



Evaluation in Norway: A 25-Year Assessment

Erik Døving

Drammen 22. oktober 2021

Artikkel av

Jostein Askim (UiO), Erik Døving og Åge Johnsen (OsloMet) i

Scandinavian Journal of Public Administration

Special issue «The Power of Evaluation and the Power in
Evaluation» (kommer i 2021)



Background and purpose of the paper

- Evaluation and evidence based policy important in public management in Norway
 - Performance audit
 - Mandatory evaluation
 - Webbased database for all evaluations in the central government (*Evalueringssportalen*)
 - Records since 1994
- Purpose: describe evaluation practice in government

Database for evalueringer

Søk etter evalueringer og annet portalinnhold



Se også

[Sektor](#) [Utfører](#) [Oppdragsgiver](#) [Type](#) [Datagrunnlag](#)



Kalender



Det er ingen kommende arrangementer



Følg oss på Twitter

Veileder: Strategisk og systematisk bruk av evaluering i styringen

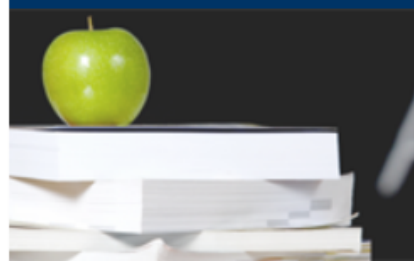
Forankre og integrere



Planlegge og gjennomføre



Formidle og bruke



Nyheter

Hvem skal vinne evalueringsprisen 2019?

Velg hva du vil gjøre



[Les veiledere](#)
Hvordan utføre evalueringer.

Mest leste evalueringer

[Et bedre NAV for brukerne. Modell for brukermedvirkning i NAV](#)

[Riksrevisjonens undersøkelse av arkivering og åpenhet i statlig forvaltning](#)

[Arbeidsevneevaluering i NAV :](#)

Materials and method

- Data: evaluation projects recorded in the Evaluation Database 1994—2018 (N>3000) as well as in university/national library catalogues
- Actors
 - Commissioning authority (name and type)
 - Evaluators (name and type)
- Evaluation type
 - Prospective incl. cost benefit analysis
 - Formative
 - Summative

Figure 1: Number of government evaluations 1994-2018

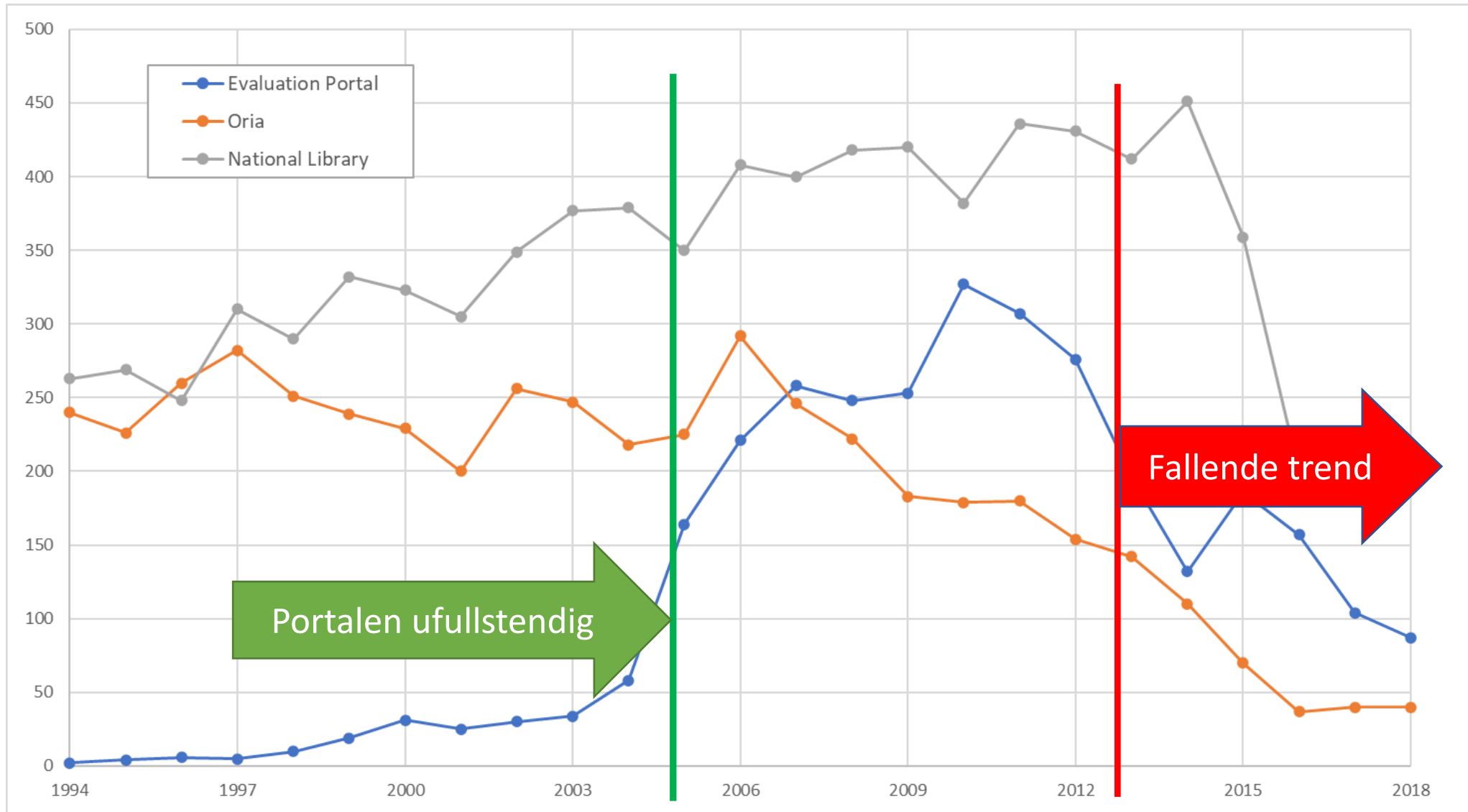


Figure 2. Types of evaluations, % per year

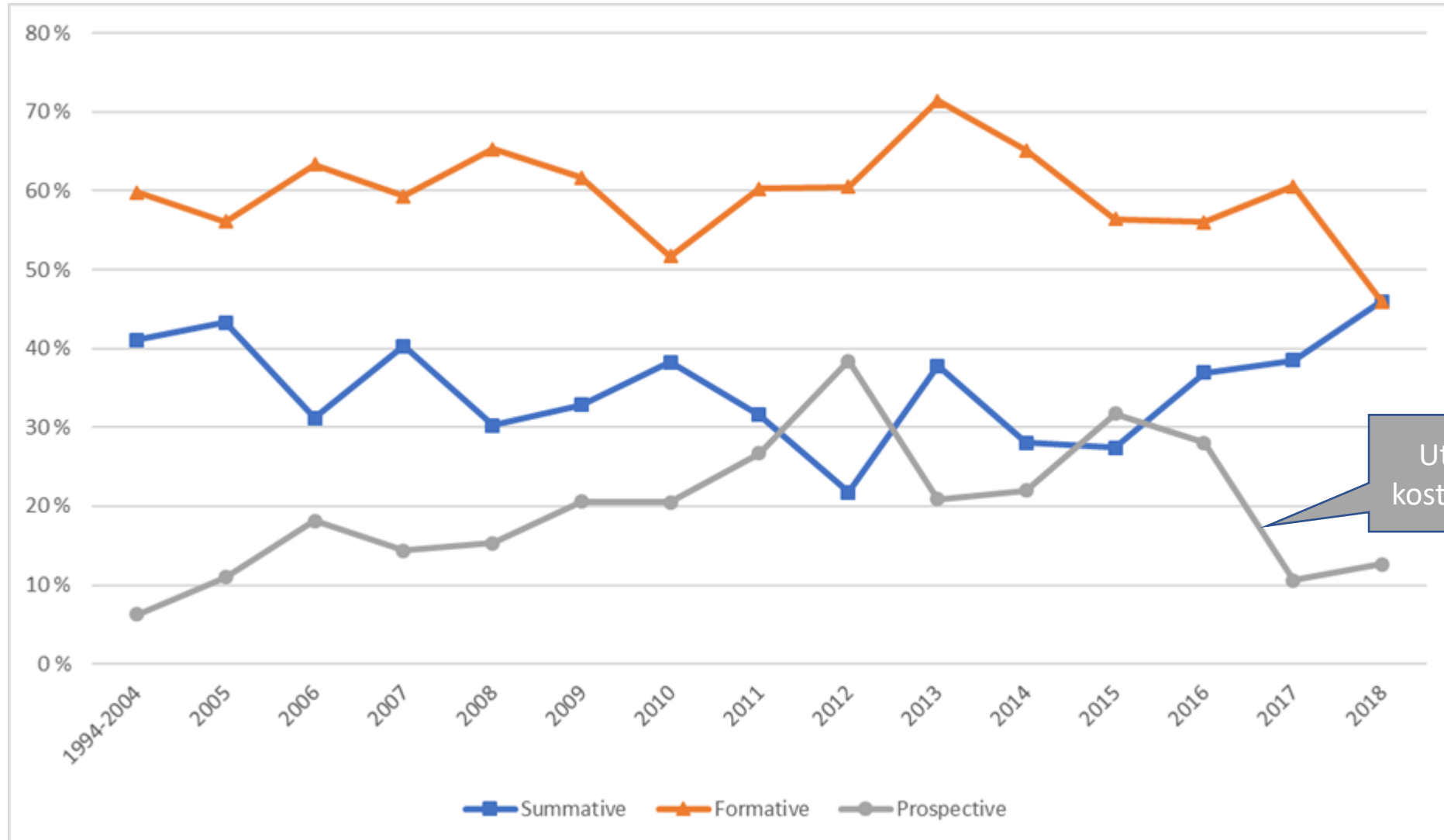


Figure 3. Top 20 commissioners

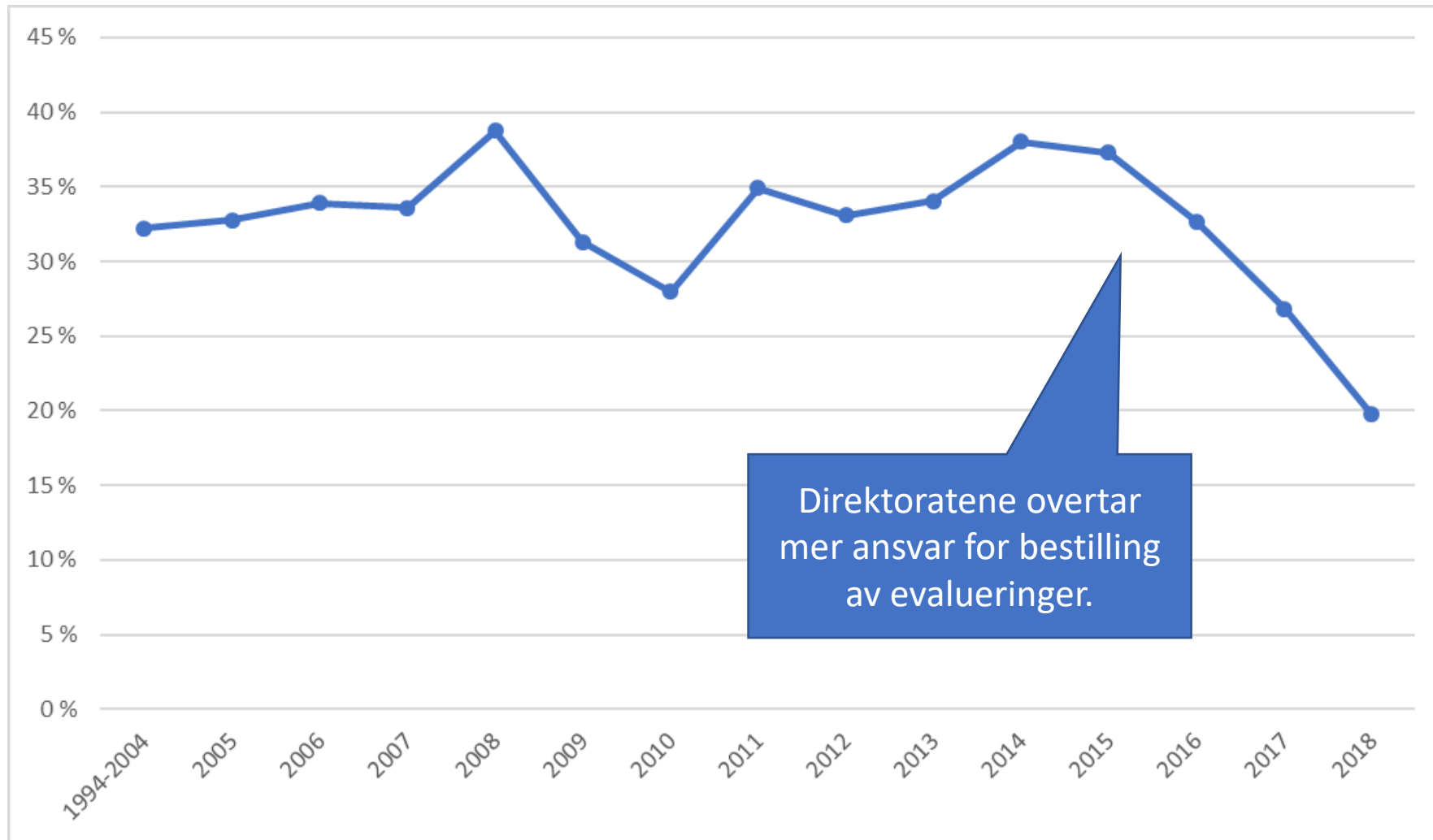
Number of evaluations commissioned by each, 1994–2018 (N=2539).



Riksrevisjonen

Forskningsrådet ofte på oppdrag fra andre etater eller fra departementer

Figure 4. Evaluations commissioned by ministries as share of all evaluations per year.

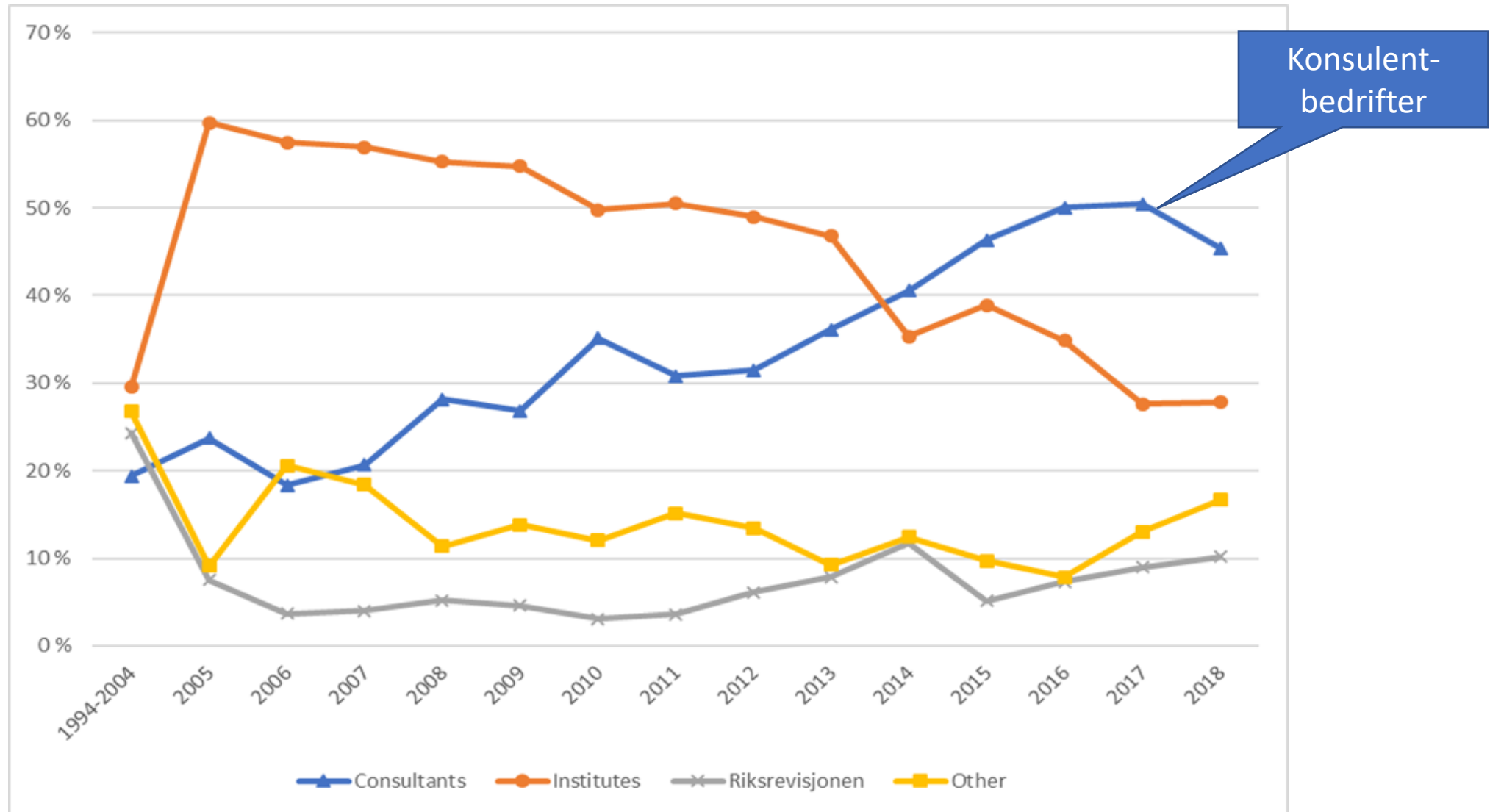


Evaluations commissioned by the parliament excluded (N=3460). Source: Evalueringsportalen

Table 1. Top 10 evaluators by number of evaluations, 1994–2018

Evaluator	Evaluations
Office of the Auditor General (Riksrevisjonen)	296
Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research NIBR	235
Institute of Transport Economics TØI	208
Pöyry and ECON	177
Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, R & E NIFU	141
Fafo Institute for Labour and Social Research	128
SINTEF	113
Vista Analyse	112
Norwegian Institute for Nature Research NINA	106
Oxford Research	105
Sum top 10	1621
Other evaluators	2708
Total	4329

Figure 5. Types of evaluators, % per year



Source: Evalueringsportalen.no N=4329

Discussion and conclusions

- About 100 evaluations annually
- Supply side dominated by independent research institutes, increasing presence of consultant firms
- Ministries commissioned relatively fewer, and executive agencies commissioned relatively more
- Evaluation wave peak?
- State of evaluation affairs
 - ✓ Too much evaluation of small things (development aid, research & development, culture)?
 - ✓ Too little evaluation of big things (transport infrastructure, defence, law/justice)?
 - ✓ Too little “arm’s length”?
 - ✓ Are consultant firms in evaluation a good thing?

