

Trade Union General Secretaries

There are 15 women trade union general secretaries (or equivalent) - 27.3% of the total 55 affiliated to the Trade Union Congress (TUC)¹.

Altogether they represent a total of 754,020 members, of whom 377,762 (50.1%) are women.

The 55 unions represent over 5,980,000 members, of whom 48.3% are female.

The three largest trade unions - Unison, Unite and the GMB - represent 3,459,000 people, including 1,580,000 women (46%). All three have male General Secretaries.

Of the 15 women General Secretaries 5 are leading unions representing members in education, including the 3 largest teaching unions.

There are 34 unions led by male General Secretaries for whom the gender breakdown of the membership is known. Of these, 11 (32.4%) have 50% or more women members. Of the 14 unions led by women where the gender breakdown is known, 11 (78.6%) have 50% or more women members.

The TUC itself has a male General Secretary, whilst both the Deputy General Secretary and the Assistant General Secretary (Frances O'Grady and Kay Carberry respectively) are female.

The list below shows the 15 women general secretaries in order of size of union.

Union	General Secretary	Total Members	% Members Women
National Union of Teachers (NUT)	Christine Blower	295,124	76.3%
NASUWT	Chris Keates	279,145	72.3%
Association of Teachers & Lecturers (ATL)	Mary Bousted	125,778	72.8%
University & College Union (UCU)	Sally Hunt	119,401	48.0%
Equity	Christine Payne	36,525	49.9%
Chartered Society of Physiotherapy	Lesley Mercer	36,101	88.0%
National Union of Journalists (NUJ)	Michelle Stanistreet	29,930	39.4%
Advance	Linda Rolph	7,645	73.3%
British Dietetic Association	Debbie O'Rourke	6,540	96.4%
Undeb Cenedlaethol Athrawon Cymru (UCAC)	Elaine Edwards	3,946	79.6%
Association of Educational Psychologists (AEP)	Kate Fallon	3,386	76.6%
Yorkshire Independent Staff Association	Karen Watson	1,344	69.6%
British Orthoptic Society Trade Union (BOS TU)	Lesley-Anne Baxter	869	94.9%
One Union for Regional Staff (OURS)	Karen Hughes	697	78.2%
Society of Chiropractors & Podiatrists (SCP)	Joanna Brown	unknown	unknown

¹ All figures from the TUC website http://www.tuc.org.uk/tuc/unions_main.cfm accessed 5 September 2011