Crypto Fundraising Report
H1 2021
About the Authors

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Dove Metrics is the leading crypto fundraising database. We also publish Dove Dispatch, a weekly newsletter covering recent fundraising rounds.

Lattice Capital invests in early crypto projects and helps founders build defensible moats. Lattice Capital partners are early investors in breakout companies like Axie Infinity, Audius, and OpenSea.
Why are we building Dove Metrics?

We built Dove Metrics to help crypto entrepreneurs make informed fundraising decisions. We do this by bringing transparency to the crypto industry's capital landscape.

What's coming up at Dove Metrics?

We're going to continue keeping Dove Metrics up to date and to publish our weekly newsletters. We're also going to start publishing these reports quarterly, and are planning a website re-launch in the next few months. We're always open to ideas and feedback!

Source

We source data from more than a dozen channels including fundraising announcements, crypto news channels, Twitter, and media articles.

Data Set

Dove Metrics tracks more than 2000+ active crypto investors (including funds, DAO's, and angels) and has rich data on 1000's of fundraising rounds.
Executive Summary

• Fundraising exploded across all categories in H1 2021
  → Despite growth in DeFi, centralized financial applications (CeFi) continues to dominate with companies raising $4.6B
  → The NFT hype is not going away and surpassed DeFi in fundraising activity in March

• Ethereum continues to dominate DeFi, but investors are hedging their bets
  → Polkadot and Terra have had breakout years in terms of investor interest
  → Despite concerns about gas prices, more than 80% of DeFi funding went to Ethereum

• Later stage deal-making shows maturation of fundraising markets
  → Infrastructure companies raised $21M on average; more Series A + B raises
  → Mega rounds are back with BlockFi, Solana, Ledger all raising $300M+
2021 H1 Fundraising Overview

588 rounds
(x1.7 vs. FY 2020)
- DeFi: 239
- Web3 & NFTs: 141
- Infrastructure: 136
- CeFi: 72

$9.9B raised
(x4.3 vs. FY 2020)
- DeFi: $1.3B
- Web3 & NFTs: $2.7B
- Infrastructure: $4.6B
- CeFi: $1.3B
DeFi

1. Deal Activity
2. Stages Breakdown
3. Geography Focus
4. Verticals
5. Layer 1s
$1.3B+ raised & 239 deals announced: DeFi fundraising exploded during H1 2021

**H1 2021 DeFi Deal Activity**

- More than $439M have been raised in DeFi in June 2021 alone, driven by large rounds like:
  - **SynFutures ($14M)** — with participation from Polychain Capital, Framework Ventures, Pantera Capital, Bybit, Wintermute, CMS Holdings, and others.
  - **Goldfinch ($11M)** — with participation from Andreessen Horowitz, Mercy Corps Ventures, A.capital, SVAngel, Access Ventures, Divergence Ventures, and others.
  - **Middleware ($10M)** — with participation from DeFi Alliance, LongHash Ventures, and Andre Cronje.
  - **Yield ($10M)** — with participation from Paradigm, Framework Ventures, DeFi Alliance, Symbolic Capital Partners, CMS Holdings, and Variant.

**Focus on June 2021**

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- **Yield ($10M)** — with participation from Paradigm, Framework Ventures, DeFi Alliance, Symbolic Capital Partners, CMS Holdings, and Variant.

**Focus on new funds making their first DeFi investment**

- **R8 Capital** 7 DeFi investments: InsurAce, Linear, UniFi
- **SL2 Capital** 4 DeFi investments: DAFI, Makiswap, NAOS Finance
- **4SV** 9 DeFi investments: Composable, Scaleswap, Parastate
- **Yield Ventures** 9 DeFi investments: Vader Protocol, Injective, THORChain

**DeFi fundraising rounds represent 41% of the crypto-related deals announced.**

**DeFi fundraising rounds represent 13% of the total amount raised by crypto companies.**

**On average, 1.8 DeFi funding deals per working day were announced during H1 2021.**

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DeFi | Capital Across Stages

Early rounds continue to dominate the DeFi fundraising landscape

**Stages Share of DeFi Funding Deals in H1 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Average Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Seed</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>$21.2M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>$11.6M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>$4.6M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series A</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>$2.4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series B</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>$650k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series C</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>$5.2M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*9% of the rounds are uncategorized because no relevant information was provided about the funding stage

**On average, a DeFi company raised $5.2M per round in H1 2021.**

DeFi only represents 13% of the blockchain-related late-stage* funding rounds.

**Focus on dYdX Series C Round**

After a Seed round in December 2017, a Series A in October 2018, a Series B in January 2021, dYdX raised a $65M Series C in June: the first-ever in the DeFi ecosystem.

**Lead Investors:**
- Paradigm

**Other Investors:**
- Three Arrows Capital
- Electric Capital
- Polychain Capital
- Hashkey
- Wintermute
- Anderson Horowitz

*Series B and beyond rounds are considered late stage
United States leads the way, but Europe and Singapore are heating up.
DeFi | Verticals

DeFi is growing as teams build across 10+ verticals

**Trading**
- 65 rounds
- $2.6B raised

**Lending/Borrowing**
- 28 rounds
- $511M raised

**Total Amounts Raised Per DeFi Vertical**

- BitDAO accounts for 66% of the “Others” DeFi category total funding amount.

H1 2021 DeFi Verticals Activity

**Focus on BitDAO’s round**
- BitDAO is promoting the growth of DeFi by providing grants and liquidity to projects and setting up R&D centers.

**Focus on the Trading category**
- DeFi projects building in the Trading space raised more than $2.6B.
- They can be Decentralized Exchanges, trading platform that help traders analyze data, decentralized trading margin platform, social trading solutions, derivatives-focused trading protocols, and companies providing pre-built strategies from leading hedge funds and traders.

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DeFi | Layer-1s

Ethereum continues to dominate, but investors are hedging their bets.

**DeFi Funding Deals – Ecosystem Split**

- **Ethereum** 15% $163M
- **Alternative Layer-1s** 85% $1.1B

Percentages represent the split in volume.

**H1 Alternative Ecosystems Deal Activity**

- The number of projects building on top of alternative Layer-1s has grown tremendously. DeFi has been the hottest vertical for alternative Layer-1s as well, followed by projects focusing on the infrastructure category. With flagship protocols like Anchor, Terra is taking off to compete with Polkadot’s dominance in DeFi.

**Focus on BSC**

- Binance Labs is an active investor with 8 DeFi investments in H1 2021 — 4 of them building on top of BSC. It also recently announced a new incubation program accepting projects building on BSC with valuations up to $3M. An excellent initiative to get a stake by providing initial funding and to generate a preferential dealflow.

- As Ethereum transaction fees surged to new all-time highs, 80+ DeFi projects were created — often to replicate what was built on Ethereum.

**Focus on Polkadot**

- Polkadot DeFi stack has been attracting many top investors, thanks to noteworthy raises such as Reef Finance’s $10M Strategic round back in March, Composable Finance’s $7M Seed round.

- Some bold initiatives like Polkadot Buildathon: India and Polkadot DeFi Alliance aim at empowering and connecting projects building in the ecosystem. 66 DeFi projects are being built on top of Polkadot.

**Focus on Solana**

- Solana Labs recently received $314M in fresh funding from Andreessen Horowitz, Polychain Capital, ParaFi Capital, and others.

- With the support of Alameda Research and other leading investors like ParaFi Capital and Multicoin Capital, Solana takes key initiatives to grow its DeFi ecosystem with DeFi hackathons and community grants. As a result, 78 DeFi protocols are being built on top of Solana, and top-class projects like Raydium and Serum are powering some novel applications.

**Focus on Terra**

- Terraform Labs raised $25M in January from Galaxy Digital, Coinbase Ventures, Pantera Capital, Kenetic, and others.

- The Terra ecosystem fundraising landscape started with CHAI’s $15M Series A back in January 2020, led by HOF Capital. Thanks to the support of founder Do Kwon as well as two leading projects Mirror and Anchor Protocol. 50+ projects are building on Terra. But even if tier-1 funds like IDEO CoLab ventures and Delphi Digital ran incubator program, very few projects already completed funding rounds.

**DeFi | Layer-1s**

- Polkadot DeFi stack has been attracting many top investors, thanks to noteworthy raises such as Reef Finance’s $10M Strategic round back in March, Composable Finance’s $7M Seed round.

- Some bold initiatives like Polkadot Buildathon: India and Polkadot DeFi Alliance aim at empowering and connecting projects building in the ecosystem. 66 DeFi projects are being built on top of Polkadot.

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* Funds raised by Solana Labs are excluded.
NFTs

1. Deal Activity
2. Stages Breakdown
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While NFTs standards and companies have existed as early as 2016, it wasn't until 2020 that crypto funds and venture capital started taking a serious look at investing in the space. Some highlights include Dapper Labs' $305 million raise in April, and Rarible's $14.2 million Series A led by Venrock, as well as OpenSea's Series A led by Andreessen-Horowitz. To date, the majority of NFT startups have focused on building marketplaces and issuance platforms, but the next big opportunity in the space will be protocol solutions that will enable financialization of the NFT asset class. Companies including NFTfi, Niftex, NFTX, and Upshot have all raised rounds in the area of NFT fractionalization, loans, and appraisal technologies. Contrary to the talk of NFT bubbles, we believe we're still in the early days of developing this transformational asset class with corporate R&D just kicking off in February of 2021 with the runup of attention to the space.

Jake Brukhman — Founder & CEO of CoinFund
NFTs Deal Activity

$1B+ raised & 84 deals announced: NFTs hype convinced investors to deploy large amounts of capital

**H1 2021 NFTs Deal Activity**

More than $530M have been raised in NFTs in May 2021. Large late-stage rounds contributed:

- **Animoca Brands ($89M)** — with participation from SNZ Holding, Kingsway Capital, Metapurse, Liberty City Ventures, Huobi Capital, Hashkey Capital, and others.
- **GENIES ($65M)** — with participation from Bond Capital, Dapper Labs, Polychain Capital, Coinbase Ventures, and Hashkey Capital.
- **OneOf ($63M)** — with participation from Tezos Foundation, Sangha Capital, Jack Herrick, Bill Tai, Suna Said, and Jaeson Ma.
- **Big Time Studios ($21M)** — with participation from FBG Capital, Digital Currency Group, OKEx BlockDream Fund, Sound Ventures, and Alameda Research.

On average, 0.6 NFTs funding deals per working day were announced during H1 2021.

**NFTs-focused funds actively investing**

- Sfermion
  - 2 NFTs investments
  - Yield Guild Games
  - TradeStars

- Metapurse
  - 4 NFTs investments
  - Animoca Brands
  - OpenSea
  - Mintable

**NFTs-focused funds newly launched**

- Blockchain Creative Labs
  - No investment yet

- DELPHI INFINFT
  - No investment yet

14% NFTs fundraising rounds represent 14% of the crypto-related deals announced.

10% NFTs fundraising rounds represent 10% of the total amount raised by crypto companies.

0.6 On average, 0.6 NFTs funding deals per working day were announced during H1 2021.
The NFTs capital market is still in its infancy: 75%+ of rounds are earlier than Series A.

| Stages Share of NFTs Funding Deals in H1 2021* & Average Amount Per Stage |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Pre-Seed                                                    | Seed             | Strategic       | Series A  | Series B |
| 1.3%                                                        | 9%               | 18%             | 49%       |          |
| $65M                                                        | $14.5M           | $2.2M           | $3.8M     |          |

*15% of the rounds are uncategorized because no relevant information was provided about the funding stage.

On average, a NFTs company raised $12M per round in H1 2021.

NFTs only represent 3% of the blockchain-related late-stage* funding rounds.

Focus on Rarible’s Funding Rounds

After a Pre-Seed round in September 2020, a Seed Round in February 2021, Rarible raised a $14M Series A in June: a symbol of NFTs marketplaces attractivity.

Lead Investors: CoinFund, veer, Others: Coinbase Ventures, 1kx, 01 Advisors
Europe’s NFTs fundraising market is surprisingly small compared to the US and Asia.

**United States**
- 34 Announced Raises
- $456M raised

**Canada**
- 2 Announced Raises
- $307M raised

**United Kingdom**
- 6 Announced Raises
- $18.3M raised

**France**
- 1 Announced Raise
- $50.7M raised

**Germany**
- 1 Announced Raise
- $740k raised

**Other Countries**
- 8 Announced Raises
- $7.2M raised

**Russia**
- 2 Announced Raises
- $4.3M raised

**South Korea**
- 2 Announced Raises
- $2M raised

**Vietnam**
- 1 Announced Raise
- $7.5M raised

**Oceania**
- 2 Announced Raises
- $4M+ raised

**Singapore**
- 5 Announced Raises
- $26M totally raised

**Brazil**
- 2 Announced Raises
- $1.7M raised

**Other Southeast Asian Countries**
- 3 Announced Raises
- $97M raised

**Hong Kong**
- 2 Announced Raises
- $69M raised

**Middle East**
- 1 Announced Raise
- $4.5M raised

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*Percentages represent the split in dollars*
NFTs | Verticals

Most of the capital deployed towards NFTs projects has been focused on Marketplaces and Games

**H1 2021 NFTs Verticals Activity**

**Focus on Animoca Brands’ Activity**

Animoca Brands develops and publishes mobile games and products based on popular intellectual property. They received $89M in fresh capital in May 2021 from SNZ Holding, Liberty City Ventures, Metapurse, Kingsway Capital, Huobi Capital, and others. But it is also an active investor with 15+ investments made.

**Focus on the DeFi x NFTs category**

Several teams are building at the intersection of DeFi and NFTs – an emerging and promising vertical. $10M+ have been raised, with noteworthy rounds:

- **Trace Network ($1.6M)** — with participation from AU21 Capital, NGC Ventures, LD Capital, and others.
- **NFTBank ($1.4M)** — with participation from Hashed, Digital Currency Group, and 1kx.

**Total Amounts Raised Per Vertical**

- **Gaming**
  - 14 rounds
  - $435M raised

- **Collecting**
  - 6 rounds
  - $327M raised

*Many use cases can overlap (e.g. Collecting/Marketplace) — the project’s focus has been picked to categorize it*
« The current fundraising environment in the NFT sector is extremely active. What is exciting about this environment is the diversity of companies that are being formed. Art startups, gaming startups, virtual worlds startups, infrastructure, etc. There is a rush of talent entering the space that is being quickly funded by crypto-focused venture firms. »

Andrew Steinwold
Managing Partner at Sfermion

« NFT is crypto for normies and DeFi is crypto for elites. Hence why NFTs got on the mainstream radar much faster than DeFi and why the NFT space grew so quickly. »

Richard Chen
General Partner at 1confirmation
CeFi

1. Deal Activity
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3. Geography Focus
4. Verticals
$4.6B+ raised & 72 deals announced: CeFi fundraising attracted by far the largest amount of fresh capital

**H1 2021 CeFi Deal Activity**

- **Focus on March 2021**
  - **BlockFi ($350M)** — with participation from Bain Capital Ventures, Paradigm, ParaFi Capital, Jump Capital, Kenetic, CMS Holdings, and others.
  - **Blockchain.com ($300M)** — with participation from DST Global, Vy Capital, Lightspeed Venture Partners, Baillie Gifford, and others.
  - **Fireblocks ($133M)** — with participation from Stripes, Paradigm, and Galaxy Digital.
  - **TaxBit ($100M)** — with participation from Paradigm.

- **On average, 0.5 CeFi funding deals per working day were announced during H1 2021.**

- **12% CeFi fundraising rounds represent 12% of the crypto-related deals announced.**

- **46% CeFi fundraising rounds represent 46% of the total amount raised by crypto companies.**

- **0.5 CeFi funding deals per working day were announced during H1 2021.**

**Focus on new the most active funds in CeFi**

- **Coinbase Ventures**
  - 9 CeFi investments
  - Tesserac
  - Amber Group
  - Ledn

- **Paradigm**
  - 5 CeFi investments
  - Bitso
  - Fireblocks
  - Blockchain.com

- **DST Global**
  - 4 CeFi investments
  - Figure
  - Blockchain.com

- **CMT Digital**
  - 4 CeFi investments
  - Rain
  - Ledn
  - FalconX
CeFi | Capital Across Stages

CeFi represents more than half of the crypto late-stage rounds.

Stages Share of CeFi Funding Deals in H1 2021*

*Series B and beyond rounds are considered late-stage.

- 51% of the rounds are categorized as late-stage.
- On average, a CeFi company raised $64M per round in H1 2021.
- CeFi represents 51% of the blockchain-related late-stage funding rounds.

Zoom on Circle’s fundraising journey

After a Series A round back in October 2013, a Series B round in March 2014, Circle completed several funding rounds until a $440M round in May 2021. They recently announced they would go public in a $4.5B SPAC deal.

Investors:

- Digital Currency Group
- Pillar
- FTX
- Fidelity
- Breyer Capital
- VA

*9% of the rounds are uncategorized because no relevant information was provided about the funding stage.
CeFi | Geography

The US and Europe almost leave no room for the rest of the world in the CeFi market.

- **United States**: 29 announced raises, $3.3B raised
- **Europe**: 19 announced raises, $650M raised
- **United Kingdom**: 9 announced raises, $415M raised
- **France**: 2 announced raises, $11M raised
- **Germany**: 1 announced raise, $11M raised
- **Other Countries**: 7 announced raises, $219M raised
- **Hong Kong**: 4 announced raises, $212M raised
- **Singapore**: 2 announced raises, $7M raised
- **South America**: 2 announced raises, $64M raised
- **Canada**: 1 announced raise, $33M raised
- **India**: 2 announced raises, $40M raised
- **Germany**: 1 announced raise, $11M raised

*Percentages represent the split in dollars.*

More than $50M raised
Less than $50M raised

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CeFi | Verticals
Trading dominated CeFi raises

64 rounds $2.5B raised
1 round $440M raised

Total Amounts Raised Per CeFi Vertical

H1 2021 CeFi Verticals Activity

Focus on Pintu’s round
Pintu is building an Indonesian crypto exchange, focused on first-time cryptocurrency buyers. They raised a $6M Series A round in May, led by Pantera Capital, Intudo Ventures and Coinbase Ventures. Alameda Research, Blockchain.com Ventures, and Castle Island Ventures also participated in the round.

Focus on the Payment category
Projects building in the Payment vertical include:
- Developing a wide variety of payment APIs
- Offering a fast, fraud-proof payments network
- Fiat-to-crypto payment gateways
It raised a total of $24M with 6 deals.

- Trading dominated CeFi raises
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  It raised a total of $24M with 6 deals.
Web3

1. Deal Activity
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3. Geography Focus
4. Verticals
Web3 Deal Activity

$300M+ raised & 57 deals announced: Web3 is the smallest crypto category

Focus on June 2021

More than $100M have been raised in Web3 in June 2021. Such a milestone can be explained by outlining some noteworthy funding rounds:

- **Mythical Games ($75M)** — with participation from VaynerFund, Galaxy Digital, Javelin Venture Partners, Struck Capital, Alumni Ventures Group, and 01 Advisors.
- **Dtravel ($5M)** — with participation from Kenetic, Future Perfect Ventures, DHVC, Plutus VC, GBV Capital, AU21 Capital, Shima Capital, LD Capital, and others.
- **Decentral Games ($5M)** — with participation from Collab+Currency, Metaverse Ventures (a DCG company), GBV Capital, Bitscale Capital, Cluster Capital, ID Theory, and AU21 Capital.

Focus on some leading funds doubling down on Web3

| Fund           | Web3 investments
|----------------|------------------|
| OKEx           | 6 Web3 investments
| SubDAO         | iME              |
| Dora Factory   | OMK Ex           |
| IDEO           | 3 Web3 investments
| Common Protocol| Gitcoin          |
| Yield Guild Games| Async Art       |
| Friends With Benefits| Decentral Games |
| CMS Holding    | 6 Web3 investments
| SubDAO         | Common Protocol  |
| The Dapp List  |                 |

Web3 fundraising rounds represent 10% of the crypto-related deals announced.

Web3 fundraising rounds represent 3% of the total amount raised by crypto companies.

On average, 0.4 Web3 funding deals per working day were announced during H1 2021.
Web3 | Capital Across Stages

Only 1 late-stage round has been announced in the Web3 space

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**Stages Share of Web3 Funding Deals in H1 2021**

& **Average Amount Per Stage**

- **21%**
  - $2M
- **9%**
  - $14.5M
- **6%**
  - $314k
- **2%**
  - $65M
- **49%**
  - $3.8M

Percentages represent the split in volume

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*9% of the rounds are uncategorized because no relevant information was provided about the funding stage

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**Focus on Maps.me fundraising journey**

After a Seed Round back in 2013, Maps.me — which is building an offline mobile app with DeFi features for travelers — raised a $50M strategic round in January 2021.

**Lead Investors:**

**Other Investors:**

*Series B and beyond rounds are considered late stage
Web3 | Geography

The Web3 category is by far the least centralized as only 35% of the teams are US-based.

United States
15 Announced Raises
$104M raised

Europe
13 Announced Raises
$76M raised

United Kingdom
6 Announced Raises
$16M raised

France
2 Announced Raises
$2.6M raised

Germany
1 Announced Raise
$4.3M raised

Other Countries
5 Announced Raises
$52M raised

Singapore
3 Announced Raises
$5.3M raised

Canada
3 Announced Raises
$1.2M+ raised

China
3 Announced Raises
$8.6M raised

Australia
2 Announced Raises
$8M raised

Other Southeast Asian Countries
2 Announced Raises
$1.5M+ raised

Uncategorized
6 projects

35%

25%

6%

3%

8%

3%

2%

0.6%

3%

1%

More than $20M raised

Less than $20M raised

*Percentages represent the split in dollars

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Web3 | Verticals

Gaming and Leisure are the two main Web3 verticals that stand out.

**Gaming**
- 14 rounds
- **$106M** raised

**Leisure**
- 5 rounds
- **$60M** raised

### Total Amounts Raised Per Web3 Vertical

- Communication
- Content Creation
- Others
- Identity
- Leisure
- Social Collaboration
- Governance
- Gaming

- **$250,000,000**
- **$200,000,000**
- **$150,000,000**
- **$100,000,000**
- **$50,000,000**
- **$25,000,000**
- **$0**

**H1 2021 Web3 Verticals Activity**

**Focus on Friends With Benefits’ round**

Friends With Benefits is building a digital cornerstone between technology and culture communities. They diversified their treasury by bringing top investors on board — Divergence Ventures, Variant, Collab+Currency, Nascent, The LAO, Polychain Capital, MetaCartel Ventures, and Galaxy Interactive.

**Focus on the Social Collaboration category**

Projects building in the Payment vertical include:
- Developing a wide variety of payment APIs
- Offering a fast, fraud-proof payments network
- Fiat-to-crypto payment gateways

It raised a total of $24M with 6 deals.
« In a few years time, we are going to look back on the first half of 2021 and recall two things: the rise of new layer 1s, and the NFT + Social token bubble (that will come roaring back at some point once PMF is found). The former is the more important of the two. Ethereum has been grappling with scaling challenges since inception. And they still haven’t addressed them. In the first half of 2021, people started moving elsewhere, notable BSC and Polygon, both of which support copy-pasting EVM code, and neither of which inherit Ethereum’s security. Meanwhile, the Solana ecosystem broke out without EVM support. This means that apps have to be rebuilt from the ground up, but also allows for massive performance gains. In the last 6 months, there has been an explosion in Solana based applications across all fronts: DeFi, social media, NFTs, and more. Multicoin Capital has already made 7 investments in the Solana ecosystem and are actively looking for more. »

Kyle Samani — Founder & CEO of Multicoin Capital
Infrastructure

1. Deal Activity
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$2.7B+ raised & 136 deals announced: the Infrastructure fundraising landscape is still very much alive

Focus on June 2021

More than $1.2B have been raised in Infrastructure in June 2021. This is the biggest amount raised across all categories. Some noteworthy rounds:

- **Ledger ($380M)** — with participation from 10T Fund, Felix Capital, Uphold, Tekne Capital, iAngels Technologies, and others.
- **Solana ($314M)** — with participation from Andreessen Horowitz, Polychain Capital, Alameda Research, CMS Holdings, CoinShares, and others.
- **Stronghold Digital Mining ($105M)** — with participation from MG Capital.
- **Chainanalysis ($100M)** — with participation from Coatue Management, Benchmark, Accel, Addition, 9Yards Capital, and others.

On average, 1 Infrastructure funding deals per working day were announced during H1 2021.

Focus on some traditional funds investing in Infrastructure

- **Bessemer** 1 Infra. investment Skynet Labs
- **Accel** 1 Infra. investment Chainanalysis
- **NFX** 2 Infra. investments Ramp, Radicle
- **Founders Fund** 1 Infra. investment StarkWare

Infrastructure fundraising rounds represent 23% of the crypto-related deals announced.

Infrastructure fundraising rounds represent 27% of the total amount raised by crypto companies.
Infrastructure | Capital Across Stages

Infrastructure companies play a center role in the crypto late-stage fundraising ecosystem.

**Stages Share of Infrastructure Funding Deals in H1 2021**

- **Pre-Seed**: 2.1% ($71M)
- **Seed**: 0.7% ($380M)
- **Strategic**: 3.5% ($53M)
- **Series A**: 17% ($15M)
- **Series B**: 2.8% ($900k)
- **Series C**: 33% ($2.5M)
- **Series D**: 27% ($18M)

Percentages represent the split in volume

*9% of the rounds are uncategorized because no relevant information was provided about the funding stage.

**Focus on Solana’s fundraising journey**

After a Pre-Seed and a Seed round in 2018, and a $20M Series A round, Solana raised a huge $314M private token sale round in June 2021:

Lead Investors: Other Investors: CoinFund

*Series B and beyond rounds are considered late-stage funding rounds.*
The US and Europe account for almost 90% of the Infrastructure funding rounds. The US has 52 announced raises with $1.7B raised, while Europe has 38 announced raises with $630M raised. Germany has 6 announced raises with $30M raised, United Kingdom has 16 announced raises with $144M raised, and France has 4 announced raises with $413M raised. Other Southeast Asian countries have 4 announced raises with $33M+ raised, and Singapore has 9 announced raises with $26M raised. China has 3 announced raises with $3.6M raised, United Kingdom has 16 announced raises with $144M raised, and France has 4 announced raises with $413M raised. Other Southeast Asian countries have 4 announced raises with $33M+ raised, and Singapore has 9 announced raises with $26M raised.

*Percentages represent the split in dollars*
Infrastructure Verticals

Smart contracts platforms and mining solutions are the most attractive Infrastructure subcategories.

**Smart Contracts**
- **19 rounds**
- **$674M raised**

**Mining**
- **12 rounds**
- **$514M raised**

**Total Amounts Raised Per Infrastructure Vertical**

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**H1 2021 Infrastructure Verticals Activity**

**Focus on Chainalysis’ round**
Chainalysis provides blockchain data and analysis to governments, banks, and businesses worldwide. It raised a $100M Series D round in March 2021, and a $100M Series E round in June 2021. Lead investors were Paradigm and Coatue, perfectly symbolizing how traditional and crypto Funds tier-1 funds are now collaborating at later stage.

**Focus on the Mining category**
Mining companies totally raised $514M+ in H1 2021. Some of them are focused on being eco-friendly:
- **Blockcap ($75M)** — with participation from Dragonfly Capital, Derek Hsue, Castle Island Ventures, Robot Ventures, General Mining Research, and others.
- **MintGreen** — with participation from Colin Sullivan, Kurt Melnychuk, and Jennifer Zee.
Funds

1. Overview
2. Geography
3. Funding Flows
Funds | Overview

Europe and Asia are growing, but US funds are still leading the charge.

34 crypto-native funds entered the capital market

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>New Funds</th>
<th>Investments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

6% of funds are categorized as uncategorized, indicating funds for which we did not find relevant information on origin and localization.

18% of funds are traditional, while 82% are crypto-native.
Well-established firms announced new funds

Funds Overview

Crypto funds are getting larger and face competition from VC

Focus on traditional funds investing in crypto

There is no doubt that non-crypto native funds are more likely to participate in late-stage fundraising rounds. The average amount raised by crypto companies is $68.5M when at least one traditional fund is involved — compared to $27M when participants are crypto-focused funds only.

« Even on the heels of the recent drawdown through Q2, crypto focused venture hasn’t slowed down a bit. Fresh capital across a myriad of crypto-native funds coupled with traditional funds entering crypto in earnest again has resulted in larger rounds at higher valuations with most credible teams having no trouble raising in a matter of weeks. The interesting knock-on effect of this for legacy companies and protocols is the opportunity cost for top talent to not leave and start something new is high. While difficult for teams dealing with this, I believe it’s a net positive for the ecosystem generally, much like the days of big tech mafias up-leveling products and services in nascent sectors like FinTech. »

Clay Robbins — Principal at Slow Ventures
Aside from Australia, the general language, cultural, and context barrier had generally played to APAC projects’ disadvantage when it comes to #DeFi specific initiatives, whereby more promising upstarts emerge out of broader CeFi, infrastructure, and Web3 (NFT, Gaming, etc) areas. The number of metrics are generally abundant and are generally paired with shorter-term local funds, whereby a local cadre of non-DeFi, experience-oriented, app-centric projects start to take hold — I suspect this latter group will be the bright spot going forward.

MapleLeafCapital
Funds | Funding Flows

The United States are far ahead while China receives very little funding from American funds

- **US-based funds** mainly invest in home-based projects, with 62% of their investments towards US companies.
- **Europe** is catching up as more and more European-based quality projects are funded by European funds.
- **Southeast Asian** funds deploy 51% of their capital towards home-based projects, with Singapore and Hong-Kong leading the pack.

"We see that the crypto venture scene in Europe is definitely upping their game on all levels. It seems to only be lagging in terms of size and consequently the number of projects they invest into. Flip side of this is that it forces European investors to be more diligent when allocating. We think this is an actually a good thing."

Mathijs van Esch
Investment manager at Maven11 Capital

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**Ecosystem-Focused Flows**

- **SOLANA**
- **polygon**
- **Terra**
- **LID**
- **arrington**
- **DFC**
- **OKEx**
- **COINBASE**
- **AU21 CAPITAL**
- **and others**
Alternative Funding Methods

8+ deals & $160M+ raised: treasury diversification deals as a newcomer in the crypto funding space

H1 2021 Treasury Diversification Deals

Most Active Investors
with 2+ participations

Standard Deal Terms
Most used pricing mechanisms are:
• Applying a discount on a time-weighted average price
• Defining a fees stream multiple
• Taking the spot price
1-year cliff/1-year linear unlock schedule have been the most common terms so far.

Advantages
Treasury diversification is relatively new but it has been going from a best practice to a real trend in H1 because it provides key benefits:
• Protection against a potential market downturn
• Bringing in long-term value-aligned investors, which can vote and draft governance proposals.

UMA’s fundraising experimentations

Range Tokens
« A new treasury primitive that enables DAOs to access funds and diversify their treasury without directly selling their native tokens. Range tokens function as a loan a DAO can take against its own treasury — a sort of “crypto native convertible debt.” »
The goal is to turn this into a primitive used by many DAOs to borrow against and diversify their treasury.

Success Tokens
« Success tokens provide a way for VC investors to buy tokens from a DAO that is more palatable to a tokenholder community but maintains proper upside alignment with the VCs. »
It offers an alternative way for DAOs to diversify their treasury. They believe this structure has the potential to become the standard way that venture investors do “Series B” deals with crypto projects.
Thank you!

Stay up to date on crypto fundraising news by signing up for Dove Metrics.