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America's Smartest Cities

6 Charlotte

Charlotte easily outrates more prominent Southern cities like Atlanta, Dallas and Miami in terms of brainpower. Its emergence as the Southeast's financial center has attracted a well-schooled workforce, with nearly 37 percent of the city's adults holding bachelor's degrees.

Percentage of city adults who stopped at each level:

Earned a graduate and/or professional degree: **10.5%**

Earned a bachelor's degree: **26.0%**

Earned an associate degree: **6.4%**

Went to college, but didn't earn a degree: **22.1%**

Graduated from high school: **20.0%**

Dropped out of high school: **15.1%**



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