In the majority of countries there are more women than men, but in the most populous countries in Asia there are many more men than women.

As can be seen from figure 1.6, in the significant majority of countries there are more women than men. Out of 190 countries or areas presented here, the ratio in 117 countries was between 85 and 99 men per 100 women. In 23 countries the distribution of women and men was more or less equal. In 51 countries, however, there were more men than women, with a ratio between 101 and 111 men per 100 women.

Of the most populous countries, China (with a ratio of 108 men per 100 women), India (107), Pakistan (106) and, to a lesser extent, Bangladesh (102) are at the very top of the list of countries where the “shortage” of women might have adverse consequences in the shaping of marriages.