

Emergency Contraceptive Pill Registration Status by Country

Emergency Contraceptive Pills (ECPs) are an essential component of women's reproductive health. They offer women an important second chance to prevent pregnancy when a regular method fails, no method was used, or sex was forced. Research over the past 30 years has shown that ECPs are safe and effective.

Women's access to ECPs is significantly influenced by the availability of EC products in their setting. A number of dedicated EC products – those that are packaged and labeled specifically for EC use – exist, but women can only access these products if at least one product is registered and/or imported in their country. One or more dedicated EC products should be widely available through a range of outlets (clinics, pharmacies, hospitals, etc.). (In cases in which no dedicated EC product is available, however, off-label use of conventional oral contraceptives for EC (i.e. the Yuzpe regimen) represents an important option.)

The International Consortium for Emergency Contraception has identified the following three registration statuses for ECPs and organized countries accordingly.^{1,2}

- **22 Countries have no ECP brands registered and appear not to import EC**
- **26 Countries have no registered product but currently import EC or have imported EC products previously**
- **146 Countries have at least one ECP brand registered**

22 Countries have no EC pill brands registered and appear not to import EC:

These countries do not have a registered product, and there is no evidence that they have ever imported EC products. The registration status was obtained from the International Consortium for Emergency Contraception's [Status & Availability Database](#) and cross-checked with the [RHInterchange database](#).

Of the 22 countries with no registered product, several of the countries on this list, namely Costa Rica, Honduras, Malta, and the Philippines, have been sites of active opposition to EC. These countries are marked with the * symbol. Others, such as East Timor, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Sudan, and Western Sahara, have recently been or are currently affected by conflict (these countries are marked with +). Eight of the countries on this list have populations of fewer than one million people (marked with #), and of these, five have populations under 500,000. Although these very small countries may not be attractive to commercial distributors of EC, they may be able obtain EC through other means. It appears that the other countries that have no product registered are located in the Middle East (Bahrain, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, and United Arab Emirates).

Bahrain	Malta*	Samoa#
Brunei#	Micronesia#	Somalia+
Cape Verde#	Montenegro#	Sudan+
Costa Rica*	North Korea+	Tuvalu#
East Timor+	Oman	United Arab Emirates
Honduras*	Philippines*	Western Sahara+#
Jordan	Qatar	
Libya+	Saint Kitts & Nevis#	

26 Countries have no registered product but currently import EC or have imported EC products previously:

These countries do not have a registered product but currently import or have previously imported EC, usually for the public sector and with support from donors, UN agencies, or NGOs. These countries may have a licensing arrangement which allows them to import contraceptive supplies on an on-going basis. This information was obtained from the [RHInterchange database](#), which is maintained by the United Nations Population Fund.³

Afghanistan	Guinea-Bissau	Sao Tome & Principe
Angola	Haiti	Seychelles
Bhutan	Iraq	Solomon Islands
Burundi	Kiribati	South Sudan
Comoros	Kosovo	Syria
Equatorial Guinea	Maldives	Tonga
Eritrea	Papa New Guinea	Vanuatu
Fiji	Rwanda	West Bank and Gaza
Gambia	Saint Vincent & Grenadines	

146 Countries have at least one EC pill brand registered:

The registration status was obtained from the International Consortium for Emergency Contraception's [Status & Availability Database](#). Data came from pharmaceutical companies and key informants.

Albania	Burkina Faso	El Salvador
Algeria	Cambodia	Estonia
Andorra	Cameroon	Ethiopia
Antigua	Canada	Finland
Argentina	Central African Republic	France
Armenia	Chad	Gabon
Australia	Chile	Georgia
Austria	China	Germany
Azerbaijan	Colombia	Ghana
Bahamas	Congo-Brazzaville	Greece
Bangladesh	Congo, Democratic Republic	Grenada
Barbados	Croatia	Guatemala
Belarus	Cuba	Guinea-Conakry
Belgium	Cyprus	Guyana
Belize	Czech Republic	Hong Kong
Benin	Denmark	Hungary
Bolivia	Djibouti	Iceland
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Dominica	India
Botswana	Dominican Republic	Indonesia
Brazil	Ecuador	
Bulgaria	Egypt	

Iran	Mongolia	South Africa
Ireland	Morocco	South Korea
Israel	Mozambique	Spain
Italy	Myanmar (Burma)	Sri Lanka
Ivory Coast	Namibia	Suriname
Jamaica	Nepal	Swaziland
Japan	Netherlands	Sweden
Kazakhstan	New Zealand	Switzerland
Kenya	Nicaragua	Taiwan
Kuwait	Niger	Tajikistan
Kyrgyzstan	Nigeria	Tanzania
Laos	Norway	Thailand
Latvia	Pakistan	Togo
Lebanon	Panama	Trinidad & Tobago
Lesotho	Paraguay	Tunisia
Liberia	Peru	Turkey
Liechtenstein	Poland	Turkmenistan
Lithuania	Portugal	Uganda
Luxembourg	Romania	Ukraine
Macedonia	Russian Federation	United Kingdom
Madagascar	Saint Lucia	United States
Malawi	Saudi Arabia	Uruguay
Malaysia	Senegal	Uzbekistan
Mali	Serbia	Venezuela
Mauritania	Sierra Leone	Vietnam
Mauritius	Singapore	Yemen
Mexico	Slovakia	Zambia
Moldova	Slovenia	Zimbabwe
Monaco		

¹ Although we have made every effort to ensure that the above information is accurate, if you notice that something is incorrect, please write us at info@cecinfo.org.

² Please note that certain countries, namely the United States, the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Denmark, and China have overseas territories and dependent areas. Since these territories and areas tend to adopt many, if not all, of the regulations that are implemented in the mainland, we believe that they also have access to EC. We have not listed them separately.

³ In terms of methodology, ICEC downloaded the complete list of all countries that have imported ECPs from January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2015 from the RHInterchange database.