



Textile Services' Collective Bargaining Campaign 2025

**NEGOTIATION RESULT REACHED**



# A LONG AND DIFFICULT ROAD

## Lower wage groups receive a disproportionate increase

**Higher real wages and more appreciation in the industrial laundries for hospitals, care homes, restaurants and workwear: IG Metall has secured 4.6 percent wage increase in two steps for workers of the textile services. Employees in lower wage groups and apprentices will receive a disproportionately high increase. IG Metall reached this agreement with the employers during the fourth collective bargaining round in Göttingen on the night of July 8.**

It was a long and difficult road to achieve this negotiation result! The preparation of this collective bargaining campaign started in spring of this year with broad discussions about possible demands among the workers of the companies of the sector. IG Metall has also surveyed employees. The result: workers need more money and a continuation and improvement of partial retirement. End of April IG Metall's Executive Board agreed on the recommendation of the collective bargaining committees. IG Metall's demand was a 6% wage increase for workers in the textile services sector - but at least 180 euros. In addition, the collectively agreed partial retirement scheme is to be extended and improved.

This justified demand met with fierce resistance from employers from the outset. After two rounds of negotiations, the wage dispute for the textile services has escalated. The reason for this was an offer made by the employers on May 28, which the workers of the industrial laundries have rejected in votes at the plants. IG Metall is therefore increasing the pressure and calling for warning strikes throughout Germany.

The employers offered two late wage increases of 1.5 percent each, below the inflation rate, for a long term of 28 months and they wanted to abolish partial retirement.

During warning strikes and actions, around 5500 workers had previously put pressure on the company to find a solution to the wage dispute. Measured against the total number of workers in companies of the textile services sector covered by collective agreements, this is an impressively high level of strike participation.

### Wages

- ▶ A wage increase of 2.1 percent on September 1, 2025, but at least 60 € for all blue and white collar workers.
- ▶ Moreover, a further wage increase of 2.5 percent on September 1, 2026, but at least 70 € from 1st of March 2025 for all blue and white collar workers.
- ▶ The apprentices' wages will increase by 60 euros in all years of apprenticeship from September 1, 2025 and by a further 70 euros in all years of apprenticeship from September 1, 2026.

Employees in lower wage groups will thus receive a disproportionately high increase, as will apprentices, who will see their pay rise by 60 and 70 euros.

### Partial retirement

The regulations on partial retirement will be continued and the employer's additional payments on the reduced wage in partial retirement will be increased by a total of 50 euros in two steps to 690 € on September 1, 2025 and to 715 € on September 1, 2026.

### Term

The term of the collective agreement ends after 21 months on February 28, 2027.

IG Metall members are now being called upon to vote on the outcome of the negotiations in their companies. A new collective agreement applies directly to 11,500 workers in companies with an IG Metall collective agreement and has an impact on the sector with a total of 23,000 employees.





# TARIF **WIRKT** **TEXTILE DIENSTE**

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