

The AI Companion Funding Dataset

30 companies · disclosed rounds, investors, cohorts, and outcomes · v1.0, August 2026 · compiled by Ranji Mercado, aigirlfriend.coach

Methodology

This dataset tracks companies whose primary consumer product is an AI companion, character, girlfriend/boyfriend, or roleplay platform, plus companion hardware and two flagged edge cases. **It counts disclosed funding only:** a blank means undisclosed (unknown), not zero; \$0 means a confirmed absence of outside raises. Figures marked "est." or "unverified" are press estimates or single-source claims and are labeled as such. Cohorts: **SFW/Mainstream** (no explicit content), **Wellness** (explicitly non-romantic), **NSFW-friendly** (adult content allowed), **Edge case** (companion-adjacent, excluded from headline sums). Every row carries its primary source. Corrections welcome: this file is maintained alongside the article at blog.aigirlfriend.coach/ai-companion-funding-statistics.

Headline statistics (computed from this dataset)

Total disclosed funding (excl. edge case)	\$415.6M	Median disclosed total	\$9.25M
SFW + wellness cohort share	99.25% (\$412.5M)	Average disclosed total	\$121.3M
NSFW-friendly cohort share	0.75% (\$3.1M)	Median: SFW vs NSFW cohort	\$10.5M vs \$1M
Top-3 concentration (C.AI + Embodied + Chai)	76.5% (\$318M)	Companies with no disclosed funding	15 of 30
Tier-one VC rounds found in NSFW cohort	0	Largest raise: SFW vs NSFW	\$193M vs \$2.1M

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Table A · Companies with disclosed funding (15)

Company	Cohort	Total (\$M)	Rounds / latest	Key disclosed investors	Traction evidence	Status / outcome	Primary source
Character.AI	SFW/Mainstream	193	Seed 2021 + Series A 2023 (\$1B val.)	a16z (lead), Elad Gil, SV Angel, Nat Friedman, A Capital	~20M MAU (2024 press); ~\$32M 2024 revenue (est.)	Active; Aug 2024 Google licensing deal at \$2.5B; founders + ~30 staff to Google; investors bought out	BusinessWire; CNBC; Contrary
Embodied (Moxie)	Wellness (kids robot)	70+ (est.)	Series A-B+, corporate VC	Intel Capital, Amazon Alexa Fund, Sony Innovation Fund, Toyota AI (reported)	\$799 kids companion robot	Shut down Dec 2024 after a round collapsed; robots initially bricked, partial community rescue	Press, Dec 2024
Chai	SFW/Mainstream	55	Pre-seed 2023 + CoreWeave strategic rounds (\$450M val.)	CoreWeave (strategic GPU vendor; no traditional VC lead)	\$70M ARR run-rate (2026, company); 2M DAU	Active; profitable per founder statements	chai-research.com; Tracxn
Tolan (Portola)	Wellness	30	Seed 2025 + Series A 2025	Khosla Ventures (Keith Rabois, lead), Lachy Groom, NFDG, Homebrew	\$12M ARR projection; 3M downloads; 100K+ paid	Active; programmatically blocks romantic/sexual content	GeekWire; Techmeme
Status AI	SFW/Mainstream	17	Seed + Series A, 2026	General Catalyst, Union Square Ventures, Y Combinator, LightShed, Abstract	13M worlds; 5M character profiles	Active	TechCrunch, May 2026
Replika (Luka)	SFW/Mainstream	11	3 rounds from 2015	Y Combinator, early angels (round detail unverified)	2.5M MAU peak (2021); 10M+ registered	Active; ERP removed Feb 2023 (Italy ruling), partially restored for legacy users	Contrary Research
CODE27 (Sybran)	SFW hardware	10+	Seed + seed extension, announced Mar 2026	Unnamed "leading global venture funds"	\$1.7M Kickstarter, 3,200+ backers; CES 2025 debut	Active; licensed anime/game IP holographic device	GlobeNewswire
Friend	SFW hardware	8.5 (unverified)	Seed rounds 2023-24	Reported: Caffeinated Capital, angels (unverified)	\$99 pendant; \$1.8M friend.com domain	Active	Press (verify)
Shapes	SFW/Mainstream	8	Seed, Apr 2026	Lightspeed (lead), AI Capital Partners, AI Grant	400K+ MAU; 3M characters created	Active; anti-isolation positioning	TechCrunch
Butterflies AI	SFW/Mainstream	4.8 (unverified)	Seed 2024	Coatue (reported, unverified)	AI-persona social network	Active (verify)	Press (verify)
Dot (New Computer)	Wellness	3.7 (reported)	Seed 2023	Seed investors incl. OpenAI Startup Fund (reported)	~24.5K iOS downloads (Appfigures)	Shut down Oct 2025; founders diverged	TechCrunch
Dippy	NSFW-friendly	2.1	Pre-seed 2024 (accelerator)	a16z Speedrun program (reported)	Companion/roleplay app	Active	Press (verify)
Charms	SFW/Mainstream	1.5	Pre-seed, May 2026	Lattice Fund + crypto investors	Onchain AI character economy	Active	Chainwire
SpicyChat (NextDay AI)	NSFW-friendly	~1	Angel seed	Undisclosed angels	138K+ characters; large free base	Active	StartupHub.ai
Inflection AI (Pi)	EDGE CASE	1,525	Seed + Series B 2023 (\$4B val.)	Microsoft, Greylock, NVIDIA, Reid Hoffman, Bill Gates, Eric Schmidt	Pi general companion chatbot	Pivoted: Mar 2024 Microsoft ~\$650M license + acquire; Pi sunset. Excluded from headline sums	Widely reported

Table B · Companies with no disclosed funding (15)

Company	Cohort	Capital model (best evidence)	Traction / revenue evidence	Status	Note
Candy AI (EverAI)	NSFW-friendly	Bootstrapped: \$0 raised (Latka); Malta entity; reported Octavian Holding link	\$25M+ claimed ARR (\$50-120M est.); 15-25M monthly visits (top-5 category site)	Active	Reported M&A; offer, Apr 2025; the cohort's flagship
JanitorAI	NSFW-friendly	Bootstrapped (no records)	Largest character library in unfiltered space; category-leading traffic (unverified)	Active	ID checks added for some categories, 2026
CrushOn.AI	NSFW-friendly	Opaque ownership; no disclosures	Major NSFW chat destination	Active	Corporate structure resists mapping
Muah.AI	NSFW-friendly	Bootstrapped (no records)	Chat + images + voice breadth play	Active	2024 data breach reported
Nomi.AI (Glimpse AI)	NSFW-friendly	Bootstrapped (no records)	Memory-focused companion; loyal user base	Active	
Kindroid	NSFW-friendly	Bootstrapped (no records)	Popular companion app; selfie generation	Active	
DreamGF (Dream AI)	NSFW-friendly	Undisclosed; discreet biller "Dream AI"	NSFW girlfriend platform	Active	Biller research: author's own subscriptions
GirlfriendGPT (NDAI.CC)	NSFW-friendly	Undisclosed; discreet biller "NDAI.CC"	Scenario-driven roleplay platform	Active	Biller research: author's own subscriptions
Anima AI (Apperry)	NSFW-friendly	Undisclosed	Long-running girlfriend app (2020)	Active	
Talkie	SFW/Mainstream	Parent-funded: MiniMax (Chinese AI lab); brand-level figures undisclosed	Top-downloaded US companion app, 2024 (reported)	Active	Capital flows through the parent, not the brand
PolyBuzz (ex-Poly.AI)	SFW/Mainstream	Undisclosed	Large app-store downloads	Active	
Paradot (WithFeeling)	SFW/Mainstream	Undisclosed	Received Soulmate refugees, 2023	Active	
EVA AI	NSFW-friendly	Parent-funded: Social Discovery Group (private dating conglomerate)	Romantic companion inside a 250+ brand portfolio	Active	Adult-adjacent capital without VC
Soulmate (EvolveAI)	NSFW-friendly	Undisclosed	Thousands of DAU at shutdown	Shut down Sep 2023	Owner sold; users given one week
Forever Voices (CarynAI)	NSFW-friendly	Angel/undisclosed	CarynAI: \$71K week-one beta revenue (reported)	Defunct 2023	Founder arrested Oct 2023; company collapsed

Table C · Disclosed rounds, investor by investor

Investor	Type	Company	Round	Amount (\$M)	Year	Lead
Andreessen Horowitz	Tier-1 VC	Character.AI	Series A	150	2023	Lead
Elad Gil / SV Angel / Nat Friedman / A Capital	Angels & seed funds	Character.AI	Seed	43	2021	Various
Google	Big Tech (strategic)	Character.AI	Licensing + investor buyout at \$2.5B valuation	~2,500 (deal value)	2024	—
Y Combinator + early angels	Accelerator/angels	Replika (Luka)	Seed rounds	11 (lifetime)	2015-18	—
CoreWeave	Strategic (GPU vendor)	Chai	Strategic I + II at \$450M val.	~53 of 55	2023-25	Lead
Khosla Ventures (Keith Rabois)	Tier-1 VC	Tolan (Portola)	Series A	20	2025	Lead
Lachy Groom	Solo capitalist	Tolan (Portola)	Seed	10	2025	Lead
NFDG (Friedman/Gross), Homebrew	AI funds	Tolan (Portola)	Series A (participants)	(in 20)	2025	No
Lightspeed	Tier-1 VC	Shapes	Seed	8	2026	Lead
AI Capital Partners, AI Grant	AI funds	Shapes	Seed (participants)	(in 8)	2026	No
General Catalyst, Union Square Ventures	Tier-1 VCs	Status AI	Seed + Series A	17 (with others)	2026	Co-leads
Y Combinator, LightShed, Abstract	VC mix	Status AI	Seed + Series A (participants)	(in 17)	2026	No
Unnamed "leading global venture funds"	Undisclosed VCs	CODE27 (Sybran)	Seed + extension	10+	2026	—
Lattice Fund + crypto investors	Crypto VC	Charms	Pre-seed	1.5	2026	Lead
Intel Capital, Amazon Alexa Fund, Sony, Toyota AI	Corporate VC	Embodied (Moxie)	Series A-B+	70+ (est.)	2016-22	Various
a16z Speedrun (reported)	Accelerator	Dippy	Pre-seed	2.1	2024	Lead
Coatue (reported, unverified)	Tier-1 VC	Butterflies AI	Seed	4.8	2024	Lead
Undisclosed angels	Angels	SpicyChat	Seed	~1	n/a	—
Microsoft, Greylock, NVIDIA, Hoffman, Gates	Tier-1 mix	Inflection (Pi) — edge case	Series B	1,300	2023	Microsoft-led

Pattern check: every tier-one venture round above sits in the SFW or wellness cohort. Disclosed NSFW-cohort capital consists of one angel seed and one accelerator check.

The two-cohort test (the hypothesis this dataset was built for)

Metric	SFW + wellness cohort	NSFW-friendly cohort
Disclosed institutional funding	\$412.5M	\$3.1M
Companies with any disclosed round	13	2
Median disclosed total	\$10.5M	\$1M
Largest disclosed total	\$193M (Character.AI)	\$2.1M (Dippy)
Tier-one VC leads found	10+ across 8 companies	0
Best revenue evidence	\$70M ARR (Chai, vendor-funded)	\$25M+ claimed ARR (Candy AI, \$0 raised)
Best traffic evidence	~20M MAU (Character.AI)	15-25M monthly visits (Candy AI); JanitorAI comparable or larger (unverified)

Primary sources

BusinessWire (Character.AI Series A, Mar 2023) · CNBC (a16z round/valuation) · Contrary Research (Character.AI, Replika profiles) · chai-research.com and Tracxn (Chai rounds, revenue) · Latka (EverAI/Candy AI) · GeekWire and Techmeme (Tolan) · TechCrunch (Shapes; Status AI; Dot shutdown) · GlobeNewswire (CODE27) · Chainwire (Charms) · StartupHub.ai (SpicyChat) · Business Insider/Futurism (Soulmate) · press coverage, Dec 2024 (Embodied) · widely reported (Inflection/Microsoft; Character.AI/Google). Rows marked "unverified" or "est." are single-source or estimate-based and should be treated accordingly.

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