

### 2021

### Private Company Board Compensation Survey

Lodestone Global
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### LODESTONE GLOBAL

We are a specialized consulting firm providing strategic guidance to chief executives who are considering forming or refreshing a fiduciary or advisory board.

We invest significant partner time to help clarify your business strategy, and assist you in developing, recruiting and maximizing a board that drives those strategic objectives.

Lodestone Global gives you exclusive access to a network of experienced Board candidates from a proprietary database for you to evaluate. We utilize a proven methodology for assembling, updating and maximizing a board that respects your culture and delivers a high return on investment.

Considering Building or Refreshing your Board?

Visit our website: <a href="www.lodestoneglobal.com">www.lodestoneglobal.com</a>
Or contact us at: <a href="mailto:info@lodestoneglobal.com">info@lodestoneglobal.com</a>



Lodestone Global surveyed **625 companies** across **41 different industries** and **40 countries** to analyze current board practices and compensation around the world.



Median revenue was \$105m Median number of employees was 265



Median total compensation was \$42,750, ~2% lower than the \$43,500 reported last year.



Compensation is projected to rise in 2021 with 45% of the respondents projecting a rise in director pay — up from 35% who expected an increase last year.



The -1.7% decrease (+4.8% in 2019) is the result of a -4.5% decrease domestically, offset by a +3.8% increase internationally. Technology firms saw the most growth again this year, paying their directors +5% more than in 2019.

#### **BOARDS & PERFORMANCE**



Boards continue to have a strong impact on company performance. Since implementing a board of directors, 96% of companies reported increased revenues and 93% reported increased EBITDA. Since the respondent joined the board, companies reported an average revenue increase of ~55%.



64% of the participants categorized their boards as "Indispensable" or "Very Effective" at driving corporate strategy. These results support the notion that a board, particularly with the right directors, can be essential to achieving corporate goals and improving profitability.

#### **BOARDS & DIVERSITY**

**Lodestone Global's mission is to** increase private company director diversity. The data continues to show a diversity of perspective produces a higher-performing boardroom.

78% of the companies in the survey had women as board members, up from 71% last year and 61% the year before.

The number of women directors was up to a median of 2.5 vs. 2.0 last year, achieving a ~40% representation on a typical board vs. 33% in 2019.

98% of boards with at least one woman director reported an increase in revenues since the respondent joined the board.



#### **REMOTE BOARD MEETINGS**

Over 95% of companies reported holding their board meetings remotely.

Importantly, over 83% of companies did not change their per meeting fees to directors, despite that lower payments are typical for teleconference or video conference meetings.



#### **COMPENSATION MODIFICATION**

Roughly 22% of respondents identified a temporary change in their board remuneration programs due to COVID-19.

#### Those Responses in More Detail:

- 45% Reduced Annual Retainer
- 23% Reduced Per Meeting Fees
- 17% Eliminated Annual Retainer
- 14% Eliminated Per Meeting Fees



#### **INCREASED MEETINGS/WORK**

55% of respondents indicated their companies had increased the number of meetings due to COVID-19.

For 9 years, our survey has indicated that private companies hold roughly 4 inperson and 2 teleconference meetings on average. In 2020, that changed to 4 inperson and 4 teleconference meetings.\*

**COVID-19 IMPACT** 

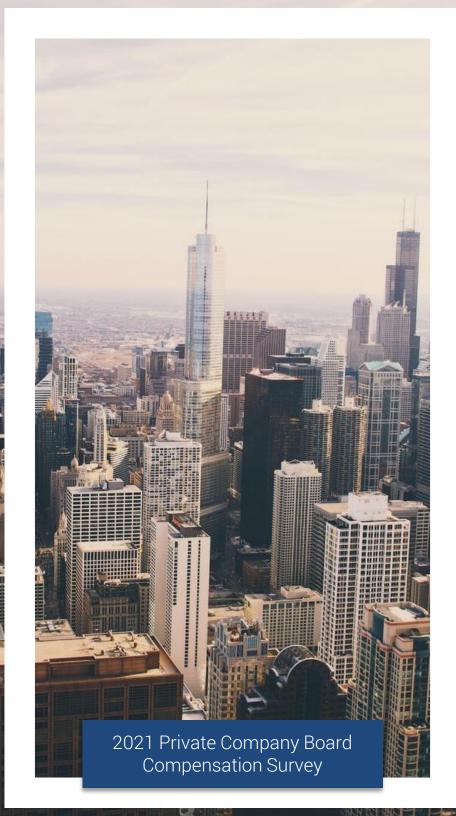
### **ABOUT THE SURVEY**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual 2021 Private Company Board Compensation Survey was conducted among our clients and select members of YPO\* in the fall and winter of 2020. 625 companies provided meaningful responses.

The objective of the survey was to collect data on Board member compensation for independent directors. We also captured data on Board practices and sentiment, to provide a picture of current governance thought among private company board members.

All of our data was collected and normalized to annual levels to provide a relative basis of comparison. Average calculations included all 625 respondents (except per teleconference fees) whereas median calculations excluded the respondents who did not give an answer for that specific category.

The survey presents the overall results of our work in determining specific compensation levels, as well as prevalent Board practices. This survey is private and confidential and was conducted for the sole benefit of participating companies and Lodestone Global. This report may not be reproduced, quoted, archived, redistributed, or otherwise used without express permission.

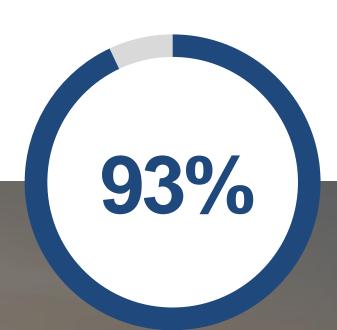


<sup>\*</sup>YPO connects ~30k chief executives of companies generating >USD\$6 trillion in revenues and employing >15 million people in 137 countries.

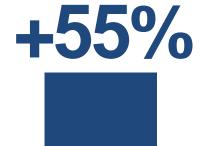
## **BOARDS DRIVE PERFORMANCE**



Companies reported
INCREASED REVENUES
since implementing a
Board of Directors



Companies reported
INCREASED EBITDA
since implementing a
Board of Directors



Companies reported AVG.

REVENUE GROWTH OF 55%

since implementing a

Board of Directors



### **CONTACT US FOR FULL VERSION**

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, or would like additional tailored insights for your company please contact us by email at:

### info@lodestoneglobal.com

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