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Teacher salary low in Louisiana

Presley Bo Tyler
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

When school is in session, teachers do more than just carry out lessons, they become counselors, caretakers, social workers, mentors and advocates to their students.

Because of the importance of the job and additional responsibilities, teacher salaries often seem inadequate, given the nature of the job.

The average teacher salary in the U.S. is \$66,400, yet many states have increased wages for teachers, while others have not.

Louisiana offers the fifth-lowest pay for teachers in the U.S.

Since teacher pay varies widely across the U.S., World Population Review listed the average salary in every state, identifying the highest and lowest-paying states.

On average, teachers in Louisiana

make an annual salary of \$55,900, and the average starting salary for teachers is \$46,682, says World Population Review.

The average, however, can be skewed by teachers who have higher or lower wages than the majority. The median,

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Bill Pulte, President Donald Trump's pick as acting director of national intelligence, has no intelligence experience and is the founder of the private equity firm Pulte Capital Partners. ANNABELLE GORDON/REUTERS FILE

Trump names Pulte to replace Gabbard

Acting director of national intel won't need Senate's OK

Joey Garrison and Josh Meyer
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump named Bill Pulte, director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, as the new acting director of national intelligence, tapping a trusted ally with no previous experience in an intelligence role to replace Tulsi Gabbard.

Trump announced the unusual pick of Pulte in a June 2 post on Truth Social. Trump said Pulte – as the top federal official overseeing mortgage backers Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac – has “deep experience managing the most sensitive matters in America, the safety and soundness of the Markets.”

Trump credited Pulte with expanding the reach of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the federal government's two mortgage financial firms.

Gabbard, the outgoing director of national intelligence, announced in May that she is resigning her post as the nation's top intelligence official due to her husband's rare bone cancer diagnosis. Her resignation is effective June 30.

Pulte, 38, the founder of the private equity firm Pulte Capital Partners, is the grandson of the founder of one of the nation's largest homebuilders, Pulte Homes, which was started in Detroit in the 1950s.

In his new role, Pulte will oversee the U.S. intelligence community, comprised of 18 agencies, including the Central Intelligence Agency and National Security Agency. He's tasked with gathering data and information security threats both domestically and globally.

Trump said Pulte will remain in his positions of director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency and chairman of Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac.

By serving as an acting director, instead of being nominated for the full-time position, Pulte would not need Senate confirmation. Trump has not said whether he will nominate a permanent replacement to lead the nation's intelligence community.

In 2025, Pulte accused Federal Reserve Gov. Lisa Cook of claiming two of her mortgages as primary residences, leading Trump to fire Cook over mortgage fraud allegations.

Democrats criticized Trump for what they called the appointment of an unqualified political loyalist, saying the U.S. top intelligence position was created in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to make sure all 18 U.S. intelligence agencies are working together to protect U.S. interests – and the American people.

“Americans have already seen Mr. Pulte use the powers of his office at the Federal Housing Finance Agency to pursue the president's grievances and lend credibility to dubious prosecutions of President Trump's perceived political opponents,” said Sen. Mark Warner, D-Virginia, the vice chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

In December, the Government Accountability Office, an independent investigative agency of Congress, announced it was looking into whether Pulte abused his position and government resources to accuse Trump adversaries, including Cook, of crimes.

Contributing: Reuters; Todd Spangler, Detroit Free Press

Experts say storm could be brewing in the Gulf

Presley Bo Tyler
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

The 2026 Atlantic hurricane season starts in just a few days, and forecasters are warning of potential early-season activity.

Experts are watching the tropics closely, particularly the Gulf, as warm Gulf and southwest Atlantic waters could support the development of a storm close to states along the Gulf Coast.

A number of areas in this region are also actively experiencing rainfall, specifically cities along the southern coast of Florida and southeastern coast of Louisiana, as well as in Gulf

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Johnson speaks about Constitution, economy

Makenzie Boucher
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson spoke to the media Thursday, May 28, following the Spirit of Louisiana Awards Ceremony at Bossier Parish School for Technology & Innovative Learning (BPSTIL).

During the news conference, he spoke about the greatest threat to the Constitution as the United States approaches its 250th birthday.

“We are celebrating the 250th anniversary of the greatest nation in the history of the world, and we don't take it for granted,” he said.

He also shifted gears and spoke about the state of the economy.

Check out Johnson's responses

Johnson was asked what the greatest threat to the Constitution is right now.

“The greatest threat to the Constitution, to the country, is a lack of understanding,” he said. “I quoted

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