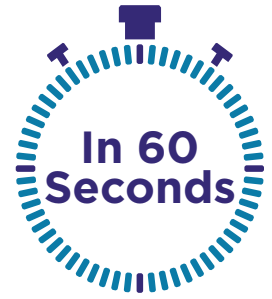


IndependentWomen® Today's Labor Unions



What's at Stake

Labor union participation has declined from its peak because worker protections are already being fulfilled, unions are not transparent about their methods, and they overwhelmingly support only Democratic candidates and policies.

- Today, only [10%](#) of workers are members of a public or private-sector union, down from the high of [34.2%](#) in 1945.
- [Ninety percent](#) of workers oppose government-mandated union membership and want workers to decide for themselves whether or not to join, and [85%](#) want greater transparency in how union dues are spent.

The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) have been working to infiltrate unions and impose socialism on America through their influence.

- The [DSA](#) aims to replace capitalism with a socialist economic model where major economic drivers, such as energy, transportation, and private property, would be collectively owned, establishing “worker and social ownership of the economy.”
- The DSA uses the [Rank-and-File Strategy](#) to infiltrate unions. They target specific workplaces—recently, K-12 teachers, health care, and logistics—in order to introduce socialist ideas into those sectors.

The Way Forward

Americans deserve transparency from unions about their real goals. DSA-affiliated politicians—such as Mayor Zohran Mandami in New York City—are gaining popularity and reaching political office. Examining the DSA's true end goals for labor and unions provides important information for policymakers, workers, and businesses.

In the interest of national security, the DSA's growing ties to the Chinese Communist Party should be scrutinized to protect the country from foreign bad actors who would wish to undermine American economic prosperity.

Addressing Misperceptions

MISPERCEPTIONS	FACTS
Workers, on the whole, approve of how unions act.	Unions generally enjoy the public’s abstract support, but workers want much more transparency from unions. Large majorities of workers believe that unions are not clear about their methods, goals, or processes, and decreasing union membership across the U.S. labor force reflects their general distrust. <u>Eighty-two percent</u> of workers believe unions should be transparent about salting employees, and want a union staffer to disclose their affiliation when seeking a job for the purpose of unionizing their coworkers.
Labor union participation in politics is not significant, and therefore socialist and CCP influence within labor unions will not impact U.S. politics as a whole.	Labor unions are highly involved in politics. Over the 2023-2024 election cycle, the four largest public sector unions gave <u>\$107 million</u> in political donations directly to local, state, and federal candidates, with 95.4% of that amount being directed to Democratic candidates. These four unions—the National Education Association (NEA), American Federation of Teachers (AFT), Service Employees International Union (SEIU), and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)—then spent \$808 million further that campaign cycle beyond direct support of political candidates to advance progressive ideology. Through the DSA, China has the opportunity to strongly influence Democratic candidates, campaigns, policy, and American elections.
The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) want to support American businesses.	The DSA targets specific American industries to disrupt. Their <u>goal</u> is “establishing worker and social ownership of the economy,” replacing capitalism with a communist economic model where they “collectively own” major economic drivers such as energy production, private property, and transportation. To enact radical change in the U.S. economy, the DSA links with various domestic movements, including the labor movement, in order to gain visibility and push ideas. Their specific labor <u>strategy</u>, the Rank-and-File Strategy, places socialists in positions of power within the private sector to nurture class struggle in the workplace and undermine business.

To learn more, read [Policy Focus: Today’s Labor Unions: Infiltrated by Democratic Socialists of America, Influenced by China.](#)