



Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland)
LEGAL AID BOARD

Algeria - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on Friday 27 October 2023

Information on access to healthcare

A report issued in September 2023 by the *United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights* comments on:

“...improvements in access to housing, education, and health care, which are also necessary for the enjoyment of economic, social, and cultural rights” (United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (26 September 2023) *Preliminary Remarks by Mr. Clément Nyaletsossi Voule, Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association; Visit to Algeria, 16 – 26 September 2023*, p.2).

In August 2023 *Business Monitor Online* states that:

“After gaining independence from France, Algeria developed a universal healthcare system that is free at the point of care. The country has 185 health districts, each tasked to provide healthcare for its citizens. However, the quality of healthcare is generally below internationally accepted standards, plagued by staff shortages and administrative bureaucracy” (Business Monitor Online (30 August 2023) *Algeria Healthcare Key View*).

The *World Bank* in June 2023 states that:

“...the pandemic has highlighted the limitations of the health system. A double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases, as well as limited resources, suggest a need to strengthen it. Although the health system receives substantial public financial support and requires relatively little individual expenditure, and although life expectancy and control of noncommunicable diseases are comparable to peer countries, health outcomes remain below those of middle- and high-income countries, particularly in terms of equity in maternal and child health conditions. The need for physical and human resources and for a better distribution of health coverage are major challenges. Finally, declining public financing and health system capacity pose risks to health system resilience” (World Bank (21 June 2023) *Algeria Economic Update - Winds Remain Favorable*, pp.18-19).

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This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. All COI Query Responses are compiled in line with the Common EU Guidelines (2008) and the EUAA Report Methodology (2023). This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. Please refer to all documents cited.

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