



2017 Student Loan Debt Statistics

A comprehensive look at the
student loan situation in the
United States – backed by
numbers and data

Federal Student Loan Portfolio

How much debt student loan borrowers carry by loan type, term, and more.

STUDENT LOAN DEBT STATISTICS BY LOAN PROGRAM:

Direct Loans	\$949.1 billion	31.5 million borrowers
FFEL Loans	\$335.2 billion	16.4 million borrowers
Perkins Loans	\$7.9 billion	2.7 million borrowers
Total (All Federal)	\$1,291 billion	42.3 million borrowers

STUDENT LOAN DEBT STATISTICS BY LOAN TYPE:

Stafford Subsidized	\$270.1 billion	29.5 million borrowers
Stafford Unsubsidized	\$436.1 billion	27.8 million borrowers
Stafford combined	\$706.2 billion	32.6 million unique recipients
Grad PLUS	\$53.0 billion	1.1 million borrowers
Parent PLUS	\$77.8 billion	3.5 million borrowers
Perkins	\$7.9 billion	2.7 million borrowers
Consolidation	\$447.3 billion	12.0 million borrowers

STUDENT DEBT STATISTICS BY LOAN STATUS (DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM)

Loans in repayment	\$478.6 billion	15.7 million borrowers
Loans in deferment	\$107.3 billion	3.5 million borrowers
Loans in forbearance	\$96.2 billion	2.6 million borrowers
Loans in default	\$67.5 billion	4.0 million borrowers

Loans in grace period	\$50.1 billion	2.0 million borrowers
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STUDENT LOAN STATISTICS BY REPAYMENT PLAN (DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM)

Level Repayment Plan(10 years or less)	\$188.9 billion	10.95 million borrowers
Level Repayment Plan(greater than 10 years)	\$72.5 billion	1.65 million borrowers
Graduated repayment plan(10 years or less)	\$70.1billion	2.71 million borrowers
Graduated repayment plan(greater than 10 years)	\$12.9 billion	0.28 million borrowers
Income-Contingent (ICR)	\$23.5 billion	0.60 million borrowers
Income-Based (IBR)	\$173.1 billion	3.07 million borrowers
Pay As You Earn (PAYE)	\$46.7billion	1.02 million borrowers
Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE)	\$43.6 billion	0.89 million borrowers

*Data from Studentaid.ed.gov and National Student Loan Data System

General Student Loan Debt Facts

A high-level look at the United State's student loan situation.

The most recent reports indicate there is:

- \$1.31 trillion in total U.S. student loan debt
- 44.2 million Americans with student loan debt
- Student loan delinquency rate of 11.2%
- Average monthly student loan payment (for borrower aged 20 to 30 years): \$351
- Median monthly student loan payment (for borrower aged 20 to 30 years): \$203

Private student loan debt statistics

- Private student loan debt is on the rise; \$6.2 billion was borrowed in 2012-2013, up from \$5.5 billion in 2011-2012
- From 2011-2012, borrowers didn't take advantage of federal student loans as much as they could have: 19 percent didn't take out Stafford loans, 8 percent didn't apply for federal financial aid, 11 percent applied for federal aid but didn't take out a Stafford loan, 28 percent had Stafford loans but borrowed less than they were eligible for
- In 2011-2012, 48 percent of private loan borrowers attended schools that had tuition costs of \$10,000 or less
- Nearly 1.4 million undergraduates borrowed private loans in 2011-2012

Graduate student loan debt

About 40 percent of the \$1 trillion student loan debt was used to finance graduate and professional degrees.

Combined undergraduate and graduate debt by degree:

- MBA = \$42,000 (11% of graduate degrees)
- Master of Education = \$50,879 (16%)
- Master of Science = \$50,400 (18%)
- Master of Arts = \$58,539 (8%)
- Law = \$140,616 (4%)
- Medicine and health sciences = \$161,772 (5%)

Data sources: Newamerica.org study, Ticas.org

Public Service Loan Forgiveness

PSLF Borrowers: 494,200*

* – Total number of borrowers who have one or more approved PSLF Employment Certification Forms (ECF)

Note that borrowers are self-identified based on submission of an ECF.

Source: FedLoan Servicing via studentaid.ed.gov

Want more student loan stats?

For more information about the student loan situation — or for advice on how to get out of debt (for you or someone you're helping) — click below.

[MORE STUDENT LOAN
HELP](#)