

Benefits Best for Public Workers

A recent report from the US Labor Department finds there's a wide gap between the benefits public workers receive compared with those of private-sector workers.

And the starkest contrast is in health care: 73 percent of state and local government workers – including 83 percent of full-time workers – receive health benefits through their jobs. In the private sector, only half (51 percent) of all workers get health benefits, and just under two-thirds of full-time workers have health benefits through their employers.

Government medical plans are also a bit more generous for individuals, covering 87 percent of premiums compared with 80 percent in the private sector. But there isn't a big difference when it comes to family coverage, with 71 percent of premiums covered by public employers compared with 69 percent by private industry employers.

Other benefits have a big gap, too. Public workers fair better with life insurance (79 percent vs. 57 percent); paid sick leave (89 percent vs. 61 percent); and retirement benefits (89 percent vs. 65 percent).

Should you have any questions regarding this topic, please call your Conner Strong & Buckelew account representative.



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