Prevailing Wage and Total Construction Costs
1. **The Truth**: Prevailing wage laws **DO NOT** raise total project costs.

2. **Fast Fact**: 75% of economic studies find **NO** impact of prevailing wage on total construction costs.

3. **Fast Fact**: Prevailing wages do not alter the level of bid competition.

4. **Fast Fact**: When wages increase, contractors utilize high-skilled workers.

5. **Fast Fact**: When wages increase, contractors reduce material, fuel, and rental equipment costs.

6. **This Quote**: “The evidence on prevailing wage effects generally range from relatively small effects to no statistically significant effects.”
   
   —Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau (March 27, 2015)

7. **This Chart**: Labor costs (wages and benefits) represent only **23 percent** of total construction costs.


10. **The Takeaway**: There is no valid evidence that prevailing wage increases construction costs.