STATE OF CLIMATE TECH H1 26

A Net Zero Insights quarterly publication of global Climate Tech investment, exits, commercial traction and deployment across the private-market venture space.

Lisboa 2030
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Net Zero Insights

STRATEGIC PARTNER
CF

Key Takeaways

01 MARKET SIZE

$41.3B

Resilient dollars, fewer deals

Funding held near last year's level but flowed through the fewest deals we've tracked.

02 STAGE

The funnel narrows

Late-stage rounds keep gaining share of equity while the earliest-stage funding shrinks.

03 CONCENTRATION

65%

Capital piles up at the top

The largest rounds now take roughly two-thirds of all funding, near the 2024 record.

04 CAPITAL STRUCTURE

Raising to build

Debt has gone from a rounding error to a quarter of all funding, as the sector shifts to building at scale.

05 GEOGRAPHY

$13.5B

The US leads, momentum shifts abroad

America still dominates, but China and Switzerland both more than doubled year on year.

06 EXITS

Exits up, IPOs few but high-profile

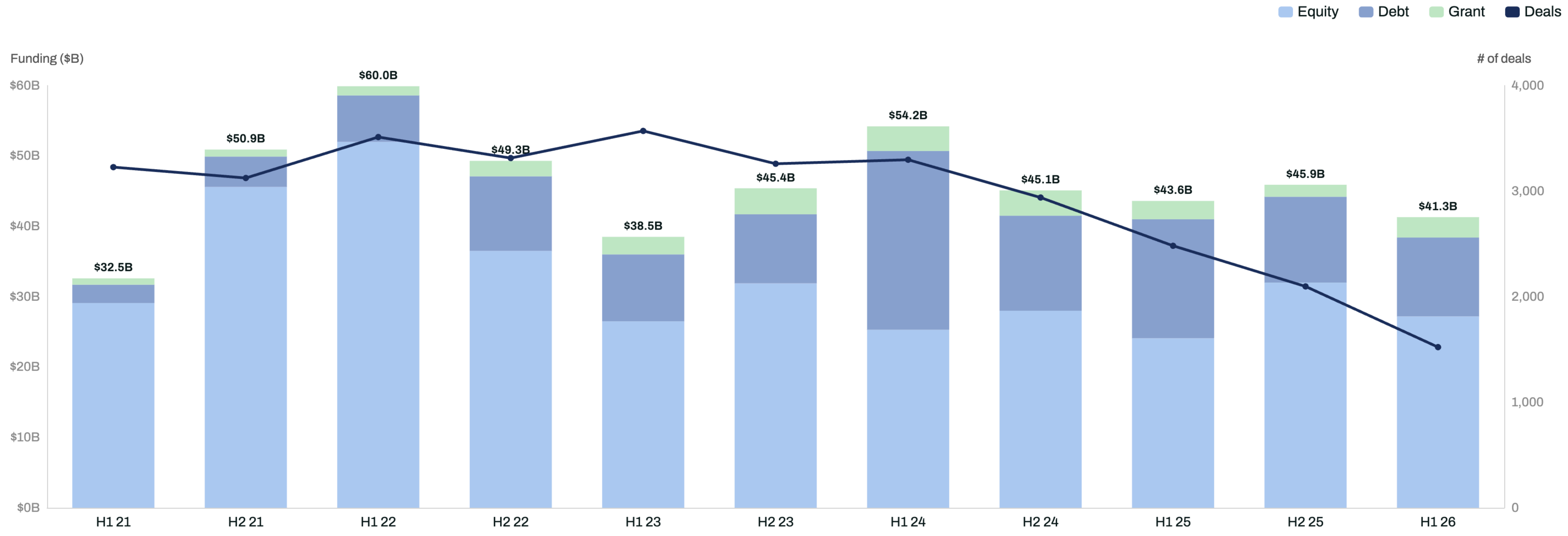
The busiest H1 for exits we've tracked, with public listings ticking back up.

01 — CAPITAL FLOWS

How much capital is entering Climate Tech, and how is it flowing?

H1 2026 held near $41.3B even as the deal count fell to a record low, with the same capital flowing into fewer but larger rounds.

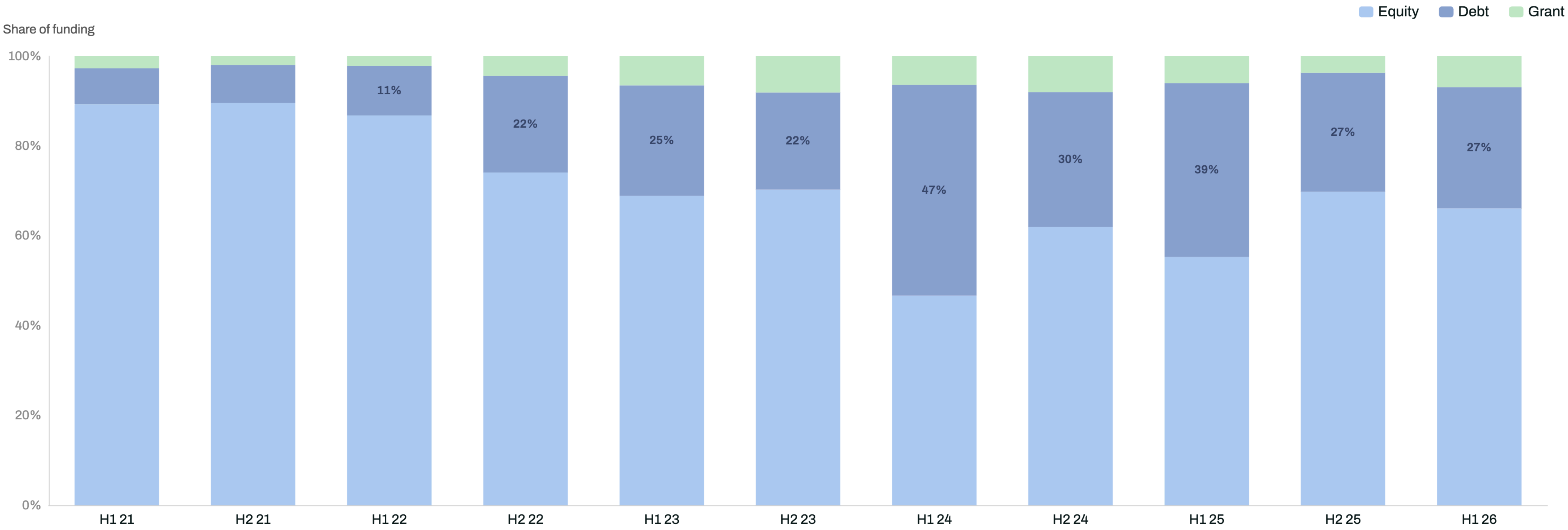
Funding & deal activity by financing type, by half-year



Includes disclosed equity, debt and grant funding in private Climate Tech ventures only. Source: Net Zero Insights.
Historical data may be revised as coverage, classification and methodology evolve.

Debt has climbed from a rounding error in 2021 to roughly a quarter of the market, as Climate Tech now raises to build, not just research.

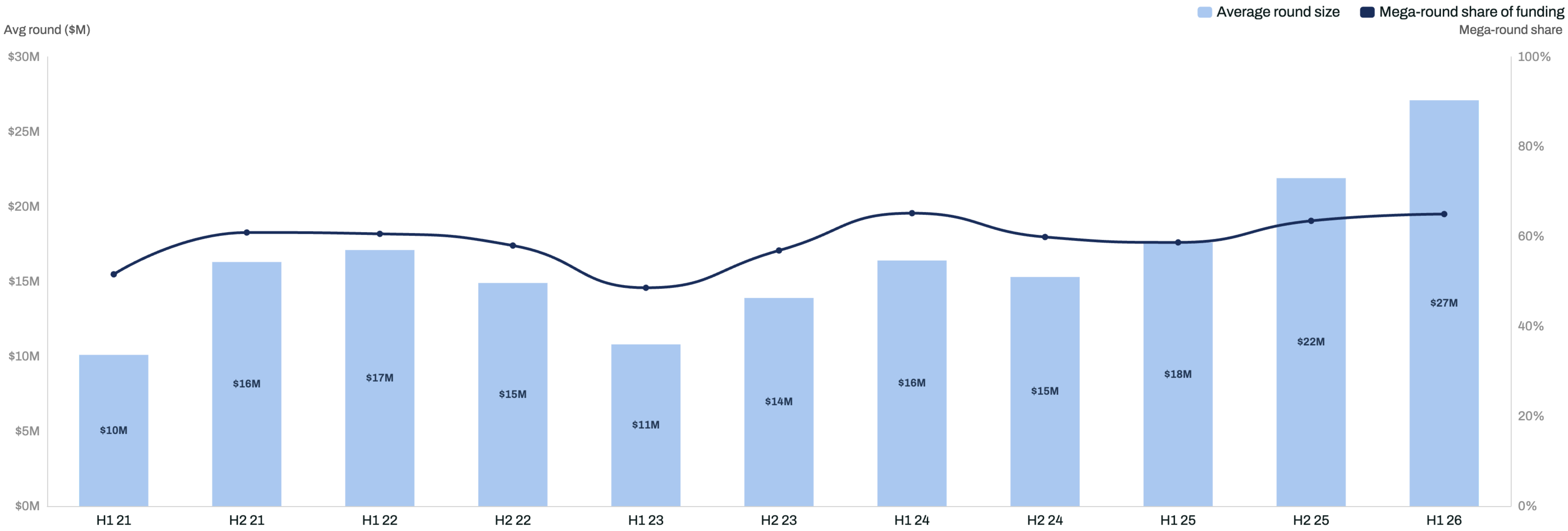
Equity / debt / grant share of funding, by half-year



Share of disclosed half-year funding by financing instrument, private Climate Tech ventures only. Source: Net Zero Insights.

The largest rounds captured about 65% of all funding, just shy of the H1 2024 peak, while the average round climbed to around $27M.

Average round size and the share of funding from $100M+ mega-rounds, by half-year



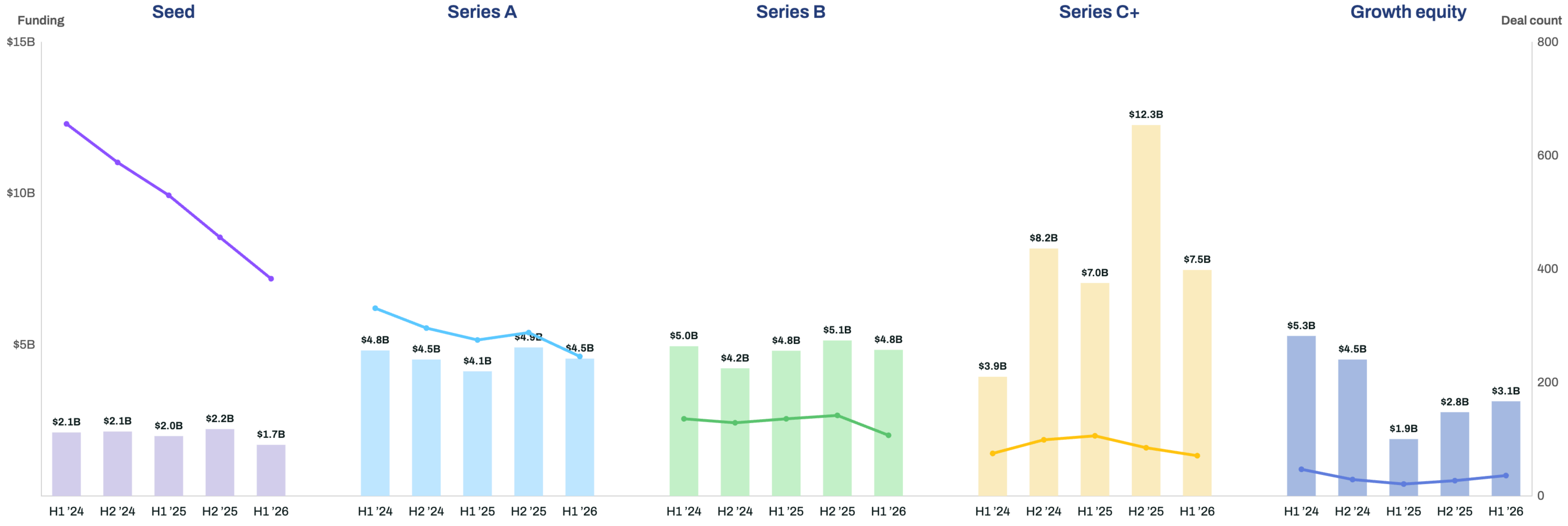
Average round = total disclosed funding ÷ deal count. Mega-rounds are rounds ≥ $100M across all instruments. Source: Net Zero Insights.

02 — STAGE & PIPELINE

Where in the lifecycle is equity flowing, and is the pipeline thinning?

The fewest equity deals on record, with deal counts thinning at every stage even as the dollars committed per round keep climbing.

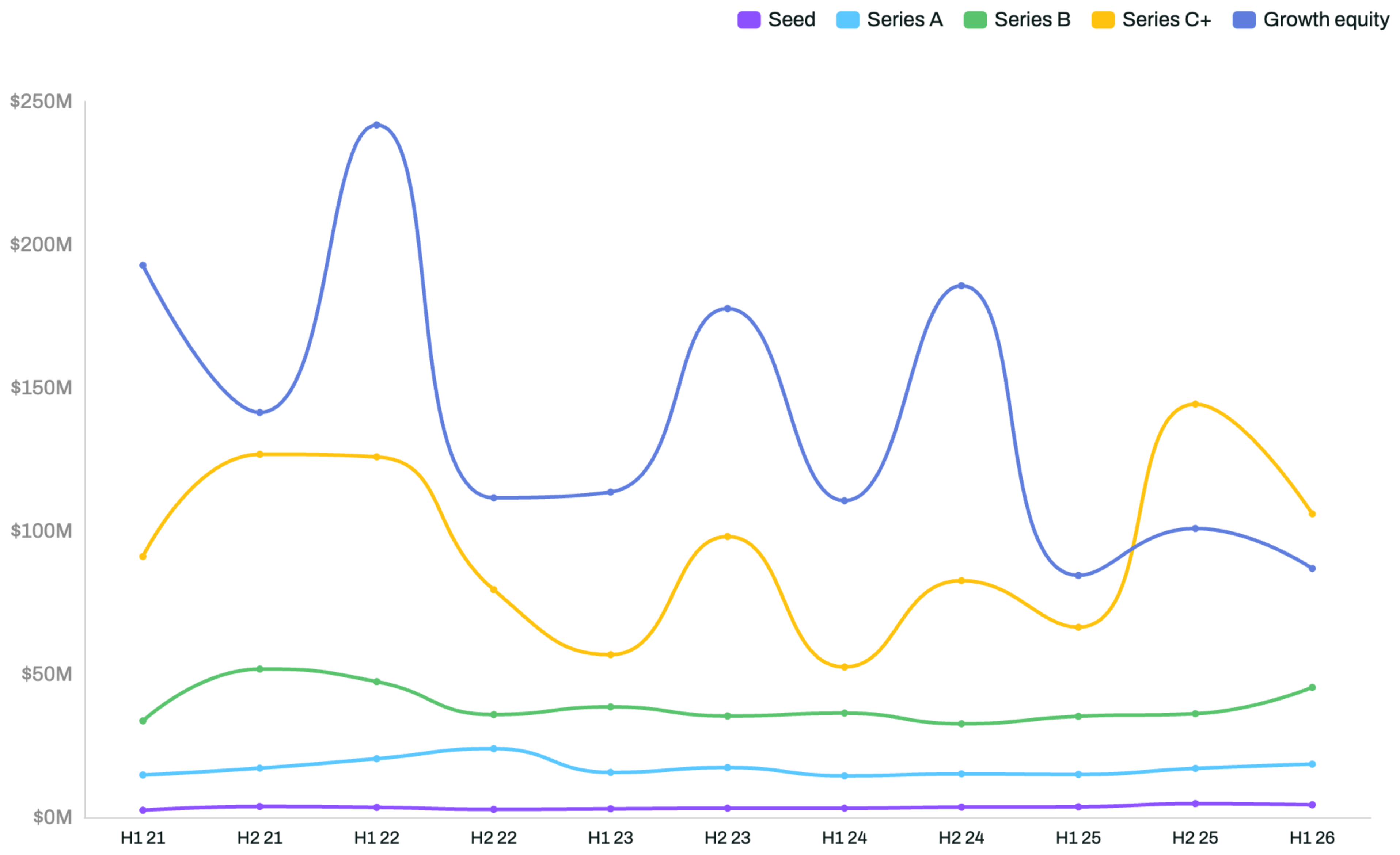
Equity funding ($B) and deal count by stage, by half-year



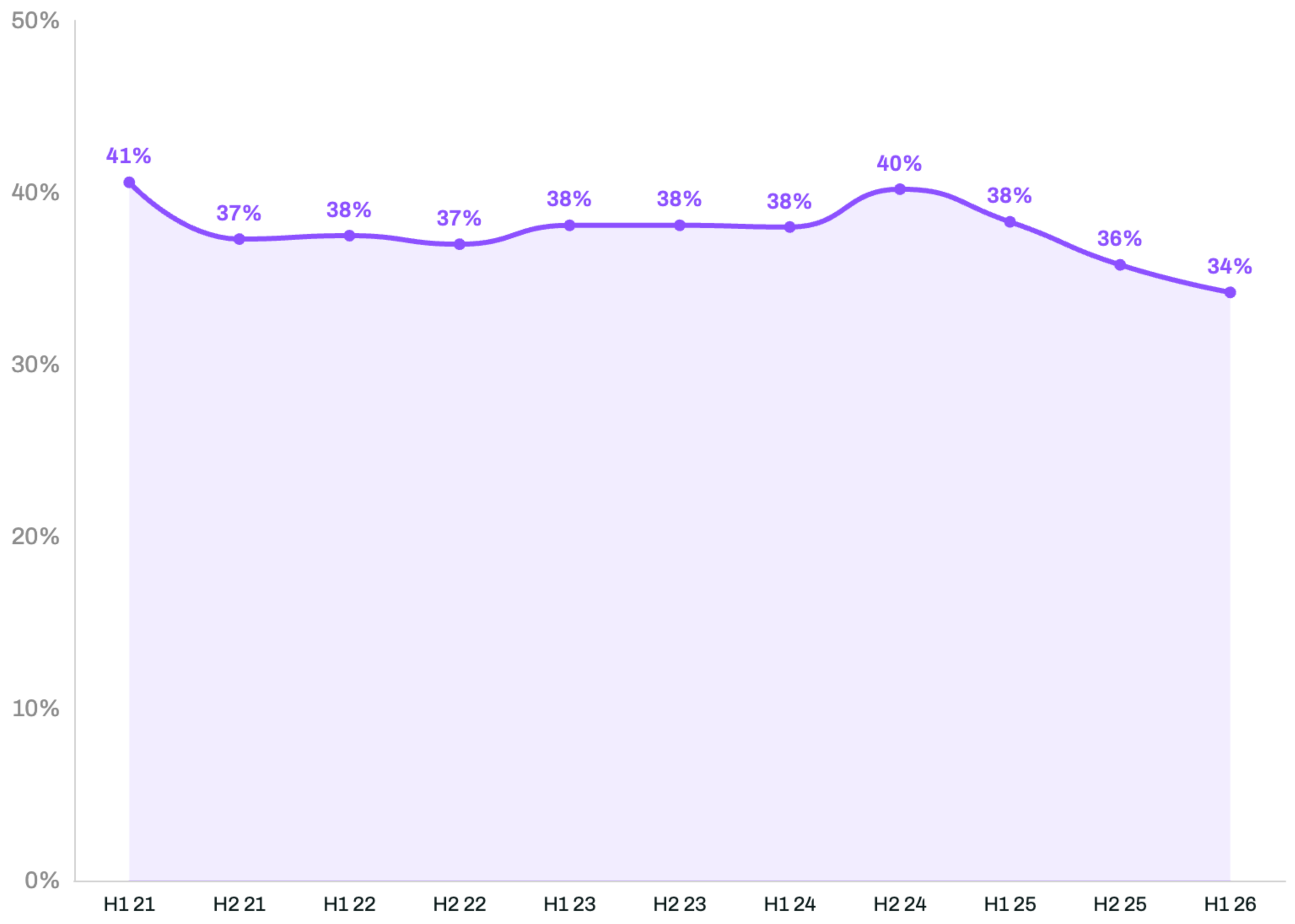
Bars show disclosed equity funding ($B, left axis); the line shows deal count (right axis). Each stage is shown against itself over time; stages are not stacked. Named-series rounds only (Seed, Series A–C+, Growth Equity). Source: Net Zero Insights.

Seed rounds have grown the fastest of any stage, up 73% since 2021, yet seed is a shrinking share of all deals at just 34%, as the market writes fewer but bigger first checks.

Average round size by stage ($M)



Seed share of equity deals



Average round = disclosed funding ÷ deal count per stage. Seed share = seed equity deals ÷ all equity deals. Source: Net Zero Insights.

The biggest rounds went to energy, nuclear and EVs, led by Voltagrid, Slate Auto and Helion at the top of the market.

Largest H1 2026 equity rounds by stage, top 5

Seed

NovaFusionX	China	$102M
Niulinx	Italy	$44M
Voltify	United States	$30M
Claros Technologies	United States	$30M
Encosa Energy	Germany	$29M

Series A

Inertia Enterprises	United States	$450M
Focused Energy	Germany	$240M
Startorus Fusion	China	$143M
Standard Nuclear	United States	$140M
Quobly	France	$132M

Series B

Valar Atomics	United States	$340M
Enervenue	United States	$300M
Zeron	China	$200M
JetZero	United States	$175M
Zaihe Truck	China	$147M

Series C+

Slate Auto	United States	$650M
Quince	United States	$500M
Helion	United States	$465M
Stoke Space	United States	$350M
PhysicsX	United Kingdom	$300M

Growth equity

Voltagrid	United States	$775M
Terralayr	Switzerland	$225M
Spiro	Kenya	$215M
ARIDGE	China	$200M
ReElement Technologies	United States	$200M

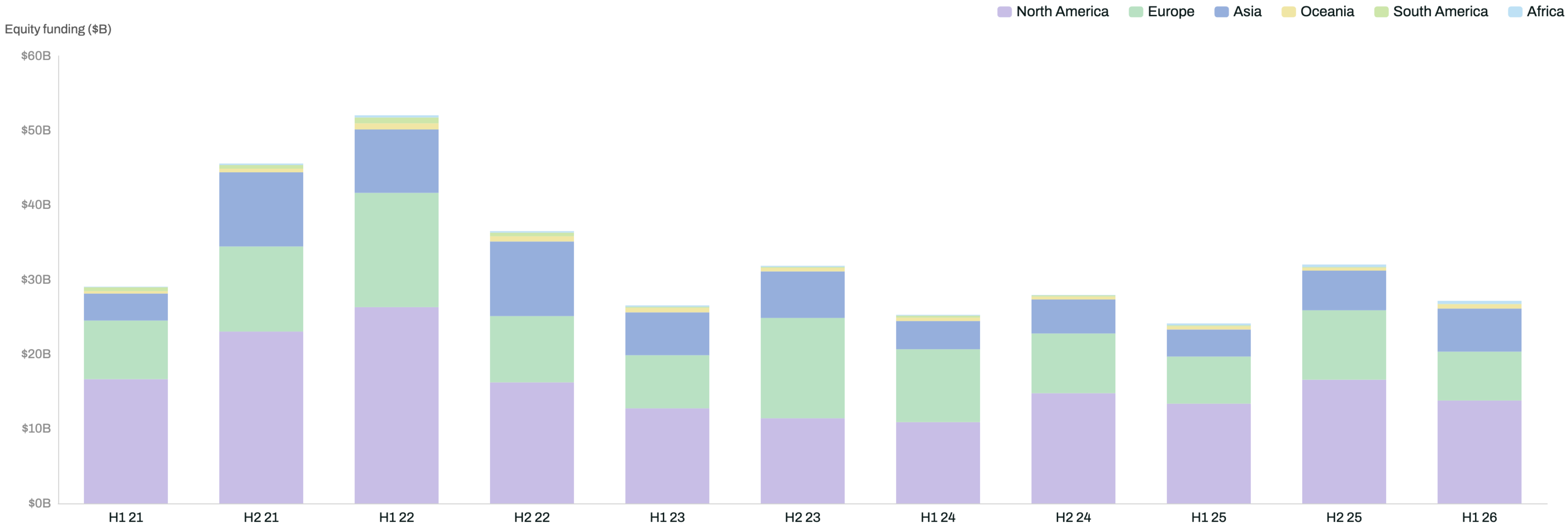
Ranked by disclosed amount; excludes non-named-series rounds. Source: Net Zero Insights.

03 — GEOGRAPHY

How is capital split across regions, countries and cities?

North America leads in every period, while Europe holds a steady second and has stayed consistently ahead of Asia throughout.

Equity funding by continent, by half-year



Disclosed equity rounds in private Climate Tech ventures only. Source: Net Zero Insights.

The US still leads by far at about $13.5B, more than the next four combined, but China has now moved into second, ahead of the UK.

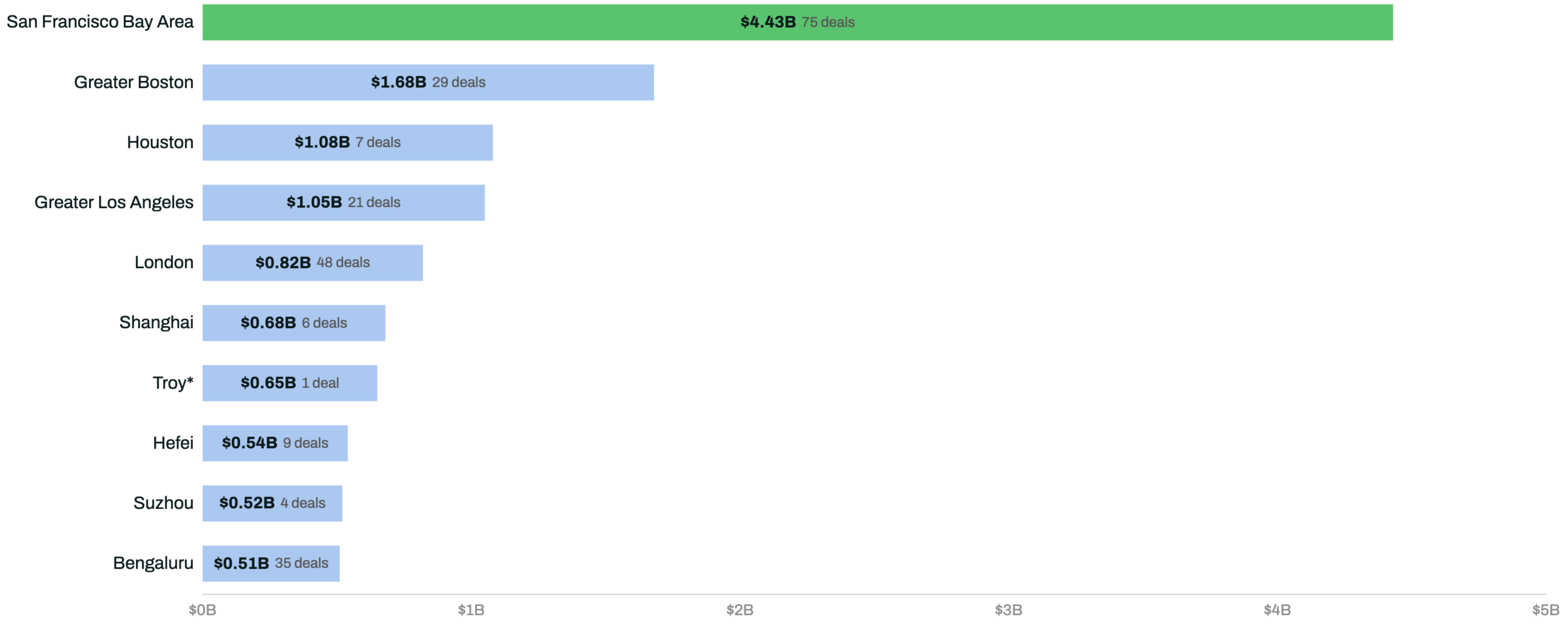
Top 10 countries by H1 2026 equity funding

#	COUNTRY	H1 2026 FUNDING	DEALS	HoH CHANGE
1	United States	$13.5B	351	▼ 17%
2	China	$3.2B	37	▲ 19%
3	United Kingdom	$1.9B	106	▼ 34%
4	India	$1.7B	124	▲ 47%
5	Germany	$1.2B	56	▲ 12%
6	France	$973M	41	▲ 14%
7	Switzerland	$676M	30	▲ 42%
8	Canada	$555M	42	▲ 36%
9	Australia	$350M	24	▼ 9%
10	Ireland	$280M	6	▲ 4,021%

HoH change compares H1 2026 with H2 2025 equity funding. Source: Net Zero Insights.

The Bay Area dominates at about $4.4B, and US metros take four of the top five spots, with London slipping down to fifth place.

Top metros by H1 2026 equity funding



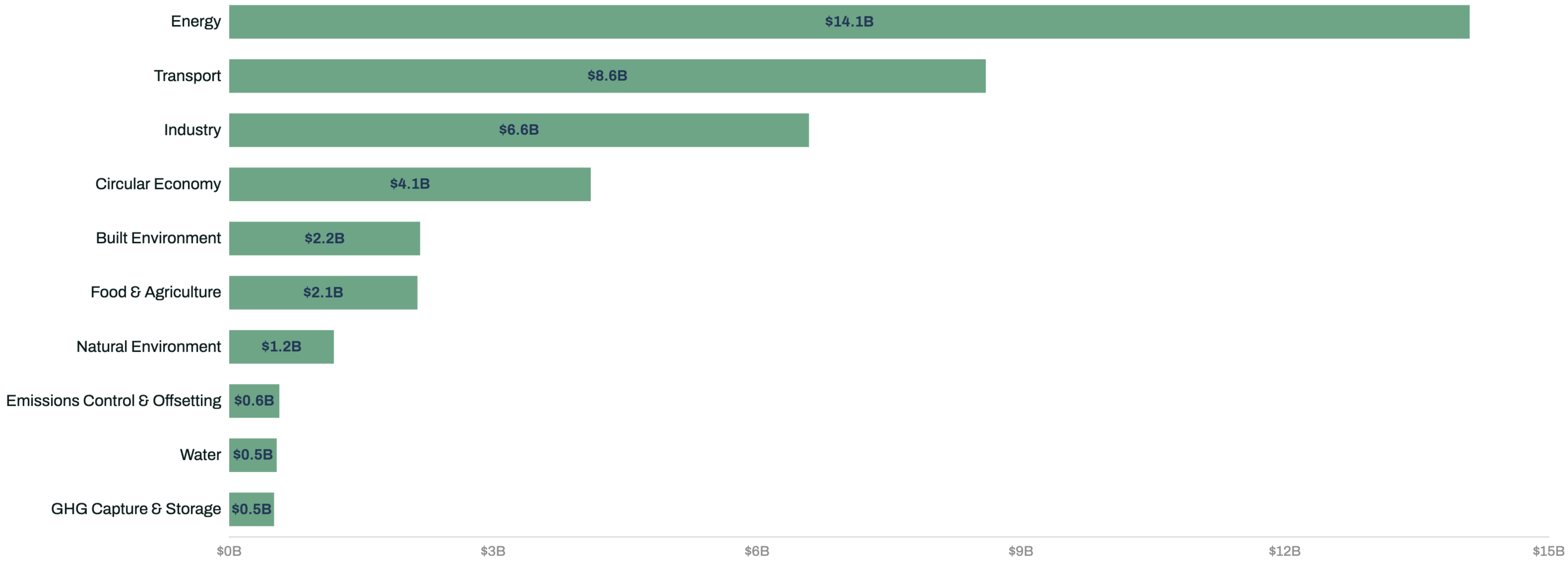
Metros aggregate a company's HQ city into its metro area: Bay Area = 9-county (SF, San Jose, Sunnyvale, South SF, Fremont, Mountain View...); Greater Boston = Cambridge MA + Boston + Newburyport...; Greater LA = El Segundo + Long Beach + Los Angeles.... Disclosed equity rounds only; * a single large round. Source: Net Zero Insights.

04 — SECTORS

Where is capital concentrating across challenge areas, and what's rotating?

Energy is the runaway leader at about $14.1B, well ahead of the field, with Transport a distant second across the challenge areas.

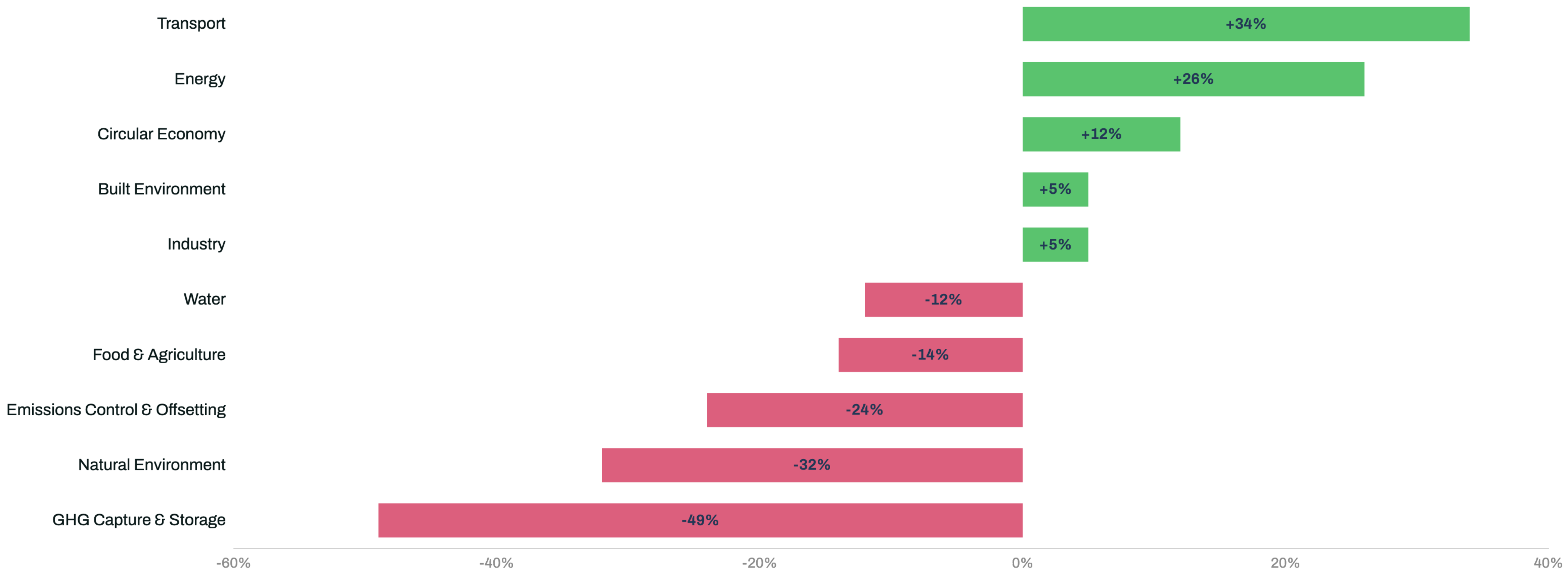
H1 2026 equity funding by climate challenge area



Disclosed equity rounds by challenge area, multi-counted where a company spans several areas. Source: Net Zero Insights.

Capital rotated into Energy and Transport and out of carbon removal, nature and accounting, as the 2023 carbon-removal wave cooled.

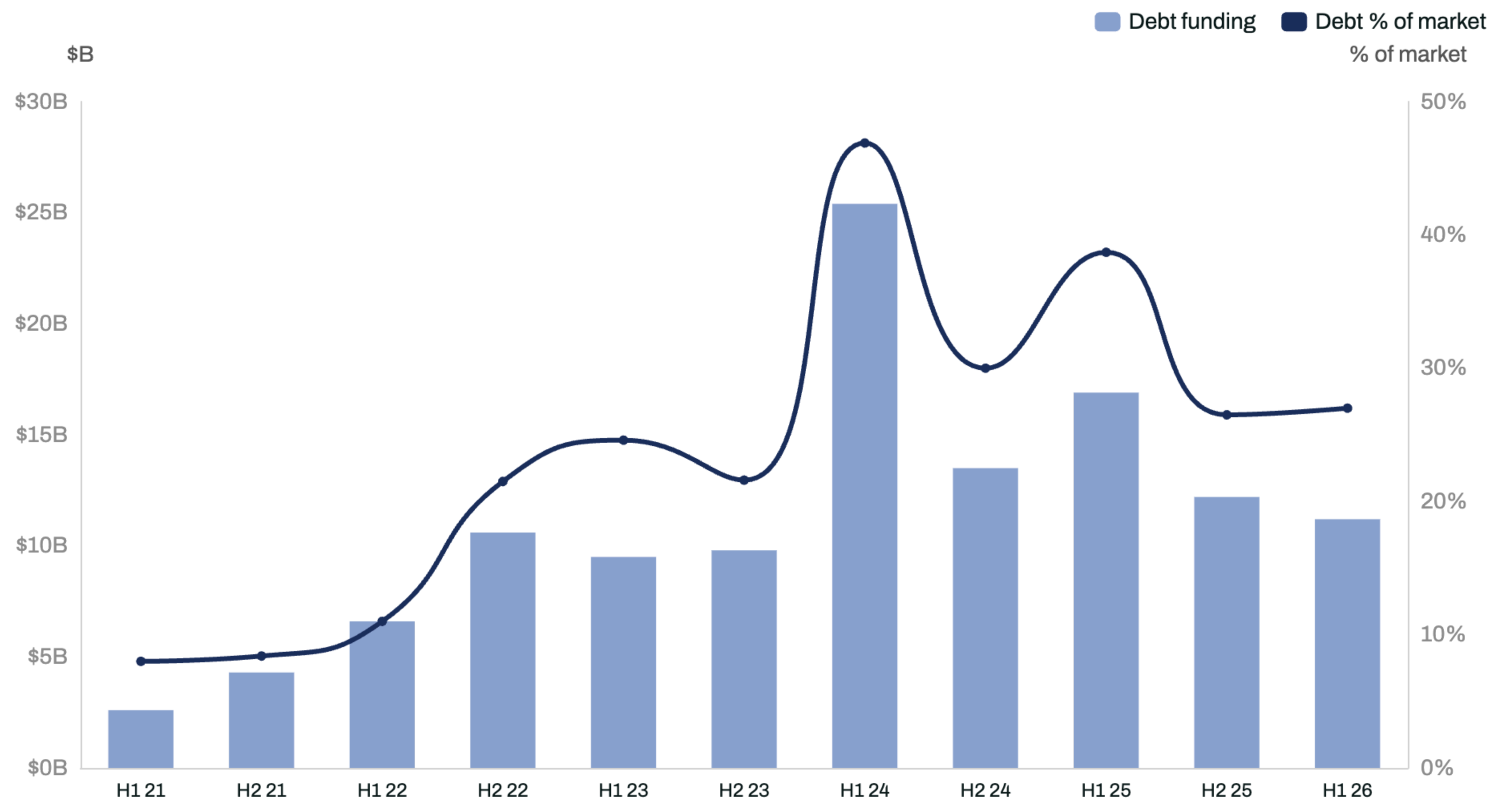
Year-on-year change in equity funding by challenge area, H1 2025 → H1 2026



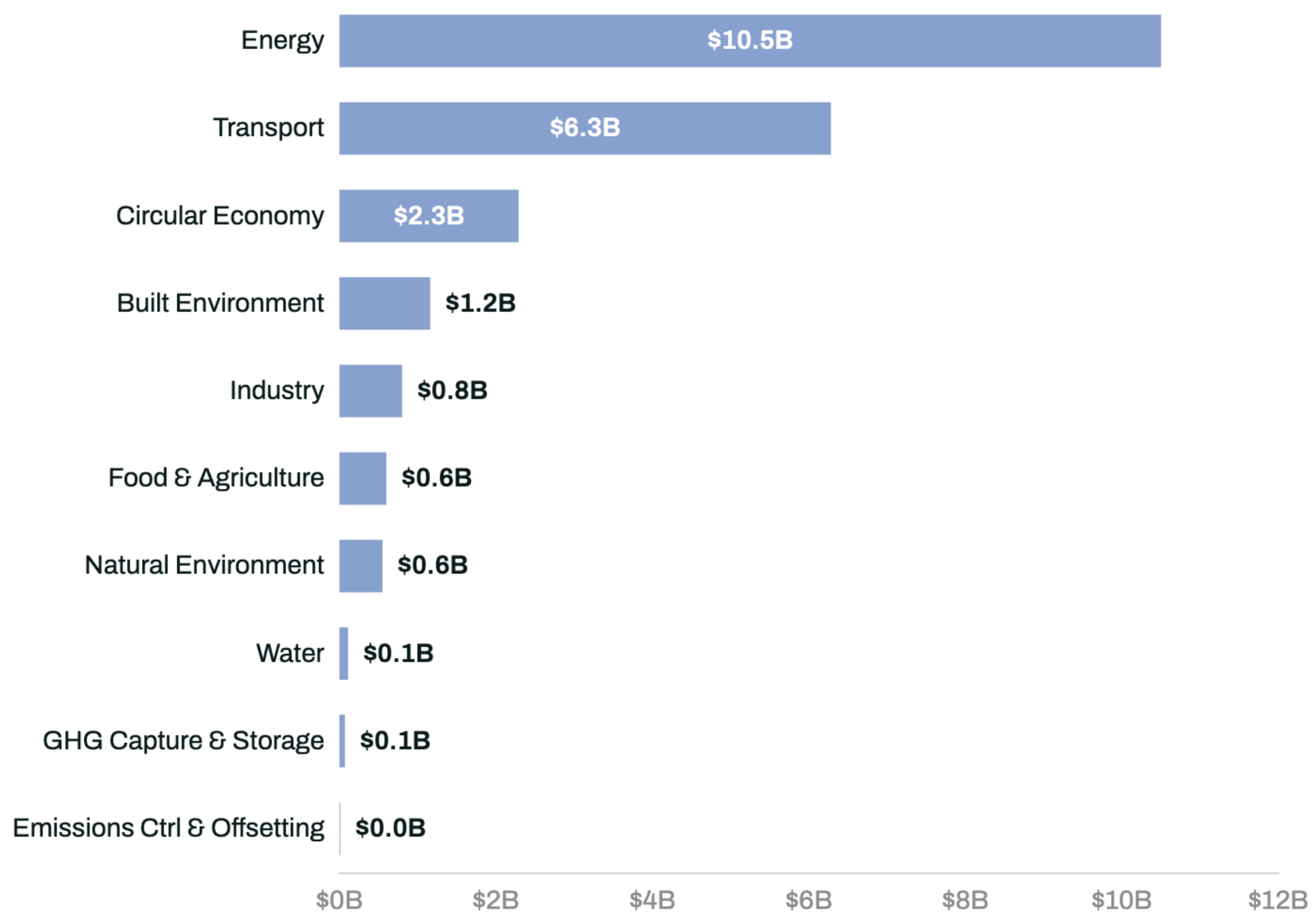
Equity funding by challenge area (multi-counted). Source: Net Zero Insights.

Debt is now roughly a quarter of all funding, and nearly all of it backs Energy and Transport assets.

Debt funding and its share of the market



H1 2026 debt by challenge area ($B)



Debt % of market' is debt as a share of all disclosed funding; challenge-area figures are multi-counted. Source: Net Zero Insights."

Largest disclosed debt rounds, H1 2026: Zenobe $1.3B · Cloover $1.2B · Envision $600M · BluPine Energy $595M · Crux $500M

05 — BEYOND FUNDING

Where is Climate Tech being deployed, and who is buying?

Who is buying reveals the demand: hyperscalers and banks fund power and carbon, while industrials, utilities and retailers decarbonize their own supply chains.

H1 2026 commercial agreements, grouped by who is buying

Challenge area: Energy · Industry · Carbon removal · Transport · Food & Ag · Circular · Built env.

Tech, hyperscalers & data infrastructure
buying power & carbon

- **Form Energy** → **Crusoe**
  Supply · Iron-air long-duration storage
- **Noon Energy** → **Meta**
  Supply · Long-duration energy storage
- **Rainforest Builder** → **Microsoft**
  Offtake · ~1.8M carbon credits
- **BioCirc** → **Microsoft**
  Supply · 650k tonnes carbon removal
- **Voltus** → **Google**
  Service · Grid flexibility / demand response
- **Pronoe** → **Google, Shopify, Stripe**
  Offtake · Ocean-based carbon removal

Finance & commodity traders
financing the transition

- **Charm Industrial** → **JP Morgan Chase**
  Offtake · 61.5k tonnes carbon removal
- **Graphyte** → **JP Morgan Chase**
  Supply · Biomass carbon removal
- **Nth Cycle** → **Trafigura**
  Service · Critical-metals recycling
- **Syzygy Plasmonics** → **Trafigura**
  Offtake · Clean hydrogen / chemicals
- **O.C.O Technology** → **Rothschild & Co**
  Offtake · Carbon-mineralized aggregate

Industrial & materials
decarbonizing their own operations

- **Cemvision** → **Siemens**
  MoU · Low-carbon cement
- **Aqua Metals** → **American Battery Factory**
  MoU · Battery recycling
- **LuxWall** → **Global Holdings**
  Supply · Vacuum-insulated glass
- **CarbonCure** → **Gammon Construction**
  Service · Low-carbon concrete

Utilities, energy & mobility
decarbonizing energy and transport

- **Deep Sky** → **Engie**
  Offtake · 15k carbon removal credits
- **Hydrostor** → **California Community Power**
  Offtake · Compressed-air storage
- **Steady Energy** → **Fortum**
  Service · Small modular reactors for heat
- **SkyDrive** → **Tohoku Electric Power**
  LOI · Electric air mobility (eVTOL)
- **Metafuels** → **Swiss International Air Lines**
  Partnership · Sustainable aviation fuel
- **Gradyent** → **Utilitas**
  Service · District-heating optimization
- **Lhyfe** → **BMW Group**
  Supply · Green hydrogen
- **H2SITE** → **Repsol**
  Service · Green hydrogen

Food & retail
consumer-facing demand

- **Redefine Meat** → **Concept Family**
  Supply · Alt-protein (3D-printed)
- **Terviva** → **ALOHA**
  Partnership · Regenerative agriculture
- **Rubi Labs** → **H&M / Patagonia / Walmart**
  Offtake · Carbon-to-cellulose textiles
- **Magnotherm** → **REWE**
  Service · Magnetocaloric refrigeration

A selection of notable H1 2026 agreements, not the full dataset. Agreements grouped by the buyer's primary sector; arrows read climate company (supplier) → customer, dot marks the seller's challenge area. Source: Net Zero Insights.

Fresh fusion and hydrogen announcements, battery storage under construction, and recycling and carbon capture coming online.

The 2026 pipeline: climate build-outs announced, under construction and operating this year

Challenge area: Energy · Industry · Carbon removal · Transport · Food & Ag · Circular

Announced in planning — 5 →

- **Norsk E-Fuel** — Jan 2026
  e-SAF (power-to-liquid) · Finland
- **Nuada** — Jan 2026
  Lime carbon capture · United Kingdom
- **Vema Hydrogen** — Feb 2026
  Geologic hydrogen · Canada
- **Proxima Fusion** — Feb 2026
  Stellarator fusion · Germany
- **ROSI** — Apr 2026
  PV-module recycling · Spain

Under construction building now — 2 →

- **Ze Energy** — Jun 2026
  Grid-scale battery storage · Italy
- **PowerX** — Feb 2026
  Grid-scale battery storage · Japan

Operating live now — 5

- **Ore Energy** — Feb 2026
  Iron-air long-duration storage · France
- **Clean Planet Energy** — Feb 2026
  Plastics-to-SAF · United Kingdom
- **Kraftblock** — Feb 2026
  Thermal energy storage · India
- **Recove** — May 2026
  Advanced plastic recycling · India
- **BioCirc** — Jun 2026
  Carbon capture & storage · Denmark

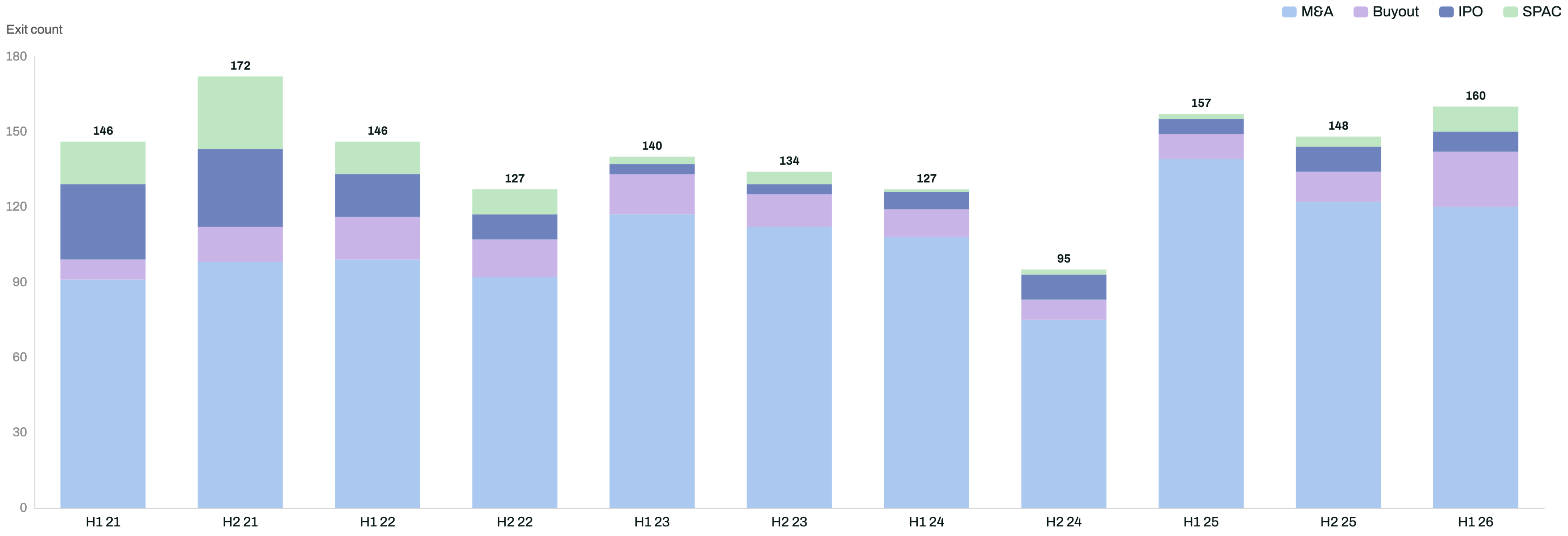
A selection of notable venture-backed climate build-outs whose status was announced in 2026, not the full dataset. Public companies excluded. Source: Net Zero Insights.

06 — EXITS

How are companies exiting, and is the window reopening?

M&A still accounts for the bulk of exits, and H1 2026 ranked among the busiest H1s for exit activity.

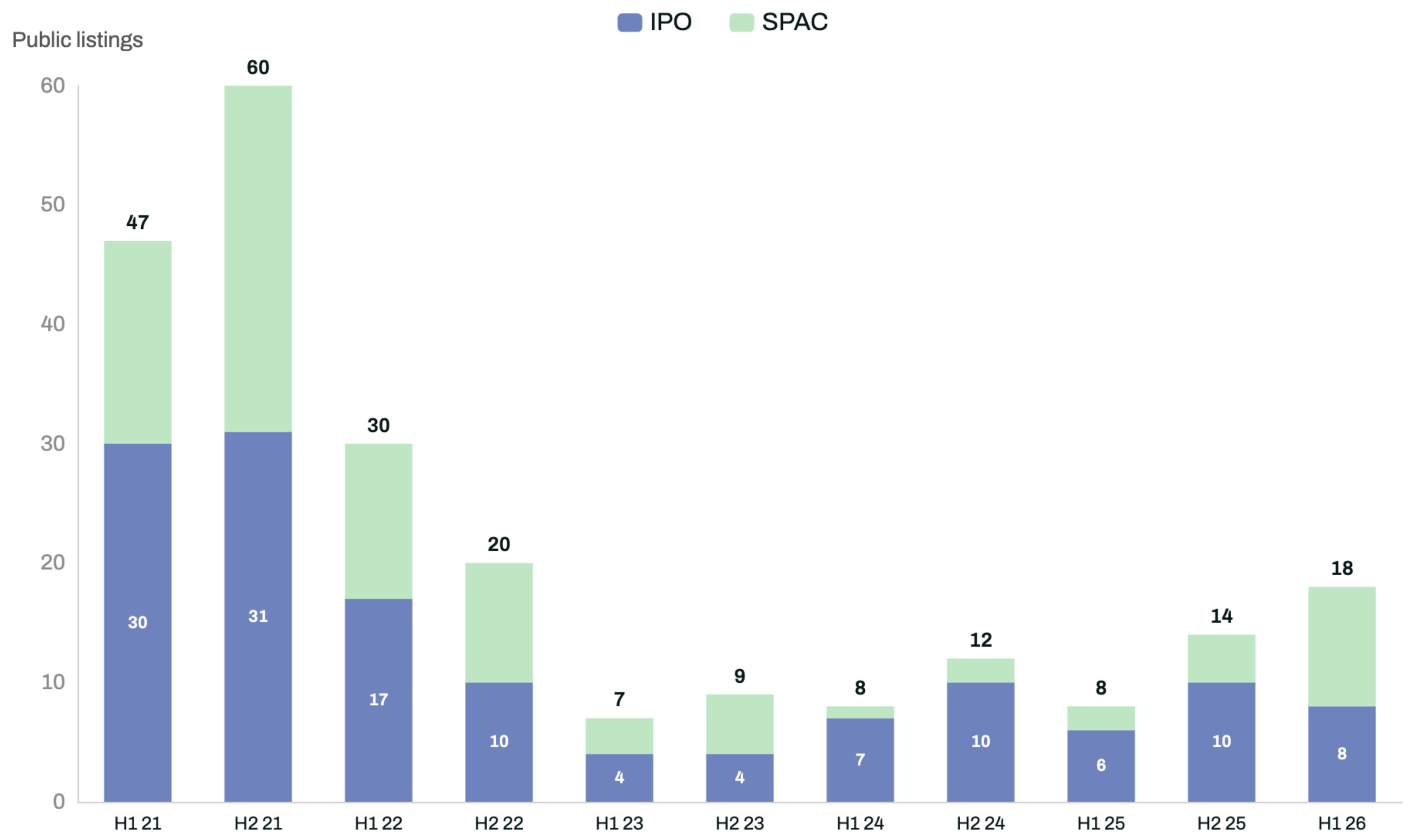
Exit activity by type, by half-year



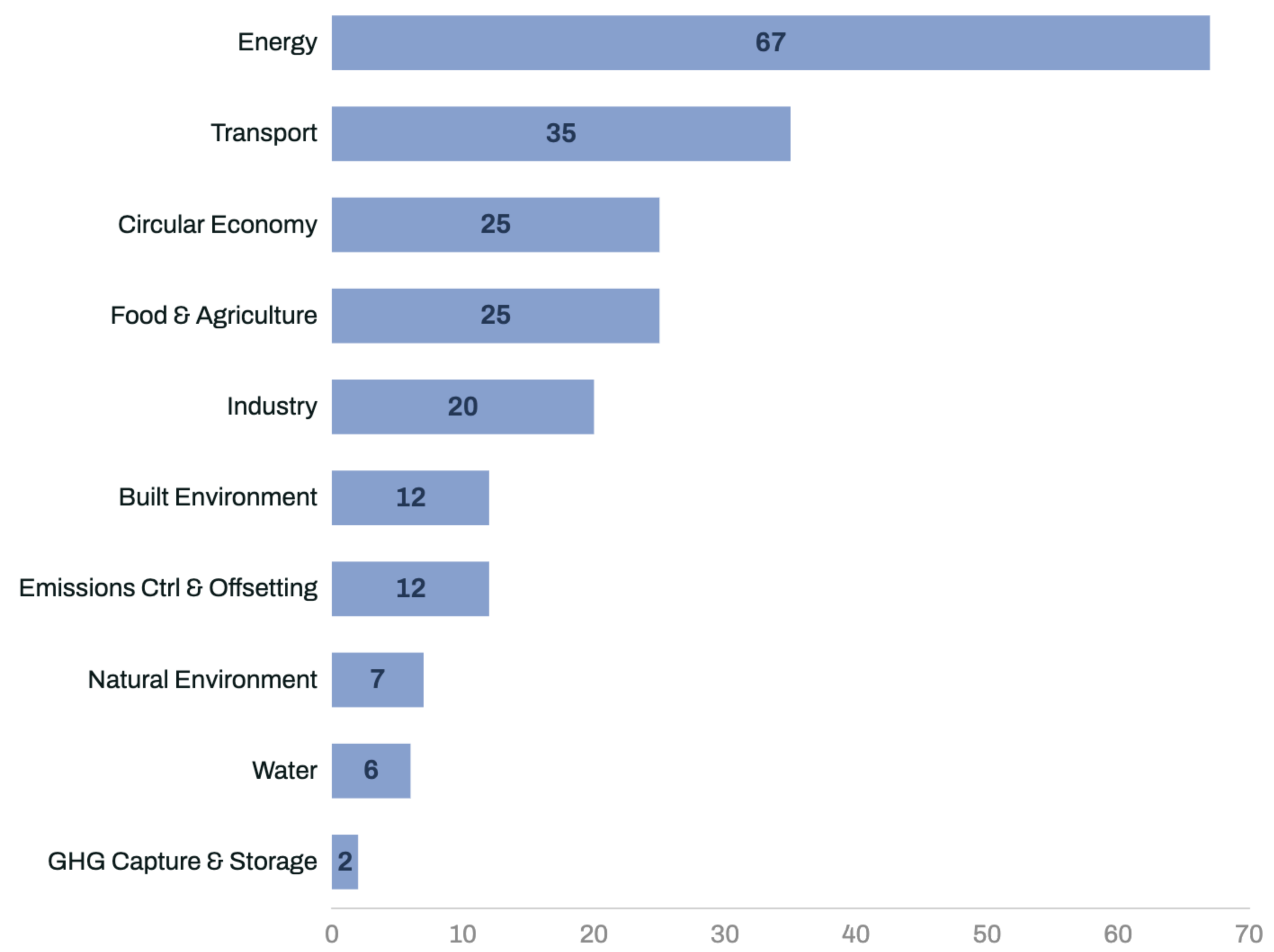
Exit events for private Climate Tech ventures. Amounts are frequently undisclosed, so exit sections are count-based. Source: Net Zero Insights.

Public listings ticked back up year on year, mostly on a return of SPACs; IPO volume stayed thin but included two high profile debuts, Fervo Energy and X-Energy.

IPO and SPAC exits, by half-year



H1 2026 exits by challenge area



Public listings count IPOs and SPAC mergers. Exits can be multi-counted across challenge areas, so the areas may exceed the total. Source: Net Zero Insights.

CoolIT ($4.75B) and Clean Earth ($3.04B) led the acquisitions, while Fervo Energy and X-Energy were the standout IPOs in an otherwise thin market.

Largest disclosed exits — H1 2026

#	COMPANY	EXIT TYPE	COUNTRY	AMOUNT
1	**CoolIT Systems**	Acquisition	Canada	**$4.75B**
2	**Clean Earth**	Acquisition	United States	**$3.04B**
3	**Fervo Energy**	IPO	United States	**$1.89B**
4	**Depop**	Acquisition	United Kingdom	**$1.20B**
5	**Huel**	Acquisition	United Kingdom	**$1.17B**
6	**X-Energy**	IPO	United States	**$1.02B**
7	**ERock**	IPO	United States	**$600M**
8	**GeoPura**	Acquisition	United Kingdom	**$366M**
9	**CleanMax**	IPO	India	**$341M**
10	**Terra Nova Solutions**	Acquisition	United States	**$225M**
11	**Einride**	SPAC	Sweden	**$220M**
12	**Easee**	Buyout	Norway	**$173M**

Disclosed exit values only; many exits are undisclosed. Source: Net Zero Insights.

The Climate Tech Taxonomy

Climate Tech refers to companies developing innovative technologies, products, services, or business models that address climate change mitigation, adaptation, and broader environmental sustainability. These solutions are structured across 10 Climate Change Challenge Areas.

Built Environment

- Building Energy Efficiency
- Smart City
- Construction
- Water Conservation in Buildings

Circular Economy

- Waste Management
- Circular Marketplace
- Circular Packaging
- Food waste and Loss
- Shared Mobility
- IT Asset Disposition (ITAD)

Emissions Control & Offsetting

- Emissions Monitoring
- Carbon Verification
- Emissions Accounting and Compliance
- Carbon Markets and Offsets

Energy

- Energy Generation
- Energy Storage
- Grid
- Energy Efficiency and Management

Industry

- Ammonia Production
- Cement and Concrete
- Iron and Steel
- Materials
- Chemicals
- Extraction and Mining

Water

- Water treatment
- Water Conservation and Efficiency
- Water Treatment
- Water Distribution

Food & Agriculture

- Agriculture
- Food and Beverage

Natural Environment

- Climate Monitoring
- Afforestation & Reforestation (AR)
- Biodiversity
- Climate Risk and Environmental Disaster Managemet
- Water Conservation in Natural Environment

Transport

- Electric Vehicle (EV)
- Charging Stations
- Shared Mobility
- Transport Fuels
- Fuel Efficiency
- Hydrogen Technologies for Transport
- Transport Logistics
- Ports and Maritime Transport

Methodology & scope

This analysis covers roughly 25,500 private companies developing and commercializing innovative climate technologies, products and business models within the Climate Tech taxonomy. It spans venture-backed and growth-stage companies building new solutions across climate and environmental sectors, and is limited to those that have raised venture financing at some point, a deliberately focused view of innovation-driven activity rather than the wider climate economy.

Funding figures count disclosed equity, debt and grant rounds from 2021 onward, with exits analysed separately. Large corporates and infrastructure owners, such as utilities, industrial incumbents and companies primarily deploying established infrastructure like utility-scale solar and wind developers, are excluded unless they are directly developing the underlying technology. Companies are classified across ten climate challenge areas and can sit in more than one, so area totals may exceed the global figure.

All monetary figures are in US dollars. Funding totals and their deal counts include only rounds with disclosed amounts, while exits are often undisclosed, so exit analysis is count-based, with values shown only where disclosed. The commercial agreements and infrastructure projects highlighted are a curated selection from Net Zero Insights' broader deal and project datasets, not exhaustive counts.

Instruments	Deal date range	Geography	Source
Equity · Debt · Grant	2021 – H1 2026	Global	Net Zero Insights

The State of Climate Tech series

A regular read on the market

State of Climate Tech is Net Zero Insights' recurring read on where private capital is flowing across climate and energy. It has grown from an annual deep-dive into a faster, more focused set of half-year and quarterly editions that track the market closer to real time.

Each edition draws on a live, continuously curated dataset, so coverage broadens and classifications sharpen every cycle. We recalculate the full historical series each time to keep trends consistent, which is why some figures differ from earlier editions and always reflect our most current view.

Want the data behind the report?

Every company, deal, investor, commercial agreement and infrastructure project in this report lives on the Net Zero Insights platform. To explore the underlying data, request a custom cut for your own analysis, or see how the numbers are built, reach out to our team at **info@netzeroinsights.com**.

H1 2025

2025 annual

Q1 2026

H1 2026
CURRENT EDITION

Q3 2026
NEXT EDITION

Expanding coverage, refining methodology, published across the year.

Intelligence to move at the speed the transition requires.

Net Zero Insights is a market intelligence platform that helps teams make faster, more defensible decisions across climate and energy markets by turning fragmented market activity into structured, comparable intelligence.

HOW DECISION MAKERS USE IT

INVESTMENT

- Inbound opportunity triage
- Deal sourcing & market monitoring
- Comparable set definition

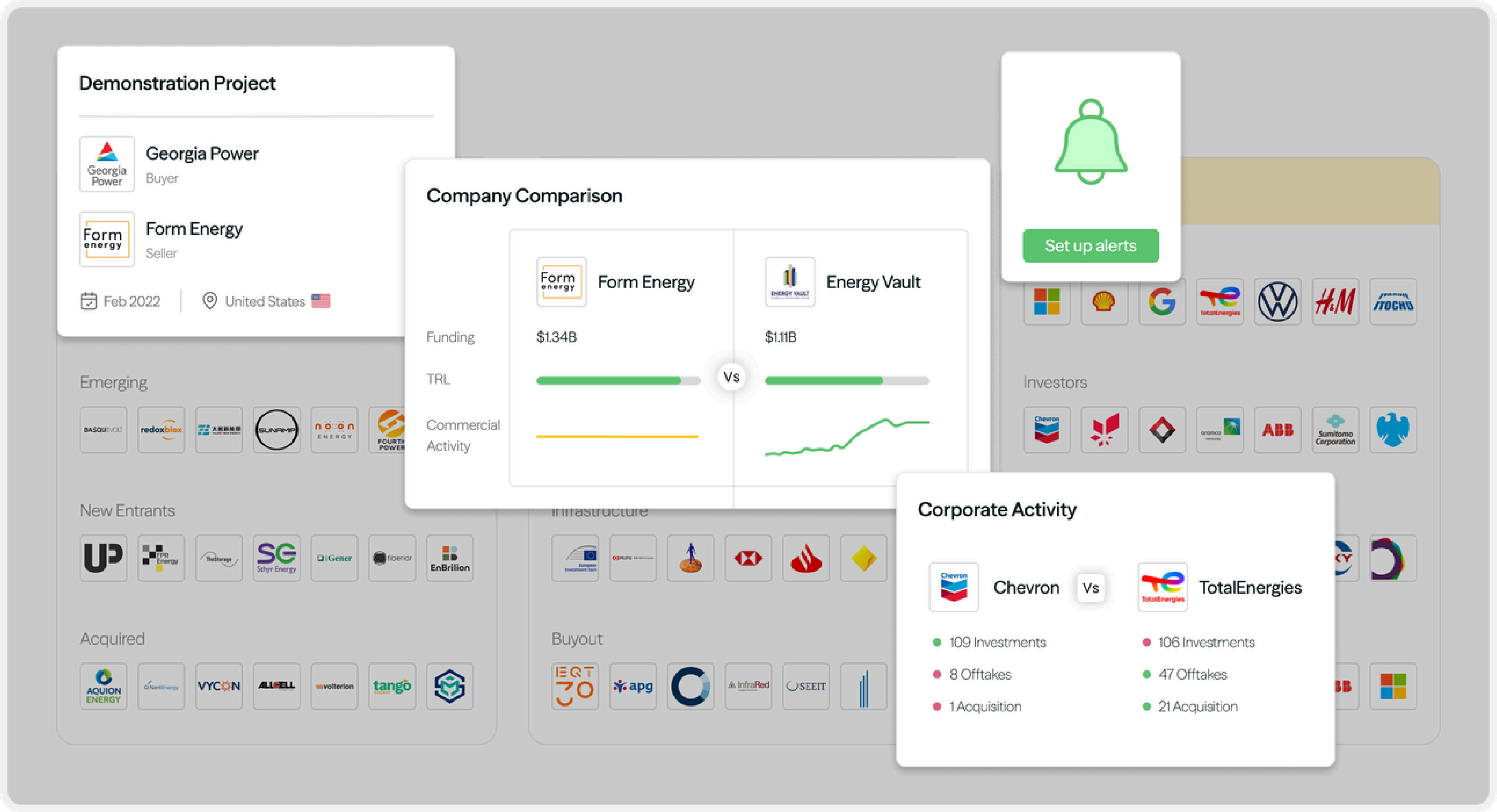
CORPORATE INNOVATION & STRATEGY

- Inbound & BU validation
- Technology & pathway benchmarking
- Ecosystem & competitor intelligence

ADVISORY

- Corporate activity mapping
- Pathway benchmarking & prioritization
- Proposal & RFP acceleration

THE NET0 PLATFORM



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