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Private equity entry activity slowed in July

By **Dylan Thomas** and **Neel Hiteshbhai Bharucha**

Global private equity entries declined in July as US tariffs and an uncertain macroeconomic outlook created friction for deal activity.

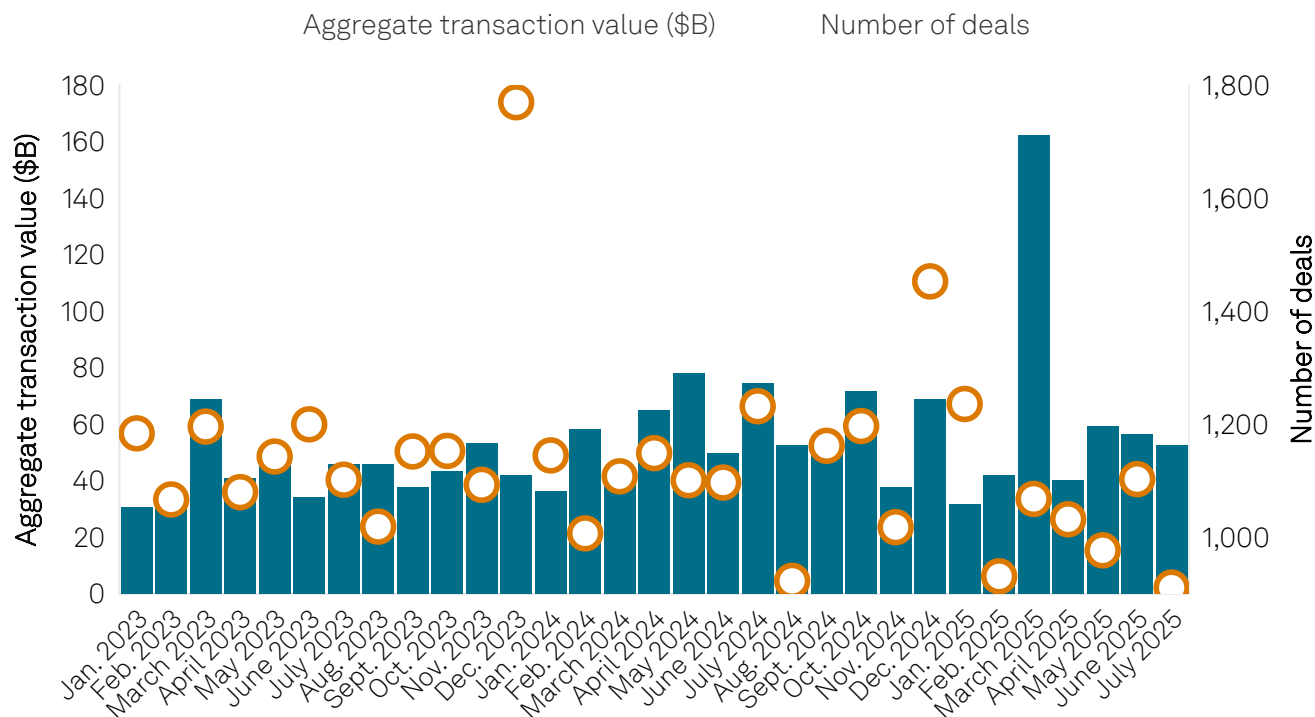
Private equity and venture capital entries totaled \$52.59 billion globally in July, down nearly 7% from \$56.44 billion in June and more than 29% from \$74.47 billion in July 2024, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence data. The number of deals recorded globally in July totaled 911, a step down from the prior-month total of 1,103 and prior-year total of 1,232.

Global private equity and venture capital entries since 2023

 To switch between time views, please click the buttons below

Monthly

Yearly



Data compiled Aug. 4, 2025.

Analysis includes global whole-company acquisitions, minority stake acquisitions and rounds of funding announced between Jan. 1, 2023, and July 31, 2025, where the buyer/investor is or includes a private equity or venture capital firm.

Excludes terminated deals, asset deals, debt and early-stage funding rounds, and add-on acquisitions.

* Year to date through July 31 of respective years.

Aggregate transaction values and volume may not match figures reported for preceding periods due to subsequently acquired disclosures and updates.

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

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Private equity firms have plenty of dry powder for deals, but investment committees are behaving cautiously, said Michael Mufson, managing partner of investment bank Mufson Howe Hunter & Co LLC.

Mufson noted that the focus on top-performing businesses insulated from US tariff impacts has limited the range of potential targets and that private equity acquirers are not willing to stretch valuations for anything but the best assets.

"Quality sells and mediocre does not, and that's the market right now," Mufson said.

Interest rates

A cut to interest rates in the US could be the key to accelerating M&A activity in private equity's largest market.

Lower interest rates would lower the cost of deal financing, allowing private equity firms to potentially increase the leverage on deals and pay higher valuation multiples, which could serve as the release valve for pent-up dealmaking demand, Mufson said.

"You've got all the right ingredients for a ripping bull market," Mufson added.

Some private equity-backed M&A themes have proven resilient even against the unsteady macroeconomic backdrop, said Nick Pedersen, a Honigman LLP attorney who advises middle- and lower-middle-market private equity firms on deals. Pedersen said firms pursuing roll-up strategies in domestic, service-oriented industries that are sheltered from tariff impacts — including landscaping, car washes and janitorial services — have not been slowed by uncertainty and elevated interest rates.

"Those are smaller deals, so they're easier to finance, and they've continued," Pedersen said.



- Download a file of raw data from this story.
- Catch up on venture capital activity in July.
- Scan the latest private equity headlines.

Largest entry deal

The planned \$7.8 billion acquisition of Techem GmbH was the largest private equity-backed investment announced in July.

TPG Capital LP is partnering with sovereign wealth funds GIC Pte. Ltd. and Mubadala Investment Co. PJSC to acquire the Germany-based real estate industry service provider in a deal that would see a member of Techem's previous ownership group, Partners Group Holding AG, reinvesting in the business.

Top 10 global PE/VC investment in July 2025

Target	Buyer/Investors	Transaction sector	Announced date	Transaction value (\$M)
● Techem GmbH	TPG Capital LP, GIC Private Ltd., Mubadala Investment Co. PJSC, TPG Rise Climate LP, Partners Group Holding AG and Partners Group Private Equity Ltd.	Industrials	07/14/25	7,835.3
● Governmentjobs.com Inc.	Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, EQT AB (publ) and EQT X	TMT	07/28/25	3,000.0
● Bavarian Nordic A/S	Nordic Capital Epsilon Sca Sicav-raif and Permira Advisers Ltd.	Healthcare	07/28/25	2,676.1
● NAVEX Global Inc.	Goldman Sachs Asset Management LP and Blackstone Inc.	TMT	07/21/25	2,500.0
● Fujitec Co. Ltd.	EQT AB (publ) and Bpea Fund IX Pte. Ltd.	Industrials	07/29/25	2,317.0
● First National Financial Corp.	Birch Hill Equity Partners Management Inc. and Brookfield Asset Management Ltd.	Financials	07/27/25	2,100.7
● Olo Inc.	Thoma Bravo LP	TMT	07/03/25	1,621.9
● Genesys Cloud Services Inc.	ServiceNow Ventures and Salesforce Ventures LLC	TMT	07/31/25	1,500.0
● Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.	Blackstone Capital Partners Asia II LP, Blackstone Capital Partners (cym) IX Aiv - F LP and Blackstone Inc.	Financials	07/25/25	1,387.2
● Ovent Holding Corp.	Blackstone Inc.	TMT	07/03/25	1,300.0
Transaction geography ● US and Canada ● Europe ● Asia-Pacific				

Data compiled July 7, 2025.

PE/VC = private equity or venture capital; TMT = Technology, Media & Telecommunications.

Analysis includes global whole-company acquisitions, minority stake acquisitions, and rounds of funding announced between July 1, 2025, and July 31, 2025, where the buyer/investor is or includes a private equity or venture capital firm.

Excludes terminated deals, asset deals, debt and early stage funding rounds.

Industries are based on the Global Industry Classification Standard of S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

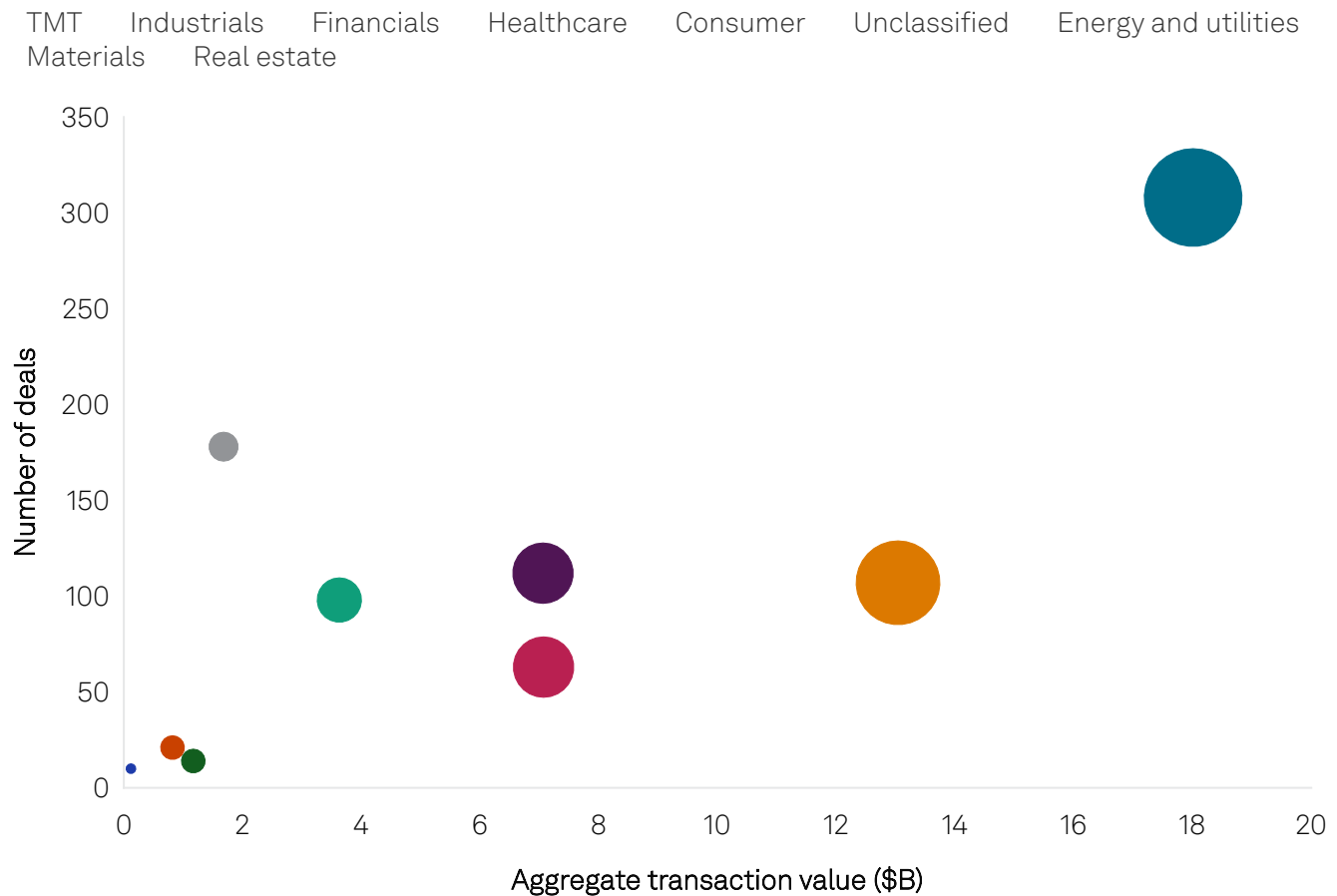
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Focus on TMT

In July, the technology, media and telecommunications (TMT) sector accounted for 34% of private equity- and venture capital-backed deal value. This was followed by the industrial sector with 25% of aggregate deal value, followed by the financial and healthcare sectors, each accounting for 13% of deal value.

Global private equity and venture capital deals per sector announced in July 2025

 Hover over/click bubbles to view additional data



Data compiled Aug. 4, 2025.

TMT = technology, media and telecommunications.

Analysis includes global whole-company acquisitions, minority stake acquisitions and rounds of funding announced between July 1, 2025, and July 31, 2025, where the buyer/investor is or includes a private equity or venture capital firm.

Excludes terminated deals, asset deals, sectors with unavailable aggregate deal value, debt and early-stage funding rounds, and add-on acquisitions.

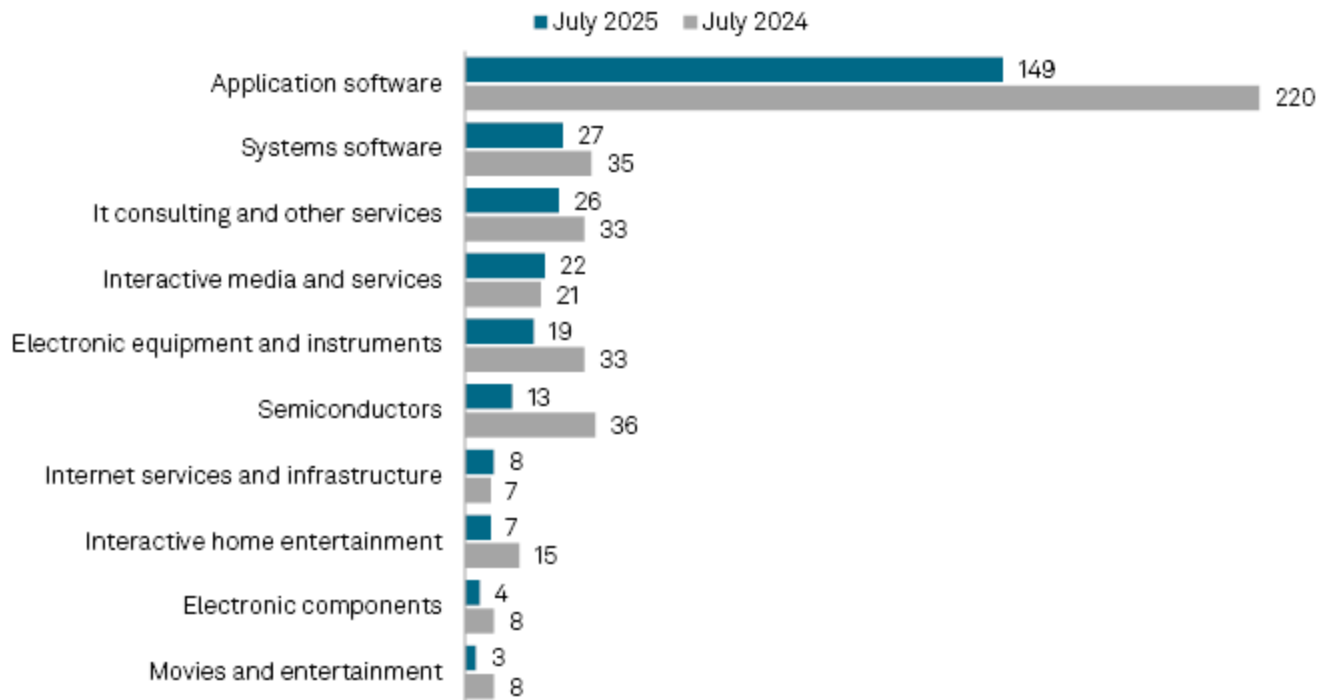
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

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Application software businesses were again the most likely target for private equity and venture capital deals in the TMT sector during the month.

Global private equity and venture capital deals in select TMT industries in July

YOY comparison



Data compiled Aug. 4, 2025.

Analysis includes global whole-company acquisitions, minority stake acquisitions, and rounds of funding announced between July 1 and July 31 of the respective years, where the buyer/investor is or includes a private equity or venture capital firm.

Limited to the top TMT industries with largest aggregate transaction value in July 2025.

Excludes terminated deals, asset deals, debt and early stage funding rounds.

Industries are based on the Global Industry Classification Standard of S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

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Outlook

Even as private equity-backed deal activity slowed in July, entries for the first seven months of the year remained ahead of the total for the corresponding period in 2024.

The global transaction value for the year through July 31 was \$444.67 billion, 10% larger than the \$403.13 billion in private equity-backed entries recorded in the year-ago period, according to Market Intelligence data.

Mufson said large deals by global private equity megafunds were likely disguising some of the softness in middle-market private equity-backed M&A. It all comes down to risk, the executive said. The large companies targeted in megadeals are typically more resilient in the face of macroeconomic turbulence and are led by experienced management teams that are more skilled at navigating uncertainty.

"But all of that is magnified in the middle market when you're dealing with smaller acquisitions, smaller companies that could be rocked by the uncertainty [and] by the tariffs," Mufson said.

Rebuilding confidence was a theme across the second-quarter earnings calls by private equity's Big Four — the four largest publicly traded alternative asset managers by assets under management.

Apollo Global Management Inc. barreled ahead in the second quarter, deploying a firm record \$90 billion even after President Donald Trump's April 2 Liberation Day tariff announcement rattled M&A markets.

Blackstone Inc. CEO Stephen Schwarzman said tariff uncertainty was already starting to subside, setting the stage for more deal activity. KKR & Co. Inc. co-CEO Scott Nuttall and The Carlyle Group Inc. CEO Harvey Schwartz both said perceptions of a troubled private equity industry do not line up with their realities.

"On any given day, you could see a lot of noise in the marketplace, but the marketplace feels pretty friendly at the moment," Schwartz said.