

 H1 2025

MENA

Private Equity

 Premium
Report



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H1 2025 MENA Private Equity Premium Report

This report analyzes private equity activity across MENA in H1 2025, covering transaction volumes, transaction sizes, industry, and geographical trends, with insights into the growing role of regional and international investors.

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For any feedback or questions about the report,
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Private Equity Activity



PE activity in MENA declined in H1'25, as capital concentrated in fewer, high-conviction transactions

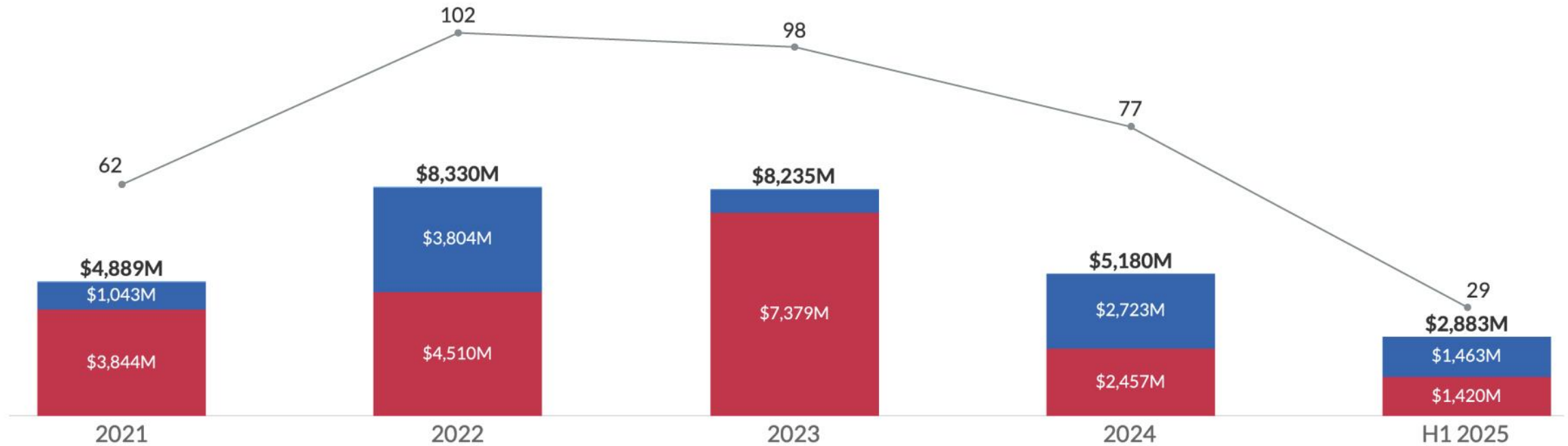
After peaking in 2022, MENA's PE activity has declined for three consecutive periods. H1'25 saw just 29 transactions worth \$2.88B, down 38% in volume and 11% in value compared to H1'24. This contraction reflects a more selective deployment approach, as GPs focus on backing scale-ready platforms with stronger fundamentals.

Despite fewer transactions, average ticket sizes remained large, aligning with global trends where investments are being made into high-value, control-oriented transactions. According to S&P Global, global deal value rose 18.7% YoY in H1'25 despite a 6% drop in transactions.

Annual MENA Private Equity Activity - Disclosed Deal Value and Transactions Evolution

\$M, # of Deals (2021 - H1 2025)

— # of Transactions \$ Buyout \$ PE Growth \$ Leveraged Buyout



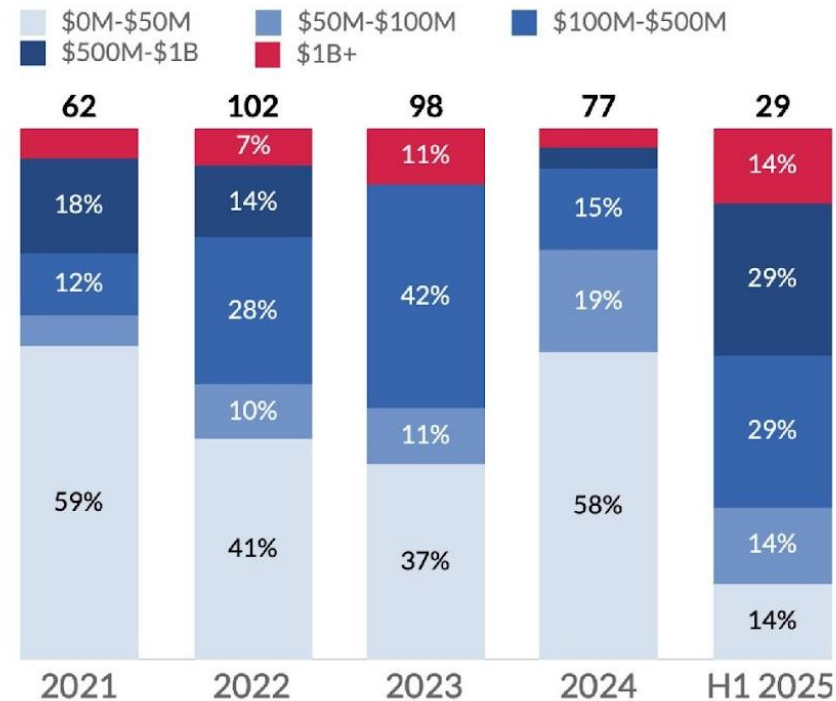
MENA PE transactions skewed toward larger tickets as the share of \$500M–\$1B and \$1B+ transactions hit five-year highs

In H1'25, the share of transactions sized \$500M–\$1B and \$1B+ rose to 29% and 14% respectively, the highest in the past five years. In contrast, transactions under \$50M dropped to just 14% of total transactions, their lowest share on record. The \$100M–\$500M bracket also climbed to 29%, up from 15% in 2024. This shift reflects growing investor preference for fewer but higher-conviction scale-ready platforms.

On a value basis, \$500M–\$1B transactions grew from 18% in 2024 to 42% of total disclosed PE value in H1'25, while \$1B+ transactions declined from 45% to 36%. The shift toward the \$500M–\$1B range signals not only investor preference for maturity and scale, but also greater accessibility for platform plays without requiring full buyout structures.

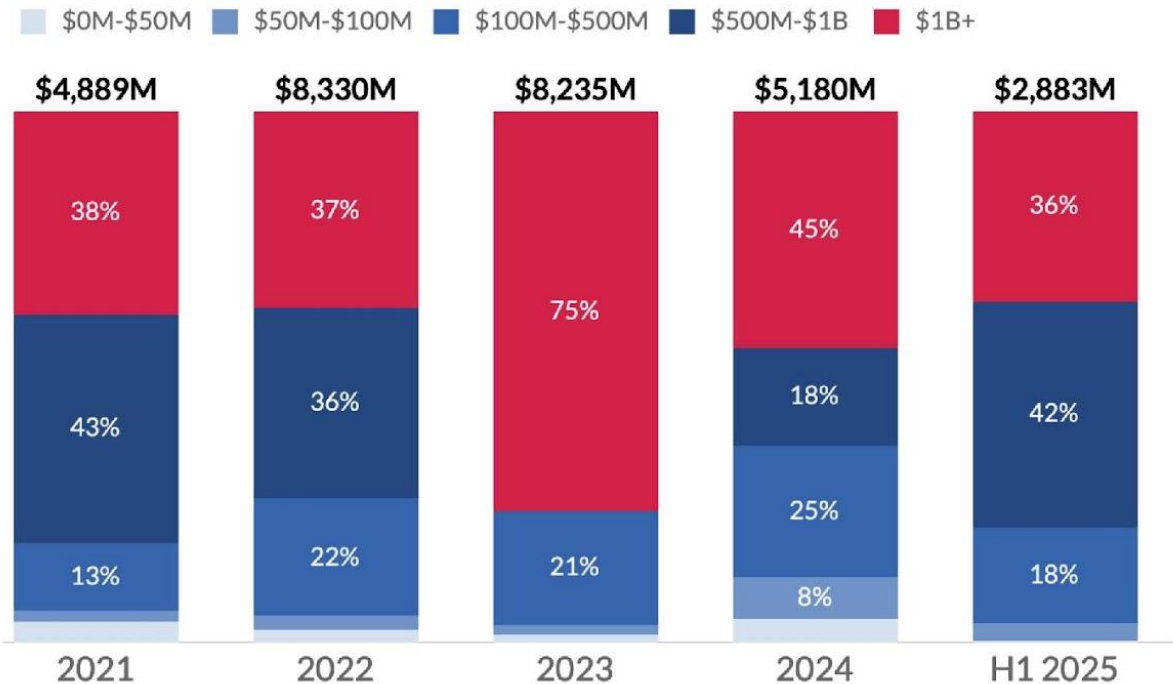
Share of MENA PE Transactions by Size Bucket

of Deals, (2021 - H1 2025)



Share of MENA PE Disclosed Deal Value by Size Bucket

% Share, \$M, Disclosed Deal Value, (2021 - H1 2025)



Geographical Breakdown



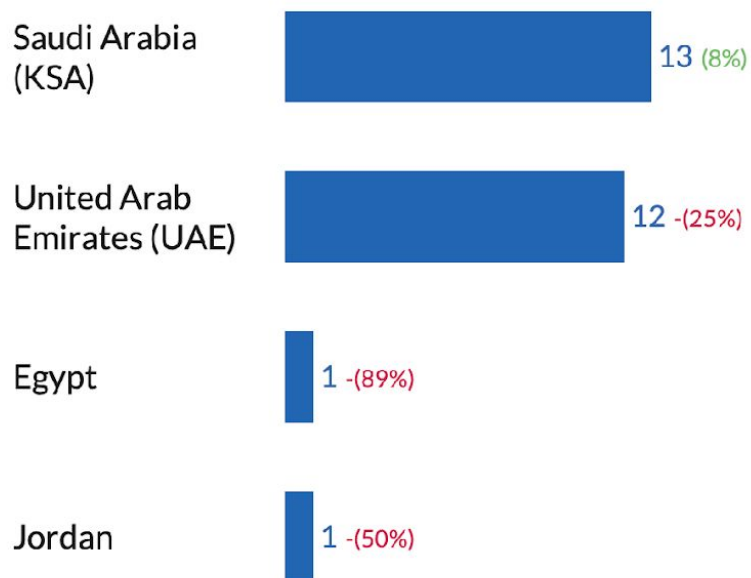
Saudi Arabia led MENA PE transactions in H1'25, accounting for nearly half of all recorded transactions

Saudi Arabia reported 13 (+8% YoY) PE transactions in H1'25, making up 45% of all transactions, the highest share among MENA countries. The UAE followed closely with 12 transactions, representing 41% of total transactions. Together, KSA and UAE accounted for 86% of all PE transactions in MENA, underscoring their dominant role in the region's private equity landscape. Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Qatar accounted for the remaining 14% with one transaction reported in each country.

Notably, the composition of investors between the UAE and KSA differed widely. 12 of 13 transactions in KSA involved locally based investors, signaling strong domestic momentum, while 8 of the UAE's 12 transactions were led by international investors, reinforcing the UAE's role as a regional gateway for cross-border capital.

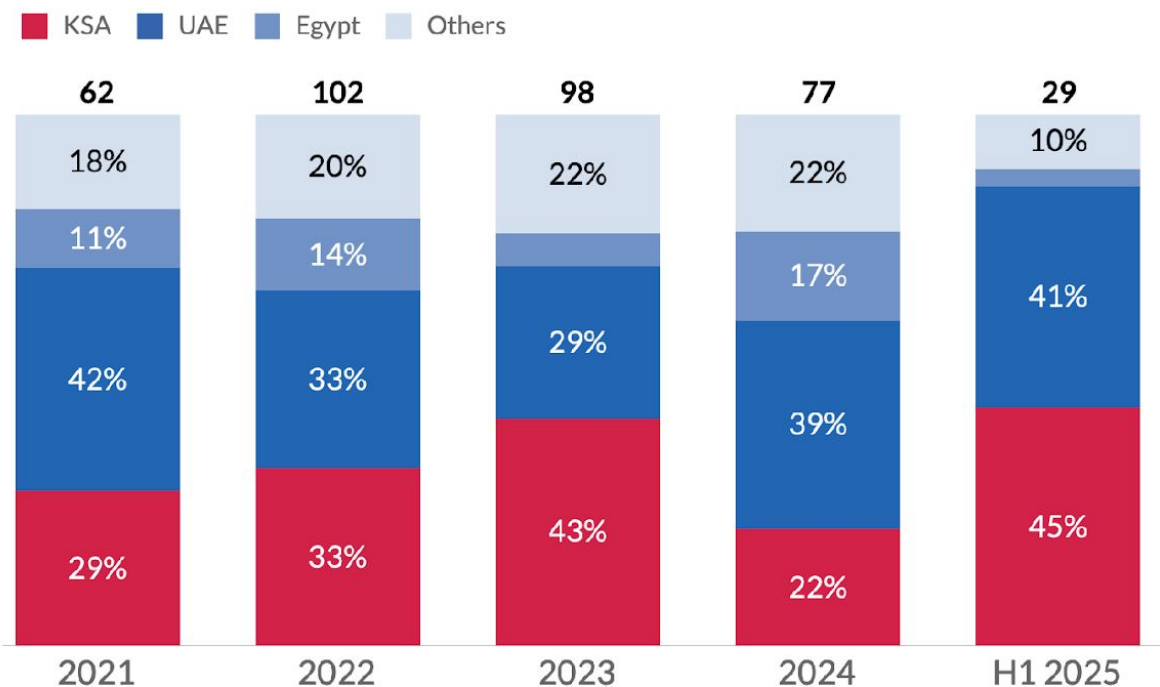
MENA PE Transactions Evolution by Country

% Deal change (H1 2025 vs H1 2024)



Share of MENA PE Transactions by Country

% Share, # of Deals, (2021 - H1 2025)



Methodology



MAGNiTT Methodology | Private Equity

MAGNiTT's proprietary database and software provides access to data from multiple sources: user-submitted data verified by MAGNiTT, aggregated public information, data engineered by MAGNiTT. All non-engineered data is verified and curated with an extensive process for inclusion in its analytic reports.

Proprietary

Companies and institutions list their proprietary information on their investment amount, stage, date, and investors directly onto the MAGNiTT platform. All investment data is validated through a rigorous process. To ensure comprehensiveness in the data, on a quarterly basis a follow-up with verified investment institutions on MAGNiTT occurs, requesting details on all their investments, including stage, amount, date, and other co-investors. This includes, and is not limited to, PE, VCs, CVCs, angel groups, accelerators, university funds and family offices for MAGNiTT's focus geographies.

Public

We undertake a continued gathering of public announcements and press releases on the investment landscape across MAGNiTT's focus geographies.

Engineering Data

Where information is incomplete or undisclosed, proprietary algorithms that tap into MAGNiTT's databases are used to create estimates for undisclosed data with factors including but not limited to year of funding, location of company, stage of investment and the company's industry.

MAGNiTT encourages you to review the methodology and definitions employed to better understand the numbers presented in this report. If you have any questions about the definitions or methodological principles used, reach out to MAGNiTT directly. Below is an outline of the approach and criteria used in MAGNiTT's research analysis:

What is included: Investments made by private capital funds in private companies. Covered deals include buyouts, leveraged buyouts, and private equity growth deals. Deal values may include both equity and debt.

Excludes: Venture Capital, Infrastructure, private debt and real estate deals are not included.

Transaction date: Where provided the date of the transaction is based on the closing date of the round. Where this is unavailable, it is recorded as the announced date per public record.

Data lags: The data contained in this report comes directly from MAGNiTT, reported as of July 2, 2025.

Verified Rounds: To ensure accuracy and confidence in our data, MAGNiTT undertakes a verification process for each investment round based on the following process:

- Direct confirmation from the investment institution or investor

- Validated if there is a 3rd party source for the investment round from credible media sources or press releases.
- Various regulatory filings where applicable
- A round is not verified if it has none of the above 3rd party reference

Country HQ: In each of our reports, the location for which the data is analyzed is based on the company's HQ as chosen and verified by the company and reflected on the MAGNiTT platform. When analyzing a particular geography, our research does not include:

- Investments in companies from diaspora founders
- Investments for companies who have their main HQ outside of our coverage with only a subsidiary or branch in that country

Primary Industry: In each of our reports, the industry by which the data is analyzed is based on the company's Primary Industry (main operational focus) as chosen and verified by the company and reflected on the MAGNiTT platform. When analyzing a particular industry, our research does not include:

- Companies whose secondary focus is that industry

Historical changes: We continue to improve historical data as we further verify our data sets and expand by geography while reaching out to new investment Institutions. Continued improvements in our technology and data operations will lead to more accurate and comprehensive data sets on the platform for our research analysis.

- ▶ All underlying data from the report is available online via magnitt.com/startups. For more info, please visit magnitt.com or contact support@magnitt.com
- ▶ If you feel your firm has been underrepresented, please send an email to data@magnitt.com and we can work together to ensure your firm's investment data is up-to-date

About MAGNiTT



Data means trust and trust means data.

With data on over 33,200 companies, 23,000 transactions, and 1,250 exits in the Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia, MAGNiTT is the trusted source of verified venture capital and private equity data in emerging venture markets. Our readily accessible and up-to-date data enables our clientele to make informed decisions about opportunities and risks in EVMs, giving them a competitive edge over peers.

MAGNiTT Data

33,200
Companies

14,000
Investment Firms

23,000
Transactions

1,250
Exits

10,500
Founders

6,900
Investors

The Problem

Despite booming investment activity in the emerging venture markets, there is a critical missing piece: reliable, verifiable data on venture-backed startups and corporates. As a result, investors, policymakers, consultants, and other stakeholders struggle to assess opportunities and risks in these markets. Without accurate data to inform the decision-making, we're all missing out on the next best thing.

Enter MAGNiTT: The Solution

Venture Capital and Private Equity data gap

Our data and analytics platform helps our clientele – whether you are a policymaker, investor, consultant, or ecosystem stakeholder – in making these impactful decisions with verified information about 33k+ companies in emerging venture markets. Our database has everything you need to stay ahead of the curve, all in one place, empowering you to conduct market research, due diligence, spot trends, and craft winning presentations and investment pipelines. The cherry on top is our 1-on-1 analyst hours offering live insights into policies, competition, emerging trends, and industry performance.

We are the Reference for



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Entrepreneur



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