



A Union of Professionals

CALIFORNIA RANKS FIRST IN THE NATION FOR TEACHER PAY

California had the nation's highest average teacher salary in 2006-07, according to the American Federation of Teachers' (AFT) *Survey and Analysis of Teacher Salary Trends 2007*.

The average teacher salary in California for the 2006-07 school year was \$63,640—a 6.4 percent increase from the previous year. California was ranked ninth in the nation for beginning teacher salaries, at \$38,875, an increase of 5.4 percent from 2005-06.

Traditional public school teacher salaries for other states in the Far West Region ranked as follows: Alaska was ranked 11th in the nation, at \$54,678; Hawaii was 14th, at \$51,916; Oregon was 15th, at \$51,080; Nevada was 19th, at \$49,426; and Washington was 21st, at \$47,880.

South Dakota had the lowest average teacher salary in the nation in 2006-07, at \$35,378.

The Survey and Analysis of Teacher Salary Trends 2007 uses data from state education agencies, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The full report can be downloaded from the AFT Web site: www.aft.org/salary/2007/download/AFT2007SalarySurvey.pdf.

The AFT represents more than 1.4 million pre-K through 12th-grade teachers; paraprofessionals and other school-related personnel; higher education faculty and professional staff; nurses and healthcare workers; federal, state and local government employees, and early childhood educators.