The State of European PE Multiples

Where are PE Multiples headed?

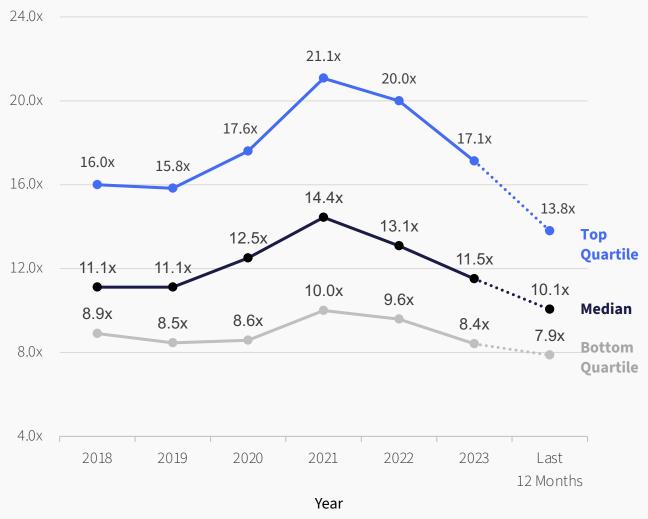


An update on PE multiples in Europe



PE multiples contracted sharply in 2023 and continue to fall into 2024

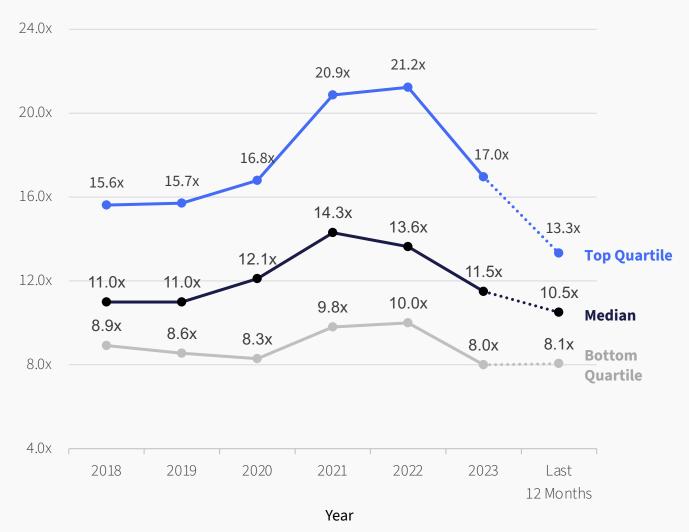
EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE-backed entries and exits in Europe





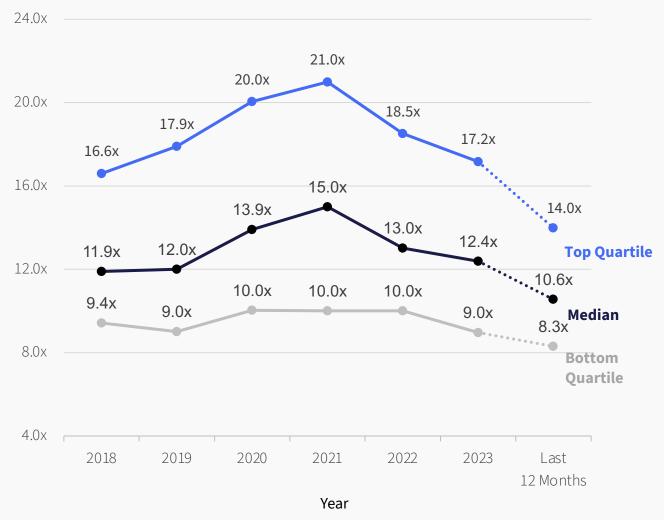
Entry multiples are now lower than their pre-pandemic levels

EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE-backed entries in Europe



Exit multiples are also down 1/3rd from their 2021 peak

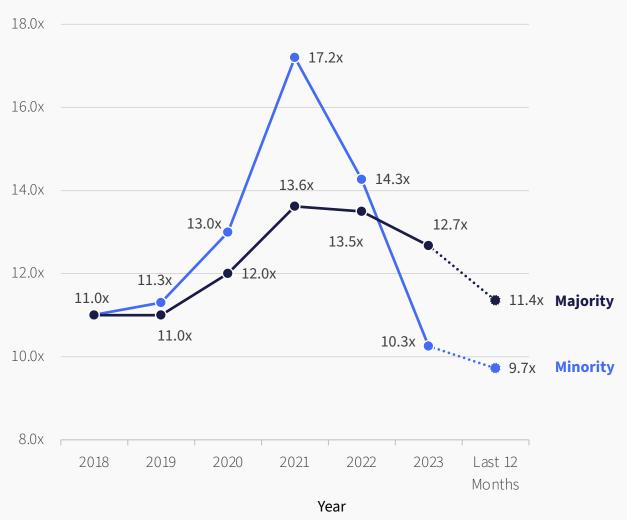
EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE-backed exits in Europe





The minority deal frenzy of 2021 has cooled down

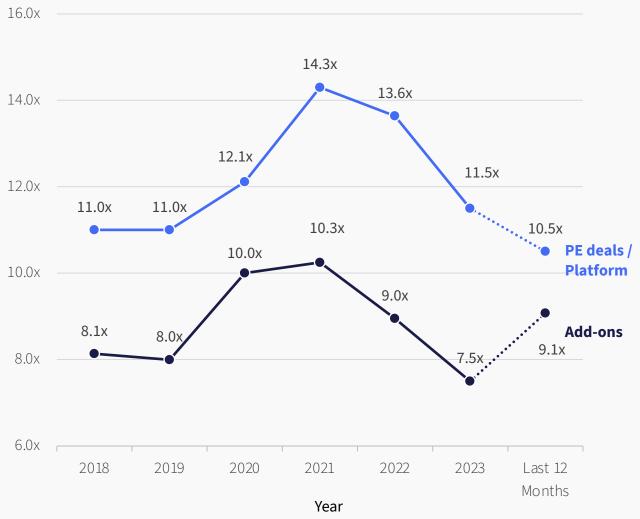
EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE entries in Europe





Add-ons are still cheaper to buy but the discount is narrowing

Median EV to EBITDA entry multiples (trailing) for platform and add-on deals





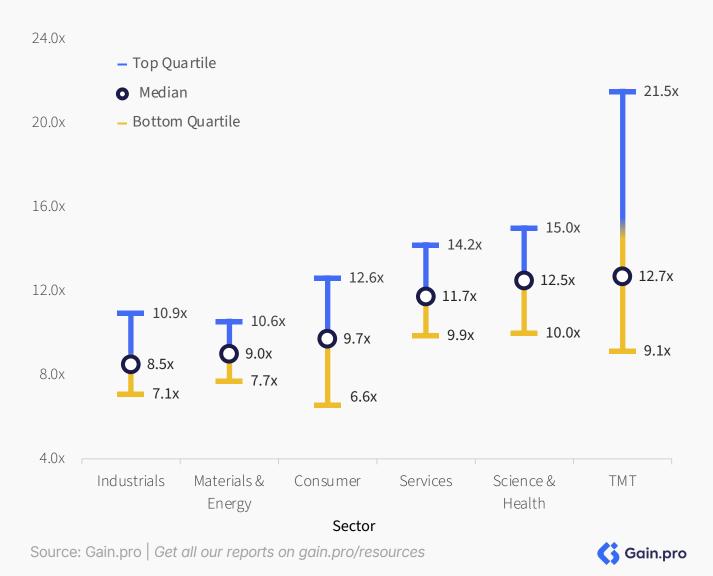
Multiples are down sharply across all sectors since 2021 peak

EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE entries & exits in Europe



TMT and Science & Health maintain a healthy premium to other sectors

EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE entries & exits in Europe (last 12 months)



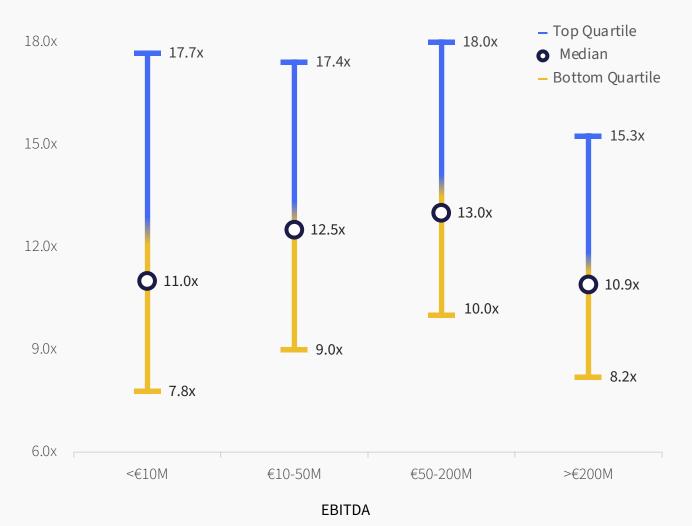
UK&I, Nordics, DACH, and CEE command higher market multiples

EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE entries & exits in Europe (2018-24)



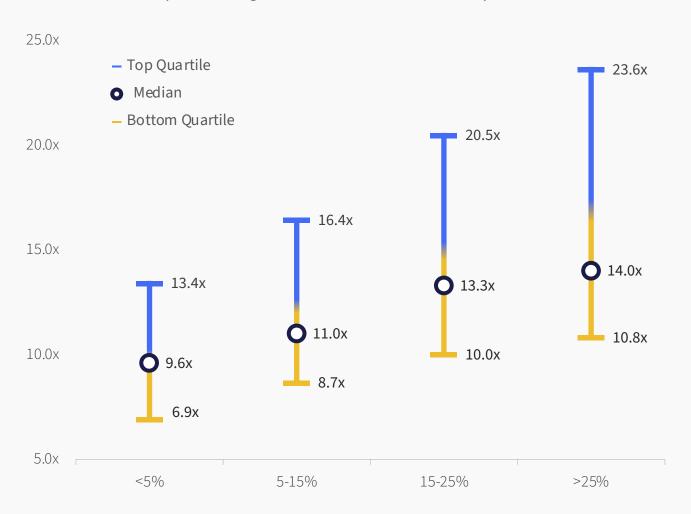
Multiples rise with size, but megalarge firms buck the trend

EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE entries & exits in Europe (2018-24)



Growth is the #1 factor for an asset's valuation

EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE entries & exits in Europe (2018-24)

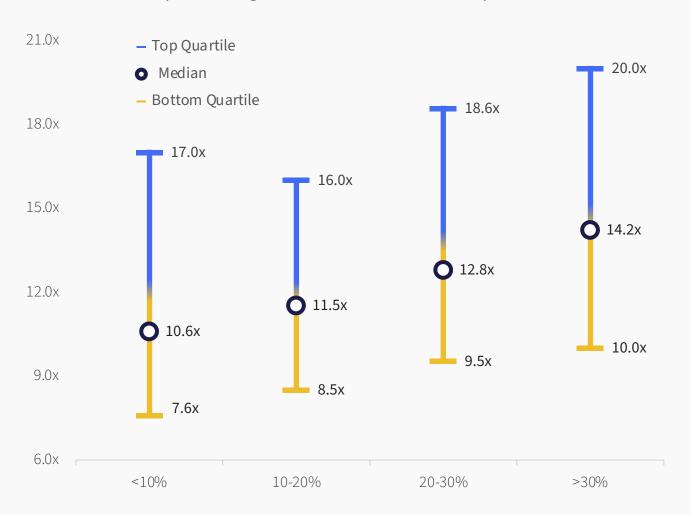


Asset revenue growth CAGR ('18-'23)



Higher EBITDA margin = higher multiple as well

EV to EBITDA multiples (trailing) for PE entries & exits in Europe (2018-24)



Assets EBITDA margin (last reported)



Methodology

- The data for this analysis comes from Gain.pro. We only focused on PE deals in Europe.
- We define PE-backed entries as those in which a PE firm took a minority or majority stake. We define PE-backed exits as those in which a PE firm sold a minority or majority stake.
- We exclude any VC rounds from our analysis. Both entries and exits also exclude live and aborted deals.
- All EBITDA related metrics such as EBITDA margin and EV/EBITDA multiples exclude Financial Services from calculations.
- All the multiples used in the analysis are trailing multiples



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