National Center for Missing & Exploited Children®

2014 AMBER Alert report

Analysis of AMBER Alert cases in 2014

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Introduction

On the afternoon of Jan. 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 allowing use of the Emergency Alert System, known as 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, known as NCMEC, with a request for a national initiative. It then became known as America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response or the 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 Dec. 31, 2014, 756 children have been safely recovered specifically as a result of an AMBER Alert 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 cases of child abduction. 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 the summer of 2004 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 into law the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today or PROTECT Act of 2003 (Pub. L. No. 108-21). Building on the steps already taken by the Bush Administration to support AMBER Alerts, this act established 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 abducted children will be recovered swiftly and safely.[1]

[1] *National Strategy*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, www.amberalert.gov/ntl_strategy.htm, accessed Feb. 19, 2015.

AMBER Alert definitions

This report presents information about AMBER Alerts issued throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands from Jan. 1, 2014, through Dec. 31, 2014, 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, it must first determine if that child's case meets the 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, known as NCIC, database.

An AMBER Alert may involve one or more children and is issued on either a state/territory, 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/territory activation**. A state-/territory 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 one 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 one of the four types listed below, defined for the purposes of this report as:
- **Family abduction** or FA – A family abduction is defined as the taking, retention or concealment of a child, younger than 18 years of age, by a parent, other person with a family relationship to the child, or his or her agent, in violation of the custody rights, including visitation rights of a parent or legal guardian.
- **Nonfamily abduction** or NFA – A nonfamily abduction is defined as the unauthorized taking, retention, luring, confinement or concealment of a child younger than the age of 18 by someone other than a family member.
- **Lost, injured or otherwise missing** or LIM – 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.
- **Endangered runaway** or ERU – Any missing child between 11 and 17 years of age who is missing of his or her own accord and whose whereabouts are unknown to his or her parent(s) 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** occurs when an individual falsely reports a child missing or when a child reports him- or herself missing with the intent to mislead 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 remains 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 Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2014, 186 AMBER Alerts were issued in the U.S. involving 239 children.

At the time the AMBER Alert cases were intaked at NCMEC there were 116 FAs, 60 NFAs and 10 LIMs. Fifteen cases were later determined to be hoaxes, and 11 cases were later determined to be unfounded.

Of the 186 AMBER Alerts issued from Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2014, 154 cases resulted in a recovery, 52 of which were successfully recovered as a direct result of those respective AMBER Alerts being issued. As of Feb. 19, 2015, when statistics for this report were finalized, six AMBER Alerts issued in 2014 remained active and six children were recovered deceased.

AMBER Alerts by range

In 2014, 56 percent (n=105) of AMBER Alerts were issued state-/territory wide, 42 percent (n=78) of AMBER Alerts were issued regionally and 2 percent (n=3) were issued locally.

Figure 1: Range of AMBER Alerts

Range of AMBER Alerts activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

- State-/territory wide - 105
- Regional - 78
- Local - 3
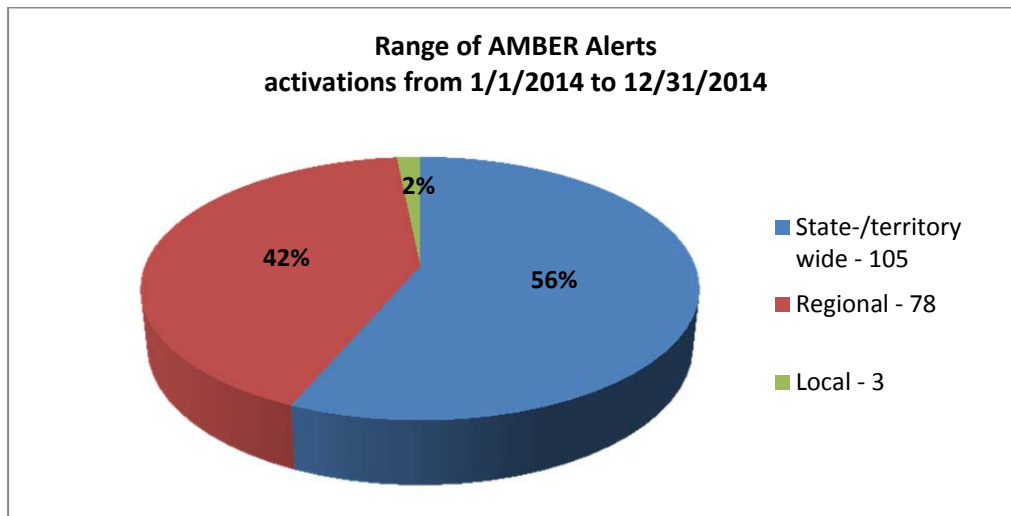
AMBER Alerts by state/territory

From Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2014, 186 AMBER Alerts were issued in 40 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Texas issued the most AMBER Alerts with 18 percent (n=33) followed by California with 11 percent (n=21) and Ohio with 7 percent (n=13).

Table 1: Number and percent of AMBER Alert cases by state/territory

State/Territory	Number of Alerts	Percent
Texas	33	18
California	21	11
Ohio	13	7
New York and Washington	9 each	5 each
Oklahoma	8	4
Missouri	7	4
Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and North Carolina	6 each	3 each
Illinois and Michigan	5 each	3 each
Virginia	4	2
Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Kentucky, Montana, New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Utah	3 each	2 each
Alabama, Connecticut, Maryland and New Jersey	2 each	1 each
District of Columbia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming	1 each	0.5 each
Alaska, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon and U.S. Virgin Islands	0 each	0 each
Total	**186**	**~100%**

Multistate/territory 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 2014, 14 AMBER Alerts were extended beyond the limits of the state where the AMBER Alert first originated.

Table 2: List of multistate/territory AMBER Alerts

Originating	Extending
California	Nevada
Kansas	Missouri and Texas
Kentucky	Ohio
Maryland	Delaware
Maryland	North Carolina and West Virginia
Mississippi	Georgia
Missouri	Kansas and Oklahoma
Montana	Wyoming

Originating	Extending
New Jersey	South Carolina
New York	New Jersey
Ohio	Kentucky
Oklahoma	Colorado and Kansas
Pennsylvania	New Jersey
Vermont	New York

In four cases, five children were recovered in the state where the alert originated, in six cases eight children were recovered in the extending state and in four cases four children were recovered in neither the originating state nor the extending state.

Figure 2: Multistate/territory AMBER Alert recoveries

Multistate/territory AMBER Alert recoveries of children from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

- 29% — Originating state - 5
- 47% — Extending state - 8
- 24% — Neither - 4
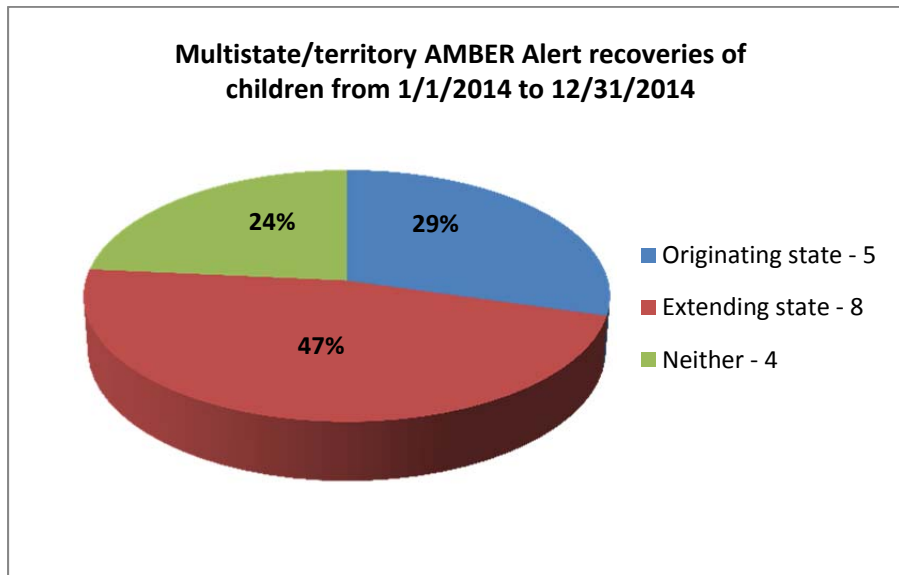
AMBER Alerts by case type at intake

In 2014, 62 percent (n=116) of AMBER Alert cases were intaked as FAs, 32 percent (n=60) were NFAs and 5 percent (n=10) were LIMs.

Figure 3: AMBER Alerts by case type

AMBER Alerts by case type
activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

5%

32%   62%

- FA - 116
- NFA - 60
- LIM - 10
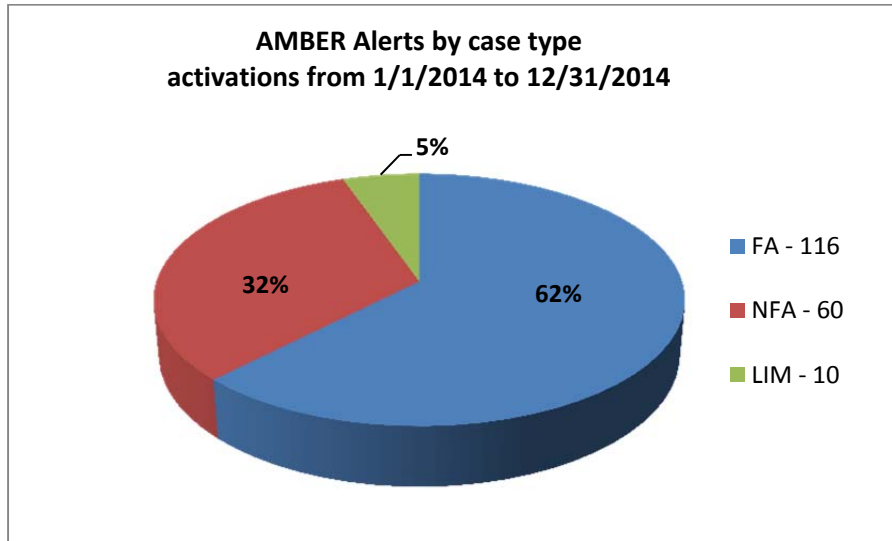
Number of cases by month

In 2014 the number of AMBER Alerts issued per month ranged from a low of nine alerts in July to a high of 21 alerts in August.

Figure 4: Number of AMBER Alert cases by month

Number of AMBER Alert cases by month
activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

Month	Value
Jan	20
Feb	14
Mar	13
Apr	17
May	16
Jun	13
Jul	9
Aug	21
Sep	16
Oct	18
Nov	10
Dec	19
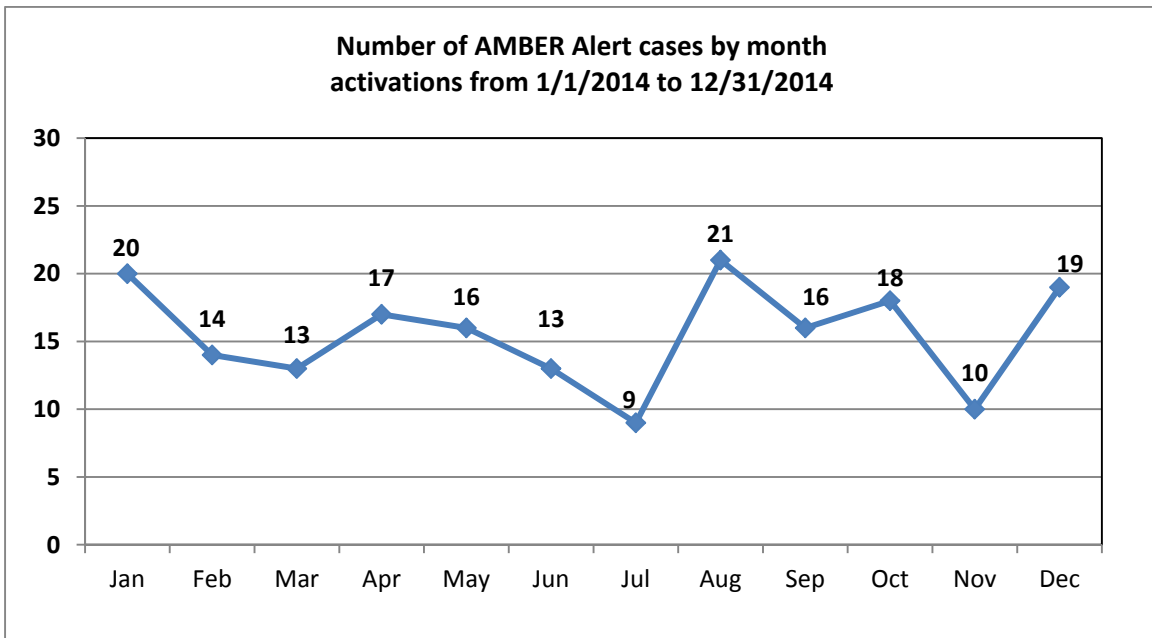
Number of case types at intake by month

In 2014 AMBER Alerts were issued most frequently for FAs (n=14) in August, September and October. The highest number of NFAs (n=9) occurred in the month of January. AMBER Alerts for LIMs (n=4) were also most frequently issued in January.

Table 3: Number of case types by month

	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU	Total	Total percent
Jan	7	9	4	0	20	11
Feb	9	5	0	0	14	8
Mar	7	4	2	0	13	7
Apr	8	8	1	0	17	9
May	9	7	0	0	16	9
Jun	10	3	0	0	13	7
Jul	8	0	1	0	9	5
Aug	14	7	0	0	21	11
Sep	14	2	0	0	16	9
Oct	14	4	0	0	18	10
Nov	4	5	1	0	10	5
Dec	12	6	1	0	19	10
Total	**116**	**60**	**10**	**0**	**186**	**~100**

Number of children by case type at intake by month

In 2014, 239 children were involved in 186 AMBER Alert cases. Sixty-seven percent (n=160) of children were intaked as FAs followed by 28 percent (n=67) of children intaked as NFAs. Five percent (n=12) were intaked as LIMs.

Children intaked as FAs were most frequently involved in AMBER Alerts during the months of June, August and October (n=19). The highest number of children intaked as NFAs (n=13) occurred in the month of August. AMBER Alerts for LIMs (n=6) were most frequently issued in January.

Table 4: Number of children by case type by month

	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU	Total	Total percent
Jan	8	9	6	0	23	10
Feb	15	5	0	0	20	8
Mar	10	4	2	0	16	7
Apr	8	8	1	0	17	7
May	14	7	0	0	21	9
Jun	19	3	0	0	22	9
Jul	11	0	1	0	12	5
Aug	19	13	0	0	32	13

	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU	Total	Total percent
Sep	16	3	0	0	19	8
Oct	19	4	0	0	23	10
Nov	4	5	1	0	10	4
Dec	17	6	1	0	24	10
Total	**160**	**67**	**12**	**0**	**239**	**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 2014, 8 percent (n=15) of AMBER Alerts issued involving 18 children were later determined to be hoaxes. Sixty percent (n=9) of hoaxes were originally intaked as NFAs followed by FAs at 27 percent (n=4) and LIMs at 13 percent (n=2).

In 47 percent (n=7) of hoaxes, false information was provided by the child's parent, 20 percent (n=3) was provided by the child's family member and 20 percent (n=3) was provided by the child involved. Additionally 7 percent (n=1) was provided by the child's boyfriend and 7 percent (n=1) was provided by a security guard.

Figure 5: Number of hoaxes by case type at intake
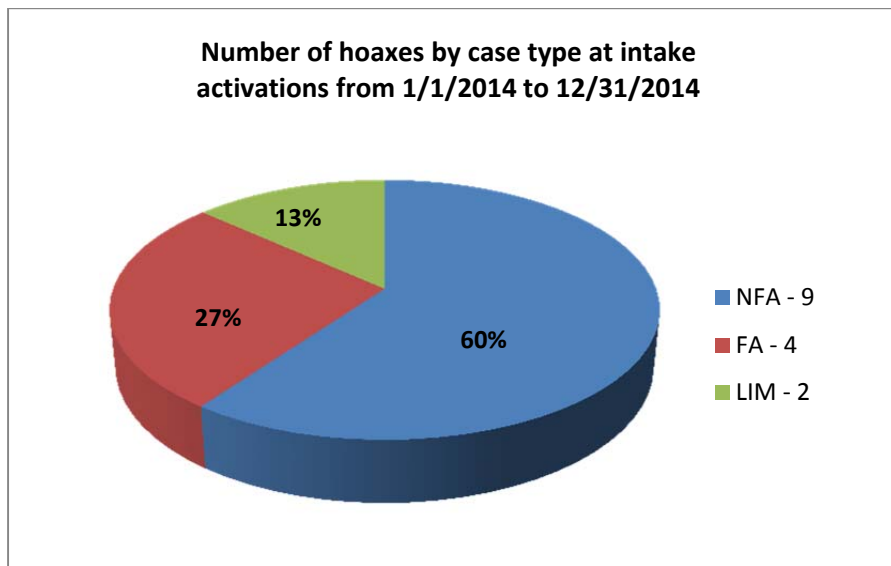
Of the 15 cases determined to be hoaxes, 14 cases had known locations from which the children involved were reported missing. Of those cases, 57 percent (n=8) were reported missing from home, 21 percent (n=3) were reported missing from a retail store, 14 percent (n=2) were reported missing from the street and 7 percent (n=1) were reported missing from a hotel.

Children involved in hoaxes

In 2014, 15 AMBER Alerts involving 18 children were later determined to be hoaxes. Fifty-six percent (n=10) of children involved in hoaxes were boys, whereas girls represented 44 percent (n=8) of children involved in hoaxes. Eighty percent (n=8) of the boys involved in these hoaxes were 5 years old or younger. Of the eight girls involved in hoaxes, 50 percent (n=4) were 16 years old or older.

Table 5: Age and sex of children involved in hoaxes

Age	Girls	Boys
<1	0	1
1	1	1
2	0	2
3	0	1
4	0	1
5	2	2
6	0	0
7	0	0
8	1	0
9	0	0
10	0	0
11	0	0
12	0	0
13	0	0
14	0	2
15	0	0
16	2	0
17	1	0
20	1	0
Total	**8**	**10**

Table 6: Age and case type at intake of children involved in hoaxes

Age	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU
<1	0	1	0	0
1	1	0	1	0
2	0	0	2	0
3	1	0	0	0
4	1	0	0	0
5	1	3	0	0
6	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0
8	0	1	0	0

Age	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU
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	1	1	0	0
15	0	0	0	0
16	0	2	0	0
17	0	1	0	0
20	0	0	1	0
Total	**5**	**9**	**4**	**0**

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. Eleven AMBER Alerts involving 14 children were determined to be unfounded, representing 6 percent of the total number of AMBER Alerts issued in 2014. These unfounded cases were originally intaked as NFAs at 91 percent (n=10) and LIMs at 9 percent (n=1).

Figure 6: Unfounded cases by case type at intake
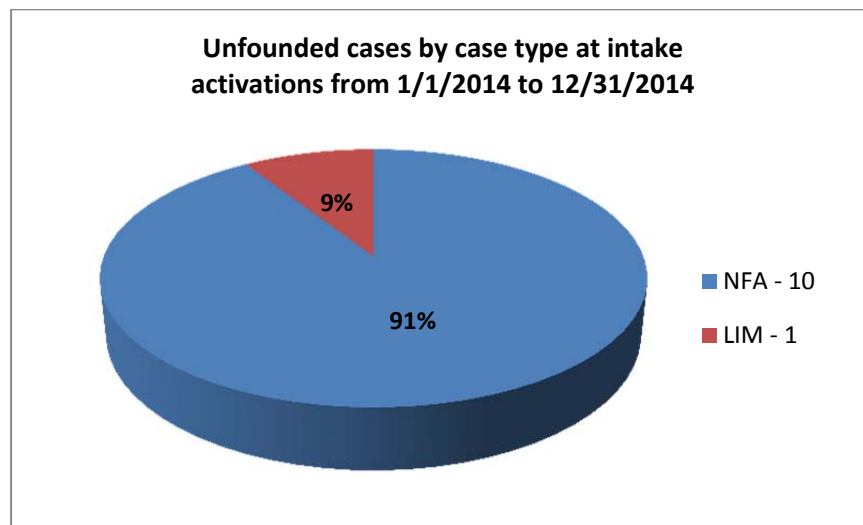
Children involved in unfounded cases

In 2014, 11 AMBER Alerts involving 14 children were later determined to be unfounded. Girls represented 64 percent (n=9) whereas boys represented 36 percent (n=5) of all children involved in unfounded cases. Of the nine girls involved in unfounded cases, 33 percent (n=3) were 16 years of age. The age for one girl was unknown. All of the boys involved in unfounded cases were 12 years of age and younger.

Table 7: Age and sex of children involved in unfounded cases

Age	Girls	Boys
<1	0	1
1	1	0
2	0	0
3	1	0
4	0	0
5	0	0
6	2	1
7	0	0
8	0	0
9	0	1
10	0	0
11	0	1
12	0	1
13	0	0
14	1	0
15	0	0
16	3	0
17	0	0
Unknown	1	0
Total	**9**	**5**

Table 8: Age and case type at intake of children involved in unfounded cases

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

Age	FA	NFA	LIM	ERU
15	0	0	0	0
16	0	2	1	0
17	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	1	0	0
Total	**3**	**10**	**1**	**0**

Secondary distribution of AMBER Alerts

The AMBER Alert Secondary Distribution system, known as AASD, 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 2014, 84 percent (n=157) of AMBER Alert cases were secondarily distributed whereas 15 percent (n=28) of the cases were not secondarily distributed because the AMBER Alert was canceled before secondary distribution was possible. One AMBER Alert was not secondarily distributed due to a technical error.

AMBER Alert Secondary Distribution was issued for 101 FAs, 48 NFAs and eight LIMs. Six NFAs, four FAs and two LIMs were later determined to be hoaxes. Eight NFAs and one LIM were subsequently identified as unfounded.

Number and characteristics of children reported missing

Children involved in AMBER Alert activations were statistically evenly distributed for boys at 51 percent (n=123), compared to girls who represented 49 percent (n=116).

Forty-four percent (n=104) of children involved in AMBER Alerts were white, 30 percent (n=72) were black, 16 percent (n=38) were Hispanic, 6 percent (n=15) were biracial, 3 percent (n=8) were American Indian and 1 percent (n=2) were Asian. AMBER Alerts were issued at a rate of 44 percent (n=104) for white children whereas minority children represented 56 percent (n=135).

Figure 7: AMBER Alerts by race of children

AMBER Alerts by race of children activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

- American Indian - 8
- Asian - 2
- Biracial - 15
- Black - 72
- Hispanic - 38
- White - 104

3% | 1% | 6% | 30% | 16% | 44%
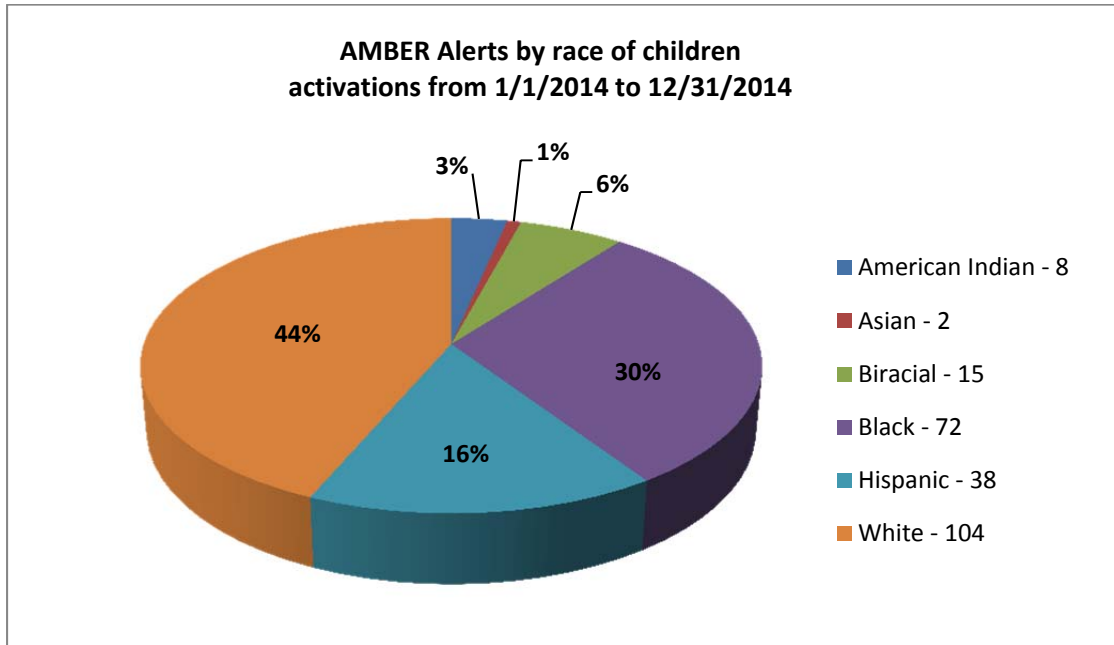
Figure 8: Race of children, White and Minority

Race of children, White and Minority activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

- White - 104
- Minority - 135

44% | 56%
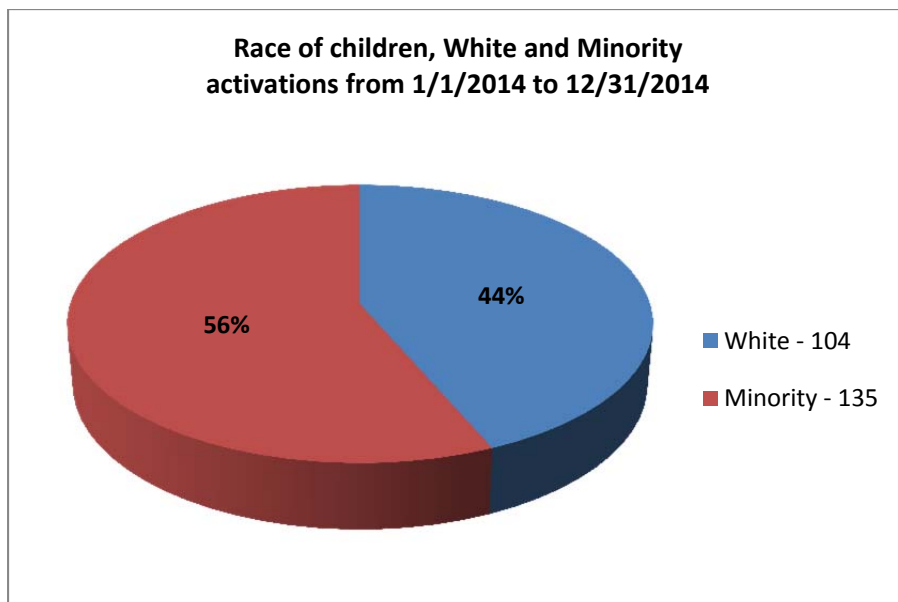
Boys and girls who were 5 years old and younger represented 61 percent (n=145) of the children who were reported missing with known ages. Of all children reported missing, boys (n=18) and girls (n=17) younger than 1 year of age were most frequently involved in AMBER Alerts. One child was initially believed to be 16 years of age, but was later determined to be 20 years of age. The age of one child was unknown.

Figure 9: Age of children when missing

Age of children when missing
activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014
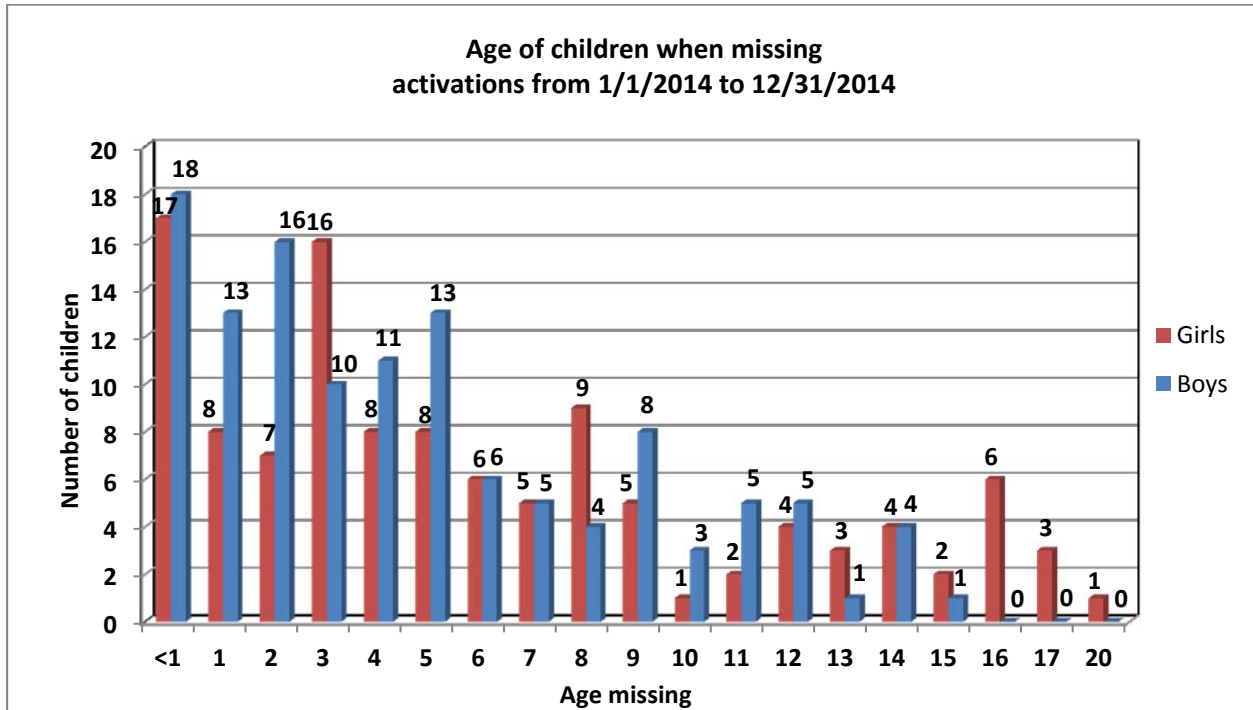
Number and characteristics of abductors

In 2014, 173 abductors were identified as being involved in 152 AMBER Alert cases.

The majority of abductors were male at 58 percent (n=101), and 41 percent (n=71) of abductors were female. The sex of one abductor was unknown.

Forty-four percent (n=76) of abductors were white, 27 percent (n=47) of abductors were black, 14 percent (n=24) of abductors were Hispanic, 4 percent (n=7) of abductors were American Indian and 1 percent (n=1) of abductors were Asian. The race for 10 percent (n=18) was unknown.

Abductors with a known relationship to the child

Of the 173 abductors involved in AMBER Alerts in 2014, 135 abductors had known relationships with the children. An AMBER Alert case may involve multiple abductors; therefore, the number of abductors may exceed the number of cases for any case type. 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 116 FA cases, 113 abductors involved had known relationships with the children. They consisted of one aunt, 55 fathers, two father's girlfriends, two grandfathers, seven grandmothers, 38 mothers, three mother's boyfriends, one other relative, two stepfathers, one stepmother and one uncle.

Of the 60 NFA cases, 20 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 two baby sitters, three boyfriends, one cousin, one ex-boyfriend, eight friends of the family, three mother's boyfriends, one neighbor and one parent.

Of the 10 LIM cases two abductors involved had known relationships with the children. They consisted of one father and one mother.
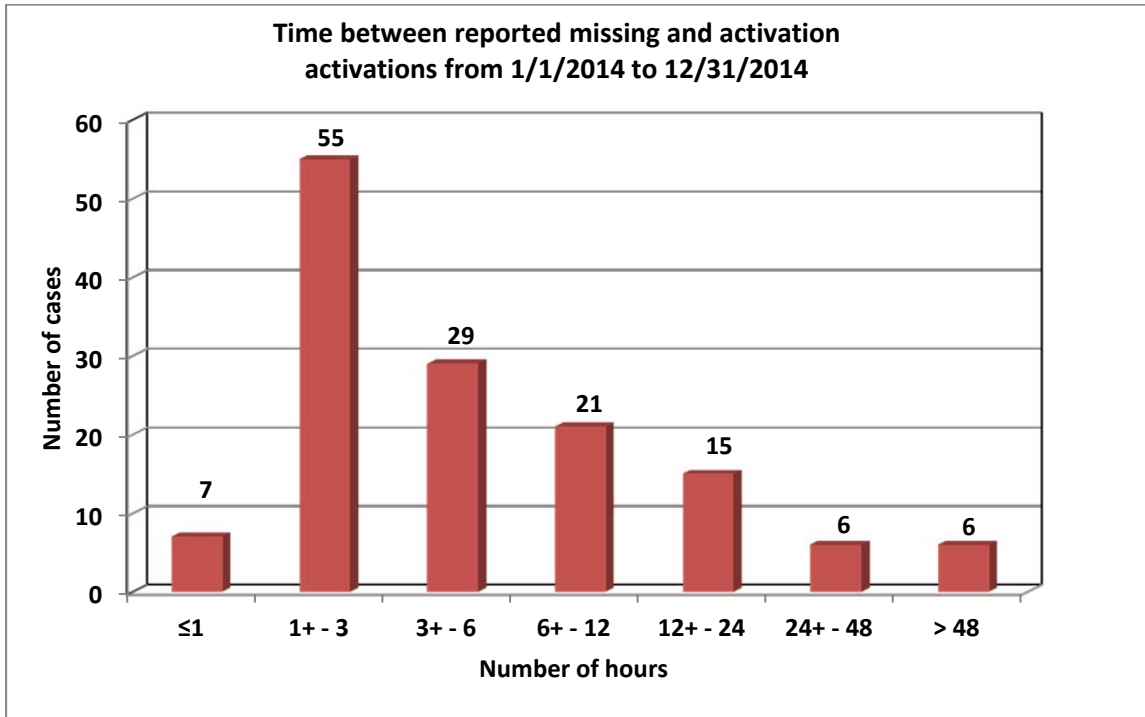
Table 9: Abductor relationship to child

Abductor relationship to child	FA	FA percent	NFA	NFA percent	LIM	LIM percent	Total	Total percent
Aunt	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Baby sitter	0	0	2	10	0	0	2	1
Boyfriend	0	0	3	15	0	0	3	2
Cousin	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	1
Ex-boyfriend	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	1
Father	55	49	0	0	1	50	56	41
Father's girlfriend	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1
Friend of family	0	0	8	40	0	0	8	6
Grandfather	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1
Grandmother	7	6	0	0	0	0	7	5
Mother	38	34	0	0	1	50	39	29
Mother's boyfriend	3	3	3	15	0	0	6	4
Neighbor	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	1
Other relative	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Parent	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	1
Stepfather	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1
Stepmother	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Uncle	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	**113**	**~100**	**20**	**100**	**2**	**100**	**135**	**~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 158 cases. Hoaxes and unfounded cases were excluded in the statistics because a child was determined not to be missing in those AMBER Alert cases.

Sixty-two AMBER Alerts were issued within three or fewer hours from when the child was reported missing. Twenty-nine cases were activated between more than three and six hours from when the child was reported missing, and 21 cases were issued between more than six and 12 hours.

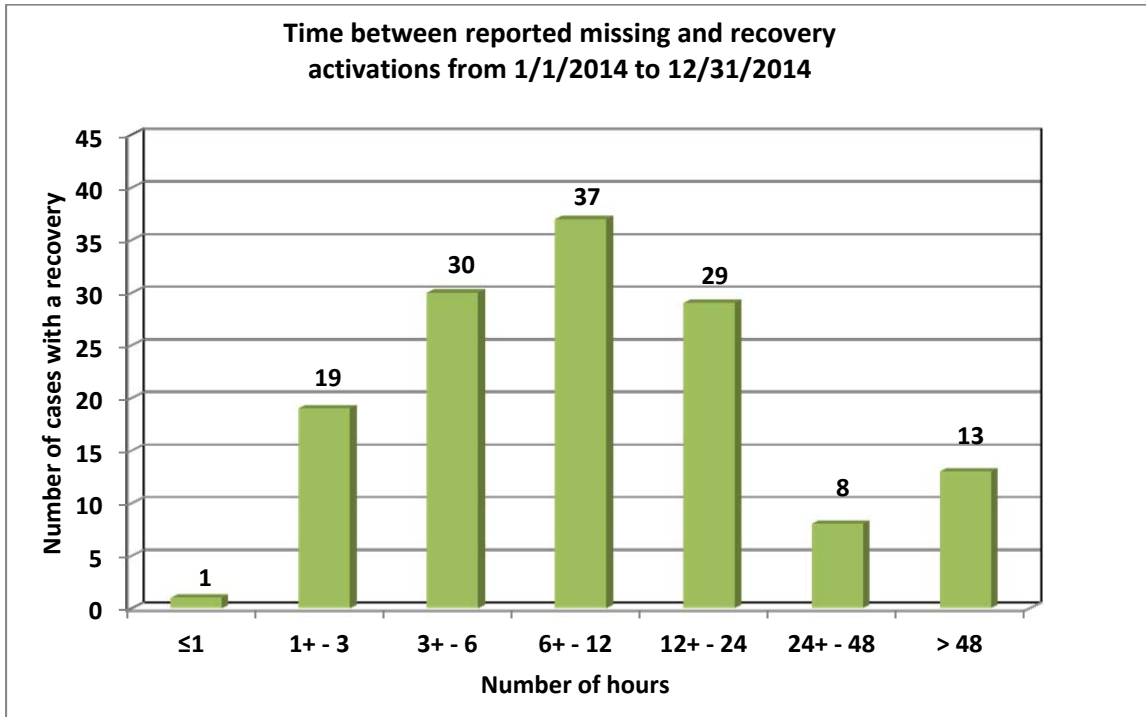*Figure 10: Time between reported missing and activation*

Time between reported missing and activation
activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

Bar chart. Y-axis: Number of cases (0 to 60). X-axis: Number of hours.

Number of hours	Number of cases
≤1	7
1+ - 3	55
3+ - 6	29
6+ - 12	21
12+ - 24	15
24+ - 48	6
> 48	6

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 153 cases. Hoaxes and unfounded cases were excluded in the statistics because a child was determined not to be missing in those AMBER Alert cases.

In 20 of the cases where AMBER Alerts were issued the children were recovered within three or fewer hours from when the child was reported missing. Children in 30 cases were recovered between more than three and six hours from when the child was reported missing, and in 37 cases the children were recovered between more than six and 12 hours.

Figure 11: Time between reported missing and recovery

Time between reported missing and recovery activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

Number of cases with a recovery

≤1	1+ - 3	3+ - 6	6+ - 12	12+ - 24	24+ - 48	> 48
1	19	30	37	29	8	13

Number of hours

Time between activation and recovery

Information about the time between when the AMBER Alert was activated and the AMBER Alert recovery was available in 154 cases. Hoaxes and unfounded cases were excluded in the statistics because a child was determined not to be missing in those AMBER Alert cases.

In 78 of the cases where AMBER Alerts were issued the children were recovered within three or fewer hours from when the AMBER Alert was activated. Children in 28 cases were recovered between more than three and six hours from when the AMBER Alert was activated, and in 21 cases the children were recovered between more than six to 12 hours.

Figure 12: Time between activation and recovery

Time between activation and recovery activations from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014
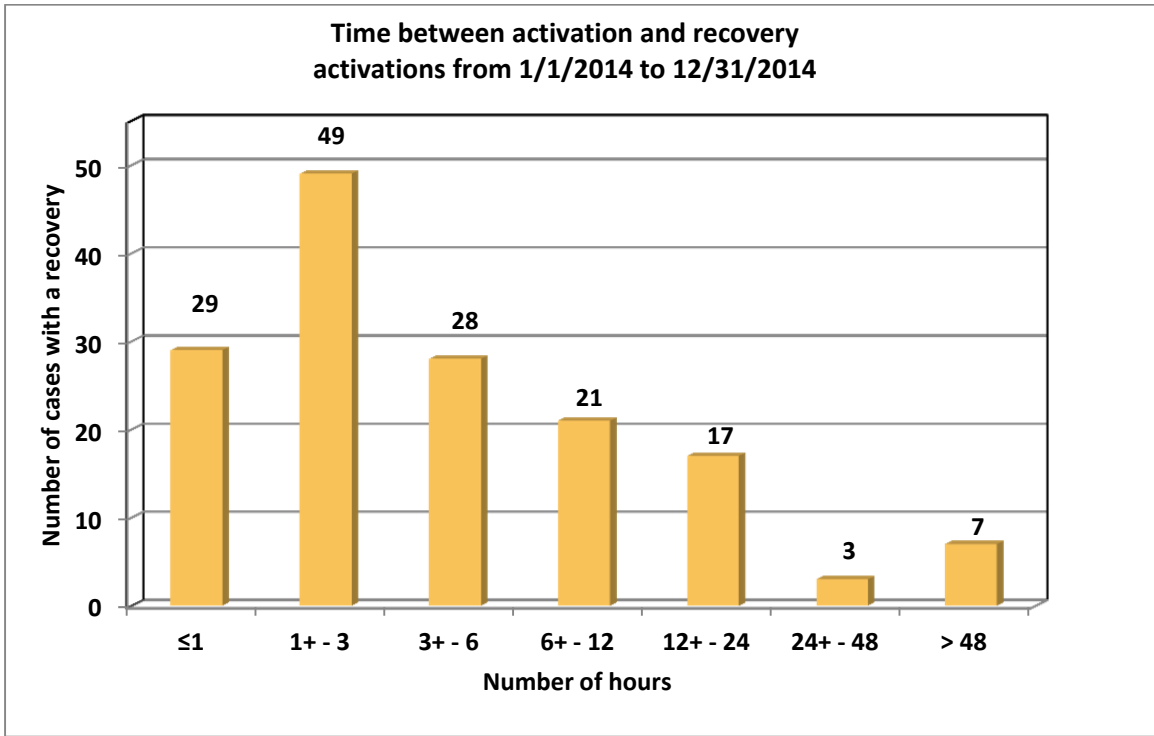
Recovery within three days of activation

Information about the date between when the AMBER Alert was activated and the AMBER Alert recovery was available in all 186 cases.

Table 10: Recovery within three days of activation

	Time between activation and recovery 1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014
Intaked cases	186
Cases classified as hoax or unfounded after intake	26
Intaked children	239
Children classified as hoax or unfounded after intake	32
Number of cases in which child recovered within 72 hours	150
Percent of cases in which child recovered within 72 hours	94 percent*
Number of children recovered within 72 hours	197
Percent of children recovered within 72 hours	95 percent**

*Percentage excludes cases classified as hoaxes (n=15) and unfounded (n=11)

**Percentage excludes children classified as hoaxes (n=18) and unfounded (n=14)

Travel distances

In 2014, distances between where the child was reported missing and recovered were known for 146 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 they were calculated by using city and state. Therefore distances are not calculated for cases in which the child was recovered from the city where he or she was abducted.

In 42 cases, the missing and recovery locations were in the same city; in 59 cases, the distance between missing and recovery locations were outside the city but within 100 miles of each other; in 32 cases, the distance between missing and recovery locations ranged from 101 to 500 miles; in six cases, the distance between missing and recovery locations ranged from 501 to 1,000 miles; and in seven cases, distances were more than 1,000 miles. For nine cases, the distance could not be calculated, and the remaining 31 cases were either hoaxes, unfounded or active cases.

Figure 13: Distance between missing and recovery locations
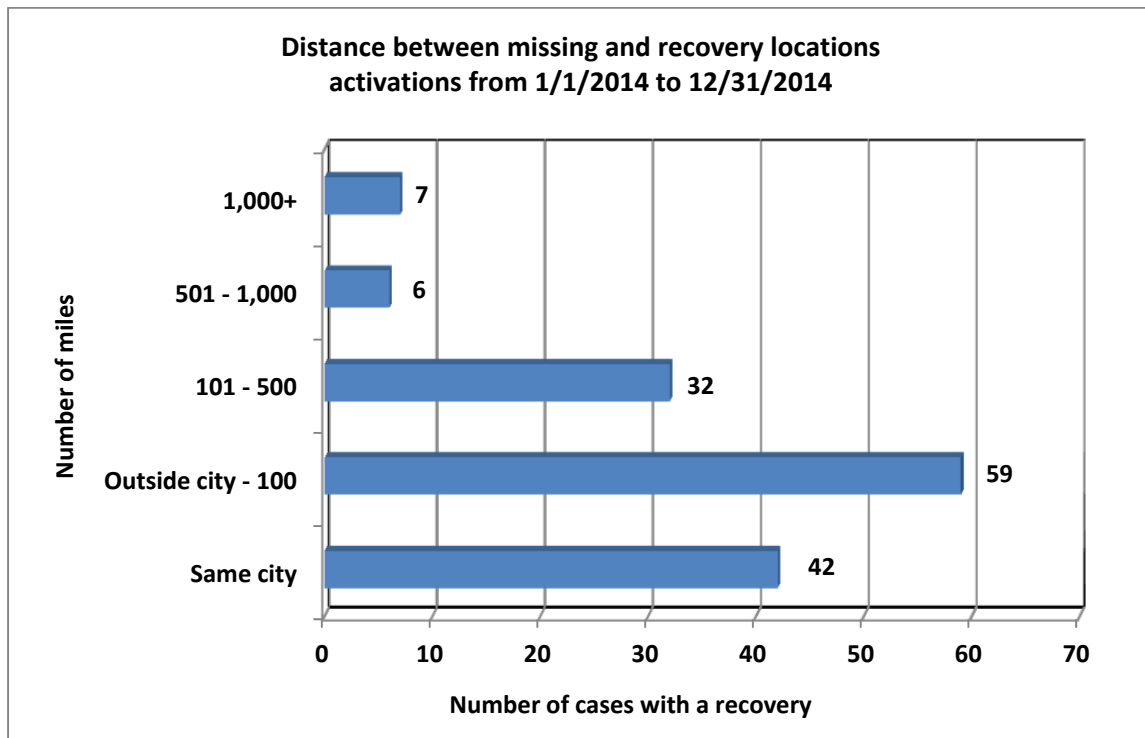
Of the 116 AMBER Alerts issued for FA cases, children in 22 cases were found in the same city. In 42 cases, distances ranged from one to 83 miles, and in 28 cases, the distances ranged from 102 to 432 miles. In four cases, distances ranged from 616 to 922 miles. In six cases, distances exceeded 1,000 miles. In eight cases, the distance could not be calculated, and the remaining six cases were active and hoaxes.

Of the 60 AMBER Alerts issued for NFA cases, the children involved in 15 cases were found in the same city. In 17 cases, distances ranged from five to 79 miles. In four cases, travel distances ranged from 180 to 449 miles. In two cases, distances ranged from 690 to 892 miles. In one case, the distance exceeded

1,000 miles. In one case, the distance could not be calculated, and the remaining 20 cases were active, hoaxes and unfounded cases.

There were 10 AMBER Alerts issued for LIM cases in 2014, and of those cases five were found in the same city. The remaining five cases were determined to be active, hoaxes or unfounded cases.

Figure 14: Distance traveled by case type
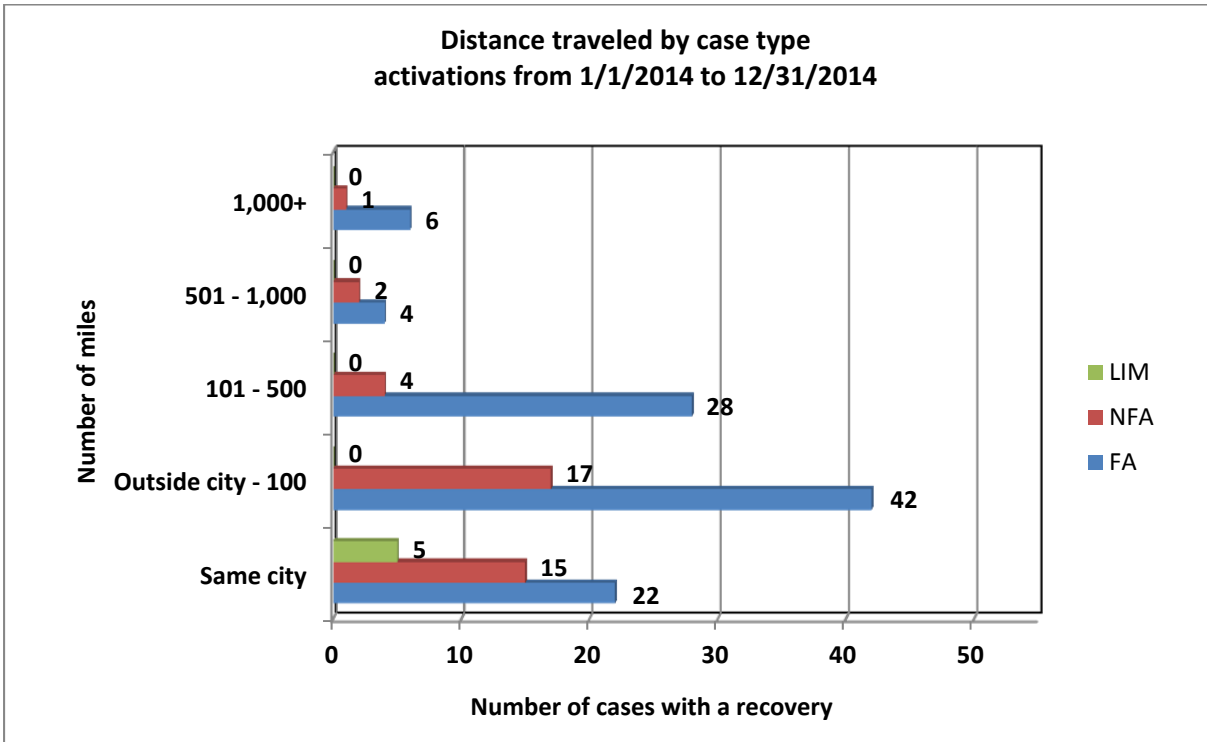
Recoveries outside of state/territory where AMBER Alert first activated

There are instances when an abductor may travel with a child out of the state/territory where the AMBER Alert was first activated. Of the 186 AMBER Alerts issued in 2014, six cases still remain active. Twenty-two percent of cases (n=40) had recoveries outside of the state of the original activation. Of those 40 cases, 83 percent (n=33) were FAs and 18 percent (n=7) were NFAs.

Table 11: Recovery outside of state where AMBER Alert first activated

Activation state	Recovery state
Arkansas	Oklahoma
California	Arizona
California	Nevada
California	Texas
Colorado	New Mexico
Connecticut	Arizona
Connecticut	Maine

Activation state	Recovery state
Florida	Minnesota
Georgia	North Carolina
Kansas	Texas
Kentucky	Virginia
Maryland	Delaware
Maryland	South Carolina
Massachusetts	North Carolina
Michigan	Florida
Mississippi	Georgia
Mississippi	Louisiana
Mississippi	Louisiana
Missouri	Florida
Montana	Kentucky
New Jersey	South Carolina
New Mexico	Arkansas
New Mexico	Colorado
New York	New Jersey
North Carolina	Mississippi
North Carolina	Virginia
Ohio	Indiana
Ohio	West Virginia
Oklahoma	Texas
Pennsylvania	New York
Rhode Island	Washington
South Carolina	North Carolina
Texas	Arkansas
Texas	Louisiana
Texas	New York
Vermont	New Hampshire
Virginia	Kentucky
Virginia	North Carolina
Washington	Oregon
Washington	Oregon

Missing location

In 2014 there were 150 cases with information about where the children involved were last known to be located. Of those 150 cases 68 percent (n=102) were last known to be at home followed by 9 percent of cases where children were last known to be at a store (n=13).

Table 12: Missing location

Missing location	Number of cases	Percent
Automobile	4	3
Government facility	1	1
Home	102	68
Hotel	3	2
Medical facility	1	1
Office building	1	1
Other	2	1
Park	1	1
Parking	1	1
Restaurant	1	1
Retail	13	9
School facility	8	5
Social services	3	2
Street	9	6
Total	**150**	**~100**

Recovery location

There were 166 cases with information about where the child was recovered. In 2014 children involved in AMBER Alert cases were most often recovered at home 36 percent (n=59) of the time followed by recoveries in a vehicle at 16 percent (n=27).

Table 13: Recovery location

Recovery location	Number of cases	Percent
Automobile	27	16
Body of water	1	1
Border crossing	2	1
Construction/industrial area	1	1
Home	59	36
Hotel	8	5
Law enforcement agency	12	7
Medical facility	2	1
Office building	2	1
Outdoor	7	4
Parking	8	5
Path/trail/woods	1	1
Recreational	2	1

Recovery location	Number of cases	Percent
Religious facility	1	1
Restaurant	2	1
Retail	9	5
Street	21	13
Truck/rest stop	1	1
Total	**166**	**~100**

International abductions

In 2014, one AMBER Alert activation involving one child was as a result of an international abduction. The AMBER Alert involved a 10-month-old black boy abducted by a family member who was recovered in Mexico.

Infants involved in AMBER Alert activations

In 2014 infants, who are defined as children 6 months of age or younger, were involved in 21 AMBER Alert activations. Sixty-seven percent (n=14) of infants involved were FAs, and 33 percent (n=7) were NFAs.

Forty-eight percent (n=10) of infants involved in AMBER Alerts were boys and 52 percent (n=11) were girls. Five percent (n=1) of infants involved were American Indian, 10 percent (n=2) were biracial, 24 percent (n=5) were black, 19 percent (n=4) were Hispanic and 43 percent (n=9) were white.

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 186 AMBER Alert cases in 2014, 72 children involved in 52 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	Percent of successful recoveries by case	Number of successful recoveries by child	Percent of successful recoveries by child
FA	41	79	57	79
NFA	10	19	14	19
LIM	1	2	1	1
ERU	0	0	0	0
Total	**52**	**100**	**72**	**~100**

The most common reason for an AMBER Alert success story is an individual or law enforcement recognizing the vehicle from the alert at 35 percent (n=18) followed by an individual or law enforcement recognizing the child and/or abductor from the alert at 21 percent (n=11).

Table 15: Reason for success stories

Summary of success stories	Number of cases	Percent of cases	Number of children	Percent of children
Individual or law enforcement recognized vehicle	18	35	22	31
Individual or law enforcement recognized child and/or abductor	11	21	15	21
Law enforcement received tips from individuals	8	15	13	18
Individual knew of abductor's/child's whereabouts	7	13	12	17
Abductor heard Alert and released child	7	13	9	13
Individual heard Alert and convinced abductor to turn self in	1	2	1	1
Total	**52**	**~100**	**72**	**~100**

Time between activation and recovery for success stories

Of the success stories in 2014, 61 percent of the children (n=44), representing 56 percent (n=29) of the cases, were successfully recovered within three 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	3	6	3	4
1/2+ - 1 hour	6	12	14	19
1+ - 2 hours	11	21	16	22
2+ - 3 hours	9	17	11	15
3+ - 4 hours	3	6	5	7
4+ - 5 hours	1	2	1	1
5+ - 6 hours	4	8	5	7
6+ - 12 hours	7	13	8	11
12+ - 24 hours	6	12	6	8
24+ - 48 hours	1	2	1	1
48+ hours	1	2	2	3

	Number of cases	Percent of cases	Number of children	Percent of children
Total	**52**	**~100**	**72**	**~100**

Children recovered deceased

In 2014, 186 AMBER Alerts were issued for 239 children. Six children in six AMBER Alert cases were recovered deceased. Sixty-seven percent (n=4) of children were reported as NFAs and 33 percent (n=2) were reported as LIMs. Three girls, ages 10, 17 and 17, were found deceased, and three boys, ranging in age from 2 to 5, were found deceased. One child was Asian, two children were black and three children were white.

Of the six children recovered deceased in 2014, 83 percent (n=5) were reported missing from their respective homes. It is unknown where one child (17 percent) was last seen.

In one case, the child's boyfriend abducted the child. In one case, the child was abducted by a cousin. In one case, the child's ex-boyfriend was the abductor, and in one case, the child was abducted by his father. In one case there was no relationship between the abductor and the child, and in one case the abductor was unknown.

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
01/22/14	NFA	Asian girl	17	<72 hours	Same city	Undisclosed*
02/18/14	NFA	White girl	10	<72 hours	Same city	Undisclosed*
07/11/14	LIM	Black boy	5	<72 hours	Same city	Undetermined**
08/31/14	NFA	White girl	17	<72 hours	Same city	Gunshot
12/18/14	NFA	White boy	5	<72 hours	6 miles	Strangulation
12/24/14	LIM	Black boy	2	<72 hours	17 miles	Suffocation

*Undisclosed means the cause of death was not released by the investigative agency at the time of data collection.
**Undetermined means a cause of death was not determined at the time of data collection.

AMBER Alerts involving victims of sexual assault

In 2014, two girls in two AMBER Alert activations were reported to be victims of sexual assault during their abduction. Both girls were white. They were aged 12 and 14. The case type at intake included two NFAs.

Team Adam consultant deployment

Team Adam is a program of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children providing an on-site response and technical assistance support system 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 co-founders John and Revé Walsh.

In 2014, Team Adam consultants were deployed to assist with 17 AMBER Alert cases involving 19 children, with all but two children recovered in two cases. Two cases involving two children were later determined to be hoaxes. At intake, the case breakdown included 10 NFAs, six FAs and one LIM.

FBI involvement in AMBER Alerts

The FBI has specialized Child Abduction Rapid Deployment or CARD Teams designed to deploy teams of 10 to 12 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 five regionally separated teams. 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 108 times, according to the FBI, to assist law enforcement agencies where an AMBER Alert or mysterious disappearance of a child has occurred. There were two deployments in 2014 for AMBER Alerts.

Command post use in AMBER Alerts

A command post is a field headquarters/office for scene management to centralize investigative efforts as well as search-and-rescue operations.

In 2014, 36 of the AMBER Alert cases reported to NCMEC involved the use of a command post. Of those cases, 18 cases were intaked as FAs, 14 cases were intaked as NFAs and four cases were intaked as LIMs.

National Crime Information Center

The National Crime Information Center, known as 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 by law enforcement within two hours of receipt of a report of a missing or abducted child.

Of the 239 children involved in AMBER Alert cases in 2014, information about 194 children was entered into NCIC, and information about 45 children was not entered into NCIC.

Table 18: Information entered in NCIC

	1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014	1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014 percent
Information entered in NCIC	194	81
Information not entered in NCIC	45	19
Total	**239**	**100**

Of the 194 children whose information was entered in NCIC from Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2014, 99 children were flagged as an AMBER Alert or AA, 69 children were flagged as a Missing Person or MP, 21 children were flagged as a Child Abduction or CA and the flags for five children were unknown.

Figure 15: Flag type in NCIC
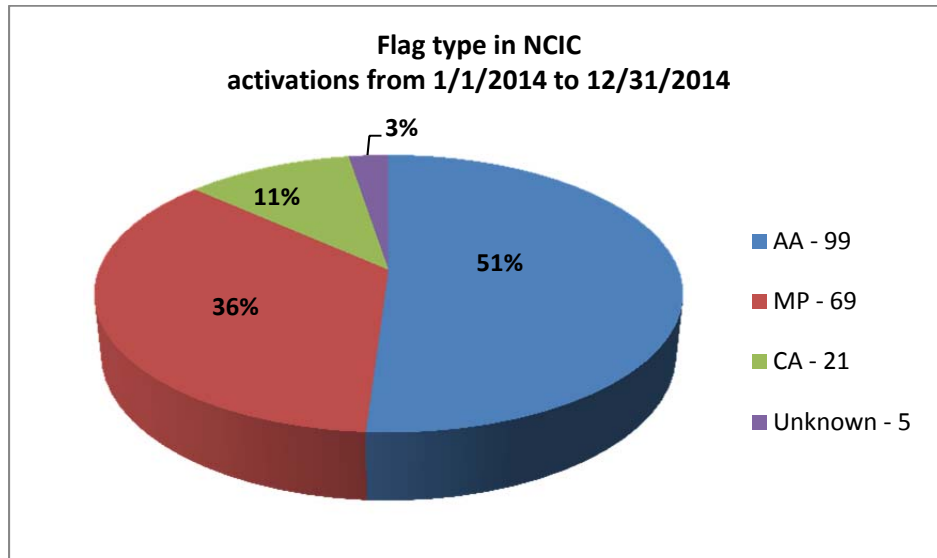
NCMEC is the only agency outside of law enforcement granted permission to modify flags in NCIC to AA status for AMBER Alert cases at the originating agency's request. During the months of January through December 2014, a total of 58 flags were updated in NCIC. Thirty-eight flags were changed from MP to AA, and 20 flags were changed from CA to AA. NCMEC made the flag updates for 38 children, and law enforcement made the flag updates for 16 children. For four children 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 Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2014.

Table 19: Missing person type in NCIC

NCIC missing person type	1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014	1/1/2014- 12/31/2014 percent
Endangered	83	43
Endangered - caution	6	3
Involuntary	51	26
Involuntary - caution	5	3
Juvenile	43	22
Juvenile - caution	5	3
Unknown	1	1
Total	**194**	**~100**

From Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2014, information about 54 children was entered and canceled from NCIC within three hours.

Table 20: Hours between information about children entered and canceled from NCIC

	1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014 total	1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014 cumulative total	1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014 percent	1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014 cumulative percent
Up to 1/2 hour	11	11	6	6
½+ - 1 hour	4	15	2	8
1+ - 2 hours	15	30	8	15
2+ - 3 hours	24	54	12	28
3+ - 4 hours	10	64	5	33
4+ - 5 hours	7	71	4	37
5+ - 6 hours	7	78	4	40
6+ - 12 hours	29	107	15	55
12+ - 24 hours	28	135	14	70
24+ - 48 hours	19	154	10	79
48+ - 72 hours	1	155	1	80
72+ hours	25	180	13	93
Unknown	14	194	7	100
Total	**194**		**~100**	

Data collected from the miscellaneous field in NCIC captured information such as abductor threats and use of weapons for 76 children involved in 57 AMBER Alerts issued in 2014. Nine abductors were armed with a weapon, four abductors had a history of alcohol and/or drug abuse, eight abductors had a history of mental illness, two abductors were a suspect in a homicide, one abductor was a sex offender, two abductors threatened to harm the child, one abductor threatened to kill herself, four abductors

threatened to kill the child and themselves and eight children had medical issues. Eighteen children had "other" listed in the miscellaneous field.

Of the 194 children whose information was entered in NCIC, 78 percent (n=152) had vehicle involvement in the AMBER Alert and 22 percent (n=42) did not have a vehicle involved.

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.

License plate information was available and entered in NCIC for 86 children. Of those, 65 children's records had license plate information entered in the vehicle field only, and in eight children's records the license plate information was entered in the miscellaneous field only. **Note**: Law enforcement cannot search for license plate information in NCIC if the vehicle information is entered only in the miscellaneous field. For 13 children's records the license plate information was entered in both the miscellaneous and vehicle fields.

Five year comparison of AMBER Alerts issued

**Number of AMBER Alerts and children involved**

The number of AMBER Alerts has shown an overall increase of 8 percent between 2010 and 2014.

In 2010 there were 173 alerts involving 211 children; in 2011 there were 158 alerts involving 197 children; in 2012 there were 167 alerts involving 204 children; in 2013 there were 194 alerts involving 243 children; and in 2014 there were 186 alerts involving 239 children.

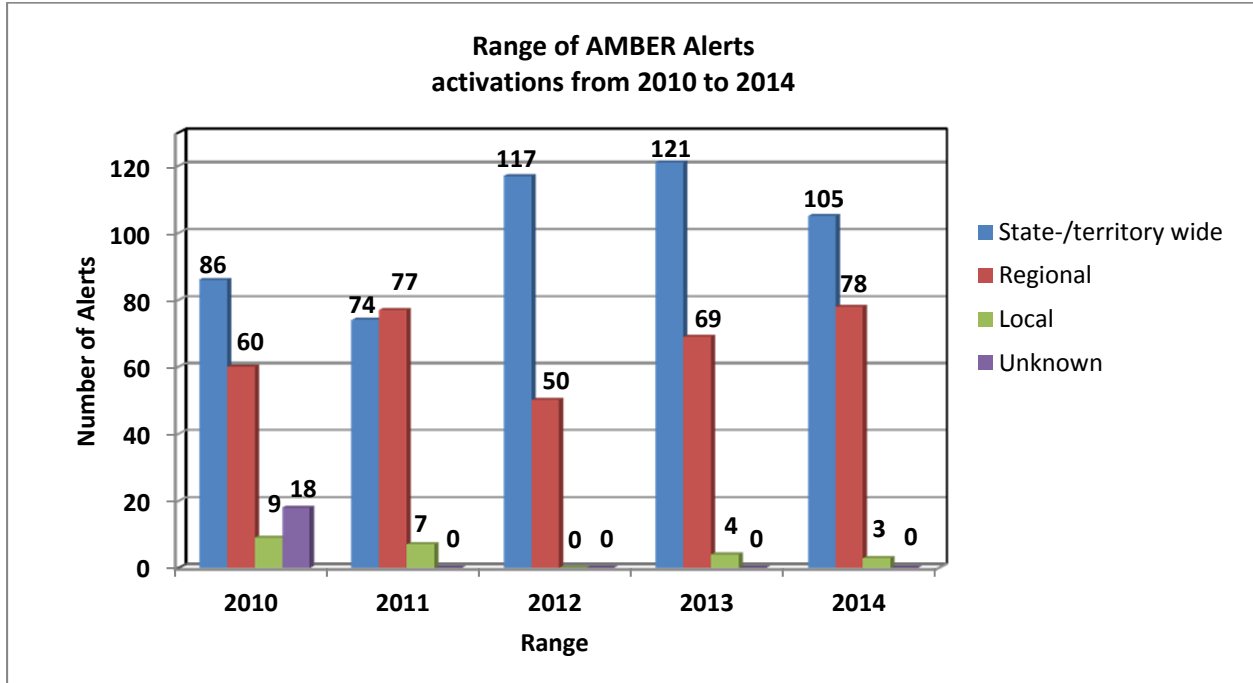*Figure 16: Number of AMBER Alerts from 2010 to 2014*

Number of AMBER Alerts activations from 2010 to 2014
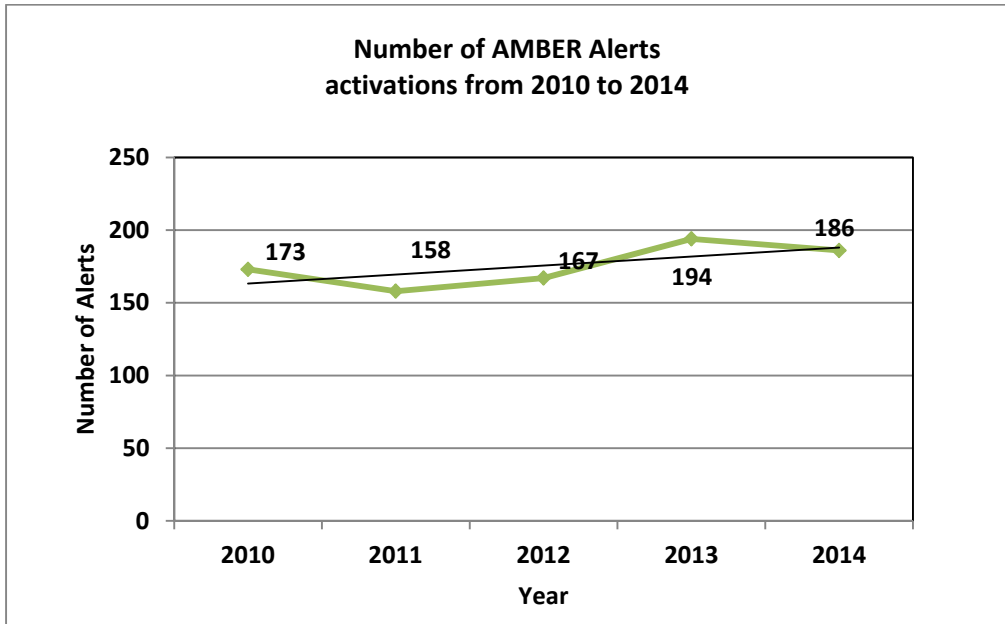
Figure 17: Number of children involved in AMBER Alerts from 2010 to 2014

Number of children involved in AMBER Alerts activations from 2010 to 2014
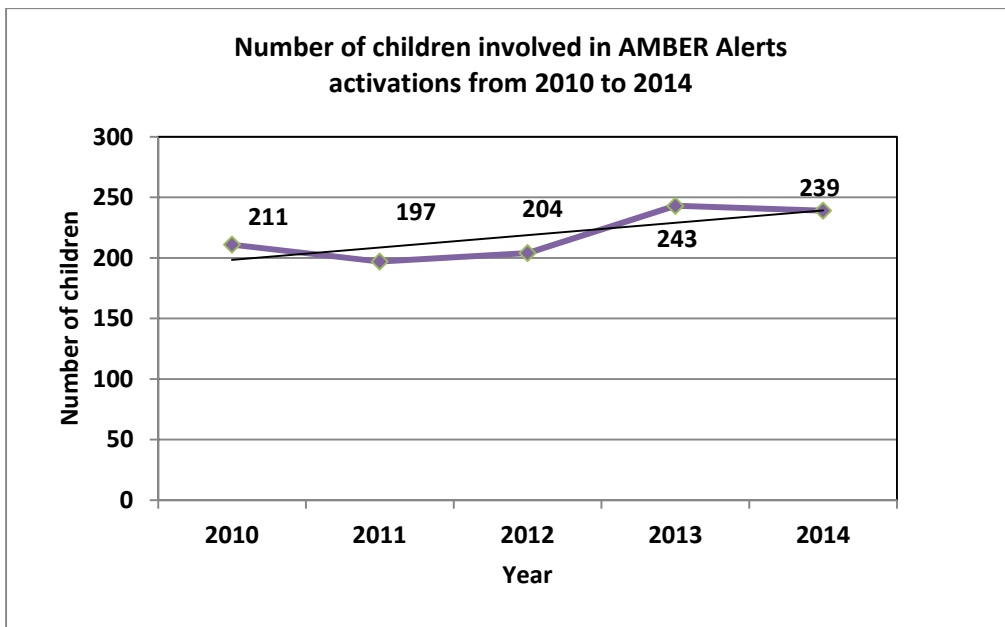
AMBER Alerts by range

From 2010 to 2014 AMBER Alerts were predominantly issued state-/territory wide, followed by regional alerts and then local alerts.

Figure 18: Range of AMBER Alerts from 2010 to 2014

Range of AMBER Alerts activations from 2010 to 2014

Number of Alerts (y-axis) vs Range (x-axis)

Legend:
- State-/territory wide
- Regional
- Local
- Unknown

Year	State-/territory wide	Regional	Local	Unknown
2010	86	60	9	18
2011	74	77	7	0
2012	117	50	0	0
2013	121	69	4	0
2014	105	78	3	0

Multistate/territory AMBER Alerts

The number of multistate/territory AMBER Alerts consistently fell and rose slightly from 2010 to 2014. In 2010 there were 14 alerts, and in 2011 there was a decrease with a total of eight alerts. In 2012 there was an increase with 13 multistate alerts issued. There was an increase with 15 multistate alerts issued in 2013 and a decrease with 14 multistate alerts issued in 2014.

Number of cases at intake by month

Table 21: Number of cases by month from 2010 to 2014

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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
2012	11	17	15	9	15	10	16	12	17	16	17	12
2013	17	8	15	17	25	15	19	20	16	17	11	14
2014	20	14	13	17	16	13	9	21	16	18	10	19
Total	**72**	**61**	**69**	**73**	**86**	**67**	**81**	**83**	**74**	**83**	**59**	**70**

Table 22: Cases and percent increase/decrease by month from 2010 to 2014

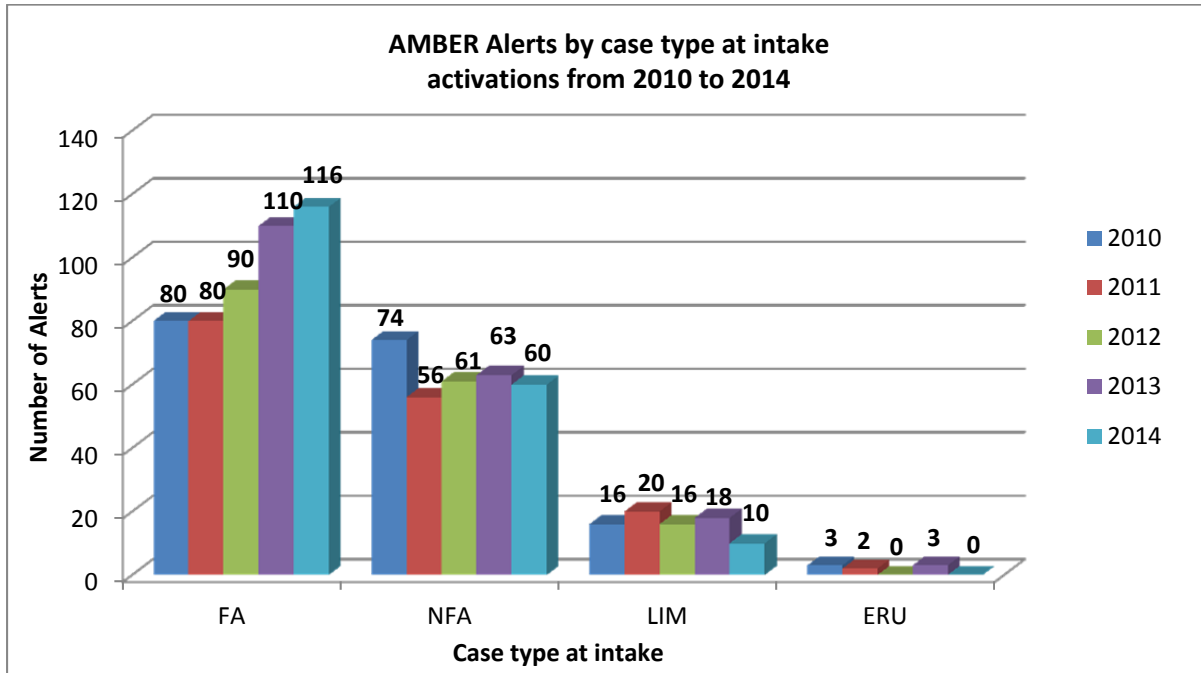|	2010	Percent change	2011	Percent change	2012	Percent change	2013	Percent change	2014
Jan	16	-50	8	38	11	55	17	18	20
Feb	16	-63	6	183	17	-53	8	75	14
Mar	16	-38	10	50	15	0	15	-13	13
Apr	14	14	16	-44	9	89	17	0	17
May	13	31	17	-12	15	67	25	-36	16
Jun	11	64	18	-44	10	50	15	-13	13
Jul	22	-32	15	7	16	19	19	-53	9
Aug	8	175	22	-45	12	67	20	5	21
Sep	13	-8	12	42	17	-6	16	0	16
Oct	20	-40	12	33	16	6	17	6	18
Nov	11	-9	10	70	17	-35	11	-9	10
Dec	13	-8	12	0	12	17	14	36	19
Total	**173**	**-9**	**158**	**6**	**167**	**16**	**194**	-4	**186**

Case type at intake

The number of cases intaked as FAs increased 45 percent from 80 alerts in 2010 to 116 alerts in 2014.

For NFAs there was a decrease of cases from 2010 to 2011, with 74 alerts and 56 alerts respectively. In 2012 and 2013 the number of NFAs increased to 61 and 63 respectively. In 2014, the number of NFAs declined slightly to 60 alerts.

The number of cases intaked as LIMs has remained steady ranging from 16 to 20 alerts from 2010 to 2013. The number of LIMs dropped in 2014 to 10 alerts.

From 2010 to 2012, the number of ERUs has decreased from three to zero alerts. The number of ERUs rose to 2010 levels at three alerts in 2013, and in 2014 there were no alerts issued for ERUs.

*Figure 19: AMBER Alerts by case type at intake from 2010 to 2014*

AMBER Alerts by case type at intake activations from 2010 to 2014

Table 23: Cases and percent increase/decrease by case type from 2010 to 2014

	2010	Percent change	2011	Percent change	2012	Percent change	2013	Percent change	2014
FA	80	0	80	13	90	22	110	5	116
NFA	74	-24	56	9	61	3	63	-5	60
LIM	16	25	20	-20	16	13	18	-44	10
ERU	3	-33	2	-100	0	0	3	-100	0
N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**173**	**-9**	**158**	**6**	**167**	**16**	**194**	**-4**	**186**

Hoaxes and unfounded cases

The number of hoaxes has steadily risen from 2010 to 2014 with n= 11, 13, 13, 14 and 15. The number of unfounded cases decreased between 2010 and 2012 with 10 and seven cases respectively. In 2013 the number of unfounded cases increased to 16 and fell in 2014 to 11.

Figure 20: Number of hoaxes and unfounded cases from 2010 to 2014

Number of hoaxes and unfounded cases activations from 2010 to 2014
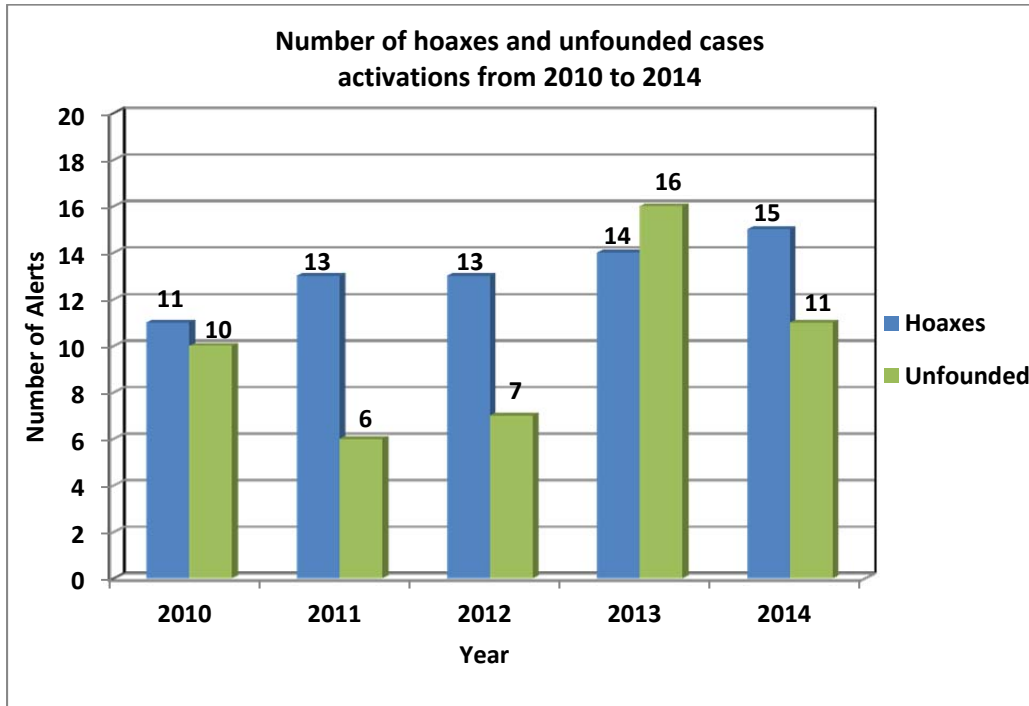

Number and characteristics of children involved in AMBER Alerts

Girls were more frequently involved in AMBER Alerts than boys from 2010, 2012 and 2013, while there were more boys than girls in 2011 and 2014. In 2010 girls represented 53 percent (n=112) of AMBER Alerts, compared to boys who comprised 47 percent (n=99). In 2011, boys represented 51 percent (n=101) of AMBER Alerts, and girls comprised 49 percent (n=96). In 2012, girls made up 56 percent (n=115) of AMBER Alerts compared to boys who made up 44 percent (n=89). In 2013, girls represented 51 percent (n=124) of AMBER Alerts, while boys made up 49 percent (n=118); the sex for one child was unknown. In 2014, boys comprised 51 percent (n=123) of AMBER Alerts, whereas girls comprised 49 percent (n=116).

The number of American Indian children involved in AMBER Alerts ranged from three children in 2010 to eight children in 2014 (n=3, 1, 5, 5 and 8). The number of Asian children generally declined from 2010 to 2014 with 10 to two children involved in AMBER Alerts. The number of biracial children overall increased from 2010 (n=7) to 2014 (n=15). For black children there were increases from 2010 (n=63) to 2011 (n=65) and from 2013 (n=56) to 2014 (n=72). The number of Hispanic children saw a 36 percent increase between 2010 and 2014 (n=28 and n=38). The number of white children decreased 15 percent (n=99 and n=84) between 2010 and 2012; there was an increase in 2013 (n=111) and a slight decrease in 2014 (n=104).
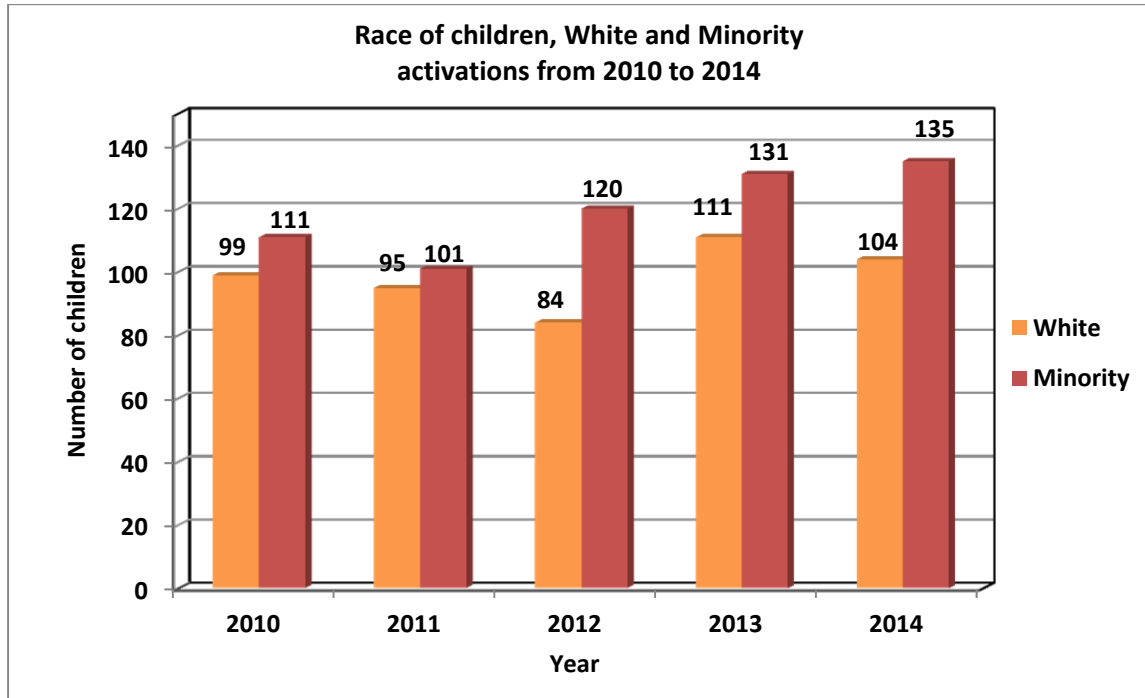
Figure 21: Race of children from 2010 to 2014

**Race of children
activations from 2010 to 2014**
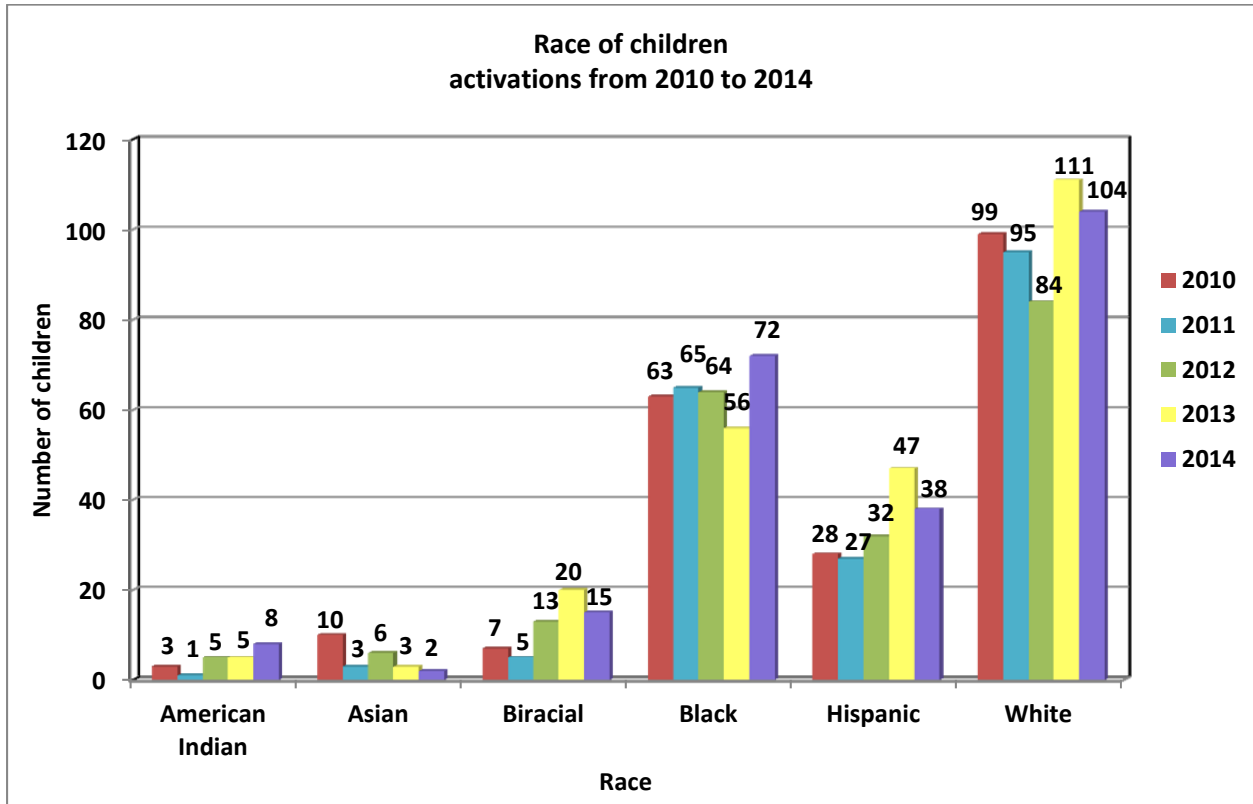
From 2010 to 2014, minority children were involved in AMBER Alerts more frequently than white children.

Figure 22: Race of children, White and Minority from 2010 to 2014

Race of children, White and Minority activations from 2010 to 2014

International abductions

In 2010, three AMBER Alerts involving three children resulted in an international abduction. Two cases involved recoveries in Mexico, and one case involved a recovery in Canada. In 2011, there were no AMBER Alerts for international abductions. In 2012, there was one AMBER Alert for a case originating in Canada, and the child was recovered in Montana. In 2013, four AMBER Alerts involving five children were international abductions. In one case, the child was abducted in Mexico, while in another case the child was recovered in Mexico. One case involved a recovery in Canada, and another case involved a recovery in Cuba. In 2014, there was one AMBER Alert involving one child who was recovered in Mexico.

Children recovered deceased

A total of 40 children who were involved in AMBER Alerts issued from 2010 to 2014 were recovered deceased. From 2010 to 2014, the number of children recovered deceased fell and then rose (n=9, 5, 9, 11 and 6).

While children intaked as LIMs who were recovered deceased have been more frequent in prior years, children intaked as NFAs made up the largest number of case types for children who were recovered deceased from 2010 to 2014.

*Table 24: Number of children recovered deceased from 2010 to 2014*

Case type at intake	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
FA	1	1	2	3	0	7
NFA	3	2	2	7	4	18
LIM	5	2	5	1	2	15
ERU	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**9**	**5**	**9**	**11**	**6**	**40**

National Crime Information Center

In 2010, information about 78 percent (n=164) of children involved in AMBER Alerts was entered into NCIC. From 2011 to 2014, it was 81, 79, 80 and 81 percent respectively (n=159, 161, 194 and 194) of children's information was entered in NCIC. The AA flag was the predominant flag type from 2010 to 2014.
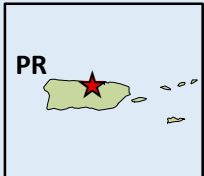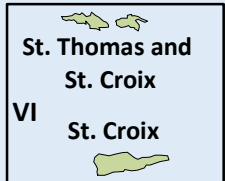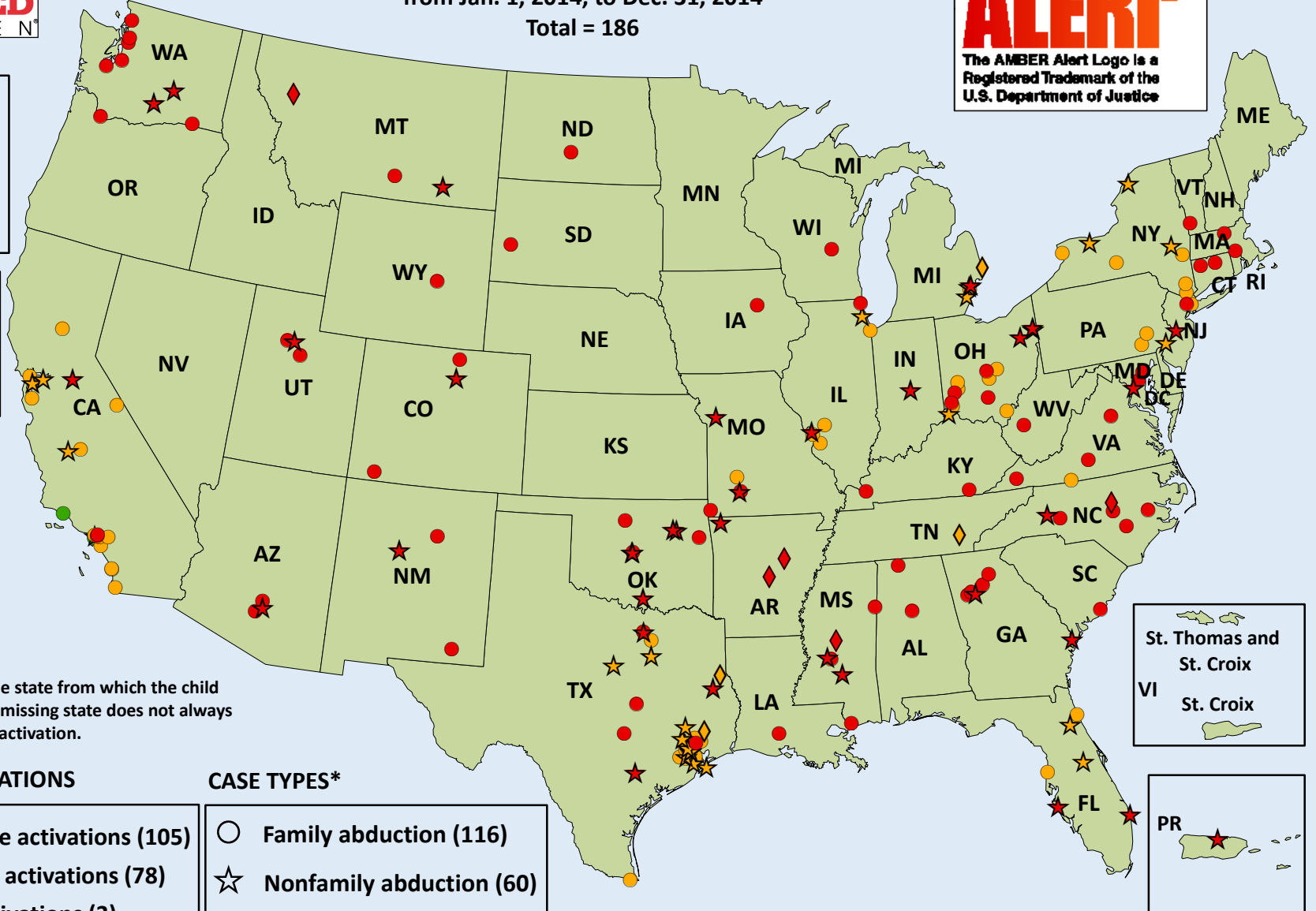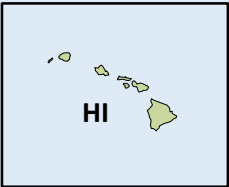
From 2010 to 2014, there were more instances when it was known a vehicle was involved in the alert (n=83, 107, 129, 156 and 152) than unknown.

Figure 23: Vehicle involvement in AMBER Alerts from 2010 to 2014
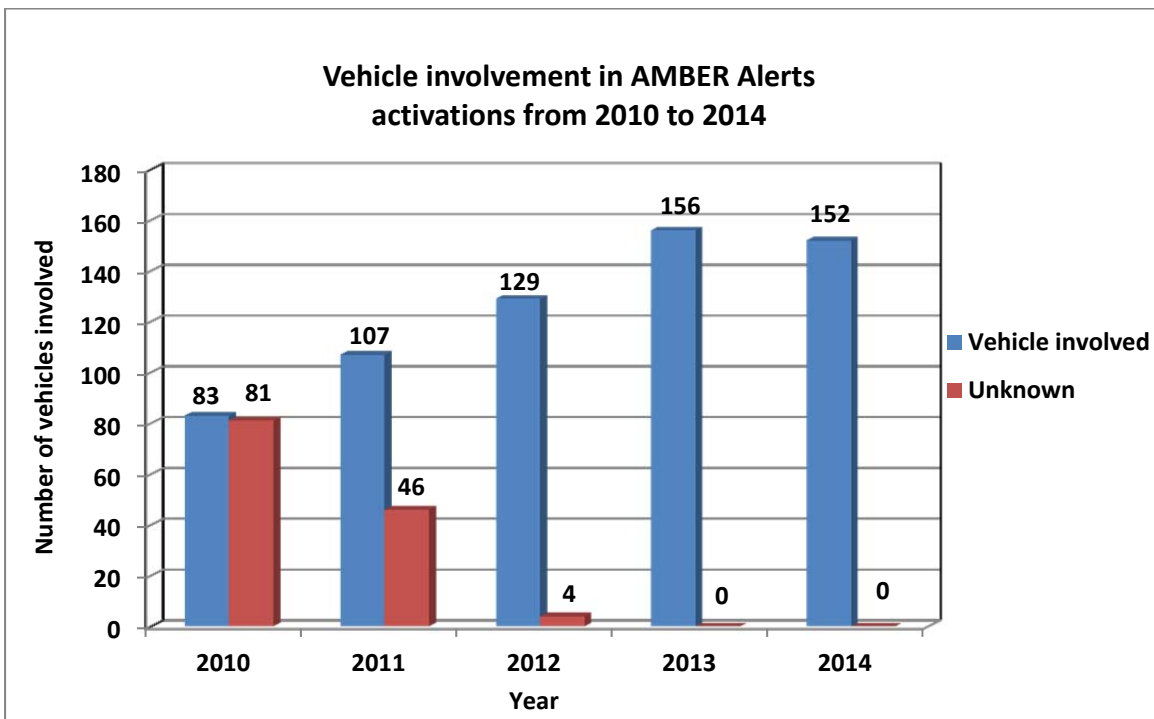
2014 AMBER Alert report

**AMBER Alert activations issued
from Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2014
Total = 186**

NATIONAL CENTER FOR
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*Symbols represent the state from which the child
is missing. The child's missing state does not always
represent the state of activation.

RANGE OF ACTIVATIONS

- 🟥 Statewide activations (105)
- 🟧 Regional activations (78)
- 🟩 Local activations (3)

CASE TYPES*

- ○ Family abduction (116)
- ☆ Nonfamily abduction (60)
- ◇ Lost injured missing (10)
- ☐ Endangered runaway (0)

Source: National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
Mapping software donated to NCMEC by Esri, Redlands, California
Feb. 23, 2015

St. Thomas and
St. Croix

VI   St. Croix