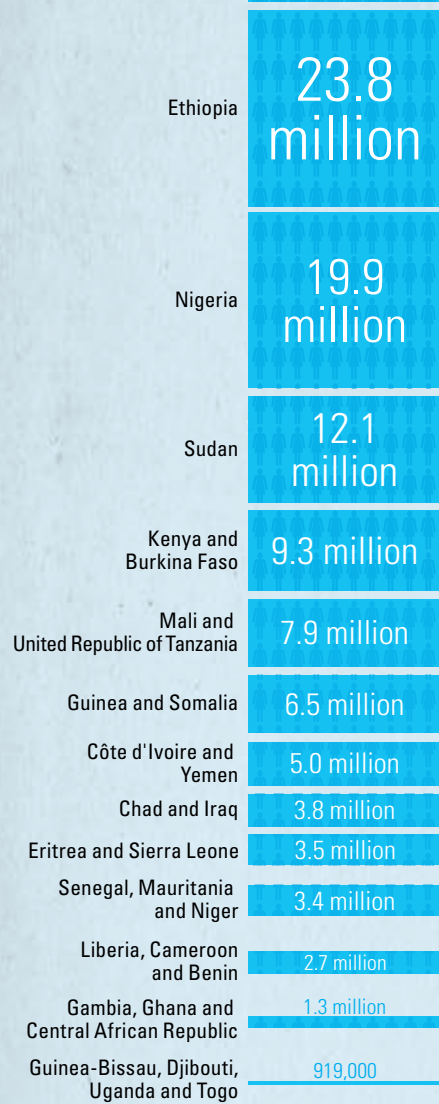
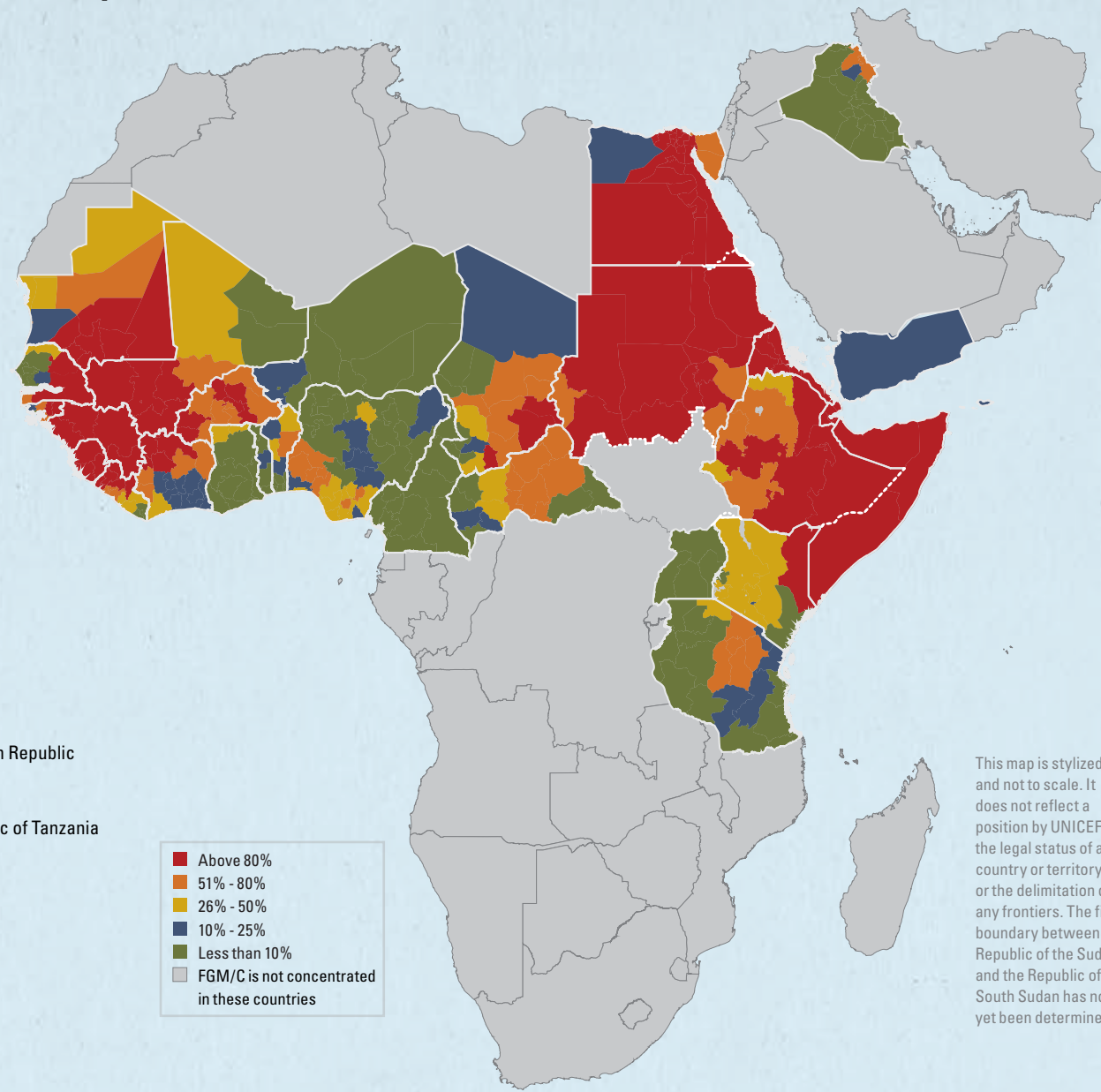
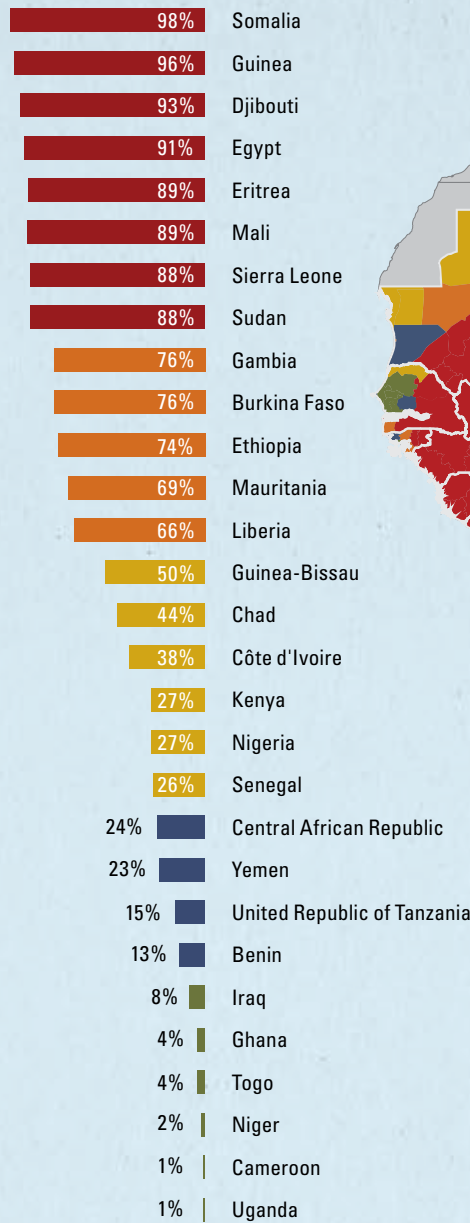


29 countries, more than 125 million girls and women

Number of girls and women who have undergone FGM/C

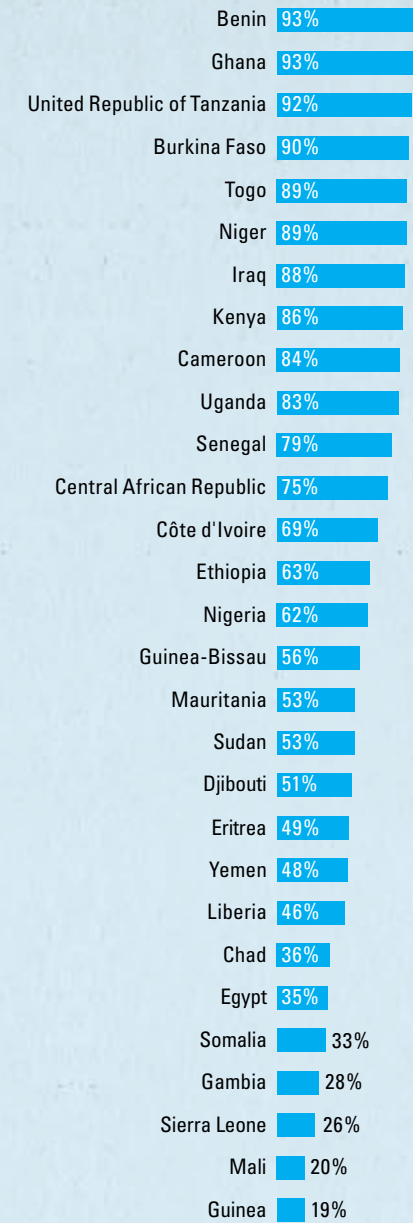


FGM/C is concentrated in a swath of countries from the Atlantic Coast to the Horn of Africa, with wide variations in the percentage of girls and women cut, both within and across countries



This map is stylized and not to scale. It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers. The final boundary between the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

In most countries where FGM/C is practised, the majority of girls and women think it should end



WHEN

In half of the countries, the majority of girls were cut **before age 5**. In the rest of the countries, most cutting occurs between 5 and 14 years of age

HOW

Across a majority of countries, most daughters have had their **genitalia cut, with some flesh removed**

BY WHOM

In nearly all countries where FGM/C is concentrated, **traditional practitioners** perform most of the procedures

WHY

Social acceptance is the most frequently cited reason for supporting the continuation of the practice

<p>SOMALIA 63% of girls who underwent FGM/C had their genitalia sewn closed</p>	<p>GUINEA 19% of girls and women think FGM/C should stop, compared to 42% of boys and men</p>	<p>DJIBOUTI 62% of cut girls underwent the procedure between the ages of 5 and 9</p>	<p>EGYPT 77% of girls who have undergone FGM/C were cut by a medical professional</p>	<p>ERITREA 60% of girls and women regard FGM/C as a religious requirement</p>	<p>MALI 58% of girls who have been cut are daughters of mothers who oppose the practice</p>	<p>SIERRA LEONE 51% of couples do not agree on whether FGM/C should continue or end</p>	<p>SUDAN Girls and women with no education are nearly four times more likely to support the continuation of FGM/C than girls and women with secondary or higher education</p>	<p>GAMBIA 82% of girls and women who have undergone FGM/C think the practice should continue, compared to 5% of girls and women who have not been cut</p>	<p>BURKINA FASO 76% of girls and women have been cut, but only 9% favour the continuation of FGM/C</p>	<p>ETHIOPIA 41% of girls and women with no education support the continuation of FGM/C compared to 5% of girls and women with secondary or higher education</p>	<p>MAURITANIA On average, girls are cut when they are just 1 month old</p>	<p>LIBERIA Girls and women from the poorest households are twice as likely to have experienced FGM/C as those from the richest households</p>	<p>GUINEA-BISSAU 18% of cut girls underwent the procedure after age 15</p>	<p>CHAD 27% of boys and men think FGM/C is required by religion</p>
<p>CÔTE D'IVOIRE 41% of girls and women of Voltaique/Gur background support the continuation of FGM/C, compared to only 3% of Akan girls and women</p>	<p>KENYA 59% of girls and women who have been cut do not see any benefit to the practice</p>	<p>NIGERIA 35% of boys and men and 31% of girls and women report that they do not know what the opposite sex thinks about FGM/C</p>	<p>SENEGAL FGM/C prevalence among Wolof girls and women ranges from a low of 0% in Diourbel to 35% in Matam</p>	<p>CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 52% of cut girls experienced FGM/C between the ages of 10 and 14</p>	<p>YEMEN In 97% of cases, girls underwent the procedure in their homes and 75% of them were cut using a blade or razor</p>	<p>UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA Women aged 45 to 49 are approximately three times more likely to have been cut than girls aged 15 to 19</p>	<p>BENIN 72% of Peulh girls and women have undergone FGM/C, compared to 0% of girls and women of Adja and Fon ethnicity</p>	<p>IRAQ FGM/C is concentrated in the regions of Erbil and Sulaymaniyah</p>	<p>GHANA In the highest prevalence region (Upper West), 60% of women aged 45 to 49 have undergone FGM/C compared to 16% of girls aged 15 to 19</p>	<p>TOGO 21% of Muslim girls and women have undergone FGM/C, compared to 1% of Christian girls and women</p>	<p>NIGER 55% of Christian girls and women have undergone FGM/C, compared to 2% of Muslim girls and women</p>	<p>CAMEROON 85% of boys and men think that FGM/C should not be continued</p>	<p>UGANDA 9% of girls and women support the continuation of FGM/C, even though national prevalence is only 1%</p>	