

## Early Labor Unions

*At the turn of the century, American workers debated how they could best defend their interests in the face of powerful corporations. One of the most contentious questions that faced them was whether labor should agitate for higher wages, shorter hours, and better working conditions, or for more fundamental transformations in the nation's economy. Another source of controversy was whether unions should try to organize whole industries or organize particular skilled crafts. At stake in these debates was the very meaning of the labor movement: Whom to organize? How to organize them? What to do once they are organized? Playing key roles in providing their own answers to those questions were three early labor unions: the National Labor Union, the Knights of Labor, and the American Federation of Labor. Using the reading, complete the charts below.*

	Leader(s)	Membership	Goals	What led to its demise?
<b>National Labor Union (1866)</b>				
<b>Knights of Labor (1869)</b>				
<b>American Federation of Labor (1886)</b>				

### Major 19<sup>th</sup> Century Labor Strikes

	<b>Causes/Issues</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Great Railroad Strike (1877)</b>		
<b>Haymarket Square (1886)</b>		
<b>Homestead Strike and Lockout (1892)</b>		
<b>Pullman Strike (1894)</b>		