

# ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS FROM DIFFERENT SOCIO-ECONOMIC LEVELS IN UNIVERSITIES: THE CASE OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF CHILE<sup>1</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

*This study aims to explore differences in academic performance in universities of students coming from different socioeconomic groups using the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile as a study case. Socioeconomic groups were defined based on the type of school the student graduated from and the household income quintile. One-way ANOVA and Chi Square tests were used to examine whether differences in college grades and persistence were statistically significant. The results indicate that the average scores and persistence rates do not differ substantially when comparing the academic performance of students from different socioeconomic levels. We expect these results contribute to the discussion about inclusion of economically disadvantaged people in universities.*

*Keywords: higher education, academic outcomes in higher education, persistence*

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