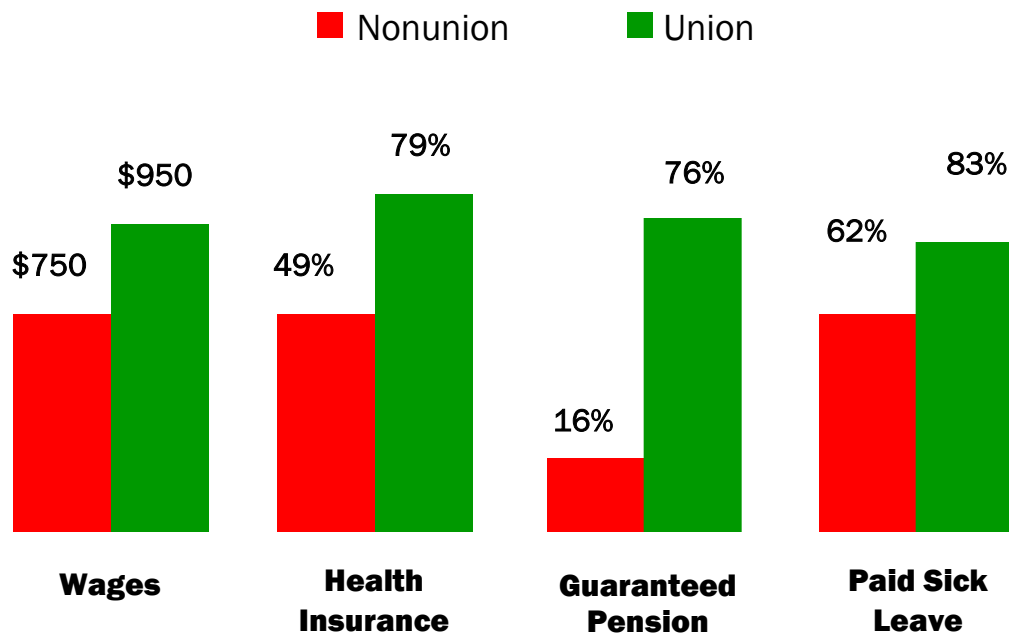


# WHY UNION?



## Work union. Live better.

**Higher Wages**  
**Better Health Care**  
**Guaranteed Pensions**  
**More Vacation**

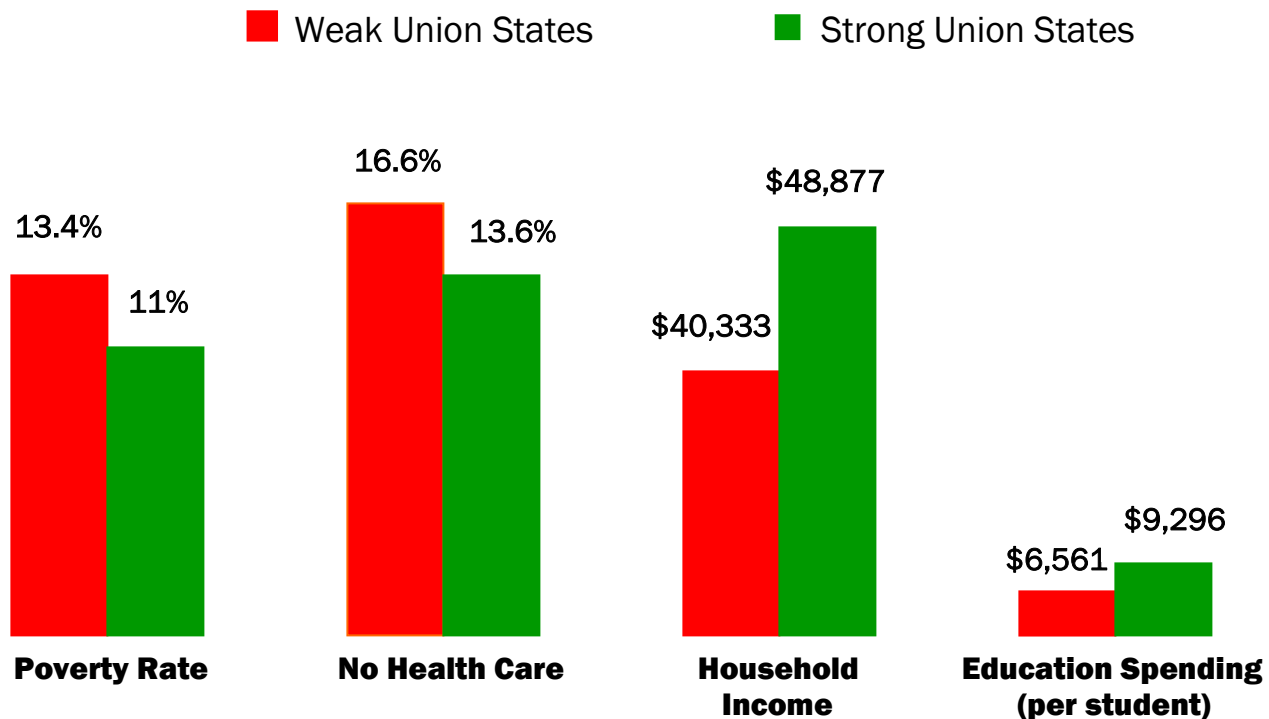


Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, BLS, EPI, Employee Benefit Research Institute

- The average union member earns 27% more than nonunion workers.
- Union members are 61% more likely to have access to health insurance benefits through their jobs.
- More than three of every four union members have a defined benefit pension; only 16% of nonunion workers have this retirement security.
- Union members are 34% more likely to have access to paid sick leave.
- We also enjoy less tangible benefits like having dignity and a voice at work.

# Work union. Live better.

## Unions Raise Everyone's Living Standards



- Minnesota has the 10<sup>th</sup> highest level of unionization in the U.S.
- Compare the 10 states with the highest union density (New York, Hawaii, Alaska, Michigan, New Jersey, Washington, Illinois, Rhode Island, Ohio, and Minnesota) with the 10 weakest (North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Texas, Mississippi, Arizona, South Dakota, Arkansas, Florida, and Utah).
- In the 10 strongest union states there is less poverty and higher household income.
- 46 million Americans, or nearly 16% of the population, are without health insurance. In states where unions are stronger, a higher percentage of the population has health insurance.
- Strong union states also allocate more money to public education.

## Unions Narrow Race and Gender Wage Gaps

- Benefits of union representation are even greater for women and workers of color because without the protection of a union contract, these workers are often victims of discrimination in the workplace.
- While the union wage advantage is 29% for all workers, it is 33% for women, 31% for African Americans, and 53% for Latinos.