

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



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Girls at risk

12-17 %⁽¹⁾ of girls of FGM

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) estimates that 12-17 % of girls (102-136 girls aged 0-18) are at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM) in Luxembourg, out of a total population of 822 girls aged 0-18 in 2019 and originating from countries where FGM is practised. Of these 822 migrant girls, 24 % (201) are second generation.

Girls at risk of FGM in Luxembourg mostly originate from Eritrea. Smaller groups of girls originate from Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Somalia and Sudan⁽²⁾.

Asylum-seeking and refugee girls

In 2019, there were 121 asylum-seeking girls in Luxembourg (this number is separate from resident migrants). EIGE estimates that 10 % of asylum-seeking girls aged 0-18 in Luxembourg are at risk of FGM.

FGM is a severe form of gender-based violence, leaving deep physical and psychological scars and affecting the lives of victims around the world. It is a violent form of subordination of women and girls and it stands in gross contradiction to the principles of gender equality. It is a violation of women's and girls' human rights.

According to the World Health Organization, FGM 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⁽³⁾.

About the study

EIGE has developed a methodology to estimate the number of girls at risk of FGM in the EU and has applied it to a total of 19 Member States. The calculation of FGM risk considers two scenarios. In the high-risk scenario, it is assumed that there is no influence of migration and that girls originating from an FGM-practising country and living in an EU Member State face the same risk as if they had never migrated. In the low-risk scenario, it is assumed that migration and acculturation influence changing attitudes and behaviours regarding FGM⁽⁴⁾.

The latest study, 'Estimation of girls at risk of female genital mutilation in the European Union - Denmark, Spain, Luxembourg and Austria' was conducted in 2020. It provides the EU institutions and EU Member States with accurate estimations on FGM and its risk among girls in the EU. This enables the design of targeted policies to eradicate FGM.

(1) This percentage refers to girls aged 0-18 originating from countries where FGM is practised. Data for Denmark, Luxembourg and Austria from 2019. Data for Spain from 2018.

(2) 100% prevalence of genital or female genital mutilation in the European Union - Denmark, Spain, Luxembourg and Austria, published in Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2021.

(3) World Health Organization, 'Protocol on female genital mutilation, 2021', <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/operations-guidance/protocol-on-female-genital-mutilation>, 2021.

(4) 100% prevalence of genital or female genital mutilation in the European Union - Denmark, Spain, Luxembourg and Austria, published in Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2021.

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Girls at risk of FGM in Luxembourg mostly originate from Eritrea. Smaller groups of girls originate from Cote D'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and Iraq.

Further information

[FGM study: More girls at risk but community opposition growing](#)



[Estimation of girls at risk of female genital mutilation in the European Union: Step-by-step guide](#)



Downloads



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