

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: Strengthen key messages and social posts by incorporating relevant data from the CBEM national and state reports and the CBEM Dashboard. [Ready-to-use social graphics](#) are available, with additional customization options via [Canva](#).

Key Findings: 2026 CBEM Results

1. Since 2018, there has been a continual increase in the number of bereaved children, demonstrating the urgent need to address this issue.
2. More than 6.6 million, or 1 in 11 U.S. children, will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18 according to 2026 Projected Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM) results. By age 25, that number more than doubles to approximately 15.9 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. According to 2026 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 X states compared to 2025 results, continuing to reflect the impacts of the pandemic on childhood bereavement.
4. 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. 2026 CBEM results were derived using data from 2020-2024.

Childhood Grief Key Messages

1. 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.
2. 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 @JudisHouse, 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 6.6 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](#).
3. The 2026 #CBEM National Report shows that more than 6.6 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. Every grieving child deserves to be seen and supported. According to the #CBEM, more than 6.6 million, or 1 in 11, children in the U.S. will lose a parent or sibling by age 18. By sharing research and proven approaches, we can help create a more grief-aware world. Learn more at [cbem.judishouse.org](#).
5. Childhood grief is not a rare issue. The 2026 #CBEM National Report confirms that more than 6.6 million children in the U.S. will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18. Sharing #CBEM data helps increase awareness of the effects of childhood grief on our communities. Learn more at [cbem.judishouse.org](#).