

# What Happened After Indiana Repealed Prevailing Wage?



Source: "The Effect of Repealing Common Construction Wage in Indiana: Impacts of Ten Construction Market Outcomes," January 2018, Frank Manzo IV, MPP, and Kevin Duncan, PhD.

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# Blue-collar construction workers' wages **decreased by 8.5%** after repeal of Indiana's prevailing wage law.



Source: "The Effects of Repealing Common Construction Wage in Indiana: Impacts on Ten Construction Market Outcomes," January 2018, Frank Manzo IV, MPP, and Kevin Duncan, PhD.

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# Repeal of Indiana's prevailing wage law has contributed to income inequality in construction.

After repeal there was a

**15.1% drop in wages**

for the  
lowest-paid  
construction  
workers.



Source: "The Effects of Repealing Common Construction Wage in Indiana: Impacts on Ten Construction Market Outcomes," January 2018, Frank Manzo IV, MPP and Kevin Duncan, PhD.

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# Less-skilled workers joined Indiana's construction industry after repeal of the prevailing wage law.

After repeal there was a  
**4.5% increase**  
in the share of  
workers without a  
high school diploma.



Source: "The Effect of Repealing Common Construction Wage in Indiana: Impacts of Ten Construction Market Outcomes," January 2018, Frank Manzo IV, MPP and Kevin Duncan, PhD.

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Following repeal of Indiana's prevailing wage law, construction worker productivity growth was



**5.3%  
slower**

than in Illinois, Ohio, & Michigan.



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Construction worker

**turnover increased**

following repeal of Indiana's prevailing wage law.



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Veterans are more likely to be employed in construction than non-veterans.

After repeal of Indiana's prevailing wage law,

**veteran employment  
dropped**

in the construction sector.



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After repealing Indiana's prevailing wage law,

public works employment growth was

**1.5% slower**

than in neighboring states with prevailing wage.



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Did Indiana's prevailing wage law only favor union contractors?

**No**, union market share stayed the same after repeal.



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There was **NO change** in the number of bidders on public projects after repeal of Indiana's prevailing wage law.

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



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"We got rid of prevailing wage and so far it hasn't saved a penny."

- **Republican** Indiana State Representative, Ed Soliday

**FACT:** **Repeal has had no impact on school construction costs in northern Indiana.**



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