

Appendix table 2-12

**Amount of undergraduate and graduate debt of S&E doctorate recipients, by field: 2011**

(Percent)

| Field                                  | Doctorates (n) | Debt |            |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |            |
|--|----------------|------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|
|  |                | None | ≤ \$10,000 | \$10,001–<br>\$20,000 | \$20,001–<br>\$30,000 | \$30,001–<br>\$40,000 | \$40,001–<br>\$50,000 | \$50,001–<br>\$60,000 | \$60,001–<br>\$70,000 | \$70,001–<br>\$80,000 | \$80,001–<br>\$90,000 | ≥ \$90,001 |
| <b>Cumulative debt</b>                 |                |      |            |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |            |
| All fields                             | 45,081         | 52.3 | 9.6        | 8.3                   | 6.2                   | 4.1                   | 3.6                   | 2.8                   | 2.5                   | 1.9                   | 2.3                   | 6.6        |
| S&E                                    | 33,755         | 55.5 | 9.7        | 8.3                   | 5.9                   | 3.8                   | 3.2                   | 2.3                   | 2.2                   | 1.7                   | 2.0                   | 5.6        |
| Engineering                            | 7,371          | 66.8 | 10.3       | 6.8                   | 4.2                   | 2.5                   | 2.1                   | 1.5                   | 1.2                   | 0.9                   | 1.1                   | 2.7        |
| Sciences                               | 26,384         | 52.3 | 9.6        | 8.7                   | 6.4                   | 4.1                   | 3.5                   | 2.5                   | 2.4                   | 1.9                   | 2.3                   | 6.4        |
| Agricultural sciences                  | 1,033          | 53.0 | 11.1       | 8.5                   | 6.3                   | 3.8                   | 4.5                   | 3.5                   | 2.8                   | 2.1                   | 1.5                   | 2.8        |
| Biological sciences                    | 7,612          | 55.2 | 10.5       | 10.2                  | 7.2                   | 4.0                   | 3.3                   | 1.8                   | 1.9                   | 1.5                   | 1.1                   | 3.4        |
| Computer sciences                      | 1,554          | 71.6 | 7.9        | 5.5                   | 3.5                   | 2.1                   | 1.4                   | 1.8                   | 1.5                   | 1.0                   | 1.0                   | 2.8        |
| Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences | 796            | 56.4 | 10.9       | 9.7                   | 6.8                   | 4.4                   | 2.6                   | 1.8                   | 1.9                   | 1.0                   | 1.3                   | 3.3        |
| Mathematics                            | 1,497          | 66.9 | 8.5        | 8.4                   | 5.3                   | 2.7                   | 1.5                   | 1.3                   | 1.1                   | 1.1                   | 0.9                   | 2.2        |
| Medical/other health sciences          | 1,927          | 46.5 | 9.0        | 7.3                   | 5.4                   | 5.9                   | 4.4                   | 3.8                   | 3.0                   | 2.6                   | 3.8                   | 8.1        |
| Physical sciences                      | 4,203          | 60.3 | 10.0       | 9.6                   | 6.0                   | 3.6                   | 2.7                   | 1.4                   | 1.6                   | 1.0                   | 1.4                   | 2.4        |
| Psychology                             | 3,134          | 29.5 | 7.0        | 7.8                   | 7.5                   | 4.8                   | 5.2                   | 5.0                   | 4.3                   | 3.8                   | 5.9                   | 19.3       |
| Social sciences                        | 4,628          | 46.0 | 9.9        | 7.6                   | 6.5                   | 4.7                   | 4.2                   | 3.0                   | 3.3                   | 2.4                   | 3.2                   | 9.2        |
| Non-S&E                                | 11,326         | 42.9 | 9.1        | 8.2                   | 6.9                   | 5.0                   | 4.8                   | 4.2                   | 3.5                   | 2.5                   | 3.0                   | 9.9        |
| <b>Undergraduate debt</b>              |                |      |            |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |            |
| All fields                             | 44,931         | 72.1 | 7.4        | 7.8                   | 5.1                   | 2.9                   | 1.8                   | 1.0                   | 0.6                   | 0.4                   | 0.4                   | 0.4        |
| S&E                                    | 33,657         | 72.3 | 7.4        | 7.9                   | 5.1                   | 2.8                   | 1.7                   | 1.0                   | 0.6                   | 0.4                   | 0.4                   | 0.4        |
| Engineering                            | 7,344          | 80.1 | 6.2        | 5.2                   | 3.1                   | 1.8                   | 1.4                   | 0.8                   | 0.4                   | 0.3                   | 0.5                   | 0.3        |
| Sciences                               | 26,313         | 70.2 | 7.8        | 8.7                   | 5.7                   | 3.0                   | 1.8                   | 1.0                   | 0.6                   | 0.4                   | 0.4                   | 0.4        |
| Agricultural sciences                  | 1,028          | 72.2 | 7.9        | 7.6                   | 5.5                   | 3.8                   | 1.6                   | 0.8                   | D                     | D                     | D                     | 0.0        |
| Biological sciences                    | 7,604          | 67.1 | 8.9        | 10.2                  | 6.2                   | 2.9                   | 1.9                   | 1.0                   | 0.6                   | 0.4                   | 0.3                   | 0.4        |
| Computer sciences                      | 1,550          | 84.9 | 4.4        | 4.3                   | 2.6                   | 1.5                   | 0.6                   | 0.5                   | D                     | D                     | 0.4                   | D          |
| Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences | 796            | 71.4 | 7.9        | 8.8                   | 4.6                   | 3.4                   | 1.6                   | 0.8                   | D                     | D                     | D                     | D          |
| Mathematics                            | 1,492          | 76.8 | 6.2        | 7.2                   | 4.5                   | 1.7                   | 1.2                   | 0.7                   | 0.4                   | 0.4                   | D                     | D          |
| Medical/other health sciences          | 1,913          | 74.9 | 6.6        | 5.4                   | 4.9                   | 3.0                   | 2.1                   | 1.2                   | 0.4                   | 0.5                   | 0.5                   | 0.4        |
| Physical sciences                      | 4,196          | 70.4 | 7.7        | 9.8                   | 5.4                   | 3.0                   | 1.5                   | 0.7                   | 0.7                   | 0.2                   | 0.5                   | 0.2        |
| Psychology                             | 3,121          | 61.9 | 8.8        | 10.2                  | 7.9                   | 4.5                   | 2.3                   | 2.0                   | 0.7                   | 0.6                   | 0.6                   | 0.5        |
| Social sciences                        | 4,613          | 71.0 | 7.4        | 7.7                   | 5.6                   | 3.1                   | 2.0                   | 0.9                   | 1.0                   | 0.5                   | 0.3                   | 0.6        |
| Non-S&E                                | 11,274         | 71.3 | 7.2        | 7.6                   | 5.0                   | 3.2                   | 2.1                   | 1.2                   | 0.8                   | 0.5                   | 0.5                   | 0.6        |
| <b>Graduate debt</b>                   |                |      |            |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |            |
| All fields                             | 44,862         | 64.0 | 8.3        | 5.4                   | 4.2                   | 3.3                   | 2.7                   | 2.3                   | 1.9                   | 1.6                   | 2.1                   | 4.2        |
| S&E                                    | 33,594         | 68.1 | 8.2        | 4.9                   | 3.7                   | 2.9                   | 2.2                   | 1.9                   | 1.5                   | 1.3                   | 1.8                   | 3.5        |
| Engineering                            | 7,337          | 76.7 | 8.7        | 4.2                   | 2.7                   | 1.7                   | 1.4                   | 1.2                   | 0.7                   | 0.8                   | 0.9                   | 1.0        |
| Sciences                               | 26,257         | 65.8 | 8.1        | 5.1                   | 3.9                   | 3.2                   | 2.5                   | 2.0                   | 1.7                   | 1.5                   | 2.1                   | 4.2        |
| Agricultural sciences                  | 1,029          | 62.6 | 11.4       | 5.3                   | 5.1                   | 4.3                   | 3.2                   | 2.4                   | D                     | 1.5                   | 1.2                   | D          |
| Biological sciences                    | 7,575          | 74.6 | 7.6        | 4.2                   | 3.2                   | 2.8                   | 1.8                   | 1.2                   | 1.0                   | 0.8                   | 1.0                   | 1.9        |

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|--|----------------|------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|
|  |                | None | ≤ \$10,000 | \$10,001–<br>\$20,000 | \$20,001–<br>\$30,000 | \$30,001–<br>\$40,000 | \$40,001–<br>\$50,000 | \$50,001–<br>\$60,000 | \$60,001–<br>\$70,000 | \$70,001–<br>\$80,000 | \$80,001–<br>\$90,000 | ≥ \$90,001 |
| Computer sciences                      | 1,550          | 79.1 | 6.9        | 3.1                   | 2.4                   | 1.7                   | 0.8                   | 1.2                   | 1.2                   | 1.1                   | 0.8                   | 1.7        |
| Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences | 793            | 71.2 | 9.1        | 5.4                   | 3.3                   | 3.5                   | 1.9                   | 1.5                   | D                     | 0.9                   | 1.1                   | D          |
| Mathematics                            | 1,490          | 80.1 | 7.4        | 4.6                   | 1.7                   | 1.9                   | 1.1                   | 0.9                   | 0.5                   | 0.5                   | 0.6                   | 0.8        |
| Medical/other health sciences          | 1,912          | 54.6 | 7.9        | 6.7                   | 5.2                   | 4.5                   | 3.6                   | 3.4                   | 2.6                   | 2.6                   | 3.8                   | 5.0        |
| Physical sciences                      | 4,183          | 77.1 | 8.1        | 4.1                   | 2.8                   | 1.9                   | 1.5                   | 1.0                   | 1.0                   | 0.5                   | 0.9                   | 1.1        |
| Psychology                             | 3,126          | 38.8 | 7.2        | 6.7                   | 5.7                   | 4.6                   | 4.8                   | 4.2                   | 3.9                   | 3.7                   | 5.6                   | 14.7       |
| Social sciences                        | 4,599          | 54.6 | 9.4        | 6.2                   | 5.5                   | 4.3                   | 3.3                   | 2.9                   | 2.4                   | 2.2                   | 3.0                   | 6.2        |
| Non-S&E                                | 11,268         | 51.5 | 8.4        | 7.0                   | 6.0                   | 4.6                   | 4.1                   | 3.6                   | 3.1                   | 2.3                   | 2.8                   | 6.5        |

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

NOTES: Of doctorate recipients, 4,079 did not report undergraduate debt and 4,148 did not report graduate debt. Percentages may not add to 100% because of rounding.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, special tabulations (2012) of the 2011 Survey of Earned Doctorates.

*Science and Engineering Indicators 2014*