

A Benchmark of 200+ Early Stage Tech Companies

With Insights from the Region's Leading Entrepreneurs

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INTRO

LAVCA conducted an Inaugural Survey of Latin American Startups to capture and report on the evolution and impact of 220+ of the region's leading early stage tech companies.

This research establishes a baseline of critical information at an inflection point for Latin America's entrepreneurial and tech ecosystem – in 2018 venture investment reached record levels, driving an increasing number of startups to unicorn status.

As a non-profit member organization of the leading private capital investors in Latin America, LAVCA witnessed first-hand the maturing of the region's early-stage tech market over the past decade. In 2016, LAVCA used proprietary VC data to map out all known tech startups with US\$1m+ in VC financing, the basis of a verified annual **Directory of Latin American Startups**.



The list of verified startups more than **doubled** by 2018, while VC investment into Latin American startups had almost **quadrupled**. In this context, LAVCA launched

the Latin American Tech Growth Coalition to align efforts of leading global and Latin American tech companies and investors in support of the region's high growth startups. Members include Facebook, Google, Microsoft, Telefonica Open Innovation, Qualcomm Ventures, Riverwood Capital, MercadoLibre, Globant, Movile, and KIO Networks.

With Facebook's support, LAVCA broadened its scope and invited startups with any amount or type of funding to respond to an inaugural **Startup Survey**. Over 220 verified startups (see methodology) across sectors, stages and geographies replied, establishing the region's first benchmarks on founder experience, jobs creation, workforce diversity, regulatory barriers to growth, and the impact they are generating *and* measuring.

The findings point to an experienced set of leaders with global ambitions for their technologies as well as a clear focus on driving impact locally:



Jobs: The 227 startups that responded have created **25,000+** full-time jobs in the past ten years



Experience: 66% of participating founders have started multiple companies; 59% advise other startups



Growth: 89% of startups reported positive net revenue growth for 2017-2018



Footprint: **86%** of startups have 1-2 local operating subsidiaries



Frontier Tech: **73%** of startups across all sectors are using some form of big data, machine learning, or artificial intelligence.



Impact: **59%** are measuring some form of impact; job creation and financial inclusion top the list



Diversity: 29% said they've reached gender parity or greater in their workforce



INTRO

Major Milestones

In 2018, VC managers invested just under US\$2b, compared to US\$500m in 2015. New unicorns include iFood, Rappi, Nubank, Movile, Stone Pagamentos (IPO), and PagSeguro (IPO).

At the same time, major global tech investors entered the market to back the region's most innovative early-stage startups. Rappi, Loggi, 99, **iFood,** and others have attracted global funding and competitors into a fierce battle over local transportation and logistics. Brazilian fintech **Nubank** has become the world's largest digital bank outside of China, raising over US\$400m in 2018 from DST Global, Tencent, Sequoia Capital, Kaszek Ventures, and others.†

In March 2019, SoftBank announced a US\$5b VC fund for Latin America, and MercadoLibre raised US\$1.85b from PayPal and others to extend its ecommerce and digital payments infrastructure through the region.

Latin America has emerged as a key consumer tech market globally. Beyond rideshare, Airbnb, Netflix, as a top growth market globally. Amazon launched its first-ever debit card in Mexico; Uber launched its 1,553-mile fiber optic cable to boost internet speeds

Nicolas Szekasy, LAVCA board member, Kaszek Ventures Managing Partner, and a co-founder of MercadoLibre. credits a new generation of entrepreneurs that "The next 20 years "dream big, execute look even brighter. We are at an inflection with excellence, and build amazing, high point in the region as secular

impact companies."

technology trends, depth of talent, flows of capital, and success stories feed and accelerate this virtuous cycle." -Nicolas Szekasy, Kaszek Ventures

Spotify, and WeWork have flagged Latin America first digital wallet in Brazil; Facebook is building a in Argentina.



CREATED BY LAVCA



The Association for Private Capital Investment in Latin America (LAVCA) is a not-for-profit membership organization dedicated to supporting the growth of private capital in Latin America and the Caribbean. Members include over 190 firms, from leading global investment firms active in the region and local fund managers to family offices, global sovereign wealth funds, corporate investors, and international pension plans. Member firms control assets in excess of US\$65b, directed at capitalizing and growing Latin American businesses. LAVCA's mission – to spur regional economic growth by advancing private capital investment - is accomplished through programs of research, networking forums, education and advocacy of sound public policy. Visit www.lavca.org for more information.

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Founded in 2004, Facebook's mission is to give people the power to build community and bring the world closer together. People use Facebook to stay connected with friends and family, to discover what's going on in the world, and to share and express what matters to them. Globally, there are more than 2.7B people using Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram or Messenger each month.



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ABOUT THE SURVEY

The **Inaugural Survey of Latin American Startups** summarizes the plans, information, experience, and opinions of **227 verified Startups**. Conducted by The Association of Private Capital Investment in Latin America (LAVCA) in **Q4 2018**, this survey represents the most comprehensive set of information on Latin American startups available to date.

Results are reported in aggregate and include responses from 227 verified startups:

Responses were vetted for thoroughness and credibility, with the majority (88%) from C-level executives:

166
RESPONSES

with US\$500k-US\$100M+ in self-reported funding

(excluding founders capital)

61 **RESPONSES**

from qualified tech startups with self-reported **alternate funding sources** (angel, accelerator, debt, bootstrapped, etc.) or that didn't disclose capital raised.



Participating startups were vetted by LAVCA's research team across a range of primary and secondary sources.

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PARTICIPATING STARTUPS

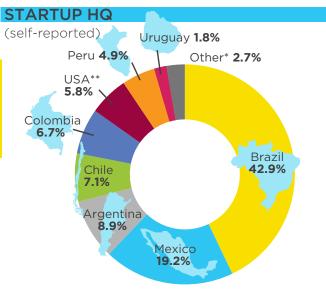
The following is a sample* of startups that participated in LAVCA's **Inaugural Survey of Latin American Startups** Participants ranged from bootstrapped and early stage startups serving local markets across the region, to more established tech companies with global funding. **78%** of participating startups have over US\$500k in funding.

Afluenta Agenda Edu **Agrosmart** aLavadeira Ben & Frank Ahgora 4Vets bxblue ComparaOnline Crediiusto Bitso **Boletia** Car10 ClickOnero Cobli **Dating LATAM** Decidata Descomplica **Digital House** eduK Cumplo **FSCALA** Escale Flapper GAIA Design Gaveteiro GIRA Hello Zum HOGARU Infracommerce Konfio Horus **iFood** JetBov Kinedu Intellibrand Homie Liv Up **Mandaê Movile** LentesPlus Liftit **NATGAS** NotCo Kueski **QuintoAndar** Nubank **Resultados Digitais** REBEL Revelo Recorrido S4 Agtech Sempli Skydrop SalaUno Sirena Solis Aquecedor Solar SumOne Taximo **Technisys Trocafone** Tpaga SVA Tecnologia e Sistemas Tributi Vida Tec (GRUPO VI-DA) VivaReal **Ualá** Volanty Voopter

^{*}Participation and individual responses are confidential unless otherwise agreed to with the Startup.



RESPONDENT BREAKDOWN

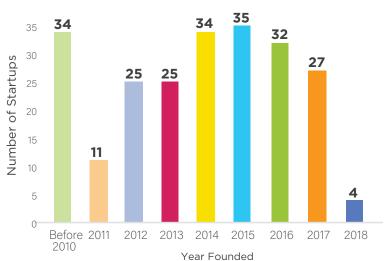


Percentage based on 224 responses

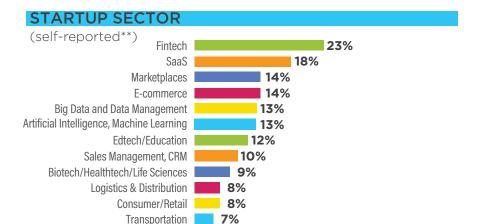
*Other includes Ecuador, Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, and Bolivia

**Startups headquartered in the US were included if they were founded by a Latin American, have operations in the region, and serve a Latin American market.

STARTUP BY YEAR FOUNDED







Percentage based on 207 responses

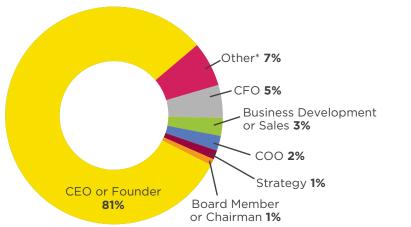
Agtech/Agribusiness 6%

Other*

*Other includes Adtech & Marketing, Business Services, Digital Media & Entertainment, Human Resources, Internet of Things, Real Estate, Cloud Computing, Hospitality, Travel & Tourism, Industrials, App Development & Testing, Hardware, Clean Tech/ Alternative/ Renewable Energy, Energy, ERP, Construction, Social Networks, Chemicals, Digital Security, Event Management, and more.

**Respondents self-selected sectors from a pre-set list and could select multiple sectors.

RESPONDENT TITLE



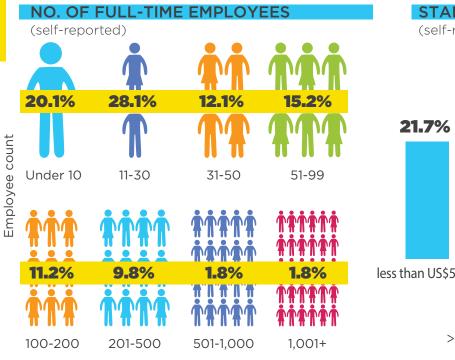
Percentage based on 227 responses

*Other includes Chief of Staff, Chief Product Officer, Chief Risk Officer, Chief Marketing Officer, Chief Technology Officer, Executive Director, and Operational Director.



42%

RESPONDENT **BREAKDOWN**



STARTUP FUNDING (self-reported) 45.8% 22.2% 8.5% 1.9% > US\$100m > US\$20m - US\$100m less than US\$500k > US\$5m - US\$20m > US\$500k - US\$5m

Percentage based on 224 responses

Percentage based on 212 responses

LAVCA would like to thank the following organizations for their important support promoting the survey in their networks:

Endeavor ColCapital Telefonica Open Innovation Silicon Valley Bank Google Launchpad

AMEXCAP ACVC **Gunderson Dettmer**

ARCAP **ABVCAP**



Inaugural Survey of Latin American Startups

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ARE LATIN AMERICAN ARCHENFURS, 3

THEY ARE EXPERIENCED

66% of participating founders have started multiple companies

GLOBAL The longer you've been around, the BENCHMARK better your odds of success (according to a Kellogg School study)

86% of startup founders are over 30 years old and 55% are 30-40 years old

GLOBAL The average age of startup founders in the BENCHMARK US is 42 (according to study by MIT Sloan)

> 80% of founders studied and/or worked abroad

GLOBAL Immigrants founded more than half of BENCHMARK US-based unicorns as of 2016 (according to National Foundation for American Policy, quoted in WSJ)

> "Experience failing and succeeding are very important." -Matias Muchnick, CEO, NotCo

companies were smaller, in a time when VC was rare in Latin America. We learned about persistence and about managing in a frugal way." - Andre Penha, Founder & CTO. **QuintoAndar**

THEY ARE ACTIVE **ECO**SYSTEM BUILDERS

59% of founders advise other startups

41% of founders are angel investors in other startups



Inaugural Survey of Latin American Startups

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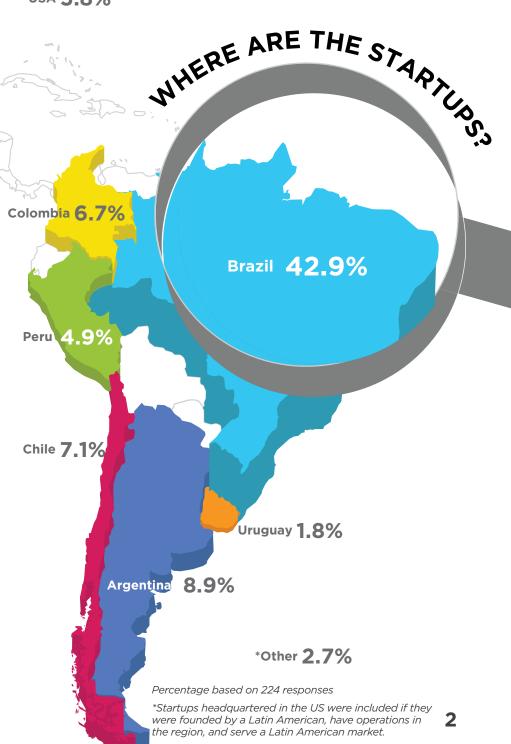
*USA 5.8% Mexico 19.2% **86%** of startups have 800 1-2 local operating subsidiaries Percentage based on 220 responses

23% of startups with US\$500k+ in funding have acquired or invested in other companies

Percentage based on 161 responses

STARTUP M&A

- Mexico's **Grin** and Brazil's **Yellow** merged to form **Grow Mobility**
- Brazil's **iFood** acquired multiple food delivery startups: Pedidos Ya, SpoonRocket, Papa Rango, Devorando
- Colombia's Rappi acquired **Payit**, a Mexican blockchain-based payments platform
- Chilean insurtech ComparaOnline acquired ComparaMejor
- Brazil's **Neoway** acquired **Sevennova**, an Al platform
- Brazil's **Loggi** acquired adtech platform **WorldSense**





HOW ARE STARTUPS STRUCTURED? Startups with under US\$500k in funding tend to have **Local Company Structure** Partners at law firm Gunderson Dettmer say that incorporating locally is often more cost effective for earlystage companies raising smaller funding rounds until they reach a certain scale or consider international fundraising. **Startups** Split Between Local, Delaware, and Cayman Structures with US\$500k+ in funding 37.1%



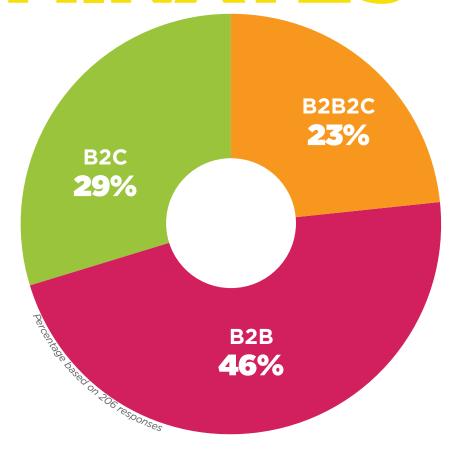
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STARTUP GO-TO MARKET STRATEGY

69% of Latin American startups identify B2B as core to their go-to market strategy

DOMINATES



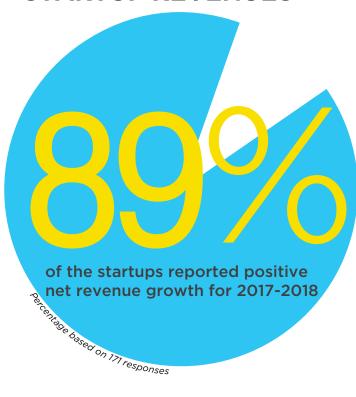
"On go-to market models, things are truly changing," says Patrick Arippol of DGF investimentos, an investor in Resultados Digitais, Ingresse, Mosyle, and others. "B2B has gone mainstream. But the bigger movement is that B2B2C models are flourishing, and the lines are rapidly blurring."



Inaugural Survey of Latin American Startups

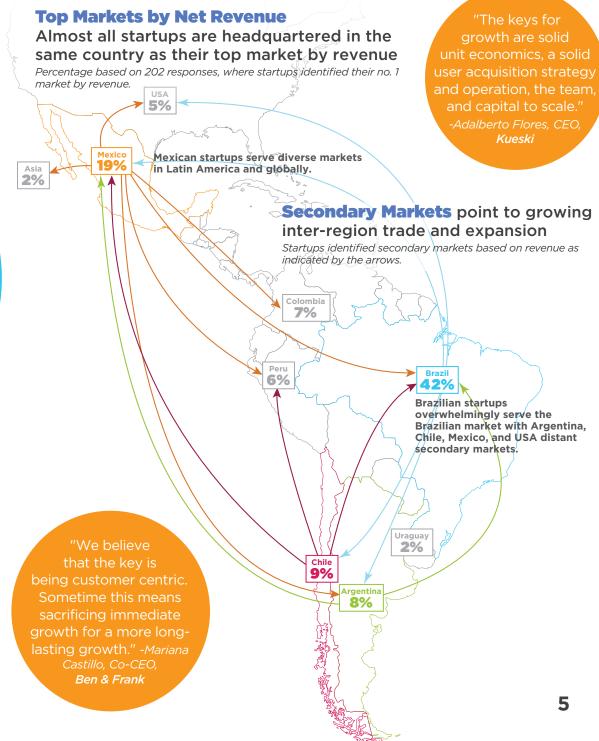
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STARTUP REVENUES



Moving in the Right Direction

The number of startups that reported 100%+ annual revenue growth has increased for the past three years.





HOT SECTORS

Startups responding to the survey are operating in some of the hottest funded sectors*



Fintech 23%

Fintech was the **No. 1** sector of VC investment in Latin America from 2017-2018, with **US\$695m** invested across **161 deals**, according to LAVCA Data



E-commerce 14%

E-commerce is one of the **longest running top sectors** for VC
investment, according to LAVCA Data,
with **39 deals** in the past two years



saas 18%

Global and local VCs have invested in **26 SaaS deals** in the past two years, according to LAVCA Data



Marketplaces 14%

Marketplaces consistently receive top VC investment dollars, with **US\$657m** invested in 2017-2018 across **42 deals,** according to LAVCA Data

*Startups could indicate more than one sector.

Percentage based on 207 responses

Sectors & Startups to Watch

Sectors & VC investment in agtech, edtech, and healthtech have grown 5 X from





agtech

Agrofy (AR)
Agrosmart (BR)
Jetbov (BR)



edtech

Digital House (AR) Kinedu (MX) Crehana (PE)

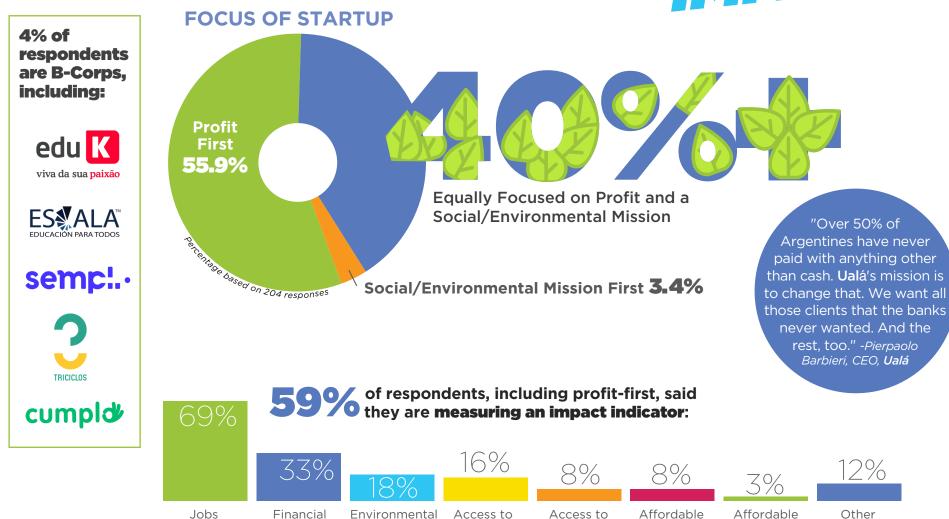


healthtech

Dr Consulta (BR) 1Doc3 (CO) Higia (MX) Gesto (BR)



HOW ARE LATIN AMERICAN STARTUPS MAKING AN IMPACT?



Percentage based on 116 responses

Housing

Impact companies generate positive social and environmental impact for their geographies and communities, as well as potential for a financial return

Healthcare

Transportation

Education

Impact



Creation

Inclusion

MOBILE FYI

Latin America has the third largest smartphone adoption globally, behind North America (no. 1) and Europe (no. 2). Smartphone adoption in Latin America hit 61% in 2017 and is expected to reach 76% by 2025, according to GSMA Intelligence.

Brazil was the fourth largest market for mobile phones in 2017. At 138%, smartphone penetration in Brazil is already above the global average of 115%, according to a study by Fundação Getúlio Vargas.

Mexico and Brazil are among Spotify's top four markets by volume of streams, according to The Economist. Mexico City is Spotify's largest listener base, ahead of New York and London, according to the Financial Times.



FRONTIER TECH

Startups across stage and sector are utilizing frontier technologies, according to the responses from participating startups.

"We have development is concentrated in agtech projects all the technology that the farmer needs to apply drones to farm work." - Fabricio Hertz, CEO, Horus

73% are using some form of big data, machine learning, or artificial

intelligence

IoT development is concentrated in



Aeronaves

agtech



logistics/transport



cleantech

Startups from agtech and fintech to digital media and real estate are building on the **blockchain**

AR/VR development

development is being applied to edtech and e-commerce, but also real estate and healthtech



"AR/VR is a clear trend to make the furniture purchasing process seamless.
The key challenge is to understand the right timing and the right use for this technology." - Philippe Cahuzac, Co-Founder & CEO, GAIA Design

"We are using virtual reality to show patients and their relatives what it is like to live with each pathology." - Gabriela Hernández Reza, Business Development Manager, SalaUno



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JOB CREATION

The 227 startups who responded have created to be current full-time jobs

Job creation is overwhelmingly in LatAm

of respondents said 4 out of 5 of their full-time employees are based in Latin America.

Percentage based on 222 responses

Average No. of Jobs

Each startup respondent with US\$500k+ in funding contributed an average 1 0 current full-time jobs

Bootstrapped startups and those with under U\$\$500k in funding contributed an average of Table 2 current full-time jobs

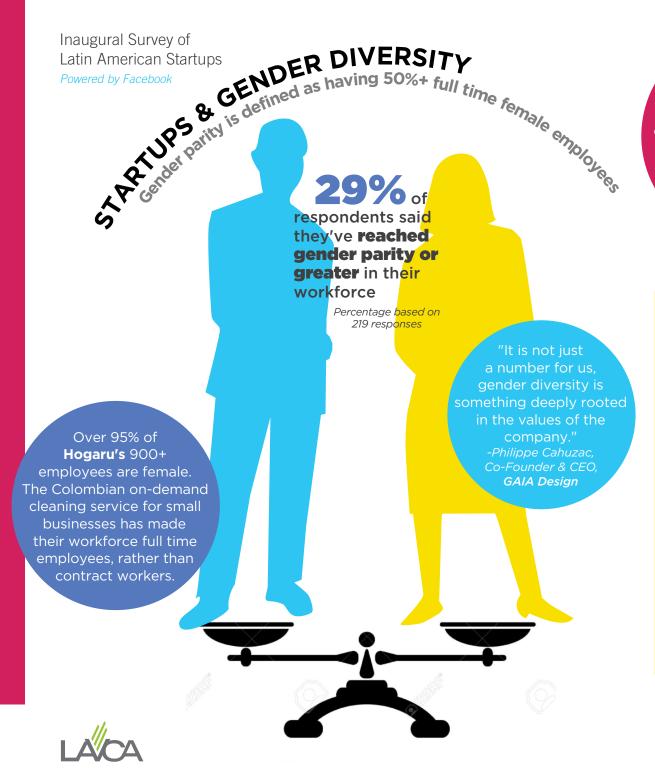
Nubank, founded in 2013, is one of the leading startup jobs creators, with over 1,300 employees "We are and 400 optimistic about openings as growth rates co

"We are optimistic about our business potential as growth rates continue to accelerate and we see the first signs of recovery in Brazil. We have ambitious hiring plans in Brazil, as well as other countries like Mexico and Argentina." -David Velez, CEO, Nubank

HARDEST
TALENT
TO RECRUIT:
Senior Engineers
C-Suite
Product/Design

in 2019.





"We've reached gender parity not only at an aggregated level (all the company) but also in our management team. We believe that mixed gender teams produce better performance." - Sebastian Valin, Founder & CEO, ComparaOnline

Startups with 200+ employees

who've reached gender parity include:











Startups with
<200 employees
who have reached
gender parity include:

BEN & FRANK







TECH FY

Mexico graduated over 113,000 engineers in 2015, which was the eighthhighest number globally (according to WEF)

Argentina is the **eighth largest exporter** of **computer services globally**(according to the WTO)

The number of local developers is dramatically increasing and developer reputation scores from countries like Peru, Colombia, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil are consistently higher than other developing regions (according to Stack Overflow)

Women represent a promising new IT talent pool. Despite only 13.3% of networking employees in Latin America being female, 31% of Computer Science and Engineering majors are women

Inaugural Survey of Latin American Startups Powered by Facebook Tech Teams Are 666 LATIN Startups overwhelmingly have their **AMERICAN** of Mexican Startups Have Local engineers based where they are **Engineering Teams in Mexico** TECH headquartered. **TALENT** of Colombian Startups Have Local **Engineering Teams in Colom** of Peruvian Startups of Brazilian Startups Have Local Have Local Engineering **Engineering Teams in Brazil** Teams in **Peru** of Argentinian Startups Have Local **Engineering Teams in Argentina** of Chilean **Startups Have Local Engineering** Teams in Chile



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Original Power of the provides a company's workforce with an ownership integer, in the company of the com **75%** of respondents who ESOPs are not a requirement for VC funding, offer an ESOP offer but it's standard for VCs to ask for an ESOP plan with the company's first international fundraise. it to only ' of employees. **Gunderson Dettmar** Partner Brian Hutchings says secondary sales appear to be slightly 15% of more common in Latin America "I think this founders have than in the US: is because the cashed out via a time to liquidity for a secondary sale. company is longer in Latin America. While founders

Secondary sales are an important way to provide liquidity for founders and early employees.

and investors may exit a

US startup in 5-7 years.

the journey for a LatAm

startup can be 10 years

or more."



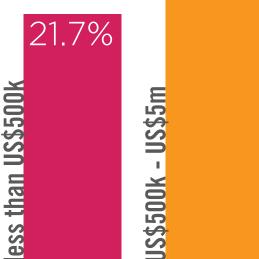


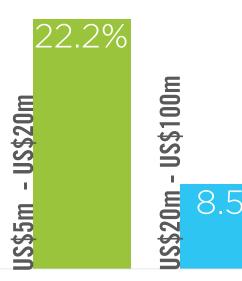
78% have raised over US\$500k in reported total funding across multiple rounds

60% have reported local VC and/or angel backing, pointing to a strong local investor ecosystem

34% of startups have raised capital from both **local** and **international** investors*

Percentage based on 215 responses (Reflects corporate and fund investors only)







Percentage based on 212 responses



Andreessen Horowitz American Express Ventures

Delivery Hero

Accel Partners

DST Global

Didi Chuxing

Founders Fund

GIC

Naspers

PayPal

QED Investor

Qualcomm Ventures

Riverwood Capital Sequoia Capital

SoftBank

Tencent

Temasek

Visa Ventures

Y Combinator



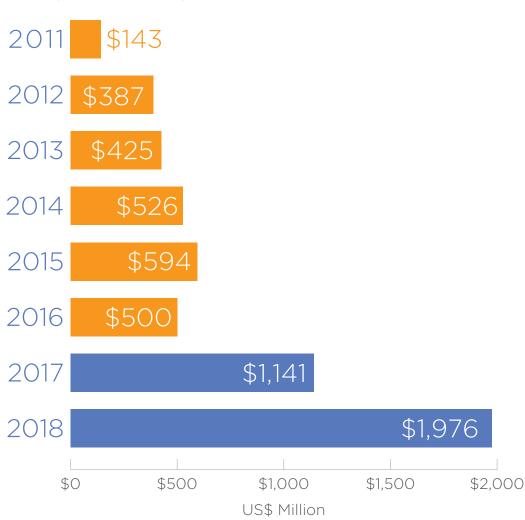
said international capital represents 5% or less of total funding

Percentage based on 208 responses



ACCESS TO INVESTORS

Startups have received back-to-back **record VC funding** in the last 2 years, according to LAVCA Data



82% of respondents say they are raising funds in the next Percentage based on 208 responses months



191 startup founders are targeting an international exit via Acquisition or IPO

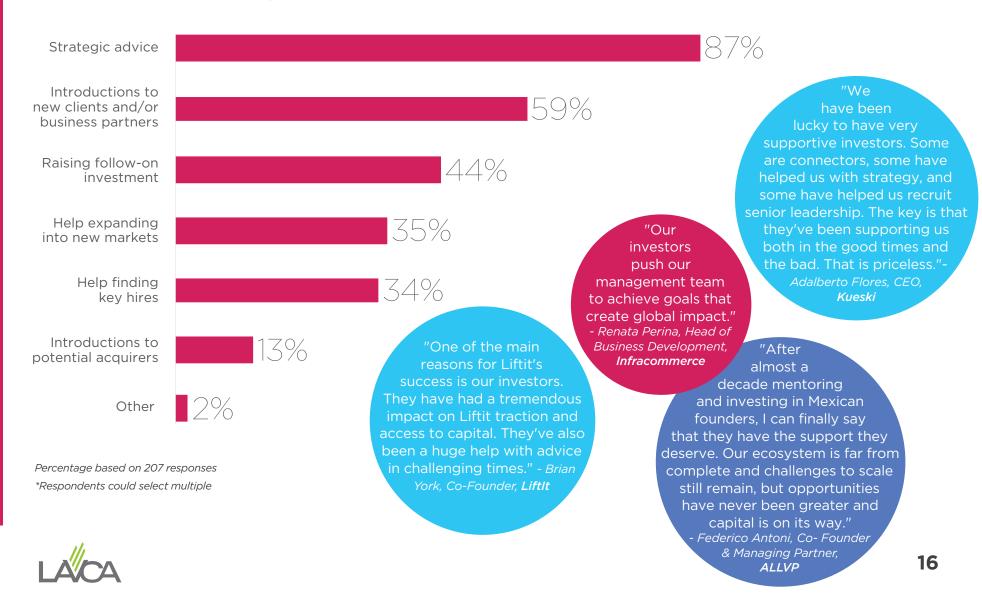
2018 Highlighted International Exits

- Walmart acquired Chilean delivery startup Cornershop for US\$225m in 2018
- Brazilian payments company **Stone Pagamentos** raised US\$1.1b from Berkshire Hathaway, Ant Financial, Madrone Partners and others in an **IPO** on the **Nasdaq** in 2018
- Brazilian rideshare giant **99** was acquired by Asia's **Didi Chuxing** in 2018 for a reported US\$600m.



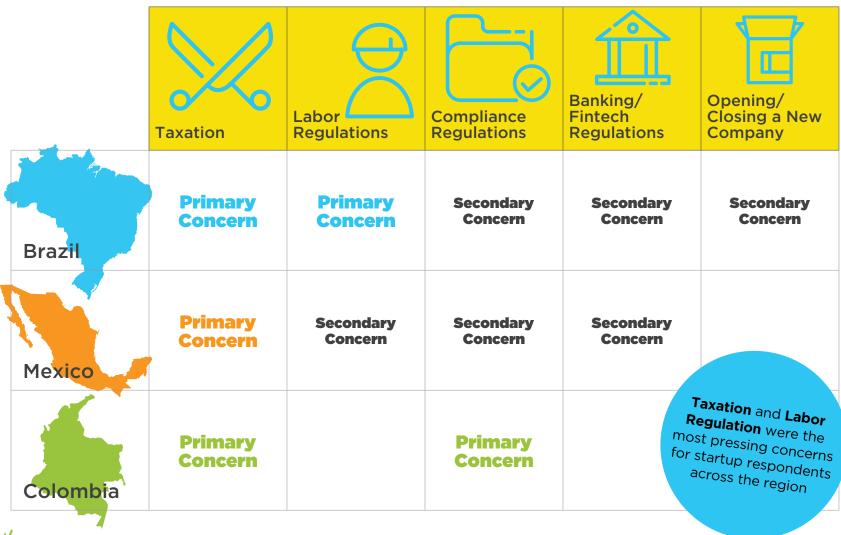
ROLE OF INVESTORS IN LATIN AMERICAN STARTUPS

Respondents say investors have been most helpful for **Strategic Advice and Introductions to New Clients/Partners**



TOP CHALLENGES TO STARTUP GROWTH

Latin American regulators are struggling to respond to the forces of change brought by entrepreneurs and innovators





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LAVCA VC/TECH PRODUCTS



LatAm Venture Bulletin

A must-read roundup of startup deals and news on emerging technologies in Latin America, delivered to over 4,000+ investors, entrepreneurs, and corporates bi-weekly.



LAVCA Industry Data & Analysis

Represents the most comprehensive and accurate source of regional industry data on PE/VC investments available to date.



Inside Latin America's Breakout Year in Tech

Based on LAVCA Industry Data, this 8-page report maps tech and VC investment activity, launched annually at Riverwood's LTF



LAVCA Scorecard

Produced in collaboration with the EIU the LAVCA Scorecard ranks the environment for private capital investment for 12 countries in Latin America.



Mapping: Global Investors in Latin American Startups

Mapping of global investors committing capital to startups in LatAm with breakouts for Asia, corporates, US, and European investors.



September 26 | New York, NY

Fund managers, investors, leading entrepreneurs, and global tech players are invited to LAVCA's Annual VC Investor Meeting in New York on September 26.



Latin American Startup Directory

Tracks over 250 early stage companies that have received US\$1m+ in funding.



Impact Reports

Access LAVCA's latest impact investing data, including Impact+Tech/VC Investing and the Impact Investing Landscape in Latin America, a report created by LAVCA and ANDE.



LAVCA Fund Manager Directory & Annual VC Members Update

Directory of fund managers active in Latin America.



Top Women Investing in Latin American Tech + Women to Watch

Short list of women actively investing in LatAm including individuals from VCs, accelerators, Ils, DFIs, Family Offices.



LAVCA Startup Heatmap

Created for a TechCrunch and Facebook program in Brazil, this report looks at regional trends in VC and tech.



