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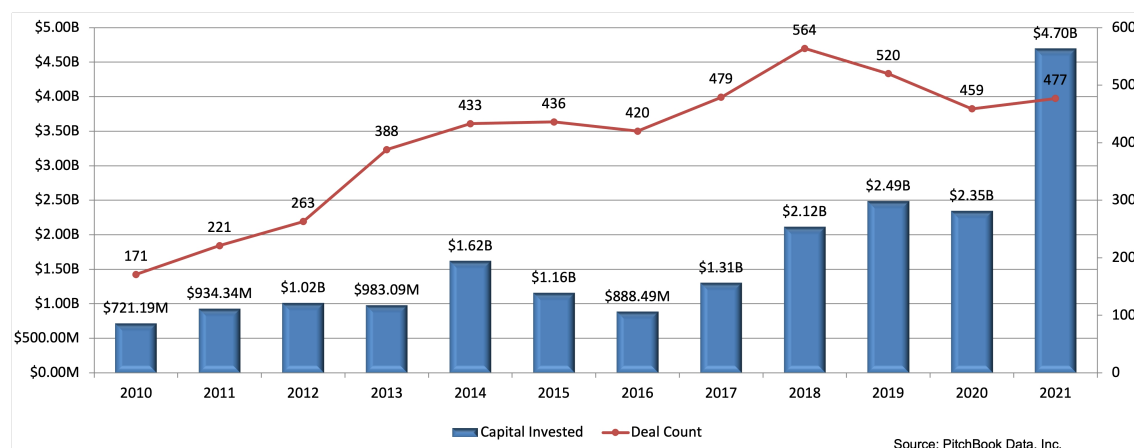
Austin Weekly Deal Highlights

January 2nd, 2022

'Twas a slow week for news, but there is always something stirring in Austin, so be sure to check out the highlights below.

But wait, there's more... On a sleepy and cold Sunday, I could focus on my exercise resolutions, or.. I could hit you with a glimpse of Austin's Q4 Venture Report (more to come). As I've been singing its praises all year, 2021 was a mega year for Austin, bringing in \$4.7B in Venture Funding....Yes, that is a B as in billion, and twice as high as any previous year on record. This has been a long time coming, as 2018 through 2020, we surpassed \$2B per year, but none of which topped more than \$2.5B. Then hear comes cruddy old 2021, where we are still in the throws of the pandemic, that seemingly went by in the blink of an eye, blowing all previous years out of the water.

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Austin Venture Funding

WILSON SONSINI

Quick word from this issue's newsletter sponsor - **Wilson Sonsini**. Our Austin-based attorneys are among the most active and experienced in representing Austin's entrepreneurs and the investors who finance them in the full range of legal needs from corporate formation and venture financings all the way to and

through liquidity events such as M&A, IPOs, and de-SPACs. Most importantly, our deep ties to Austin's vibrant business community of companies, investors, and other organizations as well as the global marketplace are all aimed at helping our clients succeed. For more information, contact a [member of our Austin office](#).

Austin Weekly Deal Activity

- [Flip](#), a blockchain data insights platform, [reported a \\$6.8M angel round](#) from undisclosed investors.
- [Evo Security](#), an identity and access management platform, [announced](#) a \$3.75M venture round led by **Secure Octane** and **Inner Loop Capital**.
- [SmartKarrot](#), a customer success software company, [reported a \\$2.1M angel round](#) from undisclosed investors. SmartKarrot has now raised \$3.2M to date,

Austin M&A Activity

- [HID Global](#), an identity solutions company, [announced](#) the acquisition of **InvoTech Systems**. This is HID Global's twentieth acquisition since being founded in 1991.

Other Texas Deal Activity

- [FloatMe](#), a San Antonio-based consumer-focused financial wellness platform, [reported](#) a \$14.2M venture funding round from undisclosed investors. FloatMe has raised \$42.9M to date, with investors including Capital Factory, SpringTime Ventures, and Drummond Road Capital.
- [SOG Knives](#), an Irving-based military knife and multi-tool manufacturer, [announced](#) an acquisition by Good Sportsman Marketing for an undisclosed amount. SOG had previously raised \$20.2M through private equity led by Gladstone Investment.
- [Terra Associates](#), a Houston-based engineering consulting services company, [announced](#) an acquisition by Bowman Consulting Group for an undisclosed amount.

Austin News

- [Austin's business year in review: Tesla, Samsung](#) and a rebounding job market
- Austin [welcomed a small herd](#) of unicorns in 2021 (startups valued at \$1 billion or more)
 - Austin-based **Iodine Software**, [valued at more than \\$1 billion](#) as of December. The company's artificial intelligence offering aims to help healthcare organizations improve their operations.
 - Austin-based **ZenBusiness**, valued at \$1.7 billion as of November. [ZenBusiness](#) provides an online platform designed to help entrepreneurs start, run, and grow their small businesses.
 - Cedar Park-based [Firefly Aerospace](#), valued at more than \$1 billion as of May. The startup makes rockets and commercial spacecraft.
 - Austin-based [The Zebra](#), valued at more than \$1 billion as of April. The Zebra runs an online marketplace that enables consumers to compare insurance quotes.
- Behind the Acquisition: How North Texas's **CyrusOne's** \$15B [Deal Came to Be](#)
- [Tesla's 2021](#): How Elon Musk expanded the EV company in Austin
- 2021: Remembering the year that was – [Austin Monitor](#)
- UT Austin's [2021 Research Highlights](#)

- **ERCOT** has inspected over 300 electric generation units and has [declared](#) the Texas Power Grid as ready for winter, right as cold temperatures come to our homes to start the new year.

Thank you!

[Mason Rathe](#)

Additional research and newsletter support provided by [Nirjhar Mundkur](#)

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