

# SEIU: Snapshots

**Here are some SEIU facts you might want to tell new members:**

- SEIU was founded in 1921 by a handful of immigrant janitors. Today we are the largest and fastest-growing union in North America and have more than 2 million members.
- SEIU headquarters is located in Washington, D.C. Members are organized in some 300 local union affiliates throughout the continent. SEIU belongs to the Change to Win federation and the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC).
- SEIU's members represent hundreds of different occupations including janitors, doctors, school workers, social workers, nurses, engineers, taxi drivers, and government workers throughout the contiguous United States, Canada, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.
- The hundreds of different occupations represented by SEIU are divided into three divisions: Health Care, Public Services, and Property Services.
- Health Care – SEIU is the largest union of health care workers with over 1 million members in the field, including nurses, LPNs, doctors, lab technicians, nursing home workers, and home care workers.
- Public Services – SEIU is the second largest union of public service employees with 850,000 local and state government workers, public school employees, bus drivers, and child care providers.
- Property Services – SEIU is also the largest property services union, with 225,000 workers who protect and clean commercial and residential office buildings, and is the largest security union, with 50,000 private security officers and public safety personnel.
- Our membership is among the most diverse in the labor movement. More than half of SEIU's members are women, a higher percentage than in the workforce in general.
- More than 40 percent of SEIU members are people of color compared to 25 percent of the workforce in general.
- SEIU represents more immigrant workers than any other union in the United States. Among the languages spoken in SEIU local unions: English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Polish, Italian, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Arabic, French, Japanese, Creole, and Greek. That's just some.
- The SEIU International Convention held every four years is the highest governing body of the union.

Delegates representing every SEIU member must approve all decisions and policies of the union, including any dues increases.