

A PPENDIXES

APPENDIX A. OBJECTIVE, RIGOROUS AND SCIENTIFIC METHODOLOGY

PAPI 2010 prided itself of being designed, built, and implemented following a sound and robust methodology. Its methodology is indeed a stepping stone for results to be credible and accepted by different stakeholders and interested parties. The same methodological consideration is undertaken in PAPI 2011 for the nationwide extension with a few adjustment to enhance its reliability and stability.⁷⁴

Sampling Strategy

The sampling procedure sought to obtain information from a representative selection of Vietnamese citizens from the age of 18 years old. PAPI does not target household-heads, but uses state-of-the-art statistical software to comply with international standards for sample selection. This was done in an effort to learn about the experiences and perception from across the population, including gender, social, economic, age-differentiated and ethnic groups.

Furthermore, the sampling strategy balances three primary considerations. The first two were also applied in 2010, while the third was incorporated to enhance the representativeness and comparability of provinces according to their main characteristics.

First, the sampling strategy accounts for the nested hierarchy of administrative services and its inherent uneven spatial distribution. Thus, in order to ensure that comparisons of PAPI results would be fair across all provinces, certainty units were created. That is PAPI purposively included every district that serves as the provincial capital. In this district, the commune that serves as the district seat was purposively selected and within each commune (or ward), the village (or residential group) that is the seat of the commune was purposively selected. All other geographical units were randomly selected based on the probability of selection proportional to measures of size (PPS). This design ensured the acquisition of measures of administrative performance across the full range of possible situations within a province, ranging from urban residential groups located in the immediate vicinity of the provincial institutions all the way to ordinary villages located in ordinary communes under the jurisdiction of ordinary districts.

74. Interested readers are encouraged to look for the detailed methodology in Chapter 3 of the PAPI 2010 Report at VFF, CECODES & UNDP (2011), especially pp. 93-104.

The second consideration was that, all residents of in any sampled cluster, would have the same probability of being selected into the study. The selection of units based on PPS ensures that any two respondents who live in different clusters of a given sampling unit (for instance, residents of different villages of the same commune) have the same chance of being selected into the study, regardless of the absolute size of each village.

The third consideration was to divide provinces according to their total population size. In that regards, three groups of provinces were designed. For a detailed discussion, see discussion in Chapter 1 and Tables 1.1 and 1.2.

A rigorous multistage sampling approach was again implemented for the selection of geographical units and the construction of a representative sample in each province. Selection was done using PPS strategy,

with the following four steps regarding selection of (i) districts, (ii) communes, (iii) villages, and (iv) representativeness of respondents.

Comparison between PAPI 2011 and Census Data for 2009

As in PAPI 2010, the reliability of the survey can be checked against the variables that have been made available since the release of national population census. Given the breadth of the PAPI instrument, readers can verify how closely the survey results match the census data on a small set of common variables.

Table A1 compares the distribution of key demographic variables between the PAPI and available census data and confirms the closeness of the sample to the actual demographic characteristics of the Vietnamese population.

TABLE A,1: COMPARISON OF KEY DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES (PERCENTAGES)

	PAPI 2011	CENSUS 2009
Gender		
Male	47.04	49.41
Female	52.96	50.59
Ethnicity		
Kinh	84.5	85.73
Others	15.5	14.27

In addition, the impact of weights on the composition of the sample by ethnicity is shown in Figure A1, while Figure A2 presents the age distribution of the PAPI 2011 sample and the national census of 2009.

FIGURE A1: PAPI 2011 KINH ETHNICITY COMPOSITION VS. NATIONAL CENSUS 2009

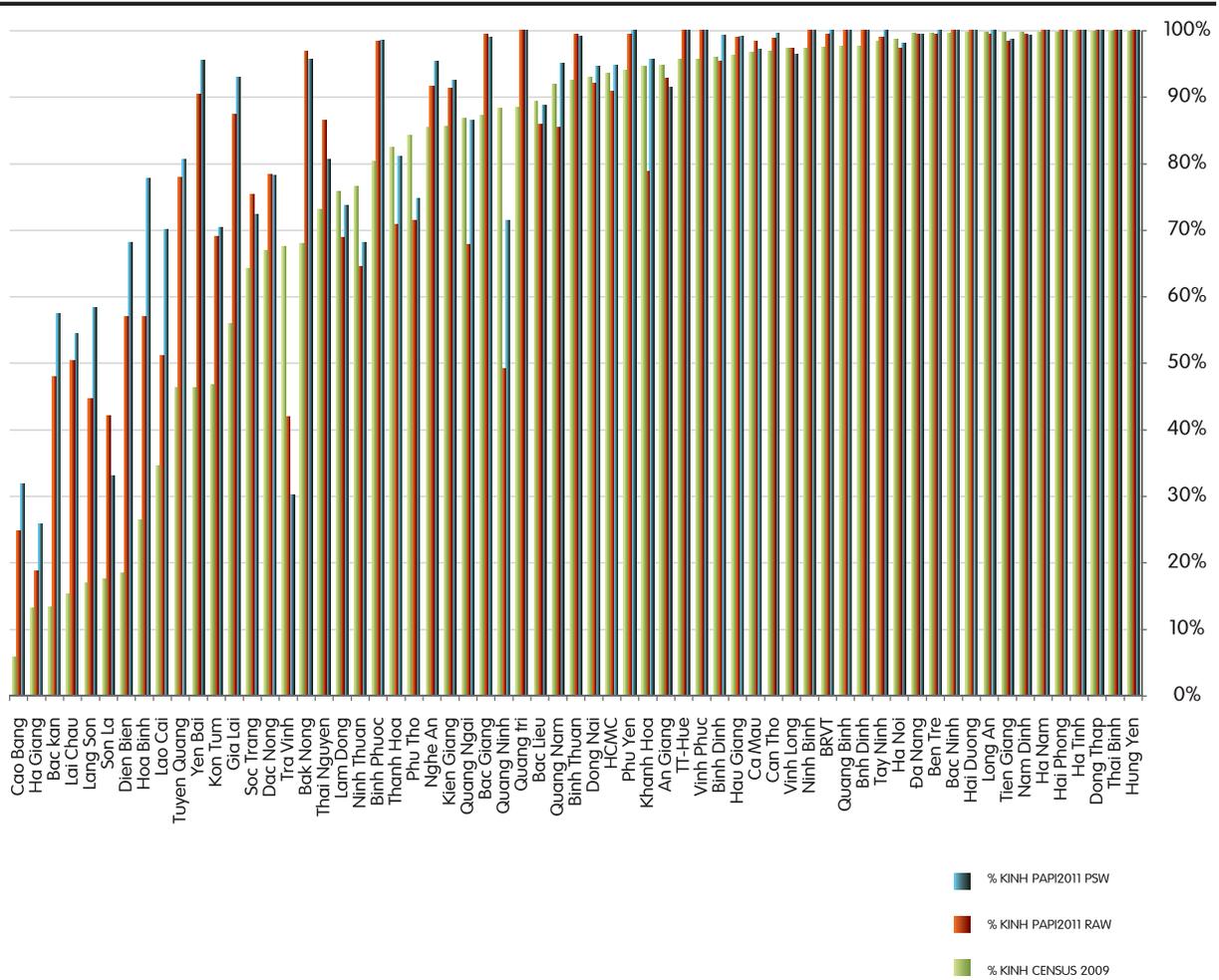
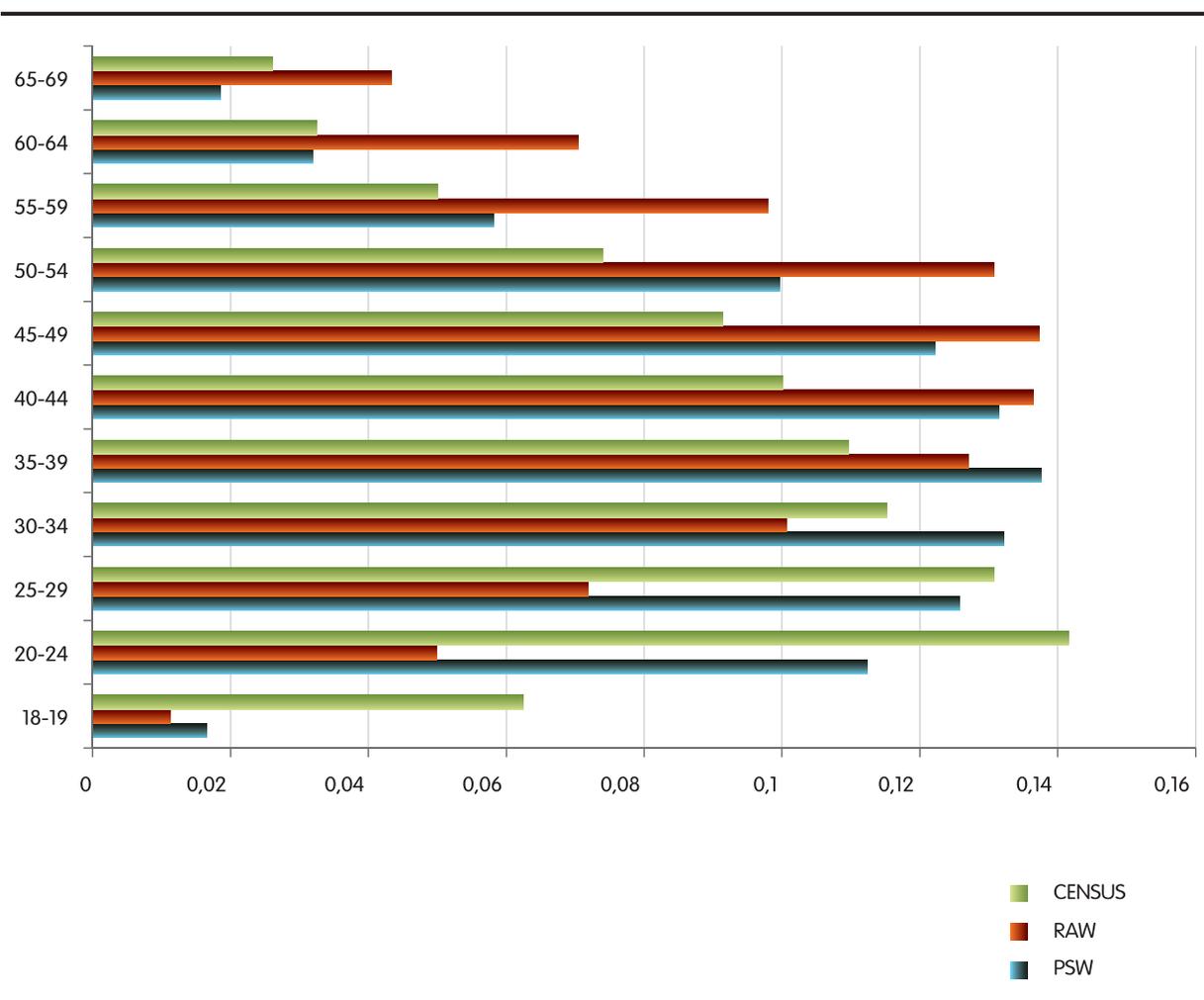


FIGURE A2: AGE DISTRIBUTION OF PAPI 2011 SAMPLE AND NATIONAL CENSUS 2009
(excluding respondents aged 70 or above in PAPI sample)



Two further tests to ensure the representativeness of the PAPI 2011 sample with the national population is by way of comparing the occupation and educational levels of respondents and their relationship with the post-stratification weights applied. This is shown in

Figures A3 and A4 for occupational and educational levels respectively. Therefore, as in the PAPI 2010, readers can be reasonably confident that the survey is adequately representative of the underlying population to allow for meaningful comparisons across provinces and across groups.

FIGURE A3: OCCUPATION OF PAPI 2011 RESPONDENTS

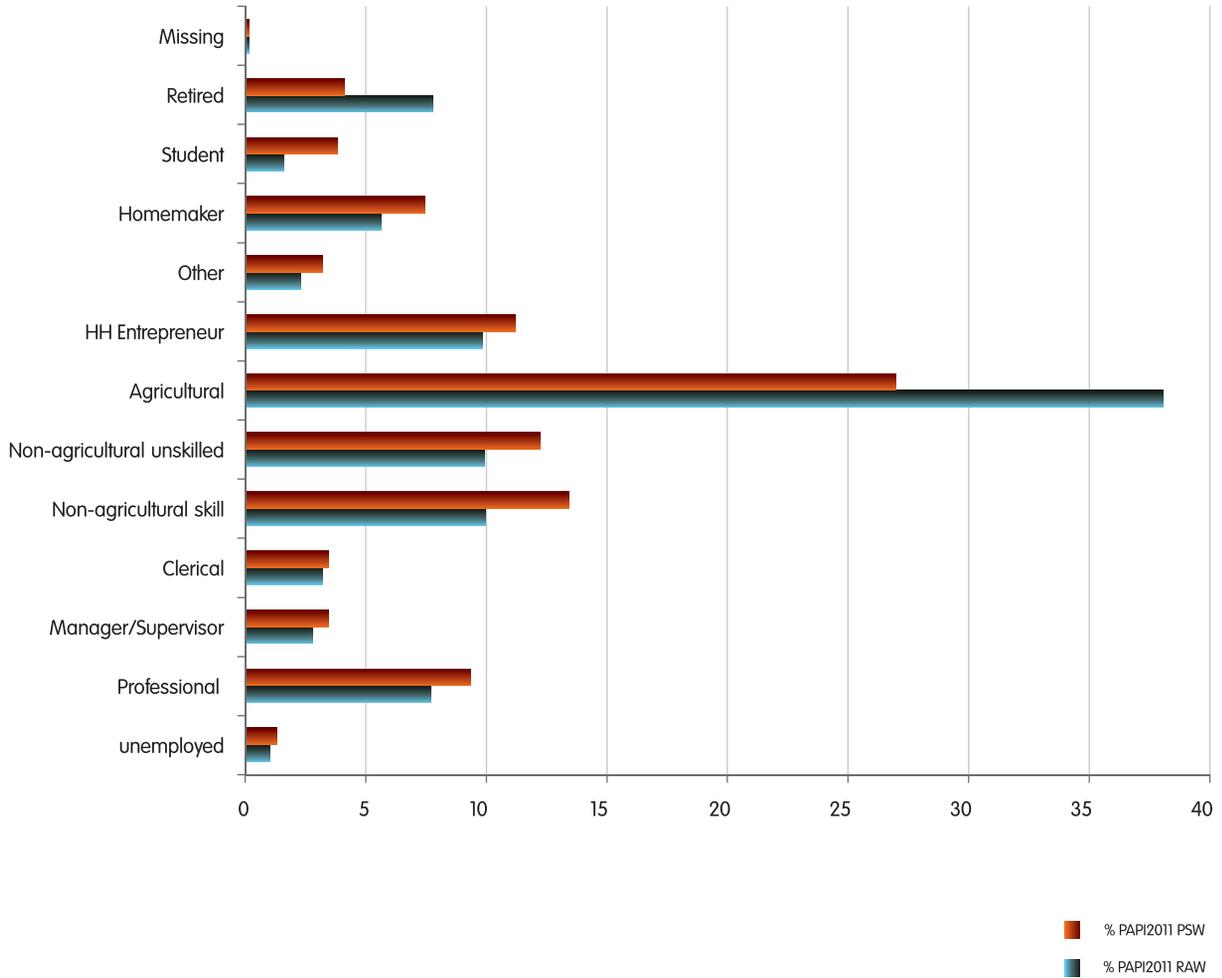
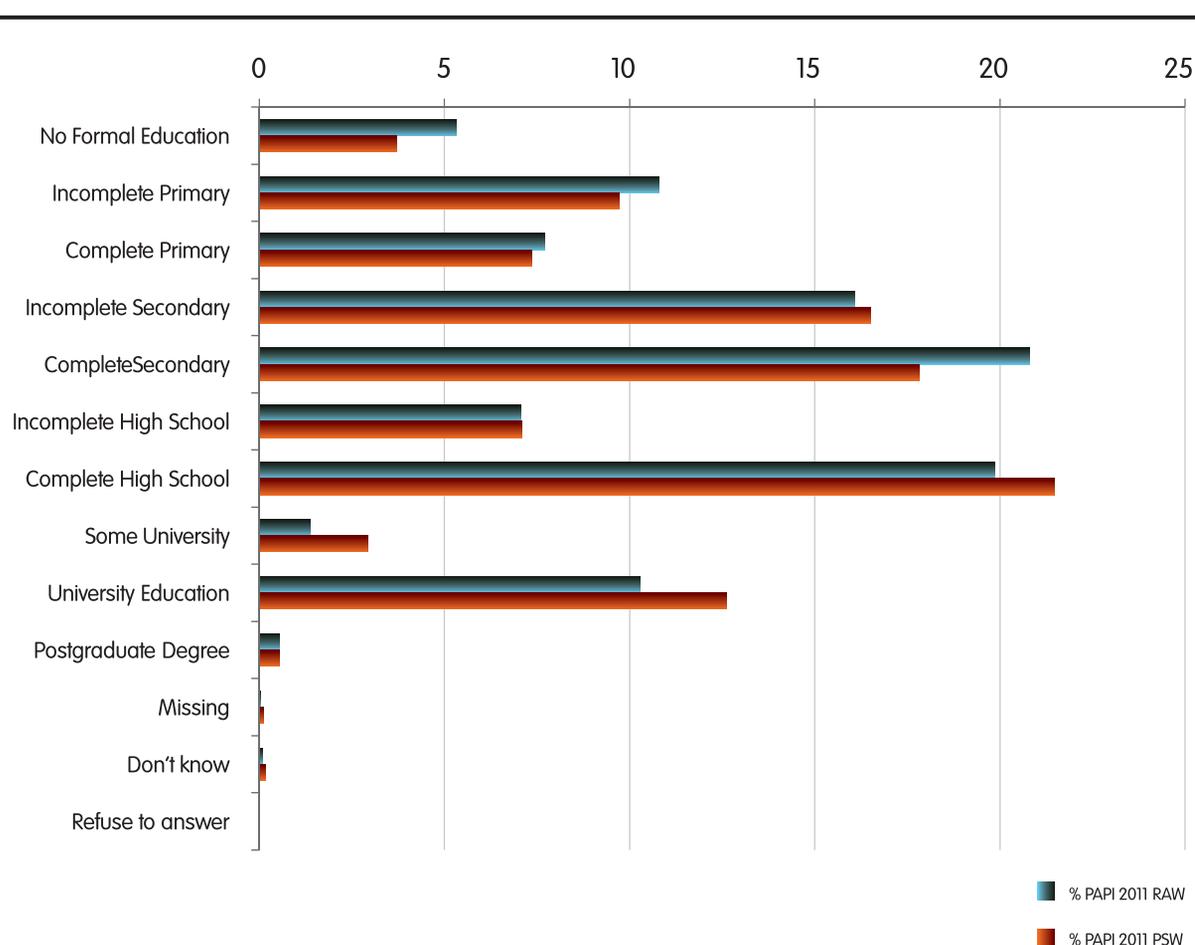


FIGURE A4: EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF PAPI 2011 RESPONDENTS (%)



The survey implementation process

Questionnaire improvement⁷⁵: Evolving from the 2009 pilot and 2010 implementation and as discussed in Chapter 1, the questionnaire was refined and improved by drawing lessons from the pilot and consulting with a wide range of stakeholders. The questionnaire was made more focused, shorter, and simpler compared to the 2009 and 2010 versions. It is expected to be the baseline to ensure future comparability.

As explained in the PAPI 2010 methodology discussion, the questionnaire development process involved several steps, including, (i) questionnaire refinement; (ii) questionnaire pre-testing, (iii) questionnaire treatments; (iv) interviewer's manual; and (v) training of enumerators.⁷⁶

Survey Process: The survey process started with the training of enumerators cum field controllers, who led and supervised data collection teams in 63 provinces. Training was conducted in Ha Noi in May 2011 with the participation of over 60 key enumerators who were

75. Full questionnaire is available at www.papi.vn.

76. See VFF, CECODES & UNDP (2011), chapter 3 on Methodology, especially pages 99-101.



staff and collaborators of CECODES⁷⁷ and VFF. In addition, a series of technical trainings for the enumerators were followed up on to ensure that enumerators were well-trained and had the same understanding of technical requirements for the tasks assigned.

In provinces, enumerators and field controllers provided training to interviewers recruited from regional or provincial universities and colleges and used both the Interviewer's Manual and the Questionnaire to ensure same understanding and flow of questions for all interviewers. The interviewers were final year students or graduates with majors in sociology or social work. Nearly 600 students were carefully screened by the Live & Learn Organization, a local NGO working in the area of youth development in Viet Nam. This helped strengthen the objectivity and independence of the fieldwork. Each team of interviewers had to go through a one-day training, with an overall introduction to the PAPI interview processes, requirements, and detailed guidance of the Questionnaire in one session, and interviewers practicing and testing interviews being checked by the enumerators in another session.

Post-checks of completed questionnaires was conducted by UNDP at the end of fieldwork and in Ha Noi. Enumerator retraining was followed up immediately to tie up any loose ends found from filled-in questionnaires before the enumerators were sent on to another province. The three-tiered training process (the first overall training in May 2011, the

second technical training before each enumerator was sent to provinces, and retraining when needed) helped ensure that experienced and inexperienced enumerators had the same level of understanding of technical requirements and skills needed before fieldwork in a certain province was undertaken.

Fieldwork. Actual fieldwork for PAPI was conducted from August 8 to December 21, 2011. Sixty-three teams of enumerators/field controllers were sent from Ha Noi to the field (with two teams in each province led by two enumerators/field controllers), and worked with the recruited interviewers on location four days (in 57 regular provinces) and seven days (in larger provinces). In Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh City, and some provinces like Thanh Hoa, the enumerators and interviewers had to stay longer and/or come back to the field in order to finish interviewing all sampled respondents that could not be met during the initial fieldwork.

To address this challenge and maintain the same levels of high international standards in survey fieldwork a system of three interlinked groups was developed. In the first group, and during the early stages of sample selection and preparation, the local VFF chapters in each province acted as coordinators. A second group included over fifty CECODES collaborators as team leaders and field supervisors. And thirdly, nearly 600 final year students or graduates majoring in sociology, social work, and administration supported the interview processes. Figure A5 depicts these three groups in visual form.

77. The Viet Nam Network of Local NGOs Working in Governance and Public Administration Reforms Areas (GPAR) and the Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) shared qualified researchers with CECODES in 2011, helping improve the quality of enumerators

FIGURE A5: AN INTERLINKED NETWORK FOR FIELDWORK IMPLEMENTATION

