A TEACHER’S LIFE BY THE NUMBERS

Rutherford County, TN

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: $59,696*

Base Salary →

- **1st Year Teacher with a B.A.**
  - $47,177-$50,300

- **15th Year Teacher with a M.A.+**
  - $69,720-$79,630

Data from 2023-2024 & 2024-2025

**Plus**

- **$1,563-$11,458** FOR COACHING like head coach or assistant coach
- **$2,083-$8,333** FOR CLUBS like band, robotics, or yearbook

**HOUSING**

Median home value: $401,089*

Fair Market rent for a 2-bedroom apartment: $1,619*

A salary of $48,700 can buy a home like this:*

- $154,000

A salary of $74,700 can buy a home like this: *

- $373,500

*With a 5% 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.

- **Teacher average retirement age**: 59
- **4 YEARS EARLIER**: All careers average retirement age 63

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

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Data from 2023-2024 & 2024-2025

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