

Attachment B: Mail Survey Screener



NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SURVEY ON MISSING CHILDREN & RECOVERY

OMB No.

Part of the 4th National Incidence Study of Missing, Abducted, Runaway & Throwaway Children (NISMART-4)

Sponsored by:

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Juvenile Justice &
Delinquency Prevention

Managed by:

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

Washington, DC 20531

Conducted by:

Westat

1600 Research Blvd,
Rockville, MD 20850

and

Crimes against Children Research Center
University of New Hampshire
10 West Edge Drive
Durham, NH 03824

Toll free: XXX-XXX-XXXX

Please provide the name, position, and contact information of the person completing this survey, in case we need to clarify responses or gather additional information.

NAME:

POSITION OR TITLE:

DEPARTMENT OR UNIT:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

DATE COMPLETED:

()	Ext.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, we cannot ask you to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 3 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the National Institute of Justice, 810 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20531.

SECTION A

1. Does your agency have jurisdiction to conduct criminal investigations of cases in which a child is reported as missing or abducted?

Yes No → Skip to Section E, Page # →

2. Between [time period], did your agency investigate any cases where child, ages 17 or younger, was reported missing from a caretaker who contacted your agency for help to either locate or recover the child?

Consider all cases where your agency performed any investigation activity between [one-year period], including unsolved cases from previous years which remained open between [one-year period] including investigations that your agency turned over to another agency, if applicable.

Yes No → Skip to Section C, Page # →

3. Did any of these cases involve...

- a. A runaway or repeat runaway? Yes No
- b. A violation or alleged violation of a custodial order or agreement? Yes No
- c. A child who was lost, stranded, injured or too young to know how to return home or make contact with the caretaker? Yes No
- d. A child reported missing because of a misunderstanding or other harmless circumstance? Yes No
- e. A child missing under unknown circumstances? Yes No
- f. An abduction by a non-family perpetrator? Yes No
- g. A stranger abduction? Yes No

4. Did you answer "yes" to any item in Question 3? → Skip to Section C, Page # →

Yes No

5. Indicate the total number of cases that your agency investigated between [time period] that fit one or more of the criteria given in Question 3.

Remember to include all cases that fit the Question 3 criteria where your agency performed any investigation activity between [one-year period] regardless of when they were first reported and regardless of the involvement of another agency.

Total Number of Qualifying Cases Investigated Between [time period]

IMPORTANT: Please provide specific information about each case by completing Section B on the next page. →

SECTION B

For all missing children cases included in the total in Question 5 on the previous page, please provide the following information. If your agency has a lot of eligible cases you can: 1) print out the eligible cases directly and insert those pages into your returned survey; 2) add additional pages as necessary; or 3) contact us directly and we will provide you with additional assistance.

	a) Case Number <i>Provide your agency's case number for reference in our follow-up call</i>	b) Who was the key investigating officer or who in your agency is now the most knowledgeable person about the case?	c) Were any other law enforcement agencies involved?	d) When was the case reported? (MM/DD/YY)	e) Is the case still open?	f) Indicate which criteria this case appears to fit (circle all that apply):
1.		Name Email	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	/ /	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Runaway, Custodial Order/ Agreement, Lost/Stranded/ Injured, Misunderstanding, Unknown Circumstances, Non-family Abduction, Stranger Abduction
2.		Name Email	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	/ /	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Runaway, Custodial Order/ Agreement, Lost/Stranded/ Injured, Misunderstanding, Unknown Circumstances, Non-family Abduction, Stranger Abduction
3.		Name Email	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	/ /	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Runaway, Custodial Order/ Agreement, Lost/Stranded/ Injured, Misunderstanding, Unknown Circumstances, Non-family Abduction, Stranger Abduction
4.		Name Email	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	/ /	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Runaway, Custodial Order/ Agreement, Lost/Stranded/ Injured, Misunderstanding, Unknown Circumstances, Non-family Abduction, Stranger Abduction

5.

Name
Email

Yes No

/ /

Yes No

Runaway, Custodial Order/
Agreement, Lost/Stranded/
Injured, Misunderstanding,
Unknown Circumstances, Non-
family Abduction, Stranger
Abduction

6.

Name
Email

Yes No

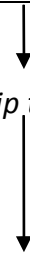
/ /

Yes No

Runaway, Custodial Order/
Agreement, Lost/Stranded/
Injured, Misunderstanding,
Unknown Circumstances, Non-
family Abduction, Stranger
Abduction

↓
Skip to Section D

SEE GLOSSARY, PAGE #.



SECTION C

1. You have indicated that your agency did not investigate any cases between [time period] that fit the NISMART criteria for a missing child (see Glossary). What year did your agency last investigate any case that fit those criteria?

2. Are you aware of any cases of missing children in your general area or in your state between [time period]?

Yes → Indicate the county (counties) where the abduction(s) took place

No

SECTION D

1. To the extent possible, please verify your answers in the previous sections by conducting a check of investigation records and/or discussions with your agency's investigative unit(s). Indicate here the way(s) you verified this information:

- a. Checked with other staff in your department? Yes No
- b. Checked with staff elsewhere in your agency? Yes No
- c. Checked records? Yes No
- d. Used a computerized information system?..... Yes No

2. Is your specific department or unit responsible for.....

- a. Investigating missing children? Yes No
- b. Maintaining data on missing children? Yes No

Skip to Section F, Page # →

SEE GLOSSARY, PAGE #.

SECTION E

You indicated in Section A that your agency does not have the jurisdiction to conduct criminal investigations of missing children. Please describe what responsibilities do come under your agency's jurisdiction.

SECTION F

Please use this section to note the problems and questions you encountered as you conducted a search with the criteria we provided. Please also note if there are additional criteria you used to find these cases in your system.

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM IN THE POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE PROVIDED.

GLOSSARY OF STUDY TERMS

Child. Person under the age of 18.

Family abduction: The taking or keeping of a child by a family member in violation of a court order, written agreement or mutual understanding about custody or visitation rights

Family member: A biological, adoptive, step- or foster family member; someone acting on behalf of such a family member; or the romantic partner of a parent

Missing child: A child whose caregiver contacted the police in order to recover or locate the child.

Whereabouts unknown: The person who reported this incident did not have an address, telephone number or other information that works to contact the child or the perpetrator.

Endangerment: Caregiver believed that child was at risk of physical assault, sexual abuse, physical injury, or health problem in the company of the perpetrator.

Recovery: Child was returned or came back to the custody of the aggrieved caregiver

Violation of custody agreement: An aggrieved parent is stating that a specific part of a court order, written agreement or mutual understanding about custody or visitation rights has been violated