



APPENDIX TABLE 2-15 

### Amount of undergraduate and graduate debt of S&E doctorate recipients, by field: 2015

(Percent)

Debt and field	Doctorates (number)	Debt										
		None	≤ \$10,000	\$10,001– \$20,000	\$20,001– \$30,000	\$30,001– \$40,000	\$40,001– \$50,000	\$50,001– \$60,000	\$60,001– \$70,000	\$70,001– \$80,000	\$80,001– \$90,000	≥ \$90,001
Cumulative debt												
All fields	49,355	53.1	9.1	7.1	5.9	3.7	3.2	2.4	2.1	1.8	2.5	9.1
S&E	37,442	56.8	9.2	6.9	5.7	3.5	2.9	2.1	1.8	1.6	2.1	7.3
Engineering	8,955	66.9	9.9	6.1	4.7	2.8	2.1	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.1	3.0
Sciences	28,487	53.6	9.0	7.2	6.1	3.7	3.2	2.3	2.0	1.8	2.5	8.7
Agricultural sciences	1,218	56.9	11.0	8.0	6.3	3.6	2.7	2.0	1.6	2.1	1.1	4.8
Biological sciences	7,825	57.8	9.6	8.2	6.9	3.5	3.0	2.0	1.7	1.4	1.6	4.3
Computer sciences	1,786	73.2	7.6	4.5	3.1	2.2	1.5	0.9	0.6	0.9	1.3	4.3
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	893	57.1	12.3	7.8	6.5	4.4	2.8	1.1	2.0	0.8	1.2	3.9
Mathematics	1,648	70.9	8.6	5.9	4.4	1.6	2.1	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.5	1.9
Medical and other health sciences	2,392	41.7	8.1	6.4	5.5	5.3	4.0	4.1	2.6	2.9	4.7	14.9
Physical sciences	4,413	62.4	10.1	7.2	6.1	3.2	2.7	1.6	1.5	0.8	1.1	3.3
Psychology	3,124	30.9	6.5	6.4	6.4	4.3	4.7	3.9	3.7	3.7	5.6	23.9



Debt and field	Doctorates (number)	Debt										
		None	≤ \$10,000	\$10,001– \$20,000	\$20,001– \$30,000	\$30,001– \$40,000	\$40,001– \$50,000	\$50,001– \$60,000	\$60,001– \$70,000	\$70,001– \$80,000	\$80,001– \$90,000	≥ \$90,001
Social sciences	5,188	45.3	8.8	7.7	6.3	4.4	3.7	2.8	2.6	2.2	3.2	13.1
Non-S&E	11,913	41.5	8.8	7.4	6.3	4.3	4.1	3.5	3.0	2.4	3.7	14.9
Undergraduate debt												
All fields	49,250	70.2	7.2	7.2	5.7	3.1	2.1	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.9
S&E	37,353	71.3	7.1	6.9	5.6	3.0	1.9	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.8
Engineering	8,932	78.6	6.2	5.0	3.9	2.2	1.2	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.4
Sciences	28,421	69.0	7.4	7.5	6.1	3.2	2.1	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.9
Agricultural sciences	1,217	72.4	7.3	7.6	4.5	2.7	2.1	1.0	0.7	0.8	s	s
Biological sciences	7,815	66.9	7.8	8.4	7.0	3.4	2.3	1.2	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.7
Computer sciences	1,782	84.5	4.5	3.1	2.6	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	892	68.7	9.5	7.3	5.8	3.3	1.8	1.0	s	0.7	s	0.7
Mathematics	1,645	78.8	6.7	6.1	3.5	1.8	1.3	0.7	s	0.4	0.3	s



Debt and field	Doctorates (number)	Debt										
		None	≤ \$10,000	\$10,001– \$20,000	\$20,001– \$30,000	\$30,001– \$40,000	\$40,001– \$50,000	\$50,001– \$60,000	\$60,001– \$70,000	\$70,001– \$80,000	\$80,001– \$90,000	≥ \$90,001
Medical and other health sciences	2,379	69.0	6.9	5.8	5.3	3.0	2.9	2.0	1.5	0.8	1.2	1.6
Physical sciences	4,409	69.9	7.5	7.3	6.6	3.0	1.9	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.7
Psychology	3,113	58.0	9.0	9.3	8.1	5.1	3.2	2.4	1.1	0.8	1.4	1.6
Social sciences	5,169	68.6	6.8	8.0	6.2	3.3	1.8	1.7	1.1	0.4	0.9	1.1
Non-S&E	11,897	67.1	7.7	8.0	5.9	3.5	2.5	1.7	0.9	0.7	1.0	1.2
Graduate debt												
All fields	48,809	63.3	8.6	5.2	4.0	2.8	2.5	2.2	1.7	1.6	2.6	5.4
S&E	37,044	68.3	8.3	4.7	3.5	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.4	1.3	2.0	4.2
Engineering	8,841	76.9	8.8	4.3	2.7	1.6	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.1
Sciences	28,203	65.6	8.2	4.9	3.7	2.6	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.5	2.4	5.1
Agricultural sciences	1,207	67.0	10.2	6.1	4.0	3.3	2.4	1.7	1.0	1.4	0.8	2.0
Biological sciences	7,745	75.7	8.1	4.3	2.9	1.5	1.6	1.2	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.9
Computer sciences	1,772	79.3	6.7	3.1	1.9	1.5	1.6	0.8	0.6	0.6	1.5	2.3



Debt and field	Doctorates (number)	Debt										
		None	≤ \$10,000	\$10,001– \$20,000	\$20,001– \$30,000	\$30,001– \$40,000	\$40,001– \$50,000	\$50,001– \$60,000	\$60,001– \$70,000	\$70,001– \$80,000	\$80,001– \$90,000	≥ \$90,001
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	886	75.3	9.0	3.8	2.9	2.0	1.5	0.8	1.4	0.6	1.4	1.4
Mathematics	1,636	82.0	6.3	3.4	1.9	1.1	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.6	1.2	0.8
Medical and other health sciences	2,357	48.0	8.1	6.1	5.3	4.7	3.9	4.2	2.7	3.4	3.9	9.7
Physical sciences	4,364	79.2	8.5	3.6	2.3	1.4	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.0
Psychology	3,092	37.6	7.3	5.5	6.0	4.6	4.4	4.3	3.7	3.6	6.2	16.8
Social sciences	5,144	52.0	9.2	7.0	5.3	3.9	3.2	3.0	2.5	2.2	3.7	8.0
Non-S&E	11,765	47.6	9.4	6.5	5.7	4.3	3.7	3.6	2.7	2.6	4.6	9.3

s = suppressed for reasons of confidentiality and/or reliability.

**Note(s)**

Of doctorate recipients, 5,756 did not report undergraduate debt, and 6,197 did not report graduate debt. Percentages may not add to total because of rounding.

**Source(s)**

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, special tabulations (2016), 2015 Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED).

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