



# #Caminito de la Escuela

*(Walking to school or On our way to school)*

## Survey with children and adolescents

### National Report

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## Summary

- **Thematic relevance:**

The COVID-19 pandemic directly impacted the right to education of children and adolescents worldwide.

As a preventive measure, in Mexico, classroom classes were suspended for approximately 44 weeks in most schools, which also affected the exercise of the right to socialization, play, and the possibility of developing other skills.

- **Introduction and objectives:**

Children and adolescents did not present significant impacts on their physical health due to COVID-19. However, their integral health, mental and emotional health, development, and their right to a life free of violence were more compromised with the confinement.

By giving voice to children and adolescents through the national virtual consultation #CaminitodelaEscuela, the CDHCM sought to know their opinions and disseminate them so that these could be considered, understanding their quality as subject to rights. The hypothesis was that children and adolescents in Mexico wanted to attend classes as soon as possible.

- **Methodology:**

Three modalities were designed:

- A questionnaire of 11 questions answered by 37,764 children and adolescents from five to 17 years of age.
- An open-call for drawings, through which we received 267 illustrations from children from three to six years of age.
- Sessions with three open consultation groups where we had the participation of children and adolescents, caregivers, and teachers.

On this last one, topics and indicators were defined according to the sector and process.

The analysis of the drawings was mixed (qualitative and quantitative). We observed and identified the feelings expressed about returning to school through these.

- **Results:**

Seven out of 10 children and adolescents displayed a desire to return to face-to-face classes. Two out of 10 preferred to continue studying at home, and one out of 10 did not know whether they wanted to return or not.

Preschoolers are more likely to be happy to be with their friends, while for adolescents, the most important thing is to get out of the house and understand the classes better.

Meanwhile, the adult population expressed a dichotomy between concern and excitement about the reunion.

- **Conclusions and implications:**

Although 70% of children and adolescents favored returning to the classroom, almost the same proportion of adults opposed, manifesting a lessened idea about health, reduced to the physical aspect, which ignores mental and emotional health, which also needs to be recognized made effective.

The consultation and its results had a significant impact at the national level. There is a national report, 18 state reports, 16 reports at the municipality level in Mexico City, a report prepared by and for children and adolescents, and a gallery of drawings. This survey was a valuable input that influenced educational policy by being taken up and presented to the media by the Cabinet Office of the Mexican presidency.

It represents a methodology that contributes to guaranteeing the right to participation of children and adolescents.