

The IPO market often provides lots of juicy investment opportunities, especially in hot areas like software and biotechnology.

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Experts who know the industry inside & out

The most **hyped** IPOs

Uber on track for a 2019 IPO

Uber CEO, Dara Khosrowshahi, the former Experian boss who took over last year to help get the company back on track following a tumultuous time for the ride-hailing service provider, hinted early on that an IPO featured in his plans in 2018 or 2019.

But the company is still dealing with increased regulatory pressure and a series of scandals. Backed by the likes of Japan's Softbank, Uber operates in over 600 cities in 77 countries, completing ten million journeys per day – but it's still making eye-watering losses.

Valuation: \$69 billion

Lyft hot in pursuit

The controversy around its larger rival has led to increased attention on Lyft. It currently exclusively operates in the US, where it is Uber's biggest competitor, and is thought to have taken about a quarter of the market.

The company claims to cover about 94% of the US population, but is also still making vast losses. It is planning to expand out of the US.

Valuation: \$11.5 billion

AirBnB is almost ready

The middle man allowing people to rent out their properties could be one of the biggest and more certain IPOs after CEO, Brian Chesky, said last year that they would be 'ready as absolutely soon as we can'.

With three million listings in 65,000 cities, spanning 191 countries, AirBnB is another company trying to cope with its extraordinary growth – but it is reported to have remained profitable since the second half of 2016.

Valuation: \$31 billion

Aston seeks \$6.8 Billion value for IPO

Recently reported to be seeking a London IPO this year, the British sports car maker controlled by Investindustrial Advisors, is not thought to have made a firm decision and is considering other options – but an offer would be one of the biggest tests of investor sentiment for UK firms, ahead of Brexit.

Its performance has stepped up after it delivered over 5000 vehicles in 2017 for the first time since the financial crash, and its new Vantage model sold out all of its capacity for 2018. It expects to beat last year for earnings of at least £180 million, from over £840 million of revenue.

Valuation: \$6.8 billion

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