

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children[®]

2011 AMBER ALERT REPORT

Analysis of AMBER Alert Cases in 2011



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INTRODUCTION

On the afternoon of January 13, 1996, Amber Hagerman, a 9-year-old girl who lived in Arlington, Texas, was last seen riding her bike in a parking lot. A witness saw a man with a black, flat-bed truck snatch Amber from her bicycle. Four days later, Amber's body was found in a creek 3.2 miles from her home. Her murder remains unsolved. Dallas-Fort Worth area residents were outraged and began calling radio stations not only to vent their anger and frustration but also to offer suggestions to prevent such crimes in the future. One person, Diana Simone, suggested a program be implemented that would allow use of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) to notify the public when a child has been abducted. If the community was aware then residents could also assist in the search. Ms. Simone followed up with a letter, and her only request was the program be dedicated to the memory of Amber Hagerman. That letter was used by broadcasters who met with local law enforcement and created Amber's Plan, in Amber Hagerman's memory.

This program was eventually taken to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC), with a request for a national initiative. It then became known as America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER) Plan, which allows broadcasters and transportation authorities to immediately distribute information about recent child abductions to the public and enables the entire community to assist in the search for and safe recovery of the child. What began as a local effort in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, area has grown into a seamless system of such programs in every state across the country. Each year these Alerts help safely rescue abducted children. Since the inception of the program in 1996 through December 31, 2011, 572 children have been safely rescued specifically due to AMBER Alerts being issued.

This program is a voluntary partnership among law-enforcement agencies, broadcasters, and transportation agencies to activate an urgent bulletin in the most serious child-abduction cases. Broadcasters use EAS to air a description of the abducted child and suspected abductor. This is the same concept used during severe weather emergencies. The goal of an AMBER Alert is to instantly galvanize the entire community to assist in the search for and safe recovery of the child. In May 2005 NCMEC began to develop a network of Internet content providers, trucking-industry associations, social-networking websites, digital billboards, and wireless-industry representatives to further enhance the alerting capabilities of each state/territory's AMBER Alert program. The AMBER Alert program has now evolved into a program where all available technology is used to alert the public.

On April 30, 2003, President George W. Bush signed the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today (PROTECT) Act of 2003 (Pub. L. No. 108-21) into law. Building on the steps already taken by the Bush Administration to support AMBER Alerts, this Act codified the national coordination of state and local programs, including the development of guidance for issuance and dissemination of AMBER Alerts and the appointment of a national AMBER Alert Coordinator within the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

The National AMBER Alert Coordinator, in collaboration with a national advisory group, developed a strategy for supporting states/territories and communities to strengthen the AMBER Alert System nationwide and increase the likelihood that abducted children will be recovered swiftly and safely.¹

¹*National Strategy*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, www.amberalert.gov/ntl_strategy.htm, accessed March 9, 2012.

AMBER ALERT DEFINITIONS

This report presents information about AMBER Alerts issued throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands from January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2011, and intaked by NCMEC. Although an AMBER Alert case may be activated in multiple areas, this report only accounts for Alerts in the state/territory of first activation. This report analyzes cases according to the case type for which the AMBER Alert was issued, not the case type at the time of recovery.

When a law-enforcement agency is notified about an abducted child, they must first determine if that child's case meets their program's AMBER Alert criteria. The U.S. Department of Justice's recommended guidelines are

- There is reasonable belief by law enforcement an abduction has occurred
- The abduction is of a child age 17 or younger
- The law-enforcement agency believes the child is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death
- There is enough descriptive information about the victim and abduction for law enforcement to issue an AMBER Alert to assist in the recovery of the child
- The child's name and other critical data elements, including the Child Abduction flag, have been entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database

An AMBER Alert may involve 1 or more children and is issued on either a state/territorial, regional, or local level. Once an AMBER Alert is activated, the Alert may be issued in another state/territory at the request of the originating state's AMBER Alert Coordinator, thus creating a **multistate/territorial activation**. A state-/territorial-wide Alert is issued in the entire state or territory, a regional Alert is issued in multiple counties, and a local Alert is issued in 1 county or a smaller geographic area. Although an AMBER Alert can be issued in multiple states or territories, it is never issued on a nationwide basis. AMBER Alerts are geographically targeted based on law enforcement's investigation.

At the outset of an AMBER Alert case, law enforcement categorizes the case as 1 of the 4 types listed below.

- **FA (Family Abduction)** – A family abduction is defined as the taking, retention, or concealment of a child or children, younger than 18 years of age, by a parent, other family member, or his or her agent, in derogation of the custody rights, including visitation rights, of another parent or family member.
- **NFA (Nonfamily Abduction)** – A nonfamily abduction is defined as the coerced and unauthorized taking of a child younger than the age of 18 or the luring of a child for the purpose of committing another crime by someone not related to the child by blood or marriage.
- **LIM (Lost, Injured, or Otherwise Missing)** – Lost, Injured, or Otherwise Missing is defined as any missing child younger than the age of 18 where there are insufficient facts to determine the cause of the child's disappearance or any child 10 years of age or younger who is missing on his or her own accord. These children are also referred to as "Endangered Missing."
- **ERU (Endangered Runaway)** – Any missing individual between 11 and 17 years of age, who is missing on his or her own accord, without permission from his or her parent or legal guardian.

Law enforcement may determine an AMBER Alert should be re-categorized based on new information developed during the case investigation. For example when the AMBER Alert is issued law enforcement

may believe the child is an NFA victim, but at the conclusion of the case may determine the child was in fact an ERU.

Law enforcement occasionally encounters cases in which an AMBER Alert should not have been issued later determining those cases were either **unfounded** or a **hoax**.

- A **hoax** is a case where an individual falsely reports a child missing or when a child reports him- or herself missing with the intent of misleading law enforcement.
- An **unfounded** case occurs when a child is reported missing based on available information at the time, but the investigation determines a child was never missing.

Cases are categorized as **resolved** when any of the criteria listed below are met.

- The child returns home to his or her parent or legal guardian, the child will remain in the custody of law enforcement, or the child is in contact with his or her parent or legal guardian but will not be returning home and the parents or legal guardian and law enforcement are satisfied with the situation. A child's case can only be labeled recovered/deceased if a body has been found and positively identified.
- If law enforcement closes the case and the child has not been recovered or if the parents/guardians state in writing they no longer want NCMEC to assist with their child's case.

A child's recovery is considered a **success story** when his or her safe recovery occurred as a direct result of the AMBER Alert being issued. For example an individual may recognize the vehicle involved in the Alert and report the sighting to law enforcement leading to the safe rescue of the child.

SUMMARY OF AMBER ALERTS

From January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011, 158 AMBER Alerts were issued in the United States involving 197 children.

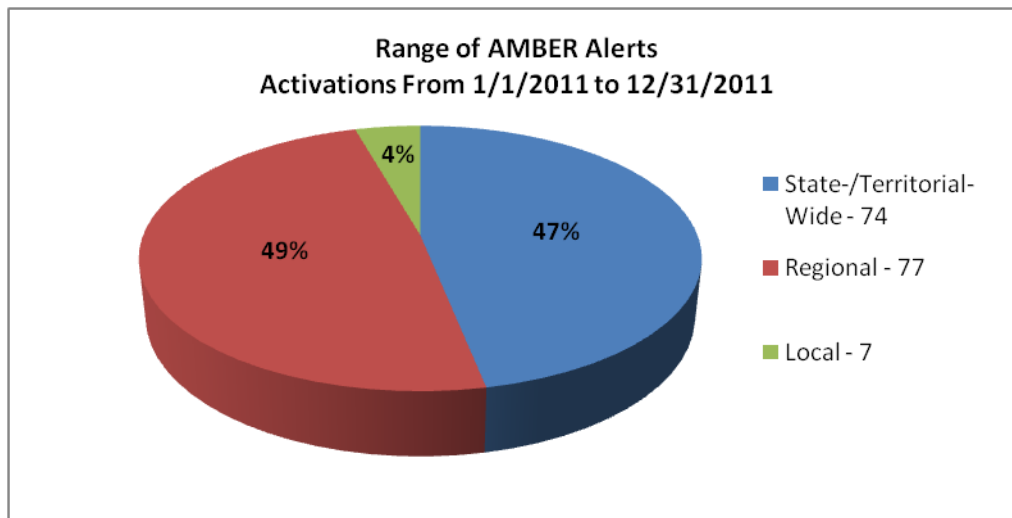
At the time the AMBER Alert cases were intaked there were 80 FAs, 56 NFAs, 20 LIMs, and 2 ERUs. Thirteen (13) cases were later determined to be hoaxes, and 6 cases were later determined to be unfounded.

Of the 158 AMBER Alerts issued from January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011, 144 cases resulted in a recovery, 28 of which were successfully recovered as a direct result of those respective AMBER Alerts being issued. As of February 21, 2012, when statistics for this report were finalized, 5 AMBER Alerts issued in 2011 remained active and 5 children were recovered deceased.

AMBER ALERTS BY RANGE

In 2011, 47% (n=74) of AMBER Alerts were issued state-/territorial-wide, 49% (n=77) of AMBER Alerts were issued regionally, and 4% (n=7) of AMBER Alerts were issued locally.

Figure 1: Range of AMBER Alerts



AMBER ALERTS BY STATE/TERRITORY

From January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011, 158 AMBER Alerts were issued in 35 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. California issued the most AMBER Alerts with 10% (n=16), followed by Michigan with 9% (n=15) and Texas with 9% (n=14).

Table 1: Number and Percent of AMBER Alert Cases by State/Territory

State/Territory	Number of Alerts	Percent
California	16	10%
Michigan	15	9%
Texas	14	9%
Ohio	11	7%
North Carolina	10	6%
Florida and Georgia	7 each	4% each
Pennsylvania and Tennessee	6 each	4% each
New Jersey and New York	5 each	3% each
Kentucky and Missouri	4 each	3% each
Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Maryland, Minnesota, South Carolina, and Washington	3 each	2% each
Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Nevada, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin	2 each	1% each
Alaska, Arizona, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, New Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Utah	1 each	1% each
Hawaii, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, and Wyoming	0 each	0% each
Total	158	~100%

MULTISTATE/TERRITORIAL AMBER ALERTS

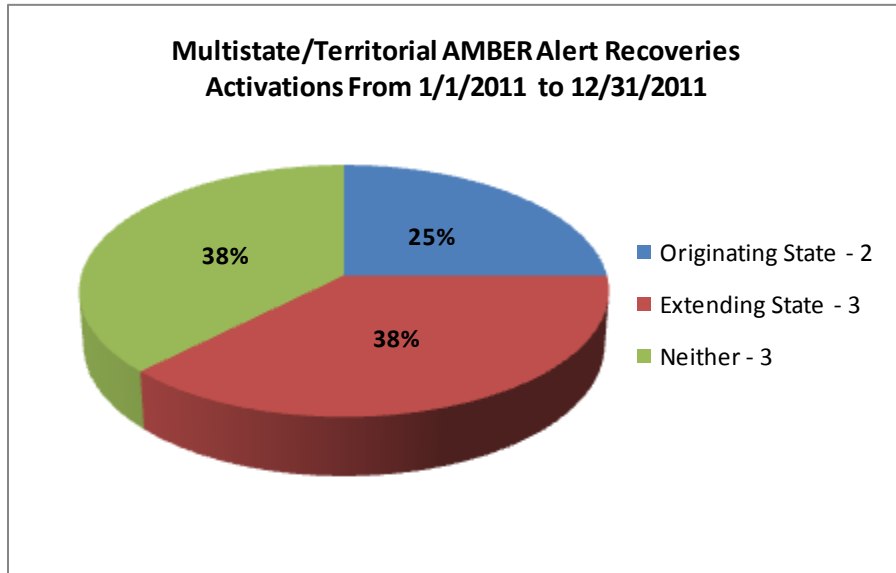
When an AMBER Alert is issued an abductor may take the child outside the jurisdiction of the issuing law-enforcement authority. In some cases the AMBER Alert Coordinator in the state/territory where the AMBER Alert originated may request an AMBER Alert be extended into another state/territory. In 2011, 8 AMBER Alerts were extended beyond the limits of the state where the AMBER Alert first originated.

Table 2: List of Multistate/Territorial AMBER Alerts

Originating	Extending
Connecticut	New York
Florida	Tennessee
Iowa	South Dakota
New Jersey	New York
New York	Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire
Ohio	Kentucky
Virginia	Tennessee
Washington	Oregon

In 2 cases the child was recovered in the state where the Alert originated, in 3 cases the child was recovered in the extending state, and in 3 cases the child was recovered neither in the originating state nor the extending state.

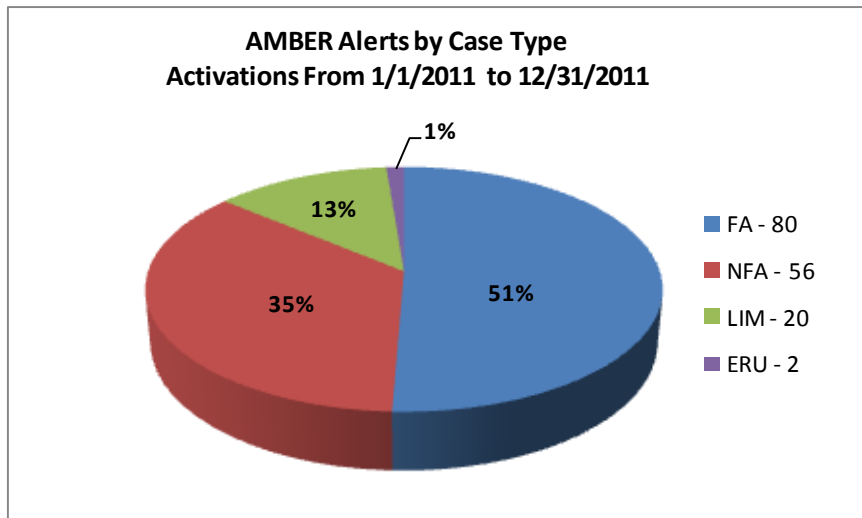
Figure 2: Multistate/Territorial AMBER Alert Recoveries



AMBER ALERTS BY CASE TYPE AT INTAKE

In 2011, 51% (n=80) of AMBER Alert cases were intaked as FAs, 35% (n=56) were NFAs, 13% (n=20) were LIMs, and 1% (n=2) were ERUs.

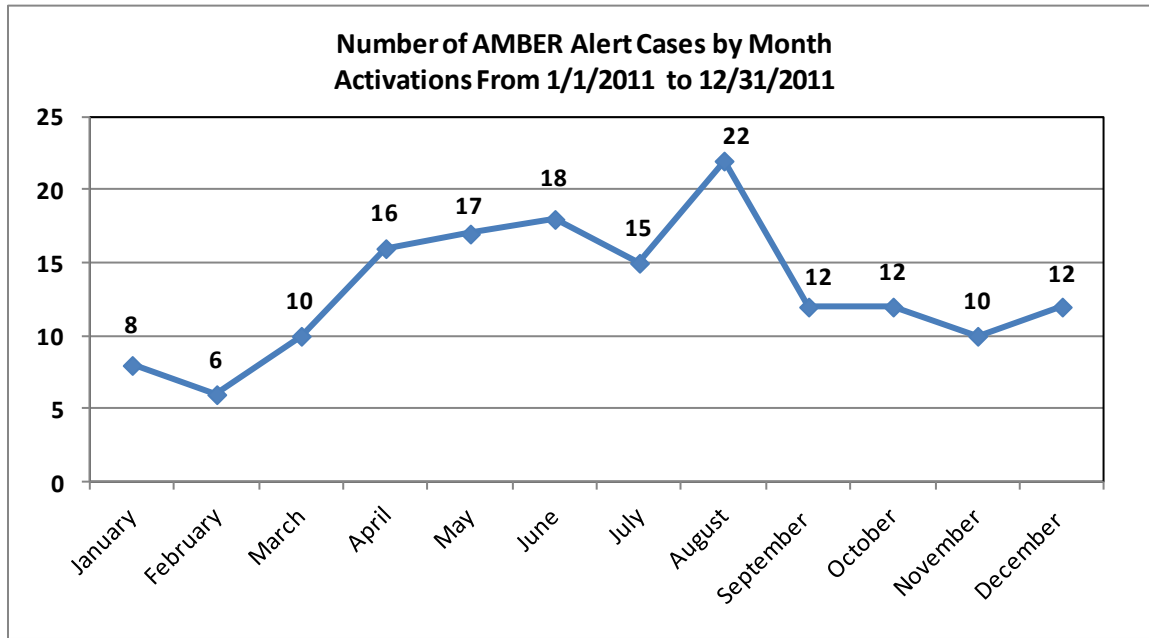
Figure 3: AMBER Alerts by Case Type



NUMBER OF CASES BY MONTH

In 2011 the number of AMBER Alerts issued per month ranged from a low of 6 Alerts in February to a high of 22 Alerts in August.

Figure 4: Number of AMBER Alert Cases by Month



NUMBER OF CASE TYPES AT INTAKE BY MONTH

In 2011 AMBER Alerts were issued most frequently for FAs (n=11) in July. The highest number of NFAs (n=13) occurred in the month of August. AMBER Alerts for LIMs (n=3) were most frequently issued in May, June, August, and October.

Table 3: Number of Case Types by Month

	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU	Total	Total (%)
January	3	5	0	0	8	5%
February	5	1	0	0	6	4%
March	4	4	2	0	10	6%
April	10	5	1	0	16	10%
May	8	5	3	1	17	11%
June	9	6	3	0	18	11%
July	11	2	2	0	15	9%
August	5	13	3	1	22	14%
September	7	5	0	0	12	8%
October	6	3	3	0	12	8%
November	6	3	1	0	10	6%

	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU	Total	Total (%)
December	6	4	2	0	12	8%
Total	80	56	20	2	158	100%

NUMBER OF CHILDREN BY CASE TYPE AT INTAKE BY MONTH

In 2011, 197 children were involved in 158 AMBER Alert cases. Fifty percent (50%, n=99) of children were intaked as FAs, followed by 37% (n=73) of children intaked as NFAs. Twelve percent (12%, n=23) were intaked as LIMs and 1% (n=2) were intaked as ERUs.

Children intaked as FAs were most frequently involved in AMBER Alerts during the months of April and July (n=13). The highest number of children intaked as NFAs (n=15) occurred in the month of August, and AMBER Alerts for LIMs (n=5) were most frequently issued in May.

Table 4: Number of Children by Case Type by Month

	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU	Total	Total (%)
January	3	5	0	0	8	4%
February	10	1	0	0	11	6%
March	5	5	3	0	13	7%
April	13	6	1	0	20	10%
May	9	7	5	1	22	11%
June	9	10	3	0	22	11%
July	13	2	2	0	17	9%
August	5	15	3	1	24	12%
September	10	8	0	0	18	9%
October	6	4	3	0	13	7%
November	7	5	1	0	13	7%
December	9	5	2	0	16	8%
Total	99	73	23	2	197	~100%

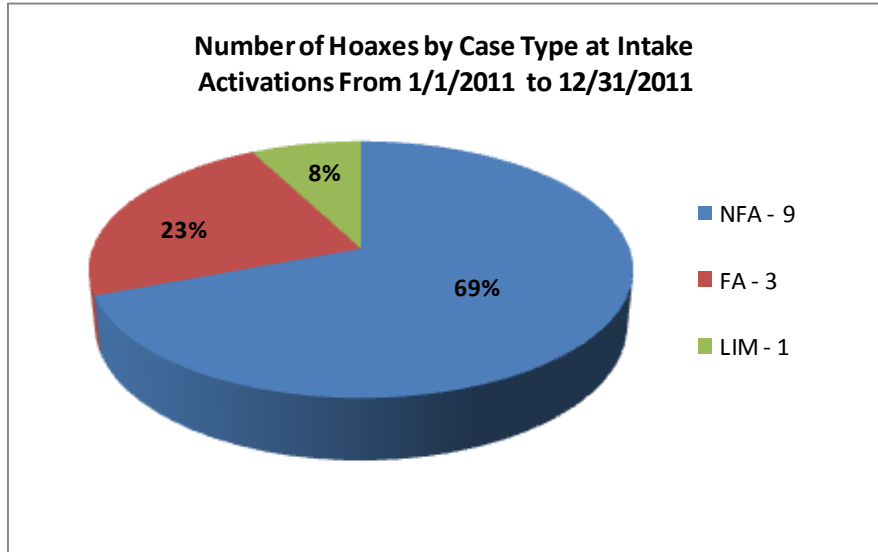
CASES DETERMINED TO BE HOAXES

A case is determined to be a hoax when either an individual falsely reports a child missing or when a child reports him- or herself missing with the intent of misleading law enforcement.

In 2011, 8% (n=13) of AMBER Alerts involving 16 children issued were later determined to be hoaxes. Sixty-nine percent (69%, n=9) of hoaxes were first thought to be NFAs, followed by FAs at 23% (n=3) and LIMs at 8% (n=1).

Fifty-four percent (54%, n=7) of hoaxes were reported by the child's parent, 31% (n=4) were reported by the child involved, and 8% (n=1) were reported by the child's friend. For 8% (n=1) it is unknown who reported the child missing.

Figure 5: Number of Hoaxes by Case Type at Intake



Of the 13 cases determined to be hoaxes, 9 cases had known locations where the children involved were reported missing. Of those cases, 56% (n=5) were reported missing from home, 22% (n=2) were reported missing from “the street,” 11% (n=1) were reported missing from the parking lot of a business, and 11% (n=1) were reported missing from a vehicle.

CHILDREN INVOLVED IN HOAXES

In 2011, 13 AMBER Alerts involving 16 children were later determined to be hoaxes. Seventy-five percent (75%, n=12) of children involved in hoaxes were girls, whereas boys represented 25% (n=4) of children involved in hoaxes. Three (3) of the boys involved in these hoaxes in 2011 were 3 or younger. Of the 12 girls involved in hoaxes, half (50%) ranged from younger than 1 through 6 years of age and the other half (50%) were 15 to 17 years old.

Table 5: Age and Sex of Children Involved in Hoaxes

Age	Girls	Boys
<1	2	0
1	0	0
2	1	1
3	0	2
4	0	0
5	1	0
6	2	0
7	0	0
8	0	0
9	0	0
10	0	0

Age	Girls	Boys
11	0	0
12	0	0
13	0	0
14	0	0
15	2	0
16	1	0
17	3	1
Total	12	4

Table 6: Age and Case Type at Intake of Children Involved in Hoaxes

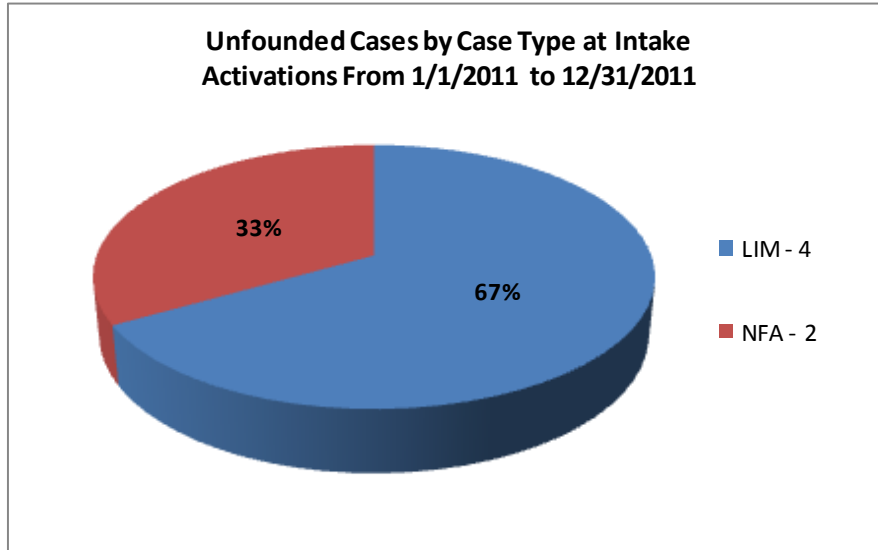
Age	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU
<1	0	2	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
2	1	1	0	0
3	0	2	0	0
4	0	0	0	0
5	1	0	0	0
6	1	1	0	0
7	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0
15	0	2	0	0
16	0	1	0	0
17	1	2	1	0
Total	4	11	1	0

No children whose cases were determined to be hoaxes were recovered deceased.

CASES DETERMINED TO BE UNFOUNDED

A case is determined to be unfounded when a child is reported missing based on available information at the time, but the investigation determines a child was never missing. Six (6) AMBER Alerts involving 6 children were determined to be unfounded, representing 4% of the total number of AMBER Alerts issued in 2011. These unfounded cases were originally intaked as LIMs at 67% (n=4) and NFAs at 33% (n=2).

Figure 6: Unfounded Cases by Case Type at Intake



CHILDREN INVOLVED IN UNFOUNDED CASES

In 2011, 6 AMBER Alerts involving 6 children were later determined to be unfounded. Boys represented 67% (n=4) whereas girls represented 33% (n=2) of all children involved in unfounded cases. Unfounded cases were distributed for ages 3 and 4 for girls and ages 5 and 15 for boys with known ages.

Table 7: Age and Sex of Children Involved in Unfounded Cases

Age	Girls	Boys
<1	0	0
1	0	0
2	0	0
3	1	0
4	1	0
5	0	1
6	0	0
7	0	0
8	0	0
9	0	0
10	0	0
11	0	0
12	0	0
13	0	0
14	0	0
15	0	2

Age	Girls	Boys
16	0	0
17	0	0
Unknown	0	1
Total	2	4

Table 8: Age and Case Type at Intake of Children Involved in Unfounded Cases

Age	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU
<1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	1	0
4	0	0	1	0
5	0	1	0	0
6	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0
15	0	1	1	0
16	0	0	0	0
17	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	1	0
Total	0	2	4	0

SECONDARY DISTRIBUTION OF AMBER ALERTS

The AMBER Alert Secondary Distribution (AASD) system is comprised of wireless carriers, Internet service providers, digital signage, social-networking websites, content providers, and major retailers who distribute these AMBER Alerts to a geographically targeted audience in support of the AMBER Alert Coordinator. These Alerts assist in notifying the public about recently reported child abductions with information to help in the search for the abducted child, suspected abductor, and/or suspected vehicle.

In 2011, 84% (n=133) of AMBER Alert cases were secondarily distributed whereas 16% (n=25) cases were not secondarily distributed because the AMBER Alert was cancelled before secondary distribution was possible.

AMBER Alert Secondary Distribution was issued for 70 FAs, 44 NFAs, 17 LIMs, and 2 ERUs. Seven (7) NFAs, 3 FAs, and 1 LIM were later determined to be hoaxes. Four (4) LIMs and 2 NFAs were subsequently identified as unfounded.

NUMBER AND CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN REPORTED MISSING

Children involved in AMBER Alert activations were predominantly boys at 51% (n=101), compared to girls who represented 49% (n=96).

Forty-eight percent (48%, n=95) of children involved in AMBER Alerts were White, 33% (n=65) were Black, 14% (n=27) were Hispanic, 3% (n=5) were Biracial, and 2% (n=3) were Asian. American Indian children represented less than 1% (n=1) as did the unknown race of 1 child. AMBER Alerts were issued at a rate of 48% for White children whereas Minority children represented 52%.

Figure 7: AMBER Alerts by Race of Children

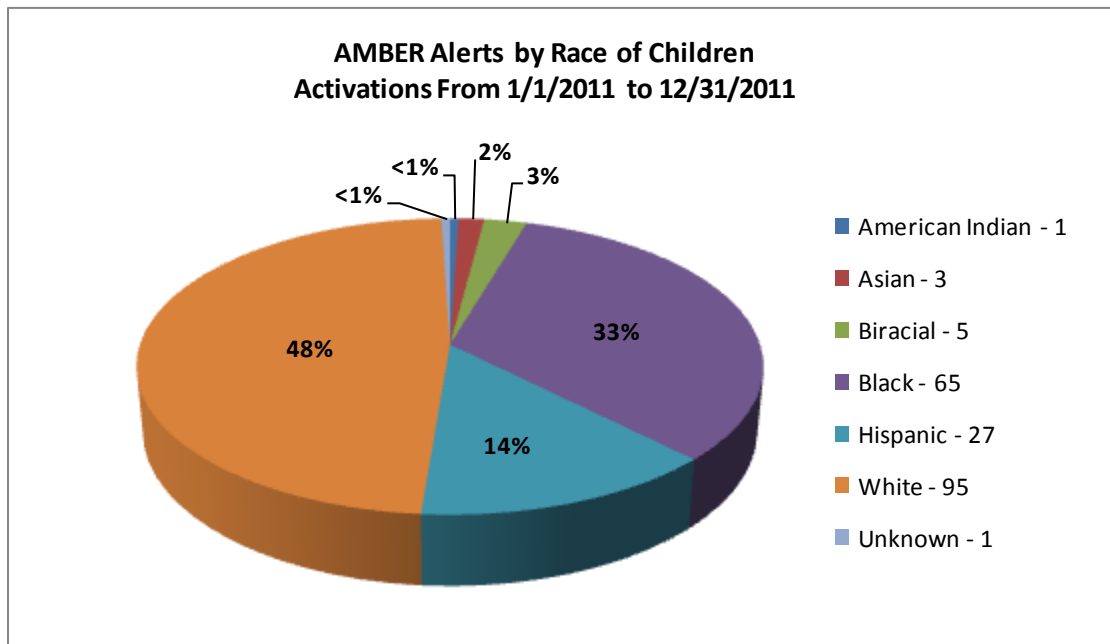
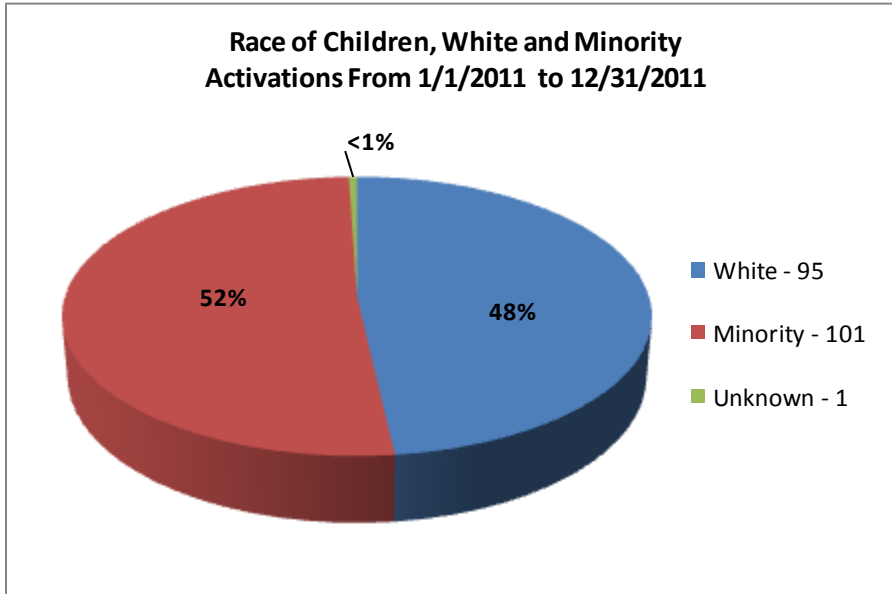
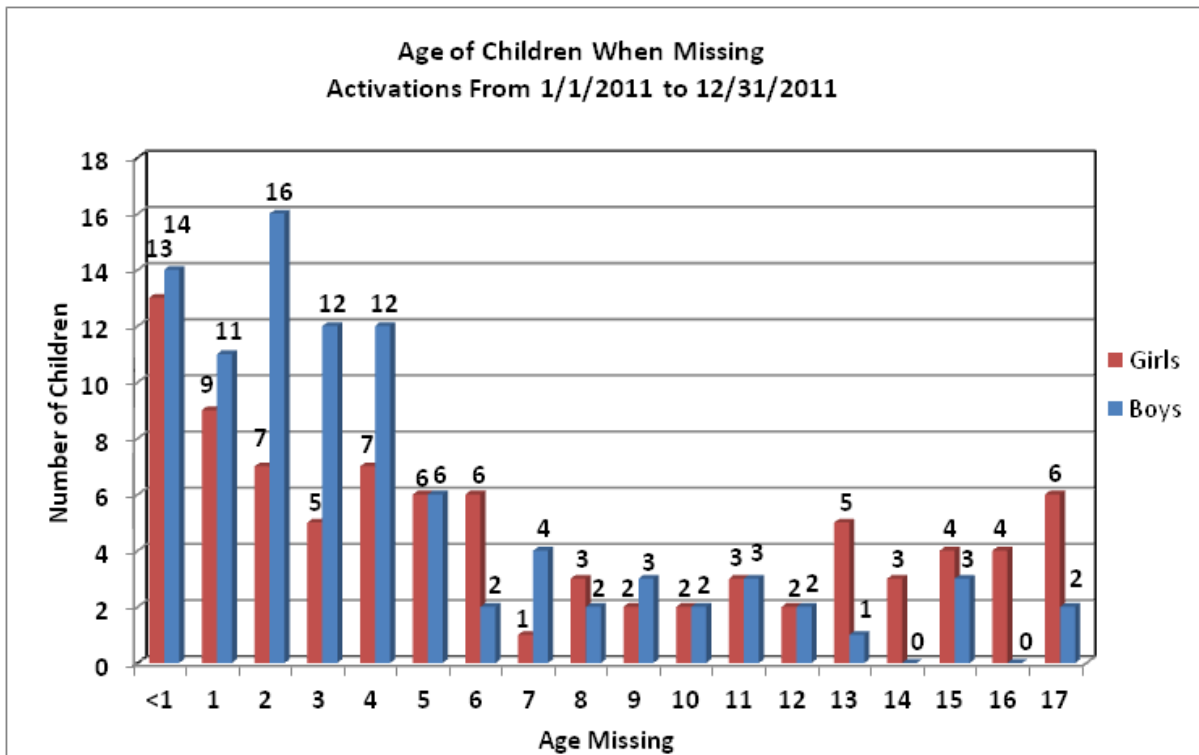


Figure 8: Race of Children, White and Minority



Boys and girls who were 4 years old and younger represented 58% (n=106) of the children who were reported missing with known ages. Of all children reported missing, girls (n=13) younger than 1 year of age and boys (n=16) 2 years old were most frequently involved in AMBER Alerts. The age of 14 children was unknown.

Figure 9: Age of Children When Missing



NUMBER AND CHARACTERISTICS OF ABDUCTORS

One-hundred-fifty-six (156) abductors were identified as being involved in 135 AMBER Alert cases in 2011.

The majority of abductors were male at 75% (n=117), and 22% (n=35) of abductors were female. The sex of 3% (n=4) of abductors is unknown.

Thirty-three percent (33%, n=52) of abductors were White, 30% (n=47) of abductors were Black, 15% (n=23) of abductors were Hispanic, 1% (n=2) of abductors were Asian, 1% (n=1) of abductors were Pacific Islander, and the race for 20% (n=31) was unknown.

ABDUCTORS WITH A KNOWN RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHILD

Of the 156 abductors involved in AMBER Alerts in 2011, 110 abductors had known relationships with the children. An AMBER Alert case may have multiple abductors involved; therefore, the number of abductors involved in a type of case may exceed the number of cases. Multiple abductors involved in an AMBER Alert case may have different relationships to the abducted child. For example a mother who abducts her child may use her boyfriend as an accomplice. The boyfriend would also be considered an abductor in a family abduction although he is not related to the child.

Of the 80 FA cases, 77 abductors involved had known relationships with the children. They consisted of 2 aunts, 1 babysitter, 46 fathers, 1 grandfather, 1 grandmother, 20 mothers, 2 mother's boyfriends, 2 stepfathers, and 2 uncles.

Of the 56 NFA cases, 25 abductors involved had known relationships with the children. For the remaining cases either there was no relationship or the relationship was unknown. The abductors consisted of 1 boyfriend, 3 ex-boyfriends, 2 fathers, 1 friend/classmate, 5 friends of the family, 11 mother's boyfriends, 1 pimp/madam, and 1 stepfather.

Of the 20 LIM cases, 8 abductors involved had known relationships with the children. They consisted of 1 aunt, 1 aunt's boyfriend, 3 fathers, 1 half brother, 1 mother, and 1 neighbor.

Table 9: Abductor Relationship to Child

Abductor Relationship to Child	FA	FA (%)	NFA	NFA (%)	LIM	LIM (%)	Total	Total (%)
Aunt	2	3%	0	0%	1	13%	3	3%
Aunt's Boyfriend	0	0%	0	0%	1	13%	1	1%
Babysitter	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
Boyfriend	0	0%	1	4%	0	0%	1	1%
Ex-Boyfriend	0	0%	3	12%	0	0%	3	3%
Father	46	60%	2	8%	3	38%	51	46%
Friend/Classmate	0	0%	1	4%	0	0%	1	1%
Friend of Family	0	0%	5	20%	0	0%	5	5%
Grandfather	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%

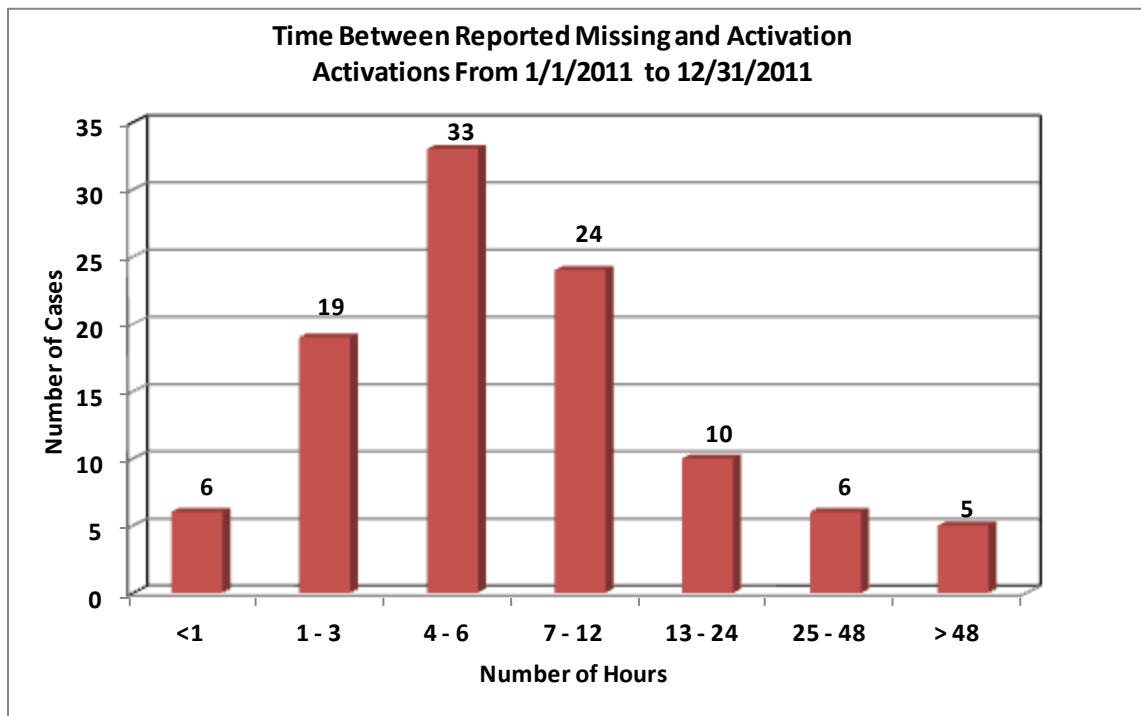
Abductor Relationship to Child	FA	FA (%)	NFA	NFA (%)	LIM	LIM (%)	Total	Total (%)
Grandmother	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
Half Brother	0	0%	0	0%	1	13%	1	1%
Mother	20	26%	0	0%	1	13%	21	19%
Mother's Boyfriend	2	3%	11	44%	0	0%	13	12%
Neighbor	0	0%	0	0%	1	13%	1	1%
Pimp/Madam	0	0%	1	4%	0	0%	1	1%
Stepfather	2	3%	1	4%	0	0%	3	3%
Uncle	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%
Total	77	~100%	25	100%	8	~100%	110	~100%

TIME BETWEEN REPORTED MISSING AND ACTIVATION

Information about the time between when the child was reported missing to law enforcement and the AMBER Alert's activation was available in 103 cases. Hoaxes and unfounded cases were excluded in the statistics because a child was determined not to be missing in those AMBER Alert cases.

Twenty-five (25) AMBER Alerts were issued within fewer than 3 hours from when the child was reported missing. Thirty-three (33) cases were activated within 4 to 6 hours from when the child was reported missing, and 24 cases were issued within 7 to 12 hours.

Figure 10: Time Between Reported Missing and Activation

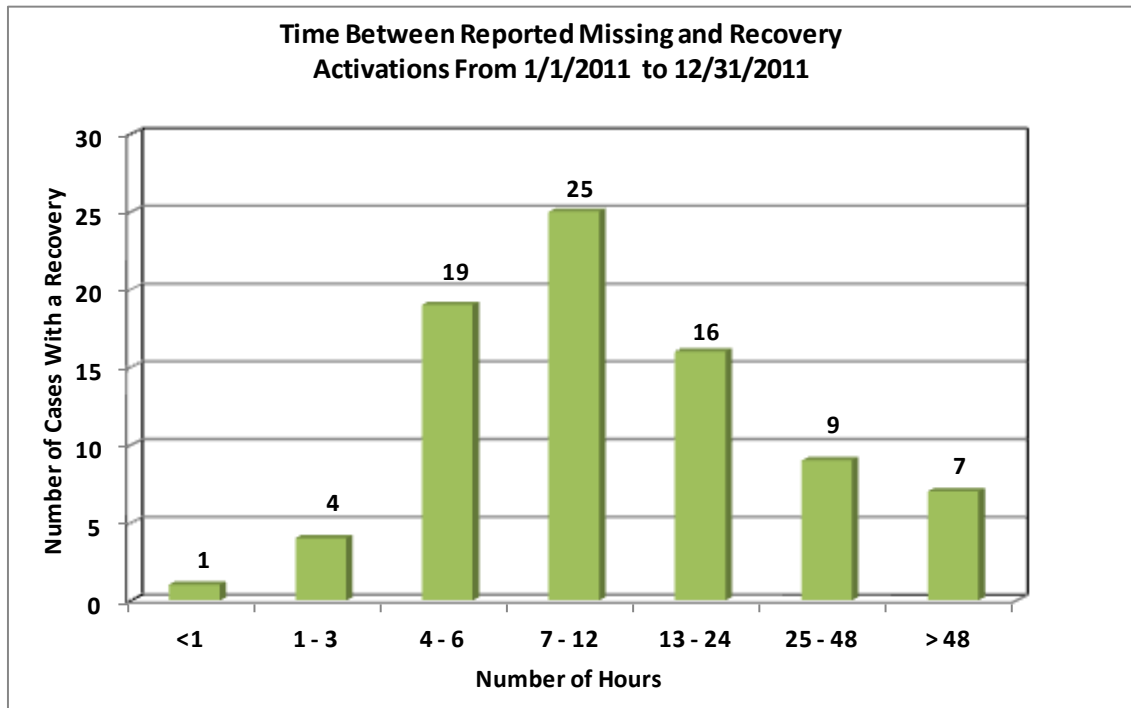


TIME BETWEEN REPORTED MISSING AND RECOVERY

Information about the time between when the child was reported missing to law enforcement and the AMBER Alert recovery was available in 81 cases. Hoaxes and unfounded cases were excluded in the statistics because a child was determined not to be missing in those AMBER Alert cases.

Five (5) AMBER Alerts were issued within fewer than 3 hours from when the child was reported missing. Nineteen (19) cases were activated within 4 to 6 hours from when the child was reported missing, and 25 cases were issued within 7 to 12 hours.

Figure 11: Time Between Reported Missing and Recovery

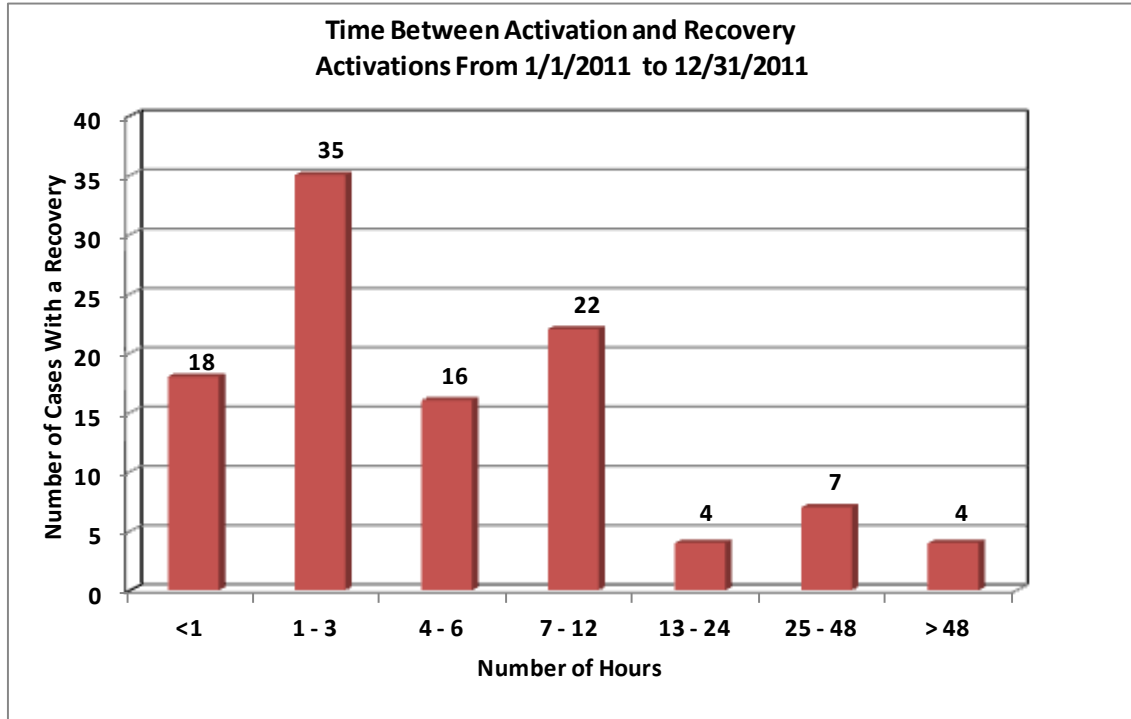


TIME BETWEEN ACTIVATION AND RECOVERY

Information about the time between when the AMBER Alert was activated and the AMBER Alert recovery was available in 106 cases. Hoaxes and unfounded cases were excluded in the statistics because a child was determined not to be missing in those AMBER Alert cases.

Fifty-three (53) AMBER Alerts were recovered within fewer than 3 hours from when the AMBER Alert was activated. Sixteen (16) cases were recovered within 4 to 6 hours from when the AMBER Alert was activated, and 22 cases were recovered within 7 to 12 hours.

Figure 12: Time Between Activation and Recovery



RECOVERY WITHIN 3 DAYS OF ACTIVATION

Information about the date between when the AMBER Alert was activated and the AMBER Alert recovery was available in all 158 cases.

Table 10: Recovery Within 3 Days of Activation

	Time Between Activation and Recovery 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011
Intaked Cases	158
Cases Classified as Hoax or Unfounded After Intake	19
Intaked Children	197
Children Classified as Hoax or Unfounded After Intake	22
Number of Cases in Which Child Recovered Within 72 Hours	127
Percent of Cases in Which Child Recovered Within 72 Hours	91%*
Number of Children Recovered Within 72 Hours	158
Percent of Children Recovered Within 72 Hours	90%**

*Percentage excludes cases classified as hoaxes (n=13) and unfounded (n=6)

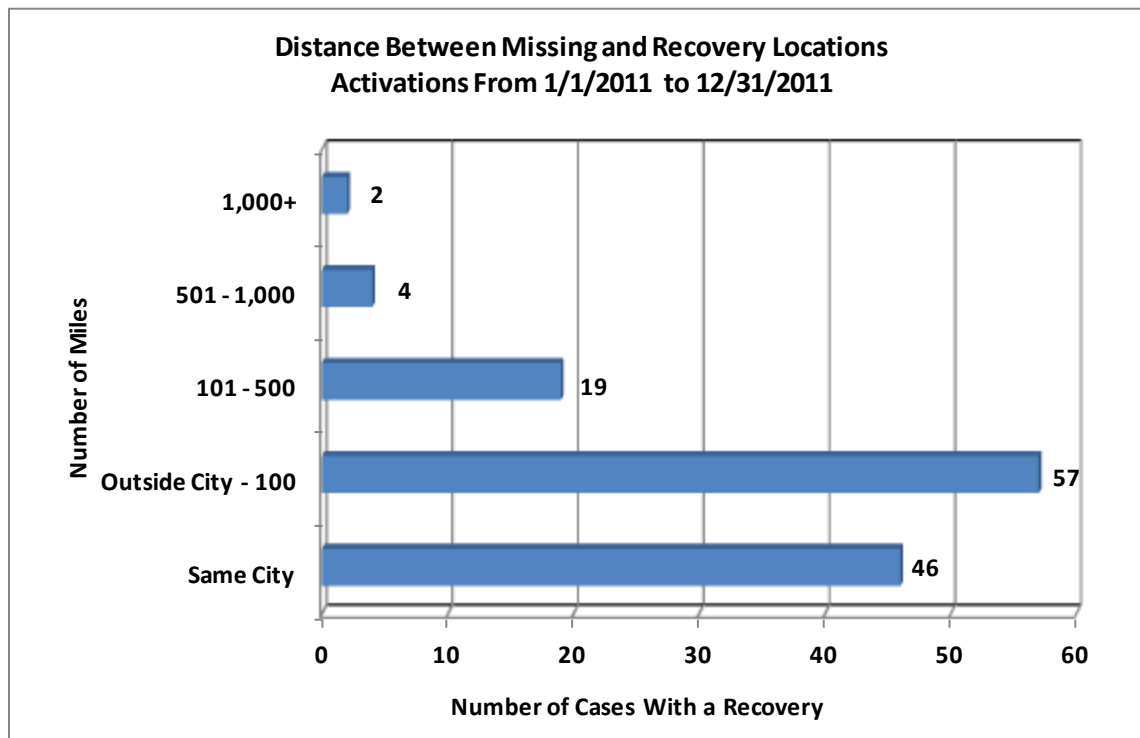
**Percentage excludes children classified as hoaxes (n=16) and unfounded (n=6)

TRAVEL DISTANCES

In 2011 travel destinations between where the child was reported missing and recovered were known for 128 AMBER Alert cases. Hoaxes, unfounded, and active cases were not included in these statistics because no recovery occurred. The distances reported below are estimates since the travel distances were calculated by using zip codes. Therefore distances could not be calculated for cases where the child was abducted from and recovered in the same city.

In 46 cases the missing and recovery locations were in the same city; in 57 cases the distance between missing and recovery locations were outside the city but within 100 miles of each other; in 19 cases the distance between missing and recovery locations ranged from 101 to 500 miles; in 4 cases the distance between missing and recovery locations ranged from 501 to 1,000 miles; and in 2 cases travel distances were more than 1,000 miles. For 6 cases the travel distance could not be calculated, and the remaining 24 cases were either hoaxes, unfounded, or active cases.

Figure 13: Distance Between Missing and Recovery Locations



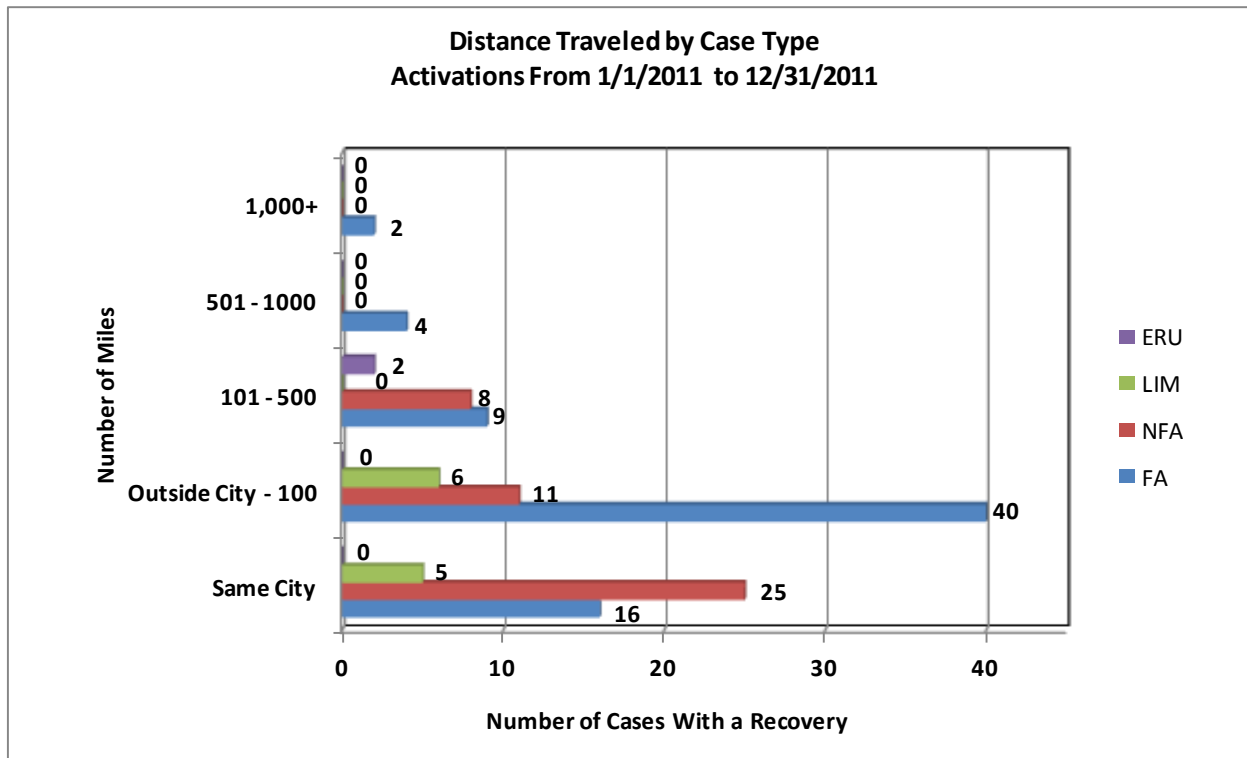
Of the 80 AMBER Alerts issued for FA cases, children in 16 cases were found in the same city. In 40 cases travel distances ranged from 2 to 94 miles and in 9 cases the travel distances ranged from 110 to 400 miles. In 4 cases travel distances ranged from 530 to 865 miles. In 2 cases travel distances exceeded 1,000 miles. In 6 cases the distance could not be calculated, and the remaining 3 cases were hoaxes.

Of the 56 AMBER Alerts issued for NFA cases, the children involved in 25 cases were found in the same city. In 11 cases travel distances ranged from 3 to 60 miles. In 8 cases travel distances ranged from 106 to 233 miles. The remaining 12 cases were hoaxes, unfounded, and active cases.

There were 20 AMBER Alerts issued for LIM cases in 2011, and of those cases 5 were found in the same city. The travel distances in 6 cases ranged from 5 to 76 miles. The remaining 9 cases were hoaxes, unfounded, and active cases.

For the 2 cases intaked as ERUs in 2011, 1 case had a recovery 170 miles from where the child was last seen and 1 case had a recovery 400 miles from where the child was last seen.

Figure 14: Distance Traveled by Case Type



RECOVERIES OUTSIDE OF STATE/TERRITORY WHERE AMBER ALERT FIRST ACTIVATED

There are instances where an abductor may travel with a child out of the state/territory where the AMBER Alert was first activated. Of the 158 AMBER Alerts issued in 2011, 5 cases still remain active. Seventeen percent of cases (17%, n=26) had recoveries out of the state of the original activation. Of those 26 cases, 77% (n=20) were FAs, 19% (n=5) were NFAs, and 4% (n=1) were LIMs.

Table 11: Recovery Outside of State Where AMBER Alert First Activated

Activation State	Recovery State
California	Utah
Colorado	Kansas
Connecticut	New Jersey
Connecticut	New York
Delaware	Virginia

Activation State	Recovery State
Florida	Alabama
Florida	Kentucky
Georgia	Alabama
Georgia	Alabama
Georgia	North Carolina
Georgia	Texas
Idaho	Washington
Iowa	South Dakota
Nevada	California
New Jersey	Delaware
New Jersey	New York
New York	New Hampshire
New York	New Jersey
North Carolina	Mississippi
North Carolina	South Carolina
North Carolina	Virginia
Ohio	Florida
South Carolina	Georgia
Tennessee	Arkansas
Tennessee	Georgia
West Virginia	Tennessee

MISSING LOCATION

In 2011 there were 118 cases with information about where the children involved were last known to be located. Of those 118 cases, 67% (n=79) were last known to be at home, followed by 8% (n=10) of cases where children were last known to be “on the street.”

Table 12: Missing Location

Missing Location	Number of Cases	Percent
Automobile	3	3%
Bus Stop/Station	2	2%
Daycare Facility	1	1%
Government Facility	1	1%
Home	79	67%
Medical Facility	2	2%
Office Building	3	3%
Other	2	2%
Outdoor - Open Area	1	1%
Parking Lot	4	3%

Missing Location	Number of Cases	Percent
Restaurant	3	3%
Retail	5	4%
School	1	1%
Street	10	8%
Yard	1	1%
Total	118	~100%

RECOVERY LOCATION

There were 142 cases with information about the location where the child was recovered. In 2011 children involved in AMBER Alert cases were most often recovered at home 51% (n=72) of the time, followed by recoveries “on the street” at 13% (n=19).

Table 13: Recovery Location

Recovery Location	Number of Cases	Percent
Automobile	10	7%
Bus Stop	2	1%
Dump Site/Landfill	1	1%
Government Facility	1	1%
Home	72	51%
Law-Enforcement Agency	8	6%
Marina	1	1%
Medical Facility	1	1%
Other	1	1%
Outdoor - Open Area	4	3%
Park	2	1%
Parking Lot	4	3%
Path/Trail/Woods	3	2%
Restaurant	1	1%
Retail	6	4%
River	1	1%
School	1	1%
Shopping Center	1	1%
Street	19	13%
Train Station	2	1%
Yard	1	1%
Total	142	~100%

INTERNATIONAL ABDUCTIONS

In 2011 there were no AMBER Alert activations for international abductions.

INFANTS INVOLVED IN AMBER ALERT ACTIVATIONS

In 2011 infants, who are defined as children 6 months of age or younger, were involved in 16 AMBER Alert activations. Fifty-six percent (56%, n=9) of infants involved were FAs, 25% (n=4) were NFAs, and 19% (n=3) were LIMs. In 1 case that was later determined to be a hoax, the mother had reported her child missing after placing the child in the care of a relative.

Fifty-six percent (56%, n=9) of infants involved in AMBER Alerts were boys and 44% (n=7) were girls. Six percent (6%, n=1) of infants involved were Biracial, 31% (n=5) were Black, 19% (n=3) were Hispanic, 38% (n=6) were White, and the race for 6% (n=1) was unknown.

SUCCESS STORIES

A successful AMBER Alert recovery is a case in which a child is safely recovered as a direct result of the AMBER Alert being issued. A case is not considered a successful recovery if the law-enforcement investigation indicates the case is unfounded or a hoax.

Of the 158 AMBER Alert cases in 2011, 34 children involved in 28 AMBER Alert cases were successfully recovered as a direct result of those respective AMBER Alerts being issued.

Table 14: Success Stories

Case Type at Intake	Number of Successful Recoveries by Case	% of Successful Recoveries by Case	Number of Successful Recoveries by Child	% of Successful Recoveries by Child
FA	22	79%	24	71%
NFA	5	18%	9	26%
LIM	0	0%	0	0%
ERU	1	4%	1	3%
Total	28	~100%	34	100%

The most common reason for an AMBER Alert success story is an individual or law enforcement recognizing the vehicle from the Alert at 50% (n=14), followed by an individual recognizing the child and/or abductor from the Alert and contacting the authorities at 21% (n=6).

Table 15: Reason for Success Stories

Summary of Success Stories	Number of Cases	% of Cases	Number of Children	% of Children
Individual or Law Enforcement Recognized Vehicle from Alert	14	50%	18	53%
Abductor Heard Alert and Released Child	3	11%	3	9%
Individual Knew Whereabouts of Suspect and Contacted Authorities	2	7%	2	6%
Individual Recognized Child and/or Abductor from Alert and Contacted Authorities	6	21%	8	24%
Law-Enforcement Received Tips from Individuals	3	11%	3	9%
Total	28	100%	34	~100%

TIME BETWEEN ACTIVATION AND RECOVERY FOR SUCCESS STORIES

In 2011, 21% of the children (n=7), representing 21% (n=6) of the cases, were successfully recovered within 3 hours of those AMBER Alerts being issued.

Table 16: Time Between Activation and Recovery for Success Stories

	Number of Cases	Percent of Cases	Number of Children	Percent of Children
Up to 1/2 Hour	1	4%	1	3%
1/2+ - 1 Hour	1	4%	1	3%
1+ - 2 Hours	3	11%	4	12%
2+ - 3 Hours	1	4%	1	3%
3+ - 4 Hours	1	4%	1	3%
4+ - 5 Hours	2	7%	5	15%
5+ - 6 Hours	1	4%	1	3%
6+ - 12 Hours	7	25%	7	21%
12+ - 24 Hours	3	11%	3	9%
24+ - 48 Hours	2	7%	2	6%
48+ Hours	1	4%	1	3%
Unknown	5	18%	7	21%
Total	28	~100%	34	~100%

CHILDREN RECOVERED DECEASED

In 2011, 158 AMBER Alerts were issued involving 197 children. Five (5) children involved in 5 AMBER Alert cases were recovered deceased. Twenty percent (20%, n=1) of children were reported as FAs, 40%

(n=2) were reported as LIMs, and 40% (n=2) were reported as NFAs. Three (3) girls, younger than 9, were found deceased, and 2 boys, younger than 11, were found deceased. Two (2) children were Black, 1 child was Hispanic, and 2 were White.

The 5 children recovered deceased in 2011 were reported missing from their respective homes (n=3) and from a parking lot (n=1). It is unknown where 1 child was last seen.

In 1 case the child was abducted by a nonfamily member. In 1 case the father abducted the child and shot her twice. In 1 case the child’s stepfather was the abductor, and in 1 case the child was abducted by his mother’s ex-boyfriend. In 1 case the child’s aunt and the aunt’s boyfriend became a suspect.

Table 17: Children Recovered Deceased

Activation Date	Case Type at Intake	Race/Sex of Child	Age When Missing	Time Between Activation and Recovery	Distance Between Missing and Recovery	Cause of Death
01/18/11	NFA	Hispanic boy	4	>72 Hours	28 Miles	Undetermined
05/09/11	LIM	White girl	9	<72 Hours	Same City	Asphyxiation
07/24/11	LIM	Black girl	5	>72 Hours	Same City	Asphyxiation
08/12/11	FA	White girl	2	<72 Hours	53 Miles	Gunshot
10/13/11	NFA	Black boy	11	>72 Hours	7 Miles	Undisclosed

AMBER ALERTS INVOLVING VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

In 2011 a total of 6 girls and 1 boy involved in 7 AMBER Alert activations were reported to be victims of sexual assault during their abduction. Three (3) girls were White, 2 were Black, and 1 was Hispanic, ages 5, 8, 9, 9, 12, and 17. The 1 boy was Black, age 8. The case type at intake included 3 NFAs, 2 FAs, and 2 LIMs.

TEAM ADAM CONSULTANT DEPLOYMENT

Team Adam is a program of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children providing an on-site response and support system that includes investigative and technical assistance to local law enforcement and support for families of missing and sexually exploited children. Team Adam was named in memory of 6-year-old Adam Walsh, the abducted and murdered son of NCMEC cofounders John and Revé Walsh.

In 2011 Team Adam Consultants were deployed to assist with 28 AMBER Alert cases involving 35 children, with all but 4 children recovered in 4 cases. One (1) case involving 1 child was later determined to be a hoax. At intake the case breakdown included 10 FAs, 12 NFAs, and 6 LIMs.

FBI INVOLVEMENT IN AMBER ALERTS

The FBI has specialized Child Abduction Rapid Deployment (CARD) Teams designed to deploy teams of 4 to 6 experienced personnel to provide on-the-ground investigative, technical, and resource assistance to

state and local law enforcement. The CARD Teams consist of Crimes Against Children Investigators who have in-depth experience in child-abduction cases. The nationwide CARD Team consists of 60 members organized into 10 teams serving 5 regions across the country. They work closely with FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit Representatives, National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime Coordinators, and Crimes Against Children Coordinators. Since the CARD Team’s inception in 2006, the team has deployed approximately 76 times, according to the FBI, to assist law-enforcement agencies where an AMBER Alert or mysterious disappearance of a child has occurred. There were 2 deployments in 2011 for AMBER Alerts.

COMMAND POST USE IN AMBER ALERTS

In 2011, 26 AMBER Alert cases were reported as using a command post. Of those 26 cases, 14 cases were intaked as FAs, 9 cases were intaked as NFAs, and 3 cases were intaked as LIMs.

NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION CENTER

The National Crime Information Center (NCIC) houses a set of databases law enforcement uses to document and query activity and information about missing people. The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Pub. L. No. 109-248) mandates NCIC entry must be made by law enforcement within 2 hours of receipt of a report of a missing or abducted child.

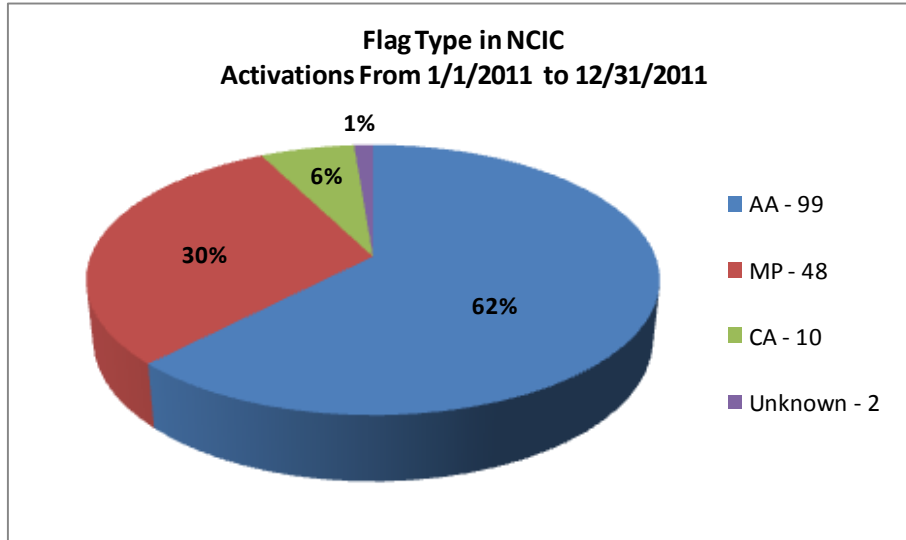
Of the 197 children involved in AMBER Alert cases in 2011, information about 159 children was entered into NCIC and information about 33 children was not entered into NCIC. It is unknown if information about 5 children was entered in NCIC.

Table 18: Information Entered in NCIC

	1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011	1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011 (%)
Information Entered in NCIC	159	81%
Information Not Entered in NCIC	33	17%
Unknown if Entered in NCIC	5	3%
Total	197	~100%

Of the 159 children whose information was entered in NCIC from January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011, 99 children were flagged as an AMBER Alert (AA), 48 children were flagged as a Missing Person (MP), 10 children were flagged as a Child Abduction (CA), and the flags for 2 children were unknown.

Figure 15: Flag Type in NCIC



NCMEC is the only agency outside of law enforcement granted permission to modify flags in NCIC to AA status for AMBER Alert cases. During the months of January through December 2011, a total of 70 flags were updated in NCIC. Forty-five (45) flags were changed from CA to AA, and 25 flags were changed from MP to AA. NCMEC made the flag updates for 52 children, and law enforcement made the flag updates for 17 children. For 1 child it is unknown who made the update.

The table below shows the Missing-Person Type category for children involved in AMBER Alerts at the time of entry from January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011.

Table 19: Missing-Person Type in NCIC

NCIC Missing-Person Type	1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011	1/1/2011-12/31/2011 (%)
Disability	1	1%
Endangered	63	40%
Endangered – Caution	8	5%
Endangered – Caution Other	2	1%
Involuntary	36	23%
Involuntary – Caution	8	5%
Juvenile	38	24%
Juvenile – Caution	3	2%
Total	159	~100%

From January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011, information about 44 children was entered and cancelled from NCIC within 3 hours.

Table 20: Hours Between Information About Children Entered and Cancelled from NCIC

	1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011 (Total)	1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011 (Cumulative Total)	1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011 (%)	1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011 (Cumulative %)
Up to 1/2 Hour	4	4	3%	3%
½+ - 1 Hour	6	10	4%	7%
1+ - 2 Hours	22	32	14%	21%
2+ - 3 Hours	12	44	8%	29%
3+ - 4 Hours	9	53	6%	35%
4+ - 5 Hours	5	58	3%	38%
5+ - 6 Hours	15	73	9%	47%
6+ - 12 Hours	24	97	15%	62%
12+ - 24 Hours	16	113	10%	72%
24+ - 48 Hours	13	126	8%	80%
48+ - 72 Hours	2	128	1%	81%
72+ Hours	17	145	11%	92%
Unknown	14	159	9%	~100%
Total	159		~100%	

Data collected from the miscellaneous field in NCIC captured information such as abductor threats and use of weapons for 22 children involved in 19 AMBER Alerts issued in 2011. Eight (8) abductors were armed with a weapon, 1 abductor was a sex offender, 4 abductors were suspects in homicides, 4 abductors threatened to kill the child and himself, and 2 abductors threatened to kill themselves.

Of the 159 children whose information was entered in NCIC, 67% (n=107) NCIC entries indicated a vehicle was involved in the AMBER Alert, and 4% (n=6) NCIC entries indicated a vehicle was not involved. For 29% (n=46) of NCIC records it is unknown whether a vehicle was involved because no vehicle information was entered.

In order for vehicle data to be entered into the NCIC vehicle field, the license-plate number on the vehicle must be available to law enforcement. In addition law enforcement cannot search for license-plate information in NCIC if the vehicle information is entered only in the miscellaneous field.

License-plate information was available and entered in NCIC for 71 children. Of those 59 children's records had license-plate information entered in the vehicle field only, and in 12 children's records the license-plate information was entered in the miscellaneous field only.

COMPARISON OF AMBER ALERTS ISSUED FROM 2005 TO 2011

Number of AMBER Alerts and Children Involved

The number of AMBER Alerts has shown a downward trend with an overall decrease of 43% from 2005 to 2011.

In 2005, 275 AMBER Alerts were issued involving 338 children; in 2006, 261 Alerts were issued involving 316 children; in 2007, 227 Alerts were issued involving 278 children; in 2008 there were 194 Alerts involving 256 children; in 2009 there were 208 Alerts involving 264 children; in 2010 there were 173 Alerts involving 211 children, and in 2011 there were 158 Alerts involving 197 children.

Figure 16: Number of AMBER Alerts From 2005 to 2011

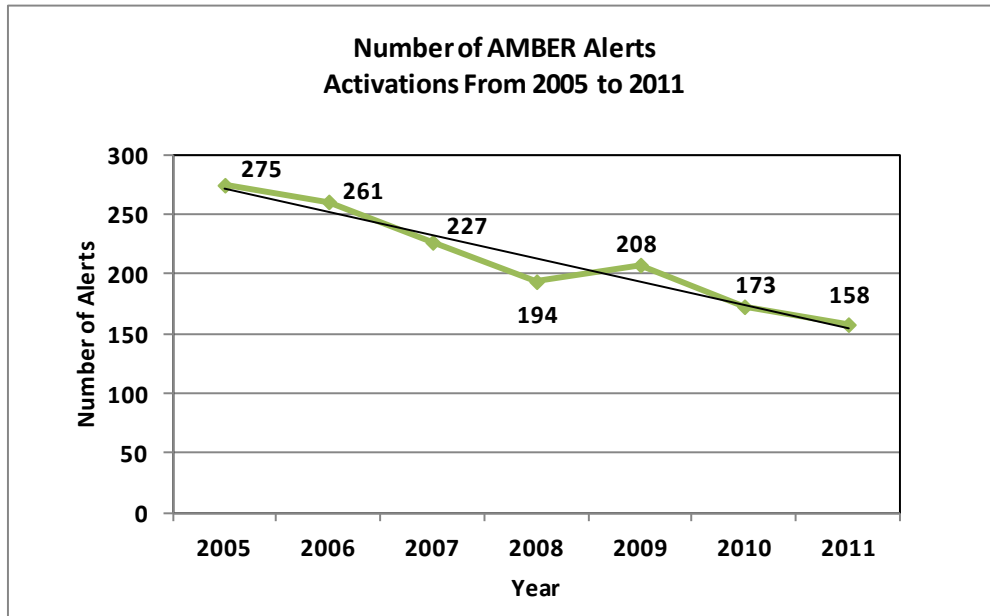
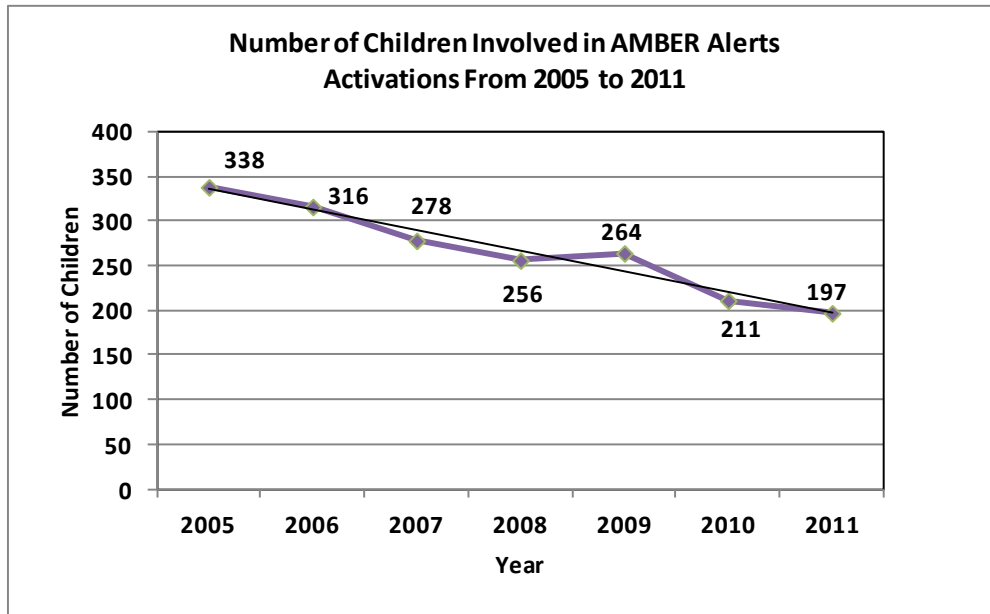


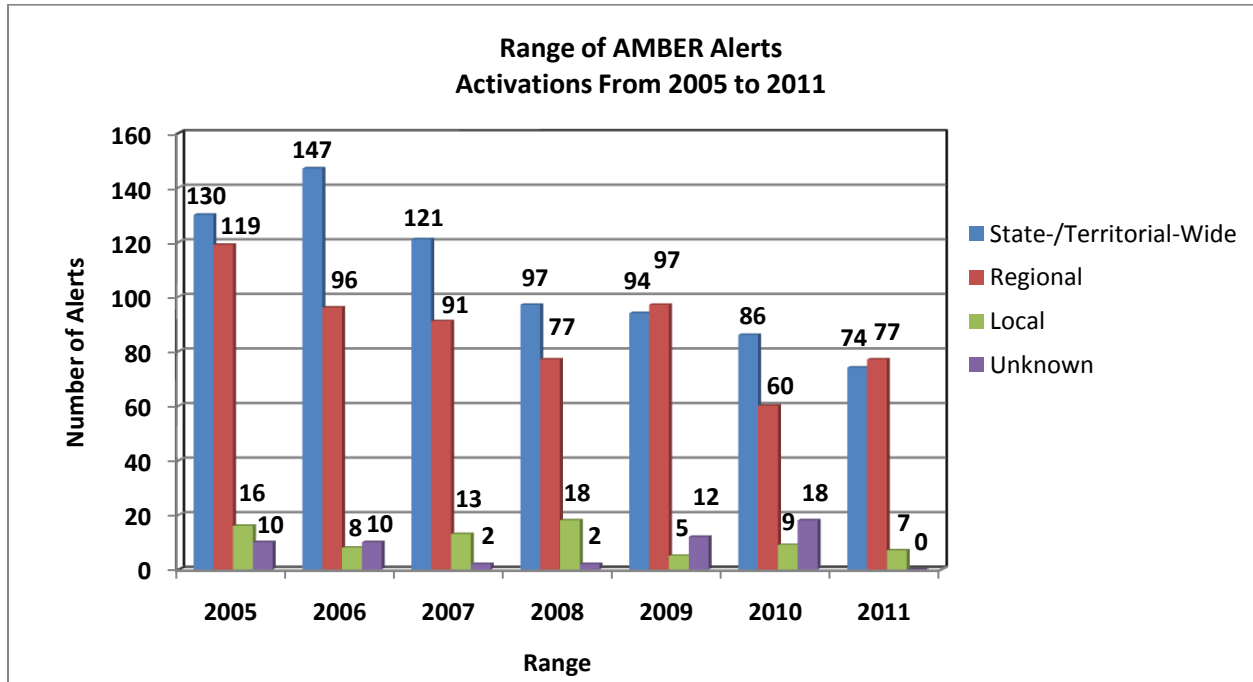
Figure 17: Number of Children Involved in AMBER Alerts From 2005 to 2011



AMBER Alerts by Range

From 2005 to 2011 AMBER Alerts were predominantly issued state-/territorial-wide, followed by regional Alerts and then local Alerts.

Figure 18: Range of AMBER Alerts From 2005 to 2011



Multistate/Territorial AMBER Alerts

The number of multistate/territorial AMBER Alerts consistently decreased over the years of 2005, 2006, and 2007. In 2005 there were 21 such Alerts, in 2006 there were 11 such Alerts, and in 2007 there were 6 such Alerts. In 2008 there was an increase of such Alerts with a total of 14, and in 2009 a decrease with a total of 12 Alerts. In 2010 there was a slight increase with 14 multistate Alerts issued, and in 2011 there was a decrease of such Alerts with a total of 8.

Number of Cases at Intake by Month

Table 21: Number of Cases by Month From 2005 to 2011

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2005	23	24	20	23	22	19	25	19	28	29	22	21
2006	17	21	19	21	24	36	21	25	20	20	22	15
2007	21	13	24	13	21	20	23	15	22	20	14	21
2008	8	20	13	14	20	27	13	16	13	26	14	10
2009	16	17	23	15	17	16	22	20	22	12	18	10
2010	16	16	16	14	13	11	22	8	13	20	11	13
2011	8	6	10	16	17	18	15	22	12	12	10	12
Total	109	117	125	116	134	147	141	125	130	139	111	102

Table 22: Cases and Percent Increase/Decrease by Month From 2005 to 2011

	2005	Percent Change	2006	Percent Change	2007	Percent Change	2008
Jan	23	-26%	17	24%	21	-62%	8
Feb	24	-13%	21	-38%	13	54%	20
Mar	20	-5%	19	26%	24	-46%	13
Apr	23	-9%	21	-38%	13	8%	14
May	22	9%	24	-13%	21	-5%	20
Jun	19	90%	36	-44%	20	35%	27
Jul	25	-16%	21	10%	23	-44%	13
Aug	19	32%	25	-40%	15	7%	16
Sept	28	-29%	20	10%	22	-41%	13
Oct	29	-31%	20	0%	20	30%	26
Nov	22	0%	22	-36%	14	0%	14
Dec	21	-29%	15	40%	21	-52%	10
Total	275	-5%	261	-13%	227	-15%	194

	2008	Percent Change	2009	Percent Change	2010	Percent Change	2011
Jan	8	100%	16	0%	16	-50%	8
Feb	20	-15%	17	-6%	16	-63%	6
Mar	13	77%	23	-30%	16	-38%	10
Apr	14	7%	15	-7%	14	14%	16
May	20	-15%	17	-24%	13	31%	17
Jun	27	-41%	16	-31%	11	64%	18
Jul	13	69%	22	0%	22	-32%	15
Aug	16	25%	20	-60%	8	175%	22
Sept	13	69%	22	-41%	13	-8%	12
Oct	26	-54%	12	67%	20	-40%	12
Nov	14	29%	18	-39%	11	-9%	10
Dec	10	0%	10	30%	13	-8%	12
Total	194	7%	208	-17%	173	-9%	158

Case Type at Intake

The number of cases intaked as FAs decreased 21% from 2005 to 2008. The number of FAs sharply increased 24% with 124 Alerts in 2009, and then decreased 36% from 2009 to 2011.

For NFAs there was an increase of cases from 2005 to 2006, with 101 Alerts and 115 Alerts respectively. In 2007 the number of NFAs dropped below 2005 levels to 94 Alerts. In 2008 and 2009 the number of NFAs dropped further to 70 and 62 Alerts respectively. In 2010 the number of NFAs increased to 74, and in 2011 the number of NFAs dropped below 2009 levels to 56 Alerts.

The number of cases intaked as LIMs has decreased almost 50% from 2006 to 2010 with 31, 25, 21, 19, and 16 Alerts respectively issued. In 2011 the number of LIMs slightly increased to 20 Alerts.

ERUs were issued at a high of 6 Alerts in 2005 and then decreased to 2 Alerts for both 2006 and 2007. From 2008 to 2010 the number of ERUs remained steady at 3 Alerts each year. In 2011 the number of ERUs decreased to 2 Alerts.

Figure 19: AMBER Alerts by Case Type at Intake From 2005 to 2011

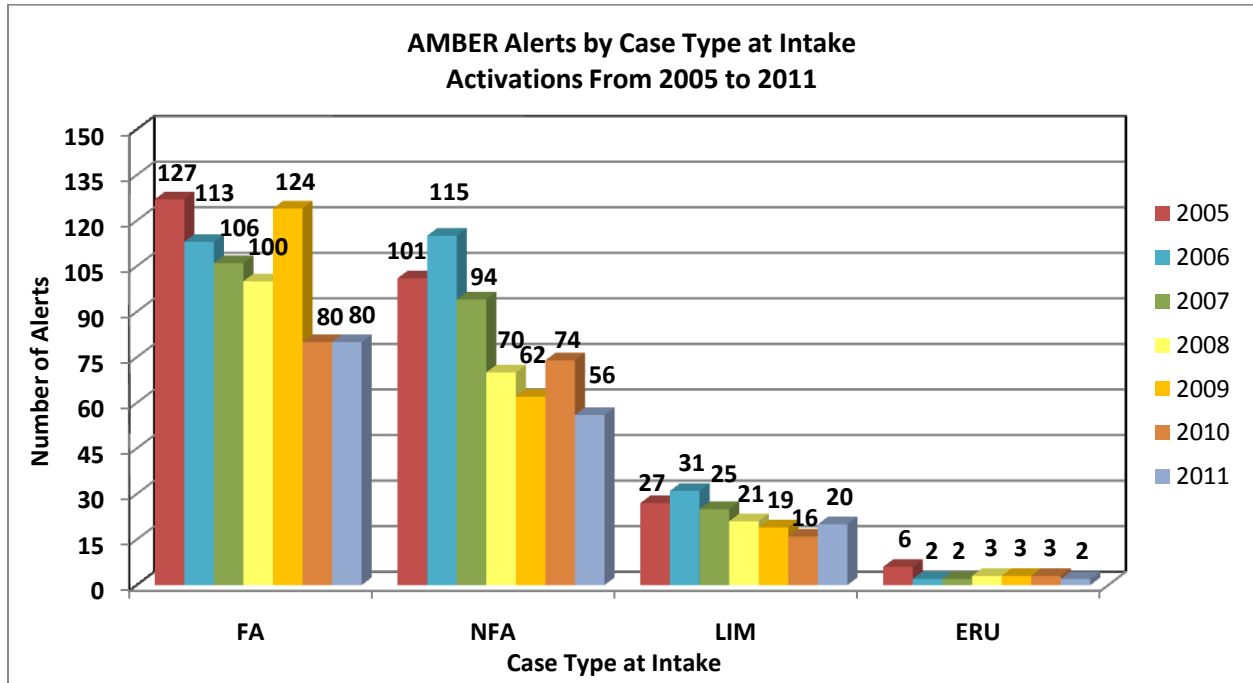


Table 23: Cases and Percent Increase/Decrease by Case Type From 2005 to 2011

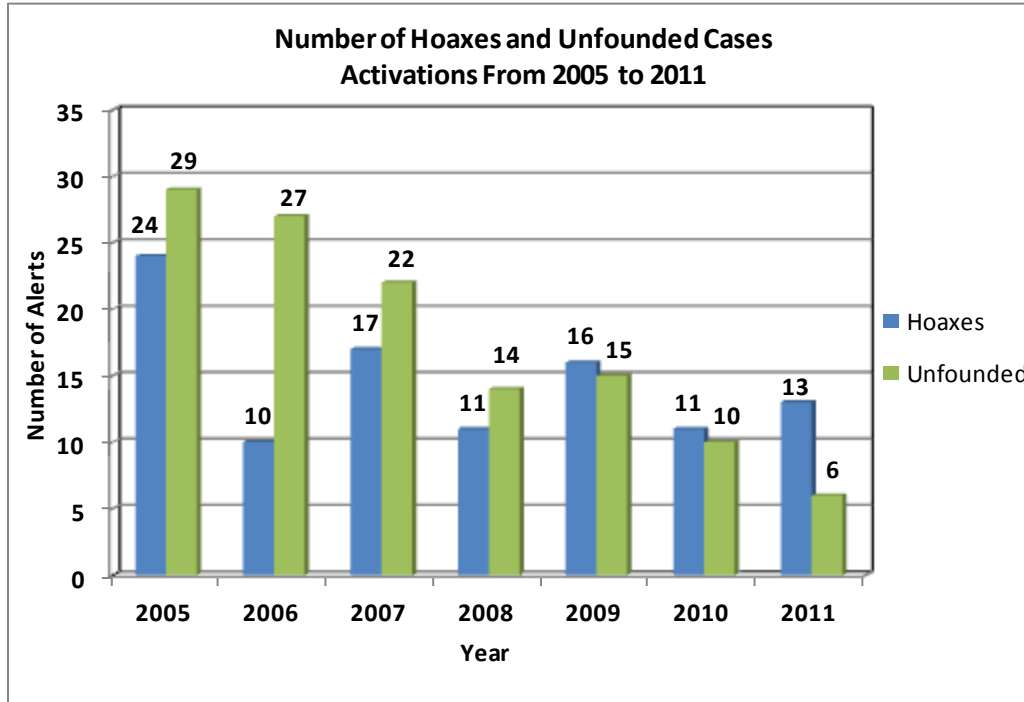
	2005	% +/-	2006	% +/-	2007	% +/-	2008
FA	127	-11%	113	-6%	106	-6%	100
NFA	101	14%	115	-18%	94	-26%	70
LIM	27	15%	31	-19%	25	-16%	21
ERU	6	-67%	2	0%	2	50%	3
N/A	14	-100%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Total	275	-5%	261	-13%	227	-15%	194

	2008	% +/-	2009	% +/-	2010	% +/-	2011
FA	100	24%	124	-36%	80	0%	80
NFA	70	-11%	62	19%	74	-24%	56
LIM	21	-10%	19	-16%	16	25%	20
ERU	3	0%	3	0%	3	-33%	2
N/A	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Total	194	7%	208	-17%	173	-9%	158

Hoaxes and Unfounded Cases

The number of hoaxes has decreased 46% from 2005 to 2011 with 24 and 13 cases respectively. The number of unfounded cases decreased 79% from 2005 to 2011 with 29 and 6 cases respectively.

Figure 20: Number of Hoaxes and Unfounded Cases From 2005 to 2011

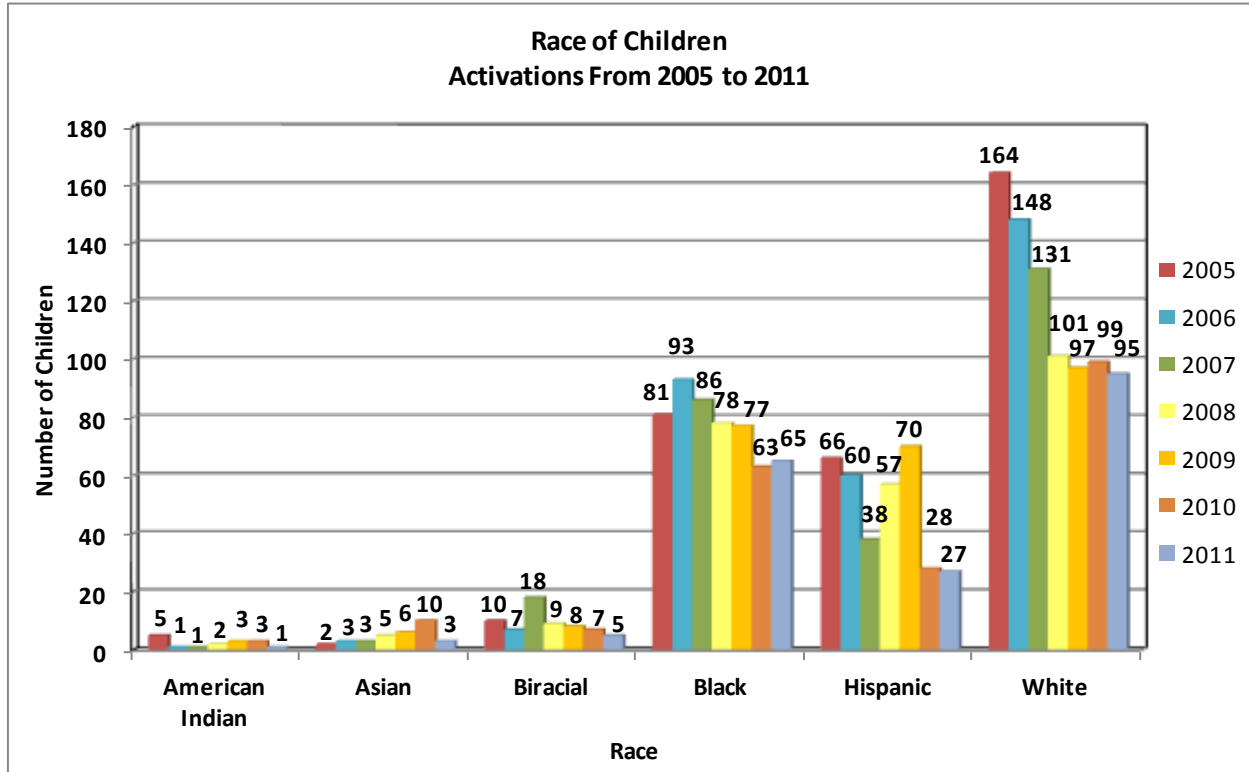


Number and Characteristics of Children Involved in AMBER Alerts

Girls were more frequently involved in AMBER Alerts than boys from 2005 to 2010; however, in 2011 boys were more frequently involved in AMBER Alerts than girls. In 2005 girls made up 55% (n=185) of children involved in AMBER Alerts and boys represented 45% (n=153); in 2006 girls represented 57% (n=181) and boys 43% (n=135); in 2007 girls represented 53% (n=148) and boys 47% (n=130); in 2008 girls represented 58% (n=148) and boys comprised 42% (n=108) of children involved in AMBER Alerts; and in 2009 girls represented 57% (n=150) and boys comprised 43% (n=114). In 2010 girls represented 53% (n=112) of children involved in AMBER Alerts, compared to boys who comprised 47% (n=99). In 2011 boys represented 51% (n=101) of children involved in AMBER Alerts and girls comprised 49% (n=96).

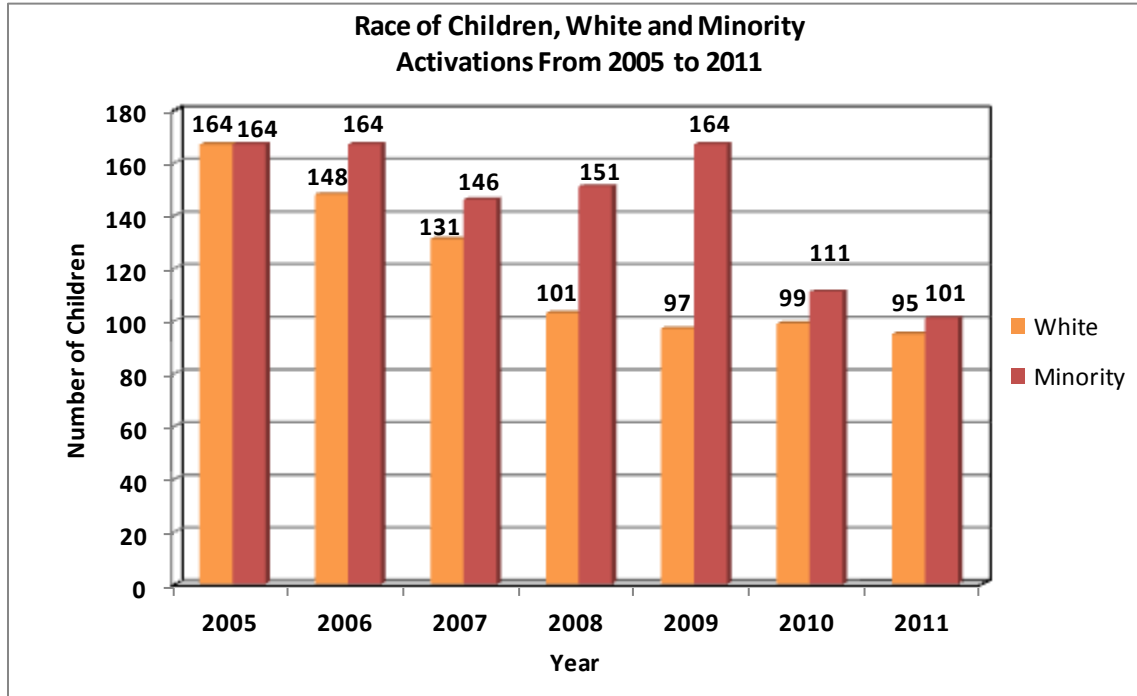
The number of American Indian children involved in AMBER Alerts ranged from 5 children in 2005 to 1 child in 2011 (n=5, 1, 1, 2, 3, 3, and 1). The number of Asian children ranged between 2 and 10 children from 2005 to 2010 (n=2, 3, 3, 5, 6, and 10), and then decreased to 3 in 2011. The number of Biracial children decreased in 2006 (n=7) from 10 in 2005, increased in 2007 (n=18), and then decreased from 2008 to 2011 (n=9, 8, 7, and 5). For Black children there was an increase in 2006 (n=93) from 81 in 2005, then respective decreases (n=86, 78, 77, and 63) from 2007 through 2010. In 2011 there was a slight increase with 65 Black children. This resulted in an overall decrease of 30% from 2006 to 2011. The number of Hispanic children saw an overall 59% decrease from 2005 to 2011 (n=66 and 27). The number of White children decreased 42% (n=164 and 95) from 2005 to 2011.

Figure 21: Race of Children From 2005 to 2011



An equal number of White and Minority children (n=164) were involved in AMBER Alert activations in 2005. From 2006 to 2011 Minority children were involved in AMBER Alerts more frequently than White children.

Figure 22: Race of Children, White and Minority From 2005 to 2011



International Abductions

In 2005, 4 children were found in Mexico and 1 child was found in the Republic of Lebanon. In 2006, 2 children were recovered in Mexico and 2 children were recovered in Honduras. In 2007 there were no AMBER Alerts issued for international abductions. In 2008 there were 5 AMBER Alert activations that resulted in international abductions. In 3 cases the 4 children involved were recovered in Mexico. In 1 case the child involved was recovered in Canada, and in 1 case the child involved was recovered in Romania. In 2009 there were 6 AMBER Alert activations that resulted in an international abduction, all of which were recoveries in Mexico. In 2010, 3 AMBER Alert activations involving 3 children resulted in an international abduction. Two (2) cases involved recoveries in Mexico and 1 case involved a recovery in Canada. In 2011 there were no AMBER Alert activations for international abductions.

Children Recovered Deceased

A total of 62 children who were involved in AMBER Alerts issued from 2005 to 2011 were recovered deceased. The number of children recovered deceased from 2005 to 2007 decreased with 15 children in 2005, 10 children in 2006, and 6 children in 2007. In 2008, 2009, and 2010 there was an increase with 8, 9, and 9 children respectively recovered deceased. The number of children recovered deceased in 2011 decreased to 5.

Children intaked as LIMs make up the largest number of case types for children who were recovered deceased from 2005 to 2010. The percentage of children who were recovered deceased in AMBER Alert cases and were intaked as LIMs increased from 2005 to 2007. Fifty-three percent (53%) of children (n=8) were LIMs in 2005, 60% (n=6) in 2006, and 83% (n=5) in 2007. In 2008 there was a decrease in LIMs

(n=4) at 50%. In 2009 and 2010 there was an increase in LIMs (n=5) at 56%. In 2011, 40% (n=2) of children were LIMs and 40% (n=2) of children were NFAs.

Table 24: Number of Children Recovered Deceased From 2005 to 2011

Case Type at Intake	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
FA	2	1	0	3	4	1	1	12
NFA	5	3	1	1	0	3	2	15
LIM	8	6	5	4	5	5	2	35
ERU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15	10	6	8	9	9	5	62

National Crime Information Center (NCIC)

In 2005 information about 69% (n=233) of children involved in AMBER Alerts was entered into NCIC. In 2006 similar rates of entry were shown with 68% of children (n=215) having information entered into NCIC. In 2007 and 2008 there was an increase of information entered about children in NCIC at 73% (n=204) and 80% (n=206) respectively. In 2009, 78% (n=207) of children’s information was entered in NCIC. In 2010, 78% (n=164) of children’s information was entered in NCIC. In 2011, 81% (n=159) of children’s information was entered in NCIC. The AA flag has been the predominant flag type since 2005 ranging between 99 and 120 flags.

The frequency of vehicle involvement in AMBER Alerts was predominantly documented for 2005 (n=126), 2006 (n=141), and 2007 (n=124). In 2008 (n=111) there were more activations in which it was unknown whether or not a vehicle was involved in the Alert. In 2009, 110 cases involved a vehicle, 83 cases involved a vehicle in 2010, and 107 cases involved a vehicle in 2011.

Figure 23: Vehicle Involvement in AMBER Alerts From 2005 to 2011

