

# Female genital mutilation: How many girls are at risk in France



**Female genital mutilation**  
How many girls are at risk in France?

**France**  
13.23% (\*)  
at risk among girls

It is estimated that **13.23% of girls are at risk** of female genital mutilation (FGM or FGM/C) in France out of a total population of 205 000 girls aged 15 and young girls countries where female genital mutilation is practiced.

Girls at risk of female genital mutilation in France mostly originate from Mali, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and Egypt.

These findings are from the latest research conducted by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) on female genital mutilation in the EU (\*\*).

Female genital mutilation is a harmful form of gender-based violence, having deep physical and psychological scars on the lives of women around the world. It is a violent form of subordination of women and girls and it stems in great measure from the practice of gender inequality.

According to the World Health Organization, female genital mutilation refers to all procedures involving the partial or total removal of the normal female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons (\*\*).

**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.

EIGE is the EU knowledge centre for gender equality. It supports policy-makers and all relevant institutions in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all EU citizens, by providing them with quality evidence and accessible and affordable tools on gender equality in the EU.

More information is available at [www.eige.europa.eu](http://www.eige.europa.eu)

**What are the trends over time?** The percentage of girls at risk in the regional countries (\*) increased from 20% in 2011 to 21% in 2014. The absolute number of girls at risk also increased. The total population of migrant girls from FGM practicing countries living in France has increased significantly from 81 512 to 220 000 over the same time frame. The growth is mostly due to an increase in the size of the migrant population of migrant girls from FGM practicing countries living in France.

(\*) The population data in each country is based on the latest available data from the National Institute of Statistics (INSEE) in France. The population data for Belgium, Greece, Italy, Cyprus and Malta are indicated in the infographic.  
 (\*\*) According to the WHO, FGM/C is defined as 'all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the female genitalia for non-medical purposes'.  
 (\*\*\*) The population data in each country is based on the latest available data from the National Institute of Statistics (INSEE) in France. The population data for Belgium, Greece, Italy, Cyprus and Malta are indicated in the infographic.

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 France.

The study 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.

## Downloads



**Female genital mutilation: How many girls are at risk in France**

EN (PDF, 392.01 KB)



**Mutilations génitales féminines: Combien de filles courent-elles un risque en France?**

FR (PDF, 436.07 KB)

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