

## The numbers – Worldwide Distribution of FGM

The following statistics are taken from the UNICEF Global Databases 2016. However, since an exact survey is impossible for a number of reasons, these are predominantly estimates.<sup>1</sup> A lot of women do not answer the question of their FGM status truthfully or often suffer from post-traumatic consequences, which leads to memory loss considering the mutilation itself. Many Countries do not want to have public discussions on this topic, because this practice is a taboo and because they fear Western criticism. Especially in areas of the Middle East and Southeast Asia, it is often kept silent, so that FGM is mainly perceived as an “African Problem”.

### **Africa:**

Country	Estitimated prevalence of female genital mutilation in girls and women aged between 15 to 49 years
Benin	9%
Burkina Faso	76%
Cameroon	1%
Central African Republic	24%
Chad	44%
Congo	5%
Côte d’Ivoire	38%
Democratic Republic of Congo	5%
Djibouti	93%
Egypt	87%
Eritrea	83%
Ethiopia	74%
Gambia	75%
Ghana	4%
Guinea	97%
Guinea- Bissau	45%
Kenya	21%
Liberia	50%
Mali	89%
Mauritania	69%
Niger	2%
Nigeria	25%
Senegal	25%
Sierra Leone	90%
Somalia	98%
Sudan	87%
Tanzania	15%
Togo	5%
Uganda	1%

<sup>1</sup> UNICEF: At least 200 million girls and women alive today living in 30 countries have undergone FGM/C - <http://data.unicef.org/child-protection/fgmc.html> , 2016; accessed on 17.05.2016 (12:35 CET)

### Other affected countries<sup>2</sup>

India (Bohras)	90%
Indonesia	80%
Iran (Kurds)	60%
Iraq Kurds	72 %
Kuwait	38%
Malaysia	62 – 90%
United Arab Emirates	34%
Yemen	19%

No exact data could be collected for the following countries, in which FGM can be detected: Malawi, Libya, Algeria, Comoros, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Bahrain, Jordan, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, Afghanistan, Brunei, Maldives, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Philippines.

<sup>2</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prevalence\\_of\\_female\\_genital\\_mutilation\\_by\\_country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prevalence_of_female_genital_mutilation_by_country); accessed on 05.09.2014 (11:15 CET)