

ECON 460: Women, Work, and the World Economy

Reading Guide: “More than 100 Million Women Are Missing”

After reading the article, you should be able to answer the following questions:

1. What is the **sex ratio at birth**? About how many boys are born for every 100 girls?
2. In what parts of the world do women outnumber men?
3. Why does Professor Sen say that 100 million women are missing?
4. To what extent does phenomenon of missing women reflect fundamental differences between western and non-western cultures? What evidence does Professor Sen offer to refute this hypothesis?
5. To what extent does the phenomenon of missing women reflect economic underdevelopment? Should we expect that the problem of missing women will disappear once all countries achieve a substantial level of income per capita?
6. What is the cross-country relationship between female labor force participation (relative to males) and female life expectancy (relative to males)? Are they positively or negatively correlated?
7. How might China’s one child policy have exacerbated the phenomenon of missing women?