

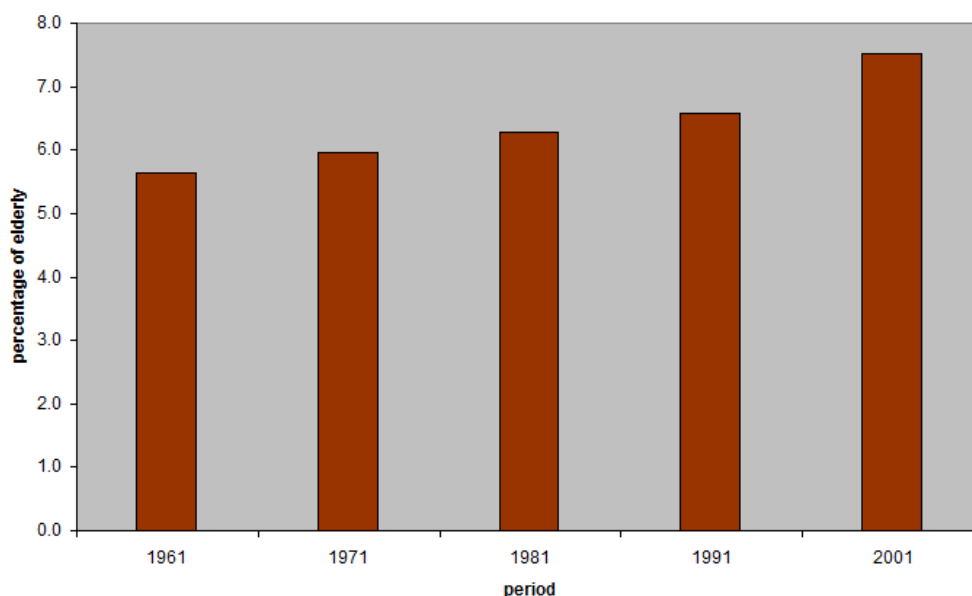
Intergenerational Family Relations and Support of Elderly in India: A Field-Based Study in Kerala State

Introduction

Last century witnessed a shift in fertility and mortality trends and the emergence of population ageing worldwide. The world population is ageing with higher percent of growth rate than the overall population. Until recently it is considered that population ageing is a problem of only developed countries, but the recent trend shows that it is more rapid in developing countries, including India. In more developed regions almost one fifth of the population was aged 60 or older in the year 2000. By 2050 this proportion is expected to reach one- third. On the other hand, ageing process is more rapid in the developing countries. By the year 2025, nearly 75 percent and in 2050 around 85 percent of world's elderly population is likely to be found living in developing countries (United Nations, 2002).

Even though the proportion of India's elderly is small compared with that of developed countries, still it is very large in terms of the absolute numbers. The Indian aged population is currently the second largest in the world, the first being China with 150 million. The 1901 census showed there were only 12 million people above the age of 60 years in India. In the next fifty years the population of aged increased to 20 million. But in the next fifty years it increased almost three times and reached around 77 million in 2001. The population projections show that by 2050 the elderly population in India will surpass the population of children below 14 years.

Chart: 1 Trends in the proportion of aged in India



Source: Census of India (Various Years)

The proportion of elderly has increased by about two percent over a period of five decades and by absolute numbers it has increased by 52 million (Table 1). Within the elderly population the number of persons aged 70 and above has also grown rapidly; from 9 million in 1961 to 29 million in 2001. The sex ratio among the elderly in India favours males in contrast to the trend prevalent in other parts of the world (Table 2). The growth rates among different age groups of elderly during the last decade were much higher than the general growth rate of 2 percent per annum (Rajan *et.al*, 2006).

Table: 1 Number and Proportion of Elderly by Different Age groups, India, 1961-2001

| Age | Number(in millions) | | | | | % of elderly to the total population | | | | |
|------|---------------------|------|------|------|------|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 |
| 60+ | 25 | 33 | 43 | 57 | 77 | 5.6 | 6.0 | 6.49 | 6.76 | 7.5 |
| 70+ | 9 | 11 | 15 | 21 | 29 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.33 | 2.51 | 2.9 |
| 80+ | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.62 | 0.76 | 0.8 |
| 90+ | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1 | 1.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| 100+ | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.1 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 |

Source: Census of India (Various years)

Table: 2 Sex ratio and Growth Rate among the Indian Elderly, 1971-2001

| <i>Age</i> | <i>Sex ratio of Elderly</i> <i>(males per 1000 females)</i> | | | | <i>Growth of Elderly</i> <i>(in Percent)</i> | | |
|------------|--|------|------|------|---|---------|-----------|
| | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 1971-81 | 1981-91 | 1991-2001 |
| 60+ | 1066 | 1042 | 1075 | 1028 | 2.78 | 2.72 | 3.04 |
| 70+ | 1030 | 1026 | 1084 | 991 | 3.013 | 3.08 | 3.32 |
| 80+ | 950 | 990 | 1090 | 1051 | 2.54 | 4.35 | 2.35 |
| 90+ | 897 | 892 | 1019 | 1131 | 0.66 | 5.08 | 5.80 |
| 100+ | 798 | 844 | 869 | 1782 | 0.19 | 0.44 | na |

Source: Census of India (Various years)

In India, the family is the most important institution for supporting aged persons in their advanced age. The Indian family, like most families in oriental cultures, is considered to be strong, well knit, resilient and enduring. However, heterogeneity and diversity are the characteristics of Indian families. There are regional and cultural variations in family structure and functioning. The norms and values related to family life vary according to religion, caste, social class and residential patterns (Dhruvarajan, 1989). In traditional Indian society, elder people lived within multi-generational extended families including one or more adults, children, grand children and other kin. The aged in these societies received unparalleled sense of honor, decision - making responsibilities in the economic, political and social activities of the family. But in the last few decades, the researches show that the traditional joint family has crumbled due to forces of urbanization and modernization. The most prominent feature of the disintegration in joint family system is the erosion of authority commanded by the elder members as they cease to be the economic head of the family. Modernization has profoundly influenced the values like interdependence, cooperation and self- sacrifice giving way to independence, personal mobility and personal achievement. All these factors have contributed, to changes in the structure and the functioning of the family system. Although at present the intergenerational families are fewer, the interaction between the generations are mostly based on affection bonds and characterized by unconditional mutual respect.

In India, still a higher proportion of elderly living with their families. There are changes in both composition and quality of interactions among the members. The generation gap is widening due to fast changing lifestyle, globalization, migration of young and influence of diverse ideologies. There are evidences that inter- generational relations are undergoing transitions due to social and cultural changes. Teenagers specially perceive their grand parents in a different way (Gayatri Devi, 2004). The intergenerational exchange includes various types of activities and support, including financial, emotional and social. Simple issues like should the parents be consulted in job changes, marriage or purchase of land or house or any property- do determine the warmth of intergenerational relationship (Jamuna, 2007).

Batra and Bhaumik (2007) in their study on ‘intergenerational relationships’ based on 90 respondents (30 respondents each from first, second and third generations) at Delhi found that around 53 percent were living in nuclear families. 27 percent of the first generation was economically fully dependent on their children and 23 percent were partially dependent. The study also shows that the perceived change in the status of elderly. 70 percent of the elderly reported that there was loss of position in the family after they became old, and 63 percent felt loss of authority, 73 percent reported lack of support from children and grand children, 80 percent admitted they are feeling isolated from the family and 86 percent reported loss of respect from the young generation.

The elderly who have adequate financial resources and who took care of the family affairs, who are productive and involved in income generation activities and contribute to the family, are looked after well and held in good esteem by the young. On the contrary, in many cases where the old are resource poor, the young neglect them intentionally or unintentionally, and refuse or fail to fulfill a care taking obligation (WHO/INPEA, 2002).

Sonar *et.al* (2007), in their study in Karnataka, found that a significant proportion of elderly have good intergenerational relationship with their children and grandchildren. Those who do not have good relations with their young generation, reported that their differences are due to opposing attitude of young (21 percent), not productive or useful (19 percent), differences of opinion (2.7) and different life styles. The elderly who are

educated and have some source of income, are found to have good relations with the young.

National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) during January-June 2004 collected data from a sample of 34,831 persons aged 60 and above. Information on various issues on intergenerational support of elderly such as the persons who are providing financial assistance to the elderly, living arrangement, support mechanism, etc. were gathered through this nationally representative survey.

It is found that 56 percent of the males and 55 percent of the females continue to work beyond 60 years of age (Table 3). As they grow older, the work participation rate declines. However, even 80 years, 20 percent of the males and 13 percent of the females in India continue to work. The high work participation rate among the elderly in India may be due to the lack of social security and high level of poverty.

**Table: 3 Work participation rates among Different groups of the Elderly:
Comparison of NSS 50th and 55th Rounds, India**

| <i>Age</i> | <i>Rural</i> | | | <i>Urban</i> | | | <i>Total</i> | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--------|-------|--------------|--------|-------|--------------|--------|-------|
| | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| | NSSO 50 th Round | | | | | | | | |
| 60+ | 70.8 | 59.4 | 65.6 | 45.9 | 55.3 | 51.1 | 62.6 | 57.9 | 60.3 |
| 70+ | 48.8 | 33.4 | 41.9 | 30.8 | 31.3 | 31.7 | 42.7 | 32.6 | 37.7 |
| 80+ | 24.7 | 17.5 | 22.4 | 15.8 | 15.6 | 17.1 | 21.8 | 16.8 | 19.2 |
| | NSSO 55 th Round | | | | | | | | |
| 60+ | 64.4 | 56.0 | 60.3 | 40.9 | 52.7 | 47.0 | 56.2 | 54.7 | 55.5 |
| 70+ | 43.0 | 29.3 | 36.5 | 26.8 | 30.3 | 28.6 | 37.3 | 29.7 | 33.6 |
| 80+ | 23.7 | 12.5 | 18.2 | 13.4 | 12.9 | 13.1 | 20.1 | 12.7 | 16.3 |

Source: Rajan and Mathew (2007).

The analysis shows that in India, around 5 percent of the elderly were living alone at the time of survey, and 12 percent were living with their spouses. 45 percent of the elderly were residing with spouse and others, and 32 percent without spouse but with children. The gender difference has observed in the category of persons living alone- only 2.6

percent of the elderly males were living alone, whereas 8 percent of the females were living alone. In the case of widows the percentage is again higher around 12 percent.

Table: 4 Living Arrangements of Elderly in India-2004

| <i>Living Arrangement</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Widows</i> |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Alone | 5.1 | 2.6 | 7.8 | 11.8 |
| With Spouse only | 11.9 | 15.5 | 8.4 | |
| With spouse and others | 44.7 | 60.0 | 29.4 | |
| Without spouse but with children | 32.1 | 17.2 | 47.0 | 78.3 |
| Others | 6.1 | 4.7 | 7.5 | 10.6 |

Source: NSSO (2006)

It is clear from the analysis that still the intergenerational financial assistance is prevailing in India; around 78 percent of the economically dependent elderly were supported by their own children and 3 percent by the third generation (grand children). In the case of widows, 87 percent of the elderly received financial assistance from their children and 5 percent from their grand children.

Table: 5 Financial Supports for Dependent Elderly in India-2004

| <i>Person providing financial assistance to the economically dependent elderly</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Widows</i> |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Spouse | 13.3 | 16.9 | 10.8 | |
| Own children | 77.7 | 75.2 | 79.4 | 86.9 |
| Grand children | 2.7 | 2.0 | 3.2 | 4.7 |
| Others | 6.3 | 5.9 | 6.6 | 8.4 |

Source: NSSO (2006)

The intergenerational support is not only restricted with financial assistance. It includes the physical care also. Around 84 percent of the physically immobile persons were cared by their own family members, mostly by daughters- in -law. However, around 8 percent of the elderly reported that nobody is there to help them. The proportion of males (11

percent) reported the unavailability of any one to give physical help was comparatively higher than among the females (7.5 percent).

Table: 6 Persons Helping Physically Immobile Elderly-2004

| <i>Person helping for physically immobile elderly</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Widows</i> |
|---|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Family member | 84.0 | 83.8 | 84.5 | 84.6 |
| Other than family member | 7.2 | 5.6 | 8.3 | 7.9 |
| No one | 8.6 | 10.7 | 7.2 | 7.5 |

Source: NSSO (2006)

Intergenerational contacts and interactions are expected to become more complex in future. With the increasing life expectancy and more migration of youngsters will surely affect the family relationships. However, not much work has been done to examine the intergenerational relationship and support mechanisms. Due to the rapidly changing demographic conditions and modernization, the significance of such research is increasing. In this context, the present paper attempts to analyse the intergenerational relations and support of elderly in Kerala State. The main objectives of the study are:

1. To understand elderly's expectations about the intergenerational support
2. To examine whether the elderly are getting the expected support from their children and if not, in which aspect they feel lack of support.
3. Elderly's involvement in decision-making process in family matters
4. To understand the extent of intergenerational communication by different background characteristics of elderly

Methods and Materials

The present study is based on a field survey carried out in Pathanamthitta district of Kerala state. Pathanamthitta District is the first district in India recorded the replacement level of fertility. As per 2001 census, the population growth rate of Pathanamthitta is lowest in India (0.4 percent). Among the districts of Kerala, this district has the highest proportion of international migrants, especially to western countries. The large- scale

migration of young people can have many implications for the welfare of the elderly left behind. A total of 300 elderly were interviewed from the sample households (184 women and 116 men). According to 2001 census the rural population constitutes 90 percent of the district and thus the survey focused only on rural areas. Among the five talukas (sub-district level), two talukas have been randomly selected for the proposed study. From each Taluka, 5 villages were randomly identified. In the next stage, from each village (lowest administrative unit) one ward has been randomly selected, since the village population size is very large in Kerala. Of these wards, the detail of households having elderly has gathered from the electoral list which was prepared in 2006 and available in Panchayat (local self-government body) office. In the final stage, 30 households of elderly from each ward were selected using systematic random sampling. In this study, only one elderly from each of the selected household is considered as the respondent. The information about living arrangements of elderly, economic dependency, the persons providing financial assistance, and the elderly's expectations about the support from their children during old age, etc, was collected. The survey was carried during March-July 2008

Findings

Out of the sample, 61.3 percent were women and 38.7 percent were men. Around 62 percent of the respondents were Hindus and 37 percent were Christians, only 1 percent of the respondents were Muslims. 45 percent of the respondents belong to the general category, and 30 percent were SC/ST, and 25 percent of the respondents from other backward castes (OBC). Majority of the respondents were literate (83 percent) and around 8.3 percent have education of higher secondary and above. With regard to marital status, 48 percent of the respondents were currently married and 49 percent were widowed. 31 percent of the elderly were unemployed and 34.7 percent were housewives. However, around 25 percent of the respondents were engaged in economic activity and 9.3 percent were retired from the service. More than half of the respondents (53.3 percent) were economically fully dependent and around 14 percent were partially dependent on others for their daily requirements. The living arrangements of elderly have significant impact on the well being of elderly. 11 percent of the respondents were

staying alone and 16 percent were staying with their spouses. According to this survey, around 71 percent of the elderly was living with their children.

Old age is the time of deteriorating health, both physical and psychological. It is the time of support and security needed for the older persons. In India, family still continues to be the primary institution where people find physical and psychological support and security. Though majority still continues to live in families, there are changes in both composition and quality of intergenerational relations and support. It is important to know elderly's expectations about the care and support from their children and grand children. Almost all the respondents (98 percent) expect physical and medical care from their children during old age and 88 percent expect financial support and 66 percent expect emotional support from the children. Comparatively a higher proportion of females expect care and support from their children than males. As age increases the expectation of physical, medical and financial support from children also increases. As the education increase the expectation of financial support from children reduces. The educated elderly are, in general, economically independent during their old age. However, the expectation of emotional support from children is interestingly high among the higher educated people. Widows expect more physical and financial support from their children than those who live with their spouse.

Around 34 percent of elderly stated that they are getting the expected support from their children and 47 percent reported that they are getting the limited support. However, a sizable proportion of elderly (19 percent) opined that they are not at all satisfied with the support and care of their children. Comparatively higher percentages of females are not receiving the expected support from their children. Considering the age group, around 40 percent of the young old (60-69 age group) respondents were getting the expected support to a large extent, only 21 percent of the oldest – old (80+) reported they are getting the expected support to a large extent from their children. Around 71 percent of the elderly who have higher secondary and above education level reported that they are getting the expected support from their children to a large extent. At the same time, only 26.5 percent of the non- literate and 16.5 percent of the respondents who are below primary level of education were completely satisfied with the type of support they receive

from their children. Around 42 percent of the elderly living alone reported that they are not at all getting the expected support from their children, while the corresponding figure is only 14 percent among the elderly who are staying with son and 12.5 percent who are staying with daughters. It is interesting to see that the percentages of elderly who are not at all getting the expected support from their children are higher among economically independent category than economically fully dependent elderly.

More than half of the respondents (54 percent) reported that they lack physical and medical care from children and 37 percent reported lack of financial support. 29 percent of the elderly express lack of emotional support from their children. Gender differences were observed in lack of care in all aspects. Around 61 percent of elderly women reported they felt the lack of physical and medical care while 41 percent of the males reported lack of care. In the case of financial support the differences between sexes is comparatively small, around 33 percent of the male respondents and 40 percent of the female respondents reported lack of financial support from children. 22 percent of the men and 33 percent of the women reported lack of emotional support. As age increases, the percentage of elderly who reported lack of care and support from children also increases; around 65 percent of oldest old reported lack of physical and medical support compared to 45 percent in young old and 58 percent in old-old (70-79 age group). The same trend has observed in financial support also. Around 74 percent of elderly who has below primary school education reported lack of physical and medical care against 24 percent who completed higher secondary and above. Higher proportion of widows reported lack of support from children than currently married respondents. The elderly living alone or with others reported lack of support from children than the other categories.

Intergenerational relationships are determined by a variety of factors and intergenerational communication is one of the most important factors which determine the quality of intergenerational relationship. More than half of the respondents (55.4 percent) reported that the son/daughter with whom they are staying with have communication with them. There was not much variation observed between the sexes. The elderly in young-old (57 percent) and old-old (56 percent) used to have more

communication with children than the oldest-old (50 percent). The analysis shows that daughters used to spend more time with their parents than the sons. Among the elderly who are staying with daughters around 83 percent have daily communication with their children; while only 48 percent of elderly staying with sons reported that the sons used to spend enough time with them. The economically dependent elderly have experienced more intergenerational communication than the economically independent respondents.

It is also observed that 33 percent of the elderly's children used to spend one hour or more daily with them. 39 percent of female elderly mentioned the interaction with child is one hour or more compared to 24 percent of males. Among the elderly who are staying with daughters 44 percent reported that daughters used to spend one hour or more with them compared to 27 percent of the elderly who are staying with sons.

It is found that 53 percent of the elderly's children used to communicate with them about the day to day things and 36 percent used to communicate with them not for any special purpose, and 10 percent used to communicate to enquire about their health. 58 percent of the elderly males reported that the children used to talk about day- to-day things compared to 51 percent of female elderly. Among the economically independent respondents the intergenerational communication is mainly for day- to- day things (60 percent) or not for any special purpose (40 percent).

More than half (60 percent) of the elderly felt that the children (new generation) were overburdened with other responsibilities, hence could not devote enough time with older people. However, around 37 percent of the elderly reported that the children didn't want to talk with them. The gender difference was quite wide among the elderly about the perception of children didn't want to talk with them. Around 43 percent of the elderly women express this as the reason for lack of intergenerational communication as against 25 percent of the males. With regard to the age group, a comparatively higher proportion of elderly in old-old age group (48 percent) reported that children don't want to talk with them as the reason for lack of communication with the children with whom they are staying with.

In the traditional Indian society, grand parents would play an important role in the rearing and caring of the grand children. Due to modernization and industrialization not only the joint family set- up is crumbling but also the intergenerational relationships also undergoing a transition. The warmth grand parent-grand child relationship is also deteriorating in our society as a result of breaking down of joint family system. However, 66 percent of the elderly reported that they have some interaction with their grand children. It is interesting to see a comparatively higher proportion of males (70 percent) reported the interaction with grand children than females (65 percent). As the age of the grand parent increases the interaction with grand child reduces. More than 80 percent of the elderly who have education of higher secondary or above reported that they used to spend time with their grand children.

In order to understand the reasons for elderly not able to spend time with their grand children, questions were asked to respondents. It is found that 42.5 percent of the respondents feel the grand children don't have time and 30 percent reported that the son/daughter (son –in-law/daughter –in-law) were not allowing the children to spend time with them and 23 percent feel the grand children don't like to talk with them. Around 33 percent of the female respondents reported that their own children were not allowing the grandchildren to interact with them, while 30 percent of the elderly men feel that the grand children were not interested to interact with them.

The children's consultation with elderly about the family matters or the elderly's involvement in decision- making plays an important role to determine the intergenerational amity. 37 percent of the elderly reported that they were consulted by the children about family matters. Comparatively higher percent of the male respondents (61 percent) reported they were included in the decision- making process about the family matters, like day- to -day expenses, decisions regarding the education of children, marriage of children, etc. than the females (50 percent). As the age of the respondent increase their involvement in consultation about family matters reduces. More than half of the young – old respondents were included in the decision- making against 18 percent of the oldest –old. Education of the elderly plays an important role to determine the decision- making process. Around 84 percent of elderly who has education of higher

secondary and above were consulted in family matters, whereas only 23 percent respondents were consulted by the children regarding family matters whose education is below primary level. Economic independence and marital status has also positively related with participation in decision- making. Half of the currently married elderly were consulted by their children on family matters while only 22 percent of the widows were consulted. 58 percent of the economically independent respondents participated in the decision- making process compared to 28 percent of economically fully dependent.

As mentioned earlier, the old age is the time of multiple illness and deterioration of one's financial status. The elderly are compelled to depend on their offspring for the support and care during the advanced age. In India, still the family, especially sons, play an important role in the care of elderly. The analysis shows that around 60 percent of the economically dependent elderly were supported by the sons and 15 percent by the daughters. Among the elderly in the oldest –old age group, 61 percent of the elderly get economic support from their sons and 22 percent from their daughters. More elderly males were supported by the sons than females. For female elderly the spousal support also play an important role.

The analysis shows that, a little more than half (51 percent) of the elderly receive help from their children at the time of illness. However, 11 percent of the respondents reported that nobody there to help them even if they are sick. 16 percent of the female respondents reported that nobody is there to take care of them during illness compared to 3.5 percent of the males. With regard to the age, higher percent of respondents belong to the oldest – old are receiving care from the children at the time of illness than others. Around 17 percent of the widows reported that there was nobody to help them during illness as against 6.3 percent of the currently married elderly. Among the elderly who are living alone 39 percent reported that nobody is available to support them during illness, while 9 percent of the elderly staying with sons and 5 percent of the elderly living with daughters reported that nobody is there to support when they are sick.

Summary and Discussion

Ageing is not only an issue of concern of developed nations alone; it is also becoming an issue of major concern in developing countries like India. Though it is only 7.5 percent of

the population, the large number of elderly is alarmingly high, which stand at 77 million. With increasing proportion of elderly the issues of economic dependency, social security and negligence is becoming an increasing area of concern. A study in a state with the highest proportion of elderly tries to illuminate on some of these aspects. This study was carried out in a district with a proportion of elderly stands at 15 percent. The NSSO analysis shows that around 78 percent of the economically dependent elderly were supported by their own children and 3 percent by the third generation (grand children). With regard to living arrangement around 5 percent of the elderly were living alone at the time of survey, and 12 percent were living with their spouse. 45 percent of the elderly were residing with spouse and others, and 32 percent without spouse but with children. The findings from primary survey reveal that almost all elderly (98 percent) have reported expectations in the form of physical and medical care from their children during old age. About nine out of ten (88 percent) expect financial support and two-thirds expect emotional support. Only a little over one-third (34 percent) of elderly have stated that they are getting the expected support from their children, while about a little less than half (47 percent) said that they are getting very limited support. The rest (19 percent) reported that they are not at all satisfied with the support and care of their children. The other findings were related to the gender vulnerability with regard to support and care. Elderly women reported to be more deprived of physical, medical, financial and emotional support. Another finding relates to the fact that with increase in age, the percentage of elderly who report lack of care and support also increases. With increasing age, it has been reported that the involvement of elderly in consultation on family matters decreases. Another significant finding reveals that economic independence and marital status are positively correlated with participation in the process of decision-making. More currently married women than widows are consulted by their children on family matters. With regard to health and illness, a little more than half of the elderly (51 percent) reported to have received help from their children at the time of illness. Overall, old age is a vulnerable period and it becomes more so when the resources are a constraint as is the case in a developing country like India. There is a great need to develop a consensus amongst the alert citizens of the country on a elderly-friendly policy keeping in view their need for security, care, support and respect.

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Table: 7 Background characteristics of the elderly respondents

| <i>Background Characteristic</i> | <i>Percentage</i> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Religion | |
| Hindu | 62.0 |
| Muslim | 1.0 |
| Christian | 37.0 |
| Caste | |
| SC/ST | 30.3 |
| OBC | 24.7 |
| Others | 45.0 |
| Sex | |
| Male | 38.7 |
| Female | 61.3 |
| Education | |
| non literate | 17.1 |
| non formal literate | 3.0 |
| below primary | 27.1 |
| below high school | 27.1 |
| high school | 17.4 |
| higher secondary and above | 8.3 |
| Marital Status | |
| Single | 0.3 |
| Married | 48.0 |
| Widowed | 49.3 |
| Divorced | 1.0 |
| Separated | 1.3 |
| Employment | |
| self employed -agriculture | 0.7 |
| self employed-non agriculture | 1.7 |
| casual laborers-agriculture | 1.7 |
| casual laborers- non agriculture | 9.7 |
| house wife | 34.7 |
| Retired | 9.3 |
| Cultivators | 11.0 |
| Unemployed | 31.3 |
| Economic Dependency | |
| fully dependent | 53.3 |
| partially dependent | 13.7 |
| Independent | 33.0 |
| Living Arrangement | |
| alone | 11.0 |
| with spouse only | 15.7 |
| with son | 57.7 |
| with daughter | 13.3 |
| Others | 2.3 |

Table: 8 Elderly's expectation about the type of support from their children

| <i>Type of Support</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Physical and Medical | 97.7 | 95.7 | 98.9 |
| Financial | 87.7 | 77.6 | 94.0 |
| Emotional | 66.0 | 62.9 | 67.9 |

Table: 9 Elderly's expectation about the type of support from their children

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Physical and medical</i> | <i>Financial</i> | <i>Emotional</i> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Age group | | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 96.2 | 86.3 | 72.5 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 99.1 | 86.8 | 65.1 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 98.4 | 92.1 | 54.0 |
| Religion | | | |
| Hindu | 97.3 | 86.6 | 59.7 |
| Non Hindu | 98.2 | 89.5 | 76.3 |
| Caste | | | |
| SC/ST | 98.9 | 91.2 | 59.3 |
| OBC | 98.6 | 91.9 | 60.8 |
| Others | 96.3 | 83.0 | 73.3 |
| Education | | | |
| Non literate | 100.0 | 98.0 | 52.9 |
| Below Primary | 100.0 | 96.7 | 67.0 |
| Below high school | 98.8 | 90.1 | 69.1 |
| High school | 94.2 | 80.8 | 63.5 |
| Higher secondary and above | 88.0 | 40.0 | 84.0 |
| Marital Status | | | |
| Currently Married | 96.5 | 81.9 | 69.4 |
| Widowed | 99.3 | 93.2 | 62.2 |
| Others | 87.5 | 87.5 | 75.0 |
| Living arrangement | | | |
| Alone | 93.9 | 87.9 | 72.7 |
| With Spouse only | 91.5 | 72.3 | 68.1 |
| With Son | 99.4 | 91.3 | 63.6 |
| With Daughter | 100.0 | 87.5 | 75.0 |
| Other | 100.0 | 100.0 | 28.6 |
| Economic Dependency | | | |
| Fully dependent | 99.4 | 94.4 | 67.5 |
| Partially dependent | 100.0 | 97.6 | 43.9 |
| Independent | 93.9 | 72.7 | 72.7 |

Table: 10 Percentage of elderly getting the expected support from children

| <i>Expected Support</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| To a large extent | 34.1 | 41.4 | 29.7 |
| To some extent | 47.1 | 41.4 | 50.5 |
| Not at all | 18.8 | 17.1 | 19.8 |

Table: 11 Percentage of elderly getting the expected support from children

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>To a large extent</i> | <i>To some extent</i> | <i>Not at all</i> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Age group | | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 39.4 | 47.2 | 13.4 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 35.6 | 40.4 | 24.0 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 21.0 | 58.1 | 21.0 |
| Religion | | | |
| Hindu | 32.8 | 47.2 | 20.0 |
| Non Hindu | 36.3 | 46.9 | 16.8 |
| Caste | | | |
| SC/ST | 30.7 | 48.9 | 20.5 |
| OBC | 25.0 | 54.2 | 20.8 |
| Others | 41.4 | 42.1 | 16.5 |
| Education | | | |
| Non literate | 26.5 | 42.9 | 30.6 |
| Below Primary | 16.5 | 57.1 | 26.4 |
| Below high school | 43.8 | 43.8 | 12.5 |
| High school | 40.8 | 49.0 | 10.2 |
| Higher secondary and above | 70.8 | 25.0 | 4.2 |
| Marital Status | | | |
| Currently Married | 43.2 | 38.8 | 18.0 |
| Widowed | 25.0 | 55.4 | 19.6 |
| Others | 50.0 | 33.3 | 16.7 |
| Living arrangement | | | |
| Alone | 19.4 | 38.7 | 41.9 |
| With Spouse only | 47.6 | 28.6 | 23.8 |
| With Son | 34.1 | 52.0 | 13.9 |
| With Daughter | 35.0 | 52.5 | 12.5 |
| Other | 14.3 | 42.9 | 42.9 |
| Economic Dependency | | | |
| Fully dependent | 38.8 | 45.6 | 15.6 |
| Partially dependent | 12.8 | 61.5 | 25.6 |
| Independent | 35.1 | 43.6 | 21.3 |

Table: 12 Percentage of elderly express lack of support from children

| <i>Lack of Support</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Physical | 53.7 | 41.4 | 61.4 |
| Monetary | 37.3 | 32.8 | 40.2 |
| Emotional | 28.7 | 22.4 | 32.6 |

Table: 13 Percentage of elderly express lack of support from children

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Physical</i> | <i>financial</i> | <i>Emotional</i> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Age group | | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 45.0 | 32.8 | 28.2 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 57.5 | 38.7 | 24.5 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 65.1 | 44.4 | 36.5 |
| Religion | | | |
| Hindu | 55.4 | 41.4 | 27.4 |
| Non Hindu | 50.9 | 30.7 | 30.7 |
| Caste | | | |
| SC/ST | 53.8 | 53.8 | 27.5 |
| OBC | 62.2 | 36.5 | 33.8 |
| Others | 48.9 | 26.7 | 26.7 |
| Education | | | |
| Non literate | 60.8 | 62.7 | 21.6 |
| Below Primary | 73.6 | 50.5 | 36.3 |
| Below high school | 46.9 | 24.7 | 25.9 |
| High school | 36.5 | 25.0 | 30.8 |
| Higher secondary and above | 24.0 | 4.0 | 20.0 |
| Marital Status | | | |
| Currently Married | 41.7 | 29.2 | 26.4 |
| Widowed | 66.2 | 45.3 | 30.4 |
| Others | 37.5 | 37.5 | 37.5 |
| Living arrangement | | | |
| Alone | 66.7 | 45.5 | 54.5 |
| With Spouse only | 34.0 | 27.7 | 25.5 |
| With Son | 54.9 | 30.7 | 24.9 |
| With Daughter | 55.0 | 42.5 | 32.5 |
| Other | 85.7 | 42.9 | - |
| Economic Dependency | | | |
| Fully dependent | 49.4 | 32.5 | 27.5 |
| Partially dependent | 82.9 | 65.9 | 24.4 |
| Independent | 48.5 | 33.3 | 32.3 |

Table: 14 Percentage of elderly who is staying with children and having interaction with them

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Children spend time (daily)</i> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total | 55.4 |
| Sex | |
| Male | 55.1 |
| Female | 55.6 |
| Age group | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 57.3 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 56.3 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 50.0 |
| Religion | |
| Hindu | 57.1 |
| Non Hindu | 52.2 |
| Caste | |
| SC/ST | 60.8 |
| OBC | 60.0 |
| Others | 47.3 |
| Education | |
| Non literate | 56.8 |
| Below Primary | 47.8 |
| Below high school | 51.9 |
| High school | 69.2 |
| Higher secondary and above | 88.9 |
| Marital Status | |
| Currently Married | 54.2 |
| Widowed | 55.7 |
| Others | 75.0 |
| Living arrangement | |
| Alone | - |
| With Spouse only | - |
| With Son | 48.0 |
| With Daughter | 82.5 |
| Other | |
| Economic Dependency | |
| Fully dependent | 63.0 |
| Partially dependent | 45.2 |
| Independent | 46.3 |

Table: 15 Time spent by the children with whom the elderly are staying with

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Less than one hour (Daily)</i> | <i>One hour or more (Daily)</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total | 66.7 | 33.3 |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 76.3 | 23.7 |
| Female | 61.2 | 38.8 |
| Age group | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 70.0 | 30.0 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 62.9 | 37.1 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 65.0 | 35.0 |
| Religion | | |
| Hindu | 65.7 | 34.3 |
| Non Hindu | 68.6 | 31.4 |
| Caste | | |
| SC/ST | 72.7 | 27.3 |
| OBC | 63.0 | 37.0 |
| Others | 61.8 | 38.2 |
| Education | | |
| Non literate | 75.0 | 25.0 |
| Below Primary | 64.5 | 35.5 |
| Below high school | 60.7 | 39.3 |
| High school | 72.2 | 27.8 |
| Higher secondary and above | 62.5 | 37.5 |
| Marital Status | | |
| Currently Married | 70.5 | 29.5 |
| Widowed | 62.1 | 37.9 |
| Others | 100 | - |
| Living arrangement | | |
| Alone | - | - |
| With Spouse only | - | - |
| With Son | 70.4 | 29.6 |
| With Daughter | 56.3 | 43.8 |
| Other | - | - |
| Economic Dependency | | |
| Fully dependent | 61.2 | 38.8 |
| Partially dependent | 100.0 | |
| Independent | 64.0 | 36.0 |

Table: 16 Elderly's perception about the reasons for lack of interaction with children

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>They don't have time</i> | <i>They don't want to talk</i> | <i>Other</i> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Total | 60.0 | 36.7 | 3.3 |
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 71.9 | 25.0 | 3.1 |
| Female | 53.4 | 43.1 | 3.4 |
| Age group | | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 60.0 | 32.5 | 7.5 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 51.7 | 48.3 | |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 71.4 | 28.6 | |
| Religion | | | |
| Hindu | 53.4 | 43.1 | 3.4 |
| Non Hindu | 71.9 | 25.0 | 3.1 |
| Caste | | | |
| SC/ST | 58. | 35.5 | 6.5 |
| OBC | 63.2 | 36.8 | - |
| Others | 60.0 | 37.5 | 2.5 |
| Education | | | |
| Non literate | 58.8 | 41.2 | - |
| Below Primary | 62.2 | 35.1 | 2.7 |
| Below high school | 55.6 | 40.7 | 3.7 |
| High school | 62.5 | 25.0 | 12.5 |
| Higher secondary and above | 100.0 | - | - |
| Marital Status | | | |
| Currently Married | 64.1 | 33.3 | 2.6 |
| Widowed | 56.0 | 40.0 | 4.0 |
| Others | 100.0 | - | - |
| Living arrangement | | | |
| Alone | | | |
| With Spouse only | | | |
| With Son | 58.8 | 38.8 | 2.5 |
| With Daughter | 66.7 | 22.2 | 11.1 |
| Other | | | |
| Economic Dependency | | | |
| Fully dependent | 59.5 | 38.1 | 2.4 |
| Partially dependent | 57.1 | 42.1 | - |
| Independent | 62.1 | 31.0 | 6.9 |

Table: 17 Percentage of Elderly with the purpose of interaction with children

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Day to day things</i> | <i>To enquire about the health</i> | <i>Not for any special purpose</i> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total | 53.3 | 10.5 | 36.2 |
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 57.9 | 10.5 | 31.6 |
| Female | 50.7 | 10.4 | 38.8 |
| Age group | | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 52.0 | 8.0 | 40.0 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 57.1 | 11.4 | 31.4 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 50.0 | 15.0 | 35.0 |
| Religion | | | |
| Hindu | 58.6 | 10.0 | 31.4 |
| Non Hindu | 42.9 | 11.4 | 45.7 |
| Caste | | | |
| SC/ST | 52.3 | 6.8 | 40.9 |
| OBC | 55.6 | 11.1 | 33.3 |
| Others | 52.9 | 14.7 | 32.4 |
| Education | | | |
| Non literate | 45.0 | 5.0 | 50.0 |
| Below Primary | 51.6 | 6.5 | 41.9 |
| Below high school | 64.3 | 25.0 | 10.7 |
| High school | 61.1 | 5.6 | 33.3 |
| Higher secondary and above | 25.0 | - | 75.0 |
| Marital Status | | | |
| Currently Married | 59.1 | 9.1 | 31.8 |
| Widowed | 51.7 | 12.1 | 36.2 |
| Others | - | - | 100.0 |
| Living arrangement | | | |
| Alone | | | |
| With Spouse only | | | |
| With Son | 52.1 | 12.7 | 35.2 |
| With Daughter | 56.3 | 6.3 | 37.5 |
| Other | | | |
| Economic Dependency | | | |
| Fully dependent | 50.7 | 11.9 | 37.3 |
| Partially dependent | 53.8 | 23.1 | 23.1 |
| Independent | 60.0 | - | 40.0 |

Table: 18 Proportion of elderly who have interaction with grand children

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Percentage</i> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total | 66.5 |
| Sex | |
| Male | 70.1 |
| Female | 64.6 |
| Age group | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 77.2 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 63.6 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 51.9 |
| Religion | |
| Hindu | 70.1 |
| Non Hindu | 60.9 |
| Caste | |
| SC/ST | 74.6 |
| OBC | 64.8 |
| Others | 61.5 |
| Education | |
| Non literate | 65.9 |
| Below Primary | 56.0 |
| Below high school | 68.9 |
| High school | 82.2 |
| Higher secondary and above | 83.3 |
| Marital Status | |
| Currently Married | 67.6 |
| Widowed | 65.2 |
| Others | 75.0 |
| Living arrangement | |
| Alone | 14.3 |
| With Spouse only | 52.6 |
| With Son | 72.4 |
| With Daughter | 74.2 |
| Other | 40.0 |
| Economic Dependency | |
| Fully dependent | 64.3 |
| Partially dependent | 69.7 |
| Independent | 69.4 |

Table: 19 Percentage of elderly by the reasons for lack of interaction with grand children

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>They don't have time</i> | <i>They don't like to talk</i> | <i>Son/daughter will not allow</i> | <i>Other</i> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Total | 42.5 | 23.3 | 30.1 | 4.1 |
| Sex | | | | |
| Male | 37.5 | 29.2 | 25.0 | 8.3 |
| Female | 44.9 | 20.4 | 32.7 | 2.0 |
| Age group | | | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 45.0 | 25.0 | 25.0 | 5.0 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 29.6 | 25.9 | 44.4 | |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 53.8 | 19.2 | 19.2 | 7.7 |
| Religion | | | | |
| Hindu | 32.5 | 25.0 | 40.0 | 2.5 |
| Non Hindu | 54.5 | 21.2 | 18.2 | 6.1 |
| Caste | | | | |
| SC/ST | 27.8 | 22.2 | 50.0 | - |
| OBC | 50.0 | 22.2 | 22.2 | 5.6 |
| Others | 45.9 | 24.3 | 24.3 | 5.4 |
| Education | | | | |
| Non literate | 20.0 | 20.0 | 46.7 | 13.3 |
| Below Primary | 40.6 | 25.0 | 34.4 | - |
| Below high school | 52.6 | 26.3 | 15.8 | 5.3 |
| High school | 60.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | - |
| Higher secondary and above | 100.0 | - | - | - |
| Marital Status | | | | |
| Currently Married | 34.4 | 21.9 | 37.5 | 6.3 |
| Widowed | 47.5 | 25.0 | 25.0 | 2.5 |
| Others | | | | |
| Living arrangement | | | | |
| Alone | 27.3 | 27.3 | 36.4 | 9.1 |
| With Spouse only | 11.1 | 22.2 | 66.7 | - |
| With Son | 46.5 | 27.9 | 23.3 | 2.3 |
| With Daughter | 75.0 | - | 25.0 | - |
| Other | | | | |
| Economic Dependency | | | | |
| Fully dependent | 46.7 | 24.4 | 26.7 | 2.2 |
| Partially dependent | 20.0 | 20.0 | 50.0 | 10.0 |
| Independent | 44.4 | 22.2 | 27.8 | 5.6 |

Table: 20 Percentage of elderly by consultation by children on family matters

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Percentage</i> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total | 37.2 |
| Sex | |
| Male | 61.0 |
| Female | 50.0 |
| Age group | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 50.8 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 32.1 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 17.7 |
| Religion | |
| Hindu | 36.8 |
| Non Hindu | 38.1 |
| Caste | |
| SC/ST | 34.1 |
| OBC | 35.1 |
| Others | 40.6 |
| Education | |
| Non literate | 30.0 |
| Below Primary | 23.1 |
| Below high school | 29.6 |
| High school | 58.8 |
| Higher secondary and above | 84.0 |
| Marital Status | |
| Currently Married | 51.7 |
| Widowed | 22.4 |
| Others | 50.0 |
| Living arrangement | |
| Alone | 21.2 |
| With Spouse only | 50.0 |
| With Son | 35.5 |
| With Daughter | 47.5 |
| Other | 14.3 |
| Economic Dependency | |
| Fully dependent | 27.7 |
| Partially dependent | 24.4 |
| Independent | 58.2 |

Table: 21 Percentage of economically dependent elderly by persons supporting them

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Spouse</i> | <i>Son</i> | <i>Daughter</i> | <i>Others</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Total | 14.1 | 59.6 | 15.2 | 11.1 |
| Sex | | | | |
| Male | 1.9 | 73.1 | 15.4 | 9.6 |
| Female | 18.5 | 54.8 | 15.1 | 11.6 |
| Age group | | | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 22.4 | 57.9 | 14.5 | 10.8 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 13.7 | 60.3 | 11.0 | 15.1 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 2.0 | 61.2 | 22.4 | 14.3 |
| Religion | | | | |
| Hindu | 10.0 | 64.2 | 15.0 | 10.8 |
| Non Hindu | 20.5 | 52.6 | 15.4 | 11.5 |
| Caste | | | | |
| SC/ST | 11.3 | 61.3 | 14.5 | 12.9 |
| OBC | 15.1 | 50.9 | 20.8 | 13.2 |
| Others | 15.7 | 63.9 | 12.0 | 8.4 |
| Education | | | | |
| Non literate | 17.8 | 42.2 | 20.0 | 20.0 |
| Below Primary | 10.1 | 65.2 | 13.0 | 11.6 |
| Below high school | 6.9 | 67.2 | 19.0 | 6.9 |
| High school | 33.3 | 58.3 | 4.2 | 4.2 |
| Higher secondary and above | 50.0 | 50.0 | - | - |
| Marital Status | | | | |
| Currently Married | 31.8 | 54.1 | 10.6 | 3.5 |
| Widowed | - | 64.2 | 19.3 | 16.5 |
| Others | - | 75.0 | | 25.0 |
| Living arrangement | | | | |
| Alone | - | 35.3 | 23.5 | 41.2 |
| With Spouse only | 60.9 | 21.7 | 13.0 | 4.3 |
| With Son | 8.1 | 83.7 | 3.3 | 4.9 |
| With Daughter | 7.1 | 10.7 | 57.1 | 25.0 |
| Other | 14.3 | 14.3 | 42.9 | 28.6 |
| Economic Dependency | | | | |
| Fully dependent | 14.7 | 61.5 | 14.7 | 9.0 |
| Partially dependent | 10.0 | 50.0 | 17.5 | 22.5 |

Table: 22 Percentage of elderly by persons helping them during illness

| <i>Background characteristics</i> | <i>Spouse</i> | <i>Children</i> | <i>Others</i> | <i>None</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Total | 27.4 | 50.8 | 10.4 | 11.4 |
| Sex | | | | |
| Male | 63.5 | 28.7 | 4.3 | 3.5 |
| Female | 4.9 | 64.7 | 14.1 | 16.3 |
| Age group | | | | |
| Young –Old (60-69) | 33.1 | 49.2 | 8.5 | 9.2 |
| Old-Old (70-79) | 29.2 | 45.3 | 9.4 | 16.0 |
| Oldest- Old (80+) | 12.7 | 63.5 | 15.9 | 7.9 |
| Religion | | | | |
| Hindu | 26.5 | 51.4 | 8.1 | 14.1 |
| Non Hindu | 28.9 | 50.0 | 14.0 | 7.0 |
| Caste | | | | |
| SC/ST | 20.9 | 61.5 | 5.5 | 12.1 |
| OBC | 29.7 | 50.0 | 6.8 | 13.5 |
| Others | 30.6 | 44.0 | 15.7 | 9.7 |
| Education | | | | |
| Non literate | 15.7 | 60.8 | 2.0 | 21.6 |
| Below Primary | 22.0 | 56.0 | 9.9 | 12.1 |
| Below high school | 23.8 | 55.0 | 10.0 | 11.3 |
| High school | 48.1 | 34.6 | 13.5 | 3.8 |
| Higher secondary and above | 40.0 | 32.0 | 24.0 | 4.0 |
| Marital Status | | | | |
| Currently Married | 55.9 | 31.5 | 6.3 | 6.3 |
| Widowed | | 70.3 | 12.8 | 16.9 |
| Others | | 62.5 | 37.5 | |
| Living arrangement | | | | |
| Alone | | 21.2 | 39.4 | 39.4 |
| With Spouse only | 57.4 | 21.3 | 14.9 | 6.4 |
| With Son | 25.6 | 61.0 | 4.1 | 9.3 |
| With Daughter | 20.0 | 72.5 | 2.5 | 5.0 |
| Other | 28.6 | 28.6 | 42.9 | |
| Economic Dependency | | | | |
| Fully dependent | 16.3 | 63.1 | 12.5 | 8.1 |
| Partially dependent | 19.5 | 56.1 | 2.4 | 22.0 |
| Independent | 49.0 | 28.6 | 10.2 | 12.2 |