

Private Equity Trends in Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments

We analyzed [25 years of investment data](#) from our [M&A Research Database](#) to create a unique industry summary for Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments.

Overview

The **Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities** sector (NAICS 523) encompasses a broad spectrum of financial services, including investment banking, securities dealing, portfolio management, and advisory services. This industry facilitates capital flows across the economy by underwriting securities, managing investment funds, brokering financial assets, and providing strategic financial advice.

Growth is fuelled by rising demand for complex financial products, digital transformation (e.g., robo-advisory, blockchain), and expanding global wealth. Regulatory shifts, including ESG compliance and transparency standards, are also reshaping the competitive landscape.

For M&A professionals, this industry presents compelling strategic opportunities. Investment banks and brokerages seek acquisitions to gain technological capabilities, expand service lines, and diversify revenue streams amid market volatility. Asset managers and advisory firms pursue deals to scale operations, enter niche markets, or consolidate fragmented segments such as fiduciary services and independent advisory platforms. Cross-border transactions are also common, driven by globalization of capital markets and investor appetite for international diversification.

Given its foundational role in enabling capital access and investment management, the financial investment sector remains a vital area for strategic acquisitions. M&A activity is often fuelled by the need for innovation, regulatory alignment, and growth in high-net-worth and institutional investor segments.

Sub-Sectors

NAICS Code	Industry Description
523	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities
5231	Securities and Commodity Contracts Intermediation and Brokerage
52311	Investment Banking and Securities Dealing
52312	Securities Brokerage
52313	Commodity Contracts Dealing
52314	Commodity Contracts Brokerage
5232	Securities and Commodity Exchanges

5239	Other Financial Investment Activities
52391	Miscellaneous Intermediation
52392	Portfolio Management
52393	Investment Advice
52399	All Other Financial Investment Activities
523991	Trust, Fiduciary, and Custody Activities
523999	Miscellaneous Financial Investment Activities

Historical PE Investments in Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments

Private equity interest in this sector, as expected, is highly dependent on macroeconomic trends.

In the early 2000s, acquisitions in this sector declined from 4% to 2% (of total PE deals) by 2003, reflecting the dot-com bubble burst. A recovery followed, peaking at 5% in 2008, just before the global financial crisis. Post-crisis, acquisitions stabilized between 2% and 4%, showing steady interest.



Recently, there has been a slight increase, reaching around 4% in 2022, possibly driven by the need for diversification amid COVID-19 disruptions.

Considering the private equity market has grown substantially over these two decades, holding a steady percentage of all PE deals, means there are more and more private equity investments being made into the Securities and Commodity sector.

Market Summary (2001 – 2025)

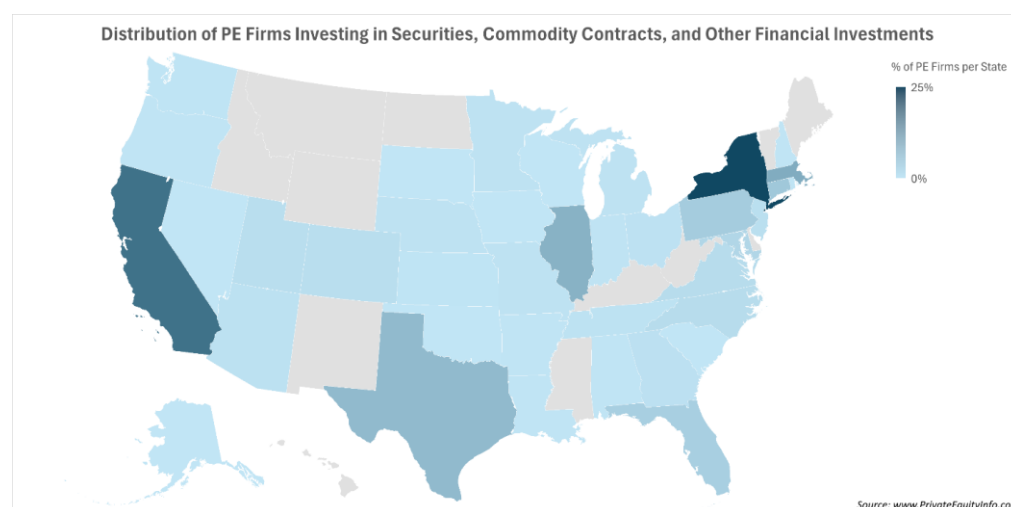
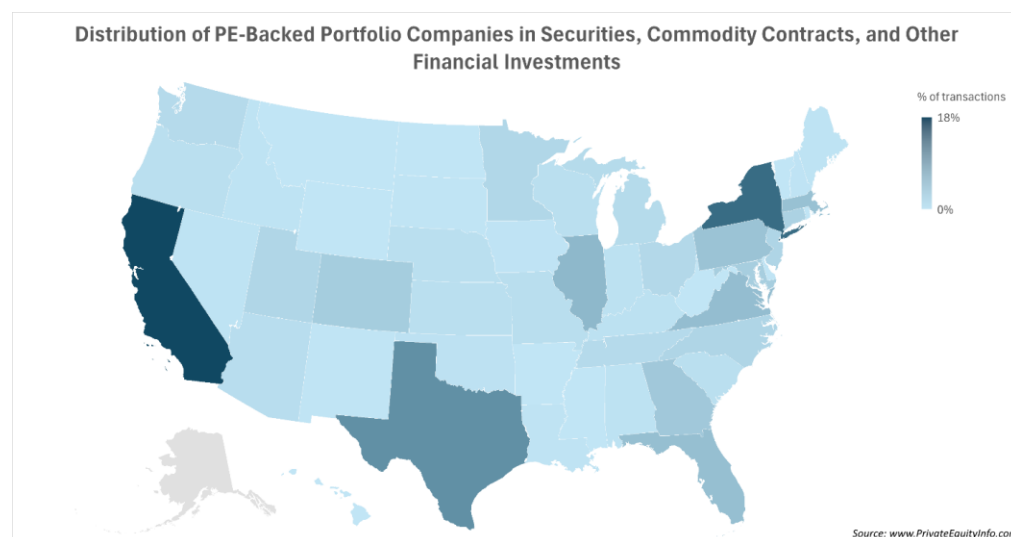
- 4,052 - Platform Investments
- 3,038 - Add-on Investments
- 1,424 - Total unique private equity firms invested

Top 5 Private Equity Firms Invested in Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments

Measured by the number of deals in the industry

1. [Insight Partners](#) (New York, NY)
2. [Carlyle Group, The](#) (Washington, DC)
3. [Warburg Pincus](#) (New York, NY)
4. [TA Associates](#) (Menlo Park, CA)
5. [Stone Point Capital](#) (Greenwich, CT)

Geographical Distribution



Sample of Recent Private Equity Investments

May 2025

[Great Hill Partners](#) made a minority investment in [Mission Wealth](#) (Santa Barbara, CA).

Mission Wealth Management is a Registered Investment Advisor (RIA), providing clients with comprehensive financial planning and investment management services.

December 2024

[Bluestone Investment Partners](#) completed a strategic investment in [Valiant Solutions](#) (Henderson, NC).

Valiant Solutions is a pure-play cybersecurity provider to federal agencies. The Company specializes in advanced threat detection data analytics, zero trust architecture implementation, compliance and risk assessment solutions, and cloud and container security.

May 2024

[Rosemont Investment Group](#) made a minority investment in [Northside Capital Management](#) (Hood River, OR).

Northside Capital Management is an independent private wealth investment manager.

March 2024

[Peloton Capital Management](#) made a strategic investment in [Trilogy Financial Services](#) (Irvine, CA).

Trilogy Financial Services is a full-service financial planning and wealth advisory firm.

February 2024

[Charlesbank Capital Partners](#) acquired [Rise Growth Partners](#) (Austin, TX).

Rise Growth Partners is a synergistic partner for growth-oriented registered investment advisors (RIAs).