

2024

Nebraska's Labor Movement Survey

Morgan Vogel

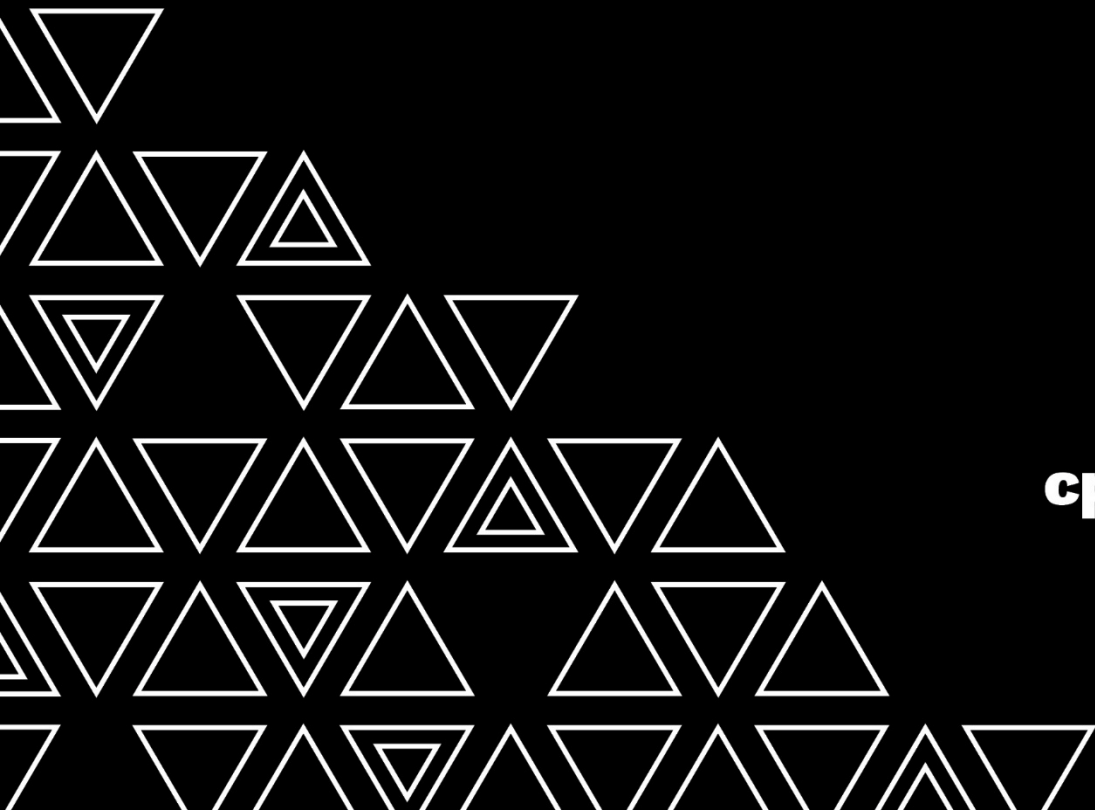
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#NebraskaByTheNumbers

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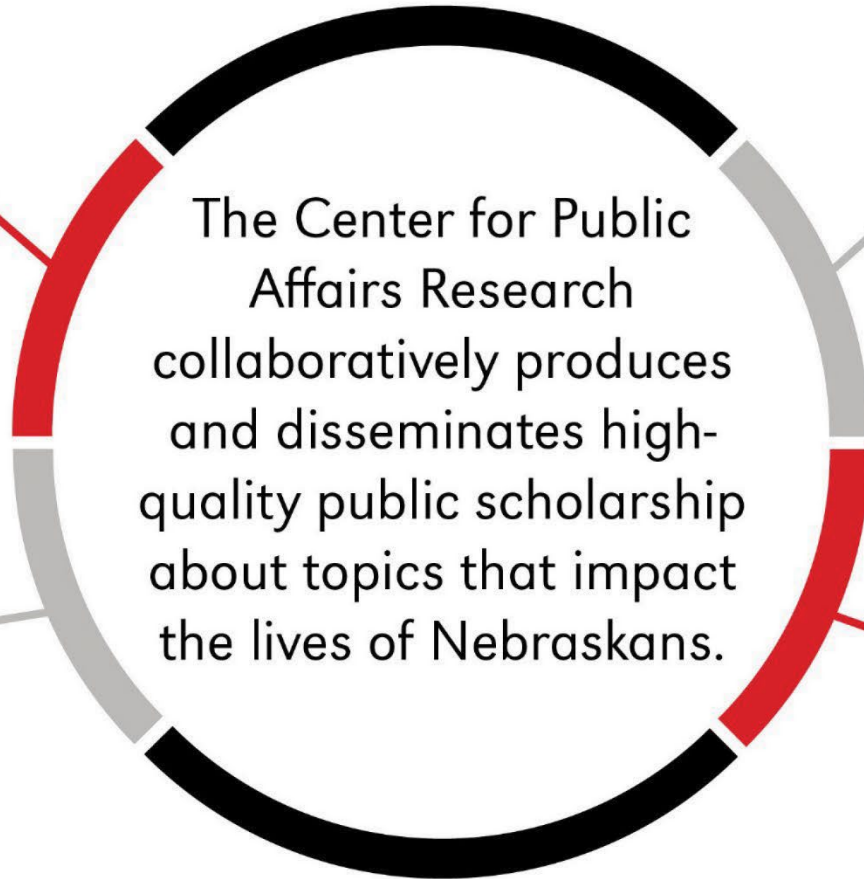
State Data Center

Demographic Data
Organized by State
and County



State Policy Initiative

Policy Briefs of Data for
Planning Committee of the
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Governing

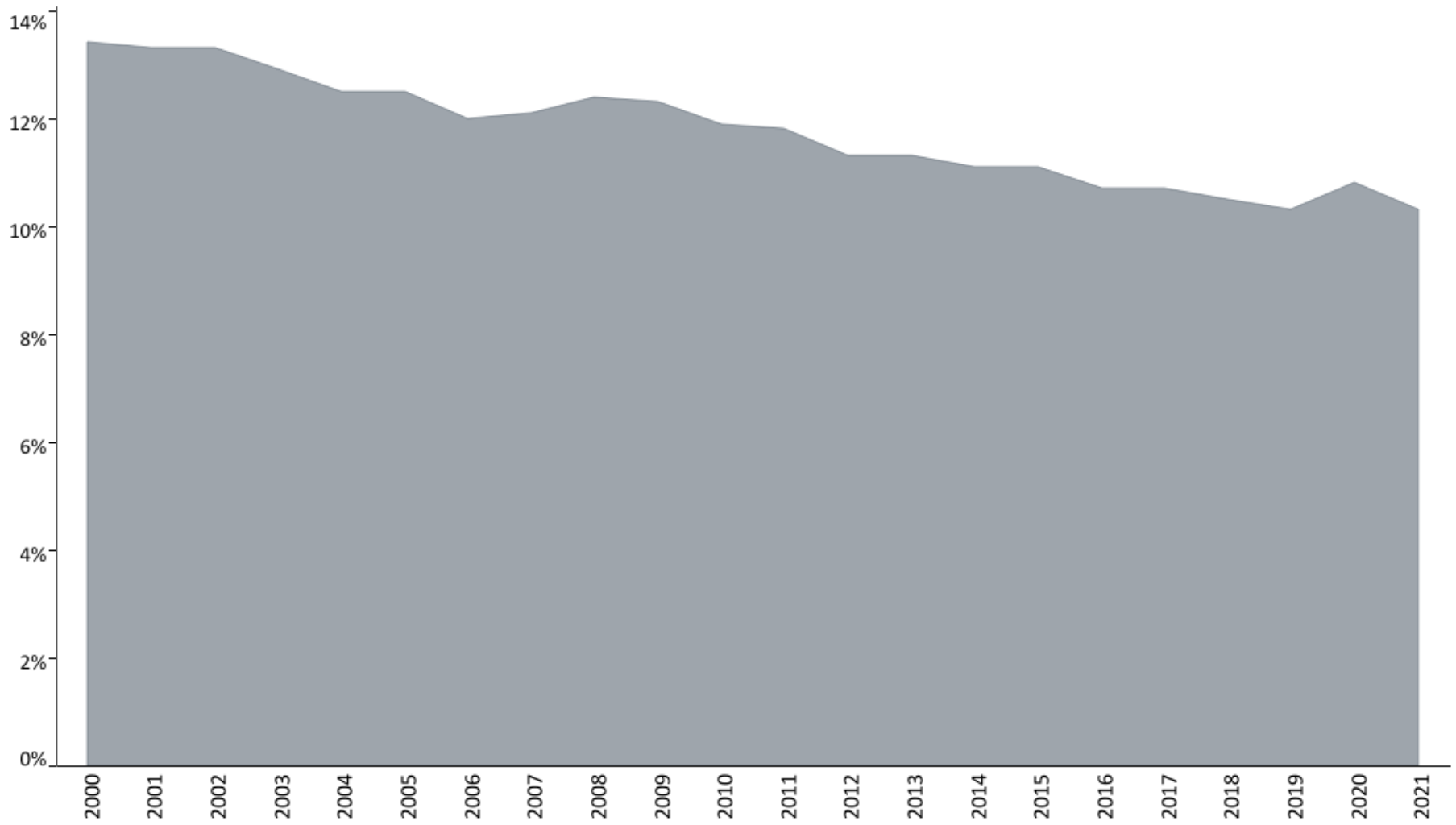
Interactive Visualizations
of Data Across the
United States



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Nationally and in Nebraska union membership is declining

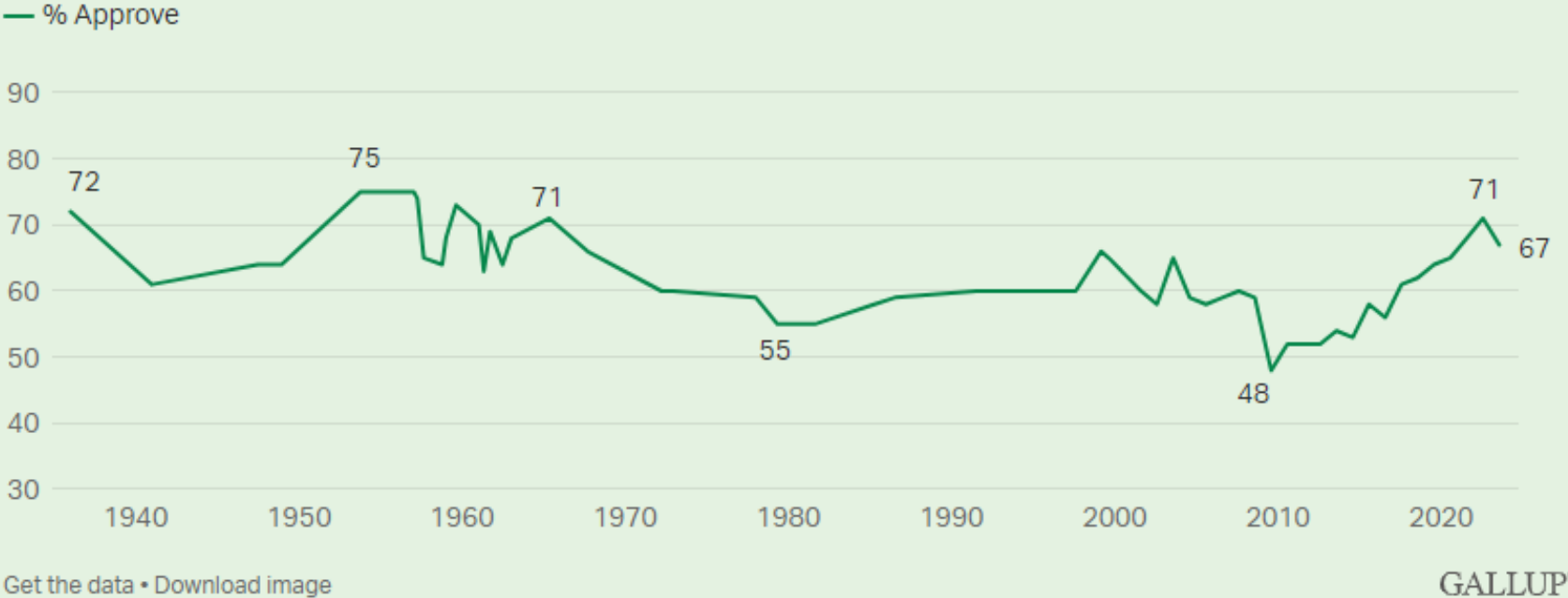
National rates of union membership 2000 to 2021



Despite declining membership, Americans' approval of labor unions remains high

Americans' Approval of Labor Unions, 1936-2023

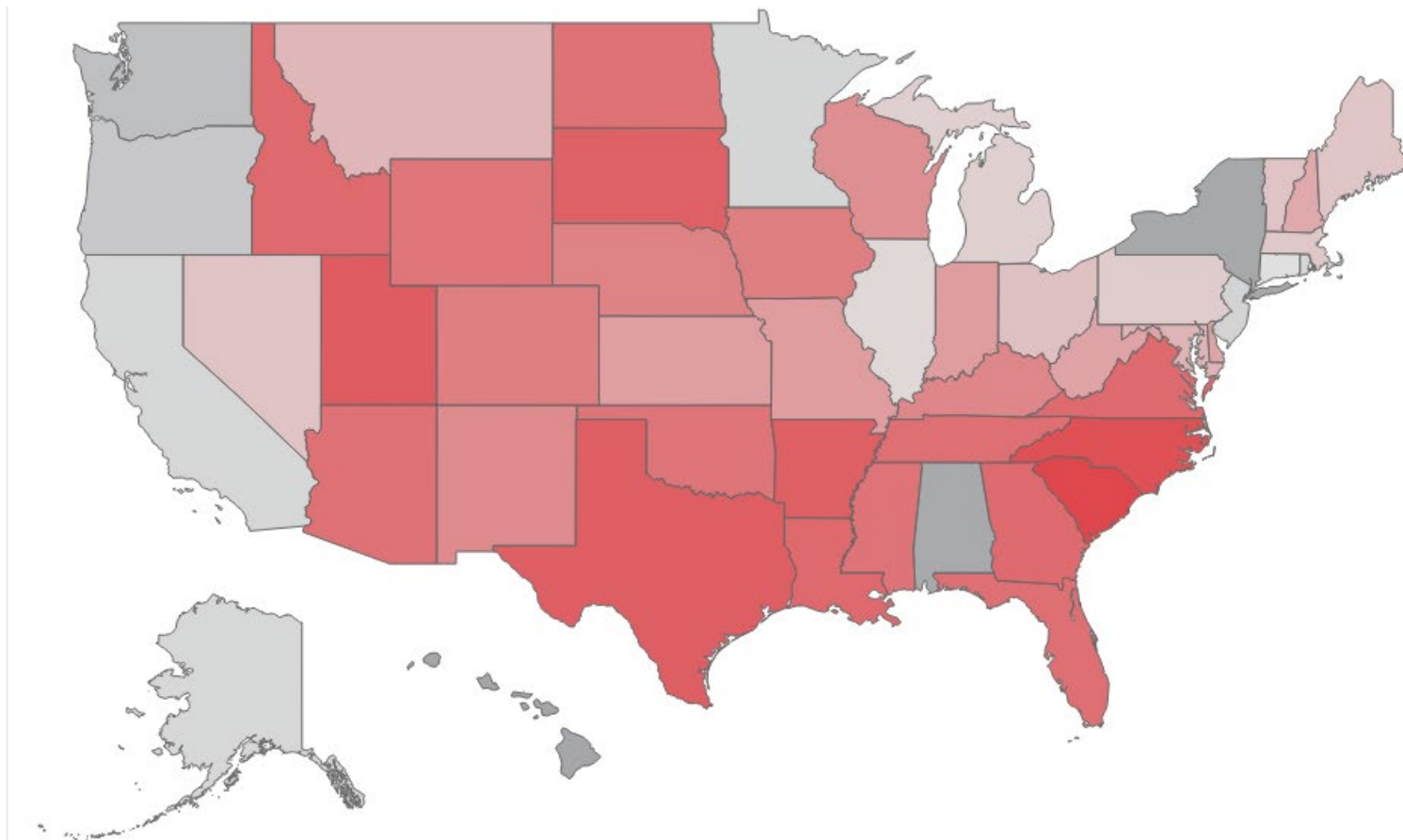
Do you approve or disapprove of labor unions?



Union membership in Nebraska is moderate at 6.8%

Rate of union membership by state for 2021

1.6%  27.5%



Methodology

To what extent is there support for the labor movement in Nebraska?

- Explore membership, perceptions, and efficacy
- Survey instrument created using Qualtrics
- Survey distributed by email and social media
- 600 responses

Specific outreach to:

- Nebraska State AFL-CIO
- Omaha Federation of Labor
- Midwest Nebraska Central Labor Council
- Lincoln Central Labor Union
- Nebraska State Education Association
- Nebraska State Democratic Party
- Nebraska State Republican Party
- Douglas County Democratic Party
- Douglas County Republican Party
- Nebraska Young Republicans

Survey Demographics

Gender



MALE
427, 75%



FEMALE
128, 23%



NON-BINARY
4, 1%

Race



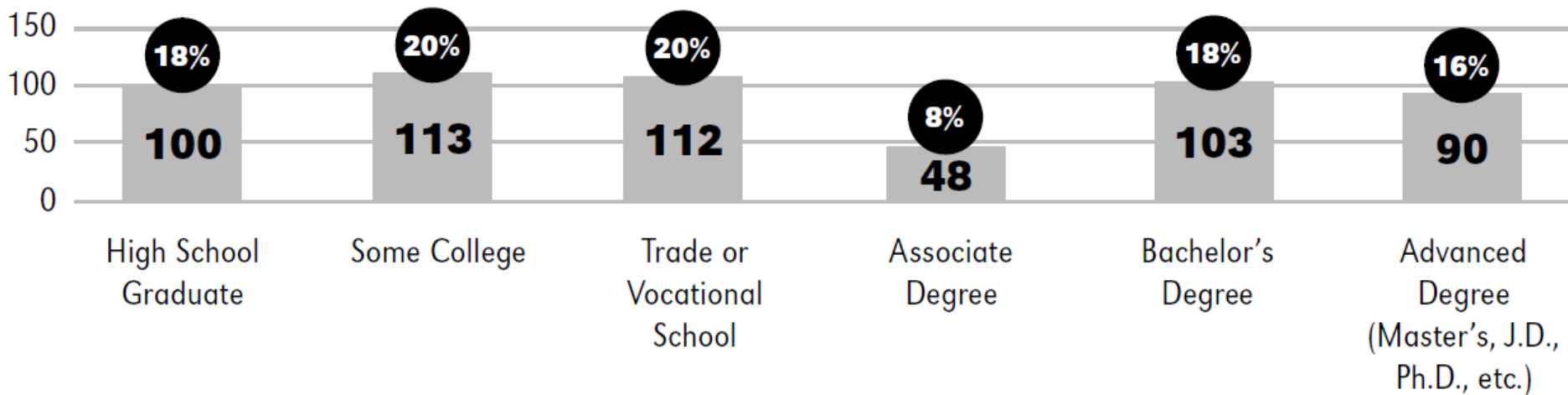
10, 2%	American Indian or Alaska Native
9, 2%	Asian
12, 2%	Black or African American
36, 6%	Latino/Latina/Latinx
3, 1%	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
508, 86%	White
10, 2%	Other

Age

30 or less	142, 27%
31-40	110, 21%
41-50	97, 18%
51-60	67, 13%
61-70	61, 12%
71-80	45, 8%
81+	8, 2%

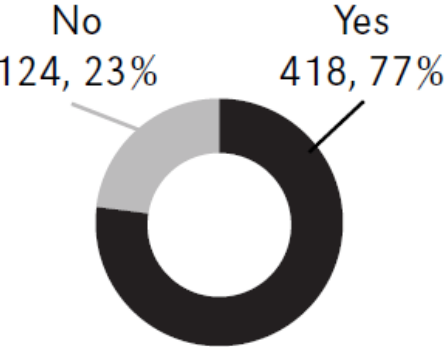
Survey Demographics

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

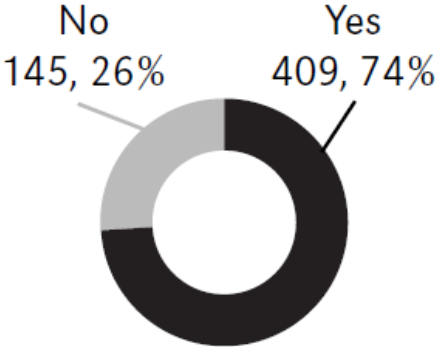


Union Membership

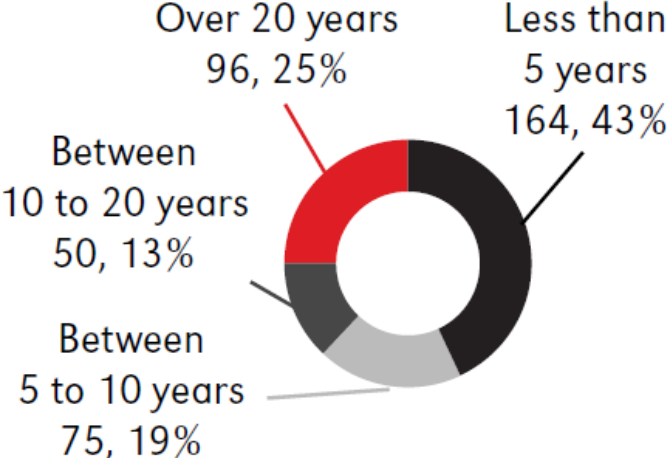
Is your workplace currently unionized?



Are you currently a member of a union?

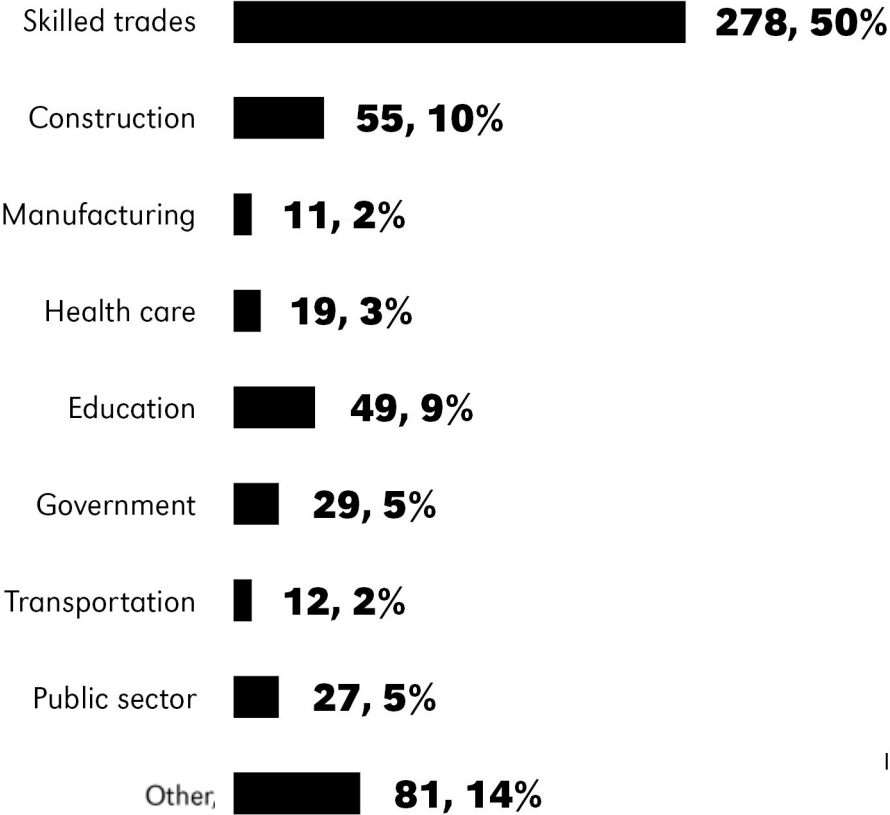


How long have you belonged to a labor union?

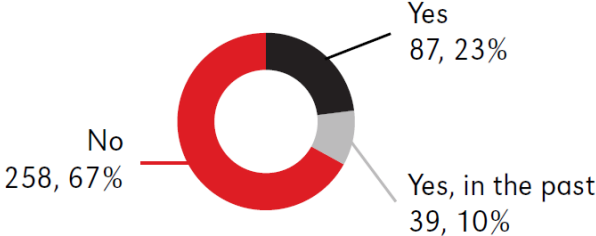


Union Membership

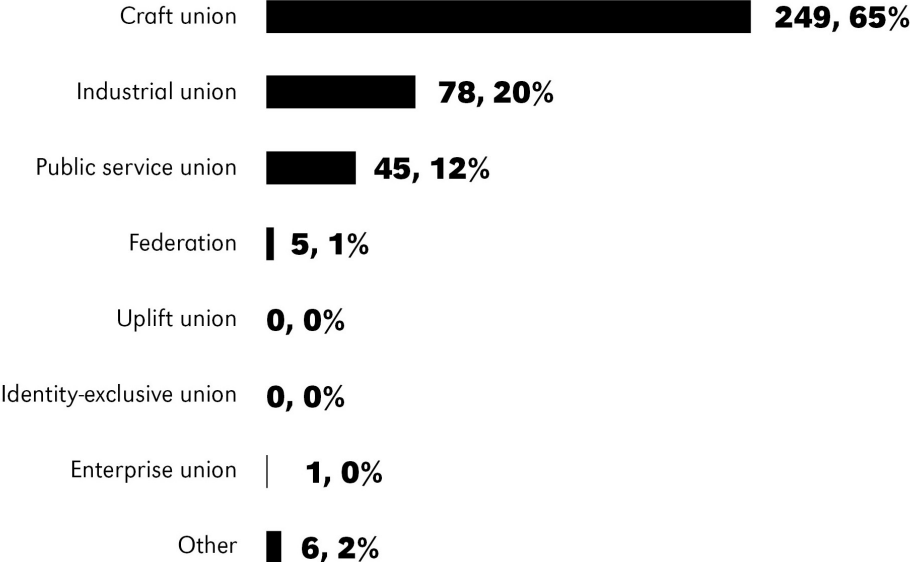
Industry



Do you currently hold or have you previously held a leadership position within your local union chapter?



What type of union do you belong to?



Many respondents, both union and non-union, believe unions are a positive force in the country and in Nebraska

Respondents Who Belong to a Union

82%

believe unions are a positive force in this country



72%

believe unions are a positive force in this state



Respondents Who Do Not Belong to a Union

76%

believe unions are a positive force in this country



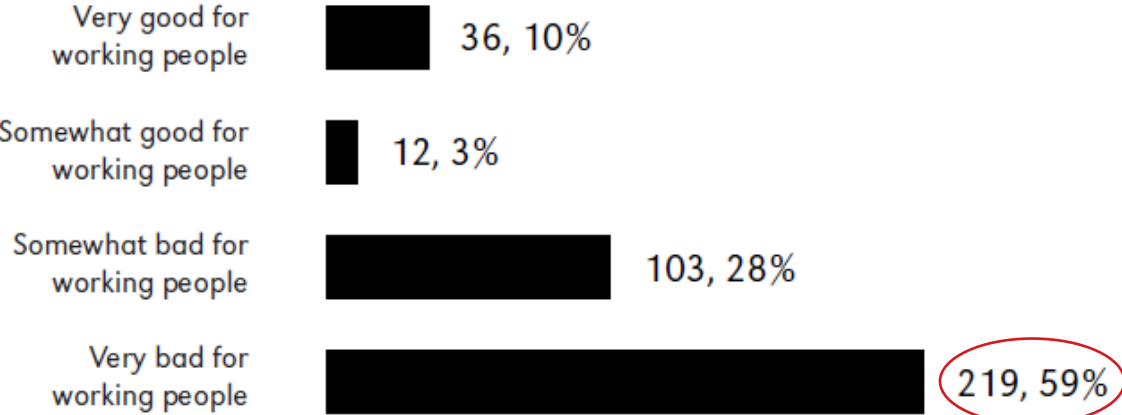
59%

believe unions are a positive force in this state

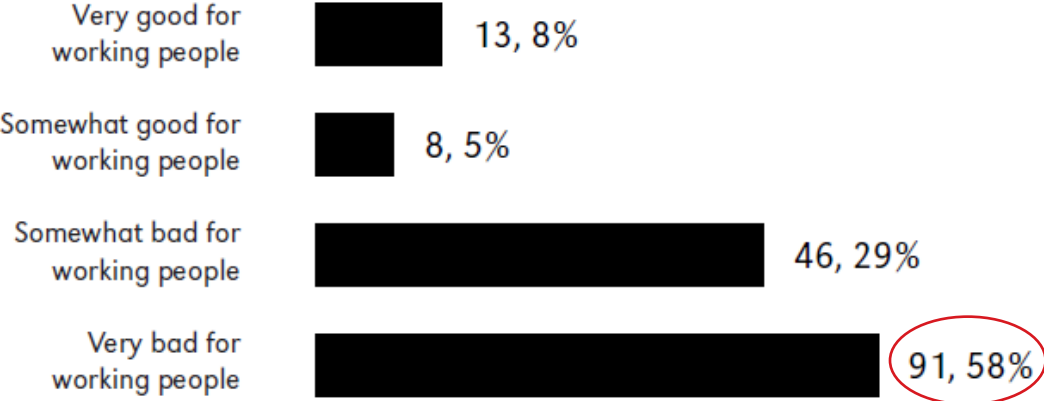


Many respondents, both union and non-union, believe the decline in union representation is very bad for working people

Respondents Who Belong to a Union

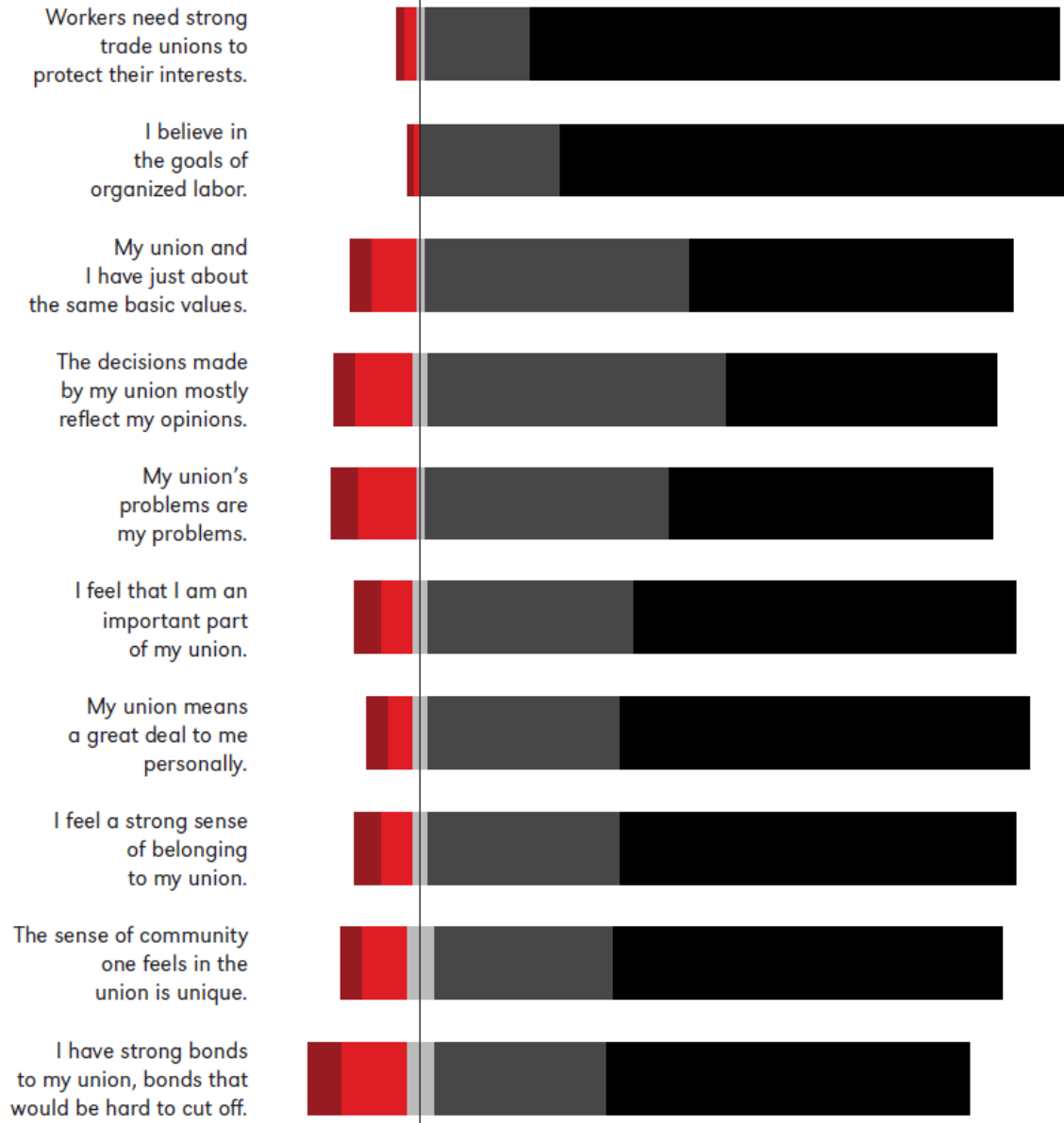


Respondents Who Do Not Belong to a Union

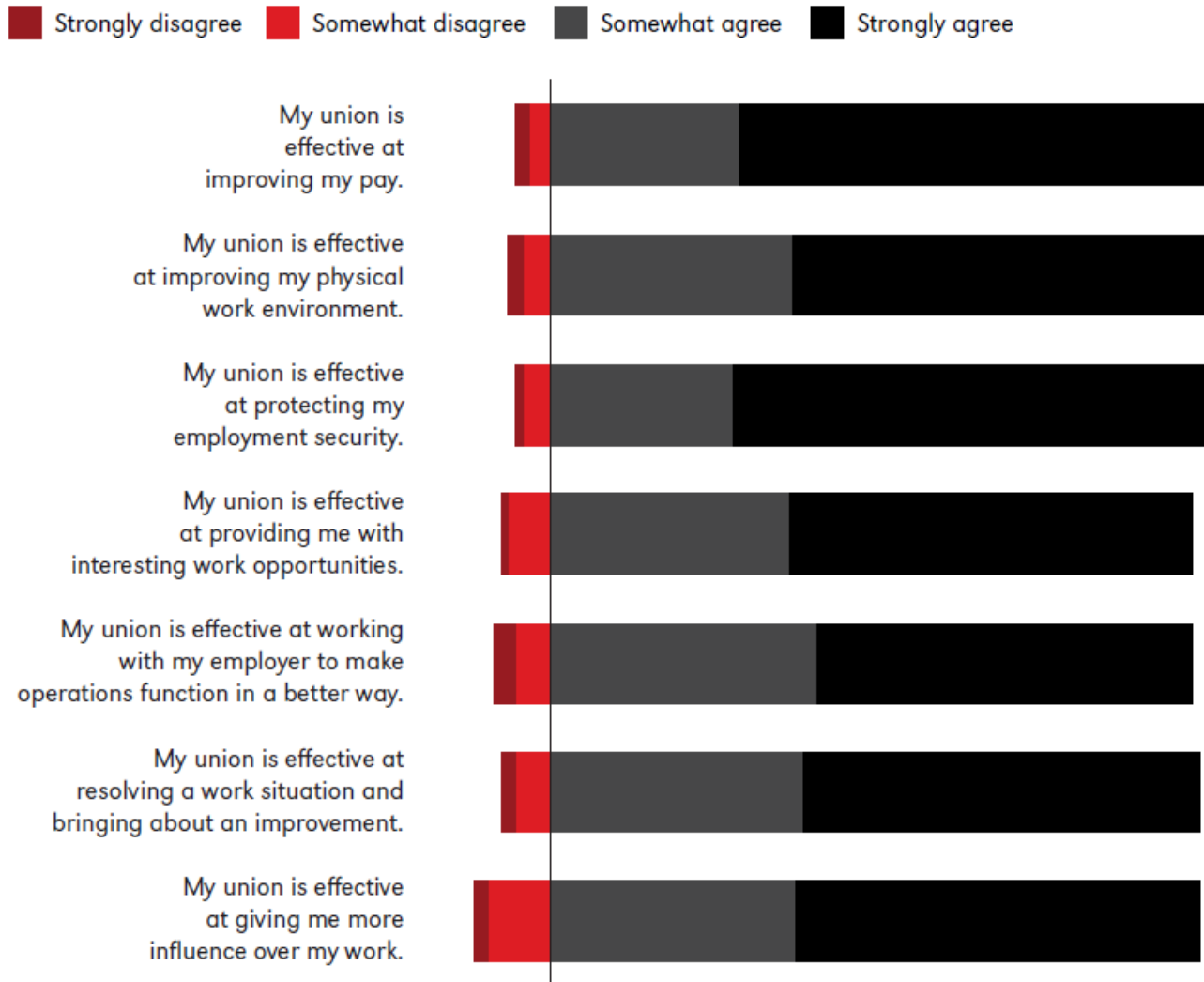


Many respondents strongly agree with the goals of organized labor and identify a sense of belonging to their union

■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Somewhat disagree
 ■ Don't know
 ■ Somewhat agree
 ■ Strongly agree

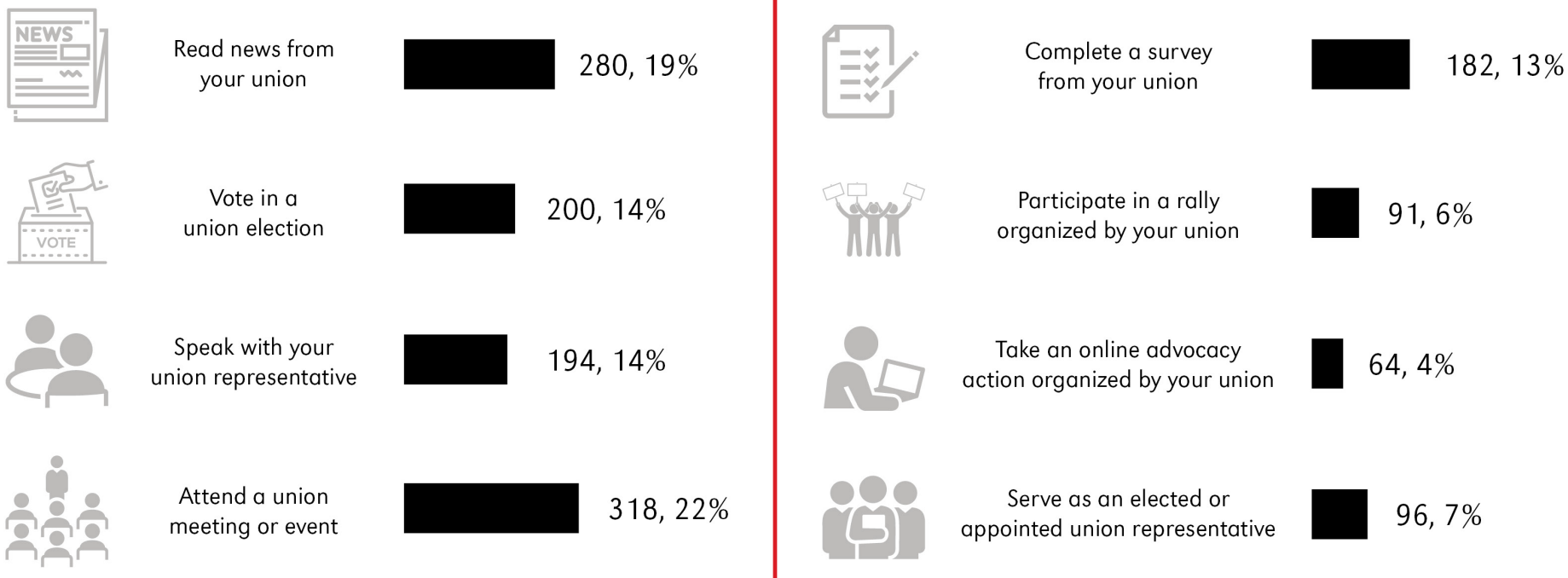


Many respondents believe unions are effective in advocating for, protecting, and improving workers' rights



Support for labor unions does not necessarily translate into members' participation in union activities

Percent of survey respondents who participated in union activities in past year

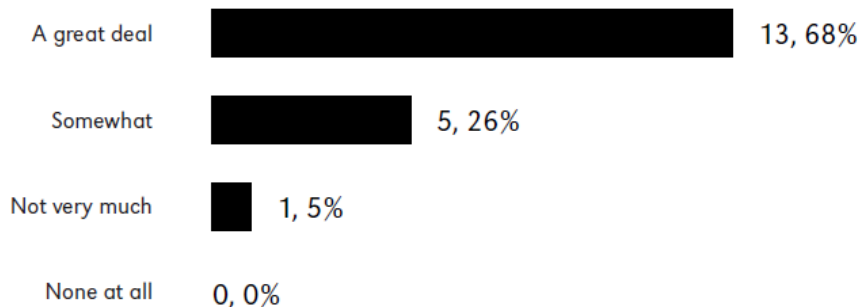


Among those who work in education, there is strong support for teachers' unions

Do you think of teachers unions or associations as...?



To what degree do you believe that your perspective as a teacher is represented in policy decisions in your union?

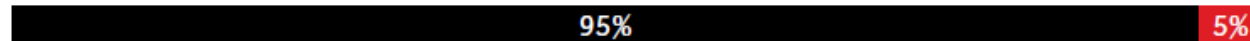


100%
of respondents believe that, without a union, teachers would be vulnerable to school politics or administrators who abuse their power

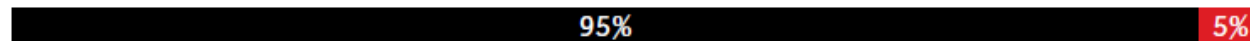
Among those who work in education, respondents believe unions are important in supporting and protecting teachers' rights

Extremely important Very important Moderately important Slightly important Not important at all

Bargain for wages/salary



Bargain for health/retirement benefits



Protect teachers' jobs



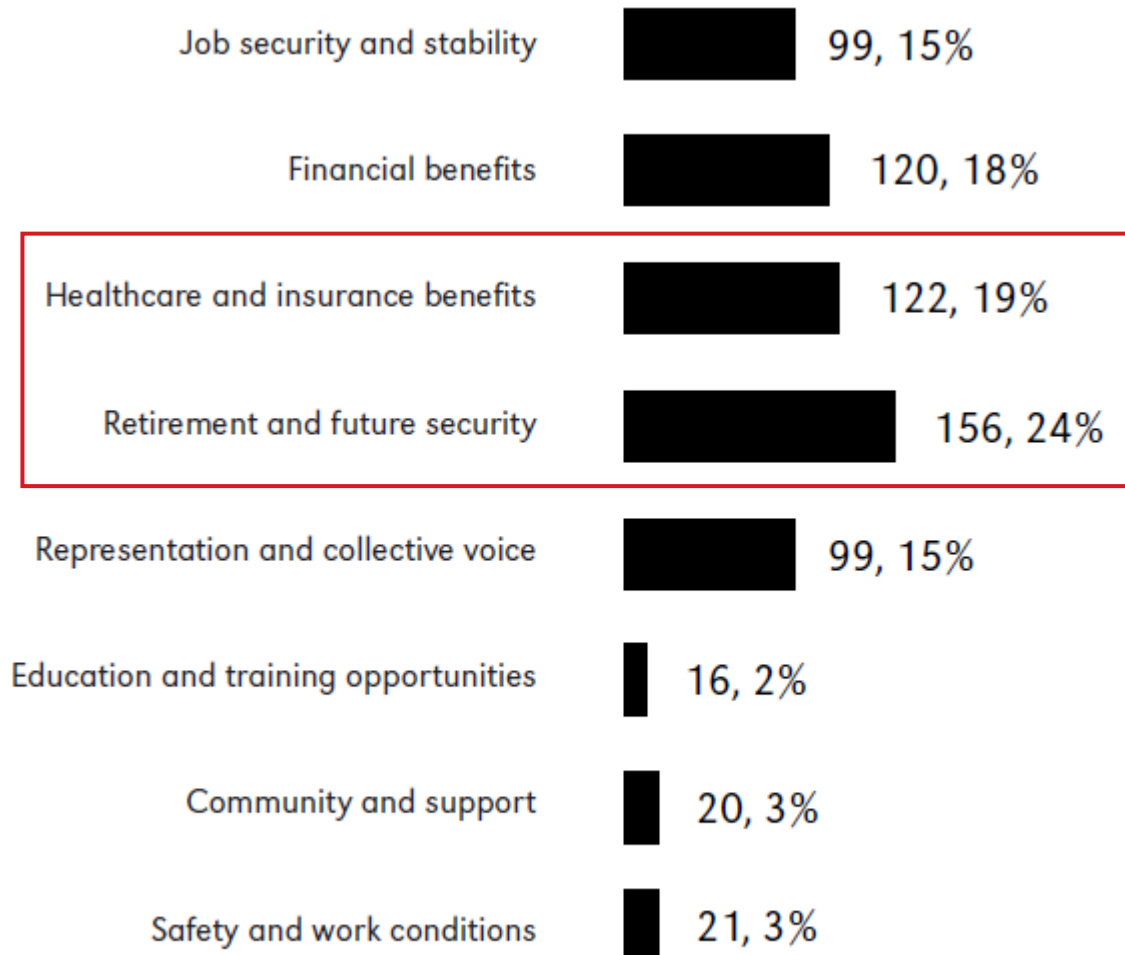
Provide information about political candidates and their issue positions



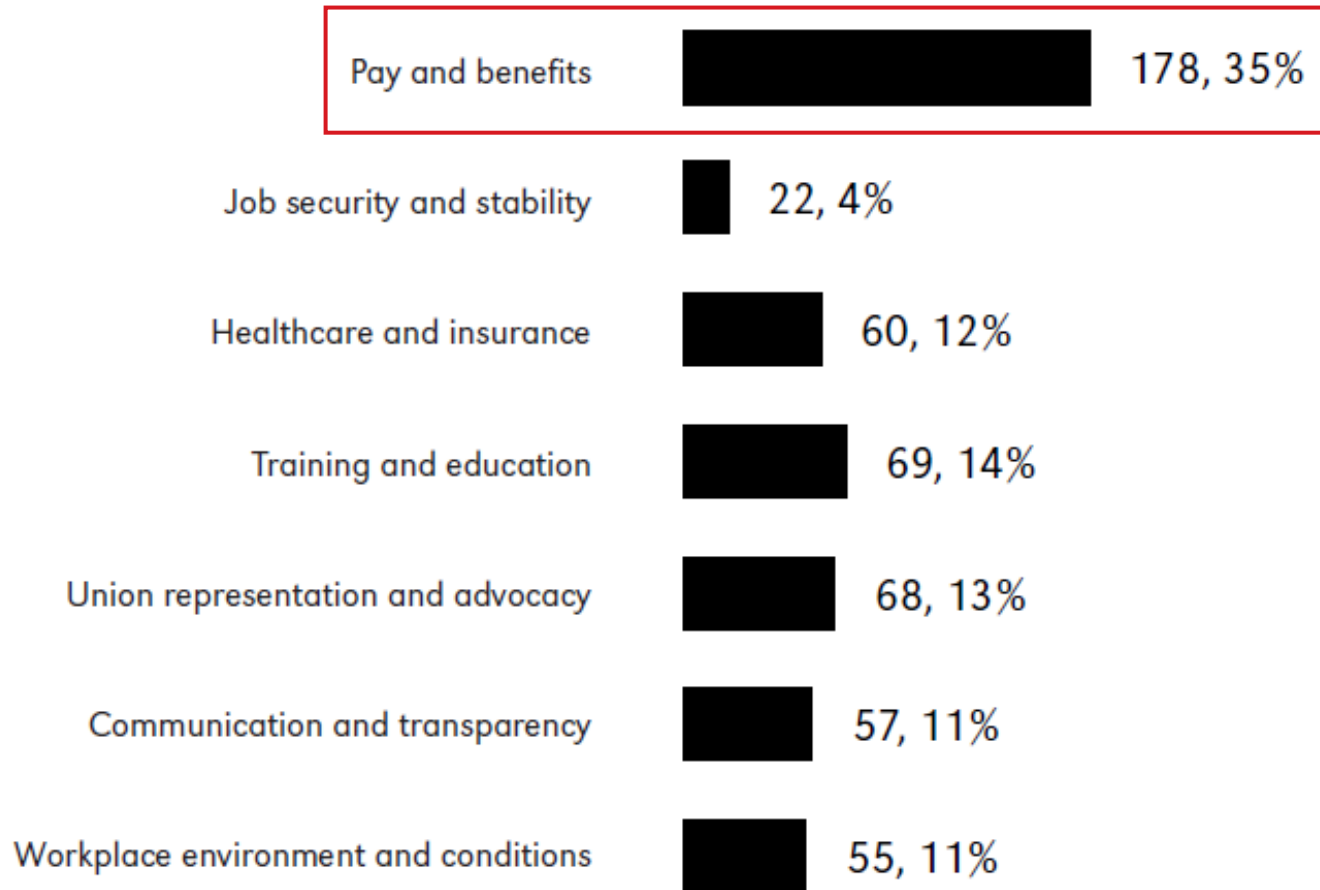
Support/endorse political candidates



According to respondents, retirement security and access to healthcare and insurance are top benefits provided by unions



Respondents identify pay and benefits as the number one area of improvement for unions



UNION TOOLS

1

**Political
Involvement**

2

**Collective
Bargaining**

3

**Organizing
the
Unorganized**

4

**Working Together
with Like-minded
Groups and
Organizations**



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