

Lynk InFocus 2021 trends report: United States



Executive summary

As an **economic restart** in the post-COVID era broadens across the globe, the US economy has recovered rapidly in the first half of 2021 with national vaccine rollout and fiscal stimulus. However, the rise of the Delta variant of COVID-19 casted a shadow over the country's economic outlook. Investors feel jitters over new waves of restrictions which may dent consumer confidence and add uncertainties on business operations and the supply chain. Meanwhile, investors are also **navigating opportunities** in the sectors such as the rising cryptocurrency, electric vehicles (EV), healthcare and fintech. This report highlights investment trends in the US in 2021 and detailed analysis on sectors that are worth keeping an eye on.

Macro trends

Healthtech/biotech

The pandemic acted as the catalyst, forwarded the biotechnology sector, along with the wider pharmaceutical industry making remarkable advances in biological science while accelerating technology developments, taking molecular biology innovation to a new level. Biotechs have partnered with a broad range of organizations, from big pharma to investment funds and other biotechs.

EV charging infrastructure

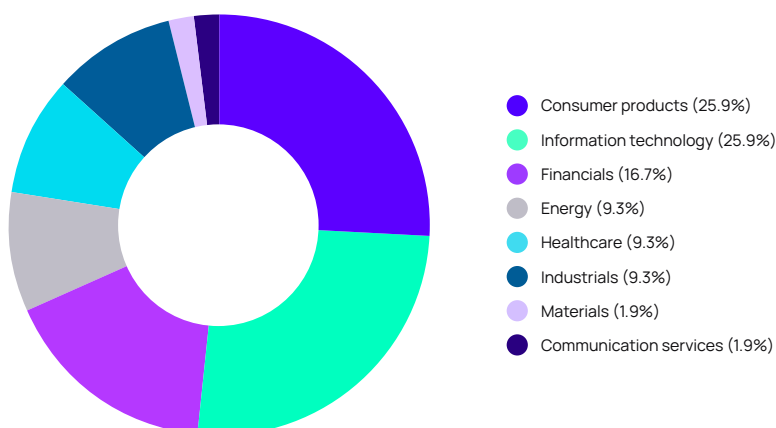
EVs' persistent popularity is falling directly in proportion with the growing need to install chargers. As a dominating market, the US has reached a critical point in the use of electric vehicles while EV owners are still frustrated by a lack of options for EV charging. In late March, the Biden administration took a major step in supporting the development of EV infrastructure when it proposed a \$174 billion investment. The ambitious move comes as automakers rush new EV entrants to the market and as companies are aggressively chasing carbon and emissions targets.

US fintech

Many prominent players like Stripe, Klarna, Plaid, Robinhood emerged in the fintech space, resulting in the regulators and courts increasingly scrutinizing virtual currency offerings along with the monitoring of the emerging disruptive technologies in the space. The catalog of Fintech APIs (application programming interfaces) is showing signs of continuing growth, now deemed as the finance-as-a-service movement.

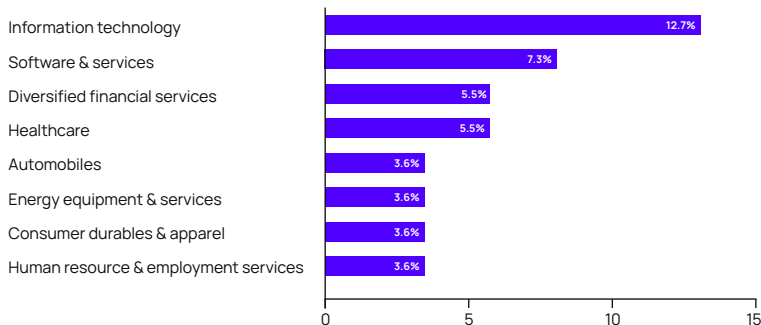
Industry breakdown*

In the US market, industries related to consumer products and information technology gained the most traction from investors and businesses in the first half of 2021, followed by the financial sector.



Sub-industry breakdown*

Here are the top eight sub industries that investors and businesses are interested in.



"I'm always convinced that electrification and autonomous driving will be the future of mobility. I also think a fleet approach on product offering and energy sources hybridisation will be the future."

Sabrina Yuan

SVP Business Development & Strategy at Eli Electric Vehicles

"The key is on the charging infrastructure and one is not just about having the right charging infrastructure, but also having regulations to standardize the public charging infrastructure."

Kwang Sheun Tham

CTO at Scorpio Electric

* **Methodology:** The data is compiled from Lynk's bi-weekly InFocus analysis to help investors and businesses keep up with the latest insights, trends, and ideas. Lynk uses the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) for sectors and industries analysis.

Lynk InFocus 2021 trends report: United States

Industry highlights

These top 5 sectors have been significantly contributing to US economic growth after the detrimental effects of COVID upended the markets.

Energy

Companies are deploying funds to scale up their hydrogen and fuel cell utilisation initiatives. Renewable energy is becoming more prevalent with the rising support from the government. The huge capital inflow plan towards energy infrastructure will further steer the growth of this market.

Healthcare

Healthcare is pioneering big data & cloud-based services to efficiently manage large-scale data. Value-based payment models are in line to reduce high hospital costs. Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) activities have propelled significantly. The integration of AI in life sciences is paving the way for developments.

Finance

Commercial banks, financial institutions and digital advancements are rapidly transforming the financial sector to respond to how consumers are adapting to digital financing. Personalised insurance is setting the stage for a better and personalized treatment. These trends are paving the way towards personal finance and reformed consumer spending.

Information technology (IT)

Cloud computing and big data are driving this market. The rising adoption of cybersecurity and security investment are the key factors to propel the IT services industry. Enterprises are adhering to the emerging technologies such as Internet of Things (IoT) and AI to gain a competitive edge.

Consumer & retail

E-commerce sales have continued to surge and consumer spend recovered above pre-COVID-19 levels in Q2 2021. Discretionary products have gained more of consumers' share of wallet. Retail channels are evolving and adapting to the market dynamics.

"Research related to drug development using big data, genomics, clinical trials and digital sequencing; SaaS and wearables related to wellness; and insurtech that facilitates claim management and payment are on global investors' radar."

Leesa Soulodre

General Partner at R3i Ventures

Industry stats^

USD 2T

Biden's investment in clean energy

18%

US healthcare contribution to GDP

USD 32T

Projected GDP growth by 2030

USD 861.12B

44.0% Y-o-Y increase in online retail sales in 2020

24.77%

Utility-scale renewable energy facilities

US\$47B

Total investment in the US healthcare sector for the first half of 2021 doubled from the same period a year prior

Outlook

- The rise of digital health will continue as tech giants such as Amazon, Apple made moves into the healthcare sector and Biden's proposed \$100 billion investment in high-speed broadband may further boost the telehealth industry.
- The Delta variant has added uncertainties to the US economic outlook as new infection cases are rising. It is expected that businesses would continue to invest in technology, software and equipment to support the virtual trend.
- The Biden administration's stimulus checks and other proposed relief packages will further help to boost US consumer spending and related sectors.

About Lynk

Lynk powers the new knowledge economy by **unlocking insights, experience and expertise** of experts from around the world to help people and companies make better-informed decisions. Lynk's customers include Fortune 500 companies, world's leading investment houses, global family offices, top professional services firms, governments and other organizations.

The platform gives enterprises a fast, convenient and cost-effective way to connect with over **840,000 experts** worldwide across all major industries. Lynk also provides companies with new, comprehensive knowledge management solutions, to consolidate their experts and networks all on the same platform.

^ Industry stats sources: Joe Biden, Statista, Digital Commerce 360, Silicon Valley Bank, Ewing

Disclaimer: Information here is views, thoughts, and opinions expressed that are text solely compiled by Lynk, and do not necessarily represent the thoughts and opinions of Lynk's or its employees. These do not constitute financial or investment advice in any way whatsoever. Nothing published by Lynk constitutes an investment recommendation, nor should any data or content published by Lynk be relied upon for any investment activities. Lynk strongly recommends that you perform your own independent research and/or speak with a qualified investment professional or subject-matter expert before making any business or financial decisions.



Kimberley Cole

Global Head of Sales & Marketing
kimberley.cole@lynkpeople.com



Namita Shetty

Head of Account Management,
APAC & EMEA
namita@lynkpeople.com

Lynk Global
 @lynkglobal
 @lynkglobal
 @lynkglobal
 Lynk Global



lynk.global

insights@lynkknowledge.com

New York
Toronto

Shanghai
Hong Kong

Singapore
Mumbai

Hyderabad
Manila