

## NATIONAL SALIENT FINDINGS

### Bridge the Gap: Understanding Elder Needs

*A HelpAge India Report 2022*

**Elder respondents:** 4,399 elderly respondents

**Young Adult Caregivers respondents:** 2,200

**SEC:** A,B,C

**Survey conducted across 22 Cities:**

*Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Chandigarh (Haryana/Panjab), Dispur (Assam), Hyderabad (Telangana), Gandhinagar (Gujarat), Panaji (Goa), Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala), Patna (Bihar), Mumbai (Maharashtra), Ranchi (Jharkhand), Dehradun (Uttarakhand), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Kolkata (West Bengal), Raipur (Chhattisgarh), Bengaluru (Karnataka), Jaipur (Rajasthan), Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), Delhi, Shimla (Himachal Pradesh), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Bhubaneswar (Odisha), Leh (Ladakh).*

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- 47% elders are dependent on family for income source, followed by 34.4% on pension or other cash transfers.
- 60% elderly feel financially secure. Children being the topmost reason with 76% elders stating that their children support them, while Pension (36%) being their biggest self-source of income.
- 40% elders do not feel financially secure citing 'expenses more than savings/income' (57%) and Pension not being enough (45%) as top reasons.
- 71% elders are not working.
- 36% elders were willing to work and 40% of them want to work 'as long as possible'.
- 54% of care-givers are willing contribute to reskilling of the elderly and 49% are willing to help them find work.
- 45% elderly suggested 'Work from Home' as the best means to improve employment opportunities.
- 44% elders do not find their environment employment friendly, of which 52% mention lack of employment opportunities as primary reason.
- 61% elders feel they aren't 'adequate and accessible employment opportunities' for elderly available
- 52% elders feel 'love & cared for' by family members. 78% elders stated, that their family feeds them well & provides good food, 43% says family encourages them to have an active lifestyle and 41% says their family takes care of their medical costs.
- 87% elders said there were availability of healthcare facilities nearby.
- 78% elders said there was no availability of App-based /Online health facilities.
- 67% do not have any health insurance, only 13% are covered under government insurance schemes.
- The top 3 ranks for suggestions made by elders to 'enable elder health' were - 49% for better health insurance, 49% for better health facilities nearby and 42% more support from home.
- 59% elders feel that Elder Abuse is prevalent in society, with Disrespect (57%), and

Neglect (37%) as the top two forms of abuse, with a disturbing 30% perceived physical abuse (beating & slapping) followed close.

- 10% elders admitted to being a victim of elder abuse, with relatives (36%), Son (35%) & Daughter-in-law (21%) being the top 3 perpetrators.
- Disrespect (57%), verbal abuse (38%), neglect (33%), economic exploitation (24%) and an alarming 13% elders experienced physical abuse in the form of beating and slapping.
- 47% of those abused stated they 'stopped talking to family' as a response to the abused faced.
- 46% of the elders were not aware of any abuse redressal mechanism.
- Around 79% of the elders feel that their family does not spend enough time with them. Close to 20% think that their family 'does not want to' spend time with them.
- To effectively prevent abuse in relation to their Family and Environment 58% of elderly opined that 'counselling to family members' is required, while 56% of elderly said to deal with abuse 'time bound decisions' and an age friendly response system needs to be put in place at a policy level.
- Even though, majority (82%) of elders are living with their families, 59% want their family members to spend more time with them. This shows that even after staying with family, larger percentage of elderly feel lonely.
- Although 78% elders feel involved in family decision-making by their caregivers at home, yet 43.1% elders felt that they are neglected by younger generations and feel left out.
- 40% elders want to 'learn new things' to feel included and be a part of society, followed by 31 % who want to do volunteer work.
- 71% elders do not have access to smart phones. Those who do, use it primarily for calling purposes (49%), social media (30%) and banking transactions (17%).
- Of the elder users of Smart Phones, majority (48%) said that they are good at using smart, however, 34% of users said they need someone to teach them.

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