



 An objective look at 12 key criteria that enrich a college learning experience

COLLEGE TOWNS

THE **AIER** 2014 | 2015
College Destinations INDEX

1

Ithaca | NY

POPULATION: 102,554

THE top 20 COLLEGE TOWNS

Metropolitan Statistical Areas with under 250,000 residents¹

- 1 **Ithaca, NY**
- 2 Ames, IA
- 3 Corvallis, OR
- 4 Iowa City, IA
- 5 State College, PA
- 6 Fargo, ND-MN
- 7 Champaign-Urbana, IL
- 8 Columbia, MO
- 9 Missoula, MT
- 10 College Station-Bryan, TX
- 11 Charlottesville, VA
- 12 Lafayette, IN
- 13 Lawrence, KS
- 14 Fairbanks, AK
- 15 Bloomington, IN
- 16 Morgantown, WV
- 17 Grand Forks, ND-MN
- 18 Binghamton, NY
- 19 Mankato-North Mankato, MN
- 20 Logan, UT-ID

Colleges & Universities

A sampling of nearby colleges and universities

- Cornell University
- Ithaca College
- Tompkins Cortland Community College

RANK	STUDENT LIFE			CULTURE			ECONOMIC HEALTH			OPPORTUNITY			
	Overall Rank	Student Concentration <small>College students per 1,000 residents¹</small>	Cost of Housing <small>Fair market rent of a 2-bedroom apartment²</small>	City Accessibility <small>Percentage of workers that bike, walk, or take public transportation³</small>	Arts & Leisure <small>Concentration of arts, entertainment, and recreation establishments⁴</small>	International Students <small>Percentage of students that are foreign born⁵</small>	Innovation Producers <small>Percentage of workers in innovative fields⁶</small>	Unemployment Rate <small>Percentage of labor force unemployed⁶</small>	Entrepreneurial Activity <small>Net change in businesses per 100,000 residents (3-year average)⁷</small>	Brain Drain or Gain <small>Annual change in share of population with college degrees⁷</small>	R&D per Student <small>Academic R&D per student⁸</small>	College Educated <small>Percentage of the population with a college degree¹</small>	Earning Potential <small>Median earnings¹</small>
1				1 22.6%					1 12.7		1 \$27,158		
		2 288.5									2 51.9%		
					4 55.1	4 13.0%							4 \$28,121
								10 5.0%					
													14 1.02
						17 5.6%							
			19 \$1,130										

¹U.S. Census, 2012. ²U.S. Dept. of HUD, 2014. ³U.S. Economic Census, 2011. ⁴IPEDS, 2012. ⁵BLS OES, 2013. ⁶BLS, 2013 average. ⁷U.S. Small Business Administration, 2011. ⁸National Science Foundation, 2012.