

SAFER AND MORE DURABLE BUILDINGS DON'T HAVE TO COME AT A PRICE FOR MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITIES.

Two analyses show costs of using non-combustible building materials is less than wood.

Using non-combustible materials has been proven to save lives. But too many communities have been relying on wood construction because they believe it saves money for multifamily buildings. Analyses from Dodge Data & Analytics (DDA) and RS Means highlight the affordability of non-combustible construction in Massachusetts is lower than building with wood. The results mean local construction and developers thrive, while residents and businesses stay protected.

Analysis #1: HISTORICAL COSTS

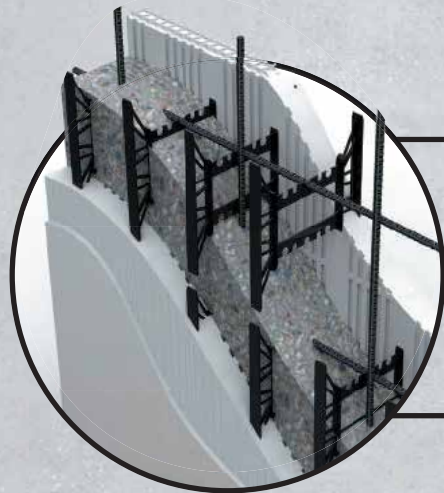
A comprehensive analysis using DDA data for all multi-family residential buildings built in Massachusetts from 2016-2020 (representing 606 buildings). The takeaway? Non-combustible buildings (concrete and masonry) cost 22.0% less to build than combustible (wood) buildings.*

Analysis #2: ESTIMATED COSTS

A comprehensive cost estimate using RS Means for a typical four-story, 100,000 square-foot apartment building located in Massachusetts. The building consists of 92 apartments, 60 one-bedroom apartments and 32 two-bedroom apartments. The analysis indicated that the costs for non-combustible construction (concrete) are less than combustible (wood) construction.**

Apartment built with
non-combustible materials

Built with
wood construction



COST
DIFFERENCE OF
↓ 19.5%

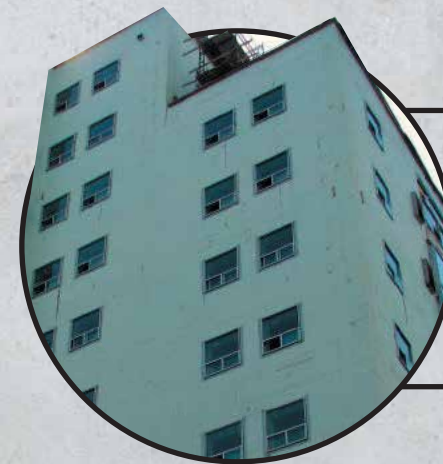
Comprehensive concrete costs:
\$151.56/sf

Comprehensive wood costs:
\$188.17/sf

*With over half a million real projects tracked annually, DDA is the most comprehensive and economic model ensuring insight and forecasting confidence.

Apartment built with
non-combustible materials

Built with
wood construction



COST
DIFFERENCE OF
↓ 9.2%

Comprehensive concrete costs:
\$18,043,782

Comprehensive wood costs:
\$19,863,582

**RS Means is the world's leading provider of construction cost data software and services to help owners, architects, engineers, and contractors precisely estimate cost of new building construction.

We can afford to put the safety of Massachusetts residents first. Pass a statewide ordinance to build with non-combustible materials. Learn more by visiting BuildwithStrength.com.

