

# SOCIAL & ECONOMIC COST OF EATING DISORDERS IN CALIFORNIA

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

**STRIPED**

Strategic Training Initiative for the Prevention of Eating Disorders

A PUBLIC HEALTH  
INCUBATOR

[LINK TO REPORT](#)



Academy for  
Eating Disorders

## PREVALENCE & MORTALITY

Nine percent of Californians  
(**3,482,140 people**), will  
have an eating disorder in  
their lifetime

**3,482,140**

10,200 deaths per year nationally 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**<sup>1</sup>
- All genders, with females being **2x more likely to have an eating disorder**
- All sexual orientations

## COST TO ECONOMY & SOCIETY IN CALIFORNIA

**\$7.8 Billion** } Yearly economic cost  
of eating disorders

Additional loss  
of wellbeing per year **\$39.5 Billion**

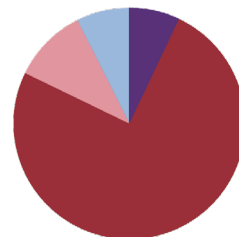
### Cost Breakdown:

Productivity Losses (\$5.9B)

Informal Care (\$810.1M)

Efficiency Losses (\$580.4M)

Health System (\$556.2M)



### COST TO HOSPITAL SYSTEMS:

6,519  
ER visits



costing  
**\$3.5M**

2,848 inpatient  
hospitalizations



costing  
**\$25.4M**

### LOSS PER GROUP:



**\$2.8B**  
Individuals  
& Families

Caregivers provide 6 weeks of  
informal, unpaid care per year



**\$2.1B**  
Government



**\$2B**  
Employers



**\$858.4M**  
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.  
Note: State-level data are estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau population statistics (2018). [Link](#) to data.



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