

# 2016 Director Compensation Report

# 2016 DIRECTOR COMPENSATION REPORT

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## Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Overview and Methodology	3
Total Board Compensation	5
Board Cash Compensation	7
Equity Award Types	10
Equity Award Denomination	11
Equity Compensation Values	12
Committee Member Compensation	13
Committee Chair Compensation	14
Non-Executive Board Chair and Lead Director Compensation	15
Stock Ownership Guidelines and Retention Requirements	17
Compensation Deferrals	18
Shareholder-Approved Limits on Annual Director Compensation	19
List of Companies Surveyed	21
FW Cook Company Information	24

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FW Cook's 2016 Director Compensation Report studies non-employee director compensation at 300 companies of various sizes and industries to analyze market practices in pay levels and program structure.

In terms of pay levels, total compensation increased by 1.3% at the median of the total sample versus last year's study, which reflects an apparent stabilization of director pay among large- and mid-cap companies in particular. Large-cap companies in our study pay directors \$260,000 at the median and \$300,000 at the 75th percentile, unchanged from last year. The mid-cap median of \$200,000 reflects only a 1.1% increase from last year, while the small-cap median of roughly \$145,000 reflects a larger increase of 6.0%. Technology continues to be the highest-paying sector in our study, and Financial Services the lowest, consistent with recent years.

In terms of program structure, design trends observed in recent years continue. In line with the trend toward simplification, meeting fees continue to be eliminated in director pay programs but are still used by a minority of companies. This is often, but not always, accompanied by the introduction of retainers for committee member service, indicating that companies have different perspectives on the need to differentiate compensation based on committee service. Companies continue to shift away from fixed-share equity award guidelines to mitigate volatility in reported director pay and P&L expense. The small minority of companies still providing stock options continues to shrink, as the high risk-and-reward profile of stock options is viewed as incongruous with the director role, whereas full-value stock provides more consistent pay and direct shareholder alignment.

In terms of governance, director stock ownership guidelines continue to increase in prevalence, particularly among mid- and small-cap companies who are following the trend initially embraced by large companies. Mandatory stock deferral/retention requirements are modestly increasing in prevalence, primarily in the form of equity awards that, by their terms, do not settle until after retirement from the board. These awards are utilized by 15% of companies granting equity annually versus 10% last year; prevalence is highest among large-cap companies.

In response to recent shareholder lawsuits regarding the reasonableness of director pay, an increasing number of companies have been adding annual limits on director compensation to shareholder-approved equity plans to mitigate the risk of litigation. Roughly one-third of companies in this study have such limits, and we expect this percentage to grow, as many companies are waiting to implement this feature until they bring the applicable plan to shareholders for normal-course re-approval. To enhance protection, these limits are increasingly covering *total* pay rather than just equity; among the sample, 30% of limits proposed in 2016 cover total pay, versus just 4% of limits proposed prior to 2016. Among the companies in this study, limits on total pay typically reflect a multiple of two to three times annual total pay. Despite this emerging trend, most companies utilizing limits cover only equity compensation per director.

The following chart summarizes total non-employee director pay levels and market capitalizations of the 300 companies in our study (100 companies in each size grouping):

	Small-Cap	Mid-Cap	Large-Cap
Median Values	(Less than \$1B)	(\$1B - \$5B)	(Greater than \$5B)
Total Compensation - 2016 Study	\$144,625	\$200,000	\$260,000
Total Compensation - 2015 Study	\$136,401	\$197,750	\$259,583
Year-Over-Year Compensation Change	6.0%	1.1%	0.2%
Market Capitalization (\$M) - 2016 Study	\$474	\$2,464	\$15,815
Market Capitalization (\$M) - 2015 Study	\$457	\$2,567	\$17,517
Year-Over-Year Market Cap. Change	3.8%	-4.0%	-9.7%

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Additional key findings are summarized below:

<b>Cash vs. Equity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Companies in all size segments continue to provide more than half of total pay in equity, on average, with equity weighting generally increasing with company size</li> <li>The average mix across the entire sample is 43% cash and 57% equity</li> <li>Technology companies continue to have the most equity-heavy mix, and Financial Services the least</li> </ul>
<b>Cash Compensation for Board Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roughly three-quarters of the sample use retainers only (no board meeting fees)</li> <li>The median value of board retainers is \$85,000 at large-cap companies, \$65,000 at mid-cap companies, and \$50,000 at small-cap companies, each of which reflects a \$5,000 increase from last year</li> </ul>
<b>Equity Compensation for Board Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 80% of companies in each size group grant full-value stock awards exclusively (i.e., no stock options)</li> <li>The vast majority of equity awards continue to be denominated as a dollar value rather than a number of shares</li> <li>The Technology group, which historically had the highest prevalence of stock options, made a material shift toward full-value stock awards only (from 78% to 85% of companies); the Industrials group now has the highest prevalence of stock options (18%)</li> </ul>
<b>Committee Compensation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nearly two-thirds of companies provide additional compensation to committee members, with committee member retainers remaining the more prevalent means of accomplishing this, as opposed to committee meeting fees</li> <li>The magnitude of committee chair/member retainers and committee meeting fees is virtually flat versus last year, although small increases (\$1,000-\$1,500) in median committee chair retainers occurred among small-cap companies</li> </ul>
<b>Non-Executive Board Chairs and Lead Directors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-executive board chairs are nearly always provided additional compensation for the role, which ranges at the median from nearly \$70,000 at small-cap companies to \$142,500 at large-cap companies</li> <li>Eighty-four percent of lead directors among the sample receive additional compensation, generally ranging from \$20,000-\$25,000 at the median across all size and sector groups</li> </ul>
<b>Compensation Deferrals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevalence of cash deferral programs remained steady year-over-year with roughly 60%, 40%, and 20% of large-, mid-, and small-cap companies, respectively, offering such programs</li> <li>Stock deferral programs (including voluntary and mandatory programs) increased in prevalence. Mid-cap companies increased offerings of voluntary stock deferral programs and now offer them more than large-cap companies, although large-cap companies continue to have significantly more mandatory stock deferral requirements and thus overall stock deferral</li> </ul>
<b>Annual Limits on Director Compensation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Just over 40%, 30%, and 20% of large-, mid-, and small-cap companies, respectively, have annual limits on director compensation in the applicable equity plan</li> <li>Eighty-five percent of companies with limits apply them only to equity compensation per director, despite the emerging practice of applying them to total compensation per director</li> <li>Of companies with equity-only limits, a slight majority define the limit as a dollar value; we expect the proportion of fixed-share limits to decline in use since their reasonableness is subject to stock price movement</li> </ul>

# OVERVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

## Research Sample

This study is based on a sample of 300 U.S. public companies equally divided among small-, mid-, and large-cap size segments (100 companies in each) and further classified into five sectors: Energy, Financial Services\*, Industrials, Retail, and Technology (60 companies in each) based on Standard & Poor's Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS") codes. Approximately 93% of this year's sample companies were constituents of last year's sample, allowing for meaningful year-over-year comparisons. For a complete list of the companies included in this study, refer to the List of Companies Surveyed at the end of the report.

Market capitalization and trailing 12-month revenue as of April 30, 2016 are summarized below:

Size	Market Capitalization (\$M)			Trailing 12-Month Revenue (\$M)		
	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Small-Cap	\$289	\$474	\$634	\$205	\$584	\$1,067
Mid-Cap	\$1,557	\$2,464	\$3,343	\$966	\$2,036	\$3,849
Large-Cap	\$8,335	\$15,815	\$32,942	\$4,830	\$10,820	\$26,660
Sector	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Energy	\$613	\$2,789	\$10,588	\$693	\$2,094	\$8,632
Financial Services	\$816	\$2,434	\$8,428	\$331	\$710	\$3,065
Industrials	\$703	\$2,708	\$7,771	\$1,072	\$3,202	\$7,438
Retail	\$643	\$2,085	\$8,243	\$1,664	\$4,100	\$12,094
Technology	\$597	\$2,195	\$6,987	\$378	\$1,512	\$3,353

Director compensation program details were sourced from companies' proxy statements and/or annual reports, generally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") in the one-year period ending May 31, 2016.

\*Effective August 31, 2016, S&P and Morgan Stanley Capital International ("MSCI") created a new headline-level Real Estate sector in the GICS framework and reclassified many REITs and other real estate companies into this new sector, which had previously been categorized under the Financials sector. This study's research sample was established prior to the reclassification; thus, this study's Financial Services sample includes 12 companies (out of 60) that are now classified in the Real Estate sector.

# OVERVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

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## Methodology

The study analyzes compensation for board and committee service (with the latter focused on the three most common standing committees of the board: audit, compensation, and nominating/governance). The specific pay components presented in this study include:

- Annual cash retainers and meeting fees for board service
- Equity compensation, in the form of stock options or full-value stock awards (i.e., restricted shares/units, deferred stock units, and fully vested stock)
- Annual cash retainers and meeting fees for committee member and chair service
- Additional compensation for serving as a non-executive chair or lead director

The report also presents our findings on the prevalence of stock ownership guidelines and compensation deferral provisions, as well as the prevalence, design, and magnitude of shareholder-approved limits on annual compensation per director.

The following assumptions were used to facilitate comparisons:

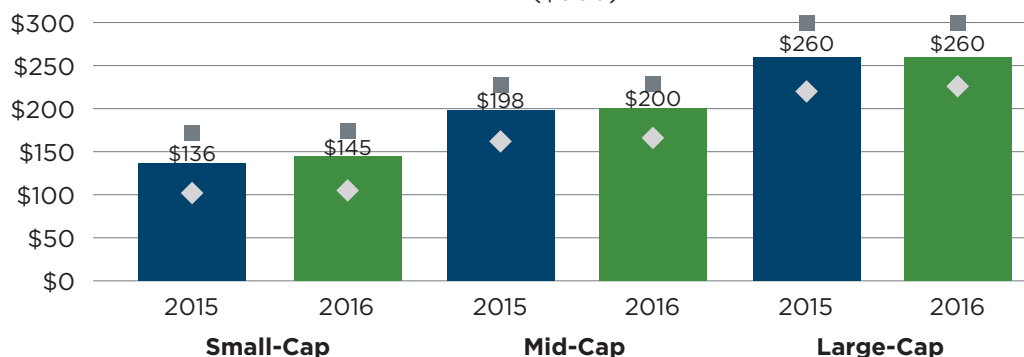
- Each director attends nine board meetings annually (consistent with last year's study)
- Each director is a member of one committee and attends six committee meetings per year (consistent with last year's study)
- If denominated as a number of shares (rather than as a fixed-dollar value), then equity compensation is valued using closing stock prices as of April 30, 2016
- All equity compensation is annualized over a five-year period (e.g., if a company makes a "larger than normal" equity grant upon initial election to the board followed by smaller annual grants, then our analysis includes the five-year average value of the initial grant and the four subsequent annual grants)
- Stock options are valued using each individual company's publicly disclosed Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 718 assumptions to align option values used in this study with their accounting costs, assuming an April 30, 2016 grant date

# TOTAL BOARD COMPENSATION

## Total Compensation – Pay Levels

Total director compensation levels are most heavily influenced by company size. At the median, large-cap companies provide total pay of \$260,000 per director versus \$200,000 at mid-cap companies and \$145,000 at small-cap companies. These figures reflect year-over-year increases of 0.2% for large-cap, 1.1% for mid-cap, and 6.0% for small-cap companies, which appears to indicate plateauing of director compensation among larger companies while smaller companies continue to make modest increases. Across each size category, the 25th percentile grew 3% to 4%, while the 75th percentile either stayed flat (large-cap) or grew around 1% (mid- and small-cap).

**Total Compensation By Size**  
(\$000)

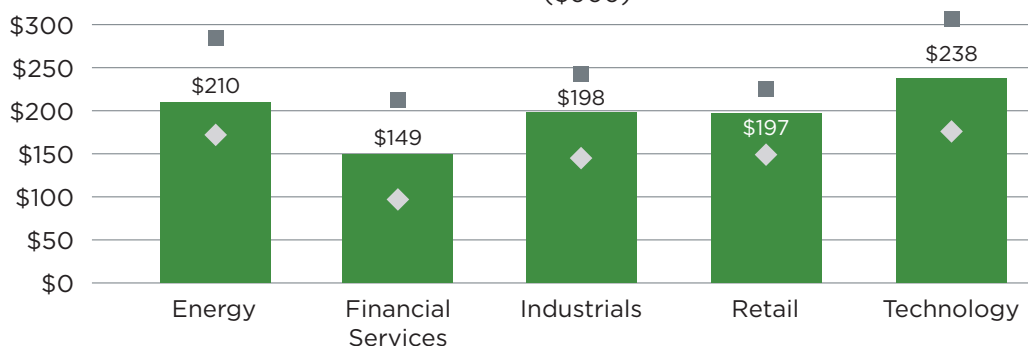


**2016:**

■ 75th Percentile	\$174	\$229	\$300
◆ Median	\$145	\$200	\$260
◆ 25th Percentile	\$105	\$166	\$226

When segmented by sector, Technology provides the highest median total pay of \$238,000, followed by Energy at \$210,000, Retail and Industrials essentially equal at \$197,000/\$198,000, and Financial Services at \$149,000.

**Total Compensation By Sector**  
(\$000)

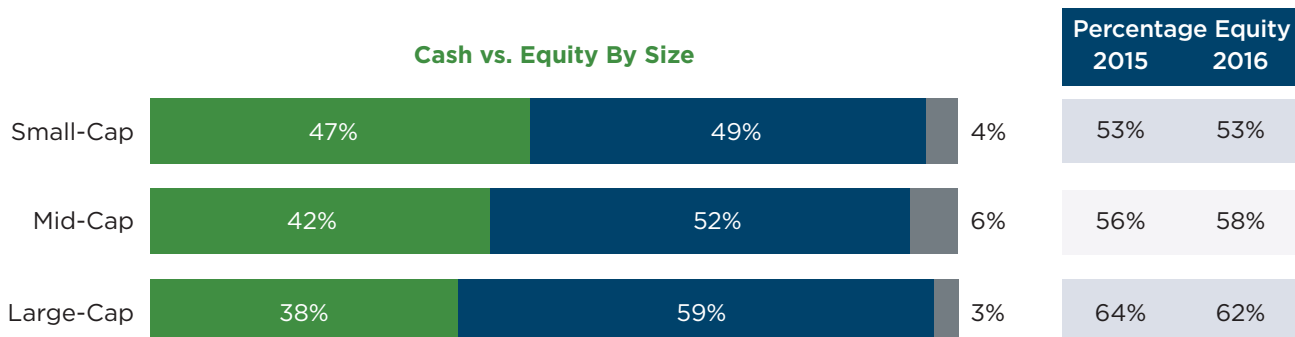


■ 75th Percentile	\$284	\$212	\$243	\$225	\$307
◆ Median	\$210	\$149	\$198	\$197	\$238
◆ 25th Percentile	\$172	\$97	\$145	\$149	\$176

# TOTAL COMPENSATION – CASH VS. EQUITY

Compensation for board service typically consists of both cash and equity. The charts below illustrate average pay mix across company size and sector, with findings essentially unchanged year-over-year except for the continued decline in the use of stock options to deliver equity compensation across size and sector categories.

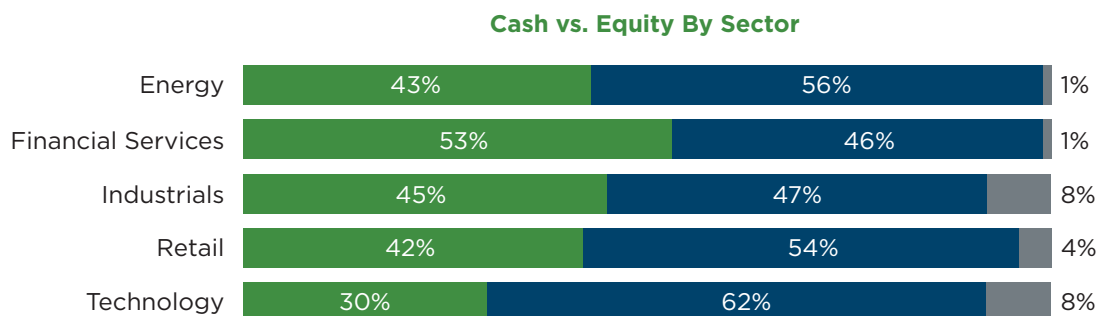
All three size segments provide more than half of compensation in equity, with equity weighting increasing with company size and total pay. Cash/equity mix has not materially changed from last year.



## Average Cash/Equity Composition

■ Cash
 ■ Full-Value Stock Awards
 ■ Stock Options

Consistent with the size group comparisons, the higher-paying sectors tend to place a greater weighting on equity, which is most heavily utilized among Technology companies (over two-thirds of total compensation) and least heavily utilized among Financial Services companies (less than half of total compensation), on average.



## Average Cash/Equity Composition

■ Cash
 ■ Full-Value Stock Awards
 ■ Stock Options

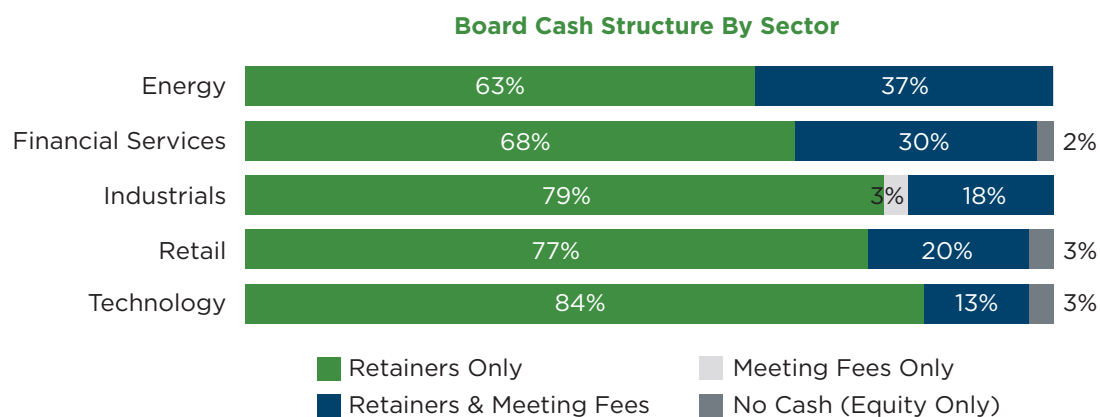
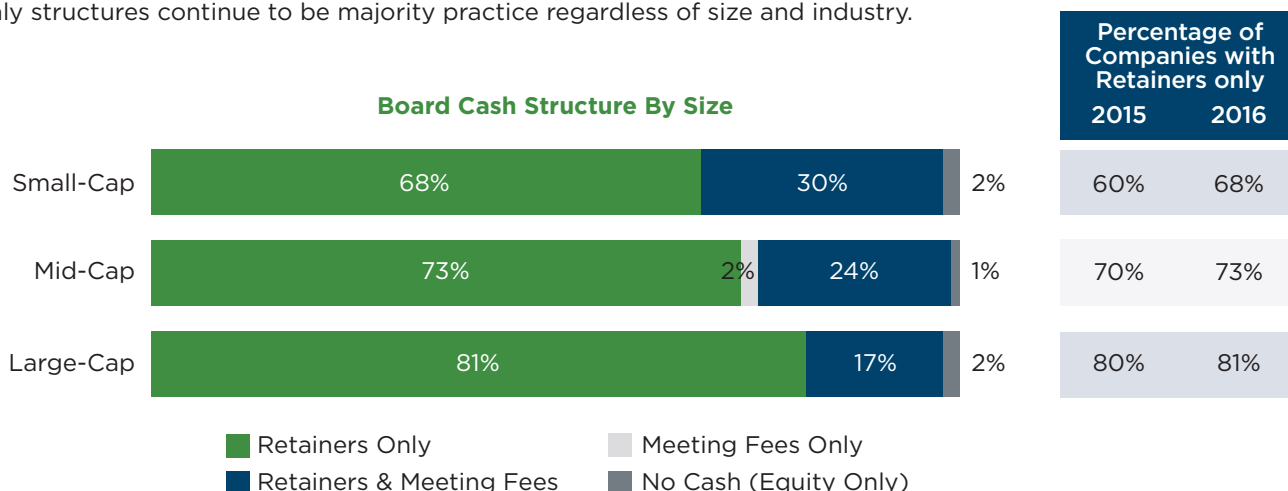


# BOARD CASH COMPENSATION

## Cash Compensation Pay Structure

Cash compensation for board service is typically provided through an annual board retainer, board meeting fees, or a combination of both. Companies across all sizes and sectors generally continue to trend to retainer-only programs. Out of the total sample, 74% use retainers only, compared to 70% observed last year. Many companies have eliminated board meeting fees to simplify administration and communicate that attendance is expected; however, to anticipate years with abnormally high meeting activity, some companies simply institute pre-set thresholds requiring a specific number of meetings to occur before per-meeting fees are paid (see page 9 for more discussion).

Retainer-only structures continue to be majority practice regardless of size and industry.

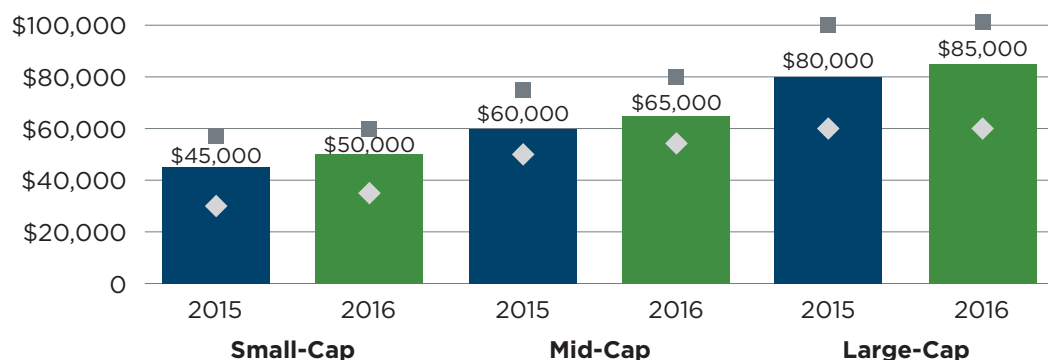


# BOARD CASH COMPENSATION

## Board Cash Retainers

Board retainers are generally correlated with company size and have exhibited modest year-over-year increases, which is likely partly attributable to the sustained shift toward retainer-only board pay structures (i.e. retainers increase to offset lack of meeting fees). The median retainer is \$85,000 at large-cap, \$65,000 at mid-cap, and \$50,000 at small-cap companies, which reflect increases of 6.3%, 8.3%, and 11.1%, respectively, from last year.

**Board Cash Retainers By Size**

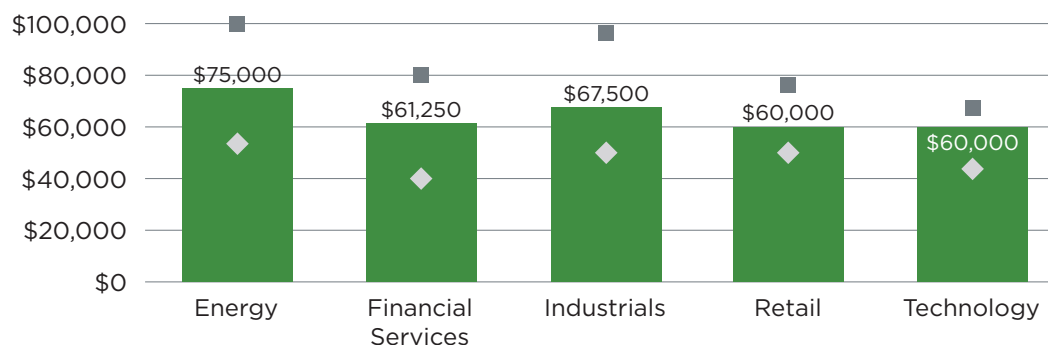


**2016:**

■ <b>75th Percentile</b>	\$60,000	\$80,000	\$101,250
<b>Median</b>	\$50,000	\$65,000	\$85,000
◆ <b>25th Percentile</b>	\$35,000	\$54,250	\$60,000

Retainers tend to be highest at Energy (\$75,000) and Industrials (\$67,500) companies, while other industries have a median retainer at or near \$60,000.

**Board Cash Retainers By Sector**



■ <b>75th Percentile</b>	\$100,000	\$80,000	\$96,250	\$76,250	\$67,500
<b>Median</b>	\$75,000	\$61,250	\$67,500	\$60,000	\$60,000
◆ <b>25th Percentile</b>	\$53,500	\$40,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$43,750

# BOARD CASH COMPENSATION

## Board Meeting Fees

Prevalence of board meeting fees continues to fall significantly among small-cap companies, whereas declines are more modest among large- and mid-cap companies. Of the total sample, 24% use board meeting fees versus 28% last year. Smaller companies are still more likely to pay board meeting fees despite the significant year-over-year drop. The magnitude of board meeting fees, on the other hand, increases with company size.

Board Meeting Fees By Size					Prior Year Meeting Fee Prevalence*
	Prevalence*	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile	
Small-Cap	30%	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	37%
Mid-Cap	26%	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$2,375	29%
Large-Cap	17%	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500	18%

Board meeting fees typically range from \$1,500 to \$2,500 per meeting regardless of size or sector. Energy companies utilize board meeting fees the most, while Technology companies utilize them the least.

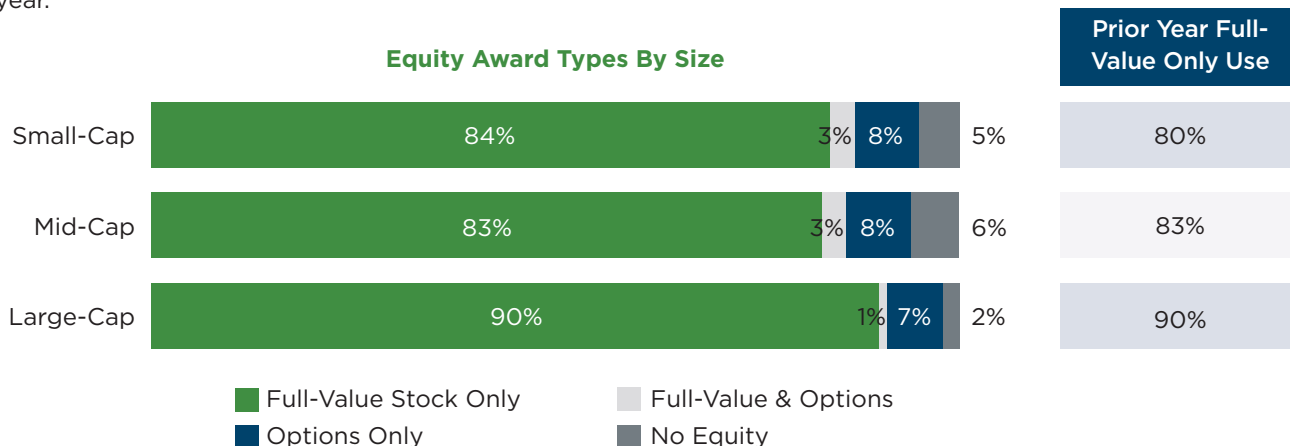
Board Meeting Fees By Sector					Prior Year Meeting Fee Prevalence*
	Prevalence*	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile	
Energy	37%	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$2,000	35%
Financial Services	30%	\$1,050	\$1,500	\$1,500	37%
Industrials	22%	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500	28%
Retail	20%	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500	22%
Technology	13%	\$1,850	\$2,250	\$2,625	18%

\*Prevalence statistics reflect companies that pay a fee starting with the first meeting in a year; across the entire sample, an additional 5% of companies (4% last year) provide a fee starting after a pre-set minimum number of meetings per year

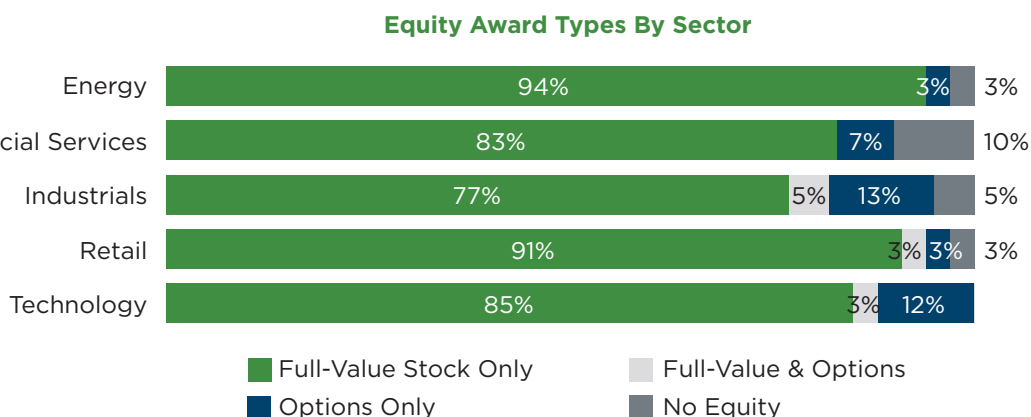
# EQUITY AWARD TYPES

Full-value stock awards (i.e., restricted stock/units, deferred stock units, or fully vested stock) remain the most prevalent equity grant type in director compensation programs across all company sizes and sectors.

Use of full-value-only equity programs increased year-over-year among small-cap companies while staying flat for large- and mid-cap companies. Option-only programs declined in prevalence at large- and small-cap companies versus last year.



Option-only programs declined in prevalence across all sectors since last year. Technology companies, which exhibited a material year-over-year shift toward full-value-only programs (78% to 85%), are no longer the heaviest users of stock options (now Industrials).



# EQUITY AWARD DENOMINATION

Companies continue to define annual equity awards primarily as a fixed-dollar value rather than as a fixed number of shares, which is consistent across size and sector groups. Dollar-denominated awards provide the same proxy-disclosed grant value on an annual basis despite stock price movement.

The share-denominated approach is used more commonly for stock options than for full-value stock awards, although the approach is still a minority practice for stock options overall. Share-denomination of stock options has declined significantly across most size and sector groups, although it remains a majority practice among mid-cap companies and Financial Services companies providing option awards.

**Equity Award Denomination By Size: Percentage of Companies**

	<b>Full-Value Stock</b> (Used by 93% of Companies)*		<b>Options</b> (Used by 12% of Companies)*	
	<b>Dollar Value</b>	<b>Number of Shares</b>	<b>Dollar Value</b>	<b>Number of Shares</b>
<b>Small-Cap</b>	83%	17%	64%	36%
<b>Mid-Cap</b>	87%	13%	27%	73%
<b>Large-Cap</b>	94%	6%	88%	12%

**Equity Award Denomination By Sector: Percentage of Companies**

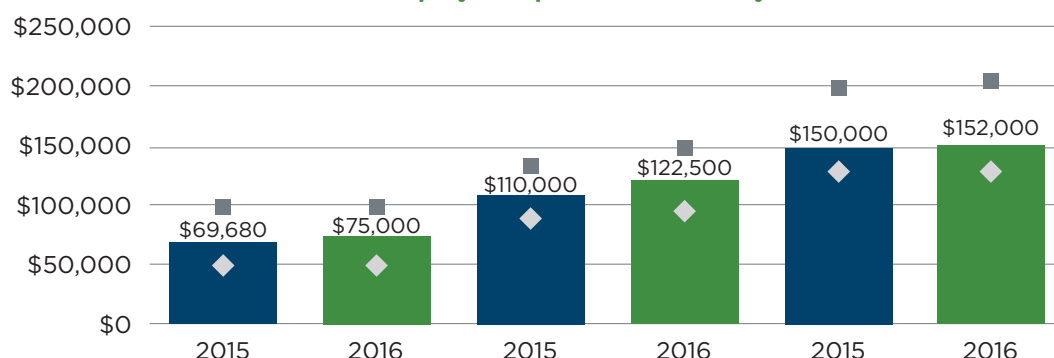
	<b>Full-Value Stock</b> (Used by 93% of Companies)*		<b>Options</b> (Used by 12% of Companies)*	
	<b>Dollar Value</b>	<b>Number of Shares</b>	<b>Dollar Value</b>	<b>Number of Shares</b>
<b>Energy</b>	90%	10%	50%	50%
<b>Financial Services</b>	83%	17%	25%	75%
<b>Industrials</b>	89%	11%	55%	45%
<b>Retail</b>	88%	12%	100%	0%
<b>Technology</b>	90%	10%	56%	44%

\*Some companies grant both full-value stock awards and options, so percentages add to greater than 100%

# EQUITY COMPENSATION VALUES

Median annual equity compensation values exhibited healthy year-over-year increases among mid- and small-cap companies (+11.4% and +7.6%, respectively) while growing only slightly among large-cap companies (+1.3%). The effect of these increases on total compensation is mitigated by simultaneous declines in the use of meeting fees and larger-than-normal initial equity awards. Compared to cash, equity compensation is more highly variable with company size and is thus the primary contributor to the overall differential in total pay among differently sized companies.

Equity Compensation Value By Size

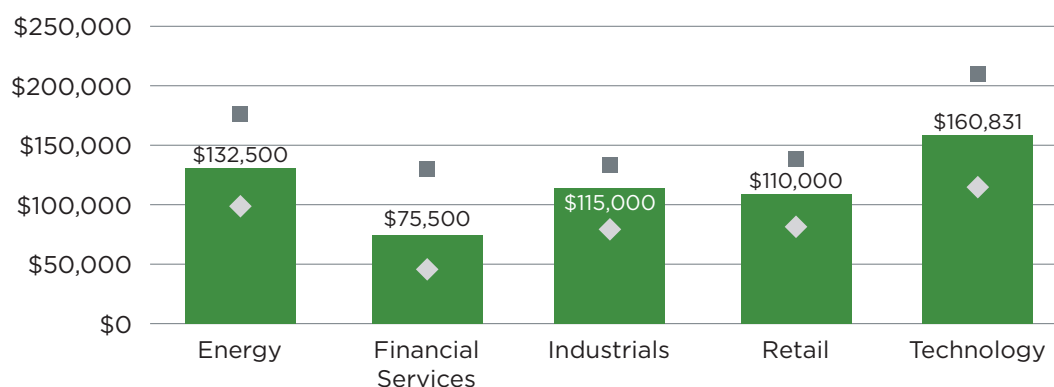


2016:

	Small-Cap	Mid-Cap	Large-Cap
■ 75th Percentile	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$207,500
■ Median	\$75,000	\$122,500	\$152,000
◆ 25th Percentile	\$50,000	\$96,250	\$130,000

Median equity compensation continues to be highest among Technology companies and lowest among Financial Services companies. Equity compensation positioning mirrors total compensation positioning among the sectors since equity constitutes more than half of total compensation for each industry other than Financial Services.

Equity Compensation Value By Sector



	Energy	Financial Services	Industrials	Retail	Technology
■ 75th Percentile	\$178,750	\$131,500	\$135,000	\$140,000	\$212,500
■ Median	\$132,500	\$75,500	\$115,000	\$110,000	\$160,831
◆ 25th Percentile	\$100,000	\$46,250	\$80,325	\$82,500	\$116,250

# COMMITTEE MEMBER COMPENSATION

Committee service can be compensated through additional retainers paid in cash (or, more rarely, equity) or meeting fees. Nearly two-thirds of companies provide additional compensation to directors for serving as a regular member of a board committee, particularly mid- and small-cap companies. The decrease in use of committee meeting fees slightly outpaces the increase in the use of committee member retainers, highlighting that some companies eliminating meeting fees are comfortable forgoing committee-specific compensation in its entirety. Small-cap companies noticeably shifted away from committee meeting fees toward committee member retainers compared to last year, while relatively minor changes occurred among mid- and large-cap companies.

	Committee Member Retainers			Committee Meeting Fees*		
	Audit	Compensation	Nominating & Governance	Audit	Compensation	Nominating & Governance
<b>Total Prevalence (2016)</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Total Prevalence (2015)</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>Size (2016)</b>						
Small-Cap	39%	38%	39%	33%	31%	31%
Mid-Cap	43%	39%	38%	26%	25%	22%
Large-Cap	41%	29%	28%	21%	21%	20%
<b>Sector (2016)</b>						
Energy	22%	19%	21%	38%	39%	34%
Financial Services	33%	22%	21%	42%	39%	40%
Industrials	37%	27%	25%	20%	20%	19%
Retail	38%	35%	35%	18%	18%	18%
Technology	75%	73%	69%	15%	13%	14%
<b>Pay Levels (All Companies 2016)</b>						
75th Percentile	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Median	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$6,000	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
25th Percentile	\$9,875	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000

Committee service compensation is relatively invariable by size or sector but generally increases with company size; within a tight range, Retail companies provide the highest levels among the sample, while Financial Services companies provide the lowest. Prevalence and values of committee retainers are typically highest for the audit committee and lowest for the nominating/governance committee, while meeting fees are typically identical for all three committees. Median committee member retainers were flat for the audit and compensation committees but increased for the nominating/governance committee, from \$5,000 to \$6,000. Median committee meeting fees are flat year-over-year.

For companies that provide committee member compensation, member retainers are favored by Technology, Retail, and Industrials companies, while meeting fees are favored by Energy and Financial Services companies. Modest decreases in committee meeting fee prevalence occurred among Financial Services, Industrials, and Technology companies versus last year. Committee member retainer prevalence increased slightly year-over-year for Financial Services, Industrials, and Technology companies, but decreased slightly for the other two sectors.

\*Reflects companies that pay a fee starting with the first meeting in a year; across the entire sample, an additional 4% of companies (same as prior year) provide a fee starting after a pre-set minimum number of meetings per year

# COMMITTEE CHAIR COMPENSATION

Consistent with prior years, nearly all companies provide additional compensation to committee chairs to recognize the substantial time required to lead a committee. Similar to committee member retainers, committee chair retainers tend to be highest for the audit committee and lowest for the nominating/governance committee, illustrating primarily the different time commitment expectations between committees. Similar to last year, 29% of companies providing chair retainers to both the audit and compensation committee provide the same amount, highlighting the increased importance and complexity of the compensation committee chair role. Eleven percent of companies providing chair retainers to all three committees provide the same level of retainer rather than differentiating.

The table below shows the prevalence and magnitude of retainers paid to directors who chair the audit, compensation, and nominating/governance committees. The values include any committee member retainers provided. The vast majority of companies use cash for their chair retainers, although a small minority (7% of companies providing chair retainers) use equity either solely or in combination with cash.

Committee Chair Retainers (Inclusive of Any Member Retainers)									
	Audit			Compensation			Nominating & Governance		
Percentile	25th	Median	75th	25th	Median	75th	25th	Median	75th
<b>Size</b>									
Small-Cap	\$12,000	\$16,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$11,400	\$15,000	\$6,750	\$10,000	\$10,000
Mid-Cap	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$14,625	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$15,000
Large-Cap	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$20,000
<b>Sector</b>									
Energy	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$24,375	\$12,375	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
Financial Services	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$15,000
Industrials	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$15,000
Retail	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$12,250	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$16,375
Technology	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$16,500	\$21,250	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$15,000
<b>All Companies 2016</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$26,500</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
Prevalence	96%			95%			92%		

Year-over-year, increases of \$1,000 to \$1,500 occurred for median committee chair retainers at small-cap companies. Median chair retainers for large- and mid-cap companies changed immaterially or not at all.

Retail companies tend to provide the highest committee chair retainers, followed by Technology companies. There is little differentiation in chair retainer amounts among the other three sectors.

Less than 1% of companies in the research sample provide a higher meeting fee to committee chairs than to regular committee members (in lieu of, or in addition to, incremental cash or equity retainers).

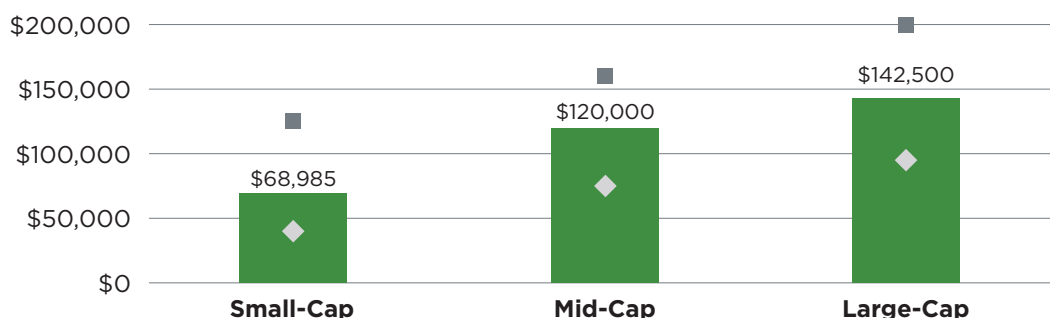


# NON-EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIR AND LEAD DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

## Non-Executive Board Chair Retainer

There were 129 non-executive board chairs identified in this year's study, 124 (96%) of which are provided additional compensation over regular board members. Incremental compensation for non-executive chairs is provided in cash, equity, or a combination of both. The below values are calculated based on only the companies that provide additional compensation to their non-executive board chair. Such additional retainers are highly differentiated based on responsibility, incumbent background (e.g., former CEO), and board structure, among other factors.

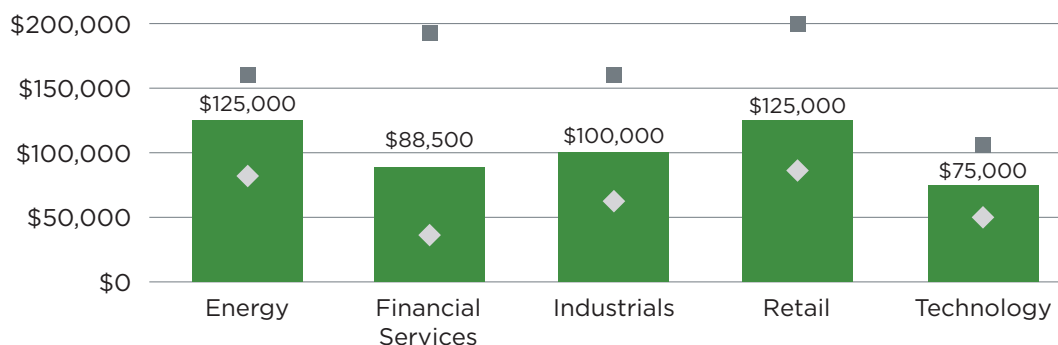
### Non-Executive Board Chair Retainers By Size



# of Occurrences	51	37	36
■ 75th Percentile	\$125,000	\$160,000	\$200,000
Median	\$68,985	\$120,000	\$142,500
◆ 25th Percentile	\$40,000	\$75,000	\$95,000

Energy and Retail companies provide the greatest additional compensation for non-executive board chair service, while Technology companies provide the least.

### Non-Executive Board Chair Retainers By Sector



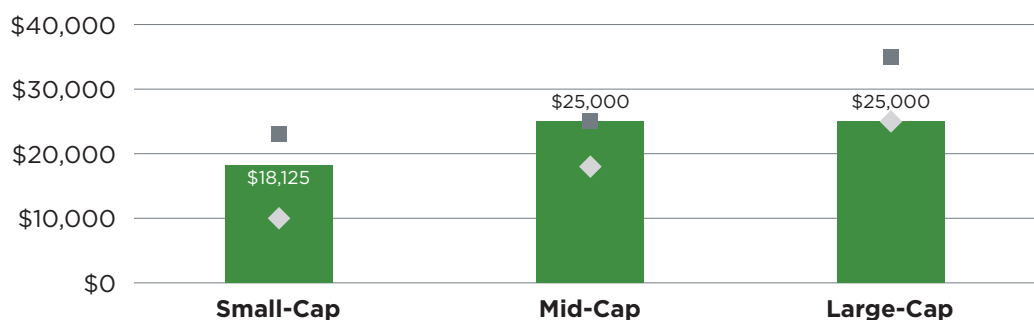
# of Occurrences	25	20	27	20	32
■ 75th Percentile	\$160,000	\$192,500	\$160,000	\$200,000	\$106,250
Median	\$125,000	\$88,500	\$100,000	\$125,000	\$75,000
◆ 25th Percentile	\$82,000	\$36,249	\$62,500	\$86,250	\$50,000

# NON-EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIR AND LEAD DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

## Lead Director Retainer

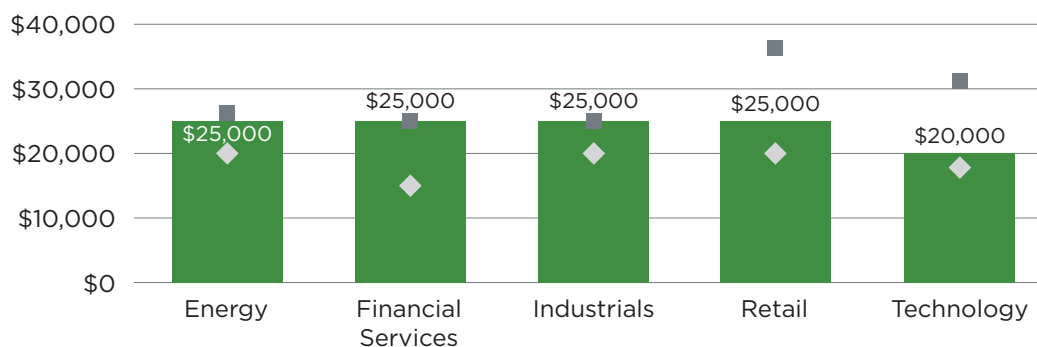
Of the 164 lead directors in this year's study, 138 (84%) receive additional compensation for their service. Lead director retainers are much less differentiated than other elements of director compensation, with a median value of \$25,000 for most size and sector groups. The small-cap and Technology groups are the exceptions, with median values of \$18,125 and \$20,000, respectively.

Lead Director Retainers By Size



# of Occurrences	32	45	61
■ 75th Percentile	\$23,125	\$25,000	\$35,000
Median	\$18,125	\$25,000	\$25,000
◆ 25th Percentile	\$10,000	\$18,000	\$25,000

Lead Director Retainers By Sector

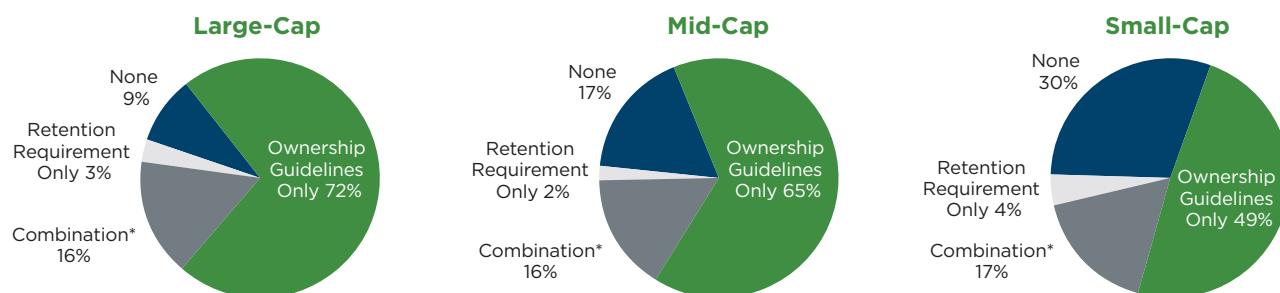


# of Occurrences	24	34	28	28	24
■ 75th Percentile	\$26,250	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$36,250	\$31,250
Median	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$20,000
◆ 25th Percentile	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$17,813

# STOCK OWNERSHIP GUIDELINES AND RETENTION REQUIREMENTS

Director stock ownership guidelines are in place at a majority of companies, particularly at large-cap companies where they have been nearly ubiquitous for many years. Companies that lack formal guidelines may instead grant equity that mandatorily settles after retirement from the board (often observed at large-cap companies). Director stock ownership guideline prevalence increased year-over-year for small- and mid-cap companies.

Policies typically take one of three forms: (1) a multiple of a director's cash board retainer (usually five times for large- and mid-cap companies, and three times for small-cap companies), a dollar value, or a number of shares, (2) required retention of a percentage of "net shares" acquired, or (3) a combination of these two approaches.



Stock retention requirements are still a minority practice but increasingly prevalent, especially among large-cap companies where they typically take the form of equity awards that only settle after retirement from the board; for small- and mid-cap companies, the requirement is more often part of the stock ownership guidelines and provides for mandatory retention until a required ownership level is achieved. A retention ratio of 100% of net shares is the most common, although smaller ratios become more common as company size decreases.

Stock Retention Requirements				
	Small-Cap	Mid-Cap	Large-Cap	Overall
<b>Prevalence</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>Length Of Retention**</b>				
Until Retirement	37%	27%	69%	48%
Until Ownership Guideline Met	60%	58%	27%	45%
Fixed Years	3%	15%	4%	7%
<b>Vehicle for Requirement**</b>				
Stock Ownership Guideline	68%	65%	36%	53%
Equity Award Feature	32%	31%	58%	43%
Both	0%	4%	6%	4%
<b>Retention Ratio**</b>				
100%	52%	65%	78%	67%
75%	10%	8%	2%	6%
50%	35%	23%	18%	25%
Other	3%	4%	2%	2%

\* Combination means the use of a retention requirement in addition to a required ownership level

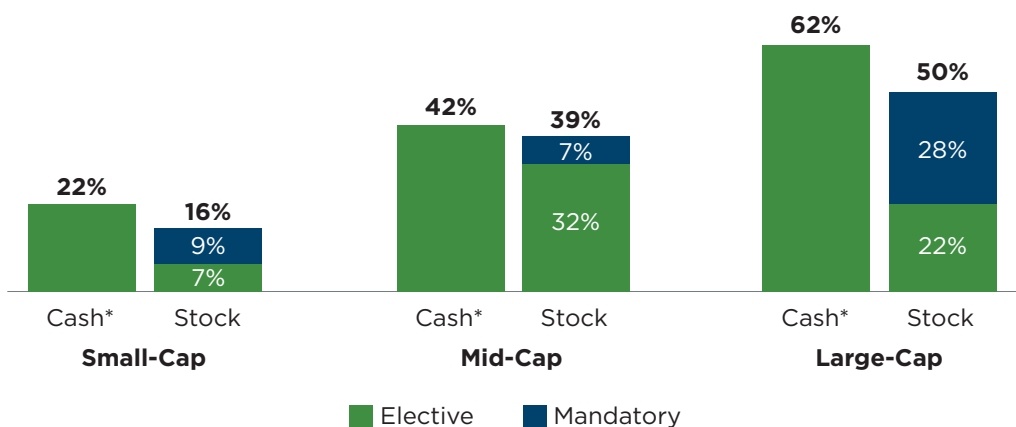
\*\* Calculated out of companies disclosing retention requirements

# COMPENSATION DEFERRALS

Of sample companies that pay cash retainers/fees, 42% provide for some form of voluntary cash deferral (unchanged from last year); 29% provide for “cash-to-cash” deferral by which cash may be deferred into alternative investments such as those under a company’s employee 401(k) plan, and the same percentage allow directors to defer cash into a company stock unit account (many companies provide both). Such deferrals are typically distributed after retirement from the board.

Of sample companies that award equity annually, 36% provide for deferral of equity grants beyond the vesting period (“stock-to-stock” deferral); 21% allow this on a voluntary basis, while the remaining 15% grant equity that is mandatorily deferred until retirement from the board. Versus last year, prevalence of voluntary stock-to-stock deferral increased among mid-cap companies, and prevalence of mandatory stock-to-stock deferral increased among all size groups.

**Prevalence of Cash and Stock Deferral Programs By Size**



\*Includes companies that permit deferral of either cash-to-cash, cash-to-stock, or both

# SHAREHOLDER-APPROVED LIMITS ON ANNUAL DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

In the wake of recent shareholder litigation surrounding director pay, companies are taking steps to protect themselves against such lawsuits which, even if winnable, may prove costly and thus easier to settle than to litigate. One such step is to include “meaningful” limits on annual compensation per director in shareholder-approved equity plans. Such limits can apply to equity (expressed as a dollar value or number of shares/options) or to total compensation (cash and equity); the latter is preferable and is viewed as providing more complete protection against a potential lawsuit, since case law does not seem to distinguish between cash and equity.

We examined the research sample to understand the prevalence and magnitude of annual per-director pay limits. While equity-only limits are currently more common, total pay limits are growing in use. Equity limits are more commonly expressed in dollars than a number of shares; we expect the latter approach to decline over time since fixed-share limits do not restrict grant value (thus may not provide meaningful defense against a potential lawsuit) and are not consistent with the common practice of value-denominated equity grants for directors. Some companies raise or nullify the limit in special cases, such as a director’s first year of service or if a director serves as the board chair or lead director (none of these exceptions is used by more than 10% of companies with limits). Additionally, a few companies have separate limits for each award type under the plan.

Annual Limits on Non-Employee Director Compensation				
	Small-Cap	Mid-Cap	Large-Cap	Overall
<b>Prevalence</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>Limit Scope Mix*</b>				
Total Compensation	5%	22%	14%	15%
Equity Only	95%	78%	86%	85%
<b>Equity Limit Type Mix**</b>				
Dollar-Denominated	67%	44%	56%	55%
Share-Denominated	24%	52%	44%	41%
Both	9%	4%	0%	4%

\* Calculated out of companies disclosing limits

\*\* Calculated out of companies with equity-only limits

# SHAREHOLDER-APPROVED LIMITS ON ANNUAL DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Among the sample, most limits on total pay are between \$400K and \$600K and typically equate to a multiple of two to three times total pay. Dollar-denominated equity-only limits tend to have similar or slightly smaller values; however, as a multiple of annual equity award value, they are more generous than total pay limits as a multiple of total pay. Share-denominated equity-only limits are larger and more variable, both in terms of dollar value and as a multiple of annual equity award value, which may be attributable to stock price growth since limit establishment or the desire to provide a buffer against stock price decline, among other factors. Such limits have been valued using April 30, 2016 closing stock prices and latest ASC Topic 718 option valuation assumptions.

Percentile	Total Compensation Limit			Dollar-Denominated Equity Limit			Share-Denominated Equity Limit		
	25th	Median	75th	25th	Median	75th	25th	Median	75th
<b>Dollar Value of Limit</b>									
Small-Cap	Insufficient Data			\$300,000	\$350,000	\$500,000	\$508,750	\$602,148	\$773,571
Mid-Cap	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$550,000	\$450,000	\$500,000	\$550,000	\$782,500	\$1,591,500	\$1,810,200
Large-Cap	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$712,500	\$387,500	\$500,000	\$675,000	\$639,030	\$1,837,125	\$3,039,000
<b>Limit Multiple*</b>									
Small-Cap	Insufficient Data			3.9x	4.6x	5.0x	6.4x	9.3x	20.1x
Mid-Cap	1.9x	2.2x	2.8x	2.6x	3.1x	3.8x	6.3x	12.9x	20.7x
Large-Cap	2.0x	2.3x	2.8x	2.8x	3.3x	4.6x	3.8x	12.2x	16.7x

\*For total compensation limits, reflects multiple of total pay; for equity-only limits, reflects multiple of annual equity award value

# LIST OF COMPANIES SURVEYED

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1-800-Flowers.com	Citrix Systems
3M	Clayton Williams Energy
Abercrombie & Fitch	CNO Financial Group
Adobe Systems	Cognex
Advance Auto Parts	Cognizant Technology Solutions
Alamo Group	Colfax
Allstate	Comerica
Alon USA Partners	comScore
Amazon.com	Conns
American Midstream Partners	ConocoPhillips
Amkor Technology	Container Store Group
Anadarko Petroleum	Core-Mark Holding
Analog Devices	CorEnergy Infrastructure Trust
Apache	Cowen Group
Apartment Investment & Management	Cree
Applied Micro Circuits	CSG Systems International
Armstrong World Industries	CTS
Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings	Cummins
AutoZone	Datalink
Axcelis Technologies	DCP Midstream Partners
Baker Hughes	Deere & Co.
Banc of California	Delek US Holdings
Barnes & Noble	Devon Energy
Basic Energy Services	Dick's Sporting Goods
Bazaarvoice	Dillard's
BB&T	Dollar General
Beacon Roofing Supply	Donegal Group
Bed Bath & Beyond	Douglas Dynamics
Belden	Dover
BGC Partners	DST Systems
Big 5 Sporting Goods	Duke Realty
Big Lots	EarthLink Holdings
Bristow Group	Ellington Financial
Brown & Brown	EMCORE
Build-A-Bear Workshop	Encana
Burlington Stores	Energen
CA	Ennis
Cabela's	EnPro Industries
Cadence Design Systems	Era Group
Caleres	EXCO Resources
Callon Petroleum	Expeditors International of Washington
Carrizo Oil & Gas	Express
Cascade Bancorp	Exterran
Cass Information Systems	Exxon Mobil
Cathay General Bancorp	F5 Networks
CBIZ	Fairchild Semiconductor International
Chesapeake Energy	FBL Financial Group
Chevron	FBR & Co.
Children's Place	Finish Line
Cincinnati Financial	First Bancorp

# LIST OF COMPANIES SURVEYED

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First Defiance Financial	Kohl's
FirstMerit	Korn/Ferry International
Fluor	Lam Research
Foot Locker	Laredo Petroleum
Fox Chase Bancorp	LaSalle Hotel Properties
Francesca's Holdings	Layne Christensen
Fred's	LB Foster
FreightCar America	Life Storage
FuelCell Energy	Lincoln National
GAMCO Investors	Lockheed Martin
GameStop	Lowe's Companies
General Dynamics	Mack-Cali Realty
General Electric	Macy's
Genesis Energy	Marathon Oil
German American Bancorp	Marathon Petroleum
Gibraltar Industries	Marinemax
Global Partners	Matrix Service
GNC Holdings	MAXIMUS
Green Dot	Mentor Graphics
Green Plains	MetLife
Griffon	MGIC Investment
Guaranty Bancorp	Micron Technology
Guess?	Morgan Stanley
Gulfmark Offshore	Murphy Oil
Gulfport Energy	National Oilwell Varco
Halliburton	Natural Gas Services Group
Hartford Financial Services Group	NCR
Haverty Furniture Companies	NetApp
Healthcare Realty Trust	Netflix
Heartland Financial USA	NetSuite
Helix Energy Solutions Group	Noble Energy
Hess	Nordstrom
HFF	Northern Oil & Gas
Home Depot	Northrop Grumman
HSN	Office Depot
Hub Group	ONEOK Partners
Ingram Micro	Oracle
Intel	Overstock.com
Intuit	Oxford Industries
Invesco	Parker Drilling
Iron Mountain	PBF Energy
Itron	PC Connection
J. C. Penney	PDC Energy
Jabil Circuit	Penske Automotive Group
Jacobs Engineering Group	PGT
Jive Software	PHI
Joy Global	Pier 1 Imports
Juniper Networks	Piper Jaffray Companies
KCG Holdings	Plug Power
Kelly Services	Preformed Line Products
Kirkland's	Priceline Group
KLA-Tencor	Principal Financial Group



# LIST OF COMPANIES SURVEYED

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Q2 Holdings  
QEP Resources  
Quanta Services  
Quantum  
R.R. Donnelley & Sons  
Radiant Logistics  
RealPage  
Red Hat  
Regal Beloit  
Rent-A-Center  
Resources Connection  
Restoration Hardware Holdings  
Rockwell Collins  
Rollins  
Rosetta Stone  
Ross Stores  
Rowan Companies  
Ryder System  
Sally Beauty Holdings  
SEACOR Holdings  
Sears Holdings  
SemGroup  
Shoe Carnival  
Sigma Designs  
Silver Bay Realty Trust  
Silver Spring Networks  
Sirius XM Holdings  
SkyWest  
SM Energy  
Sonus Networks  
Spectra Energy  
Spirit Airlines  
SPX  
Stage Stores  
Stamps.com  
Stanley Black & Decker  
Staples  
Stein Mart  
Sun Bancorp  
Superior Energy Services  
Sykes Enterprises  
T. Rowe Price Group  
Take-Two Interactive Software  
Talmer Bancorp  
Tanger Factory Outlet Centers  
Tangoe  
Targa Resources  
Target

TCF Financial  
TD Ameritrade Holding  
TeleTech Holdings  
Tennant  
Tesoro  
Tetra Tech  
TETRA Technologies  
Textron  
Tile Shop Holdings  
TJX Companies  
Tompkins Financial  
Toro  
Transocean  
Travelers Companies  
Trimble  
Triumph Group  
TTM Technologies  
Tuesday Morning  
U.S. Bancorp  
United Financial Bancorp  
United Online  
United Parcel Service  
United Rentals  
USG  
Valero Energy  
Viad  
Viavi Solutions  
Virtu Financial  
Vornado Realty Trust  
Waste Connections  
Waste Management  
Watsco  
WebMD Health  
Webster Financial  
Wells Fargo & Co.  
WesBanco  
WESCO International  
Western Digital  
Western Refining  
Willbros Group  
Williams-Sonoma  
Wilshire Bancorp  
Woodward  
Workiva  
World Fuel Services  
WPX Energy  
Xylem  
Zions Bancorporation

# FW COOK COMPANY INFORMATION

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**FW Cook** is an independent consulting firm specializing in executive and director compensation and related corporate governance matters. Formed in 1973, our firm has served more than 3,000 organizations in a wide variety of industries from our offices in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, Houston and Boston. We currently serve as the independent advisor to the compensation committees at a substantial number of the most prominent companies in the U.S.

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