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**How to cite (Vancouver):**

Soares MR, Machado JMH, Coutinho KGB, Pistorio BV, Beserra L, Corrêa MLM. Healthy and sustainable rural territory index: a proposal for health, environmental and labor surveillance. Rev Bras Saude Ocup [Internet]. 2025;50:eddsst9. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1590/2317-6369/11924en2025v50eddsst9>



## Healthy and sustainable rural territory index: a proposal for health, environmental and labor surveillance

### *Índice de território saudável e sustentável rural: uma proposta de vigilância em saúde, ambiente e trabalho*

## Abstract

**Introduction:** Development surveillance is a political and social approach that integrates participatory actions within the Unified Health System (SUS) and public policies.

**Objective:** To present the Municipal Index of Healthy and Sustainable Rural Territories (I-TSSR) to monitor the harmful influence of agribusiness on the environment, work and its repercussions on health in the state of Mato Grosso (MT).

**Methods:** Ecological study based on secondary data from social, environmental, health and occupational indicators. A composite index was calculated from the indicators calculated and spatially distributed in the municipalities for the period 1990 to 2022. **Results:** The value of the I-TSSR ranged from 3 to 25. The spatial distribution in the territory allows us to find out 34 municipalities with greater impacts of environmental degradation and the occurrence of negative health outcomes, such as pesticide poisoning, accidents at work, congenital malformations and childhood cancer (I-TSSR: 17.47-25.00), located in the West, Mid-North, Northeast and South of Mato Grosso regions. **Conclusion:** Development surveillance, through the I-TSSR, offers an innovative approach to understanding the impacts of agribusiness. By integrating health, environmental and social development information, this approach promotes a broad and participatory view of the health and sustainable development situation.

**Keywords:** Worker Health; Sustainable Development Indicators; Health Surveillance; Environmental Health; Ecological Studies.

## Resumo

**Introdução:** A vigilância do desenvolvimento configura-se como abordagem política e social que integra ações participativas no âmbito do Sistema Único de Saúde (SUS) e das políticas públicas. **Objetivo:** Apresentar o Índice Municipal de Território Saudável e Sustentável Rural (I-TSSR) para monitorar a influência deletéria do agronegócio no ambiente, no trabalho e suas repercussões na saúde, no estado de Mato Grosso (MT). **Métodos:** Estudo ecológico com base em dados secundários de indicadores sociais, ambientais, sanitários e ocupacionais. Foi calculado um índice composto, a partir dos indicadores calculados e distribuídos espacialmente nos municípios, para o período de 1990 a 2022. **Resultados:** O valor do I-TSSR variou de 3 a 25. A distribuição espacial no território permitiu identificar 34 municípios com maiores impactos de degradação ambiental e ocorrência de desfechos negativos em saúde, como intoxicações por agrotóxicos, acidentes de trabalho, malformações congênitas e câncer infantojuvenil (I-TSSR: 17,47-25,00), localizados nas regiões: Oeste, Médio Norte, Nordeste e Sul-mato-grossense. **Conclusão:** A vigilância do desenvolvimento, através do I-TSSR, oferece uma abordagem inovadora para compreender os impactos do agronegócio. Ao integrar informações de saúde, ambiente e desenvolvimento social, esta abordagem promove uma visão ampla e participativa da situação de saúde e desenvolvimento sustentável.

**Palavras-chave:** Saúde do Trabalhador; Indicadores de Desenvolvimento Sustentável; Vigilância em Saúde; Saúde Ambiental; Estudos Ecológicos.

## Introduction

Development surveillance studies how the different ways of using territories are configured and operate from the political-social, intersectoral, and hegemonic apparatus, interfering in local decisions that have an impact on health, the environment, and work. This approach brings up the need for participatory action within the Unified Health System (SUS) and public policies, and the debate on the process of territorialization of institutional and popular actions, based on the transformation of economic and social bases and the accumulation model of agribusiness production chains. In a dialogue mobilized by the organization of information coming from the territory, from an emancipatory perspective<sup>1,2</sup>, a transition from development surveillance is made possible by materializing the non-delegation of health, pointed out by Oddone<sup>3</sup>, by involving a popular dynamic in the information action to define practices and cultural expressions that protect a healthy and plural life.

In its essence of information for action, health surveillance leads us to strategies and activities guided by conceptual models for structuring information, for local/territorial interaction and governance. This set of strategies includes the development of indicators and tools to support processes for sharing and circulating information<sup>4</sup>.

By following these assumptions, the aim is to present and problematize indicators that integrate society, the environment, health, and work, in an instrument for evaluating municipal and regional trends for health surveillance action that expresses information and names the dynamics of social and environmental processes and health impacts. The indicators make it possible to analyze and reflect on the prospects for a healthy way of life from the perspective of cultural realization, producing movements to collectively bring information closer to a preventive ecosystem understanding. It is articulated as a materiality of the essence of a governance model that drives actions beyond the health sector, but above all, an expression based on the modes of living of populations and the demands of social and popular movements.

Thus, the aim of this article is to present a health, environment, and work surveillance index and the organization of a method for integrating social, environmental, health, and occupational indicators, on a municipal scale, which identify pressure from the mode of development in regions with hegemonic agribusiness, in order to contribute to actions of mobilization and social participation in the definition of public policies to promote healthy and sustainable territories, resizing development from a perspective of good living.

## Methods

### Study design and context

This is an ecological study. The study site is the state of Mato Grosso, which is in the Central-West region of Brazil. According to the latest census, from 2022, its population is estimated at 3,658,813 people, with a population density of 4.05 h/km<sup>2</sup>, a Human Development Index (2021) of 0.736 and a territorial extension of 903,208.361 km<sup>2</sup>, however, only 1,244.20 km<sup>2</sup> (0.13%) of its area is urbanized, which favors the large estates for planting agricultural commodities<sup>5</sup>.

### Data sources

Data on records of acute pesticide poisoning and suicide attempts were obtained from the Notifiable Diseases Information System (Sinan)<sup>6</sup>. Data on deaths from external causes (accidents at work and homicides) were obtained from the Mortality Information System (SIM). Cases of congenital malformations, as well as birth records, were obtained from the Live Births Information System (Sinasc)<sup>7</sup>. Data on cancer cases among children and adolescents living in the state of Mato Grosso was obtained from the population-based cancer registry (RCBP)<sup>8</sup> of the National Cancer Institute (INCA), according to data provided by the State Health Department of the state of Mato Grosso.

The data used to calculate the environmental indicators was obtained from the MapBiomass geographic data platform<sup>9-11</sup>. For the socio-environmental indicators, the sources were the IBGE - Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics -, Automatic Recovery System (Sidra) and the Agricultural Defense Institute of the State of Mato Grosso (INDEA/MT).

## Calculated indicators

The following health and occupational indicators were calculated:

- incidence rate of attempted suicide (number of cases per municipality of residence/population of the municipality x 100,000 inhabitants), in 2020;
- incidence rate of accidents at work (number of accidents/general population x 100,000 inhabitants), in 2020;
- homicide mortality rate (number of homicide deaths by municipality of residence/general population x 100,000) in 2020;
- external cause mortality rate (number of deaths per municipality of residence/general population x 100,000) in 2020;
- patterned incidence rate of childhood cancer (number of cancer cases - 0 to 19 years/population of children and adolescents x 1 million), between 2013 and 2018; and
- prevalence of congenital malformations (number of cases of congenital malformations per municipality of residence/live births x 1,000) in 2020.

The environmental indicators were calculated by averaging the values recorded for areas of deforestation, fires, and water surface reduction in the years studied. The annual average of hectares burnt and deforested was calculated, as well as the loss of water surface between 1990 and 2020, which were grouped together to form a single composite environmental indicator. By adding up the four geometric classes each of the three indicators (deforestation, burning and water surface reduction), the total number of environmental impact intensities was obtained for each of the 141 municipalities in Mato Grosso.

The socio-environmental indicators were:

- the percentage allocated to family farming in each municipality of Mato Grosso, calculated by comparing the areas of family and non-family farming in the state, as provided by the Agricultural Census (IBGE-Sidra)<sup>12</sup>;
- the size of the soybean planting area in Mato Grosso, available from the Municipal Agricultural Production database (IBGE/Sidra)<sup>13</sup>; and
- mass per kilogram of pesticides, available from INDEA-MT<sup>14</sup>.

## Data analysis

The calculation of the three components, social, environmental, and health, was distributed according to the magnitude of land use patterns and their impacts. Three blocks of indicators were proposed, the first of which was abstract and the other two concrete: 1. Abstract Institutional/Socio-environmental Exposure, with information on public land use policies, food production, and the intensity of pesticide use; 2. Environmental Impacts, with information on the reduction of biodiversity and contribution to water scarcity; and 3. Health Impacts/Socio-environmental Mediation, on which the Health Situation Inequality Scenarios are based.

These components presuppose the collection, storage, processing, and availability of secondary data on processes, determinants, and impacts on health and sustainability related to the territory, reaffirming the dynamics of the territory, in a permanent process of change, as a place of contradictions, a place of work, resistance, material and spiritual exchanges in everyday life<sup>15</sup>.

With this in mind, to produce information for action and surveillance of development in agribusiness territories, a basic instrument was proposed for popular and participatory monitoring and surveillance of health, interconnected with work and the environment. The Municipal Index of Healthy and Sustainable Rural Territories (I-TSSR) was calculated as the sum of the aforementioned blocks of indicators.

$$\text{Total I-TSSR} = \Sigma [0-36] \text{ ESA+IA+IS}$$

All the indicators calculated were divided into four categories, following the same classification pattern, according to the gradient of the magnitude of the indicators or impact: low (0), medium-low (1), medium-high (2), and high (3). Esri's ArcGis 10.1 application was used to calculate the geometric intervals of the socio-environmental and health indicators, as well as to draw up the thematic maps.

## Ethical considerations

This ecological study used secondary data obtained from publicly available databases, except for data on the incidence of childhood cancer, provided by the Mato Grosso State Health Department. The analysis of these data was one of the integral parts of the research projects entitled “*Fatores associados ao Câncer infanto-juvenil: Análise de Registro Hospitalar e Populacional de Mato Grosso*” (Factors associated with Childhood Cancer: Analysis of Hospital and Population Registry in Mato Grosso), approved through CAAE No. 42264420.6.0000.8124 on May 18, 2021, and “*Promoção de Territórios Saudáveis e Sustentáveis no Mato Grosso*” (Promotion of Healthy and Sustainable Territories in Mato Grosso), through CAAE No. 35803020.0.0000.8124, on December 15, 2020. Both projects were submitted to and approved by the respective research ethics committees of the Federal University of Mato Grosso and funded with resources from of the Mato Grosso Public Labor Prosecutor's Office - Regional Labor Prosecutor's Office of the 23rd Region.

## Results

The I-TSSR value ranged from 3 to 25. The cumulative indicators (socio-environmental, environmental and health/occupational), according to exposure gradients and units of measurement, can be seen in **Table 1**.

**Table 1** Socio-sanitary and environmental indicators according to score by municipality in Mato Grosso, 1990-2022

Indicators	Categories	Values (number of municipalities)
I-TSSR <sup>a</sup> total = $\Sigma [0-36] \text{ ESA}^b + \text{IA}^c + \text{IS}^d$		3.00-10.54 (40) 10.55-14.00 (32) 14.01-17.46 (35) 17.47-25.00 (34)
<b>Socio-environmental exposure - ESA</b>		
Area (%) allocated to family farming in MT <sup>e</sup> , 2017	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	28.26% a 53.16% (17) 13.73% a 28.25% (32) 5.27% a 13.72% (50) 0.32% a 5.26% (42)

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## Continuation

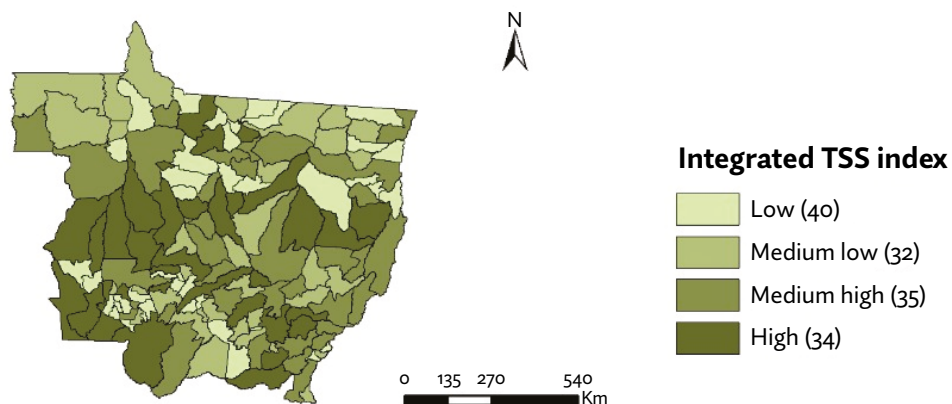
Area (ha) of soybean plantations in MT, 2022	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	0.00 a 9,868.66 (44) 9,868.67 a 44,632.94 (34) 44,632.95 a 167,096.89 (38) 167,096.90 a 598,500.00 (25)
Mass (Kg) of pesticide active ingredients in MT, 2022	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	1,783.00 a 104,326.40 (36) 104,326.41 a 511,581.02 (44) 511,581.03 a 2,129,006.80 (40) 2,129,006 a 8,552,669 (21)
<b>Environmental impact - IA</b>		
Average annual hectares burned in MT between 1990-2020	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	264.71-4,687.19 (29) 4,687.20-18,505.57 (56) 18,505.58-61,682.21 (39) 61,682.22-196,591.10 (17)
Average annual hectares deforested in MT between 1990-2020	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	66.77-1,093.93 (32) 1,093.94-3,333.59 (32) 3,333.60-8,216.99 (51) 8,217.00-18,864.90 (26)
Average annual loss of surface water in MT between 1990-2020	Nil Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	Surface gain (37) -0.48 a -7.23 (31) -7.24 a -81.64 (53) -81.65 a -900.62 (17) -900.63 a -9,915.13 (3)
<b>Health impact - IS</b>		
Prevalence of congenital malformations (per 1.000 LB <sup>f</sup> ), 2020	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	0 a 4.61 (45) 4.62 a 5.47 (19) 5.48 a 10.08 (53) 10.09 a 34.78 (24)
Patterned cancer incidence rate in the 0-19 age group (per 1.000.000 inhabitants in the age group), 2013-2018	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	37 a 145.85 (48) 145.86 a 182.84 (42) 182.85 a 291.69 (45) 291.68 a 612 (6)
Homicide mortality rate (per 100.000 inhabitants), 2020	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	0.35 a 8.91 (35) 8.92 a 63.86 (60) 63.87 a 416.43 (42) 416.44 a 2,678 (4)
TA <sup>g</sup> mortality rate (per 100.000 inhabitants), 2020	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	0 a 11.54 (19) 11.55 a 343.12 (59) 343.13 a 9,869.26 (62) 9,869 a 283,533 (1)
Suicide mortality rate (per 100.000 inhabitants), 2020	Low (0) Medium-low (1) Medium-high (2) High (3)	0 a 1.59 (67) 1.60 a 6.28 (21) 6.29 a 20.06 (38) 20.07 a 60.62 (15)

<sup>a</sup>I-TSSR: Municipal Index of Healthy and Sustainable Rural Territories; <sup>b</sup>ESA: Socio-environmental Exposure; <sup>c</sup>IA: Environmental Impact; <sup>d</sup>IS: Health Impact; <sup>e</sup>MT: Mato Grosso; <sup>f</sup>Live Births; <sup>g</sup> Accident at work.

Source: own elaboration.



**Figure 1** shows the distribution of I-TSSR in the municipalities of MT. The 34 municipalities where the I-TSSR was highest (values between 17.47 and 25.00) can be seen in the darker areas of the map, mainly in the regions: West, Middle North, Northeast and South Mato Grosso. In 40 municipalities, concentrated in the northern region of the state, lower values were observed, 3 and 10.54%.



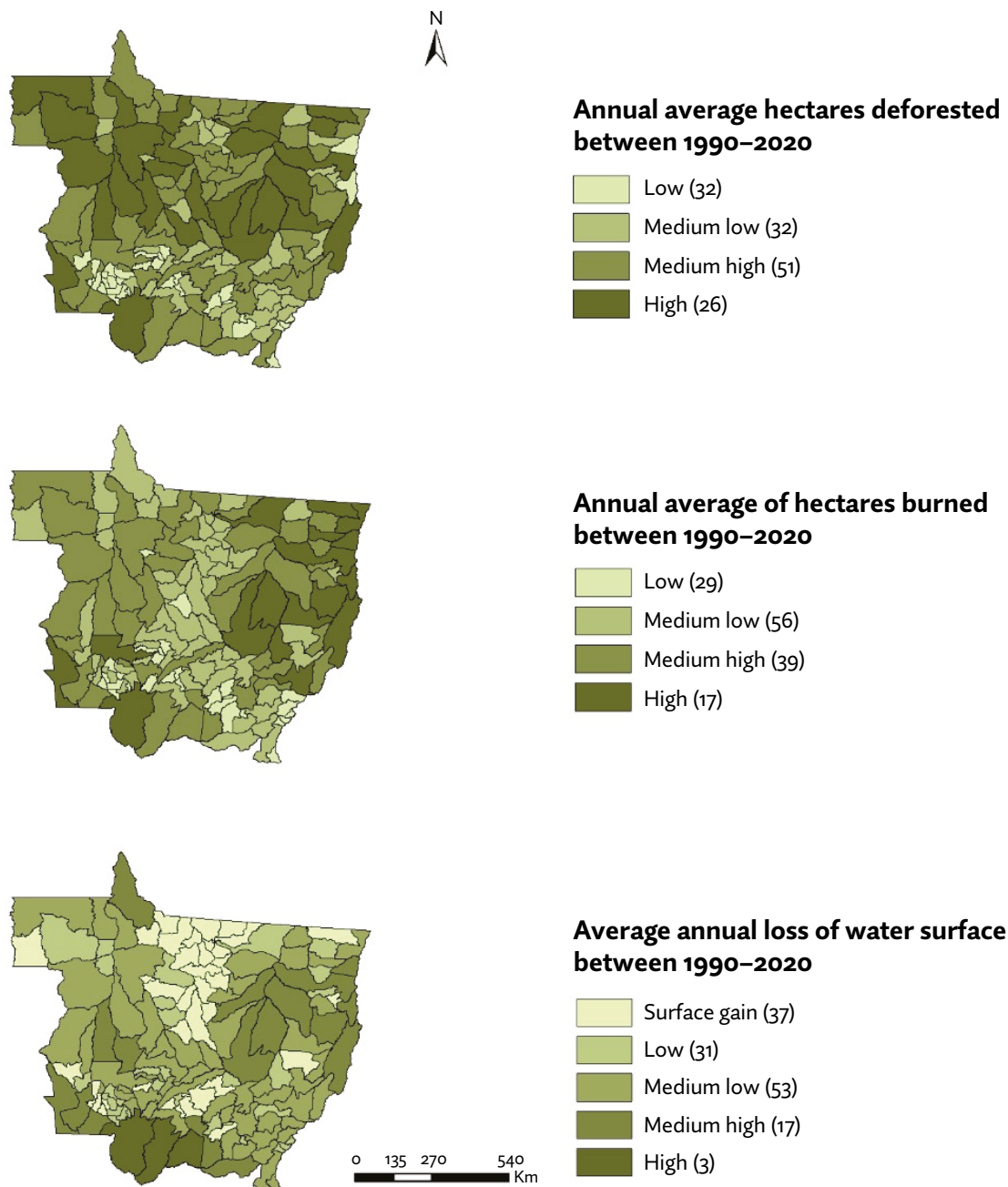
**Figure 1** Municipal Index of Healthy and Sustainable Rural Territories (I-TSSR), in the municipalities of the state of Mato Grosso, Brazil  
**Source:** own elaboration.

In the period from 1990 to 2020, the state of Mato Grosso deforested 19,998,972 hectares, which represented 21.43% of the entire area deforested in Brazil in the period. The data is also alarming when considering the indicators for the occurrence of fires in the country, given that the state was responsible for the burning of 121,924,553 hectares, which corresponds to approximately 24.42% of the entire national territory. Regarding the reduction of water resources, 631,444 hectares of its water surface were lost, which corresponds to the subtraction of 50.72% of its total area.

**Figure 2** shows the respective influence and contribution of each municipality in Mato Grosso to deforestation, burning and water surface loss over the three-decade period. It can be noted that deforestation is mainly concentrated among those municipalities located in the north of the state, in areas of dense forest belonging to the Amazon biome. Considering the average annual deforestation among the 141 municipalities in Mato Grosso, the ones with the most deforestation were: Juara (18,864.9 ha), Brasnorte (15,628.19 ha), Nova Uiratã (15,375.84 ha), Colniza (14,518.77 ha), Querência (13,868.55 ha), Villa Bela de Santíssima Trindade (13,614.68 ha), Gaúcha do Norte (13,425.03 ha), Paranatinga (13,187.26 ha), Sorriso (12,268.13 ha), and Cáceres (11,918.77 ha).

The pattern of fires involves a distribution similar to that observed in the areas of major deforestation in Mato Grosso, however, it differs in that it is more concentrated in the municipalities located in the northeast of the state, heading towards the border areas with the states of Pará and Tocantins. The municipalities with the largest areas of deforestation were: Cocalinho (196,591.1 ha), Ribeirão Cascalheira (166,955.32 ha), São Félix do Araguaia (166,332.03 ha), Tangará da Serra (163,715.06 ha), Paranatinga (148,150.1 ha), Luciara (122,463.45 ha), Gaúcha do Norte (113,337.45 ha), Novo Santo Antônio (101,184.26 ha), Campinápolis (96,705.16 ha), and Vila Bela da Santíssima Trindade (87,650.94 ha).

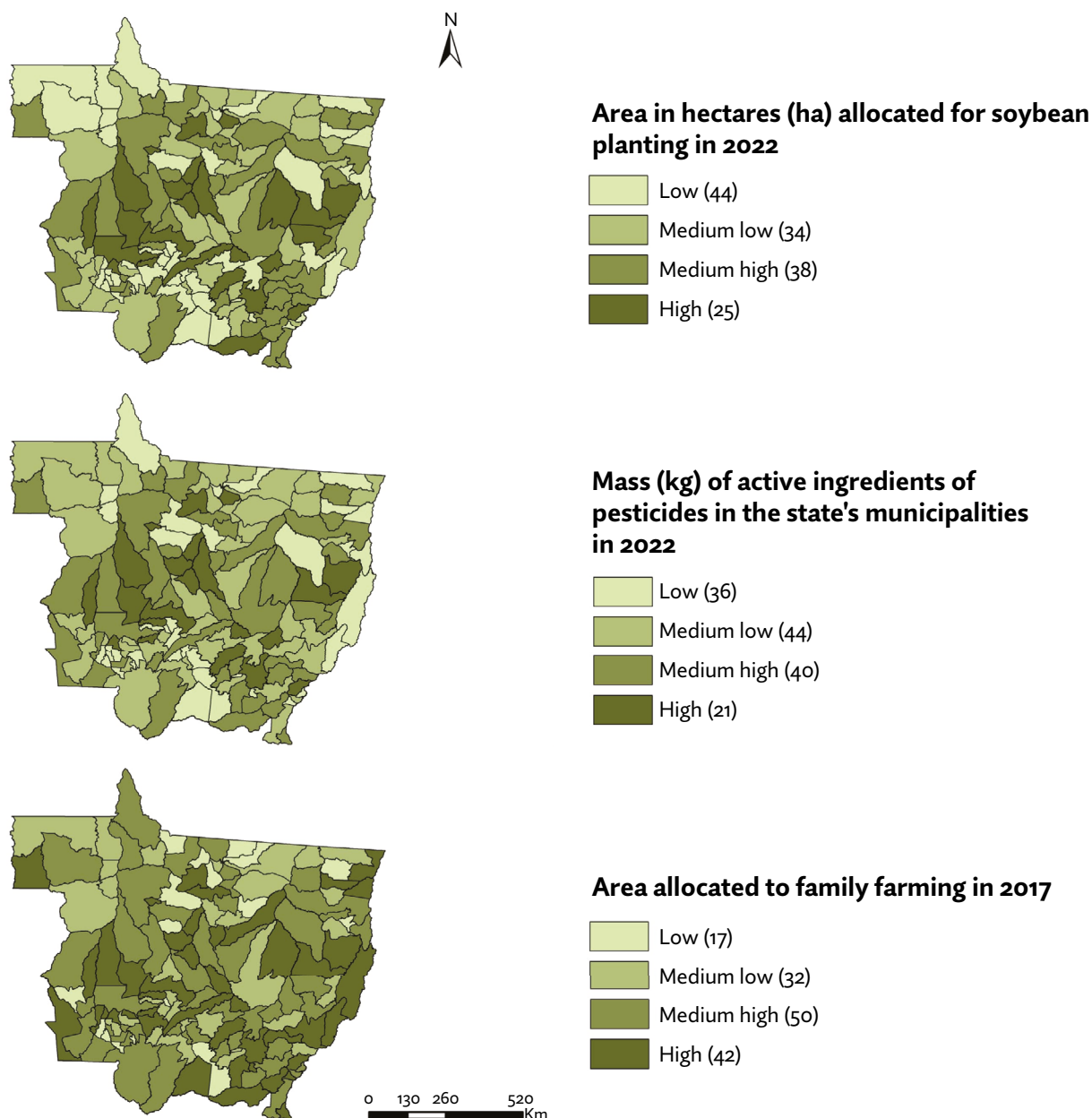
Regarding the reduction in water surface area, the municipalities located in the Pantanal region of Mato Grosso suffered severe water loss when compared to the other areas of the state. Of particular note are the municipalities of Cáceres (307,369 ha) and Poconé (183,718 ha), which together were responsible for the loss of 491,087 hectares, corresponding to 77.77% of all water surface suppression in the state. The reduction in water surface was still high in the municipalities of: Barão de Melgaço (28,016 ha), Vila Bela da Santíssima Trindade (19,994 ha), Gaúcha do Norte (17,309 ha), Cocalinho (15,364 ha), and Querência (14,060 ha).



**Figure 2** Average annual number of hectares burned, deforested, and loss of water surface in the municipalities of the state of Mato Grosso, Brazil, 1990-2020

**Source:** own elaboration, with data from the MapBiomass Project (2023).

Regarding the area set aside for soybean planting in the municipalities of Mato Grosso, the regions that stand out most in terms of productivity are those located between the north-central and northwestern portions of the state (**Figure 3**). Among the 141 municipalities in the state of Mato Grosso, those that allocated the most land to soybean cultivation in 2022 were: Sorriso (598,500 ha), Nova Mutum (397,000 ha), Diamantino (389,940 ha), Campo Novo do Parecis (387,800 ha), Sapezal (385,614 ha), and Querência (375,000 ha).



**Figure 3** Area destined for family farming in 2017, area in hectares (ha) destined for soybean planting in 2022 and mass (kg) of the active ingredients of pesticides used in the municipalities of the state of Mato Grosso, Brazil

**Source:** municipal agricultural production (PAM), 2017; Institute for agricultural defense (INDEA-MT), 2022.

The municipalities that used the most pesticides in Mato Grosso in 2022 were: Sorriso (8,552,669 kg), Sapezal (7,191,637 kg), Campo Novo do Parecis (6,297,607 kg), Diamantino (4,464,078 kg), Lucas do Rio Verde (4,406,738 kg), Nova Ubiratã (4,134,546 kg), and Campo Verde (3,798,389 kg).

This concentrated land configuration seems to be located mainly in municipalities linked to significant production of agricultural commodities. The lowest percentages of family farming in Mato Grosso were observed in the municipalities of: Campos de Júlio (0.32%), Santo Antônio do Leverger (0.50%), Primavera do Leste (0.54%), Campo Novo do Parecis (0.56%), Cocalinho (0.60%), and Santa Rita do Trivelato (0.67%).



In the health/occupational component, the prevalence of congenital malformations in most municipalities (53%) is classified as medium-high impact, with a variation between 5.48 and 10.08 cases per 1,000 live births. The highest prevalence rates are found in the southern part of Mato Grosso, in the municipalities of São José do Povo (34.78 per thousand), São Pedro da Cipa (32.14 per thousand), and Tabaporã (22.73 per thousand)

Regarding child and adolescent cancer incidence rates, almost half (48%) of the municipalities have between 37 and 145.55/1 million children and adolescents. The municipalities with the highest rates are in the mid-north of the state: Nova Marilândia (612/1 million), Tapurah (369/1 million), and Santa Rita do Trivelato (349/1 million).

Homicide mortality rates predominated in the medium-low category, ranging from 8.92 to 63.86 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants. In terms of spatial distribution, there was relative homogeneity across Mato Grosso, with the highest rates in the capital and in border municipalities, including Curvelândia (2678.67/100,000), Santa Cruz do Xingu (2488.30/100,000), and Torixoréu (1989.47/100,000).

In most municipalities, mortality rates from accidents at work fall into the medium-high category, ranging from 343.13 to 9,869.26 per 100,000 inhabitants. These municipalities are located long distances from the state capital, Cuiabá. However, they are mainly located in border regions with other countries such as Bolivia and with other states in the northern region, such as Rondônia, Amazonas, and Pará. This can be seen in the municipality of Confresa, where the rate found was (283,553/100,000).

Suicide mortality rates were predominantly low in the municipalities of Mato Grosso, ranging from 0 to 1.59. This finding can be explained by the underreporting of cases on death certificates. The highest rate was 60 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants in the municipality of Novo São Joaquim.

Other rates can be seen in **Figure 4** and **Table 1**.



**Figure 4** Health and labor indicators in the municipalities of the state of Mato Grosso, Brazil, 2013-2022

**Source:** Own elaboration, with data from the Live Births Information System (SINASC); the Mortality Information System (SIM), and the Population-based Cancer Registry (RCBP).

## Discussion

The territory of Mato Grosso is an exponent of an asymmetrical socio-economic development paradigm, which obeys the monopoly corporations of agribusiness, accumulating wealth, generating inequalities, and socializing diseases, expanding environmental and social impacts. We are dealing here with a hegemonic model that generates sickening modes of living, involved in the (re)production of health inequalities, causing environmental contamination<sup>16-19</sup>, human health problems such as pesticide poisoning<sup>20</sup>, accidents at work<sup>21</sup>, the social and mental suffering of rural workers<sup>22,23</sup>, suicide among agribusiness workers<sup>24</sup>, fetal malformations<sup>25</sup>, respiratory diseases in children under five<sup>26</sup>, cancers related to environmental and occupational exposure<sup>27</sup>, as well as food contamination and the consequences for food sovereignty and security in the territories<sup>28</sup>.

A series of socio-technical transformations have been responsible for the transition and modernization of Mato Grosso's agricultural landscape, leading to the transition from a locally based production model to a new production model that is subordinate to the needs of international capital<sup>29</sup>. Chemical apparatuses, mechanization, development policies, and the precariousness of environmental monitoring and labor laws have been responsible for profound transformations in production methods around the world<sup>30</sup>, increasing efficiency and yields, while at the same time producing immeasurable consequences for human health, the environment and local socio-cultural modes of living.

These social and economic transformations, as well as the historical unequal distribution and concentration of arable land in Brazil and Mato Grosso, have resulted in a low presence of family farming in the municipalities surveyed, in addition to the invisibility of indigenous and quilombola farming. The highest proportion of land allocated to family farming among the municipalities in Mato Grosso was just over 5%. This information shows that Brazilian family farming continues to be marked by socio-spatial inequality, unequal income distribution, the absence or insufficiency of public policies to promote production and marketing, which leads to land abandonment, violent land disputes, and threats reproduced by large landowners, soil and water contamination, generating environmental injustices<sup>31</sup>.

Mato Grosso is home to the Cerrado, Amazon, and Pantanal biomes, with important biodiversity and river springs that form and supply the Amazon, Paraguay, and Tocantins-Araguaia river basins, making a significant contribution to the replenishment and availability of water in Latin America<sup>32</sup>. However, the agribusiness economic development project has interpreted nature as a source of inexhaustible resources, and Mato Grosso, as an influential exponent of this hegemonic model, has participated intensely in this socio-environmental exploitation. Over the last three decades (1990-2020), the state has not only consolidated its position as Brazil's largest agricultural producer but has also become the epicenter of a process of intense environmental degradation that has influenced the territory's ecosystemic imbalance. In this study, this process can be demonstrated through the high occurrence and scope of deforestation, fires, and loss of water surface in the state<sup>33</sup>.

In addition, the regions of Mato Grosso with the highest TSS-Rural rates, which deserve attention due to the accumulation of environmental degradation (deforestation and fires), the intense use of chemical products, and health problems such as childhood cancer, are territories with large agribusiness production. This can be explained, for example, by the intrinsic relationship observed throughout Brazil between the advance of the agricultural frontier and livestock farming and the deforestation and burning of native vegetation<sup>33,34</sup>.

The chemical-dependent production model of Brazilian agribusiness is based on the use of chemical inputs such as pesticides and fertilizers to grow agricultural commodities and raise cattle. This model uses more than 899 million liters of agrochemicals every year, with Mato Grosso being the state in first place in this ranking, making it the national breadbasket of Brazilian agribusiness<sup>35</sup>.

In this context, the TSS-Rural index is presented as an information tool for health surveillance action that aggregates data from different sources, expressing the dynamics of social and environmental processes and health impacts, and enables analysis and reflection on the prospects for a healthy way of life, as well as movements towards a model of collective governance that drives actions beyond the health sector, integrating

other sectors, but mainly based on the modes of living of populations and the demands of social and popular movements<sup>2</sup>. Thus, the TSS-Rural index, in the hypothesis of its intersectoral use as an instrument of participatory governance in the SUS, is articulated with the notion of vigilance of development as a possibility for the critical transformation of society, in connection with modes of living and popular emancipatory projects of other forms of territorial organization, which have been expressed here in data from the state of Mato Grosso, but which can be incorporated and serve as a methodological tool for application in other Brazilian states.

The study's limitations include the use of secondary data sources. Some of the results, particularly those relating to deaths from suicide and accidents at work, the occurrence of congenital malformations and cases of cancer, should be interpreted with caution due to the possibility of underreporting. This limitation points to the need for future research, incorporating methods to correct underreporting, as well as the integration of qualitative-quantitative methods, through interviews and questionnaires, as popular surveillance actions for individuals living in the territories.

In this sense, the vigilance of development in its expression of the integrative involvement of intersectoral and participatory social policy brings to the debate the process of a territorialization of institutional and popular action based on the transformation of the economic and social bases of the accumulation model of the agribusiness production chain, which enables a shift from a mode of production accumulation to a mode of production directed towards healthy and sustainable territorialization processes. This is the structural economic and social realization of the transposition of work into its dimension of social reproduction, in which care for individuals and communities is linked to ways of living and producing<sup>22</sup>.

## Conclusion

The spatial distribution of the I-TSSR in the territory of Mato Grosso allowed us to identify the municipalities with the greatest impacts of environmental degradation and negative health outcomes, such as pesticide poisoning, accidents at work, congenital malformations and childhood cancer, located in the West, Mid-North, Northeast, and South regions of Mato Grosso.

Producing information for action and vigilance of development in agribusiness territories, through the I-TSSR, is a basic instrument for monitoring, popular and participatory surveillance of health interconnected with work and the environment.

In addition, popular-community surveillance, combined with information, allows for more participatory management of health services. This approach can be articulated with public policies from other social, environmental, and economic sectors, which influence the population's living conditions and health. This is especially relevant in agribusiness regions such as Mato Grosso, where "territorial (under)development" has a negative impact on the population's health.

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**Authors' Contributions:** Soares MR, Machado JMH contributed to the conception of the study and the data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Soares MR, Machado JMH, Coutinho KGB, Pistorio BV, Beserra L, Corrêa MLM contributed to the drafting and critical revision of the manuscript. The authors have approved the final published version and take full responsibility for the work carried out and the content published.

**Data availability:** The entire data set supporting the results of this study has been published in the article itself.

**Funding:** The study was funded by the Mato Grosso Public Labor Prosecutor's Office - PRT of the 23rd Region, by the *Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior* (Coordination for Higher Level Graduates Improvement) – Brazil (CAPES) – Finance Code 001, and by the 'University Student Excellence Award' (SEA) Studentship of the University of Strathclyde, the latter two having offered doctoral scholarships to the authors.

**Competing interests:** The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

**Presentation at a scientific event:** The authors declare that the study has not been presented at a scientific event.

**Received:** July 03, 2024

**Revised:** December 20, 2024

**Approved:** December 20, 2024

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Leila Posenato Garcia



**Available in:**

<https://www.redalyc.org/articulo.oa?id=100582247021>

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*Revista Brasileira de Saúde Ocupacional*

vol. 50, eddsst9, 2025

Fundação Jorge Duprat Figueiredo de Segurança e Medicina  
do Trabalho - Fundacentro,

**ISSN:** 0303-7657

**ISSN-E:** 2317-6369

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/>

10.1590/2317-6369/11924pt2025v50eddsst9