

# **Initial Public Offerings: Foreign Companies Going Public in the U.S., 1980-2020**

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**Table 14** (updated Dec. 29, 2020)

**The Market Share of Foreign Companies among U.S. Listings, 1980-2020**

This table includes American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) as well as other IPOs, and so has a higher total number of U.S. IPOs. I continue to exclude IPOs with an offer price below \$5.00 per share, unit offers, SPACs, REITs, closed-end funds, natural resource limited partnerships, small best efforts IPOs, banks and S&Ls, and IPOs not listed on CRSP (this last screen limits the sample to NASDAQ, Amex, and NYSE-listed issues) within six months of the offer date. Bermuda-domiciled companies are included as foreign, irrespective of the main country of operations. Bermuda, Canada, China, Greece, Israel, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom are the most common countries for IPOs that list in the U.S. Dealogic is the main source of information on foreign IPOs, because Thomson Financial frequently classifies a follow-on offering that simultaneously includes a U.S. listing as an IPO, as does the NYSE. I have deleted these listings (a list of more than 110 of them can be found in “SDC Corrections” on my IPO Data page) from the IPO counts when I have been able to identify them. The count for Chinese IPOs does not include those from Hong Kong and excludes “reverse mergers” and best efforts IPOs. There are six bank IPOs of ADRs that are not counted (1 in 1988, 1 in 1993, 2 in 1994, and 2 in 2009). There were 4 additional foreign issues in 1981, but they did not get listed on CRSP until more than six months after the IPO.

In addition to the IPOs listed in this table, there have been at twenty Chinese IPOs with an offer price of below \$5.00 per share, plus some unit offers. Some of these deals were best efforts offerings. Those with an offer price below \$5 per share include the following (these deals raised a median of only \$8.6 million):

2007	2
2008	1
2009	2
2010	4
2015	1
2016	1
2017	2
2018	3
2019	4
2020	3

Year	Number of IPOs	Domestic	Foreign			Chinese		
			Total	ADRs	% Foreign	Total	ADRs	% Chinese
1980	71	70	1	0	1.4%	0	0	0%
1981	193	192	1	0	0.5%	0	0	0%
1982	78	76	2	1	2.6%	0	0	0%
1983	453	446	7	2	1.5%	0	0	0%
1984	175	168	7	5	4.0%	0	0	0%
1985	186	183	3	0	1.6%	0	0	0%
1986	394	392	2	1	0.5%	0	0	0%
1987	285	281	4	0	1.4%	0	0	0%
1988	109	100	9	5	8.3%	0	0	0%
1989	119	110	9	3	7.6%	0	0	0%
1990	111	107	4	1	3.6%	0	0	0%
1991	288	278	10	2	3.5%	0	0	0%
1992	416	393	23	4	5.5%	0	0	0%
1993	527	487	40	17	7.6%	1	1	0.2%
1994	420	385	35	23	8.3%	3	2	0.7%
1995	477	436	41	16	8.6%	1	1	0.2%
1996	710	646	64	33	9.0%	1	1	0.1%
1997	504	430	74	34	14.7%	4	3	0.8%
1998	294	256	38	13	12.9%	2	1	0.7%
1999	501	450	51	26	10.2%	1	0	0.2%
2000	418	336	82	40	19.6%	7	4	1.7%
2001	83	74	9	4	10.8%	2	2	2.4%
2002	68	63	5	2	7.4%	1	1	1.5%
2003	66	60	6	3	9.1%	2	2	3.0%
2004	189	160	29	16	15.3%	9	9	4.8%
2005	172	142	30	13	17.4%	8	8	4.7%
2006	172	138	34	15	19.8%	9	7	5.2%
2007	190	138	52	31	27.4%	29	27	15.3%
2008	24	18	6	3	25.0%	4	4	16.7%
2009	49	38	11	8	22.4%	10	8	20.4%
2010	125	80	45	34	36.0%	33	32	26.4%
2011	93	70	23	12	24.7%	13	11	14.0%
2012	97	85	12	4	12.4%	2	2	2.1%
2013	168	140	28	10	16.8%	8	6	4.8%
2014	225	176	49	19	21.8%	14	14	6.2%
2015	126	104	22	8	17.5%	5	4	4.0%
2016	83	68	15	8	18.1%	6	6	7.2%
2017	125	94	31	19	24.8%	17	15	13.6%
2018	166	119	47	32	28.3%	28	27	16.9%
2019	138	100	38	26	27.5%	25	22	18.1%
2020	198	147	51	33	25.8%	30	26	15.2%
<b>1980-2020</b>	<b>9,286</b>	<b>8,236</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>3.0%</b>

**Table 15** (updated December 29, 2020)

**How Many IPOs Are There?**

The net number of IPOs excludes Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPACs), closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit offers (typically composed of a share plus a warrant to buy a share), IPOs with an offer price of less than \$5.00, commercial banks and savings and loans, companies not promptly listed on the Amex, NYSE, or Nasdaq, master limited partnerships, small best efforts offers (included in the other exclusions column), and foreign companies issuing American Depositary Receipts (6 of which are banks). 11 ADRs are missing a first-day return, and the “including ADRs” averages exclude them. SPACs that are unit offers are classified as SPACs rather than units. No CRSP listing refers to IPOs not listed on CRSP within six months of the IPO. CRSP covers stocks listed on Nasdaq, the NYSE, and the NYSE MKT (the Amex prior to May 10, 2012).

**Table 15**

Year	Number of IPOs		CEFs, SPACs, and REITs	Units and penny stocks		Banks and S&Ls	No CRSP listing or others	ADRs	Including ADRs	
	Gross	Net		LPs	No.				Mean return	
1980	234	71	1	56	0	0	104	0	71	14.3%
1981	439	193	0	103	0	0	139	0	193	5.9%
1982	198	77	1	14	0	4	102	1	78	10.9%
1983	850	451	1	168	0	75	156	2	453	9.9%
1984	518	171	4	139	1	46	154	6	177	3.8%
1985	326	186	18	102	6	42	0	0	186	6.4%
1986	710	393	28	183	20	100	7	1	394	6.1%
1987	531	285	36	131	15	52	2	0	285	5.6%
1988	293	105	73	88	3	26	5	5	110	5.4%
1989	254	116	42	83	2	8	6	3	119	8.0%
1990	213	110	41	55	1	5	0	1	111	10.7%
1991	408	286	44	65	2	7	2	2	288	11.9%
1992	602	412	103	80	1	4	1	4	416	10.2%
1993	772	510	167	93	3	17	1	17	525	12.5%
1994	594	402	78	106	3	8	0	23	424	9.5%
1995	574	462	9	77	2	3	0	16	477	20.7%
1996	845	677	11	104	5	11	2	33	710	16.9%
1997	601	474	30	63	1	11	1	34	507	13.7%
1998	379	281	39	20	2	31	4	13	294	21.8%
1999	565	476	36	18	3	8	1	26	502	69.5%
2000	431	380	2	8	0	1	0	40	420	55.2%
2001	130	79	38	5	4	0	0	4	83	13.9%
2002	157	66	81	2	6	4	0	2	68	9.0%
2003	131	63	56	5	0	5	0	3	66	13.0%
2004	304	173	95	5	5	8	4	16	188	11.9%
2005	283	159	88	4	9	7	2	13	172	11.7%
2006	261	157	63	5	18	5	0	15	172	12.5%
2007	326	159	116	4	14	2	0	31	190	14.4%
2008	53	21	22	3	4	0	0	3	24	4.3%
2009	80	41	22	3	0	2	3	8	50	8.8%
2010	198	91	37	13	7	10	4	34	125	12.2%
2011	166	81	50	5	18	1	2	12	93	13.3%
2012	174	93	45	4	16	13	1	4	97	17.2%
2013	255	158	59	3	19	5	3	10	168	22.3%
2014	305	206	30	10	20	19	1	19	225	14.8%
2015	182	118	34	4	9	7	1	8	126	18.7%
2016	113	75	13	1	1	5	2	8	83	14.1%
2017	201	106	50	3	5	11	4	19	125	13.6%
2018	240	134	51	8	1	9	0	32	166	17.1%
2019	226	112	67	6	1	7	4	26	138	19.8%
2020	464	165	257	7	0	0	0	33	198	38.1%
Total	14,586	8,775	2,038	1,856	227	579	718	527	9,291	18.3%

**Table 15a** (updated December 29, 2020)

**IPO Volume and Average First-day Returns with Banks, LPs, and ADRs Included**

In the last two columns of the table, the net number of IPOs is expanded to include LPs, banks and S&Ls, and ADRs. Only CRSP-listed IPOs that have first-day return information are included, and therefore the number of IPOs added is slightly less for many years than if the “net” IPO count is added to the LP count, the bank and S&L count, and the ADR count. CRSP covers IPOs that are listed on Nasdaq, NYSE, and NYSE Market (formerly Amex). If a stock takes more than six months before CRSP-listing, it is not included in the count. The sample size of 14,315 IPOs from 1980-2020 includes the 8,775 IPOs from 1980-2020 used in most tables, plus 516 ADRs with a first-day return, 227 natural resource industry limited partnerships, and 577 bank and S&L IPOs (6 of which are ADRs). There are also 11 ADRs with a missing first-day close (1 in 1988, 1 in 1993, 3 in 1997, 1 in 1999, 2 in 2000, 1 in 2004, 1 in 2009, and 1 in 2017).

As with Table 15, the net number of IPOs in the first column excludes Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPACs), closed-end funds (not including interval funds), Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit offers (typically composed of a share plus a warrant to buy a share), IPOs with an offer price of less than \$5.00, commercial banks and savings and loans, companies not promptly listed on the Amex, NYSE, or Nasdaq, natural resource master limited partnerships, small best efforts offers (included in the other exclusions column), and foreign companies issuing American Depositary Receipts (6 of which are banks). SPACs that are unit offers are classified as SPACs rather than units.

Table 15a also differs from Table 15 in that the category of SPACs, closed-end funds, and REITs in Table 15 is decomposed into the three component parts. Blind pool offerings from the pre-2004 era are not included as SPACs. These blind-pool offers are almost always screened out of the net number of offerings because they are either unit offers, penny stocks (offer price below \$5 per share), small best efforts deals, or were not CRSP-listed. The remaining blind pool offers are excluded in the “other reasons” category. A typical blind pool offering raised a few million dollars and investors never received anything in return.

The average first-day return on 577 bank and S&L IPOs is 6.1%, with a range of -20% to +57.5%. In most of my tables, I exclude Bank and S&L IPOs because, among other reasons, it is not always clear how many shares are sold to the general public versus sold to depositors and employees, since most of these offerings are demutualizations. The same can be said of some insurance IPOs, which I include.

The average first-day return on 525 ADR IPOs with a closing market price, including banks, is 16.7%, with a range of -37.2% to 414.3%, with the 2000 internet company Crayfish Co. Ltd IPO having the highest return, at 414.3%. In most of my tables, I exclude ADRs because, among other reasons, the accounting data is not always reliable (SDC sometimes makes translation mistakes) and the U.S. tranche may be a small part of a larger offering, especially in the home country of the company.

The average first-day return on 227 limited partnerships is 3.7%, with a range of -6.8% to +33.3%. In most of my tables, I exclude natural resource company limited partnerships because it is frequently difficult to discern the founding date of the underlying business, since most of these IPOs are spinoffs partly motivated by tax minimization strategies. Also, most of these LPs are created at the time of the IPO, and identifying whether the LP is profitable, what its trailing sales are, and what its assets are, is sometimes problematic. The same can be said of rollups, which I include. I also include newly created reinsurance companies.

**Table 15a**

Year	Number of IPOs		CEFs, SPACs, and REITs	Closed -end funds	REITs	SPACs		LPs	Banks and S&Ls	Including LPs, Banks, & ADRs	
	Gross	Net				Non- unit	Unit			No.	Mean IR
1980	234	71	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	71	14.3%
1981	439	193	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	193	5.9%
1982	198	77	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	80	10.5%
1983	850	451	1	0	1	0	0	0	75	526	8.9%
1984	518	171	4	0	4	0	0	1	46	222	3.1%
1985	326	186	18	3	15	0	0	6	42	223	6.4%
1986	710	393	28	25	3	0	0	20	100	498	5.8%
1987	531	285	36	32	4	0	0	15	52	351	5.5%
1988	293	105	73	65	8	0	0	3	26	140	5.2%
1989	254	116	42	42	0	0	0	2	8	129	7.6%
1990	213	110	41	41	0	0	0	1	5	118	10.3%
1991	408	286	44	42	2	0	0	2	7	297	11.7%
1992	602	412	103	98	5	0	0	1	4	421	10.1%
1993	772	510	167	121	46	0	0	3	17	547	12.4%
1994	594	402	78	37	41	0	0	3	8	432	9.4%
1995	574	462	9	2	7	0	0	2	3	483	20.8%
1996	845	677	11	5	6	0	0	5	11	729	16.8%
1997	601	474	30	7	22	1	0	1	11	521	13.6%
1998	379	281	39	24	15	0	0	2	31	331	20.1%
1999	565	476	36	34	2	0	0	3	8	515	67.8%
2000	431	380	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	423	54.8%
2001	130	79	38	38	0	0	0	4	0	87	13.7%
2002	157	66	81	77	4	0	0	6	4	78	7.8%
2003	131	63	56	49	6	0	1	0	5	71	13.1%
2004	304	173	95	55	28	0	12	5	8	203	11.8%
2005	283	159	88	50	11	4	23	9	7	190	11.5%
2006	261	157	63	23	5	0	35	18	5	195	11.4%
2007	326	159	116	47	4	0	65	14	2	205	14.0%
2008	53	21	22	3	2	0	17	4	0	28	4.1%
2009	80	41	22	13	9	0	0	0	2	52	9.7%
2010	198	91	37	22	8	0	7	7	10	144	11.2%
2011	166	81	50	25	9	0	18	18	1	113	11.6%
2012	174	93	45	28	9	1	8	16	13	125	15.8%
2013	255	158	59	29	20	3	7	19	5	192	20.2%
2014	305	206	30	13	6	0	11	20	19	264	14.2%
2015	182	118	34	8	7	1	19	9	7	142	17.4%
2016	113	75	13	1	3	0	13	1	5	89	13.7%
2017	201	106	50	9	8	0	34	5	11	143	12.7%
2018	240	134	51	1	6	0	46	1	9	176	16.4%
2019	226	112	67	6	2	0	59	1	7	142	19.4%
2020	464	165	257	4	4	11	237	0	0	198	38.1%
Total	14,122	8,775	2,038	1,081	334	21	612	227	579	10,041	17.3%

**Figure 6: Number and Percentage of U.S. IPOs from Chinese Companies, 1990-2020**

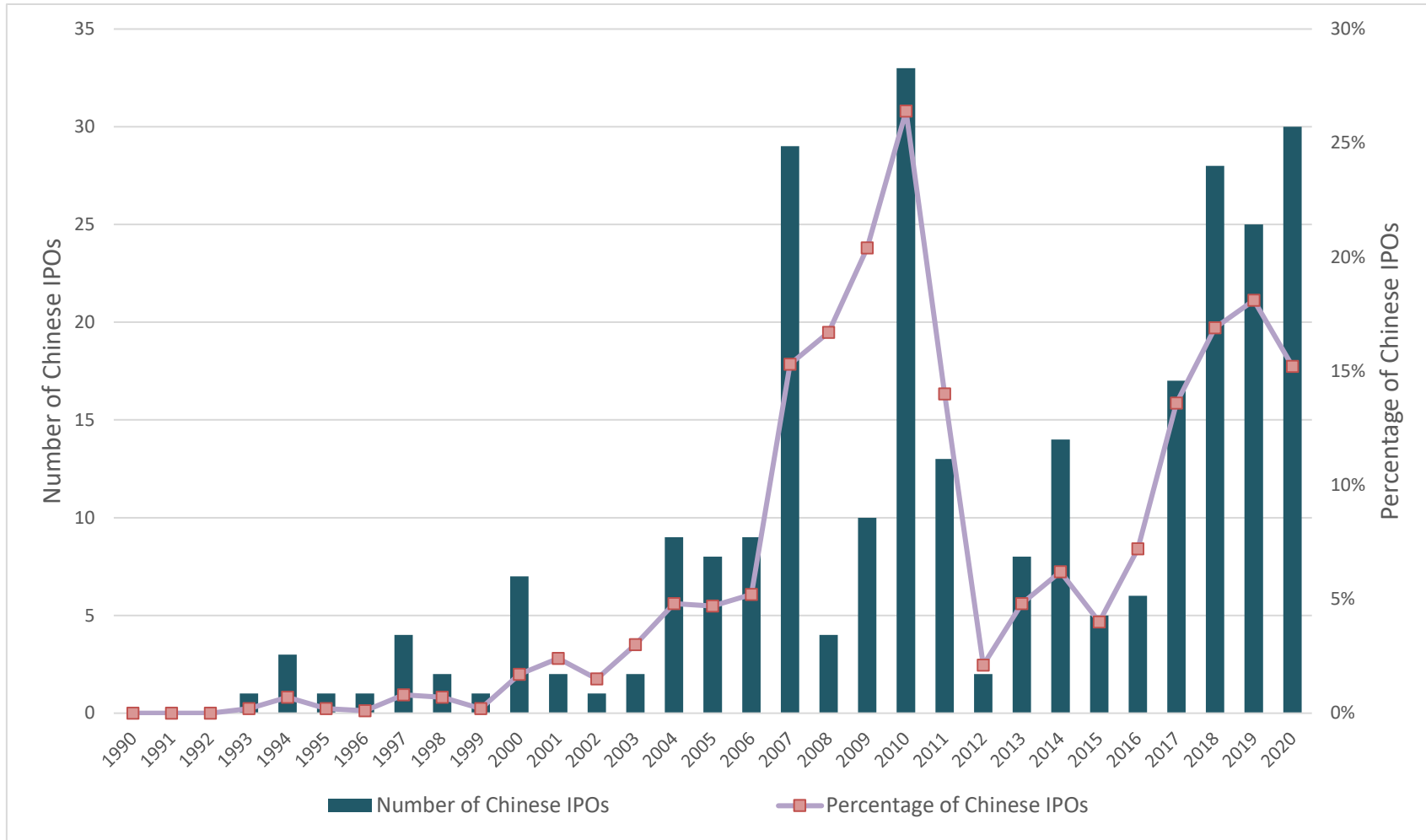


Table 14 gives the numbers plotted here. In this figure, ADRs are included for both the number of Chinese IPOs and the overall number of IPOs.