



A Union of Professionals

RHODE ISLAND RANKS FIFTH IN THE NATION FOR TEACHER PAY

Rhode Island ranked Fifth in the nation for its 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 Rhode Island for the 2006-07 school year was \$58,420—a 14 percent increase from the previous year. Rhode Island was ranked 21st in the nation for beginning teacher salaries, at \$34,838, an increase of 3.1 percent from 2005-06.

Traditional public school teacher salaries for other states in the New England Region ranked as follows: Connecticut was ranked second in the nation, at \$61,039; Massachusetts was seventh, at \$58,178; Vermont was 23rd, at \$47,645; New Hampshire was 25th, at \$46,797; and Maine was 42nd, at \$42,103.

California had the highest average teacher salary, at \$63,640, while South Dakota reported the lowest, 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.