

Trend On Public Administration Research: A Bibliometric Analysis

Author:

Ismail Nurdin¹, Sri Hartati², Afriati³

Affiliation:

Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri, Jl. Raya Bandung-Sumedang KM. 20, Jatinangor,
Sumedang 45363, Indonesia^{1,2}

Ratama Konsultan, Jakarta 12430, Indonesia³

e-Mail:

ismailnurdin@ipdn.ac.id¹, srihartatiipdn@gmail.com², afriati@gmail.com³

*Corresponding author

Ismail Nurdin

Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri, Sumedang-
Indonesia

Email: ismailnurdin@ipdn.ac.id

Received: Feb 07, 2022

Revised : Jun 07, 2022

Accepted: Jun 11, 2022

Available Online: Jun 30, 2022

Abstract

This research aims to present publications on Public Administration from the Scopus database using a bibliometric analysis. The Publish or Perish method by Harzing was used for citations in the form of metrics, while Microsoft Excel and VOS viewer were used for frequency analysis and visualization of data between 2010-2021. Findings: Based on the results, the publications on Public Administration have consistently increased since 2015 with 656 citations. The most popular keywords identified are development, drug administration, food and practice, China, impact, review and state, application, research, big data, future and Public Administration, case, evolution, and efficiency.

Keywords: Public Administration; Bibliometric Analysis

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menyajikan publikasi tentang *Public Administration* dari database Scopus dengan menggunakan analisis bibliometrik. Metode penelitian melalui Publish or Perish oleh Harzing digunakan untuk kutipan dalam bentuk metrik, sedangkan Microsoft Excel dan VOS viewer digunakan untuk analisis frekuensi dan visualisasi data antara 2010-2021. Temuan: Berdasarkan hasil, publikasi Administrasi Publik secara konsisten meningkat sejak tahun 2015 dengan 656 kutipan. Kata kunci yang paling populer diidentifikasi adalah pengembangan, administrasi obat, makanan dan praktik, Cina, dampak, tinjauan dan status, aplikasi, penelitian, data besar, masa depan dan Administrasi Publik, kasus, evolusi, dan efisiensi.

Kata Kunci: Administrasi Publik; Analisis Bibliometrik

INTRODUCTION

Public Administration plays several important roles in the context of administering government, including in providing public services to achieve the main objective of State establishment, namely the welfare of people. Currently, public administration has been given more than a simple meaning, "the science of state affairs." It has a very large role in covering all aspects of the social, political, cultural, and legal environment that affect the implementation of duties expected from state institutions. Furthermore, public administration can be likened to a link between the government and the public. It is used to better understand these relationships and can increase the responsibility of a public policy for the effectiveness and efficiency of its implementation.

According to Henry (1989), public administration exists along with the existence of a political system in a country. It serves to achieve program objectives determined by political policymakers. In the United States, public administration research began at the end of the 19th century and was pioneered by Woodrow Wilson as stated in the writing titled "The Study of Administration" in 1887. However, according to Cameron and McLaverty (2008), certain debates in the American Public Administration have been going on for two decades. These include McCurdy and Cleary, 1984; Perry and Kraemer, 1986; Stallings and Ferris 1988; Houston and Delevan 1990, 1994; Box 1994; Adams and White 1994; White and Adams 1994; Lan and Anders, 2000; as well as Wright et al., 2004. They generally concluded that Public Administration research not only fails to

contribute to systematic and evolving knowledge, but also adhere to rigorous scientific standards (White, 1999). Bouckaert (2010) stated that discussions on the Future of Public Administration research is more than a list of topics inspired by the possible challenges facing the public sector. Four main trends influence the future of public administration research, namely Europeanization, the reform agenda, globalization, and marketization.

Several investigations on Public Administrations have been carried out globally, for example, Davy (1962). Based on Yang (2019) research related to Public Administration have been carried out in different years eg Wilson, 1887; Mosher, 1956; Parker, 1965; and Rosenbloom, 1983. Furthermore, Kovač and Jukić (2016) showed that various related reviews have been conducted eg: Perry and Kraemer, 1986; Bingham and Bowen, 1994; Terry, 2005; Lee, et.al., 2009; Cheng and Lu, 2009; Walker, et.al., 2014; Henderson and Terry, 2014. The available bibliometrics analysis also includes Vogel, 2014; Arias, et al. .al., 2016; Ni, et.al., 2017; Marques, et., al., 2020; Cervantes, et.al., 2021, Yu, 2022; Hinojosa and Hernández, 2022). However, there are no bibliometric analyses of Public Administration reported by Scopus indexed journal publications directly.

Therefore, this research aims to quantitatively explore scientific works that have been published relating to Public Administration using bibliometric analysis. This analysis is a method used to analyze bibliographic data obtained from various documents such as articles, journals, and others. The novelty of this research is to use the bibliometric analysis method to quantify

the development of international articles on Public Administration from 2010 to 2021 in Scopus indexed journal publications.

Various investigations related to bibliometrics have been carried out previously. Bibliometric analysis was used to examine the distribution of publications and citations from various documents (Anegon, et.al., 2004). Topics in bibliometrics can be described both qualitatively and quantitatively (Velasco, et.al., 2012). Furthermore, bibliometric indicators reflect scientific development at a higher level through the nature and progress of the science concerned. There are two main aspects that affect the reliability of the indicators, including the selection of databases, and the identification of publications based on the address given by the author (Devos, 2011). Bibliometric indicators are stronger at higher levels of aggregation and are better suited for analyzing patterns in large groups. Meanwhile, they are less suitable for the evaluation of individuals or small research teams (Russell and Rousseau, 2015).

The search for bibliometric data was conducted using Scopus which is a database of abstracts and citations as well as an indexer that contains scientific publications. It was introduced generally in 2004 (Chadegani, et. al, 2011) and does not cover all published sources, but it is one of the most comprehensive databases containing various documents for academic research (Ahmi and Mohamad, 2019; Sweileh et al., 2017). The data for the bibliometric analysis must be massive and objective, although its interpretation often depends on the objective and subjective evaluation

determined through informed procedures and techniques (Donthu, et. al. 2021).

METHODS

The method used was bibliometric analysis, because it can evaluate publications and productivity in a particular research area (Moed et al., 2002). In addition, the bibliometric analysis gives a better explanation of factors that support the results and contribute to conducting influential research (Akhavan et al., 2016). The bibliometric method comprising several stages such as determining keywords, searching, selecting articles, validating, and analyzing data was used to carry out this research (Pambayun, 2021).

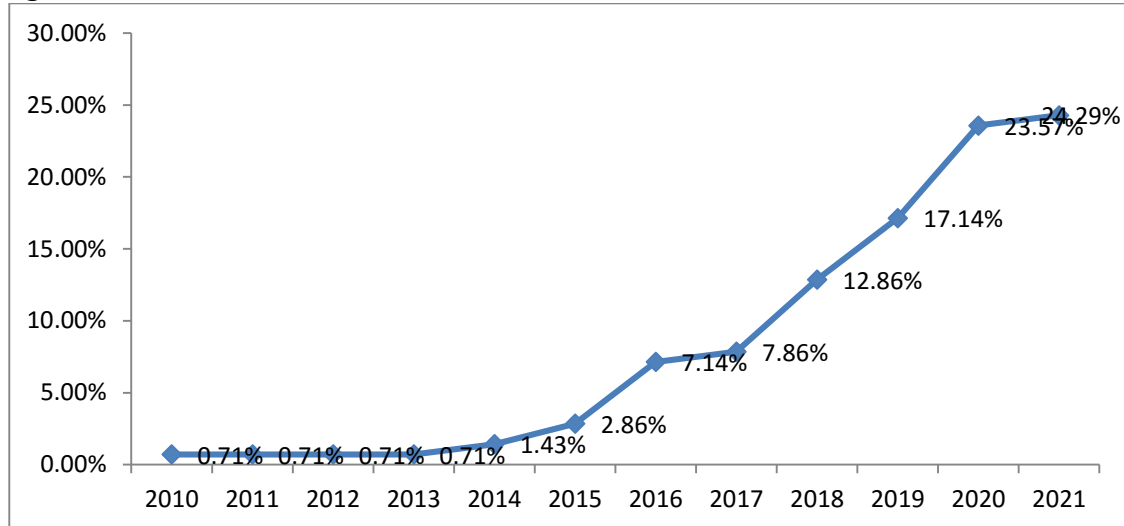
The data used were collected from the Scopus citation web page using Publish or Perish software which is a citation on Public Administration from various types of documents, such as journal articles, chapters, books, and conference papers. The keyword used was "Public Administration" which must be contained in the title of the document. The selected documents were limited to those published between 2010 – 2021 and in the form of articles. The results of previous searches through PoP are limited to only 200 bibliographic listings or one search iteration. After sorting, the documents were saved in CSV and RIS formats, while the VOSviewer application was used to visualize the analysis results.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The extraction results obtained through Harzing's Publish or Perish software show the trend of research on Public Administration starting from 2010 to 2021. The trend began to

increase significantly in 2015, and continued up to 2021.

Figure 1. Trends in Research Related to Public Administration



Source: Primary Data, 2022

Among the 200 existing documents, there were more than 10376 citations, while some were cited more than 100

times as shown in Table 1. The most cited document was written by Bryson (2014) with 479 citations.

Table 1. Cited Documents

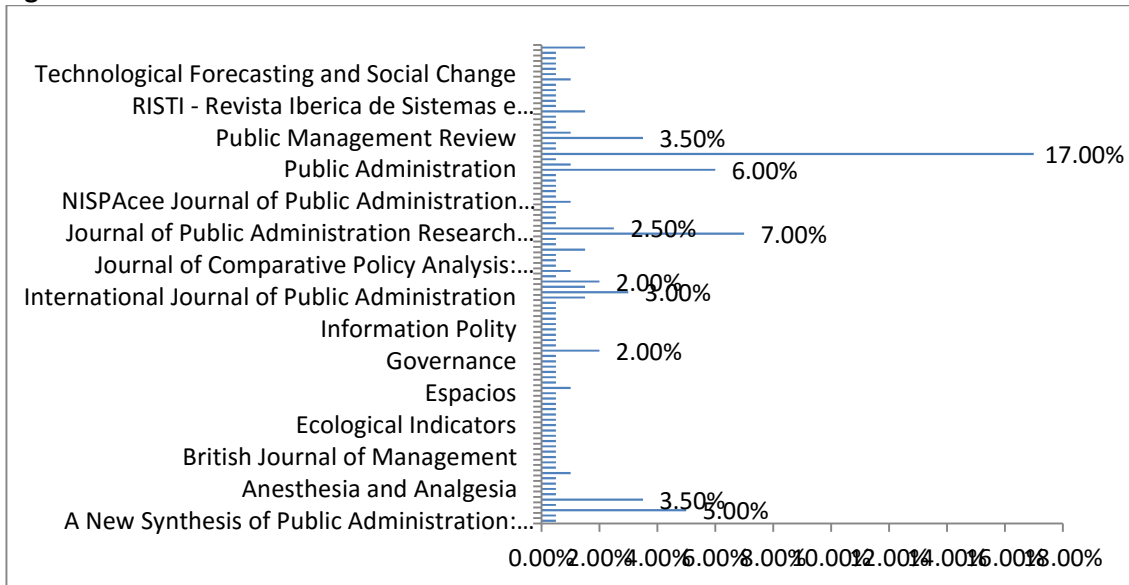
Cites	Authors	Title	Year
479	J.M. Bryson	Public value governance: Moving beyond traditional public administration and the new public management	2014
276	S.P. Osborn	It takes two to tango? Understanding the co-production of public services by integrating the services management	2013
244	K.R. Isett	Networks in public administration scholarship: Understanding where we are and where we need to go	2011
225	D. Carpen	Reputation and Public Administration	2012
218	S. Grimme	Behavioral Public Administration: Combining Insights from Public Administration and Psychology	2017
206	T. Christer	Complexity and Hybrid Public Administration-Theoretical and Empirical Challenges	2011
195	M. Painter	Tradition and public administration	2010
189	B. George	We Know the Yin—But Where Is the Yang? Toward a Balanced Approach on Common Source Bias in Public Administration	2017
158	T. Nabatch	Addressing the Citizenship and Democratic Deficits: The Potential of Deliberative Democracy for Public Administration	2010
139	H. Wang	Public-private partnership in Public Administration discipline: a literature review	2018
138	P. Aucoin	New Political Governance in Westminster Systems: Impartial Public Administration and Management Performance	2012
131	G. Peters	Global Financial Crisis, Public Administration and Governance: Do New Problems Require New Solutions?	2011
118	M.D. McGi	Reflections on vincent ostrom, public administration, and polycentricity	2012
106	D.J. Fiorin	Sustainability as a conceptual focus for public administration	2010

Source: Primary Data, 2022

Based on the publishers, the majority of the research is generally dominated by scientific publications originating from the journal Public Administration Review amounting to

17%, followed by Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory with 7%, and Public Administration with 6%.

Figure 2. Tren Publisher

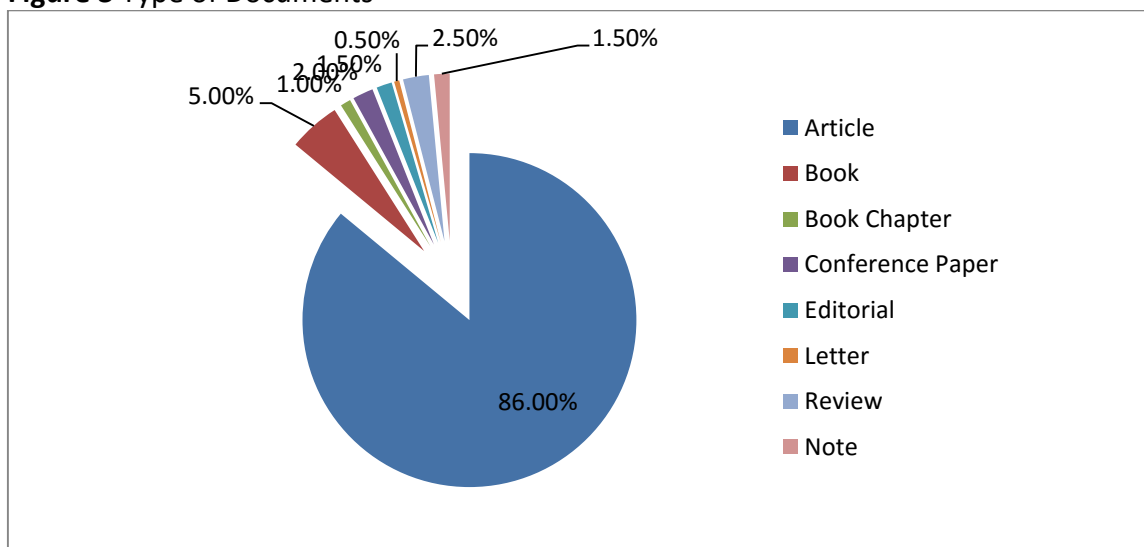


Source: Primary Data, 2022

Based on the systematic mapping results, the most frequently used document type is article with a total of 86.00%, while the least is the evaluation

with 3 or 10%. Consequently, it can be stated that the most common research is in the form of journal articles.

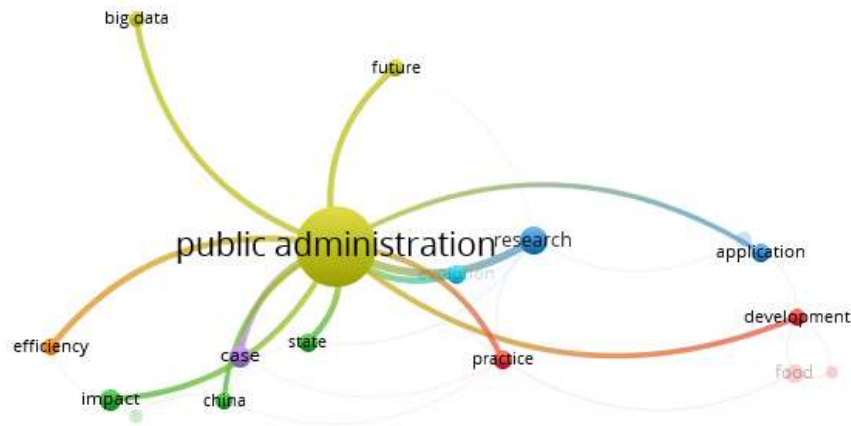
Figure 3 Type of Documents



Source: Primary Data, 2022

Furthermore, co-occurrence was analyzed based on document titles (Figure 3). The results show various perspectives of research on Public Administration.

Figure 4. The co-occurrence analysis



Source: Primary Data, 2022

Based on figure 4, certain occurrences and seven clusters are used, which led to generating 17 items from the output of the VOSviewer application. For example, Cluster 1 consists of development, drug administration, food and practice, while Cluster 2 comprises China, impact, public administration review, and state. Furthermore, Cluster 3 consists of application, public administration research, Cluster 4 big data, future, and Public Administration, while 5, 6 and 7 each are case, evolution, and efficiency.

This research was conducted to examine the publication trends related to Public Administration from 2010 to 2021 using a citation matrix. Based on the results, there has been an increase in research since 2015. From 200 existing documents more than 10376 citations were found. The most cited document was written by Bryson (2014) with 479 citations.

The co-occurrence analysis results produced by VOSviewer were used to answer further research questions regarding the most common Public Administration themes. Development, drug administration, food and practice, China, impact, review and state, application, research, big data, future and Public Administration, case, evolution and efficiency are among the most popular keywords identified in the document database. This result provides developing trends of topics from the journal.

Furthermore, the previous analysis indicates that the journal will be acknowledged by more people worldwide in the future. The number of publications and citations is expected to increase continuously, and the research topics in the journal might become increasingly more diverse and in-depth. The results also provide a platform for the expression and dissemination of ideas, strengthen cooperation among

authors, institutions and countries/regions, as well as build a bridge between academia and industries.

This research only focused on the Co-occurrence aspect, hence, further investigations on other features such as bibliographic coupling, Co-Citation, as well as others related to bibliometric analysis associated with Public Administration are needed. Further research can also be carried out with search results and other aspects, including abstracts and journal publishers.

Based on the analysis results, no search produces 100% ideal outputs, therefore, errors in positive and negative results are to be expected (Sweileh et al., 2017). In addition, this research only used the Scopus database with the Harzing PoP application as the main source of documents.

Another limitation related to the search period is limiting the articles used to those published between 2010-2021. Further research are recommended to consider articles published since the introduction of Public Administration to obtain a broader picture. Besides, the results are based on data collected from the Scopus database which is considered the most authenticated source of quality publications. Future trials might consider WoS or other databases to collect Public Administration related publications.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results, "Public Administration" publications have continued to increase since 2015. A total of 17 keywords were divided into 7 clusters and the most cited document

was written by Bryson (2014) with 479 citations

The results provide suggestions which can be used for further investigations. For example, Public Administration research in Indonesia can be linked to keywords, subjects, other fields, or according to the visualization results using VOSViewer in relation to development, drug administration, food and practice, China, impact, review and state, application, research, big data, future and Public Administration, case, evolution and efficiency.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are grateful to three anonymous reviewers for their invaluable suggestions and comments.

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