What's in a Name: Unpacking Private Credit

After two decades of growth, direct lending is now the largest sub-category of private credit.

\$2,000 \$1.800 \$1,600 \$1,400 Direct Lending grows from \$2.1B in 2004 to over \$850B in 2023 \$1,200 \$1,000 \$800 \$600 \$400 \$200 n 2008 2013 2006 2007 2009 2010 2011 2012 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2004 2005 Direct Lending Mezzanine Special Situations Distressed Debt Venture Debt

Private Credit Assets Under Management

Private Credit... aka... Direct Lending?

- In 2004, the Private Credit category had just \$50 billion in assets and was dominated by Distressed and Mezzanine Debt investing. Direct Lending amounted to just over \$2 billion in assets at the time.
- Since then, Direct Lending has grown rapidly and today has over \$850 billion in assets invested across Private Funds and Business Development Companies (BDCs).
- Direct Lending now represents about half of the total assets in the entire Private Credit category, and for some, it's become synonymous with Private Credit as a whole.

Source: Preqin. As of December 31, 2023.

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