



CHILDHOOD BEREAVEMENT ESTIMATION MODEL

## 2021 CBEM RACE & ETHNICITY USER GUIDE

Judi's House/JAG Institute selects an annual CBEM Key Topic to focus on a particular issue related to childhood bereavement. The 2021 CBEM Key Topic is **childhood bereavement by race and ethnicity**. The User Guide is intended to help individuals understand findings and make a plan to share these data with their communities.



## Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model® (CBEM) Key Topic User Guide

Each year Judi's House/JAG Institute develops and disseminates national and state childhood bereavement prevalence data. This information helps communities evaluate the impacts of unaddressed grief, campaign for grief resources, and ultimately, contribute to improved outcomes for grieving families. In addition, Judi's House/JAG Institute selects an annual CBEM Key Topic to focus on a particular issue related to childhood bereavement.

### Previous CBEM Key Topics include:

- 2018: Childhood bereavement in metro, urban, and rural communities and social factors
- 2019: Childhood bereavement and the opioid crisis
- 2020: Childhood bereavement by county

In 2021, the CBEM Key Topic is *childhood bereavement by race and ethnicity*.<sup>\*</sup> Judi's House/JAG Institute conducted analyses to produce childhood bereavement estimates separately by race and ethnicity to complement annual CBEM results derived using categorical data available for the years 2015-2019 in the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's WONDER database.<sup>2</sup>

Results were produced for each race/ethnic category using mortality and birth data from CDC WONDER.<sup>\*\*</sup>

### CDC Race Categories:

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Black or African American
- White

### CDC Hispanic Origin<sup>^</sup> Categories:

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino (*included in data tables*)
- Not Stated (*not reported*)<sup>\*\*\*</sup>

<sup>^</sup>Referred to as 'ethnicity' in reports and resources

In addition to CBEM results by race and ethnicity, the national and state reports also present the percent of the population associated with these categories for ages 0 - 24 and mortality rates for the leading causes of death for adults and youth.

**These data illuminate the disproportionate rates of childhood bereavement among youth and underscores the need for communities to increase efforts to provide critical and timely supports to every grieving child.**

## How to Use CBEM Race & Ethnicity Data

### Review the data

- CBEM Race & Ethnicity Data
  - Review the CBEM Race & Ethnicity bereavement percentages for each category alongside the overall bereavement percentage for the geography (nation or state) to understand differences.
  - Compare the CBEM Race & Ethnicity bereavement percentages across categories to determine disproportionality.
- Population Data
  - Refer to population percentage to understand the relative size of a given population in the nation or your state.
- Leading Cause of Death Data
  - Refer to leading causes of death data to gain insight into the most common types of death losses for each race/ethnic category in the nation or your state.
  - Leading causes of death data are provided as rates. These rates indicate the frequency of the cause of death per 100,000 people in that age and race/ethnic category. For example, nationally, according to CDC WONDER data from 2015-2019 for every 100,000 adults aged 25-60 who identify as Hispanic or Latino, 35.7 died due to accidents.

- o Compare the death rates for each race/ethnic category in your state and note any differences and patterns you observe.
- o Consider who you serve and the types of deaths losses they experience. Review this information relative to the leading causes of death data in your state.

## Create a plan

- Who are the influential people in your community or state with whom you can share CBEM race and ethnicity results to help impact local change (e.g., governors, mayors, school superintendents, principals, chiefs of police, Congress members, city council, health and mental health leaders, school board, district attorneys, insurance company executives, business leaders, television reporters, philanthropists, social justice advocates, newspaper reporters, etc.)?
- What are the issues that impact childhood bereavement in your state? How could you use CBEM race and ethnicity results along with the details on leading causes of death to help contextualize this issue (e.g., racial tensions, inequality, etc.)?
- Which individuals and organizations could you invite to coffee or lunch to help them learn more about the prevalence and impact of childhood bereavement?
- How can you use the CBEM race and ethnicity findings to inform your strategic planning or service provision (e.g., groups you may want to better serve)?
- How can you use the CBEM race and ethnicity results in your own fundraising or marketing efforts (e.g., groups with high level of needs)?
- Which national or local organizations do you feel should be made aware of CBEM race and ethnicity results and how can you engage them as allies?
- What one action item will you commit to doing in the next three months related to these reflections and ideas?

For information on additional custom reports available through Judi's House/JAG Institute, including Local CBEM Reports, Community Demographics, and Client Location Maps, please visit [judishouse.org/custom-cbem-reports-services](https://judishouse.org/custom-cbem-reports-services)

## Sources

1. Burns et al. (2020). American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 90(4), 391-405. <https://doi.apa.org/fulltext/2020-06195-001.html>
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, CDC WONDER Online Databases. <https://wonder.cdc.gov/ucd-icd10.html>

\*Hispanic origin referred to as 'ethnicity' in User Guide and reports.

\*\*Please see CBEM Technical Appendix for additional information.

\*\*\*Results were not calculated for the Hispanic Origin-Not Stated category.



Judi's House/JAG Institute is a research-based nonprofit in Denver devoted solely to supporting grieving children and their families.



NEW YORK LIFE  
FOUNDATION

Judi's House/JAG Institute partnered with the New York Life Foundation to create the Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model.