

 founderful

 Kickfund

 **DEEP TECH
NATION
SWITZERLAND**

startupticker.ch

 dealroom.co

Swiss Deep Tech Report 2025

June 2025



1 Introduction

2 The Swiss Deep Tech Ecosystem

3 Sector Deep Dives

4 Methodology and Resources

Insights



Founderful is Switzerland's leading early-stage venture capital firm. Initiated in 2019 by former founders and operators of firms like GetYourGuide and eat.ch, Founderful has invested in more than 65 Swiss technology companies from its two active funds with more than CHF 200m assets under management. With a team of 10, Founderful invest first, fast and founder-friendly as lead investor in the first financing rounds of Switzerland's most ambitious technology founders. With its Founderful Campus initiative it also supports students at the country's leading universities pre-incorporation. Learn more about Founderful: www.founderful.com



Kickfund is a Swiss venture capital firm investing in high-tech startups emerging from Switzerland's top academic institutions. Kickfund systematically backs winners of Venture Kick, Switzerland's leading accelerator, which has supported over 1,000 startups including Distalmotion, AMAL Therapeutics, Scandit, Climeworks, and Kandou. Kickfund's portfolio includes 85 high-potential companies across Deep Tech, digital, and life sciences. Learn more about Kickfund: www.kickfund.ch

Initiator



Deep Tech Nation Switzerland Foundation is a private, not-for-profit initiative backed by leading companies, foundations, associations, and universities. Our mission is to make Switzerland the world's leading deep tech nation. We work independently and systemically to strengthen the Swiss innovation ecosystem for the long term.

Acting as a neutral catalyst, we shape the future for Switzerland – so that others can invest, create, and scale. Learn more about this economic initiative: deeptechnation.ch/about

Data & Analytics



Startupticker.ch is the central information platform for the Swiss startup ecosystem. The platform offers daily news, directories of investors and support programs, as well as analyses such as the Swiss Venture Capital Report, the reference publication for startup investments in Switzerland.

The widely read newsletter highlights the most important news of the week. The platform is backed by the Startupticker Foundation, which is supported by the Swiss innovation agency Innosuisse as principal and 40 other organisations from the ecosystem.



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 Sequoia, Accel, Index Ventures, NATO Innovation Fund, NATO Diana, European Defence Fund, ESA, 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.

Foreword

“Over the past decade the Swiss ecosystem has become one of Europe's most exciting tech hubs and Deep Tech has been the driver of this development. A small country with a domestic market too small to build big businesses around it, exempt from EIF/EU funding, Switzerland is punching above its weight with the highest per capita Deep Tech venture funding on the continent. Economically and politically as stable as few other countries globally and arguably with the highest quality of living, particularly Zurich and Lausanne manage to attract world-class researchers, engineers and founders to build what could be the next wave of globally leading tech firms. Have a look at the facts and figures, come visit and invest in our ecosystem - you'll be as excited as we are.”

Meet the authors



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Switzerland plays a key role in the rapidly growing European Deep Tech landscape

“Within Europe, Switzerland is one of the hottest places for Deep Tech in 2025 and onwards.”

In our flagship European Deep Tech report we highlight how **Deep Tech** has taken the startup and venture capital world by storm the last few years, and now accounts for **nearly one-third of Europe’s VC funding**, up 2.5x in the last decade.”



Yoram Wijngaarde

Founder and CEO, Dealroom.co

“Switzerland has become a Deep Tech powerhouse on the global stage, so it is only natural that we spend time there identifying the next big opportunities.”

Swiss success stories like ANYbotics, Scandit, and Climeworks are due to the convergence of several factors ranging from Swiss academic excellence, a strong IP culture, and close collaboration with Swiss industrial leaders that benefits local Deep Tech startups.”



Nicolas Autret

Partner, Walden Catalyst Ventures

SUGGESTED READ

Explore more Deep Tech analysis with the 2025 European Deep tech Report



In a pivotal year for Deep Tech, this report explores how Europe is performing and how the AI boom is reshaping its Deep Tech priorities and positioning. Created by Dealroom in partnership with Lakestar, Walden Catalyst, and Hello Tomorrow.

» Read now

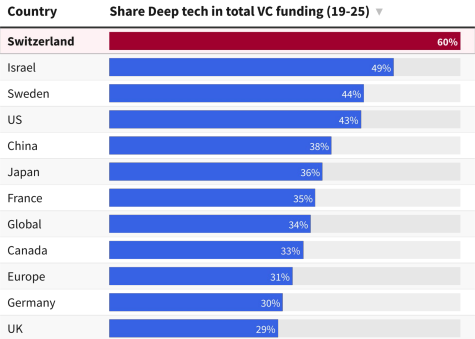
Key Takeaways

World-leading Deep Tech capital intensity

Deep tech absorbs 60 percent of all Swiss VC, the highest national share worldwide, and delivers Europe's number-one per-capita funding. Investment rose 6x in ten years to 1.9 billion USD in 2024 and is pacing for 2.3 billion USD in 2025.

ETH and EPFL are among the top 5 institutes in Europe for Deep Tech spinout value creation.

Top Global countries by Deep Tech share of VC funding (2019-2025)

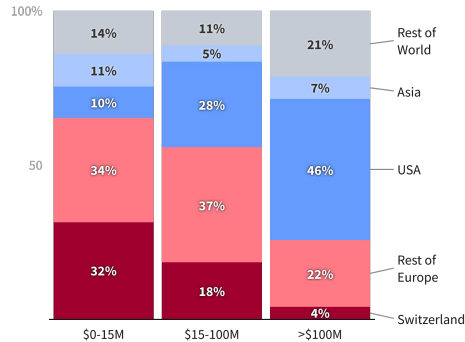


Swiss Deep Tech is a hotspot for international Deep Tech investors

More than 85% of VC funding in Swiss Deep Tech comes from international investors looking for Deep Tech opportunities. Swiss investors account for one-third of the capital for early-stage investments, but drop to 4% in late-stage. US investors account for nearly half of the funding for late-stage capital.

This represents a strength for international expansion, but also an area of improvement for Switzerland, which needs more domestic capital to support late-stage growth.

Deep Tech VC funding in Swiss startups by investor HQ and stage (2023-2025)

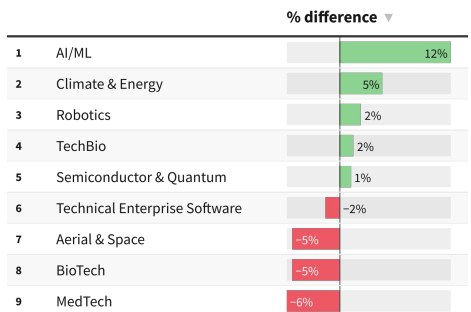


Next-gen Deep Tech mix, with AI/ML on the rise, and Robotics and TechBio growing fast

Switzerland's startup pipeline has rapidly diversified beyond its BioTech roots. AI/ML already accounts for 23 percent of companies founded since 2021, almost double its previous share. Climate & Energy, Robotics and TechBio have each expanded at speed.

BioTech remains a leading Deep Tech sector in Switzerland, with the largest number of VC-backed startups and greatest historical contribution to enterprise value creation, but it no longer dominates the landscape.

Top Swiss Deep Tech Segments by increase in % of company created, 2021-2025 vs 2010-2020



Deep Tech defined

Deep Tech is technology that is based on **tangible engineering innovation or scientific advances and discoveries** applied for the first time as a product, often aiming to solve society's biggest issues.

Practically, a company is considered Deep Tech based on:

Primary criteria

Time to market / Complexity: The company is working with a technology that takes a **long time to reach market-ready maturity** due to the **complexity and novelty of the research and development** involved. It thus employs a lot of highly educated staff early on and may create novel hardware or intellectual properties.

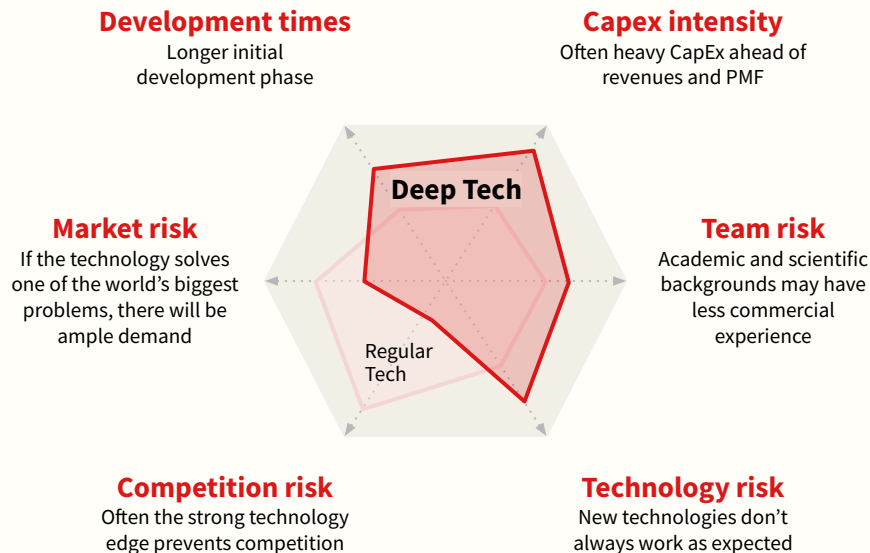
Capital requirement: The company's technology should **require substantial investment** to fund the research, development, testing, and scaling of the product or service.

Secondary criteria

IP and spinouts: companies holding significant IP and commercializing research innovations are more likely to be Deep Tech.

Scope of this report: In this report, we explore innovations in **Deep Tech**, as defined above, as well as in the **Life Sciences sector**.

Differences in risk profile Deep Tech vs Regular Tech startups



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EPFL and ETH rank among Europe's top universities by Deep Tech spinout value creation, outperforming most ecosystems and guaranteeing a steady stream of IP-rich startups

[Explore EPFL spinouts](#)

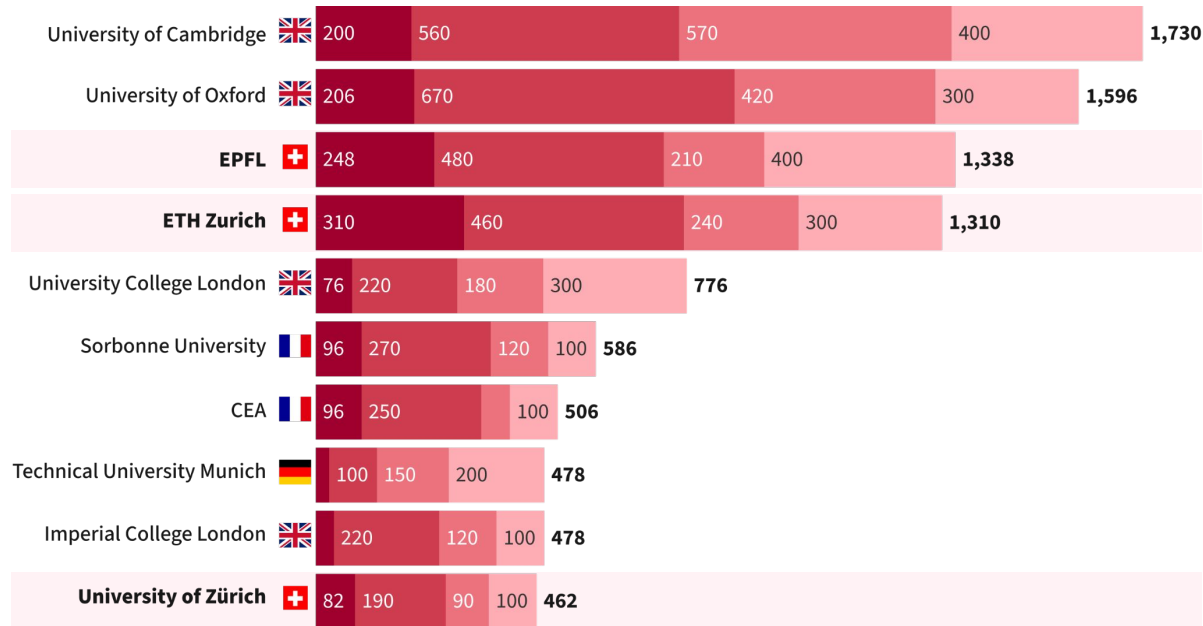
[Explore ETH spinouts](#)

Other notable Swiss universities and research institutes generating Deep Tech spinouts include University of Basel, University of Zurich, University of Bern, University of Geneva, CERN, PSI, and CSEM.

[Explore their spinouts.](#)

Deep Tech spinout value creation by university in Europe

VC Backed (x2) >=\$10M funding (x10) Future Unicorn (x30) Unicorn (x100)

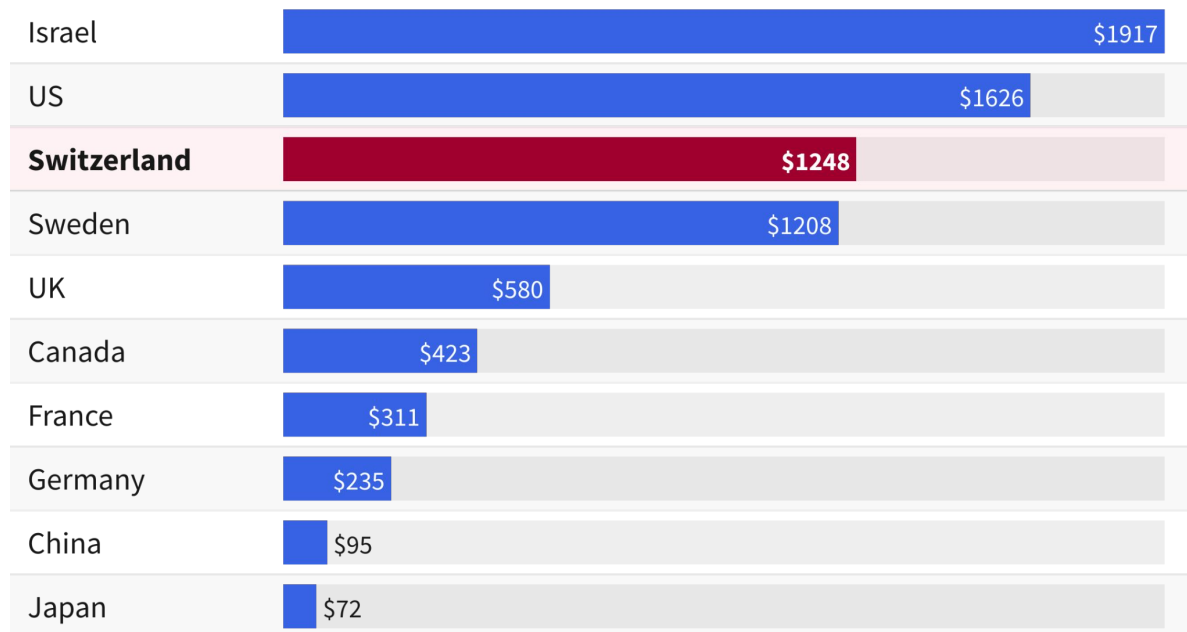


Source: Dealroom.co Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

1) Spinouts policies vary from country to country. Countries like France and Sweden are hard to compare due to the professor privilege model, where universities have no stake in any research innovation coming out of the research. The definition of spinouts and their comparison with other countries like UK, Germany and Switzerland is therefore challenging. Some organizations such as BPIFrance, Sorbonne, PSL, KTH collaborated in sharing detailed data for a fair comparison. The ranking might evolve with better involvement of more universities.

On a per capita basis, Switzerland ranks 1st in Europe by Deep Tech funding, and third globally, just behind Israel and the US

Deep Tech VC funding per capita (2019-2025)

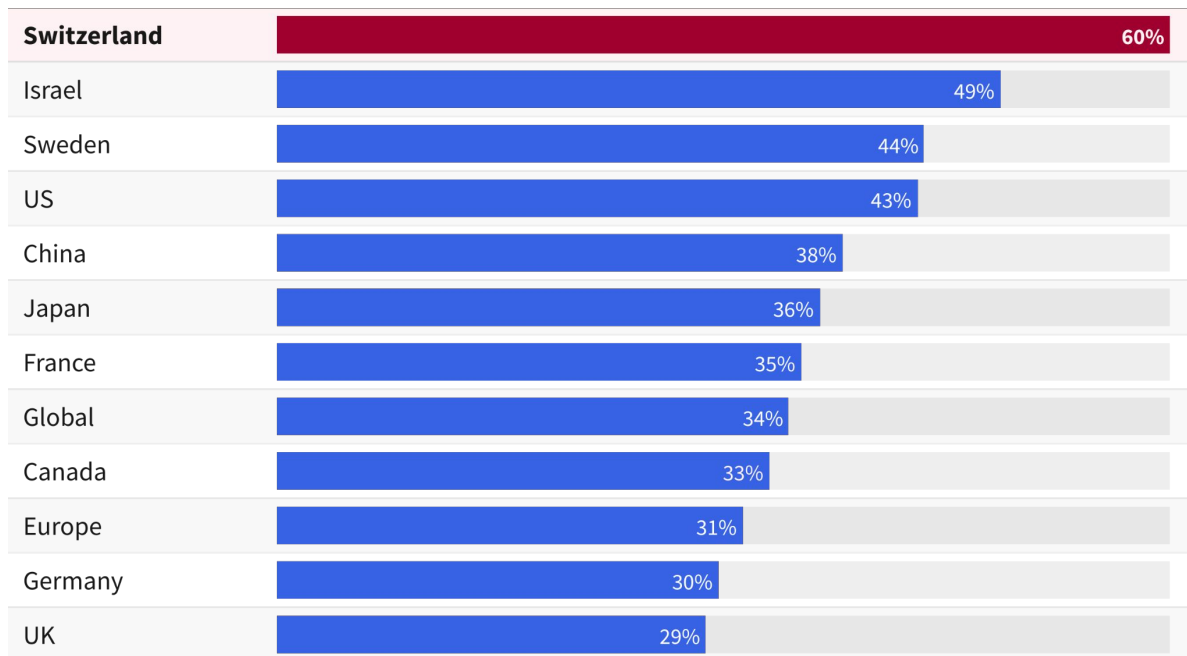


Source: Dealroom.co Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

Switzerland ranks #1 globally for share of VC funding in Deep Tech by a large margin

Between 2019 and 2025 six out of every ten venture dollars invested in Switzerland went into Deep Tech startups. For investors, this makes Switzerland a place to syndicate with experienced peers in Deep Tech.

Share of total VC funding allocated in Deep Tech (2019-2025)



Source: Dealroom.co . Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

The Swiss ecosystem sits at the core of the Alpine Tech Cluster

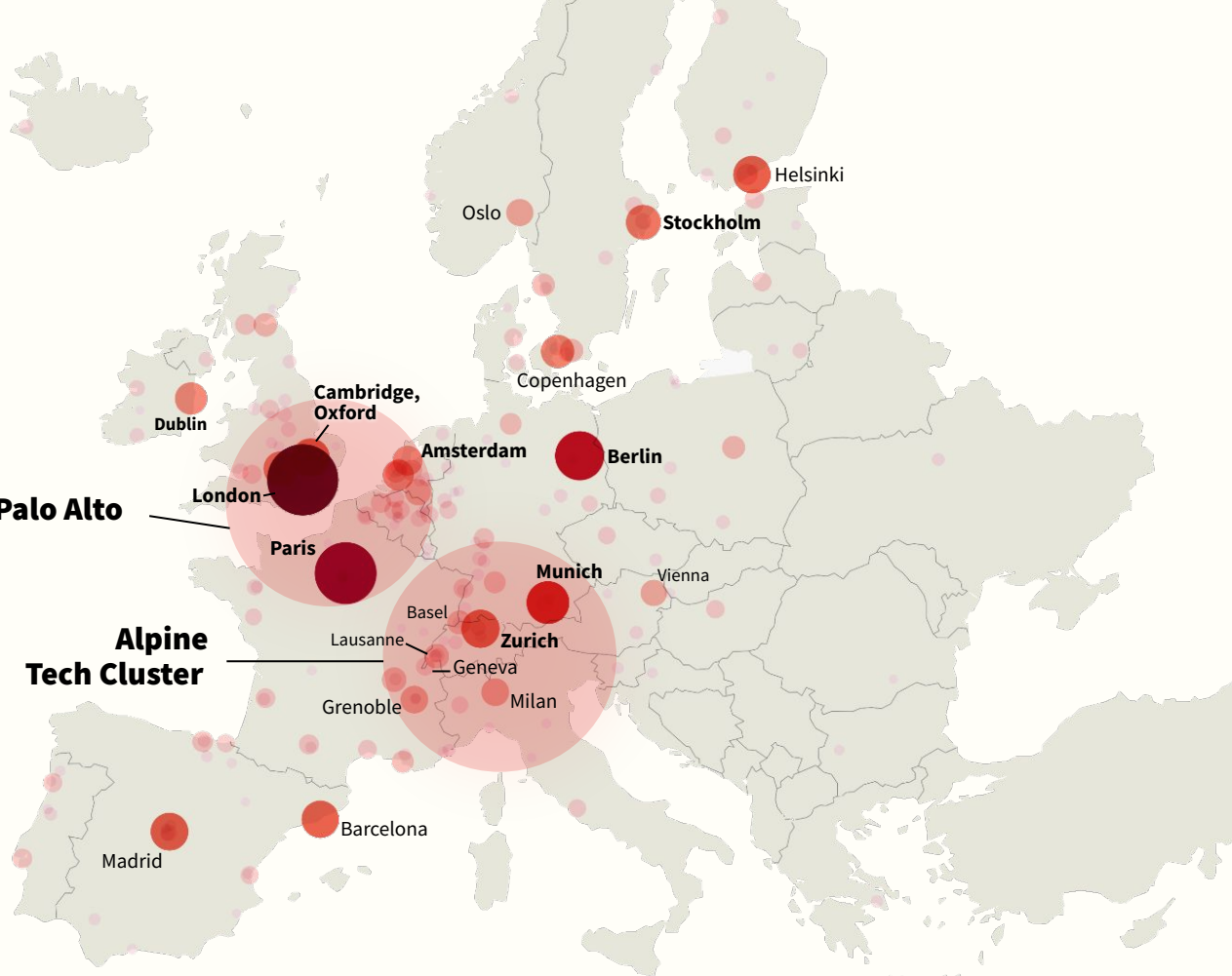
The Alpine Tech Cluster is one of Europe's two super clusters that can compete globally in the age of Deep Tech.

Number of VC-backed Deep Tech startups*



New Palo Alto

Alpine Tech Cluster



High R&D spending and patenting activity make Switzerland an innovation powerhouse

1st in Innovation

Switzerland ranked [1st](#) for the 14th consecutive year among the 133 economies featured in the **Global Innovation Index 2024 by WIPO**, which looks at Science and innovation investment, Technology adoption, and Socioeconomic impact. Switzerland also ranks [1st](#) on the **European Innovation Scoreboard**.

1st in Talent

IMD's **2024 World Talent Ranking** puts Switzerland [1st](#) out of 67 countries. It ranked first for investment and development, first for global appeal, and third for workforce readiness. IMD also ranked Switzerland [the most competitive country](#) in the world in June 2025.

1st in Patents

Switzerland ranks [1st](#) for **patents filed per capita** and keeps showing the strongest growth among major European filing countries (+3.2%) according to EPO, Switzerland takes 3rd place in Europe and 7th globally for absolute number of patents.

7th in R&D

Switzerland invests over CHF 25 billion in research and development (R&D) annually, which equates to 3.3% of its GDP. This makes it the [7th](#) country globally by R&D intensiveness. Two third of R&D spending comes from the private sector, especially in pharmaceuticals and chemical industry, metals and engineering industry, research laboratories and new technologies.

“Switzerland's 14-year lead as the world's most innovative economy in the Global Innovation Index of the United Nations World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) shows no signs of slowing down.

What's particularly striking is how Switzerland's top-ranked innovation clusters in Zürich, Basel and the greater Lausanne/ Geneva area have been using their existing strengths and unparalleled skills base, to reposition and fortify in fields such as medical technology, biotech, robotics, and AI applications. This puts Switzerland at the forefront of the next wave of global innovation.”

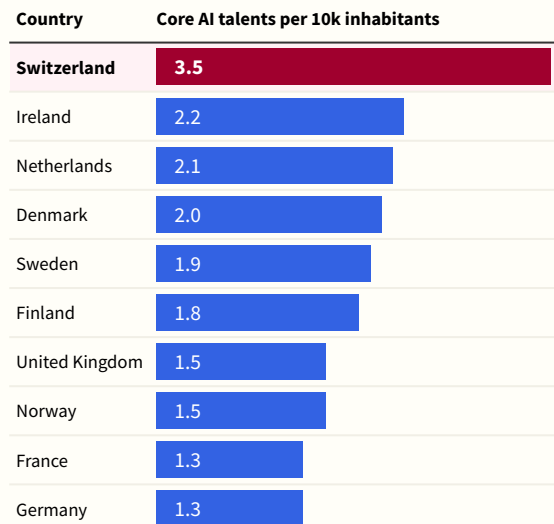


Sacha Wunsch-Vincent

Co-Editor Global Innovation Index & Head,
Section, Economics & Data Analytics,
WIPO

Switzerland has the highest density of AI talent in Europe, with Zurich becoming a key hub for research for international corporates and strong academic talent

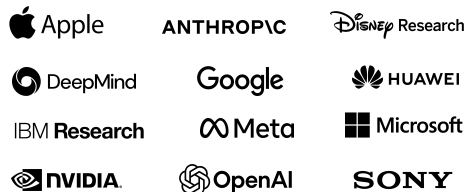
Switzerland has the highest density of AI talent in Europe



Switzerland accounts for 4.8% of the core AI talent in Europe, compared to just 1.3% of the population (~3.7x more)

Key institutions for AI talent

CORPORATES



UNIVERSITIES & RESEARCH INSTITUTES



“Zurich has quietly become an AI powerhouse

With a deep pool of world-class engineers and researchers, anchored by the likes of Google, Meta, Apple, and Microsoft, and increasingly ambitious academic communities driven by ETHZ, the city is a prime ecosystem for creating AI-first companies. Switzerland is also home to large-scale GPU computing resources and a renowned life sciences industry."



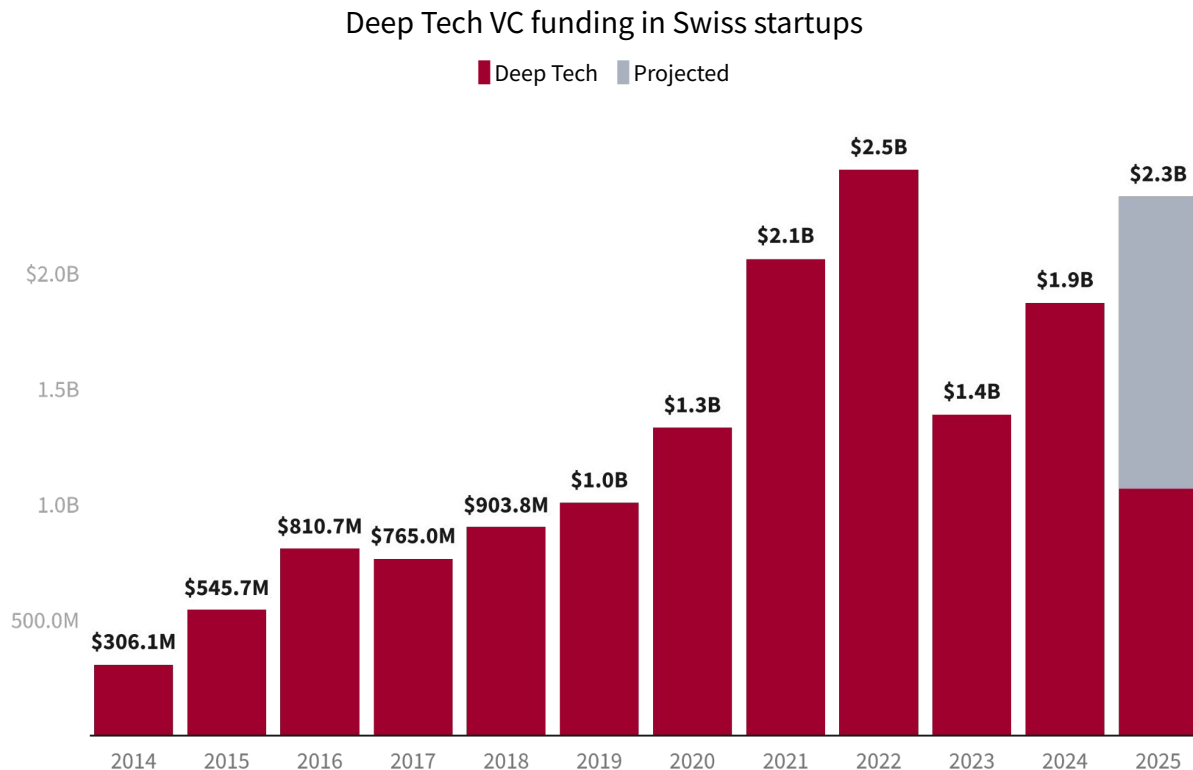
Nathan Benaich
Founding Partner,
Air Street Capital

*Dealroom.co analysis of companies employees AI experience across Europe. Only major countries included in visualization. Core AI talent includes roles developing, researching, or engineering novel AI models, algorithms, or systems (e.g., ML Engineers building core models, AI Researchers, Robotics Engineers focused on AI components, Model Validators, Feature Engineering specialists).

Deep Tech funding in Switzerland has grown 6x in the last decade

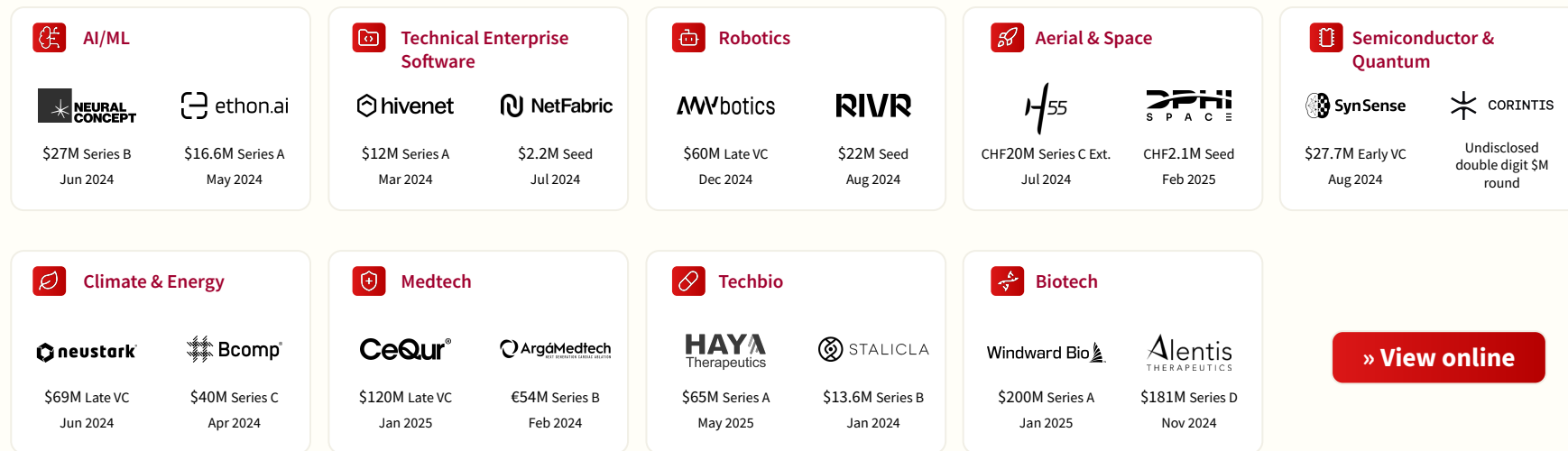
2024 was the third most active year for Deep Tech funding in Switzerland with \$1.9B.

As of 4 June 2025, Swiss Deep Tech startups have already secured \$1.1B and are on course to reach about \$2.3B by year-end, making 2025 the second strongest year to date.



Source: Dealroom.co Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

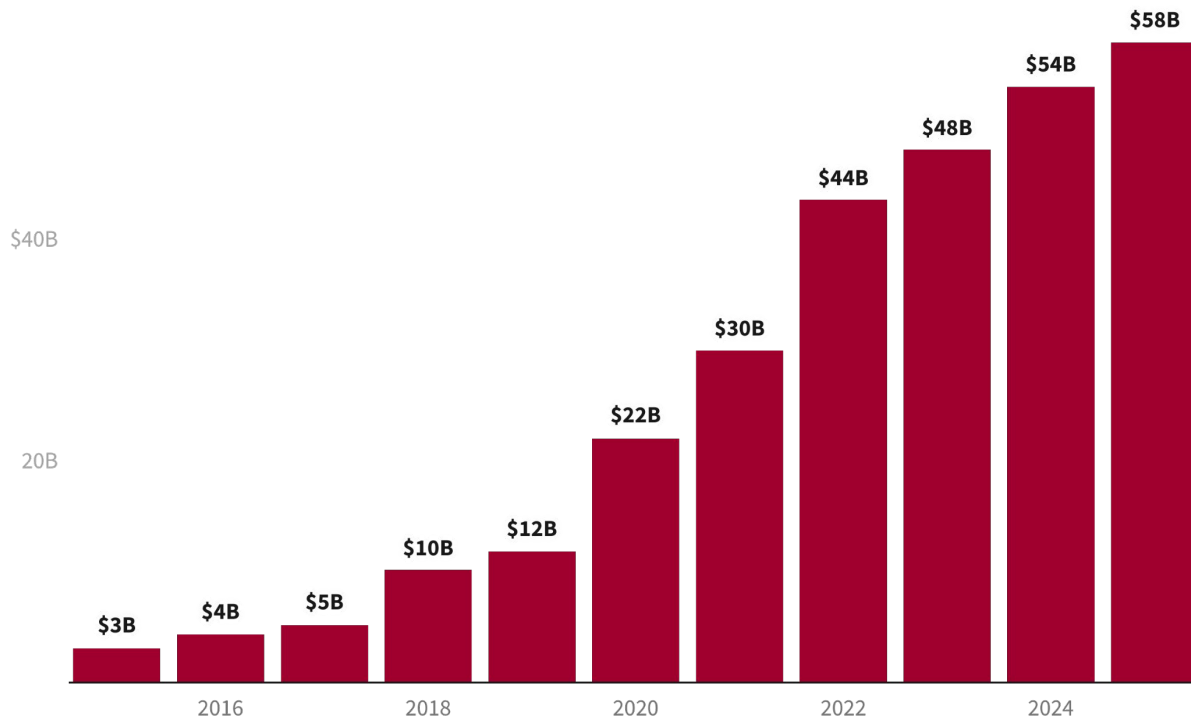
The Swiss ecosystem has seen large VC rounds across all Deep Tech segments in 2024-2025



Private Swiss Deep Tech startups are now worth over \$50B, up nearly 20x in a decade

When acquired and publicly listed companies are added, Swiss Deep Tech ventures have generated more than \$100B in enterprise value.

Combined enterprise value of Swiss Deep Tech VC-backed startups by ownership*








Source: Dealroom.co Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom. *HQ and founded

Switzerland is producing a new wave of strong Deep Tech success stories










Unicorns and \$1B+ exits

» [view online](#)

 Climate Tech & Energy	 TechBio	 MedTech**
 BioTech	 Technical enterprise software	 Technical enterprise software*
 Technical enterprise software	 Semiconductor & Quantum	 Technical enterprise software










Future Unicorns

» [view online](#)

 Robotics	 Aerial & Space	 MedTech
 Robotics	 MedTech	 Semiconductor & Quantum
 Climate Tech & Energy	 Aerial & Space	 BioTech

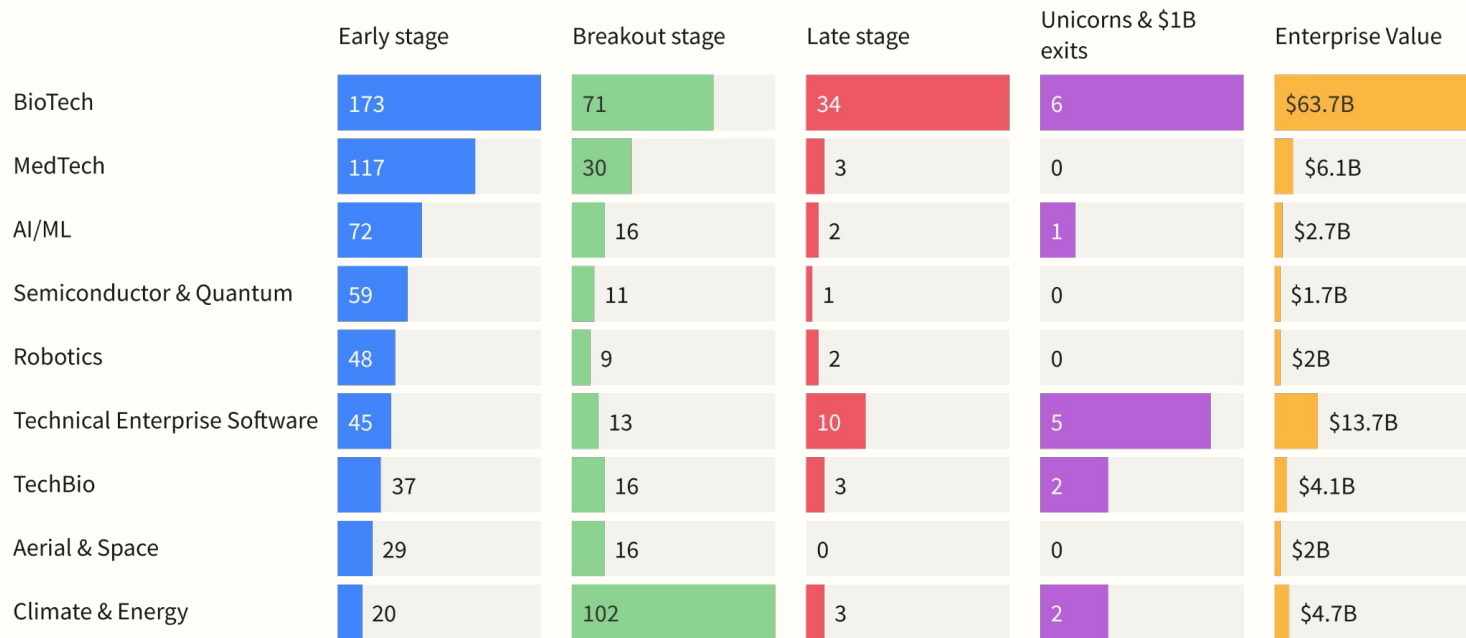
Rising stars

» [view online](#)

 Semiconductor & Quantum	 Climate Tech & Energy	 AI/ML
 AI/ML	 BioTech	 MedTech
 Climate Tech & Energy	 Robotics	 Aerial & Space

The Swiss ecosystem has been driven by billion-dollar outcomes in BioTech and Software, but shows a robust pipeline across segments

Swiss Deep Tech startups across segments by stage*



Source: Dealroom.co. * Early stage includes startups that have raised <\$15M, with team <50, valued <\$100M. Late stage includes startups that either raised \$100M+, employ 500+ people, or are valued above \$500M. Breakout are between these early and late stage criteria.

Swiss startup creation shifts toward next-gen Deep Tech

AI/ML now makes up almost double its previous share of newly founded Deep Tech companies, reflecting rapid momentum in data-driven innovation.

Climate & Energy, Robotics and TechBio are also expanding quickly, together accounting for a growing slice of recent startup formation.

Biotech remains the second-most active segment, but its dominance is easing as the overall pipeline diversifies.

Main segments Swiss Deep Tech as % of startup created*

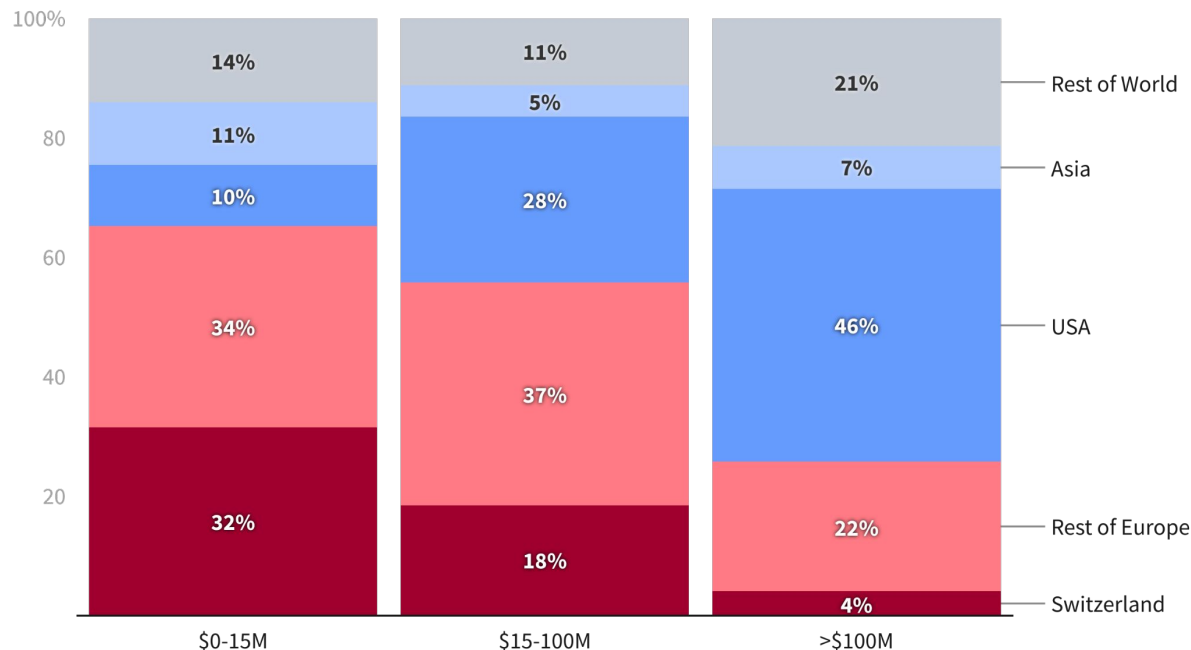
		Companies 2010-2020	Companies 2021-2025	% difference ▼
1	AI/ML	12%	23%	12%
2	Climate & Energy	11%	16%	5%
3	Robotics	6%	8%	2%
4	TechBio	5%	7%	2%
5	Semiconductor & Quantum	5%	6%	1%
6	Technical Enterprise Software	7%	5%	-2%
7	Aerial & Space	7%	1%	-5%
8	BioTech	23%	18%	-5%
9	MedTech	15%	10%	-6%

Source: Dealroom.co *Some segments overlap, resulting in double counting of funding, e.g. AI drug discovery being both in TechBio and AI/ML

International investors supply over 85 percent of all Swiss Deep Tech funding, showing global confidence in the ecosystem's potential

Swiss investors account for just under a third of early stage capital, but their share falls to just 4 percent at late stage, signalling an opportunity for larger domestic tickets. US and other European investors provide most of the foreign capital, often leading growth rounds and bringing scale-up expertise to Swiss startups.













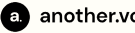









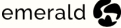




























Deep Tech VC funding in Swiss startups by investor HQ and stage (2023-2025)



Source: Dealroom.co Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

The Swiss ecosystem is driven by few, very active local VCs and a large group of European and US top-tier firms

» view online

	Swiss Investors	International Investors
(Pre-) Seed	       	            
Series A	        	          
Series B+	    	    

Dealroom.co Funds selected based on number of rounds and amount invested in 2024-2025, number and amount invested since 2019, % of their total activity allocated to rounds Deep Tech. Investors are shown only at the most common entry stage point. Global investors investing in Swiss Deep Tech startups. *Including accelerators **Only looking at direct investment activity, not LP activity in funds

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AI x Deep Tech overview in Switzerland

Novel AI models and architectures, foundational models, novel AI tools, AI computing chips, as well as deep scientific AI applications where novel AI innovations meets deep science and technology (e.g. AI drug discovery, AI material discovery).

Notable companies



Key Stats

85+

VC-Backed startups

\$768M

VC funding since 2019, growing 98% in those five years. 2022 was the strongest year for fundraising.

\$2.7B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Zurich (ETH) and Lausanne (EPFL)

“Switzerland stands at the forefront of global AI innovation, leading with the highest AI patents per capita and one of the most dynamic startup ecosystems.”

In our AWS Zurich Region, we see customers from ETH labs to global enterprises launching new generative AI workloads daily, showcasing how Swiss technical precision and deep AI talent drive rapid innovation. This powerful combination helps organizations of all sizes transform breakthrough AI concepts into production-ready solutions at scale.”



Chris Keller

Managing Director
Europe Central
AWS

ETH Zurich and EPFL turn world-class **AI** research into venture-backed global breakthroughs

AI x Deep Tech companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**

「AVIAN」

AI-powered thermal cameras for early fire prevention

Zurich

Alcalvinrisk

AI governance and testing platform

Zurich

 DeepJudge

Precision AI Search for legal teams

Zurich

+irmos

Predictive maintenance for buildings and infrastructure

Zurich

logic*

AI-driven bug resolution platform

Zurich

Manukai

AI Copilot for metal machining

Zurich

 **nunu.ai**

Multimodal gameplay agents for game testing

Zurich

 **Shootify**

Proprietary AI for fashion image model generation

Lugano

supervised 

AI-powered operational intelligence

Zurich

“The Swiss ecosystem around ETH and EPFL has always been producing world leading research and has all the right ingredients for being a cornerstone of the next wave of AI.

At Lightspeed we're working with global AI leaders like Mistral, Glean, Wiz, Anthropic. We see a new pattern of excellent researchers driving commercialized advancements of technologies in venture-backed settings.”



Alexander Schmitt

Partner

Lightspeed Venture Partners

Technical Enterprise Software overview in Switzerland

Software born out of deep innovation in algorithms and academy research requiring building new infrastructures and logic.

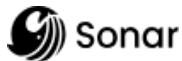
Notable companies

 **DFINITY**

 **nexthink**

 **Proton**

 **SCANDIT**

 **Sonar**

Key Stats

65+

VC-Backed startups

\$1.4B

VC funding since 2019. Strong historical successes but slower funding in the last 2 years.

\$13.7B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Zurich (ETH), Geneva (CERN),
Lausanne (EPFL), Zug (crypto)

“When I look at Switzerland as a software entrepreneur, the key reasons I decided to build Proton from here, besides our roots at CERN in Geneva, are the country's high talent density and its ability to attract top talent from around the world with its international working environment.

Additionally, unknown to many, Switzerland has Europe's most entrepreneurship-friendly employment laws, and a lot of private capital readily available across funding stages, which enable the risk-taking necessary to innovate.”



Andy Yen
Founder & CEO
Proton

Talent and corporate partnerships propel Switzerland's **Technical Enterprise Software** leadership

Technical Enterprise software companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



AI-powered sourcing engine for industrial procurement strategies

Zurich



Data-driven climate risk analytics

Zurich



Sustainable and democratized High-Performance Computing

Zug



Complex data analysis platform

Geneva



AI security audits for code review

Zurich



Distributed and sustainable cloud computing and storage

Geneva



Next-gen network observability platform

Zurich



New database system for large scale and heterogeneous data

Basel



Federated data platform for healthcare

Lausanne

“Switzerland is quickly establishing itself as a global hub for technical enterprise software startups.

Zurich in particular has become a truly cosmopolitan city over the past years and a global talent magnet known for a strong culture of engineering excellence, leading to an ideal environment for building Deep Tech companies. What's especially compelling is how tech-forward Swiss corporates are stepping up and actively collaborating with spin-offs from world class institutions such as ETH and EPFL, serving as design partners, and helping bring cutting-edge technologies to market.”



Andrei Brasoveanu

Partner
Accel

Robotics overview in Switzerland

Robotics innovation in both hardware and software, ranging from humanoids, soft robotics and novel actuators to robotics general intelligence and robotics training.

Drones, UAVs and Aerial are not included and considered separately in their own section.

Notable companies

 **AM Robotics**

 **eCorobotix**

embotech*

RIVR

 **sevensense**

Key Stats

55+

VC-Backed startups

\$606M

VC funding since 2019, growing 2357% in those five years.
Peak funding in 2023 but activity still very high.

\$2.0B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Zurich (ETH) and
Lausanne (EPFL)

“Robots are rapidly expanding beyond factory floors, propelled by breakthroughs in AI and embodied intelligence.”

With learning-based mobility and manipulation, combined with LLM-powered common-sense reasoning, quadrupeds and humanoids are poised to transform industries ranging from logistics to inspection and construction. While the U.S. and China have traditionally led the charge, Europe is gaining momentum. At the center of this movement is Switzerland, where Deep Tech talent, academic excellence, and capital converge, positioning the country as a key player in one of this century’s most transformative industrial revolutions.”



Prof. Marco Hutter

Director Robotic Systems Lab
ETH Zürich



The ETH-EPFL corridor is unquestionably the leading **Robotics** cluster in Europe

Robotics companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**

ASC-INTO

Autonomous security robots for
property surveillance

Zurich

Duatic

Advanced robotic arms
and actuators

Zurich

**FLEXION
ROBOTICS**

Intelligent and adaptable
robotic systems

Zurich

FLINK

AI-driven software enabling
plug-and-play robots

Zurich

**GRAVIS
ROBOTICS**

Automated heavy machinery

Zurich

mimic

Scalable AI models for universal
robotic manipulation

Zurich

SAEKI

Robotic digital manufacturing
(RDM) cells

Zurich

**tethys
ROBOTICS**

Compact underwater drone
for inspections

Zurich

XELERIT

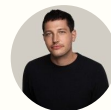
AI-powered platform for industrial
automation

Zurich

“Switzerland launches the most robotics startups per capita, yet the opportunity still feels under-priced given the depth of the science base and concentration of both engineering talent and customers.

At IQC, we have spent 20 years deploying capital into Deep Tech in Europe. Over this time many ecosystem clusters have formed around technologies. The ETH-EPFL corridor is unquestionably the leading robotics cluster in Europe.

In the last 18 months we have backed two of the nine companies listed and the standout common feature we have observed in Swiss robotics founders is a pragmatic, customer driven approach – automation simply needs to work, reliably and cheaply.”



Archie Muirhead

Partner
IQ Capital

Aerial & Space overview in Switzerland

Drones, UAVs, sustainable aviation and other Aerial innovation, as well as Space companies from launch vehicles to debris removal.

Notable companies

Auterion

BAEDALEAN

FLYABILITY

Swisst012

wingtra

Key Stats

40+

VC-Backed startups

\$513M

VC funding since 2019. Peak funding in 2022-2023.

\$2.0B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Zurich (ETH) and
Lausanne (EPFL)

“With the launch of the European Space Deep Tech Innovation Centre in Villigen, Switzerland is proving how precision science, agile industry and open collaboration can propel space technologies from lab to orbit.”

This new hub is more than a facility—it’s a testbed where European autonomy meets global opportunity. At ESA, we see Switzerland’s Deep Tech strengths as a catalyst for advancing Europe’s technological sovereignty, commercial competitiveness and innovation resilience.”



Géraldine Naja

Director of Commercialisation,
Industry and Competitiveness
ESA



Switzerland's unique blend of talent and infrastructure makes it a critical launchpad for the next generation of **Aerial & Space** startups

Aerial & Space companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



Drones for
hazardous task

Zurich



Answer engine for earth
observation data

Zurich



Complete drone software ecosystem
for public safety

Geneva



Hosting platform for space payloads

Lausanne



Drones for asset inspection in extreme
weather conditions

Lausanne



Drones monitoring for nature
restoration at scale

Bern



3rd human tissue organoids
made in Space

Zurich



Space operations for the future of
space exploration

Valais



Passive microwave moisture mapping
with drones

Zurich

“From the ground breaking work of Auterion in Switzerland to the ambitious ventures of Isar Aerospace and constellr globally, Lakestar sees a clear trajectory for aerospace ventures in Europe.

Switzerland's unique blend of talent and infrastructure creates a fertile ground for innovation, making it a critical launchpad for the next generation of space and aerial technologies. We're excited to be part of this journey.”



Oliver Heimes

Zurich based Partner
Lakestar

Semiconductors & Quantum overview in Switzerland

Semiconductor chip design, manufacturing and materials, including photonics and neuromorphic chips. Quantum hardware, software, cryptography, communication and sensing.

Notable companies



SENSIRION



Key Stats

70+

VC-Backed startups

\$532M

VC funding since 2019.
Strong sustained activity
across the years.

\$1.7B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Zurich and Stäfa (ETH),
Lausanne (EPFL),
Geneva (CERN), Neuchâtel
(CSEM), Bern and Basel

“Switzerland’s strength in Deep Tech, particularly in semiconductors, is built on world-class talent, cutting-edge research, and a culture of continuous innovation

Our collaborative ecosystem turns bold ideas into technologies that shape global industries. At Kandou, we are proud to contribute to this momentum—developing foundational technologies that democratize AI and push the boundaries of what’s possible, making advanced solutions more accessible and impactful worldwide.”



Amin Shokrollahi
Co-Founder & CTO
Kandou Bus



Talent density and stability are generating a new wave of ambitious Swiss Semiconductor and Quantum founders

Semiconductors & Quantum companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



Photonic chip foundry for thin-film
Lithium Niobate

Neuchâtel



AI agents accelerating microchip
development

Zurich



Nanotechnology fabrication for
electronics

Zurich



Liquid cooling for high-power chips in
data centers

Lausanne



Next-generation ultrafast lasers
for precision sensing

Zurich



Photonic chip foundry for thin-film
Lithium Niobate

Zurich



Single-photon processing for
computational imaging

Neuchâtel



Photonic hardware solutions for
transmitting data

Zurich



Trapped-ion quantum computers

Zurich

“Switzerland has one of the strongest Deep Tech talent pools in the world, anchored by ETH and EPFL.

It attracts top international talent, supported by generous public R&D funding. The country offers a uniquely stable environment to build, insulated from the academic politicization and culture wars seen elsewhere. It is also moving beyond its historically risk-averse culture, with a new generation of founders who are ambitious and focused on building global leaders. We’re seeing highly technical teams tackling challenges across the full stack — from novel compute architectures and memory integration to nanoscale transistors, advanced materials and photonics, thermal management, and emerging modalities for quantum computing.”



Alexis Houssou

Founder & Managing Partner
HCVC

Climate Tech & Energy overview in Switzerland

Sustainable solutions for emission and environmental impact reduction across energy, transportation, industry & advanced materials, food & agritech, water tech, carbon removal and much more.

Notable companies

BLOM

 climeworks

 DePoly


neustark

 Oxyle

Key Stats

120+ VC-Backed startups

\$1.6B VC funding since 2019. Peak funding in 2021-2022 but still strong activity and growing 64% since in the last five years.

\$4.7B Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs Zurich (ETH), Lausanne (EPFL), Geneva (CERN)

“Swiss Sustainable Tech blends deep science, pragmatic engineering and purpose-driven capital.

This fertile ecosystem lets Ecorobotix and its peers transform robotics and AI into everyday tools that feed people and restore the planet.”



Dominique Megret
CEO
Ecorobotix

Switzerland's relevance as a hub for **Climate Tech & Energy** has never been greater

Climate Tech & Energy companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**

8inks 

Multilayer curtain coating for batteries

Zurich

 **CellX**
Biosolutions

Sustainable chemical waste treatment

Zurich

COsaic

Precision fermentation for
multifunctional emulsion

Zurich

 **medusoil**

Organic binder products for
construction

Lausanne

 **metafuels**

Sustainable aviation fuel

Zurich

 **NovaMea**

Green Hydrogen

Lausanne

planetary

Fermentation platform for
biomanufacturing

Geneva

 **Seprify**

Biomaterials

Marly

Unbound Potential

Long-duration stationary
energy storage

Zurich

“Being part of the Swiss and global tech ecosystem for more than 25 years, one thing is clear: the relevance of Switzerland as a hub for industrial technologies has **never been greater.**”

Energy storage, gas separation, water filtration, chemical technologies, hydrogen, carbon removal, precision fermentation are just a few of the many applications that see Swiss startups with global relevance, and working with global corporations, we can see how the interest in Swiss tech has tremendously increased in recent years.”



Gina Domanig
Managing Partner
Emerald Technology Ventures

TechBio overview in Switzerland

Sustainable solutions for emission and environmental impact reduction across energy, transportation, industry & advanced materials, food & agritech, water tech, carbon removal and much more.

Notable companies

cradle



HAYA
Therapeutics

nagi
bioscience

Peptone

Key Stats

55+

VC-Backed startups

\$732M

VC funding since 2019. Strong sustained activity across the years.

\$4.1B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Lausanne, Basel (Pharma hub), Zurich

“Having spent many years in the San Francisco Bay Area, I think Zurich is one of the best places to build an AI and TechBio company in Europe today.

The talent pool coming out of top Universities such as ETH and EPFL has attracted companies such as Google, Meta and Microsoft with thousands of people, as well as more recently Nvidia, OpenAI and Anthropic. With both Cradle & Isomorphic labs located in Switzerland, and having two of the top 10 global pharmas (Roche, Novartis) we are set up for success.”



Stef van Grieken
Co-Founder & CEO
Cradle Bio

Swiss universities create world-class **TechBio** talent

TechBio companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



The AI-first lab for protein design

Lausanne



RNA sequencing at scale

Lausanne



Drug discovery platform for immune system rejuvenation

Lausanne



Modular AI solutions accelerating drug discovery

Lugano



AI fingerprinting technology for molecular identification

Lausanne



Platform for cell and gene therapy manufacturing at scale

Lausanne



AI/ML for genomic data analysis

Basel



Protein engineering for genome editing

Zurich



Cell line technology for gene therapy

Lausanne

“Switzerland is one of the best places in Europe to invest at the intersection of AI, biology, and healthcare.

The scientific talent emerging from world-class institutions like ETH Zurich and EPFL is among the strongest on the continent, and we’re seeing a new generation of founders with the bold ambition to build truly generational companies. Fields like precision oncology, protein engineering and AI-driven healthcare applications are thriving — what began with deep academic excellence is now rapidly translating into a vibrant ecosystem of growing technology companies.”



Manuel Grossmann
General Partner
Amino Collective

MedTech overview in Switzerland

Medical devices for surgery, patient monitoring, medical imaging and clinical decision support.

Notable companies



Key Stats

150+ VC-Backed startups

\$1.4B VC funding since 2019, growing 410% since in those five years with 2024 as most active year.

\$6.1B Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs Zurich, Lausanne, Geneva

“The Swiss ecosystem gives Medtech teams the freedom to build, test, and scale ideas quickly.

We see a tight loop between engineers, clinicians and regulators that lets us de-risk innovation fast. Once we prove a product here, we turn to the US for the deep capital, market scale and strategic partnerships that drive full commercial rollout and the path to public listing. By keeping robotics simple, surgeon-controlled, and cost-aligned, we can make advanced care a routine option for every hospital.”



Michael Friedrich
COO
Distalmotion

Switzerland integrates many disciplines to lead in **MedTech**

MedTech companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



BEARMIND

Wearables for sport brain injury prevention

Lausanne



CustomSurg

Data analytics for complex orthopaedic trauma surgery

Zurich



LEM
surgical

Robotic surgery

Bern



**Mind
Metrix**

VR mental training for athletes

Zurich

nanoflex robotics

Telerobotic solutions for endovascular interventions

Zurich



**One
scope**

Respiratory disease diagnosis device

Geneva



**RHOVICA
NEUROIMAGING**

Neuroimaging for emergency treatment

Bern



scanvio

AI ultrasound for endometriosis diagnosis

Zurich



Simulatory

Simulators for medical training

Zurich

“Medtech is Switzerland’s natural playground. The depth of life science, shaped by Roche, Novartis, and a network of top universities, meets precision engineering, robotics, and increasingly AI.

Integrating these dissimilar disciplines successfully is the key to innovation. Novel solutions allow to diagnose more accurately, treat more effectively, and build value based business models. It is at these crossroads of science and engineering where Zühlke Ventures keeps placing its bets.”



Patrick Griss

CEO Ventures & Partner
Zühlke

BioTech overview in Switzerland

Development of drugs and therapies for diseases.

Notable companies



Key Stats

275+

VC-Backed startups

\$4.8B

VC funding since 2019.
2024 most active year ever and
overall very sustainable activity
through the years.

\$64B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Basel (pharma hub), Zurich,
Lausanne, Geneva

**“Switzerland has long been
a global hotspot for
biotech innovation.**

The exceptional concentration of pharma expertise around Basel, combined with academic excellence and access to capital, continues to make it one of the world’s most fertile grounds for breakthrough biomedical innovation.”



Severin Schwan
Chairman
Roche

Switzerland is a **BioTech** powerhouse with a proven playbook for high-value exits

BioTech companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



Precision drugs targeting eukaryotic pathogens

Villigen



Antibodies targeting inflammation, autoimmunity, and fibrosis

Basel



Medicines for immunologic & inflammatory diseases

Zug



Treatments for obstructive sleep apnea

Basel



Allosteric modulator therapeutics for underserved neurological disorders

Geneva



Therapeutic solutions for male and female infertility

Lausanne



Gene therapy for retinal diseases causing blindness

Basel



Biotechnological solutions targeting muscle for metabolic health

Basel



Revitalizing cells to address age-related and chronic diseases

Lausanne

“Switzerland is a powerhouse in European innovation, attracting the highest volume of deep-tech capital per capita.”

BioTech and Life Science continue to stand out as the country’s flagship verticals, powered by a proven playbook that moves discoveries from lab to high-valued exit. International investors supply over 85 percent of all Swiss investments, rising to 96% in large rounds, underscoring Switzerland’s global appeal. AI and ML are gaining ground fast, yet biotech excellence remains the benchmark, cementing the nation’s role as a launchpad for world-class innovation.”

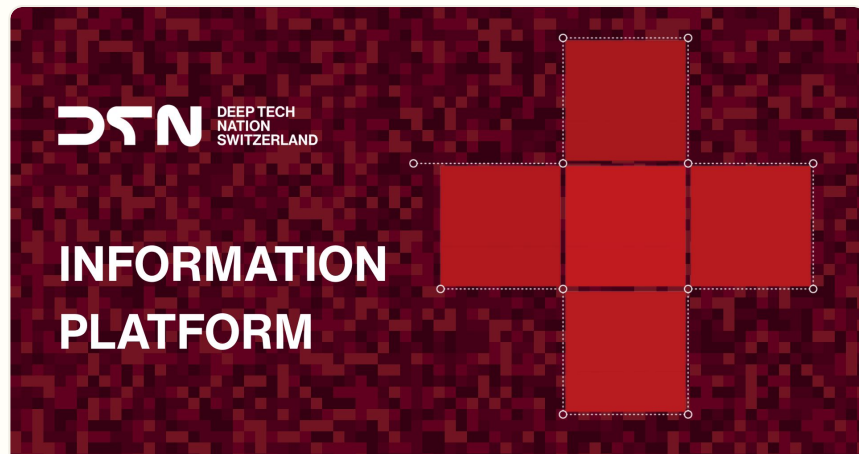


Diego Braguglia
Managing Partner
Vi Partners

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The Swiss Deep Tech Ecosystem
- 3 Sector Deep Dives
- 4 Methodology and Resources**



Resources for founders and investors



Deep Tech Nation Switzerland

The DTN IP is your gateway to Swiss Deep Tech. Visit this website to find more information about Switzerland's Deep Tech ecosystem and the latest developments in the field.

[Information Platform](#)

Startupticker.ch

The Swiss Venture Capital Report provides analyses of investments in Swiss startups and their exits in 2024, the results of a survey among 100 Swiss investors and a complete list of all publicly known financing rounds.

[Swiss Venture Capital Report 2025](#)



Dealroom.co

Dealroom's in-depth guide on Venture Capital in Switzerland, trends by venture capital stage, city, industries and more.

[Switzerland Deep Dive](#)



250+ selected Deep Tech startups in Switzerland

» explore the landscape

BioTech

Combined funding \$ 1.8B

Windward Bio, Oculus, iOnctura, Timeline, Memo Therap..., BioVersys, Nouscom, LimmaTech Bi..., Vandria, Alentis Therapie, Nuclidium, NBE-Therape..., Asceneuron, Numab Thera..., ReproNovo, Noema Pharma, EraCal Therap..., ASTRA Therap..., Neurosterix

TechBio

Combined funding \$ 782M

Nagi Bioscience, Limula, PreComb, New Biologix, Ikerian, Sophia Genetics, Adaptyv Biosyst, STALICLA, Scailyte, Isospec Analyti, InVirtuoLabs, 3Brain, Eldico Scientif, Saphetor, CRISPR Thera..., InterAx Biotech, BC Platforms, Cradle, Moonlight AI, Althea Genomic, HAYA Therapie..., Nerai Bio, Peptone - The P, ImmuneAge Bio

MedTech

Combined funding \$ 1.4B

Sensars Neur..., Arga Medtech, DistalMotion, SmartCardia, CeQur, ONWARD Med..., Nanoflex Roboti, EBAMed, Maxwell Biosyst, Cutiss, Terapet, Medyria, Pipra, Piomic, OxyPrem, Novostia, machineMD, Annaida

Robotics

Combined funding \$ 293M

RIVR, Ecorobotix, ANYbotics, mimic robotics, SAEKI, SwissDrones, Ascento, AICA, Isochronic, KEMARO, Embotech, Embodied AI, Flink Robotics, Sevenses R..., Bota Systems, Aitonomi, Duatic, Xelerit, MESH, Tethys Robotics, Gravis Robotics, Flexion Robotic

Aerial & Space

Combined funding \$ 498M

SWISSto12, ClearSpace, DPHi Space, Dufour Aeros..., Auterion, H55, Fotokite, Verity, Daedalean, Voliro, Drone Harmony, Flyability, Tinamu Labs, Pix4D, Flybotix, Hydromea, Fixposition, Wingtra, VIRA DRONES, DroneControl, Picterra, Almatech, Re CAE, KLEPSYDRA T..., CompPair, askEarth, INVERTO, AITHON robot..., Prometheus Life, TerraRad Tech, Elythor

Climate & Energy

Combined funding \$ 1.7B

Synhelion, Transmutex, Neustark, NovaMea, Oxyle, Nanogen, Climeworks, Atinary Technol, Zurich Soft Rob, TreTech, Unbound Pot..., apheres, Zaphiro technol, SmartHelio, qCella, Perovskia, Akselos, Energy Vault, bNovate Tech..., SoHHytec, Daphne Tech..., Inergio, Oxara, CellX Biosoluti, Cowa Therna..., GRAPHENATO..., GraphEnergyT..., EH Group, BComp, Food Brewer, Vivent, MIRAI Foods, Planted Foods, sallee, Planetary, Cosaic, Gaia Tech, OneSoil, InfraScreen, New Roots, Kidemis, plasNifix, MeduSoil, Insolight, Bloom Bioren..., Metafuels, DePoly, Firefly Fusion, Swisspod Tec..., Meteomatics, Seprify, BTRY, UniSieve, Binks

Semiconductors & Quantum

Combined funding \$ 623M

Lightium, Unisers, Spacetek, Synthara Tec..., Kandou AI, Lumiphase, Attolight, SynSense, Chiral Nano, Enlightra, greenteg, IDUN Technol..., Oryl Photonics, Sensoryx, Menhir Photo..., Diramics, iGenTec, Terra Quantum, CREAL

AI/ML

Combined funding \$ 193M

Neural Concept, Calvin Risk, EthonAI, Cerrion, Manukai, Lakera AI, supervised.com, csky.ai, nunu.ai, LogicStar AI, Avian IoT, Shootify, LatticeFlow, Jua, irmos technolog, DeepJudge, inait, NNAISENSE, Decentriq, Giotto, LOXO, Lightly, Viso

Technical Enterprise software

Combined funding \$ 1.4B

Scandit, Proton, NetFabric, Tune Insight, Hive, Squirrel, Futuraa, SEDA, Concordium, DFINITY, Cardano, NetGuardians, CYSEC, Sonar, Dtangle, Nexthink, Archlet, Correntics, Haicker, Polypheny, DeepSquare

Other industrial Tech

Combined funding \$ 476M

Distran, Haelixa, Matriq, MIRO Analytical, Antefil Composi, Nexiot, NEMATX, HeiQ, Pallon, 9T Labs, Synova, Spectroplast, Scrona, NovoMOF, Celeron, CREAL, SkyCell

Methodology

What are startups and scaleups?

Startups are companies designed to grow fast. Generally, these companies are backed by VC investments and, sometimes, can become very big, (e.g. with \$1B+ valuations). When startups are successful, they develop into **scaleups**. In this report, scaleups are considered companies that raised above \$15M in total VC investment and/or are companies that reached \$1B valuation. This also includes unicorns and \$1B exits. Only companies founded since 1990 are included in this report.

» [Read definition](#)

What is a unicorn?

Unicorns are former startups that have reached \$1B in valuation or achieved an exit of \$1B or more.

» [Read definition](#)

Swiss based

In this report we consider as Swiss-HQ startups those that have their headquarters in Switzerland and maintain a significant presence in the country. We also include companies that might be registered elsewhere solely for legal reasons, but whose entire C-team and operations are in Switzerland. The nationality of the founders and the origin of the technology are not relevant to being considered Swiss startups. Swiss founders who have started a company fully abroad are not in scope. In addition to this, we look at founding location. This is used to track startups that used to have their HQ in Switzerland but later moved their headquarters elsewhere. These companies are included only in some statistics; in those cases the label will say “HQ and founded”.

Venture Capital, Investors

Investments 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. Exits (M&A, IPOs) are not considered part of VC financing and are analyzed separately.

Deep Tech definition

Deep Tech is defined as novel scientific or engineering breakthroughs making their way into products and companies for the first time.

The technology is based on tangible engineering innovation or scientific advances and discoveries applied for the first time as a product, often aiming to solve society's biggest issues.

» [Read definition](#)

In this report we look also at Life Sciences in a broader scope of Deep Tech.

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.

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