

Asian Barometer Survey (ABS)

The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection – as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.

Two organizations are responsible for the Asian Barometer Survey (ABS): the Institute of Political Science, Academia Sinica and the Institute for the Advanced Studies of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Taiwan University. The ABS' headquarters lies in Taipei, Taiwan.

As several of the other comparative surveys, the ABS is also driven by a [network of social scientists](#). The so-called «Core Partners» are from all over the world and are led by two Principal Directors: At the time of writing, these are Fu Hu from National Taiwan University and Yun-han Chu from Academia Sinica. In addition, there is a Methodology Committee consisting of four members, and a five-person International Committee. The International Committee represents several other international surveys, like Marta Lagos from the Latinobarómetro and Michael Bratton, a coordinator of the Afrobarometer.

Apart from the central bodies, the ABS is organized as a regional network, which encompasses national research teams from 13 East Asian political systems (national teams from Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, China, Mongolia, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, and Singapore) and five South Asian countries: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. These national research teams administer the survey instruments; ensure the quality of the methodology, and the reliability and comparability of the data.

In addition to the regional network, the ABS is part of a global network. This network includes the Latinobarómetro, the Afrobarometer, the Arab Barometer and their umbrella organization: Globalbarometer.

The ABS has been funded by a range of different sources. It was first funded by the Ministry of Education. Since 2003, they have received funding from the Institute of Political Science, Academia Sinica. Since 2005 the program has been co-hosted by Program for East Asia Democratic Studies at the Institute for Advance Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences at National Taiwan University. In addition, the ABS has received funding from the Henry Luce Foundation and the World Bank, and all the country teams have obtained funding from different national and international sources to cover their fieldwork.

A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey

The ABS has its roots in the East Asian Barometer which launched its first wave in 2001-2003, conducting surveys in 13 countries in the region. In July 2001, the East Asian Barometer Survey joined with Latinobarómetro, Afrobarometer and Arab Barometer to launch Globalbarometer Survey. In its second wave, South Asian countries were also included, and in cooperation with the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies in New Delhi, India, the Asian Barometer Survey was created.

Internet links to the website of the responsible organization

[The official website of the Asian Barometer Survey](#)

The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.

The first wave was conducted in 2001-2003.

The second wave was conducted in 2005-2008.

The third wave was conducted in 2010-2012.

A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and/or core modules of the survey

The ABS notes that the main interest is citizens' attitudes toward democracy, governance and development. In the first wave, these were the survey topics:

- 1) Economic Evaluations
- 2) Trust in institutions
- 3) Social Capital
- 4) Political Participation
- 5) Electoral Mobilization
- 6) Psychological Involvement and Partisanship
- 7) Traditionalism
- 8) Democratic Legitimacy and Preference for Democracy
- 9) Efficacy, Citizen Empowerment, System responsiveness
- 10) Democratic vs Authoritarian Values
- 11) Cleavage
- 12) Belief in Procedural Norms of Democracy
- 13) Social-Economic Background
- 14) Interview Record

The second wave exchanged some topics and added a few more, for a total of 21 topics. The third wave has 23 topics. For details about these topics, see the following links:

[Detailed information about the topics in wave 1](#)

[Detailed information about the topics in wave 2](#)

[Detailed information about the topics in wave 3](#)

An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used.

The ABS uses a sampling procedure of national probability samples where each citizen in each country has an equal chance of being selected. This may be done in a variety of ways, for instance via census household lists or a multistage area approach. Sometimes they use stratifications or apply weights to make sure that rural areas and minority populations are represented in the correct proportions. The sample is drawn from the voting-age population. The sample sizes are normally 1200 respondents.

For further details about the sampling procedures in each country in each wave, please [click here](#).

The interviews are conducted face to face in the home or workplace of the respondent, and in his or her own language.

An account of the availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.

The data from the first and second wave have been made freely available to scholars *upon application*. The data from the third wave is being released throughout the period 2011-2013, also upon application. The applicant must sign a document which states [a list of seven points](#) about the use of the data, acknowledgement, and so on.

The country-specific variables are not freely available, but one may contact the national teams and ask about their availability.

Questionnaires, English version

[The Core questionnaire from the first wave](#)

[The Core questionnaire from the second wave](#)

[The Core questionnaire from the third wave](#)

The countries included in the different rounds

First round, 2001-2003: Eight countries and areas.

Hong Kong, Japan, Mainland China, Mongolia, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and the Philippines.

Second round, 2005-2008: 13 countries and areas.

The Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Mongolia, Singapore, Japan, South Korea, Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Cambodia, and China.

Third round, 2010-2012: Nine countries and areas.

The Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Mongolia, Singapore, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, and South Korea.

Cumulative file

There is no cumulative file.

Publications based on data

The ABS has published several lists of publications based on their work.

[ABS Working Paper Series](#)

[ABS Conference Papers](#)

[ABS Academic Output](#) (includes books, journal articles, etc)

Analytical summary...**Sources**

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the Asian Barometer Survey's website.