

Request Reference: 1590A/22

Q. The number missing children (under 18's) in the years 2016-2021 broken down by ethnicity.

A. See following tables and please note, cases have jumped significantly over the years, but this is because some children were reported as absent rather than missing and were only reported on OASIS, the command and control system at the time. Whereas, over the last few years the term absent was redefined and regardless, they are all now recorded on the missing persons system COMPACT and as a result the latter years data will be more accurate.

TABLE 1 – MISSING Reports (Children) based on number of cases, by Ethnic Origin:

Ethnicity	Year						Grand Total
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Asian	546	552	487	585	1,039	1,046	4,255
Black	1,173	1,207	1,139	1,435	2,000	2,265	9,219
Chinese, Japanese Or South East Asian	3	4	4	13	20	33	77
Middle Eastern	43	49	69	94	160	235	650
Unknown	0	0	0	0	8	65	73
White - North European	3,357	3,098	2,655	2,948	4,929	4,673	21,660
White - South European	130	150	107	107	166	226	886

TABLE 2 – ABSENT Reports (Children) based on number of cases, by Ethnic Origin:

Ethnicity	Year						Grand Total
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Asian	20	22	0	325	14	0	381
Black	33	18	1	811	17	0	880
Chinese, Japanese Or South East Asian	0	0	0	6	0	0	6
Middle Eastern	0	2	2	79	2	0	85
Unknown	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
White - North European	225	129	1	1757	52	0	2164
White - South European	7	7	0	47	1	0	62

TABLE 3 – MISSING Reports (Children):

	Year						Grand Total
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Total number of children	1,800	1,842	1,735	2,002	2,702	3,062	13,143
Total number of cases	5,306	5,130	4,500	5,273	8,631	8,739	37,579
Total number of cases opened in this time period but not closed	110	105	110	139	126	81	671
Total number of cases closed in this time period but not opened	32	26	40	65	67	102	332

TABLE 4 – ABSENT Reports (Children):

	Year						Grand Total
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Total number of children	154	128	4	1,420	73	0	1,779
Total number of cases	305	190	4	3,690	88	0	4,277
Total number of cases opened in this time period but not closed	10	29	0	22	1	0	62
Total number of cases closed in this time period but not opened	1	1	0	0	4	0	6