Scotland's tech scene is flourishing with almost 4,500 tech jobs being advertised

- Scotland is one of the UK's strongest tech hubs, with the highest number of verified startups (2,442) outside of London and the South East
- Tech companies in Scotland raised a collective £345 million in venture capital funding in 2020
- There are 4,414 open tech roles in Scotland according to new data by Adzuna
- 31% of all vacancies in Edinburgh are in tech or IT-related
- The average advertised salary for open IT roles in the Scottish capital is £59,776, compared to the UK average of £53,945

Edinburgh, 3 February 2021: Scottish startups continue to flex their strengths in 2020 with tech companies across the country raising a collective £345 million in venture capital funding, according to new data by Tech Nation, the growth platform for tech companies and leaders, and job search engine [Adzuna](#).

Scotland is one of the UK's biggest tech hubs, with the highest number of verified startups (2,442) outside of London and the South East. The number of venture capital rounds increased in 2020 to 96 up from 87 in 2019, despite the challenges of the pandemic.

Startups and fast-growing scaleups raised significant rounds during the year, including biotech firm Roslin Technologies which raised £50m in early VC funding in July, rocket company Skyrora which raised £25.5m in Series A funding in January and cryptocurrency wallet and payments platform, Zumo, which raised a £10m Series A round in November.

These dynamic tech companies need skilled staff to facilitate their growth plans, with Skyrora alone announcing it was hiring 170 staff for a new site in Fife to contribute to its mission of launching its first rocket into space. Growing tech companies in Scotland are competing with the likes of Barclays, Sky and Amazon, as well as established unicorns Skyskanner and FanDuel, for talent. As of December 2020, there are 28,295 open job vacancies in Scotland, 4,414 of which are in IT-related roles. In the capital of Edinburgh, 31% of all job roles are in the tech sector, making it the city's fastest-growing sector.

The figures on the growth of Scotland's tech industry are published as the Government's Digital Economy Council and Tech Nation prepare to host a digital roundtable on 3 February to discuss the challenges facing the tech sector as it works to create jobs and help the region recover from the impact of the coronavirus.

The increased demand for skilled tech talent across the country is reflected in the high advertised salaries for open jobs. In Edinburgh, the average advertised salary for tech jobs is £59,776, ahead of the UK average of £53,945. Advertised salaries are even higher for specialist workers including solutions architects, who are tasked with testing, integrating and programming software systems to suit a company's needs, who can command a salary of around £69,532, a 20.7% increase from 2019's figures. Product managers looking for a new job can expect an average advertised salary of £64,054, an increase of nearly 30% from 2019 figures. There are currently 84 product manager vacancies across the city, demonstrating the strength of Scotland's tech sector.

This week's virtual roundtable is one of a series being held with tech executives, investors and entrepreneurs across the country. Local companies, investors, university representatives and other ecosystem participants will be brought together to learn, share

and collaborate on the challenges posed by the pandemic. The learnings will be fed back to the DCMS (Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport).

Minister for Digital Caroline Dinenage said: "Scotland is one of the UK's flourishing tech hubs, demonstrated by its ability to attract global companies like Amazon and Rockstar Games, as well as develop homegrown enterprises including Skyscanner and FanDuel. I'm delighted to join entrepreneurs, investors and local stakeholders to celebrate the resilience of the tech sector and to find out how the UK government can support this dynamic ecosystem in the future."

Dr George Windsor, Head of Insights at Tech Nation said: "From its roots in the electronics industry, Scotland's tech scene has evolved into a dynamic sector, encompassing everything from space to biotech and fintech. With more companies competing for skilled staff, it's an opportune moment to meet with local entrepreneurs to hear what needs to be done to support this growing tech hub."

Andrew Hunter, co-founder at Adzuna said: "Scotland is a brilliant place to set up a tech base, with tech giants and local enterprises setting up shop in cities including Edinburgh, Glasgow, Fife and Dundee. As companies look to recover from the coronavirus pandemic, hiring the right talent will become a challenge, particularly for specialised roles like product managers and solutions architects."

Rachel Jones, founder and CEO at SnapDragon said: "Edinburgh is a brilliant place to set up a tech company. With an eclectic and international workforce on tap and easy access to businesses at home and across Europe, we've been able to beta test our product and prove a need for affordable, effective, brand protection technology. In the past few months, we've grown the team including hiring a new COO, and are looking forward to further expansion in 2021."

Alan Thompson, head of government affairs at Skyrora said: "Scotland's spaceflight sector is developing rapidly, advancing at a much faster rate than anywhere else in the UK. With Scotland's space sector estimated to be of value of £4 billion by 2030, along with an array of potential spaceport locations to support polar orbital launch, Skyrora is advantageously positioned in Edinburgh. Our team has been working hard on our developmental programme and we will continue to grow, develop and learn with the aim of launching the Skyrora XL orbital launch vehicle by 2030."

About Tech Nation:
Tech Nation is the growth platform for tech companies and leaders. Tech Nation fuels the growth of game-changing founders, leaders, and scaling companies so they can positively transform societies and economies. We provide them with the coaching, content, and community they need for their journey in designing the future. Tech Nation has years of experience facilitating and helping UK tech companies scale, both at home and abroad. Over 20 cohorts and 600 companies have successfully graduated from Tech Nation's growth programmes. Alumni include Skyscanner, Darktrace, and Monzo.

About Adzuna:
Adzuna is a smarter, more transparent job search engine used by tens of millions of visitors per month. We love using the awesome power of technology to bring together every job in one place, help match people to better, more fulfilling jobs and keep Britain working.

Adzuna supply real-time data to the Number 10 Dashboard, the cabinet office and Office for National Statistics labour market indices. In 2018, Adzuna won the contract to run Find a job, one of the British government's most used online services.

Adzuna.co.uk was founded in 2011 by Andrew Hunter and Doug Monro, formerly of eBay, Gumtree, Qype and Zoopla and is backed by leading Venture Capital firms Passion Capital, LocalGlobe, Index Ventures and Smedvig Capital.

We've spent a decade developing smarter, more transparent job search so jobseekers worldwide (we're in 16 countries) can zero in on the right role faster.