## **DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES**

Chauncey G. Parker, Director of Criminal Justice and Commissioner, DCJS

# **New York State**

# Missing Children 2004 Annual Report

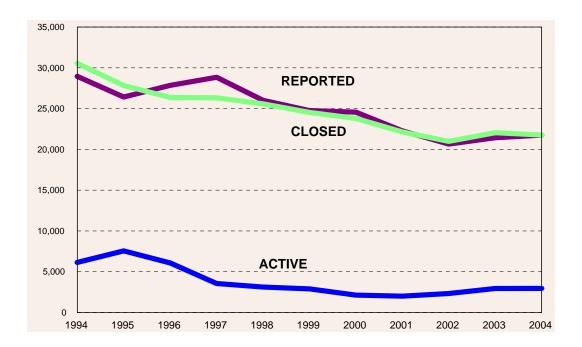


#### **Summary**

The following describes reporting activity on the New York State Missing Children Register during the year 2004.

- « The Register received 21,753 reports of children missing from New York State, a decrease of one percent from the previous year. Approximately the same number of cases were cancelled during the year (21,745) resulting in an active caseload at the end of 2004 that was only slightly higher than in 2003.
- « Reports of missing children were concentrated in the State's largest urban areas. Suffolk County reported the highest volume of cases (2,204) followed by Westchester, Albany, Monroe, Erie, and Onondaga counties. (New York City counties do not report separately to the Register). Every county in the State reported at least one missing child during the year and 28 counties reported an increase in cases during 2004 compared with 2003.
- « Controlling for the under age 18 population by county, two counties in the Capital District (Albany and Schenectady) had the highest rates of case reporting in the State (21.9 and 20.6 per 1,000 children respectively). These counties were found to have unusually large numbers of repeat cases involving children who ran away from group homes or other facilities, and well established procedures for the timely reporting of these children as missing. The statewide rate of reporting was 4.7 missing children cases per 1,000 children in 2004.
- We are the overwhelming majority of missing children cases were reported as suspected runaways (91.0%). Abduction cases accounted for approximately one percent of the total reports, and abductions committed by family members comprised the most frequent form of abduction. There were 3 reports statewide of a child abducted by a stranger in 2004. (Note: The number of stranger abductions reported to the Register may be an undercount. Typically, cases are not categorized as stranger abductions unless someone actually witnessed the child being abducted. Cases initially categorized as 'circumstances unknown' have sometimes later been found to involve stranger abductions but that information is rarely updated on the Register).
- « Ninety-four percent of the children reported missing were age 13 or older, 61 percent were female, and 52 percent were white. The single largest group of cases involved white females 13 years and older (29 % of cases reported).
- « Thirty-five percent of the 21,745 cases closed during 2004 were resolved by the child voluntarily returning home. Law enforcement efforts were involved in the return of 20 percent of the cases, and 5 children who had been reported missing were found deceased. The median number of days between the reporting and cancellation of a case on the Register was 3 days.

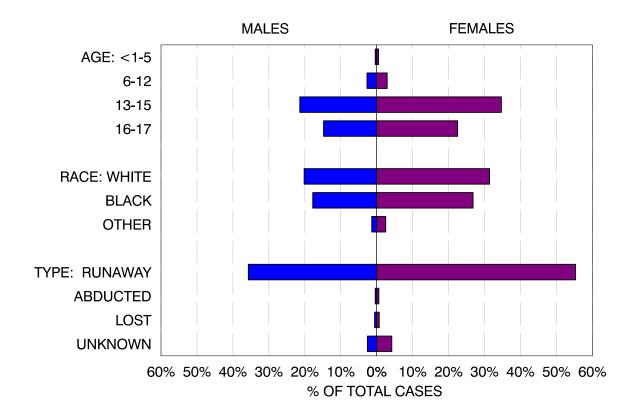
#### ANNUAL REPORTING VOLUME: 1994-2004



	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
NEW YORK STATE											
Cases Reported	30,549	27,830	26,368	26,316	25,578	24,531	23,801	22,139	20,985	22,040	21,753
Cases Closed	28,949	26,419	27,846	28,840	26,012	24,755	24,562	22,273	20,654	21,431	21,745
Active End-of-Year	6,147	7,558	6,080	3,556	3,122	2,898	2,137	2,003	2,334	2,943	2,951
NEW YORK CITY											
Cases Reported	9,166	7,060	6,244	7,067	6,847	6,628	6,640	5,699	4,534	4,505	4,662
Cases Closed	7,667	5,600	7,902	9,700	7,393	6,718	7,220	5,916	4,219	4,041	4,590
Active End-of-Year	5,110	6,570	4,879	2,246	1,700	1,610	1,030	813	1,128	1,592	1,664
SUBURBAN NEW YO	RK CITY										
Cases Reported	7,080	6,467	6,234	6,419	6,574	6,342	5,989	5,597	5,916	6,312	5,779
Cases Closed	7,038	6,515	6,041	6,362	6,400	6,480	6,013	5,617	5,860	6,227	5,773
Active End-of-Year	405	357	453	510	684	546	522	502	558	643	649
UPSTATE											
Cases Reported	14,296	14,288	13,885	12,821	12,147	11,554	11,163	10,829	10,527	11,219	11,305
Cases Closed	14,241	14,298	13,762	12,768	12,208	11,554	11,321	10,732	10,566	11,153	11,372
Active End-of-Year	624	614	737	790	729	729	571	668	629	695	628

Note: Statewide totals include cases from non-New York State agencies not included in the three geographical areas. New York City includes Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens and Richmond counties; Suburban New York City includes Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester counties.

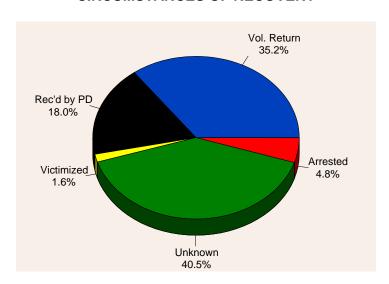
#### CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES REPORTED



		AGE W	HEN REP	ORTED MI	SSING	GEI	NDER	RACE		
	TOTAL	< 1 - 5	6 - 12	13 - 15	16 - 17	Male	Female	White	Non-White	
TOTAL	21,753	189	1,222	12,222	8,120	8,560	13,193	11,220	10,533	
Runaway	19,792	9	940	11,209	7,634	7,767	12,025	10,212	9,580	
Familial Abduction	176	102	56	15	3	75	101	86	90	
Acquaintance Abduction	33	3	4	13	13	14	19	22	11	
Stranger Abduction	3	2	0	1	0	1	2	3	0	
Lost	273	9	42	149	73	131	142	190	83	
Unknown	1,476	64	180	835	397	572	904	707	769	

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES CLOSED

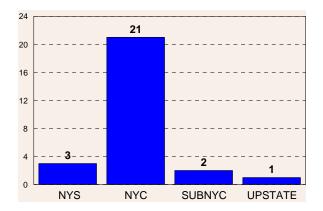
#### **CIRCUMSTANCES OF RECOVERY**



			AGE	WHEN FO	UND	GEN	IDER	R	RACE		
Circumstances of Recovery	TOTAL	< 1 - 5	6 - 12	13 - 15	16 - 17	> 17	Male	Female	White	Non-White	
TOTAL	21,745	166	1,175	11,815	8,246	343	8,564	13,181	11,216	10,529	
Voluntary Return	7,647	40	395	4,279	2,889	44	3,243	4,404	4,445	3,202	
Recovered by Law Enforcement	3,916	63	281	2,275	1,276	21	1,623	2,293	2,467	1,449	
Recovered/Victimized	338	8	31	181	116	2	116	222	213	125	
Arrested	951	0	14	461	468	8	481	470	580	371	
Arrested/Victimized	93	0	0	49	44	0	40	53	53	40	
Deceased	5	0	0	2	3	0	3	2	4	1	
Other/Unknown	8,795	55	454	4,568	3,450	268	3,058	5,737	3,454	5,341	

#### LENGTH OF TIME ON THE REGISTER

MEDIAN DAYS TO CANCELLATION (for Cases Closed During 2004)



CASE ENTRY TO CANCEL RATIO (% of 2004 Case Entries Closed During 2004)



DAYS BETWEEN CASE ENTRY AND CANCELLATION FOR CASES REPORTED DURING 2004										
No. of Days	No.of Cases Closed	Cumulative Percent Closed								
< 1	4,888	22.5								
1	3,559	38.8								
2	1,317	44.9								
3	842	48.8								
4	578	51.4								
5	518	53.8								
6	495	56.1								
7	430	58.0								
8	371	59.8								
9	254	60.9								
10	243	62.0								
11	244	63.2								
12	227	64.2								
13	248	65.3								
14	266	66.6								
15	265	67.8								
16 - 29	2,063	77.3								
30 - 60	2,031	86.6								
61 - 90	810	90.3								
91 - 120	345	91.9								
121 or more	403	93.8								
Still Active	1,356	6.2								
TOTAL	21,753	100.0								

### REPORTING VOLUME BY COUNTY

Cases Reported									Cases Closed								
	T . 1	D. I	D.	Acquaint.	Familial	Stranger			T . 1	Voluntary	Returned		****	ъ .		End of Year	
Albany	Total 1,403	Rate <sup>1</sup> 21.9	Runaway 1,340	Abduction 2	Abduction 9	Abduction 1	Lost 12	Unknown 39	Total 1,397	Return 376	by P.D. 164	Arrested 57	Victimized 6	Deceased 0	Unknown 794	Active Cases 66	
Allegany	1,403	1.6	1,340	0	0	0	2	3	1,397	5	6	2	0	0	794	0	
Broome	369	8.5	337	1	3	0	4	24	374	232	97	12	5	0	28	17	
Cattaraugus	96	4.9	84	0	0	0	1	11	97	35	48	10	1	0	3	4	
Cayuga	93	5.0	87	0	0	0	1	5	93	37	48	10	2	0	5	1	
Chautaugua	357	11.5	337	2	1	0	4	13	347	133	164	25	2	0	23	21	
Chemung	354	17.1	336	2	7	0	3	6	355	177	93	20	7	0	58	7	
Chenango	27	2.2	20	0	2	0	1	4	26	6	14	1	3	0	2	1	
Clinton	81	4.8	76	0	0	0	2	3	79	15	19	21	1	0	23	2	
Columbia	69	4.8	54	1	1	0	6	7	69	20	35	5	1	0	8	4	
Cortland	34	3.1	25	0	0	0	0	9	33	11	16	3	2	0	1	1	
Delaware	94	9.7	83	1	1	0	5	4	96	26	41	15	3	0	11	2	
Dutchess	328	4.7	281	1	14	0	13	19	331	134	122	18	3	0	54	15	
Erie	1,194	5.5	1,083	1	7	0	1	102	1,225	162	90	32	18	0	923	117	
Essex	17	2.2	16	0	0	0	0	1	17	5	3	6	2	0	1	1	
Franklin	58	5.6	55	0	0	0	1	2	58	20	27	7	0	0	4	0	
Fulton	45	3.6	40	1	0	0	3	1	45	25	8	6	4	0	2	3	
Genesee	53	3.8	50	0	0	0	0	3	53	35	13	1	2	0	2	0	
Greene	31	3.0	26	0	1	0	1	3	31	6	16	7	1	0	1	0	
Hamilton	2	2.1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Herkimer	27	1.9	24	0	0	0	2	1	27	3	13	8	1	0	2	1	
Jefferson	163	6.0	161	0	0	0	0	2	164	71	56	21	4	0	12	4	
Lewis	5	0.8	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	
Livingston	48	3.5	41	0	0	0	3	4	49	15	22	4	2	0	6	0	
Madison	43	2.8	39	0	0	0	0	4	43	14	14	3	2	0	10	1	
Monroe	1,243	6.8	1,222	0	2	0	1	18	1,262	418	391	89	15	0	349	82	
Montgomery	39	3.4	28	0	1	0	8	2	39	22	14	2	0	0	1	2	
Nassau	930	2.9	806	6	13	2	14	89	952	524	174	45	24	2	183	61	
New York City <sup>2</sup>	4,662	2.4	4,608	0	47	0	0	7	4,590	140	6	3	0	0	4,441	1,664	

#### REPORTING VOLUME BY COUNTY

Cases Reported									Cases Closed							
	Total	Rate <sup>1</sup>	Runaway	Acquaint. Abduction	Familial Abduction	Stranger Abduction	Lost	Unknown	Total	Voluntary Return	Returned by P.D.	Arrested	Victimized	Deceased	Unknown	End of Year Active Cases
Niagara	476	9.5	433	Adduction 1	Abduction 4	Adduction 0	Losi 5	33	468	221	144	23	viciinized 8	Deceased 0	72	Active Cases
Oneida	457	8.8	413	1	2	0	29	12	457	257	133	40	8	0	19	17
Onondaga	945	8.4	249	2	2	0	5	687	983	478	370	69	47	0	19	57
Ontario	72	3.0	65	0	0	0	6	1	73	38	25	3	0	1	6	0
Orange	477	4.8	454	1	1	0	14	7	463	250	126	26	13	0	48	34
Orleans	42	4.0	37	0	0	0	0	5	41	19	17	3	0	0	2	2
Oswego	136	4.5	132	0	0	0	0	4	134	57	60	6	7	0	4	2
Otsego	28	2.3	23	0	1	0	1	3	28	11	9	2	1	0	5	0
Putnam	67	2.7	54	1	0	0	2	10	72	22	35	8	2	0	5	4
Rensselaer	341	9.8	319	2	2	0	2	16	334	154	57	21	7	0	95	19
Rockland	549	6.8	510	1	7	0	15	16	543	284	85	17	6	0	151	79
St. Lawrence	135	5.7	127	0	4	0	2	2	135	53	49	18	7	0	8	1
Saratoga	105	2.1	96	0	1	0	3	5	106	45	41	9	2	0	9	2
Schenectady	712	20.6	697	0	4	0	8	3	736	229	160	38	23	0	286	43
Schoharie	7	1.0	6	0	0	0	0	1	7	1	2	2	0	0	2	0
Schuyler	24	5.6	20	0	0	0	1	3	23	9	12	1	0	0	1	1
Seneca	53	6.9	45	0	1	0	2	5	54	22	19	4	8	0	1	0
Steuben	76	3.2	62	0	0	0	3	11	78	47	22	5	1	0	3	1
Suffolk	2,204	5.9	1,998	0	16	0	24	166	2,210	1,542	329	156	13	2	168	86
Sullivan	79	4.6	67	0	0	0	4	8	76	42	24	5	2	0	3	9
Tioga	34	2.7	34	0	0	0	0	0	35	17	8	5	0	0	5	1
Tompkins	106	6.1	100	0	0	0	6	0	104	31	31	17	1	0	24	5
Ulster	356	9.0	325	2	2	0	14	13	346	120	133	23	16	0	54	25
Warren	81	5.8	79	0	0	0	0	2	84	42	33	4	0	0	5	0
Washington	80	5.9	78	0	0	0	1	1	78	21	35	8	6	0	8	3
Wayne	87	3.6	75	0	0	0	5	7	85	33	32	10	6	0	4	5
Westchester	2,096	8.9	1,981	4	19	0	33	59	2,068	920	189	92	37	0	830	423
Wyoming	17	1.9	15	0	0	0	0	2	16	7	3	3	0	0	3	1
Yates	22	3.7	16	0	0	0	0	6	22	5	12	2	0	0	3	0
Non-NYS	7		4	0	1	0	0	2	10	1	2	0	6	0	1	10
NYS Total	21,753	4.7	19,792	33	176	3	273	1,476	21,745	7,647	3,916	1,044	338	5	8,795	2,951

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Rate per 1,000 children  $^{2}$  Includes the counties of Bronx, Kings, Queens, New York  $\,$  and Richmond