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Educational Achievement and Student Retention of Thai Student: Inequality Analysis at Provincial Level

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Abstract

Ideally, Thai students should have equal access to quality education and be in the education system to develop themselves to achieve competence and full potential. However, we must admit that educational inequality in Thailand still exists in many dimensions. This study presents an analysis of the disparity in education in dimensions such as school size, area, and income level by using the score of the Ordinary National Educational Test (O-NET) in 2019 in Grade 6, Junior High School (M3), and Senior High School (M6), respectively. The researchers also studied the student retention rate at the provincial level. The results have shown a significant difference in O-NET scores at the provincial level and student retention rates between provinces/regions. Moreover, the persistence rate in M3 and M6 from Grade 6 is in the same range, which is about 70-100 percent. The hypothesis testing revealed that the retention rate and the educational achievement positively correlate.

Keywords: Educational Achievement, Inequality in Education, O-NET Score, Student Retention Rate