Appendix: Supplementary Materials

Table S1: Distribution of male and female older adults by socio-demographic, health-related, and household characteristics in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Older adults (60-plus years)					
	Male			Female		
	N	%	W_%	N	%	W_%
Age group						
Young-old	8,842	59.8	59.0	9,913	61.9	59.9
Old-old	4,446	30.1	30.3	4,452	27.8	29.4
Oldest-old	1,497	10.1	10.7	1,645	10.3	10.8
Level of education						
No formal education	5,361	36.3	38.5	11,153	69.7	72.5
Up to primary	4,407	29.8	29.8	3,010	18.8	16.6
Secondary and above	5,017	33.9	31.8	1,847	11.5	10.9
Working status						
Currently working	5,959	40.3	43.2	2,902	18.1	19.3
Currently not working	5,742	38.8	39.6	4,816	30.1	32.1
Never worked	829	5.6	3.8	7,922	49.5	46.8
Retired	2,255	15.3	13.5	370	2.3	1.9
Current marital status						
Currently not married	2,620	17.7	18.8	8,526	53.3	55.4
Currently married	12,165	82.3	81.2	7,484	46.7	44.6
Importance of religion						
Not important	2,804	19.0	19.6	3,175	19.8	22.8
Very important	11,981	81.0	80.4	12,835	80.2	77.2
Living arrangement satisfaction						
Not satisfied	608	4.1	4.8	813	5.1	6.3
Neutral	2,328	15.7	17.7	2,920	18.2	21.0
Satisfied	11,849	80.1	77.5	12,277	76.7	72.7
Received ill-treatment						
Yes	537	3.6	4.8	730	4.6	5.5
No	14,248	96.4	95.2	15,280	95.4	94.5
Faces discrimination in life						
Yes	2,285	15.5	17.3	2,465	15.4	17.8
No	12,500	84.5	82.7	13,545	84.6	82.2
Social participation						
Socially inactive	1,009	6.8	7.4	1,465	9.2	9.8
Socially active	13,776	93.2	92.6	14,545	90.8	90.2
Depression symptoms						
Depressed	906	6.1	7.4	1,198	7.5	9.5
Not depressed	13,879	93.9	92.6	14,812	92.5	90.5
Self-rated health						
Poor	2,876	19.5	21.1	3,810	23.8	24.8
Average	9,443	63.9	63.2	10,181	63.6	63.4
Good	2,466	16.7	15.6	2,019	12.6	11.8
Chronic morbidity status						
No condition	7,121	48.2	49.7	6,958	43.5	44.7
Single condition	4,229	28.6	28.2	4,905	30.6	30.0
Multiple conditions	3,435	23.2	22.1	4,147	25.9	25.3

Physical activity status

	N	%	W_%	N	%	W_%
Physically active	4,046	27.4	29.7	3,938	24.6	25.7
Physically inactive	10,739	72.6	70.3	12,072	75.4	74.3
Difficulty in ADL						
Faces difficulty	2,548	17.2	19.9	3,747	23.4	25.2
No difficulty	12,237	82.8	80.1	12,263	76.6	74.8
Difficulty in IADL						
Faces difficulty	5,067	34.3	37.8	8,292	51.8	56.1
No difficulty	9,718	65.7	62.2	7,718	48.2	43.9
Covered by health insurance						
No	11,563	78.2	80.2	12,792	79.9	82.9
Yes	3,222	21.8	19.8	3,218	20.1	17.1
Household income quintile						
Poor	5,965	40.3	42.6	6,691	41.8	44.4
Not poor	8,820	59.7	57.4	9,319	58.2	55.6
Religion of household						
Hinduism	10,829	73.2	82.8	11,699	73.1	82.6
Islam	1,731	11.7	10.9	1,851	11.6	10.6
Others	2,225	15.0	6.3	2,460	15.4	6.8
Caste of household						
SC-ST group	4,810	32.5	26.8	5,301	33.1	27.3
Non-SC-ST group	9,975	67.5	73.2	10,709	66.9	72.7
Place of residence						
Rural	9,921	67.1	72.9	10,462	65.3	69.4
Urban	4,864	32.9	27.1	5,548	34.7	30.6
Country region						
Southern	3,403	23.0	20.5	3,888	24.3	23.6
Northern	3,783	25.6	26.1	3,943	24.6	24.3
Central	994	6.7	9.1	1,023	6.4	8.1
Western	1,877	12.7	16.3	2,256	14.1	18.0
Eastern	2,777	18.8	24.9	2,824	17.6	22.9
North-eastern	1,951	13.2	3.0	2,076	13.0	3.1
Aggregate number	14,785	100.0	100.0	16,010	100.0	100.0

Note – (a) N: Unweighted sample size, %: Unweighted column percentage, W_%: Weighted column percentage; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities **of daily living.**

Table S2: Average life satisfaction scores of male and female older adults by socio-demographic, health-related, and household characteristics in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Life satisfaction score of older adults			
	Male		Female	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Age group				
Young-old	6.3	2.5	6.2	2.5
Old-old	6.4	2.6	6.0	2.5
Oldest-old	6.4	2.5	6.0	2.6
Level of education				
No formal education	5.9	2.5	5.9	2.5
Up to primary	6.3	2.5	6.6	2.5
Secondary and above	7.0	2.4	7.3	2.2
Working status				
Currently working	6.3	2.4	6.0	2.5
Currently not working	6.1	2.6	5.9	2.6
Never worked	6.1	2.9	6.3	2.5
Retired	7.2	2.4	7.1	2.3
Current marital status				
Currently not married	6.2	2.6	5.9	2.6
Currently married	6.4	2.5	6.4	2.4
Importance of religion				
Not important	5.7	2.6	5.6	2.6
Very important	6.5	2.5	6.3	2.5
Living arrangement satisfaction				
Not satisfied	3.7	2.7	3.6	2.6
Neutral	5.1	2.5	5.1	2.6
Satisfied	6.8	2.3	6.7	2.3
Received ill-treatment				
Yes	5.5	2.8	4.7	2.7
No	6.4	2.5	6.2	2.5
Faces discrimination in life				
Yes	5.3	2.6	5.5	2.6
No	6.6	2.4	6.3	2.5
Social participation				
Socially inactive	5.7	2.9	5.6	2.8
Socially active	6.4	2.5	6.2	2.5
Depression symptoms				
Depressed	5.1	2.8	5.1	2.8
Not depressed	6.5	2.5	6.2	2.5
Self-rated health				
Poor	5.5	2.7	5.4	2.7
Average	6.5	2.4	6.3	2.4
Good	7.1	2.4	6.8	2.5
Chronic morbidity status				
No condition	6.4	2.4	6.0	2.5
Single condition	6.3	2.6	6.1	2.6
Multiple conditions	6.3	2.6	6.3	2.6

	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Physical activity status				
Physically active	6.3	2.4	6.3	2.4
Physically inactive	6.4	2.6	6.1	2.6
Difficulty in ADL				
Faces difficulty	6.0	2.6	5.8	2.7
No difficulty	6.5	2.5	6.3	2.5
Difficulty in IADL				
Faces difficulty	6.0	2.5	5.9	2.6
No difficulty	6.6	2.5	6.4	2.5
Covered by health insurance				
No	6.4	2.5	6.2	2.5
Yes	6.1	2.6	6.0	2.6
Household income quintile				
Poor	6.2	2.5	5.9	2.5
Not poor	6.5	2.5	6.4	2.5
Religion of household				
Hinduism	6.4	2.5	6.1	2.6
Islam	6.4	2.4	6.1	2.4
Others	6.3	2.6	6.2	2.6
Caste of household				
SC-ST group	6.0	2.5	5.8	2.5
Non-SC-ST group	6.5	2.5	6.3	2.5
Place of residence				
Rural	6.2	2.5	6.0	2.5
Urban	6.8	2.6	6.6	2.6
Country region				
Southern	5.7	2.8	5.6	2.9
Northern	6.2	2.4	6.0	2.3
Central	6.6	2.7	6.2	2.6
Western	7.5	2.2	7.3	2.3
Eastern	6.2	2.3	5.8	2.3
North-eastern	6.7	2.0	6.1	2.1
Overall life satisfaction score	6.4	2.5	6.1	2.5

Note – (a) Mean: Average life satisfaction score, SD: Standard deviation; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities of daily living.

Table S3: Distribution of young-old, old-old and oldest-old older adults by socio-demographic, health-related, and household characteristics in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Older adults (60-plus years)								
	Young-old			Old-old			Oldest-old		
	N	%	W %	N	%	W %	N	%	W %
Gender									
Male	8,842	47.1	46.9	4,446	50.0	48.0	1,497	47.6	47.0
Female	9,913	52.9	53.1	4,452	50.0	52.0	1,645	52.4	53.0
Level of education									
No formal education	9,485	50.6	53.8	4,978	55.9	58.3	2,051	65.3	65.9
Up to primary	4,589	24.5	22.5	2,133	24.0	23.8	695	22.1	21.9
Secondary and above	4,681	25.0	23.7	1,787	20.1	17.9	396	12.6	12.2
Working status									
Currently working	6,916	36.9	39.9	1,714	19.3	20.2	231	7.4	7.3
Currently not working	5,120	27.3	28.4	3,764	42.3	43.1	1,674	53.3	54.7
Never worked	5,222	27.8	25.1	2,540	28.5	28.1	989	31.5	30.0
Retired	1,497	8.0	6.6	880	9.9	8.6	248	7.9	8.0
Current marital status									
Currently not married	5,189	27.7	29.0	3,925	44.1	46.9	2,032	64.7	65.0
Currently married	13,566	72.3	71.0	4,973	55.9	53.1	1,110	35.3	35.0
Importance of religion									
Not important	3,580	19.1	20.4	1,763	19.8	22.8	636	20.2	22.0
Very important	15,175	80.9	79.6	7,135	80.2	77.2	2,506	79.8	78.0
Living arrangement satisfaction									
Not satisfied	770	4.1	5.1	467	5.2	6.1	184	5.9	7.1
Neutral	3,089	16.5	19.0	1,570	17.6	20.5	589	18.7	18.6
Satisfied	14,896	79.4	75.9	6,861	77.1	73.4	2,369	75.4	74.3
Received ill-treatment									
Yes	751	4.0	5.1	398	4.5	5.7	118	3.8	4.2
No	18,004	96.0	94.9	8,500	95.5	94.3	3,024	96.2	95.8
Faces discrimination in life									
Yes	2,858	15.2	18.0	1,386	15.6	17.1	506	16.1	16.7
No	15,897	84.8	82.0	7,512	84.4	82.9	2,636	83.9	83.3
Social participation									
Socially inactive	1,137	6.1	6.2	769	8.6	9.7	568	18.1	19.3
Socially active	17,618	93.9	93.8	8,129	91.4	90.3	2,574	81.9	80.7
Depression symptoms									
Depressed	1,260	6.7	8.3	603	6.8	8.1	241	7.7	10.7
Not depressed	17,495	93.3	91.7	8,295	93.2	91.9	2,901	92.3	89.3
Self-rated health									
Poor	3,346	17.8	19.3	2,264	25.4	26.0	1,076	34.2	36.0
Average	12,295	65.6	65.1	5,550	62.4	63.0	1,779	56.6	54.3
Good	3,114	16.6	15.7	1,084	12.2	10.9	287	9.1	9.7
Chronic morbidity status									

	N	%	W_%	N	%	W_%	N	%	W_%
No condition	8,960	47.8	49.3	3,713	41.7	43.6	1,406	44.7	44.3
Single condition	5,420	28.9	27.9	2,735	30.7	30.8	979	31.2	31.6
Multiple conditions	4,375	23.3	22.8	2,450	27.5	25.6	757	24.1	24.2
Physical activity status									
Physically active	6,025	32.1	34.9	1,693	19.0	20.2	266	8.5	7.9
Physically inactive	12,730	67.9	65.1	7,205	81.0	79.8	2,876	91.5	92.1
Difficulty in ADL									
Faces difficulty	2,924	15.6	17.3	2,213	24.9	26.7	1,158	36.9	41.2
No difficulty	15,831	84.4	82.7	6,685	75.1	73.3	1,984	63.1	58.8
Difficulty in IADL									
Faces difficulty	6,836	36.4	40.4	4,459	50.1	54.1	2,064	65.7	68.5
No difficulty	11,919	63.6	59.6	4,439	49.9	45.9	1,078	34.3	31.5
Covered by health insurance									
No	14,530	77.5	79.6	7,153	80.4	84.1	2,672	85.0	86.0
Yes	4,225	22.5	20.4	1,745	19.6	15.9	470	15.0	14.0
Household income quintile									
Poor	7,696	41.0	43.4	3,697	41.5	43.2	1,263	40.2	45.0
Not poor	11,059	59.0	56.6	5,201	58.5	56.8	1,879	59.8	55.0
Religion of household									
Hinduism	13,784	73.5	82.5	6,496	73.0	82.6	2,248	71.5	84.0
Islam	2,250	12.0	11.0	1,012	11.4	10.9	320	10.2	9.1
Others	2,721	14.5	6.5	1,390	15.6	6.6	574	18.3	6.9
Caste of household									
SC-ST group	6,323	33.7	28.1	2,809	31.6	25.9	979	31.2	24.6
Non-SC-ST group	12,432	66.3	71.9	6,089	68.4	74.1	2,163	68.8	75.4
Place of residence									
Rural	12,374	66.0	70.9	5,822	65.4	70.5	2,187	69.6	73.6
Urban	6,381	34.0	29.1	3,076	34.6	29.5	955	30.4	26.4
Country region									
Southern	4,481	23.9	22.0	2,097	23.6	22.8	713	22.7	21.3
Northern	4,670	24.9	24.9	2,259	25.4	25.3	797	25.4	26.5
Central	1,253	6.7	8.4	546	6.1	8.3	218	6.9	9.9
Western	2,572	13.7	17.7	1,240	13.9	17.1	321	10.2	15.0
Eastern	3,450	18.4	24.0	1,559	17.5	23.4	592	18.8	24.4
North-eastern	2,329	12.4	3.1	1,197	13.5	3.0	501	15.9	2.8
Aggregate number	18,755	100.0	100.0	8,898	100.0	100.0	3,142	100.0	100.0

Note – (a) N: Unweighted sample size, %: Unweighted column percentage, W_%: Weighted column percentage; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities of daily living.

Table S4: Average life satisfaction scores of young-old, old-old and oldest-old older adults by socio-demographic, health-related, and household characteristics in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Life satisfaction score of older adults					
	Young-old		Old-old		Oldest-old	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Gender						
Male	6.3	2.5	6.4	2.6	6.4	2.5
Female	6.2	2.5	6.0	2.5	6.0	2.6
Level of education						
No formal education	5.9	2.5	5.9	2.5	5.9	2.6
Up to primary	6.4	2.5	6.3	2.6	6.4	2.5
Secondary and above	7.1	2.4	7.1	2.3	7.4	2.0
Working status						
Currently working	6.2	2.4	6.3	2.4	6.3	2.4
Currently not working	6.0	2.6	6.1	2.6	6.0	2.6
Never worked	6.4	2.5	6.2	2.5	6.2	2.7
Retired	7.3	2.3	6.9	2.5	7.3	2.2
Current marital status						
Currently not married	6.0	2.6	6.0	2.6	6.0	2.6
Currently married	6.4	2.5	6.4	2.5	6.5	2.4
Importance of religion						
Not important	5.8	2.6	5.6	2.6	5.3	2.6
Very important	6.4	2.5	6.4	2.5	6.5	2.5
Living arrangement satisfaction						
Not satisfied	3.8	2.6	3.3	2.6	4.0	2.7
Neutral	5.1	2.6	5.1	2.4	5.1	2.5
Satisfied	6.7	2.3	6.8	2.3	6.7	2.4
Received ill-treatment						
Yes	5.0	2.7	5.0	2.9	5.5	2.8
No	6.3	2.5	6.3	2.5	6.2	2.6
Faces discrimination in life						
Yes	5.6	2.6	5.0	2.6	5.4	2.6
No	6.4	2.5	6.5	2.5	6.4	2.5
Social participation						
Socially inactive	5.8	2.9	5.5	2.8	5.6	2.9
Socially active	6.3	2.5	6.3	2.5	6.3	2.5
Depression symptoms						
Depressed	5.1	2.8	4.9	2.9	5.8	2.7
Not depressed	6.4	2.5	6.3	2.5	6.3	2.6
Self-rated health						
Poor	5.4	2.7	5.4	2.8	5.6	2.8
Average	6.3	2.4	6.4	2.4	6.4	2.4
Good	7.0	2.5	7.0	2.4	7.1	2.2
Chronic morbidity status						
No condition	6.3	2.4	6.2	2.5	6.2	2.5
Single condition	6.2	2.6	6.2	2.6	6.3	2.7
Multiple conditions	6.4	2.6	6.2	2.6	6.2	2.5

	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Physical activity status						
Physically active	6.3	2.4	6.3	2.3	6.4	2.4
Physically inactive	6.2	2.6	6.2	2.6	6.2	2.6
Difficulty in ADL						
Faces difficulty	5.8	2.7	5.9	2.7	6.0	2.5
No difficulty	6.4	2.5	6.3	2.5	6.3	2.6
Difficulty in IADL						
Faces difficulty	5.9	2.6	6.0	2.6	6.1	2.5
No difficulty	6.5	2.4	6.5	2.5	6.4	2.7
Covered by health insurance						
No	6.3	2.5	6.3	2.5	6.1	2.6
Yes	6.0	2.6	6.0	2.7	6.6	2.3
Household income quintile						
Poor	6.1	2.5	6.0	2.6	5.8	2.7
Not poor	6.4	2.5	6.4	2.5	6.6	2.5
Religion of household						
Hinduism	6.3	2.5	6.2	2.6	6.2	2.6
Islam	6.3	2.4	6.2	2.4	6.4	2.3
Others	6.3	2.6	6.2	2.6	6.4	2.1
Caste of household						
SC-ST group	5.9	2.5	5.7	2.6	5.8	2.4
Non-SC-ST group	6.4	2.5	6.4	2.5	6.3	2.6
Place of residence						
Rural	6.1	2.5	6.1	2.5	6.1	2.5
Urban	6.7	2.6	6.6	2.6	6.6	2.8
Country region						
Southern	5.7	2.8	5.7	2.8	5.5	3.1
Northern	6.1	2.3	6.1	2.4	6.1	2.3
Central	6.4	2.6	6.3	2.7	6.5	2.9
Western	7.5	2.3	7.3	2.3	7.3	2.3
Eastern	6.0	2.3	6.0	2.4	6.0	2.2
North-eastern	6.4	2.0	6.3	2.1	6.4	2.0
Overall life satisfaction score	6.3	2.5	6.2	2.5	6.2	2.6

Note – (a) Mean: Average life satisfaction score, SD: Standard deviation; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities of daily living.

Table S5: Distribution of rural and urban older adults by socio-demographic, health-related, and household characteristics in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Older adults (60-plus years)					
	Rural			Urban		
	N	%	W_%	N	%	W_%
Age group						
Young-old	12,374	60.7	59.3	6,381	61.3	59.8
Old-old	5,822	28.6	29.6	3,076	29.5	30.4
Oldest-old	2,187	10.7	11.1	955	9.2	9.8
Gender						
Male	9,921	48.7	48.4	4,864	46.7	44.2
Female	10,462	51.3	51.6	5,548	53.3	55.8
Level of education						
No formal education	12,965	63.6	65.7	3,549	34.1	33.6
Up to primary	4,572	22.4	21.3	2,845	27.3	26.5
Secondary and above	2,846	14.0	13.0	4,018	38.6	39.9
Working status						
Currently working	6,801	33.4	35.1	2,060	19.8	19.3
Currently not working	7,423	36.4	37.9	3,135	30.1	29.9
Never worked	5,046	24.8	22.3	3,705	35.6	37.1
Retired	1,113	5.5	4.7	1,512	14.5	13.8
Current marital status						
Currently not married	7,224	35.4	36.7	3,922	37.7	41.6
Currently married	13,159	64.6	63.3	6,490	62.3	58.4
Importance of religion						
Not important	4,180	20.5	21.8	1,799	17.3	20.0
Very important	16,203	79.5	78.2	8,613	82.7	80.0
Living arrangement satisfaction						
Not satisfied	1,072	5.3	6.4	349	3.4	3.6
Neutral	3,762	18.5	19.8	1,486	14.3	18.4
Satisfied	15,549	76.3	73.7	8,577	82.4	78.0
Received ill-treatment						
Yes	971	4.8	5.8	296	2.8	3.8
No	19,412	95.2	94.2	10,116	97.2	96.2
Faces discrimination in life						
Yes	3,438	16.9	18.7	1,312	12.6	14.9
No	16,945	83.1	81.3	9,100	87.4	85.1
Social participation						
Socially inactive	1,999	9.8	10.3	475	4.6	4.6
Socially active	18,384	90.2	89.7	9,937	95.4	95.4
Depression symptoms						
Depressed	1,531	7.5	9.4	573	5.5	6.2
Not depressed	18,852	92.5	90.6	9,839	94.5	93.8
Self-rated health						
Poor	4,503	22.1	24.3	2,183	21.0	20.1
Average	13,168	64.6	63.8	6,456	62.0	62.1

	N	%	W_%	N	%	W_%
Good	2,712	13.3	11.9	1,773	17.0	17.8
Chronic morbidity status						
No condition	10,625	52.1	53.0	3,454	33.2	32.5
Single condition	5,874	28.8	28.2	3,260	31.3	31.4
Multiple conditions	3,884	19.1	18.8	3,698	35.5	36.1
Physical activity status						
Physically active	5,936	29.1	30.4	2,048	19.7	20.7
Physically inactive	14,447	70.9	69.6	8,364	80.3	79.3
Difficulty in ADL						
Faces difficulty	4,127	20.2	23.5	2,168	20.8	20.6
No difficulty	16,256	79.8	76.5	8,244	79.2	79.4
Difficulty in IADL						
Faces difficulty	9,467	46.4	50.7	3,892	37.4	39.6
No difficulty	10,916	53.6	49.3	6,520	62.6	60.4
Covered by health insurance						
No	15,878	77.9	81.2	8,477	81.4	82.6
Yes	4,505	22.1	18.8	1,935	18.6	17.4
Household income quintile						
Poor	8,326	40.8	43.7	4,330	41.6	43.2
Not poor	12,057	59.2	56.3	6,082	58.4	56.8
Religion of household						
Hinduism	15,144	74.3	83.6	7,384	70.9	80.4
Islam	1,914	9.4	9.6	1,668	16.0	13.4
Others	3,325	16.3	6.7	1,360	13.1	6.2
Caste of household						
SC-ST group	7,763	38.1	32.1	2,348	22.6	14.7
Non-SC-ST group	12,620	61.9	67.9	8,064	77.4	85.3
Country region						
Southern	4,005	19.6	18.6	3,286	31.6	30.8
Northern	5,365	26.3	27.1	2,361	22.7	20.5
Central	1,562	7.7	9.3	455	4.4	6.6
Western	2,151	10.6	14.1	1,982	19.0	25.0
Eastern	4,249	20.8	27.5	1,352	13.0	15.0
North-eastern	3,051	15.0	3.4	976	9.4	2.1
Aggregate number	20,383	100.0	100.0	10,412	100.0	100.0

Note – (a) N: Unweighted sample size, %: Unweighted column percentage, W_%: Weighted column percentage; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities of daily living.

Table S6: Average life satisfaction scores of rural and urban older adults by socio-demographic, health-related, and household characteristics in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Life satisfaction score of older adults			
	Rural		Urban	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Age group				
Young-old	6.1	2.5	6.7	2.6
Old-old	6.1	2.5	6.6	2.6
Oldest-old	6.1	2.5	6.6	2.8
Gender				
Male	6.2	2.5	6.8	2.6
Female	6.0	2.5	6.6	2.6
Level of education				
No formal education	5.9	2.5	6.0	2.7
Up to primary	6.3	2.5	6.6	2.7
Secondary and above	6.9	2.4	7.3	2.3
Working status				
Currently working	6.1	2.4	6.5	2.5
Currently not working	5.9	2.5	6.5	2.8
Never worked	6.1	2.5	6.7	2.5
Retired	7.1	2.3	7.2	2.4
Current marital status				
Currently not married	5.8	2.6	6.4	2.7
Currently married	6.3	2.4	6.8	2.5
Importance of religion				
Not important	5.5	2.6	6.1	2.6
Very important	6.2	2.4	6.8	2.6
Living arrangement satisfaction				
Not satisfied	3.5	2.6	4.2	2.7
Neutral	5.0	2.5	5.5	2.7
Satisfied	6.6	2.2	7.1	2.4
Received ill-treatment				
Yes	5.0	2.6	5.1	3.2
No	6.1	2.5	6.7	2.5
Faces discrimination in life				
Yes	5.2	2.6	5.8	2.7
No	6.3	2.4	6.8	2.5
Social participation				
Socially inactive	5.6	2.8	5.8	3.1
Socially active	6.1	2.4	6.7	2.6
Depression symptoms				
Depressed	5.0	2.8	5.5	2.9
Not depressed	6.2	2.4	6.7	2.5
Self-rated health				
Poor	5.4	2.7	5.8	2.7
Average	6.2	2.4	6.8	2.5

Good	6.8	2.3	7.3	2.6
Chronic morbidity status				
No condition	6.2	2.4	6.6	2.6
Single condition	6.0	2.6	6.7	2.6
Multiple conditions	6.0	2.6	6.7	2.5
Physical activity status				
Physically active	6.1	2.4	7.0	2.3
Physically inactive	6.1	2.5	6.6	2.7
Difficulty in ADL				
Faces difficulty	5.8	2.6	6.3	2.8
No difficulty	6.2	2.5	6.8	2.5
Difficulty in IADL				
Faces difficulty	5.8	2.5	6.4	2.6
No difficulty	6.3	2.4	6.8	2.5
Covered by health insurance				
No	6.2	2.5	6.6	2.6
Yes	5.8	2.6	6.8	2.6
Household income quintile				
Poor	5.8	2.5	6.5	2.7
Not poor	6.3	2.5	6.8	2.5
Religion of household				
Hinduism	6.1	2.5	6.7	2.6
Islam	6.1	2.4	6.6	2.5
Others	6.1	2.6	6.7	2.5
Caste of household				
SC-ST group	5.8	2.5	6.3	2.5
Non-SC-ST group	6.2	2.5	6.7	2.6
Country region				
Southern	5.4	2.9	6.0	2.8
Northern	6.0	2.3	6.5	2.4
Central	6.5	2.6	6.2	2.9
Western	7.1	2.3	7.9	2.2
Eastern	5.9	2.3	6.4	2.3
North-eastern	6.3	2.1	6.6	1.8
Overall life satisfaction score	6.1	2.5	6.7	2.6

Note – (a) Mean: Average life satisfaction score, SD: Standard deviation; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities of daily living.

Table S7: Distribution of SC-ST and Non-SC-ST older adults by socio-demographic, health-related, and household characteristics in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Older adults (60-plus years)					
	SC-ST group			Non-SC-ST group		
	N	%	W_%	N	%	W_%
Age group						
Young-old	6,323	62.5	61.8	12,432	60.1	58.6
Old-old	2,809	27.8	28.5	6,089	29.4	30.3
Oldest-old	979	9.7	9.7	2,163	10.5	11.1
Gender						
Male	4,810	47.6	46.7	9,975	48.2	47.4
Female	5,301	52.4	53.3	10,709	51.8	52.6
Level of education						
No formal education	6,700	66.3	72.4	9,814	47.4	50.5
Up to primary	2,175	21.5	16.6	5,242	25.3	25.1
Secondary and above	1,236	12.2	10.9	5,628	27.2	24.4
Working status						
Currently working	3,557	35.2	37.8	5,304	25.6	27.8
Currently not working	3,498	34.6	37.7	7,060	34.1	34.8
Never worked	2,373	23.5	18.9	6,378	30.8	29.4
Retired	683	6.8	5.6	1,942	9.4	8.0
Current marital status						
Currently not married	3,823	37.8	39.4	7,323	35.4	37.7
Currently married	6,288	62.2	60.6	13,361	64.6	62.3
Importance of religion						
Not important	2,214	21.9	26.8	3,765	18.2	19.2
Very important	7,897	78.1	73.2	16,919	81.8	80.8
Living arrangement satisfaction						
Not satisfied	503	5.0	7.6	918	4.4	4.9
Neutral	1,912	18.9	22.0	3,336	16.1	18.4
Satisfied	7,696	76.1	70.3	16,430	79.4	76.7
Received ill-treatment						
Yes	426	4.2	6.0	841	4.1	4.9
No	9,685	95.8	94.0	19,843	95.9	95.1
Faces discrimination in life						
Yes	1,512	15.0	19.5	3,238	15.7	16.9
No	8,599	85.0	80.5	17,446	84.3	83.1
Social participation						
Socially inactive	949	9.4	10.0	1,525	7.4	8.2
Socially active	9,162	90.6	90.0	19,159	92.6	91.8
Depression symptoms						
Depressed	584	5.8	8.4	1,520	7.3	8.5
Not depressed	9,527	94.2	91.6	19,164	92.7	91.5
Self-rated health						
Poor	1,959	19.4	24.0	4,727	22.9	22.7
Average	6,675	66.0	63.7	12,949	62.6	63.1

	N	%	W_%	N	%	W_%
Good	1,477	14.6	12.3	3,008	14.5	14.1
Chronic morbidity status						
No condition	5,594	55.3	55.2	8,485	41.0	44.0
Single condition	2,782	27.5	28.0	6,352	30.7	29.6
Multiple conditions	1,735	17.2	16.8	5,847	28.3	26.4
Physical activity status						
Physically active	2,928	29.0	30.6	5,056	24.4	26.5
Physically inactive	7,183	71.0	69.4	15,628	75.6	73.5
Difficulty in ADL						
Faces difficulty	1,863	18.4	23.1	4,432	21.4	22.5
No difficulty	8,248	81.6	76.9	16,252	78.6	77.5
Difficulty in IADL						
Faces difficulty	4,265	42.2	47.9	9,094	44.0	47.3
No difficulty	5,846	57.8	52.1	11,590	56.0	52.7
Covered by health insurance						
No	7,642	75.6	78.5	16,713	80.8	82.8
Yes	2,469	24.4	21.5	3,971	19.2	17.2
Household income quintile						
Poor	4,999	49.4	54.3	7,657	37.0	39.5
Not poor	5,112	50.6	45.7	13,027	63.0	60.5
Religion of household						
Hinduism	6,317	62.5	84.7	16,211	78.4	81.9
Islam	635	6.3	1.5	2,947	14.2	14.1
Others	3,159	31.2	13.8	1,526	7.4	3.9
Place of residence						
Rural	7,763	76.8	84.3	12,620	61.0	66.2
Urban	2,348	23.2	15.7	8,064	39.0	33.8
Country region						
Southern	1,792	17.7	14.7	5,499	26.6	24.9
Northern	2,184	21.6	27.3	5,542	26.8	24.4
Central	641	6.3	10.1	1,376	6.7	8.0
Western	1,206	11.9	16.0	2,927	14.2	17.7
Eastern	1,674	16.6	27.4	3,927	19.0	22.5
North-eastern	2,614	25.9	4.6	1,413	6.8	2.4
Aggregate number	10,111	100.0	100.0	20,684	100.0	100.0

Note – (a) N: Unweighted sample size, %: Unweighted column percentage, W_%: Weighted column percentage; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities of daily living.

Table S8: Average life satisfaction scores of SC-ST and Non-SC-ST older adults by socio-demographic, health-related, and household characteristics in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Life satisfaction score of older adults			
	SC-ST group		Non-SC-ST group	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Age group				
Young-old	5.9	2.5	6.4	2.5
Old-old	5.7	2.6	6.4	2.5
Oldest-old	5.8	2.4	6.3	2.6
Gender				
Male	6.0	2.5	6.5	2.5
Female	5.8	2.5	6.3	2.5
Level of education				
No formal education	5.6	2.5	6.0	2.5
Up to primary	6.2	2.5	6.4	2.5
Secondary and above	7.1	2.3	7.1	2.4
Working status				
Currently working	6.0	2.5	6.3	2.4
Currently not working	5.6	2.5	6.2	2.6
Never worked	5.8	2.4	6.4	2.5
Retired	7.0	2.6	7.3	2.3
Current marital status				
Currently not married	5.6	2.6	6.1	2.6
Currently married	6.0	2.5	6.6	2.5
Importance of religion				
Not important	5.3	2.5	5.8	2.6
Very important	6.1	2.5	6.5	2.5
Living arrangement satisfaction				
Not satisfied	3.2	2.4	3.9	2.8
Neutral	5.1	2.5	5.2	2.6
Satisfied	6.4	2.3	6.8	2.3
Received ill-treatment				
Yes	4.7	2.7	5.2	2.8
No	5.9	2.5	6.4	2.5
Faces discrimination in life				
Yes	5.0	2.5	5.6	2.6
No	6.1	2.5	6.6	2.5
Social participation				
Socially inactive	5.4	2.8	5.8	2.9
Socially active	5.9	2.5	6.4	2.5
Depression symptoms				
Depressed	4.4	2.8	5.4	2.8
Not depressed	6.0	2.4	6.5	2.5
Self-rated health				
Poor	5.0	2.7	5.7	2.7
Average	6.0	2.4	6.5	2.4

Good	6.7	2.5	7.0	2.4
Chronic morbidity status				
No condition	5.9	2.4	6.4	2.5
Single condition	5.8	2.6	6.4	2.6
Multiple conditions	5.8	2.6	6.4	2.6
Physical activity status				
Physically active	5.9	2.4	6.5	2.4
Physically inactive	5.8	2.6	6.4	2.6
Difficulty in ADL				
Faces difficulty	5.4	2.5	6.1	2.7
No difficulty	6.0	2.5	6.5	2.5
Difficulty in IADL				
Faces difficulty	5.6	2.5	6.1	2.6
No difficulty	6.2	2.5	6.6	2.5
Covered by health insurance				
No	5.9	2.5	6.4	2.5
Yes	5.6	2.5	6.2	2.6
Household income quintile				
Poor	5.7	2.5	6.1	2.6
Not poor	6.0	2.6	6.6	2.5
Religion of household				
Hinduism	5.9	2.5	6.4	2.5
Islam	5.3	2.5	6.3	2.4
Others	6.0	2.5	6.6	2.6
Place of residence				
Rural	5.8	2.5	6.2	2.5
Urban	6.3	2.5	6.7	2.6
Country region				
Southern	5.1	2.9	5.8	2.8
Northern	5.8	2.4	6.2	2.3
Central	6.0	2.5	6.6	2.7
Western	7.1	2.4	7.5	2.2
Eastern	5.6	2.3	6.2	2.3
North-eastern	6.3	2.0	6.4	2.1
Overall life satisfaction score	5.9	2.5	6.4	2.5

Note – (a) Mean: Average life satisfaction score, SD: Standard deviation; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities of daily living.

Table S9: Dominance analysis of life satisfaction among older adults in India 2017-18

Characteristics	Life satisfaction score		
	Dominance statistic	Contribution (%)	Ranking
Age group	0.0004	0.2	19
Gender	0.0005	0.3	18
Level of education	0.0119	7.5	4
Working status	0.0026	1.7	10
Current marital status	0.0019	1.2	13
Importance of religion	0.0085	5.4	5
Living arrangement satisfaction	0.0762	48.2	1
Received ill-treatment	0.0046	2.9	7
Faces discrimination in life	0.012	7.6	3
Social participation	0.0008	0.5	16
Depression symptoms	0.0079	5.0	6
Self-rated health	0.0144	9.1	2
Chronic morbidity status	0.0004	0.2	20
Physical activity status	0.0002	0.1	21
Difficulty in ADL	0.0007	0.4	17
Difficulty in IADL	0.0042	2.6	8
Covered by health insurance	0.0016	1.0	15
Household income quintile	0.002	1.3	11
Religion of household	0.0002	0.1	22
Caste of household	0.0017	1.1	14
Place of residence	0.0036	2.3	9
Country Region	0.0019	1.2	12
Overall Fit statistic	**0.1581**		
Analytical sample size	**30,795**		

Note – (a) Ranking is based on the contribution of independent variables to the prediction of life satisfaction score; (b) ADL: Activities of daily living, IADL: Instrumental activities of daily living, MPCE: Monthly per capita expenditure; (c) Please note the dominance analysis gives the average percentage contribution of independent variables to the overall variation in life satisfaction among older adults. For, this the model calculated 41,94,000+ regression models with various combinations of the independent variables and averages the amount of variation in life satisfaction score explained by each independent variable across all those regression models. Interestingly, this is a computationally heavy process, and to save computation time, confidence intervals for any of the dominance analysis estimates are not calculated. For further technical details regarding the procedure interested readers can refer to the papers mentioned in footnote.[77]

Endnotes

[77] See Budescu DV. Dominance analysis: A new approach to the problem of relative importance of predictors in multiple regression. Psychological Bulletin. 1993;114(3):542–51 and Luchman JN. Determining relative importance in Stata using dominance analysis: domin and domme. The Stata Journal. 2021 Jun 1;21(2):510–38.