

## Fast Facts on AFL-CIO Convention & Membership

For information, please call: 202-637-5018

- More than 900 delegates, from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, have registered for the 50th anniversary Convention of the AFL-CIO.
- 446 of the delegates are from national unions, 404 are from central labor councils, 51 are from state federations and 9 are from directly affiliated local unions and trade departments.
- There are 56 affiliate member unions of the AFL-CIO. In 1995, there were 79 affiliate member unions.
- There are 12,951,461 members of the AFL-CIO. *(Average membership for 2004.)*
- AFL-CIO membership in 1955, at its founding, was 12,622,000. The highest AFL-CIO membership was in 1974–1975 when there were 14,070,000 members. The lowest membership was in 1962–1963 when there were 12,496,000 members. *(Average two-year membership for each two-year convention period.)*
- Five-Year growth—Below are the unions that grew by more than 25,000 members from 1999–2004: *(Based on average per-capita payments to AFL-CIO)*
  - AFT 228,811
  - SEIU 207,995
  - Laborers 77,180
  - AFSCME 71,436
  - Fire Fighters 55,000
  - Transport Workers 34,000
  - Bricklayers 31,486
- The AFL-CIO is the largest membership-based organization in the nation.
- AFL-CIO President John Sweeney was the only AFL-CIO president ever elected in a contested election.
- There are several key groups that help lead the AFL-CIO:
  - The AFL-CIO **Convention** meets every four years and is charged with making decisions about the AFL-CIO, including any changes to the Constitution.
  - The **Executive Council**—with 54 members—represents the top leadership of the AFL-CIO and is charged with making decisions between Conventions.
  - The **Executive Committee** is a 24-member advisory group to the officers of the AFL-CIO and represents the largest unions and core constituencies.
- There will be 165 international guests from 64 countries and 12 international organizations at the Convention.