



Seven Reasons to Become a Union Member

Being a member in a Union greatly increases the quality of life for members, their families and the communities in which we reside. The ability to have a voice in our employment through our Union makes a world of difference in wages, benefits and working conditions. Individuals have very little bargaining power as opposed to a group of employees with their employer.

It should not surprise you then that being in a Union makes us financially more secure and more content in our workplace:

- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, union workers make \$120.00 more per week than nonunion workers.
- Total compensation cost (wages and fringe benefits) for union workers averaged \$46.50 compared to \$29.83 for nonunion workers.
- 85% of union members have health insurance compared with only 54% of nonunion workers.
- 88% of union members have retirement plans, compared with only 48% of nonunion workers.
- 77% of union members have a defined benefit pension plan compared to 17% for nonunion workers. A defined benefit plan is deferred compensation for your labor during your working career.
- 84% of union members have paid sick leave compared with only 62% of nonunion workers.
- Union members typically feel more secure in their job as there are workplace protections against unjust discipline in the workplace. Nonunion workers are considered “at-will” employees and can be discharged without any meaningful recourse.

Unions work because we work together as a group for a common goal- to improve their workplace for everyone. Your Union begins with you.