

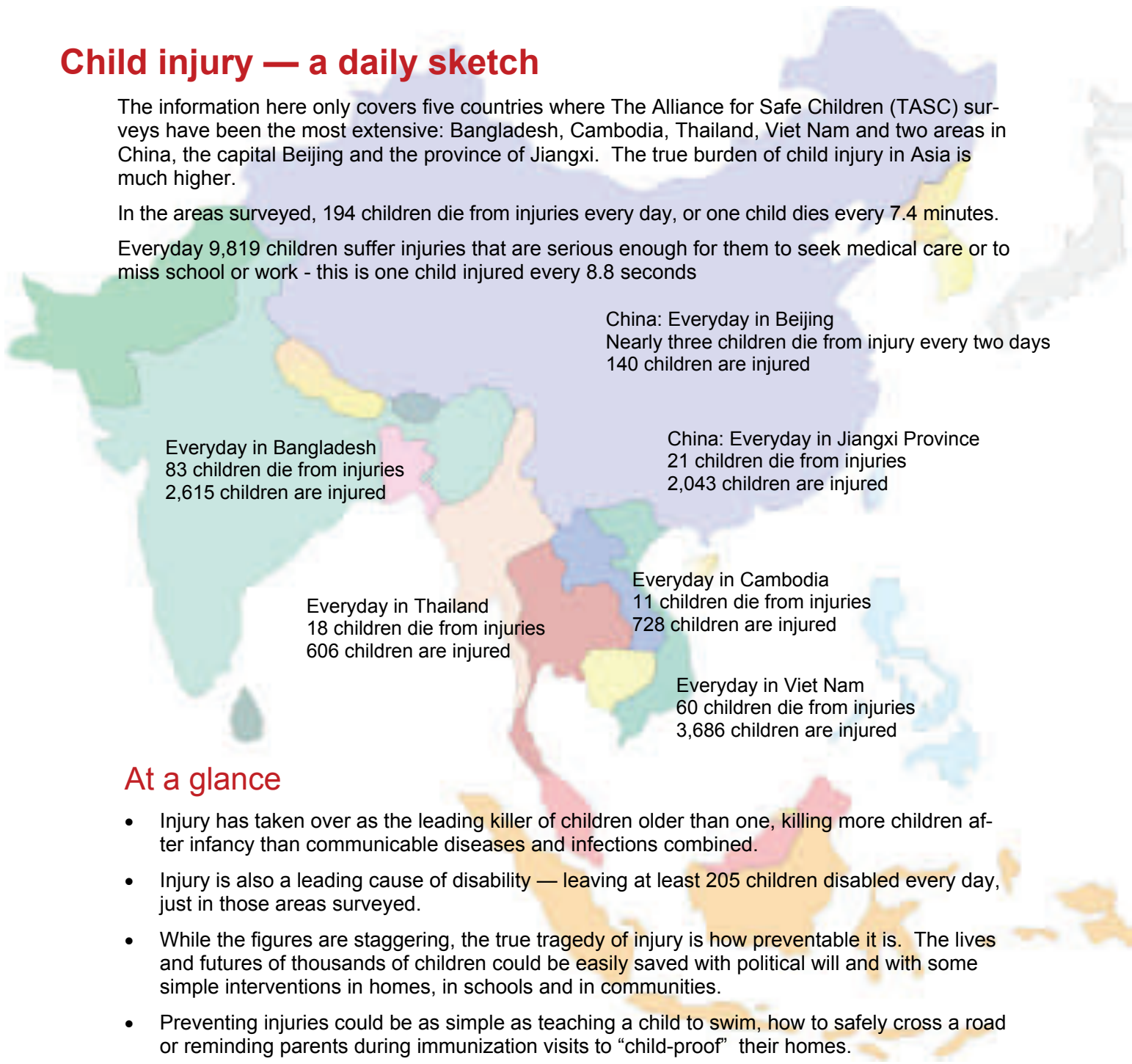
Child injury in Asia

Child injury — a daily sketch

The information here only covers five countries where The Alliance for Safe Children (TASC) surveys have been the most extensive: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Thailand, Viet Nam and two areas in China, the capital Beijing and the province of Jiangxi. The true burden of child injury in Asia is much higher.

In the areas surveyed, 194 children die from injuries every day, or one child dies every 7.4 minutes.

Everyday 9,819 children suffer injuries that are serious enough for them to seek medical care or to miss school or work - this is one child injured every 8.8 seconds



Everyday in Bangladesh
83 children die from injuries
2,615 children are injured

Everyday in Thailand
18 children die from injuries
606 children are injured

China: Everyday in Beijing
Nearly three children die from injury every two days
140 children are injured

China: Everyday in Jiangxi Province
21 children die from injuries
2,043 children are injured

Everyday in Cambodia
11 children die from injuries
728 children are injured

Everyday in Viet Nam
60 children die from injuries
3,686 children are injured

At a glance

- Injury has taken over as the leading killer of children older than one, killing more children after infancy than communicable diseases and infections combined.
- Injury is also a leading cause of disability — leaving at least 205 children disabled every day, just in those areas surveyed.
- While the figures are staggering, the true tragedy of injury is how preventable it is. The lives and futures of thousands of children could be easily saved with political will and with some simple interventions in homes, in schools and in communities.
- Preventing injuries could be as simple as teaching a child to swim, how to safely cross a road or reminding parents during immunization visits to “child-proof” their homes.

Background

As recently as 30 years ago, the notion that all children everywhere could access basic health care was no more than that, a dream. It is gradually becoming a reality as deaths across the world from infectious and non-communicable causes, such as measles, polio, diarrheal diseases and malnutrition, decrease. The global success in reducing the rates of infectious and non-communicable deaths has caused the epidemiological shift to injury, which has taken over as a leading killer of children.

The Alliance for Safe Children (TASC) is working to reduce the number of injuries and injury deaths and disabilities in Asia, where two-thirds of the world's children live.

For more information, or to see how you can help, see www.tasc-gcipf.org



Child injury numbers



Country	Injury deaths per year	Drowning	Transport accidents	Suffocation	Falls	Animal bites
Bangladesh	30,200	16,890	3,410	1,190	1,710	2,560
Cambodia	4,030	2,100	660	80	110	130
China						
Beijing	520	170	350	-	-	-
Jiangxi	7,780	4,630	1,340	1,070	470	130
Thailand	6,390	2,650	2,610	450	90	280
Viet Nam	21,900	11,660	2,800	1,550	850	-
Total	70,800	38,080	11,160	4,340	3,220	3,100

- Drowning is the leading cause of injury deaths, killing over 100 children everyday in the surveyed areas. Teaching children to swim and educating parents about better supervision would save many of these lives.
- Suffocation is the leading cause of injury death for infants.

Country	Non-fatal injuries per year	Falls	Animal bites	Transport accidents	Cuts	Burns
Bangladesh	955,320	281,530	59,040	111,420	122,510	172,840
Cambodia	266,120	55,050	60,720	76,780	34,720	13,240
China						
Beijing	50,700	15,500	11,000	6,000	3,600	3,500
Jiangxi	146,270	212,210	25,330	97,590	51,100	43,900
Thailand	221,490	63,400	34,910	72,680	20,310	12,680
Viet Nam	1,346,300	385,600	332,000	229,200	190,500	60,000
Total	2,986,200	1,013,290	523,000	593,660	422,740	306,160

- The table shows that almost 3 million children are injured every year. These injuries are serious enough to require medical care or to miss school or work. It does not count bumps and bruises.
- Falls, animal bites and transport injuries account for nearly two out of three of all non-fatal injuries.

Country	Disabling injuries per year	Falls	Transport accidents	Cuts	Animal bites	Burns	Violence
Bangladesh	13,130	3,750	1,370	1,710	-	3,410	510
Cambodia	7,100	1,520	2,700	690	640	530	190
China							
Beijing	500	-	150	150	-	-	150
Jiangxi	8,580	3,220	2,280	1,340	270	270	270
Thailand	1,610	390	710	200	180	-	150
Viet Nam	43,900	16,600	6,500	5,900	5,300	1,800	-
Total	74,820	25,480	13,700	9,980	6,380	6,010	1,270

- Disabilities and other serious injuries leave children and their families with lifelong social and economic costs that outweigh those associated with fatal injuries.
- Falls are the most common cause of injury disability. This is often related to spinal cord injuries.