

# Mapping outdoor maternal health hazards and babies born too small

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Environmental exposures on the mother during pregnancy may lead to an adverse birth outcome, such as being born too small. The province of Alberta has higher rates than the Canadian average, contributing to economic and emotional stress. We used a landscape approach in a Geographic Information System to assess which outdoor environmental health hazards – analyzed as individual variables and as a multivariate hazard index – coincide with patterns in small for gestational age (below tenth percentile weight for pregnancy duration) and low birth weight at term (less than 2500 grams) babies.

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