

THE UNION DIFFERENCE

Union Advantage by the Numbers

Union workers earn higher wages and get more benefits than workers who don't have a voice on the job with a union.

Union workers' median weekly earnings	\$863
Nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$663
Union wage advantage	30%

Union women's median weekly earnings	\$790
Nonunion women's median weekly earnings	\$592
Union wage advantage for women	33%

African American union workers' median weekly earnings	\$732
African American nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$533
Union wage advantage for African Americans	37%

Latino union workers' median weekly earnings	\$736
Latino nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$487
Union wage advantage for Latinos	51%

Asian American union workers' median weekly earnings	\$853
Asian American nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$823
Union wage advantage for Asian Americans	4%

Union workers covered by employer-provided health insurance	78%
Nonunion workers covered by employer-provided health insurance	49%
Union health insurance advantage	59%

Union workers without health insurance coverage	2.5%
Nonunion workers without health insurance coverage	15%
Nonunion workers are five times more likely to lack health insurance coverage	

Union workers covered by guaranteed (defined-benefit) pensions	67%
Nonunion workers covered by guaranteed (defined-benefit) pensions	15%
Union pension advantage	347%

Union workers with short-term disability benefits	60%
Nonunion workers with short-term disability benefits	35%
Union short-term disability benefits advantage	71%

Union workers' average days of paid vacation	15 days
Nonunion workers' average days of paid vacation	11.75 days
Union paid vacation advantage	28%

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Union Members in 2007*, Jan. 25, 2008; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *National Compensation Survey: Employee Benefits in Private Industry in the United States, March 2007, August 2007*; Economic Policy Institute; Employee Benefits Research Institute, May 2005.