

**ABSTRACT**

**Title:** The Effect of the Present Thai Economic Situation to the  
Rajabhat Institute (Chiang Mai) Students

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This research was designed with the following objectives : 1) to study the type of students affected by the present economic situation; 2) to study the impact of present economy on the type of students; 3) to compare the impact between the present and the past economies to the students; 4) to gather the problems, opinions, and guidelines for solutions to present economic impact to students; and, 5) to study the problems, opinions, and guidelines for solutions to the impact of economic situation to students which are likely to happen in the future.

The findings of the study revealed that most respondents were female students between 21-30 years of age who were regular third year students of the Faculty of Management Science; most of them were found to be self-supporting, while some were financially supported by their parents who were mostly businessmen, farmers, and others.

The comparison of the students' income and expenses between 1996 and 1997 showed that most students had lesser income but more expenses in 1997 with highest expenses spent for food and beverage.

The analysis of the relationship between variables and the changes in income and expenses showed that; 1) age, status, year level, faculty, student type, occupation and income caused changes in income whereas sex and parents' occupation did not; and, 2) year level, income and student type caused a change in expenses where as sex, age, status, faculty, occupation and parents' occupation did not.

As for the guidelines of study, methods of problem solving and needs for assistance from Rajabhat Institute (Chiang Mai), by students affected by the present economic situation, the study found that students had to decrease their monthly expenses, earn more extra income and find credit assistance from different financial sources, respectively. As for assistance to the students, the institute must reduce the credit cost, tuition fees, learning materials, or fines from various sections.

Moreover, the study revealed that for the future assistance, although the present economic crisis was expected to continue for two years' time, or more the students responded that they still planned to continue their study for a bachelor's degree. Even some students were also found to be interested in taking up higher than bachelor degrees, but others needed to stop temporarily. The students also required the assistance from the government and the institute to provide help similar to the ones previously mentioned.