

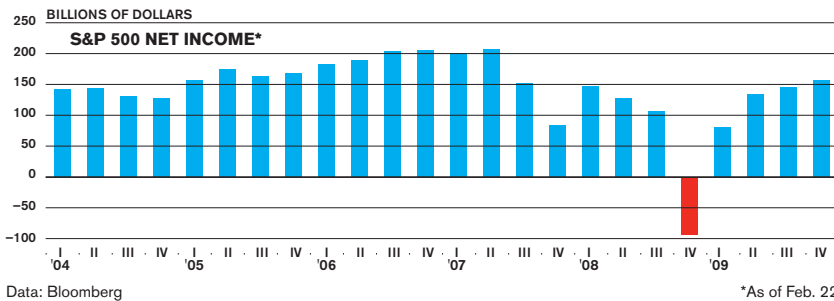
NUMBERS

EARNINGS IN AMERICA: THE WRECKAGE AND THE RECOVERY

By Tara Kalwarski/Charts by David Foster

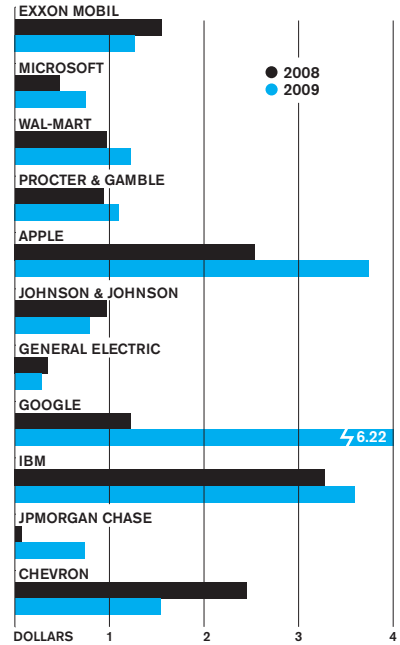
S&P 500 companies made about \$153 billion in net income in the fourth quarter, bringing 2009's total to more than \$500 billion—a vast improvement over 2008. But some, including ExxonMobil, actually posted lower fourth-quarter profits than a year earlier.

What a Difference a Year Makes: Fourth-quarter profits for S&P 500 companies were \$153 billion, vs. a loss of \$93 billion a year earlier.



Big-Name Losers: Four of the 10 most valuable companies in the U.S. reported lower earnings per share in 2009 vs. a year earlier.

FOURTH-QUARTER EARNINGS PER SHARE AT AMERICA'S BIGGEST COMPANIES*

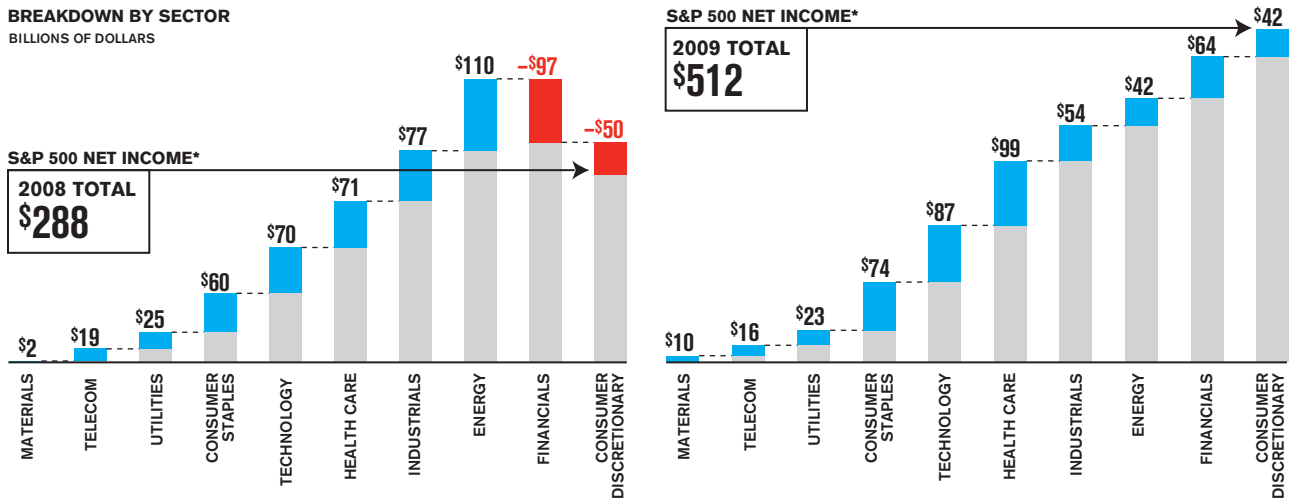


*Ranked by market capitalization; data are for companies that had reported fourth-quarter results for calendar year 2009 as of Feb. 18. Data: Bloomberg

WHERE THE GAINS ARE

In 2008 losses at financial and consumer-discretionary companies dragged down S&P 500 profits. Those two sectors rebounded in 2009.

BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR
BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



*As of Feb. 22
Data: Bloomberg