

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	\$833
Nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$642
Union wage advantage	30%
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Union women's median weekly earnings	\$758
Nonunion women's median weekly earnings	\$579
Union wage advantage for women	31%
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African American union workers' median weekly earnings	\$707
African American nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$520
Union wage advantage for African Americans	36%
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Latino union workers' median weekly earnings	\$686
Latino nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$469
Union wage advantage for Latinos	46%
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Asian American union workers' median weekly earnings	\$834
Asian American nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$774
Union wage advantage for Asian Americans	8%
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Union workers with employer-provided health insurance	80%
Nonunion workers with employer-provided health insurance	49%
Union health insurance advantage	63%
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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	
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Union workers with guaranteed (defined-benefit) pensions	68%
Nonunion workers with guaranteed (defined-benefit) pensions	14%
Union pension advantage	386%
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Union workers with short-term disability benefits	62%
Nonunion workers with short-term disability benefits	35%
Union short-term disability benefits advantage	77%
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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 2006*, Jan. 25, 2007; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *National Compensation Survey: Employee Benefits in Private Industry in the United States*, March 2006, August 2006; Economic Policy Institute; Employee Benefit Research Institute, May 2005.