

# 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.