

Fertility Decline



Government policies and local fertility preferences in many parts of Viet Nam favour a small-size family with

two children.

As the number of children declines, and many couples want to have at least one son, they may practice

sex selection in favour of boys from the first birth.



Challenges/ Opportunities

The balance between ensuring law enforcement that bans the practice of gender-biased sex selection and protecting women's reproductive rights

Gender-biased sex selection:

Viet Nam

2013

Viet Nam emphasizes that women and men must be treated equally, banning laws, customs, and traditions that deny women the same opportunities as men.

Policies/Framework/ Government Response

In 1982

Viet Nam ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

In 2006

The Viet Nam National Assembly passed the Gender Equality Law and one year later passed the Law on Domestic Violence Prevention and Control.



The Government of Viet Nam has recognized the imbalanced sex ratio at birth and taken efforts to address the issue through policies and legislation, aiming to return the sex ratio at birth to the biologically normal level after 2025.

Sex Ratio at birth

Since 2004

The sex ratio at birth in Viet Nam has increased rapidly to 111.5 boys for every 100 girls born in 2019.

2018

The sex ratio at birth in Viet Nam is already high at the first birth (110.2) and reaches 120.2 boys per 100 girls at the third birth, according to the 2019 Census.

