

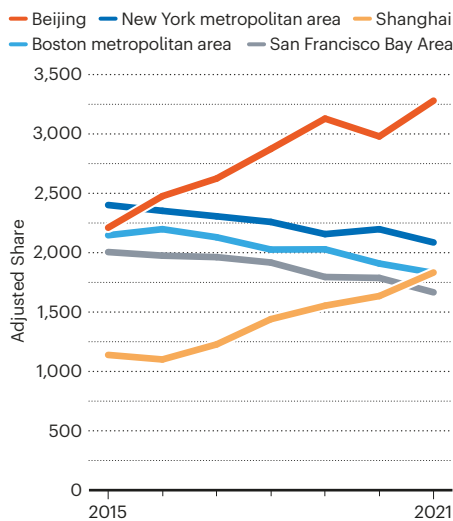
Cities by numbers

How the leading performers weigh up on population, research and the cost of living. Data analysis by Bo Wu. Infographic by Tanner Maxwell, Simon Baker and Benjamin Plackett.

CHINESE SUCCESS

Beijing and Shanghai have made considerable progress since 2015, gaining on and overtaking some of the United States' top science cities.

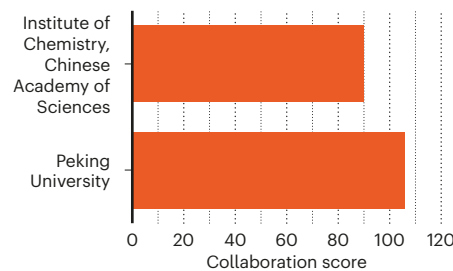
Leading 5 science cities' adjusted Share, 2015–21



1. BEIJING

Population: 21.9 million
 GDP per capita: \$27,253
 Average scientist salary: \$34,830
 Number of institutions in NI top 500: 23

Leading institutional partnership by bilateral collaboration score, 2021



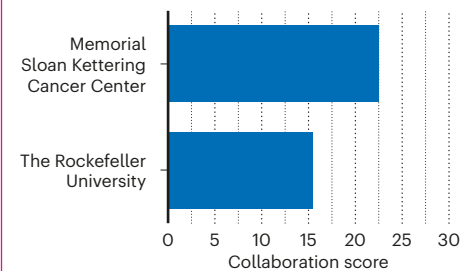
Proportion of China's Share, 2021



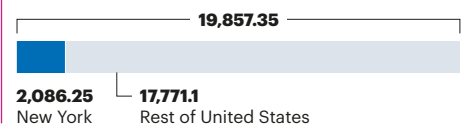
2. NEW YORK

Population: 20.1 million
 GDP per capita: \$81,902
 Average scientist salary: \$70,770
 Number of institutions in NI top 500: 14

Leading institutional partnership by bilateral collaboration score, 2021



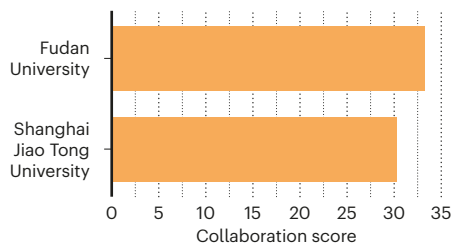
Proportion of the United States' Share, 2021



3. SHANGHAI

Population: 24.9 million
 GDP per capita: \$25,700
 Average scientist salary: \$36,550
 Number of institutions in NI top 500: 12

Leading institutional partnership by bilateral collaboration score, 2021



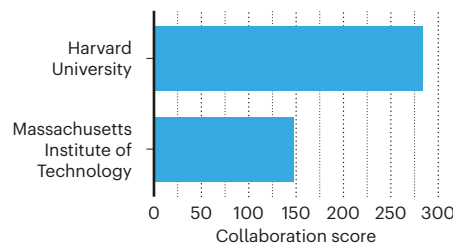
Proportion of China's Share, 2021



4. BOSTON

Population: 4.9 million
 GDP per capita: \$86,953
 Average scientist salary: \$83,830
 Number of institutions in NI top 500: 7

Leading institutional partnership by bilateral collaboration score, 2021



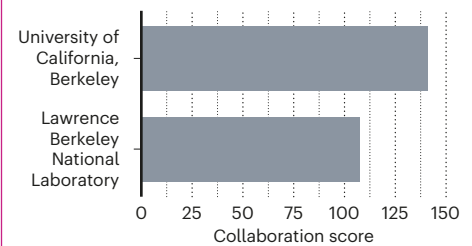
Proportion of the United States' Share, 2021



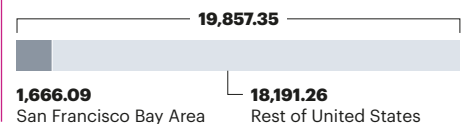
5. SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Population: 6.7 million
 GDP per capita: \$112,271
 Average scientist salary: \$94,170
 Number of institutions in NI top 500: 6

Leading institutional partnership by bilateral collaboration score, 2021



Proportion of the United States' Share, 2021



Because large network organizations, such as the Chinese Academy of Sciences, span multiple cities, we have counted their constituent bodies instead when calculating the number of institutions in the top 500 of the Index. All population statistics date from 2020. GDP per capita figures in Chinese cities date from 2021 and in US cities date from 2019. All currency data expressed in US dollars.