



The Associated Press-NORC
Center for Public Affairs Research

The Zika Virus: Americans' Awareness and Opinions of the U.S. Response

Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

Interviews: 3/17-21/2016

1,004 adults

Margin of error: +/- 3.8 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

THE ZIKA VIRUS: AMERICANS' AWARENESS AND OPINIONS OF THE U.S. RESPONSE

Q11. How much have you heard or read about the Zika virus?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
A lot	18
Some	42
Only a little	24
Nothing at all	15
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

1,004

If a lot, some, or only a little in Q11

Q12. How worried are you that...?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016	Extremely/ Very worried NET	Extremely worried	Very worried	Moderately worried	Only a little/not worried at all NET	Only a little worried	Not worried at all	DK/ REF
The U.S. will see a large number of cases of the Zika virus in the next 12 months	16	5	12	36	48	33	14	*
You or someone in your family will be infected by the Zika virus	12	6	6	19	68	33	36	*
You or someone in your family will need to change travel plans to avoid the Zika virus	7	3	5	14	78	17	61	*

N=865

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If a lot, some, or only a little in Q11

Q13. As far as you know, can a person become infected with Zika virus from each of the following, or not?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	Yes	No	Haven't heard enough to say	DK/REF
The bite of a mosquito carrying the virus	90	2	8	*
Having sex with someone who is infected	57	14	29	*
Casual contact, like shaking hands, with someone who is infected	4	68	27	*

N=865

If a lot, some, or only a little in Q11

Q14. To the best of your knowledge, is the Zika virus linked to birth defects in babies born to infected mothers, is it not linked with birth defects, or have you not heard enough to say?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Yes, linked to birth defects	75
No, not linked to birth defects	3
Haven't heard enough to say	22
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

865

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If a lot, some, or only a little in Q11

Q15. To the best of your knowledge, is there...?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016	Yes	No	Haven't heard enough to say	DK/REF
An effective <u>test</u> to determine if an individual is currently infected with the Zika virus, is there not an effective <u>test</u> , or have you not heard enough to say?	40	7	53	*
An effective <u>medicine</u> to treat people who have gotten sick with the Zika virus, is there not an effective <u>medicine</u> to treat people, or have you not heard enough to say?	7	34	59	*
An effective <u>vaccine</u> to prevent people from becoming infected with the Zika virus, is there not an effective <u>vaccine</u> to prevent infections, or have you not heard enough to say?	3	45	52	*

N=865

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If a lot, some, or only a little in Q11

**Q16. From which sources have you gotten information about the Zika virus?
Please select all that apply.**

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Television or radio news	84
Social networking sites such as Twitter, Facebook, blogs, or discussion boards	21
Websites from other health organizations, like WebMD	15
Other	14
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	13
Friends or family members who are not employed in the field of health care	8
Your state or local public health department	7
Friends or family members who are employed in the field of health care	5
Your personal doctor or your child's doctor	3
You have not gotten information about the Zika virus	2
A religious leader from your faith	*
DON'T KNOW/ SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

865

If a lot, some, or only a little in Q11

Q17. In response to reports of the Zika virus, have you or has someone in your household done any of the following or haven't you done this?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	Yes	No	DK/REF
Removed sources of standing water from your yard or household that provide mosquito-breeding sites, such as tires, buckets, toys, or trash containers	36	64	*
Applied insect repellent when spending time outdoors	33	67	1
Closed windows and used air conditioning or put screens in windows to keep mosquitos outside	30	70	1
Worn long-sleeved shirts and long pants to avoid being bitten by mosquitos	22	76	1
Changed past or future travel plans to areas affected by the Zika virus	11	89	1
Avoided people you think may have recently visited areas affected by the Zika virus	10	89	1

N=865

Q18. As you may know, the Zika virus is spread to people primarily through being bitten by an infected mosquito, but can also be spread through human sexual contact with an infected man. Symptoms associated with the illness are generally mild and go away within a week.

However the Zika virus has been linked to a serious birth defect of the brain called microcephaly in babies of mothers infected during pregnancy. Microcephaly is linked with a range of problems, including: seizures, developmental delays, intellectual disabilities, feeding problems, and hearing and vision problems. The condition can be life threatening.

Currently, no vaccine exists to prevent the spread of the Zika virus and much is still unknown about the disease. Locations where the Zika virus is currently being spread by mosquitos include Africa, the Americas, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands.

How confident are you in the federal government's ability to respond effectively to an outbreak of the Zika virus...?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	Not very/not at all confident NET	Not at all confident	Not very confident	Somewhat confident	Extremely/very confident NET	Very confident	Extremely confident	DK/REF
Worldwide	44	12	32	40	13	10	2	3
In the United States	26	7	19	46	27	22	5	1

N=1,004

Q19. To control the spread of the Zika virus, do you support, oppose, or neither support nor oppose the following measures?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	Moderately /strongly support NET	Strongly support	Moderately support	Neither support nor oppose	Moderately /strongly oppose NET	Moderately oppose	Strongly oppose	DK/ REF
Rules and regulations that mandate homeowners and businesses to remove standing water and other mosquito breeding sites from their property	62	33	29	23	14	9	5	1
Introducing genetically modified male mosquitos in areas affected by Zika virus. The mosquitos are modified to produce offspring that cannot survive long enough to breed.	56	28	28	26	16	8	8	2
The application of pesticides and larvicides in public spaces	56	22	34	24	19	12	7	1
Temporarily allowing organic farmers to use pesticides and larvicides to control mosquitos without losing their organic certification	46	19	27	27	25	14	11	1

N=1,004

[ORDER OF Q20A and Q20B RANDOMIZED]

Q20A. Should female athletes representing the United States withdraw from participating in the upcoming summer Olympics in Brazil due to the health risks associated with the Zika virus, or not?

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Yes	25
No	73
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

Q20B. Should male athletes representing the United States withdraw from participating in the upcoming summer Olympics in Brazil due to the health risks associated with the Zika virus, or not?

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Yes	22
No	75
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

Q21. Is anyone in your household pregnant or trying to become pregnant?

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
I am currently pregnant	2
I am currently trying to get pregnant	2
My spouse or partner is currently pregnant	1
My spouse or partner is trying to get pregnant	2
Someone else in my household is pregnant	2
None of the above	91
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Democrat	32
Republican	26
Independent	26
None of these	15
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,004

If Democrat in PID1

PIDA. Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a moderate Democrat?

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Strong Democrat	36
Moderate Democrat	64
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

342

If Republican in PID1

PIDB. Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or a moderate Republican?

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Strong Republican	31
Moderate Republican	69
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	-

N=

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If Independent, None of these, or Don't Know/Skip/Refused in PID1

PIDI. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Lean Democrat	29
Lean Republican	28
Don't lean	43
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>420</i>

PID1/PIDA/PIDB/PIDI. Party Identification

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Democrat NET	44
Strong Democrat	11
Moderate Democrat	21
Lean Democrat	12
Don't lean/Independent/None	18
Republican NET	38
Lean Republican	12
Moderate Republican	18
Strong Republican	8
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

AGE

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
18-24	12
25-34	17
35-44	18
45-54	16
55-64	17
65-74	12
75+	7
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

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GENDER

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Male	48
Female	52
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

RACE/ETHNICITY

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
White, non-Hispanic	65
African American, non-Hispanic	12
Hispanic	16
Other	8
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

MARITAL STATUS

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Married	51
Widowed	5
Divorced	12
Separate	3
Never married	24
Living with partner	5
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Employed	57
Not employed	43
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,004</i>

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EDUCATION

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
No high school diploma	12
High school graduate	30
Some college	26
Bachelor's degree or above	32

N=

1,004

INCOME

	AP-NORC 3/17-21/2016
Under \$10,000	6
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	11
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	15
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	9
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	10
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	17
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	10
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	15
\$150,000 or more	7

N=

1,004

AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research Poll

Study Methodology

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and with funding from NORC at the University of Chicago. Data were collected using AmeriSpeak®, which is a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face).

Interviews for this survey were conducted between March 17 and 21, 2016, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak®, and 1,004 completed the survey—785 via the web and 219 via telephone. The final stage completion rate is 29.2 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 36.9 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 93.9 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 10.1 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 3.8 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any non-coverage or under- and oversampling resulting from the study-specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and household phone status. The weighted data, which reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over, were used for all analyses.

About the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

- The Associated Press (AP) is the world's essential news organization, bringing fast, unbiased news to all media platforms and formats.
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

The founding principles of the AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of AP. All work conducted by the Center conforms to the highest levels of scientific integrity to prevent any real or perceived bias in the research. All of the work of the Center is subject to review by its advisory committee to help ensure it meets these standards. The Center will publicize the results of all studies and make all datasets and study documentation available to scholars and the public.