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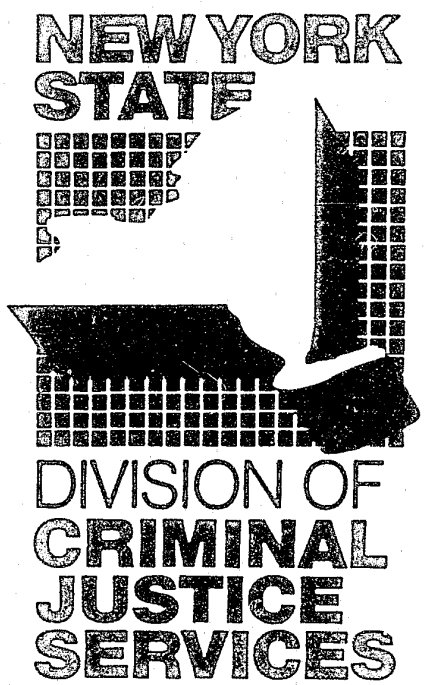
OFFICE OF POLICY ANALYSIS, RESEARCH & STATISTICAL SERVICES

CHILDREN REPORTED MISSING IN NEW YORK STATE - 1985

December, 1986



NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
Lawrence T. Kurlander
Director of Criminal Justice
and
Commissioner

OFFICE OF POLICY ANALYSIS, RESEARCH AND STATISTICAL SERVICES
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CHILDREN REPORTED MISSING IN NEW YORK STATE - 1985

December, 1986

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FOREWORD

One of the greatest tragedies of our time is the abduction and exploitation of our most treasured resources--- our children. Though reliable statistics have been difficult to obtain, national experts suggest that there may be as many as 700,000 to 1,000,000 runaways, 25,000 to 750,000 non-custodial parental abductions, and 4,000 to 20,000 stranger abductions of children nationally each year. While it is hoped that most of these children will return home safely, it is a sobering and disheartening fact that some will become the victims of the most heinous crimes. The State of New York is committed to prevent these tragedies and find its children.

In 1984 Governor Cuomo signed legislation to create a central statewide Missing Children Register in the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). This report summarizes the characteristics of children reported missing to the Register during 1985. This is only the beginning, however, of what we can and must do to protect our children. We have recently developed educational literature to help parents protect their children; our Operation Print-A-Kid and Photo Ident-A-Kid programs have fingerprinted and photographed thousands of children; we have blanketed the New York State Thruway with flyers and posters describing missing children; and we have established a 24 hour missing children hotline at DCJS. To further strengthen our efforts, the Governor recently signed legislation to create a Missing and Exploited Children Clearinghouse at the Division of Criminal Justice Services. The Clearinghouse will significantly expand the State's ability to identify and locate missing children and prevent child exploitation in New York State.

Please join with me in maintaining a constant vigil over our children and helping to find those who are missing.

Lawrence T. Kurlander

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Executive Law was amended in 1984 to create a statewide central register for missing children. The New York State Missing Children Register, maintained by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, became operational on November 23, 1984. This report describes the number and characteristics of missing children cases reported to the Register during 1985.

During 1985 the Register received 17,232 reports of children missing from New York State. Of these, 30.1 percent were from New York City, 28.4 percent from Suburban New York City, and 41.5 percent from the balance of the State. Reports of missing pre-school aged children (birth to 5 years of age) were comparatively rare, accounting for only 1.0 percent of cases statewide. Youths 6 to 12 years of age made up 14.0 percent of reported cases, while youths 13 to 15 years of age accounted for 85.0 percent of reported cases. Over half (55.3%) of cases reported to the Register involved missing females; over two-thirds (69.2%) of cases involved white children. Nearly half (49.5%) of all cases reported to the Register involved 13 to 15 year old females. Statewide, 99.2 percent of the 17,232 missing children cases reported during 1985 had been cancelled by May 6, 1986. The median elapsed time between the entry and cancellation of a case on the Missing Children Register was 4 days.

There were 1,198 active missing children cases on the Register on December 31, 1985. Of these, 63.9 percent were from New York City, 15.6 percent from Suburban New York City, and 20.3 percent were from the balance of the State. One third (33.7%) of these cases had been in active status for more than six months, with 12.7 percent of the cases on the Register for more than one year.

I

INTRODUCTION

In the late 1970s, our nation experienced a growing but unrecognized number of crimes against children. Testimony before the United States Senate, Committee on the Judiciary - Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice[1] pointedly noted that,

> "One only has to look at some of the past incidents:
>
> 1971-74, Houston, Tex., 22 bodies, unsolved.
>
> 1974-78, Theodore Bundy, State of Florida, suspected and admitted to over 100 murders.
>
> 1972-78, John Wayne Gacy, 28 victims, many of those victims being young boys or teenage boys listed by police as runaways in spite of the fact that their parents pleaded that their children had no reason to run away.
>
> Atlanta, Ga., we are all very familiar with that situation, 27 bodies.
>
> -- Los Angeles, the freeway killer just convicted of sexually molesting and mutilating 23 young men."

These tragic incidents did not significantly focus public attention on the extreme vulnerability of missing and exploited children because they were viewed as unique and isolated crimes. Local law enforcement agencies were generally reluctant to enter missing children cases, tending to define such events as Tom Sawyer-like runaway episodes. Many agencies imposed 24 to 72 hour waiting periods before accepting missing children cases. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, which was established in the 1930s as a result of the Lindbergh kidnapping, required a ransom note before it would enter into a missing child case.

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[1] United States Senate, Committee on the Judiciary - Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice, Exploited and Missing Children, (Washington: Government Printing Office, April 1, 1982) p.65.

Grassroots parental action, particularly on the part of the parents of several abducted children, clearly turned the tide of public concern for missing and exploited children. The parents of Etan Patz, a six year old abducted in 1979 from New York City, were among the most outspoken advocates for these children. Mrs. Julia B. Patz recounted her family's tragedy in 1981 while testifying before the United States Senate, Committee on Labor and Human Resources - Subcommittee on Investigations and General Oversight.

> "My son disappeared on the morning of May 25, 1979. At 10 minutes to 8 o'clock on that morning, I walked him to the sidewalk in front of our home in New York City. It would have been the first morning he was to walk the 1 1/2 blocks to the schoolbus by himself.
>
> The schoolbus was clearly visible from in front of our home; there were other children and parents waiting there. I discussed procedure one last time with my son, Etan; watched him walk the first half block with only one block left to go; turned and went back into my home; and that was the last time I saw my son.
>
> At 3:30 that afternoon, at the time my son usually returned from school with another parent, he had not done so. Ten minutes later, I phoned the parent who usually walked him home from the bus stop to find that he had not arrived on the bus. This parent checked with her daughter, a classmate of my son's, and was informed that he had not gone on the schoolbus that morning and that he had not been in school the entire day. The school had not called me to notify me that my child had not arrived.
>
> At 10 minutes to 4 p.m. that afternoon, I telephoned the local precinct and underwent a lengthy discussion about the possibilities of difficulties between my husband and myself, family disputes with other family members, and possible custody battles going on within our family.
>
> I repeatedly reassured the officer on the phone that no such family disputes existed. At that point, they agreed to send a squad car to my home. They went to the school and confirmed through records that my son had been marked officially absent, and called headquarters for additional help.
>
> It was now 10 hours since I had seen my son and the search was just beginning. Added to that was the fact that it was the beginning of the Memorial Day weekend. Many people in the city had already left; others were preparing to do so at any time.

> By 6 that night, approximately 300 police officers arrived at our loft home in Manhattan and set up temporary police headquarters there. They were to remain there with us 24 hours a day for almost 3 weeks. Six o'clock that night marked the end of life as every member of my family had known it up until that time.
>
> To this day, we still do not have the first clue as to what happened to our son; there has not been a single piece of evidence."[2]

The Patz abduction was unfortunately not unique. On July 27, 1981 six year old Adam Walsh was abducted from the toy department of a Florida shopping mall while his mother shopped three aisles away. Adam's parents organized hundreds of volunteers in a statewide search. Two weeks later Adam's mutilated remains were found some 100 miles away from home.

The national efforts of the Patz and Walsh families helped gain passage of the federal Missing Children Act of 1982. As a result, Congress mandated that the FBI become directly and effectively involved in missing children cases, especially through the resources of the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) computer. Federal efforts were further bolstered in 1984 with the creation of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The State of New York responded to the problem of missing children with several initiatives. In 1984 the Executive Law was amended (Appendix A) to create a statewide central register for missing children, to be maintained by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). Criminal justice agencies throughout the State were mandated to report to DCJS within forty-eight hours of notification of a missing child. The New York State Missing Children Register became operational on November 23, 1984.

The Social Services Law was amended to require that child care agencies certified by State Social Services, public welfare agencies, and certain offices of the NYS Division For Youth (not including DFY certified runaway shelters) check the Register when there is reason to believe that a child committed to their care may be reported missing. Public welfare agencies were

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2 United States, Senate, Committee on Labor and Human Resources - Subcommittee on Investigation and General Oversight, Missing Children, (Washington:Government Printing Office, 10/6/81) p.4.

required to report to a local criminal justice agency and to the central Register within 48 hours of an abandoned child being found. To assist these efforts, DCJS established a toll-free hotline (1-800-FIND-KID) to allow immediate access to the Register by authorized non-criminal justice agencies in the State. A 1985 amendment authorized school officials and directors and operators of daycare facilities and Headstart Programs to contact the Register when they suspect that a child missing from another jurisdiction is enrolled in their institution.

To insure standardization in the reporting process, DCJS, in conjunction with the State Police, the Department of Social Services, and the Division For Youth, developed procedures and forms for police, public welfare, and child care agencies to use in reporting missing children. A "Missing and Unidentified Person Data Collection Guide" was designed and distributed to all law enforcement agencies in the State.

To further aid the identification of missing children, the State Police and DCJS coordinated a statewide program with municipal police, sheriffs, and State Police to afford all citizens of New York State the opportunity to have their child fingerprinted, free of charge. The parents retain the only copy of these fingerprints, which they may later supply to the police if a search is necessary. The New York State Police, Mrs. Matilda Cuomo, and the Eastman Kodak Company launched a program designed to encourage parents to keep accurate photographic and informational records of their children. Approximately 7,000 children were photographed statewide as part of this pilot project.

To supplement investigative resources of local law enforcement agencies, the New York State Thruway Authority and DCJS initiated a joint program to publicize cases of missing and unidentified children. Photographs and descriptive information supplied to police by parents are reproduced on flyers and posters, which are distributed along the entire length of the Thruway. Sightings of missing children are called in to DCJS on a toll-free hotline, staffed 24 hours a day; sightings are relayed to the investigating law enforcement agency for follow-up.

To further combat the missing children problem, DCJS developed a brochure for parents that includes abduction prevention strategies, suggestions for maintaining proper identification documents, and procedures to follow should a child become missing. Support was received from the NYS United Teachers to print 100,000 copies of the brochure for initial distribution statewide. Over 300,000 copies of the brochure were subsequently requested and distributed.

Most recently, legislation was enacted to create a Missing and Exploited Children Clearinghouse at the Division of Criminal Justice Services. The Clearinghouse is intended "to plan, coordinate and integrate efforts to protect children from abduction and exploitation, to recover them quickly and safely when they are abducted, and to apprehend those who abduct and exploit children" (S8531-B, Legislative Intent). DCJS has been authorized to disseminate information statewide, assist state, federal, and local agencies in investigations, help return children who are located out of state, establish databases, conduct specialized training for law enforcement personnel, develop child safety education and prevention programs for communities, parents, and children, and maintain a directory of resources. The Clearinghouse will become operational on January 1, 1987.

In spite of all these efforts and initiatives, very little is known about the extent of the missing children problem. Reliable statistical information on missing children has been difficult to obtain for two reasons: the suspected non-reporting of generally short-term cases and the nationwide inadequacy of reporting and analysis mechanisms. Nevertheless, experts estimate that there may be as many as 700,000 to 1,000,000 runaways, 25,000 to 750,000 non-custodial parental abductions, and 4,000 to 20,000 stranger abductions of children nationally each year. While comparable estimates for New York State are not available, this report provides a perspective on the problem by presenting baseline information on the numbers and characteristics of cases reported to the New York State Missing Children Register during the 1985 calendar year.

Source and Limitations of Data

Data for these analyses were obtained from the New York State Missing Children Register maintained by DCJS. The Register is a component of the State's Wanted and Missing Persons System. A local criminal justice agency that receives a missing child report from a person responsible for the child's care is mandated by the Executive Law (§837-e) to notify DCJS within 48 hours of receiving the report. The local agency is responsible for entering the case into the Register through its New York Statewide Police Information Network (NYSPIN) computer terminal. Upon disposition of a missing child case, the originating agency is also responsible for cancelling the case from the Register. Appendix B presents the Police Missing Person Report, the primary source for data on the Register.

To aid in identifying missing children, the local agencies supply the Missing Children Register with a variety of personal descriptor data, including physical characteristics of the child and medical, optical, dental, fingerprint, and photographic information.

Unfortunately, these data do not include information on the circumstances of a child's disappearance, for example, whether the child was a suspected runaway or the suspected victim of a stranger abduction or non-custodial parental abduction. Without this information, in-depth analyses of particular at-risk groups is impossible. Further, upon cancellation of a case, the Register receives no information on the physical well being of the child or whether the child was the victim of criminal activity while missing. The data supplied to the Register is thus more useful in finding missing children than in analyzing the overall phenomenon of missing children.

This analysis pertains only to those missing children cases actually reported to the New York State Missing Children Register. No data are available that estimate the number of missing children cases that are not reported to the police and DCJS. Non-reporting may occur, for example, because parents choose not to report a missing child to the police or because the child was found before DCJS could be notified.

The missing child "case," not the individual missing child, is the unit of count in this report. Each missing child case evokes some response from the criminal justice community: DCJS is notified by the report, or entry, of the case into the Missing Children Register; local resources focus on finding the subject of the case; and, DCJS is again notified upon disposition of the case. These case-oriented activities are the basic business of the Missing Children Register; they occur each time a particular child is reported missing. Consequently, a single child is counted more than once if the child was the subject of more than one missing child case during 1985 (e.g., chronic runaways). In the study group of 17,232 missing children cases, there were a total of 12,704 individual children. Of these children, 10,243 were counted only once and 2,461 were counted in multiple cases (N=6,989 cases).

It is possible that the repeated inclusion of a child might bias the demographic profile of missing children. No sex or race differences were found, however, between children reported multiple times and the population of all cases. Children reported multiple times were, however, disproportionately represented in the 13 to 15 year old group (93.3% versus 85.0%); they were also more likely to be from Suburban New York City (41.7% versus 28.4%) and less likely to be from New York City (22.6% versus 30.1%) than the population of all cases. These differences are slight and should not have a significant bearing on the descriptions of missing children presented in this report.

Definitions

The following definitions are provided to aid the reader in understanding terms used in the report.

o Missing Children - Section 837-e of the Executive Law defines a missing child "as any person under the age of sixteen years missing from his or her normal and ordinary place of residence and whose whereabouts cannot be determined by a person responsible for the child's care." This statute also provides that persons who have reached the age of sixteen and remain missing will be retained on the Register. Children who were voluntarily missing (e.g., runaways), children abducted by non-custodial parents, children abducted by strangers or non-family members, and children who were lost or wandered away are also included on the Register. The reasons why a child was missing are not reported to the Register, however.

o Missing Children "Cases Entered" or "cases reported" refers to the registration of a missing child case, by a local criminal justice agency, with the Missing Children Register. Active cases are those that have been entered or reported to the Register but are not yet disposed, that is, the child is still being sought. Cancelled cases are those that have been removed from the Register by the reporting criminal justice agency after their disposition of the case.

o Age - In analyses of children reported missing during 1985, age was measured at the time of the missing children report. In analyses of children actually missing on December 31, 1985, age was measured as of that date.

o Race - This report uses White and Non-White racial categories. The Non-White category includes Black, American Indian/Alaskan Native, and Asian/Pacific Islander. The Register does not obtain information on Hispanic ethnicity; Hispanic children could be coded as either White or Non-White.

o Region - Region refers to the area of the State from which a child was reported missing. The three regions discussed in the report are:

New York City - including Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, and Richmond counties,

Suburban New York City - including Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester counties, and

Balance of State - including the remaining 53 counties of the State not included in New York City or Suburban New York City.

Section II describes cases reported to the Register during 1985, including the number of cases cancelled, the characteristics of cases reported, and the elapsed time from case entry to cancellation. Section III presents a picture of all cases active on the Missing Children Register on December 31, 1985.

II

Reporting Activity to the Register

There were over 17,000 missing children cases reported to the Register in 1985. A similar number were cancelled.

On December 31, 1984 there were 1,183 cases active on the New York State Missing Children Register. During 1985, the Register received 17,232 reports of missing children. Overall, 17,217 cases were cancelled from the Register during the year, resulting in a 1.3 percent increase (15 cases) over the 12/31/84 active Register caseload. On December 31, 1985 there were 1,198 cases active on the Register.

This pattern suggests that, while the reporting volume is high, the vast majority of cases are removed from the Register within the year. There is a relatively smaller core of cases that are not cancelled, that is, these children remain missing. Unfortunately, the Register does not contain data on the number of cancelled cases involving foul play.

To place New York State's statistics in perspective, during 1985 the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) computer received 329,508 reports of missing "Juveniles"; 321,167 missing Juvenile cases were cancelled from NCIC during 1985; 34,959 active missing Juvenile cases were on file on January 1, 1986.

The reporting of missing children cases to the Register varied during the year.

- As shown in Figures 1A through 1D, the volume of reporting activity varied during the year (Appendix C presents source data for these figures). For example, the monthly volume of cases reported statewide (Figure 1A) rose steadily from January (1,310 cases) through May (1,843 cases), then generally declined to a low of 958 cases during December. Statistical data from the FBI show very similar monthly trends nationally from 1979-1983, suggesting an apparent seasonality to missing children reports.

- The statewide trend in monthly case cancellations was similar, though less consistent, than monthly case entries because of varying and unstandardized cancellation procedures among law enforcement agencies. Case cancellations rose from January (1,170 cases), peaked in April (1,701 cases) and October (1,968 cases), then sharply declined to 961 cases during December 1985 (Figure 1-A).

- The statewide end-of-month activity on the Register rose from 1,183 cases at the beginning of the year to a peak of 1,978 cases in August, then declined to 1,198 cases at the end of the year (Figure 1-A).

- The monthly volume of missing children cases reported from New York City (Figure 1-B) generally increased from the beginning of the year (445 cases) through May (614 cases), then steadily declined through September (297 cases); the volume of cases reported from Suburban New York City (Figure 1-C) was relatively stable (400 to 468 cases) over the eight months from March to October; the monthly volume of cases reported from the balance of the State (Figure 1-D) varied considerably during the year, with peaks in May (761 cases) and October (685 cases).

Figure 1A

Monthly Reporting Volume to the
New York State Missing Children Register
1985

NEW YORK STATE

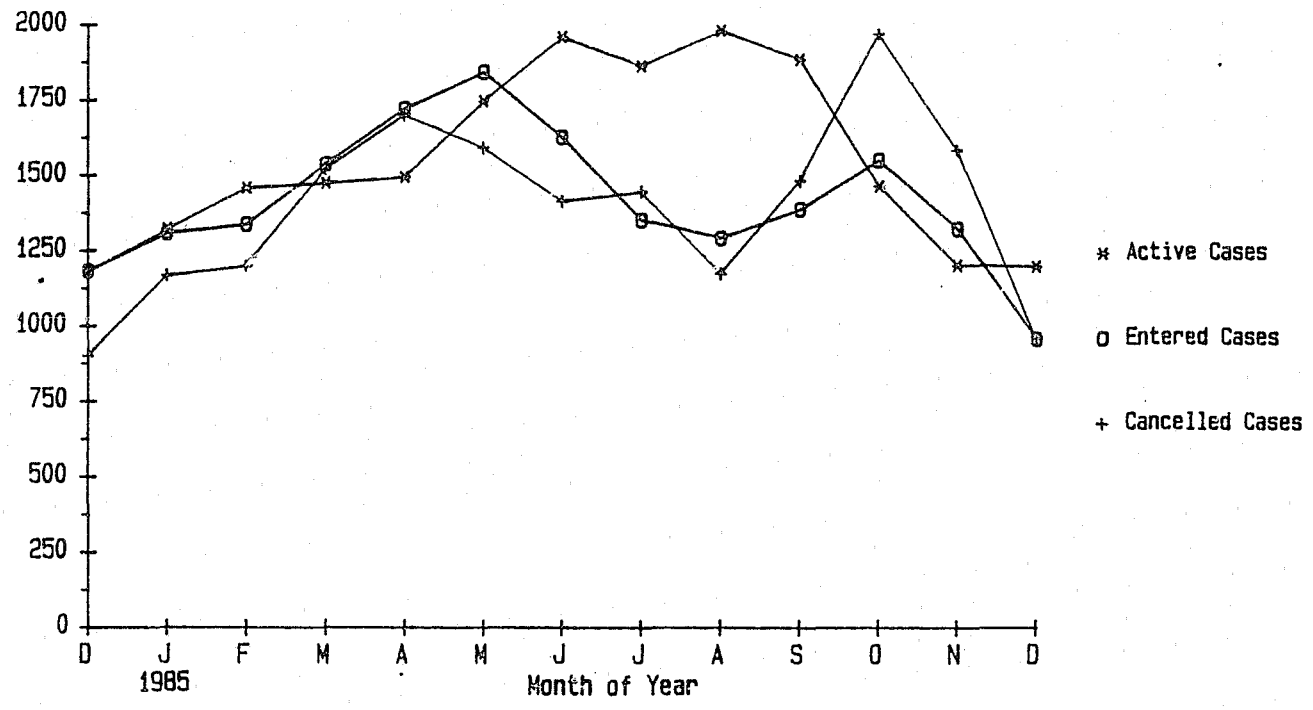


Figure 1B

Monthly Reporting Volume to the
New York State Missing Children Register
1985

NEW YORK CITY

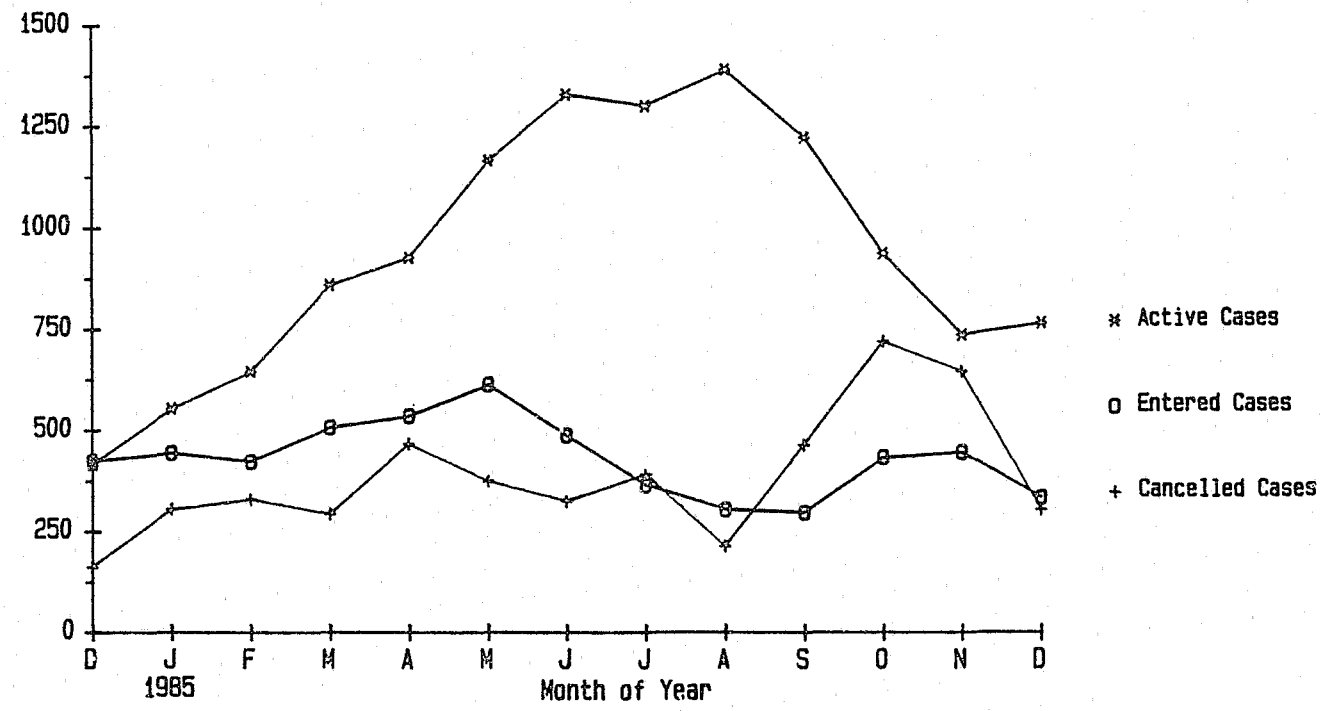


Figure 1C

Monthly Reporting Volume to the
New York State Missing Children Register
1985

SUBURBAN NEW YORK CITY

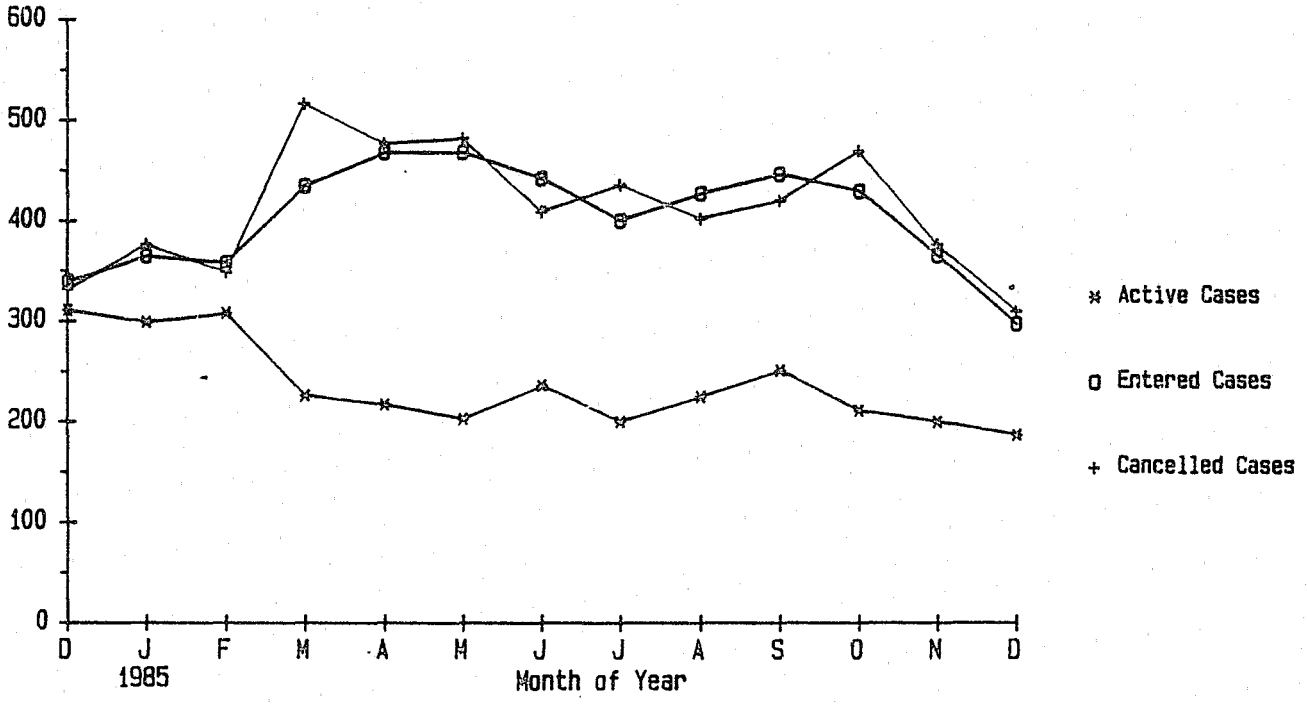
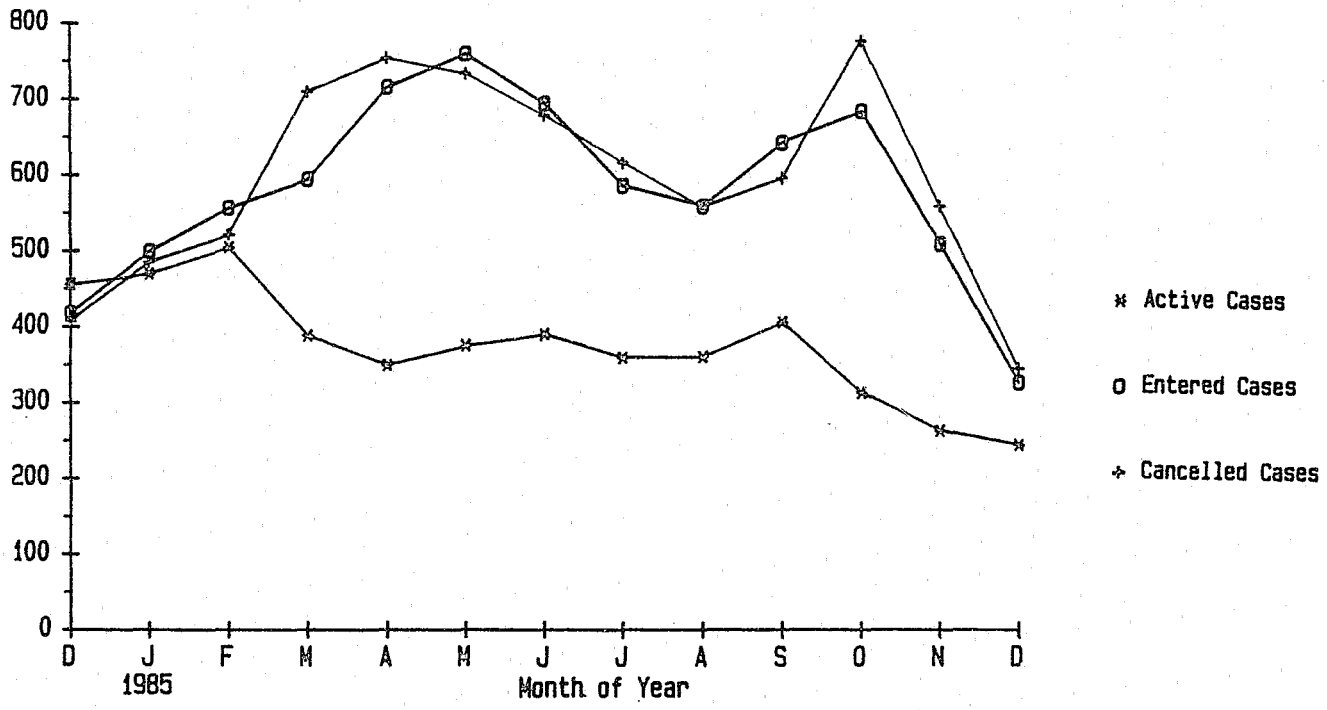


Figure 1D

Monthly Reporting Volume to the
New York State Missing Children Register
1985

BALANCE OF STATE



Reports of missing children during 1985 came predominantly from the urbanized areas of the State.

- Of the 17,232 statewide missing children cases reported during 1985 to the Register, 5,194 (30.1%) were from New York City, 4,900 (28.4%) from Suburban New York City, and 7,138 (41.5%) from the balance of the State (Figure 2).

- No children were reported missing from Hamilton County during 1985. In contrast, Suffolk County reported 2,252 missing children cases to the Register accounting for 13.1 percent of all cases statewide. Overall, 28 counties each reported fewer than 50 children missing during the year. (Data are not broken down by the five individual counties making up New York City).

- Of the 17,217 statewide cases cancelled during 1985 from the Register, 4,844 (28.1%) were cancelled from New York City, 5,024 (29.2%) from Suburban New York City, and 7,349 (42.7%) from the balance of the State. The distribution of case cancellations across counties was virtually identical to the distribution of case entries across counties.

Supplementary identifying information was received in relatively few of the cases reported to the Register.

- As a supplement to missing children reports local agencies provided the Register with photographs of 14 missing children and dental records of 55 children, including x-rays of 46 children; no fingerprints of missing children were received during the year.

- The Register also received 263 telephone inquiries from the general public during 1985 on the Missing Children toll-free WATS line (1-800-FIND-KID). These calls included sightings of missing children, calls from runaways, requests for literature, and requests for procedural assistance from custodial parents.

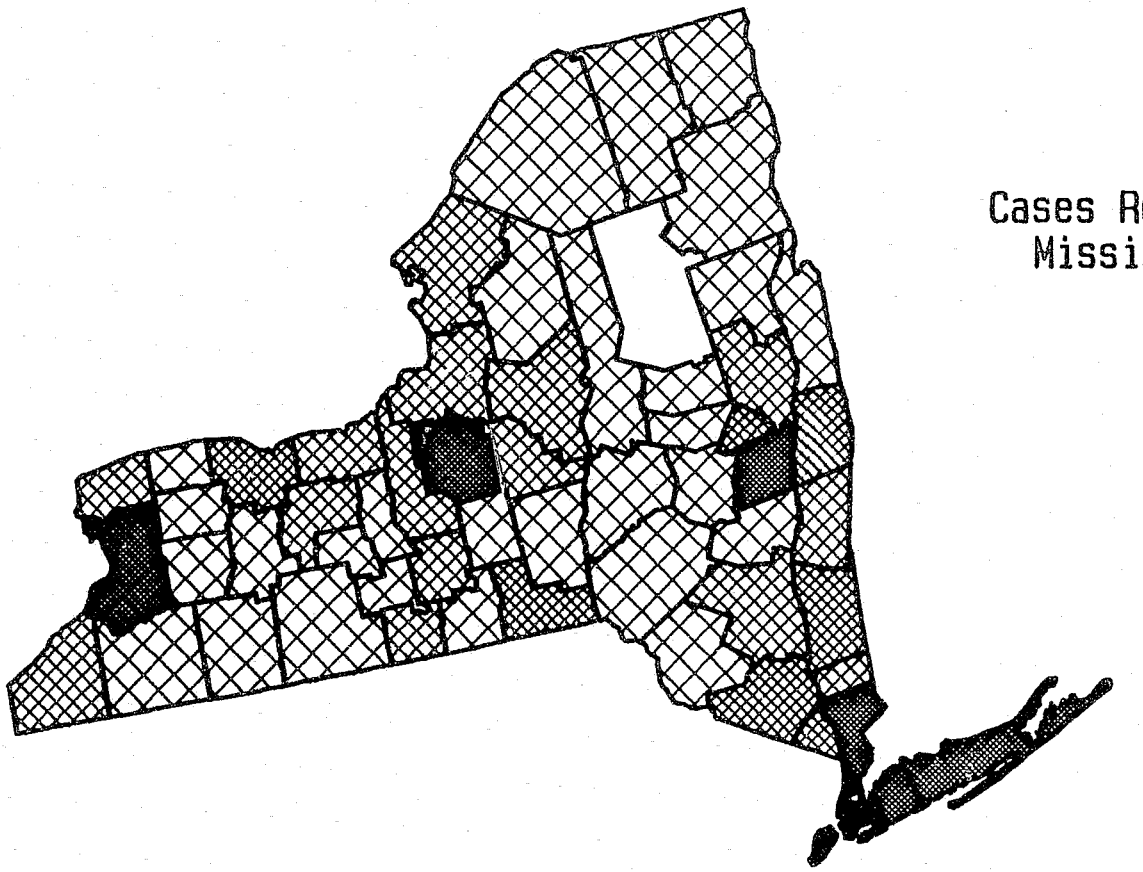


Figure 2

Cases Reported to the New York State
Missing Children Register - 1985

2501 or more cases
501 to 2500
251 to 500
51 to 250
1 to 50
0

TABLE 1
County Reporting Activity to the
New York State Missing Children Register: 1985

County	Cases Active 12/31/84	Cases Entered 1985	Cases Cancelled 1985	Cases Active 12/31/85
Albany	23	905	905	23
Allegany	2	14	16	-
Broome	4	296	298	2
Cattaraugus	1	15	15	1
Cayuga	2	128	127	3
Chautauqua	2	58	58	2
Chemung	5	150	151	4
Chenango	-	15	15	-
Clinton	2	23	24	1
Columbia	3	158	154	7
Cortland	2	23	24	1
Delaware	1	21	21	1
Dutchess	32	476	497	11
Erie	155	630	740	45
Essex	-	20	20	-
Franklin	1	13	14	-
Fulton	-	47	46	1
Genesee	-	42	42	-
Greene	3	17	19	1
Hamilton	-	-	-	-
Herkimer	-	29	28	1
Jefferson	6	89	89	6
Lewis	-	2	2	-
Livingston	-	19	19	-
Madison	2	67	68	1
Monroe	26	358	366	18
Montgomery	2	36	37	1
Nassau	58	1,173	1,190	41
Niagara	32	185	191	26
Oneida	12	213	218	7
Onondaga	26	902	907	21
Ontario	1	54	55	-
Orange	24	343	351	16
Orleans	-	13	12	1
Oswego	2	54	55	1
Otsego	-	19	19	-
Putnam	3	87	90	-
Rensselaer	17	330	337	10
Rockland	35	470	477	28
St. Lawrence	5	34	39	-
Saratoga	10	155	161	4
Schenectady	14	278	287	5
Schoharie	-	14	14	-
Schuyler	-	8	7	1
Seneca	-	33	33	-
Steuben	2	32	34	-
Suffolk	63	2,252	2,265	50
Sullivan	3	49	46	6
Tioga	2	23	24	1
Tompkins	6	212	217	1
Ulster	10	231	236	5
Warren	5	48	49	4
Washington	1	35	34	2
Wayne	4	95	97	2
Westchester	155	1,005	1,092	68
Wyoming	1	12	13	-
Yates	-	22	22	-
New York City	416	5,194	4,844	766
Non-NYS Agencies	2	6	6	2
New York State Total	1,183	17,232	17,217	1,198

About 40 percent of the reports to the Register involved a child who had previously been reported missing during 1985.

- There were 12,704 individual children among the 17,232 missing children cases reported to the Register during 1985. Of these, 10,243 were entered on the Register only once and 2,461 were reported missing two or more times. (One child was reported missing on 17 separate occasions.) Children reported missing multiple times averaged 2.8 missing children reports per child and accounted for 40.6 percent (6,989) of all Register entries during 1985.

Characteristics of Cases Reported During 1985

Figures 3A through 3D summarize, by region, the age, sex, and race characteristics of missing children cases reported to the New York State Missing Children Register during calendar year 1985. Appendix D presents source data for these graphs. As noted earlier, the unit of count for this analysis is the "case" and not the individual child. The demographic data presented in the following section reflects this case orientation and may be biased by the characteristics of children who appeared in the Register multiple times.

Older children (13 to 15 years) were more likely to be reported missing than younger children. Pre-schoolers accounted for only 1 percent of missing children reports.

- During 1985, reports of missing pre-school aged children (birth - 5 years of age) were comparatively rare, accounting for only 1.0 percent (173) of cases statewide. Youths 6 to 12 years of age represented 14.0 percent (2,411) of missing children cases reported to the Register, while 13 to 15 year olds accounted for 85.0 percent (14,648) of cases statewide.

- New York City reported a larger proportion of 6 to 12 year olds from its missing population (18.1%) than Suburban New York City (13.4%) or the balance of the State (11.4%). New York City also reported a smaller proportion of 13 to 15 year olds from its missing population (81.1%) than Suburban New York City (85.3%) or the balance of the State (87.6%).

Figure 3A

Characteristics of Cases Reported to the
New York State Missing Children Register
1985 - NEW YORK STATE

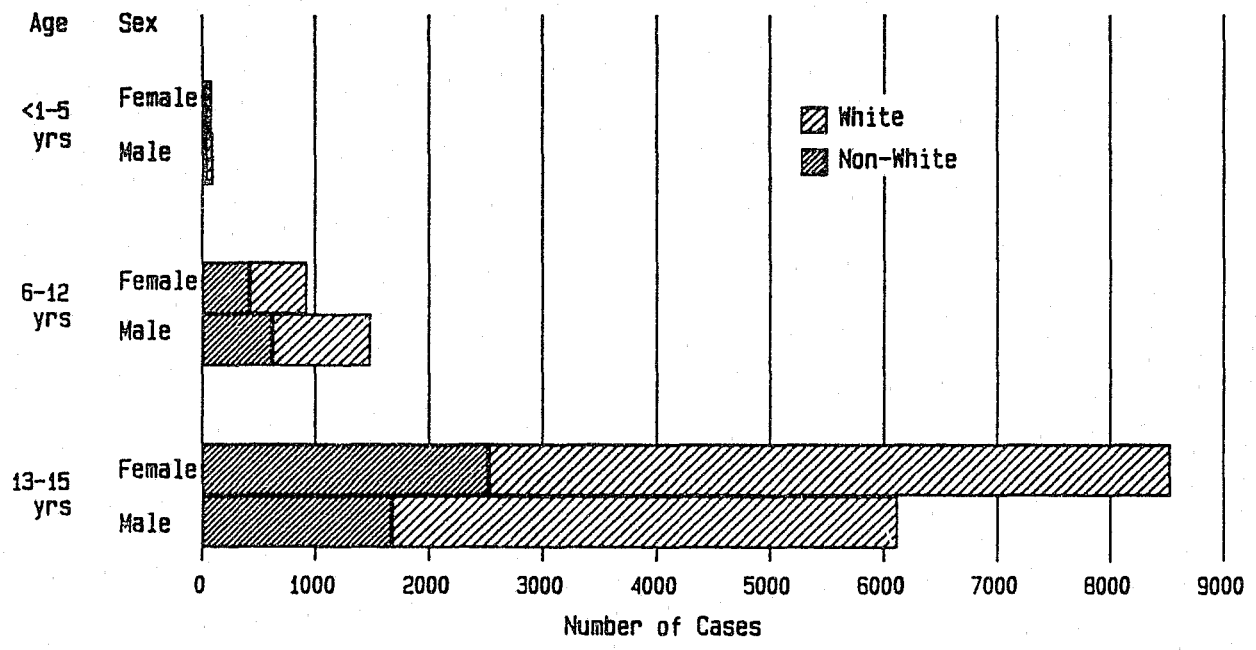


Figure 3B

Characteristics of Cases Reported to the
New York State Missing Children Register
1985 - NEW YORK CITY

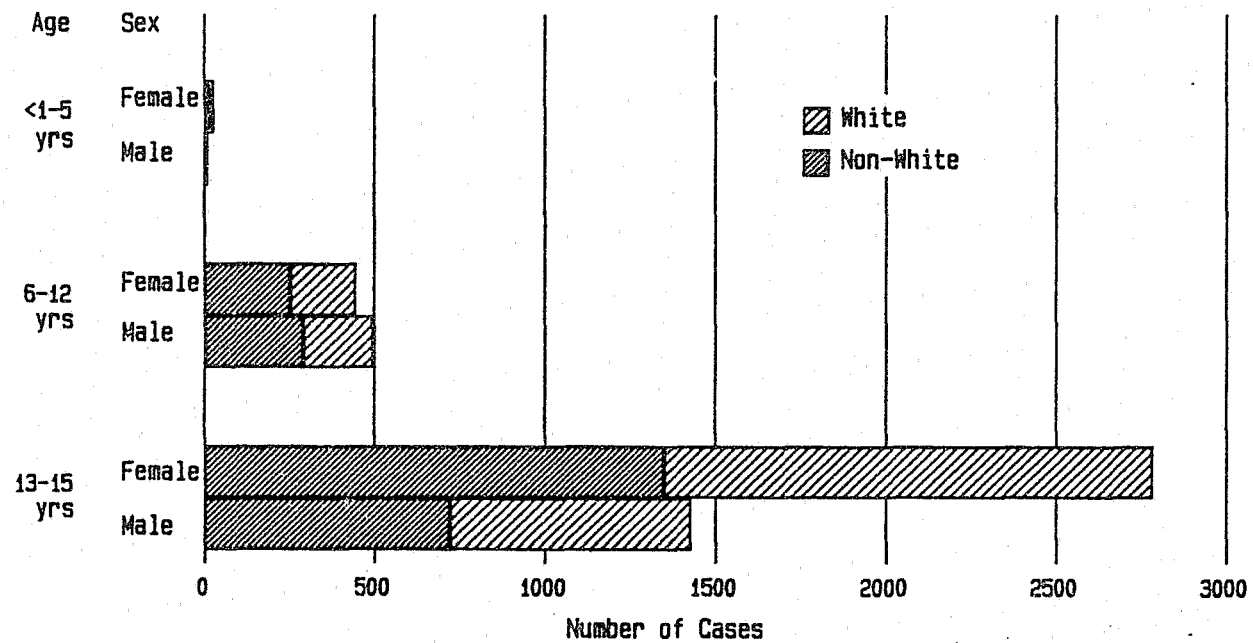


Figure 3C

Characteristics of Cases Reported to the
New York State Missing Children Register
1985 - SUBURBAN NEW YORK CITY

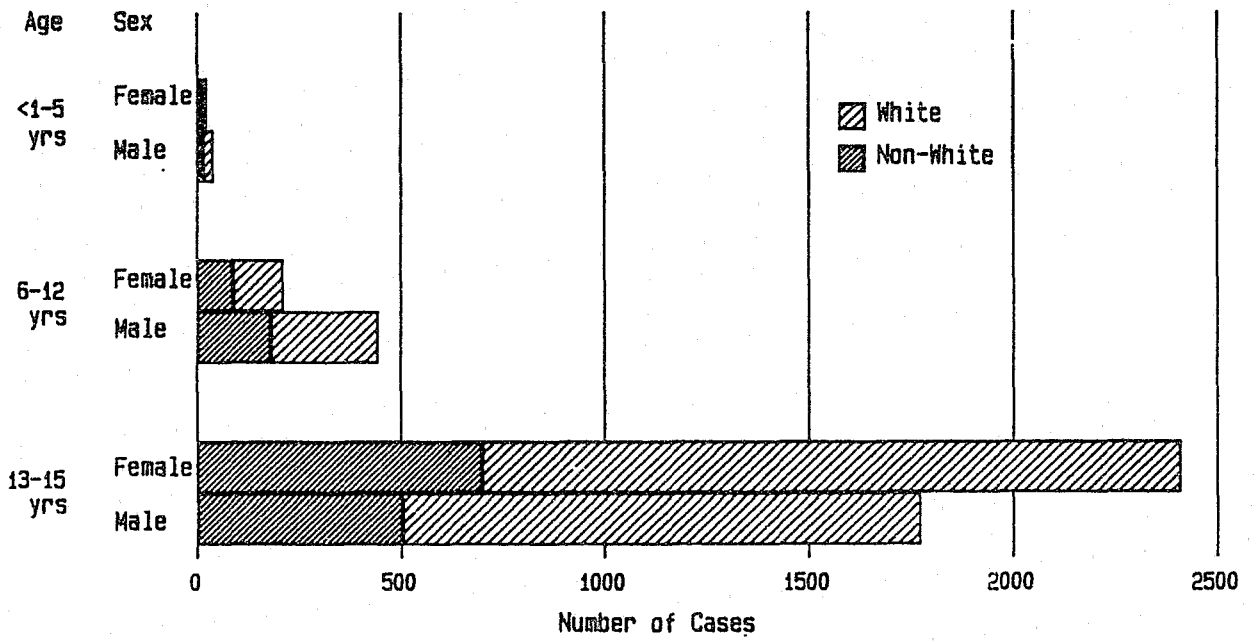
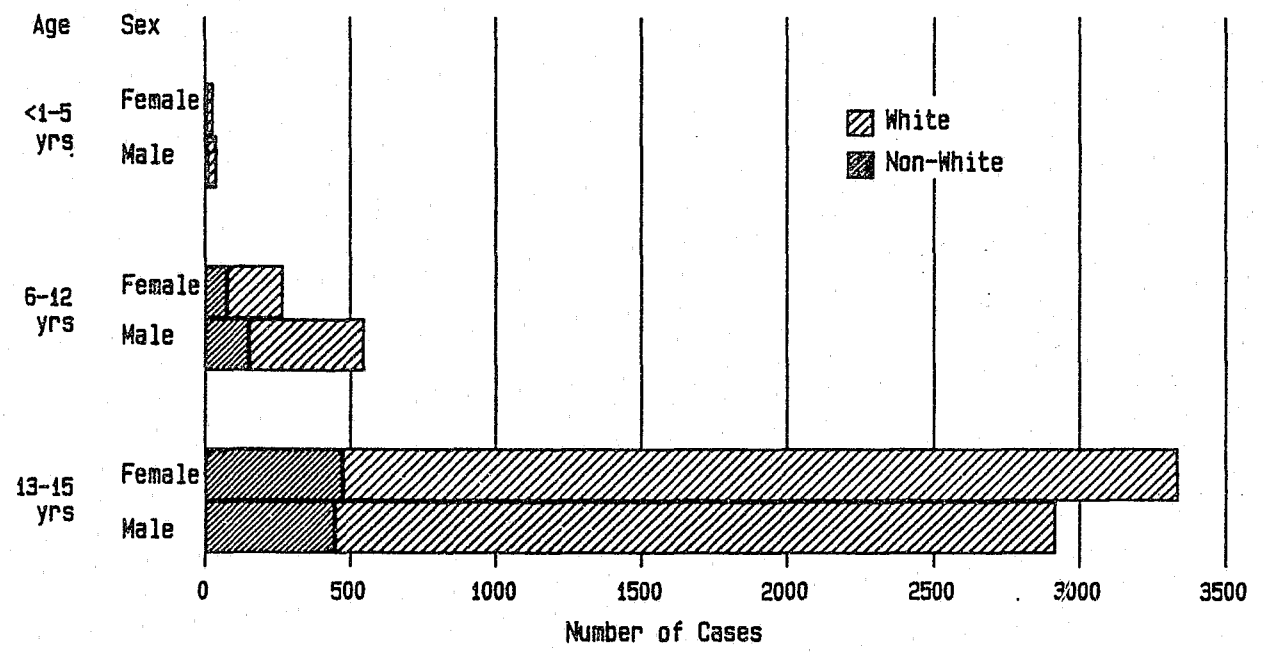


Figure 3D

Characteristics of Cases Reported to the
New York State Missing Children Register
1985 - BALANCE OF STATE



Most missing children cases reported in 1985 involved females and white children.

- The majority (55.3%) of cases reporting missing children from New York State during 1985 involved females. New York City reported more missing female cases (62.7%) than Suburban New York City (54.0%) or the balance of the State (50.9%).

- Statewide, over two-thirds (69.2%) of missing children cases reported during 1985 involved whites. New York City reported a much smaller proportion of cases involving missing white children (49.1%) than Suburban New York City (69.4%) or the balance of the State (83.7%).

- As a single group, cases involving 13 to 15 year old females accounted for nearly half (49.5%) of all cases of children reported missing from New York State during 1985.

Time from Case Entry to Case Cancellation

Cases reported to the Register during 1985 were tracked from the date of entry on the Register through May 6, 1986. Figures 4A through 4D illustrate, by region, the time between case entry and cancellation.

By May of 1986 over 99 percent of cases reported to the Register during 1985 had been cancelled. The average time between a report and cancellation was 4 days.[3]

- Statewide, 99.2 percent (17,102) of the 17,232 missing children cases reported to the Register during 1985 had been cancelled from the Register by May 6, 1986. A slightly smaller proportion of New York City cases (98.9%) had been cancelled than Suburban New York City (99.4%) and the balance of the State (99.4%) cases.

---

[3] The median statistic was selected to summarize average entry-to-cancellation times because it is less sensitive to extreme values in the distributions than the more familiar arithmetic mean.

Figure 4A

Missing Children Cases Reported in New York State : 1985
Time from Case Entry to Case Cancellation
(N = 17,232)

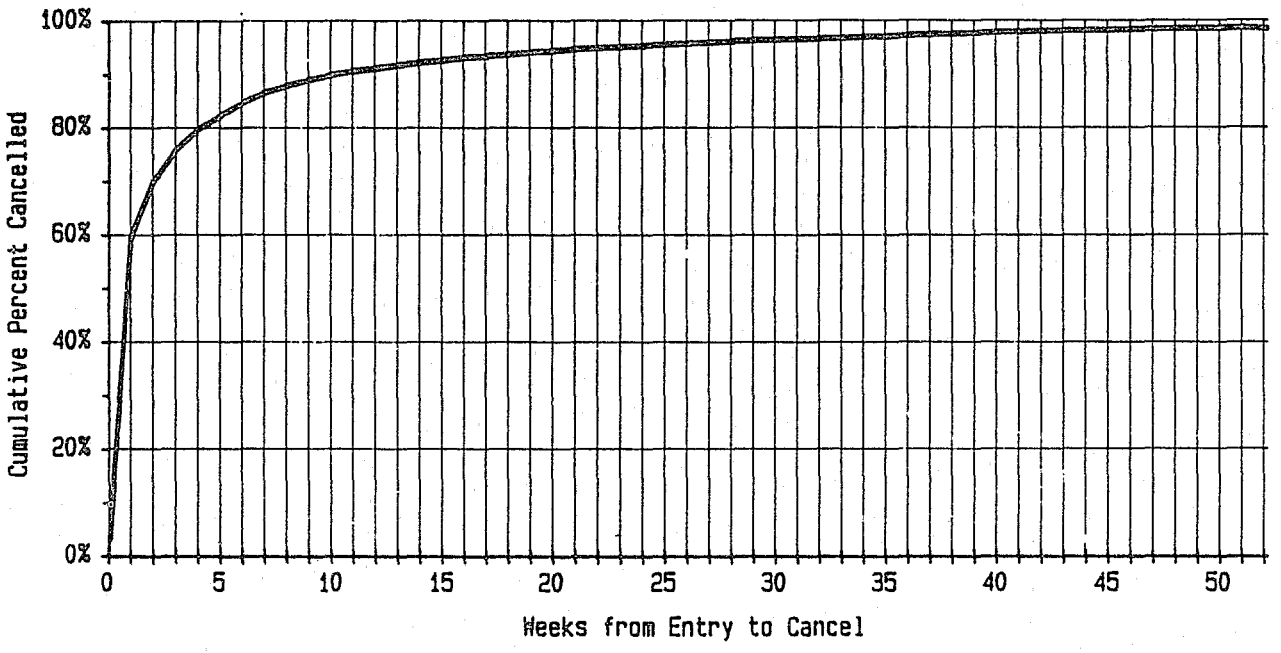


Figure 4B

Missing Children Cases Reported in New York City : 1985
Time from Case Entry to Case Cancellation
(N = 5,194)

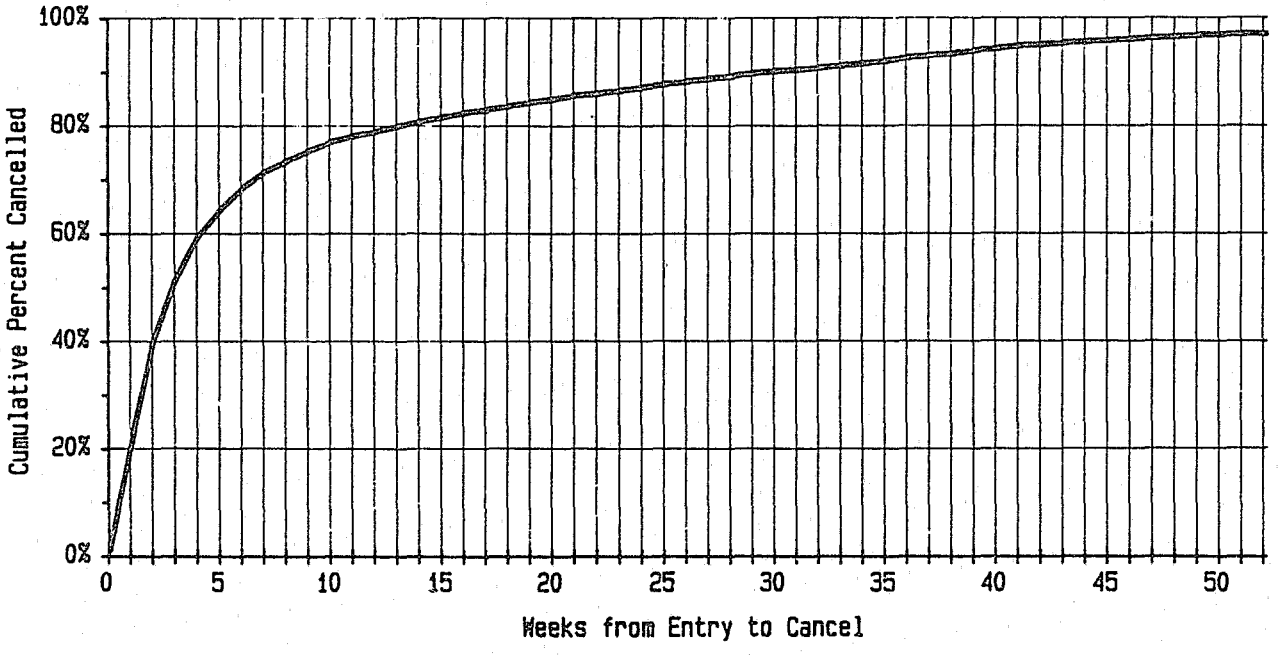


Figure 4C

Missing Children Cases Reported in Suburban New York City : 1985
Time from Case Entry to Case Cancellation
(N= 4, 900)

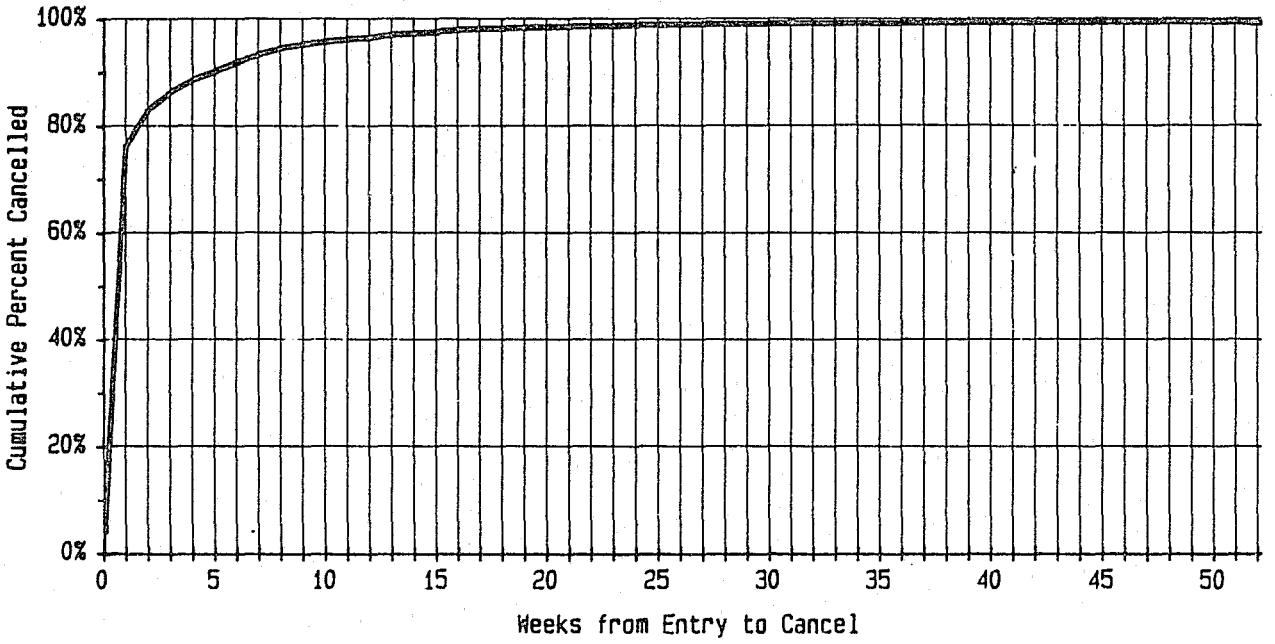
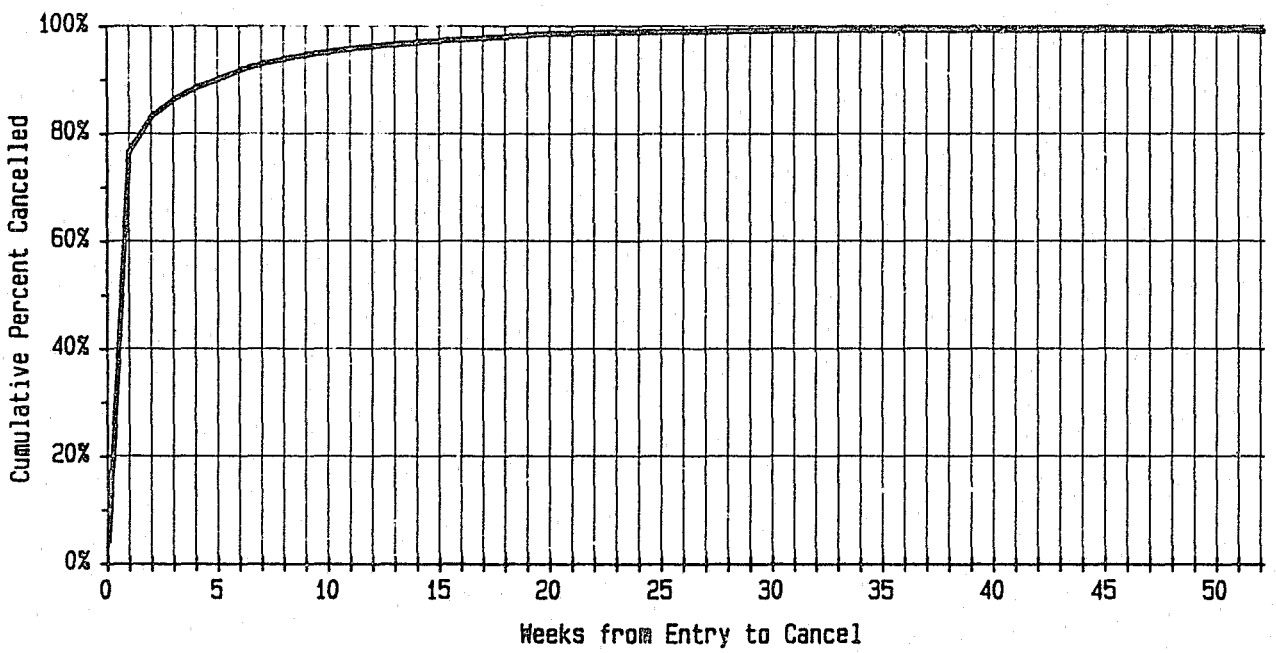


Figure 4D

Missing Children Cases Reported in the Balance of State : 1985
Time from Case Entry to Case Cancellation
(N = 7, 138)



- Among the various age, sex, and race groupings of children reported missing during 1985, generally 98 percent to 99 percent of cases within each group had been cancelled from the Register by May 6, 1986. One to 5 year olds were the only notable exception to this high cancellation rate: Statewide, 92.4 percent of cases involving 1 to 5 year olds had been cancelled, as compared with 82.5 percent of New York City cases, 94.1 percent of Suburban New York City cases, and 96.2 percent of the balance of the State cases.

- Overall, the median time elapsed between the entry and cancellation of a case was 4 days. Cases reported from New York City took considerably more time (20 days) to cancel than cases from Suburban New York City (1 day) and from the balance of the State (1 day). Rather than reflecting actual differences in time required to find a child, these variations are thought to reflect data processing nuances in New York City.[4]

- Missing children cases involving males took less time to cancel from the Register (3 days) than those involving females (5 days).

- Cases involving white children took less time to cancel (2 days) than cases involving non-white children (10 days).

- Cases involving 1 to 5 year olds generally took less time to cancel (2 days) than those involving 6 to 12 year olds (4 days) and 13 to 15 year olds (4 days).

---

[4] The long cancellation times noted for some groups may reflect New York City data processing procedures rather than actual time differences. This is especially relevant for non-white children, which as a group were reported missing from New York City more than from other areas.

- Among age, sex, and race groupings of children reported missing during 1985, non-white 13 to 15 year old females averaged the longest elapsed time (12 days) from case entry to cancellation, followed by non-white 6 to 12 year old females (9 days). In contrast, white 13 to 15 year old females (3 days) and white 6 to 12 year old females (2 days) averaged considerably less time between Register case entry and cancellation. Similar distinctions were also noted between non-white and white males. For example, non-white 13 to 15 year old males averaged more time (8 days) from entry to cancellation than white 13 to 15 year old males (2 days); non-white 6 to 12 year old males also averaged more time (7 days) than white 6 to 12 year old males (1 day).

In spite of the large proportion of teenagers and relatively short entry/cancellation times for Register cases, there is no evidence that would justify defining New York State's missing children as essentially a "runaway" problem. For example, the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children has advised:

> "One common misunderstanding occurs because many individuals and official organizations anticipate that most children who are abducted by unknown individuals or non-family members will be gone for a substantial period of time, sometimes forever. The reality is that there are thousands of children in this country who are kidnapped or falsely imprisoned each year by non-family members or unknown individuals-- and yet they only remain missing for a number of minutes or hours. This situation often involves the kidnapping or false imprisonment of a child for sexual abuse or exploitation. In legal, statutory, and practical terms, these children are missing and are victims of abduction or false imprisonment by non-family members. These cases are typically recorded as sexual offenses rather than as abductions."

Without more detailed data, it is inappropriate to speculate on the nature of these cases.

III

Characteristics of Cases Active on December 31, 1985

Figures 5A through 5D summarize, by region, the age, sex, and race characteristics of missing children cases active on the New York State Missing Children Register on December 31, 1985. Appendix E presents source data for these graphs.

This profile differs from the previous summary of cases reported during 1985: it includes all children reported missing in New York State who had not been reported found as of December 31, 1985. A one-day snapshot of the Register presents both the short term cases (i.e., 4 day average elapsed time) reported to the Register that happened to be active on the last day of the year, and a relatively smaller "core" of longer term cases.

Among the 1,198 cases active on the last day of 1985, almost two-thirds were from New York City.

- There were 1,198 active missing children cases on the New York State Missing Children Register on December 31, 1985. Of these, 766 (63.9%) were from New York City, 187 (15.6%) from Suburban New York City, and 243 (20.3%) from the balance of the State. (The origin of 2 (0.2%) cases under federal jurisdiction was unknown). While accounting for almost two-thirds of the active cases, New York City accounted for only 30.1 percent (5,194) of missing children cases reported during 1985.

- Overall, 17 (27.4%) New York State counties had no active missing children cases on file with the Register on December 31, 1985. Fourteen (14 or 22.6%) counties had only one active case on file (see Figure 6).

Figure 5A

Characteristics of Cases Active on the
New York State Missing Children Register
December 31, 1985 - NEW YORK STATE

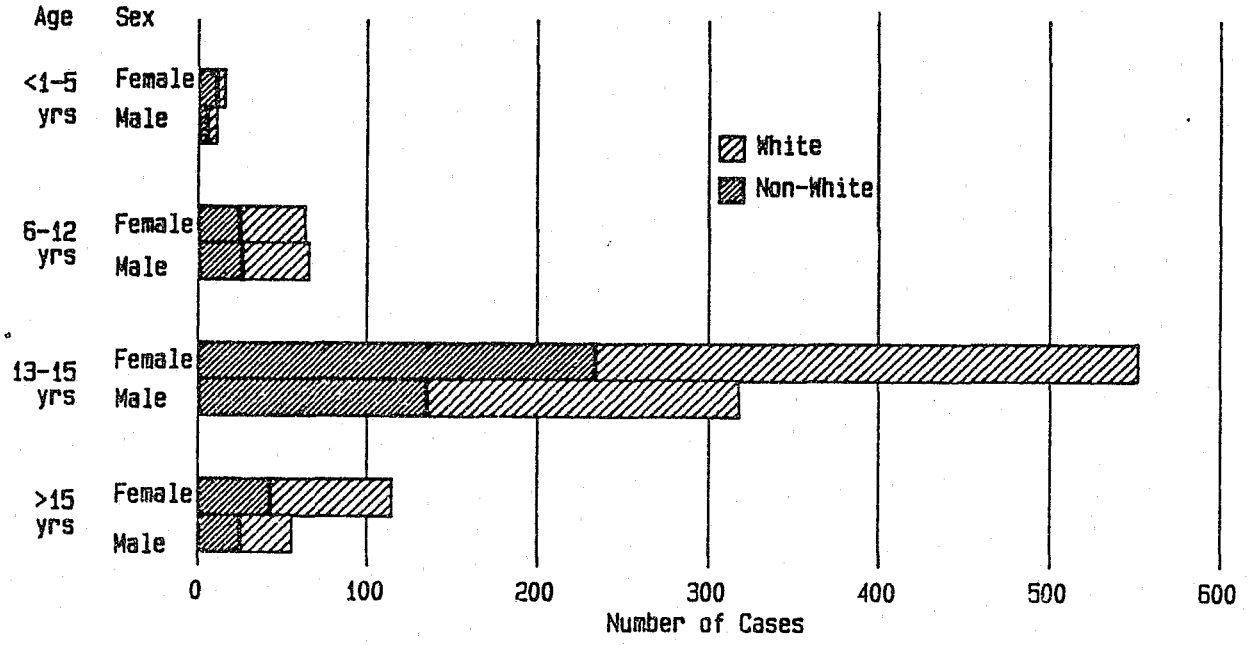


Figure 5B

Characteristics of Cases Active on the
New York State Missing Children Register
December 31, 1985 - NEW YORK CITY

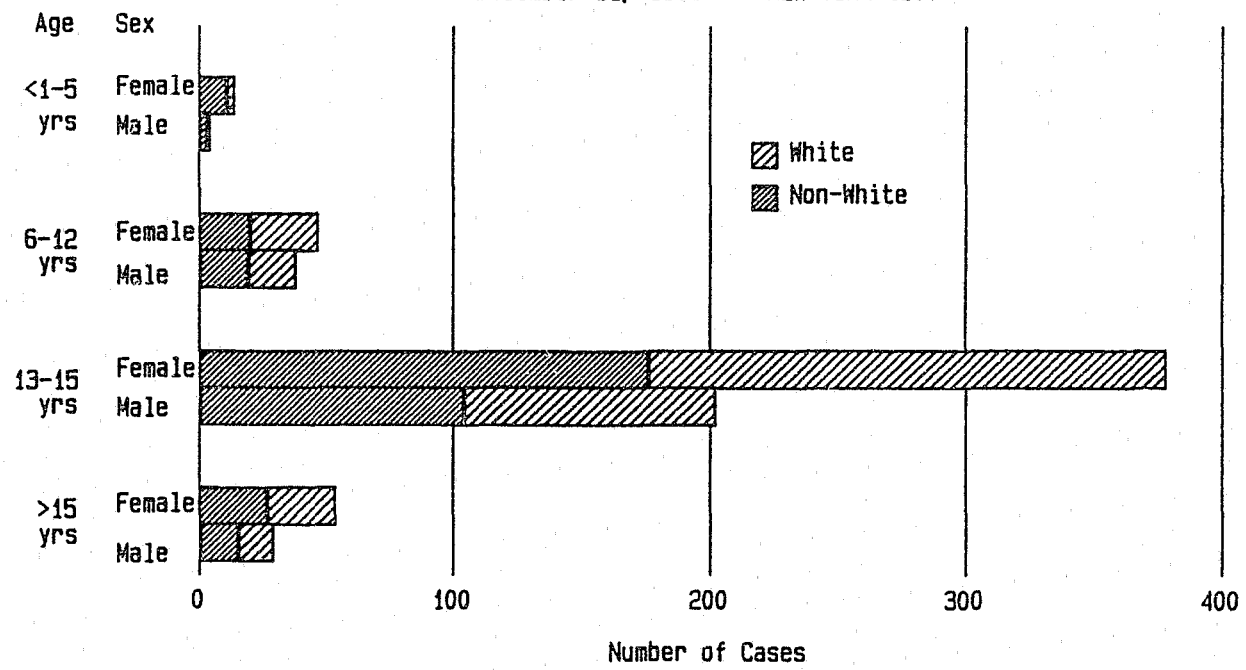


Figure 5C

Characteristics of Cases Active on the
New York State Missing Children Register
December 31, 1985 - SUBURBAN NEW YORK CITY

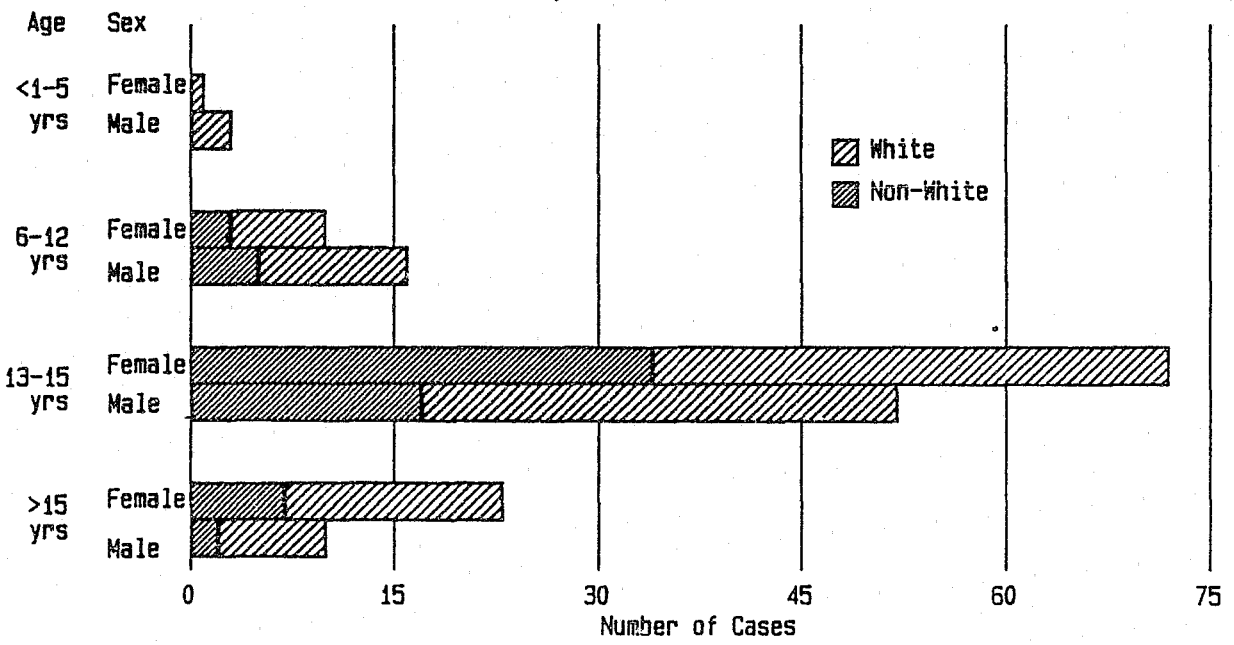
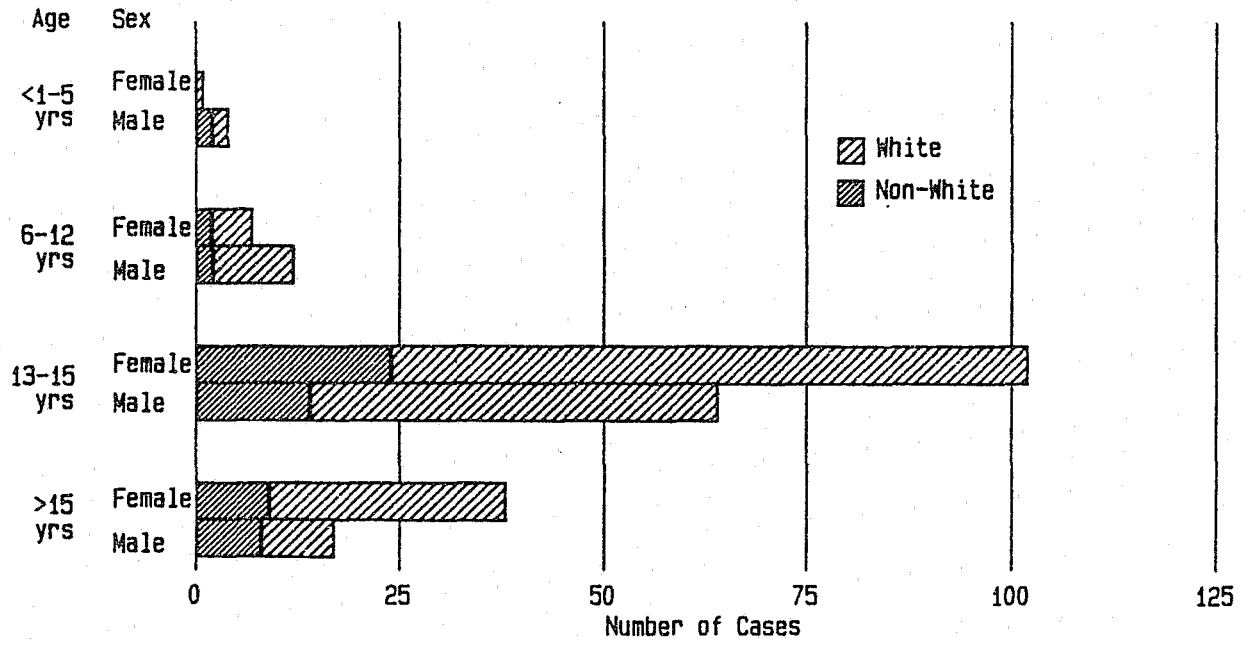


Figure 5D

Characteristics of Cases Active on the
New York State Missing Children Register
December 31, 1985 - BALANCE OF STATE



Only 13 percent of the children missing on December 31st were younger than 13 years old.

- Pre-school aged children (birth to 5 years of age) represented 2.2 percent (26 cases) of active Register cases on December 31, 1985. Youths 6 to 12 years of age represented 10.9 percent (130) of active missing children cases, while 13 to 15 year olds accounted for 72.6 percent (870) of cases statewide. In addition, 14.3 percent (172) of active Register cases involved youths older than 15 years of age (that is, persons reported to the Register as "missing children" while they were under 15 years of age but who have subsequently aged beyond this technical definition).[5]

- Older missing children (more than 15 years of age) constituted a greater proportion of active Suburban New York City cases (17.7%) and the balance of the State cases (22.6%) than they did among active New York City cases (11.0%).

The majority (62.4%) of children missing on December 31, 1985 were female.

- A greater proportion of New York City cases were for missing females (64.4%) than were Suburban New York City (56.7%) or the balance of the State (60.5%) cases.

Statewide, over one-half (57.8%) of active missing children were white.

A smaller proportion of missing New York City children were white (51.0%) as compared with Suburban New York City (63.6%) and the balance of the State (74.5%) children.

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[5] Executive Law §837-e (4e) provides for the preservation of missing child status on the Register for persons who have reached the age of sixteen and remain missing.

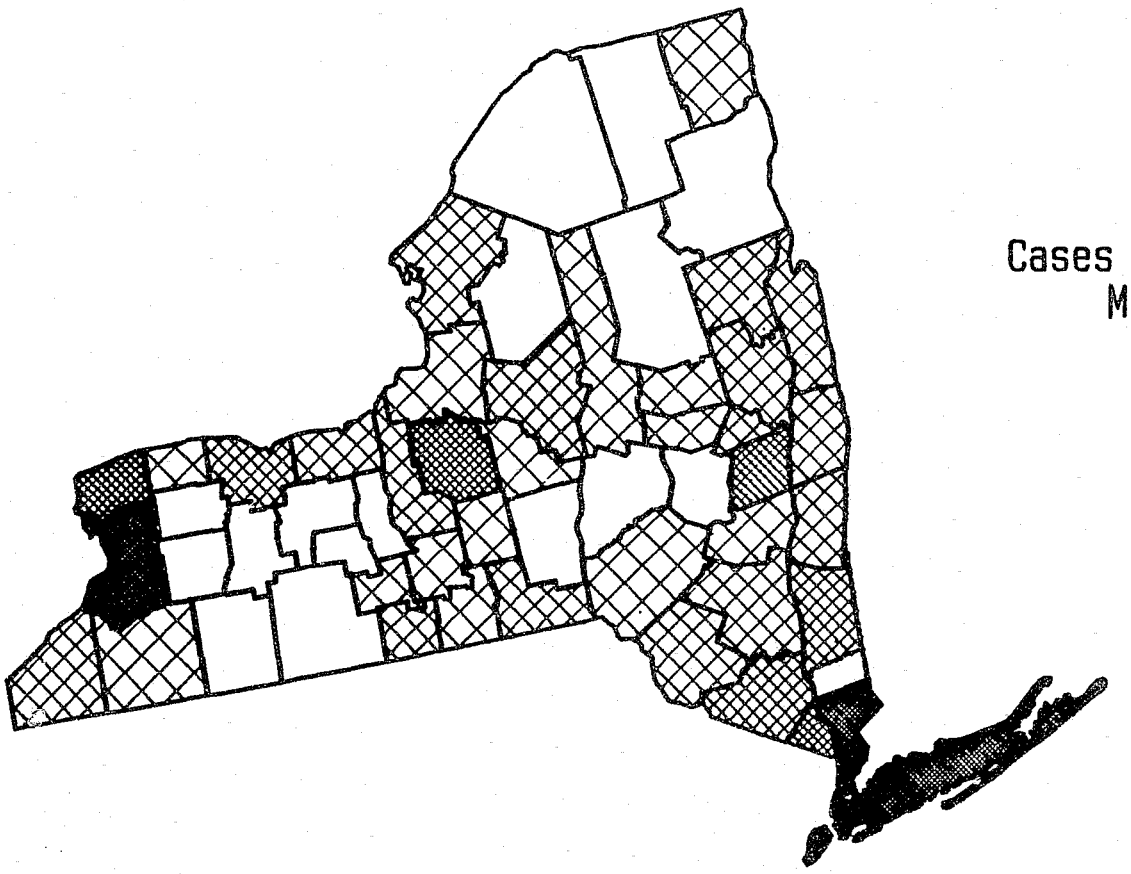

Figure 6

Cases Active on the New York State
Missing Children Register
December 31, 1985

71 or more cases
31 to 70
21 to 30
11 to 20
2 to 10
1
0

Length of Time on the Register

Overall, the 1,198 missing children cases active on December 31, 1985 had been on the Register an average (i.e., median) of 57 days.

- Approximately one-third (33.7%) of these cases had been in active status for more than six months, with 12.7 percent of the cases active for more than one year.

- New York City cases were typically on the Register longer (69 days) than Suburban New York City (47 days) or the balance of the State (48 days) cases.

- Statewide, missing children cases involving females were on the Register slightly longer (57 days) than those involving males (53 days). An opposite pattern existed, however, for New York City cases, where males remained on the Register longer (102 days) than females (63 days).

- Cases involving white children were on the Register slightly longer (57 days) than those involving non-white children (53 days).

- Among the age groups, active cases involving pre-school aged children (birth to 5 years old) were on the Register longer (125 days) than those involving 6 to 12 year olds (76 days) and 13 to 15 year olds (36 days). Missing children older than 15 years of age averaged 348 days on the Register.

IV

Summary and Conclusions

Some salient facts emerge from this exploratory examination of cases reported to the New York State Missing Children Register.

During 1985 the Register received 17,232 reports of children missing from New York State. Of these, 30.1 percent were from New York City, 28.4 percent from Suburban New York City, and 41.5 percent from the balance of the State. Reports of missing pre-school aged children (birth to 5 years of age) were comparatively rare, accounting for only 1.0 percent of cases statewide. Youths 6 to 12 years of age made up 14.0 percent of reported cases, while youths 13 to 15 years of age accounted for 85.0 percent of reported cases. Over half (55.3%) of cases reported to the Register involved missing females; over two-thirds (69.2%) of cases involved white children. Nearly half (49.5%) of all cases reported to the Register involved 13 to 15 year old females. Statewide, 99.2 percent of the 17,232 missing children cases reported during 1985 had been cancelled by May 6, 1986. The median elapsed time between the entry and cancellation of a case on the Missing Children Register was 4 days.

There were 1,198 active missing children cases on the Register on December 31, 1985. Of these, 63.9 percent were from New York City, 15.6 percent from Suburban New York City, and 20.3 percent were from the balance of the State. One third (33.7%) of these cases had been in active status for more than six months, with 12.7 percent of the cases on the Register for more than one year.

In spite of the large proportion of teenagers and relatively short entry/cancellation times for Register cases, there is no evidence that would justify defining New York State's missing children as essentially a "runaway" problem. Such conclusions are unwarranted because data are simply not available to describe the circumstances of a child's disappearance or recovery. Too little is known about these cases to simply dismiss them as runaways.

From this, one clear recommendation can be offered: additional information is needed. The efforts now underway at the Division of Criminal Justice Services to improve the amount and quality of information concerning the Register should be supported. This information must include at a minimum, the circumstances of the abduction and the reasons why the case was cancelled. Was the case suspected to be a runaway, or an abduction by a stranger, a family member or an acquaintance? For cases that are cancelled, information must be obtained on the effects of the experience on the child. Is there evidence of physical or emotional abuse? Was the child exploited in any way? Was he or she involved in criminal activity?

None of these basic questions can be answered with the information now at our disposal. Indeed, it is not even known whether a child was recovered alive or dead.

Information alone will not solve the problem. Efforts to improve the skills of local officials to respond to reports of missing children, to conduct and coordinate investigations and to work effectively with distraught parents and the community must be developed as well.

Improved information <u>can</u> help in coordinating investigative efforts at the local level and it can help as well to frame our overall understanding of the problem of missing children. With this understanding it will be possible to design new prevention programs and training curricula for law enforcement, education and family service workers. The information must go beyond assessing merely the <u>size</u> of the problem. Government's response derives from its commitment to the welfare of children and the same commitment is warranted whether ten or ten-thousand children are reported missing.

APPENDIX A

Enabling Legislation for the
New York State
Missing Children Register

STATE OF NEW YORK

21033

Cal. No. 987

1983-1984 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 28, 1983

Assembly Bill No. 7272-C introduced by M. of A. HINCHEY, VANN, HOYT, SLAUGHTER, TONKO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. PATTON, SILVER, HARENBERG, SANDERS, GANTT, ABRAMSON, TEDISCO, HOBLOCK -- read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules, substituted for Senate Bill No. 6827-B by Sens. GOODHUE, DALY, GOODMAN, JEFFERSON, LAVALLE, MASIELLO -- ordered to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the social services law, in relation to the establishment of a statewide register for missing children

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Legislative findings and declaration. The legislature hereby finds and declares:

1. The incidence of missing and abducted children is growing at an alarming rate and has led the federal government to address this problem through passage of the national missing children's act, requiring federal bureau of investigation participation in the reporting of missing children information to the national crime information center;

2. There is a need for a similar act on the state level requiring local participation by criminal justice agencies in the reporting of information on missing children through the New York statewide police information network to the division of criminal justice services missing persons files;

3. A need also exists for a statewide central register for missing children so that agencies caring for children and supported by public funds may determine if such children are missing in like manner;

4. Only through such a comprehensive approach may this growing problem of missing children be addressed effectively and ultimately eliminated.

§ 2. The executive law is amended by adding a new section eight hundred thirty-seven-e to read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD11543-20-4

§ 837-e. Statewide central register for missing children. 1. There is hereby established through electronic data processing and related procedures, a statewide central register for missing children which shall be compatible with the national crime information center register maintained pursuant to the federal missing children act of nineteen hundred eighty-two, such missing child hereinafter defined as any person under the age of sixteen years missing from his or her normal and ordinary place of residence and whose whereabouts cannot be determined by a person responsible for the child's care.

2. The following may make inquiries to determine if any entries in the register or in the national crime information center register could match the subject of the inquiry:

(a) a police or criminal justice agency investigating a report of a missing or unidentified child, whether living or deceased; and

(b) an authorized agency or state official pursuant to subdivision seven of section three hundred seventy-two of the social services law.

3. The central register shall contain all available identifying data of any child including, but not limited to, fingerprints, blood types, dental information, and photographs subject to the following conditions:

(a) The data contained in the register shall be confidential.

(b) Any person who knowingly and intentionally permits the release of any data and information contained in the central register to persons or agencies not permitted by this title shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

(c) Such data may be made available only to:

(i) a police or criminal justice agency investigating a report of a missing child or unidentified child, whether living or deceased;

(ii) any qualified person engaged in bona fide research when approved by the commissioner, provided that the researcher in no event disclose information tending to identify the child or his or her family or caregiver.

4. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations:

(a) insuring the confidentiality of the data contained in the register;

(b) prescribing the manner in which entries to the register shall be made;

(c) prescribing the manner in which inquiries to the register shall be made and processed;

(d) insuring that criminal justice agencies and agencies defined by subdivision seven of section three hundred seventy-two of the social services law making inquiries to the register will be promptly informed if any entries in the statewide central register or in the national crime information center register could match the subject of the inquiry;

(e) insuring the proper disposition of all obsolete register data, provided however that such data for a person who has reached the age of sixteen and remains missing shall be preserved; and

(f) linking the register with the national crime information center register.

5. The division shall not charge a fee for inquiries made pursuant to this section.

6. When a person previously reported missing has been found alive and there is no ground for criminal action, the superintendent of state police, sheriff, chief of police, coroner or medical examiner, or other criminal justice agency shall purge and destroy such records and docu-

ments with respect to such person which are made and maintained pursuant to this section and shall report to the division that the person has been found and that the records and documents have been so purged or destroyed. After receiving such a report, the division shall purge such records with respect to such person and/or destroy any documents which are maintained pursuant to this section.

§ 3. Section eight hundred thirty-eight of such law is amended by adding a new subdivision nine to read as follows:

9. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, within forty-eight hours of notification of a missing child, criminal justice agencies shall make reports in a manner prescribed by the division and the division shall receive, process and retain information on missing children in the manner provided by section eight hundred thirty-seven-e of this article.

§ 4. Section three hundred seventy-two of the social services law is amended by adding a new subdivision seven to read as follows:

7. An authorized agency as defined in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subdivision ten of section three hundred seventy-one of this chapter or an office of the division for youth, except agencies operating pursuant to article nineteen-H of the executive law, who shall receive, accept or commit any child under such circumstances as shall reasonably indicate that such child may be a missing person shall make inquiries of each such child to the division of criminal justice services in a manner prescribed by such division; provided that as used in this subdivision a court shall not be included within the definition of an authorized agency. If such child appears to match a child registered with the statewide central register for missing children as described in section eight hundred thirty-seven-e of the executive law, or one registered with the national crime information center register, such agency shall immediately contact the local criminal justice agency.

§ 5. Subdivision two of section three hundred ninety-eight of such law is amended by adding a new paragraph (f) to read as follows:

(f) Report to the local criminal justice agency and to the statewide central register for missing children as described in section eight hundred thirty-seven-e of the executive law such information as required on a form prescribed by the commissioner of the division of criminal justice services within forty-eight hours after an abandoned child is found.

§ 6. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after it shall have become a law, except that any rules and regulations necessary for the timely implementation of this act on its effective date shall be promulgated on or before such date.

APPENDIX B

STATE OF NEW YORK
POLICE MISSING PERSON REPORT (9/85)

Investigating Police Agency_____ Case Number_____

Station/Precinct_____ Telephone_____ Date_____

COMPLAINANT

Last Name_____ First_____ MI_____ DOB___/___/___ Relationship_____

Address_____ State___ County_____ Phone(___)_____

Place Missing From/Location Last Seen_____

C-T-V_____ County_____

Date reported missing_____/_____/_____ Time reported missing_____[ ] AM [ ] PM

MISSING PERSON INFO

CHARACTER OF CASE (MKE)
[ ](D) Disabled [ ](E) Endangered [ ](I) Involuntary [ ](J) Juvenile [ ](V) Disaster Victim [ ](O)Other

Name (NAM) Last_____ First_____ Middle_____ Sex (SEX) [ ]M [ ]F

Race (RAC)
[ ](W) White [ ](B) Black [ ](I) American Indian/Alaskan Native [ ](A) Asian/Pacific Islander [ ](U) Unknown

Date of Birth (DOB)___/___/___ State Identification Number (SID)_____

Social Security Number (SOC)_____ Place of Birth (POB)_____
(See Part 3, NYSPIN Operating Manual)

Height (HGT)_____ Weight (WGT)_____

PERSON INFO

Eye Color (EYE)
[ ] (BLK) Black [ ] (PNK) Pink
[ ] (BLU) Blue [ ] (XXX) Unknown
[ ] (BRO) Brown
[ ] (GRY) Gray
[ ] (GRN) Green
[ ] (HAZ) Hazel
[ ] (MAR) Maroon
[ ] (MUL) Multicolor

Hair Color (HAI)
[ ] (BLK) Black
[ ] (BLN) Blond
[ ] (BRO) Brown
[ ] (GRY) Gray
[ ] (RED) Red/Auburn
[ ] (SDY) Sandy
[ ] (WHI) White
[ ] (XXX) Unknown

Skin Complexion (SKN)
[ ] (DRK) Dark [ ] (YEL) Yellow
[ ] (MED) Medium [ ] (OLV) Olive
[ ] (LGT) Light [ ] (SAL) Sallow
[ ] (RUD) Ruddy
(See Part 3, NYSPIN Operating Manual)

Originating Agency Case Number (OCA) _____ Date of last contact (DLC) ____/____/____

MISSING INFO

Miscellaneous Information (MIS)

Build [ ] very thin [ ] thin [ ] medium [ ] muscular [ ] heavy/stocky [ ] obese [ ] full figured (female)

CLOTHING:

Item	Style/type	size	color	markings	Item	style/type	size	color	markings
Head Gear					Shoes				
Scarf/Tie/Gloves					Underwear				
Coat/Jacket/Vest					Bra/Girdle/ Slip				
Sweater					Stocking/Hose				
Shirt/Blouse					Wallet/Purse				
Pants/Skirt					Money				
Belt/Suspenders					Glasses				
Socks					Contacts				

FBI Number (FBI)_____

Miscellaneous Numbers (MNU) (See Part 3, NYSPIN Operating Manual)

Scars/Marks/Tatoos (SMT) (See Data Collection Package Page 5 & Part 3, NYSPIN Operating Manual)

Fingerprint Classification (FPC) (1) Was person ever fingerprinted? [ ]Yes [ ]No

(2) By what Department/Agency?_____

(3) NCIC Classification Code. _____
(See Part 3, NYSPIN Operating Manual)

VEHICLE

Operators License Number(OLN) _____ License State(OLS)_____

License Year(OLY)_____ Vehicle License Plate(LIC) _____ License Plate State(LIS) _____

License Year (LIY)_____ License Type (LIT)_____ Vehicle Identification Number(VIN)_____

Vehicle Year(VYR)_____ Vehicle Make(VMA)_____ Vehicle Model(VMO) _____

Vehicle Style(VST) _____ Vehicle Color(VCO)_____

OTHER

BLOOD TYPE(BLT)

[ ]APOS [ ]ANEG [ ]AUNK
[ ]ABPOS [ ]ABNEG [ ]ABUNK
[ ]BPOS [ ]BNEG [ ]BUNK
[ ]OPOS [ ]ONEG [ ]OUNK

CIRCUMCISION(CRC)

[ ](C) Circumcised
[ ](N) Not Circumcised
[ ](U) Unknown

FOOTPRINTS AVAILABLE(FPA)

[ ](Y) Yes [ ](N) No

BODY X-RAYS AVAILABLE(BXR)

[ ](F) Full body x-rays
[ ](P) Partial body x-rays
[ ](N) No body x-rays

VISION

Vision Care Specialist: Name_____

Address:_____

Glasses: [ ] Yes [ ] No Vision Prescription (VRX) Right Eye:_____

Contact Lens: [ ] Yes [ ] No Left Eye:_____

JEWELRY

Jewelry Type (JWT):

[ ](AB) Ankle Bracelet [ ](BB) Belt Buckle [ ](BP) Broach/Pin [ ](CL) Cigarette Lighter
[ ](CO) Comb [ ](CU) Cuff Links [ ](ER) Earring [ ](KC) Key Chain
[ ](MC) Money Clip [ ](NE) Necklace [ ](PK) Pocket Knife [ ](PC) Pocket Watch Chain
[ ](RI) Ring [ ](TC) Tie Clasp [ ](WP) Wallet/Purse [ ](WA) Watch
[ ](WB) Wrist Bracelet

Jewelry Description and Location(JWL):_____

CERTIFICATION

Complete this section for ALL missing person cases.

Codes	Meaning
"D"	Represents Disability - A person of any age who is missing and under proven physical/mental disability or is senile, thereby subjecting himself or others to personal and immediate danger.
"E"	Represents Endangered - A person of any age who is missing and in the company of another person under circumstances indicating that his physical safety is in danger.
"I"	Represents Involuntary - A person of any age who is missing under circumstances indicating that the disappearance was not voluntary.
"J"	Represents Juvenile - A person who is missing and is less than sixteen (16) years of age and does not meet any of the above criteria.
"V"	Represents Disaster Victim - A person of any age who is reported missing after a disaster, either natural or manmade.
"O"	Represents Other - A person of any age who is missing under circumstances NOT described by message key codes "D", "E", "I" "J" OR "V". This is the person who is missing for unknown reasons. Records sent with an MKE of "O" are entered into DCJS only.

BEFORE A MISSING PERSON ENTRY CAN BE MADE VIA NYSPIN, CERTIFICATION VERIFYING THE MISSING PERSON'S NAME, DATE OF BIRTH AND CONDITION UNDER WHICH THE PERSON IS REPORTED MISSING AS DESCRIBED ABOVE MUST BE OBTAINED FROM A PARENT, GUARDIAN OR OTHER AUTHORITATIVE SOURCE.

I CERTIFY THAT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THE INFORMATION I HAVE PROVIDED TO THE INVESTIGATING POLICE AGENCY AND TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT, IS CORRECT AND THE PERSON I HAVE REPORTED AS MISSING IS MISSING CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED BY THE CODE [ ].

Signature Date Relationship to Missing Person

Signature & Rank	Shield	Station	Approved	Signature & Rank	Shield	Station	Approved

APPENDIX C

TABLE C-1
MONTHLY REPORTING VOLUME TO THE NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
1985

NEW YORK STATE

MONTH	CASES REPORTED	CASES CANCELLED	END-OF-MONTH CASES ACTIVE
DECEMBER 1984	1,183	903	1,183
JANUARY 1985	1,310	1,170	1,323
FEBRUARY	1,338	1,202	1,459
MARCH	1,538	1,522	1,475
APRIL	1,721	1,701	1,495
MAY	1,843	1,592	1,746
JUNE	1,625	1,414	1,957
JULY	1,351	1,446	1,862
AUGUST	1,291	1,175	1,978
SEPTEMBER	1,387	1,483	1,882
OCTOBER	1,548	1,968	1,462
NOVEMBER	1,322	1,583	1,201
DECEMBER	958	961	1,198

TABLE C-2
MONTHLY REPORTING VOLUME TO THE NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
1985

NEW YORK CITY

MONTH	CASES REPORTED	CASES CANCELLED	END-OF-MONTH CASES ACTIVE
DECEMBER 1984	425	163	416
JANUARY 1985	445	307	554
FEBRUARY	423	331	646
MARCH	508	294	860
APRIL	536	468	928
MAY	614	375	1,167
JUNE	488	325	1,330
JULY	364	392	1,302
AUGUST	304	214	1,392
SEPTEMBER	297	465	1,224
OCTOBER	434	721	937
NOVEMBER	447	647	737
DECEMBER	334	305	766

TABLE C-3
MONTHLY REPORTING VOLUME TO THE
NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
1985

SUBURBAN NEW YORK CITY

MONTH	CASES REPORTED	CASES CANCELLED	END-OF-MONTH CASES ACTIVE
DECEMBER 1984	340	332	311
JANUARY 1985	365	377	299
FEBRUARY	358	349	308
MARCH	435	517	226
APRIL	468	477	217
MAY	468	482	203
JUNE	442	409	236
JULY	400	436	200
AUGUST	427	402	225
SEPTEMBER	446	420	251
OCTOBER	429	469	211
NOVEMBER	365	376	200
DECEMBER	297	310	187

TABLE C-4
MONTHLY REPORTING VOLUME TO THE
NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
1985

BALANCE OF STATE

MONTH	CASES REPORTED	CASES CANCELLED	END-OF-MONTH CASES ACTIVE
DECEMBER 1984	418	408	456
JANUARY 1985	500	486	470
FEBRUARY	557	522	505
MARCH	595	711	389
APRIL	717	756	350
MAY	761	735	376
JUNE	695	680	391
JULY	587	618	360
AUGUST	560	559	361
SEPTEMBER	644	598	407
OCTOBER	685	778	314
NOVEMBER	510	560	264
DECEMBER	327	346	245

APPENDIX D

TABLE D-1
CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES REPORTED TO THE NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER 1985

NEW YORK STATE

		MALE		FEMALE	
AGE OF CHILD	TOTAL	WHITE	NONWHITE	WHITE	NONWHITE
<1-5 years old	173	62	31	47	35
6-12 years old	2,411	861	625	504	421
13-15 years old	14,648	4,445	1,671	6,010	2,522
	17,232				

TABLE D-2
CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES REPORTED TO THE NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER 1985

NEW YORK CITY

		MALE		FEMALE	
AGE OF CHILD	TOTAL	WHITE	NONWHITE	WHITE	NONWHITE
<1-5 years old	41	4	9	12	16
6-12 years old	941	203	292	191	255
13-15 years old	4,212	706	722	1,436	1,348
	5,194				

TABLE D-3
CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES REPORTED TO THE
NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
1985

SUBURBAN NEW YORK CITY

		MALE		FEMALE	
AGE OF CHILD	TOTAL	WHITE	NONWHITE	WHITE	NONWHITE
<1-5 years old	63	25	15	12	11
6-12 years old	655	263	181	122	89
13-15 years old	4,182	1,268	503	1,711	700
	4,900				

TABLE D-4
CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES REPORTED TO THE
NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
1985

BALANCE OF STATE

		MALE		FEMALE	
AGE OF CHILD	TOTAL	WHITE	NONWHITE	WHITE	NONWHITE
<1-5 years old	69	33	7	23	6
6-12 years old	815	395	152	191	77
13-15 years old	6,254	2,471	446	2,863	474
	7,138				

APPENDIX E

TABLE E-1
CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES ACTIVE ON THE NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
December 31, 1985

NEW YORK STATE

PRESENT AGE OF CHILD	TOTAL	MALE		FEMALE	
		WHITE	NON-WHITE	WHITE	NON-WHITE
<1-5 years old	26	6	5	5	10
6-12 years old	130	40	26	39	25
13-15 years old	870	182	136	318	234
>15 years old[1]	172	31	25	72	44
	1,198				

TABLE E-2
CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES ACTIVE ON THE NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
December 31,1985

NEW YORK CITY

PRESENT AGE OF CHILD	TOTAL	MALE		FEMALE	
		WHITE	NON-WHITE	WHITE	NON-WHITE
<1-5 years old	71	1	3	3	10
6-12 years old	85	19	19	27	20
13-15 years old	580	98	104	202	176
>15 years old[1]	84	14	15	27	28
	766				

[1]Represents persons who were entered as Missing Children (<16 years old) but who are now >15 years old.

TABLE E-3
CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES ACTIVE ON THE
NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
December 31, 1985

SUBURBAN NEW YORK CITY

PRESENT AGE OF CHILD	TOTAL	MALE		FEMALE	
		WHITE	NON-WHITE	WHITE	NON-WHITE
<1-5 years old	4	3	-	1	-
6-12 years old	26	11	5	7	3
13-15 years old	124	35	17	38	34
>15 years old[1]	33	8	2	16	7
	187				

Table E-4
CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES ACTIVE ON THE
NEW YORK STATE MISSING CHILDREN REGISTER
December 31,1985

BALANCE OF STATE

PRESENT AGE OF CHILD	TOTAL	MALE		FEMALE	
		WHITE	NON-WHITE	WHITE	NON-WHITE
<1-5 years old	5	2	2	1	-
6-12 years old	18	10	2	4	2
13-15 years old	165	48	15	78	24
>15 years old[1]	55	9	8	29	9
	243				

[1]Represents persons who were entered as Missing Children (<16 years old) but who are now >15 years old.