



The demographic structure of population, particularly age and sex, has profound consequences for harmonious and sustainable social and economic development. Furthermore, analyzing sex ratios of population is important in analyzing the status of women and girls.

人口结构，特别是年龄和性别结构，对社会经济的协调和可持续发展具有深远影响。对人口性别比的分析在研究妇女和女孩地位中尤为重要。

Definitions

“**Sex ratio**” refers to the ratio between males and females in a population. In this regard, it is useful to differentiate between the following:

Sex ratio in the general population refers to the number of males per 100 females in the general population.

Sex ratio at birth (SRB) refers to the number of male live births per 100 female live births.

Sex ratio by birth order refers to sex ratio at birth disaggregated by birth order (first, second, third etc.).

Sex ratio of children under five years old refers to the number of male children under five years old per 100 female children of the same age group.

In addition, an important index measuring gender difference in child survival is the **sex ratio of under five mortality rates** which refers to the ratios of male to female mortality of those under 5 years of age (usually by age 1, 2, etc).

Data sources

The data in the following are all from official sources, in particular the National Bureau of Statistics of China and the UN Population Division. Sex ratio at birth data are not readily available in many countries, and where available, there are many factors which may affect accuracy of data, e.g. under-reporting.

释义

性别比：通常指人口中男性和女性人数之比。应该对下列几种性别比加以区别：

总人口性别比：总人口中每百名女性对应的男性人数。

出生性别比：每百名活产女婴对应的活产男婴数。

分孩次出生性别比：按出生孩次划分的出生性别比（第一，第二，第三孩出生性别比等）。

5岁以下儿童性别比：每百名5岁以下女孩所对应的同年龄段男孩数。

另外，作为衡量儿童生存性别差异的重要指标，5岁以下儿童死亡率性别比是5岁以下男性和女性死亡率的比值（通常为单岁组）。

数据来源

以下内容中的数据均为官方数据，特别是中国国家统计局和联合国人口司数据。许多国家缺乏方便获得的出生性别比的数据，即使有数据的国家，数据的准确性也会受到如漏报等诸多因素的影响。

World

Men normally have higher mortality rates than women throughout life, and age-specific sex ratio declines gradually as age increases. Therefore, in most countries in the world there are more women than men and normal sex ratio in the general population is around or below 100. In 2005, in North and South America, Africa, Europe and Oceania, sex ratio in the general population was around 100 or lower.

However, in a handful of countries, sex ratio in the general population in 2005 was high, e.g. Afghanistan (106.5), China (105.6), Bangladesh (104.5), India (105.2), Pakistan (106.0), and Sri Lanka (103.3). This results in a sex ratio for Asia at 103.9.

For the world as a whole there are 35 million more men than women¹.

世界

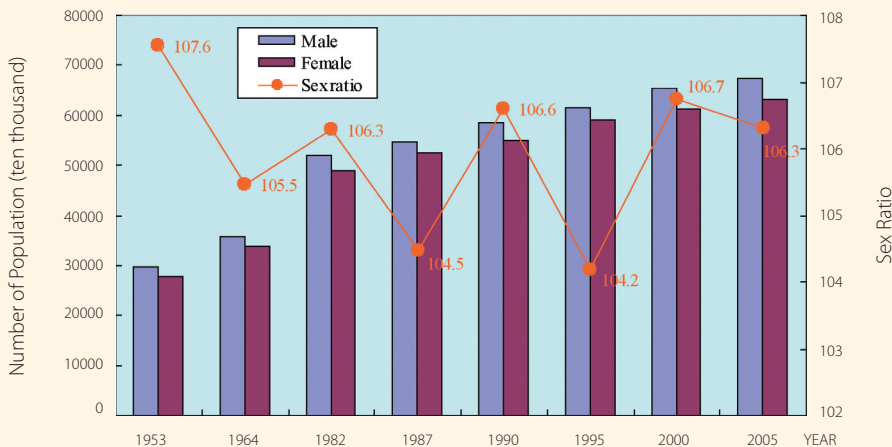
在正常情况下，由于男性在整个生命周期中的死亡率高于女性，按龄性别比随年龄增加而逐渐下降，因此在大多数国家，女性人口多于男性，总人口性别比的正常值应该基本等于或低于100。2005年南、北美洲，非洲，欧洲和大洋洲的总人口性别比基本等于或低于100。

然而，部分国家2005年的总人口性别比偏高，如阿富汗（106.5），中国（105.6），孟加拉国（104.5），印度（105.2），巴基斯坦（106.0）以及斯里兰卡（103.3），这导致亚洲总体性别比水平处于103.9。

全世界男性人口比女性人口多三千五百万人¹。

Figure 1 China Sex Ratio in the General Population 1953-2005

图1中国总人口性别比（1953-2005）



Source: China Population Censuses and 1% Population Sample Surveys².

数据来源：中国人口普查和1%人口抽样调查²。

China

According to the five censuses and three 1% population sample surveys, as shown in Figure 1, sex ratio in the general population has been high throughout the last 50 years.

中国

图1中五次全国人口普查和三次全国1%人口抽样调查资料显示，中国总人口性别比在过去50余年中呈相对稳定偏高的态势。



Sex Ratio at Birth

出生性别比

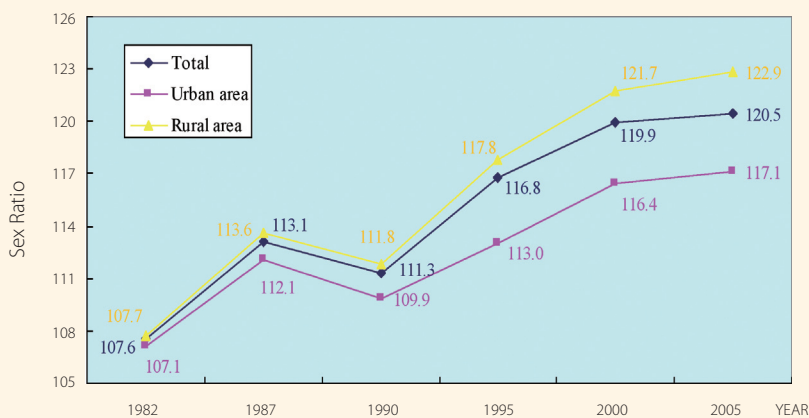
World

"Normal" sex ratio at birth is in general between 103 and 107 male live births per 100 female live births. Countries that are known to have or have had sex ratio at birth higher than this include South Korea (peak of 115.2 in 1994³), India (112 in 2000⁴) and China (120.5 in 2005).

世界

出生性别比的正常范围是每100名活产女婴对应103—107名活产男婴。目前所知出生性别比高于或曾经高于这一正常范围的国家包括：韩国（1994年达到115.2³），印度（2000年出生性别比达到112⁴）以及中国（120.5）。

Figure 2 Sex Ratio at Birth in China, Urban and Rural Areas 1982-2005
图2中国出生性别比和分城乡出生性别比（1982-2005）



Source: China Population Censuses and 1% Population Sample Surveys⁵.
数据来源：中国人口普查和1%人口抽样调查⁵。

China

As can be seen in Figure 2, sex ratio at birth in China has increased over the past two decades, from 107.6 in 1982 to 120.5 in 2005. Urban-rural differences in sex ratio at birth exist, with that of rural areas significantly higher than that of urban areas. In 2005, sex ratio at birth of rural areas reached 122.9. Sex ratio at birth of urban areas however has also increased dramatically, from 109.9 in 1990 to 117.1 in 2005. In China, urban areas include both cities and towns. Given that sex ratio in towns is closer to that of rural areas than to cities, the real difference between urban areas excluding towns and rural areas should be larger than what's described in Figure 2, i.e. the urban (cities only) sex ratio at birth is lower.

中国

如图2所示，中国出生性别比在过去20余年中持续上升，从1982年的107.6上升至2005年的120.5。中国的出生性别比存在城乡差异，农村地区显著高于城镇地区，2005年农村地区出生性别比达到122.9。但是城镇地区出生性别比也上升很快，从1990年的109.9上升到2005年的117.1。事实上，这里的城镇地区包括了更接近农村地区的镇在内，如果考虑到这一事实，实际的城乡差异比图2描述的还要更大。

World

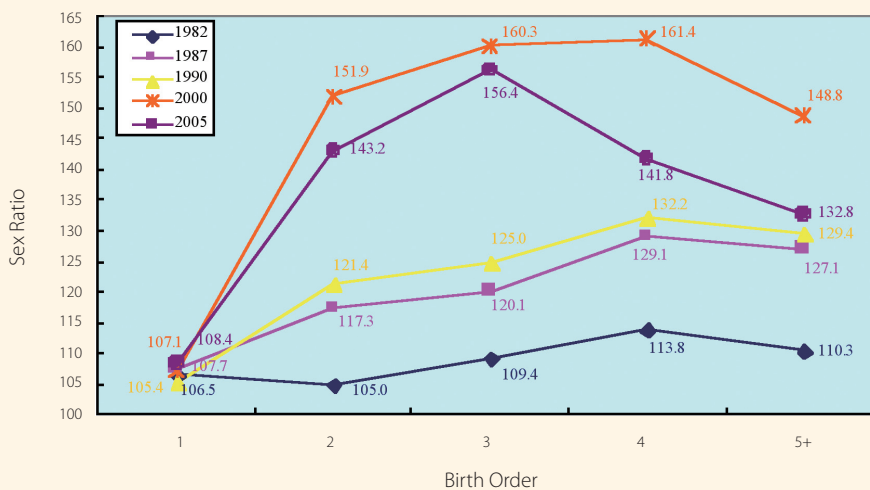
Sex ratio at birth by birth order will usually be around the normal overall sex ratio at birth regardless of birth order. However, in countries with imbalance in sex ratio at birth, the imbalance increases remarkably with the rise in birth order. In South Korea in 1994, sex ratio at birth for the first birth was normal at 106.1, but increased to 114.3 for the second and 205.6 for the third birth³. Sex ratio at birth for the first birth was 111 for India in 2001, and 112 for the second and up to 116 for the third birth⁴.

世界

正常情况下，分孩次出生性别比在任何孩次都接近于正常的总出生性别比。但这一比率在出生性别比失衡的国家，却随孩次显著升高。1994年韩国第一孩出生性别比处于106.1的正常水平，但第二孩升至114.3，第三孩更达到205.6³。2001年印度第一孩出生性别比为111，第二孩升至112，第三孩高达116⁴。

Figure 3 Sex Ratio at Birth by Birth Order 1982-2005

图3 中国分孩次出生性别比 (1982-2005)



Source: For 1982: National Fertility Sample Survey⁶; For 1987-2005: China Population Censuses and % Population Sample Surveys⁵.

数据来源：1982年：全国生育节育抽样调查⁶；1987—2005：中国人口普查和1%人口抽样调查⁵。

China

As indicated in Figure 3, in 1982 sex ratio at birth was normal for the first and second births, but slightly higher than normal for the third and above births. Since 1987, sex ratio at birth has been around the normal range for the first birth, but increased significantly for the second and above births. In 2000, sex ratio at birth was 151.9 for the second birth, and above 160 for the third and fourth births. Sex ratio at birth for the second and above births in 2005 was slightly lower than that in 2000, but sex ratio at birth for the first birth has risen to 108.4.

中国

如图3所示，1982年，按孩次划分，第一孩和第二孩的出生性别比正常，第三孩及其以后孩次的出生性别比略有偏高。从1987年起，第一孩的出生性别比接近正常值，第二孩及其以后孩次的出生性别比显著上升。特别是2000年第二孩出生性别比达到151.9，第三孩和第四孩出生性别比高达160以上。2005年第二孩及其以后孩次的出生性别比较2000年略有下降，但第一孩的出生性别比已经达到108.4。



Geographical Variation of Sex Ratio at Birth in China

中国出生性别比地区差异

Figure 4 Sex Ratio at Birth Per Province, China, 2000 and 2005
图4中国分省出生性别比（2000和2005年）



Sex ratio at birth exhibits great discrepancies among provinces in 2005, as seen in Figure 4 and Table 1. The highest sex ratio at birth was recorded in Jiangxi (137.31), and the lowest in Tibet (105.15).

如图4和表1所示，2005年各省的出生性别比显示出巨大的差异：江西省最高（137.31），而西藏最低（105.15）。

Table 1 Change of SRB and Its Rank by Province during 2000 and 2005 in China

表1 中国分省出生性别比及其次序的变动（2000和2005年）

Area Name 地区	2005		2000		Change in SRB 出生性别比变动
	SRB 出生性别比	Rank 序次	SRB 出生性别比	Rank 序次	
Jiangxi 江西	137.31	1	138.01	1	↓ 0.70
Anhui 安徽	132.20	2	130.76	4	↑ 1.44
Shaanxi 陕西	132.11	3	125.15	9	↑ 6.96
Hubei 湖北	127.95	4	128.02	7	↓ 0.07
Hunan 湖南	127.79	5	126.92	8	↑ 0.87
Guizhou 贵州	127.65	6	105.37	29	↑ 22.28
Jiangsu 江苏	126.49	7	120.19	11	↑ 6.30
Fujian 福建	125.89	8	120.26	10	↑ 5.63
Henan 河南	125.76	9	130.30	5	↓ 4.54
Hainan 海南	121.97	10	135.04	3	↓ 13.07
Shanghai 上海	120.05	11	115.51	16	↑ 4.54
Guangdong 广东	119.93	12	137.76	2	↓ 17.83
Tianjin 天津	119.81	13	112.97	20	↑ 6.84
Guangxi 广西	119.80	14	128.80	6	↓ 9.00
Hebei 河北	119.42	15	118.46	13	↑ 0.96
Beijing 北京	117.81	16	114.58	17	↑ 3.23

Area Name 地区	2005		2000		Change in SRB 出生性别比变动
	SRB 出生性别比	Rank 序次	SRB 出生性别比	Rank 序次	
Inner Mongolia 内蒙古	117.07	17	108.48	25	↑ 8.59
Qinghai 青海	116.91	18	103.52	30	↑ 13.39
Shanxi 山西	116.71	19	112.75	21	↑ 3.96
Sichuan 四川	116.34	20	116.37	14	↓ 0.03
Gansu 甘肃	116.20	21	119.35	12	↓ 3.15
Shandong 山东	113.39	22	113.49	18	↓ 0.10
Zhejiang 浙江	113.39	23	113.11	19	↑ 0.28
Yunnan 云南	113.16	24	110.57	23	↑ 2.59
Chongqing 重庆	111.19	25	115.8	15	↓ 4.61
Ningxia 宁夏	111.11	26	107.99	26	↑ 3.12
Heilongjiang 黑龙江	110.69	27	107.52	27	↑ 3.17
Liaoning 辽宁	109.45	28	112.17	22	↓ 2.72
Xinjiang 新疆	109.43	29	106.65	28	↑ 2.78
Jilin 吉林	109.25	30	109.87	24	↓ 0.62
Tibet 西藏	105.15	31	97.43	31	↑ 7.72
National average 平均值	120.49		119.92		↑ 0.57

Source: China 2000 Population Census and 1% Population Sample Survey in 2005⁵.

数据来源：中国2000年人口普查和2005年1%人口抽样调查⁵。

Compared with 2000, sex ratio at birth in most provinces has increased. Noticeably, in some western regions it has increased rapidly. For instance, in Qinghai and Guizhou it has increased by more than 10 and 20 respectively. The imbalanced sex ratio at birth also spread in geographical coverage. Actually, except for Tibet, sex ratio at birth in all provinces deviates from the normal. Even though it is more severe in rural areas, but in comparison with 2000, sex ratio at birth in big cities such as Beijing (117.81), Tianjin (119.81) and Shanghai (120.05), has also increased in 2005.

与2000年相比，2005年出生性别比在绝大部分省份上升。值得注意的是，部分西部省份出生性别比上升的幅度较大，如青海省和贵州省升高的幅度分别超过了10和20个点。同时出生性别比失衡的地域也在扩展。事实上，除了西藏之外，所有省份的出生性别比都不正常。尽管出生性别比失衡在农村地区较为严重，但与2000年相比，2005年出生性别比在大城市如北京（117.81）、天津（119.81）和上海（120.05）都有所上升。

Worth noting is that sex ratio at birth in several provinces declined markedly, such as in Hainan from 135.04 in 2000 to 121.97 in 2005 and in Guangdong from 137.76 in 2000 to 119.93 in 2005. Exact reasons for the decline however need be studied.

同样值得注意的是，个别省份的出生性别比显著下降，如海南省和广东省的出生性别比分别自2000年的135.04和137.76下降至2005年的121.97和119.93。不过，这些地区性别比下降的原因仍然需要研究。

SEX RATIO of Under Five Mortality Rate

五岁以下儿童死亡率性别比

World

In the world as a whole, male mortality rates of all age groups are higher than those of females because of biological factors. Normally, the male to female ratio of mortality rate for children under 5 years old is higher than 1. Some countries with high sex ratio in the general population are however witnessing lower than normal values in the sex ratios of under 5 mortality rate. In India in 1998, the sex ratio of mortality rate for age 1 to 4 was 0.68⁷. In Pakistan, the ratio for age 1 to 4 was 0.70 during 1982 and 1986, and 0.63 during 1997 and 2000⁸.

世界

在世界范围内，正常情况下由于生理因素的影响，各年龄段男性死亡率均高于女性，因此5岁以下儿童死亡率性别比的正常值应大于1。一些总人口性别比偏高的国家同时也出现了5岁以下儿童死亡率性别比低于正常值的现象。例如印度1998年1-4岁儿童死亡率性别比为0.68⁷，巴基斯坦在1982-1986年间1-4岁儿童死亡率性别比为0.70，1997-2000年间为0.63⁸。

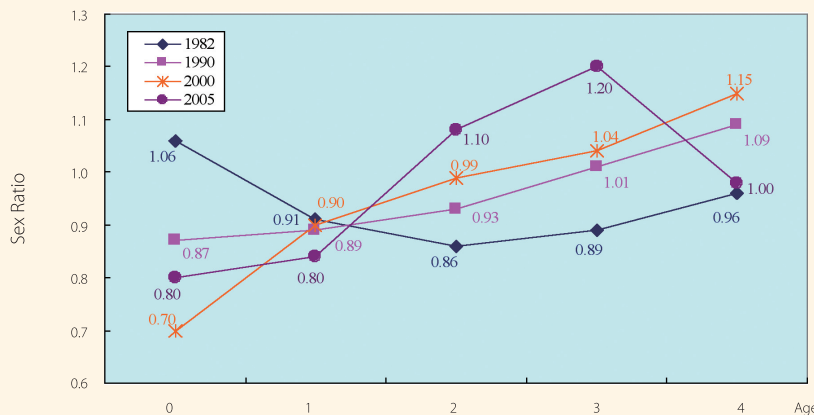


Figure 5 Sex Ratio of Under Five Mortality Rate in China 1982-2005
图5 中国5岁以下儿童死亡率性别比 (1982-2005)

Source: China Population Censuses and 1% Population Sample Survey in 2005⁵.
数据来源：中国人口普查和2005年1%人口抽样调查⁵。

China

Figure 5 indicates the sex ratios of under 5 mortality rate by single age in China for 1982-2005. In 1982, sex ratios of mortality rate for age 1-4 were all lower than normal, with those for age 2 and age 3 much more severe. Since 1990, sex ratio of mortality rate has increased for children aged 2 to 4, slightly fluctuated for children aged 1 but declined dramatically for children aged 0. This suggests that discrimination against girls has shifted from those ages 1 to 4 to those age 0. In 2005, the ratio was basically normal for age 2 to 4, but deviated seriously from the normal for age 0 and 1, with its value at 0.80 and 0.84 respectively.

中国

中国5岁以下按龄儿童死亡率性别比见图5。1982年，1-4岁各年龄组儿童死亡率性别比都低于正常水平，但2岁组和3岁组更为严重，分别为0.86和0.89。1990年后，2-4岁组儿童死亡率性别比有所上升，1岁组死亡率性别比略有波动，但0岁组死亡率性别比大幅度下降。这些表明对女孩的歧视重心已经从1-4岁组逐渐转向0岁组。2005年，中国2-4岁组死亡率性别比基本正常，但0岁组和1岁组死亡率性别比严重偏离了正常水平，分别为0.80和0.84。



SEX RATIO of Children Under Five Years Old 五岁以下儿童性别比

World

Sex ratio of children under 5 years old reflects both the sex ratio at birth and the gender difference in under five mortality rate. In a normal population, the under 5 mortality rate is higher for males than for females. As a result, sex ratio of children under five years old is usually lower than sex ratio at birth. In 2000, sex ratios of children under 5 years old in North and South America, Africa, Europe and Oceania were approximately equal to or below 105¹.

Nevertheless, higher than normal sex ratio of children under 5 years old has also been observed in some countries with high sex ratio in the general population. In South Korea, the sex ratio for all age groups under 5 years old all exceeded 110.31 in 2000, and the sex ratio of children under 5 years old was 107.1 in 2001 for India⁹.

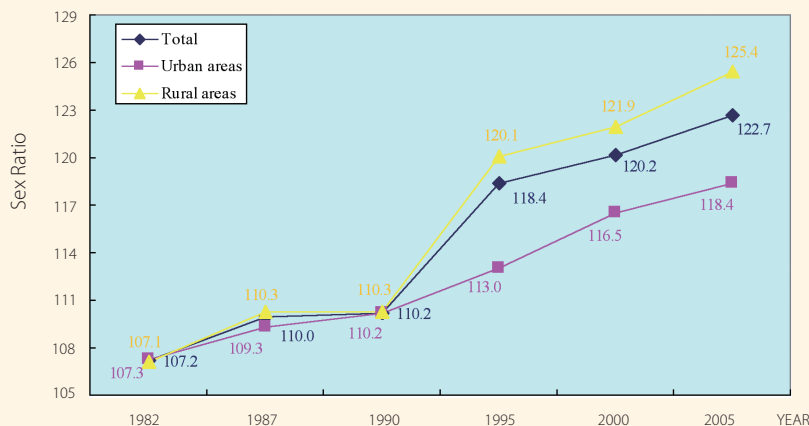
世界

5岁以下儿童性别比综合反映了出生性别比和5岁以下儿童死亡率的性别差异。在正常的人口中，出生性别比正常，5岁以下儿童死亡率男性高于女性，因此正常的5岁以下儿童性别比应该低于正常的出生性别比。2000年南、北美洲，非洲，欧洲和大洋州的5岁以下儿童性别比基本等于或低于105¹。

然而，部分总人口性别比偏高的国家也出现了5岁以下儿童性别比偏高，如韩国2000年5岁以下各年龄组性别比均超过110.3¹，印度2001年5岁以下儿童性别比为107.1⁹。

Figure 6 Sex Ratio of Children Under Five Years Old in China 1982-2005

图6 中国5岁以下儿童性别比（1982-2005）



Source: China Population Censuses and 1% Population Sample Surveys⁵.

数据来源：中国人口普查和1%人口抽样调查⁵。

China

As shown in Figure 6, sex ratio of children under 5 years old was 107.2 in 1982 in China. In the last two decades, the ratio has rapidly increased, reaching 122.7 in 2005. Almost no differences were observed between rural and urban areas in 1982, and small differences in 1987 and 1990. The urban-rural difference however has recorded a significant rise since 1995 with rural areas higher than urban areas. In 2005, sex ratio of children under 5 years old was 118.4 in urban areas and 125.4 in rural areas. Noticeably, sex ratios of children under 5 years old regardless of residence were all higher than the corresponding sex ratios at birth in 2005, indicating the existence of both prenatal and postnatal discrimination against girls.

中国

图6显示中国1982年5岁以下儿童性别比为107.2，高于正常水平。在以后的20多年间5岁以下儿童性别比快速上升，2005年高达122.7。1982年5岁以下儿童性别比水平城乡基本相同，1987和1990年略有差异，但1995年后城乡差异显著，农村地区高于城镇地区。2005年城镇地区5岁以下儿童性别比为118.4，而农村地区高达125.4。值得注意的是，2005年中国及分城乡5岁以下儿童性别比都高于相应的出生性别比，表明中国女孩在出生前和出生后都受到歧视。

The main causes for the imbalanced sex ratios in China are complicated and show different manifestations in different periods and areas.

导致中国性别比失常的原因是比较复杂的，在不同的时间和地区也有不同的表现。

A patrilineal family system has been practiced throughout Chinese history as well as in contemporary China, resulting in men's dominant status in property inheritance, residential arrangement, family succession, and family power structure and women's lower status in family and society. Moreover, patrilocal marriage has been the traditional and dominant marriage pattern in China, which determines that sons, not daughters, are the real provider of parents' old-age support. This is especially true in the rural areas of China. In addition, the Chinese Confucianism-based traditional culture stresses the importance of having sons for a family. All these constitute the fundamental root of son preference in Chinese families.

中国历史上一直实行父系家庭体系，使男性在财产继承、居住安排、家庭延续、家庭权力上占据主导地位，女性家庭和社会地位低下；而且从夫居传统上是占绝对主导地位的婚姻形式，使得在中国尤其是农村地区，是儿子而不是女儿为老年人提供根本性的养老支持。另外，中国以儒家思想为基础的传统文化，也非常强调生育儿子的重要性。这些都构成了中国家庭偏好男孩的根本基础。

Some important demographic and socioeconomic factors have also stimulated and intensified son preference. During the last 20 years, China's fertility has rapidly declined and the total fertility rate has dropped to below replacement level. In populations with strong son preference, a major drop in fertility is often followed by a rise in sex ratio at birth. Further, China's economy has been rapidly growing in the last 20 years and the stratification of Chinese society has been accelerating, but China remains a developing country in its transitional stage, with the social security system not fully developed in urban areas and even less developed in rural areas. Currently, while policies protecting rights of women exist, implementation varies. Women do not enjoy equal opportunities as men in education, employment and participation in political affairs. The gender aspect is often missing or neglected in the formulation and implementation of policies for socioeconomic development. All these factors contribute to the lower social, economic and political status of Chinese women. These factors also contribute to son preference in China. Another contributing factor sometimes cited is the government-guided family planning policy and program. However data showing to what extent this has contributed to the rise in sex ratio at birth is not available.

一些重要的人口和社会经济因素在一定条件下也刺激和强化了男孩偏好。最近二十多年来中国的生育率快速下降，总和生育率已经远低于更替水平。在存在强烈男孩偏好的人口中，生育率的显著下降往往伴随出生性别比的上升。中国20多年来经济高速增长，社会分层加快，但总体上还处于欠发达的转型社会，城市的社会保障体系还不健全，在农村几乎是空白。另外，虽然目前已经有保护妇女参与和发展的各种政策，但执行情况差异很大。中国妇女在教育、就业和参政等方面同男性相比存在比较大的差距，同时一些经济和社会发展政策的制定和实施缺乏性别平等的视角，使得妇女总体上在社会、经济和政治上地位不高。这些因素构成了中国家庭偏好男孩的客观条件。另外一个值得提及的因素是政府主导的计划生育政策，但没有数据表明这一因素在多大程度上带来了出生性别比的升高。

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