

Mali

COUNTRY SNAPSHOT



FGM prevalence among girls and women aged 15 to 49 by year



FGM: Drivers, Prevalence, Attitudes and Progress Towards Elimination



FGM Drivers and Practitioners

- Belonging to an ethnic group, religious beliefs, and the resistance of certain religious and traditional community leaders are FGM risk factors.¹



FGM Prevalence and Attitudes

- 76% of women and 74% of men aged 15 to 49 believe FGM must continue.²
- Nearly 8 million girls and women have undergone FGM.³ Overall, 89% of girls and women aged 15 to 49 have been subjected to the practice.³
- Most FGM in Mali is performed before age 5 (76%), and nearly all before adolescence.³
- Among girls aged 0 to 14, 34% of girls have undergone

FGM before age 1; 32% between ages 1 and 4; and 6% between ages 5 and 14.

- Nearly three in four men and women who identify as Muslim believe FGM is required by religion; such a belief is less common among Christians.³



Progress Towards the Elimination of FGM

- The country must overcome stagnation in order to make progress towards the elimination of FGM. The country is not on track to eliminate FGM by 2030.



Key Partners

Government: Ministère de la Promotion de la Femme, de l'Enfant et de la Famille (MPFEF).

Non-Governmental Organizations: TOSTAN, Association pour la Promotion des Droits et le Bien-Être de la Famille, Association pour le Progrès et la Défense des Droits des Femmes, TAGNE.



Key Programme Results in 2023



Number of girls aged 0 to 14 years saved from FGM through the community-level surveillance system to monitor compliance supported by the Joint Programme:

Target: 80

Achievement: 189



Number of communities that made a public declaration of abandonment of FGM that have established a community-level surveillance system to monitor compliance:

Target: 485

Achievement: 380



Number of women and girls who have initiated conversations on FGM elimination and/or advocated for abandonment of the practice:

Target: 3,590

Achievement: 5,741



Number of religious leaders and community/traditional influencers who publicly denounce FGM practices:

Target: 26,280

Achievement: 12,308



Number of girls and women who receive prevention and protection services on FGM:

Target: 95,600

Achievement: 193,347



Spotlighted Intervention

The Joint Programme supported an initiative to raise awareness about the harmful consequences of FGM in school-based activities with students and teachers. Activities comprised educational conversations, establishing student clubs with activity plans, interschool art competitions, dissemination of FGM awareness-raising material, advocacy forums, and conferences and debates within and outside schools. The approach included distributing radios to 200 households in communities of internally displaced people to facilitate access to information and conversations on FGM. School-based activities involved 379 schools, and engaged teachers, students, school administrators, parents' associations and school management committees.

¹ UNICEF, 2022. Female Genital Mutilation in Mali: Insights from a statistical analysis.

² The Sixth Demographic and Health Survey (EDSM-VI), Mali.

³ UNICEF, 2022. Female Genital Mutilation in Mali: Insights from a statistical analysis.