Table of Contents

Childhood Bereavement: About & Stats 2-3

Community Resources 4

CBEM

CHILDHOOD BEREAVEMENT ESTIMATION MODEL

National 2020

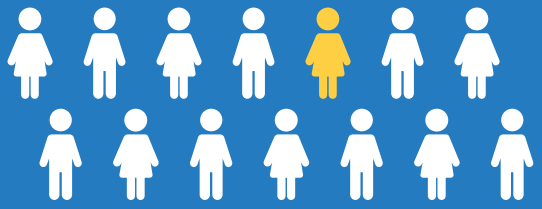
The Issue

Childhood bereavement is a critical issue and an increasingly important national priority. The death of a parent, sibling, or other important person in a child's life has been noted to be one of the most frequently reported disruptive childhood experiences.[1,2] Understanding the number of children impacted by death is essential to help every bereaved child find hope and healing.

CBEM

The Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM)[3] approximates rates of U.S. children and youth who will experience the death of a parent or sibling by the time they reach adulthood. Results from the CBEM are updated annually using national, state, and regional vital statistics.[4] This report uses data from 2014 to 2018 in an enhanced framework to present projected CBEM* results.

1 in 14



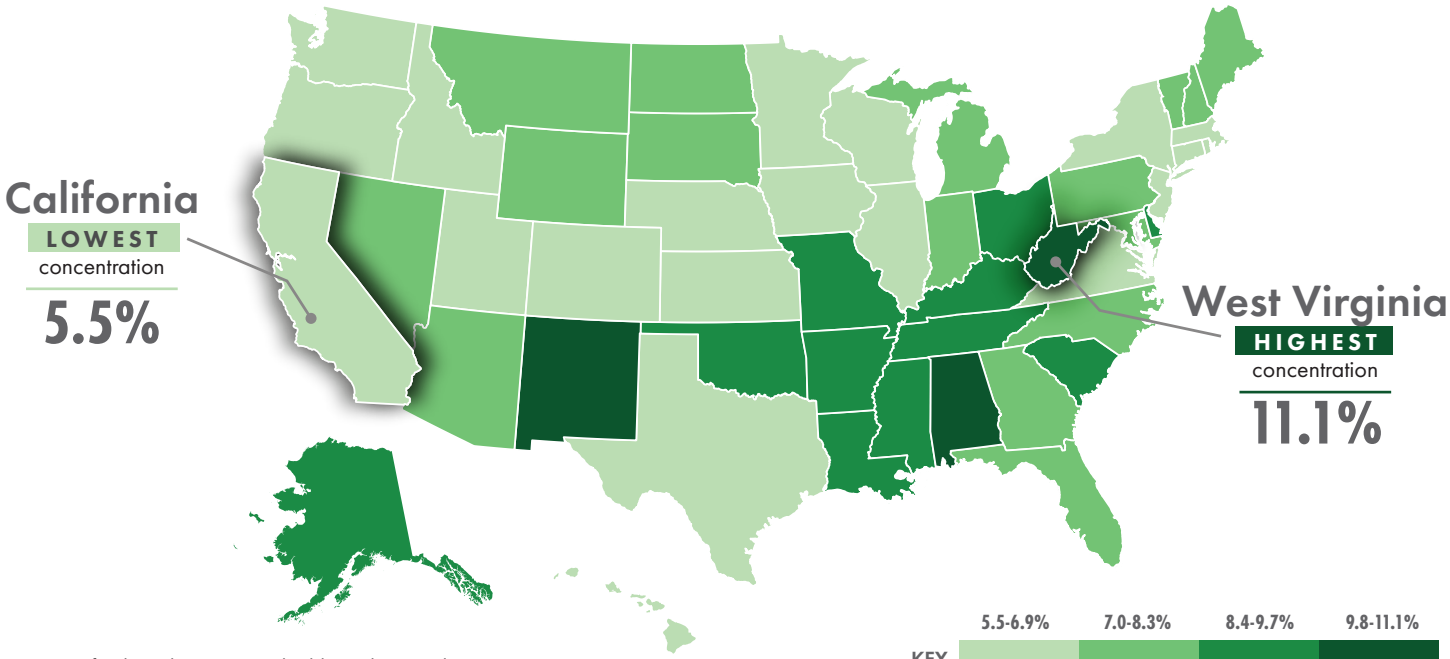
children in the U.S. will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18

7.2%~5.2M
children will be bereaved by age 18

& MORE THAN **DOUBLES**

13.2M
youth will be bereaved by age 25

Childhood Bereavement by State†



For more info about the CBEM and additional national, state, and local data, visit **judishouse.org/CBEM.**

†Bereavement due to parent or sibling death by age 18

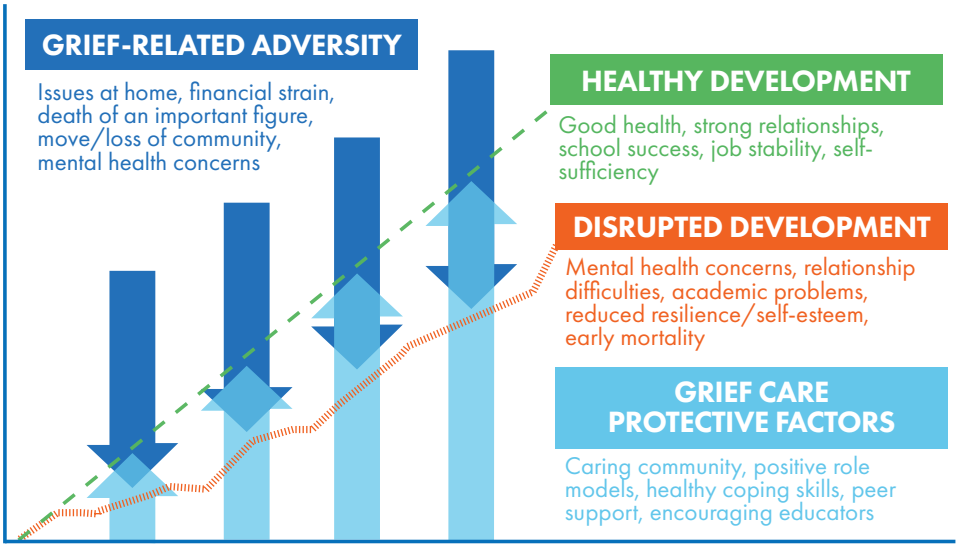
© 2020 Judi's House/JAG Institute

CBEM
CHILDHOOD BEREAVEMENT ESTIMATION MODEL

National 2020

Childhood Bereavement: The Cost of Inaction

Experiencing a significant death loss during childhood often results in profound stress and adversity. Without appropriate support, this experience can derail a child's development.[5,6,7] For the millions of youth who are bereaved, access to comprehensive grief-focused, trauma-informed care and resources is essential. Now is the time for advocates, policy makers, practitioners, educators, and researchers to unite in support of these children and their families.[8] By investing in awareness and prevention, we can create social change that ensures a compassionate response for all grieving children and promotes healthy growth.



Graph adapted from: Harvard University Center on the Developing Child

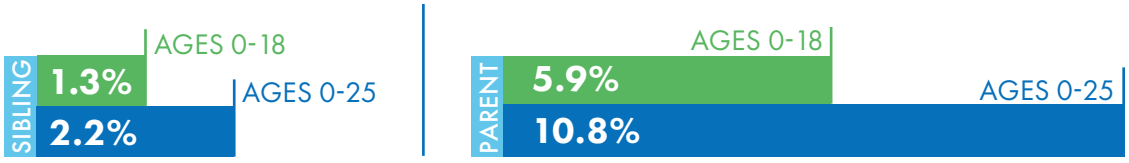
Leading Causes of Death[4]

Percentages reflect the proportion of total deaths caused by each of the leading causes for youth and adults according to the CDC.

Youth Ages 0 - 24‡		Adults Ages 25 - 60‡
26.6% - **Accidents**	#1	**Cancer** - 23.2%
18.1% - **Conditions Related to Birth**	#2	**Heart Disease** - 17.8%
9.9% - **Suicide**	#3	**Accidents** - 15.7%
9.3% - **Birth Defects**	#4	**Suicide** - 5.6%
9.0% - **Homicide**	#5	**Liver Disease** - 4.1%

Death of a Sibling & Death of a Parent

The CBEM provides separate, independent estimates for youth who will experience the death of a parent or of a sibling.



Sources

1. Pynoos et al. (2014). *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy, 6*(Suppl 1), S9-S17.
2. Nickerson et al. (2013). *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy, 5*(2), 119-127.
3. Burns et al. (2020). *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, Advanced online publication.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, CDC WONDER Online Databases.
5. Brent et al. (2012). *Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology, 41*, 778-791.
6. Yu et al. (2017). *JAMA Pediatrics, 171*: 538–545.
7. Oosterhoff et al. (2018). *School Psychology Quarterly, 33*(3), 372-380.
8. Griese et al. (2018). *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 87*(5), 540-548.

*Please see the CBEM Technical Appendix for additional information

‡Age ranges for leading causes of death align with CBEM analyses

For more info about the CBEM and additional national, state, and local data, visit **judishouse.org/CBEM**

judi's house JAG Institute
For Grieving Children and Families

Judi's House/JAG Institute is a research-based nonprofit organization in Denver, Colorado devoted solely to supporting grieving children and their families. Our vision is that no child should be alone in grief.

NEW YORK LIFE FOUNDATION

Judi's House/JAG Institute partnered with the New York Life Foundation to help support grieving children and families by creating the Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM).

© 2020 Judi's House/JAG Institute

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

FERNSIDE: A CENTER FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN: A place of comfort and support for children and teens, ages 3-18, and their parents/guardians who have had a significant death in the family. Fernside offers a variety of support groups for children, parents and guardians. Families may register for the program by contacting Fernside at (513) 246-9140.

COMPANIONS ON A JOURNEY GRIEF SUPPORT (COJ): Mending Hearts for Grieving Children, Teens and Families

A faith based, ongoing grief support program for children ages 3-18 and their families who have experienced the death of a loved one. Contact: Companions on a Journey Grief Support, (513) 870-9108. Registration is required. Learn more: companionsonajourney.org

STARS FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR KIDS FAMILY PROGRAM and STARS HOPE: A support group for school age children and their caregivers who have experienced the death of a loved one. Offered as a semester series during the school year on every other Tuesday evening at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Series begin in September, November, January, and March. In conjunction with this program, a group for parents who experienced child loss is offered from 7:00-8:00pm.For information, please contact: (859) 301-4611

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS, CINCINNATI CHAPTERS: A national, mutual assistance, self-help organization offering friendship and understanding to bereaved parents, grandparents and adult siblings. See website for additional information.

THE GOLDSTEIN FAMILY GRIEF CENTER, Hospice of Cincinnati, 4360 Cooper Road 45242, 513-246-9355

PEACE: People Enduring Addiction Consequences Everyday Support Group
Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Bunning Grief Center. Registration required. Contact: (859) 301-4611 for details.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN: National organization that provides information and listing for those grieving the death of a child.

ASSOCIATION FOR DEATH EDUCATION AND COUNSELING: National organization that offers a list of bereavement specialists and counselors.

CENTERING CORPORATION: Clearinghouse for bereavement related materials

THE CINCINNATI COLLEGE OF MORTUARY SCIENCE: The Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science is the oldest Mortuary school in the United States. Founded in 1882, CCMS has been providing education for funeral directors for 137 years. Building upon their educational excellence, CCMS has expanded its mission with the vision of “Transforming Death Education” by providing bereavement related educational opportunities to those who serve the bereaved. For information about the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science and future educational opportunities, please visit their website: www.ccms.edu