**Executive Compensation: Taking Stock**

Wall Street’s abusive, reckless, and sometimes criminal behavior caused the financial crisis, but executive pay and profits are rebounding to record levels. Of the largest 25 publicly traded financial firms that have already released their 2010 earnings, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that total 2010 compensation and benefits “hit a record of $135 billion…up 5.7% from $128 billion in combined compensation and benefits by the same companies in 2009”[[1]](#footnote-1)

According to the same story*,* the percentage of revenue that these companies paid in compensation to their employees rose from 31.1 percent in 2009 to 32.5 percent last year. “Things are shifting back to where they were before,” said J. Robert Brown, a law professor at the University of Denver who studies compensation and corporate-governance issues.

**Key Players**

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|  | **Bank of America**  Bank of America Corp. CEO Brian Moynihan received $9.1 million in a deferred-stock bonus for 2010, in addition to his base salary of $950,000, giving him total compensation of $10.1 million.  Taxpayer Bailout = $45 billion[[2]](#footnote-2)  2010 Revenue: $111.4 billion  2010 Net Income: $2.2 billion loss[[3]](#footnote-3)  Total Compensation Paid in 2010: $35.1 billion |
|  | **Citigroup**  Citigroup Inc. raised CEO Vikram Pandit’s salary to an annual base of $1.75m from an income of one dollar.[[4]](#footnote-4) His bonus has not yet been disclosed.  Taxpayer Bailout = $45 billion  2010 Revenue: $65.6 billion  2010 Net Income: $14.9 billion  Total Compensation Paid in 2010: $24.4 billion |
|  | **JP Morgan**  Although his 2010 income is not yet reported, JPMorgan Chase CEO and Chairman Jamie Dimon is reportedly expected to earn as much, if not more, than the $17.5 million he took home in 2009.[[5]](#footnote-5)  Taxpayer Bailout = $25 billion 2010 Revenue: $102.7 billion  2010 Net Income: $17.4 billion  Total Compensation Paid in 2010: $28.1 billion |
|  | **Goldman Sachs**  Goldman Sachs CEO and Chairman Lloyd C. Blankfein received salary and bonuses totaling $13.2 million in 2010.  Taxpayer Bailout = $10 billion  2010 Revenue: $39.2 billion  2010 Net Income: $8.4 million  Total Compensation Paid in 2010: $15.4 billion |
|  | **Morgan Stanley**  According to [Business Insider](http://www.businessinsider.com/morgan-stanley-ceo-james-gorman-compensation-2011-1#ixzz1CkZ2iA8V), Morgan Stanley Inc. awarded CEO James Gorman a $7.4 million bonus, not including his salary which can bring his total compensation to $15 million.  Taxpayer Bailout = $10 billion  2010 Revenue: $31.6 billion  2010 Net Income: $4.5 billion  Total Compensation Paid in 2010: $16.0 billion |

1. Aaron Lucchetti and Stephen Grocer, “On Street, Pay Vaults to Record Altitude,” *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 02, 2011. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Bailout totals from ProPublica (available at: <http://bailout.propublica.org/list/index>) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Includes $12.2 billion in goodwill impairment charges. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. “Citigroup CEO Pandit’s Salary Soars $1.75m from $1,” *Reuters*, Jan. 23, 2011. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Eric Dash and Susanne Craig. “Big Paydays Return With Big Profits at Wall St. Banks,” *The New York Times*, Jan. 21, 2011. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)