

2025 Key Messages

Key Findings to Share and Social Media Guidance

The Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM) was developed by Judi's House/JAG Institute, with philanthropic support from the New York Life Foundation, to quantify childhood bereavement rates due to the death of a parent or sibling. The CBEM equips partners and advocates with data to understand the magnitude of grief across the U.S. and mobilize community-wide efforts to improve access to death loss specific grief care for children and families.

Tip: Customize key messages and social media posts with relevant data by accessing the CBEM national and state reports, in addition to the CBEM Dashboard.

Key Findings: 2025 CBEM Results

1. Since 2020, there has been a continual increase in the number of bereaved children, demonstrating the urgent need to address this issue.



2. More than 6.4 million, or 1 in 11 U.S. children, will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18 according to 2025 Projected Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM) results. By age 25, that number more than doubles to approximately 15.5 million bereaved youths. CBEM results highlight the need for childhood bereavement resources and support in the U.S. and help bereavement champions remain up-to-date on the evolving needs of their communities.

- 3. Analyzing bereavement prevalence for 2023 revealed that 1,040 children under the age of 18 were newly bereaved due to the death of a parent or sibling every day.
- 4. According to 2025 Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM) results, the number of children who will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18 increased in 40 states compared to 2024 results, continuing to reflect the impacts of the pandemic on childhood bereavement.
- The Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model's (CBEM) methodology uses data from the most recent five-year period available in the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) WONDER databases. 2025 CBEM results were derived using data from 2019-2023.

Childhood Grief Key Messages

- Long-overlooked, childhood bereavement continues to grow in importance as a national priority. Understanding the magnitude of childhood bereavement is key to driving necessary action that ensures adequate resources are available to those needing care and support.
- Childhood grief profoundly impacts bereaved youth, families, and communities. The death of an important person in a child's life is one of the most frequently reported adverse childhood experiences. Unaddressed childhood grief and trauma can lead to short- and long-term difficulties including poor academic performance, mental health issues, and early mortality.
- 3. Providing appropriate support to a grieving child can ease the impact of childhood bereavement and help keep them on track.
- 4. Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model results reinforce the need for access to grief-focused education and programming that help communities respond with compassion and confidence.

Social Media Guidance

Social media is an essential resource for increasing awareness about the magnitude of childhood bereavement with a wider audience. Use it to network with other individuals invested in children's well-being through curated CBEM social media graphics and sample language found below.

Follow and tag Judi's House/JAG Institute on these social platforms:

- Facebook: @JudisHouseDenver
- Instagram: @JudisHouse
- LinkedIn: @Judis House/JAG Institute
- YouTube: @JudisHouseDenver

Strengthen the conversation by using the hashtags #CBEM and #ChildhoodGrief.

Suggested Social Media Posts:

- 1. According to the #CBEM, developed by [JUDIS HOUSE TAG], more than 6.4 million, or 1 in 11, children in the United States will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18. Learn more about the magnitude and impact of #ChildhoodGrief at judishouse.org/cbem.
- 2. The #CBEM estimates more than 6.4 million, or 1 in 11, children in the U.S. will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18. Be a good neighbor to grieving children and families in your community by accessing grief-related resources at judishouse.org/resources.
- 3. The 2025 #CBEM National Report shows that more than 6.4 million, or 1 in 11, children in the U.S. will be bereaved by age 18. Help elevate #ChildhoodGrief to a public priority by sharing the magnitude of this issue and leveraging CBEM data found at cbem.judishouse.org.
- 4. More than 6.4 million, or 1 out of every 11, children will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18 according to the #CBEM. By sharing our research and best practice standards, we are building a grief-aware workforce so we can make sure grieving children get that care they need. Access the 2025 National CBEM Report at cbem.judishouse.org.
- 5. Analyzing #CBEM data for one year reveals that 1,040 children under the age of 18 were newly bereaved due to a parent or sibling death each day in 2023. Learn more about the Current prevalence of childhood bereavement across the U.S. by accessing the CBEM Dashboard: cbem.judishouse.org



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



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