and some buildings, leading to a range of mountains in the background. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

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