



Did you know?

Statistics need context. It's easier to appreciate the magnitude of a natural disaster, the cost of recovery or the loss of life from armed conflict when you are given context — when the statistics are compared to more familiar situations. This is what we are trying to do.

Consider, for example, the following:



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- **Economic losses** from all disasters in 2006: USD 35 billion
- Exxon Mobile **profit** in 2006: USD 36 billion
- Odds of suffering from **bad eyesight**: 1 in 3
- Number of women worldwide who have experienced **rape**, sexual assault or abuse: 1 in 3
- Chances of winning the Maryland "Pick 3" state **lottery**: 1%
- Percentage of **women landowners** worldwide: 1%
- Amount Americans spend on **cosmetic** procedures in one year: USD 13 billion
- Estimated **cost of recovery** from the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami: USD 12 billion
- Percentage of **civilian fatalities** in conflicts since 1990: 90%
- Percentage of people owning **cell phones** in Western Europe: 80%
- Number of **people killed or maimed** by anti-personnel mines since 1975: 1 million
- **Population of Dublin**: 1 million
- **Time the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake** shook the earth (creating a tsunami that affected 12 countries and killed more than 230,000 people): 8 minutes
- Time it takes to make a **hard-boiled egg**: 8 minutes