Abstract
Do to the fact that housing, potable water, sewage system, electricity, combustible gas, telephone, and household waste recollection are complementary goods, Colombian public services law defines the owner or the tenant as the "user" and responsible for the bill, while all the occupants of the building are denominated "consumers". Unlike other public services, in garbage recollection common measurements for the recollected residuals are not carried out. Regulation reduces the exchange costs by fixing arithmetical means of monthly garbage production (MGP) for each household. Businesses have found informal households that house several families, in turn leading to the misinterpretations found concerning the correct billing for service. This article examines the consequences of billing for service according to averages (MGP), keeping in mind two phenomenon: the economic equilibrium between businesses and clients, and income distribution in the six socioeconomic established strata in Colombia. It concludes that equilibrium is not altered by any type of average, while the income distribution is. As a consequence, if the Colombian municipalities were to use the best average, the most appropriate according to the structure of the market, the income distribution could be improved without financial effects for the garbage recollection businesses.