A TEACHER'S LIFE BY THE NUMBERS



Merced County, CA

Teachers in the US **rate their lives better** than all other occupation groups, trailing only physicians.

SALARY

The **average** wage of all **full-time workers** in the county: **$56,836***

Base Salary →

1st Year Teacher with a B.A.

$74,040 - $82,632

15th Year Teacher with a M.A.+

$113,349 - $127,000

Data from 2026-2027

Plus

$2,332 - $6,219

FOR LARGE COMMITMENTS like head coach, debate, or band





$2,332 - $6,219

FOR SMALL COMMITMENTS like robotics club or yearbook

HOUSING

Median **home** value: **$417,261***

Fair Market rent for a **2-bedroom apartment: $1,509***

A salary of **$78,300** can buy a home like this:*



$305,000

*With a 5% down payment, spending 36% of their income on housing

A salary of **$120,100** can buy a home like this: *



$550,000

*With a 20% down payment, spending 36% of their income on housing

RETIREMENT

Most teaching jobs have better retirement benefits than other jobs you can get with the same degree.

59 Teacher average retirement age

4 YEARS EARLIER

63 All careers average retirement age

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*U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, Zillow, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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