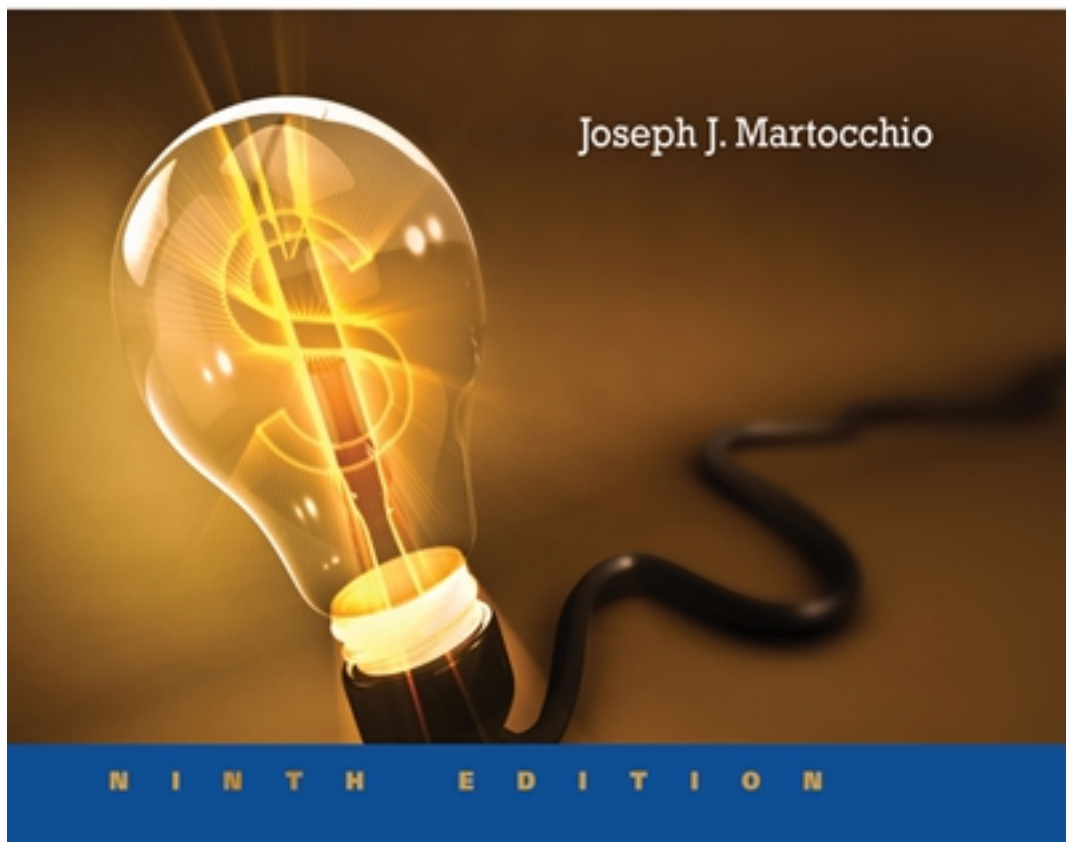


# Solutions for Strategic Compensation A Human Resource Management Approach 9th Edition by Martocchio

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## Strategic Compensation

A Human Resource Management Approach



# Solutions

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **Contextual Influences on Compensation Practice**

#### **Learning Objectives**

- 2-1. Discuss the reasons for interindustry wage differentials.
- 2-2. Explain the factors that contribute to pay differentials based on occupational characteristics.
- 2-3. Summarize the reasons for the occurrence of geographic pay differentials.
- 2-4. Discuss the role of labor unions in setting compensation.
- 2-5. Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

#### **Outline**

- I. Overview
- II. Interindustry Wage Differentials
- III. Pay Differentials Based on Occupational Characteristics
- IV. Geographic Pay Differentials
- V. Labor Unions
- VI. Employment Laws That Influence Compensation Tactics
- VII. Key Terms
- VIII. Discussion Questions and Suggested Answers
- IX. End of Chapter Case; Instructor Notes, and Questions and Suggested Student Responses
- X. Crunch the Numbers! Questions and Suggested Student Responses
- XI. Assisted-Graded Questions
- XII. Additional Case from the MyManagementLab Website; Instructor Notes and Questions and Suggested Student Responses

#### **Lecture Outline**

- I. Overview**
  - A. Contextual influences on pay
    - 1. Compensation professionals must understand patterns of pay differentials to make informed decisions about pay
    - 2. Must also make decisions within scope of employment and labor laws
    - 3. Global context also influences compensation

## **II. Interindustry Wage Differentials**

- A. The differences in wages and benefits across industries
  - 1. Attributed to:
    - a. The industry's product market
    - b. The degree of capital intensity
    - c. The profitability of the industry
    - d. Unionization
- B. Companies in Product Markets with Little Competition
  - 1. Generally pay higher wages
  - 2. Exhibit substantial profits
  - 3. Exhibit limited new competition because of:
    - a. Higher barriers to entry
    - b. Insignificant influence of foreign competition
  - 4. Government regulations and extremely expensive equipment represent entry barriers
- C. Capital Intensity
  - 1. Defined as the extent to which companies' operations are based on the use of large-scale equipment
  - 2. The amount of average pay varies with the degree of capital intensity
    - a. Generally manufacturing jobs are capital intensive, service jobs are not
- C. Profitability
  - 1. Generally, the more profitable the industry, the higher the compensation
- D. Unionization
  - 1. Unionized industries tend to pay higher
  - 2. Power of collectively negotiating leads to higher wages than individually negotiating

## **III. Pay Differentials Based on Occupational Characteristics**

- A. Occupation
  - 1. Group of jobs, found at one or more company, in which a common set of tasks are performed or are related in terms of similar objectives methodologies, materials, products, worker actions, or worker characteristics
  - 2. Pay variations can occur within occupations, based on the complexity of the jobs
- B. Knowledge, skills and abilities
  - 1. Role of job analysis
  - 2. Jobs that require formal education or early experience are paid more
- C. Supply and demand
  - 1. Companies demand for individuals relative to supply influences compensation

#### **IV. Geographic Pay Differentials**

- A. Relative pay differentials
  - 1. Occur between geographic areas
- B. Pay rate differentials
  - 1. Expressed in dollars as hourly or annual pay
  - 2. For occupations based on particular geographic regions
  - 3. Cost of living differences

#### **V. Labor Unions**

- A. National Labor Relations Act of 1935 (NLRA)
  - 1. Designed to remove barriers to free commerce and to restore equality of bargaining power between employees and employers
  - 2. Collective bargaining agreement is a written document that describes the terms of employment approved by management and employees during negotiations
- B. Compensation Issues in Collective Bargaining
  - 1. Union and management negotiations usually center on pay raises and employee benefits
  - 2. Cost-of-living-adjustments (COLAs)
    - a. Automatic pay increases based on changes in prices, as indexed by the consumer price index (CPI)
    - b. Enables workers to maintain their standards of living by adjusting wages for inflation
  - 3. Union influence has declined because:
    - a. Legislation outlawed unions' use of intimidation
    - b. Anti-discrimination laws provided protections for women and minorities
    - c. Globalization increasing competition
    - d. Right-to-work laws that prohibit management and unions from entering into agreements requiring union membership as a condition of employment
    - e. Higher rates of unionization in the public or government sector

#### **VI. Employment Laws That Influence Compensation Tactics**

- A. Legislative Actions
  - 1. Four Amendments to the U.S. Constitution
    - a. Article 1, Section 8 ("The Congress shall have the power...to regulate Commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes...")
    - b. First Amendment ("Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the

- people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”)
- c. Fifth Amendment (“No person shall...be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law...”)
  - d. Fourteenth Amendment, Section 1 (“No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor deny any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law.”)
2. Government has three levels in U.S.
- a. Federal government oversees the entire U.S. and territories
  - b. State governments enact laws that pertain exclusively to respective regions
  - c. Local governments enact laws that are pertinent to smaller geographic regions
- B. Income Continuity, Safety, and Work Hours Laws
1. Three main factors
- a. Great Depression
    - i. Passage of the Social Security Act of 1935 (Title IX)
    - ii. Passage of workers’ compensation programs
  - b. Family businesses to large factories
  - c. Division of labor
2. Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (FLSA)
1. Addresses three main issues of minimum wage, overtime pay, and child labor provisions
- a. Enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor
2. Minimum wage
- a. Designed to ensure wages for a minimally acceptable standard of living
  - b. Originally set at \$0.25 per hour
  - c. Federal law supersedes state minimum wage law where the federal minimum wage is greater than the state
3. Overtime pay provisions
- a. Defined in FLSA
  - b. Most employers must pay time and one-half for over 40 hours work in a period of 7 consecutive days
  - c. Executive, administrative, learned professional, creative professional, computer workers, and outside sales employees are generally exempt from the FLSA
  - d. Nonexempt employees are those subject to the FLSA overtime pay provision

- e. Aaron v. City of Wichita Kansas provided some guidance in determining what employees are exempt
  - d. Fair Pay Rules in 2004 added additional complexity in determining what employees are exempt
  - e. Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 defines the term hours worked to include these compensable work activities:
    - i. Waiting time
    - ii. On-Call time
    - iii. Rest and meal periods
    - iv. Sleeping time and certain other activities
    - v. Lectures, meetings, and training programs
    - vi. Travel time
  - f. Equal Pay Act of 1963, which prohibits sex discrimination in pay for employees performing equal work
4. Child labor provisions
- a. Intended to protect children from being overworked, working in potentially hazardous settings, and having their education jeopardized due to excessive work hours
  - b. Children younger than age 14 usually cannot be employed
  - c. Children ages 14 and 15 may work in safe occupations outside school hours with some limitations
  - d. Children ages 16 and 17 do not have hourly restrictions but cannot work in hazardous jobs (e.g., running heavy industrial equipment, working around harmful substances)
- C. Pay Discrimination Legislation
- 1. Came out of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s
  - 2. Equal Pay Act of 1963
    - a. Enforced by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)
    - b. Applies to jobs of equal worth according to the Department of Labor's definition of compensable factors, such as:
      - i. Levels of skill
      - ii. Effort
      - iii. Responsibility
      - iv. Working conditions
    - c. Jobs must have "similar", not necessarily the "same" working conditions
    - d. Pay differentials are not always illegal; are legal where such payments are made pursuant to:
      - i. A seniority system
      - ii. A merit system

- iii. A system which measures earnings by the quantity or quality of production
  - iv. A differential based on any factor other than gender
- D. Civil Rights Act of 1964
- 1. Legislators designed Title VII of this Act to promote equal employment opportunities for underrepresented minorities
  - 2. Disparate treatment discrimination
    - a. Represents intentional discrimination, occurring whenever employers intentionally treat some workers less favorably than others because of: race, color, religion, sex, or national origin
  - 3. Disparate impact discrimination
    - a. Represents unintentional discrimination that occurs whenever an employer applies employment practices to all employees
    - b. The practice leads to unequal treatment of protected employee groups
  - 4. Title VII applies to:
    - a. Companies with 15 or more employees
    - b. Employment agencies
    - c. Labor unions
    - d. Labor management committees controlling apprenticeship and training
  - 5. Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act overturned the Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. case removing allowing women to file a pay discrimination charge within 180 days of a discriminatory paycheck
  - 6. The Paycheck Fairness act strengthens the remedies available to put sex-based pay discrimination on par with race-based pay discrimination
  - 7. Bennett Amendment (to Title VII)
    - a. Allows female employees to charge employers with Title VII violations regarding pay only when the employer has violated the Equal Pay Act of 1963
  - 8. Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA)
    - a. Designed to protect workers age 40 and older (“baby boomers”) from age discrimination
    - b. Older Workers Benefit Protection Act (OWBPA) places additional restrictions on employers’ benefits practices
      - i. Employer may require older employees to pay more for health insurance or life insurance coverage if the cost is significantly greater than the cost for younger workers because these costs generally rise with age
      - ii. Equal benefit or equal cost principle which specifies that employers do not have to provide equal benefits to older workers if it costs them more to do so
  - 9. Civil Rights Act of 1991
    - a. Designed to overturn several Supreme Court rulings

- i. Atonio v. Ward Cove Packing Company, shifted the burden of proof from the employee to the employer
  - ii. Lorance v. AT&T Technologies - allows employees to file a discrimination claim when the system is implemented or whenever the system negatively affects them
  - iii. Boureslan v. Aramco- allows expatriates to file discrimination lawsuits
- E. Accommodating Disabilities and Family Needs
  - 1. Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 (PDA)
    - a. An amendment to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that prohibits disparate impact discrimination against pregnant women for all employment practices
    - b. Employers must not treat pregnancy less favorably than other medical conditions covered under employee benefits plans
  - 2. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)
    - a. Prohibits discrimination against individuals with mental or physical disabilities within and outside employment settings
    - b. Applies to employers with 15 or more employees
    - c. Title I requires reasonable accommodations may include such efforts as making existing facilities readily accessible, restructuring jobs, and modifying work schedules
  - 3. Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA)
    - a. FMLA was designed to provide employees with job protection in cases of family or medical emergency
    - b. Guarantees unpaid leave and the right to return to either the same position or a similar position with the same pay, conditions, and benefits
- F. Prevailing Wage Laws
  - 1. Davis–Bacon Act of 1931
    - a. Established employment standards for construction contractors holding federal government contracts valued at more than \$2,000, including:
  - 2. Walsh–Healey Contracts Act of 1936
    - a. Applies to contractors and manufacturers who sell supplies, material, and equipment to the federal government with contracts worth at least \$10,000
    - b. Requires contractors to meet guidelines relating to wages and hours, child labor, convict labor, and hazardous working conditions
    - c. Prohibits contractors from exposing workers to conditions that violate the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970



## **End of the Chapter**

### **VII. Key Terms**

**Interindustry wage differentials:** Represent the pattern of pay and benefits associated with characteristics of industries

**Occupation:** A group of jobs, found at more than one company, in which a common set of tasks are performed or are related in terms of similar objectives, methodologies, materials, products, worker actions, or worker characteristics

**National Labor Relations Act of 1935 (NLRA):** The purpose of this act was to remove barriers to free commerce and to restore equality of bargaining power between employees and employers

**Collective bargaining agreement:** A written document that describes the terms of employment approved by management and employees during negotiations

**Spillover effect:** Occurs when management of nonunion firms generally offered somewhat higher wages and benefits to reduce the chance that employees would seek union representation

**Right-to-work-laws:** Prohibit management and unions from entering into agreements requiring union membership as a condition of employment

**Concessionary bargaining:** Unions departed from concessionary bargaining by vowing to negotiate for wage increases

**Federal constitution:** Forms the basis for employment laws

**Federal government:** Oversees the entire United States and its territories

**State governments:** Enact and enforce laws that pertain exclusively to their respective regions

**Local governments:** Enact and enforce laws that are most pertinent to smaller geographic regions

**Great Depression:** Triggered legislation designed to stabilize the income of an individual who became unemployed because of poor business conditions or workplace injuries

**Social Security Act of 1935 (Title IX):** Provided temporary income to workers who became unemployed through no fault of their own

**Workers' compensation:** Granted income to workers who were unable to work because of injuries sustained on the job

**Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (FLSA):** Establishes minimum wage, overtime pay, recordkeeping, and youth employment standards affecting employees in the private sector and in Federal, State, and local governments

**Exempt:** Employees not covered by the FLSA including generally executive, administrative, learned professional, creative professional, computer workers, and outside sales employees

**Nonexempt:** Jobs that are subject to the FLSA overtime pay provision

**Aaron v. City of Wichita, Kansas:** Case that illustrates that classifying jobs as either exempt or nonexempt is not always clear-cut

**FairPay Rules:** Revised FLSA guidelines by the Department of Labor

**Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947:** Defines the term hours worked that appears in the FLSA

**Integrity Staffing Solutions, Inc. v. Busk et al.:** Case that helped determine compensable time

**Equal Pay Act of 1963:** Prohibits sex discrimination in pay for employees performing equal work

**Civil Rights Act of 1964:** Key legislation designed to protect designated classes of employees and to uphold their rights individually against discriminatory employment decisions

**Compensable factors:** Skill, effort, responsibility, and working conditions

**EEOC v. Madison Community Unit School District No. 12 39 Title VII:** Case that sheds light on whether jobs are equal

**Disparate treatment:** Represents intentional discrimination, occurring whenever employers intentionally treat some workers less favorably than others because of their race, color, sex, national origin, or religion

**Disparate impact:** Represents unintentional discrimination

**Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.:** U.S. Supreme Court case that rendered a very strict interpretation as to when the statute of limitations period begins for women to sue their employers for discrimination in pay

**Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act:** Restores prior law providing that a pay discrimination charge must simply be filed within 180 days of a discriminatory paycheck

**Paycheck Fairness Act:** Strengthens the Equal Pay Act of 1963 by strengthening the remedies available to put sex-based pay discrimination on par with race-based pay discrimination

**Bennett Amendment:** Allows female employees to charge employers with Title VII violations regarding pay only when the employer has violated the Equal Pay Act of 1963

**Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA):** Protects workers age 40 and older from illegal discrimination

**Baby boom generation:** Generation born roughly between 1946 and 1964 and represented a swell in the American population

**Older Workers Benefit Protection Act (OWBPA)** The 1990 amendment to the ADEA—placed additional restrictions on employer benefits practices

**Civil Rights Act of 1991:** Overturned several Supreme Court rulings

**Atonio v. Wards Cove Packing Co.:** Supreme Court case overturned by the Civil Rights Act of 1991 resulting in the shifting of the burden of proof from employees to employers

**Lorance v. AT&T Technologies:** Supreme Court case overturned by the Civil Rights Act of 1991 resulting in employees being able to challenge the use of seniority systems either when the system is implemented or whenever the system negatively affects them

**Boureslan v. Aramco:** Supreme Court case overturned by the Civil Rights Act of 1991 that now allows U.S. citizens working overseas to file suit against U.S. businesses for discriminatory employment practices

**Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 (PDA):** Prohibits disparate impact discrimination against pregnant women for all employment practices

**Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA):** Prohibits disparate impact discrimination against pregnant women for all employment practices.

**Title I:** Of the ADA requires that employers provide reasonable accommodation  
**Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA):** Provides guaranteed leave and the right of the employee to return to either the position he or she left when the leave began or to an equivalent position with the same benefits, pay, and other terms and conditions of employment

**Davis–Bacon Act of 1931:** Establishes employment standards for construction contractors holding federal government contracts valued at more than \$2,000

**Walsh–Healey Public Contracts Act of 1936:** Mandates that contractors with federal contracts meet guidelines regarding wages and hours, child labor, convict labor, and hazardous working conditions

**Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970:** Ensures safe and healthful working conditions for working men and women by authorizing enforcement of the standards under the act

## **VIII. Discussion Questions and Suggested Answers**

**2-1. Identify the contextual influence that you believe will pose the greatest challenge to companies' competitiveness and identify the contextual influence that will pose the least challenge to companies' competitiveness. Explain your answer.**

This is a very subjective question and answers can include things ranging from discussions of laws, politics, economics, or other contextual influences.

Learning Objective: Could support any chapter objective depending on the student's response.

AACSB: Analytical thinking

**2-2. Should the government raise the minimum wage? Explain your answer.**

Answers can be pro or con. 'Yes' answers should discuss living or competitive wages among other things. 'No' answers should include impact on business and employment levels.

Learning Objective: 2-5 Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

AACSB: Analytical thinking

**2-3. Do unions make it difficult for companies to attain competitive advantage? Explain your answer.**

"All questions marked with this blue star ★ in the textbook are also found as discussion board questions in the MyLab. These are meant to prompt discussion among your students and therefore, no correct answer is provided."

**2-4. Explain the pros and cons of adjusting pay based on cost-of-living differences from a company's perspective and an employee's perspective.**

"All questions marked with this blue star ★ in the textbook are also found as discussion board questions in the MyLab. These are meant to prompt discussion among your students and therefore, no correct answer is provided."

**2-5. Some people argue that there is too much government intervention, whereas others say there is not enough. Based on the presentation of laws in this chapter, do you think there is too little or too much government intervention? Explain your answer.**

One could argue that the government doesn't do enough to intervene based on the fact that although many laws, acts, and decrees protect employees and employers alike, it is difficult to focus attention on some matters. Increases in wages, for example, may be something that the government ought to look into more closely and with more severity. Wages are a great source of struggle and anguish for many people. If the government increases wages in line with living costs, then all would be well, but this is not always the case. However, one could also argue that the government gets involved in such issues too readily, and that sometimes it's best for the employees and employers to work out their differences on their own.

Learning Objective: 2-5 Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

AACSB: Analytical thinking

## **VIII. End of Chapter Case; Instructor Notes, and Questions and Suggested Student Responses**

### **Case Name: Exempt or Nonexempt?**

#### **Instructor Notes**

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) addresses the issues of minimum wage, overtime pay and child labor. The FLSA requires employers to properly classify employees as Non-exempt (covered by the Act) or Exempt (not covered by the Act). Many companies want to classify workers as Exempt to avoid the requirement to pay overtime. While the company has the responsibility to properly classify employees, the decision needs to be made based on the responsibilities of the job. The Department of Labor (DOL) has interpreted Exemptions from the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) narrowly. Students can find more details on the exemptions on the DOL's website at <http://www.dol.gov>. Many companies wrongly assume that all supervisors or managers in an organization are Exempt from the FLSA. *Aaron v. City of Wichita* provides some guidance on classifying supervisors:

- Relative importance of management as opposed to other duties
- Frequency with which they exercised discretionary powers
- Relative freedom from supervision
- Relationship between their salaries and wages paid to other employees offer similar nonexempt workers

In examining all of these factors, it is clear that Jane Swift and the other Shift Leaders should be classified as Non-exempt.

### **Suggested Student Responses:**

**2-6. Why did Amy classify the Shift Leaders are Exempt? Are there any advantages to Jones Department Store to having the Shift Leaders classified as Exempt?**

Amy most likely assumed that the Shift Leaders met the Executive exemption under the FLSA. Classifying the Shift Leaders as Exempt was advantageous to the store management, as they did not have to pay the Shift Leaders overtime pay. Further, management saved some extra administrative work because they did not need to track the hours of the Shift Leaders.

Learning Objective: 2-5 Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

AACSB: Analytical thinking

**2-7. Do you think that the shift leaders are properly classified as exempt? Why or why not?**

Answers may vary.

**2-8. What are some factors that Amy should consider when determining if Shift Leaders are Exempt or Non-exempt?**

Amy should consider the fact that the Shift leaders spend a majority of their time working as Associates and their pay rate is closer to the Associates than the Assistant Managers. While they are involved in employment related decisions, their decision-making ability is limited.

Learning Objective: 2-5 Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

AACSB: Application of knowledge

## **IX. Crunch the Numbers! Questions and Suggested Student Responses**

## Whether to Work Overtime or Hire Additional Employees

### Questions:

- 2-9. Is it more cost effective to have current manufacturing employees work on an overtime basis during the life of the contract or to hire new employees?**

#### *Overtime option:*

1000 employees will have to work an extra 4 hours per week, for 4,000 extra hours each week.

There are 52 weeks in a year and the contract spans 5 years, so there are a total of 260 weeks.

260 weeks multiplied by 4,000 hours = 1,040,000 additional hours.

Per the scenario, the hourly rate for these overtime hours is \$30 per hour.

1,040,000 hours x \$30 per hour = \$31,200,000

#### *Hire additional employees option:*

Base pay for the additional workers at \$20 hour x 2080 hours a year (52 weeks x 40 hours each week) = \$41,600 x 100 workers = \$4,160,000 x 5 years = \$20,800,000

Benefit costs = \$10,000 x 5 years x 100 workers = \$5,000,000

One-time costs per worker include \$5,000 (recruitment) plus \$3,000 (training), plus \$12,000 (termination) = \$20,000 x 100 workers = \$2,000,000

Total cost of workers \$20,800,000 + \$5,000,000 + \$2,000,000 = \$27,800,000

Hiring additional employees is more cost efficient.

Learning Objective: 2-5 Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

AACSB: Analytical thinking

- 2-10. Let's assume that the unemployment rate in the area is low, which is making it difficult to attract new manufacturing employees. ACME is finding that it is able to overcome this problem by paying new employees at a higher hourly rate of \$25 per hour. Under this scenario, is it more cost effective to have current manufacturing employees work on an overtime basis or to hire new employees?**

Hiring additional employees at \$25 per hour would result in a higher total base pay.

Base pay for the additional workers at \$25 hour x 2080 hours a year (52 weeks x 40 hours each week) = \$52,000 x 100 workers = \$5,200,000 x 5 years = \$26,000,000

The total pay for these workers = 26,000,000 + \$5,000,000 + \$2,000,000 = \$33,000,000

This amount is higher than the cost of overtime at \$31,200,000.

Thus, under this scenario of needing to pay \$25 per hour to new employees, it is more cost efficient to pay current employees overtime.

Learning Objective: 2-5 Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

AACSB: Analytical thinking

**2-11. Would it be more cost effective to hire 50 new employees as well as having half of current manufacturing employees work overtime?**

To find the cost of this scenario, you must total half of the projected overtime cost and half of the cost to hire 100 employees.

Overtime: half of \$31,200,000 = \$15,600,000

Hiring additional workers: half of \$27,800,000 = \$13,900,000

The total of these two amounts = \$29,500,000

This option would be more cost effective than paying overtime to all 1000 workers. However, it would cost more than hiring 100 workers. Thus hiring 100 workers is the most cost efficient option.

Learning Objective: 2-5 Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

AACSB: Analytical thinking

**XI. Assisted-Graded Questions**

**2-12. How would the compensation system change if the minimum wage provision of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 were repealed?**

Go to [mymanagementlab.com](http://mymanagementlab.com) for the Assisted-graded writing questions.

**2-13. Suggest ways that companies in low-paying industries can increase their ability to attract and retain highly qualified individuals.**

Go to [mymanagementlab.com](http://mymanagementlab.com) for the Assisted-graded writing questions.

**2-14. MyManagementLab Only – comprehensive writing assignment for this chapter.**



## **XII. Additional Case from the MyManagementLab Website; Instructor Notes, and Questions and Suggested Student Responses**

### **Case Name: Preparing for Growth at Waxman Candles**

#### **Instructor Notes**

In determining a company's compensation strategy, a company must analyze both external and internal factors that may impact the strategy. Such an analysis can help support a company's compensation tactics and ensure effective practices are in place to attract and retain the right talent. This is especially important for companies that are in the growth stage as they can ensure that compensation decisions are made deliberately and the company is positioned well for future growth.

#### **Suggested Student Responses:**

##### **2-15. What are some competitive forces that human resource management consultant will consider in conducting a strategic analysis to determine compensation practices?**

The consultant should examine the external market environment. In searching for some experienced staff, such as marketing professionals, it is important to understand how to position the company to compete for talent. The consultant should also make an assessment of the labor market. As many of the positions require little skill, understanding the available labor pool and typical earnings ranges will help determine the compensation strategy. Internally, the consultant should examine the necessary capabilities for the different functional areas. For example, because the customization of the product is what differentiates the product from competitors, the customer service function is crucial to business success. Further, the financial condition of the company will help set the parameters of the compensation strategy.

AACSB: Analytical thinking

##### **2-16. How will being in the growth stage impact the company's compensation practices?**

Even though the company appears to be financial stable, as a company in the growth stage they must still be aware of cash flow concerns as they determine compensation tactics. Further, they will likely limit discretionary benefits as they have a high cost. The company may choose to emphasize incentive pay, which ties pay to the company's profitability as they grow.

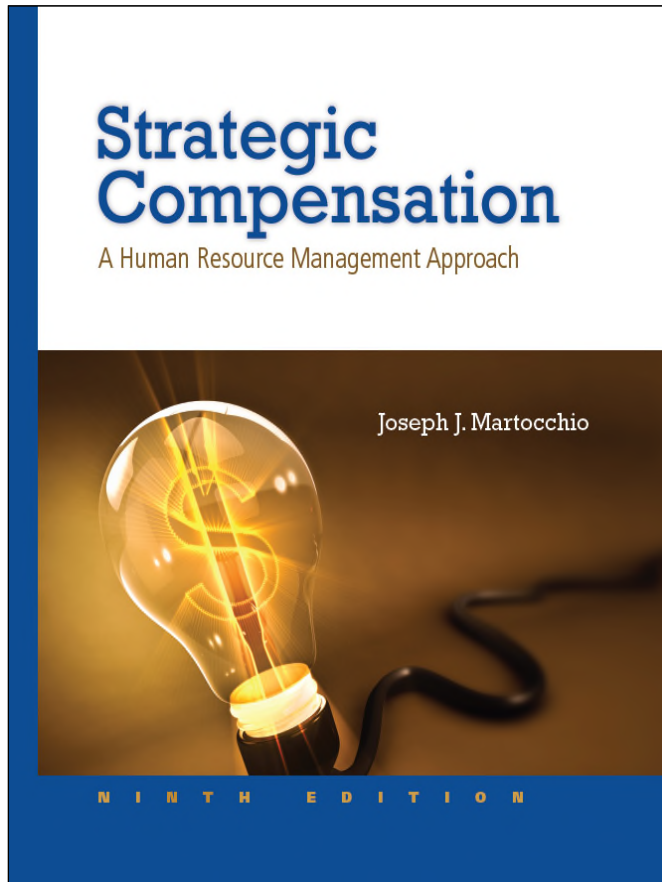
AACSB: Analytical thinking





# Strategic Compensation: A Human Resource Management Approach

Ninth Edition



## Chapter 2

### Contextual Influences on Compensation Practice

# Learning Objectives

- 2.1** Discuss the reasons for interindustry wage differentials.
- 2.2** Explain the factors that contribute to pay differentials based on occupational characteristics.
- 2.3** Summarize the reasons for the occurrence of geographic pay differentials.
- 2.4** Discuss the role of labor unions in setting compensation.
- 2.5** Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

# Learning Objective 2.1

- Discuss the reasons for inter industry wage differentials.

# Interindustry Wage Differentials (1 of 3)

- The pattern of pay and benefits associated with characteristics of industries
- Factors leading to interindustry wage differentials
  - **Industry's product market:** Where there is little competition (e.g., mining, utilities), there is greater flexibility for providing higher wages
  - **Capital intensity:** The extent to which companies' operations are based on the use of large-scale equipment, and capital intensity is associated with higher wages

# Interindustry Wage Differentials (2 of 3)

- Factors leading to interindustry wage differentials:
  - **Industry profitability:** Presumably, employee higher levels of knowledge, skills and abilities contribute to company profitability, which, in turn, is associated with higher wages
  - **Unionization of the workforce:** More highly unionized industries pay more highly, in part, because the collective bargaining process gives labor greater leverage for negotiating higher wages and benefits

# Interindustry Wage Differentials (3 of 3)

**Table 2.1** Average Weekly Earnings by Industry Group, Select Years 2007–2015

Industry	2007 (\$)	2009 (\$)	2011 (\$)	2013 (\$)	2015 (\$) <sup>a</sup>
Utilities	1,207	1,366	1,385	1,474	1,530
Mining	946	1,180	1,276	1,276	1,365
Construction	794	911	988	1,010	1,049
Manufacturing	707	885	969	976	1,022
Retail trade	380	478	506	516	541
Leisure and hospitality	316	329	338	348	372

<sup>a</sup>2015 figures are for January.

**Source:** U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. **Employment, Hours, and Earnings.** Data Retrieval. Available: [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov), accessed February 13, 2015.

## Learning Objective 2.2

- Explain the factors that contribute to pay differentials based on occupational characteristics.



# Occupational Wage Differentials (1 of 2)

- An occupation is a group of jobs, found at more than one company, characterized by a:
  - Common set of tasks, and related in terms of
  - Similar objectives
  - Methodologies
  - Materials
  - Products
  - Worker actions
  - Worker characteristics

# Occupational Wage Differentials (2 of 2)

- Two examples of occupations include
  - Office support (e.g., file clerks, clerk typists)
  - Human resources management (e.g., compensation analyst, training and development specialist)
  - Lawyers, judges, and related workers
  - Cooks and food preparation workers
  - Law enforcement workers (e.g., bailiffs, police officers)

# Explaining Occupational Wage Differentials

- Job content based on knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs)
- Labor supply relative to employer demand for labor

# Occupational Wage Differentials: Job Content

- Between occupational differences
  - Differences in the complexity of KSAs such as
    - The building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations
    - Computer and mathematical occupations
- Within occupational differences
  - Differences in KSAs within an occupational group
    - Pharmacy technician
    - Pharmacist

# Occupational Wage Differentials: Supply and Demand

- When labor supply < employer demand, companies compete for limited talent
- Wages are typically greater when labor supply < employer demand
  - Cybersecurity experts are in high demand given the continued upward trends in cyberattacks
  - Fast food restaurant workers are in high demand since economic conditions improved, creating higher paying alternatives, necessitating that many restaurants pay higher wages

## Learning Objective 2.3

- Summarize the reasons for the occurrence of geographic pay differentials.

# Geographic Pay Differentials (1 of 3)

- **Relative pay differentials** are often expressed as the percentage difference between a specific location and the national average
  - The relative pay differential for Los Angeles is 20% higher than the national average
  - The relative pay differential for Lincoln, Nebraska is 3 percent less than the national average

# Geographic Pay Differentials (2 of 3)

- **Pay rate differentials** are expressed in dollars as annual or hourly pay differences for occupations based on particular geographic regions and the nation overall
- **Cost-of-living differences** between geographic locations influence pay
  - Oftentimes, average housing prices signal cost-of-living differences (e.g., \$389,000 in Boston; \$173,000 in Fargo, North Dakota)



# Geographic Pay Differentials (3 of 3)

- Consistency in the direction of the relative pay and pay rate differentials, but the magnitude often differs
- Differences in calculation method accounts for these differences
  - Relative pay differentials control for the influence of other variables, for example,
    - Unionization of the workforce
    - Interindustry wage differentials

## Learning Objective 2.4

- Discuss the role of labor unions in setting compensation.

# Labor Union Influence on Pay (1 of 2)

- In general, workers represented by unions earn more, on average, than non-union workers: \$970/week vs \$763/week in 2014
- The collective efforts of labor, organized through labor unions, have led to higher pay than in settings where pay rate negotiation is conducted between individual employees and the employer

# Labor Union Influence on Pay (2 of 2)

- The **spillover effect** suggests that non union employers tend to pay higher than they might otherwise pay in order to avoid unionization

# Decline in Union Representation

- Since 1954 (highest union representation at 28.3%), the unionization rate has steadily declined; yet, the wage advantage still prevails
  - About 30 years ago, the rate was 20.3%
  - In 2014, union representation was at 11.1%

# Some of the Causes for Decline in Union Representation

- Legislation prohibits unions from intimidating workers to become members
- Right-to-work laws prohibit requiring workers to join unions as a condition of employment
- Relocation of manufacturing operations from the United States to other countries with fewer labor laws

## Learning Objective 2.5

- Identify and discuss key employment laws pertinent to compensation practice.

# Four Constitutional Amendments

- Basis for laws:
  - Article 1, Section 8
    - Scope of Congressional powers
  - First Amendment
    - Limits to Congressional power
  - Fifth Amendment
    - Individual Rights
  - Fourteenth Amendment, Section 1
    - State governments' limitations



# Compensation Law Themes

- Four themes:
  - Income continuity, safety, and work hours
  - Pay discrimination
  - Accommodating disabilities and family needs
  - Prevailing wage laws

# Laws Pertinent to Compensation Practice (1 of 3)

- **Income Continuity, Safety, and Work Hours**
  - **Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938**
  - **Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947**
  - **Equal Pay Act of 1963**
  - **Work Hours and Safety Standards Act of 1962**
  - **McNamara–O’Hara Service Contract Act of 1965**
- **Pay Discrimination**
  - **Equal Pay Act of 1963**
  - **Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (2009)**
  - **Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII**
  - **Bennett Amendment (1964)**

# Laws Pertinent to Compensation Practice (2 of 3)

- **Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (amended in 1978, 1986, and 1990)**
- **Civil Rights Act of 1991**
- **Accommodating Disabilities and Family Needs**
  - **Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978**
  - **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (amended in 2008)**
  - **Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993**
- **Prevailing Wage Laws**
  - **Davis–Bacon Act of 1931**
  - **Walsh–Healey Public Contracts Act of 1936**

# Laws Pertinent to Compensation Practice (3 of 3)

- Additional laws focused on employee benefits:
  - **Discretionary Benefits (Chapter 9)**
    - Internal Revenue Code
    - Employee Retirement Income Security Act
    - Pension Protection Act
  - **Legally-Required Benefits (Chapter 10)**
    - Social Security Act
    - Workers' compensation
    - Family and Medical Leave Act
    - Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
    - Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
    - Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

# Government Units

- Federal → oversees the entire United States and its territories
- State → enacts and enforces laws that pertain exclusively to their respective regions
- Local → enacts and enforces laws that are most pertinent to smaller geographic regions

# FLSA of 1938

- Federal minimum wage (\$7.25/hr as of 2009)
- Overtime pay (typically 1.5 times normal hourly rate for each hour beyond 40 in a workweek)
- Child labor provisions

# FLSA Exempt Positions

- Administrative
- Learned professional
- Creative professional
- Computer positions
- Outside sales
- Most other jobs are **nonexempt**. Nonexempt jobs are subject to the FLSA overtime pay provision.

# FLSA Exemption Criteria

<b>Executive</b>	Management of the enterprise or a recognized department or subdivision
<b>Administrative</b>	Performing office or nonmanual work directly related to the management or general business operations of the employer or employer's customers
<b>Learned professional</b>	Performing office or nonmanual work requiring knowledge of an advanced type in a field of science or learning, customarily acquired by a prolonged course of specialized intellectual instruction
<b>Creative professional</b>	Performing work requiring invention, imagination, originality, or talent in a recognized field of artistic or creative endeavor
<b>Computer</b>	Employed as a computer systems analyst, computer programmer, software engineer, or other similarly skilled worker in the computer field
<b>Outside sales</b>	Making sales or obtaining orders or contracts for services or for future use of facilities for which a consideration will be paid by the client or customer; customarily and regularly engaged a way from the employer's place or places of business



# Compensable Work Activities

- Waiting time
- On-call time
- Rest and meal periods
- Sleeping time and certain other activities
- Lectures, meetings, and training programs
- Travel time
  - Home to work travel
  - Home to work on special one day assignment
  - Travel that is all in a day's work
  - Travel away from home community

# Child Labor

- Ages 14 and younger can't work
- Ages 14 and 15 can work
  - 3 hours on school nights
  - 18 hours per week when school is in
  - 40 hours per week when school is out
- Ages 16 and 17
  - No hourly restrictions
  - Can't work in hazardous conditions

# Equal Pay Act of 1963

- Broadened FLSA
- Enforced by EEOC
- Prohibited sex discrimination
- Defined compensable factors
- Established legal pay differentials

# Compensable Factors

Factor	Definition
Skill	Experience, training, education, and ability as measured by the performance requirements of a job
Effort	The amount of mental or physical effort expended in the performance of a job
Responsibility	The degree of accountability required in the performance of a job
Working conditions	The physical surrounding and hazards of a job, including dimensions such as inside versus outside work, heat, cold, and poor ventilation

# Legal Pay Differentials

- Payments made pursuant to a:
  - Seniority system
  - Merit system
  - Earnings measured by quantity or quality of production
  - Differentials not based on gender

# Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII)

- Promotes equal employment opportunities for minorities
- Defined two types of discrimination
  - Disparate treatment → intentional discrimination
  - Disparate impact → unintentional discrimination

# Title VII Discrimination (1 of 2)

- Disparate treatment
  - Intentional
  - Workers treated unfairly because of race, color, religion, gender, national origin
- Ex: Different standards to determine pay increases for African American and White employees.

# Title VII Discrimination (2 of 2)

- Disparate impact
  - Unintentional
  - Unequal treatment of protected employee groups
- Ex: Awarding pay increases to male and female workers based on seniority when females consistently have less seniority than men.



# Equal Pay for Women (1 of 2)

- **Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act**
  - Overturned the 2007 Ledbetter Supreme Court ruling
  - Helps close the pay gap between men and women
  - Pay discrimination charge must simply be filed within 180 days of a discriminatory paycheck

# Equal Pay for Women (2 of 2)

- **Paycheck Fairness Act**

- Strengthens the remedies available to put sex-based pay discrimination on par with race-based pay discrimination
- Prohibits employers from retaliating against employees who share salary information with their coworkers

# Bennett Amendment (amendment to Title VII)

- Allows female employees to charge employers with Title VII violations regarding pay **only when** the employer has violated the **Equal Pay Act of 1963**.

# ADEA of 1967

- Amended 1978, 1986, and 1990
- Enforced by EEOC
- Protection for workers age 40+ in all employment decisions
- Eliminated minimum retirement age with a few exceptions such as for jobs where public safety is at issue

# Older Workers Benefit Protection Act

- Under particular circumstances, employers may require older employees to pay more for health care, disability, or life insurance
- This is the case because these benefits cost more for older workers (e.g., an older worker may be more likely to become ill)
- Charging more cannot be a condition of employment
- Older workers could choose lower, less costly levels of coverage

# Civil Rights Act of 1991

- Shifts burden of proof of disparate impact to employers
- Filing of discrimination claims changed
- U.S. citizens working overseas may file suit against U.S. businesses for discriminatory employment practices
- Extends coverage to U.S. Senate employees and executive branch political appointees

# Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 (PDA)

- Amendment to Title VII
- Prohibits disparate impact of pregnancy
- Pregnancy treated like disability
- The protected rights include
  - Credit for previous service
  - Accrued retirement benefits
  - Accumulated seniority

# Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)

- Prohibits discrimination of employees with disabilities
- Reasonable accommodations such as:
  - Making existing facilities readily accessible
  - Job restructuring
  - Modifying work schedules
- Defines “qualified individuals with disabilities”
- Enforced by the EEOC



# ADA Amendments Act of 2008

- Expands the definition of **major life activities**
- Mitigating measures other than “ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses” shall not be considered in assessing whether an individual has a disability
- Clarifies that an impairment that is episodic or in remission is a disability if it would substantially limit a major life activity when active

# Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA)

- Job protection during family and medical emergencies
- Guarantees unpaid leave
- Employee returns with same or similar
  - Position
  - Pay
  - Conditions
  - Benefits

# Davis-Bacon Act

- Standards for contractors with federal contracts
- Applies to on-site laborers and mechanics
- Must pay prevailing wages
- Must offer comparable benefits

# Walsh–Healey Public Contracts Act

- Covers contractors and manufacturers who sell supplies, materials, and equipment to the federal government
- Coverage is more extensive than Davis–Bacon Act
- Applies to both construction and non construction activities

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