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## **DELOITTE & TOUCHE TOPS BUSINESSWEEK'S ANNUAL LIST OF "BEST PLACES TO LAUNCH A CAREER"**

**New York, New York, September 3, 2009**— The big four accounting firms once again dominate BusinessWeek's fourth annual ranking of the "Best Places to Launch a Career." Deloitte & Touche jumped to the No.1 spot, unseating Ernst & Young who ranked No.2. PricewaterhouseCoopers and KPMG took the third and fourth spot, respectively.

With rich benefits, extensive training programs, and a combined recruiting effort that makes more than 10,000 hires even in a tough year, the Big Four are hard to beat, and Deloitte is harder than most. With substantially higher pay—18% of Deloitte's entry-level hires this year will earn north of \$65,000—plus the industry's biggest signing bonuses and most generous time-off policy, it's no wonder Deloitte is a favorite of students and career services directors. It doesn't hurt that Deloitte's entry-level hiring took the smallest hit this year, down just 1.1% in the first half compared with double-digit drops for No.2 Ernst & Young and No.4 KPMG.

To compile this ranking, BusinessWeek polled 60 college career services directors across the country; collected data from a survey of 60,000 U.S. undergrads by Universum USA, a Philadelphia research company; and required employers to submit statistics on everything from pay and benefits to training programs and retention. The number of ranked employers is down sharply this year, owing to our decision to raise the bar on eligibility. And the tougher competition—combined with a handful of new employers and shifts in sentiment among students and career services directors—resulted in a shakeup in the standings.

Some companies, including No.11 Accenture and No.19 Prudential moved up more than 35 spots, while No.34 Marriott and No.48 Lockheed Martin were down 28 and 40 spots, respectively. Even the top 10 underwent big changes this year. Marriott and Lockheed were out, as was Google, which declined to participate. But three new employers entered the winner's circle. The State Dept. and Teach For America, which places college grads in troubled school districts, are both in the midst of ramped-up recruiting campaigns, while J.P. Morgan, a unit of JPMorgan Chase, reaped a survivor's benefit: It's one of the few big investment banks left standing.

BusinessWeek's "Best Places to Launch a Career" ranking is in the September 14, 2009 issue, on newsstands September 4<sup>th</sup>. Expanded content is available on BusinessWeek.com, including the full methodology, profiles of each employer, an interactive table, slide shows, and a video roundtable with recruiters.

### **BusinessWeek's 50 Best Places to Launch a Career**

<b>2009 Rank</b>	<b>2008 Rank</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Industry</b>
1	2	Deloitte & Touche	Accounting

2	1	Ernst & Young	Accounting
3	3	PricewaterhouseCoopers	Accounting
4	5	KPMG	Accounting
5	12	U.S. State Dept.	Nonprofit/Government
6	4	Goldman Sachs	Investment Banking
7	11	Teach for America	Nonprofit/Government
8	14	Target	Retail
9	10	J.P. Morgan	Investment Banking
10	9	IBM	Technology
11	47	Accenture	Consulting
12	24	General Mills	Consumer Products
13	15	Abbott Laboratories	Health
14	27	Walt Disney	Hospitality
15	26	Enterprise Rent-a-Car	Transportation
16	18	General Electric	Manufacturing
17	32	Philip Morris USA	Consumer Products
18	13	Microsoft	Technology
19	59	Prudential	Insurance
20	36	Intel	Technology
21	58	Aflac	Insurance
22	22	Verizon Communications	Utilities
23	37	CIA	Nonprofit/Government
24	30	Raytheon	Manufacturing
25	45	Nestlé USA	Consumer Products
26	20	Norfolk Southern	Transportation
27	NR	Hyatt	Hospitality
28	39	Union Pacific	Transportation
29	34	Northwestern Mutual	Insurance
30	25	Boeing	Manufacturing
31	41	Liberty Mutual	Insurance
32	43	Travelers	Insurance
33	28	New York Life	Insurance
34	6	Marriott International	Hospitality
35	NR	Entergy	Utilities
36	56	Macy's	Retail
37	77	Merck	Health
38	38	AT&T	Utilities
39	61	Wells Fargo	Financial Services
40	50	MetLife	Insurance
41	NR	Johnson & Johnson	Health
42	NR	Aramark	Hospitality
43	31	Cisco Systems	Technology
44	93	Dell	Technology
45	55	Progressive	Insurance
46	23	Northrop Grumman	Manufacturing
47	69	IRS	Nonprofit/Government
48	8	Lockheed Martin	Manufacturing
49	95	Protiviti	Consulting
50	94	Kohl's	Retail

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