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# At Stake In Wisconsin Is Nothing Less Than The Future Of Unions In America

Joe Weisenthal | Feb. 21, 2011, 4:48 AM | 2,285 | 49

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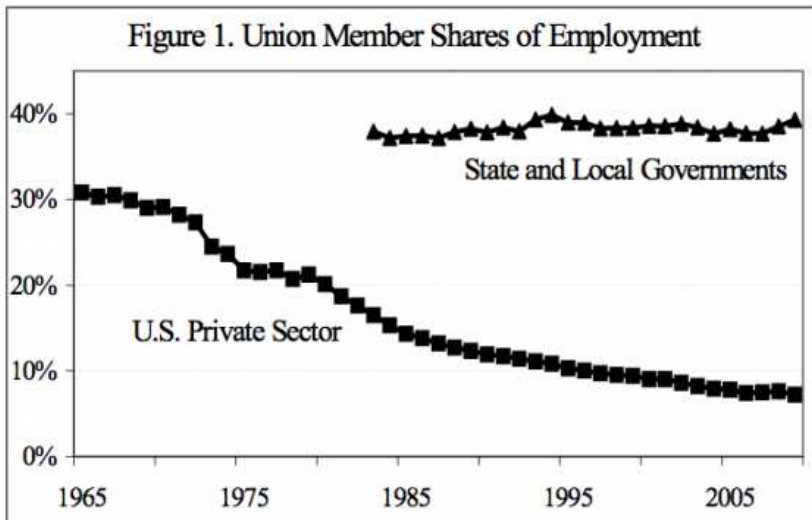
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This chart from the CATO institute from last year gives a pretty clear reason why unions -- and the party that depends on them so much for money and organization, the Democrats -- are so desperate to keep the public sector side from weakening.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Image: The Cato Institute

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49 Comments [Receive email updates on new comments!](#)**Bill Clinton** on Feb 21, 5:24 AM said:

You are right, Joe. This is another PATCO moment.

9 2  
[Flag as Offensive](#)[Reply](#)**cf** on Feb 21, 6:15 AM said:

OK.

The Australia private sector keeps hiring people (Jobless rate at 5%!!!!!!), while the union down under is so freaking strong. Then.....

why don't you ask this question: why the US private sector fails to do so?

8 8  
[Flag as Offensive](#)[Reply](#)**fed-up** on Feb 21, 7:12 AM said:**@cf:** I would imagine that a majority of your unions are in the highly productive and profitable resource producing sector ours are in the highly unproductive and costly government sector.

Your laws may be uniform across the country where we have states that treat unions differently making it harder to collect dues or have what's called a closed shop (where everyone MUST be a member) therefore robbing them of much of their political power and keeping their jobs more competitive.

Manufacturing in this country has grown so expensive it can now be done half a world away and still come in under what costs would be to produce a good here while your resources can only be extracted in country.

30 3  
[Flag as Offensive](#)[Reply](#)**nunyabiz** on Feb 21, 9:49 AM said:**@cf:** Could it be that part of the reason is they have recently been reducing their corporate tax rates?

While here we have been threatening to raise them?

9 2  
[Flag as Offensive](#)[Reply](#)**Windsor** on Feb 21, 9:58 AM said:**@cf:** Because the US has spent the past 30 years destroying unions in the private sector. The reality is that pay in the private sector should be much higher. It's not that state workers are paid so much it's that private sector workers are underpaid. And all the suckers out there that think destroying the last of the unions is going to bridge the huge gap in this country between the middle class (?)/poor and the rich. Corporate America won and wants nothing more than our country going back to slave labor laws of the 19th century.8 15  
[Flag as Offensive](#)[Reply](#)**college student** on Feb 21, 10:00 AM said:**@Windsor:** Yes. That is exactly it. Minimum wage jobs -- no pension, no health care, no vacation time, no sick days -- for all Americans. And the Americans are screaming for it.9 10  
[Flag as Offensive](#)[Reply](#)**nunyabiz** on Feb 21, 10:42 AM said:**@college student:** Yeah you have the idea. So Your first step out of college should be to start a corporation, Pay top dollar salaries for all, with excellent benefits. Also I am sure you will reduce the cost of the goods at the same time and run the competition out of business. Hope you have deep pockets though as you will be in the same place as the Government is. In Debt.

In a free country you do not have to take a job if it doesn't meet your needs. You can take your services elsewhere or start a competing business. That is the Beauty of this country.

Unfortunately there are an ever growing mass that are able but that just want the government to provide for them while they sit on their arse and not take responsibility for their selves.

12 4  
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