



# THE UK MISSING PERSON BEHAVIOUR STUDY

## 2005 REPORT

### SUMMARY VERSION

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## ALZHEIMERS SUFFERERS

a. Definition - a person diagnosed as suffering from dementia of Alzheimer's type

b. All searches n = 52

	female	male	not reported	total
urban	6	15	7	28
non-urban	5	18	1	24
total	11	33	8	52

c. Fatality rate – the fatality rate for urban searches (32%) is significantly higher than non-urban searches (13%). There is no discernable gender difference.

d. Outcome – condition if found

	urban		non-urban	
	n	%	n	%
fatality	9	32	3	13
injured	3	11	4	17
unhurt	15	54	17	71
no trace	1	4	0	0

e. Location found - the statistics shown are for all searches.

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
travel aid	21	41	travel aid:		
building	12	24	road	12	24
open ground	10	20	stream / ditch	3	6
water / water's edge	4	8	wall / fence line	3	6
forest / woodland	3	6	forest edge	2	4
			path track	1	2
			building:		
			habitation	9	18
			building / shelter	3	6

The following additional information was provided with regard to two incidents in which the location was reported as 'open ground'; these were "stuck in dense undergrowth" and "on a park bench".

f. Distance found from IPP – there is no discernable difference between urban and non-urban searches; males tend to be found at greater distances than females

males		females	
percentile	kms	percentile	kms
20	0.7	25	0.8
40	1.7	50	1.1
60	3.6	75	3.7
80	7.2	100	4.2
100	84		

## CHILD 1 to 6

Users need to be aware that this category contains insufficient data to be able to draw any firm conclusions. The information given has not been processed in any way. It is not likely to be as reliable as a basis for prediction as the information given in categories with larger volumes of data. It should be used with caution.

a. Definition – refers to the child’s chronological age only

b. All searches n = 9

	female	male	not reported	total
urban	2	2	1	5
non-urban	0	3	1	4
total	2	5	2	9

c. Fatality rate – no fatalities were reported.

d. Outcome – condition if found. All persons reported in this category were found unhurt.

e. Location found

summary	n	detail	n
building	4	building:	
travel aid	2	building / shelter	2
open ground	2	habitation	2
water / water’s edge	1	travel aid:	
		stream / ditch	1
		wall / fence	1

The following additional information was provided with regard to one incident in which the location was reported as ‘open ground’: “sheltering under bushes”.

f. Distance found from IPP – these were:

0.1, 0.4, 0.5, 0.5, 0.5, 0.8, 1.0, 1.1 and 1.8 km

### CHILD 7 to 12

a. Definition – refers to the child’s chronological age only

b. All searches n = 40

	female	male	not reported	total
urban	10	12	2	24
non-urban	3	13	0	16
total	13	25	2	40

c. Fatality rate – there is no discernable gender difference

d. Outcome – condition if found.

	urban		non-urban
	n	%	n
fatality	0	0	2
injured	0	0	0
unhurt	24	100	14
no trace	0	0	0

e. Location found – no additional information was provided with regard to incidents in which the location was reported as ‘open ground’.

summary	urban	urban	non-urban
	searches	searches	all searches
	males	females	
	n	n	n
building	9	8	4
travel aid	1	2	4
open ground	2	0	2
forest / woodland	0	0	3
water / water’s edge	0	0	3
detail			
building			
habitation	6	4	3
building / shelter	3	4	1
travel aid			
road	1	2	4

- f. Distance found from IPP – there is a difference between urban and non-urban searches; there is no discernable gender difference

urban searches		non-urban searches	
percentile	km	percentile	km
20	0.0	25	0.3
40	0.6	50	1.0
60	1.7	75	2.1
80	5.2	100	15
100	100		

## CLIMBER

Users need to be aware that this category contains insufficient data to be able to draw any firm conclusions. The information given has not been processed in any way. It is not likely to be as reliable as a basis for prediction as the information given in categories with larger volumes of data. It should be used with caution.

- a. Definition – on or off route, accessing into or out of the climb
- b. All searches n = 2
- c. Fatality rate – 1 fatality out of 2 reported incidents
- d. Outcome – condition if found: 1 fatality, 1 unhurt
- e. Location found – habitation 1, open ground 1
- f. Distance found from IPP – these were 0.8 km and 27 km

## DEMENTIA SUFFERERS (general)

- a. Definition – a person diagnosed as suffering from dementia other than dementia of Alzheimer's type
- b. All searches n = 47

	females	males	not reported	total
urban	8	13	2	23
non-urban	8	13	3	24
total	16	26	5	47

- c. Fatality rate – there is no discernable difference between the fatality rates for urban and non-urban incidents; however, the fatality rate for males (23%) is different to the fatality rate for females (6%)

d. Outcome – condition if found:

	female		male	
	n	%	n	%
fatality	1	6	6	23
injured	3	19	5	19
unhurt	10	63	15	58
no trace	2	13	0	0

e. Location found – the statistics shown are for all searches

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
travel aid	27	60	travel aid:		
open ground	8	17	wall / fence	11	24
building	6	13	path / track	7	16
forest / woodland	2	4	road	7	16
water / water's edge	2	4	stream / ditch	2	4
			building:		
			habitation	4	9
			building / shelter	2	4

The following additional information was provided with regard to one incident in which the location was given as 'open ground': "in a patch of overgrown nettles and grass"

f. Distance found from IPP – the statistics given are for all searches

percentile	km
20	0.4
40	0.7
60	1.1
80	3.1
100	16

## DESPONDENT

a. Definition

either a person who has deliberately disappeared, or whose disappearance is a consequence of one or more of the following:

1. the abuse of drugs or alcohol; the drugs involved might have been obtained on prescription
2. depression, either diagnosed or suspected
3. personal distress or stress; this might have been brought about by ill-health,

or the missing person is described by at least one of the following:

4. is thought to be a potential suicidal or a self-harmer
5. has a history of self-harm

These five characteristics come from the analysis of the text fields in submitted reports; they are the most frequently mentioned characteristics of the missing person. They are not mutually exclusive. Since no prompting was given on the data capture document this information is entirely dependent on what the individual doing the reporting has considered worth mentioning; for this reason we feel that any statistic that we give concerning these characteristics should be treated as a guideline rather than an absolute. However, 88% of the submitted reports for this category have included a reference to at least one of these characteristics - this high level of reporting leads us to believe that where a characteristic was present then it was likely to have been reported.

b. All searches n = 283

(i) by terrain type and gender

	females	males	other	total
farmland	30	56	2	88
urban	23	35	15	73
woodland	9	27	2	38
moorland / upland	4	24	5	33
water margin	6	23	3	32
plantation	2	11	0	13
crag / broken ground	1	4	1	6
total	75	180	28	283

(ii) by reported characteristic and gender

	females	males	other	total
1. drugs or alcohol	36	76	12	124
2. depression	24	34	9	67
3. distress	18	61	4	83
4. possible self harm	24	52	6	82
5. history of self harm	16	31	4	51
none of the above	8	23	4	35

Note that the above characteristics are not mutually exclusive. The analysis will focus on the 88% of persons in this category for whom the submitted report referred to none, one or two of these characteristics. Statistics will be given with respect to either reported characteristics or terrain type, whichever is the most appropriate. Sample sizes are mostly too small to allow for analysis by characteristic within terrain type.

c. Fatality rate – some missing person profiles and terrain types will indicate a fatality rate that is either significantly higher or significantly

lower than the rest of the category - these are described below; the overall fatality rate for the remainder of the category is 27%.

1. for incidents in terrain type 'water margin' the fatality rate is 63%
2. if the missing person profile indicates that depression has been diagnosed or is suspected, but none of the other characteristics is present then the fatality rate is 57%
3. if the missing person profile indicates drug or alcohol abuse and none of the other characteristics is present then the fatality rate is 46%
4. if, in addition to drug or alcohol abuse the missing person profile gives an indication of either personal distress or the likelihood of suicide / self harm then the fatality rate falls to 18%

d. Outcome – condition if found

	water margin	
	n	%
fatality	20	63
injured	2	6
unhurt	5	16
no trace	5	16

	depression and no other characteristic		drug or alcohol abuse and no other characteristic	
	n	%	n	%
fatality	12	57	18	46
injured	2	10	5	13
unhurt	6	29	13	33
no trace	1	5	3	8

	drug or alcohol abuse together with personal distress or potential suicide / self harm	
	n	%
fatality	7	18
injured	9	24
unhurt	21	55
no trace	1	3

	all other terrain types and characteristics	
	n	%
fatality	42	27
injured	14	9
unhurt	81	53
no trace	16	10

- e. Location found – there are major differences between each of the reported terrain types with regard to locations at which missing respondents are found; for searches in farmland there is also a significant gender difference. There is some indication that the presence of the reported characteristics (drugs, alcohol etc) can have a bearing on the location at which the missing person is found, although there is insufficient data to allow for a full analysis of the influence of these characteristics for each terrain type. More than 10% of the reports mentioned that the missing person was found at a location that was described as being either “favoured” or “familiar” or “scenic” - there is evidence to suggest that this occurs more in some types of terrain than others and more in connection with some characteristics than others, although an element of caution is recommended here since we cannot guarantee that every occurrence was reported.

The first step is to refer to the statistics for the type of terrain in which the search is taking place and then to look at the comments regarding the influence of the characteristics and relate those to the missing person profile. Finally, any relevant observations about favoured, familiar or scenic locations should be noted.

#### 1. statistics by terrain type

##### searches in farmland, males

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
building	20	42	building:		
travel aid	15	31	building / shelter	11	23
open ground	8	17	habitation	9	19
water / water's edge	3	6	travel aid:		
forest / woodland	2	4	road	6	13
			forest edge	3	6
			path / track	3	6
			stream / ditch	2	4
			wall / fence	1	2

##### searches in farmland, females

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
building	9	33	building:		
travel aid	8	30	habitation	8	30
water / water's edge	6	22	building / shelter	1	4
forest / woodland	2	7	travel aid:		
open ground	2	7	road	5	19
			forest edge	2	7
			stream / ditch	1	4

urban environment, all searches

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
building	34	49	building:		
travel aid	16	23	habitation	26	38
water / water's edge	14	20	building / shelter	8	12
open ground	3	4	travel aid:		
forest / woodland	2	3	road	7	10
			forest edge	4	6
			path / track	2	3
			wall / fence	2	3
			stream / ditch	1	1

woodland environment, all searches

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
forest / woodland	15	47	travel aid:		
travel aid	9	28	forest edge	5	16
building	5	16	stream / ditch	2	6
water / water's edge	2	6	path / track	1	3
open ground	1	3	road	1	3
			building:		
			habitation	4	13
			building / shelter	1	3

moorland / upland environment, all searches

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
travel aid	12	44	travel aid:		
building	6	22	road	6	22
forest / woodland	5	19	path / track	2	7
open ground	4	15	stream / ditch	2	7
			forest edge	1	4
			wall / fence	1	4
			building:		
			building	3	11
			habitation	3	11

water margin environment, all searches

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
water / water's edge	15	56	travel aid:		
travel aid	5	19	stream / ditch	3	11
building	4	15	path / track	1	4
forest / woodland	3	11	road	1	4
			building:		
			building / shelter	3	11
			habitation	1	4

2. the influence of reported characteristics

- (i) abuse of drugs or alcohol: there is a slight indication that the missing person is more likely to be found near water (streams, rivers, lakes etc) and less likely to be found on paths, tracks or roads than would otherwise be expected
- (ii) depression: there is a slight indication that the missing person is more likely to be found near water (streams, rivers, lakes etc) and less likely to be found on open ground than would otherwise be expected
- (iii) personal distress: there is a strong indication that the missing person is more likely to be found on paths, tracks or roads than would otherwise be expected
- (iv) the possibility of suicide or self harm appears to have no effect on the location, other than as described in the next section

3. favourite, familiar or scenic locations

- (i) there is strong evidence to suggest that this describes the type of location in which a missing despondent who is a potential suicide or self-harmer is most frequently found
- (ii) there is no evidence to suggest that any other kind of missing despondent either favours or avoids this type of location
- (iii) there is strong evidence to suggest that for searches in woods and plantations this is the type of location in which the missing despondent is most frequently found; this applies to a lesser degree for searches in a water margin environment
- (iv) there is no evidence to suggest that locations of this type have any bearing on searches in other types of terrain

The following additional information was provided with regard to four incidents where the location was reported as 'open ground'; "found under hawthorn bushes", "found on the edge of a cornfield", "found well hidden in bushes" and "found close to a footpath".

- f. Distance found from IPP – there are differences between most of the terrain types; in addition there is a significant gender difference for

searches in urban areas. There is strong evidence to suggest that the possibility of suicide or self-harm has a bearing on the distance that the person is found from the IPP, although this issue should be treated with caution.

The first step is to refer to the statistics for the type of terrain in which the search is taking place and then to look at the comments regarding the influence of the characteristics and relate those to the missing person profile.

#### 1. statistics by terrain type

##### urban searches

percentile	females km	males km
10	0.0	0.0
20	0.2	0.1
30	0.4	0.1
40	0.5	0.3
50	0.5	0.7
60	0.9	1.0
70	1.2	1.4
80	1.8	4.5
90	10.5	12
100	20	64

searches in	farmland	moorland / upland	woodland
percentile	km	km	km
10	0.0	0.2	0.0
20	0.3	0.5	0.2
30	0.5	0.5	0.5
40	0.8	1.0	0.5
50	1.2	1.5	0.8
60	3.1	3.0	1.0
70	6.2	6.5	1.0
80	9.4	12.8	1.5
90	18.2	17	3.1
100	106	150	68

##### searches in other terrain types

percentile	km
20	0.2
40	0.6
60	2.0
80	4.5
100	30

2. the influence of reported characteristics
  - (i) there is very strong evidence to suggest that if the missing person profile indicates the possibility of suicide or self-harm and there is no mention of any of the other characteristics, in particular the abuse of drugs or alcohol, then the distance at which the person is found from the IPP is greater than might otherwise be expected; 68% of missing persons with this profile have been found at distances of at least 2 km from the IPP compared with 34% of all other despondents
  - (ii) there is strong evidence to suggest that if the missing person profile indicates the possibility of suicide or self-harm together with the abuse of drugs or alcohol, then regardless of any of the other characteristics the distance at which the person is found from the IPP is less than might otherwise be expected; 45% of missing persons with this profile have been found at distances of less than half a kilometre from the IPP compared with 24% of all other despondents
  - (iii) the fatality rates for these two groups of potential suicides and self-harmers are statistically the same
  - (iv) this issue of distance and fatality is quite complex and should be treated with caution; while there is very strong evidence to suggest that the fatalities in this category tend to be found closer to the IPP than non-fatalities (72% of despondent fatalities are found within 2 km of the IPP compared with 57% of non-fatalities), that fact is not entirely helpful since we cannot reliably identify potential fatalities; we suggest that the most important consideration should be relating the missing person profile to the comments made in (i) and (ii)

## DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS

a. Definition – individuals whose mental age is significantly different from their chronological age

b. All searches n = 24

	females	males	not reported	total
urban	0	7	1	8
non-urban	1	14	1	16
total	1	21	2	24

c. Fatality rate – the fatality rate for this category is low; both the fatalities reported were of males in a non-urban environment

d. Outcome – condition if found:

	n	%
fatality	2	8
injured	0	0
unhurt	21	88
no trace	1	4

e. Location found – there is some indication that a higher proportion of persons who are missing in an urban environment are located in buildings or habitation compared with persons missing in a non-urban environment. The statistics shown are for all searches:

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
building	10	45	building:		
forest / woodland	6	27	habitation	7	32
travel aid	3	14	building / shelter	3	14
water / water's edge	2	9	travel aid:		
open ground	1	5	forest edge	2	9
			path / track	1	5

f. Distance found from IPP – the statistics shown are for all searches

percentile	km
20	0.2
40	0.4
60	1.7
80	14
100	35

## FELLRUNNER

Users need to be aware that this category contains insufficient data to be able to draw any firm conclusions. The information given has not been processed in any way. It is not likely to be as reliable as a basis for prediction as the information given in categories with larger volumes of data. It should be used with caution.

- Definition – either as a competitor in an event, training or recreation, including orienteering
- All searches n = 4
- Fatality rate – 1 fatality out of 4 reported incidents
- Outcome – condition if found: 1 fatality, 3 unhurt

- e. Location found – open ground 2, path / track 1, road 1
- f. Distance found from IPP – these were 1.1, 1.3, 2.0 and 5.5 km

### HIKER / WALKER

- a. Definition – any form of recreational walker, of whatever length of walk, involving persons aged 17 years or more
- b. All searches n = 99

	female	male	not reported	total
crag / broken ground	6	18	8	32
moorland / upland	11	34	12	57
other	1	9	0	10
total	18	61	20	99

- c. Fatality rate – all reported fatalities were male; no female fatalities were reported. It is worth noting that in the 10 incidents in types of terrain other than moorland / upland and crag / broken ground there were 4 fatalities reported (1 fatality in 3 reported incidents in farmland, 3 fatalities in 7 reported incidents in plantation or woodland) – no explanation is offered for these high levels of fatality.
- d. Outcome – condition if found

	moorland / upland		crag or broken ground		other terrain types
	n	%	n	%	n
fatality	3	5	6	19	4
injured	1	2	1	3	1
unhurt	53	93	25	78	5
no trace	0	0	0	0	0

- e. Location found

summary	moorland / upland all searches		crag or broken ground		other terrain types
	n	%	male n	female n	n
travel aid	26	46	3	3	5
building	15	26	2	2	0
open ground	14	25	13	1	1
forest / woodland	0	0	0	0	3
water / water's edge	2	4	0	0	1

detail	moorland / upland all searches		crag or broken ground		other terrain types n
	n	%	n	n	
travel aid:					
path / track	12	21	1	2	1
road	8	14	1	1	0
wall / fence line	4	7	1	0	1
forest edge	1	2	0	0	2
stream / ditch	1	2	0	0	1
building:					
building / shelter	7	12	1	2	0
habitation	8	14	1	0	0

The following additional information was provided with regard to three incidents where the location was reported as ‘open ground’; “on crags”, “on the expected route” and “sheltering in boulders”.

- f. Distance found from IPP – the distances they are found in moorland / upland are very different from crag / broken ground; also, for searches in moorland / upland, the distances at which males were very different from females. There is no discernable gender difference for searches in crag / broken ground.

crag or broken ground all searches		moorland or upland				other terrains all searches	
		males		females			
percentile	km	%	km	%	km	%	km
10	0.1	10	0.5	25	1.0	25	0.6
20	1.0	20	0.8	50	1.4	50	1.0
30	1.4	30	1.7	75	4.3	75	2.0
40	2.0	40	3.0	100	7.8	100	3.0
50	2.9	50	4.0				
60	3.6	60	5.4				
70	4.0	70	6.2				
80	5.6	80	7.5				
90	6.9	90	11				
100	16	100	15				

## MISCELLANEOUS

a. Definition – anything not included in other categories, for example missing swimmers, missing from road traffic accidents and crime related incidents.

b. All searches n = 17

	females	males	not reported	total
urban	0	2	0	2
non-urban	3	11	1	15
total	3	13	1	17

c. Fatality rate – the overall fatality rate of 41% is much greater than the overall fatality rate of 23%.

d. Outcome – condition if found:

	n
fatality	7
injured	1
unhurt	7
no trace	2

e. Location found – the statistics shown are for all searches

summary:	n	detail:	n
travel aid	4	travel aid:	
open ground	4	road	2
water / water's edge	4	path / track	1
building	2	stream / ditch	1
forest / woodland	1	building:	
		building / shelter	1
		habitation	1

The following additional information was provided with regard to two incidents where the location was reported as 'open ground'; "buried in a garden" and "stuck in a field".

f. Distance found from IPP – the statistics shown are for all searches

percentile	km
25	0.3
50	1.0
75	1.9
100	10

## MOUNTAIN BIKER

Users need to be aware that this category contains insufficient data to be able to draw any firm conclusions. The information given has not been processed in any way. It is not likely to be as reliable as a basis for prediction as the information given in categories with larger volumes of data. It should be used with caution.

- a. Definition – where the bike was the main means of transport, on or off road
- b. All searches n = 2
- c. Fatality rate – 1 fatality out of 2 reported incidents
- d. Outcome – condition if found: 1 fatality, 1 unhurt
- e. Location found – both open ground
- f. Distance found from IPP – these were 1.0 and 24 km

## ORGANISED PARTY

- a. Definition – a party with a recognised leader or purpose
- b. All searches n = 20

	female	male	other	total
crag / broken ground	1	1	1	3
moorland / upland	3	8	5	16
other	0	0	1	1
total	4	9	7	20

- c. Fatality rate – no fatalities were reported
- d. Outcome – condition if found:

	n	%
fatality	0	0
injured	3	15
unhurt	17	85
no trace	0	0

- e. Location found – the statistics shown are for all searches

summary:	n	%	detail:	n	%
travel aid	8	40	travel aid:		
open ground	8	40	path / track	3	15
building	3	15	forest edge / clearing	2	10
forest / woodland	1	5	stream / ditch	2	10
			road	1	5
			building:		
			building / shelter	3	15

In five of the reported incidents where the location found was given as 'open ground' additional information provided suggested that the missing persons had followed a defined route.

- f. Distance found from IPP – statistics shown are for all searches

percentile	km
25	1.6
50	3.0
75	4.2
100	6.5

## OTHER VULNERABLE PERSONS

- a. Definition – any person with significant mental impairment other than those who are contained within the categories Alzheimer's sufferers, general dementia, developmental problems and psychological illness

- b. All searches n = 49

	females	males	other	total
urban	6	9	4	19
non-urban	12	16	2	30
total	18	25	6	49

- c. Fatality rate – there is some indication that the fatality rate for urban incidents is lower than for non-urban incidents. There is no discernable gender difference.

- d. Outcome – condition if found

	non-urban		urban
	n	%	n
fatality	5	17	1
injured	6	20	0
unhurt	18	60	18
no trace	1	3	0

- e. Location found – there is no discernable gender difference.

summary	non-urban		urban
	n	%	n
travel aid	13	45	4
building	7	24	11
open ground	6	21	3
water / water's edge	3	10	0
forest / woodland	0	0	1

  

detail	non-urban		urban
	n	%	n
travel aid:			
road	8	28	3
stream / ditch	3	10	0
forest edge / clearing	1	3	1
path / track	1	3	0
building:			
habitation	6	21	7
building / shelter	1	3	4

No additional information was given for those incidents where the location was described as 'open ground'.

- f. Distance found from IPP – there is no discernable gender difference.

non-urban		urban	
percentile	km	percentile	km
20	0.4	25	0.0
40	1.2	50	0.7
60	2.0	75	1.8
80	3.1	100	40
100	50		

## PSYCHOLOGICAL ILLNESS

- a. Definition – persons identified by a medical practitioner as suffering from a mental illness; they may be undergoing treatment either at home or in an appropriate unit
- b. All searches n = 33

	females	males	not recorded	total
urban	2	5	4	11
non-urban	8	11	3	22
total	10	16	7	33

c. Fatality rate – the overall fatality rate is 30%; there is no discernable gender difference or difference between urban and non-urban searches.

d. Outcome – condition if found:

	n	%
fatality	10	30
injured	1	2
unhurt	18	55
no trace	4	12

e. Location found – missing persons in this category found in an urban environment are more likely to be found in a building than those found in a non-urban environment; there is no discernable gender difference.

summary	non-urban		urban
	n	%	n
travel aid	9	50	2
building	3	17	6
water / water's edge	3	17	1
open ground	2	11	1
forest / woodland	1	6	0
detail	non-urban		urban
	n	%	n
travel aid			
road	4	22	1
path / track	3	17	0
forest edge / clearing	0	0	1
stream / ditch	1	6	0
wall / fence	1	6	0
building			
habitation	1	6	5
building / shelter	2	11	1

The following additional information was provided with regard to one incident where the location was reported as 'open ground': "hiding in bushes".

f. Distance found from IPP

urban		non-urban	
percentile	km	percentile	km
25	0.1	25	0.8
50	0.3	50	1.7
75	8.8	75	7.8
100	16	100	12

## YOUTH 13 to 16

a. Definition – refers to chronological age only

b. All searches n = 27

	female	male	other	total
urban	1	3	1	5
non-urban	7	12	3	22
total	8	15	4	27

c. Fatality rate – the fatality rate of 4% is significantly lower than the overall fatality rate

d. Outcome – condition if found:

	n	%
fatality	1	4
injured	1	4
unhurt	25	93
no trace	0	0

e. Location found – there is some indication that in an urban environment the missing person is more likely to be found in a building than they are in a non-urban environment. The statistics shown are for all searches.

summary	n	%	detail	n	%
building	12	46	building:		
travel aid	8	31	habitation	7	27
forest / woodland	4	15	building / shelter	5	19
open ground	2	8	travel aid:		
			path / track	3	12
			forest edge	2	8
			road	2	8
			stream / ditch	1	4

No additional information was provided with regard to incidents in which the location was reported as 'open ground'.

f. Distance found from IPP - statistics given are for all searches.

percentile	km
20	0.3
40	1.0
60	1.7
80	3.6
100	132

## DEFINITIONS

### 1. **Terrain Type** - the area through which the major part of the journey took place

- Crag/Broken Ground - rugged upland
- Farmland - lowland arable or pasture
- Moorland/Upland - remote areas of upland or wilderness where rocky outcrops are in the minority
- Plantation (dense) - developed forest or plantation, the going may well be difficult.
- Urban - within the confines of a group of habitations, city, town or village.
- Water Margin - coastline, shoreline of large bodies of water, rivers as well as the water itself.
- Woodland (open) - parkland or wooded area where passage is relatively easy.

### 2. **Subject Category** - of the missing person(s).

- Alzheimer's sufferer - A person diagnosed as suffering from dementia of Alzheimer's type
- Child (1 to 6 yr.) - refers to child's chronological age only
- Child (7 to 12 yr.) - refers to child's chronological age only
- Climber - on or off route, accessing into or out of the climb.
- Dementia sufferer - A person diagnosed as suffering from dementia other than Dementia of Alzheimer's type
- Developmental problems - individuals whose mental age is significantly different from their chronological age
- Despondent - anyone where there is evidence that they have deliberately disappeared as a result of clinical depression or intention to harm themselves.
- Fellrunner - either as a competitor in an event, training or recreation, including orienteering.
- Hiker / walker - any form of recreational walker, of whatever length, involving persons 17 yr. or older.
- Miscellaneous - any other use of the outdoors not included in the earlier categories – photographers, mushroom pickers, bird-watchers etc.
- Mountain Biker - where the bike was the main means of transport, on or off-road.
- Organised Party - a party with a recognised leader or purpose.
- Other vulnerables - Any person with significant mental impairment other than those contained in the categories Alzheimer's sufferers, general dementia, developmental problems and psychological illness
- Psychological illness - persons identified by a medical practitioner as suffering from a mental illness; they may be undergoing treatment either at home or in an appropriate unit

- Skier - If so equipped, including the walk in and out
- Vulnerable - anyone who can be described as having significant mental impairment e.g. mentally handicapped, dementia sufferers (senile or Alzheimer's), sufferers of psychoses.
- Youth (13 to 16 yr.) - refers to child's chronological age only

3. **Subject Condition** - state of subject when found, or, if still missing when the search was suspended

- Fatality - dead when found
- Injured - required significant medical treatment when found
- Unhurt - did not require significant medical treatment when found
- No Trace - not located, outcome not known

4. **Distance from IPP** – Initial Planning Point - the geographical point at which the search planning starts. This could be the Point Last Seen (PLS) or the Last Known Position (LKP). It could be

- Either (a) distance measured directly (straight line) on a map in Kilometres correct to 1 dec. pl.
- Or (b) using the full OS Grid Reference (of 2 letters + 6 digits) for both the Grid Ref. of IPP and the location where subject found

5. **Location of Find** - the feature that best describes the location of the find

- Building / Shelter - any man-made structure not usually used for human habitation
- Forest / Woodland - forest, plantation where progress is difficult
- Forest Edge/Clearing - open woodland
- Habitation - building usually inhabited
- Open Ground - may be sheltering in natural features
- Path / Track - may be vehicular but not metalled
- Road - metalled, classified or unclassified
- Stream / Ditch - drainage line that can easily be crossed on foot
- Wall / Fence Line - any man-made structure enclosing land.
- Water/ Water's Edge - in or surrounding a body of water that could not be crossed easily on foot.