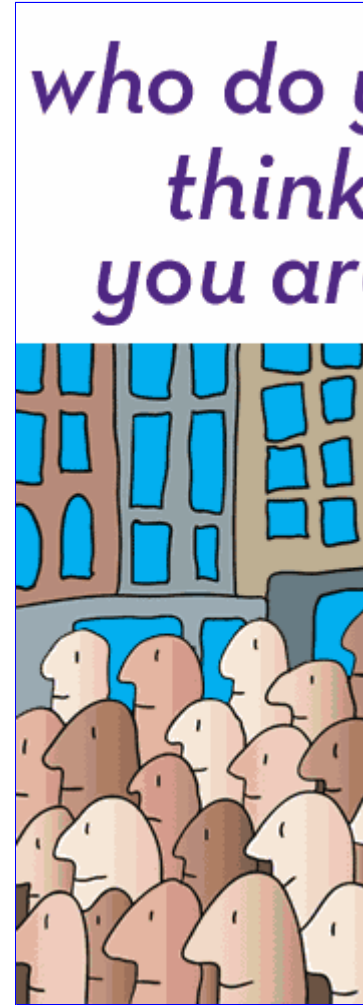




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**Smartest Cities in America? Charlotte, Raleigh, Durham, Cary Rank High In Brainpower**  
06-13-2006

A new study by Bizjournals.com based on an analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data puts Seattle's No. 1 in concentration of brainpower among large cities. The study analyzed the educational levels of adults in nearly 16,000 cities, towns, villages, boroughs and unincorporated areas. Communities were ranked in three population categories, based on a formula that rewards places with heavy concentrations of college graduates. San Francisco, Austin, Colorado Springs, and Minneapolis filled out the top five for large cities. Arlington, Va. topped the list of medium-sized places while Ann Arbor, MI was first for small communities.



**Top 20 Smartest Cities**

1. Seattle, WA
2. San Francisco, CA
3. Austin, TX
4. Colorado Springs, CO
5. Minneapolis, MN
6. **Charlotte, NC**
7. San Diego, CA
8. Washington D.C.
9. Portland, OR
10. Albuquerque, NM
11. Virginia Beach, VA
12. Arlington, VA
13. Boston, MA
14. Denver, CO
15. Honolulu, HI
16. San Jose, CA
17. Atlanta, GA
18. Omaha, NE
19. Tulsa, OK
20. Columbus, OH

**Top 10 Brainiest Medium-Sized Cities**

1. Arlington, Va.
2. Plano, Texas
3. Overland Park, Kan.
4. Madison, Wis.
5. Scottsdale, Ariz.
6. **Raleigh, N.C.**
7. Fremont, Calif.
8. Huntington Beach, Calif.
9. **Durham, N.C.**
10. Boise, Idaho

### Top 10 Brainiest Small Cities

1. Ann Arbor, Mich
2. Newton, Mass.
3. Boulder, Colo.
4. Berkeley, Calif.
5. Cambridge, Mass
6. Naperville, Ill.
7. **Cary, N.C.**
8. Newport Beach, Calif.
9. Columbia, Md.
10. Irvine, Calif

A complete listing of all cities ranked in the three size groups along with the criteria used in the analysis is available through <http://www.bizjournals.com>

[http://www.bizjournals.com/edit\\_special/40.html](http://www.bizjournals.com/edit_special/40.html)



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