



Growing UK Cyber

Cyber Exchange Report 2022

December 2022



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

techUK





Helps organisations discover innovative cyber companies, supports investment and highlights key opportunities across the UK sector.

DCMS and techUK have developed Cyber Exchange to help map the UK cyber security sector.

Mission and objectives of Cyber Exchange:

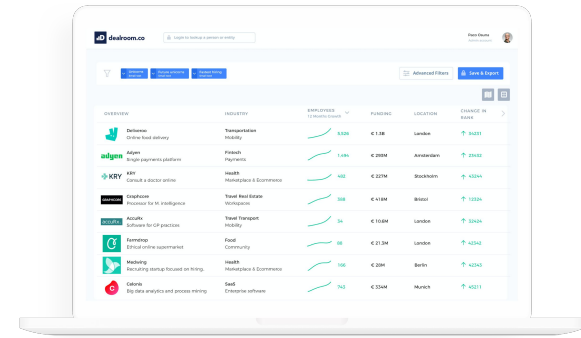
1. Continue to map the UK cyber sector; promoting cyber capability across the UK.
2. Stimulate investment in the cyber sector, giving organisations the tools to understand the cyber security sector.
3. Promote engagement across national and regional cyber security clusters.
4. Providing a platform to access the latest opportunities and events, from both industry and Government.



Global startup & venture capital intelligence platform.

Dealroom.co is the foremost data provider on startup, early-stage and growth company ecosystems in Europe and around the globe.

Founded in Amsterdam in 2013, we now work with many of the world's most prominent investors, entrepreneurs and government organizations to provide transparency, analysis and insights on venture capital activity.





Championing technology's role in preparing and empowering the UK for what comes next, delivering a better future for people, society, the economy and the planet.

TechUK represents the companies and technologies that are defining today, the world that we will live in tomorrow.

The tech industry is creating jobs and growth across the UK. Over 850 companies are members of techUK. Collectively they employ more than 700,000 people, about half of all tech sector jobs in the UK. These companies range from leading FTSE 100 companies to new innovative start-ups. The majority of our members are small and medium sized businesses. We create a network for innovation and collaboration across business, government and stakeholders to provide a better future for people, society, the economy and the planet.



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) helps to drive growth, enrich lives and promote Britain abroad.

We protect and promote our cultural and artistic heritage and help businesses and communities to grow by investing in innovation and highlighting Britain as a fantastic place to visit. We help to give the UK a unique advantage on the global stage, striving for economic success.

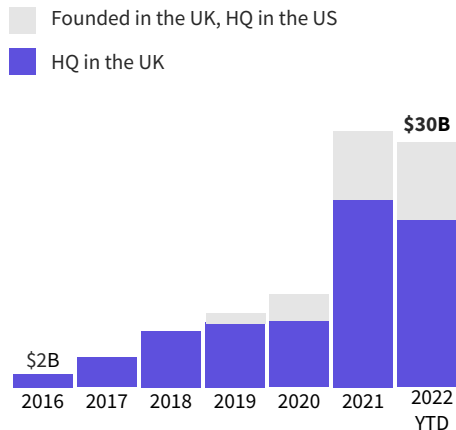
DCMS is a ministerial department, supported by 47 agencies and public bodies.

Key takeaways.

UK Cyber security startups are now worth \$30B.

Value is concentrated in younger startups compared to the UK average, with 78% of total value created by startups founded after 2010. University spinouts account for 18% of total value.

Combined enterprise value of UK Cyber security startups

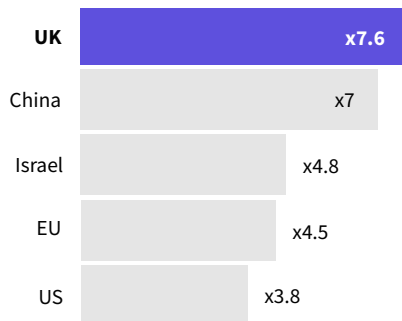


UK's Cyber ecosystem grew faster than the top global ecosystems.

The combined enterprise value of HQ'ed and founded startups has grown 7.6x since 2017, faster than US, China, EU and Israel.

There is room to grow still, as the UK Cyber ecosystem remains 24x smaller than the US's, and 4x smaller than Israel's.

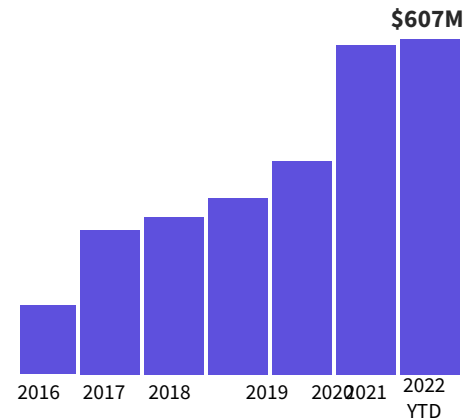
EV growth of Cyber security startups (2017-2022 YTD)



UK Cyber security startups raised more than \$600M in 2022 YTD, a record.

Record investment has been driven by an increase in late stage and megarounds, while early stage funding is at its lowest since 2017. Foreign investors are driving mid to late stage rounds, contributing more than 67% of funding in 2022 YTD.

Investment in UK Cyber security startups



Foreword

Cyber security underpins our digital future. Increasingly at work and at home digital technology enables the activity of the UK economy and society. Cyber security companies provide the leading-edge technologies and solutions that ensure the UK is resilient in the face of an ever-changing threat landscape.

As the significance of Cyber security has grown, we have seen the UK cyber sector grow rapidly, with DCMS measuring the growth of the sector every year in its Cyber Security Sectoral Analysis. In the latest Sec, there were an estimated 1,838 cyber companies operating in the UK, with the sector generating £10.1bn in revenue and employing over 52,700 people.

This growth drives economic prosperity, whilst in turn strengthening our National Security capability, pulling through leading-edge technology, and fostering new talent. This is a virtuous circle. Cyber security has long since been a strategic focus for UK Government, with the publication of the third National Cyber Strategy in 2021 renewing that commitment whilst developing a whole-of-society approach to strengthening resilience.

This strategic long-term approach has gone some way to ensuring the UK remains a leading cyber nation alongside allies like the US, EU and Israel.

But how do we stay there? Increasingly we see nations investing and developing their own Cyber security ecosystems.

Beyond 2022 we must ensure that the UK is the best place to start and base a cyber company, to ensure we continue to develop the technology and talent to meet the cyber threats of the future.

This Cyber Exchange Report explores how Government and industry are working together to help Cyber security companies to grow, drive investment in new companies and develop talent across every nation and region of the UK.



Julian David
Chief Executive Officer
at techUK

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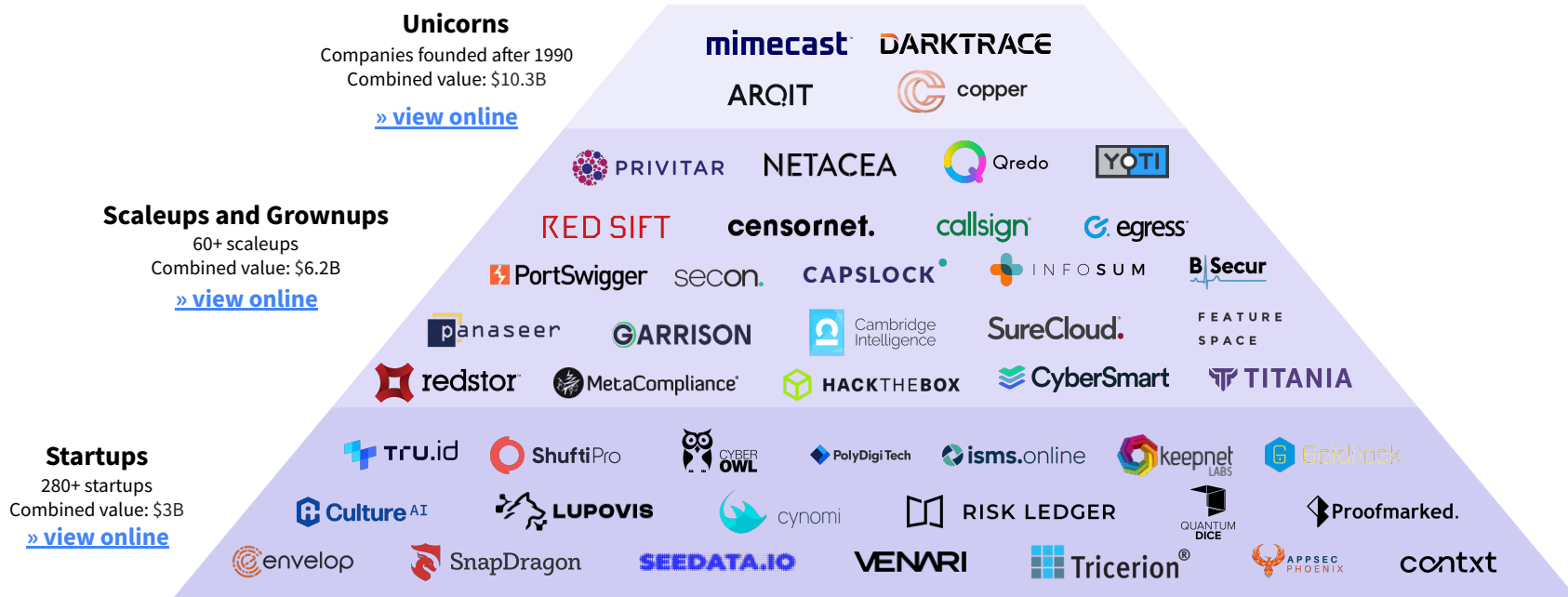
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The UK Cyber security ecosystem

Framework : products and services offered by Cyber security startups

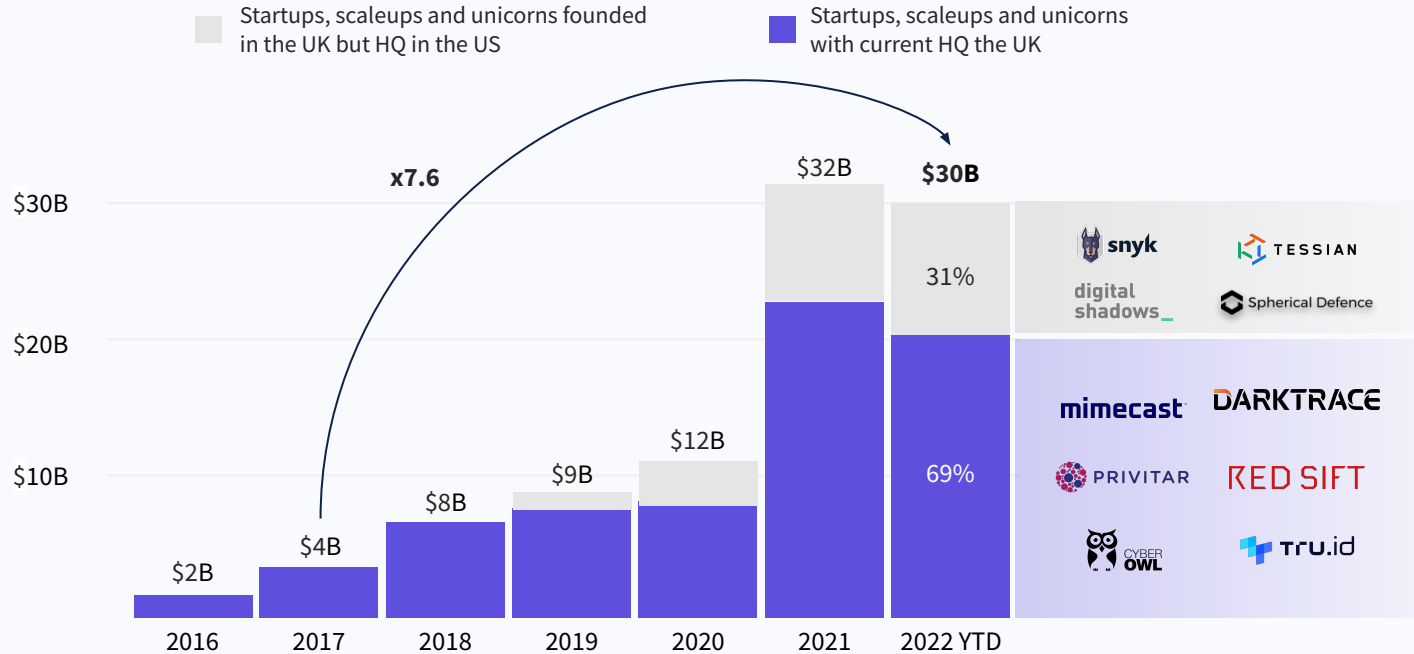


The UK Cyber security ecosystem is home to 280+ startups, 60+ scaleups and 4 unicorns.



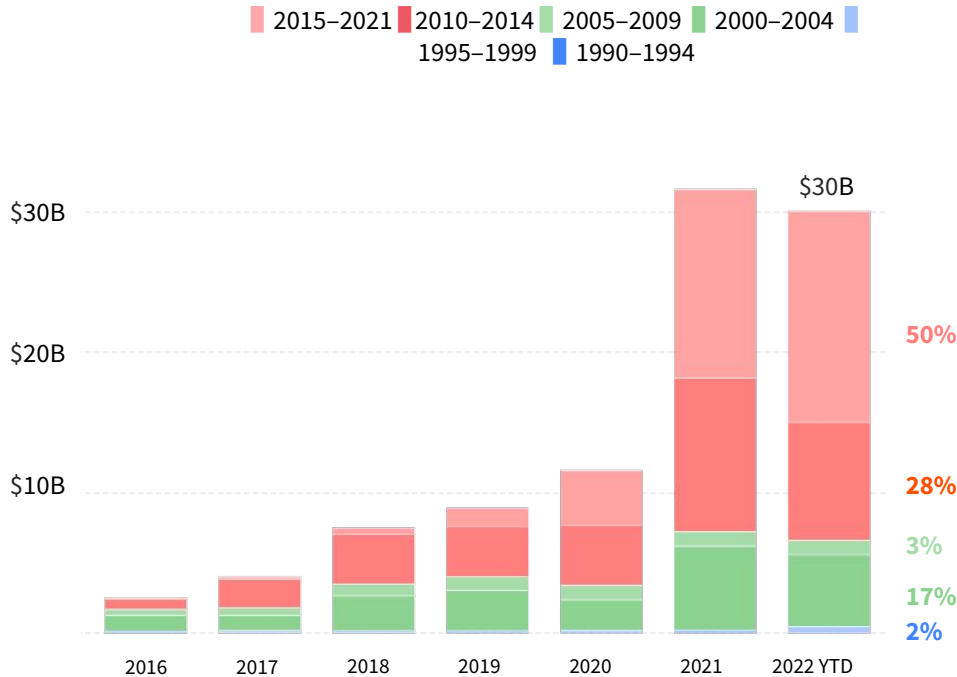
Cyber security startups founded and HQ in the UK are worth \$30B, a 7.6x increase since 2017.

Combined enterprise value of UK Cyber security tech companies founded since 1990 (founded and HQ) [» view online](#)



78% of the total value is concentrated in startups founded after 2010.

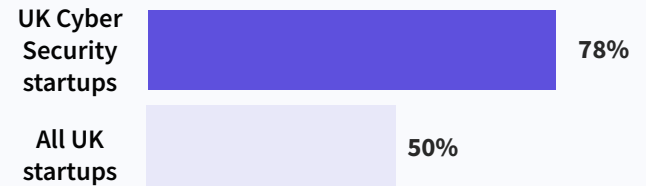
Combined enterprise value of UK Cyber security tech companies founded since 1990 » [view online](#)



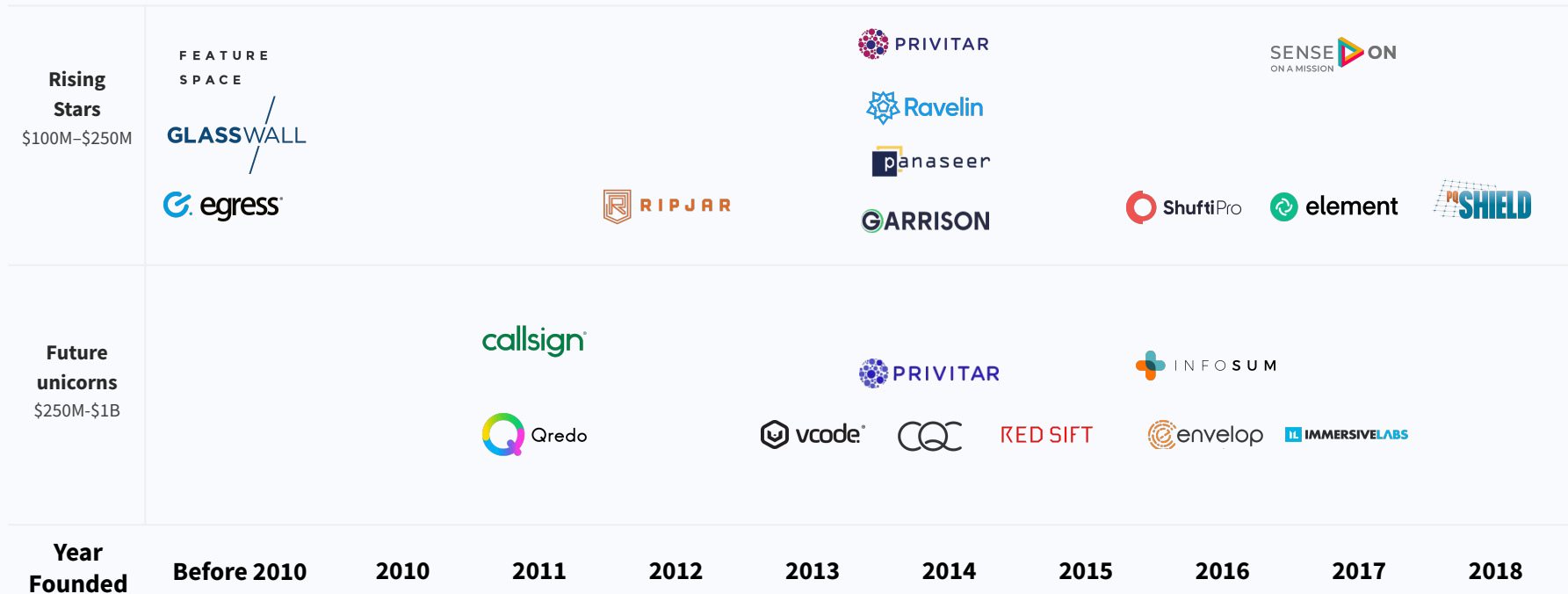
Cyber security innovation is booming, and not relying on legacy tech.

The UK Cyber security ecosystem value is concentrated in younger startups than the UK average. 78% of the UK Cyber security ecosystem value has been created by startups founded after 2010, against 50% in the UK overall.

Enterprise value of startups founded after 2010



The UK Cyber security ecosystem hosts a strong pipeline of future unicorns and promising companies, most of them founded since 2010.



Discover the most promising UK Cyber security startups using predictive signals.

Breakout Opportunities »

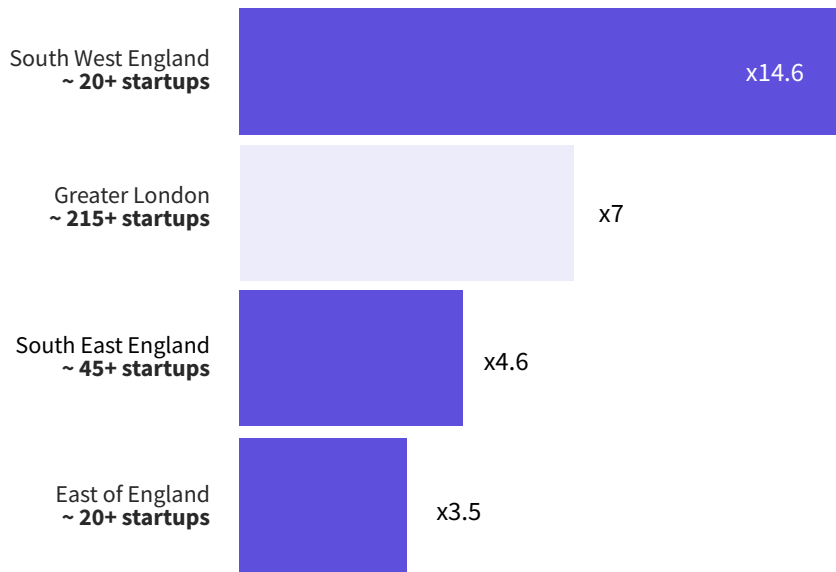
Series A+ Opportunities »

Pre-Seed Opportunities »

| NAME | DEALROOM SIGNAL | MARKET | TYPE | GROWTH (12 months growth) | LAUNCH DATE |
|---|-----------------|--|--|---------------------------|-------------|
| Copper The institutional gateway to digita... | 67 | B2B security enterprise software data protection | blockchain commission saas | 214% | Jan 2018 |
| Qredo A cross-chain protocol platform fo... | 64 | B2B security fintech cloud & infrastructure crypto and defi | deep tech blockchain commission saas | 142% | 2011 |
| Cambridge Quantum Computing ★ A pioneer in the research and deve... | 62 | B2B security enterprise software cloud & infrastructure | big data deep tech hardware machine learning quantum technologies | 14% | Jul 2014 |
| Panaseer ★ Big data insights on cyber security ... | 52 | B2B security enterprise software data protection | big data deep tech machine learning artificial intelligence subscription | 41% | Jun 2014 |
| e2e-assure ★ E2e-assure are a specialist SOC as ... | 47 | B2B, B2C security device security & antivirus data protection | subscription | 22% | 2013 |
| Senseon ★ Self-driving cyber defense platfor... | 47 | B2B security cloud & infrastructure | deep tech machine learning artificial intelligence commission saas | 17% | 2017 |
| Callsign ★ Real time AI driven Identity and Au... | 47 | B2B security identity & access | deep tech machine learning mobile app iot internetofthings artificial intelligence | 21% | 2011 |
| Cybersmart ★ An automated end-to-end cyber se... | 46 | B2B security cloud & infrastructure | deep tech artificial intelligence commission saas | 20% | Dec 2016 |
| Soveren ★ Privacy incidents Management So... | 46 | B2B legal security regtech & compliance data protection | subscription saas | - | Oct 2020 |
| Coincover ★ Aims to give individuals and comp... | 46 | B2B security fintech insurance clouds and defi | blockchain deep tech commission saas | 129% | May 2018 |

UK regions outside of London host some of the most promising Cyber security startups.

Enterprise value growth of Cyber security startups since 2017
EV growth of selected UK Regions









Selected startups per UK Region



UK-based Accelerators active in the Cyber security Ecosystem.

These accelerators are key enablers and play a vital role in supporting domestic and foreign early stage companies thanks to funding received from the UK Government.

| Cyber security focused | Others |
|--|--|
|  <p>Delivered by Plexal</p> <p>178+ Alumni Startups 64% of companies are non London participants Aims to create diverse regional innovation ecosystem</p> |  <p>ENTREPRENEUR FIRST</p> |
| <p>National Cyber Security Centre For Startups</p> <p>Delivered by Plexal & NCSC</p> <p>58+ Alumni Startups Challenge led cohorts with support from technical experts Welcomes companies at all maturity stages</p> |  |
|  <p>22+ companies formed which raised £17.7m in total Accelerated the commercialisation of UK academic research in Cyber security</p> |   |

“ We’re proud to play our role alongside DCMS in closing the gap between private and public parties to build the Cyber ecosystem and enhance our national security.

From the success of LORCA, we’ve continued pushing forward with our mission at Plexal: solving technology challenges through collaboration. Recently with Cyber Runway, £10.1bn in revenue was generated by over 1,800 Cyber security companies in the most recent financial year, a new record was also set with over £1bn of investment generated across 84 deals.”

Saj Huq
Chief commercial officer
at Plexal



“ Academics have made a significant contribution to the Cyber security ecosystem here in the UK.

It has been a huge privilege to see so many academics develop their skills and progress their ideas. We have seen these projects evolving into successful, scalable spinouts with two acquisitions to date as well as open source and licensing offers.”

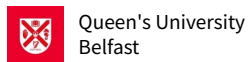
Emma Fadlon
Investment Projects Lead and
Co-Director
at CyberASAP



The Academic Centres of Excellence for University Research leads research in the UK and internationally.

19 universities are recognised as ACEs-CSR

Northern Ireland



Queen's University
Belfast

Wales



Cardiff University

Scotland



University of
Edinburgh

England



University of
Birmingham



King's College
London



Imperial college
London



Royal Holloway,
University of London



University of
Bristol



University of
Cambridge



De Montfort
University



University of
Kent



Lancaster
University



University
College London



Newcastle
University



Northumbria
University



University of
Oxford



University of
Southampton



University of
Surrey



University of
Warwick

They are supported by research Institutes that contribute to the ecosystem.

Selected UK Research Institutes:



CENTRE
FOR SECURE
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGIES



CENTRE FOR MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH
INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION

RISS

Resilient Information Systems Security



Partnership for
Conflict, Crime &
Security Research






RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR
SECURE HARDWARE &
EMBEDDED SYSTEMS

The
Alan Turing
Institute

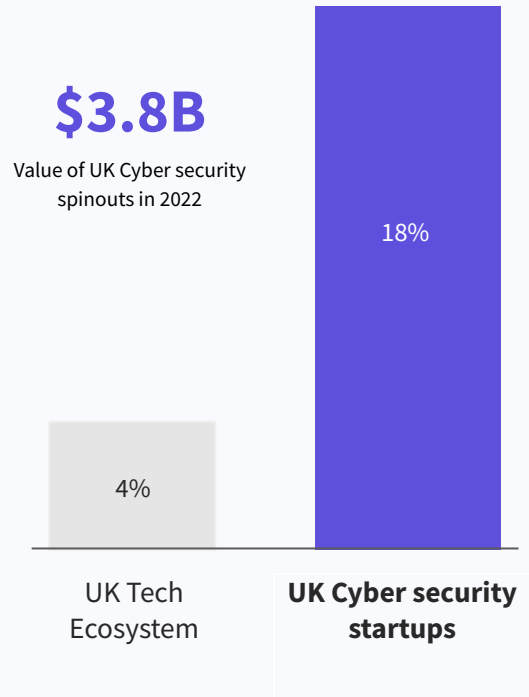
Many UK Cyber security startups have their roots in academia.

Selected UK Cyber security spinouts » [view online](#)

| Name | Spun out from |
|--|---------------------------|
|  DARKTRACE | University of Cambridge |
|  FEATURE SPACE | University of Cambridge |
|  SHIELD | University of Oxford |
|  KETS | University of Bristol |
|  approov | University of Edinburgh |
|  hazu | University College London |
|  QUANTUM DICE | University of Oxford |
|  Verifiable Credentials | University of Kent |
|  LUPOVIS | University of Strathclyde |

University spinouts represent 18% of the combined enterprise value of the UK Cyber security ecosystem.

EV created by university spinouts HQ & Founded in the UK



Cyber security addresses new challenges in Fintech and Industrial tech.

Cyber security for Fintech

Protecting financial data and assets against risks such as account takeovers, malware attacks, and data breaches thus ensuring better compliance with regulatory requirements.

Covering and managing cyber risks by offering built-in Cyber security monitoring and protection platforms with added insurance on top.

Cyber Insurance

KYND

envelop

Regulativ.ai

Asset custodianship

Vo1t

copper

Qredo

Fraud management

FEATURE
SPACE

cybertonica

Ravelin

Cyber security for Industrial tech

Protecting Industrial Control Systems, Cyber Physical systems, and IOT devices against cyber threats through network intrusion and endpoint detection, access management, vulnerability management, etc.

Due to the interconnected nature of Industry 4.0, Cyber Security is becoming an integral part of network design and operations.

SCADA & Industrial Control Systems

OSIRIUM

awen
COLLECTIVE

Asset Guardian
SOLUTIONS LIMITED

CYTAL

Razo:Secure

CYBER
OWL

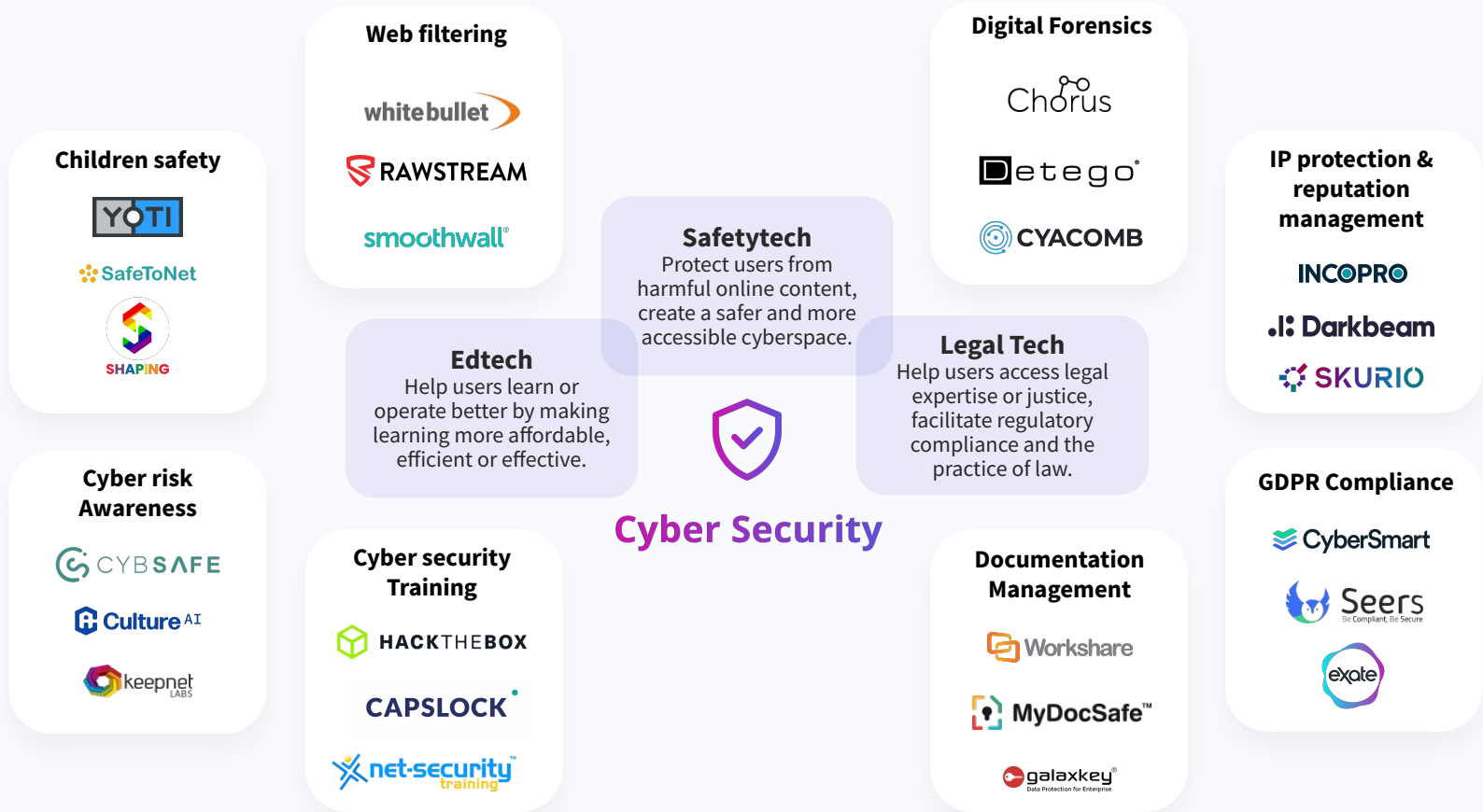
Cyber physical systems

EXALENS®

CYTAL

BLUESKYTEC

Cyber security creates growth opportunities in Edtech, Safetytech, and Legal tech.



UK Cyber security startups providing services to local and foreign governmental institutions.

To secure critical national and citizen data



KEYLESS



To detect and respond to cyber threats endangering national security

SecAlliance



Chorus

ELEMENDAR.

To create a secure workspace amongst public sector employees

GARRISON

intercede



“ **Cyber security threats have become increasingly prevalent in recent years.** ”

Attacks across all sectors threaten the safety of critical national infrastructure. Encouragingly, DCMS has been a driving force within the government to help ensure that we – the UK tech ecosystem – are taking the necessary measures to protect ourselves.”

Saj Huq

Chief commercial officer at
Plexal



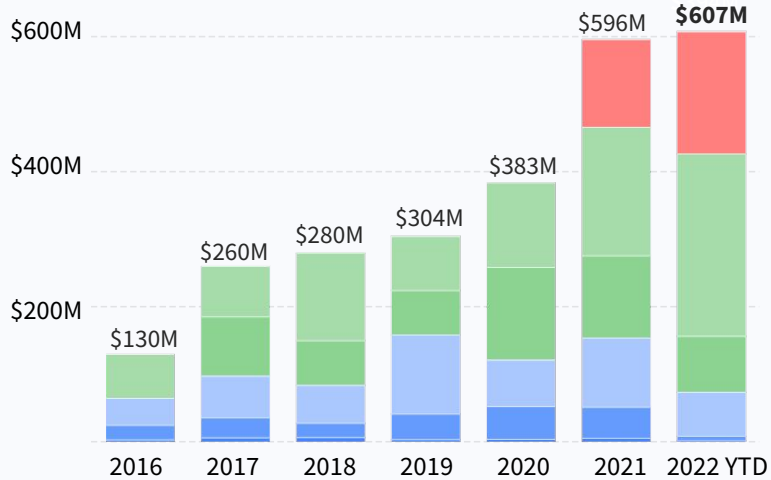
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Funding landscape

UK Cyber security startups raised more than \$600M in 2022 YTD, a record.

Investment in UK Cybersecurity startups [» view online](#)

■ \$0M-\$1M (pre-seed)
 ■ \$1M-\$4M (seed)
 ■ \$4M-\$15M (series A)
 ■ \$15M-\$40M (series B)
 ■ \$40-€100M (series C)
 ■ \$100-\$250M
 ■ \$250M+



Selected top rounds since 2021



Oct 2022
\$181M Series C



Sep 2021
\$130M Series B



Feb 2022
\$80M Series A



Jun 2021
\$75M Series C



Jan 2022
\$70M Growth Equity VC

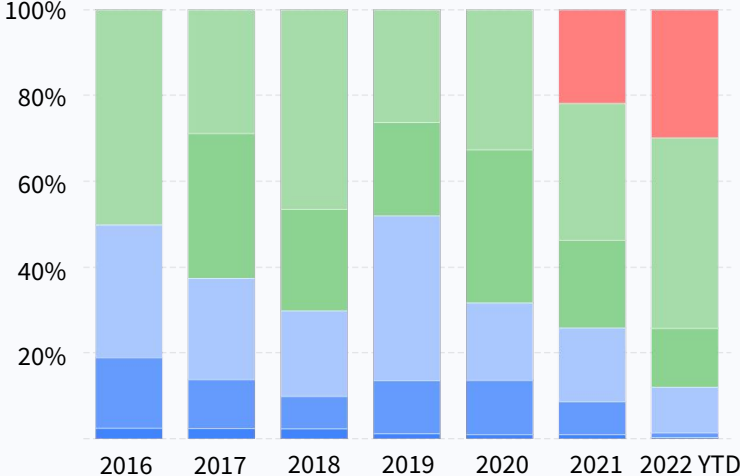


Aug 2021
\$65m SERIES B

Record funding has been driven by late stage rounds & megarounds.

VC investment in UK Cybersecurity startups per round size

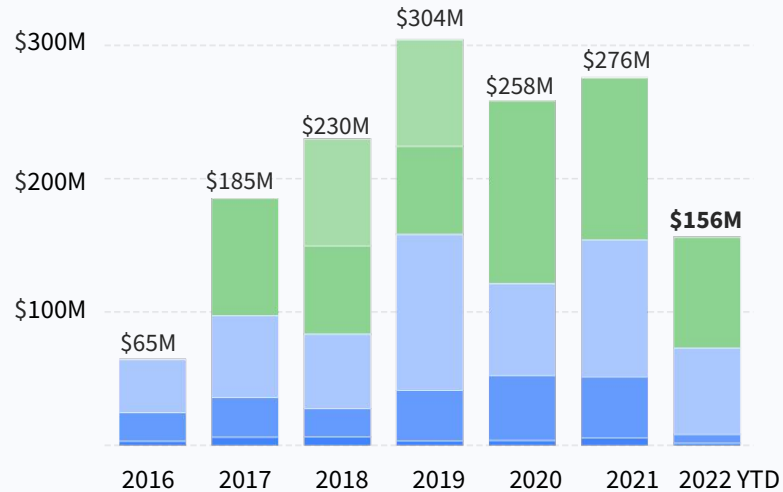
■ \$0M-\$1M (pre-seed) ■ \$1M-\$4M (seed) ■ \$4M-\$15M (series A) ■ \$15M-\$40M (series B)
■ \$40-€100M (series C) ■ \$100-\$250M ■ \$250M+



Early stage investment is at its lowest since 2017.

Pre-Seed to Series B Investment in UK Cyber security startups [» view online](#)

■ \$0M-\$1M (pre-seed)
 ■ \$1M-\$4M (seed)
 ■ \$4M-\$15M (series A)
 ■ \$15M-\$40M (series B)



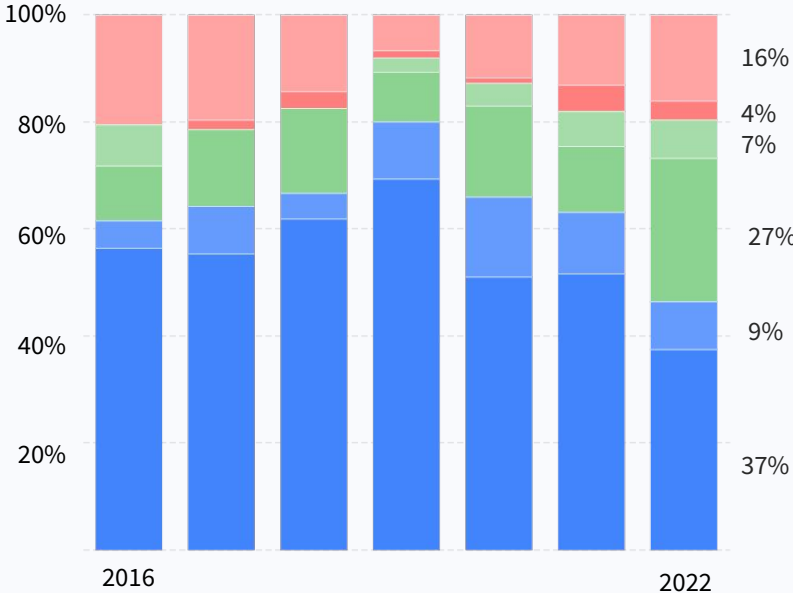
UK Cyber security Pre-Seed to Series B rounds [» view online](#)

| COMPANY | INDUSTRY | RAISE | LOCATION | VALUATION | STATUS |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|------------|---------|
| Element All-in-one secure chat app for tea... | Protocol Labs MetaPlanet | B2B security enterprise software data protection | London, United Kingdom | \$120–180m | \$300m |
| Panaseer Big data insights on cyber security... | Notion Capital Cisco Investments Evolution Equity Partners Paladin Capital Group AllegisCyber Capital | B2B security enterprise software data protection | London, United Kingdom | \$106–159m | \$200m |
| Copper The institutional gateway to digita... | Alan Howard | B2B security fintech crypto and defi data protection | London, United Kingdom | \$2.0b | \$200m |
| Axiad Delivers an agile, user-centric iden... | Invictus Growth Partners | security enterprise software identity & access | Nottingham, United Kingdom | - | \$20m G |
| Senseon Self-driving cyber defense platfor... | Eight Roads Ventures MMC Ventures Cylon Winton Ventures Crane Venture Partners | security cloud & infrastructure | London, United Kingdom | \$80–120m | \$200m |
| e2e-assure E2e-assure are a specialist SOC as ... | Business Growth Fund | security device security & antivirus data protection | Vale of White Horse, United Kingdom | \$55–83m | £100m |
| Qredo A cross-chain protocol platform fo... | GSR Ventures Wintermute Trading Connect Capital Kinetic Capital Celsius Network | B2B security fintech cloud & infrastructure crypto and defi | London, United Kingdom | \$460m | \$200m |
| Hack The Box Hack The Box is a platform allowin... | Paladin Capital Group Marathon Venture Capital Brighteye Ventures Osage University Partners | security education education providers | Folkestone and Hythe, United Kingdom | \$42–64m | \$100m |

UK investors contribute 37% of total funding in 2022 YTD, 25% less than 2021.

Investment rounds by source » [view online](#)

■ Domestic
 ■ Europe
 ■ USA
 ■ Asia
 ■ Rest of the World
 ■ Undisclosed

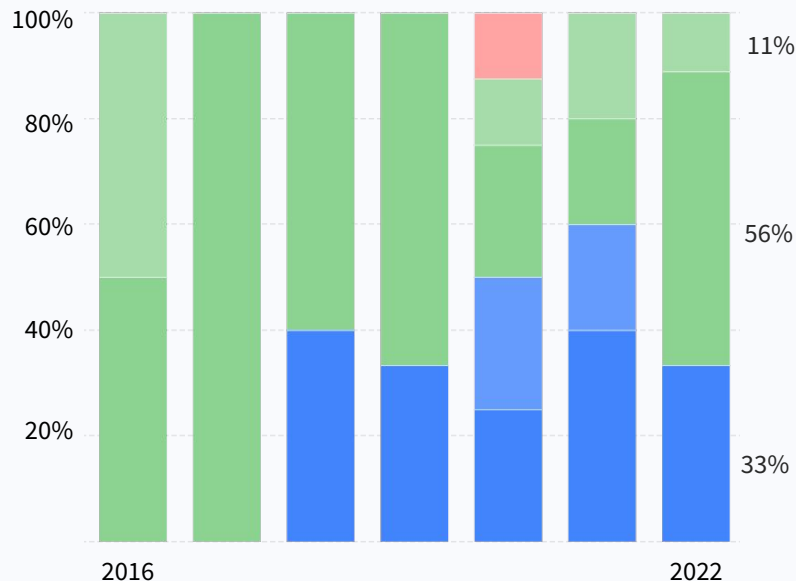


Selected UK VCs investing in UK Cyber Security companies

Foreign investors are driving mid to late stage rounds and account for more 67% of funding raised in 2022 YTD.

Series C+ investment rounds by source [» view online](#)

■ Domestic ■ Europe ■ USA ■ Asia ■ Rest of the World ■ Undisclosed



Selected foreign investors active in the UK

| Investor | Country | Selected UK Cyber security investments |
|----------------------------------|-------------|--|
| INSIGHT PARTNERS | USA | mimecast, DARKTRACE |
| salesforce ventures | USA | PRIVITAR, Gospel Technology |
| evolution EQUITY PARTNERS | USA | ARQIT, panaseer |
| ALLEGIS CYBER CAPITAL | USA | callsign, panaseer |
| SI Speedinvest | Switzerland | SOCOS, KETS |
| gumi Cryptos | Japan | KEYLESS, Qredo |
| PALADIN CAPITAL GROUP | USA | panaseer, HACKTHEBOX |

“

There has been record levels of investment into the Cyber security space, though this growth has began to slow.

To avoid squandering the hard-fought opportunity that the UK Government and the private sector have created, members of the Cyber Growth Partnership are undertaking analysis into the near-live data of cyber startup and scaleup investment rates and activities. A Working Group of the Cyber Growth Partnership has been established to focus on better understanding the nuances of cyber investment by lifestage, and identify where any additional support may be necessary to ensure the UK retains and improves its global ranking for cyber investment.”

Ian Merricks,
Managing Partner
at White Horse Capital

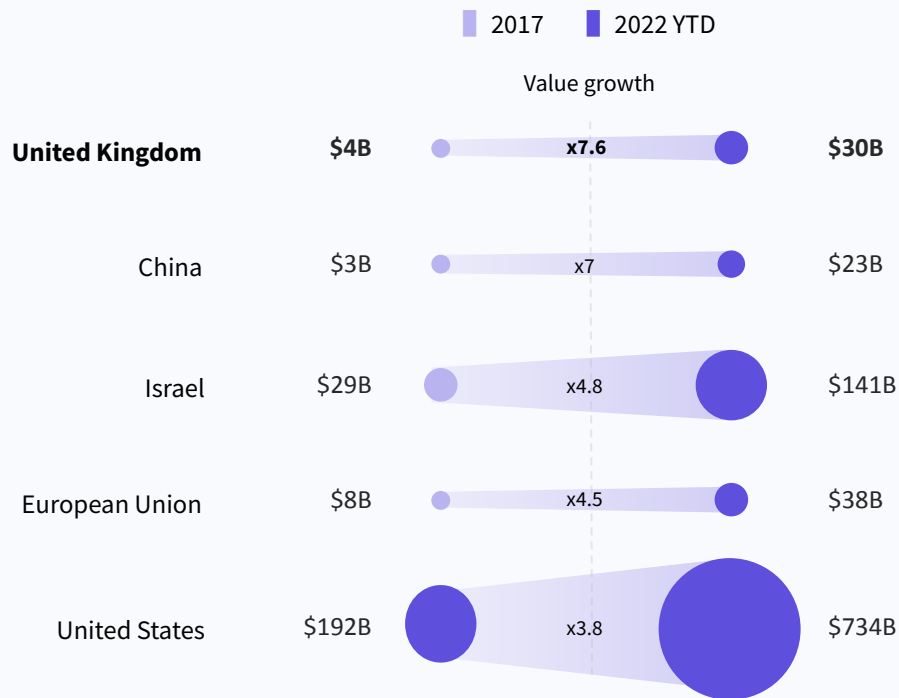


3

Global Competitiveness

The value of the UK Cyber security ecosystem has grown faster than the top global Cyber ecosystems.

Ecosystem Value growth of Cyber security startups



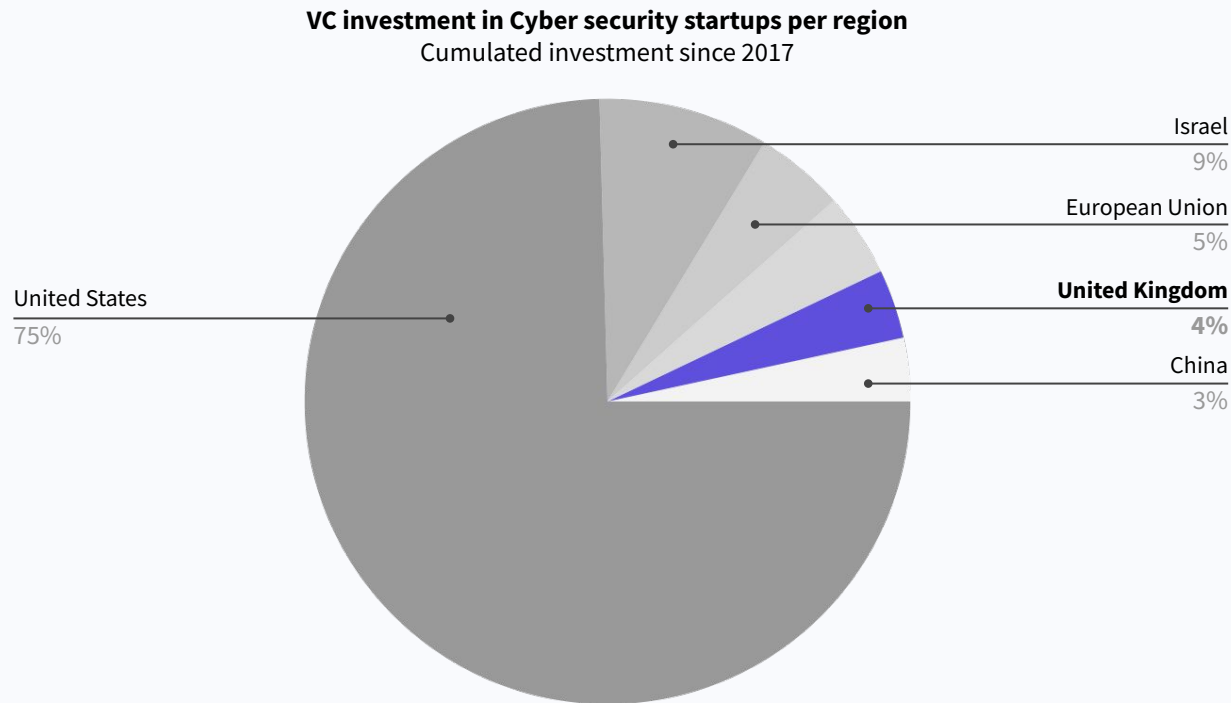
The UK ranks as the top 3rd country for VC investments into Cyber security startups since 2017, after the US and Israel.

VC investments into Cyber security startups [» view online](#)

Cumulated investment since 2017



Cyber security startup investment is heavily concentrated with the US and Israel having raised close to 85% of global funding since 2017.



Selected investors active in Cyber security funding globally.



Methodology & definitions

What is a startup?

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 (>50 people), grownups (>500 people) 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?

Venture Capital, Investors

Domestic investors are all investors based in the United Kingdom.

Investment numbers refer to rounds such as Seed, Series A, B, C, late stage, and growth equity rounds. VC investment figures exclude debt or other non-equity funding, lending capital, grants and ICOs.

Investment rounds are sourced from public disclosures including press releases, news, filings and verified user-submitted information.

Glossary & Definitions

Valuation

The combined valuation of the tech ecosystem is based on their market cap or latest transaction value.

Transaction value is realized from exit or implied unrealised valuation from the latest VC round, which is either announced or estimated by Dealroom based on benchmarks.

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 uk-security.dealroom.co. For more info please visit dealroom.co or contact support@dealroom.co.

Discover the most promising UK Security companies on:

uk-security.dealroom.co

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techUK



CYBER EXCHANGE Search for companies, investors, people, lists & innovations

Explore the UK Security ecosystem

Built by and for founders, investors, executives and tech enthusiasts.

725 STARTUPS

1,041 ROUNDS

OVERVIEW | CURATED CONTENT | HOW TO USE

Add your organization

Are you a founder, a VC, or otherwise active in the ecosystem? Gain visibility and help the database become more complete by adding your organization or updating your company profile.

[Manage companies](#)

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Our partners help make this platform what it is through data sharing, collaboration, sponsorship and research. Sounds interesting? We'd love to discuss any ideas.

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Where the data comes from

This platform is powered by Dealroom. We combine machine learning and data engineering with user-submitted data with robust verification processes and a strong network of ecosystems.

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Initiators

Supported by