

MID-MARKET INVESTMENT BANKING

November 2021 M&A Dashboard

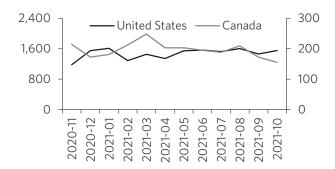


For the first time since the beginning of the pandemic, we observed a divergence between the trajectory of M&A transaction activity in the U.S. and Canada in October 2021. The U.S. market has shown transaction volumes close to 12-month highs consistently over the last few months, while M&A volume in Canada has been moderately trending downwards, with a 12-month low reached in October 2021. The underlying data shows the decline of the last few months to be primarily tied to a slowdown in the number of transactions in the materials and healthcare sectors – two sectors which we highlighted in previous dashboards as having greatly benefitted from the initial impact of the pandemic. These sectors together represent over a third of M&A transactions in Canada, as opposed to only 15% in the U.S.. As a result, an overall decline in activity in these sectors will be much more noticeable in Canada than in the U.S.

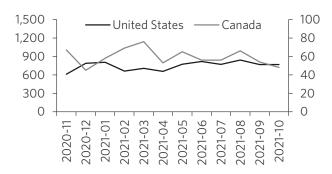
Mid-market M&A transaction valuations have now recovered fully from the pandemic downturn, with an average EBITDA multiple of 7.2x in Q2 2021, which is in line with the pre-pandemic average. The focus on quality assets continues, with the quality valuation premium averaging 33% for the year-to-date. Interestingly, other variables influencing valuations emerge as outsized contributors. Businesses under institutional ownership sold for a multiple of EBITDA almost 1.0x higher than businesses owned by individuals and families. Prior to the pandemic, institutional ownership predicted a premium of less than 0.7x. Data also supports the importance of providing a management solution post-transaction: such businesses transacted at a 0.2x premium to the overall average.

Lender confidence remains positive and largely unchanged from the previous few quarters, with leverage multiples back to prepandemic levels.

M&A volume - U.S. and Canada



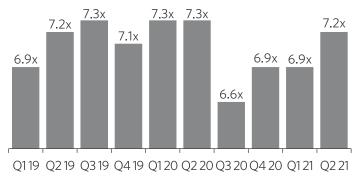
Private equity M&A volume - U.S. and Canada



Source: Capital IQ.

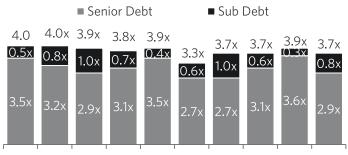
Source: Capital IQ.

Mid-Market M&A multiples - U.S. and Canada



Source: GF Data.

Mid-Market M&A leverage - U.S. and Canada



Q1 19 Q2 19 Q3 19 Q4 19 Q1 20 Q2 20 Q3 20 Q4 20 Q1 21 Q2 21

Source: GF Data.

Canadian M&A activity and notable transactions by sector

Sector	Percent (%) of M&A volume	Acquirer	Target	Target description
Materials	October 202117%Last twelve months24%		FI©RE GOLD	Gold mining firm
Information technology	16% 12%	EIVENDASTA	CalendarHero	Online meeting scheduling software provider
Industrials	11% 13%	S	\$ KELLER	Piling subcontractor based in Manitoba
Real estate	10% 10%	(E) CANDEREL	👹 Cominar	Diversified real estate investment trust
Financials	10% 9%	Chesswood	Rifco	Provider of vehicle financing services
Consumer discretionary	10% 6%	Sleep Country	Hush.	Manufacturer and direct-to- consumer retailer of weighted blankets
Consumer staples	10% 5%	Nova Vida Capital Buy & Build A Creat Company	TIFOODS	Food distributor
Health care	6% 10%	LIFESPEAK	ALAVIDA	Digital health service provider focused on addiction treatments
Energy	6% 5%	SURGE	FIRES	Provider of oil and gas exploration and development services
Communication services	5% 6%	GENIUS BRANDS	NGW	Producer and distributor of animated content for film, television and online channels
Utilities	0% 1%			No transaction in October 2021

Source: Capital IQ.

About us

CIBC Mid-Market Investment Banking is a leading M&A advisor, providing services to private companies:

- Divestitures
- Acquisitions and management buyouts
- Raising equity capital and securing debt financing

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