

Q4 2025
CAPITAL
MARKETS

MARKET UPDATE

Q4 2025

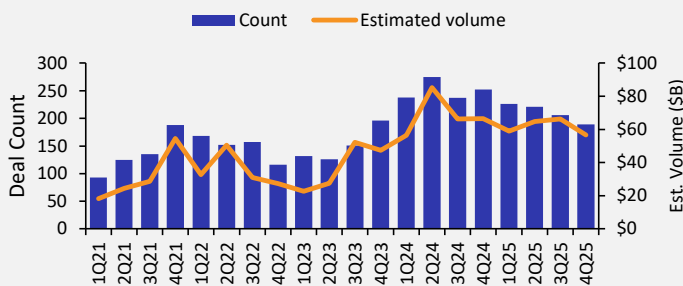
Capital Markets

US CREDIT MARKETS REVIEW

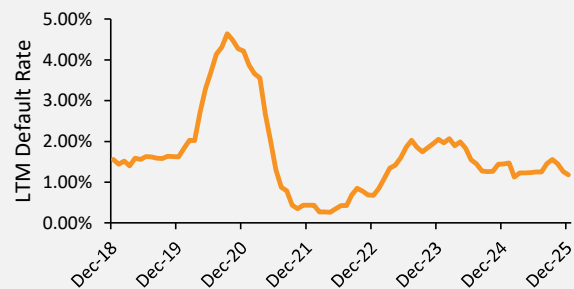
MARKET TRENDS

- Overall direct lending activity remained strong through 4Q 2025 even though overall deal counts moderated from mid-year highs
- Buyout financing remained the primary driver of activity, with LBO/M&A transactions accounting for the majority of PE-backed direct lending volume throughout the year
- Refinancing activity was up in comparison to historical periods, but overall activity was still dominated by acquisition financing
- While quarterly deal counts fluctuated, total lending volume demonstrated relative stability, underscoring lender appetite and available dry powder in the private credit market
- 2025 default rates declined from pandemic-era highs and are stabilizing in the ~1-1.5% range in late 2025, well below the 2020 spike but above 2021 trough levels
- Leverage remains meaningfully below the 2021-22 peak levels (5.3x for all deals; 5.9x for LBOs), driven by several factors including higher interest rates and a more disciplined underwriting environment
- LBO leverage has declined approximately one full turn from peak-cycle highs and has now stabilized around 5.0x, consistent with a normalized credit backdrop

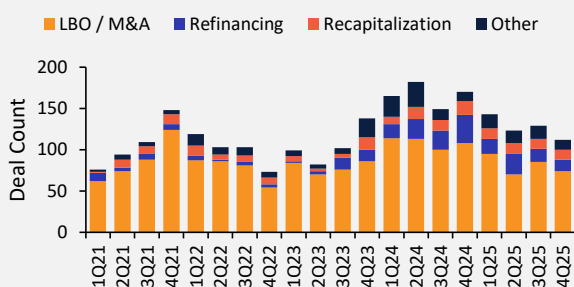
DIRECT LENDING DEAL ACTIVITY (Total)



LTM DEFAULT RATE – ISSUE COUNT¹



DIRECT LENDING DEAL ACTIVITY (PE-Backed)



DEBT/EBITDA²



Source: G2 Insights, Pitchbook. (1) Default rate is LTM total default amount over par outstanding at the beginning of the 12-month period. Includes all loans including those not included in the LSTA/TRLPC mark-to-market service. Primarily institutional tranches. (2) Includes U.S. Transaction with \$50MM or more in adjusted EBITDA. Securities offered through Hollister Associates, LLC. Member FINRA, SIPC. G2 Capital Advisors, LLC and Hollister Associates, LLC are separate and unaffiliated entities.

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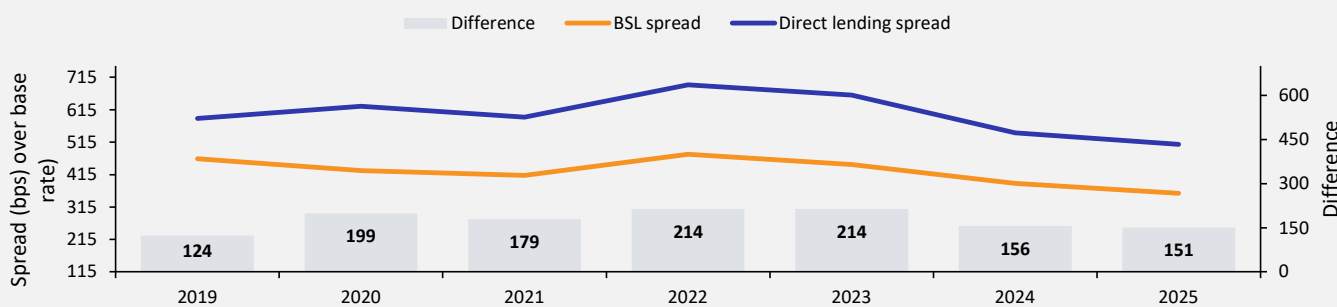
Capital Markets

US CREDIT MARKETS REVIEW

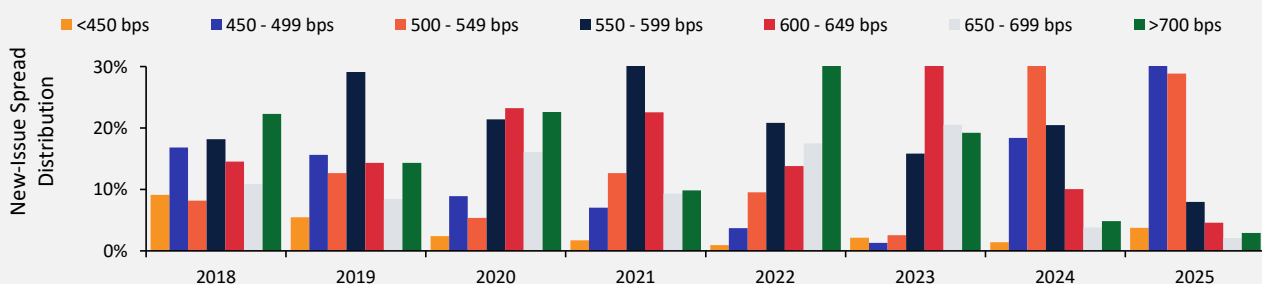
MARKET TRENDS

- Direct lending spreads continued to compress in 2025, with issuance increasingly concentrated in the 450-499 bps range and materially less volume clearing above 600 bps compared to 2022-23, reflecting a pronounced flight to quality toward stronger credits.
- Pricing has normalized from 2022 peaks, as the elevated 550+ bps environment has largely rotated into mid-400 bp levels over the past 18 months, driven in part by investor preference for higher-quality, more resilient borrowers.
- The spread differential between BSL and direct lending has narrowed meaningfully from peak levels (~214 in 2022-23) to ~150bps in 2025
- Both syndicated and private credit markets have experienced spread tightening, reflecting improved capital markets functioning and balanced supply-demand dynamics
- Despite compression, a consistent premium remains for private credit relative to BSL, underscoring continued differentiation in structure, certainty, and execution flexibility - particularly for high-quality borrowers able to command favorable terms

US PRIVATE DEBT RAISED BY TYPE¹



DIRECT LENDING NEW-ISSUE LBO SPREADS²



Source: G2 Insights, Pitchbook. (1) "Other" includes Distressed Debt, Direct Lending, Credit Special Situations, Bridge Financing. (2) Data reflects senior secured loans and unitranche facilities.

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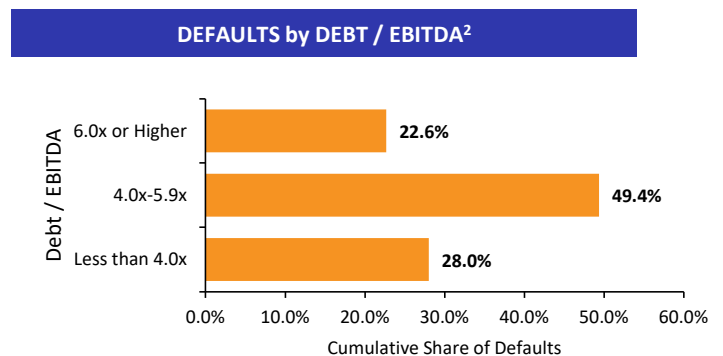
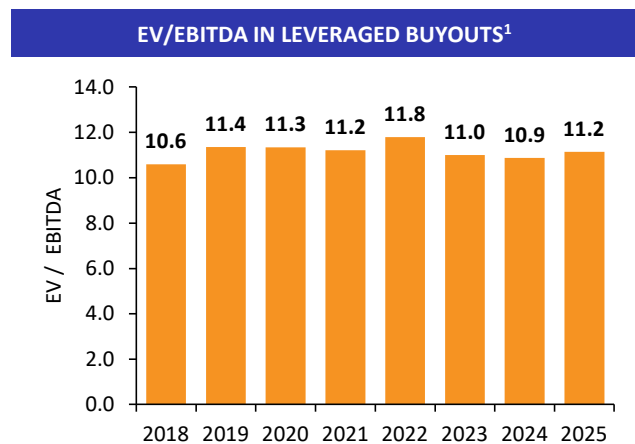
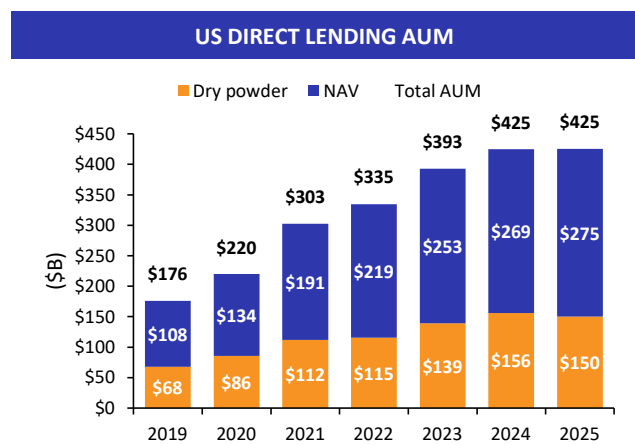
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US CREDIT MARKETS REVIEW

MARKET TRENDS

- Dry powder remains elevated at ~\$150B in 2025, only modestly below 2024 levels, indicating continued capacity to deploy capital – though a growing share is being reserved to support refinancings of maturity 2021-2022 vintage facilities rather than new LBO origination
- The combination of stable AUM and significant uncalled capital supports ongoing competition for sponsor-backed transactions, even as refinancing demand increasingly competes with new deal flow for available capital
- Purchase price multiples remain fairly stable at ~11.2x EV/EBITDA, slightly higher than 2024 but below the 2022 peak, reflecting disciplined underwriting despite a competitive lending environment
- A maturity cliff is approaching as 2021-22 vintage leveraged loans, bank and private credit facilities – originated during the post-COVID deal surge at tighter spreads and lower base rates – enter their typical 5-year refinancing windows; borrowers carrying leverage in the 4.0x-6.0x range face the most acute refinancing risk in a higher-for-longer rate environment
- The combination of steady valuation multiples and moderated leverage suggests equity contributions remain structurally higher than peak-cycle conditions, providing a partial buffer against maturity-driven stress
- Nearly half of defaults are concentrated in the 4.0x-5.9x leverage range, indicating stress is occurring across moderately levered capital structures rather than solely in highly levered transactions – consistent with refinancing pressure on mid-leverage 2021-2022 vintage deals
- Approximately 23% of defaults are associated with leverage above 6.0x, while 28% occur in deals levered below 4.0x, reflecting a broad but contained credit environment



Source: G2 Insights, Pitchbook. (1) Includes U.S. Transaction with \$50MM or more in adjusted EBITDA. (2) Comprises loans closed between 1995 and 4Q25

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CAPITAL MARKETS OVERVIEW

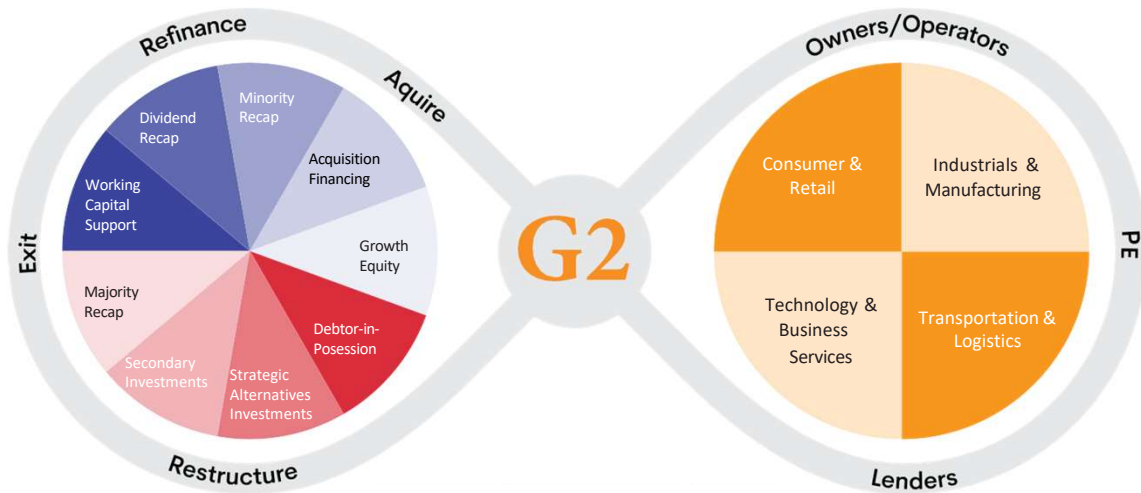
Supporting Capital Structures with Expertise, Access, Insight and Robust Process Execution

G2's expertise streamlines the financing process ensuring efficiency, optimal deal structure, and a competitive outcome while minimizing client effort and disruption.

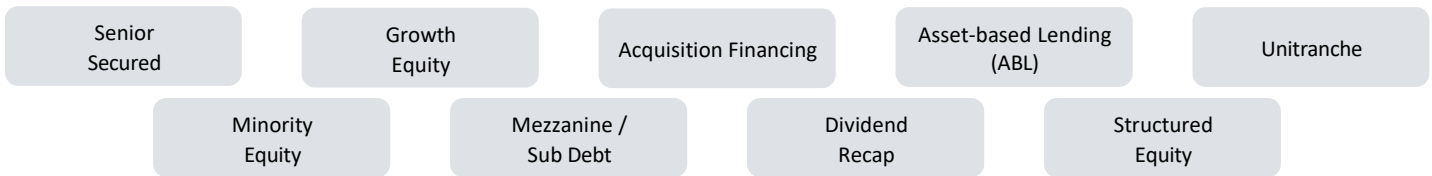
- Timing** → *Minimize client time & resources and strict timeframe*
- Process** → *Acute attention to detail from beginning to end*
- Efficiency** → *Targeted outreach attracts specialized lenders*
- Cost** → *Highly competitive dynamics generate advantageous pricing*
- Structure** → *Various structure choices for optimal outcome*

By The Numbers:

- 600+** Transactions executed
- 1500+** Lenders in G2 network
- \$3B+** Debt Capital Raised
- 235** Firm's combined years in lending



Typical Structures



Credit Expertise:

Deep understanding of credit positioning, real-time market insights and trends enables us to create a multitude of viable financing options

Access to Key Lenders:

Strong connections with debt and equity decision-makers allows direct engagement with key stakeholders, that drive certainty of close

Industry Expertise:

We achieve a lower cost of capital by demonstrating industry depth and negotiating solutions informed by sector dynamics.

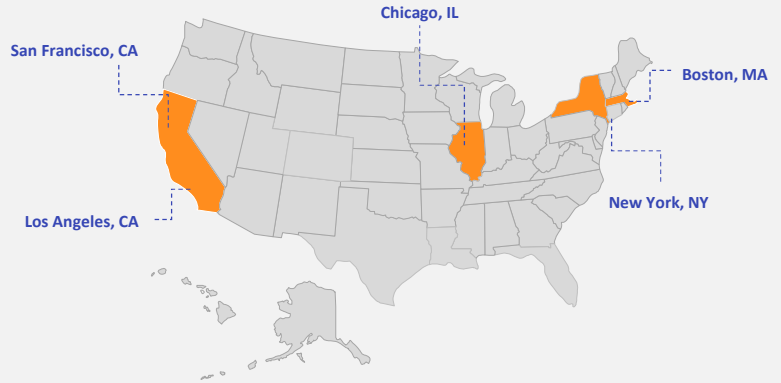
Robust Process Execution

Acute attention to detail and a proprietary process provides a comprehensive exploration of financing options, positioning our Client's for the best possible outcome.

FIRM OVERVIEW

Overview:

- 600+ mandates in 15 years
- \$6B+ total executed transaction value
- Extensive industry experience
- Robust strategic and sponsor relationships
- Active touchpoints with logical sellers and buyers



Sector Expertise:



Industrials & Manufacturing

I&M Focus Sectors:

- Niche Manufacturing
- Industrial Services
- Building Products
- Metals & Materials
- Containers & Packaging



Transportation & Logistics

T&L Focus Sectors:

- Asset-Based Transportation
- Final Mile Delivery
- Freight Brokerage
- Warehouse & Distribution
- International Logistics



Technology & Business Services

TBS Focus Sectors:

- IT Services & Cloud Solutions
- Outsourced Business Services
- Facility Services
- Tech-Enabled Services & Software



Consumer & Retail

C&R Focus Sectors:

- Multi-Unit Consumer
- Food & Beverage
- Health & Wellness
- Consumer Goods

A Multi-faceted Platform:

Focused on crafting bespoke operational and financial advisory solutions for our corporate and investor clients. G2 works with clients across a range of situations.

SELL-SIDE
M&A
ADVISORY

BUY-SIDE
M&A
ADVISORY

CAPITAL
MARKETS

RESTRUCTURING
ADVISORY
SERVICES

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