

Table 1-13**Education-related graduate debt of research doctorate recipients, by historical broad field of doctorate: 2012–22**

(Number)

Education-related debt level and field	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Doctorate recipients reporting education-related debt	46,490	46,449	46,819	48,759	49,778	49,231	50,041	50,731	50,367	47,279	52,071
No debt	29,297	28,883	29,333	30,890	31,987	32,604	33,847	34,713	35,081	33,847	38,237
\$10,000 or less	4,030	3,931	3,842	4,189	4,071	3,801	3,831	3,469	3,399	2,740	2,864
\$10,001–\$30,000	4,565	4,609	4,435	4,464	4,376	3,897	3,720	3,791	3,411	2,941	3,241
\$30,001–\$70,000	4,789	4,782	4,735	4,500	4,528	4,107	3,902	3,675	3,482	3,176	3,223
\$70,001 or more	3,809	4,244	4,474	4,716	4,816	4,822	4,741	5,083	4,994	4,575	4,506
Life sciences ^a	11,115	10,867	10,917	11,306	11,636	11,617	11,788	11,899	11,682	10,855	12,184
No debt	7,658	7,318	7,427	7,812	8,100	8,213	8,401	8,489	8,429	8,114	9,289
\$10,000 or less	943	904	860	940	914	913	875	836	803	646	658
\$10,001–\$30,000	1,001	1,016	997	943	940	818	815	852	724	586	686
\$30,001–\$70,000	906	945	917	857	904	846	836	791	790	676	712
\$70,001 or more	607	684	716	754	778	827	861	931	936	833	839
Physical sciences and earth sciences	5,009	5,005	5,203	5,328	5,748	5,625	5,870	6,123	5,801	5,369	6,142
No debt	3,833	3,831	4,023	4,164	4,530	4,584	4,824	5,023	4,909	4,608	5,304
\$10,000 or less	426	421	404	460	484	392	446	394	359	281	316
\$10,001–\$30,000	377	380	365	324	335	298	269	317	234	224	228
\$30,001–\$70,000	265	244	268	237	243	217	200	206	171	153	164
\$70,001 or more	108	129	143	143	156	134	131	183	128	103	130
Mathematics and computer sciences	3,149	3,273	3,415	3,407	3,589	3,468	3,675	3,889	4,036	3,984	4,397
No debt	2,505	2,633	2,685	2,747	2,885	2,835	3,045	3,250	3,404	3,375	3,796
\$10,000 or less	202	204	238	222	190	218	215	211	208	203	181
\$10,001–\$30,000	187	182	189	175	217	175	170	169	189	166	174
\$30,001–\$70,000	163	142	177	144	165	115	139	141	112	122	125
\$70,001 or more	92	112	126	119	132	125	106	118	123	118	121
Psychology and social sciences	7,598	7,442	7,435	7,853	8,073	7,956	7,920	8,062	7,971	7,656	8,251
No debt	3,560	3,446	3,431	3,635	3,966	4,057	4,168	4,339	4,442	4,356	5,006
\$10,000 or less	657	615	609	670	687	644	609	550	569	445	457
\$10,001–\$30,000	983	880	860	947	881	840	736	724	699	639	663
\$30,001–\$70,000	1,167	1,186	1,138	1,125	1,064	977	918	840	759	747	731
\$70,001 or more	1,231	1,315	1,397	1,476	1,475	1,438	1,489	1,609	1,502	1,469	1,394
Engineering	7,747	7,964	8,445	8,827	8,549	8,854	9,288	9,429	9,649	9,394	10,415
No debt	5,907	5,981	6,426	6,787	6,555	7,034	7,488	7,573	7,876	7,735	8,677
\$10,000 or less	692	706	746	774	759	679	716	639	635	549	566
\$10,001–\$30,000	549	615	617	613	568	520	516	577	494	492	519
\$30,001–\$70,000	401	422	413	420	416	361	341	345	317	339	373
\$70,001 or more	198	240	243	233	251	260	227	295	327	279	280

Table 1-13**Education-related graduate debt of research doctorate recipients, by historical broad field of doctorate: 2012–22**

(Number)

Education-related debt level and field	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Education	4,397	4,300	4,079	4,490	4,621	4,300	4,356	4,204	4,268	3,780	3,946
No debt	2,115	1,898	1,725	1,942	2,038	1,893	1,952	1,979	2,004	1,874	1,928
\$10,000 or less	373	361	347	396	369	340	339	267	292	228	243
\$10,001–\$30,000	534	574	502	555	557	483	480	422	433	337	383
\$30,001–\$70,000	742	728	732	711	718	673	667	622	601	496	534
\$70,001 or more	633	739	773	886	939	911	918	914	938	845	858
Humanities and arts	5,059	4,974	4,771	4,939	4,953	4,735	4,614	4,507	4,369	3,661	3,980
No debt	2,451	2,431	2,325	2,437	2,551	2,544	2,550	2,564	2,511	2,233	2,495
\$10,000 or less	539	525	450	543	466	444	457	402	355	244	271
\$10,001–\$30,000	671	667	629	633	611	509	483	476	429	286	370
\$30,001–\$70,000	792	727	726	649	657	554	513	466	473	409	361
\$70,001 or more	606	624	641	677	668	684	611	599	601	489	483
Other ^b	2,416	2,624	2,554	2,609	2,609	2,676	2,530	2,618	2,591	2,580	2,756
No debt	1,268	1,345	1,291	1,366	1,362	1,444	1,419	1,496	1,506	1,552	1,742
\$10,000 or less	198	195	188	184	202	171	174	170	178	144	172
\$10,001–\$30,000	263	295	276	274	267	254	251	254	209	211	218
\$30,001–\$70,000	353	388	364	357	361	364	288	264	259	234	223
\$70,001 or more	334	401	435	428	417	443	398	434	439	439	401

^a Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources, biological and biomedical sciences, and health sciences.

^b Includes other non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.

Note(s):

Beginning in 2021, a modified version of the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes was used in the survey data collection; the historical fields were constructed using the SED-CIP code crosswalk in table A-6. Therefore, the field of doctorate data prior to 2021 may not be comparable to subsequent years. For more information, see the "Technical Notes" and the SED 2021 Taxonomy Changes Working Paper (available at <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nces23200>).

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates.