

Pay Equity

Whereas: Pay inequity persists across race and gender. Black workers' hourly median earnings have fallen 3.6 percent since 2000, representing 75.6 percent of white wages. The median income for women working full time is 80 percent that of men. Intersecting race, African American women make 62 cents, Native women 60 cents, and Latina women 54 cents. At the current rate, women will not reach pay equity until 2059, African American women until 2130, and Latina women until 2224.

Citigroup estimates closing minority and gender wage gaps 20 years ago could have generated 12 trillion dollars in additional income and contributed 0.15 percent to United States GDP per year. PwC estimates closing the gender pay gap could boost Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries' economies by 2 trillion dollars annually.

Diversity is linked to superior stock performance and return on equity. Actively managing pay equity is associated with improved representation. Underrepresented minorities account for 14 percent of Microsoft's workforce and 9.4 percent of leadership. Women represent 28.6 percent of the workforce and 21.1 percent of leadership.

Pay gaps, *literally* defined as the *median* pay of minorities and women compared to the median pay of non-minorities and men, are considered *the* valid way of measuring gender pay inequity by the United States Census Bureau, Department of Labor, OECD, and International Labor Organization.

Best practice pay equity reporting consists of two parts:

1. *unadjusted* median pay gaps, assessing equal opportunity to high paying roles,
2. statistically *adjusted* gaps, assessing pay between minorities and non-minorities, men and women, performing similar roles.

Microsoft reports parity for statistically adjusted gaps but ignores unadjusted median gaps, which address the structural bias women and underrepresented minorities face regarding job opportunity and pay, particularly when white men hold most higher paying jobs.

The Equal Employment and Opportunity Commission now mandates pay data reporting, across race and gender, as workforce diversity data alone is insufficient to assess pay inequity. The United Kingdom mandates disclosure of median gender pay gaps and is considering race and ethnicity reporting. Microsoft reported a 10.3 percent median base pay gap and 37.54 percent bonus gap for U.K. employees.

Resolved: Shareholders request Microsoft report on *median* pay gaps across race and gender, including associated policy, reputational, competitive, and operational risks, and risks related to recruiting and retaining diverse talent. The report should be prepared at reasonable cost, omitting proprietary information, litigation strategy and legal compliance information.

Racial/gender pay gaps are defined as the difference between non-minority and minority/male and female *median* earnings expressed as a percentage of non-minority/male earnings (Wikipedia/OECD, respectively).

Supporting Statement: An annual report adequate for investors to assess performance could, with board discretion, integrate base, bonus and equity compensation to calculate:

- percentage median gender pay gap, globally and/or by country, where appropriate
- percentage median racial/minority/ethnicity pay gap, US and/or by country, where appropriate