

## MISSING CHILDREN:

- From 1984 through March 2012 NCMEC has assisted law enforcement with more than 187,800 missing-child cases resulting in the recovery of more than 175,200 children.
- In that same time frame NCMEC's toll-free national Hotline 1-800-THE-LOST® (1-800-843-5678) has received more than 3.5 million telephone calls.

## The U.S. Department of Justice reports

- 797,500 children younger than 18 were reported missing in a one-year period of time studied resulting in an average of 2,185 children being reported missing each day.
- 203,900 children were the victims of family abductions.
- 58,200 children were the victims of nonfamily abductions.
- 115 children were the victims of "stereotypical" kidnapping. These crimes involve someone the child does not know or a slight acquaintance who holds the child overnight, transports the child 50 miles or more, kills the child, demands ransom, or intends to keep the child permanently.

Per Andrea J. Sedlak, David Finkelhor, Heather Hammer, and Dana J. Schultz. U.S. Department of Justice. "National Estimates of Missing Children: An Overview" in *National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children*. Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, October 2002, page 5. The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention funds ongoing research about missing children through the *National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children (NISMAART)*. These researchers published their latest data in 2002, *NISMAART-2*. The researchers will be collecting new data over the next year to use in an update to this study, *NISMAART-3*. To discuss the previous research, please contact Andrea Sedlak at 301-251-4211, [SEDLAKA1@WESTAT.com](mailto:SEDLAKA1@WESTAT.com).

## AMBER Alerts

- Since 1997 through March 2012 the AMBER Alert program has been credited with the safe recovery of 572 children.
- Every state has an AMBER Plan.

## EXPLOITED CHILDREN

### According to key online victimization research an estimated

- Four percent (4%) of 10 to 17 year olds online received an aggressive sexual solicitation – a solicitor who asked to meet them somewhere; called them on the telephone; or sent them offline mail, money, or gifts.
- Thirty-four percent (34%) had an unwanted exposure to sexual material – pictures of naked people or people having sex.
- Twenty-seven percent (27%) of the youth who encountered unwanted sexual material told a parent or guardian. If the encounter was defined as distressing – episodes that made them feel very or extremely upset or afraid – forty-two percent (42%) told a parent or guardian.

Per Janis Wolak, Kimberly J. Mitchell, and David Finkelhor. *Online Victimization of Youth: Five Years Later*. Alexandria, Virginia: National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, 2006, respectively pages 8 and 33.

- A study about child sexual victimization indicated that as many as 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 10 boys could be sexually victimized before adulthood.  
Per D. Finkelhor. "Current Information on the Scope and Nature of Child Sexual Abuse." *The Future of Children: Sexual Abuse of Children*, 1994, volume 4, page 37.

### **CyberTipline®**

- Since its establishment in March 1998 through March 2012, the CyberTipline has received more than 1.3 million reports involving the possession, manufacture, and distribution of child pornography; the online enticement of children for sex acts; child prostitution; child sex-tourism; child molestation not in the family; unsolicited obscene material sent to a child; and misleading domain names, words, or digital images.