

Adolescents' Smoking Behaviors, Beliefs on the Risks of Smoking, and Exposure to ETS in Juárez, Mexico

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Objective: To assess the smoking behaviors, beliefs about the risks of smoking, and exposure to ETS among adolescents in Juárez, Mexico. **Methods:** A cross-sectional study was conducted with sixth-grade students (N=506), aged 11-13 years old, attending 6 randomly selected schools. Schools were classified by school setting and SES. **Results:** Students attending a low SES school setting were more likely to have

smoked (P<0.01), be current smokers (P<0.01), be exposed to ETS at home and in public (P<0.01) than were students attending a middle or high SES school. **Conclusion:** Smoking interventions should target students attending school in low SES settings.

Key words: environmental tobacco smoke, secondhand smoke, adolescents, smoking behaviors, smoking beliefs

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