

# LASI Wave 1 Data

## User Guide Notes

- The Longitudinal Study in India (LASI) was conducted **between 2017 and 2019**. It is a multidisciplinary, internationally harmonized panel study designed to be nationally representative of India's population **aged 45 and older**.
- The first wave of LASI, conducted in all 36 Indian states and union territories, has a sample of **73,408 individuals** aged 45 and above and their spouses, irrespective of age.
- The sampling plan was based on the 2011 Indian Census, with the first stage, **primary sampling units (PSUs)**, that is, **tehsils or taluks**; the second stage, villages were selected from the rural PSUs and wards were selected from the urban PSUs; and in the third stage, households from selected villages in the rural area and in urban areas, one **Census Enumeration Block (CEB)** per ward was chosen in the third stage, and households were selected from each CEB in the fourth stage.
- Eligible households were those with at least one member 45 years of age or older. Eligible individuals were those in these households who were 45 years of age or older and their spouses, regardless of age, with an **oversampling of individuals aged 65 and older**. LASI collected data from **43,364 households** and 73,408 individuals from the selected samples.
- The survey includes questions about **demographic, economic, employment, behavioral, social, physical, and mental health characteristics** and an extensive set of cognitive tests. The survey questions were translated into 18 regional languages, and the **interview was done in the language of the respondent's choice**.
- The household survey collected data from a selected key informant, who could be the **head of the household** or the **most knowledgeable adult person** aged 18 and above residing in the selected household.

**Table 1. Household Modules**

Coverscreen (CV)	Household roster and basic demographic information about each household member
Housing & Environment (HE)	Information related to housing and the environmental conditions of surveyed households
Household Consumption (CO)	Household expenditures including detailed health expenditures, and consumption of food and non-food items, including home-grown goods
Household Assets and Debts (AD)	Household financial and non-financial assets and debts
Household Income (IN)	Income for household members from labor and other sources, such as government transfers and remittances
Household Health Insurance (HI)	Household health insurance information, including type of health insurance, coverage, and premiums

- The individual survey was administered to each age-eligible respondent aged 45 years and above and their spouses regardless of age. A **proxy interview** is done if the selected respondent is incapable of understanding or participating in the interview. Proxy interviews **do not include biomarkers, psychosocial questions, cognitive tests, or experimental modules**.

**Table 2. Individual Modules**

Demographics (DM)	Detailed individual demographics (place of birth, caste, education, marital status, migration, etc.)
Work, Retirement & Pension (WE)	Employment status, wages, past work, job characteristics, job search, retirement, pension benefits, etc.
Health (HT)	Self-reported health status, chronic and endemic diseases, sensory impairment, oral health, immunization history, childhood health, women's health, functional health, family medical history, cognition, and health behaviors.
Health Care Access and Utilization (HC)	Healthcare utilization and health insurance, out-of-pocket healthcare expenditures
Family & Social Networks (FS)	Characteristics about the respondent's family, friends, and social networks, as well as available social support and involvement in social activities
Social Welfare Schemes (SW)	Social welfare coverage
Experimental Modules (TU, EE, ES, EV)	Questions about time use, economic expectations, social connectedness, and vignettes
Biomarkers (BM)	Performance tests (blood pressure, grip strength, etc.), anthropometrics

- The biomarker data was collected for each consenting age-eligible respondent and their spouses as part of the individual survey. **Biological markers, such as anthropometrics, blood pressure, and dried blood spots (DBS), and performance measures, such as gait speed, grip strength, balance, lung function, and vision**, were assessed for each of the age-eligible consented participants. All biomarker data except DBS assays and lung function tests are released **as part of the individual data**.

## Data Sets and Merging

Three data files have been released: **coverscreen data**, **household data**, and **individual data**, which includes biomarker data.

- **66,233 households** that completed the **cover screen interview**. Based on this, whether households included any age-qualifying persons was identified. There are **22,858 households** that **did not complete either** the individual interview or the household interview. There are **43,586 households** that completed the **household interview**. Please note that there are **1,098 households** that **did not complete the individual interview**.
- **73,408 records** are present in the individual data, and each observation is a unique respondent in the LASI survey, in which **6,613 individuals did not complete the biomarker module**.
- Given in the user manual- Stata codes can be used to merge between household and individual data like this:  
use "lasi\_w1a\_ind\_bm", clear  
merge m:1 hhid using "lasi\_w1a\_hh"

## About Variables and Identifiers

- In the household data, **hhid** uniquely identifies a household. **Prim\_key** uniquely identifies each individual within a household and is unique for each individual in the survey.
- Respondents who refused or could not answer the questions are re-coded to missing codes: **".d"** for "Don't know," **".r"** for "Refused," and **".m"** for "Missing."
- Most financial data collected through surveys are, therefore, measured less than perfectly. The missing data problem can be alleviated through imputation. Two different **imputation methods** were developed for providing financial variables, one by **IIPS** and one by **USC**.
- Available financial variables:

**Table 3. Available Financial Variables in LASI**

LASI Financial Questions	Description	IIPS variables	USC variables	USC flag variables
<b>Section: Household Consumption (CO)</b>				
CO002	Expenditures on monthly household food consumption	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
CO101 – CO107	Expenditures on monthly household non-food consumption	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
CO108 – CO111	Monthly expenditures on outpatient health care	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
CO202 – CO206	Yearly expenditures on inpatient health care	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
CO207a	Yearly health care expenditures on the deceased	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
CO208	Yearly health care expense reimbursements	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
CO209 – CO216	Yearly expenditures on household items	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
CO305	Price paid using a ration card for 8 different items	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
<b>Section: Household Assets and Debts (AD)</b>				
AD103	Amount of security deposit for current residence	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD203	Present market value of current residence	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD303	Present market value of other housing and commercial buildings	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD305 & AD306	Rental income received from other housing and commercial buildings (AD305) & security deposits received (AD306)	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD404	Value of land	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD407	Rental income received from cultivated land (AD407a) & non-cultivated land (AD407b)	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD502	Current value of the agricultural assets	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD504	Rental income received from agricultural assets	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD506	Current value of livestock	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD508	Rental income received from livestock	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD601	Value of businesses	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD702	Current value of outstanding loans	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD704	Interest income received from outstanding loans	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD706	Value of non-financial assets. If could not provide value, unfolding brackets are asked	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD802 & AD803	Value of financial assets (AD802) and interest income on financial assets (AD803)	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD906	Original value of loans	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
AD907 & AD908	Value of outstanding loans	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
<b>Section: Household Income (IN)</b>				
IN103 & IN104	Income from cropping/forestry asked about as the value of products produced (IN103) & the cost of production (IN104)	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN107 & IN108	Income from livestock/fishery asked about as the value of products produced (IN107) & the cost of production (IN108)	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN204 & IN205	Income from non-agricultural business asked about as the total revenue of business (IN204) & the cost of running the business (IN205)	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN304	Income from wages and salaries	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN402	Income from pensions	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN504	Income from private money transfers	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN507a	Income from non-monetary gifts/donations from abroad	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN507b	Income from non-monetary gifts/donations from inside India	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN602	Other income	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN702	Income from government transfers	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
IN802	Tax paid	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
<b>Section: Health Insurance (HI)</b>				
HI008	Amount of yearly health insurance premium paid	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
<b>Section: Work, Retirement, &amp; Pension (WE)</b>				
WE020	Weekly earnings from main job	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
WE021	Weekly earnings from side jobs	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
WE207	Expected salary if offered another job	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
WE312	Monthly earnings at last job	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
WE410	Estimate of monthly pre-retirement salary at job from which officially retired	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
WE413	Pension income received or expected to receive	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
WE419	Total amount of lump sum payments paid or expected to be paid at the time of official retirement	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
<b>Section: Health Care Access and Utilization (HC)</b>				
HC107 & HC108	Amount paid for health insurance premium and maximum amount of coverage	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
HC210	Amount paid during hospitalization	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
HC211	Amount covered from last hospitalization for 9 different sources	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
HC309	Amount paid during most recent outpatient visit	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f

HC310	Amount covered from most recent outpatient visit for 9 different sources	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
HC325	Total amount paid on outpatient visits	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
HC327	Total amount paid on medication or health supplements	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
HC328	Amount reimbursed for medication and health supplements for 4 different sources	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
<b>Section: Family &amp; Social Networks (FS)</b>				
FS403	Total amount of financial help received from family or friends	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f
FS406	Total amount of financial help given to family or friends	no special ending	end in _i	end in _i_f

## Variables of Interest

### 1. Grip strength - **GM023**

[Equipment needed: Dynamometer, Stopwatch]

Now, I would like to assess the strength of your hand in a gripping action. I will ask you to squeeze this handle as hard as you can, just for a couple of seconds, and then let go. I will take alternately two measurements from your right and your left hand. Begin the test with the left hand.

Response type: String

### 2. Balance Test - **BM041**

[Equipment needed: Stopwatch, Show Card]

Now, I will show you the next movement. I want you to try to stand with your feet together, side-by-side, for about 10 seconds. You may use your arms, bend your knees, or move your body to maintain your balance, but try not to move your feet. Try to hold this position until I tell you to stop. Like this... Demonstrate the measurement Stand with feet together. Do you understand these directions, and are you willing to do this test?

Response type: Enumerated

Responses: Yes/No

### 3. Balance Test - **BM048**

Now, I want you to try to stand with the heel of one foot in front of and touching the toes of the other foot for about [30/60] seconds. You may put either foot in front, whichever is more comfortable for you. You may use your arms, bend your knees, or move your body to maintain your balance, but try not to move your feet. Try to hold this position until I tell you to stop. Like this.. Demonstrate the measurement. Stand and place the heel of one foot, touching the toes of the other foot. Do you understand these directions, and are you willing to do this test?

Response type: Enumerated

Responses: Yes/No

4. Timed Walk - **BM056\_intro**, **BM056**, **BM057**

I will be asking you to walk the course at your usual pace a total of two times. I will walk alongside you the whole time during the measurement. I would like you to stand here with your feet lined up. Start walking when I say Begin. Walk all the way past the other end of the tape before you stop. Are you ready to go now? Begin. [Repeat the measurement]: Now, I want you to repeat the walk. Remember to walk at your usual pace and go all the way past the other end of the course. I would like you to stand here with your feet lined up. Start walking when I say Begin. Are you ready to go now? Begin. [Instructions for Interviewer: Record measurements in the table below. Record 993 if R tried but was unable. Record 999 if R chooses not to do it.] [Record up to 2 decimal points: Example 10.15 seconds]

Response type: String

BM056 = 1st Walking Speed Time \_\_\_\_ seconds

BM057 = 2nd Walking Speed Time \_\_\_\_ seconds

5. **Financial Variables:**

**CO002** (Expenditures on monthly household food consumption), **WE020** (Weekly earnings from main job), and **HC210** (Amount paid during hospitalization) are some financial variables of interest.