Nepal - Living Standards Survey 1995-1996

Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER
NPL_1995-1996_LSS-BL_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS

Overview

ABSTRACT
One of the principal objectives of the Eighth Five Year Plan of Nepal is the alleviation of poverty in the country. However, the scarcity of reliable and timely data regarding the living standards of the people and the level of poverty in the country has hampered efforts to monitor achievements. This provided the impetus for an understanding between His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMGN) and the World Bank to launch a Living Standards Survey in Nepal. The Nepal Living Standards Survey (LSS) was designed as a multi-topic survey collecting a comprehensive set of data on different aspects of household welfare (consumption, income, housing, labour markets, education, health etc.). These data, together with those collected through future rounds of the survey, will ultimately allow HMGN to monitor progress in improving national living standards and to evaluate the impact of various government policies and programs on the living conditions of the population.

KIND OF DATA
Sample survey data [ssd]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS
Households

Scope

NOTES
The 1995 Nepal Living Standards Survey covered the following topics:

HOUSEHOL LEVEL

- Household Information: Household Roster, Information on Parents , Activities, Unemployment

- Housing: Type of Dwelling, Housing Expenses, Utilities and Amenities

- Access to Facilities

- Migration

- Food Expenses and Home Production

- Non-Food Expenditures and Durable Goods: Frequent Non-Food Expenditures, Infrequent Non-Food Expenditures, Inventory of Durables Goods

- Education: Literacy, Past Enrolment, Current Enrolment

- Health: Chronic Illnesses, Illnesses or Injuries, Immunization

- Anthropometrics

- Marriage and Maternity History: Maternity History, Pre- and Post-natal Care, Family Planning

- Wage Employment: In Agricultural, Outside Agriculture

- Farming and Livestock: Landholding, Production and Distribution, Expenditure on Inputs, Earning from Agriculture, Livestock ,

Ownership of Farming Assets, Extension Services

- Credit and Saving: Borrowing, Lending, Other Assets

- Remittances and Transfers: Income Sent, Income Received

- Other Income

- Adequacy of Consumption

COMMUNITY LEVEL RURAL COMMUNITY

- Population Characteristics and Infrastructure: Characteristics of the Community, Electricity, Water Supply and Sewerage

- Access to Facilities: Services and Amenities, Education, Health Facilities

- Agriculture and Forestry: Land, Irrigation, Crop Cycles, Wages Paid to Hired Labor, Rental Rates for Cattle and Machinery

- Migration: Out-Migration, In-Migration

- Development Programs: Development Programs, User Groups, Quality of Life

- Rural Primary School

- Rural Health Facility

- Markets and Prices

URBAN COMMUNITY

- Population Characteristics and Infrastructure: Characteristics of the Community, Electricity, Water Supply and Sewerage

- Access to Facilities

- Markets and Prices: Local Shop / Shops, Wholesaler

TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Financial Sector	FAO	
Migration & Remittances	FAO	
Food (production, crisis)	FAO	
Health	FAO	
Population & Reproductive Health	FAO	
Animal health	FAO	
Access to Finance	FAO	
Prices statistics	FAO	

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE
National

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)	National Planning Commission Secretariat

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
The World Bank Group		Technical assistance

FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
The World Bank Group	WB	Financial assistant

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Office of Chief Statistician	OCS	Food and Agricultural Organization	Adoption of metadata for FAM
Development Economics Data Group	DECDG	The World Bank	Production of metadata

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION
NPL_1995-1996_LSS-BL_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_v01

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DDI_NPL_1995-1996_LSS-BL_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_FAO

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

Sample Design Sample Frame:
A complete list of all wards in the country, with a measure of size, was developed in order to select from it with Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) the sample of wards to be visited. The 1991 Population Census of Nepal was the best starting point for building such a sample frame. The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) constructed a data set with basic information from the census at the ward level. This data set was used as a sample frame to develop the Nepal LSS sample.

Sample Design:
The sample size for the Nepal LSS was set at 3,388 households. This sample was divided into four strata based on the geographic and ecological regions of the country: (i) mountains, (ii) urban Hills, (iii) rural Hills, and (iv) Terai. The sample size was designed to provide enough observations within each ecological stratum to ensure adequate statistical accuracy, as well as enough variation in key variables for policy analysis within each stratum, while respecting resource constraints and the need to balance sampling and non-sampling errors. A two-stage stratified sampling procedure was used to select the sample for the Nepal LSS. The primary sampling unit (PSU) is the ward, the smallest administrative unit in the 1991 Population Census. In order to increase the variability of the sample, it was decided that a small number of households - twelve - would be interviewed in each ward. Thus, a total of 275 wards was obtained. In the first stage of the sampling, wards were selected with probability proportional to size (PPS) from each of the four ecological strata, using the number of households in the ward as the measure of size. In order to give the sample an implicit stratification respecting the division of the country into Development Regions, the sample frame was sorted by ascending order of district codes, and these were numbered from East to West. The sample frame considered all the 75 districts in the country, and indeed 73 of them were represented in the sample. In the second stage of the sampling, a fixed number of households were chosen with equal probabilities from each selected PSU. The two-stage procedure just described has several advantages. It simplified the analysis by providing a self-weighted sample. It also reduced the travel time and cost, as 12 or 16 households are interviewed in each ward. In addition, as the number of households to be interviewed in each ward was known in advance, the procedure made it possible to plan an even workload across different survey teams.

Response Rate

99.5 percent

Weighting

The weights for the survey were derived considering the stratification of the sampling frame and the selection of wards within the strata. See "Sampling Weights for the NLSS" for a detailed discussion on the weights for the survey. Data file sample contains the Nepal LSS weights.

Questionnaires

No content available

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
1995-06	1996-05	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Computer Assisted Personal Interview [capi]

Data Processing

Data Editing

Data editing took place at a number of stages throughout the processing, including:
a) Office editing and coding
b) During data entry
c) Structure checking and completeness
d) Secondary editing
e) Structural checking of SPSS data files

Each week, the data entry operator gives the supervisor two specific computer-generated documents for each household in the previous week's ward: a listing of errors in the data entered for the household and a special listing of consistency checks.

Data Appraisal

Other forms of Data Appraisal

A distinctive feature of the Nepal LSS is the use of personal computers for data entry in the field. Instead of sending the completed questionnaires back to the central office for data entry, the data collected in the ward were entered while the team was still in the field. For this purpose, each team was provided with a computer, a printer, and a power system for data entry, in addition to scales and meters to measure children. A data entry program developed specifically for the survey was installed on each computer. The data entry program let the data operator and the supervisor know if there were mistakes or missing data in the interview and checked whether information from one part of the interview matched information from other parts. When problems or errors were found, the interviewers returned to the households to correct the information. This process of entering, checking, and correcting the data in the field helped to ensure that the information collected was accurate. It also reduced the time lag between data collection and data analysis; diskettes containing the complete data for each ward were sent back to the central office as soon as work in the ward was completed, and the data were available for analysis shortly after the completion of the collection phase. Data Entry Data entry involves keying in information from the questionnaires and then running a series of programs to check the information. These programs detect errors or inconsistencies in the data. All data are stored internally in the team's computer. In addition, the data entry operator makes backup copies of all data files on diskettes. The data entry operator is also responsible for maintaining the personal computer, printer, and the power equipment, as well as for storing the diskettes, printouts, and questionnaires properly.