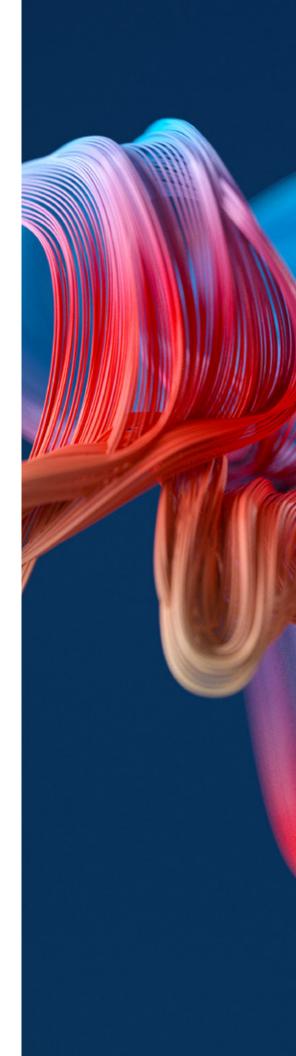
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Boards

2020 Spencer Stuart Communication Services Sector Snapshot

Boards of communication services companies in the S&P 500 — a group of 22 companies — tend to be younger and less tenured than S&P 500 boards.

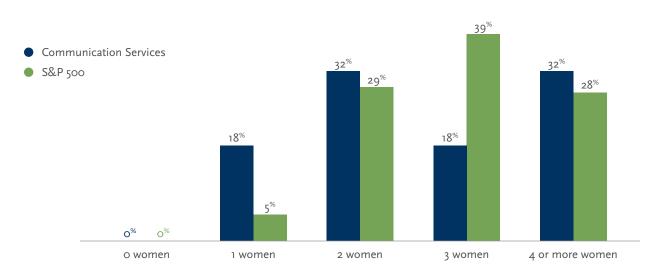
- » The average age of independent directors on communication services boards is 60.6, significantly lower than the S&P 500 average of 63.0 and the lowest of all S&P 500 primary sectors.
- » The youngest average age of a communication services board is 51.3 years and the oldest is 69.4.
- » Communication services boards average 10.4 members, slightly lower than the 10.7 director average for S&P 500 company boards.
- » Independent directors represent 80% of all directors on communication services boards, significantly lower than the 85% average for the S&P 500 universe and the lowest of all S&P 500 primary sectors.
- » The average tenure of independent directors on communication services boards is 7.2 years, below the S&P 500 average of 7.9 years and the second lowest of all S&P 500 primary sectors.
- » The longest-tenured communication services board average is 12.4 years.



Diversity

Women represent 28% of all communication services directors in 2020, equal to the 28% average of the S&P 500.

Every S&P 500 company has at least one female director. Ninety-five percent (95%) of the S&P 500 index have at least two female directors and 67% have three or more women, compared with 82% and 50%, respectively, among communications services boards.



Representation of Women Directors on Communication Services Boards

When it comes to race/ethnic diversity of the boardroom, 25% of the directors of the 12 communication services companies in the top 200 companies are minorities (defined as Black/African American, Hispanic/Latinx and Asian), higher than the 20% average for the S&P 500 index and the highest percentage of all primary sectors in the top 200. The diversity breakdown of communication services boards varies from the S&P 500: 16% Black/African American (compared to 10% of S&P 500 directors); 4% Hispanic/Latinx (compared to 4% S&P 500); and 5% Asian (compared to 5% S&P 500). According to the U.S. Census Bureau, about 40% of the U.S. population is estimated to be a minority, including 18.5% Hispanic/Latinx, 13.4% Black/African American, 5.9% Asian.

New independent director backgrounds

Twelve communication services companies — 55% of the surveyed group — added at least one director over the past year. Appointees averaged 56.6 years of age, younger than the 57.8 average for all independent directors joining S&P 500 boards in 2020. First-time directors represented 15% of directors joining communication services boards — significantly lower than the 28% overall average for the S&P 500 and the second lowest of all S&P primary sectors.

Diverse directors comprised 55% of the 20 directors joining communication services boards over the past year; 45% are women and 10% are minority men. In comparison, 59% of directors joining the S&P 500 index are diverse, including 47% women and 12% minority men.

Compared to the S&P 500 incoming class, where 49% are actively employed, 60% of the directors joining communication boards are actively employed, the highest percentage of all S&P primary sectors. Another difference is the backgrounds of the incoming class, with communication services boards appointing the lowest percentage of CEOs of all S&P 500 primary sectors and the highest percentage of directors with chair/president/COO experience.

Seventy percent (70%) of independent directors joining communication services boards over the past year have the following backgrounds: active or retired financial executives (30%); chairs/presidents/COOs (15%); line and functional leaders (15%); and CEOs (10%).

	2020 Communication Services	2020 S&P 500
CEOs	10%	29 %
Active	5%	13%
Retired	5%	16%
Chairs/presidents/COOs	15%	6 %
Active	10%	3%
Retired	5%	3%
Line and functional leaders	15%	16 %
Division/subsidiary presidents	5%	7%
Finance/accounting executives	30%	27%
Financial executives/CFOs/treasurers	10%	14%
Investment managers/investors	20%	8%
Bankers/investment bankers	0%	4%
Public accounting executives	9%	1%
Academics/nonprofit executives	5%	3%
Consultants	5%	3%
Legal	5%	2%
General counsel	0%	2%
Lawyers	5%	0%
Others	10%	7%
Government/military	10%	5%
Others	0%	2%

Board leadership

Just over half (55%) of the communication services companies in the S&P 500 index separate the chair and CEO roles, equal to the 55% average for the S&P 500 index. Independent chairs are in place at only 18% of communication services companies, significantly below the 34% of the S&P 500 index and the lowest of all S&P 500 primary sectors. Seventy-seven percent (77%) of all communication services companies have an independent lead or presiding director, higher than the 73% average of the S&P 500.

Board organization and process

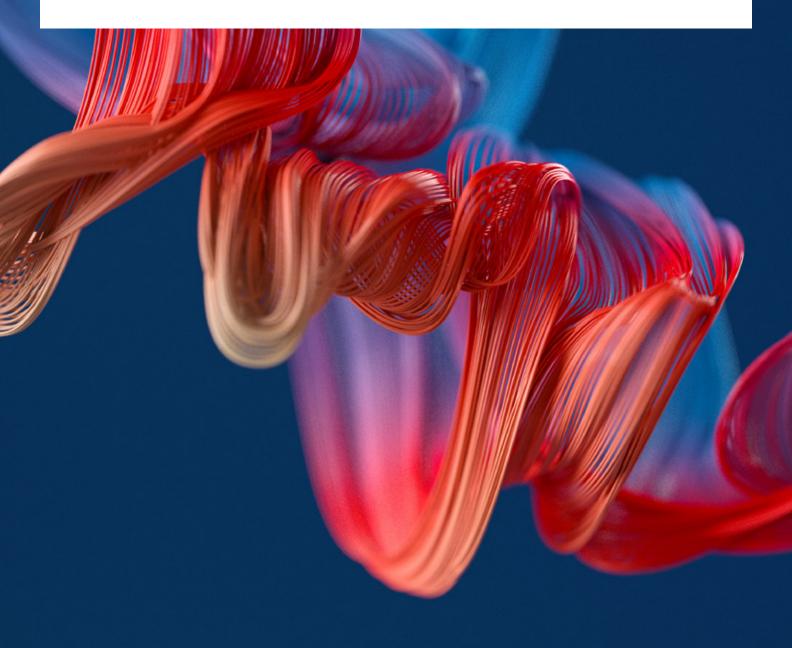
As detailed below, 14% of communication services companies have staggered, three-year terms for directors, the second highest percentage of all S&P 500 primary sectors. In contrast, 10% of S&P 500 companies have classified boards. While 70% of S&P 500 boards have adopted mandatory retirement policies, only 36% of communication services boards have adopted age limits for directors, the lowest percentage of all S&P 500 primary sectors.

	2020 Communication Services	2020 S&P 500
Classified board	14%	10%
Board meetings (avg #)	8.6	7.9
Board committees (avg #)	3.9	4.2
Audit committee		
Size (avg #)	3.8	4.4
Meetings (avg #)	7.5	8.2
Compensation committee		
Size (avg #)	3.9	4.3
Meetings (avg #)	6.3	5.9
Nominating/governance committee		
Size (avg #)	3.7	4.4
Meetings (avg #)	4.4	4.5
Mandatory retirement	36%	70%
Retirement age (avg)	73	73.6

Communication services sector companies

Activision Blizzard	Electronic Arts
Alphabet	Facebook
AT&T	Fox Corporation
CenturyLink	Live Nation Entertainment
Charter Communications	Netflix
Comcast Corporation	News Corporation
Discovery	Omnicom Group
DISH Network Corporation	Take-Two Interactive Software

The Interpublic Group of Companies The Walt Disney Company T-Mobile US Twitter Verizon Communications ViacomCBS



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Privately held since 1956, we focus on delivering knowledge, insight and results through the collaborative efforts of a team of experts — now spanning more than 70 offices, over 30 countries and more than 50 practice specialties. Boards and leaders consistently turn to Spencer Stuart to help address their evolving leadership needs in areas such as senior-level executive search, board recruitment, board effectiveness, succession planning, in-depth senior management assessment, employee engagement and many other facets of culture and organizational effectiveness. For more information on Spencer Stuart, please visit **www.spencerstuart.com**.

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