

# SOCIAL & ECONOMIC COST OF EATING DISORDERS IN THE UNITED STATES

Report by the Strategic Training Initiative for the Prevention of Eating Disorders, Academy for Eating Disorders, and Deloitte Access Economics



[LINK TO REPORT](#)



## PREVALENCE & MORTALITY



Percent of the U.S. population, or 28.8 million Americans, that will have an eating disorder in their lifetime

10,200 deaths per year as a direct result of an eating disorder, equating to 1 death every 52 minutes



### EATING DISORDERS AFFECT EVERYONE:



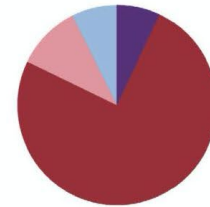
- All ages, starting as young as 5 years old to over 80 years old
- All races, however, people of color with eating disorders are **half as likely to be diagnosed or to receive treatment**
- All genders, with females being **2x more likely to have an eating disorder**
- All sexual orientations

## COST TO ECONOMY & SOCIETY

**\$64.7 Billion** } Yearly economic cost of eating disorders

Additional loss of wellbeing per year **\$326.5 Billion**

**Cost Breakdown:**  
 Productivity Losses (\$48.6B)  
 Informal Care (\$6.7B)  
 Efficiency Losses (\$4.8B)  
 Health System (\$4.6B)



### COST TO HOSPITAL SYSTEMS:

53,918 ER visits  
  
 costing **\$29.3M**

23,560 inpatient hospitalizations  
  
 costing **\$209.7M**

### LOSS PER GROUP:

**\$23.5B** Individuals & Families  
  
 Caregivers provide 6 weeks of informal, unpaid care per year

**\$17.7B** Government

**\$16.3B** Employers

**\$7.1B** Society

<sup>1</sup>Sonneville KR, Lipson SK. Disparities in eating disorder diagnosis and treatment according to weight status, race/ethnicity, socioeconomic background, and sex among college students. International Journal of Eating Disorders 2018; 1-9.

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