



#### THE BAY AREA INNOVATION ECONOMY: current status and prospects

global drivers of change | current trends | areas for action



DATA DETECTIVE

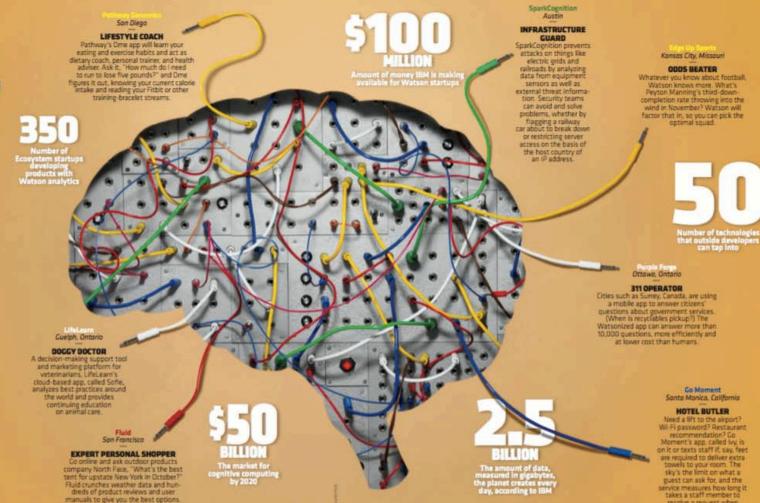
# THE WATSON STARTUP ENGINE

WHEN IBM ROLLED OUT ITS artificial intelligence system, Watson, it also welcomed entrepreneurs to help it monetize the revolutionary technology. A key component to Watson is its cognitive capabilityto learn as it goes along. Able to grind through millions of websites. documents, articles, and images in seconds. Watson can remember the research it gathers, as well as your response to it. So Watson becomes progressively more accurate—intelligent, if you will—as people use it. It can be everything from an über-helpful call-center rep to an oncology adviser, recommending cancer treatments on the basis of a patient's genetic profile and thousands of clinical trials and medical journal articles it has analyzed.

IBM created several business ines around Watson and a developer platform called the Ecosystem. In Ecosystem, everyone is invited to play with Watson for free (for a limited time); some 77,000 developers have accepted. If your Watson-powered startup shows promise, it becomes a "partner," often via a quasi incubator model, and enjoys access to IBM business and technology advisers—and a shot at a capital infusion from the \$100 million IBM is making available to Watson startups, like those featured here. -ALIX STUART

Sales employees also teach the system

how to better interact with you.

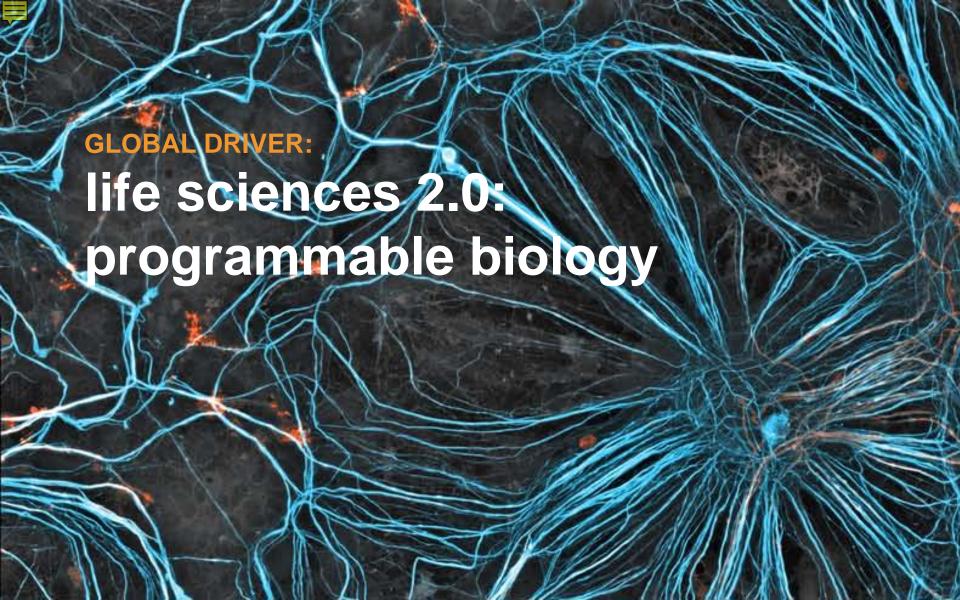


resolve a request when

humans must get involved.

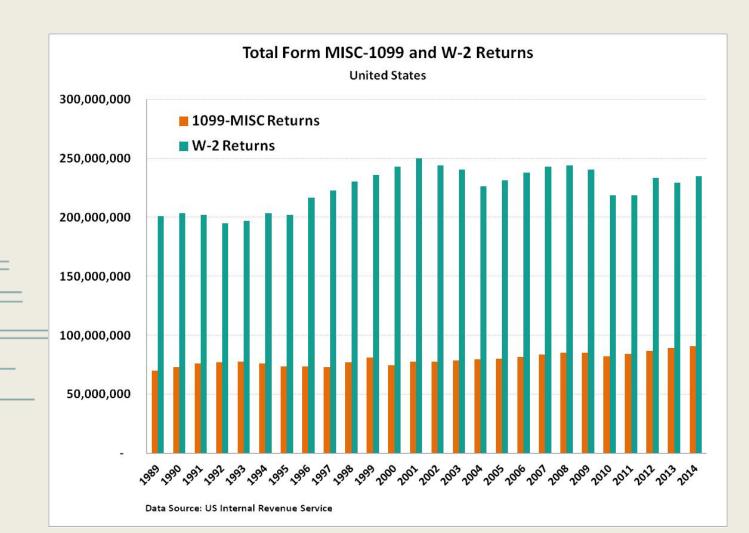


# the transformation of production



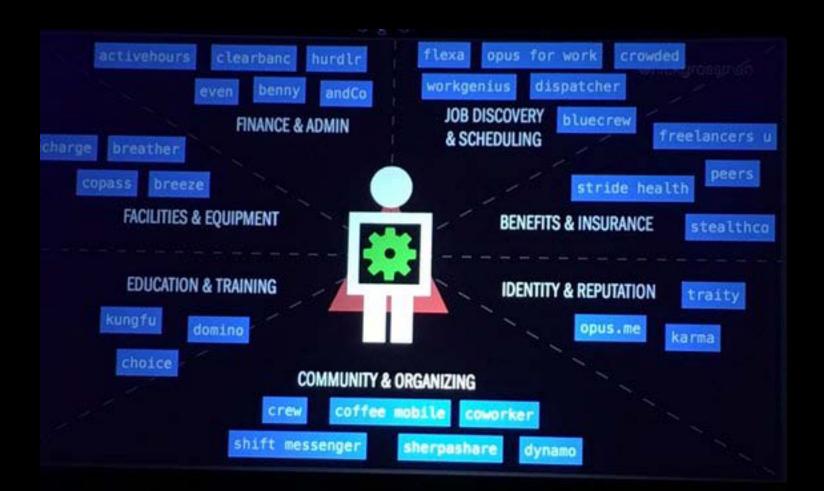


#### 1099s are on the rise





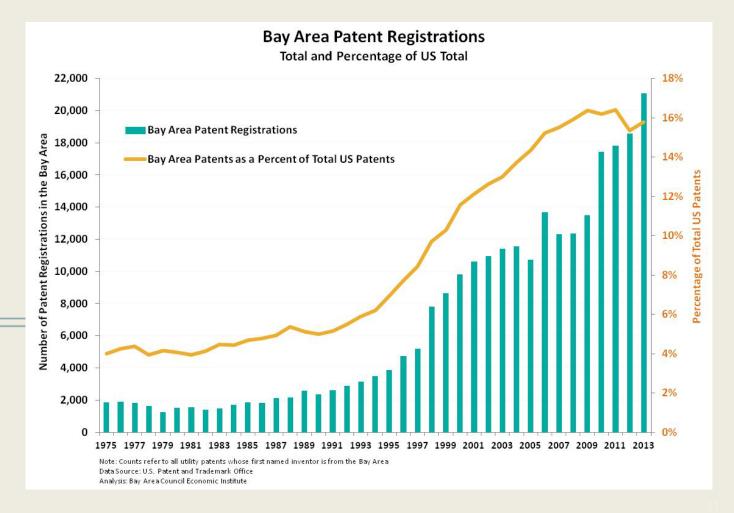
## diverse ecosystem growing around on-demand workers and companies



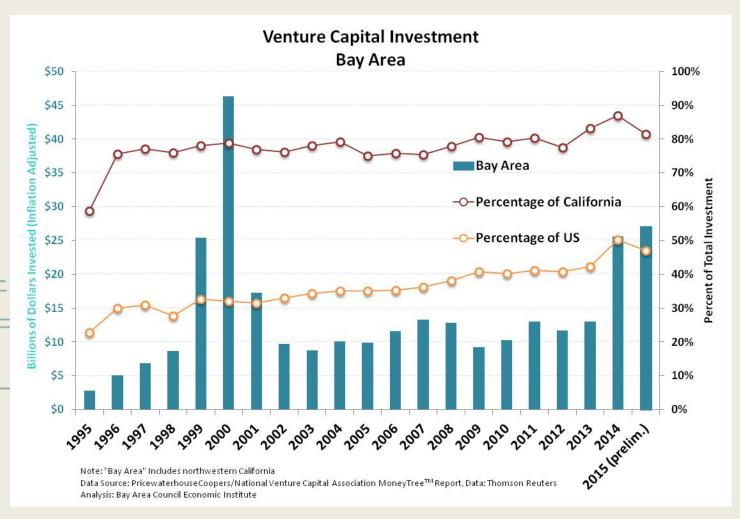
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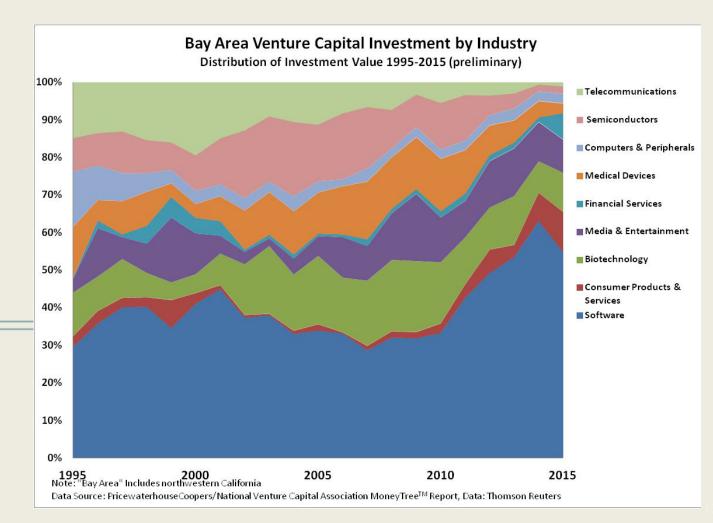
## patent powerhouse



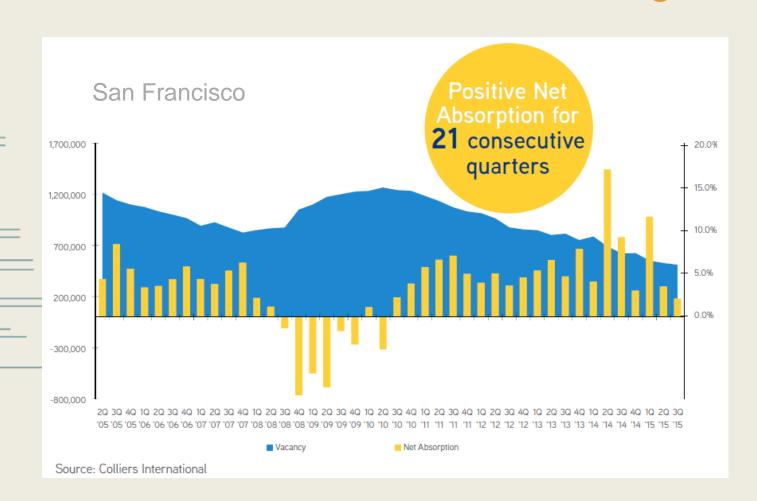
### strong surge in VC investment



### software reigns but newcomers growing



# strong demand for commercial space across region



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## big data => big insights



affordable housing and adequate public transit systems must be addressed in order to sustain economic activity and Widen prosperity.



