

Techstars Advancing Cities Fund Final Deployment Report December 31, 2024

In March 2022, the \$80 million Techstars Advancing Cities Fund was launched to invest in more than 400 pre-seed companies founded by entrepreneurs of diverse backgrounds who are often overlooked by traditional venture capital. The fund was raised through the J.P. Morgan Private Wealth platform with the objective of generating strong investor returns while creating wealth for startups and founders often constrained by institutional, structural, and systemic barriers. The fund invested in companies that were selected to join a Techstars accelerator program powered by J.P. Morgan.



“Techstars has successfully deployed the Advancing Cities Fund, supporting an incredible array of innovative companies led by diverse and inspiring founders. These entrepreneurs and their 460 companies have surpassed our expectations, and we’re excited to watch their continued growth. Based on our 17 years of experience, we’re confident this fund will deliver strong results like its predecessor funds. A huge thanks to everyone who made these 39 accelerator classes a success—our partners at JP Morgan, investors, mentors, Techstars teams, and, most importantly, the founders!

David Cohen, Founder & CEO, Techstars

Key Fund Data

Data as of December 31, 2024

\$80M
fund;
fully deployed

460
investments
to date

2.74%
average
acceptance rate

39 completed classes across 9 U.S. Cities:



Atlanta

Chicago

Detroit

Los Angeles

Miami

New Orleans

New York

Oakland

Washington D.C.

A broad range of companies across all industries with the top 5 sectors:



AI & Machine
Learning



Business
Productivity



Clean/Climate
Tech



Fintech




Healthtech


Building Connections

150+
investor
events

7,000
individual investor
introductions

650+
investor introductions
post-program

 **900+** mentors participating in nearly **20K+** meetings with portfolio companies

 **8+** investor connections per company for the **top 25%** that have received introductions

Founder Facts

900+
founders

62%¹
diverse
CEOs

63%²
gender-diverse
CEOs

37³
nationalities



“So often, underrepresented founders don’t have the luxury to dream because we are navigating barriers that our counterparts will never know. Techstars and J.P. Morgan are creating opportunities for us to bet on ourselves and win. It’s life-changing, and the impact will be felt for generations.


Ashley René Lee, CCO of Peadbo, participated in Techstars Detroit Powered By J.P. Morgan


Post-Graduation Information

\$171M
total raised by portfolio
companies in the fund

\$611M
cumulative
market cap


Despite global headwinds confronting the startup sector during the timeframe of this fund’s deployment (2022-2024) with repeated quarter-by-quarter declines in the percentage of early-stage companies fundraising, founders from Techstars accelerators powered by J.P. Morgan bucked the trend.


 **53** companies raised funding rounds since completion of their Techstars program

 On average, those companies raised **>\$1M** within the first year of completion of their Techstars accelerator

 These companies raised capital from more than **150** different co-investors

 As of September 30, 2024, the entire Techstars Advancing Cities portfolio is up **6%** from the time of Techstars’ initial investment

 The portion of the portfolio that went through a program more than a year before this report is up **9%** already

 At the time of publishing, **42%** of the cohort is <1 year old

¹ Self selected as Black, Hispanic and Latino, Indigenous American and Pacific Islanders

² Self selected as Female, Non-binary / Gender Neutral

³ 88% of founders self selected nationalities

Some Highlights From Our Portfolio

AERIALOOP

Aerialoop builds drone delivery networks over cities to revolutionize the urban logistics infrastructure, enabling faster, more efficient, and sustainable transportation of goods.



Diagon Technologies is a high-powered marketplace for new and used industrial manufacturing equipment.

Dollarize

Dollarize allows non-U.S. nationals to open an FDIC-insured U.S. bank account and deposit and withdraw cash within minutes.



Inphl is a streamlined employee advocacy platform that empowers companies to enable their employees to be ambassadors on social media.

Kredete

Kredete is a financial technology platform that helps African immigrants in the diaspora build credit through instant international money transfers to 22+ countries, with low fees.



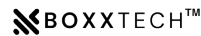
Mercately is an ecommerce platform for messaging apps. They offer a CRM with omnichannel communications that helps SMEs increase their sales.



Accelerate project timelines, free up internal resources, and deliver value quickly with SAFA's Automated Documentation and Change Management Platform.



Trez provides accurate, reliable, and easy-to-use software for payroll, benefits, taxes, and more.



The world's first patent pending verification vending machine, aka the BOXX, was thoughtfully designed to automate the sale of alcohol.



DocNexus is reinventing the global healthcare ecosystem with search via AI-powered knowledge graphs.



Dyrt is a food waste management platform that provides visibility and simplicity for large-scale producers of food waste while bringing compliance to an evolving regulatory environment.



Kinometrix provides hospitals with a patient safety platform that uses electronic health record data and machine learning to predict patient harm accurately and in real time.



Linker Finance is a cost-effective turnkey solution and low-code platform that enables brands to launch their custom fintech app in weeks.



RightHear provides talking signage, so everyone can interpret and understand their surroundings in real time.



TestSprite delivers the capabilities of a dedicated software test engineer, automating testing for both back-end and front-end systems.



University Startups creates opportunities for students to discover pathways to higher education and better careers.