

ARGENTUM

Nordic private equity kicked of 2018 with €3.6 billion invested in the first quarter. EQT closed the largest ever Nordic fund with €10,75 billion in committed capital.

VENTURE CAPITAL

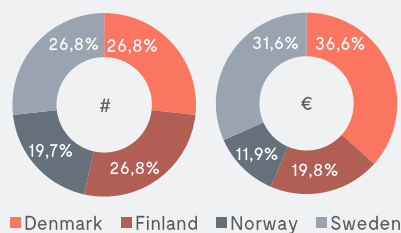
VENTURE DEALS
2016 Q4 – 2018 Q1



71 venture investments were made in the first quarter with invested capital reaching €199 million, making it the third highest-valued quarter in five years. The number of investments increased by 82 percent compared to Q1 2017 and is the second highest on record after Q1 2016.

Tech was the hottest sector with 56 percent of the investments, followed by the health care & life sciences sector with 23 percent.

VENTURE DEALS BY COUNTRY,
2018 Q1

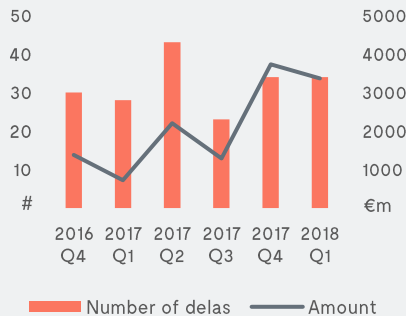


PE-BACKED EXITS

It was a slow quarter for PE-backed exits, both compared to the previous quarters in 2017 and to historical first quarters. There were 17 exits in the period, out of which only four within the venture segment. Trade sale accounted for half of all exits.

BUYOUT

BUYOUT DEALS,
2016 Q4 – 2018 Q1

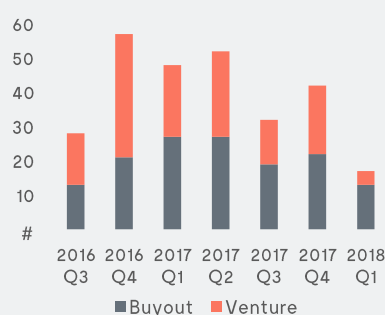


Close to €3.4 billion were invested in Nordic buyout companies in the first quarter, and over the last year buyout funds have invested €10.6 billion in the region. The two last quarters (Q4 2017 and Q1 2018) are the first quarters ever with a deal value above €3 billion.

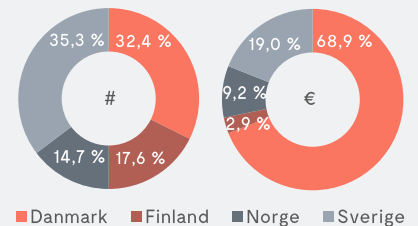
For once the majority of the investments were in the consumer sector, a sector that usually comes in second after industrials in the Nordic region.

The acquisition of the Danish-based payments firm Nets was completed in February. Nets is one of the leading providers of electronic payment solutions in Northern Europe. The American private equity firm Hellman & Friedman was lead investor in the deal. The consortium offered €4.4 billion for the company, making it one of the largest Nordic buyout deals ever.

NUMBER OF PE-BACKED EXITS,
2016 Q3 – 2018 Q1



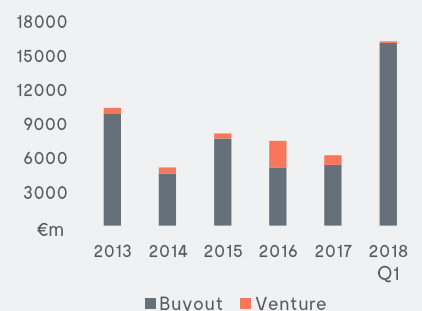
BUYOUT DEALS BY COUNTRY,
2018 Q1



FUNDRAISING

Swedish EQT set a new Nordic record when they closed EQT VIII with €10.75 billion. Swedish Nordic Capital came in second place, hitting €4.3 billion in the final close of Nordic Capital IX. The Norwegian fund manager Verdane closed their latest fund Verdane Edda with ~€300 million.

TOTAL FUNDRAISING,
2013 – 2018 Q1



The Bygghema Group, backed by Swedish FSN Capital Partners, was listed at NASDAQ Stockholm to a market cap of €500 million, and was this quarter's only PE-backed listing on a main stock exchange in the Nordics.