

Longitudinal Ageing Study in India

Introduction of LASI

- The Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI) is a national survey of scientific investigation of the health, economic, and social, determinants and consequences of population ageing in India.
- LASI is a nationally representative survey of older adults aged 45+ in all 28 States and 8 Union Territories that will be conducted every 2 years for the period of 25 years.
- LASI is developed as per the needs of the Indian's elderly population but at the same time it is internationally harmonized enabling not only cross-state analyses within India but cross- country analyses.
- The longitudinal ageing study is designed in partnership between the following collaborating institutions:

Nodal Institutions:

- The International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), an autonomous institution under the MOHFW, Govt. of India, Mumbai, is the nodal Indian institution for LASI project.
- **Collaborating Indian Institutions:**
National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune is the collaborating Indian institution for dried blood spots (DBS) storage and testing.
- **Collaborating International Institutions:**
 1. Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, is the lead US institution for LASI project.
 2. University of Southern California (USC) is the collaborating US Institution for technical support for LASI.
- **Scientific Goals of LASI**

The main goal of LASI is to collect credible scientific data on burden of disease, mental health, functional health, health care and social and economic wellbeing of elderly population.

- LASI is designed to cover following major subject and policy domains of adult and older population namely:
 1. Demography, Migration and Marital status, and Housing and Environment
 2. Health: Disease Burden and Risk factors (reported and measured)
 3. Health Care and Health care Financing
 4. Family and social network

5. Economic: Income, Wealth, Consumption, Employment, Retirement and Pension
- LASI survey implements have two types of schedules:
 1. Household Schedule
 2. Individual Schedule

Household Schedule

The main modules of household schedule include the following:

1. **Cover screen:** This module covers information about the members of the household and their basic socio-demographic characteristics.
2. **Housing and environment:** This module covers information related to housing and environmental condition of surveyed households.
3. **Household consumption:** This module covers information related to household level consumption on food and non-food items.
4. **Household assets and debts:** This module covers information related to home ownership, land ownership, agricultural and business assets, financial and non-financial assets and household debts.
5. **Household income:** This module covers information related to agricultural income, non- agricultural business income, individual earning, and household income from government transfers, private transfers, other household income, tax related questions, and overall economic condition.
6. **Health insurance:** This module will collect household level information about awareness of health insurance, type of health insurance, type of coverage and health insurance premiums.

Individual Schedule

- The main module of the individual schedule is:
 - **Demographics-** This module covers basic demographic profile including age, marital status, working status, living condition, educational background, migration, etc.
 - **Family and Social Network-** This module covers information related to the relationship with children, grandchildren, parents, sibling and friends. This module also collects information on living arrangement, available social support, and involvement in social activities, social security programs meant for the elderly and psychological measures.
 - **Social Welfare Schemes-** This module covers information about the awareness, utilizations of different national and state level schemes and programs meant for senior citizens. Amount received under the schemes and utilization of this money is also collected. Information on problem faced in

availing the benefits and grievance system is also collected. Awareness about different types of concessions provided by the government to older people is also asked.

- **Health-**

The health module will cover the following sub-sections:

I). **Reported Morbidities:** Burden of chronic diseases: hypertension, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, lung disease, stroke, arthritis, angina, psychiatric problems, psychiatric conditions, high cholesterol, falls/injury, and health conditions owing to disasters including both natural and man-made, based on self-reporting of diagnosis by health professional. In other chronic conditions, questions on the conditions such as typhoid, digestive problem(s), skin disease, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's and Urogenital problems/conditions will be asked to the respondent. Burden of endemic diseases such as Anemia, TB, malaria, jaundice, typhoid, liver and kidney diseases, problem of sensory organs such as hearing, eyesight and oral health. Information on immunization history of the respondents such as pneumococcal, typhoid etc. Illness/health events occurred in the last 3 months of the survey such as angina, sleep related problems, pain-related questions are also asked. Also, this section will collect information about the childhood health (up-to the age of 16 years) and women health regarding removal of uterus, pap smear test and mammography.

II). **Functional Limitations:** This section covers information on mobility, activities of daily living(ADL) and Instrumental activities of daily living (IADL). In the helper section we are asking about the care givers who helps the respondent in the daily activities.

III). **Family Medical History:** This section covers medical history of the blood related family members of the respondent. Questions on chronic diseases, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, birth defects and congenital disorders within the family are asked.

- In **Health care access and utilization:** This section collects information regarding in-patient visit, out-patient visit, health insurance, quality of care, out of pocket (OOP) expenditure, etc..
- Information related to **work, retirement and pension** will cover details about ever worked & current work, current main job, job search, last job of current non-workers, social insurance, retirement, pension benefits, etc..