



# CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION

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Construction Employers Association (CEA) represents over 100 large and small businesses that perform commercial architectural building construction in Northeast Ohio utilizing the following local tradesmen and women to do so: Bricklayers, Carpenters, Cement Masons, Glaziers, Iron Workers, Laborers, Operating Engineers, Plasterers, Roofers, Tapers and Tile Layers. Ohio's Prevailing Wages for work performed by Ohioans in Northeast Ohio are currently reflective of the wages and benefits collectively bargained by and between the Commercial Building Construction Industry and the unions that perform this type of work.

The prevailing wage includes funding for retirement, health & welfare benefits and industry training (apprenticeship) that simply would not exist without prevailing wage. Though these funds are strictly regulated by state and federal laws, they are devoid of any public funding. Instead, Northeast Ohio businesses and their employees fund the accounts. In fact, because of current economic conditions, it is often necessary for fund managers to cut benefit levels and/or adjust employer and employee contribution levels in order to maintain proper funding levels. By virtue of its own investment and proactive management of these funds, Northeast Ohio's commercial construction industry promotes long-term careers and support for Northeast Ohio families and communities.

The impact of eliminating or severely diminishing these funds as a result of repealing Ohio's prevailing wage laws would be devastating, not only to Northeast Ohio's construction industry, but also to Northeast Ohio's economy. Shrinking and/or failing multi-employer Pension and Insurance Funds would shift the financial burden of Northeast Ohio's construction industry employees and their families to the State by way of their increased reliance on state unemployment benefits, and State Medicaid for health care previously covered by industry funds. In addition, Federal Pension laws would hold Ohio's contracting companies responsible for any unfunded liabilities of withered retirement funds, putting many out of business overnight.

In order to demonstrate the impact the Northeast Ohio construction industry benefit have on Northeast Ohioans, local communities and the State of Ohio, the following table shows the contribution levels into the pension, health insurance, and education, training and apprenticeship funds during 2010. The list reflects the total number of work hours reported to each of the trades' funds in 2010 multiplied by the commercial building construction rates for each.

TRADE	HOURS	HEALTH & WELFARE	RETIREMENT	APPRENTICE & TRAINING
BRICKLAYERS	846,042	\$5,388,708.89	\$4,714,387.31	\$169,208.47
CARPENTERS	2,164,676	\$13,347,374.79	\$11,173,858.61	\$924,954.81
CEMENT MASONS	230,334	\$1,289,867.94	\$1,727,501.70	\$78,313.41
GLAZIERS	239,642	\$1,191,021.73	\$1,655,927.60	\$71,892.66
IRON WORKERS	921,705	\$5,161,550.13	\$10,922,208.75	\$350,248.04
LABORERS	1,902,657	\$7,370,773.54	\$16,613,248.49	\$206,528.38
OPERATING ENGINEERS	347,268	\$2,312,803.95	\$1,736,339.30	\$208,360.72
PLASTERERS	29,437	\$153,070.27	\$206,056.13	\$2,943.66
ROOFERS	430,511	\$3,379,507.58	\$3,250,354.43	\$73,186.79
TAPERS	161,604	\$801,557.97	\$1,011,643.40	\$53,329.46
TILE LAYERS	76,032	\$456,193.20	\$425,780.32	\$15,206.44
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>7,349,909</b>	<b>\$40,852,430</b>	<b>\$53,437,306</b>	<b>\$2,154,173</b>