

# Reasons to believe new to credit banking presents a growing opportunity

## Market overview

18.5M

Students enrolling in 4 year college or university programs in the US in 2022

45M

Annual US customers that comprise unserved or underserved segments

## Growth projections

7.2B

Market cap for alternative data in 2023

50.6%

CAGR for alternative data market through 2030

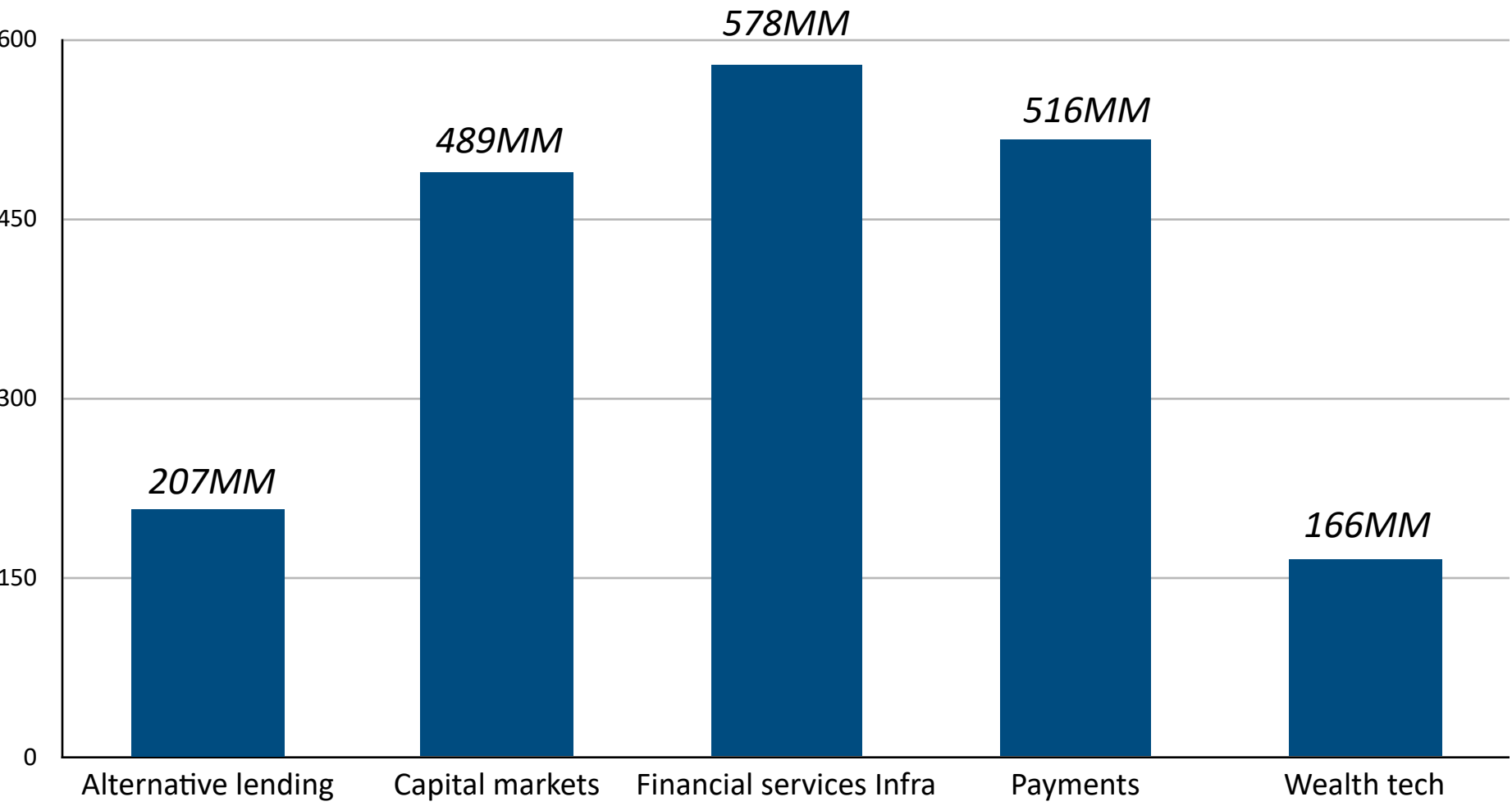
1.31B

Global personal finance market cap in 2023

3.6x

Q1 to Q2 increase in VC wealth tech investments

## Investments by vertical



Data from Pitchbook Enterprise Fintech Q1 2024 report

## Key trends

### High digital adoption bodes well for student segment

- With at least 95% of teens in the US having access to a smart phone, lower barriers to entry for financial products allows for high fintech growth

### Limited student underwriting models presents an opportunity

- Financial regulations and policies make it hard to collect data for insights on the spend behavior of new-to-credit adults

### Customer exhibit loyalty to primary financial services

- 57% of customers stay with their primary banking service, which projects high lifetime values for customers of first choice fintechs

# Students and teens represent a growing segment of the US population

## Market size

- **38.9M** college and high school students in the US yearly
- Assuming a normal distribution, about **5M** new students enter colleges and universities each year
- Public vs private high schools - 15.4M vs 1.5M in 2021
- Around **4M** new students enter high school each year
- 85% of college students have a debit card
- 19% of high school students have a debit card

## Trends and insights

### Student population poised for **economic growth**

- With GenZ comprising 32% of the global population in 2019, this segment already outnumbers millennials
- GenZ population has surpassed the Baby Boomers in the workplace, with a growing presence

### College expenses and student spend are both increasing

- Median spending of college students increased by 38% between 2002 and 2022
- Increased social media engagement leads to student “FOMO” and more spend

Increased GenZ access to credit, growing e-commerce and student spend means that students can benefit from banking products and services to meet their financial needs

# Insights on student spend and creditworthiness

GenZ students are **more credit active** than millennials were as students

- Within the GenZ population, 50% have a credit card and a prime credit score
- 57% of college students in 2019 had a credit card
- average age at which a US student opens a line of credit is 20, and earlier credit use is correlated with a higher annual income

Student loan data may be omitted from bureau data

- Similar to how in 2022 the credit bureaus removed paid medical collections from credit reports, student loan data may be removed from credit reports
- A decision was made to not report student loan delinquencies to credit bureaus for 12 months until September 30, 2024, as a part of changes to resume student loan payments post pandemic
- The average consumer with a student loan carries about \$35K in debt

**National Student Clearinghouse**, the most comprehensive source of national student-level college and university enrollment data

- collects education records from participating Institutions, education agencies, and other education authorities

# Student data is a useful data enrichment for Financial Services applications

## Inflow and outflow

Spend frequency, amount and on what products/service

- **Where is this data?** Cash App, Apple Wallet, Google/Samsung Pay, Venmo
- Wallets remain among the fastest growing payment methods with 15% CAGR at POS and 12% annual growth in e-com forecast through 2026.
- As of 2022 (the most recent data year), digital wallets displaced credit cards as the primary method of e-commerce payment in the US

## Liquidity

Savings collection and rate of deposits over time

- **Where is this data?** piggy banks, savings/joint account, CDs, IRA (no age minimum)
- 73% of GenZ say they would rather have a better quality of life than extra savings
- 35% of teens do not have a traditional bank account, which can make saving more difficult
- Children from low-or-moderate-income families, who have a savings account, are three times more likely to go to college, and four times more likely to graduate college

## Ambition and prospects

Education level, post-college path and lifestyle indicators

- **Where is this data?** college/scholarship applications, university reports, skills programs
- An additional year of schooling raises an individual's credit score by 8 points (roughly 9% of a standard deviation)
- One year of schooling reduces the probability of bankruptcy by 3.3 percentage points, from a base of 14.4%
- Case study by the [Senate Banking Committee](#) analyzes how Upstart's proprietary credit scoring model uses an individual's school/major/anticipated income to determine creditworthiness - recommendation was for CFPB to conduct fair lending examinations for use of such data in **underwriting or credit decision making**