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Abortion Pill Requests Spike In Zika Outbreak Countries

June 24, 2016 3:03 PM

Filed Under: [Zika virus](#)



RECIFE, BRAZIL - JANUARY 25: Estafany Perreira holds her nephew David Henrique Ferreira, 5 months, who has microcephaly, on January 25, 2016 in Recife, Brazil. In the last four months, authorities have recorded close to 4,000 cases in Brazil in which the mosquito-borne Zika virus may have led to microcephaly in infants. (Photo by Mario Tama/Getty Images)

NEW YORK (AP) — A new study finds that requests for abortion pills spiked dramatically this year in Brazil, Ecuador and some other Latin American countries that have had outbreaks of Zika virus, which has been shown to cause severe birth defects.



The study, published Wednesday in the New England Journal of Medicine, does not address how many abortions actually occurred in those countries. But it gives an indication that women may be choosing to end pregnancies rather than risk birth defects stemming from Zika, even when abortion is banned.

Access to abortion has been shrinking in Texas and Florida, two U.S. states considered among the most likely to experience a Zika outbreak

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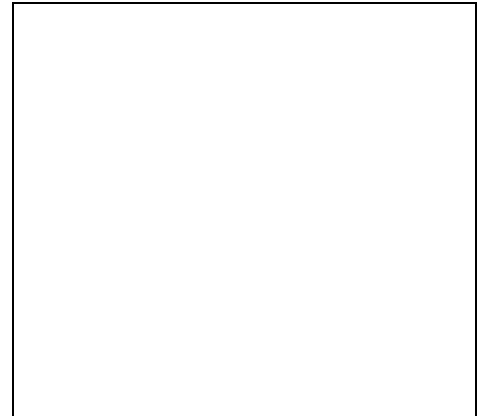
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