

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	\$908
Nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$710
Union wage advantage	28%
Union women's median weekly earnings	\$840
Nonunion women's median weekly earnings	\$628
Union wage advantage for women	34%
African American union workers' median weekly earnings	\$749
African American nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$581
Union wage advantage for African Americans	29%
Latino union workers' median weekly earnings	\$774
Latino nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$516
Union wage advantage for Latinos	50%
Asian American union workers' median weekly earnings	\$907
Asian American nonunion workers' median weekly earnings	\$870
Union wage advantage for Asian Americans	4%
Union workers covered by employer-provided health insurance	78%
Nonunion workers covered by employer-provided health insurance	51%
Union health insurance advantage	53%
Union workers without health insurance coverage	2.9%
Nonunion workers without health insurance coverage	14.2%
Nonunion workers are four times more likely to lack health insurance coverage	
Union workers covered by guaranteed (defined-benefit) pensions	77%
Nonunion workers covered by guaranteed (defined-benefit) pensions	20%
Union pension advantage	285%
Union workers with short-term disability benefits	46%
Nonunion workers with short-term disability benefits	34%
Union short-term disability benefits advantage	35%

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Union Members—2009*, Jan. 22, 2010; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employee Benefits in the United States, March 2009*, September 2009; Employee Benefit Research Institute, *EBRI Notes*, October 2009.