

# Preterm babies are less likely to form romantic relationships in adulthood

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Adults who were born pre-term (under 37 weeks gestation) are less likely to have a romantic relationship, a sexual partner and experience parenthood than those born full term. The meta-analysis by researchers

at the University of Warwick with data from up to 4.4 million adult participants showed that those born preterm are 28% less likely to ever be in a romantic relationship.

A meta-analysis conducted by researchers from the Department of Psychology at the University of Warwick has published 'Association of Preterm Birth/Low Birth Weight with Romantic Partnership, Sexual Intercourse and Parenthood in Adulthood: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis' in *JAMA Network Open* today, 12th of July. They have found that [adults](#) who were born pre-term are less likely to form [romantic relationships](#) than full-term peers.

In the analysis 4.4 million adult participants those born preterm were 28% less likely to form romantic relationships and 22% less likely to become parents, when compared to those born full term.

Those studies that looked at [sexual relations](#) of pre-term children found that they were 2.3 times less likely to ever have a [sexual partner](#) when compared to full terms.

Those adults who were born very (

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