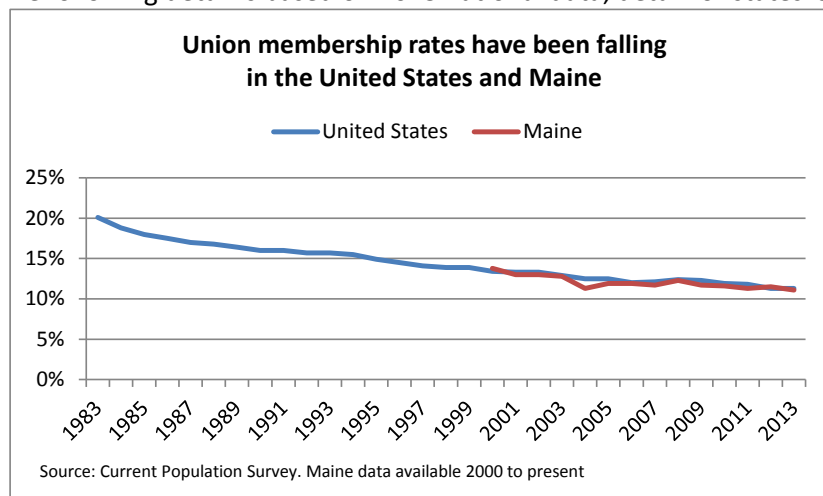


Union membership in 2013

Union members accounted for 11.1 percent of employed wage and salary workers in Maine in 2013, down from 11.5 percent in 2012 according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Nationally, union membership was 11.3 percent in 2013, the same as in 2012. Union membership totaled 64,000 in Maine and 14.5 million in the U.S. In 1983 the union membership was 20.1 percent in the U.S. compared to the current rate of 11.1 percent. Data on union membership is collected through the Current Population Survey, a monthly survey of 60,000 households that obtains information on employment and unemployment. The following detail is based on 2013 national data; detail for states is not published.



Membership by Industry, Occupation, and Earnings

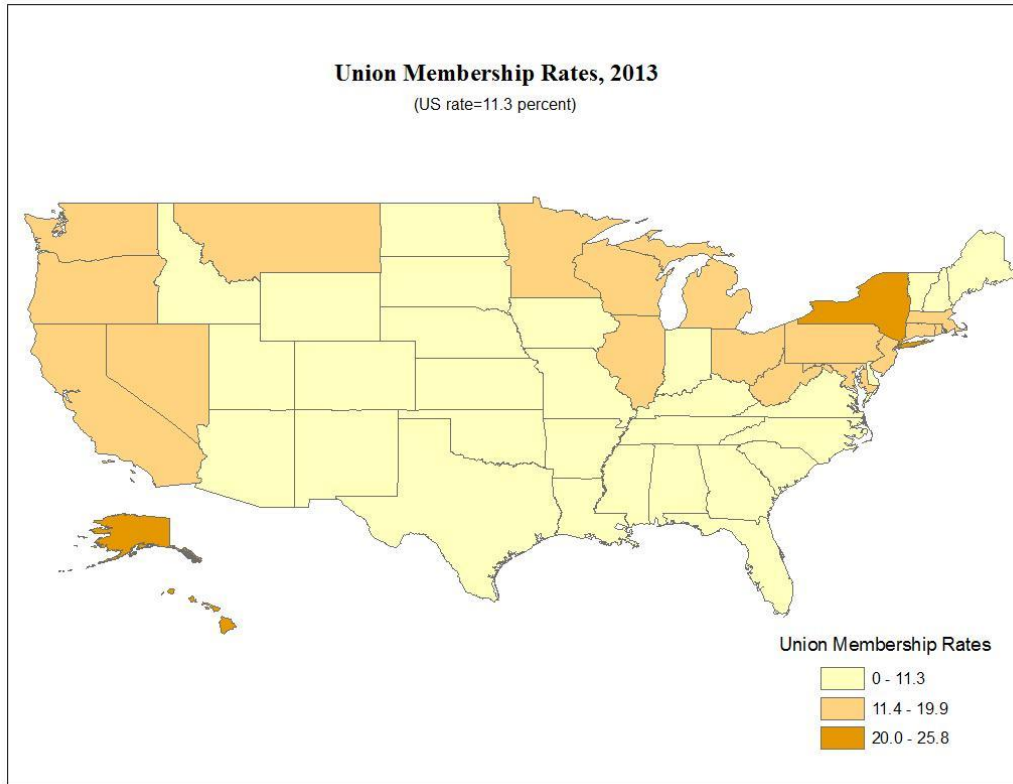
The union membership rate for public sector workers was more than five times that of private sector workers (35.3 percent compared to 6.7 percent). In the public sector, local government workers had the highest union membership rate at 40.8 percent. Local governments generally have high concentrations of workers in heavily unionized occupations, including teachers, police officers, and fire fighters. Private sector industries with high unionization rates include transportation and utilities (20.6 percent) and construction (14.1 percent). Unionization rates were relatively low in financial activities (2.0 percent) and professional and business services (2.4 percent).

Among occupational groups, education, training, and library occupations (35.3 percent) and protective service occupations (35.3 percent) had the highest unionization rates. Sales related occupations (2.9 percent) and farming, fishing, and forestry occupations (2.1 percent) had the lowest unionization rates. Among full-time wage and salary workers, union members had median usual weekly earnings of \$950, while those who were not union members had median weekly earnings of \$750. The difference reflects a variety of influences in addition to coverage by collective bargaining agreements, including variations in the distributions of union membership by occupation, industry, firm size, or geographic region. Membership rates were generally lowest in occupations with higher-than-average earnings that generally require post-secondary education or training, and earnings differentials between members and non-members were generally lower in those occupations.

Demographic and Regional Characteristics of Union Membership

Union membership rates were highest among workers age 55 to 64 (14.3 percent) and 45 to 54 (14.0 percent), and lowest among those 16 to 24 (4.2 percent). Membership rates of full-time workers were

twice that of part-time workers (12.5 percent compared to 6.0 percent). Union membership was higher for men (11.9 percent) than women (10.5 percent), though the gap in membership has narrowed considerably since 1983 when there was a 10 percentage point differential. Between 1983 and 2013 the union membership rate declined 12.8 points among men and 4.1 points among women. All states in the Middle Atlantic and Pacific divisions reported membership rates above the national average, and all states in the East South Central and West South Central divisions had rates below it.



More detail is available at www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/union2.pdf