



FOLLOW HER CAMPUS ON  
INSTAGRAM @HERCAMPUS

## Zika Virus Causes Surge in Abortion Pill Demand

By [Elana Golub](#) in [News](#)

Posted Jun 24 2016 - 12:05pm

Tagged

- [Zika Virus](#)
- [Rio 2016](#)
- [abortion](#)
- [abortion pill](#)

Due to Zika virus concerns, pregnant women in Latin American countries have increased their demand for abortion pills, according to a [study](#) conducted by the New England Journal of Medicine.

With the exception of Jamaica, the seven other countries examined in the study experienced surges in demand that range from 35.6 to 108 percent for these pills. The highest demand was seen in Brazil during the [2016 Olympic games](#).

Share this article  
According to the [World Health Organization](#), the Zika virus can cause microcephaly, a condition which leads children to be born with small heads, as well as Guillain-Barré syndrome, a disorder that can cause paralysis and death. As of now, no vaccine exists.

“Latin American countries have some of the most restrictive reproductive health laws and policies in the world, particularly with regard to abortion,” states a [report](#) by the Center of Reproductive Rights. “In part this stems from not recognizing reproductive freedom as a fundamental human right.”

With little access to safe, legal abortions, many women in these countries have turned to [Women on Web \(WoW\)](#), an online non-profit organization that helps women all over the world access abortion pills outside of their home country. WoW served as the source of data for the NEJM’s study.

As reported by [NBC](#), Dr. Thomas Gellhaus, president of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, stated, "The Zika crisis makes it impossible to ignore that women around the world do not have access to this basic health care need."



HER CAMPUS™

WE'RE SERVING UP THE BEST OF THE BEST.  
GET IT DELIVERED STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX!

SIGN UP NOW!

### You Might Also Enjoy

- [Chelsea Handler Talks About Getting Abortions at Age 16](#)

- [Entertainment](#)
- [British Olympian is Freezing His Sperm Before the Rio Olympics](#)
- [News](#)
- [Oklahoma Bill Prohibiting Abortion is Vetoed](#)
- [News](#)
- [14 College Women Get Real About Abortion](#)
- [Sexual Health](#)
- [You've Decided to Get an Abortion: Now What?](#)
- [Sexual Health](#)
- [Donald Trump Says Women Should be Punished for Having Abortions, Then Takes It Back](#)
- [News](#)

## AROUND THE WEB

Anymore

Famous Anymore

Dakota Fanning  
Anymore

## College is hard. We make it easier!

Sign up for our newsletter to get the best of HC delivered to your inbox.

## Comments

0 Comments

Sort by



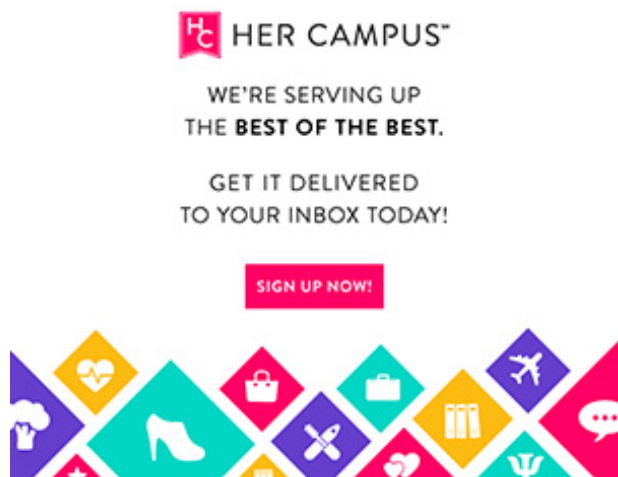
Add a comment...

Facebook Comments Plugin

## About The Author

### [Elana Golub](#)

Elana is a sophomore in the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University, majoring in magazine journalism and economics. She currently works as an editorial intern for Her Campus, as well as a writer for her school's chapter, Her Campus Northwestern. In her free time, Elana is a health educator for Peer Health Exchange and is on a committee for Northwestern University Dance Marathon. She also recently returned from speaking at South by Southwest on a panel about digital media in the classroom. After graduation, she hopes to work for a high-profile lifestyle publication.



## Editor's Note

Do you have a way with words? [Apply to write for Her Campus!](#)

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Snapchat](#)
- [Email](#)

## Most Read on Her Campus

- [14 Things Only Lazy But Also Overachieving Girls Will Understand](#)
  - [Life](#)
- [Paris Hilton Reminds Kanye Who Made Kim Kardashian Famous](#)
  - [Entertainment](#)
- [There's Something Wrong With the Portrayal of This 'Moana' Character](#)
  - [Entertainment](#)

- [Hey Kanye, Art & Exploitation Are Not Synonymous](#)
  - [Entertainment](#)
- [Texas Mother Shot and Killed Her Daughters Before Being Killed by Police](#)
  - [News](#)



WE'RE SERVING UP  
THE **BEST OF THE BEST.**

GET IT DELIVERED  
TO YOUR INBOX TODAY!

**SIGN UP NOW!**



### Featured Partner

[What successful women do \(almost\) every day](#)

[What happens to your body when you give up dairy](#)

[Kate Hudson's guide to a workout for every mood](#)

powered by [PubExchange](#)

## User login

**E-mail \***

**Password \***

- [Create new account](#)
- [Request new password](#)

Log in