

Female genital mutilation: How many girls are at risk in Belgium?



The factsheet cover features the EIGE logo at the top left. The title 'Female genital mutilation' and subtitle 'How many girls are at risk in Belgium?' are centered. Below the title, a blue circle contains the text 'Belgium' and '16-27% (1) at risk of FGM'. A small image of a girl in a pink dress stands on a beach. The text below the title states: 'An estimate that 16% to 27% of girls are at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM) in Belgium, out of a total population of 22,448 girls aged 0-19 comprising both children when female genital mutilation is practised.' It also notes that 'Girls at risk of female genital mutilation in Belgium mostly originate from Greece, and from three groups of girls of foreign origin from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Djibouti.' The source is cited as 'These findings are from the latest research conducted by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) on female genital mutilation in the EU15.'

About the study and the European Institute for Gender Equality:
The study 'Estimation of girls at risk of female genital mutilation in the European Union – Belgium, Greece, France, Italy, Cyprus and Malta' was conducted in 2017-2018. It supports the EU institutions and EU Member States in providing more accurate information on female genital mutilation and its risks among girls in the European Union.

What are the trends over time? The percentage of girls at risk in the Belgian women aged 0-19 slightly decreased from 20% in 2010 to 21% in 2016. Instead, the absolute number of girls at risk has increased to over 2,000 girls. The total population of migrant girls from FGM-practicing countries living in Belgium has increased from 14,611 to 22,448 over the same time-frame. The gender is linked to an increasing trend (percentage of migrants originating from 20/24 practicing countries living in Belgium).

(1) Recommended estimate in full quality. The actual figure might have been under-estimated or overestimated.
The European Institute for Gender Equality does not claim to have a complete list of all countries where FGM is practised. In some countries, it is not known if all countries are practising FGM.
Data on health organisations, health care and health professionals may not always be available due to data protection laws and regulations. © European Institute for Gender Equality, 2019.

This factsheet presents the results of the study 'Estimation of girls at risk of female genital mutilation in the European Union – Belgium, Greece, France, Italy, Cyprus and Malta' for Belgium.

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Downloads



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