



FACT SHEET

National Institute for Labor Relations Research

5211 Port Royal Road, Suite 510 • Springfield, VA 22151 • Phone: (703) 321-9606 • Fax: (703) 321-7342 • research@nilrr.org • www.nilrr.org

October 2007

Right to Work States Benefit From Faster Growth, Higher Real Purchasing Power – 2007 Update

Percentage Growth in Non-Farm Private-Sector Employees (1996-2006)	Right to Work States	19.8%
	Forced-Unionism States	10.6%
	National Average	14.5%
<small>Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)</small>		
Average Cost of Living-Adjusted Weekly Earnings (2005)	Right to Work States	\$723
	Forced-Unionism States	\$688
	National Average	\$701
<small>Congressional Quarterly's <i>State Fact Finder 2006</i>; Bureau of National Affairs (BNA)</small>		
Percentage Growth in Construction Employment (1996-2006)	Right to Work States	42%
	Forced-Unionism States.	37%
	National Average.	39%
<small>BLS</small>		
Share of Occupied Housing Units Occupied by Owners (2006)	Right to Work States	69%
	Forced-Unionism States.	66%
	National Average	67%
<small>American FactFinder (U.S. Bureau of the Census, or BOC)</small>		
Percentage Growth in Manufacturing Establishments (1982-2005)	Right to Work States	+3.6%
	Forced-Unionism States.	- 11.2%
	National Average.	- 6.9%
<small>BOC</small>		
Cost of Living-Adjusted Median House- hold Income in Major Counties (2004)	Right to Work States	\$46,136
	Forced-Unionism States	\$41,488
	National Average	\$42,947
<small>ACCRA-the Council for Community and Economic Research; National Association of Counties (NACO); BOC</small>		
Growth in the Number of People, Aged 25+, Who Have Completed a Bachelor's Degree (2000-2006)	Right to Work States	22.5%
	Forced-Unionism States.	17.2%
	National Average	19.0%
<small>American FactFinder</small>		
Percentage Growth in Real Personal Income (2001-2006)	Right to Work States	15.2%
	Forced-Unionism States.	8.0%
	National Average	10.5%
<small>Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA); BLS</small>		

(continued on page 2)

(page 2)

Welfare (TANF) Recipients Per 1000 Residents (2006 Calendar Year Average)	Right to Work States	8.2
	Forced-Unionism States	17.2
	National Average	13.9
	<small>U.S. Administration for Children and Families; BOC</small>	
Share of Population Covered by Medicaid (2006)	Right to Work States	12.0%
	Forced-Unionism States	13.2%
	National Average	12.9%
	<small>BOC</small>	
New Privately-Owned Single-Unit Housing Starts Per 1000 Residents (2006)	Right to Work States	5.8
	Forced-Unionism States	3.5
	National Average	4.4
	<small>BOC, National Association of Home Builders</small>	
Value Added by Manufacture Per Production Worker (2005)	Right to Work States	\$243,673
	Forced-Unionism States	\$235,825
	National Average	\$238,793
	<small>BOC</small>	
Growth in Real Manufacturing GDP in Chained 2000 Dollars (2000-2006)	Right to Work States	20.7%
	Forced-Unionism States	5.9%
	National Average	10.4%
	<small>BOC</small>	
Percentage Growth in Number of People Covered by Private Health Insurance (1999-2006)	Right to Work States	+3.4%
	Forced-Unionism States	-1.0%
	National Average	+0.5%
	<small>BOC</small>	
Percentage Growth in Number of Children Covered by Private Health Insurance (1999-2005)	Right to Work States	+0.1%
	Forced-Unionism States	-5.9%
	National Average	-3.8%
	<small>BOC</small>	

Figures that compare years prior to Idaho's implementation of the 21st state Right to Work law in 1986 or Oklahoma's adoption of the 22nd Right to Work law in 2001 with more recent years exclude Idaho and/or Oklahoma.

To obtain more detailed information about how any or all of the above comparative economic data were derived, contact Stan Greer – e-mail stg@nrtw.org or call 703-321-9606.