

TABLE 5-3
College graduates, by broad field of highest degree, father's education, mother's education, level of highest degree, and median amount borrowed to finance undergraduate degree: 2019

(Number)

Field of highest degree, father's education, and mother's education	Bachelor's						Master's						Doctorate						Professional						
	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	
All fields	41,035,000	18,121,000	5,891,000	4,815,000	4,141,000	8,066,000	17,801,000	7,844,000	2,487,000	1,924,000	1,334,000	2,652,000	2,522,000	1,265,000	370,000	183,000	115,000	212,000	3,338,000	1,393,000	437,000	302,000	219,000	466,000	
Father's education																									
Less than high school completed	4,683,000	2,151,000	981,000	523,000	370,000	657,000	2,122,000	869,000	410,000	214,000	108,000	241,000	309,000	111,000	53,000	15,000	11,000	S	303,000	109,000	44,000	11,000	14,000	66,000	
High school diploma or equivalent	11,042,000	4,280,000	1,733,000	1,416,000	1,214,000	2,399,000	4,075,000	1,583,000	634,000	453,000	371,000	684,000	493,000	207,000	82,000	39,000	31,000	53,000	510,000	153,000	57,000	65,000	58,000	77,000	
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	8,155,000	3,092,000	1,214,000	932,000	1,044,000	1,872,000	3,315,000	1,177,000	482,000	475,000	338,000	637,000	370,000	186,000	67,000	39,000	13,000	22,000	537,000	194,000	113,000	59,000	35,000	77,000	
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	9,055,000	4,400,000	1,129,000	1,072,000	812,000	1,642,000	3,906,000	1,941,000	431,000	424,000	260,000	520,000	573,000	313,000	73,000	43,000	27,000	42,000	729,000	286,000	101,000	78,000	54,000	101,000	
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	4,277,000	2,073,000	487,000	480,000	412,000	824,000	2,320,000	1,162,000	285,000	201,000	133,000	336,000	322,000	165,000	37,000	25,000	21,000	32,000	430,000	189,000	73,000	27,000	27,000	68,000	
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	1,547,000	961,000	128,000	150,000	85,000	222,000	875,000	533,000	99,000	52,000	56,000	72,000	206,000	134,000	24,000	11,000	3,000	15,000	507,000	322,000	29,000	23,000	S	33,000	
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	1,325,000	747,000	97,000	152,000	116,000	213,000	872,000	464,000	113,000	76,000	49,000	88,000	223,000	134,000	32,000	12,000	8,000	11,000	251,000	114,000	19,000	38,000	19,000	31,000	
Not applicable	951,000	417,000	120,000	89,000	88,000	236,000	316,000	115,000	32,000	28,000	20,000	73,000	26,000	14,000	2,000	D	D	S	69,000	26,000	S	D	D	13,000	
Mother's education																									
Less than high school completed	4,522,000	2,162,000	850,000	434,000	315,000	761,000	1,942,000	881,000	278,000	195,000	108,000	187,000	312,000	135,000	49,000	17,000	7,000	11,000	280,000	86,000	37,000	11,000	15,000	45,000	

TABLE 5-3

College graduates, by broad field of highest degree, father's education, mother's education, level of highest degree, and median amount borrowed to finance undergraduate degree: 2019

(Number)

Field of highest degree, father's education, and mother's education	Bachelor's						Master's						Doctorate						Professional					
	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over
High school diploma or equivalent	13,124,000	5,620,000	2,182,000	1,557,000	1,361,000	2,404,000	5,175,000	2,095,000	891,000	577,000	439,000	752,000	597,000	281,000	110,000	53,000	26,000	43,000	730,000	251,000	128,000	76,000	62,000	106,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	9,579,000	3,656,000	1,297,000	1,301,000	1,107,000	2,219,000	4,140,000	1,737,000	563,000	529,000	346,000	707,000	521,000	254,000	69,000	45,000	31,000	54,000	691,000	299,000	102,000	80,000	36,000	98,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	8,701,000	4,144,000	1,030,000	1,006,000	907,000	1,613,000	3,571,000	1,726,000	445,000	324,000	239,000	541,000	548,000	288,000	65,000	27,000	31,000	58,000	892,000	434,000	89,000	90,000	62,000	110,000
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	3,641,000	1,788,000	328,000	388,000	348,000	789,000	2,272,000	1,032,000	259,000	249,000	169,000	364,000	379,000	210,000	58,000	30,000	14,000	34,000	492,000	219,000	69,000	36,000	33,000	76,000
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	495,000	264,000	56,000	35,000	26,000	113,000	252,000	151,000	20,000	11,000	13,000	40,000	69,000	40,000	6,000	3,000	1,000	6,000	133,000	38,000	7,000	S	D	12,000
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	409,000	184,000	64,000	32,000	44,000	84,000	248,000	146,000	17,000	27,000	17,000	26,000	73,000	42,000	S	S	4,000	5,000	89,000	53,000	D	S	S	S
Not applicable	563,000	303,000	83,000	60,000	34,000	83,000	200,000	75,000	14,000	14,000	4,000	35,000	23,000	15,000	S	D	D	D	32,000	12,000	D	D	D	D
S&E fields	13,972,000	6,199,000	2,061,000	1,686,000	1,380,000	2,645,000	4,145,000	1,915,000	544,000	379,000	279,000	530,000	1,494,000	820,000	191,000	103,000	60,000	93,000	51,000	24,000	6,000	3,000	4,000	11,000
Father's education																								
Less than high school completed	1,580,000	718,000	323,000	188,000	121,000	231,000	437,000	203,000	71,000	39,000	17,000	35,000	162,000	74,000	27,000	10,000	6,000	3,000	S	*	2,000	D	D	D
High school diploma or equivalent	3,464,000	1,337,000	570,000	467,000	394,000	696,000	823,000	336,000	135,000	78,000	62,000	121,000	260,000	123,000	44,000	19,000	9,000	19,000	8,000	S	S	D	D	D
Some college, vocational, or trade	2,629,000	987,000	398,000	341,000	278,000	625,000	698,000	269,000	109,000	85,000	53,000	111,000	199,000	118,000	28,000	17,000	5,000	12,000	11,000	4,000	D	D	D	S

TABLE 5-3
College graduates, by broad field of highest degree, father's education, mother's education, level of highest degree, and median amount borrowed to finance undergraduate degree: 2019

(Number)

Field of highest degree, father's education, and mother's education	Bachelor's						Master's						Doctorate						Professional						
	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	
school (including 2-year degrees)																									
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	3,241,000	1,626,000	453,000	320,000	295,000	546,000	1,099,000	553,000	110,000	89,000	80,000	142,000	370,000	214,000	42,000	23,000	18,000	19,000	8,000	5,000	D	D	D	D	
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	1,626,000	763,000	187,000	197,000	170,000	310,000	582,000	281,000	76,000	50,000	29,000	67,000	225,000	116,000	25,000	17,000	13,000	20,000	6,000	4,000	D	D	D	D	
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	583,000	348,000	51,000	61,000	39,000	83,000	235,000	138,000	24,000	10,000	15,000	26,000	121,000	81,000	10,000	7,000	1,000	8,000	4,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	563,000	290,000	52,000	78,000	54,000	89,000	217,000	115,000	15,000	24,000	14,000	20,000	145,000	86,000	15,000	9,000	6,000	10,000	S	D	D	D	D	D	
Not applicable	286,000	130,000	28,000	35,000	29,000	65,000	54,000	19,000	5,000	3,000	7,000	8,000	13,000	8,000	1,000	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	
Mother's education																									
Less than high school completed	1,532,000	714,000	282,000	164,000	122,000	249,000	513,000	234,000	70,000	44,000	25,000	42,000	196,000	96,000	31,000	9,000	5,000	4,000	S	1,000	D	D	D	D	
High school diploma or equivalent	4,098,000	1,711,000	776,000	527,000	402,000	682,000	1,037,000	477,000	170,000	80,000	83,000	115,000	336,000	168,000	63,000	24,000	13,000	20,000	12,000	6,000	2,000	S	D	1,000	
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	3,222,000	1,260,000	430,000	420,000	345,000	767,000	873,000	358,000	121,000	113,000	67,000	140,000	279,000	160,000	27,000	25,000	14,000	21,000	13,000	7,000	2,000	D	D	S	

TABLE 5-3
College graduates, by broad field of highest degree, father's education, mother's education, level of highest degree, and median amount borrowed to finance undergraduate degree: 2019

(Number)

Field of highest degree, father's education, and mother's education	Bachelor's						Master's						Doctorate						Professional					
	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	3,144,000	1,529,000	366,000	380,000	323,000	546,000	964,000	472,000	114,000	87,000	54,000	138,000	358,000	195,000	40,000	20,000	18,000	27,000	12,000	6,000	D	D	D	D
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	1,383,000	677,000	131,000	153,000	140,000	283,000	533,000	258,000	58,000	40,000	39,000	65,000	217,000	129,000	25,000	16,000	8,000	15,000	7,000	3,000	D	D	D	D
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	213,000	111,000	27,000	12,000	15,000	47,000	89,000	52,000	6,000	4,000	4,000	15,000	50,000	32,000	3,000	3,000	1,000	4,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	205,000	94,000	29,000	14,000	19,000	49,000	73,000	42,000	3,000	7,000	5,000	7,000	45,000	30,000	2,000	S	S	2,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Not applicable	177,000	103,000	21,000	17,000	14,000	23,000	61,000	22,000	3,000	4,000	S	9,000	13,000	9,000	S	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related fields	4,837,000	2,041,000	684,000	505,000	482,000	1,125,000	2,328,000	917,000	308,000	264,000	199,000	416,000	339,000	136,000	48,000	28,000	25,000	32,000	1,641,000	608,000	151,000	113,000	95,000	254,000
Father's education																								
Less than high school completed	571,000	226,000	137,000	64,000	58,000	85,000	246,000	91,000	53,000	33,000	15,000	22,000	S	8,000	4,000	S	S	D	151,000	48,000	21,000	6,000	S	22,000
High school diploma or equivalent	1,294,000	495,000	191,000	145,000	134,000	329,000	571,000	160,000	78,000	69,000	65,000	131,000	88,000	36,000	7,000	8,000	10,000	14,000	243,000	48,000	26,000	20,000	36,000	43,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	967,000	371,000	146,000	84,000	104,000	263,000	430,000	141,000	65,000	58,000	42,000	93,000	41,000	13,000	9,000	S	2,000	S	225,000	78,000	30,000	15,000	15,000	42,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	1,128,000	518,000	109,000	129,000	102,000	270,000	509,000	235,000	48,000	52,000	41,000	96,000	93,000	38,000	17,000	11,000	6,000	7,000	353,000	124,000	37,000	31,000	8,000	54,000

TABLE 5-3
College graduates, by broad field of highest degree, father's education, mother's education, level of highest degree, and median amount borrowed to finance undergraduate degree: 2019

(Number)

Field of highest degree, father's education, and mother's education	Bachelor's						Master's						Doctorate						Professional					
	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	434,000	202,000	54,000	57,000	31,000	90,000	302,000	139,000	34,000	36,000	23,000	39,000	32,000	15,000	D	S	4,000	S	209,000	87,000	19,000	9,000	16,000	44,000
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	201,000	102,000	24,000	10,000	25,000	39,000	139,000	91,000	12,000	8,000	6,000	12,000	19,000	15,000	D	S	D	D	258,000	142,000	11,000	8,000	S	18,000
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	110,000	52,000	15,000	S	22,000	S	88,000	46,000	12,000	8,000	7,000	10,000	25,000	12,000	S	D	D	D	144,000	62,000	7,000	24,000	S	20,000
Not applicable	131,000	73,000	7,000	11,000	7,000	32,000	45,000	14,000	6,000	D	1,000	12,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	D	57,000	19,000	D	D	D	S
Mother's education																								
Less than high school completed	566,000	240,000	119,000	41,000	46,000	121,000	211,000	85,000	31,000	21,000	14,000	24,000	S	7,000	S	S	S	D	160,000	38,000	25,000	7,000	8,000	S
High school diploma or equivalent	1,528,000	650,000	241,000	166,000	145,000	326,000	674,000	234,000	103,000	89,000	66,000	121,000	90,000	49,000	11,000	7,000	7,000	5,000	338,000	103,000	38,000	33,000	32,000	59,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	1,219,000	434,000	159,000	152,000	147,000	328,000	537,000	192,000	80,000	66,000	50,000	104,000	80,000	25,000	S	14,000	8,000	8,000	313,000	99,000	41,000	30,000	17,000	61,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	1,044,000	466,000	109,000	117,000	114,000	238,000	515,000	226,000	52,000	51,000	47,000	88,000	56,000	29,000	5,000	*	7,000	4,000	419,000	208,000	27,000	23,000	24,000	55,000
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	321,000	163,000	37,000	24,000	20,000	77,000	295,000	131,000	33,000	32,000	16,000	64,000	56,000	18,000	17,000	4,000	2,000	9,000	245,000	109,000	19,000	13,000	9,000	48,000

TABLE 5-3
College graduates, by broad field of highest degree, father's education, mother's education, level of highest degree, and median amount borrowed to finance undergraduate degree: 2019

(Number)

Field of highest degree, father's education, and mother's education	Bachelor's						Master's						Doctorate						Professional					
	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over	Total	\$0	\$1–\$10,000	\$10,001–\$20,000	\$20,001–\$30,000	\$30,001 and over
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	50,000	25,000	2,000	D	4,000	18,000	33,000	14,000	S	S	S	S	3,000	S	D	D	D	D	95,000	20,000	D	D	D	S
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	24,000	9,000	7,000	D	D	D	27,000	19,000	S	S	S	2,000	20,000	8,000	D	D	D	D	45,000	25,000	D	D	D	S
Not applicable	85,000	54,000	11,000	S	S	11,000	37,000	15,000	S	D	D	D	2,000	D	D	D	D	D	25,000	6,000	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E fields	22,226,000	9,881,000	3,146,000	2,624,000	2,280,000	4,296,000	11,328,000	5,012,000	1,634,000	1,282,000	856,000	1,706,000	688,000	309,000	131,000	52,000	30,000	87,000	1,647,000	761,000	280,000	186,000	120,000	201,000
Father's education																								
Less than high school completed	2,532,000	1,207,000	522,000	271,000	191,000	341,000	1,439,000	575,000	286,000	143,000	75,000	184,000	109,000	29,000	22,000	2,000	D	S	144,000	61,000	21,000	S	S	40,000
High school diploma or equivalent	6,284,000	2,448,000	972,000	804,000	686,000	1,374,000	2,681,000	1,086,000	421,000	306,000	244,000	433,000	145,000	48,000	31,000	11,000	12,000	S	260,000	99,000	30,000	46,000	22,000	34,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	4,559,000	1,733,000	670,000	508,000	663,000	985,000	2,187,000	767,000	308,000	333,000	243,000	433,000	130,000	55,000	30,000	17,000	5,000	5,000	301,000	112,000	82,000	43,000	18,000	31,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	4,686,000	2,256,000	567,000	623,000	414,000	826,000	2,299,000	1,153,000	272,000	283,000	139,000	282,000	109,000	61,000	15,000	9,000	2,000	15,000	368,000	157,000	63,000	46,000	46,000	46,000
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	2,216,000	1,108,000	247,000	227,000	211,000	424,000	1,436,000	742,000	176,000	114,000	81,000	231,000	65,000	34,000	9,000	6,000	4,000	9,000	215,000	98,000	54,000	19,000	10,000	24,000
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	763,000	511,000	52,000	78,000	22,000	100,000	501,000	305,000	63,000	34,000	36,000	33,000	67,000	38,000	13,000	S	D	7,000	245,000	178,000	17,000	14,000	2,000	15,000

* = suppressed when population estimate < 500. D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

S&E = science and engineering.

Note(s):

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Totals for master's, doctorate, and professional highest degree earners include individuals who did not earn an undergraduate degree. These are primarily individuals who earned a first degree at an international institution for which the award is not counted as an undergraduate award by U.S. standards.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates: 2019.