

Family Abductions

2021 Update

CHILDREN

This data analysis examines Family Abductions reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children between 1/1/2016 and 12/31/2020.

All Children

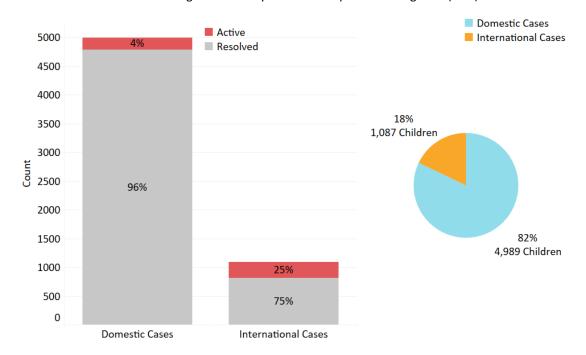




- 43% of all children were recovered by police investigation
- o 24% were turned in by a family member or friend
- Nearly all children were recovered alive (99.7%)
- 57% of deceased children were homicide victims
- Deceased children had an average missing duration of 3 months

Domestic Versus International

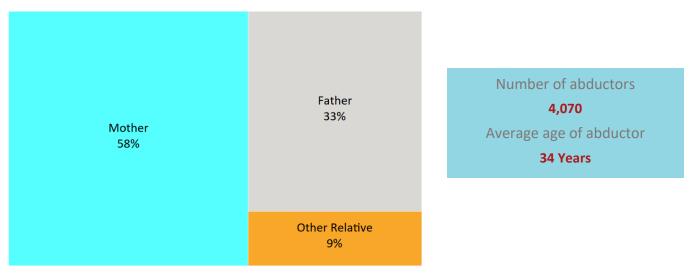
- o Between 2016 and 2020 International cases had an average missing duration of one year
- o For international cases the highest recovery method was police investigation (28%)



Average missing duration for international unresolved cases: **42 months**Missing duration for unresolved domestic cases: **81 days**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Domestic Cases	3 months	3 months	2 months	3 months	1 month
International Cases	15 months	14 months	12 months	9 months	4 months

ABDUCTORS



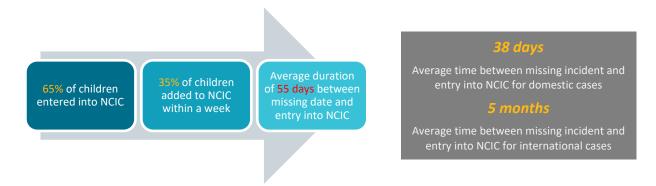
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RESPONSE TO FAMILY ABDUCTIONS

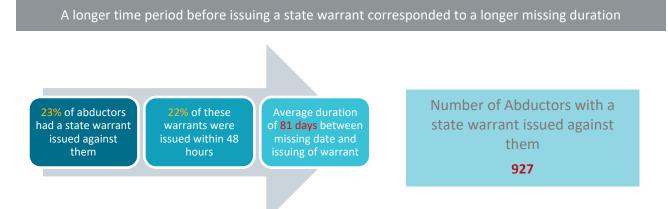
National Crime Information Center (NCIC)

A longer time period before entering the child into NCIC corresponded to a longer missing duration



Federal law (34 U.S.. code § 41308) ensures no waiting period before law enforcement can accept a missing child report and requires law enforcement to enter a missing child into NCIC within two hours of receiving the report. Law enforcement may be unable to enter a child into NCIC for a variety of reasons. These specifics are not available to NCMEC on a case-by-case basis.

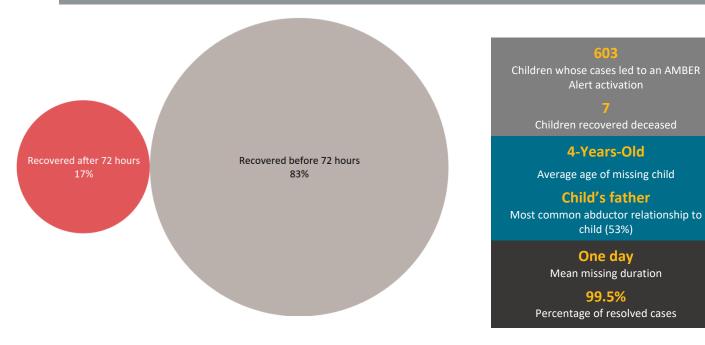
State Arrest Warrants



- Just under 2 months (58 days) was the average time between abduction and issuing of a state warrant in resolved cases
- o 10 months was the average time between abduction and issuing of a warrant in an active case

AMBER Alerts

A longer time period before activating an AMBER Alert corresponded to a longer missing duration



- o There were 495 abductors involved in these cases
- o Three of these children were killed in an apparent murder-suicide