

Hunting Militias at All Cost: Urban Military Operation and Birth Outcomes

WORLD DEVELOPMENT

DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2024.106809>

Publicado:

Jueves, 2 Enero 2025

Authors:

Darwin Cortés^e,

Catalina Gómez^e,

[Christian Manuel Posso-Suárez^a](#),

Gabriel Suárez^e

Ver más

^eExterno

^aBanco de la República, Colombia

Clasificación JEL:

D74, I12, J13

[Descargar documento](#)

Lo más reciente

[Documentos de Trabajo Sobre Economía Regional y Urbana - Impacto de los cierres en la vía al llano sobre los precios de los alimentos en Colombia](#)

Jhorland Ayala-García, Yesica Tatiana Lara-Silva, Alejandro Alberto Vargas-Villamil, Lina Romero-Chaparro

[Impacto macroeconómico y fiscal del cambio demográfico](#)

Jesús Alonso Botero-García, Ligia Alba Melo-Becerra, Cristian Castrillón Gaviria, Daniela Gallo

[Uncertainty and monetary policy: the case of the Central Bank of Colombia](#)

Hernando Vargas-Herrera

[Otras Publicaciones](#)

This study investigates the impact of Operation Orion on newborn health outcomes. While previous research has examined the adverse effects of conflict on child health, the specific consequences of state military operations on newborns, especially in urban settings, remain underexplored. Using a Difference-in-Differences design and administrative data from the Colombian Vital Statistics Reports, we assess the effects of Operation Orion on birth weight, height, prematurity, the likelihood of a high APGAR score, Small for Gestational Age (SGA), and prenatal visits. Our analysis shows a significant reduction in birth weight among infants born in intervention-affected neighborhoods, with the effects most pronounced among infants of married and less educated mothers. We also find a decrease in birth height and a lower probability of an APGAR score above 7, which is indicative of good health at birth. No significant effects are observed for the other outcomes. We discuss maternal stress as the primary mechanism underlying these findings. Our results contribute to a deeper

Hunting Militias at All Cost: Urban Military Operation and Birth Outcomes - Portal de Investigaciones Económicas
understanding of the complex impacts of state military operations and highlight the need to consider contextual factors when evaluating their effects on local communities.
