



Follow The Money: Union Organizers Set Their Sights On Silicon Valley, Tech Companies

September 15, 2017 | [Union Organizing, Unions And Union Membership, Labor And Employment](#)



**David J.
Pryzbylski**
Partner

With their numbers on a [continued decline](#), private sector American unions are on the search for new members. According to a recent [Bloomberg article](#), labor organizers are setting their sights on the booming tech market and Silicon Valley in an attempt to grow their ranks. The article details how in recent years various unions, such as UNITE HERE and the Teamsters, have prevailed in organizing more than 5,000 workers on various tech giants' campuses.

The successes thus far primarily have been with the companies' contractor employees who work on the properties (e.g., cafeteria employees who work for a 3rd party food service company) as opposed to direct employees of the tech companies themselves, but the inroads are being made.

In addition, unions currently are trying to organize Silicon Valley companies direct employees, such as the [UAW's recent targeting of Tesla](#). The shift by unions to focus on workers in tech makes sense in light of declining jobs in sectors they have enjoyed historic success, such as [manufacturing](#).

Unionization in the tech sector is an area to watch in the coming years as unions continue to try and blunt their losses.

RELATED PRACTICE AREAS

Collective Bargaining
Labor and Employment
Labor Relations
Union Avoidance

RELATED TOPICS

Silicon Valley
Teamsters
tech market
Tesla
United Auto Workers (UAW)
UNITE HERE