

# **2011 Compensation and Lessons for 2012 and Beyond**

---

***Wall Street Compensation  
and Benefits Association***

**March 2012**

# Introduction

Johnson Associates	3
2011 Compensation Recap	4 - 5
“Why Does Overall Firm Compensation Not Decline Fully With Results?”	6
Explain Material Risk Taker Compensation	7
2011 Typical Incentive Changes (Value of Cash & Equity)	8
2011 vs. 2010 Compensation Ratios	9
Incentives Changes from 1998–2011	10
Incentive Trends Fairly Reflects Markets	11
Pay Mix: Difference Between Sectors	12
Compensation Regulatory Key Updates	13
2012 Fearless Predictions	14
Executive Compensation	15
Potential Deferral Vehicles	16
Asset and Wealth Management	17
Impact of Market on AUM Businesses	18
Hedge Funds – Recovery Continues	19
Private Equity – Improvement and Growth	20
Board of Director Role and Pay Implications	21
Summary and Positive Thoughts	22

- Independent financial services compensation consulting firm. Pure advice, annual and long-term incentive designs, market data and levels/ratios, agreements, and goals/metrics. Equity and partnership considerations. Expertise and in-depth knowledge across comparators, labor markets, and regulatory/political considerations
  - Experienced, opinionated and informed
  - Both Board consultant and company programs
- Diverse clients and issues/experiences
  - Universal and major banks
  - Asset Management firms
  - Hedge Funds/Private Equity/Fund-of-Funds/Alternatives
  - Insurance companies
  - Brokerage firms
  - Trading organizations

# 2011 Compensation Recap

---

- For 2011, significant unexpected broad decline in incentive funding by sector and area
  - Major Investment and Commercial Banks (i.e., -20% to -40%+) driven by Fixed-income and Equities (i.e., -30% to -50%+), Commercial Banking (i.e., -5%), Investment Banking (i.e., -20 to -30%+), and Wealth/Asset Management (i.e., +5%)
  - Market-based businesses mixed. Asset/Wealth Management (i.e., +5%), Hedge Funds (i.e., -10%) and Private Equity (i.e., -5%)
  - Investment Banking scaled for bigger volumes
  - Potential disasters (i.e., Greece, Italy, Spain) continue to impact landscape
- Difficult trading environment
  - Narrower spreads, yield curves and rate levels, and reduced capital usage
- Challenging to manage expectations, decipher market trends and recognize performance
  - Impact of regulation and public sentiment
- Moderate retention concerns in early-to-mid 2012
  - Labor market continues to weaken
- Very heavy Wall Street deferrals continue for 2011, variations by region
  - Accruals from heavy 2009/2010 deferrals meaningfully reduced 2011 earnings. Creates additional volatility in earnings along with own debt valuation

# 2011 Compensation Recap

---

- Base salary levels reach equilibrium
  - Little appetite for broader increases
- “Say on Pay”/ISS damage relatively moderate
  - Greater damage elsewhere in economy
- Renewed interest/obsession with compensation ratios
  - Firm level - absolute and versus peers
  - Business unit comparisons
  - Short vs. medium-term considerations
- Differences between Wall Street vs. Financial Services
  - Impact of regulation and perceptions/expectations
  - Deferrals and flexibility
- Overarching frustrations/questions remain unsolved:
  - “Why does overall firm not decline fully with results?”
  - “For material risk taker, explain clear link between performance and compensation. However, avoid formulas, maintain significant discretion, include business and firm performance, and appropriately reflect social/political environment...”

# “Why Does Overall Firm Compensation Not Decline Fully With Results?”

## Easy Part of the Answer

- Base salary is fixed
- Benefits are fixed
- Most other expenses +/- fixed
- Deferral expensing obscures current compensation

## Hard Part of the Answer

- Most high-earning professionals are, more or less, individual contributors
- Labor markets exist and reasonably transparent
- Few high-earning professionals have accountability/line-of-sight to firm performance
- Businesses do not move in sync (nor should they)

## Industry NOT Alone

- Executive search, public relations, and consulting firms have similar constraints, their compensation does NOT move directly with results

***∴ Expectation that overall compensation will vary directly with firm results is NOT realistic, and does NOT occur across other heavily human capital intensive industries***

# Explain Material Risk Taker Compensation

## Regulator Agendas

- Not encouraging excessive risk taking
- Consider risk at individual level
- Aversion to high-compensation determined by discretion
- Political opportunity; little downside in micro-managing compensation
- High fixed costs with ample staffing

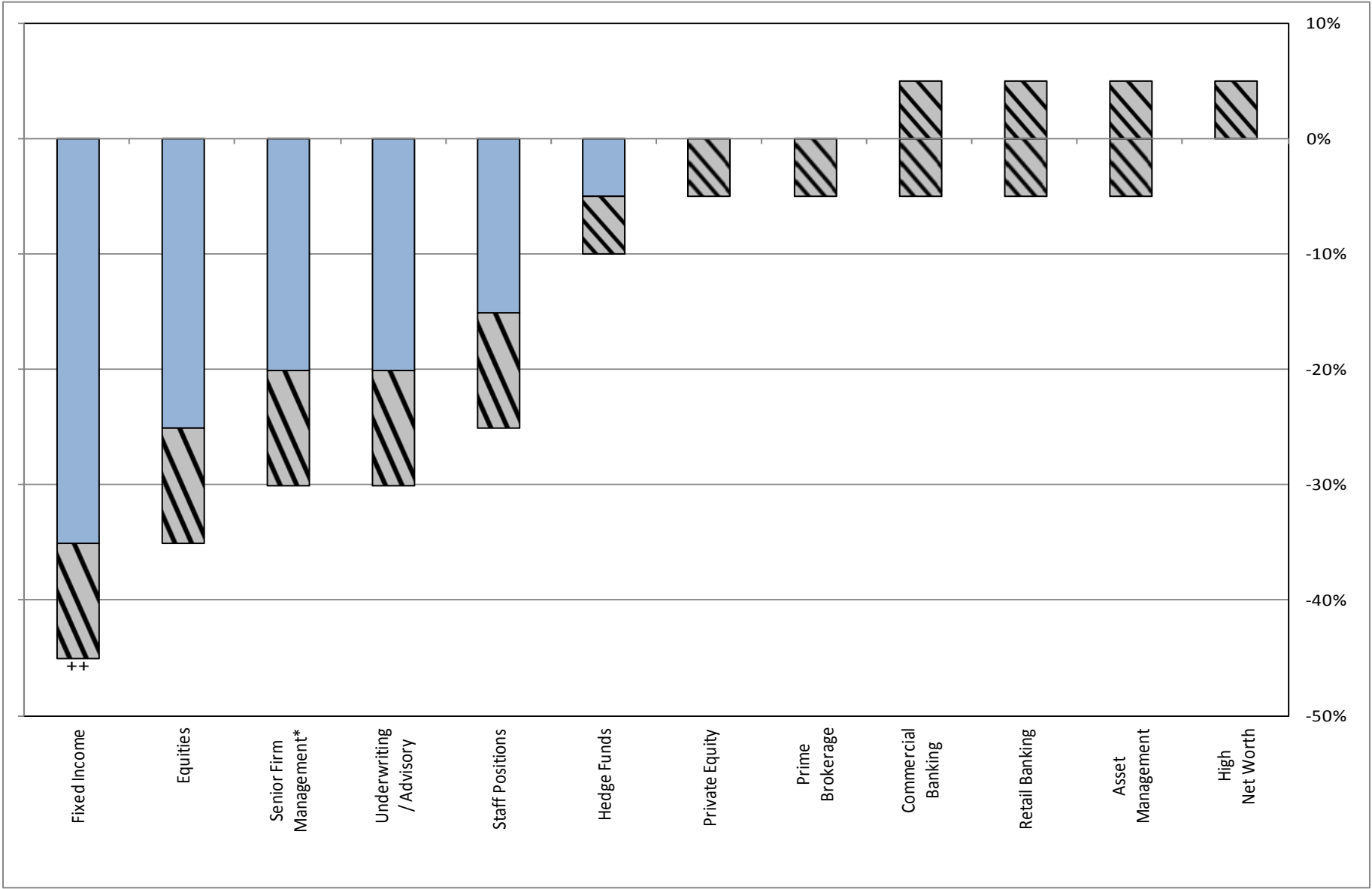


## Firm Agendas

- Returns to shareholders
- Take sensible risks across diversified businesses
- Avoid formulas and silo behaviors
- Recognize high-compensation can come from discretion
- Market competitive and performance based

***∴ Likely an ongoing issue, with compensation plan risk reviews, risk based funding, and established/exception reviews acting as counterbalance***

# 2011 Typical Incentive Changes (Value of Cash & Equity)\*

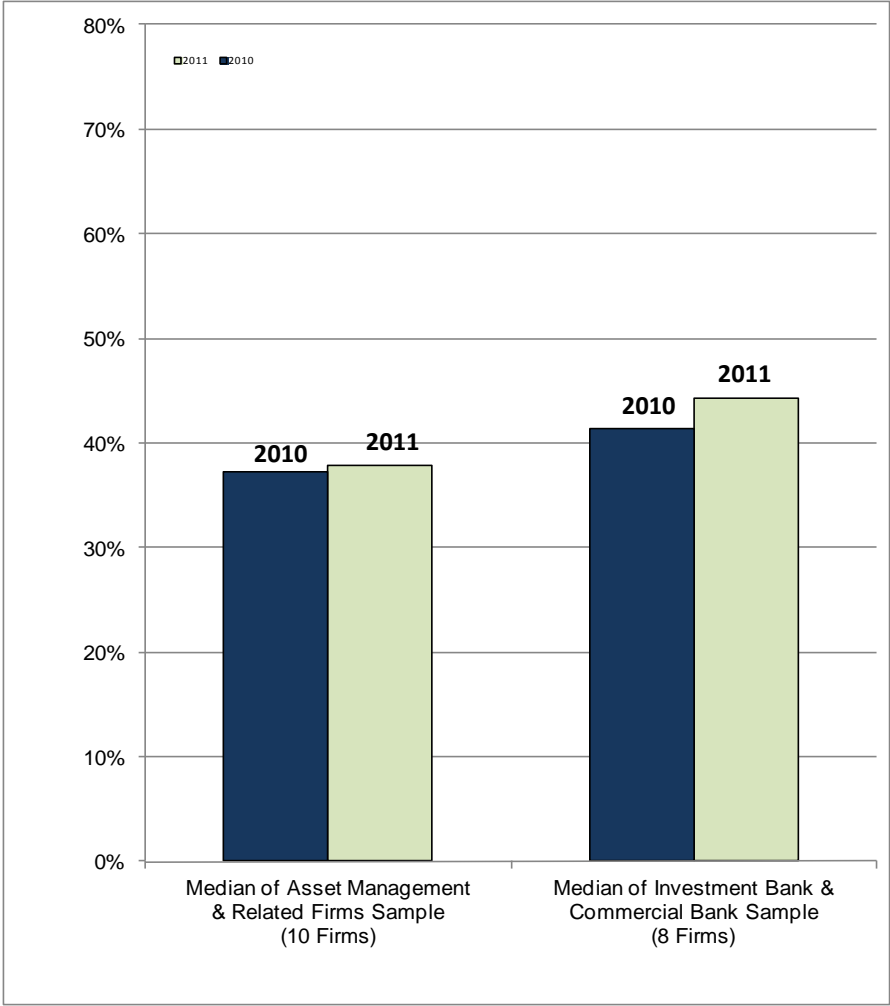


\* "same store" basis

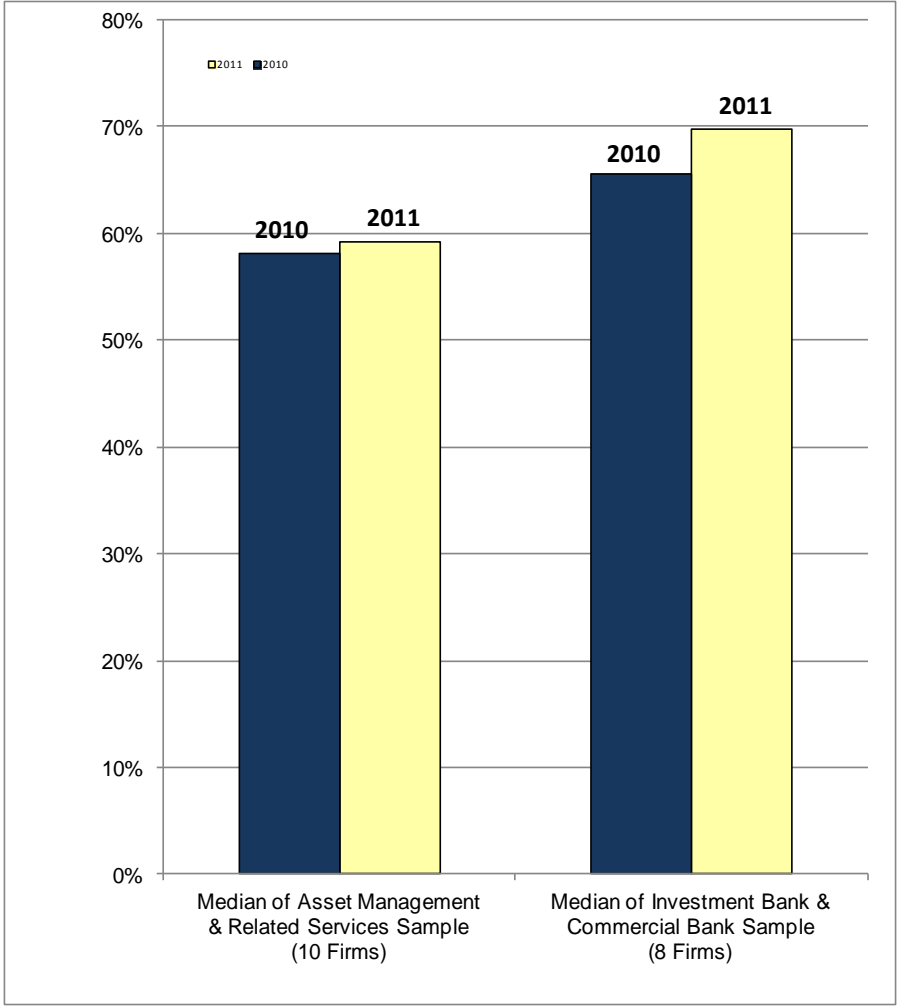


# 2011 vs. 2010 Compensation Ratios

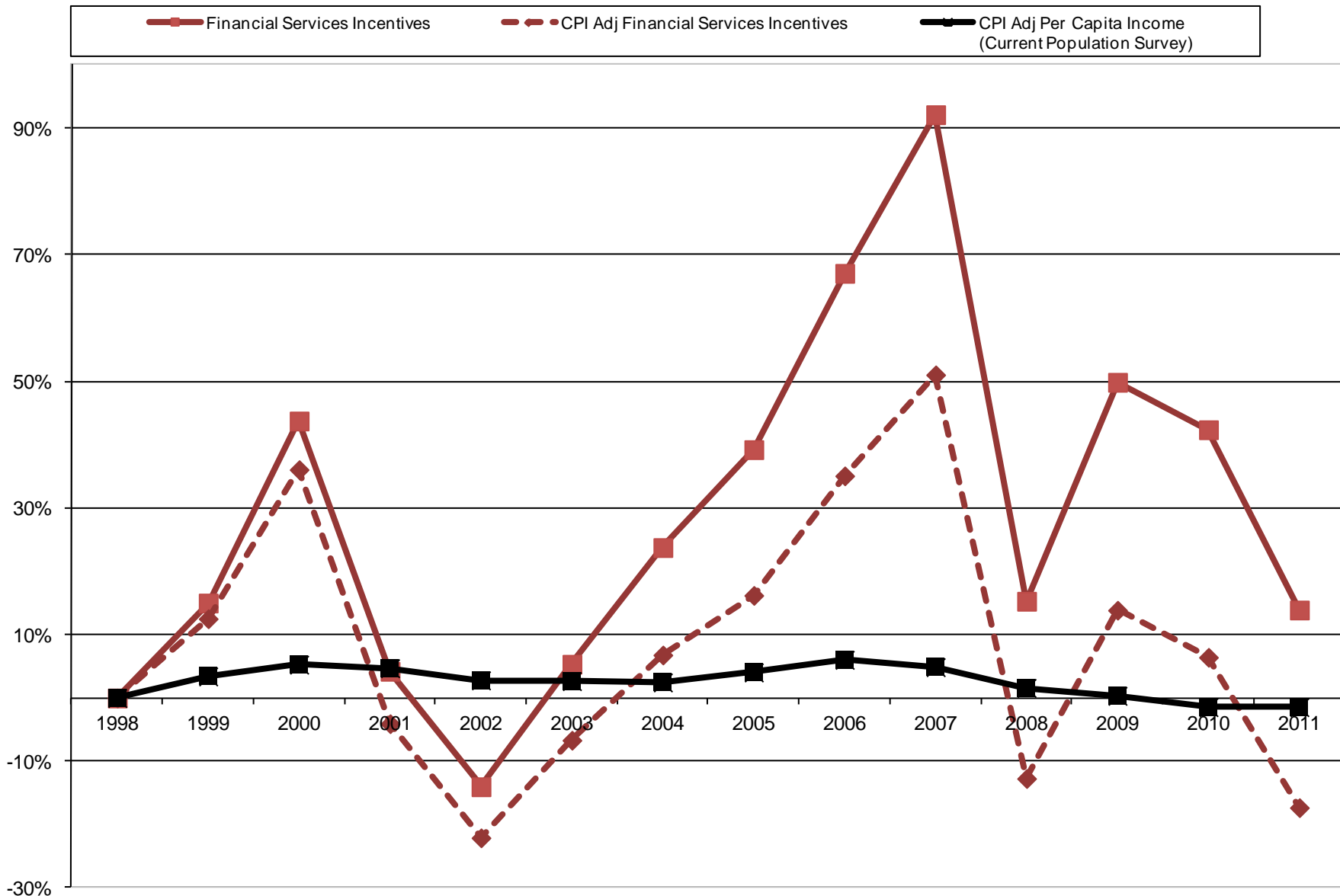
Comp & Benefits as % of Net Revenue



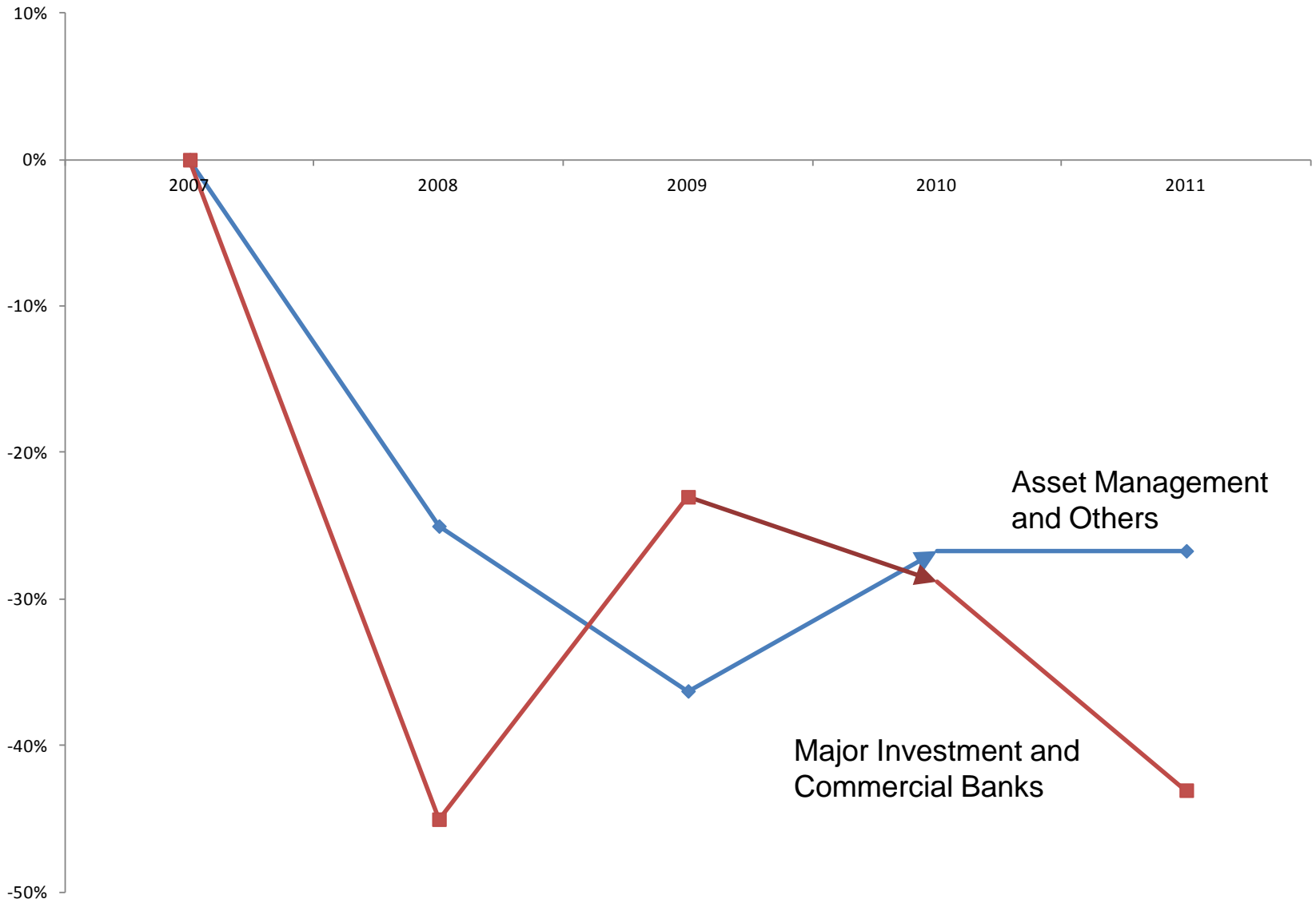
Comp & Benefits as % of Pre-Tax Pre-Comp Net Income



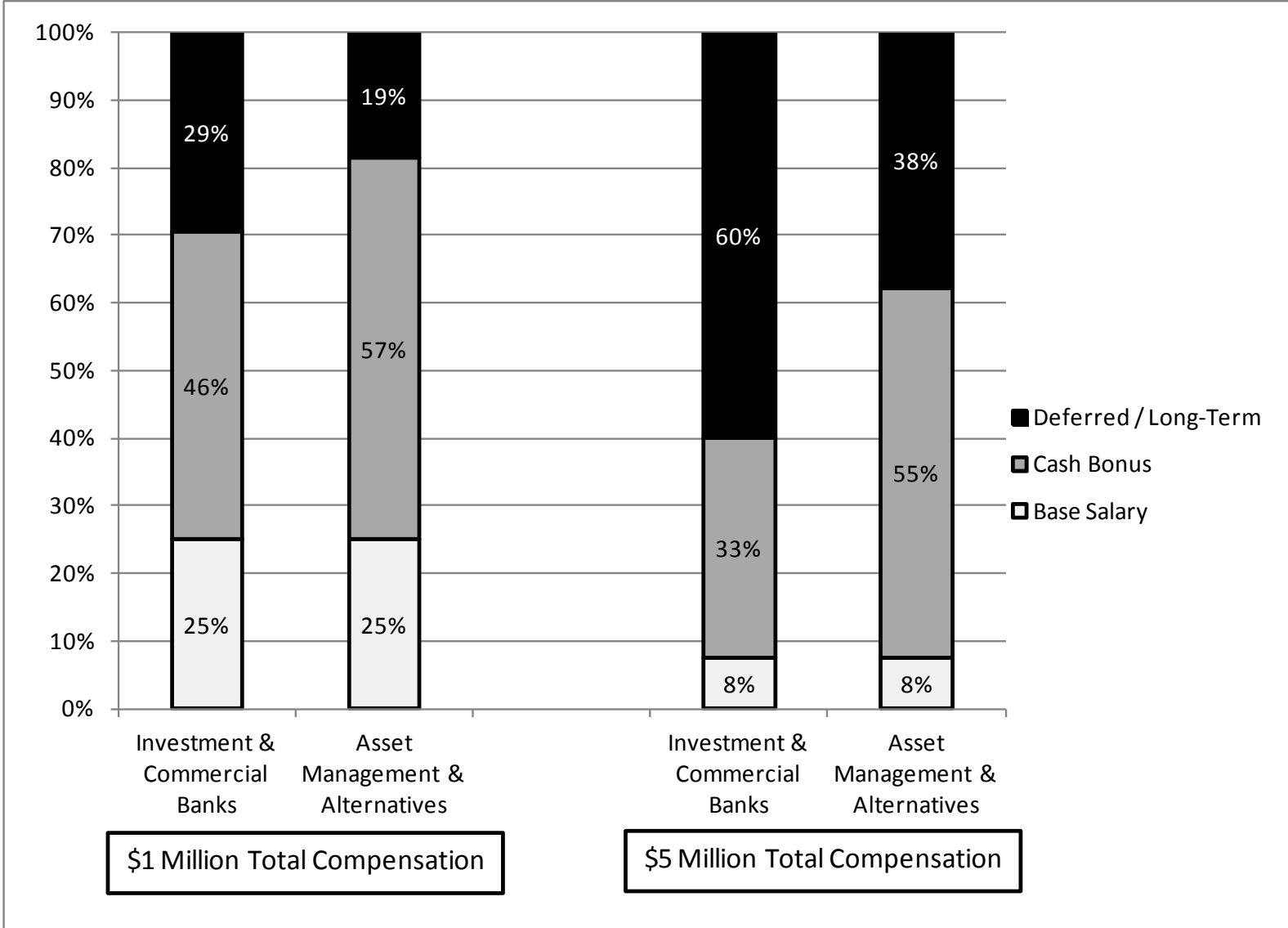
# Incentive Changes from 1998 – 2011



# Incentive Trends Fairly Reflects Markets



# Pay Mix: Difference Between Sectors



# Compensation Regulatory Key Updates

- A significant by-product of regulation is the implementation of cash compensation “caps”

<p><b>Federal Reserve</b></p>	<p><u>Risk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Including a charge for liquidity risk for internal profit measures across incentive awards favorably viewed</li> </ul> <p><u>Risk Assessment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantitative risk measures preferred, however recognizes very difficult to implement. Judgment-based decisions more prevalent</li> </ul> <p><u>Deferral Latitude</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does <u>not</u> : (i) require deferral for all employees, (ii) suggest any specific formula, (iii) mandate any specific vehicle</li> </ul> <p><u>More Performance-Based Deferrals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefers performance-based deferral coverage to more employees</li> </ul> <p><u>Interaction between Committees</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase communication between the compensation committee and risk/audit committees</li> </ul>
<p><b>Dodd-Frank</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadly defines and bans proprietary trading by banks with FDIC, limiting investments in hedge or private equity fund, and require banks to install internal controls for compliance</li> <li>• Rule exempts trades related to market-making as long as the activity met at least seven standards, or principles. One principle traders paid from fees and spread of transactions only</li> <li>• Final rules and implementation still pending</li> </ul>
<p><b>FSA</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compensation Committee Chairman required to certify firm compliant with the rules on compensation structure</li> </ul>

## 2012 Fearless Predictions

- 2012 incentives increase significantly from 2011 bottom (i.e., +20%)
  - Fixed income and equities up from very poor 2011
  - Investment banking improves with economy
  - Commercial and retail banking better
  - Asset and wealth management benefit from stock market improvements
  - Impact of significant and ongoing cost cutting/focus
- Ongoing regulatory/political issues
- Crisis continues across Europe but full-blown disaster averted
- Proxy compensation continues to increase, but unevenly
- Positive for hedge funds and private equity-fund raising and returns
- More difficult for firms owned or controlled by governments
- Continued difficulty in communicating basic compensation model

***∴ Industry has reached inflection point. During 2012 – 2014 compensation and results should improve as industry moves closer to long-term expected ROE (i.e.  $\cong$  15%)***

# Executive Compensation

---

- 2012 continues movement to longer-term market levels
  - Executive view: market compensation for market performance
  - $\cong$ 15% ROE produces lower pay than 25% ROE during boom
  - CEO normal for large banks  $\cong$ \$13-\$23 million. 2012 should be mainly in that range
- Need to manage external expectations continues
  - Greater transparency of link between compensation and performance needed. Continuing uncertainty not helpful
  - Formulas with discretion would be improvement
- Need significant ownership guidelines
  - Both active and for two years beyond termination

# Potential Deferral Vehicles

---

- With high deferral rates need alternatives to firm equity
  - Recognize regulatory constraints
- Increasingly puts industry in disadvantageous position
  - Many financial service firms do not have same deferral requirements or sole focus on firm stock
- Recognize solutions nuanced by professional group
  - More equity for executives, different mix for others
- Range of potential choices (all with issues)
  - Firm equity
  - Contingent capital/return units
  - Firm investment (i.e., hedge funds, private equity, real estate, etc.)
  - Asset management portfolios
  - Cash/low risk deferrals

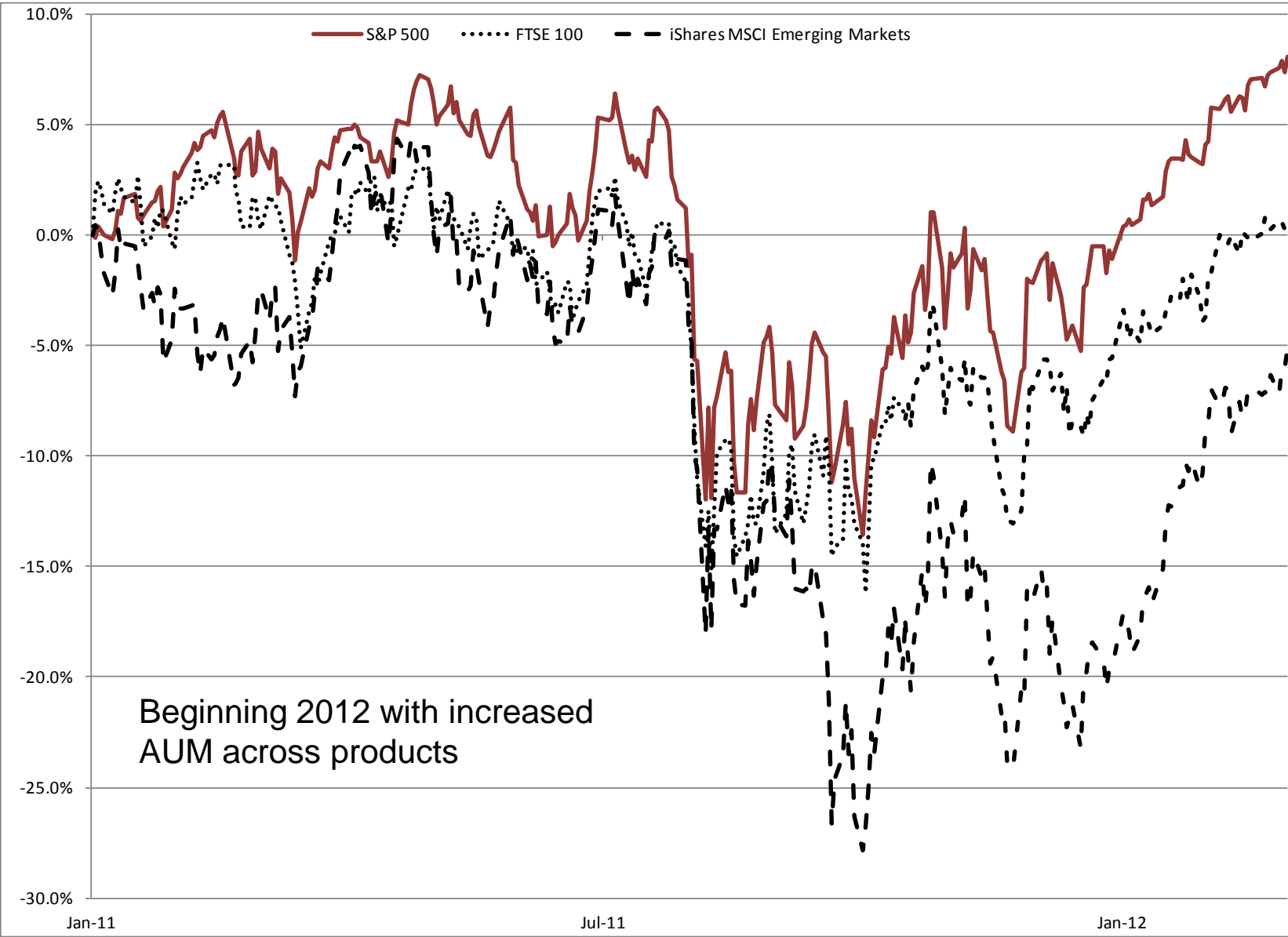


# Asset and Wealth Management

---

- Increase in 2012 revenues drives major incentive increase
  - Up 15% from 2011 (which was up 5% from 2010)
- Real growth area needs different approach (expectation of investors and their advisors)
  - Long-tailed business with heavy mix of structured pay
  - Pre-agreed % of operating profit for incentives
  - Often structured program at individual-/team-level on multi-year returns against benchmarks and peers
  - Deferral into funds in lieu of firm equity
- More subsidiary equity programs required (and now coming)
  - Investor and consultant requirements
  - Lure of independent firms

# Impact of Market on AUM Businesses



# Hedge Funds – Recovery Continues

---

- Hedge Funds had uneven 2011 returns
  - Many/most have recovered to “high water mark”
  - Industry assets recovered
  - More fee pressures
- Benefitting from issues with major banks
  - Regulators/Dodd-Frank/Volcker rule
  - Heavy deferrals
- Potential compensation offering
  - Objective focused compensation
  - Moderate deferrals into funds
- Struggling with ownership transitions/partnership
  - Need to establish reasonable comprehensive terms
  - Difficult due partially to DNA of founders

# Private Equity – Improvement and Growth

---

- Industry in rebound
  - 2008-2011 investments promising
  - Benefitting greatly from investors searching for returns
- Long-tailed businesses and compensation
  - Appropriate carry design and governance crucial (i.e., vesting, investment and business decisions, etc.)
  - Professional carry at institutional firms 10-13 points (out of 20), reflecting firm economics and fundraising support
- Viable independent competitors drive market
  - Fund sizes provide ample compensation resources
- Low interest rates and poor equity returns elsewhere have helped
  - Investors continue to look to alternatives for needed returns
- Global opportunities become key part of the mix

- **Continued improvement in fundamentals plus luck (Dodd-Frank/Volcker), much better prospects than 12-24 months ago. However, often disconnect on carry opportunity depending on which funds participating in**

# Board of Director Role and Pay Implications

---

- Increased time commitments, complexity of issues and new legislation/ regulation more evident than ever
  - Pressure for increased accountability
  - Imprecise and lengthy
  - Unprecedented scrutiny of pay designs and magnitudes
- Transparency and proactive communication between Boards and management
  - Crucial importance of open communication
  - Boards retain discretion on payouts
  - Quarterly assessment increasingly needed. Broader scorecard helpful
- While requirements increased, compensation growth slowed
  - Consistent with declines for management and employees
- Meaningful compensation changes needed/should pay more
  - Major Committee heads not paid enough vis-à-vis other directors
  - Need more expertise on Compensation Committee (i.e., Human Resources)
  - Need better directors

# Summary and Positive Thoughts

---

- 2012 compensation will be up meaningfully for most firms
  - Trading up off of poor 2011
  - Investment banking improves moderately
  - Commercial and retail banking up with economy
  - Asset and wealth management/brokerage up significantly
- New reality taking hold (but not without effort)
  - Better signals of executive compensation
  - Improved communication with directors/regulators on needed spend
  - Deferral choices
  - Compensation ratio analysis drives need for greater transparency
  - In context of lower cost bases
- Asset and consumer businesses become increasingly positive and important

***∴ Believe industry is at positive inflection point. Compensation will increase significantly as firms move closer to  $\cong$  15% ROE norm over 2012 - 2014***