

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



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Italy
15-24% (1) at risk of FGM

It is estimated that **15% to 24% of girls are at risk** of female genital mutilation (FGM) in Italy, out of a total population of 79,040 girls aged 15-24 originating from countries where female genital mutilation is practised.

One at risk of female genital mutilation in Italy usually originates from Egypt (majority group of girls in the category), from Senegal, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia and Guinea.

These findings are from the latest research conducted by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) on female genital mutilation in the EU (2).

Female genital mutilation is a serious form of gender-based violence, causing deep physical and psychological scars on the body of victims around the world. It is a violation of fundamental rights of women and girls and a barrier to their contribution to the progress of present societies.

According to the World Health Organization, female genital mutilation refers to all procedures involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical purposes (3).

About the study and the European Institute for Gender Equality

The latest dimension 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 Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, including the EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, a joint effort to provide 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 practitioners in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all EU citizens, by working in partnership with civil society and corporations and other stakeholders on gender equality in the EU.

More information is available at www.eige.europa.eu

What are the trends over time? The percentage of girls at risk in the European Union (1) has slightly decreased (27% in 2013 and 24% in 2018). But the absolute numbers of girls at risk have increased. The total population of European girls (ages 15-24) in 2018 has increased by 27% from 69,720 to 79,040 over the same time frame. The proportion of women/girls aged 15-24 from 524 countries living continuously during periods considered is 60% in 2018.

1. The population refers to girls aged 15-24 originating from countries where female genital mutilation is practised.
2. The findings are from the latest research conducted by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) on female genital mutilation in the EU (2017-2018).
3. According to the World Health Organization, female genital mutilation refers to all procedures involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical purposes (3).
4. The population of European girls (ages 15-24) in 2018 has increased by 27% from 69,720 to 79,040 over the same time frame. The proportion of women/girls aged 15-24 from 524 countries living continuously during periods considered is 60% in 2018.

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 Italy.

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 Italy?

EN (PDF, 396.24 KB)



Mutilazioni genitali femminili: Quante ragazze sono a rischio in Italia?

IT (PDF, 405.05 KB)

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