

THE GAMBIA - KEY COUNTRY STATISTICS



FGM PREVALENCE RATE

The estimated prevalence of FGM in girls and women (15-49 years) is 78.3% (MICS 2005/06). This appears to be a very slight decrease from 79% in 1985 (Singhateh SK4 1985).

The prevalence of FGM in girls and women within the 15-19 age group is estimated at 79.9%, which appears to be slightly higher (0.4%) than FGM prevalence in the 35-39 age group which is estimated at 79.5% (MICS 2005/06).

Figures also suggest a 10.6% difference in FGM prevalence between girls and women (15-49 years) who live in urban and rural areas, with estimated FGM prevalence at 72.2% and 82.8% respectively (MICS 2005/06).

Type I and Type II FGM most commonly occur in The Gambia (US Department of State, 2001). *The MICS does not collect data on the type of FGM performed in The Gambia.*

The Gambian government to date has not passed legislation that prohibits the practice of FGM (MICS 2005/06).

POPULATION

1,883,051 (July 2013 est.)

Median age: 19.7 Years

Growth rate: 2.344% (2012 est.) (World Factbook)

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

Rank: 165 out of 186 in 2012 (UNDP)

HEALTH

Life expectancy at birth (years): 58.8 (UNDP) or 63.82 years (World Factbook)

Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births): 69.58 deaths

Maternal mortality rate 360 deaths/100,000 live births (2010); country comparison to the world: 28

Fertility rate, total (births per women): 3.98 (2013 est.)

HIV/AIDS – adult prevalence rate: 2% (2009 est.)

HIV AIDS – people living with HIV/AIDS: 18,000 (2009 est.); country comparison to the world: 80

HIV/AIDS – deaths: fewer than 1,000 per annum (2009 est.)

(World Factbook)

LITERACY (AGE 15 AND OVER THAT CAN READ AND WRITE)

Total population: 50%

Female: 40.4%; male: 60% (2010 est.) (World Factbook)

Total Youth Population: 66.7%

Female youth (15-24 years): 61.7%; male youth: 71.9% (2010) (World Bank)

GDP

GDP (official exchange rate): \$940 million (2012 est.)

GDP per capita (PPP): \$1,900 (2012 est.)

GDP (real growth rate): -1.6% (2012 est.)

URBANISATION

Urban population: 58% of total population (2010)

Rate of urbanisation: 3.7% annual rate of change (2010-15 est.)

ETHNIC GROUPS

African 99% (Mandinka 42%, Fula 18%, Wolof 16%, Jola 10%, Serahuli 9%, other 4%), non-African 1% (2003 census)

RELIGIONS

Muslim 90%, Christian 8%, indigenous beliefs 2%

LANGUAGES

English (official), Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, other indigenous vernaculars

Data compiled by 28 Too Many, May 2013

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