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BLS Report On Labor Union And Employee Association Membership, 1973

Federal Employers of the Bay Area
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Abstract
BLS REPORT ON LABOR UNION AND
EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP—1978

The number of white collar employees belonging to unions and employee associations headquartered in the U.S. increased by 182,000 between 1976 and 1978 to nearly 6.9 million, according to preliminary findings of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The proportion of white collar employees in labor organizations in 1978 was 28.2 percent of 24,295,000 union and association members among all categories of workers, an increase of 0.6 percent from 1976, when 6,673,000 of 24,157,000 employees in labor organizations were employed in white collar occupations. The nearly 6.7 million white collar employees in labor organizations in 1976 was a 3.3 percent increase from 5,881,000 in 1974. The total of white collar employees in labor organizations in 1976 is revised from the nearly 6.5 million that BLS reported in its preliminary study released in September 1977.

Overall, unions and employee associations reported increased membership of 138,000 between 1976 and 1978, most of the gains taking place in nonmanufacturing industries and government. National and international unions increased by 605,000 over the 1976-1978 period, raising the total membership to 21,734,000, the highest ever reported. Associations, however, experienced a decline in their enrollments from 3,028,000 members in 1976 to 2,561,000 in 1978. BLS says that most of the associations' losses resulted from a shift of professional and state employees association members to labor unions, including New York's 207-member Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., which affiliated with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees in April 1978. Excluding Canadian members of U.S. labor organizations, membership in unions and associations in the U.S. increased from 22,662,000 in 1976 to 22,798,000 in 1978. As a proportion of the total U.S. labor force, however, labor organizations, dropped from 23.4 percent in 1976 to 22.2 percent in 1978 (table 3).