

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



France

It is estimated that **12% to 23% of girls are at risk** of female genital mutilation (FGM) or that **12-23% of girls are at risk** of FGM in France out of a total population of 200 000 girls aged 15-19 living in France in 2017-2018.

Girls at risk of female genital mutilation in France mostly originate from Mali, Guinea, DRC, Ivory Coast and Niger.

These findings are from the latest research conducted by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) on female genital mutilation in the EU (1).

Female genital mutilation is a severe form of gender-based violence, having deep physical and psychological roots in the lives of women around the world. It is a violent form of subordination of women and girls and is based on gross violations of the principles of gender equality.

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 reasons' (2).

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' (conducted in 2017-2018) 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 policymakers and all relevant stakeholders in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all EU citizens, by providing them with quality evidence, providing expertise and advice on all gender equality issues in the EU.

[This 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 highest risk areas (1) 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 81 152 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.

1. The population size in each country is increasing. For example, the population of girls aged 15-19 in Mali has increased from 10.5 million in 2011 to 12.5 million in 2014. The population of girls aged 15-19 in Guinea has increased from 4.5 million in 2011 to 5.5 million in 2014. The population of girls aged 15-19 in the DRC has increased from 1.5 million in 2011 to 2.5 million in 2014. The population of girls aged 15-19 in Ivory Coast has increased from 1.5 million in 2011 to 2.5 million in 2014. The population of girls aged 15-19 in Niger has increased from 1.5 million in 2011 to 2.5 million in 2014.

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



EN (PDF, 392.01 KB)



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

FR (PDF, 436.07 KB)

Metadata

COUNTRY: [France](#)

AREAS: Gender-based violence

AUTHOR: EIGE

PUBLISHER: EIGE

ISBN: 978-92-9470-587-7

DOI: 10.2839/342259