ABSTRACT:

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Migration, ancestry culture, and female labour force participation: A meta-analysis of the epidemiological approach

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I meta-analyse 160 estimates of the relationship between female migrants’ labour force participation and ancestry culture, reconciling studies from economics and sociology. Beyond integrating results across countries, fields of study, data sets, and estimation methods, I provide in-depth discussions and analyses of three sources of bias in this literature: Publication bias, omitted variable bias, and selective migration. Across all studies, the meta-analysis shows a robust positive correlation between ancestry culture and female migrants’ labour force participation, but bias-correction reveals that the effect size is at least a third smaller than a naïve reading of the literature would suggest.