Evaluation in Norway: A 25-Year Assessment

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Drammen 22. oktober 2021

Artikkel av
Jostein Askim (UiO), Erik Døving og Åge Johnsen (OsloMet) i
Scandinavian Journal of Public Administration
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 (*Evalueringsportalen*)
  • Records since 1994

• Purpose: describe evaluation practice in government
Database for evalueringer

Se også
Sektor Utfører Oppdragsgiver Type Datagrunnlag

Veileder: Strategisk og systematisk bruk av evaluering i styringen

Forankre og integrere
Planlegg og gjennomføre
Formidle og bruke

Nyheter
Hvem skal vinne evalueringsprisen 2019?

Velg hva du vil gjøre
Les veiledere
Hvordan utføre evalueringer.

Kalender
Det er ingen kommende arrangementer

Most leste evalueringer
Et bedre NAV for brukerne. Modell for brukerdemdvirkning i NAV
Riksrevisjonens undersøkelse av arkivering og åpnenhet i statlig forvaltnig
Arbeidsevnevurdering 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

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