Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields attract the majority of international students studying in the U.S. (41.6 percent) (Fig. 6D). Engineering is the most popular STEM field, accounting for 18.5 percent of international students. Graduate students (56.3 percent) enroll in STEM fields at higher rates than undergraduates (30.5 percent) (Fig. 7A).

Business and management continues to be the most popular field of study, enrolling 21.8 percent of students in 2011/12 (Fig. 6D). Undergraduates are more concentrated in business (29.7 percent) than graduate students (17.0 percent)(Fig. 7A).

As the number of international students continues to grow, enrollment in most fields of study has increased. One notable exception is the health professions, which experienced a decline of 9.2 percent from the prior year (Table 15).

Intensive English programs account for the majority of non-degree students in the U.S. (Fig. 7A). OPT students are concentrated in business and management (20.3 percent), engineering (27.4 percent), and math and computer sciences (15.3 percent), indicating that these fields provide pathways for international students to gain practical work experience in the U.S. and to contribute to the U.S. workforce (Fig. 7A).