



# Labor Relations Week<sup>TM</sup>

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## **AFL-CIO**

### **AFL-CIO Membership at 8.5 Million in 2009 Following Net Gain of More Than 140,000**

ORLANDO, Fla.—Affiliates of the AFL-CIO brought some 401,817 new members into the federation in 2009, while losing some 260,743 members, resulting in a net gain of more than 140,000 members, according to the federation's membership report released during the AFL-CIO Executive Council's winter meeting March 1-3.

The membership of all the unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO during the 12 months of 2009 averaged 8,510,395, a net increase of 141,075 members compared with 2008. The membership figures are based on per capita tax paid by the affiliates to the AFL-CIO.

Among the 401,817 new members are 213,000 members of UNITE HERE, which reaffiliated with the federation last September (23 LRW 1519, 9/24/09).

The membership figures do not include the more than 3 million members of Working America, the federation's community affiliate for workers who are not represented by a union, or the 3.9 million retired union members of the federation's affiliate, the Alliance for Retired Americans.

Overall, the report showed that 19 national unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO had membership increases in 2009, adding a total of 129,467 members, while 21 affiliated unions experienced membership declines totaling 260,743. Fifteen unions had no change.

Five unions grew by more than 5,000 members in 2009, according to the federation's figures. Of these, two grew by more than 25,000 members.

The unions with the highest net growth in 2009 included the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (43,851), the American Federation of Teachers (29,286), the American Federation of Government Employees (15,568), the American Postal Workers Union (11,781), and the International Association of Fire Fighters (7,250).

AFL-CIO affiliates that showed the largest losses in 2009, according to the report, were the United Auto Workers (84,656), the United Steelworkers (57,732), the International Association of Machinists (27,035), and the Communications Workers of America (21,333).

*By Michelle Amber*

*Text of the membership report may be accessed at  
<http://op.bna.com/dlrcases.nsf/r?Open=kpin-838ufr>.*

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