

2020 HRS Around-the-World Virtual Meeting  
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# The Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI)

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## ABOUT LASI

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- Longitudinal survey - captures health, social, and economic aspects of aging in India
- National and state level representation
- Harmonized with other HRSs
- Largest sample size among all HRS studies
- Planned every 2-4 years
- Current NIA funding ends May 31, 2021

## LASI WAVE 1

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- Completed during 2017-18 and early 2019 in 35 states and UTs (data collection in Sikkim still pending)
- Sample size (excluding Sikkim):
  - Households – 42,949
  - Individuals – >72,000 (aged 45 and above, and their spouses irrespective of age)
  - Biomarkers- 65,900 (with either DBS or biomarkers data)

### **LASI Wave 1 sample characteristics:**

- Rural – 68%; Urban – 32%
- Male – 42%; Female – 58%
- 46%  $\geq$  60 years; 9%  $\geq$  75years

# RELEASE OF LASI WAVE 1 NATIONAL REPORT AND MICRODATA

## WAVE 2 UPDATES



Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan (File photo)

**Longitudinal ageing study will provide evidence base for programs for elderly: Vardhan**

ANI | Updated: Oct 02, 2020 00:09 IST

Expected to be released before the end of 2020.

### Completed activities:

1. Finalization of wave 2 instrument (excluding COVID module)
2. CAPI programming of English version of instrument
3. Recruitment of state agencies

### Pending activities (delayed because of COVID-19 pandemic)

1. Translation of new sections of the instrument (in progress)
2. Pretesting wave 2 instrument
3. Approval from MoHFW for wave 2 data collection
4. Training of trainers
5. Training of field and health investigators
6. Data collection (expected to begin in second half of 2021)

# LASI COVID SURVEY: CAPTURING MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM IMPACTS OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON OLDER INDIANS

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- Additional module on COVID-related questions added to LASI Wave 2 individual survey
- Before-after and cross-state variations using LASI wave 1 and wave 2 data
- Additional COVID-related questions in LASI wave 2 survey:
  - Symptoms, signs, testing, and prevalence of COVID-19
  - Changes in living arrangements, household size, and family dynamics during the pandemic
  - Social interaction within the community
  - Difficulty in accessing basic supplies and facilities, and usage of resources provided by relatives, friends, governments, NGOs, and other organizations
  - Negative and positive impacts on health, economic, and social wellbeing including work and income
  - Changes in caregiving responsibilities and other volunteer activities
  - Coping mechanisms
  - Perspective on vaccination in general and COVID-19 vaccination in particular
  - Sources of COVID-related information; and degrees of trust
- COVID module is expected to add up to 15 mins on top of ~1.5 hours needed to administer one individual interview (including biomarkers) of LASI main survey

# Thank you!

For questions, comments, and suggestions, please contact [aagarwal@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:aagarwal@hsph.harvard.edu) or [dbloom@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:dbloom@hsph.harvard.edu)