Shift in birth timing tied to decline in birth weights
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Overall, births occurring at earlier gestational ages from obstetric interventions replaced nearly 18 percent of births from not-induced labor and vaginal delivery at later gestational ages.

"Findings strongly indicate that recent declines in U.S. birth weight were due to increases in induced labor and cesarean delivery at select gestational ages," the authors write.

More information: Abstract/Full Text (subscription may be required)

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