

Pumariega AJ et al. Substance Abuse in Immigrant Latino Youth in Appalachia: Preliminary Findings. *Psychline: Journal of Hispanic American Psychiatry*, 4 (2004) 4: 10—13.

Abstract:

One-third of the U.S. Latino population is under the age of 18. Studies show a significant percentage of Latinos aged 12 or older use illegal substances. Acculturation, family relationships, and depression are contributing factors to this abuse. Previous studies concentrated on populations along the U.S.-Mexico border.

This study examined the relationship between illegal substance, abuse, acculturation, family relationships, and depression in Latino youth. There was a significant relationship between substance abuse and depression, as well as substance abuse and time spent on sports and friends (acculturation variables).