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How TIME ranked the World's Best Companies

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BIG TECH HAD A TOUGH YEAR, LAYING OFF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF WORKERS SINCE JANUARY. But the biggest tech companies are also the ones doing best for investors, employees, and the planet. Microsoft, Apple, Alphabet (the company that owns Google), and Meta Platforms (formerly Facebook) were the top four companies in a new statistical ranking of 750 of the World's Best Companies, by TIME and the data platform Statista. The rankings are based on a formula of revenue growth; employee-satisfaction surveys; and rigorous environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG, or sustainability) data.

 **Microsoft**
Microsoft has 221,000 full-time workers, a 53% increase from 2019

Tech companies performed well, alongside IT and consulting firm Accenture and financial-services company American Express, in part because their carbon emissions are lower than those of companies with significant physical footprints like airlines or big manufacturers. But they also ranked well because their employees are largely happy—the top four got the highest marks in employee satisfaction—and because they've posted such big financial gains over the past three years while still committing to social-governance principles like lowering their emissions and appointing more women to their boards.

 **DELTA**
About 20% of Delta's 95,000 employees are represented by unions

Microsoft, for example, the top company in the global rankings, made \$72 billion in its most recent fiscal year, a 63% increase from 2020, while reducing overall emissions by 0.5%. In its most recent annual report, it also said that both racial and ethnic minority and women employees in the U.S. earned more, on average, than their counterparts who are men. "The way I think about our mission is to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more," CEO Satya Nadella said in a May interview with TIME.

 **BOSCH**
Bosch covered 94% of its electricity needs with renewables last year

Accenture, based in Dublin, had the highest ESG rank on the list. The company has committed to reaching net-zero emissions and gender parity among its ranks by 2025, and has already significantly reduced its emissions since 2019. Along with CEO Julie Sweet, half of the members of its board of directors are female, as are 47% of its employees.

The rankings show that tech and business-services companies have officially unseated the manufacturers and consumer-goods companies that once drove the global economy. Now the World's Best Companies can make things, like their predecessors did, while their employees, shareholders, and the planet profit too.

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See the full list at time.com/worlds-best-companies

TIME TOP 20 WORLD'S BEST COMPANIES						
RANK	COMPANY NAME	HEADQUARTERS	OVERALL SCORE	SUSTAINABILITY RANK	EMPLOYEE-SATISFACTION RANK	INDUSTRY
1	Microsoft	U.S.	96.46	8	1	IT, Electronics, Hardware, and Equipment
2	Apple	U.S.	96.36	13	4	IT, Electronics, Hardware, and Equipment
3	Alphabet	U.S.	95.18	140	2	Technology, Media, and Services
4	Meta Platforms	U.S.	94.85	19	3	Technology, Media, and Services
5	Accenture	Ireland	94.43	1	9	Professional Services
6	Pfizer	U.S.	93.75	132	24	Chemicals, Drugs, and Biotechnology
7	American Express	U.S.	92.46	57	19	Banking and Financial Services
8	Électricité de France	France	92.4	111	79	Utilities
9	BMW Group	Germany	91.95	124	26	Automotive Industry and Suppliers
10	Dell Technologies	U.S.	91.59	109	8	IT, Electronics, Hardware, and Equipment
11	LVMH	France	91.35	158	56	Apparel, Footwear, and Sporting Goods
12	Delta Air Lines	U.S.	91.13	564	5	Transportation, Logistics, and Aviation
13	Enel	Italy	91	173	154	Utilities
14	Starbucks Corp.	U.S.	90.96	174	14	Hospitality, Travel, and Leisure
15	Volkswagen Group	Germany	90.81	337	7	Automotive Industry and Suppliers
16	General Motors	U.S.	90.78	88	72	Automotive Industry and Suppliers
17	Elevance Health	U.S.	90.61	6	201	Insurance, Health Care, and Social
18	Bosch	Germany	90.57	75	21	Engineering, Manufacturing, and Medical Technology
19	Ford	U.S.	90.51	166	45	Automotive Industry and Suppliers
20	Johnson & Johnson	U.S.	90.39	82	28	Chemicals, Drugs, and Biotechnology

