

average \$72,678 in 2007, compared with the \$51,009 earned by a teacher (about 70 percent of the comparable professional average). Only three of the comparable occupations in Table I-3 have an average 2007 salary that is lower than the teacher salary: child, family, and school social workers; medical and public health social workers; and athletic trainers. Between 2002 and 2007, the average annual salary of workers in the comparable BLS occupations increased about 19 percent, compared with a 15 percent increase for teachers. See Table I-3.

Figure 2: Average Inflation-Adjusted Teacher Salaries, 1963-2007

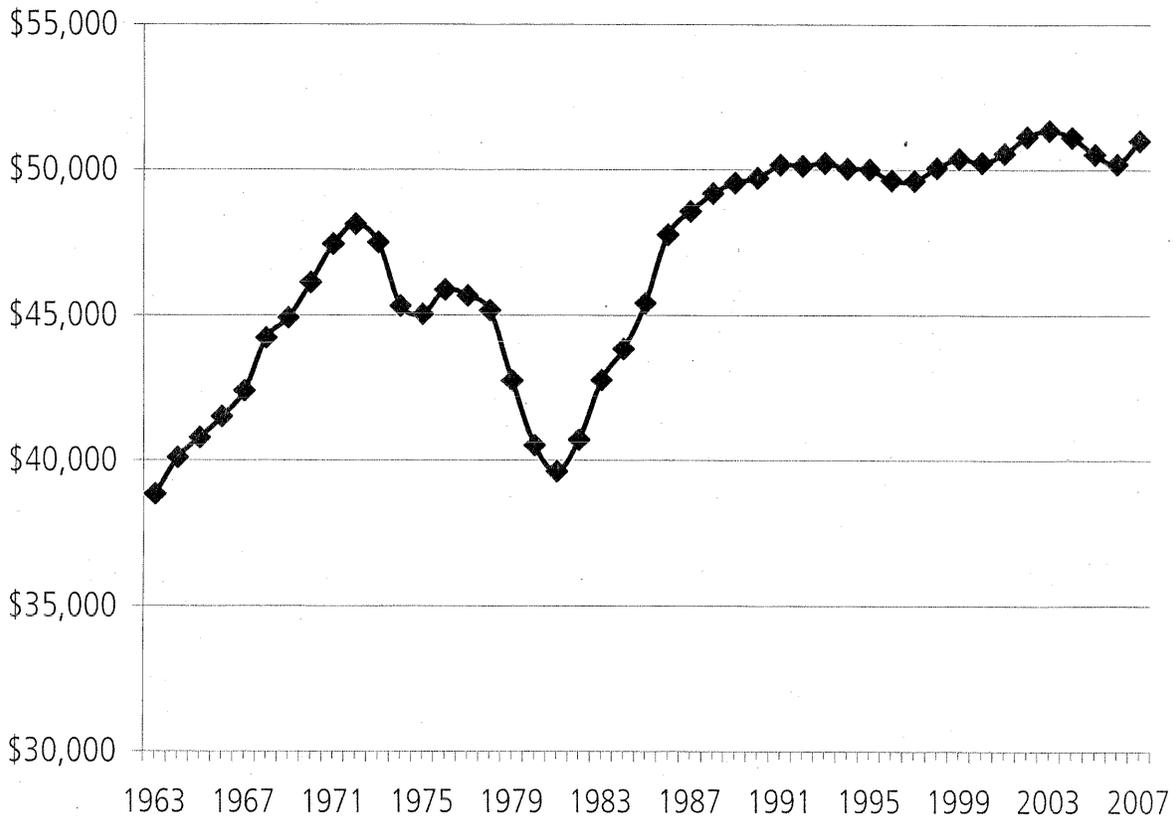
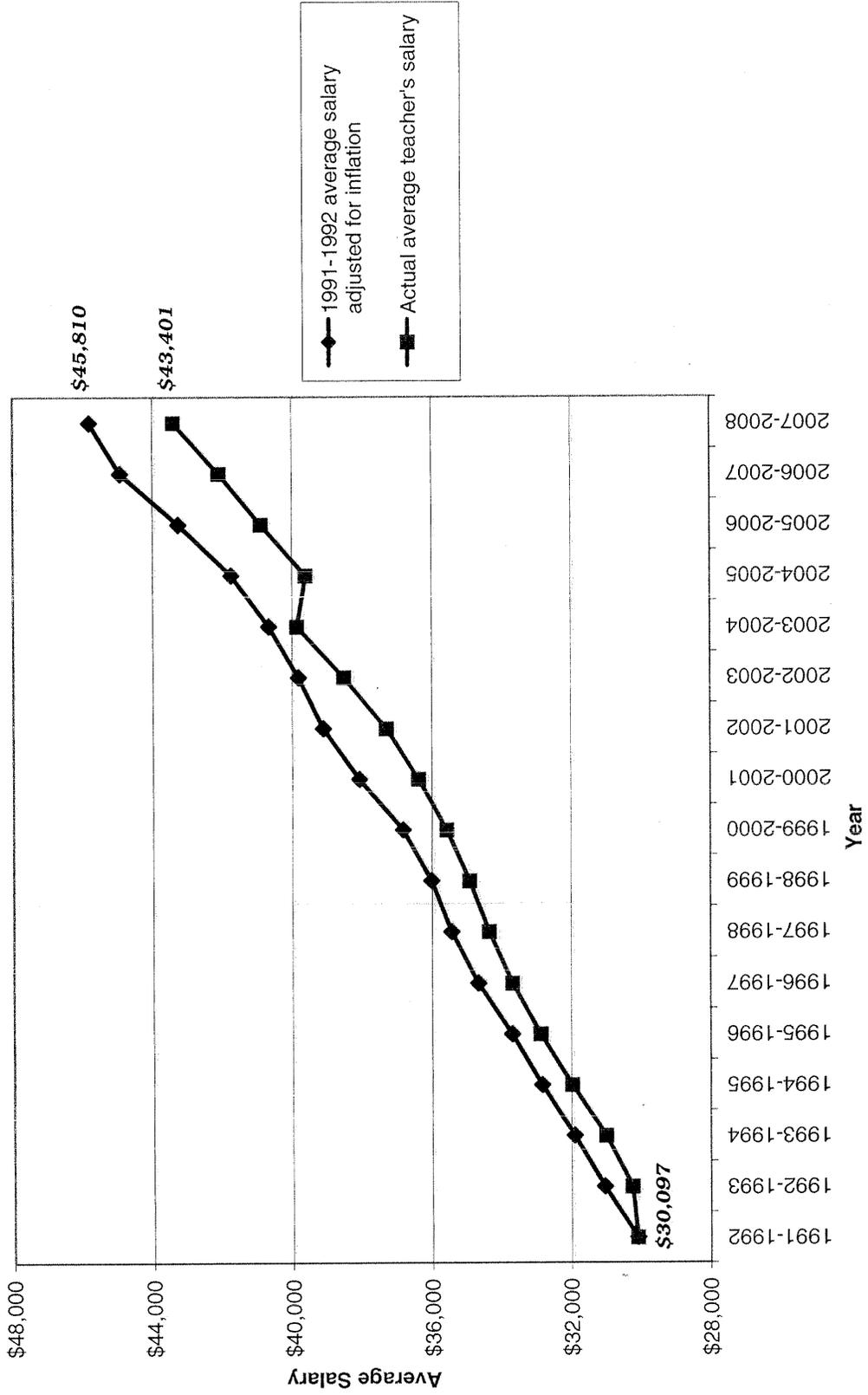


Table I-1: Trends in Teachers' Salaries Compared with Inflation

	Average		Consumer		Average	
	Teacher Salary		Price Index		Teacher Salary	
	Salary	Change	CPI	Change	Salary	Change
2007	\$ 51,009	4.5%	207.3	2.8%	\$ 51,009	1.6%
2006	48,809	2.5%	201.6	3.2%	50,199	-0.7%
2005	47,570	2.2%	195.3	3.4%	50,503	-1.1%
2004	46,565	2.2%	188.9	2.7%	51,111	-0.5%
2003	45,578	2.7%	184.0	2.3%	51,359	0.4%
2002	44,367	2.7%	179.9	1.6%	51,134	1.1%
2001	43,187	3.5%	177.1	2.8%	50,561	0.6%
2000	41,731	3.1%	172.2	3.4%	50,247	-0.2%
1999	40,475	2.8%	166.6	2.2%	50,373	0.6%
1998	39,360	2.5%	163.0	1.6%	50,067	0.9%
1997	38,415	2.3%	160.5	2.3%	49,626	0.0%
1996	37,564	2.2%	156.9	3.0%	49,640	-0.8%
1995	36,766	2.8%	152.4	2.8%	50,020	0.0%
1994	35,764	2.2%	148.2	2.6%	50,036	-0.4%
1993	35,004	3.2%	144.5	3.0%	50,226	0.2%
1992	33,927	2.9%	140.3	3.0%	50,138	-0.1%
1991	32,960	5.1%	136.2	4.2%	50,176	0.9%
1990	31,347	5.8%	130.7	5.4%	49,728	0.4%
1989	29,636	5.6%	124.0	4.8%	49,554	0.7%
1988	28,071	5.5%	118.3	4.1%	49,199	1.3%
1987	26,615	5.4%	113.6	3.6%	48,577	1.7%
1986	25,260	7.2%	109.6	1.9%	47,787	5.2%
1985	23,572	7.3%	107.6	3.6%	45,422	3.6%
1984	21,974	6.9%	103.9	4.3%	43,851	2.5%
1983	20,547	8.5%	99.6	3.2%	42,773	5.1%
1982	18,945	9.1%	96.5	6.2%	40,705	2.8%
1981	17,364	7.9%	90.9	10.3%	39,607	-2.2%
1980	16,100	7.5%	82.4	13.5%	40,512	-5.2%
1979	14,970	5.4%	72.6	11.3%	42,753	-5.4%
1978	14,207	6.4%	65.2	7.6%	45,179	-1.1%
1977	13,352	6.0%	60.6	6.5%	45,683	-0.4%
1976	12,591	7.7%	56.9	5.8%	45,881	1.8%
1975	11,690	8.5%	53.8	9.1%	45,052	-0.6%
1974	10,778	5.9%	49.3	11.0%	45,329	-4.6%
1973	10,176	4.9%	44.4	6.2%	47,520	-1.3%
1972	9,705	4.7%	41.8	3.2%	48,140	1.4%
1971	9,269	7.3%	40.5	4.4%	47,453	2.8%
1970	8,635	8.6%	38.8	5.7%	46,144	2.7%
1969	7,952	7.1%	36.7	5.5%	44,926	1.6%
1968	7,423	8.7%	34.8	4.2%	44,227	4.3%
1967	6,830	5.3%	33.4	3.1%	42,399	2.2%
1966	6,485	4.7%	32.4	2.9%	41,500	1.8%
1965	6,195	3.3%	31.5	1.6%	40,777	1.7%
1964	5,995	4.6%	31.0	1.3%	40,097	3.2%
1963	5,732	3.9%	30.6	1.3%	38,839	2.6%
1962	5,515	4.5%	30.2	1.0%	37,864	3.5%
1961	5,275	5.6%	29.9	1.0%	36,579	4.5%
1960	4,995	4.1%	29.6	1.7%	34,989	2.4%
1959	4,797	4.9%	29.1	0.7%	34,179	4.2%
1958	4,571	7.8%	28.9	2.8%	32,794	4.8%
1957	4,239	4.5%	28.1	3.3%	31,278	1.2%
1956	4,055	n/a	27.2	n/a	30,910	n/a

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Historical Statistics, Colonial Times to 1970, series D739-764 and D893-904. National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics, various issues (used to estimate teacher salaries prior to the 1977-78 school year). American Federation of Teachers, annual survey of state departments of education.

Average Maine Teacher's Salary Compared to Inflation



Data Sources:
 Maine Department of Education
 US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Chart 1