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## Social Environment, Body Structure and Function in Inhabitants of Yucatan, Mexico

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**ABSTRACT** The influence of education on adult body build and function was studied in Mérida (capital city of Yucatan State) and Progreso (a port on the shore of Gulf of Mexico), Mexico. Studies were conducted in 1993-94 and 608 men and 320 women, ages ranged from 18-98 years were investigated. Greater body height, vital capacity, spine flexibility and Sargent vertical jump were observed in individuals with better education than with lower one. Better educated women had also lower BMI and chest circumference and greater grip strength than less educated ones. In men vital capacity and physical fitness test results were better up to secondary school or incomplete high school level, then fell with better education. The only variable which did not show the association with education was systolic blood pressure.

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