



Did you know that the average return from investing in stocks is **10% per year** [\(not accounting for inflation\)](#)? But who wants to be average?!

You have been asked to support an investment firm by analyzing trends in high-growth companies. They are interested in understanding which industries are producing the highest valuations and the rate at which new high-value companies are emerging. Providing them with this information gives them a competitive insight as to industry trends and how they should structure their portfolio looking forward.

You have been given access to their `unicorns` database, which contains the following tables:

dates

Column	Description
<code>company_id</code>	A unique ID for the company.
<code>date_joined</code>	The date that the company became a unicorn.
<code>year_founded</code>	The year that the company was founded.

funding

Column	Description
<code>company_id</code>	A unique ID for the company.
<code>valuation</code>	Company value in US dollars.
<code>funding</code>	The amount of funding raised in US dollars.
<code>select_investors</code>	A list of key investors in the company.

industries

Column	Description
<code>company_id</code>	A unique ID for the company.
<code>industry</code>	The industry that the company operates in.

companies

Column	Description
<code>company_id</code>	A unique ID for the company.
<code>company</code>	The name of the company.
<code>city</code>	The city where the company is headquartered.
<code>country</code>	The country where the company is headquartered.
<code>continent</code>	The continent where the company is headquartered.

```
-- 1. Finding the top industries
WITH top_industries AS (
  SELECT
    i.industry,
    COUNT(*) AS total_unicorns
  FROM dates d
  JOIN industries i ON d.company_id = i.company_id
  WHERE EXTRACT(YEAR FROM d.date_joined) BETWEEN 2019 AND 2021
  GROUP BY i.industry
  ORDER BY total_unicorns DESC
  LIMIT 3
),
-- 2. Gathering yearly rankings data
industry_year_stats AS (
  SELECT
    i.industry,
    EXTRACT(YEAR FROM d.date_joined) AS year,
    COUNT(*) AS num_unicorns,
    ROUND(AVG(f.valuation::numeric) / 1000000000.0, 2) AS average_valuation_billions
  FROM dates d
  JOIN industries i ON d.company_id = i.company_id
  JOIN funding f ON d.company_id = f.company_id
  WHERE EXTRACT(YEAR FROM d.date_joined) BETWEEN 2019 AND 2021
    AND i.industry IN (SELECT industry FROM top_industries)
    AND f.valuation IS NOT NULL
  GROUP BY i.industry, EXTRACT(YEAR FROM d.date_joined)
),
-- 3. Returning the final results
expanded_years AS (
  SELECT industry, year
  FROM top_industries, (SELECT 2019 AS year UNION ALL SELECT 2020 UNION ALL SELECT 2021) y
),
final_stats AS (
  SELECT
    e.industry,
    e.year,
    COALESCE(iys.num_unicorns, 0) AS num_unicorns,
    COALESCE(iys.average_valuation_billions, 0.00) AS average_valuation_billions
  FROM expanded_years e
  LEFT JOIN industry_year_stats iys
    ON e.industry = iys.industry AND e.year = iys.year
)
SELECT
  industry,
  year,
  num_unicorns,
  average_valuation_billions
FROM final_stats
ORDER BY industry, year DESC;
```

...	industry	num...	...	average_valuation_billions
...	↑↓	...	↑↓	...	↑↓	...	↑↓	...
0	E-commerce & direct-to-consumer		2021		47		2.47	
1	E-commerce & direct-to-consumer		2020		16		4	
2	E-commerce & direct-to-consumer		2019		12		2.58	
3	Fintech		2021		138		2.75	
4	Fintech		2020		15		4.33	
5	Fintech		2019		20		6.8	
6	Internet software & services		2021		119		2.15	
7	Internet software & services		2020		20		4.35	
8	Internet software & services		2019		13		4.23	