

# Initial Public Offerings: Technology Stock IPOs

Jay R. Ritter  
Director, The IPO Initiative  
University of Florida  
352.846-2837 *voice*

<https://site.warrington.ufl.edu/ritter/>

February 20, 2026

## Index

- Table 4: Median Age and Fraction of IPOs with VC- and Buyout-backing, 1980-2025
  - Table 4a: Median Price-to sales Ratios of Tech-stock IPOs, 1980-2025
  - Table 4b: Profitability and Median Sales of Technology and Biotech IPOs, 1980-2025
  - Table 4e: Proceeds and Market Cap of Technology IPOs, 1980-2025
  - Table 4h: Technology Company IPO Underpricing, 1980-2025
  - Table 4i: VC-backed Tech IPOs, 1980-2025
  - Table 9: Fraction of IPOs with Negative Earnings, 1980-2025
  - Table 16c: Long-run Returns Measured from the Offer Price on Tech and non-Tech Stock IPOs  
Excluding the Internet Bubble, 1980-2023
  - Table 16d: Long-run Returns Measured from the First Closing Market Price on Tech and non-  
Tech Stock IPOs Excluding the Internet Bubble, 1980-2023
  - Table 18b Long-run Returns on VC-backed and other IPOs Segmented by Industry, 1980-2024
  - Table 18c Long-run Returns on VC-backed and other IPOs Segmented by Industry, 1999-2024
  - Table 23: Dual Class IPOs, by Tech and Non-Tech, 1980-2025
  - Table 24: Long-run Returns for Dual Class and Single Class IPOs, 1980-2024
- Figure 2: Fraction of IPOs with Negative EPS and Fraction of Tech Stocks, 1980-2025

**Table 4** (updated December 24, 2025)

**Median Age and Fraction of IPOs with VC and Buyout Backing, 1980-2025**

There are 9,343 IPOs after excluding those with an offer price below \$5.00 per share, unit offers, ADRs, closed-end funds, oil & gas limited partnerships, special purpose acquisition companies (SPACs), REITs, bank and S&L IPOs, small best efforts offers, and firms not listed on CRSP within 6 months of the IPO. Missing numbers are supplemented by direct inspection of prospectuses on EDGAR, information from Dealogic for IPOs after 1991, Howard and Co.'s *Going Public: The IPO Reporter* from 1980-1985, the Graeme Howard-Todd Huxster collection of IPO prospectuses for 1975-2006, and the Stanford GSB microfiche collection of registration statements from the 1980s. Tech stocks are defined as internet-related stocks plus other technology stocks, not including biotech. Loughran and Ritter (2004) list the SIC codes in their appendix 3 and sources of founding dates in appendix 1. Age is defined as the year of the IPO minus the year of founding. For buyout-backed IPOs, the founding date of the predecessor company is used. For rollups, the founding date of the oldest acquired company is used in most cases. Private equity (PE) or buyout-backed IPOs were restricted to "reverse LBOs" in the 1980s and 1990s. Jerry Cao has assisted with providing information on which IPOs are buyout-backed. Will Gornall and Ilya Strebulaev, among others, have assisted with providing information on venture capital-backed IPOs. Laura Field, Martin Kenney, Alexander Ljungqvist, Don Patton, and Bill Wilhelm, among others, have assisted with providing information on the year of founding.

The financial backers of some companies are easy to classify, such as when Sequoia Capital and Kleiner Perkins invested in Google, or when KKR invested in Dollar General. But other situations involve growth capital investing, as when Warburg Pincus finances a company that rolls up some doctors' offices. With just two categories (VC and buyout), there is some arbitrariness in the categorization of IPOs backed by growth capital investors. 472 growth capital-backed IPOs are classified as VC-backed.

The last column gives the percentage of tech stocks that have VC backing.

The definition of technology stocks has been changed from that in Loughran and Ritter (2004 *Financial Management*), with SIC=3559, 3576, and 7389 added to tech. Some 7389 (business services) companies have had their SIC codes changed into non-tech categories, such as consulting and two new SIC codes: 5614 for telemarketing firms and 7388 for non-tech business services such as Sotheby's Auctions.

(table on the next page)

Year	Number of IPOs	Median Age	VC-backed		Buyout-backed		Technology IPOs	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	% VC-backed
1980	71	6	23	32%	1	1%	22	64%
1981	192	8	53	28%	1	1%	72	40%
1982	77	5	21	27%	2	3%	42	36%
1983	451	7	116	26%	17	4%	173	39%
1984	171	8	44	26%	5	3%	50	52%
1985	186	9	39	21%	18	10%	37	43%
1986	393	8	79	20%	42	11%	77	40%
1987	285	8	66	23%	41	14%	59	66%
1988	105	8	32	30%	9	9%	28	61%
1989	116	8	40	34%	10	9%	35	66%
1990	110	9	42	38%	13	12%	32	75%
1991	286	10	115	40%	73	26%	71	63%
1992	412	10	138	33%	98	24%	115	58%
1993	510	9	172	34%	79	15%	127	69%
1994	402	9	129	32%	22	5%	115	56%
1995	462	8	190	41%	30	6%	205	56%
1996	677	8	266	39%	34	5%	276	56%
1997	474	10	134	28%	38	8%	174	42%
1998	283	9	80	28%	30	11%	113	49%
1999	476	5	280	59%	30	6%	370	68%
2000	380	6	245	64%	32	8%	261	70%
2001	80	12	32	40%	21	26%	24	70%
2002	66	15	23	35%	20	30%	20	65%
2003	63	11	25	40%	21	33%	18	67%
2004	173	8	79	46%	43	25%	61	66%
2005	159	13	45	28%	68	43%	45	49%
2006	157	13	56	36%	66	42%	48	56%
2007	159	9	79	50%	30	19%	76	76%
2008	21	14	9	43%	3	14%	6	67%
2009	41	15	12	29%	19	46%	14	43%
2010	91	11	40	44%	28	31%	33	73%
2011	81	11	46	57%	18	22%	36	83%
2012	93	12	49	53%	28	30%	40	87%
2013	158	12	81	52%	37	23%	45	78%
2014	206	11	132	64%	38	18%	53	75%
2015	118	10	78	65%	20	17%	38	76%
2016	75	10	49	65%	13	17%	21	71%
2017	106	12	64	60%	19	18%	30	80%
2018	134	10	91	68%	15	11%	39	77%
2019	113	10	77	69%	11	10%	37	70%
2020	165	9	113	68%	22	13%	46	73%
2021	311	11	175	56%	67	22%	121	64%
2022	38	8	14	37%	0	0%	6	17%
2023	54	10	23	43%	5	9%	9	44%
2024	72	14	37	51%	13	18%	14	57%
2025	90	12	49	54%	14	16%	31	74%
<b>1980-2025</b>	<b>9,343</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3,782</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>3,365</b>	<b>60%</b>

1980-1989	2,047	8	513	25%	146	7%	595	47%
1990-1998	3,616	9	1,266	35%	417	12%	1,228	56%
1999-2000	856	5	525	61%	62	7%	631	68%
2001-2025	2,824	11	1,478	52%	639	23%	911	69%
<b>1980-2025</b>	<b>9,343</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3,782</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>3,365</b>	<b>60%</b>

---

**Table 4a** (updated December 30, 2025)

**Technology Company IPOs, 1980-2025 including Direct Listings**

There are 3,365 IPOs and 13 direct listings that are tech stocks, for a total of 3,378 listings, after excluding those with an offer price below \$5.00 per share, unit offers, ADRs, closed-end funds, natural resource limited partnerships (and most other LPs, but not buyout firms such as Carlyle Group), acquisition companies, REITs, bank and S&L IPOs, and firms not listed on CRSP. Missing and questionable numbers from the SDC new issues database are supplemented by direct inspection of prospectuses on EDGAR, information from Dealogic for IPOs after 1991, Howard and Co.'s *Going Public: The IPO Reporter* from 1980-1985, and the Graeme Howard-Todd Huxster collection of IPO prospectuses for 1975-2006. Tech stocks are defined as internet-related stocks plus other technology stocks including telecom, but not including biotech. Loughran and Ritter (2004) list the SIC codes in their appendix 3 and sources of founding dates in appendix 1. The definition of technology stocks has been changed from that in Loughran and Ritter (2004 *Financial Management*), with SIC=3559, 3576, 3760, 3844, and 7389 added to tech. Some 7389 (business services) companies have had their SIC codes changed into non-tech categories, such as consulting and two new SIC codes that I have made up: 5614 for telemarketing firms and 7388 for non-tech business services such as Sotheby's Auctions. I have also added the S.E.C.'s computer communications equipment code of 3576 for 21 companies, including Cisco Systems.

For the column with VC-backed IPOs, there are 3,799 IPOs including both technology and non-technology companies.

Total proceeds are nominal and do not include overallotment shares, and are zero for direct listings. Price-to-sales ratios are computed using both the offer price (OP) and the first closing market price (MP) for computing the market capitalization of equity. Market cap is calculated using the post-issue shares outstanding, with all share classes included in the case of dual-class companies. The undiluted number of shares is used, which in some cases (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, and Castlight Health) understates the market cap due to the existence of substantial amounts of in-the-money employee stock options that are highly likely to be exercised. Sales are the last twelve months (LTM) revenues as reported in the prospectus. The median sales, in millions, is expressed in both nominal dollars and in dollars of 2024 purchasing power using the CPI (multiply realsales by 1.03 if you want to convert into 2025 purchasing power). The median age, in years, is the number of years since the calendar year of the founding date and the calendar year of the IPO. The percentage of IPOs that are profitable measures profitability using trailing LTM earnings (usually using after extraordinary items earnings, and usually using pro forma numbers that are computed assuming that any recent or concurrent mergers have already occurred, and the conversion of convertible preferred stock into common stock). In some cases, last fiscal year earnings are used when LTM earnings are unavailable.

Even concepts like market cap (for the price-to-sales ratios) become ambiguous when you realize that companies like Facebook have many deep in-the-money options outstanding, so whether you use the fully diluted number of shares or the undiluted number can affect the calculations substantially for some companies.

(table on the next page)

Year	Number of Tech IPOs	Proceeds in \$millions		Median Price-to-sales		Median sales, \$mm		Median age	% profitable
		VC-backed	Technology	OP	MP	Nominal	\$2024		
1980	22	388	378	3.4	3.8	16.2	64.3	6.5	91%
1981	72	648	838	3.5	3.6	12.9	45.8	9	88%
1982	42	490	648	4.2	4.5	10.5	34.5	5	83%
1983	173	2,798	3,271	5.9	6.6	8.6	27.4	6	70%
1984	50	572	551	2.4	2.5	9.8	29.6	6.5	80%
1985	37	667	375	2.3	2.4	13.4	39.2	7	84%
1986	77	1,558	1,217	3.4	3.6	13.0	36.6	6	74%
1987	59	1,315	1,330	3.2	3.2	17.8	49.4	5	86%
1988	28	674	888	3.0	3.4	24.0	64.0	5.5	79%
1989	35	869	748	3.4	4.0	31.5	80.3	6	77%
1990	32	1,085	764	3.6	4.0	28.6	69.1	8.5	94%
1991	71	3,846	2,760	3.2	3.6	34.6	79.3	9	75%
1992	115	4,970	5,875	3.5	3.7	22.4	50.0	8	65%
1993	127	5,929	5,715	3.0	3.6	27.0	58.4	8	74%
1994	115	3,691	3,583	3.7	4.2	21.0	44.3	9	70%
1995	205	7,165	9,786	4.6	5.8	21.4	43.9	8	71%
1996	276	11,681	16,256	6.8	8.2	16.7	33.3	7	47%
1997	174	5,016	7,479	5.2	5.7	21.2	41.0	8	50%
1998	113	4,037	8,118	8.4	11.9	22.1	42.2	6.5	36%
1999	370	22,298	33,512	26.5	43.0	12.1	22.7	4	14%
2000	261	23,528	42,537	31.7	49.5	12.4	22.7	5	14%
2001	24	2,658	5,833	8.1	13.4	24.6	41.8	9	30%
2002	20	1,956	2,587	2.9	3.1	95.2	165.8	9	40%
2003	18	1,824	2,242	3.5	4.0	86.2	175.9	8.5	39%
2004	61	7,183	9,064	6.4	7.1	55.5	92.4	8	44%
2005	45	3,458	6,993	4.5	4.5	68.0	110.0	9	36%
2006	48	4,860	4,873	5.5	6.3	57.6	89.5	9	50%
2007	76	10,566	12,572	6.5	7.8	71.2	105.2	8	30%
2008	6	863	1,194	4.9	5.7	156.7	228.8	14	67%
2009	14	1,697	4,126	3.0	3.6	174.3	254.5	11	71%
2010	33	3,981	4,347	3.4	3.9	119.5	170.0	11	64%
2011	36	8,764	9,412	6.1	6.6	141.3	197.9	10	36%
2012	40	21,096	20,887	4.5	5.0	113.4	154.3	9.5	43%
2013	45	11,833	8,662	5.3	6.1	105.8	141.7	9	27%
2014	53	18,542	9,965	6.1	6.8	90.5	119.3	11	17%
2015	38	9,930	10,087	5.3	6.2	130.8	172.6	11	26%
2016	21	6,181	2,510	4.2	4.3	109.5	142.6	10	29%
2017	30	11,269	7,844	5.0	6.3	188.4	239.3	13	17%
2018	40	16,793	12,246	7.6	11.3	182.1	226.5	12	15%
2019	38	27,534	22,881	8.1	10.6	205.8	252.2	11	29%
2020	48	41,423	29,557	13.6	21.8	211.2	241.2	12	20%
2021	126	73,192	59,375	15.2	17.8	207.7	234.3	12	22%
2022	6	1,681	1,163	5.6	6.0	92.7	101.7	15	33%
2023	9	4,256	1,925	13.6	13.6	6.5	6.8	6	33%
2024	15	9,015	5,635	9.4	11.9	115.8	115.8	13	20%
2025	34	23,980	22,314	11.8	13.7	92.5	89.7	12	24%
<b>1980-2025</b>	<b>3,378</b>	<b>427,760</b>	<b>424,923</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>47%</b>

**Table 4b** (updated December 30, 2025)

**Technology and Life Science Company IPOs, 1980-2025**

There are 3,365 tech and 1,031 life science IPOs from 1980-2025 (not including direct listings), after excluding those with an offer price below \$5.00 per share, unit offers, ADRs, closed-end funds, partnerships, acquisition companies, REITs, bank and S&L IPOs, and firms not listed on CRSP. Life science includes biotech and pharmaceutical firms. Life science is defined as SIC=2830, 2834, 2835, 2836, and 8731. In prior years, I had included 2833 (medical chemicals and botanical products) as well, but I am not including this industry in life science since in recent years it has been mainly cannabis-related companies.

Tech stocks are defined as internet-related stocks plus other technology stocks including telecom, but not including biotech. Loughran and Ritter (2004) list the SIC codes in their appendix 3 and sources of founding dates in appendix 1. The definition of technology stocks has been changed from that in Loughran and Ritter (2004 *Financial Management*), with SIC=3559, 3576, and 7389 added to tech. Some 7389 (business services) companies have had their SIC codes changed into non-tech categories, such as consulting and two new SIC codes that I created: 5614 for telemarketing firms and 7388 for non-tech business services such as Sotheby's Auctions. I have also added the S.E.C.'s computer communications equipment code of 3576 for 21 companies, including Cisco Systems.

Missing and questionable numbers from the SDC new issues database are supplemented by direct inspection of prospectuses on EDGAR, information from Dealogic for IPOs after 1991, Howard and Co.'s *Going Public: The IPO Reporter* from 1980-1985, and the Graeme Howard-Todd Huxster collection of IPO prospectuses for 1975-2006.

Sales are the last twelve months (LTM) revenues as reported in the prospectus. The median sales, in millions, are expressed in dollars of 2022 purchasing power using the CPI. Pro forma numbers are usually used if there have been recent mergers or mergers that coincide with the IPO. The percentage of IPOs that are profitable measures profitability using trailing LTM earnings (usually using after extraordinary items earnings, and usually using pro forma numbers that are computed assuming that any recent or concurrent mergers have already occurred, and the conversion of convertible preferred stock into common stock). In some cases, last fiscal year earnings are used when LTM earnings are unavailable.

(table on the next page)

Year	Number of IPOs			% Profitable			Median sales (\$2022, mm)		
	Tech	Life Sci	Other	Tech	Life Sci	Other	Tech	Life Sci	Other
1980	22	3	46	91%	67%	70%	58.6	20.5	77.3
1981	72	10	110	88%	30%	85%	41.8	4.9	43.3
1982	42	2	33	83%	50%	79%	31.4	4.0	29.9
1983	173	21	257	71%	42%	86%	24.8	7.4	88.8
1984	50	2	119	80%	100%	85%	27.0	136.3	69.5
1985	37	5	144	84%	40%	87%	35.7	12.5	106.3
1986	77	23	293	74%	35%	84%	33.4	10.8	95.2
1987	59	10	216	86%	20%	85%	45.0	7.8	110.9
1988	28	2	75	79%	0%	85%	58.3	9.9	229.7
1989	35	4	77	77%	0%	82%	73.2	2.7	122.2
1990	32	4	74	94%	0%	87%	63.0	4.5	129.0
1991	71	32	183	75%	16%	88%	72.3	7.0	154.8
1992	115	33	264	65%	18%	80%	45.6	2.6	142.0
1993	127	27	356	74%	22%	75%	53.2	3.0	120.2
1994	115	20	267	70%	20%	80%	40.4	3.2	107.1
1995	205	21	236	70%	14%	75%	40.0	5.8	119.7
1996	276	44	357	47%	14%	73%	30.3	4.1	99.4
1997	174	22	278	50%	14%	77%	37.4	9.9	111.7
1998	113	10	160	36%	30%	69%	38.5	13.4	123.8
1999	370	10	96	14%	20%	64%	20.7	10.1	194.1
2000	261	50	69	13%	12%	46%	20.7	6.6	153.2
2001	24	5	51	29%	0%	67%	38.1	0.3	571.2
2002	20	5	41	40%	40%	63%	151.2	228.0	684.8
2003	18	8	37	44%	0%	76%	160.4	0.1	623.8
2004	61	30	82	44%	7%	70%	84.3	5.3	300.6
2005	45	16	98	36%	13%	70%	100.3	18.2	320.0
2006	48	24	85	50%	8%	80%	81.7	4.8	472.6
2007	76	19	64	29%	5%	73%	95.9	1.9	323.0
2008	6	1	14	67%	0%	57%	208.7	0.4	268.7
2009	14	3	24	71%	67%	71%	232.1	50.1	598.8
2010	33	11	47	64%	0%	70%	155.1	0.0	419.0
2011	36	8	37	36%	0%	59%	180.4	4.0	412.6
2012	40	10	43	43%	0%	77%	140.7	0.5	424.6
2013	45	40	73	27%	7%	59%	129.2	11.9	507.1
2014	53	71	82	17%	7%	55%	108.8	0.0	286.2
2015	38	42	38	26%	0%	66%	157.4	0.0	205.8
2016	21	25	29	29%	8%	59%	130.1	1.1	775.6
2017	30	32	44	17%	0%	43%	218.2	0.0	516.2
2018	39	59	36	15%	0%	53%	203.3	0.0	536.2
2019	37	43	33	30%	0%	45%	219.7	0.0	124.4
2020	46	76	43	22%	5%	44%	220.0	0.0	311.5
2021	121	89	101	21%	2%	49%	202.4	0.0	325.4
2022	6	16	16	50%	0%	38%	92.7	0.0	7.2
2023	9	13	32	33%	0%	50%	6.2	0.0	20.4
2024	14	19	39	21%	11%	54%	198.7	0.0	225.2
2025	31	11	48	26%	18%	67%	120.5	0.0	280.2
2001-25	911	676	1,237	32%	4%	62%	134.2	0.0	360.9
<b>1980-25</b>	<b>3,365</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>4,947</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>136.8</b>

**Table 4e (MV not adjusted for inflation) Tech IPOs, 1980-2025**

Year	No. of Tech IPOs	Proceeds, \$millions	Number doubling	Market value, at first market price, \$millions		
				Total	Mean	Median
1980	22	378	0	\$3,054	\$139	\$64
1981	72	838	0	\$4,509	\$63	\$42
1982	42	648	0	\$3,360	\$80	\$30
1983	173	3,271	2	\$17,290	\$100	\$45
1984	50	551	1	\$2,674	\$53	\$30
1985	37	375	0	\$1,595	\$43	\$29
1986	77	1,217	0	\$6,163	\$80	\$45
1987	59	1,330	0	\$7,632	\$129	\$58
1988	28	888	0	\$5,554	\$198	\$102
1989	35	748	0	\$3,660	\$105	\$65
1990	32	764	0	\$3,660	\$114	\$83
1991	71	2,760	0	\$11,912	\$168	\$123
1992	115	5,875	1	\$21,936	\$191	\$102
1993	127	5,715	1	\$30,331	\$239	\$86
1994	115	3,583	1	\$16,653	\$145	\$80
1995	205	9,786	11	\$50,090	\$244	\$139
1996	276	16,256	5	\$98,775	\$358	\$138
1997	174	7,479	2	\$45,962	\$264	\$113
1998	113	8,118	12	\$64,218	\$570	\$234
1999	370	33,512	114	\$448,514	\$1,212	\$493
2000	261	42,538	70	\$518,607	\$1,987	\$702
2001	24	5,833	0	\$27,678	\$1,153	\$367
2002	20	2,587	0	\$12,340	\$617	\$339
2003	18	2,242	0	\$9,340	\$519	\$422
2004	61	9,064	0	\$59,399	\$974	\$325
2005	45	6,994	0	\$26,149	\$581	\$307
2006	48	4,873	0	\$23,820	\$496	\$352
2007	76	12,572	0	\$89,729	\$1,181	\$560
2008	6	1,194	0	\$5,756	\$959	\$813
2009	14	4,126	0	\$16,311	\$1,165	\$646
2010	33	4,347	0	\$24,833	\$753	\$548
2011	36	9,412	1	\$83,415	\$2,317	\$824
2012	40	20,887	1	\$125,817	\$3,145	\$686
2013	45	8,662	1	\$76,923	\$1,709	\$812
2014	53	9,965	2	\$84,160	\$1,588	\$780
2015	38	10,087	0	\$74,811	\$1,969	\$815
2016	21	2,510	1	\$23,056	\$1,098	\$841
2017	30	7,844	0	\$64,715	\$2,157	\$1,129
2018	39	12,246	1	\$103,988	\$2,666	\$1,959
2019	37	22,881	0	\$223,971	\$6,053	\$2,176
2020	46	29,557	13	\$457,789	\$9,952	\$4,319
2021	121	59,375	6	\$745,560	\$6,162	\$3,045
2022	6	1,163	0	\$25,857	\$4,310	\$468
2023	9	1,926	0	\$22,689	\$2,521	\$138
2024	14	5,620	1	\$44,388	\$3,171	\$2,383
2025	31	21,908	3	\$246,784	\$7,961	\$3,027
<b>1980-2025</b>	<b>3,365</b>	<b>\$424,502</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>\$4,065,627</b>	<b>\$1,202</b>	<b>\$216</b>

**Table 4f (adjusted for inflation, 2025 \$) IPOs, 1980-2025 (tr is trillions)**

Year	No. of IPOs	Proceeds, \$millions			Market value, at first close, \$millions		
		Total	Mean	Median	Total	Mean	Median
1980	71	3,699	52	37	24,004	338	138
1981	192	8,422	44	30	39,104	204	132
1982	77	3,365	44	23	17,204	223	113
1983	451	28,889	64	38	133,285	296	156
1984	171	6,302	37	26	27,221	159	91
1985	186	12,323	66	33	45,639	245	115
1986	393	38,855	99	35	132,241	336	130
1987	285	33,389	117	43	121,634	427	165
1988	105	10,662	102	45	59,600	568	210
1989	116	15,244	131	56	57,658	497	204
1990	110	10,661	97	61	42,847	390	218
1991	286	36,333	127	68	128,174	448	240
1992	412	52,223	127	63	171,263	416	221
1993	510	70,066	137	62	280,461	550	207
1994	402	37,336	93	52	137,774	343	163
1995	462	59,043	128	69	265,658	575	267
1996	677	86,546	128	69	431,496	637	263
1997	474	63,434	134	67	274,755	580	248
1998	283	66,223	234	83	297,895	1,053	372
1999	476	125,072	263	119	1,242,429	2,610	919
2000	380	122,044	321	147	1,199,563	3,157	1,069
2001	80	64,069	801	212	321,443	4,018	857
2002	66	39,517	599	213	149,351	2,263	934
2003	63	16,683	265	202	69,247	1,099	654
2004	173	53,518	309	144	253,978	1,468	586
2005	159	47,057	296	192	171,804	1,081	578
2006	157	48,865	311	167	216,200	1,377	589
2007	159	54,247	341	164	321,080	2,019	761
2008	21	34,263	1,632	217	95,153	4,531	709
2009	41	19,831	484	233	89,171	2,175	1,037
2010	91	43,728	481	158	169,843	1,866	631
2011	81	38,919	480	218	257,047	3,173	1,245
2012	93	43,643	469	133	253,688	2,728	839
2013	158	57,348	363	160	372,654	2,359	951
2014	206	57,310	278	127	322,992	1,568	583
2015	118	29,910	253	138	203,531	1,725	728
2016	75	16,801	224	127	104,504	1,393	682
2017	106	30,079	284	157	211,604	1,996	848
2018	134	42,890	320	153	288,708	2,155	802
2019	113	49,609	439	158	421,053	3,726	999
2020	165	76,243	462	246	845,944	5,127	1,358
2021	311	145,050	466	243	1,464,107	4,708	1,734
2022	38	7,896	208	41	82,745	2,177	520
2023	54	12,778	237	21	122,158	2,262	267
2024	72	21,111	293	183	134,536	1,869	751
2025	90	38,970	433	246	441,693	4,908	1,555
<b>80-25</b>	<b>9,343</b>	<b>\$1.970 tr</b>	<b>\$210</b>	<b>\$83</b>	<b>\$12.514tr</b>	<b>\$1,339</b>	<b>\$339</b>

**Table 4h** (December 30, 2025)**Technology Company IPO Underpricing, 1980-2025**

Underpricing is measured as the equally weighted average of the first-day return from the offer price to close. The screens described in Table 1 apply, including the exclusion of ADRs.

Year	Number of IPOs			EW mean 1 <sup>st</sup> -day Return,%		
	Total	Tech	NonTech	Total	Tech	NonTech
1980	71	22	49	14.3%	21.7%	10.9%
1981	192	72	120	5.9%	7.0%	5.2%
1982	77	42	35	11.0%	13.6%	7.9%
1983	451	173	278	9.9%	13.9%	7.5%
1984	171	50	121	3.7%	5.5%	2.9%
1985	186	37	149	6.4%	6.1%	6.5%
1986	393	77	316	6.1%	7.2%	5.9%
1987	285	59	226	5.6%	7.3%	5.2%
1988	105	28	77	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%
1989	116	35	81	8.0%	11.9%	6.3%
1990	110	32	78	10.8%	14.9%	9.1%
1991	286	71	215	11.9%	17.3%	10.1%
1992	412	115	297	10.3%	14.4%	8.7%
1993	510	127	383	12.7%	17.8%	11.1%
1994	402	115	287	9.6%	14.1%	7.8%
1995	462	205	257	21.4%	30.8%	14.0%
1996	677	276	401	17.2%	20.2%	15.2%
1997	474	174	300	14.0%	16.9%	12.4%
1998	283	113	170	21.9%	39.1%	10.3%
1999	476	370	106	71.2%	86.7%	17.2%
2000	380	261	119	56.3%	69.2%	28.1%
2001	80	24	56	14.0%	22.7%	10.3%
2002	66	20	46	9.1%	8.6%	9.3%
2003	63	18	45	11.7%	17.4%	9.5%
2004	173	61	112	12.3%	16.6%	10.0%
2005	159	45	114	10.3%	10.8%	10.1%
2006	157	48	109	12.1%	15.3%	10.8%
2007	159	76	83	14.0%	18.8%	9.6%
2008	21	6	15	5.7%	2.6%	7.0%
2009	41	14	27	9.8%	16.9%	6.2%
2010	91	33	58	9.4%	15.5%	5.9%
2011	81	36	45	13.9%	20.2%	9.0%
2012	93	40	53	17.7%	23.4%	13.3%
2013	158	45	113	20.9%	26.7%	18.5%
2014	206	53	153	15.5%	25.0%	12.2%
2015	118	38	80	19.2%	18.8%	19.4%
2016	75	21	54	14.5%	32.4%	7.5%
2017	106	30	76	12.9%	21.1%	9.6%
2018	134	39	95	18.6%	32.3%	13.0%
2019	113	37	76	23.5%	28.6%	21.1%
2020	165	46	119	41.6%	62.6%	33.5%
2021	311	121	190	32.1%	33.0%	31.6%
2022	38	6	32	49.9%	9.3%	56.4%
2023	54	9	45	11.9%	-5.6%	15.4%
2024	72	14	58	15.3%	41.1%	9.1%
2025	90	31	59	29.3%	33.4%	27.1%
<b>1980-2025</b>	<b>9,343</b>	<b>3,365</b>	<b>5,978</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>31.2%</b>	<b>12.1%</b>

**Table 4i** (updated January 12, 2026)

**VC-backed Tech IPOs, 1980-2025**

There are 2,027 Venture Capital-backed tech IPOs, after excluding those with an offer price below \$5.00 per share, unit offers, ADRs, closed-end funds, best effort offers, natural resource limited partnerships (and most other LPs, but not buyout firms such as Carlyle Group), special purpose acquisition companies (SPACs), direct listings, REITs, bank and S&L IPOs, and firms not listed on CRSP. Missing and questionable numbers from the SDC new issues database are supplemented by direct inspection of prospectuses on EDGAR, information from Dealogic for IPOs after 1991, Howard and Co.'s *Going Public: The IPO Reporter* from 1980-1985, and the Graeme Howard-Todd Huxster collection of IPO prospectuses for 1975-2006. Tech stocks are defined as internet-related stocks plus other technology stocks including telecom, but not including biotech. Loughran and Ritter (2004) list the SIC codes in their appendix 3 and sources of founding dates in appendix 1. The definition of technology stocks has been changed from that in Loughran and Ritter (2004 *Financial Management*), with SIC=3559, 3576, 3844, and 7389 added to tech. Some 7389 (business services) companies have had their SIC codes changed into non-tech categories, such as consulting and two new SIC codes that I have made up: 5614 for telemarketing firms and 7388 for non-tech business services such as Sotheby's Auctions. I have also added the S.E.C.'s computer communications equipment code of 3576 for 21 companies, including Cisco Systems.

Price-to-sales ratios are computed using both the offer price (OP) and the first closing market price (MP) for computing the market capitalization of equity. Market cap is calculated using the post-issue shares outstanding, with all share classes included in the case of dual-class companies. The undiluted number of shares is used, which in some cases (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, and Castlight Health) understates the market cap due to the existence of substantial amounts of in-the-money employee stock options that are highly likely to be exercised. Sales are the last twelve months (LTM) revenues as reported in the prospectus. The median sales, in millions, is expressed in both nominal dollars and in dollars of 2024 purchasing power using the CPI. The median age, in years, is the number of years since the calendar year of the founding date and the calendar year of the IPO. The percentage of IPOs that are profitable measures profitability using trailing LTM earnings (usually using after extraordinary items earnings, and usually using pro forma numbers that are computed assuming that any recent or concurrent mergers have already occurred, and the conversion of convertible preferred stock into common stock). In some cases, last fiscal year earnings are used when LTM earnings are unavailable.

Even concepts like market cap (for the price-to-sales ratios) become ambiguous when you realize that companies like Facebook have many deep in-the-money options outstanding, so whether you use the fully diluted number of shares or the undiluted number can affect the calculations substantially for some companies.

(table on the next page)

Year	Number of VC-backed tech IPOs	Median Price-to-sales		Median sales, \$mm		Median age	% profitable
		OP	MP	Nominal	\$2024		
1980	14	3.0	3.4	16.9	67.1	6.5	93%
1981	29	3.8	4.3	11.9	42.2	9	90%
1982	15	6.1	7.6	18.9	62.0	3	67%
1983	67	7.2	8.1	11.7	36.8	5	66%
1984	26	2.3	2.3	21.9	66.2	5	81%
1985	16	3.0	3.3	17.1	50.1	5	81%
1986	31	4.3	4.7	17.0	47.8	5	71%
1987	39	3.2	3.2	22.0	61.0	5	87%
1988	17	2.6	2.7	28.2	75.2	6	94%
1989	23	3.4	3.7	35.5	90.4	7	83%
1990	24	3.9	4.5	28.6	69.1	7.5	100%
1991	45	3.2	3.5	35.9	82.3	9	71%
1992	67	3.9	4.4	22.0	49.1	7	61%
1993	88	3.1	3.6	24.3	52.5	8	72%
1994	64	4.3	5.2	18.9	39.9	8	66%
1995	115	5.5	6.9	19.7	40.4	8	70%
1996	154	9.8	11.3	14.3	28.6	7	35%
1997	73	6.9	8.3	19.3	37.4	6	38%
1998	55	11.6	14.8	18.8	35.9	6	22%
1999	250	30.9	56.6	11.0	20.7	4	9%
2000	183	41.4	65.7	9.3	17.0	5	6%
2001	17	14.9	17.4	22.8	40.2	6	12%
2002	13	3.5	3.9	87.3	152.0	6	31%
2003	12	5.2	6.1	65.0	110.3	7	50%
2004	40	6.9	7.9	41.0	68.3	7	30%
2005	22	6.4	7.2	46.5	75.2	7.5	23%
2006	27	6.2	8.1	51.2	79.7	8	52%
2007	58	7.3	8.3	66.5	98.2	8	26%
2008	4	4.1	4.7	156.7	228.8	12	50%
2009	6	4.6	5.8	105.7	154.3	9.5	50%
2010	23	3.2	3.9	112.9	160.7	10	61%
2011	30	6.8	7.2	117.2	164.2	9.5	37%
2012	35	4.6	5.0	103.7	141.2	9	37%
2013	35	5.8	7.1	104.2	139.5	9	17%
2014	40	6.5	8.2	86.8	114.5	10	18%
2015	29	6.0	7.5	76.6	101.1	10	21%
2016	15	4.5	5.9	101.7	132.5	9	27%
2017	24	5.0	6.9	158.4	201.2	13	13%
2018	30	8.6	12.4	173.6	215.9	12	13%
2019	26	9.8	13.7	146.6	179.7	10.5	15%
2020	33	15.7	27.2	201.3	240.7	11	18%
2021	77	20.3	26.6	136.4	160.8	11	16%
2022	1	20.6	24.0	70.4	77.2	14	0%
2023	4	12.7	13.5	243.8	253.6	8.5	25%
2024	8	9.2	12.6	217.9	217.9	13.5	13%
2025	23	11.8	13.5	136.2	132.2	12	22%
<b>1980-2025</b>	<b>2,027</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>50.7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>39%</b>

**Table 9** (updated December 30, 2025)

**Fraction of IPOs with Negative Earnings, 1980-2025**

IPOs with an offer price below \$5.00 per share, unit offers, ADRs, closed-end funds, partnerships, acquisition companies, REITs, bank and S&L IPOs, and firms not listed on CRSP within six months of the offer date are excluded. When available, I use the earnings per share for the most recent twelve months (commonly known as LTM for last twelve months) prior to going public. When a merger is involved, we use the pro forma numbers (as if the merger had already occurred). I am not completely consistent in the use of earnings before or after extraordinary items. Some extraordinary items are associated with the IPO, including gains or losses on conversion of convertible securities at the time of the IPO, or writeups or writedowns associated with mergers. I usually use the before extraordinary items EPS if the one-time charges are associated with the IPO. When the trailing twelve months EPS number is unavailable, I use the most recent fiscal year EPS number. Missing numbers are supplemented by direct inspection of prospectuses on EDGAR, EPS information from Dealogic for IPOs after 1991, and Howard and Co.'s *Going Public: The IPO Reporter* from 1980-1995. Remaining missing numbers have been found in the Graeme Howard-Todd Huxster collection of IPO prospectuses and the Stanford Business School microfiche collection of prospectuses from the 1980s. Don Patton of UC-Davis has tracked down a couple of remaining missing numbers. Tech stocks are defined as internet-related stocks plus other technology stocks, not including biotech. Loughran and Ritter (2004) list the SIC codes in their appendix 3 and sources of founding dates in appendix 1. There is one IPO from 1986 with missing earnings. I assume that the earnings were positive for this firm.

Year	Number of IPOs	No. with missing EPS	Percentage Tech Stocks	Percentage of IPOs with EPS<0	Mean First-day Returns	
					EPS<0	EPS≥0
1980-1989	2,047	1	29%	19%	9.2%	6.8%
1990-1998	3,616	0	34%	32%	15.9%	14.3%
1999-2000	856	0	74%	78%	71.1%	41.4%
2001-2025	2,824	0	32%	61%	20.8%	16.4%
2001-2010	1,010	0	34%	46%	10.1%	13.0%
2011-2025	1,814	0	31%	70%	24.8%	19.8%
<b>1980-2025</b>	<b>9,343</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>26.7%</b>	<b>13.3%</b>

(year-by-year on the next page)

Year	Number of IPOs	Percentage Tech Stocks	Percentage of IPOs with EPS<0	Mean First-day Returns	
				EPS<0	EPS≥0
1980	71	31%	24%	7.1%	16.5%
1981	192	38%	17%	8.0%	5.4%
1982	77	55%	19%	6.4%	12.1%
1983	451	38%	22%	14.0%	8.8%
1984	171	29%	16%	11.1%	2.2%
1985	186	20%	15%	5.2%	6.6%
1986	393	20%	21%	8.8%	5.4%
1987	285	20%	17%	5.1%	5.8%
1988	105	27%	18%	6.0%	5.3%
1989	116	30%	22%	8.3%	7.9%
1990	110	28%	15%	9.5%	11.0%
1991	286	24%	24%	9.4%	12.7%
1992	412	28%	29%	10.2%	10.3%
1993	510	25%	28%	12.6%	12.8%
1994	402	29%	26%	8.0%	10.2%
1995	462	44%	30%	22.4%	21.0%
1996	677	40%	41%	16.5%	17.7%
1997	474	36%	36%	12.5%	14.9%
1998	283	40%	46%	32.1%	13.1%
1999	476	78%	76%	81.0%	40.2%
2000	380	68%	81%	59.5%	43.2%
2001	80	29%	49%	15.3%	12.8%
2002	66	30%	45%	5.6%	12.0%
2003	63	29%	44%	9.5%	13.5%
2004	173	35%	50%	11.9%	12.7%
2005	159	28%	45%	7.3%	12.8%
2006	157	31%	40%	7.3%	15.4%
2007	159	48%	56%	13.7%	14.5%
2008	21	29%	43%	1.8%	8.7%
2009	41	34%	29%	12.8%	8.6%
2010	91	36%	41%	6.9%	11.1%
2011	81	44%	57%	11.0%	17.7%
2012	93	43%	46%	22.4%	13.7%
2013	158	29%	63%	20.2%	21.9%
2014	206	25%	71%	17.1%	11.4%
2015	118	32%	70%	19.1%	19.6%
2016	75	28%	67%	13.2%	17.0%
2017	106	28%	77%	12.4%	14.8%
2018	134	29%	81%	20.4%	10.5%
2019	113	32%	77%	25.2%	17.9%
2020	165	25%	80%	45.3%	26.9%
2021	311	38%	75%	30.0%	38.6%
2022	38	16%	76%	54.1%	32.4%
2023	54	17%	65%	13.9%	8.1%
2024	72	19%	64%	17.5%	11.7%
2025	90	34%	53%	39.8%	17.2%
<b>1980-2025</b>	<b>9,343</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>26.7%</b>	<b>13.3%</b>

**Table 16c** (updated April 4, 2025)  
**Long-run Returns Measured from the Offer Price on Tech and non-Tech Stock IPOs**  
**Excluding the Internet Bubble, 1980-2023**

**Panel A: IPOs from 1980-2023, excluding 1999-2000, categorized by industry**

Industry	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Tech	2,689	19.8%	73.3%	25.8%	46.0%
Non-Tech	5,636	11.6%	30.3%	-14.7%	-1.6%
All	8,325	14.2%	44.2%	-1.6%	13.8%

**Panel B: Categorized by sales and industry (sales in \$2024)**

LTM Sales	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Sales < \$100 million					
Tech	1,726	20.0%	68.2%	16.2%	41.7%
Non-Tech	2,788	13.7%	13.3%	-32.8%	-13.6%
Sales > \$100 million					
Tech	963	19.6%	82.5%	43.1%	53.8%
Non-Tech	2,848	9.5%	47.0%	2.9%	10.1%

**Panel C: Profitable issuers, categorized by sales and industry**

LTM Sales	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Sales < \$100 million					
Tech	937	17.6%	72.1%	16.4%	44.3%
Non-Tech	1,289	12.0%	27.0%	-24.9%	-1.6%
Sales > \$100 million					
Tech	546	16.5%	90.7%	44.2%	59.5%
Non-Tech	2,347	9.4%	49.0%	3.6%	12.5%

**Panel D: Unprofitable issuers, categorized by sales and industry**

LTM Sales	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Sales < \$100 million					
Tech	789	22.8%	63.4%	15.8%	38.6%
Non-Tech	1,499	15.1%	1.5%	-39.6%	-23.8%
Sales > \$100 million					
Tech	417	23.7%	71.8%	41.7%	46.3%
Non-Tech	501	10.4%	37.3%	-0.2%	-1.4%

**Table 16d** (updated April 4, 2025)  
**Long-run Returns Measured from the First Closing Market Price on Tech and non-Tech  
Stock IPOs Excluding the Internet Bubble, 1980-2023**

**Panel A: IPOs from 1980-2023, excluding 1999-2000, categorized by industry**

Industry	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Tech	2,689	19.8%	42.3%	-5.1%	15.1%
Non-Tech	5,636	11.6%	19.4%	-25.6%	-12.5%
All	8,325	14.2%	26.8%	-19.0%	-3.6%

**Panel B: Categorized by sales and industry (sales in \$2024)**

LTM Sales	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Sales < \$100 million					
Tech	1,726	20.0%	36.4%	-15.6%	9.9%
Non-Tech	2,788	13.7%	3.5%	-42.6%	-23.4%
Sales > \$100 million					
Tech	963	19.6%	53.1%	13.7%	24.4%
Non-Tech	2,848	9.5%	35.0%	-9.0%	-1.9%

**Panel C: Profitable issuers, categorized by sales and industry**

LTM Sales	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Sales < \$100 million					
Tech	937	17.6%	43.0%	-12.7%	15.3%
Non-Tech	1,289	12.0%	16.5%	-35.4%	-12.1%
Sales > \$100 million					
Tech	546	16.5%	62.2%	15.6%	30.9%
Non-Tech	2,347	9.4%	36.9%	-8.5%	0.4%

**Panel D: Unprofitable issuers, categorized by sales and industry**

LTM Sales	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Sales < \$100 million					
Tech	789	22.8%	28.4%	-19.2%	3.6%
Non-Tech	1,499	15.1%	-7.7%	-48.8%	-33.1%
Sales > \$100 million					
Tech	417	23.7%	41.2%	11.1%	15.7%
Non-Tech	501	10.4%	26.1%	-11.4%	-12.6%

**Table 18b** (updated February 17, 2026)**Long-run Returns on VC-backed and other IPOs Segmented by Industry, 1980-2024**

An earlier version of this table appears as Table 7 in “Going Public with IPOs and SPAC Mergers” by Rongbing Huang, Jay R. Ritter, and Donghang Zhang, forthcoming in *Research Handbook on the Structure of Private Equity and Venture Capital*. 9,253 IPOs from 1980-2024 are used, with returns calculated through December 31, 2025. IPOs with an offer price below \$5.00 per share, unit offers, SPACs, ADRs, REITs, closed end funds, natural resource partnerships, banks and S&Ls, small best efforts offers, and IPOs not listed on CRSP within six months of the offer date are excluded. Buy-and-hold returns are calculated from the first closing market price until the earlier of the three-year anniversary or the delisting date (Dec. of 2025 for IPOs from 2023 and 2024). The captions to Tables 2 and 6 provide industry classification details. Market-adjusted returns use the CRSP value-weighted index. Style adjustments use firms matched by market cap and book-to-market ratio with at least five years of CRSP listing and no follow-on equity issues in the prior five years. The market-adjusted and style-adjusted returns are the average buy-and-hold return on the IPOs minus the average compounded return on the benchmark. Market capitalization (size) is calculated using the first closing market price after the IPO and the post-issue number of shares outstanding.

**Panel A: Long-run Returns on VC-backed IPOs, by Industry, 1980-2024**

Sector	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Tech	2,004	37.3%	26.5%	-4.8%	6.3%
Life science	818	15.6%	8.7%	-24.8%	-18.7%
Other	911	14.5%	22.2%	-22.7%	-10.1%
All	3,733	27.0%	21.6%	-13.6%	-3.2%

**Panel B: Long-run Returns on nonVC-backed IPOs, by Industry, 1980-2024**

Sector	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Tech	1,330	22.0%	14.6%	-24.6%	-10.6%
Life science	202	17.2%	33.7%	-2.8%	22.3%
Other	3,988	10.4%	17.6%	-26.5%	-15.3%
All	5,520	13.5%	17.5%	-25.2%	-12.8%

Note: The high life science 3-year buy-and-hold return, measured from the first close, for the 202 nonVC-backed IPOs in Panel B is partly driven by the 2,444.8% return on the June 1980 IPO of Enzo Biochem and the 1,606.1% return on the August 2003 IPO of New River Pharmaceutical, which used a WR Hambrecht + Co auction to go public. Of the 1,020 life science IPOs during 1980-2024, these are two of the three top long-run performers, with the VC-backed July 1998 IPO of Abgenix being the third, with a 2,071.1% return. Moderna, a December 2018 VC-backed IPO, produced the fifth-highest return.

**Table 18c** (updated February 17, 2026)

**Long-run Returns on VC-backed and other IPOs Segmented by Industry, 1999-2024**

An earlier version of this table appears as Table 8 in “Going Public with IPOs and SPAC Mergers” by Rongbing Huang, Jay R. Ritter, and Donghang Zhang, forthcoming in *Research Handbook on the Structure of Private Equity and Venture Capital*, edited by Brian Broughman and Elisabeth de Fontenay.

3,590 IPOs from 1999-2024 are used, with returns calculated through December 31, 2025. See the captions to Tables 2 and 6 in the book chapter above for a description of the sample and industry definitions.

**Panel A: Long-run Returns on VC-backed IPOs, by Industry, 1999-2024**

Sector	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Tech	1,042	54.3%	-13.0%	-19.6%	-26.6%
Life science	609	18.3%	2.0%	-23.8%	-24.2%
Other	303	22.3%	-1.3%	-23.6%	-35.3%
All	1,954	38.1%	-6.5%	-21.5%	-27.2%

**Panel B: Long-run Returns on nonVC-backed IPOs, by Industry, 1999-2024**

Sector	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Tech	469	32.1%	-22.0%	-26.3%	-38.4%
Life science	116	20.9%	0.8%	-21.4%	-16.1%
Other	1,051	14.0%	9.9%	-10.1%	-12.7%
All	1,636	19.7%	0.1%	-15.5%	-20.3%

**Table 23** (December 31, 2025)**Dual Class IPOs**

This table lists the number of operating company IPOs each year that have dual class shares among tech and non-tech IPOs. The sample is described in the caption to Table 4. Laura Field and Michelle Lowry supplied classifications for many of the years.

	Tech IPOs			Non-tech IPOs			All IPOs		
	Dual	Total	%	Dual	Total	%	Dual	Total	%
1980	0	22	0%	1	49	2.0%	1	71	1.4%
1981	2	72	2.8%	4	120	3.3%	6	192	3.1%
1982	0	42	0%	0	35	0.0%	0	77	0.0%
1983	3	173	1.7%	4	278	1.4%	7	451	1.6%
1984	2	50	4.0%	5	121	4.1%	7	171	4.1%
1985	1	37	2.7%	6	149	4.0%	7	186	3.8%
1986	3	77	3.9%	21	316	6.6%	24	393	6.1%
1987	1	59	1.7%	23	226	10.2%	24	285	8.4%
1988	4	28	14.3%	8	77	10.4%	12	105	11.4%
1989	1	35	2.9%	5	81	6.2%	6	116	5.2%
1990	0	32	0%	9	78	11.5%	9	110	8.2%
1991	6	71	8.5%	18	215	8.4%	24	286	8.4%
1992	4	115	3.5%	18	297	6.1%	22	412	4.9%
1993	3	127	2.4%	31	383	8.1%	34	510	6.7%
1994	7	115	6.1%	26	287	9.1%	33	402	8.2%
1995	8	205	3.9%	23	257	8.9%	31	462	6.7%
1996	14	276	5.1%	45	401	11.2%	59	677	8.7%
1997	10	174	5.7%	40	300	13.3%	50	474	10.5%
1998	8	113	7.1%	21	170	12.4%	29	283	10.2%
1999	22	370	5.9%	19	106	17.9%	41	476	8.6%
2000	18	261	6.9%	7	119	5.9%	25	380	6.6%
2001	2	24	8.3%	6	56	10.7%	8	80	10.0%
2002	1	20	5.0%	11	46	23.9%	12	66	18.2%
2003	1	18	5.6%	5	45	11.1%	6	63	9.5%
2004	3	61	4.9%	9	112	8.0%	12	173	6.9%
2005	9	45	20.0%	13	114	11.4%	22	159	13.8%
2006	1	48	2.1%	10	109	9.2%	11	157	7.0%
2007	5	76	6.6%	13	83	15.7%	18	159	11.3%
2008	0	6	0%	3	15	20.0%	3	21	14.3%
2009	2	14	14.3%	3	27	11.1%	5	41	12.2%
2010	2	33	6.1%	8	58	13.8%	10	91	11.0%
2011	5	36	13.9%	9	45	20.0%	14	81	17.3%
2012	6	40	15.0%	9	53	17.0%	15	93	16.1%
2013	5	45	11.1%	23	113	20.4%	28	158	17.7%
2014	3	53	5.7%	18	153	11.8%	21	206	10.2%
2015	14	38	36.8%	8	80	10.0%	22	118	18.6%
2016	5	21	23.8%	4	54	7.4%	9	75	12.0%
2017	13	30	43.3%	17	76	22.4%	30	106	28.3%
2018	14	39	35.9%	13	95	13.7%	27	134	20.1%
2019	13	37	35.1%	13	76	17.1%	26	113	23.0%
2020	19	46	41.3%	14	119	11.8%	33	165	20.0%
2021	56	121	46.3%	47	190	24.7%	103	311	33.1%
2022	3	6	50.0%	5	32	15.6%	8	38	21.1%
2023	4	9	44.4%	10	45	22.2%	14	54	25.9%
2024	6	14	42.9%	10	58	17.2%	16	72	22.2%
2025	15	31	48.4%	22	59	37.3%	37	90	41.1%
<b>1980-25</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>3,365</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>5,978</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>9,343</b>	<b>10.3%</b>

**Table 24** (updated February 17, 2026)**Long-run Returns on IPOs Categorized by Dual Class Status**

9,253 IPOs from 1980-2024 are used, with returns calculated through the end of December 2025. IPOs with an offer price below \$5.00 per share, unit offers, small best efforts offerings, ADRs, REITs, closed-end funds, natural resource limited partnerships (all of which have dual class structures), banks and S&Ls, and IPOs not listed on CRSP within six months of the offer date are excluded. Buy-and-hold returns are calculated from the first close until the earlier of the three-year anniversary or the delisting date (the end December of 2025 for IPOs from 2023 and 2024). Market-adjusted returns use the CRSP value-weighted index. Style adjustments use firms matched by market cap and book-to-market ratio with at least five years of CRSP listing and no follow-on equity issues in the prior five years. All returns include dividends and capital gains, including the index returns. Firms with two or more classes of shares are classified as dual class. Firms with pre-IPO convertible preferred that converted into common at the time of the IPO are classified based on the *pro forma* (post-conversion) share structure. Laura Field and Michelle Lowry supplied classifications for many of the years.

**Panel A: IPOs from 1980-2024 categorized by dual class status**

Dual class or not	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
Dual class	924	19.7%	29.5%	-6.7%	-1.9%
Single class	8,329	18.8%	18.0%	-22.0%	-9.7%
1980-2024	9,253	18.9%	19.1%	-20.5%	-8.9%

**Panel B: IPOs from 1980-2024 categorized by dual class and tech status**

Buyout-backed or not	Number of IPOs	Average First-day Return	Average 3-year Buy-and-hold Return		
			IPOs	Market-adjusted	Style-adjusted
<b>Tech stocks</b>					
Dual class	309	33.1%	42.7%	13.8%	18.6%
Single class	3,025	31.0%	19.7%	-15.4%	-2.4%
All tech stocks	3,334	31.2%	21.8%	-12.7%	-0.4%
<b>Non-tech stocks</b>					
Dual class	615	12.9%	22.9%	-17.1%	-12.1%
Single class	5,304	11.9%	17.0%	-25.8%	-13.8%
All non-tech stocks	5,919	12.0%	17.6%	-24.9%	-13.7%

Figure 2: See Table 9 for details

Percentage of IPOs with Negative EPS and Percentage of Tech Stocks, 1980-2025

