

# VC: Driving Innovation in Tennessee

**702**

Startups received  
venture funding  
(2019-2023)

**\$5.9B**

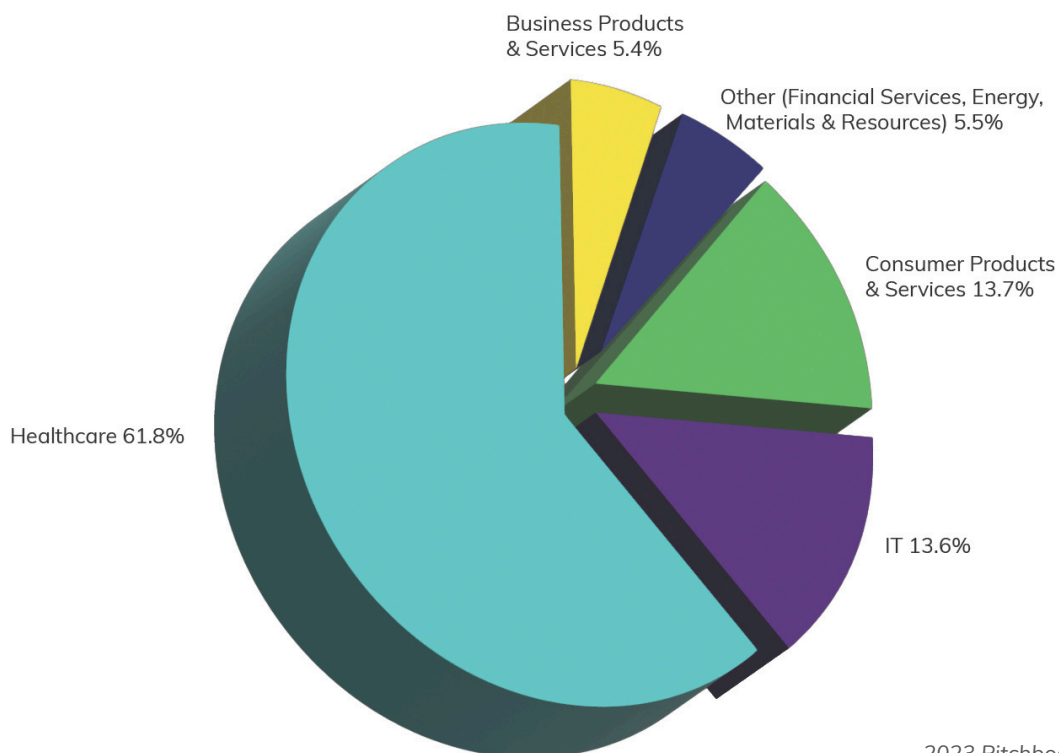
In VC investment  
in startups  
(2019-2023)

**87K**

People employed  
by VC backed  
startups in 2022

A broad range of Tennessee-based pension funds, university endowments, and nonprofits invest in and benefit from venture, including both the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System, serving over 350,000 state, local, and education-related employees, and University of Tennessee System's endowment.

## 2023 VC Investment By Sector in TN



## VCs Funding TN Startups Include:



Founded by Dr. and Senator Bill Frist and Steve Cressey, Frist Cressey Ventures of Nashville is healthcare focused. It specializes in investing in early and growth-stage companies while working closely with management teams to recruit talent, make connections through the VC's deep network, and execute on their plans to improve healthcare.

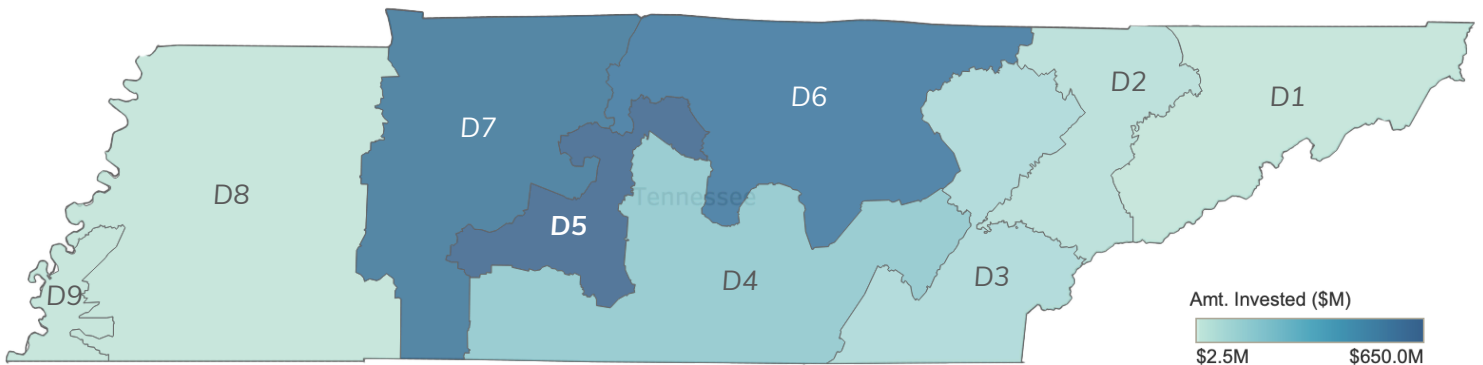


Jumpstart Foundry (JSF) is a Nashville-based healthcare fund that invests in 30-50 healthcare technology companies annually. It guides these innovators on their journey to impact health by providing capital, connections, and support. JSF is dedicated to improving the development of healthcare IT, tech-enabled services, consumer health products and services, and diagnostic devices.



Innova Memphis invests in start-ups in the healthcare, biosciences, technology, and agtech sectors. The Memphis-based fund focuses on high-growth companies that create jobs, while being aligned with regional industry clusters and economic development priorities.

# 2023 State Funding Breakdown



District	TN-1	TN-2	TN-3	TN-4	TN-5	TN-6	TN-7	TN-8	TN-9
\$ Received	\$5.15M	\$21.1M	\$50.65M	\$121.6M	\$630.57M	\$432.7M	\$435.95M	\$3.56M	\$2.53M

2023 Pitchbook Data

## VC Funding Helps TN's Startups Thrive:



Rural Americans are older, sicker, and have higher rates of chronic diseases, but less access to care. Main Street Health of Nashville is dedicated to transforming their healthcare. By partnering with primary care practices, the company ensures that rural communities receive comprehensive and effective healthcare tailored to their specific needs.



Knoxville-based Electro-Active is developing a modular system to convert food waste into affordable, renewable hydrogen. The system can be deployed onsite or in a decentralized fashion, enabling companies and communities to turn their waste into electrons to produce hydrogen. The company recently won an incubator prize from the Department of Energy.



Rubber, acrylic fiber, and carbon fiber are central to today's economy, but they are primarily manufactured with fossil-based materials, creating large carbon footprints. Trillium Renewable Chemicals of Knoxville uses renewable feedstocks to manufacture green chemicals that offer customers a more sustainable alternative to fossil-based materials for their industrial applications.