

Looking Ahead to Executive Pay Projections in 2025



Bill Reilly

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Pearl Meyer’s “Looking Ahead to Executive Pay Practices” is an annual, online survey and valuable compensation planning tool. This year, it has been separated into two surveys, with the first “Practices/Design” focused primarily on compensation philosophy and plan design, and the second “Pay Projections” focused on 2024 year-end and 2025 pay projections. Findings for the “Practices/Design” survey were published in September 2024 and summary results can be accessed [here](#). Analysis and summary findings for the “Pay Projections” survey are covered in this document.

This year’s pay projections survey was conducted in October of 2024, with total participation from 219 companies, including 110 publicly traded, 83 private for-profit, and 26 not-for-profit (NFP) organizations. As with prior surveys, responses are broken out separately by respondent role (board member vs. employee), ownership type, industry, and company size.

The pay projections survey addresses anticipated financial performance outcomes for 2024, projected award funding outcomes for short-term incentive (STI) and long-term incentive (LTI) cycles ending in 2024, anticipated use of discretion, and 2025 projections for base salary increases and LTI grant values.

About the Author

Bill Reilly is a managing director at Pearl Meyer. He is a senior advisor to compensation committees and executives on all aspects of executive and non-employee director compensation and advises clients on issues such as compensation philosophy, market pay assessments, pay and performance alignment, short-term and long-term incentive plan design, employment contracts and severance/CIC arrangements, competitive trends, and regulatory developments.

About Pearl Meyer

Pearl Meyer is the leading advisor to boards and senior management helping organizations build, develop, and reward great leadership teams that drive long-term success. Our strategy-driven compensation and leadership consulting services act as powerful catalysts for value creation and competitive advantage by addressing the critical links between people and outcomes. Our clients stand at the forefront of their industries and range from emerging high-growth, not-for-profit, and private organizations to the Fortune 500.
