

People First = Profits First

From a 50% / 50% Split to a 91% / 9% Divide*

1970

“Maximize shareholder value” movement launched.

50%

of corporate earnings to
dividends and stock buybacks

50%

of corporate earnings to
workers, R&D, capital investments

2012

“The very people we rely on to make investments in workers and productive capabilities that will increase our shared prosperity are instead devoting most of their companies’ profit to uses that will increase their own prosperity.”*

91%

of corporate earnings to
dividends and stock buybacks

9%

of corporate earnings to
workers, R&D, capital investments

* —William Lazonick, “Profits Without Prosperity” in the Harvard Business Review / 2014