

1 **Street-View Greenspace Exposure and Objective Sleep Characteristics among Children**

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5 program collaborators for Environmental influences on Child Health
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35 **Word Count:** 4,250

36

37 **ABSTRACT**

38 Greenspace may benefit sleep by enhancing physical activity, reducing stress or air pollution
39 exposure. Studies on greenspace and children’s sleep are limited, and most use satellite-derived
40 measures that do not capture ground-level exposures that may be important for sleep. We
41 examined associations of street view imagery (SVI)-based greenspace with sleep in Project Viva,
42 a Massachusetts pre-birth cohort.

43 We used deep learning algorithms to derive novel metrics of greenspace (e.g., %trees, %grass)
44 from SVI within 250m of participant residential addresses during 2007-2010 (mid-childhood,
45 mean age 7.9 years) and 2012-2016 (early adolescence, 13.2y) (N=533). In early adolescence,
46 participants completed >5 days of wrist actigraphy. Sleep duration, efficiency, and time awake
47 after sleep onset (WASO) were derived from actigraph data. We used linear regression to
48 examine cross-sectional and prospective associations of mid-childhood and early adolescence
49 greenspace exposure with early adolescence sleep, adjusting for confounders. We compared
50 associations with satellite-based greenspace (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index, NDVI).
51 In unadjusted models, mid-childhood SVI-based total greenspace and %trees (per interquartile
52 range) were associated with longer sleep duration at early adolescence (9.4 min/day;
53 95%CI:3.2,15.7; 8.1; 95%CI:1.7,14.6 respectively). However, in fully adjusted models, only the
54 association between %grass at mid-childhood and WASO was observed (4.1; 95%CI:0.2,7.9).
55 No associations were observed between greenspace and sleep efficiency, nor in cross-sectional
56 early adolescence models. The association between greenspace and sleep differed by racial and
57 socioeconomic subgroups. For example, among Black participants, higher NDVI was associated
58 with better sleep, in neighborhoods with low socio-economic status (SES), higher %grass was

59 associated with worse sleep, and in neighborhoods with high SES, higher total greenspace and
60 %grass were associated with better sleep time.

61 SVI metrics may have the potential to identify specific features of greenspace that affect sleep.

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63 Abstract word count: 282/300

64

65 **Keywords:** sleep; greenspace; children's health; deep learning algorithms; longitudinal data;
66 environmental epidemiology

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69

70 INTRODUCTION

71 Healthy sleep is vital for optimal health in children and adolescents, and it entails
72 adequate duration, good quality, regularity, and the absence of sleep disorders.¹ Greater sleep
73 quality and quantity have been found to be positively associated with cognition,² academic
74 performance,³ and mental health and behavioral outcomes in children and youth.⁴ Nevertheless,
75 insufficient sleep is prevalent among children. A recent study showed that only 5% of United
76 States (U.S.) high school students (3% of girls; 7% of boys) spend the optimal time sleeping.⁵

77 Greenspace may positively influence sleep through improved health behaviors, such as
78 physical activity and social engagement,⁶⁻⁸ or through mental health benefits, such as stress
79 reduction, possibly via attention restoration.^{6,9} Greenspace can also benefit sleep through
80 reducing exposure to air pollution, noise, and extreme temperatures.⁶ The literature is fairly
81 consistent about the beneficial contribution of greenspace to sleep quality and quantity among
82 adults.¹⁰ However, the association of greenspace and sleep in children and adolescents is less
83 clear. The few studies that have assessed greenspace and sleep in children were cross-sectional,
84 used subjective metrics of access to greenspace,¹¹ and were inconclusive.¹²

85 Most studies examining the association between greenspace and health have quantified
86 exposure to greenspace using a satellite-based measure, i.e., the normalized difference vegetation
87 index (NDVI), in the area around a residential address.¹³ NDVI ranges from -1 to 1, with more
88 positive values representing higher quantities of vegetation. While NDVI is well-established and
89 standardized across studies, it cannot distinguish between trees, grass, crops, or other types of
90 vegetation. The latter is fundamental for causal inference and policy relevance. In addition, the
91 most direct connection between individuals and their environment is best represented by ground-
92 based measures that capture what a person can actually view from the ground, but few studies

93 have been able to incorporate exposure information from this perspective. This is especially
94 important for sleep-related pathways, which may be related to visual greenspace. Novel methods,
95 such as deep learning algorithms combined with street view imagery (SVI), may provide rapid
96 advances in exposure assessment and new insights into the health impacts of greenspace on
97 sleep.¹⁴

98 To overcome limitations of greenspace exposure assessment, we used deep learning
99 algorithms applied to SVI to classify detailed types of vegetation from a ground-based view as
100 participants experience them, in association with objective actigraphy-estimated sleep
101 characteristics in adolescents. The aim of this study was to analyze cross-sectional and
102 prospective associations between SVI greenspace exposure and sleep among children and
103 adolescents, and to evaluate whether differently operationalized greenspace metrics (i.e., street
104 view vs. satellite-based) led to diverging results.

105

106 **METHODS**

107 **Data**

108 We used data from Project Viva, a pre-birth cohort based in Eastern Massachusetts
109 participating in the Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes consortium. Project
110 Viva recruited pregnant women from Atrius Harvard Medical Associates between 1999–2002
111 and has been following mother-child pairs since pregnancy. Of 2,128 children, 1,038 participated
112 in the adolescent in-person visit (mean [SD] age was 13.2 [0.9] years; range: 11.9–16.6 years)
113 and were eligible for the sleep examination. Of these participants, 829 provided valid actigraphy
114 measurements and 533 had complete data on SVI-based metrics. All mothers provided written

115 informed consent at each visit, and children began providing verbal consent at mid-childhood.
116 The Institutional Review Board of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care approved this study.

117

118 **Exposure**

119 Georeferenced SVI captured from 2007-2018 by Google were used to develop novel
120 measures of the natural environment representing an on-the-ground perspective. We created a
121 250 m grid for the entire Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For each grid point in each year, we
122 used the Google application programming interface (API) to obtain the location of the nearest
123 images. For each location nearest a grid point, we then used four images representing North,
124 South, East, and West orientations within view. We then applied the pyramid scene parsing
125 network (PSPNet)¹⁵ deep learning model, pre-trained on the ADE20K dataset^{16,17}, to derive
126 computer vision-based measures of greenspace from SVI. The ADE20K dataset has densely
127 annotated images covering a diverse set of scenes, object, and object part categories.¹⁷ Driven by
128 powerful deep neural networks,¹⁸⁻²⁰ PSPNet incorporates local and global contextual cues
129 together to derive pixel-level segmentation of each image with an overall accuracy higher than
130 93% on pixel-level prediction tasks.²¹ Each pixel within each image (640 x 640 resolution) was
131 classified into one of 150 pre-defined classes from ADE20K,²² including natural features, such
132 as trees, shrubs, grass, plants, and flowers. For each image, the algorithm estimates the
133 percentages of each output class (e.g., 50% trees in an image). We then averaged across the four
134 orientations to estimate the percentages of each class within a 360° view for a given location.
135 Using the percentages at each location, we created a raster file for each SVI year with a 250 m
136 spatial resolution, which was linked to geocoded participant addresses (latitude and longitude
137 were assigned) for the corresponding year. For example, mid-childhood visits took place from

138 2007-2010; therefore, we linked SVI-based exposure from 2007-2010. If no SVI data were
139 available for a particular year, we carried forward SVI data from the year prior and up to 2 years
140 before if needed. The key exposure metrics that we examined included: % total greenspace (%
141 trees, % grass, % flowers, and % plants combined), % trees, and % grass; all exposure metrics
142 were treated as continuous variables. We used interquartile ranges (IQR) for the main analyses.

143 We also estimated satellite NDVI for study participants to compare the results with our
144 new SVI measures. NDVI is a satellite-derived indicator of the quantity of vegetation on the
145 ground that has been used as a marker for exposure to greenspace in numerous previous
146 epidemiological studies^{13,23,24} and in this cohort.²⁵ Briefly, we used Landsat satellite data at 30 m
147 resolution for each participant's geocoded address. We used the estimate for July of the specific
148 year of follow-up (mid-childhood and early adolescence) averaged across a 90 m buffer around
149 each address to evaluate the immediate area around residences.

150

151 **Outcome**

152 Nighttime sleep at early adolescence was assessed from actigraphy data analyzed using
153 ActiLife-6 software (ActiGraph, Inc, Pensacola, FL). Participants were asked to wear an
154 actigraph, which collected activity data in 60-second epochs, on their nondominant wrist for 7-10
155 consecutive days and nights and complete daily sleep logs. The primary sleep period was based
156 on logs and observation of a sharp decrease in activity with a subsequent increase.²⁶ Data from
157 participants with ≥ 5 days of recordings with ≥ 10 hours of wear-time were included. More details
158 in the algorithm on the classification of sleep and wake periods has been published elsewhere.²⁷
159 The following sleep metrics were averaged over all nights of valid recording: (1) duration (sleep
160 time in minutes), (2) maintenance efficiency (percentage of time between sleep onset and final

161 awakening spent asleep), and (3) wake after sleep onset (WASO) (time awake after sleep onset
162 in minutes). All sleep metrics were treated as continuous variables.

163

164 **Covariates**

165 At baseline, mothers reported their education level ($\% \geq$ college graduate), spouse's
166 education level ($\% \geq$ college graduate), and household income ($\% >$ \$70,000/year). Information
167 on child's sex (female or male) was obtained from the delivery interview, and mothers reported
168 their child's race/ethnicity (White, African American, Asian American, Hispanic, or Other) at the
169 early childhood (3-year) visit. Child's age was based on the early adolescent visit (continuous
170 age in years). Neighborhood socioeconomic status (NSES) was assessed by census tract median
171 annual household income at the mid-childhood visit based on 2000 U.S. Census data [census
172 tract median household income at enrollment (continuous)] and urbanicity [based on population
173 density at the census tract level].

174

175 **Statistical Analyses**

176 We used linear regression to quantify the association between greenspace metrics and
177 sleep among adolescents in Project Viva. To evaluate whether differently operationalized
178 greenspace metrics (i.e., street view vs. satellite-based) led to diverging results, we estimated
179 models separately for SVI metrics and NDVI. As previously noted, actigraphy-based sleep
180 metrics were assessed only at early adolescence, and green space exposure was measured at mid-
181 childhood and early adolescence. We examined prospective associations of greenspace at mid-
182 childhood with sleep at early adolescence and cross-sectional associations of greenspace at early
183 adolescence with sleep at early adolescence (Figure S1). To assess the shape of exposure-

184 outcome associations, we fit generalized additive models for continuous exposures. Penalized
185 splines did not suggest deviations from linearity (p value > 0.1) for associations with all sleep
186 metrics; therefore, we present the results from linear models. Additionally, we performed a
187 sensitivity analysis using a log transformation to account for non-normality of the distribution of
188 the sleep metrics. Results using log-transformed sleep metrics yielded similar results, thus we
189 kept the un-modified metrics to facilitate interpretation. We present unadjusted models and
190 models adjusted for potential confounders based on prior evidence²⁸ and directed acyclic
191 graphs.²⁹ Model 0 is unadjusted; Model 1 is adjusted for child's age, sex, and race/ethnicity; and
192 Model 2 is further adjusted for maternal and paternal education, marital status, household
193 income, census tract level household income, and urbanicity. In addition, we assessed the effect
194 measure modification of associations of greenspace with sleep by child's sex, race/ethnicity
195 (White/Black/Other), NSES (tertiles), and neighborhood population density (tertiles) using
196 stratified analyses. Race/ethnicity was included in the models to capture the effects of perceived
197 race, along with other aspects, such as quality of schools, which are correlated with parental skin
198 color, cultural context, and racism.³⁰ We used likelihood ratio tests to evaluate statistically
199 significant effect modification. Lastly, we used multiple imputation to impute missing covariate
200 values. We used SAS 9.4 with 50 imputations and 2,128 participants. Following guidelines,³¹ the
201 imputation model included all model variables, plus main predictors of missingness (parity,
202 maternal pre-pregnancy BMI, maternal age at enrollment, birthweight [z-value], gestational age,
203 parental smoking, pregnancy smoking status, child's asthma, cognitive function, executive
204 function and behavior, BMI, among others). Regression analyses were run across 50 imputed
205 datasets, and the pooled estimates were reported. Imputed results were broadly similar to those

206 obtained using observed values; the former are presented. Statistical analyses were performed in
207 R version 3.4.0 (R Core Team, Vienna, Austria)³².

208

209 **RESULTS**

210 From the 829 participants with valid actigraphy measurements, 533 participants had
211 complete data on SVI-based metrics of greenspace at early adolescence and 328 had complete
212 data for SVI-based metrics of greenspace at both the early adolescence and mid-childhood in-
213 person visits. On average, participants' age at the early adolescence visit was 12.9 (0.7) years,
214 and 59% of the sample were White; this percentage increased among the higher quartiles of
215 greenspace (Table 1). About half of mothers and fathers in the lowest quartile of greenspace
216 reported having a college education (54.9% and 52.1% respectively) compared with 87.7% and
217 70.0% in the highest quartile of greenspace, respectively. Household income also varied across
218 greenspace quartiles from 57.9% reporting a household income larger than \$70,000 in the lowest
219 quartile to 88.3% in the highest quartile. We observed similar gradients by greenspace for census
220 tract median household income (Table 1). All sleep metrics were slightly better in the top
221 quartile of greenspace compared with the lowest quartile, e.g., sleep duration was 452 (39)
222 minutes in the top quartile compared with 434 (41) minutes in the lowest quartile.

223 The median percentage of total greenspace within view based on SVI metrics was 28%
224 (IQR 25%) for mid-childhood and 34% (24%) for early adolescence. The median percentage of
225 trees within view was 22% (23%) for mid-childhood and 25% (19%) for early adolescence while
226 the median percentage of grass was 1% (5%) and 4% (7%), respectively. The median NDVI was
227 0.5 (0.2) for mid-childhood and 0.6 (0.2) for early adolescence. The correlation between SVI-
228 based metrics of greenspace and NDVI varied by type of vegetation. For example, the correlation

229 between NDVI and the percentage of total greenspace was 0.6, whereas it was 0.53 for the
230 percentage of trees and only 0.01 for the percentage of plants (Figure S2). The correlations
231 between the percentage of total greenspace and sleep were similar to the correlations between
232 NDVI and sleep (e.g., 0.15 vs 0.13 for average sleep time).

233 Table 2 shows the estimates for SVI-based exposure measured at mid-childhood in
234 association with sleep duration (sleep time in minutes), efficiency (percentage), and time awake
235 after sleep onset (WASO; in minutes) measured prospectively in early adolescence. Unadjusted
236 analyses showed a consistent, but small, positive relationship between SVI-based and satellite-
237 based greenspace and average daily sleep duration. For example, in unadjusted models, we saw
238 that a one IQR increase in SVI-based greenspace was associated with 9.4 (95% CI: 3.2, 15.6)
239 more minutes of sleep per night. This association seemed to be driven by the percentage of trees
240 (8.1; 95% CI: 1.7,14.6). We also observed a positive, albeit slightly smaller, unadjusted
241 association between NDVI and sleep duration (5.1; 95% CI: -0.4,10.6). However, these
242 associations were attenuated and no longer statistically significant after adjusting for age, sex,
243 and race/ethnicity, with the latter having a bigger impact on the estimate for greenspace. In the
244 fully adjusted model for daily sleep duration, all the CIs included the null (e.g., % total
245 greenspace 3.5, 95% CI: -3.8, 10.7; NDVI -0.1, 95% CI: -6.5, 6.5; Table 2). We observed a
246 positive association between the percentage of grass and WASO, where one IQR increase in
247 SVI-based grass was associated with 4.1 (95% CI: 0.3, 7.9) more minutes of WASO in fully
248 adjusted models. High levels of WASO indicate sleep fragmentation and may result in non-
249 restorative sleep.³³ This association was observed only after adjusting for confounders. We did
250 not observe evidence of associations between SVI-based or satellite-based greenspace metrics

251 and sleep efficiency (Table 2). In sensitivity analyses we further adjusted for clustering by
252 Census tract and our results remained consistent.

253 Table 3 shows the estimates for the cross-sectional association between SVI-based
254 exposure and sleep metrics in early adolescence. In unadjusted models, analyses showed a
255 consistent beneficial relationship between SVI-based and satellite-based greenspace and all sleep
256 metrics. We also saw evidence that the positive associations were driven by the presence of trees.
257 However, in adjusted models, associations were generally attenuated and all CIs included the
258 null.

259

260 **Stratified Analyses**

261 We observed no differences in the association between greenspace and sleep metrics in
262 Project Viva when we stratified the analyses by child's sex and urbanicity level, as CIs included
263 the null for all strata (Figures S3-S4). In models stratified by NSES, we observed that in
264 neighborhoods with a high SES, one IQR increase in total percentage of greenspace (17.8, 95%
265 CI: 5.0, 30.7) and percentage of grass (8.3, 95% CI: 1.4, 15.3) were associated with more
266 minutes of sleep per night (Figure 1). We also observed that in neighborhoods with a low SES,
267 one IQR increase in the percentage of grass was associated with less sleep efficiency (-1.6, 95%
268 CI: -3.0, -0.2) and more sleep fragmentation, as measured by WASO (10.5, 95% CI: 2.0, 19.0)
269 (Figure 1). All other findings were null. In models stratified by race/ethnicity, we observed that
270 among Black participants, one IQR increase in NDVI was associated with more sleep efficiency
271 (2.6, 95% CI: 0.6, 4.6) and less sleep fragmentation (fewer minutes of WASO; -14.8, 95% CI: -
272 25.9, -3.6) (Figure 2). Estimates for other race/ethnicity categories were null across greenspace
273 metrics (Figure 2).

274

275 **DISCUSSION**

276 In a prospective cohort in Massachusetts, novel metrics of greenspace exposure based on
277 SVI at mid-childhood were not associated with objectively measured sleep duration or efficiency
278 in early adolescence, but we did observe an association between percentage of grass at mid-
279 childhood and more sleep fragmentation in early adolescence, as measured by WASO. We also
280 examined cross-sectional associations of greenspace at early adolescence with sleep at early
281 adolescence, and all CIs consistently crossed the null. The association between greenspace and
282 sleep did not differ by sex or urbanicity level, but we did observe differences by race/ethnicity
283 and NSES. Specifically, we observed that among Black participants, higher NDVI was
284 associated with better sleep, and in neighborhoods with a high SES, a higher total percentage of
285 greenspace and grass were associated with better sleep time. In contrast, in neighborhoods with a
286 low SES, a higher percentage of grass was associated with worse sleep.

287 SVI combined with deep learning provided a unique approach to estimate specific natural
288 features from a ground-level perspective. Our results on sleep duration and efficiency were
289 consistent with nationally representative studies of Australian (N=2,814) and German (N=4,172)
290 adolescents, which found no significant associations between residential greenspace and
291 insufficient sleep or poor sleep quality.²⁸ The observed unadjusted association between
292 percentage of trees and sleep duration is in accordance with a study that found that an increased
293 percentage of tree canopy in a census block group was associated with lower odds of short
294 weekday sleep (<6 hours) (OR 0.76 [0.58-0.98]; N=2,712).⁶ Another study of adolescents found
295 that 1-SD increase in neighborhood tree canopy was associated with more favorable sleep timing
296 (e.g., an 18-minute earlier sleep onset ($\beta = -0.31$, 95% CI: -0.49, -0.13)).³⁴ Further, the analysis by

297 type of vegetation also suggested that the association between greenspace and increased WASO,
298 or more non-restorative sleep, was driven by percentage of grass. The pathways through which
299 specific natural features may influence sleep are complex. Particularly, percentage of grass could
300 positively influence sleep through higher opportunities for physical activity, but it could also
301 negatively influence sleep through limited attenuation of urban heat island effects³⁵ or crime in
302 cities,³⁶ as compared to the attenuation provided by trees. A recent systematic review of
303 neighborhood environments and sleep among children reported that living in a neighborhood
304 with high crime was associated with poorer sleep outcomes.³⁷ This result is in contrast to a study
305 that evaluated adults older than 45 years of age and reported no statistically significant
306 associations between insufficient sleep and open grass or other low-lying vegetation or total
307 greenspace (N=38,982).³⁸ That study and those by Feng et al. (2020) and Johnson et al. (2018)
308 did not adjust for NSES.

309 Stratified analysis by sex and urbanicity level did not support the hypothesis that the
310 association between greenspace and sleep differed by these factors. These results are similar to
311 those found in a study of neighborhood determinants of sleep problems in U.S. children and
312 adolescents, where the authors examined interaction models of built-environment characteristics
313 (e.g., parks/playgrounds), household SES, and sex, but none were statistically significant.¹¹
314 However, we found evidence that the association between greenspace and sleep differed by
315 race/ethnicity and NSES. Consistent with the findings of Grigsby-Toussaint et al. (2015),³⁹ we
316 found that the satellite-based measures of greenspace (NDVI) were associated with better sleep
317 among Black participants. Research has shown that racial minorities experience a greater burden
318 of environmental features, such as higher exposure to air pollution, neighborhood disorder, lower
319 social cohesion, more crime, and less proximity to green space.⁴⁰ Racial/ethnic minorities also

320 have a high prevalence of insufficient sleep, poorer sleep quality and unrecognized sleep
321 disorders.⁴¹ Evidence indicates that the neighborhood environment is an important determinant
322 of insufficient sleep for racial/ethnic minorities.^{42,43} Our results are in accordance to a study on
323 the neighborhood social environment and objective measures of sleep that found an association
324 among African Americans, but not among other racial/ethnic groups.⁴³ If the hypothesis that
325 unhealthy sleep patterns among minorities contribute to racial/ethnic health disparities holds,⁴⁴
326 then ameliorating environmental features, particularly green space exposure, across racial/ethnic
327 groups can potentially improve overall population health.

328 We observed an association between percentage of grass and less efficient sleep (higher
329 WASO and lower sleep efficiency) among participants living in neighborhoods of low SES. In
330 addition, among participants living in neighborhoods with a high SES, we observed that the total
331 percentage of greenspace and grass was associated with better sleep (more minutes of sleep per
332 night). These findings are in contrast to the “equigenesis” hypothesis of greenspace, which states
333 that greenspaces may mitigate health inequalities by providing health benefits for
334 socioeconomically disadvantaged groups who usually have lower access to health-promoting
335 resources.⁸ The observed association between percentage of grass and insufficient sleep in
336 neighborhoods of low SES may also be related to the differing health effects depending on
337 vegetation types discussed previously. A recent systematic review on green space quality and
338 health found that health benefits were more consistently observed in areas with greater tree
339 canopy, but not grassland.⁴⁵ A reason may be that due to their foliage, trees have the capacity to
340 intercept airborne pollutants and buffer against traffic noise, whereas grass might not convey the
341 same range and levels of benefit.⁴⁵ In a longitudinal cohort study of adolescents, results showed
342 that higher neighborhood noise was associated with lower odds of sufficient sleep, measured

343 using actigraphy.³⁴ On the other hand, a systematic review on green space and healthy equity
344 reported that parks in low-SES neighborhoods tend to be of lower quality (e.g., lower
345 maintenance) and have higher crime rates than parks in more privileged communities.⁴⁶ The
346 authors discuss that research has shown associations between low park quality and low health
347 status in North American contexts perhaps due to the fact that when parks are of low quality or
348 unsafe, people may choose to engage in less physical activity in them. Other studies have shown
349 that large areas of open grass may reduce walkability if it is fenced-off, as can be the case for
350 private green spaces or golf courses;⁴⁷ and that large areas of open grass where strangers may be
351 less easily identified by members of the community may create opportunities for crime.⁴⁸ A
352 study of sleep efficiency using actigraphy data found that living in economically and socially
353 disadvantaged neighborhoods predicts risk for shorter and lower quality sleep in children.⁴⁹

354 The strengths of this study include longitudinal data, use of objective detailed greenspace
355 metrics representing the ground level and objective individual-level sleep measures, and the
356 inclusion of many covariates to control for confounding. Self-reports of sleep duration,
357 sleepiness, or trouble sleeping, while convenient and less time consuming to collect, may not be
358 particularly accurate.⁵⁰ In this study, we used wrist activity monitoring (actigraphy) to measure
359 three sleep parameters: sleep duration, efficiency and WASO. Unlike the gold standard of
360 polysomnography, the advantage of actigraphy is that it is unlikely to actually affect bedtime,
361 sleep latency, and duration.⁵⁰ This study represents an advancement in greenspace assessment
362 compared with previous studies, which were often restricted to satellite-based data. Our
363 approach, based on individualized addresses as opposed to administrative units in which
364 participants live, expanded on advances in computer vision and deep learning and resulted in
365 more accurate exposure metrics that correspond well to participants' ground-level perspective.

366 To our knowledge, this is the first study to examine specific types of greenspace in association
367 with objective metrics of sleep among children and adolescents. To date, only a handful of
368 studies have examined greenspace and sleep, and to our knowledge, even fewer have explored
369 this association in children. Health behaviors during childhood are a strong predictor of health in
370 adulthood and thus more work in this area is needed.

371 The limitations of this study should be noted. First, the limited sample size could be a
372 potential reason for relatively wide CIs. However, we were still able to observe some
373 associations between SVI and NDVI metrics with sleep, which suggests that future research
374 should explore these relationships in other datasets. Second, the strong association between SVI-
375 based greenspace and SES measures suggested potential confounding, and although we adjusted
376 for individual- and neighborhood-level measures of SES, residual confounding is likely. Third,
377 we examined features of greenspace in isolation, but research has shown that there is likely a
378 combination of multiple environmental exposures that may exert a positive/negative impact on
379 health.^{14,51} Fourth, while use of SVI and deep learning algorithms to create novel metrics of
380 greenspace features is an advancement in this area of research, images themselves have
381 limitations as they exclude behavioral aspects of exposure, including time spent indoors or actual
382 use of the greenspace.¹⁴ Images are also a snapshot of a location at a given time and may not
383 provide an accurate representation of seasonal variability. We also used images within 250 m of
384 a participant's address, but these images may not be representative of where a participant spends
385 time, which would contribute to exposure measurement error. Furthermore, studies have
386 suggested that infancy is a sensitive period of exposure to greenspace that may have
387 repercussions on health later in life.⁵² Thus, it may be possible that exposure to greenspace
388 earlier in life, before mid-childhood, has a stronger association with sleep in early adolescence.

389 Since Google SVI started in 2007, and the Project Viva children were born from 1999-2002, we
390 were not able to test exposure to SVI-based greenspace at earlier periods of life. In addition, we
391 do not have information on school exposure to greenspace in childhood or adolescence, a
392 possible source of measurement error. Finally, a recent analysis of sleep characteristics in Project
393 Viva participants reported that only 2.2% of adolescents met the lower bound of the National
394 Sleep Foundation’s recommended sleep duration and a majority (58.4%) were classified as
395 having low sleep efficiency.²⁷ Because insufficient sleep is prevalent among participants in
396 Project Viva, the beneficial impact of greenspace on sleep may have been harder to detect.

397

398 **CONCLUSION**

399 Our study was among the first to integrate deep learning methods into greenspace
400 exposure assessment in association with objectively measured sleep among children and
401 adolescents. The results suggested that greenspace overall and specific features of greenspace
402 (e.g., trees, grass) were not associated with sleep among adolescents in Project Viva. When
403 stratified by NSES and race/ethnicity, we observed beneficial associations for Black participants
404 and neighborhoods with a high SES but unfavorable associations for neighborhoods with a low
405 SES. Future studies should examine whether these results can be replicated in other populations
406 and whether investment in trees in urban areas is cost-effective.

407

408 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

409 The authors wish to thank our ECHO colleagues, the medical, nursing and program staff, as well
410 as the children and families participating in the ECHO cohorts. We also acknowledge the
411 contribution of the following ECHO program collaborators: **ECHO Components**—
412 Coordinating Center: Duke Clinical Research Institute, Durham, North Carolina: Smith PB,
413 Newby KL.

414

415 **Funding**

416 Research reported in this publication was supported by the Environmental influences on Child
417 Health Outcomes (ECHO) Program, Office of The Director, National Institutes of Health (NIH),
418 under Award Numbers U2COD023375 (Coordinating Center), U24OD023382 (Data Analysis
419 Center), U24OD023319 (PRO Core), UH3OD023286 (PIs: Oken, Kleinman). Additional
420 funding came from the NIH: R01HD034568 (NICHD, PI: Oken), 5U2COD023375-05,
421 5K99AG066949-02 (NIA, PI: Marcia P Jimenez), R00CA201542 (NCI, PI: Peter James), and
422 R01HL150119 (NHLBI, PI: Peter James).

423

424 **Disclaimer**

425 The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the
426 official views of the National Institutes of Health.

427

428 **Disclosure Statement**

429 The authors declare that there are no financial arrangements or connections that are pertinent to
430 the submitted manuscript and that there are no financial interests that could be relevant to the
431 submitted manuscript.

432

433 **Data Availability Statement**

434 The datasets for this manuscript are not publicly available because, per the NIH-approved ECHO
435 Data Sharing Policy, ECHO-wide data have not yet been made available to the public for
436 review/analysis. Requests to access the datasets should be directed to the ECHO Data Analysis
437 Center, ECHO-DAC@rti.org.

438

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- 589

FIGURE CAPTIONS

Figure 1. Effect modification by neighborhood socioeconomic status (NSES) of the association between SVI-based metrics of greenspace and sleep in Project Viva (N=328)

Figure 2. Effect modification by race/ethnicity of the association between SVI-based metrics of greenspace and sleep in Project Viva (N=328)

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Figure S1. Cross-sectional and prospective associations examined in this study

Figure S2. Pearson correlation coefficients between SVI-based metrics of greenspace (measured in early adolescence), NDVI (90 m buffer, measured in early adolescence) and sleep outcomes (also in early adolescence) (N=530)

Figure S3. Effect modification by sex of the association between SVI-based metrics of greenspace in mid-childhood and sleep in early adolescence in Project Viva (N=328)

Figure S4. Effect modification by urbanicity level of the association between SVI-based metrics of greenspace in mid-childhood and sleep in early adolescence in Project Viva (N=328)

Table 1. Project Viva study participant characteristics by quartiles of Google street view imagery-based total greenspace in mid-childhood^a

	Quartile 1 0.0-0.15 N=82	Quartile 2 0.16-0.28 N=82	Quartile 3 0.28-0.41 N=83	Quartile 4 0.41-0.77 N=81	Overall N=328
Child's age at early adolescence, mean (SD)	13.0 (0.8)	12.9 (0.7)	13.0 (0.6)	12.8 (0.6)	12.9 (0.7)
Child's race/ethnicity %					
White	45.1	48.8	61.4	80.2	58.8
Black	34.1	26.8	14.5	6.2	20.4
Other	20.7	24.4	24.1	13.6	20.7
Child's sex % female	48.8	45.1	49.4	59.3	50.6
Mother's education % college	54.9	64.2	63.9	87.7	67.6
Father's education % college	52.1	55.1	71.6	70.0	62.6
Mother's marital status % married	84.1	86.4	89.2	100.0	89.9
Household income % >\$70K	57.9	60.8	76.5	88.3	70.9
Census tract median household income in mid-childhood (\$), mean (SD)	44864.9 (15662.2)	47984.2 (16316.9)	63374.6 (21302.4)	72009.4 (21530.4)	56966.5 (21832.1)
Urbanicity in mid-childhood (population density), mean (SD)	974.5 (171.9)	921.1 (206.5)	859.3 (208.7)	671.7 (308.4)	857.8 (254.9)
Sleep time in minutes per night in early adolescence, mean (SD)	433.7 (40.9)	436.5 (37.6)	437.8 (39.6)	452.2 (38.5)	440.0 (39.7)
Time awake in minutes after sleep onset (WASO) in	74.2 (24.9)	73.6 (25.7)	78.1 (28.8)	79.6 (35.7)	76.4 (29.0)

early adolescence, mean (SD)					
% Sleep efficiency in early adolescence, mean (SD)	84.0 (4.2)	84.2 (4.4)	83.6 (5.3)	83.8 (5.6)	83.9 (4.9)
SVI-based metrics of greenspace in mid-childhood					
% Greenspace, median (IQR)	10.6 (6.2)	22.2 (7.1)	34.9 (5.2)	48.9 (11.3)	28.3 (25.1)
% Trees	8.8 (6.2)	17.9 (7.4)	29.5 (9)	44.2 (12.9)	22.2 (23)
% Grass	0.5 (1)	0.9 (3.1)	2.8 (5.2)	2.7 (9.2)	1.3 (4.6)
% Plants	0.5 (1.5)	0.9 (1.4)	0.8 (1.7)	0.6 (1.7)	0.8 (1.6)
Satellite-based metric of greenspace in mid-childhood, median (IQR)					
NDVI	0.4 (0.1)	0.5 (0.1)	0.5 (0.1)	0.6 (0.1)	0.5 (0.2)

^aTable based on participants with complete data for exposure in mid-childhood and outcome in early adolescence (N=328). IQR, interquartile range; NDVI, normalized difference vegetation index; SD, standard deviation; SVI, street view imagery.

Table 2. Associations of greenspace exposure in mid-childhood with sleep in early adolescence (N=328)^a

	Average daily sleep duration, min			Average daily sleep efficiency, %			Average time awake after sleep onset, min		
	Model 0 estimate (95% CI)	Model 1 estimate (95% CI)	Model 2 estimate (95% CI)	Model 0 estimate (95% CI)	Model 1 estimate (95% CI)	Model 2 estimate (95% CI)	Model 0 estimate (95% CI)	Model 1 estimate (95% CI)	Model 2 estimate (95% CI)
Early adolescence									
SVI-based exposure (per IQR)									
% Total greenspace	9.4 (3.2, 15.6)	3.3 (-2.7, 9.3)	3.5 (-3.8, 10.7)	0.2 (-0.5, 1.0)	0.0 (-0.8, 0.8)	-0.2 (-1.1, 0.8)	0.5 (-4.1, 5.2)	0.7 (-4.1, 5.4)	1.8 (-3.9, 7.5)
% Trees	8.1 (1.7, 14.6)	1.9 (-4.3, 8.1)	1.4 (-5.7, 8.4)	0.3 (-0.5, 1.0)	0.0 (-0.8, 0.9)	0.0 (-1.0, 0.9)	0.2 (-4.5, 4.9)	0.2 (-4.7, 5.1)	0.6 (-5.0, 6.1)
% Grass	5.3 (0.6, 10.0)	3.6 (-0.7, 7.9)	3.8 (-1.1, 8.7)	-0.2 (-0.8, 0.4)	-0.2 (-0.8, 0.3)	-0.5 (-1.2, 0.1)	2.1 (-1.3, 5.6)	2.1 (-1.3, 5.5)	4.1 (0.3, 7.9)
Satellite-based exposure (per IQR)									
NDVI	5.1 (-0.4, 10.6)	0.9 (-4.2, 6.1)	-0.1 (-6.5, 6.5)	0.3 (-0.3, 1.0)	0.3 (-0.4, 0.9)	0.3 (-0.6, 1.1)	-1.0 (-5.0, 3.1)	-1.2 (-5.3, 2.9)	-1.2 (-6.4, 3.9)

^aTable 2 includes N=328 participants with non-missing mid-childhood exposure and early adolescent outcome data. We used imputed data for missing covariates.

Model 0: Unadjusted

Model 1: Adjusted by child's age, sex, and race/ethnicity

Model 2: Model 1 + maternal and paternal education, marital status, household income, census tract level household income and urbanicity.

NDVI, normalized difference vegetation index; IQR, interquartile range; SVI, street view imagery.

Table 3. Cross-sectional associations of greenspace exposure in early adolescence and sleep in early adolescence (N=533)^a

	Average daily sleep duration, min			Average daily sleep efficiency, %			Average time awake after sleep onset, min		
	Model 0 Estimate (95% CI)	Model 1 Estimate (95% CI)	Model 2 Estimate (95% CI)	Model 1 Estimate (95% CI)	Model 1 Estimate (95% CI)	Model 2 Estimate (95% CI)	Model 0 Estimate (95% CI)	Model 1 Estimate (95% CI)	Model 2 Estimate (95% CI)
Early adolescence									
SVI-based exposure									
% Total greenspace	8.7 (3.7, 13.7)	2.9 (-2.1, 7.9)	0.7 (-5.0, 6.5)	0.3 (-0.3, 0.9)	0.2 (-0.4, 0.9)	0.4 (-0.3, 1.1)	-0.2 (-3.7, 3.3)	-1.2 (-5.0, 2.5)	-2.7 (-7.1, 1.6)
% Trees	7.5 (2.6, 12.3)	2.3 (-2.5, 7.1)	0.5 (-4.9, 5.8)	0.2 (-0.4, 0.8)	0.1 (-0.5, 0.7)	0.3 (-0.4, 1.0)	0.1 (-3.3, 3.5)	-0.8 (-4.4, 2.7)	-2.0 (-6.0, 2.0)
% Grass	4.9 (-0.3, 10.1)	0.8 (-4.1, 5.8)	-1.1 (-6.4, 4.1)	0.4 (-0.2, 1.0)	0.3 (-0.3, 1.0)	0.4 (-0.2, 1.1)	-1.6 (-5.2, 2.1)	-2.2 (-5.9, 1.5)	-3.0 (-7.0, 0.9)
Satellite-based exposure (IQR)									
NDVI	7.1 (2.6, 11.7)	1.3 (-3.3, 5.9)	-2.7 (-8.5, 3.2)	0.1 (-0.4, 0.7)	0.0 (-0.5, 0.6)	0.2 (-0.5, 1.0)	0.6 (-2.6, 3.8)	-0.2 (-3.6, 3.2)	-2.0 (-6.4, 2.4)

^aTable 3 includes N=533 participants with non-missing early adolescent exposure and outcome data. We used imputed data for missing covariates.

Model 0: Unadjusted

Model 1: Adjusted for child's age, sex, and race/ethnicity

Model 2: Model 1 + maternal and paternal education, marital status, household income, census tract level household income, and urbanicity

IQR, interquartile range; NDVI, normalized difference vegetation index; SVI, street view imagery.