

IUE-CWA GE AEROSPACE WORKERS UNITED

 Follow us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/UnitedAtGE](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedAtGE)

Local 201 Lynn, MA
Local 301 Niskayuna, NY
Local 701 Madisonville, KY
Local 775 Dayton, OH
Local 1004 Strother Field, KS

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2025

GE LOCALS DELIVER OPEN LETTER TO AVIATION INDUSTRY REPS IN TX



IUE-CWA members from GE Aerospace plants across the country converged in Dallas on Jan 28, 2025 to deliver a message to the aerospace industry: "Don't Let GE Crash Like Boeing: Stop Stock Buybacks—Invest in Skilled Workers." IUE-CWA distributed an open letter to industry leaders at the 2025 Aero-Engines Conference, warning of the risks of prioritizing Wall Street over critical workforce investments. We were supported by members of CWA Local 6201 from Fort Worth and IUE-CWA Local 86787 from Dallas, Texas.

We handed out handbills, and engaged with attendees, many of whom showed support and an invested interest in the direction of the Aviation industry, recognizing that skilled manufacturing labor is truly essential. We encour-

aged industry observers and stakeholders to closely monitor the relationship between GE management and its union workforce in the coming months as we move into negotiations, and to support a fair contract that prioritizes investing in the product and skilled workers.

"We don't want GE making the same mistakes Boeing did. This is a chance for GE to step up, bargain in good faith, and prioritize people, product, and real engineering over financial engineering," said Jerry Carney, IUE-CWA GE Conference Chair. "For decades, the aviation industry has chipped away at wages and benefits, which leads to low morale and makes it hard to attract new recruits. A new social contract that respects aviation workers is essential to keep our nation flying safely and on time."

Your IUE-CWA GE Bargaining Committee then met in the following days in Dallas to discuss bargaining proposals and review the survey results in detail. ✈



WE NEED A RAISE AS INFLATION CONTINUES TO BITE HARD

GE employees need raises for a couple of reasons. First, inflation can erode purchasing power, making it essential for salaries to keep pace with the cost of living. Second, competitive salaries are crucial for retaining talent; if employees feel undercompensated compared to industry

standards, they might seek opportunities elsewhere. Ultimately, raises can boost morale and productivity, leading to a more engaged workforce. Over the past three years, the U.S. experienced significant inflation fluctuations. In 2021, inflation surged to 7.1%, the highest in nearly 40 years driven by pandemic recovery and supply chain issues. The rate peaked at 9.1% in June 2022 due to other factors. But prices have continued to rise at a fast clip. In fact, US consumer prices rose more than expected in January 2025. Solid raises are a necessity for us. ✈

SURVEY RESULTS: KEY UNION CONTRACT PRIORITIES AT GE AEROSPACE

Over two-thirds of our members participated, and the results show strong solidarity and a unified resolve across all facilities to stand together and fight for key priorities. Here are the highlights:

- **Wage Increases & Cost of Living Adjustments**
 - Nearly 90% support reinstating COLA language and a general wage increase.
 - 94% say rising living costs have hurt their finances, with 61% significantly impacted by inflation.
- **Retirement Security for All**
 - 88% favor higher 401(k) employer contributions—including accelerated catch-up for those nearing retirement.
 - 71% view reinstating pensions for post-2012 hires as very important to essential.
 - 77% support restoring GE retiree benefits that help offset healthcare costs and inflation.
- **Increase Healthcare Affordability**
 - Nearly two-thirds said reducing yearly health-care premiums is essential.
 - 12% covered by GE health plans struggle to access or afford critical medications ranging from cancer treatment to insulin for diabetes for themselves or their dependents.
 - 31% said they or a dependent have delayed or skipped a doctor's appointment, medicine, or other medical care due to cost.
- **Fix Workers' Compensation & Disability**
 - 14% have experienced issues with Sedgwick/GE's Workers Comp/Short-Term Disability processes, citing poor communication, payment delays, and denied claims.
- **Improve Job Security & Diversification**
 - 71% back diversifying work to gain more work (from military to commercial sectors).
 - 78% want to strengthen Farmout language, with 44% deeming it essential.
- **Quality vs. Delivery & Training**
 - 53% believe GE prioritizes quality over delivery; 33% disagree, providing numerous examples.
 - 52% feel current training is insufficient to maintain workforce skills.
- **Financial Stress**
 - 67% experience moderate to high financial stress, with 29% particularly burdened by debt.
 - 37% have struggled with rent or mortgage payments in the last year (rising to 46% in Lynn, MA).
 - Among those with childcare needs, 43% have faced challenges finding affordable, reliable care.
- **Protect Health, Safety & Wellbeing**
 - 34% feel GE does not adequately value their physical and mental health.
- **More PTO & Work-Life Balance Wanted**
 - Many respondents called for more PTO and improved work-life balance.
- **A Desire for Equity, Respect & Transparency**
 - Open comments emphasized the need for greater equity, respect, and transparency. ✍



GET YOUR GE AEROSPACE WORKERS UNITED T-SHIRT

Sign-up for your t-shirt today! Wearing this shirt is a powerful symbol of our collective strength and unity during contract negotiations. Together we'll send a clear message to GE: we are standing firm and ready to fight for what we deserve. Get yours and stand arm-in-arm with your fellow union brothers and sisters. ✍