Q1 2026

WATERVIEW INVESTMENT BANKING

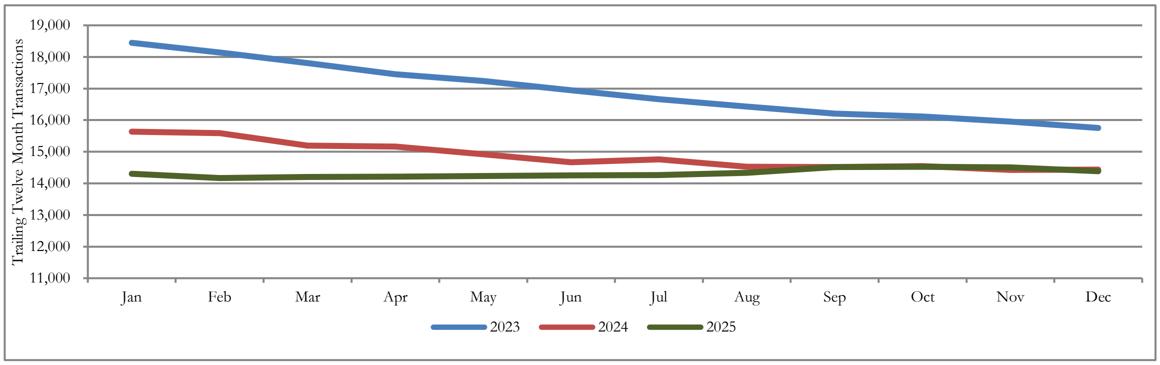
M&A ADVISORY ◆ VALUATIONS ◆ CAPITAL SOURCING

THE MARKET

FOR PRIVATELY HELD COMPANIES

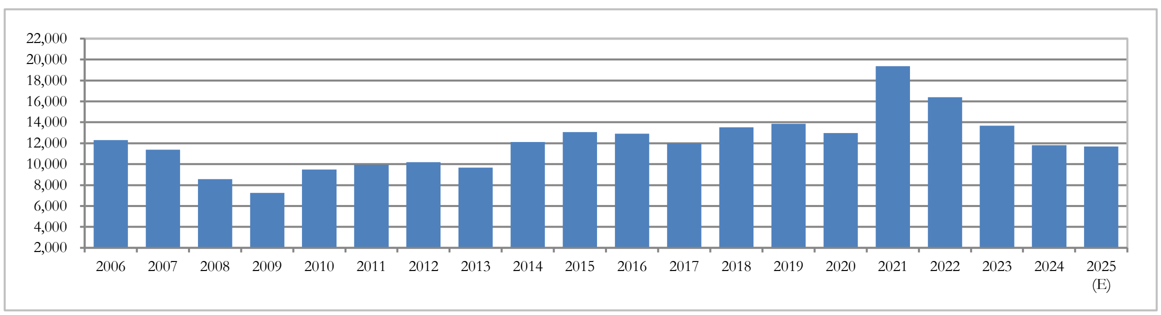
Topics Relevant to Middle Market Mergers & Acquisitions

Chart 1: Trailing Twelve Month (TTM) Total M&A Transaction Volume



Total Announced Transactions, U.S. Buyer or Seller | Source: FactSet Mergerstat

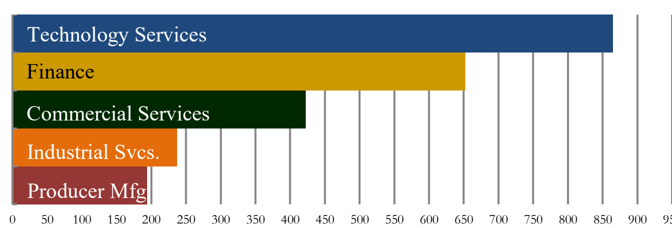
Chart 2: Annual M&A Transaction Volume



Total Announced Transactions, U.S. Buyer or Seller | Source: FactSet Review 2025

Which Sectors are Most Active?

The chart to the right reveals the five most active sectors in terms of transactions closed for the three months ended December 31, 2025. In addition to those listed in the chart, the following sectors also exhibited high transaction volume: Distribution Services, Consumer Services, Non-Energy Minerals, Health Services, and Retail Trade.



Total Announced Transactions, U.S. Buyer or Seller | Source: FactSet Mergerstat

Waterview is a Financial Advisory Services firm focused on Investment Banking and Valuation Services

- Waterview Investment Banking serves client companies with revenue between $10 million and $200 million:
  - Sell Side Representation (marketing to both strategic and financial buyers)
  - Capital Sourcing (senior debt, mezzanine and equity)
  - Valuation (to support exit planning strategies)

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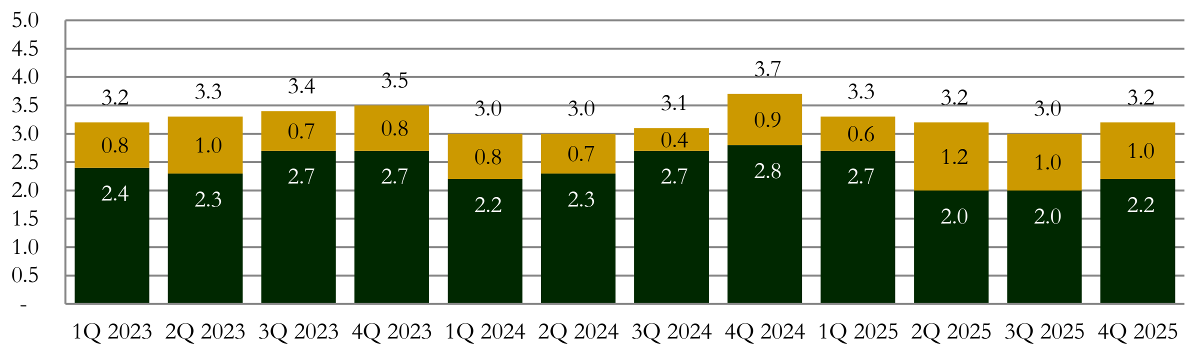
Valuation Multiples
TEV / EBITDA
Private Equity Sponsored
M&A Transactions

TEV ($Millions)	2003-2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Average	Std Dev	N =
10-25	5.8	6.1	6.4	5.9	6.4	6.2	5.9	1.8	2,116
25-50	6.5	7.2	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	2.1	1,693
50-100	7.5	8.3	8.5	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.7	2.3	1,178
100-250	8.3	9.3	9.2	9.5	8.5	9.7	8.6	2.5	662
Average	**6.7**	**7.6**	**7.6**	**7.2**	**7.2**	**7.2**	**6.9**	**2.3**	
N =	**3,940**	**500**	**333**	**297**	**388**	**297**			**5,755**

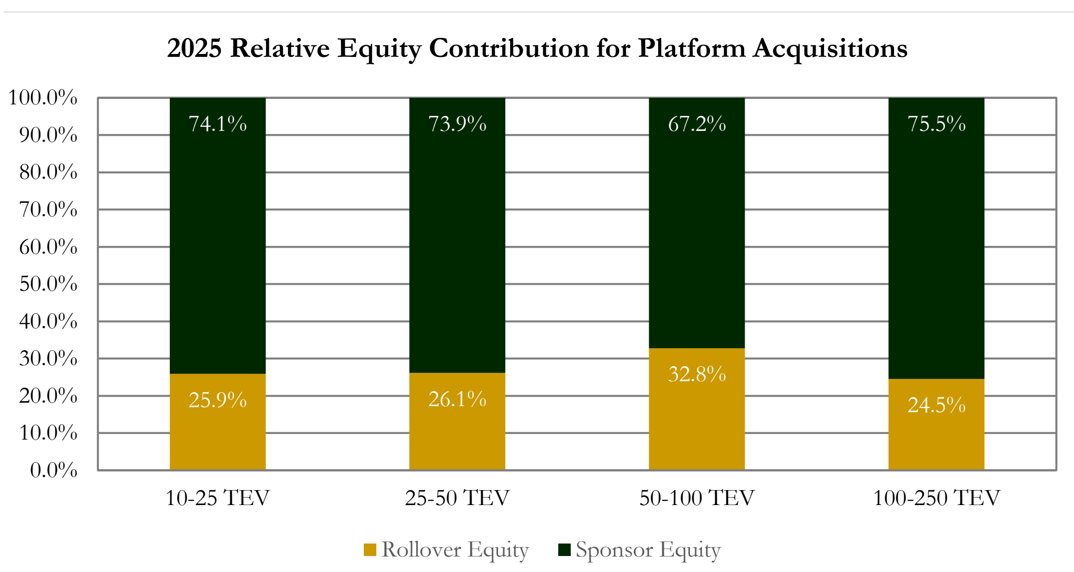
Source: GF Data® M&A Report Q4 2025. Seller Type: Private | Multiple Range: 3x - 15x | Geography: U.S. or Canadian Buyer

Average Debt Multiples
Private Equity Sponsored
M&A Transactions



Source: GF Data® Leverage Report Q4 2025. Seller Type: Private | Geography: U.S. or Canadian Buyer

2025
Relative Equity Contribution
For Platform Acquisitions



Source: GF Data® Leverage Report. Q4 2025. Seller Type: Private | Geography: U.S. or Canadian Buyer

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