Estimates of sovereign debt financial transfers from low and middle income countries

Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas and Chang-Tai Hsieh

Source: 2020 World Bank World Debt Tables:

We only include sovereign debt held by low and middle income countries (excluding China). We include sovereign debt owed to public and private creditors.

The most recent data in the 2020 World Debt Tables is from 2018, and here are the debt service payments in 2018:

Principal repayment, long term debt: 241.5 billion
Interest payments on long term debt: 105.7 billion
Short term debt: 744 billion
Total debt service in 2018: 1,091.2 billion

The World Bank’s data is not likely to include some of the debt owed to Chinese creditors.

Total GDP for low and middle income countries is 33067 billion so sovereign debt service in 2018 is 3.3% of GDP.