

# Doctors and teachers in Bolivia: A study of their relative income

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## Abstract

Are the incomes obtained by professionals of teaching and health services high or low? Or what is the same, are these professionals well paid? This document answers this question, contrasting the income of these professionals with 'comparable groups' and evaluating their position in the income distribution of the population. In addition, the evolution of income differences between groups is examined for the periods 2006-2009 and 2014-2017, once their observable characteristics have been identified. Subsequently, it is analyzed in which part of the distribution of income, low or high payments to teachers and doctors are most pronounced. For this, the decomposition of Oaxaca-Blinder, Ñopo, and the methodology of re-centered influence function are used. It is found that these professionals tend to belong to quintile 4 and 5 of income; there are indications that they are underpaid and that pronounced quantile gaps vary between the analysis groups.

**JEL Classification:** I2, J31, J44, J45

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