# Government Contracting Ecosystem Update

**Technomile ELEVATE** 

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#### SO NICE TO MEET YOU!





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**RSM BY THE NUMBERS COMBINED RSM US AND RSM CANADA** 

**REVENUE IN FISCAL 2022** 

13,549 **EMPLOYEES IN FISCAL 2022**  1,101

PARTNERS AND PRINCIPALS IN FISCAL 2022



6 LOCATIONS IN CANADA

LOCATION IN EL SALVADOR

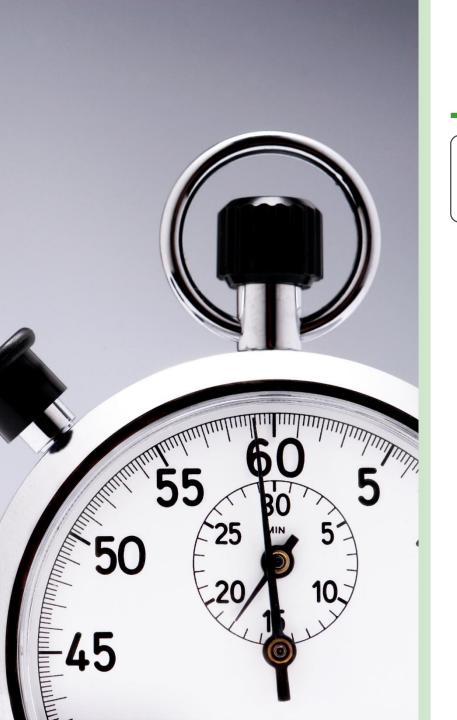
LOCATION IN INDIA

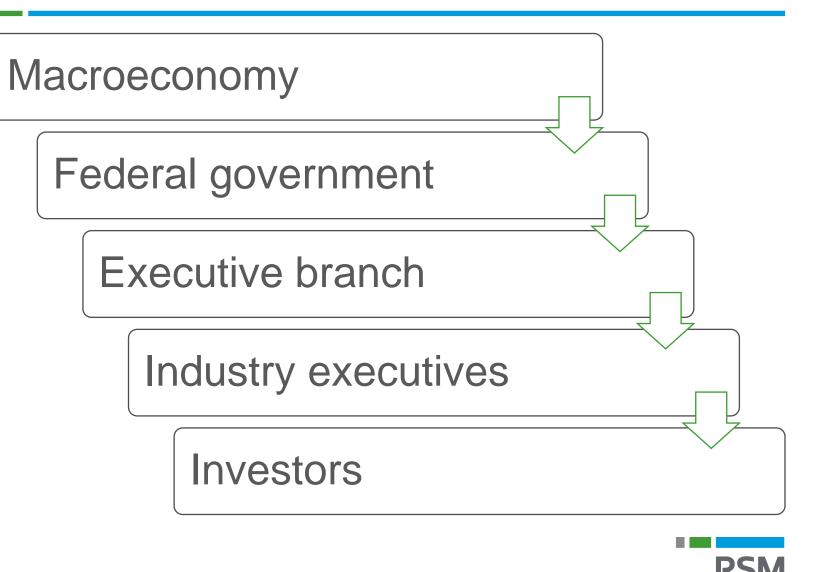
82

**CITIES IN THE UNITED** STATES

#### **RSM INTERNATIONAL**







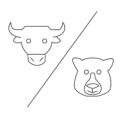
## U.S. economy: growth, inflation and geopolitical tensions





#### **Economic themes**

- Economy resilient with upside
- Labor market remains tight; capital expenditure boom possible once price stability reached
- Acute inflation peaked at 9.1% (June '22); wage growth 4-5%
- Fed right at terminal rate, balance sheet runoff continues
- Recession probability 40%



#### Core economic fundamentals

- 50-plus year low unemployment, strong household balance sheets
- Still adding >150k jobs per month; prime-aged employment near record high
- Steady corporate profits, low leverage
- Tighter lending conditions for middle market to persist



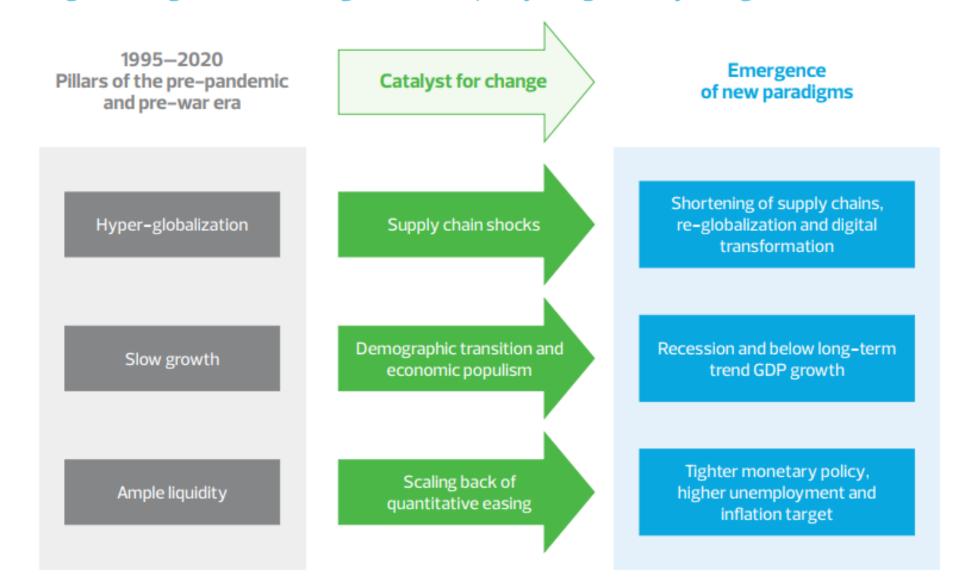
#### Consumption outlook

- There is no "The Consumer"; highly segmented, targeting bolstered by data, artificial intelligence
- US core inflation remains sticky in services 5.1%, top line all-items inflation falling markedly
- Easing inflation bolstering real wages
- Average interest rate charged on credit card near 20%.

#### A break from the past

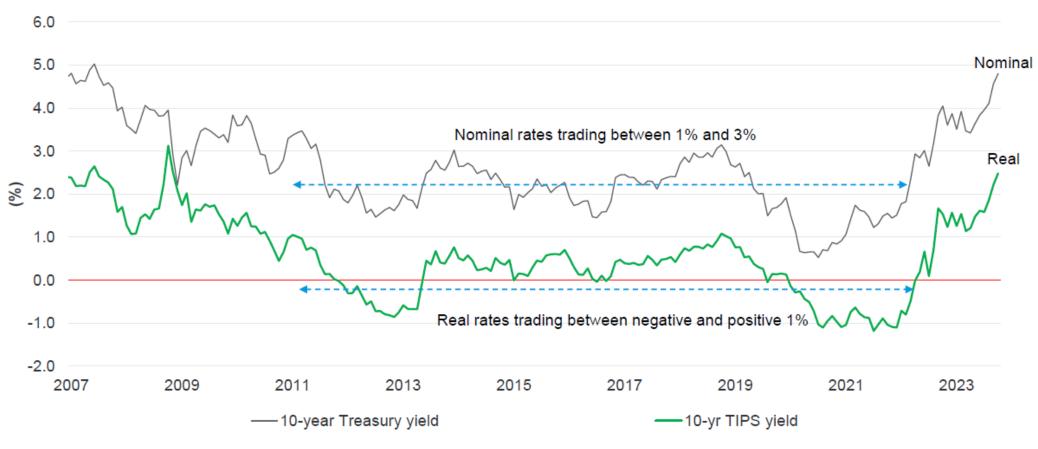


Regime change: Globalization, growth and liquidity to significantly change



# Nominal 10-year interest rates are approaching 5% Real 10-year interest rates are approaching 3%





Source: Bloomberg; RSM US

**Nominal interest rate**: Coupon rate – the actual price borrowers pay lenders with no adjustments.

7 Real interest rate: Nominal interest rate adjusted for inflation. Better illustrates borrower's buying power when making investment decisions.

# Signs of normalization: Term premium is positive again



# The impact of expectations of monetary policy on 10-year bond yields and the normalization of the term premium

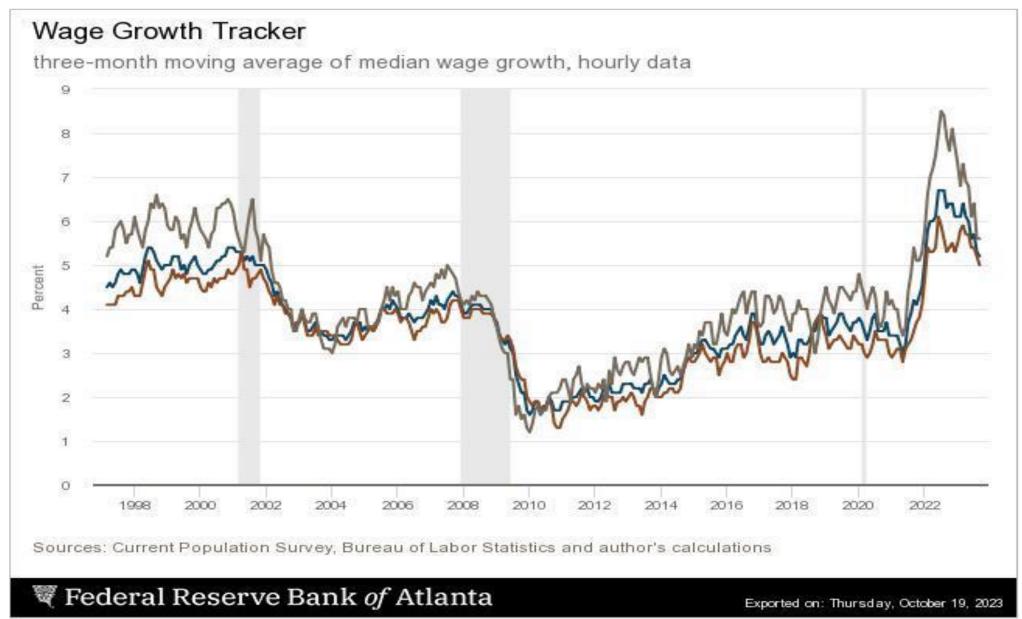


Source: Adrian, Crunch and Moench; NY Fed; Bloomberg; RSM US LLP

**Term premium**: the added compensation investors expect for the unknown associated with holding longer-term debt.

## Wage growth for switchers has peaked; reset higher





### Prime age employment near record high



#### Labor force participation rate: Prime age 25-54

In percentages



Source: BLS, RSM US

### Stumbling blocks for the global economy



#### China's debt and deleveraging crisis

There could be a further slowdown in China's property sector, a domestic debt overload or the inability of emerging economies to repay Chinese loans. These type of crisis take 7-10 years to work through.

#### Geopolitical uncertainty

An escalation of the war in Ukraine remains a major threat, further destabilizing energy and food markets and further fragmenting the global economy. The recent outbreak of hostilities between Israel and Hamas, if it spills over to a conflict with Iran risks a prolonged period of volatility in oil and energy markets.

#### Repercussions for emerging markets

Unchecked inflation, particularly in Europe, could disrupt the financial markets, with increased financial risk affecting the ability of emerging economies to maintain debt requirements.

#### US upside



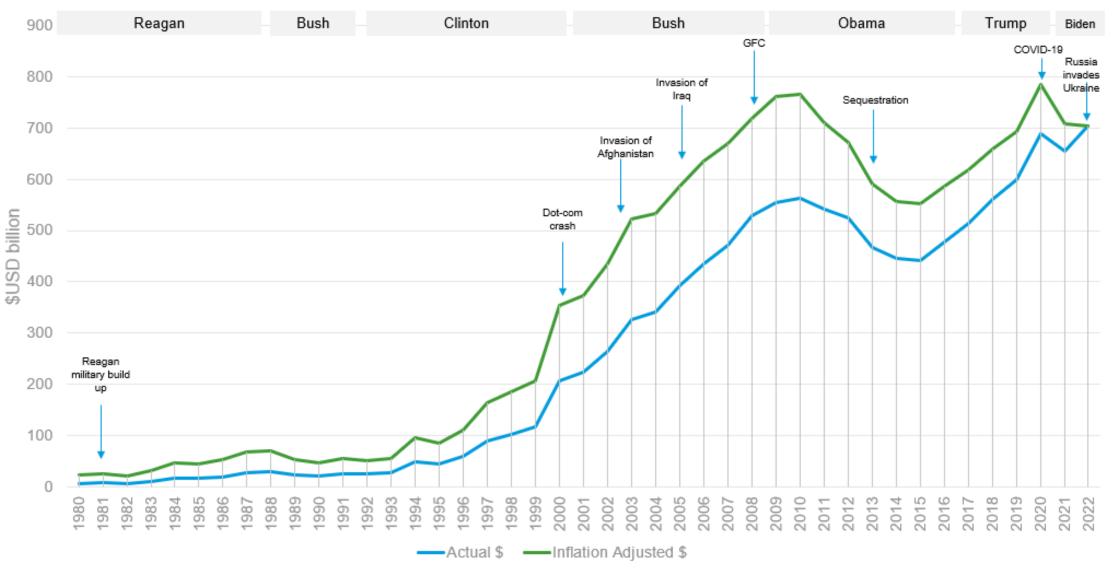
## Price stability = corporate and investment visibility

#### Growth, consumption and policy normalization

- Consumer remains resilient
- Capex boom due to decades of underinvestment, both corporate and infrastructure
- Growth persistently surprises to upside
- Adjustment across economy to higher rates (not without pain)
- Global turmoil directs investment to US, mitigates potential interest rate shock

### Perspective: federal government contract spending over time





Source: Bloomberg Government, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, RSM US LLP

13

## Industrial policy takes center stage



#### **Real construction spending**

Inflation adjusted; \$ millions



Source: BLS, Census Bureau, RSM US

## 31 "Regional Innovation and Technology Hubs" announced



- Authorized by the CHIPS and Science Act (signed in August 2022)
- Tech Hubs will catalyze investment in technologies critical to economic growth, national security, and job creation, and will help communities across the country become centers of innovation critical to American competitiveness.
- Bring together industry, state and local governments, higher ed, labor unions, tribal communities and non-profit organizations.
- \$75m of grants to further develop fields of focus
- Chosen from 370 applications
- Future rounds of the program expected

More info: White House Fact Sheet

#### Critical industries / areas of focus:



 Enabling safe and effective autonomous systems (3)



Maintaining our quantum edge (2)



 Advancing biotechnology in drugs and medical devices (6)



 Advancing biotechnology precision and prediction (5)



 Accelerating America's clean energy transition (5)



 Strengthening our critical minerals supply chain (2)



 Regaining leadership in semiconductor manufacturing (4)



 Growing the future of materials manufacturing (4)

# An evolving defense landscape

The 2022 National Defense Strategy, or NDS, places a primary focus on the need to sustain and strengthen U.S. deterrence against China. It also advances a focus on collaboration with a growing network of U.S. allies and partners on shared objectives.

In addition to addressing both China and an increase in the importance of partnerships, the NDS also takes into account the challenges posed by Russian — especially considering its invasion of Ukraine — along with threats posed by North Korea, Iran and violent extremist organizations. The NDS also includes a focus on challenges to security, such as pandemics and climate change.

With the U.S. nuclear capability remaining the "ultimate backstop" for strategic deterrence, the secretary said the department plans to continue modernization efforts on the nuclear triad. The fiscal 2023 budget request, for instance, includes some \$34 billion to sustain and modernize nuclear forces, he said.

"Innovation is central here," he said. "Last year, for instance, we established the Rapid Defense Experimentation Reserve, which funds different parts of the department to work together to fill critical joint warfighting gaps. And our fiscal year 2023 budget request included more than \$130 billion for research, development, testing and evaluation — that's the largest R&D budget number in DOD history."

The department is also working with industry partners to strengthen supply chains within the defense industrial base, and tackling the dangers of climate change, including ensuring that the military can continue to operate in both hotter and harsher environments.













#### **Replicator Program**

Boost to American drone manufacturers.

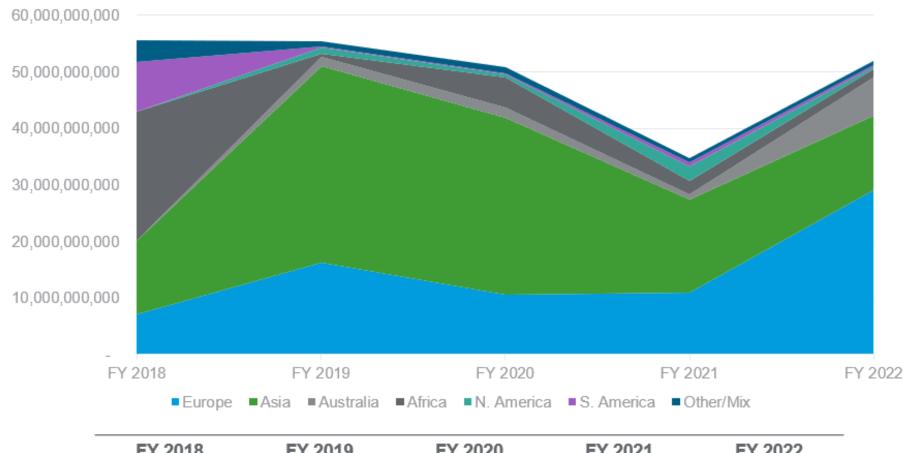
- Bandwidth
- Tactical Prowess
  - Speed



https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3202438/dod-releases-national-defense-strategy-missile-defense-nuclear-posture-reviews/

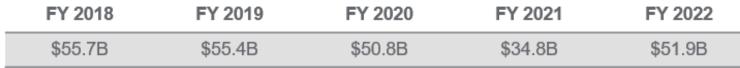


## Foreign military sales by continent



FY 2022 Top 5		
Finland	\$11.8B	
Australia	\$6.7B	
Switzerland	\$5.7B	
Poland	\$4.8B	
Japan	\$2.8B	

FY 2021 Top 5		
Japan	\$3.9B	
United Kingdom	\$2.9B	
Taiwan	\$2.7B	
Canada	\$2.6B	
Egypt	\$2.0B	







# Executive orders ... just to name a few

EO 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in American by All of America
January 25, 2021



EO 14017: America's Supply Chains February 24, 2022



**EO 14026: Increasing the Minimum Wage for Federal Contractors**April 27, 2021



EO 14028: Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity
May 12, 2021



EO 14032: Addressing the Threat From Securities Investments that Finance Certain Companies in China
June 3, 2021



EO 14034: Protecting Americans'
Sensitive Data from Foreign Adversaries
June 9, 2021



EO 14036: Promoting Competition in the American Economy
July 9, 2021



EO 14057: Catalyzing America's Clean Energy Economy Through Federal Sustainability December 8, 2021



EO 14063: Use of Project Labor
Agreements for Federal Construction
Projects
February 4, 2022





# Executive orders ... just to name a few more

EO 14069: Advancing Economy,
Efficiency, and Effectiveness in Federal
Contracting by Promoting Pay Equity
and Transparency

March 15, 2022



EO 14082: Implementation of the Energy and Infrastructure Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

September 12, 2022



EO 14093: Prohibition on Use by the United States Government of Commercial Spyware That Poses Risks to National Security

March 27, 2023



EO 14073: Enhancing the National Quantum Initiative Advisory Committee May 4, 2022



EO 14083: Ensuring Robust
Consideration of Evolving National
Security Risks by the Committee on
Foreign Investment in the United States
September 15, 202



EO 14104: Federal Research & Development in Support of Domestic Manufacturing and United States Jobs

July 28, 2023



EO 14080: Implementation of the CHIPS
Act of 2022
August 25, 2022



EO 14086: Enhancing Safeguards for United States Signals Intelligence Activities





EO 14105: Addressing United States
Investments in Certain National Security
Technologies and Products in Countries
of Concern

August 9, 2023



## Key themes from executives in the ecosystem





M&A slows but continues



The world doubles down on defense



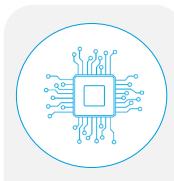
Record funding for R&D



ESG brings regulation and opportunity



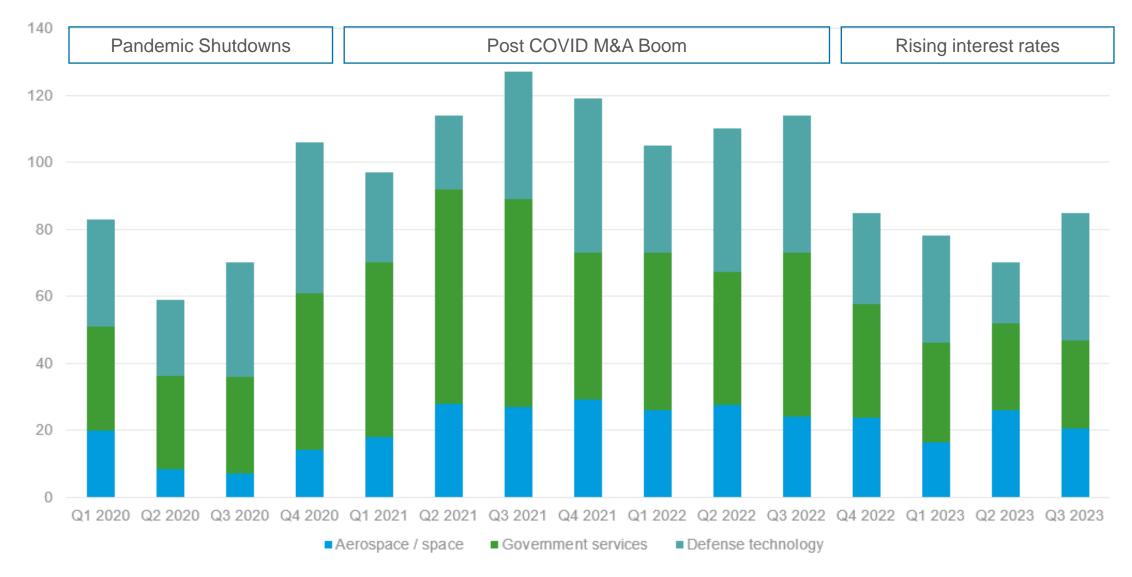
Cyber requirements continue to climb



Industrial policy ushers in a new era

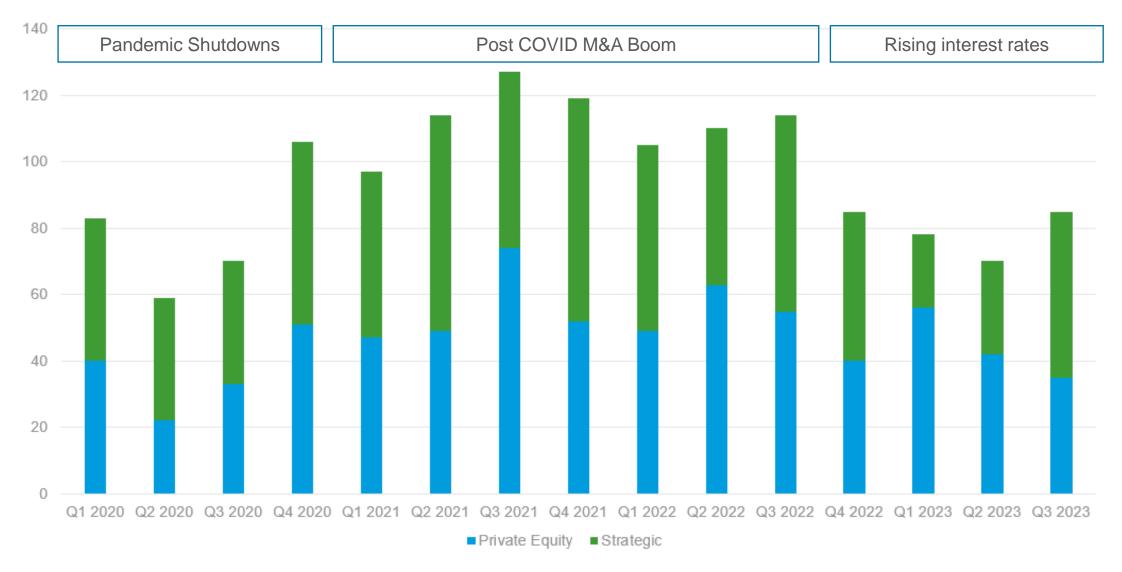
## Quarterly M&A deal count by sector





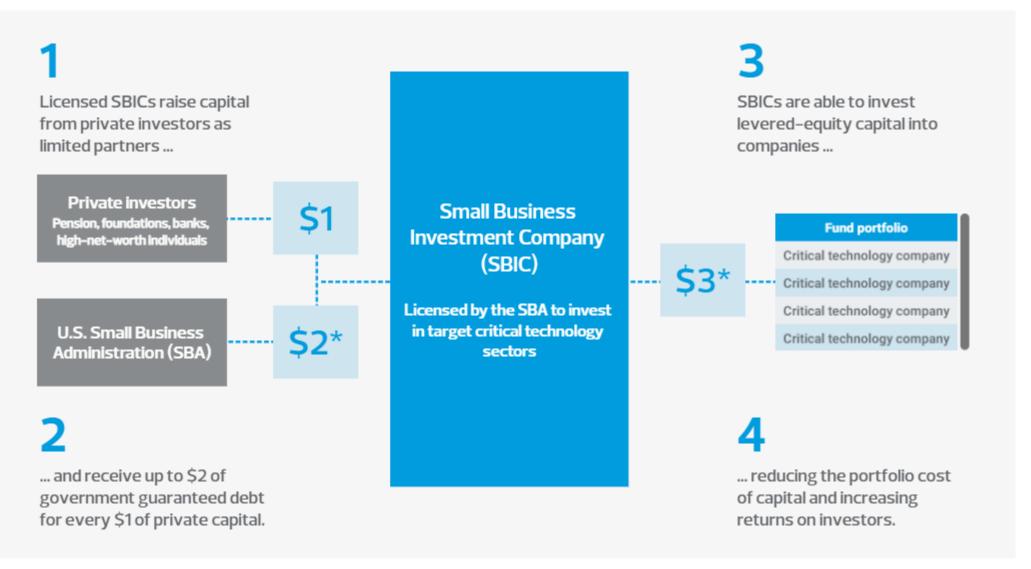
## Quarterly M&A deal count by buyer type





#### First OSC program activity: The SBIC critical technologies initiative





Source: Office of Strategic Capital

\*Up to two times leverage in the standard SBIC debenture. The deferred accrual debenture leverage amount is undergoing final rulemaking.





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