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AI 100: The Artificial Intelligence Startups Redefining Industries

March 3, 2020

[Artificial Intelligence](#)[Company List](#)[Market Map](#)

The **AI 100** is CB Insights' annual ranking of the 100 most promising AI startups in the world. This year's winning companies include startups working on synthetic voice, quantum machine learning, protein modeling, and more.

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The CB Insights 4th annual AI 100 finalists include AI startups from 13 countries, pushing the boundaries of AI research and commercial adoption across 15 industries and a broad range of cross-industry

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FREE DOWNLOAD: THE COMPLETE AI 100 LIST

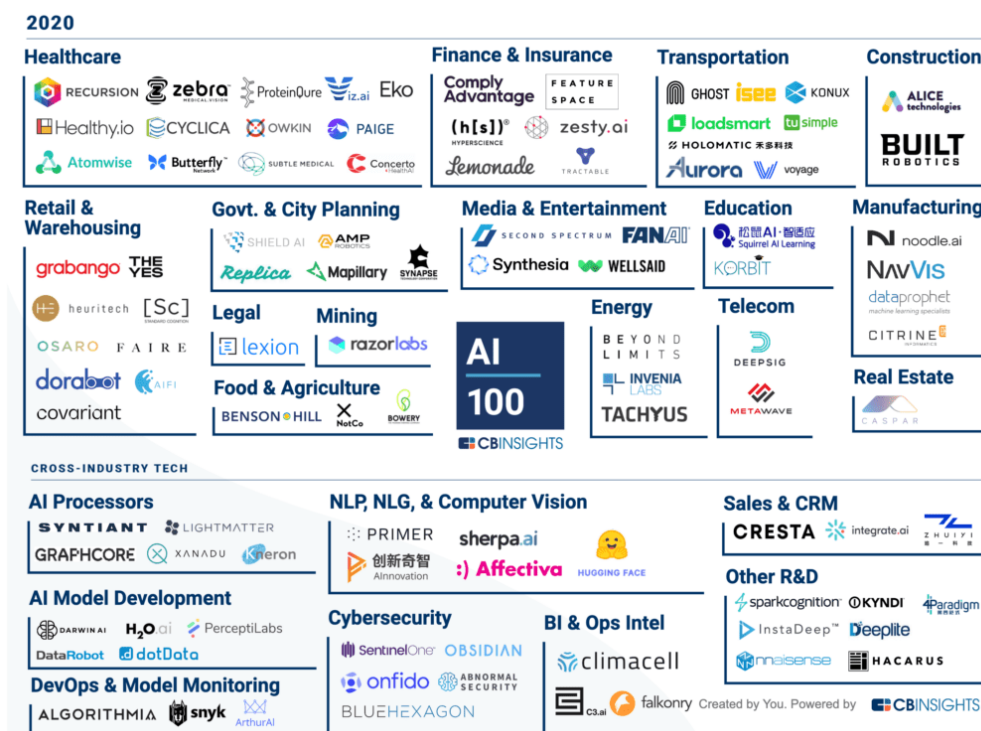
Get an excel file with the entire AI 100 list including each company's total funding, focus area, and more.

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Using the [CB Insights platform](#), our research team picked the 100 companies from nearly 5K startups, based on several factors including patent activity, business relations, investor profile, news sentiment analysis, proprietary Mosaic scores, market potential, competitive landscape, team strength, and tech novelty.

Startups are categorized by their main focus areas. Categories in the market map below are not mutually exclusive.

Please click to enlarge.



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2020 AI 100 highlights

Company stage and partnership momentum

The 2020 AI 100 cohort includes a broad range of startups, including well-funded companies commercializing their products and expanding into new markets, startups forming business relationships with key industry players, and early-stage startups with a strong research focus that have not yet raised external funding.

A few highlights are provided below:

- **The 2020 AI 100 startups have raised over \$7.4B** in funding across 300+ deals from 600+ unique investors.
- **The list includes 10 unicorns** focused on a diverse range of AI solutions. One unicorn on the list is **Faire**, a wholesale marketplace that uses machine learning to match local retailers with goods that are predicted to sell well in their specific locations. **Butterfly Network**, another unicorn on the list, is building a portable ultrasound device that uses AI-assisted diagnostics. Meanwhile, enterprise-focused unicorn **DataRobot** provides tools to help companies develop AI applications.
- **The list includes early-stage startups** like **Caspar AI**, which has struck deals with companies like Panasonic and The Wolff Company to develop smart home solutions. Another early-stage company on the list is Israel-based **Razor Labs**, which has provided AI services to mining companies.
- **A number of startups have formed partnerships with key industry players.** **ClimaCell**, which focuses on climate modeling, has partnerships with Google, JetBlue, Delta, and Munich RE to name a few. Drug R&D company **Cyclica** has teamed up with leading pharma companies like Bayer and Merck. **Zesty.ai**, an insurance tech startup focused on catastrophe risk, recently partnered with MetLife to use AI to help predict wildfire risk.

Industry focus

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A number of companies are also focused on several cross-industry solutions, like the development of AI processors, sales & CRM, and natural language processing (NLP) research.

- **Healthcare** is the top industry for AI deal activity at large, and this is reflected in the 2020 cohort, with 13 companies focused on healthcare AI. **Eko**, for example, is integrating AI software into stethoscopes to monitor cardiac health and received FDA clearance in January. Meanwhile, **Healthy.io** is turning smartphones into at-home diagnostic kits, with a focus on urinalysis. Another healthcare company on the list is **Subtle Medical**, which is using AI to enhance radiology images.
- **Retail & warehousing** was the second-largest category represented in the AI 100 cohort this year. Featured startups in this space include **Aifi**, **Standard Cognition**, and **Grabango**, which are all focused on developing cashierless store services for retailers.
- Within **transportation**, our 2020 AI 100 list includes startups focused on safe highway driving (**Ghost Locomotion**), predictive maintenance for the railway industry (**KONUX**), and automated dispatch and freight management (**Loadsmart**).

Geographic distribution

The companies in the cohort represent 13 countries, including Chile, China, Sweden, South Africa, and Japan

US-based companies dominate the 2020 AI 100 list, with 65% of the featured companies based there, but the cohort also reflects a number of emerging AI hubs:

- A total of 8 startups from **Canada** are featured on the 2020 AI 100 list, including **Xanadu** (quantum AI), **Invenia** (energy grid optimization), and **Deeplite** (neural network optimization).
- The 8 **UK** startups on the list include **InstaDeep**, an AI R&D company that jointly published a research paper last year with Google DeepMind on a novel reinforcement learning algorithm called AlphaNPI. **Snyk**, another UK-based startup on the list, focuses on security solutions for developers and has partnered with companies like Google and Trend Micro to help detect vulnerabilities.
- There are 6 startups based in **China** in the 2020 AI 100 cohort.

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learning with institutions like SRI International and Carnegie Mellon University.

Table of 2020 winners

List of 2020 winners by industry, application, and headquarters.



CB INSIGHTS AI 100 (2020)

Company	Industry	Application
BUILT Robotics	Construction	Robotic guidance
ALICE Technologies	Construction	Schedule planning
Korbit	Education	Personalized learning
Squirrel AI Learning	Education	Personalized learning
Invenia	Energy	Grid optimization
Beyond Limits	Energy	Oil & gas
Tachyus	Energy	Oil & gas
ComplyAdvantage	Finance & insurance	AML & KYC
Featurespace	Finance & insurance	Anti-fraud
Tractable	Finance & insurance	Claims processing
HyperScience	Finance & insurance	Document processing

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Zesty.ai

Finance &
insuranceProperty & casualty
insurance

Benson Hill

Food & agriculture

Genomics platform

Bowery Farming

Food & agriculture

Indoor farming

NotCo

Food & agriculture

Ingredient
discoverySynapse
TechnologyGovernment & city
planning

Checkpoint security

Replica

Government & city
planningCommuter behavior
modeling

Mapillary

Government & city
planning

Mapping

Shield AI

Government & city
planning

Unmanned systems

AMP Robotics

Government & city
planning

Waste recycling

Recursion
Pharmaceuticals

Healthcare

Biopharma (rare
diseases)

Eko

Healthcare

Cardiology

Healthy.io

Healthcare

Consumer
diagnosticsZebra Medical
Vision

Healthcare

Medical imaging

Atomwise

Healthcare

Drug R&D

Cyclica

Healthcare

Drug R&D

OWKIN

Healthcare

Federated learning

PAIGE.AI

Healthcare

Pathology

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ProteinQure	Healthcare	Protein therapeutics
Subtle Medical	Healthcare	Radiology image reconstruction
Concerto HealthAI	Healthcare	Real world evidence
Viz.ai	Healthcare	Stroke detection
Lexion	Legal	Contract management
DataProphet	Manufacturing	End-to-end solutions
NavVis	Manufacturing	Indoor spatial mapping
Citrine Informatics	Manufacturing	Material discovery
Noodle.ai	Manufacturing	Supply chain optimization
Synthesia Technologies	Media & entertainment	Deepfakes
Second Spectrum	Media & entertainment	Sports
FanAI	Media & entertainment	Streaming, audience monetization
WellSaid Labs	Media & entertainment	Synthetic voice
Razor Labs	Mining	Predictive maintenance
Caspar.AI	Real estate	Smart home applications
AiFi	Retail & warehousing	Checkout-free solution

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Standard Cognition

Retail &
warehousingCheckout-free
solution

The Yes

Retail &
warehousingE-commerce
solutions

Heuritech

Retail &
warehousing

Trend prediction

Dorabot

Retail &
warehousingWarehouse
automation

Covariant AI

Retail &
warehousingWarehouse
automation

Osaro

Retail &
warehousingWarehouse
automation

Faire

Retail &
warehousingWholesale
marketplace

Metawave

Telecom

Antenna design

DeepSig

Telecom

Signal processing

Aurora

Transportation

Autonomous cars

Voyage

Transportation

Autonomous cars

TuSimple

Transportation

Autonomous
trucking

HoloMatic

Transportation

AV software

iSee

Transportation

AV software

Loadsmart

Transportation

Freight
management

Ghost Locomotion

Transportation

Highway driving

KONUX

Transportation

Railway
maintenance

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Kneron	Cross-industry tech	AI processors
Lightmatter	Cross-industry tech	AI processors
Syntiant	Cross-industry tech	AI processors
Xanadu	Cross-industry tech	AI processors
DarwinAI	Cross-industry tech	AI model development
DataRobot	Cross-industry tech	AI model development
H2O.ai	Cross-industry tech	AI model development
PerceptiLabs	Cross-industry tech	AI model development
dotData	Cross-industry tech	AI model development
Algorithmia	Cross-industry tech	DevOps & model monitoring
ArthurAI	Cross-industry tech	DevOps & model monitoring
Snyk	Cross-industry tech	DevOps & model monitoring
AlInnovation	Cross-industry tech	NLP, NLG, & computer vision
Hugging Face	Cross-industry tech	NLP, NLG, & computer vision
Primer	Cross-industry tech	NLP, NLG, & computer vision
Sherpa	Cross-industry tech	NLP, NLG, & computer vision

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Blue Hexagon	Cross-industry tech	Cybersecurity
Obsidian Security	Cross-industry tech	Cybersecurity
SentinelOne	Cross-industry tech	Cybersecurity
Onfido	Cross-industry tech	Cybersecurity (ID verification)
Abnormal Security	Cross-industry tech	Cybersecurity
C3.ai	Cross-industry tech	BI & operational intel
ClimaCell	Cross-industry tech	BI & operational intel
Falconry	Cross-industry tech	BI & operational intel
Cresta	Cross-industry tech	Sales & CRM
Integrate.ai	Cross-industry tech	Sales & CRM
Zhuiyi Technology	Cross-industry tech	Sales & CRM
Deeplite	Cross-industry tech	Other R&D
4Paradigm	Cross-industry tech	Other R&D
InstaDeep	Cross-industry tech	Other R&D
Kyndi	Cross-industry tech	Other R&D
Nnaisense	Cross-industry tech	Other R&D
HACARUS	Cross-industry tech	Other R&D
SparkCognition	Cross-industry tech	Other R&D

AI 100 (2020)**AI 100 (2020)** **CLONE**

Track the 100 most promising AI

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Methodology: CB Insights datasets

The AI 100 selections are a rigorous, data-informed process, combining CB Insights datasets with the research team's industry expertise.

The datasets and insights from CB Insights' emerging tech insights platform that were leveraged to pick finalists include:

- **Patent Analytics** to assess a company's R&D strength and direction
- **Company Mosaic Scores** to evaluate startup health, based on our National Science Foundation-backed algorithm that assesses a company's health using 3 metrics: Market (how healthy is the industry the company is in?), Money (what is the financial health of the company?), and Momentum (how much traction does the company have?)
- **Business Relationships** to identify partnerships and client-vendor relationships
- **Market Sizing Tools** to assess growth opportunities and demand for the tech
- **Earnings Transcripts Search Engine & Analytics** to identify key focus areas as well as bottlenecks for corporations
- **Competitor Data** to assess tech novelty, market strength, and competitive landscape
- **News Trends** for sentiment analysis

Previous winners

2019 AI 100

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2018 AI 100



2017 AI 100

100 STARTUPS USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO TRANSFORM INDUSTRIES



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This report was created with data from CB Insights' emerging technology insights platform, which offers clarity into emerging tech and new business strategies through tools like:

- **Earnings Transcripts Search Engine & Analytics** to get an information edge on competitors' and incumbents' strategies
- **Patent Analytics** to see where innovation is happening next
- **Company Mosaic Scores** to evaluate startup health, based on our National Science Foundation-backed algorithm
- **Business Relationships** to quickly see a company's competitors, partners, and more
- **Market Sizing Tools** to visualize market growth and spot the next big opportunity

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