

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: 2017
(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	38,866,000	17,916,000	5,953,000	4,760,000	3,530,000	6,705,000	16,756,000	7,810,000	2,598,000	1,823,000	1,235,000	2,311,000	2,172,000	1,191,000	329,000	171,000	91,000	157,000	3,426,000	1,538,000	414,000	346,000	260,000	447,000
Father's education																								
Less than high school completed	4,856,000	2,363,000	977,000	529,000	312,000	675,000	2,203,000	945,000	473,000	198,000	147,000	249,000	271,000	127,000	56,000	24,000	6,000	13,000	266,000	123,000	40,000	18,000	15,000	30,000
High school diploma or equivalent	10,531,000	4,447,000	1,589,000	1,449,000	1,083,000	1,964,000	3,831,000	1,618,000	651,000	425,000	345,000	574,000	441,000	210,000	81,000	40,000	15,000	44,000	566,000	183,000	64,000	60,000	77,000	94,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	7,675,000	2,933,000	1,320,000	1,026,000	879,000	1,516,000	3,084,000	1,248,000	483,000	395,000	275,000	544,000	317,000	155,000	59,000	34,000	17,000	20,000	515,000	199,000	102,000	70,000	45,000	52,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	8,467,000	4,203,000	1,117,000	977,000	719,000	1,450,000	3,630,000	1,862,000	488,000	444,000	206,000	452,000	494,000	310,000	52,000	38,000	20,000	35,000	792,000	322,000	94,000	95,000	64,000	113,000
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	3,918,000	2,015,000	574,000	403,000	318,000	608,000	2,123,000	1,046,000	295,000	198,000	150,000	297,000	279,000	152,000	37,000	19,000	15,000	26,000	441,000	227,000	59,000	43,000	16,000	58,000
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	1,452,000	930,000	146,000	141,000	63,000	172,000	793,000	520,000	69,000	52,000	57,000	54,000	176,000	120,000	20,000	6,000	9,000	7,000	555,000	336,000	24,000	45,000	26,000	69,000
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	1,192,000	668,000	146,000	115,000	79,000	184,000	786,000	470,000	102,000	67,000	33,000	61,000	168,000	101,000	22,000	8,000	9,000	9,000	225,000	113,000	28,000	14,000	11,000	27,000
Not applicable	776,000	357,000	85,000	121,000	77,000	137,000	307,000	101,000	37,000	42,000	21,000	82,000	26,000	16,000	2,000	S	D	S	65,000	35,000	S	D	D	5,000
Mother's education																								
Less than high school completed	4,683,000	2,396,000	886,000	416,000	378,000	607,000	2,021,000	926,000	346,000	195,000	126,000	203,000	318,000	168,000	51,000	17,000	4,000	15,000	211,000	80,000	26,000	7,000	17,000	19,000

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: 2017
(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	12,881,000	5,789,000	2,188,000	1,744,000	1,144,000	2,016,000	5,038,000	2,283,000	916,000	575,000	354,000	661,000	510,000	270,000	87,000	49,000	18,000	30,000	803,000	295,000	128,000	101,000	63,000	117,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	8,934,000	3,647,000	1,289,000	1,295,000	993,000	1,711,000	3,775,000	1,592,000	630,000	514,000	318,000	562,000	464,000	239,000	74,000	39,000	21,000	48,000	736,000	341,000	110,000	71,000	56,000	86,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	7,924,000	3,816,000	1,069,000	833,000	675,000	1,531,000	3,298,000	1,680,000	429,000	321,000	261,000	466,000	487,000	276,000	69,000	37,000	33,000	30,000	875,000	401,000	70,000	113,000	81,000	121,000
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	3,216,000	1,652,000	357,000	365,000	241,000	601,000	1,973,000	969,000	236,000	155,000	146,000	319,000	268,000	155,000	40,000	21,000	11,000	27,000	549,000	310,000	58,000	43,000	26,000	72,000
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	439,000	224,000	72,000	17,000	34,000	92,000	208,000	136,000	12,000	19,000	11,000	18,000	44,000	29,000	4,000	2,000	1,000	3,000	129,000	54,000	10,000	9,000	1,000	19,000
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	341,000	173,000	39,000	49,000	20,000	59,000	254,000	139,000	20,000	24,000	12,000	44,000	54,000	37,000	4,000	4,000	3,000	1,000	87,000	42,000	11,000	S	S	S
Not applicable	448,000	220,000	53,000	42,000	44,000	88,000	190,000	83,000	10,000	18,000	8,000	39,000	26,000	17,000	D	S	D	D	36,000	16,000	D	D	D	D
S&E fields	13,077,000	6,018,000	2,070,000	1,609,000	1,213,000	2,168,000	3,905,000	1,948,000	598,000	371,000	273,000	403,000	1,311,000	754,000	199,000	93,000	50,000	79,000	46,000	19,000	6,000	7,000	S	8,000
Father's education																								
Less than high school completed	1,598,000	794,000	335,000	169,000	134,000	167,000	459,000	212,000	101,000	44,000	25,000	28,000	160,000	84,000	29,000	10,000	5,000	1,000	6,000	3,000	S	D	D	D
High school diploma or equivalent	3,179,000	1,318,000	528,000	401,000	345,000	587,000	788,000	364,000	129,000	79,000	64,000	100,000	241,000	114,000	47,000	26,000	10,000	16,000	10,000	S	S	D	S	D
Some college, vocational, or trade	2,477,000	977,000	394,000	347,000	236,000	523,000	644,000	284,000	104,000	56,000	65,000	84,000	172,000	97,000	28,000	13,000	6,000	17,000	9,000	2,000	1,000	S	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: 2017
(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)	3,036,000	1,462,000	436,000	363,000	258,000	518,000	979,000	536,000	135,000	102,000	47,000	91,000	306,000	197,000	39,000	20,000	11,000	12,000	10,000	4,000	D	S	D	D
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	1,422,000	701,000	225,000	147,000	138,000	211,000	533,000	260,000	81,000	54,000	37,000	56,000	194,000	104,000	27,000	13,000	11,000	18,000	4,000	2,000	D	D	D	D
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	585,000	364,000	53,000	77,000	37,000	56,000	222,000	142,000	21,000	10,000	16,000	17,000	107,000	75,000	11,000	3,000	3,000	5,000	5,000	2,000	D	D	D	D
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	519,000	283,000	70,000	48,000	44,000	75,000	222,000	129,000	22,000	23,000	10,000	14,000	117,000	75,000	16,000	6,000	5,000	8,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	D
Not applicable	261,000	120,000	30,000	58,000	22,000	31,000	59,000	21,000	7,000	2,000	10,000	13,000	13,000	7,000	2,000	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Mother's education																								
Less than high school completed	1,551,000	742,000	340,000	158,000	154,000	157,000	542,000	283,000	77,000	41,000	34,000	43,000	197,000	113,000	29,000	11,000	4,000	3,000	4,000	S	D	D	D	D
High school diploma or equivalent	4,022,000	1,780,000	741,000	530,000	325,000	646,000	1,067,000	507,000	198,000	118,000	65,000	99,000	294,000	154,000	51,000	26,000	11,000	17,000	13,000	6,000	2,000	2,000	D	D
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	2,916,000	1,172,000	399,000	413,000	330,000	602,000	791,000	361,000	114,000	90,000	75,000	105,000	262,000	150,000	40,000	20,000	11,000	22,000	11,000	4,000	1,000	S	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: 2017
(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)	2,817,000	1,384,000	392,000	317,000	249,000	475,000	832,000	447,000	128,000	68,000	52,000	85,000	302,000	182,000	45,000	17,000	16,000	16,000	10,000	3,000	D	D	D	S
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	1,252,000	627,000	150,000	144,000	117,000	214,000	474,000	238,000	69,000	39,000	33,000	53,000	177,000	102,000	25,000	13,000	7,000	17,000	6,000	3,000	D	D	D	S
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	171,000	108,000	10,000	14,000	15,000	25,000	73,000	49,000	5,000	6,000	3,000	5,000	29,000	18,000	S	S	S	2,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	188,000	114,000	13,000	18,000	10,000	33,000	77,000	38,000	6,000	9,000	5,000	8,000	35,000	25,000	3,000	3,000	1,000	1,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Not applicable	161,000	92,000	25,000	15,000	12,000	16,000	49,000	25,000	2,000	1,000	5,000	4,000	14,000	8,000	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related fields	4,295,000	1,769,000	648,000	560,000	410,000	908,000	2,185,000	910,000	285,000	257,000	186,000	385,000	253,000	123,000	27,000	21,000	11,000	30,000	1,650,000	671,000	152,000	128,000	107,000	225,000
Father's education																								
Less than high school completed	584,000	245,000	91,000	89,000	43,000	116,000	259,000	114,000	50,000	28,000	7,000	40,000	22,000	10,000	5,000	S	D	S	143,000	53,000	17,000	13,000	S	21,000
High school diploma or equivalent	1,069,000	408,000	162,000	164,000	114,000	221,000	512,000	152,000	61,000	75,000	72,000	105,000	68,000	34,000	8,000	7,000	S	10,000	258,000	59,000	28,000	21,000	31,000	43,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	904,000	327,000	155,000	130,000	80,000	212,000	433,000	153,000	68,000	60,000	28,000	105,000	38,000	14,000	6,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	222,000	90,000	36,000	25,000	10,000	25,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	951,000	419,000	113,000	103,000	110,000	207,000	430,000	209,000	48,000	44,000	36,000	70,000	64,000	31,000	3,000	6,000	3,000	12,000	363,000	134,000	29,000	27,000	22,000	51,000

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: 2017
(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)	418,000	191,000	70,000	41,000	41,000	75,000	295,000	126,000	36,000	23,000	34,000	36,000	27,000	S	2,000	3,000	D	S	220,000	100,000	22,000	20,000	12,000	35,000
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	159,000	90,000	27,000	S	17,000	23,000	133,000	83,000	11,000	14,000	S	16,000	17,000	10,000	2,000	D	D	D	287,000	158,000	8,000	19,000	S	40,000
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	115,000	45,000	22,000	22,000	S	23,000	85,000	59,000	9,000	6,000	3,000	6,000	13,000	8,000	D	1,000	D	D	121,000	63,000	12,000	S	D	S
Not applicable	94,000	44,000	S	S	D	32,000	38,000	12,000	2,000	6,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	D	D	D	D	D	37,000	14,000	D	D	D	S
Mother's education																								
Less than high school completed	521,000	274,000	83,000	75,000	32,000	58,000	222,000	92,000	40,000	31,000	12,000	25,000	29,000	19,000	4,000	S	D	S	128,000	35,000	17,000	S	11,000	12,000
High school diploma or equivalent	1,401,000	535,000	238,000	209,000	138,000	282,000	639,000	255,000	94,000	80,000	61,000	105,000	78,000	40,000	8,000	8,000	2,000	5,000	363,000	130,000	43,000	42,000	21,000	49,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	1,068,000	389,000	171,000	159,000	124,000	225,000	496,000	186,000	65,000	73,000	46,000	102,000	63,000	22,000	5,000	6,000	S	14,000	303,000	106,000	41,000	21,000	15,000	53,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	911,000	392,000	106,000	84,000	82,000	246,000	455,000	203,000	52,000	42,000	41,000	82,000	44,000	20,000	5,000	4,000	5,000	4,000	437,000	193,000	28,000	40,000	42,000	57,000
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	269,000	125,000	31,000	25,000	26,000	62,000	282,000	126,000	30,000	21,000	25,000	59,000	22,000	11,000	4,000	2,000	D	S	261,000	140,000	17,000	16,000	6,000	47,000

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: 2017
(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)	48,000	11,000	13,000	S	D	18,000	21,000	10,000	D	5,000	D	S	3,000	S	D	D	D	D	85,000	35,000	D	S	D	S
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	27,000	14,000	D	4,000	D	6,000	30,000	21,000	S	D	D	8,000	10,000	7,000	D	D	D	D	49,000	27,000	D	D	D	D
Not applicable	49,000	29,000	S	S	D	S	40,000	16,000	D	6,000	D	D	4,000	D	D	D	D	D	23,000	S	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E fields	21,493,000	10,129,000	3,236,000	2,592,000	1,907,000	3,629,000	10,666,000	4,952,000	1,715,000	1,195,000	776,000	1,523,000	608,000	314,000	104,000	58,000	30,000	47,000	1,730,000	848,000	255,000	210,000	148,000	214,000
Father's education																								
Less than high school completed	2,674,000	1,324,000	551,000	270,000	135,000	393,000	1,485,000	619,000	322,000	126,000	115,000	180,000	89,000	33,000	23,000	12,000	*	9,000	118,000	67,000	22,000	S	S	8,000
High school diploma or equivalent	6,283,000	2,721,000	898,000	884,000	624,000	1,156,000	2,531,000	1,101,000	461,000	272,000	210,000	368,000	131,000	62,000	26,000	7,000	3,000	19,000	299,000	120,000	35,000	38,000	42,000	50,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	4,294,000	1,629,000	770,000	549,000	563,000	782,000	2,007,000	811,000	312,000	279,000	182,000	355,000	108,000	44,000	25,000	18,000	8,000	S	283,000	107,000	65,000	44,000	35,000	22,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	4,479,000	2,323,000	568,000	512,000	352,000	725,000	2,221,000	1,117,000	305,000	298,000	124,000	291,000	124,000	82,000	10,000	12,000	6,000	11,000	420,000	183,000	62,000	65,000	41,000	62,000
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	2,078,000	1,123,000	278,000	215,000	139,000	323,000	1,295,000	660,000	179,000	121,000	78,000	205,000	58,000	35,000	8,000	4,000	4,000	5,000	217,000	125,000	37,000	22,000	4,000	22,000
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	707,000	477,000	67,000	61,000	S	93,000	438,000	295,000	37,000	28,000	39,000	21,000	52,000	35,000	7,000	3,000	4,000	S	263,000	176,000	16,000	24,000	12,000	28,000

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: 2017
(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
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	558,000	339,000	54,000	46,000	32,000	86,000	478,000	282,000	71,000	38,000	21,000	40,000	38,000	18,000	5,000	D	4,000	D	102,000	49,000	15,000	11,000	5,000	19,000
Not applicable	421,000	193,000	48,000	55,000	52,000	73,000	210,000	67,000	28,000	33,000	7,000	64,000	8,000	7,000	D	D	D	D	28,000	20,000	D	D	D	S
Mother's education																								
Less than high school completed	2,611,000	1,380,000	464,000	184,000	191,000	392,000	1,257,000	551,000	230,000	124,000	80,000	136,000	93,000	36,000	18,000	6,000	D	10,000	79,000	43,000	8,000	4,000	6,000	6,000
High school diploma or equivalent	7,458,000	3,474,000	1,209,000	1,006,000	681,000	1,088,000	3,332,000	1,521,000	623,000	377,000	228,000	456,000	138,000	75,000	27,000	15,000	5,000	7,000	427,000	159,000	83,000	57,000	39,000	68,000
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	4,950,000	2,086,000	718,000	723,000	540,000	883,000	2,488,000	1,045,000	451,000	351,000	198,000	355,000	138,000	67,000	29,000	13,000	7,000	13,000	421,000	230,000	68,000	46,000	41,000	31,000
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	4,196,000	2,040,000	570,000	432,000	344,000	810,000	2,010,000	1,030,000	249,000	212,000	168,000	299,000	141,000	73,000	18,000	16,000	13,000	10,000	428,000	205,000	41,000	72,000	39,000	60,000
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	1,696,000	901,000	176,000	196,000	98,000	325,000	1,217,000	605,000	137,000	96,000	88,000	206,000	69,000	41,000	11,000	6,000	3,000	6,000	283,000	167,000	41,000	26,000	20,000	24,000
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS)	219,000	105,000	50,000	D	15,000	48,000	114,000	77,000	S	S	6,000	11,000	12,000	10,000	D	D	D	D	43,000	18,000	S	4,000	D	S
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	125,000	45,000	26,000	27,000	D	20,000	146,000	80,000	13,000	15,000	7,000	28,000	9,000	5,000	D	D	D	D	37,000	14,000	S	D	D	S
Not applicable	238,000	100,000	23,000	23,000	30,000	62,000	101,000	42,000	6,000	12,000	S	33,000	7,000	7,000	D	D	D	D	12,000	D	D	D	D	D

* = 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, 2017.