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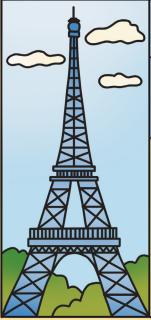




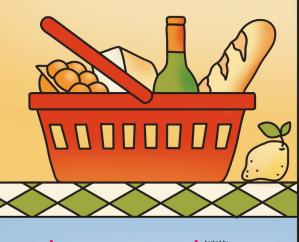
The fastest-growing startups in 2025











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Sifted 100 France & Southern Europe

The fastest-growing startups in 2025

Now in its second year, the Sifted Leaderboard series spotlights Europe's fastest-growing startups. The result is a snapshot of high-growth innovation across some of the continent's most dynamic and varied ecosystems. The 100 fastest growing startups in France and southern Europe merges two rankings from last year — the Sifted 50: France and Sifted 50: southern Europe — into one jumbo leaderboard to capture a broader view of the region's tech momentum.

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Introduction

Europe's blink-and-you'll-miss-it growth has not stopped this year's French and southern European cohort from putting the proverbial foot on the accelerator.

The bar to gain a place on Sifted's leaderboard is raised by these entries, many of which have notched huge growth over the last three years. In fact, such rates of growth would've seen a few of this group place comfortably in the top 10 of our 2024 Sifted 250 ranking, a World Cup final of the fastest growing companies from all over the continent.

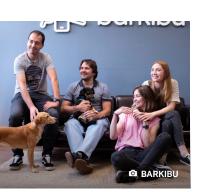
Some facts about this year's bunch. French startups dominate but Spain — which had a sizzling Q1 — and Italy are gaining ground. Category-wise, fintech and B2B SaaS lead the way but this year's top spot is clinched by a climate tech startup. Novel businesses feature, like the insurance company that will insure you by the mile and the AI startup that will write notes on behalf of doctors.

Big names made the final cut. Paris Al upstart Nabla is here. So too are the Palantir-like French company ChapsVision and Portuguese employee benefits site Coverflex. One Spanish founder tells us his underthe-radar startup will be the next breakout hit for the country. Happily, there are also tens of companies in here that readers likely won't have discovered yet. There's more than one surprise in the top 10.

We meet the entrepreneurs behind many of the top ventures, in a report that highlights the trends driving growth in the region, from the rise of embedded AI to the stickiness of fintech business models.

We also breakdown the top investors that pop up most frequently in the 100 cap tables.

Dive into the full 100 below and discover who is new this year, who moved up or down and who left.

















Sifted 100 highlights

Paris based electric vehicle company **Electra** tops the list with a 2025 two-yr CAGR of 681.46%. Close second is Barcelona's **Rever** (674.60%), which specialises in handling e-commerce returns.

More than a third (38%) of the cohort are B2B SaaS companies; fintech trails at 23%.
Only two — Spain's Multiverse
Computing and France's Omi — are deeptech companies.

Only 16 companies on the list have at least one female founder or cofounder. Sustainable clothing site **Fairly Made** (#63) and mental health startup **Unobravo** (#27) are fully female founded.

156%: the average **2-yr CAGR** for this year's cohort.

French startups make up 44% of the list, including 7 of the top 10. All but 8 are headquartered in Paris. 28 names hail from Italy.

Digital health startup
Doctorsa (#35) is the
leanest here, with 7 employees. Data
intelligence startup **ChapsVision** has
the most employees (1,200).

5 companies, all founded in 2022, tie for youngest in the top 100. These are **Reflect** (#13), **Flitter** (#25), **Rever** (#2), **FABA** (#67) and **NEAT Protect** (#8). Cyprusbased insuretech **Hellas Direct** (#36), founded in 2011, is the oldest.

Of the 37 startups returning from 2024, only 8 jump up the rank. Fintech **Flanks** (#47) made the biggest leap +35 spots. Energy storage startup **BioEsol** cracked the top 10 (#7 from #17 last year).

Only 31 startups say they are profitable, including two of the top 10 (**BioEsol** and insuretech **NEAT Protect**).

For 35 startups in the cohort,
Series A is the most recent
funding round; 26 last recorded a
seed round.

Most active backers of the top 100 are Kima Ventures,

Bpifrance, CDP Venture Capital and Breega.

2025 vs 2024: what's changed?

This year's France & Southern Europe leaderboard reveals a region in acceleration mode. The average two-year revenue CAGR jumped from 142% to 156% — a sign that startups are scaling faster despite continued macroeconomic headwinds. That growth is being achieved with leaner teams: average headcount dropped slightly, even as revenues climbed. All may be part of the story — enabling earlier-stage teams to do more with less.

The cohort also reflects a shift toward financial sustainability, with the number of profitable companies nearly doubling from 17 to 31. More than three-quarters of the startups are still at pre-Series B, showing that early-stage businesses are pushing into serious growth territory. Sector-wise, fintech is gaining ground, France remains the region's powerhouse — but Italy and Spain are making gains on the leaderboard, hinting at an increasingly distributed ecosystem.

Average number of employees

2024: 100

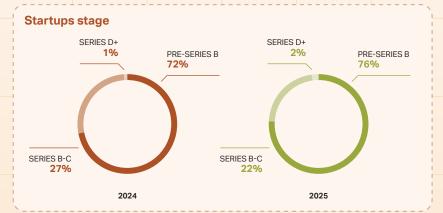
2025: 95

Average launch year

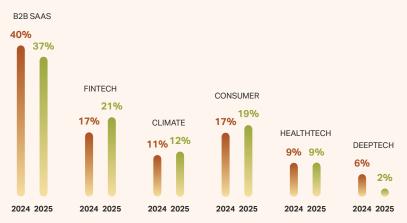
2018

2019

20



Sector breakdown



Average FY revenue

2024: €16.09m

2025: **€23.32**m

Profitable companies





2024 17% 2025 31%

Average total funding

2024: **€30.38m**

2025: €34.6m

Average 2-yr revenue CAGR

2024: 141.78%

2025: 156.45%

























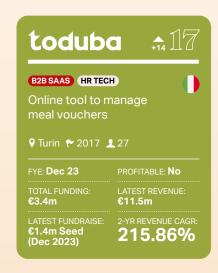


































			HQ •		Launch yea		otal funding (€m) s	FYE	Lat rofitable		ue 2-yr revenue CAGR (%)	3
1	Electra	CLIMATE ELECTRIC VEHICLES	0	Paris	2020	240	783.5	Dec 24	PND	PND	681.46%	
2	REVER	B2B SAAS SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE	•	Barcelona	2022	45	8.5	Feb 25	PND	PND	674.60%	
3	folk	B2B SAAS SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE	0	Paris	2021	24	8.3	Dec 24	PND	PND	532.46%	
4	Sifflet	B2B SAAS DATA & ANALYTICS	0	Paris	2021	35	16.6	Jan 25	×	PND	505.53%	
5	Nabla	HEALTHTECH CARETECH	0	Paris	2018	50	47	Dec 24	×	PND	460.77%	
6	sheerME	CONSUMER WELLBEING	•	Lisbon	2021	54	9.4	Jan 25	×	1	330.95%	
+11 7	BioEsol	CLIMATE SMART GRIDS & ENERGY TRADING	0	Grenoble	2021	31	5.1	Jan 25	✓	15.8	309.74%	
8	NEAT Protect	FINTECH INSURTECH	0	Paris	2022	102	60	Dec 24	✓	PND	309.47%	
9	Danelfin	FINTECH WEALTHTECH		Barcelona	2018	15	4	Dec 24	×	1.2	308.29%	
10	Najar	B2B SAAS PROCUREMENT	0	Paris	2021	80	17	Jan 25	PND	PND	305.43%	
11	Serenis	HEALTHTECH MENTAL HEALTH	0	Milan	2021	60	6.5	Dec 24	PND	25	253.55%	
12	2WATCH	B2B SAAS MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT	0	Naples	2020	10	1.3	Dec 24	✓	2	253.55%	
13	Reflect	B2B SAAS HR TECH	0	Paris	2022	8	2	Dec 24	PND	PND	246.41%	
14	Bloq.it	CONSUMER SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTICS	•	Lisbon	2019	276	7.4	Dec 24	✓	37	240.04%	
+28 15	Hubcycle	CLIMATE CIRCULAR ECONOMY	0	Avignon	2016	22	20	Dec 24	PND	PND	218.48%	
16	Nymiz	B2B SAAS LEGAL & PRIVACY TECH		Bilbao	2020	28	4.5	Dec 24	PND	PND	216.23%	
+14 17	Toduba	B2B SAAS HR TECH	0	Turin	2017	27	3.4	Dec 23	×	11.5	215.86%	
+31 18	Shakers	B2B SAAS HR TECH	•	Madrid	2021	70	20.2	Dec 24	PND	PND	213.53%	
19	Dfns	FINTECH CRYPTO & DEFI	0	Paris	2020	25	30	Dec 24	PND	PND	209.84%	
20	Wibo	B2B SAAS EDTECH	0	Turin	2019	10	0.5	Dec 24	✓	0.8	204.86%	
21	Wikifarmer	CLIMATE AGRITECH	ڪ	Athens	2020	32	78.5	Dec 24	PND	PND	204.35%	
+11 22	Exein	B2B SAAS CYBERSECURITY	0	Rome	2018	43	23	Dec 24	PND	5	201.70%	
23	Upway	CONSUMER ELECTRIC VEHICLES	0	Paris	2021	170	64.7	Dec 24	PND	PND	199.12%	
24	Payflow	FINTECH PAYMENTS	•	Madrid	2020	50	44.2	Dec 24	×	3.7	198.14%	
25	Flitter	FINTECH INSURTECH	0	Paris	2022	15	6	Dec 24	✓	PND	198.14%	

				HQ •		Launch y		otal fundin (€m) s	g FY		Latest reve (€m) able	nue 2-yr revenue CAGR (%)	е
	26	Simplifhy	CLIMATE HYDROGEN	0	Villasanta	2021	10	0.6	Dec	24 🗸	2	197.72%	
	27	Unobravo	HEALTHTECH MENTAL HEALTH	0	Naples	2019	156	17	Dec	23 🗸	79	196.27%	
	28	Brickken	FINTECH CRYPTO & DEFI	•	Barcelona	2019	20	3.7	Dec	24 🗸	PND	190.79%	
	29	Sharelock	FINTECH INSURTECH	0	Paris	2020) 14	3.2	Dec	24 X	0.6	188.68%	
-2	9 30	Kovalee	CONSUMER APP DEVELOPMENT	0	Paris	2020	30	9.1	Dec	24 PN	D PND	170.49%	
-2	² 31	Prosperty	B2B SAAS PROPTECH	ڪ	Athens	2020	100	12	Dec	24 🗸	5	167.98%	
	32	Onepilot	B2B SAAS SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE	0	Paris	2021	110	20	Dec	24 PN	D PND	164.58%	
-2	⁶ 33	Barkibu	FINTECH PET TECH		Gondomar	2014	64	9.5	Dec	24 X	25	156.49%	
	34	Allisone	HEALTHTECH DIGITAL HEALTH	0	Paris	2021	32	15	Dec	24 PN	D PND	152.70%	
-1	35	Doctorsa	HEALTHTECH DIGITAL HEALTH	0	Rome	2018	3 7	0	Dec	23 🗸	PND	148.36%	
	36	Hellas Direct	FINTECH INSURTECH	⊘	Nicosia	2011	320	86	Dec	24 🗸	255	144.99%	
	37	Jump	B2B SAAS HR TECH	0	Paris	2021	57	12.5	Dec	24 X	PND	144.14%	
	38	HOLYWATER	CONSUMER MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT	⊘	Nicosia	2020	150	3.7	Feb	25 PN	D PND	142.60%	
	39	Mylnvestor	FINTECH DIGITAL BANKING	•	Madrid	2017	110	85	Dec	24 🗸	47	142.38%	
	40	Emerald Stay	CONSUMER TRAVEL		Barcelona	2018	150	20	Dec	24 🗸	PND	141.12%	
	41	Smartness	B2B SAAS SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE	0	Arco	2020	134	18.2	Dec	24 PN	D 5.8	140.83%	
	42	Green Future Project	CLIMATE CARBON ACCOUNTING & ESG	0	Milan	2020	30	3.5	Dec	24 PN	D PND	137.58%	
	43	Restworld	B2B SAAS HR TECH	0	Turin	2020	13	1.7	Dec	24 X	0.8	136.74%	
	44	Swile	FINTECH PAYMENTS	0	Montpellier	2016	874	210	Dec	24 🗸	PND	136.33%	
	45	Acheel	FINTECH INSURTECH	0	Paris	2020	110	29	Dec	24 🗸	129.8	130.30%	
-3	8 46	Coverflex	FINTECH HR TECH	•	Remote	2019	153	17.5	Dec	24 X	8.1	128.28%	
+3	5 47	Flanks	FINTECH WEALTHTECH	•	Barcelona	2019	84	23.6	Dec	24 PN	D PND	127.21%	
	48	Tuidi	B2B SAAS RETAIL	0	Putignano	2021	28	4	Dec	24 X	0.7	125.34%	
	49	Pono	FINTECH DIGITAL LENDING	0	Paris	2020	25	4	Dec	24 PN	D PND	124.17%	
	50	Omi	DEEPTECH GEN AI	0	Paris	2020	65	21	Dec	24 PN	D PND	123.61%	

					1	aunch yea		otal funding (€m)	FYE	Late	est reven (€m) ,		
				HQ •	_	2.7	mployees	_		rofitable		2-yr revenue CAGR (%)	
	51	OneFlash	CONSUMER ELECTRONICS	0	Paris	2019	20	5.7	Dec 24	×	1	122.16%	
-42 •	52	Aria	FINTECH PAYMENTS	0	Paris	2019	40	20	Dec 24	PND	PND	122.13%	
	53	Imperia	B2B SAAS SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTICS		Valencia	2019	60	11.6	Dec 24	PND	PND	116.09%	
	54	Tomorro	B2B SAAS LEGAL & PRIVACY TECH	0	France	2020	70	39.5	Dec 24	PND	PND	113.85%	
-7 ▼	55	Kiro	HEALTHTECH DIGITAL HEALTH	0	Paris	2019	25	15	Dec 23	PND	PND	112.11%	
-28 ~	56	Multiverse Computing	DEEPTECH QUANTUM COMPUTING		San Sebastián	2019	160	254.3	Dec 24	PND	PND	108.17%	
-17	57	Amenitiz	B2B SAAS HOSPITALITY		Barcelona	2018	280	34.3	Dec 24	PND	PND	106.99%	
-29 ~	58	Stockly	B2B SAAS ECOMMERCE	0	Paris	2018	100	40	Dec 24	PND	PND	104.12%	
	59	TaxDown	FINTECH WEALTHTECH		Madrid	2019	100	18.8	Dec 24	PND	PND	101.55%	
	60	Onlive.Al	B2B SAAS SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE		Barcelona	2021	15	2.5	Dec 24	PND	PND	101.30%	
-26 •	61	WeRoad	CONSUMER TRAVEL	0	Milan	2017	211	36	Dec 24	×	100	100.00%	
-38	62	Up2You	CLIMATE CARBON ACCOUNTING & ESG	0	Milan	2020	60	4	Dec 24	×	2.9	94.07%	
	63	Fairly Made	CLIMATE FASHION	0	Paris	2018	80	20	Dec 24	PND	PND	93.65%	
-61	64	Dalma	FINTECH PET TECH	0	Paris	2021	45	40	Dec 24	×	PND	92.11%	
	65	Sesame	B2B SAAS HR TECH		Valencia	2015	330	33	Dec 24	PND	PND	91.39%	
-55 ~	66	Ukio	CONSUMER PROPTECH		Barcelona	2020	224	34.5	Dec 24	PND	PND	90.69%	
+5	67	FABA	CONSUMER KIDS & PARENTS	0	Treviso	2022	30	8.2	Dec 24	✓	9.6	90.69%	
	68	Equal Food	CONSUMER FOODTECH	0	Lisbon	2020	28	0	Dec 24	✓	2.8	90.22%	
-49	69	BizAway	B2B SAAS TRAVEL	0	Spilimbergo	2015	280	52	Dec 24	×	119	89.90%	
	70	Viceversa	FINTECH DIGITAL LENDING	0	Milan	2021	22	33	Dec 24	PND	PND	89.74%	
-26	71	Sekoia.io	B2B SAAS CYBERSECURITY	0	Rennes	2020	105	60	Jan 25	PND	PND	89.52%	
	72	Iceberg Data Lab	CLIMATE CARBON ACCOUNTING & ESG	0	Paris	2019	43	15	Jun 24	PND	PND	88.38%	
	73	Cyber Guru	B2B SAAS EDTECH	0	Rome	2017	140	24	Dec 24	PND	PND	86.59%	
-10	74	Descartes Underwriting	FINTECH INSURTECH	0	Paris	2018	220	123	Dec 23	PND	PND	85.02%	
-29	75	WhiteLab Genomics	HEALTHTECH DRUG DISCOVERY	0	Paris	2019	42	10	Dec 24	PND	PND	84.73%	

							To	tal funding		La	test reven	ue	
				HQ •		Launch yea	ar mployees	(€m)	FYI	E Profitab		2-yr revenue CAGR (%)	
-39 ~	76	Aryel	B2B SAAS MARKETING & ADTECH	0	Milan	2020	40	3.7	Dec	24 PND	PND	82.60%	
-58 ▼	77	Greenly	CLIMATE CARBON ACCOUNTING & ESG	0	Paris	2019	200	75	Dec	24 PND	PND	81.87%	
	78	CubicUp	CONSUMER CONSTRUCTION TECH		Valencia	2019	45	1.8	Dec	24 🗸	PND	81.60%	
+11	79	Mercuryo	FINTECH CRYPTO & DEFI	⊘	Nicosia	2019	303	30	Dec	24 🗸	85.2	80.20%	
	80	ChapsVision	B2B SAAS BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE	0	Paris	2019	1,200	275	Dec	24 🗸	187.3	78.68%	
	81	Inpulse	B2B SAAS HOSPITALITY	0	Paris	2016	35	7.3	Dec	24 PND	PND	77.67%	
	82	Dalfilo	CONSUMER HOME LIVING	0	Casnigo	2020	33	1.4	Dec	24 ×	9.1	77.25%	
	83	Vestack	CLIMATE CONSTRUCTION TECH	0	Paris	2019	64	13	Dec	24 PND	PND	76.78%	
	84	CarPlanner	CONSUMER MOBILITY	0	Rome	2018	12	0.8	Dec	24 🗸	3.5	70.78%	
-35 ▼	85	GitGuardian	B2B SAAS CYBERSECURITY	0	Paris	2017	130	48.6	Dec	24 PND	PND	69.76%	
	86	EPICODE Institute of Technology	CONSUMER EDTECH	0	Rome	2020	28	9.5	Dec	24 🗸	PND	69.74%	
-74 •	87	VICIO	CONSUMER ONLINE GROCERIES		Barcelona	2020	527	14	Dec	24 PND	PND	67.89%	
	88	Spacest.com	CONSUMER PROPTECH	0	Milan	2020	42	2	Dec	24 🗸	2.8	67.33%	
	89	InSilicoTrials	HEALTHTECH DRUG DISCOVERY	0	Trieste	2019	30	7.5	Dec	24 PND	PND	66.67%	
-38	90	Foorban	CONSUMER FOODTECH	0	Milan	2016	106	10.9	Dec	24 PND	8.3	65.51%	
-7 ▼	91	Weglot	B2B SAAS MARKETING & ADTECH	0	Paris	2016	59	45.5	Dec	24 🗸	28.4	64.96%	
-12	92	Trustfull	B2B SAAS FINCRIME	0	Milan	2016	30	6.6	Dec	24 PND	2	64.96%	
	93	Matera	B2B SAAS PROPTECH	0	Paris	2017	238	54	Dec	24 PND	PND	64.07%	
-25 ▼	94	padoa	HEALTHTECH DIGITAL HEALTH	0	Paris	2016	245	100	Dec	24 🗸	PND	62.19%	
	95	Monga	B2B SAAS PROPTECH	0	Paris	2020	20	2	Dec	24 🗸	5.9	61.22%	
-33 •	96	Soplaya	B2B SAAS HOSPITALITY	0	Udine	2017	55	22	Dec	24 X	11.2	60.55%	
	97	Hiboo	B2B SAAS INDUSTRIAL TECH	0	Paris	2017	50	13.3	Jan	25 PND	2.8	59.96%	
	98	Salabam Solutions	B2B SAAS TRAVEL	0	Rimini	2015	34	0	Dec	24 🗸	29.1	58.95%	
-22 •	99	La Fourche	CONSUMER ONLINE GROCERIES	0	Paris	2018	273	45	Dec	24 X	76	58.83%	
	100	Elicit Plant	CLIMATE AGRITECH	0	Angouleme	2017	78	61	Dec	24 PND	PND	57.81%	

Top 50 best-performing investors

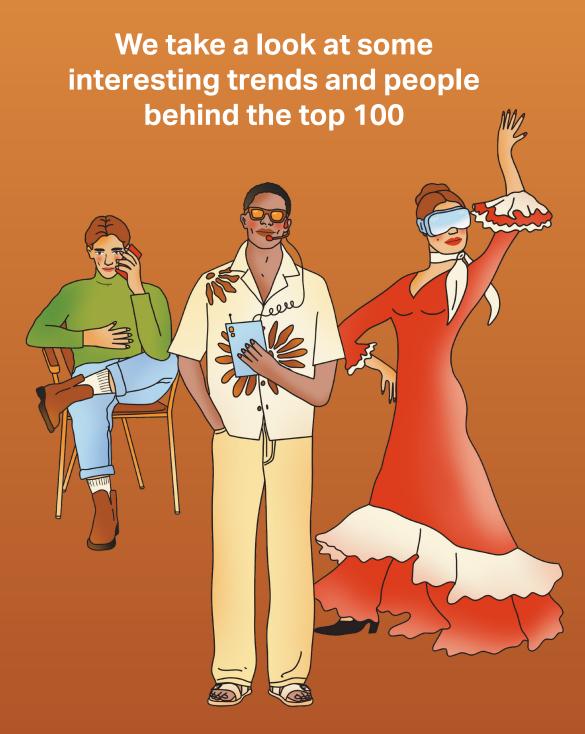
Investors were ranked by the number of portfolio companies that feature on the Sifted 100: France & Southern Europe in the first instance, followed by the average two year revenue CAGR of those companies.

The full ranking is available online to **Sifted Pro** subscribers.

				(+ CHAN VS 2024		AVE RAN	ERAGE NK
					AVERAGE		
	INVESTOR	TYPE	HQ		CAGR (%)		TOP-RANKED COMPANIES
1	Kima Ventures	VC fund	0	16 (+6)	154.92	48	folk (#3), Reflect (#13), Flitter (#25)
2	Bpifrance	Public funding	Ŏ	13 (-3)	156.58	57	Electra (#1), Dfns (#19), Sharelock (#29)
3	CDP Venture Capital	Public funding	Ŏ	7	122.19	56	Toduba (#17), Unobravo (#27), Multiverse Computing (#56)
4	Breega	VC fund	Ŏ	6 (+1)	135.73	45	Sharelock (#29), Kovalee (#30), Jump (#37)
5	Azimut Group	Investment firm	Ŏ	6 (-1)	100.07	64	Smartness (#41), Tuidi (#48), Up2You (#62)
6	Global Founders Capital	VC fund		5 (+2)	265.71	29	REVER (#2), Upway (#23), Flitter (#25)
7	Mundi Ventures	VC fund		5 (+1)	263.09	37	REVER (#2), NEAT Protect (#8), Barkibu (#33)
8	Eurazeo	Private equity	Ō	5 (-1)	215.34	52	Electra (#1), Swile (#44), Stockly (#58)
9	Partech	VC fund	Ŏ	5	142.34	48	Shakers (#18), Exein (#22), Smartness (#41)
10	Founders Future	VC fund	Ŏ	5 (-2)	141.98	54	NEAT Protect (#8), Omi (#50), Tomorro (#54)
11	Plug and Play	Accelerator		5	136.21	50	Hubcycle (#15), Payflow (#24), Stockly (#58)
	Y Combinator	Accelerator	—	4 (+2)	256.80	47	REVER (#2), Payflow (#24), WhiteLab Genomics (#75)
13	Guillaume Lestrade	Angel	Ŏ	4 (+1)	252.29	46	Electra (#1), Jump (#37), Omi (#50)
	Agoranov	Accelerator	Ŏ	4	233.45	39	Sifflet (#4), Reflect (#13), Kiro (#55)
	Xavier Niel	Angel	Ŏ	4 (+3)	227.84	32	Nabla (#5), Flitter (#25), Acheel (#45)
	Techstars	Accelerator	*	4 (+1)	207.14	26	BioEsol (#7), Dfns (#19), Wibo (#20)
17		VC fund		4 (+3)	188.34	34	NEAT Protect (#8), Flitter (#25), Omi (#50)
18	Olivier Bonnet	Angel	Ŏ	4 (+2)	150.34	42	Upway (#23), Unobravo (#27), Tomorro (#54)
19	Motier Ventures	Family office	ŏ	4 (+2)	137.86	45	Dfns (#19), Omi (#50), Tomorro (#54)
20	HEC Incubator	Accelerator	ŏ	4	129.80	53	Flitter (#25), OneFlash (#51), Aria (#52)
21	Otium Capital	Family office	ŏ	4 (+2)	126.89	49	Onepilot (#32), Aria (#52), Tomorro (#54)
	Simon Dawlat	Angel	Ŏ	3 (+3)	413.21	7	folk (#3), Nabla (#5), Reflect (#13)
23	Wayra	CVC fund	ŏ	3 (+1)	362.09	15	REVER (#2), Shakers (#18), Payflow (#24)
24	_ * .	VC fund		3 (+3)	348.07	18	REVER (#2), Upway (#23), Kovalee (#30)
	Serena	VC fund	ŏ	3 (+1)	298.93	40	Electra (#1), Acheel (#45), Descartes Underwriting (#74)
26	Cathay Innovation	VC fund	Ŏ	3 (-1)	247.97	34	Nabla (#5), Payflow (#24), Descartes Underwriting (#74)
	CDTI	Public funding	Ö	3 (+1)	195.42	22	Shakers (#18), Nymiz (#16), Barkibu (#33)
28	Portage Ventures	VC fund	0	3 (+3)	193.58	30	Najar (#10), Hellas Direct (#36), Acheel (#45)
29	Thibaud Elziere	Angel	Ŏ	3 (+2)	193.07	26	Reflect (#13), Sharelock (#29), Jump (#37)
30	Laurent Ritter	Angel	Ŏ	3 (+3)	155.30	37	Flitter (#25), Jump (#37), Omi (#50)
31		VC fund	Ŏ	3 (+3)	152.98	39	Hubcycle (#15), Swile (#44), Stockly (#58)
	ETF Partners	VC fund	#	3 (+2)	152.37	38	Hubcycle (#15), Hellas Direct (#36), Fairly Made (#63)
33	XAnge	VC fund	Ŏ	3 (-1)	147.38	48	Reflect (#13), Tomorro (#54), Greenly (#77)
	Financière Saint James	Family office	Ŏ	3 (-1)	145.20	43	Payflow (#24), Omi (#50), Tomorro (#54)
35	European Investment Bank	Public funding	0	3 (+3)	119.76	56	Barkibu (#33), Hellas Direct (#36), Elicit Plant (#100)
	Index Ventures	VC fund	O	3 (+3)	114.84	58	Jump (#37), Swile (#44), Matera (#93)
37	JME Ventures	VC fund		3 (+3)	112.31	54	Flanks (#47), Multiverse Computing (#56), TaxDown (#59)
38	United Ventures	VC fund	Ŏ	3 (-1)	111.11	68	Exein (#22), InSilicoTrials (#89), Trustfull (#92)
39	Samaipata	VC fund		3 (+3)	110.95	60	Allisone Al (#34), Imperia (#53), Matera (#93)
40	B Heroes	VC fund	Ŏ	3	80.18	77	WeRoad (#61), CarPlanner (#84), EPICODE Institute of Technology (#86)
41	European Innovation Council	Public funding	(3)	3 (-3)	75.31	84	Multiverse Computing (#56), Hiboo (#97), Elicit Plant (#100)
	UniCredit	Bank/CVC	Ŏ	3 (+3)	66.00	90	CarPlanner (#84), InSilicoTrials (#89), Soplaya (#96)
	Italian Founders Fund	VC fund	Ŏ	2 (+2)	436.37	13	REVER (#2), Payflow (#24)
	Zone2boost	CVC fund		2 (+1)	436.37	13	REVER (#2), Payflow (#24)
45		Angel	Ŏ	2 (+2)	420.96	6	folk (#3), NEAT Protect (#8)
	Frst Capital	VC fund	Ŏ	2 (+1)	386.79	33	Electra (#1), Dalma (#64)
47		VC fund	*	2 (+1)	378.10	40	REVER (#2), CubicUp (#78)
48	Barlon Capital	VC fund	*	2 (+1)	371.24	45	REVER (#2), VICIO (#87)
49	Roosh Ventures	VC fund		2	338.30	20	folk (#3), Jump (#37)
	Accel	VC fund	*	2 (+1)	324.27	28	folk (#3), Imperia (#53)
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COUNT

Unpacking the 2025 cohort



AN EXTRA CHARGE

In his first company, he printed photos; for his second he's helping Europe transition to electric vehicles.

Second-time founders often take on more ambitious projects, but even this is quite a leap. France's Aurélien de Meaux, cofounder and CEO of ranking topper Electra, has fitted 475 charge stations around Europe, with a target of thousands more in the next decade. The company, now with a headcount of 270, raised €304m in equity last year: a record amount in the charging world.

The number of places to plug in in Europe is increasing rapidly and companies like Electra have a target in sight: the EU's 2035 ban on the sale of new CO2-emitting cars. But for Europe to make this deadline, a lot more charging points are needed, particularly at key locations along long-distance journeys to give drivers confidence to switch to EVs. Electra hopes to roll out 15k charging points by 2030.

Setting up a charging site is expensive: between €500-600k and it can take the best part of a year. "You have to be patient. You need to find locations, establish subsidiaries anywhere you go, hire people," says de Meaux. "Getting a grid connection could take six or seven months. The Netherlands, for example, is very difficult because the grid is highly congested. We got quotes for 2029 and 2030."



It's not about whether we want to be green or not, from a sovereignty point, we have to go electric."

Aurelien de Meaux, cofounder and CFO Flectra

The overall market for electric vehicles continues to grow but there are big regional differences. A minority of car owners live in houses where home charging is possible. For the rest, to make EVs a possibility, never mind appealing, there needs to be a huge number of charging points to accommodate millions of people.

"I think some voters think green policies have been annoying and you have politicians who are like, 'let's get rid of all that crap', it's the kind of music we hear. But we have to do this. The US is a big oil producer but the EU has almost zero oil and gas. It's not about whether we want to be green or not, from a sovereignty point, we have to go electric."

De Meaux wishes there were more EV automakers in Europe. "The innovation spirit is not as strong as it should be," he argues. "The population is ageing and we have a fragmented continent. Doing business is over-complicated.

"The US has new EV makers like Tesla, Rivian and Slate: where are the European EV makers?" China's big EV maker, BYD, is "the next Toyota: they're going to be the number one carmaker in the world."



SPAIN'S MOMENT IN THE SUN

French startups have a strong lock on the top 10 but Spain catches the eye with two startups, including the second fastest grower (Rever). The country's having a bit of a moment. Q1 deal volume was up on last year. Startups of note are breaking through and attracting investment from big US VCs.

The Spanish government has been diligent at attracting foreign investment, particularly pharma companies. Spain has risen to the top of European rankings for clinical trials, using some of Europe's most generous tax breaks and a relatively speedy regulatory process to reduce the lag from the start of a drug trial to approval. Investors also point to comparable science quality at a cheaper price than rivals.

There's been a mini stampede of chunky deals, many of which involve big US investors. Seqera, a bioinformatics and data workflow platform for life sciences, raised a \$26m Series B round in May led by New York–based fund Addition. HR tech site Factorial closed a \$120m round with General Catalyst in March 2025.

Recent efforts to attract talented people include a startup visa and digital nomad programme. A shared language makes Spain "a natural bridge" for the bulk of the Latin America market, says Yaroslav Verinchuk, cofounder of Madrid-based tech PR firm snul comms. Startups from this part of the world, in turn, expand into Spain through a programme called Acelerar.es,

which helps them settle in. There are also tax breaks for employees moving to Spain including the so-called Beckham law, named after ex-England captain David Beckham, that allows foreigners to pay a lower income tax rate for a fixed period.

Spain's investment in renewable energy has led to relatively cheaper energy prices and less price volatility, notes Cian McGuire, business development manager at Madrid consultancy Evolution, which helps startups seeking EU funding. "Investment in high speed trains have also cut journey times between most major cities to three hours or less," he adds.

American entrepreneur Ashley Duque Kienzle worked at a string of big tech companies in New York, San Francisco and London before settling in Barcelona in her late 30s. She'd have moved there sooner were it not for visa issues. "I couldn't find sponsorship in Europe for a long time because I was working in Al and only a few companies were interested in it. How times have changed."



People choose to live here because it has a slightly slower pace."

Ashley Duque Kienzle, cofounder and CEO, Almma Health

Kienzle chose to stay for personal reasons and reels off a familiar list of Spain's attributes. In her experience, "Spanish people are very well rounded; I love the friendliness of my neighbours. My parents live here now too, three floors above me. How Spanish is that?"

Overall, she loves the work-life balance in Barcelona, even if her after-work calendar is a lot less full than it was in London or New York. "I would have two events a night to choose between in London. But that's fine, I don't want to go to as many things these days anyway. I don't want to be 20 and hustling. People choose to live here because it has a slightly slower pace. I want to walk my dogs in the mornings and evenings. I don't want all the rush."



SPAIN'S NEXT BIG THING?

Rever (ranked #2) wants to be the next big Spanish export. The company, which provides "post-sale solutions", wants to make it smoother for online merchants to handle returns. Rever helps companies manage their transactions in one place and automate returns, exchanges and refunds. "I worked at [online grocery site] Glovo and I saw all parts of e-commerce were working well and the only piece of the puzzle that's still missing is returns," says 25 year old cofounder Màrius Montmany. "They're too slow, they're messy, they can take up to three weeks to process."

Streamlining returns is just one part of Rever's offer; arguably more valuable for shops is the option to get tailored insights from the platform, which can prevent returns before they happen. "We gather valuable data for companies, for example, we could tell a clothing company that one t-shirt is being returned a lot in Germany and that they should proactively order different sizes," Montmany says.

The company works with 500 merchants, mainly in Spain, Italy, France and Germany but transacts returns globally. The office culture is big on sports. "We're not a family: we're a sports team who like to win."

Rever's founders — next to Montmany is CEO Oriol Hernandez i Fajula — got their break when they were admitted to the Y Combinator accelerator in 2022. The advantages for startups to join this community are huge, says Montmany. "You can post into a forum and get an answer from [Stripe founder] Patrick Collison, for example.

"Entering YC changes how you're perceived. You go from being a Spanish company to being a YC company."

Montmany would like to see more global sized, Spanishborn companies. "We have two or three role models in Spain, we don't have 25." Glovo founder Oscar Pierre is someone he admires (he's also an early Rever backer). "We need to be motivated by success stories — I'm happy to be the next one," Montmany says.



We're not a family: we're a sports team who like to win."

Màrius Montmany, cofounder, Rever

EUROPE'S PALANTIR?

French big data startup ChapsVision (ranked 80th) is often referred to as "Europe's Palantir" and despite some of the controversies associated with the US firm, the startup's founder Olivier Dellenbach finds the nickname flattering. "It's a good benchmark," he told Sifted recently. "It enables us to measure what needs to be done to be able to get to [Palantir's] level."

ChapsVision launched in 2019 to provide mass data collection and analysis services for enterprises — to enable European organisations to use tools made in Europe when dealing with confidential or sensitive data. With a market cap of \$140bn — a similar valuation to Uber — and revenues surpassing \$2bn, Palantir is still a way ahead. But ChapsVision, which similar to the US tech company offers software to businesses and governments to help them analyse mass datasets, is growing fast.

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The Euronext market, especially the large-cap market, is very dynamic. There are few tech companies, so there is a lot of demand and little on offer."

Olivier Dellenbach, founder and CEO, Chaps Vision

The five-year-old startup has 1,000+ employees, with hundreds of millions of euros in revenues, says Dellenbach. Last year the company raised €85m from French investors including public bank Bpifrance and VCs Tikehau Capital and Jolt Capital. The money will fund what Dellenbach calls a "very aggressive M&A strategy". The startup has already acquired 27 companies, thanks to a €100m fundraise in 2022 and a €90m round the year after.

The next step? IPO, says Dellenbach, without putting forward a specific timeline. And unlike a number of fast-growing European tech companies, the founder has no plans to go public across the Atlantic. "The Euronext market, especially the large-cap market [for companies with a market cap that surpasses €5bn], is very dynamic. There are few tech companies, so there is a lot of demand and little on offer. So, I think Euronext will be a very good vehicle for us."

ChapsVision has secured some big government contracts, including providing Al-powered video surveillance during the 2024 summer Olympics in some of France's regions. Now, 40% of ChapsVision's activity comes from work with government agencies, says Dellenbach — largely in France.

It's a tough pitch to the public, which remains wary of Big Data tools. The use of video-surveillance technologies during the Olympics, for instance, has been controversial, with French NGOs like La Quadrature du Net frequently decrying the privacy implications of using such tools. But Dellenbach says that the mood is changing. "The world has changed since the war in Ukraine, with what is going on in the Middle East, and so on,' he says. "We're no longer in a Care Bears world."



A CRM THAT USERS DON'T KINDA HATE?

There's always at least one bit of tech that the office sort of hates and grumbles about constantly. Often it's the CRM software for managing sales prospects. Simo Lemhandez, a 29-year-old entrepreneur based in Paris and originally from Morocco, discovered for himself that he didn't like any of the CRMs on the market. He set out to make something simpler and more user-friendly and ultimately founded folk, which is ranked third on the leaderboard.

"When I started freelancing and I was managing leads on various bits of tech, it was honestly a nightmare, I was completely lost," he says. He noticed a glaring contrast: the CRM market was massive, but user satisfaction was low. This sparked the idea for a modern CRM, one that's "super simple and customisable."

After two years of research and finetuning, the folk site launched in 2020. In 2023, the company raised a \$4.5m seed round led by VC firm Accel and a group of angels.

Today the company has 3,500 client companies, which breaks down to almost 500k users. The biggest market is the US, responsible for 40% of folk's revenue. France and the UK are no.2 and no.3. "It all happened organically, via LinkedIn posts and word-of-mouth," he says. "We don't go for companies with over 100 employees, we're happy to be the default CRM for companies that are five to 100 heads."

You need trust to sell anything and that's fundamentally a human thing."

Alex LeBrun, cofounder and CEO, Nabla

The company is adopting Al wherever it makes sense. "I push my team on recruitment, asking them 'do you really need a new hire?' A lot of work can be automated, you don't need a lot of people," Lemhandez says.

He sees a lot of mistakes his competitors are making with Al. "Some are building a chatbot on top of their CRM, but users don't really want to chat with their CRM. I don't believe the interface of the future is a chat, it's something that's deeply embedded in the software," he says.

There is a hard limit to what AI can offer, he believes. "The machine will never beat us, we'll make them work for us. You need trust to sell anything and that's fundamentally a human thing."

SAVING DOCTORS '1-2 HOURS A DAY'

After founding and selling two startups, French entrepreneur Alex LeBrun helped create Facebook's artificial intelligence lab, called Fair, in Paris. He left in 2018 to found the startup Nabla, an Al assistant for doctors.

When he left Fair, he didn't know what he wanted to do but he knew he had to create something useful. He started meeting doctors, "somewhat by chance", he says in a recent interview with French news site L'Opinion, and discovered that they spent half their day doing admin. "It was killing them: a third showed signs of burnout. This was a turning point."

So Nabla came into being. The company has developed an Al assistant which writes reports on behalf of the doctor. The tool can save docs up to two hours a day, LeBrun says. The AI was trained with real physician feedback and is currently in the hands of over 20k doctors.

It's the complexity of making this system that has Nabla confident about keeping ahead of the competition. "It's a high barrier of entry, you can't do a demo of this in a weekend," says LeBrun. "We had to build our own dataset from scratch. We had to create our own clinic and get manual signatures from patients."

Unusually for a European company, a full 90% of Nabla's revenue is generated in the US, LeBrun says. "The American market, particularly in healthcare, is larger than all the others combined." And while another company might have made the US its headquarters, Nabla is very happy to trade on "Made in Paris": the French capital's reputation for AI has gone global, LeBrun says.

What it takes to make the Sifted 100

DEFINITIONS AND METHODOLOGY

The Sifted 100: France & Southern Europe Leaderboard ranks the top 100 startups that have achieved the highest percentage revenue growth over the past three financial years, calculated using a two-year compound annual growth rate (CAGR):

CAGR (%) = (Latest year revenue / Base year revenue) ^ 1/2 - 1

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

To be eligible, companies had to meet the following criteria:

- Private and independent
- Headquartered in either Andorra, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino or Spain
- Majority of revenue must be generated by proprietary technology
- No older than 15 years old (founded in or after 2010)
- At least three years of revenue data, either between 2021-2023, 2022-2024 or 2023-2025 depending on filing dates, across comparable accounting periods of at least 26 weeks
- Revenue (annualised if necessary) of at least €50k (or £42k) in the base year (2020, 2021 or 2022) and at least €500k (or £420k) in the latest financial year (2023, 2024 or 2025)

Companies were required to submit relevant, signed documentation to support financial information disclosed to Sifted. Some companies chose to keep some of this information private.

RESEARCH

Research was conducted by the Sifted Intelligence team using resources such as Dealroom, as well as Sifted's internal database to identify and contact relevant, high-growth startups. Applications were accepted on the Sifted website from January 1 to May 14, 2025.

DISCLAIMER

Sifted Leaderboards do not claim to be exhaustive as private company data can be difficult to acquire. Leaderboards are based on historical financial data and are no guarantee of current or future company performance.

Acknowledgements

SALMA BAKOUK

Cofounder and CEO, Sifflet

OLIVIER DELLENBACH

Founder and CEO, ChapsVision

ASHLEY DUQUE KIENZLE

Cofounder and CEO, Almma Health

ALEX LEBRUN

Cofounder and CEO, Nabla

SIMO LEMHANDEZ

Founder, Folk.app

AURELIEN DE MEAUX

Cofounder and CEO, Electra

CIAN MCGUIRE

Business development manager, **Evolution**

MÀRIUS MONTMANY

Cofounder, Rever

YAROSLAV VERINCHUK

Cofounder, snul comms

Sifted Leaderboards were devised by JONATHAN SINCLAIR and FEDERICO SCOLARI.

This report was written by ÉANNA KELLY, DAPHNÉ LEPRINCE-RINGUET and BECCA LIPMAN, edited by BECCA LIPMAN, research and data analysis by JONATHAN SINCLAIR, BECCA LIPMAN, HESSA ALABBAS and RUGGERO DI SPIGNA, designed by GAÉTAN NIVON and illustrated by **DESSY BAEVA.** It was produced by **JONATHAN SINCLAIR**.

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