

Risk and Protective Factors Among High School Students on the US/Mexico Border

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Objective: To study risk and protective factors for alcohol-related problems among high schools students in El Paso, Tex. **Methods:** A total of 1366 high school students from 16 different high schools in El Paso, Tex, participated in an anonymous questionnaire regarding alcohol use and alcohol-related behaviors. The sample was 70% Hispanic. **Results:** Results showed that aca-

demic performance, peer influence, parental attitudes, and age at first consumption of alcohol were important predictors of drinking among border youth. **Conclusion:** Risk factors contribute to alcohol use among high school students.

Key words: alcohol, high school students, border cities, risk, protective factors

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