Seattle is tops in smarts.

An economy on the rise, a lifestyle to love — and technology everyone is talking about.

What draws so many talented, well-educated and successful professionals to the Emerald City?

It’s no wonder so many businesses — and people — prosper in this vibrant region of the Pacific Northwest.

Seattle was ranked second of 61 Top Global Cities by the Martin Propensity Institute. It’s also the third-fastest-growing manufacturing boomtown.

According to Convio, Inc., Seattleites are tops in online donations, making more than $124.92 million in total, with an average donation of $124.92.

Seattle is #1 for new jobs.

The Seattle metropolitan area ranked fifth in total exports, with over $30 billion in goods and services exported in 2012. Our area was even higher in export intensity, ranking third in exports per capita.

Seattle is #1 in online giving.

ECONOMY | We’re growing

1st for new jobs

Bright Employment Index ranked the Seattle-Tacoma area highest for job growth in August 2013. Forbes projects a total of 158,000 new jobs over the next five years.

2nd for high wages

A 2013 Gallup poll saw a $43,332 average annual pay increase between 2009 and 2012, and Forbes expects 54 percent of new jobs in the area to be high-wage.

3rd for office building investment

Seattle remains among the top five markets nationally for office and retail properties, according to real estate firm Grubb & Ellis.

1st for retail investment

In 2012, real estate research firm Marcus & Millichap saw a 2.7 percent growth in our retail sector — notably by Amazon.com — as a factor in improving store traffic and earnings for downtown retailers.

5th exporter in the nation

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Seattle is #1 for new jobs.

TECHNOLOGY | We’re innovating

1st in global Internet cities

Analyzing metrics such as average connection speed, support of public data and openness to innovation, a report by Future Cities named Seattle one of the world’s 10 Great Internet Cities. Seattle was the only U.S. city to make the list.

3rd in computer science jobs

Data from job-listing aggregate Indeed.com ranks Seattle third for computer science job postings, according to Forbes.

4th for nerds

With our popular comic book stores, science museums and sci-fi/fantasy conventions, Seattle is a nerd’s paradise, according to Seattle Fenwick.

5th fastest-growing tech sector

With a 45 percent rise in tech industry employment and almost a 20 percent increase in science, technology, engineering and math occupations, Seattle is on Forbes’ top 10 list of tech boomtowns.

LIFESTYLE | We’re loving life

1st in smart people

Fast Company ranks Seattle the top city in North America for innovation, sustainability and ability to attract creative and entrepreneurial talent. Culturally, it’s the perfect fit.

1st for coffee

Starbucks notwithstanding, Seattle’s coffee culture is omnipresent, thanks to all our coffee bars, drive-through espresso huts and esteemed local roasters, Starbucks notwithstanding, Seattle’s coffee culture is omnipresent, thanks to all our coffee bars, drive-through espresso huts and esteemed local roasters.

1st in online giving

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1st most literate city

When compared with the 75 largest U.S. metro areas in “culture and resources for reading,” Central Connecticut State University ranks us near the top in its annual study. It doesn’t examine whether people can read, but whether they actually do.

8th most walkable city

With an average Walk Score of 77, Seattle is home to rapidly growing, walk-friendly neighborhoods surrounded by mountains and water.

Seattle is #1 for new jobs.

More than 2.5 million Western Washington adults have attended college.

For more information:
www.seattlecitygovernment.org
Population

With 5,003,505 residents and 2 million households, the Seattle-Tacoma Designated Market Area (DMA) ranks as the 12th (by households) largest in the country. The Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is home to 72 percent of these residents — 3,606,687 in all — making it the nation’s 15th-largest MSA.

Seattle ranks #5

When it comes to critical economic factors, Seattle provides clout where it matters most.