



FinTech

Trend Report





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Executive Summary: Fintech Report

- ▶ **Industry Growth Overview:** The fintech outlook shows a 5.27% growth with over 124000 companies listed.
- ▶ **Manpower & Employment Growth:** An addition of 1 million employees in the last year is observed, reaching a total manpower of 13.9 million in the fintech industry.
- ▶ **Patents & Grants:** The industry boasts 33700+ patents and has received 2276 grants, emphasizing a strong innovation culture.
- ▶ **Global Footprint:** Key financial hubs include the US, UK, India, Canada, and Australia. The industry exhibits significant international influence as well with top city hubs in London, New York City, San Francisco, Mumbai, and Sydney.
- ▶ **Investment Landscape:** The fintech industry features an average investment value of USD 47 million and more than 71000 funding rounds.
- ▶ **Top Investors:** Prominent investors have contributed over USD 45.5 billion to the industry. Some of the top investors include Tiger Global Management, Goldman Sachs, and SoftBank Vision Fund.
- ▶ **Startup Ecosystem:** 2709 total startups, highlights include [Meroca](#) (Accounts Payable API), [Quantit](#) (AI-based Programmable Investment), [BankSocial](#) (Crypto Exchange), [Drona Pay](#) (Real-time Fraud Detection), and [EVERSTELL](#) (Profitability Management).
- ▶ **Recommendations for Stakeholders:** Invest in emerging fintech areas such as decentralized finance (DeFi), AI, predictive analytics, and more to capitalize on the sector's expansive potential. Identify and track startups developing advanced financial technologies to gain a competitive advantage.

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▶ Blockchain advancements, digital banking evolution, and cloud computing are revolutionizing the financial services sector, enhancing scalability, and transforming product portfolios. We offer a detailed insight into global fintech industry trends to help you understand their potential impact on your business. AI stands as a pivotal trend in the sector, influencing other key areas including cybersecurity, digital banking, and WealthTech. Incorporating blockchain into the financial ecosystem bolsters data and transaction security, facilitating crypto transactions and decentralized finance (DeFi) structures. Open banking paves the way for banks to capitalize on customer data, while also granting non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) access to this valuable information.



▶ Covering over 4,7 million startups & scaleups globally, we use our [Big Data and AI-powered Discovery Platform](#) to identify innovative applications, technologies, and companies impacting the Financial Tech Industry. This exhaustive, data-driven startup scouting pinpoints emerging trends and technologies in the Financial Tech Industry. For this research, we analyzed a sample of 2709 startups and scaleups and present the Top 10 Trends along with 20 highly relevant solutions.

▶ In the Innovation Map below, you get an overview of the Top 10 Financial Tech Industry Trends & Innovations that impact companies worldwide.



Innovation Map: Financial Tech

2709

Startups & Scaleups

AI

DeFi

Open Banking

Digital Banks

Cybersecurity

Customer
Engagement

IoT

Sustainable
Finance

Quantum
Computing

WealthTech

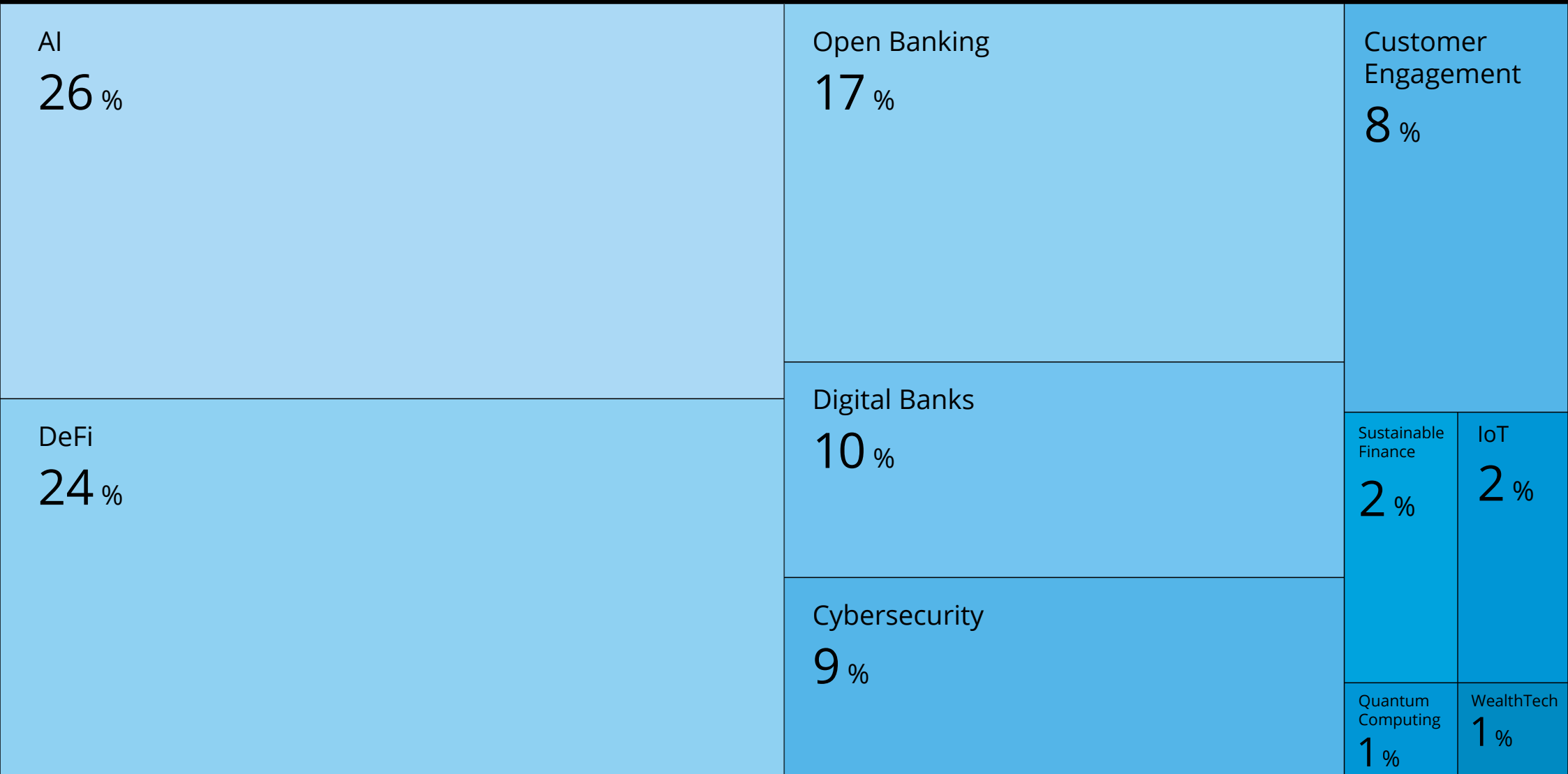



Tree Map: The Impact of Financial Tech Trends

► The Tree Map below illustrates the impact of the top 10 fintech trends. The finance sector is witnessing a surge in the adoption of robotic process automation (RPA) and AI-powered chatbots for automating manual tasks. DeFi and open banking are democratizing financial infrastructure and data access. With the ascent of neobanks and digital banking services, the demand for financial cybersecurity solutions is escalating to counter money laundering and cyber-attacks.

► Moreover, the industry is enhancing customer engagement through voice-enabled services and utilizing IoT devices to tailor services based on customer data. The preference for banks supporting high-impact projects is steering the growth of sustainable financing in FinTech. Concurrently, quantum computing is honing market predictability precision, and wealth management solutions are gaining increased market traction.

Top 10 Financial Tech Trends & Innovations





Global Startup Heat Map covers 2709 Fintech Startups & Companies

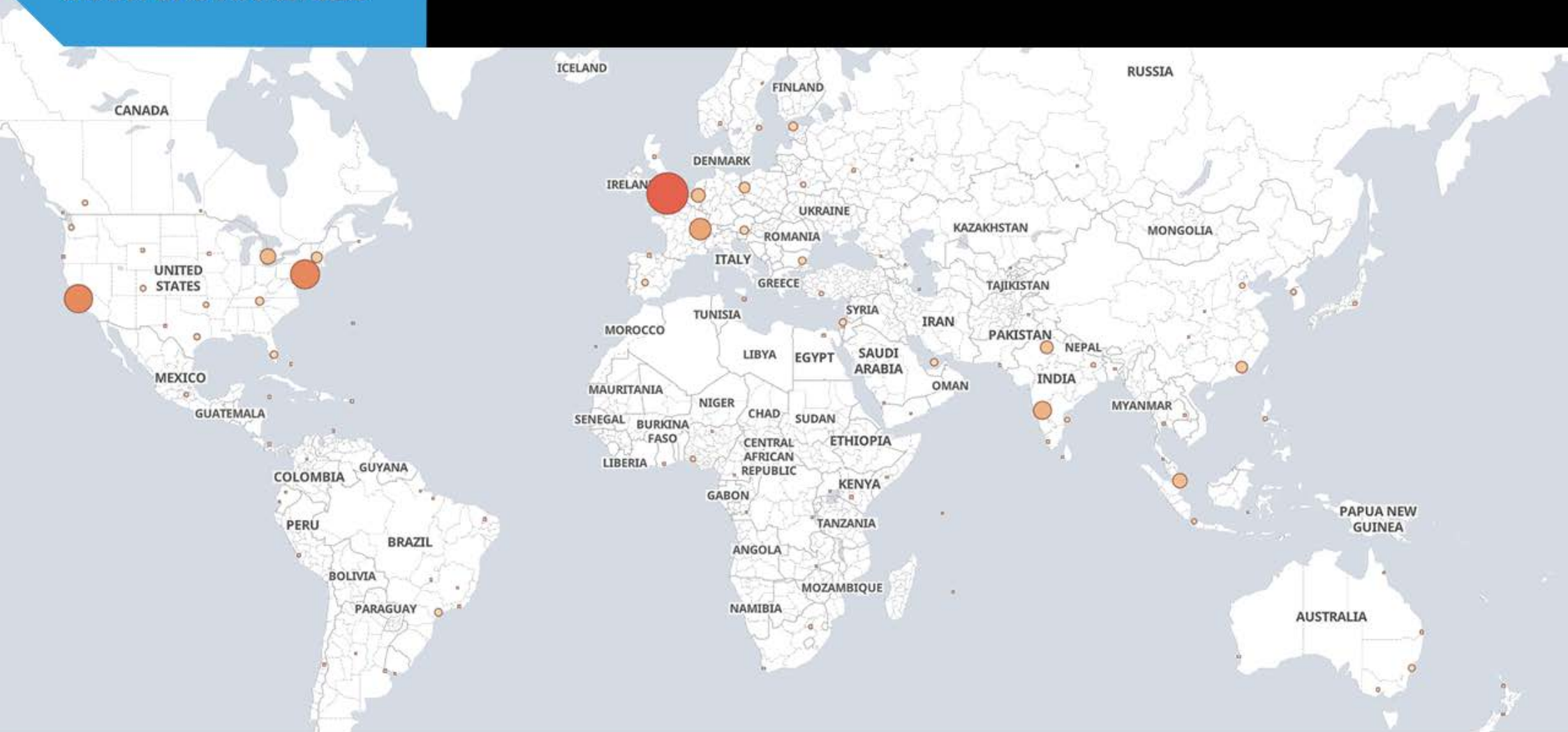
▶ The Global Startup Heat Map below highlights the global distribution of the 2709 exemplary startups & scaleups that we analyzed for this research. Created through the StartUs Insights Discovery Platform, the Heat Map reveals that Western Europe and the US have a high concentration of financial tech startups.

▶ Below, you get to meet 20 out of these 2709 promising startups & scaleups as well as the solutions they develop. These 20 startups are hand-picked based on criteria such as founding year, location, funding raised, and more. Depending on your specific needs, your top picks might look entirely different.

2709

STARTUPS ANALYZED

Global Startup Heat Map: Financial Tech



This Global Startup Heat Map illustrates the geographical distribution of 2709 startups & emerging companies we analyzed for this topic

Artificial Intelligence

▶ Financial institutions are utilizing AI and machine learning (ML) to streamline repetitive and labor-intensive tasks, including customer verification and screening. The digitization of financial operations is generating a wealth of data, which startups are harnessing to create AI- and ML-driven solutions such as financial chatbots and robotic advisors, enhancing automation in customer interactions and boosting satisfaction. Further, FinTech startups are introducing autonomous finance solutions, eliminating manual interventions and thereby elevating the customer experience, fostering higher conversion and repeat sales, and saving time. These solutions also provide a deep understanding of customer behavior, enabling financial entities to tailor their product offerings.

▶ [CREDmitra](#) is an Indian startup that provides Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) solutions for loan management. The startup leverages AI-based data models and automation to optimize

borrower onboarding, assessment, disbursement, and monitoring. This enables lenders to increase loan processing speeds, eliminate ineligible leads, mitigate fraud, and ensure timely loan repayment. The startup also offers a pay-as-you-use service model, allowing small and medium enterprises to automate loan management at low costs.

▶ [2Digit](#) is a South Korea-based startup that designs digital financial services using artificial intelligence. Its flagship product News Salad is an AI-powered stock investment information service that analyzes news and provides insights. It also offers Plum – an AI-based P2P service that allows users to design loans and investment products with customized conditions and match them with investors to maximize operating profits. Further, 2Digit also offers future-forecasting risk management tools that utilize AI.

Decentralized Finance

▶ Blockchain is fostering a decentralized finance (DeFi) ecosystem, granting users greater control. DeFi leverages smart contracts to supplant centralized banking systems and oversee financial settlements, thereby accelerating transactions and facilitating real-time cross-border payments. Additionally, blockchain-based ledgers augment transaction security. While cryptocurrencies remain a component of the DeFi structure, startups are expanding DeFi services. These expansions encompass decentralized exchange (DeX) protocols, non-fungible tokens (NFTs), peer-to-peer (P2P) protocols, and Web3-ready infrastructure, allowing users to opt for more democratic and secure digital protocols over traditional banks. Concurrently, financial institutions are employing blockchain to protect sensitive data, enhancing their brand value and bolstering customer trust.

▶ [Spherium Finance](#) is a Singaporean startup that offers a decentralized wallet. It features cross-chain interoperability, thus streamlining multi-chain and multi-source assets management. The wallet enables users to swap tokens and receive rewards for using decentralized apps (DApps). This way, the solution provides the convenience of centralized infrastructure while ensuring high-speed, high-security transactions.

▶ Taiwanese startup [Cream Finance](#) provides a peer-to-peer decentralized lending platform. It leverages liquidity mining to lend crypto assets through its marketplace. Cream Finance also allows CREAM token owners to participate in governance and voting rights. The startup's DeX protocol, Cream Swap, is permissionless, open-source, and blockchain-agnostic as well as an automated market maker (AMM). It thus automates token swapping and speeds up transactions while eliminating centralized components.

Open Banking

▶ While financial operation digitization produces abundant data, it remains out of reach for NBFCs. Open banking is mitigating this issue, facilitating data transfer between banks and third-party financial providers through APIs. Startups are also presenting banking-as-a-service, leveraging cloud solutions to expedite financial product development. These strategies empower fintech firms to enhance customer profiling and risk evaluations. Furthermore, granting NBFCs access to customer financial data allows for deeper insights into spending patterns, fostering the creation of tailored financial products and services. Startups are additionally advancing open finance solutions, encouraging collaboration between third-party entities and traditionally isolated financial organizations.

▶ UK-based startup [Agitate](#) leverages secure portable wallet technology, a tool that is compatible with any device, facilitating

a seamless and secure financial transaction experience for businesses globally. Agitate's solution advances open banking through its "pay-as-you-go" feature, eliminating the need for account sign-ups or commitments. This provides users with a high degree of flexibility and ease of use. Further, the platform can be accessed globally, ensuring a seamless transaction experience across borders.

▶ [Finverse Technologies](#) is a Hong Kong-based startup that offers financial data with user consent. The startup's API allows financial product developers to access customer account data with data encryption at rest and in transit. This enables businesses to improve financial management, monitor digital transactions, and track investment accounts.

Digital Banks

► Changes in regulations and improvements in digital infrastructure is increasing the adoption of online banking services. COVID-19 significantly accelerated this transition and forced conventional banks to offer all of their products and services through online channels. Similarly, many financial tech startups emerged during the pandemic that leveraged open banking infrastructure and cloud-based services to deliver banking services. Since these digital-only banks save on capital expenses, they offer lower service charges for the customers. Besides, digital-only banks focus more on customer preferences and leverage customer-friendly processes, improving convenience.

► Kenyan neobank [Fingo Africa](#) provides youth-focused banking. The startup's smartphone app allows customers to pay utility bills, create savings goals, and earn rewards. It mitigates difficulties associated with opening bank accounts for teenagers and, in turn, improves their financial wellness and independence.

► French neobank [Green-Got](#) funds social-impact projects for each payment made through its system. The startup funds projects such as renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, waste treatment, and forest protection, among others. Companies use Green-Got's payment account to achieve sustainability goals. Additionally, the startup allows the companies to fund sustainable projects as well as track their CO₂ impact.

Cybersecurity

▶ The migration of financial operations into online channels makes banks and NBFCs even bigger targets for cyber attacks than before. In addition, the financial services industry deals with massive amounts of sensitive customer information, and data leaks lead to high legal expenses. This is why financial tech startups offer cybersecurity solutions tailored for financial institutions. For instance, startups provide automated data compliance, financial data encryption, role-based access control, biometric authentication, and network monitoring solutions. They enable network admins to monitor data access and network activities in real-time and mitigate cybersecurity risks. The FinTech industry is also leveraging quantum computing to ensure data integrity and security in the quantum era.

▶ [Data Sentinel](#) is a Canadian startup that enables automated financial data compliance. The startup's SaaS solution discovers, classifies, and quantifies financial data. It also offers

data audit-as-a-service to identify sensitivity exposure and data quality. This enables financial and insurance businesses to comply with regulations and protect sensitive customer information. Consequently, the startup allows financial institutions to monetize customer data without compromising data security.

▶ US-based startup [Sardine](#) offers financial fraud prevention for digital financial products. The startup's platform filters and searches users by customer and device attributes as well as provides a summary of social profiles and geolocation. Financial companies integrate Sardine's software development kit (SDK) to verify identities, receive behavior metrics, and monitor transactions for anti-money laundering (AML) compliance. This enables low-cost, scalable fraud prevention and compliance infrastructure.

Customer Engagement

▶ Fintech solutions are continually evolving to enhance customer engagement, with financial firms now incorporating game elements to facilitate goal setting, track progress, and reward clients. These gamification strategies motivate customers to save more, elevate their financial literacy, and better manage their finances daily. Fintech startups are introducing voice-enabled services for payments to enrich the customer experience. Moreover, banks are adopting voice-to-text features in chatbots to foster conversational banking, thereby elevating service accessibility. The integration of immersive technologies such as augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) further refines the customer banking journey, making virtual transactions a reality.

▶ [Entroq Technologies](#) is an Indian startup that applies gamification to stocks and crypto investing. The startup's smartphone app offers real-time, short finance and capital market news.

It also provides investment recommendations from top stock brokers to facilitate decision-making. The app's polls, quizzes, and tutorials enable contextual learning about financial topics and capital market investment. Moreover, it builds a community of financial literates and capital market enthusiasts, increasing user engagement.

▶ UK-based startup [INATIGO](#) makes Finley Ai, an AI-powered financial and pension assistant. Users are able to access it as a Google Assistant action and ask general finance-related questions that are otherwise forwarded to financial advisors. Furthermore, the solution matches users with an advisor on demand. INATIGO is also working on an Alexa-based integration of the same solution for improving access to financial information.

Internet of Things

▶ Credit and debit cards are leveraging wireless technologies like radio frequency identification (RFID) and Bluetooth low energy (BLE) to facilitate cashless transactions. Startups are also crafting IoT-enabled wearables to streamline cashless payments while maintaining security. IoT further enhances financial transaction safety through real-time network surveillance and biometric verification. Location tracking, particularly in mobile transactions, aids banks in detecting anomalous activities to curb fraud. Moreover, integrated kiosks and point-of-sale (POS) systems utilize IoT to observe customer interactions and gather analytics, thereby refining services.

▶ [LGR Global](#) is an Estonian startup that facilitates supply chain financing. The startup's solution leverages IoT, data analytics, AI, and smart contracts to create digital twins of real-time supply chain conditions. This improves the transparency of supply chain operations and allows trading partners to upload digital documents.

The platform then validates its content using smart contracts to identify discrepancies in trade finance processes. Besides, LSR Global's solution enables instantaneous cross-border money movement and manages customer compliance risks.

▶ Indian startup [TalkItAll](#) offers its Soundbox – a device that provides instant audio and visual notifications for merchants when payments are received through various apps like Google Pay, PhonePe, or Paytm. It helps small shops and vendors by announcing transactions verbally in multiple languages. The Soundbox integrates with different banks and payment providers to offer this notification service. It allows merchants to track every payment and makes sure they can easily manage transactions in real-time. The Soundbox is also available for payment companies as a private-label product to enhance their services for small merchants.



Sustainable Finance

▶ To meet climate-friendly customer attitudes, companies are transitioning to sustainable operations and actively trying to offset their carbon emissions. Sustainable or green finance solutions aid this by providing opportunities for financial companies to fund sustainability projects. These include renewable energy projects, forestation activities, and low-carbon transport. Startups also incentivize businesses that manage their climate impacts and offer analytics tools to simplify carbon reporting. Green financing, thus, increases financial flows from the banking sector to power sustainable development.

▶ German startup [ecolytiq](#) offers sustainable finance infrastructure-as-a-service solutions. The startup's solution uses proprietary financial data aggregation and analytics engines

to calculate environmental impact. It also provides individual compensation and investment opportunities. This enables financial institutions to offer environmental footprinting for their customers and drive climate actions.

▶ Singaporean startup [Bluecell Intelligence](#) provides green loans and sustainability-linked loans. The startup's platform offers greater accessibility to sustainability financing for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It allows companies to improve their sustainability profile and generate new revenue streams through green grants and lower interest rates. Funders utilize the startup's platform to screen borrowers and facilitate impact reporting, enabling companies to achieve net-zero goals.



Quantum Computing

► Financial institutions need high-performance hardware to process massive amounts of data. This is significant to offer real-time market prices and guarantee instantaneous transactions. Besides, quantum-resistant solutions are necessary to ensure the security of financial infrastructure as the technology becomes more accessible and practical. To tackle this, FinTech startups provide quantum computing-based solutions tailored for financial services. These include solutions to predict market movements, identify patterns in financial data, and improve risk profiling, among others. Further, quantum computing-based solutions augment AI and analytics. This enhances trading and asset management decisions, allowing fund managers to increase returns for their customers.

► [AbaQus](#) is a Canadian startup that offers risk management solutions for financial services. The startup's research platform leverages quantum computing-based machine learning

to analyze and optimize finance strategies and offer financial forecasts. Moreover, AbaQus provides quantum readiness strategies based. This allows financial tech companies to classify and categorize complex datasets to predict trends more accurately than conventional ML techniques.

► Indian startup [Arqanum Technologies](#) develops a hybrid blockchain network. The startup's network combines distributed quantum computing and classical computing to create a proprietary hashing algorithm. It runs on quantum processing units for faster transaction processing and makes them quantum-proof. The startup also offers quantum computing-based smart contracts to accelerate DApp development and decentralized autonomous organization (DAO) creation.

WealthTech

▶ Enhanced access to diverse investment vehicle data, encompassing stock markets, crypto, and real estate, is enabling FinTech firms to refine wealth management. WealthTech startups are utilizing analytics and AI to glean insights from market trends and bolster trading decisions, catering to both corporate and retail investors. Several startups are employing algorithmic trading to mirror the investment choices and portfolios of renowned advisors and investors. By doing so, fund managers adhere to optimal trading strategies, aiming to secure elevated returns for their clientele.

▶ [21strategies](#) is a German startup that makes hedge21, an AI-based hedging platform. It leverages decision theory, data fusion, and AI to develop a situational picture of markets in real-time. Then hedge21 offers quantitative and systematic recommendations to smoothen earnings before interest and

taxes (EBIT) for hedge funds. This allows investment managers to efficiently navigate markets and achieve better investment outcomes. And for corporate treasurers, hedge21 optimizes hedge decisions for foreign currency exposure.

▶ US-based startup [Denim Social](#) offers a CRM platform for financial advisors. It features publishing, advertising, and compliance tools to deliver, scale, and secure content. This enables wealth management brands to increase their social media presence and expand advisor networks. The platform also provides compliant, curated, and pre-approved content libraries to increase customer engagement. Besides, its built-in compliance processes enable it to protect its brand and reduce risks.



Discover all Fintech Industry Trends, Technologies & Startups

▶ Looking ahead, open finance aims to bridge the data divide between banks and NBFCs, promising customers more tailored and cost-effective financial products. Additionally, the growing fascination with Web3 presents companies with a golden opportunity to further DeFi development and enhance its accessibility. Notably, biometrics, immersive technologies, and open finance stand as transformative forces in the contemporary sector landscape.

▶ The fintech trends and startups outlined in this report only scratch the surface of trends that we identified during our data-driven innovation & startup scouting process. Identifying new opportunities & emerging technologies to implement into your business goes a long way in gaining a competitive advantage.



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