

DC Has a Higher Proportion of Bachelor's and Graduate Degrees Than Any Other City



[Molly Greenberg](#) - Senior Writer, Higher Ed Beat
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Not only is the District home to a [population that just keeps on getting richer](#), but it also attracts some of the most highly educated people in the U.S. According to one new report, it turns out D.C. is home to more workers who have earned bachelor's and graduate degrees than any other city in America.

A [study done by Measure of America](#), a project of the Social Science Research Council, found that in D.C., incomes continue to rise. Between the years of 2000 and 2010 Washingtonians saw their earnings increase, making \$14,000 more on average than the traditional American worker.

The well-being of those who work in D.C. has also been getting better with health and education on an uptick. If you take into consideration states like West Virginia and Montana, you'll find that their income levels have increased a substantial amount in a short amount of time as well, but the difference is that their lives, measured in terms of health and education, haven't improved like those of Washingtonians.

To put this into layman's terms, the average worker in the D.C. metro area is living a more prosperous life than most.

But it's when you break the stats down a little more, that's where you see where the true disparity within the District lies. This shouldn't be shocking news, but it's still interesting nonetheless.

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"Whites in D.C. earn on average considerably more than Asian-Americans. And they earn twice as much Latinos," explained Sarah Burd-Sharps, one of the co-authors of the [Measure of America](#) report.

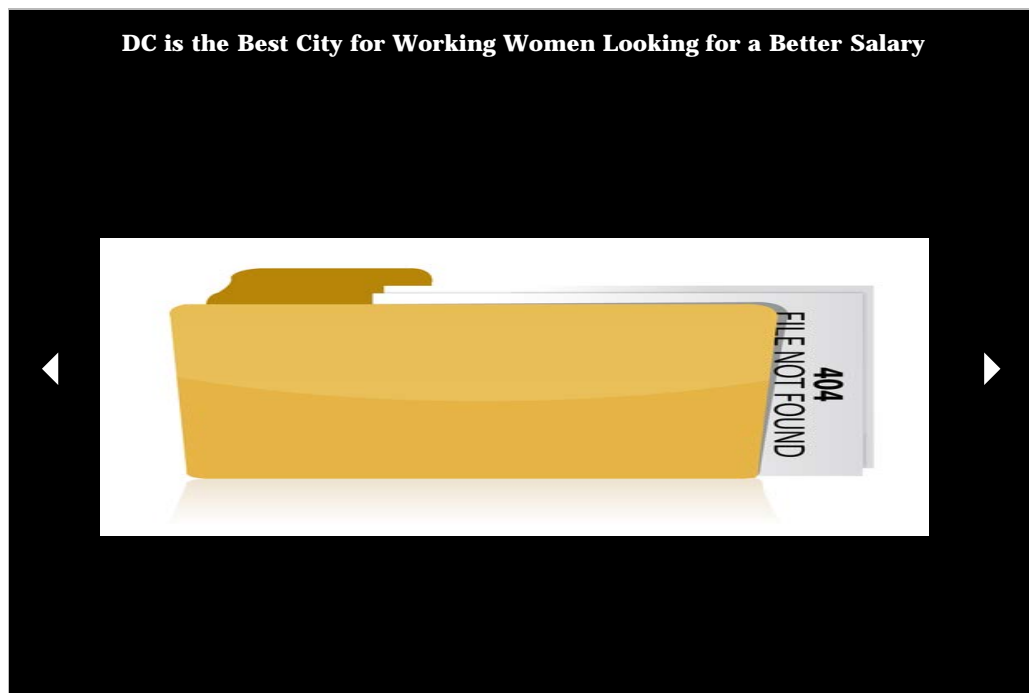
Whites make about \$55,000 in comparison to Latinos in the District who earn on average \$25,000. If that doesn't say something about the state of the District, I don't know what does.

This is greatly thanks to educational attainment. Only about 38 percent of Latinos complete high school in D.C., which is the "driver of very low earnings," Burd-Sharps said.

So while even though D.C. may have a higher proportion of bachelor's and graduate degrees than any other city in America, more than twice the national average, there is still a large segment of the population that isn't competitive when it comes to education.

Salaries may be high in D.C., but it doesn't mean the District as a whole is succeeding at the rapid pace its said to be.




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