

# The Top 7 Reasons to Join a Union

## REASON 1: Money

Generally speaking, union jobs pay 10-20 percent more than nonunion jobs.

## REASON 2: Benefits

Medical insurance, paid vacation, holidays, personal days, sick pay, overtime pay and shift differential wouldn't exist without union contracts.

## REASON 3: Safety

Union workplaces are safer than nonunion workplaces. Union pacts give workers the right to address an unsafe condition.

## REASON 4: Dignity

While union workers can still be (rightly) fired for poor job performance, they don't have to tip-toe around bosses for fear of being harassed or terrorized.

## REASON 5: Security

Supervisors can't arbitrarily stymie promotions, or replace or demote unionized workers. A supervisor must have a legitimate reason—and not simply because he wants to hire his nephew.

## REASON 6: Competence

Union workers tend to be better employees than their nonunion counterparts—jobs with higher wages, safe working conditions and good benefits are the kind people want to keep.

## REASON 7: Activism

Union members have an opportunity to represent their fellow workers and forever be a footnote in the annals of the American labor movement. How cool is that?



*Source: David Macaray, author  
"It's Never Been Easy: Essays on Modern Labor"*

