"Performance Measurement -You can count anything, but should you?"



Program

Introduction	Graham Smith, Numerical Advantage
Performance measures from a statistical perspective	Mark Griffin, Australian Development Agency for Statistics and Information Systems
Telling the story	Euan Lockie, Australian Continuous Improvement Group
Proxies and ethics	Graham Smith
Group discussion	

Performance Measures from a Statistical Perspective

Dr Mark Griffin

Australian Development Agency for Statistics and Information Systems



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Two issues from a statistical perspective

Possible existence of existing data

Need for a good analysis plan

The first question - when considering a new evaluation

- What existing data is already present?
 - Existing data that answers some evaluation questions is valuable



Two forms of existing data

Primary data

Secondary data

Primary Data

- Previous evaluations
 - Possibly still being conducted
- Other reports
 - Answer all or part of the same questions as the new proposed evaluation

Secondary Data

- Administrative data present in an organisation but has not been collated
 - eg. emails, timesheets
 - can be easily collected as an additional part of current administrative practices

Weaknesses

- Collected through different administrative processes
- Answering different research questions
- Biases in this data because of this different perspective the population we ideally want to study

Strengths

 Careful consideration of existing data can save time

 Can save money within the context of a new evaluation.

The analysis plan – The second question

• How will the data be used following the evaluation?

Responses can be evaluate or general

A good analysis plan vs. a general response

A general/broad response

- Often little thought to exactly how the data will be used
 - Eg. "the data will be used to determine if employee's are working to full capacity"

Statistical analysis plan

 Describe exactly what variables (or performance measures) will be collected

What statistical methods will be used to analyse these variables

PLANNING DEVELOPMEN

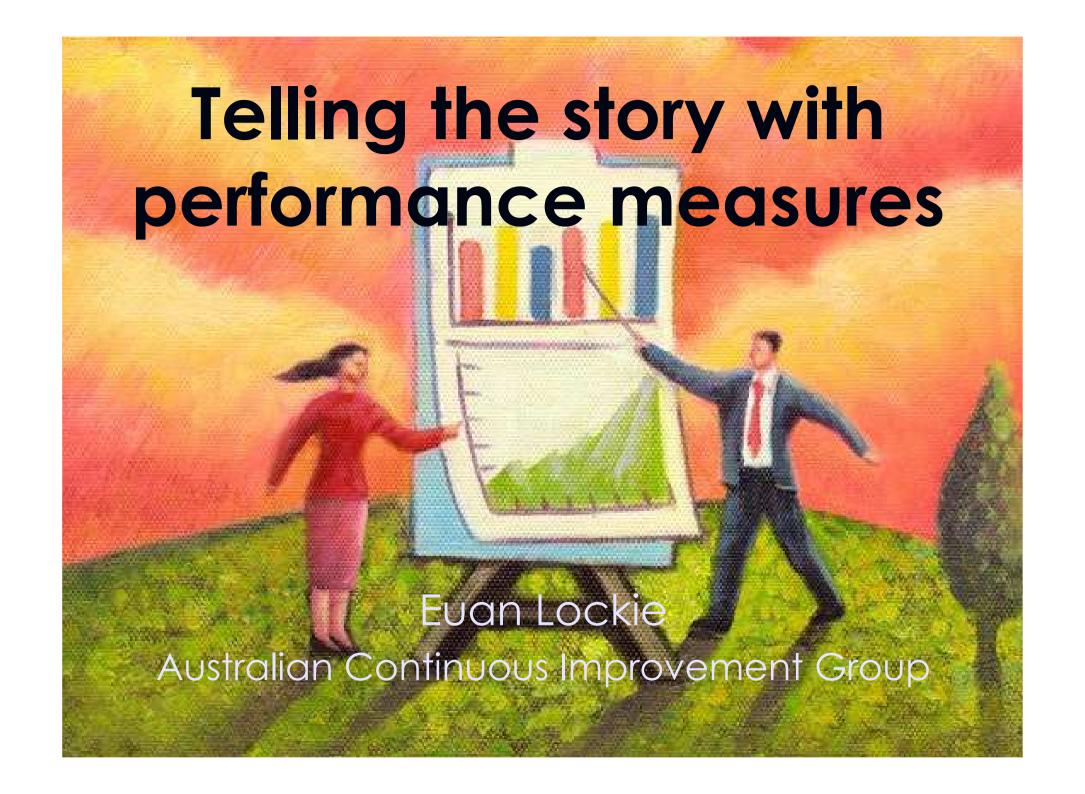
ANALYSIS STRATEGY

Analysis questions

- Who will make use of our performance measures once they are collected?
- How will they use this data?
- Will they use all of the performance measures that we are collecting or only some of them?

Conclusion

- Performance measures to consider and collect before an evaluation
 - whether there is any existing data that might answer all or some of the research questions that prompted the new evaluation
 - whether all of the performance measures that we are collecting as part of an evaluation will end up being used within a subsequent analysis



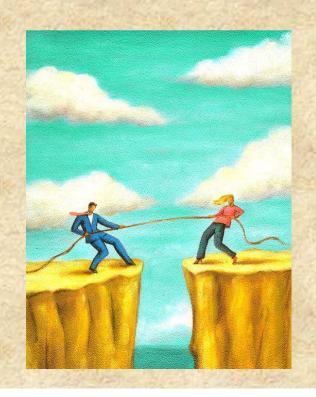
Performance measurement

- Evidence-based policy...
- Evidence-based practice...
- What evidence is credible?



What could possibly go wrong?

- Goal displacement
- Perverse incentives
- Ambiguity
- Weak data collection methods
- Measuring what's easy to measure



What to do about it

- Anticipate perverse incentives & monitor behaviour
- Be explicit about attribution & accountability
- Ensure measurement is only part of your performance story



Hawks soar in a thriller



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error FF — Frees For FA — Frees Against CL — First effective disposal from stoppage SA — Score Assists TOGX — Time on ground (%)

itoes. Power forward Lance Franklin.

making his long-awaited return after six weeks on the sidelines, was on the ground from the first bourses, but he couldn't get hands on the ball.

It wasn't for lack of trying. Have there past couldn't get the ball up for-ward to him. At the first break the Swane held a comfortable 26-point lead after kicking 4.3 to Hawthorn's

Every time the Heady got the hall. they were benieged by the Swans. There were more handballs than kicks and more contested possessions than uncontested

Sydney knew it had to get off to a flying start, seed were quick to get in. He down and in the third quarter the the Hawks' faces, denying them space to play their trademark style.

The question was, how long could

Franklin slotted his first goal from 50 metres on a tight angle.

In the next eight minutes the Hawks kicked six goals, keeping 3.5 to the Swans' 2.2. Sydney scoreless.

The tackle count flipped with Sydney accounting for just three of the nine tackles in the last 10 minutes of the quarter, Swans Daniel Hannebery, Adam Goodes and Mike Pyke, who had been sensational for the first quarter and a half didn't get a touch and by the big break the Hawks had reduced a 30-point deficit from early in the second term to just

five points.
Sydney, however, wasn't going to lead changed four times, to have Hewthorn four points in front at the final change.

riouge not only restricted Goodes, but almost single handedly shut down Sydney's forward line. helping the Hawks win the quarter

Sydney had a chance to wrestle back the lead, with three scoring chances in the opening minutes of the last quarter. But all three shots missed.

Goodes finally ended the Swans' frustration, kicking the first goal for term seven minutes into the quarter. But a free awarded to Paul Puopolo deep inside the Hawks' forward line against Nick Smith, levelled the

Franklin was then able to reel the Swans back and found Matthew Suckling loose for a goal.

But just as quickly. Sydney's Jarrad McVeigh found Craig Bird for a goal and the home team was back in

from 45 metres, giving Hawthorn a one-point lead.

After a turnover in Hawthorn's attack, Sydney wasted no time sending the ball flying back into attack. Ryan O'Keefe marked and kicked his second goal for the day. Just over two minutes remained and the Swans were up by five points.

But Hawks skipper Luke Hodge won the centre clearance and kicked to Franklin who put his hands up to mark, but the ball sailed thought him to be marked by Burgoyne.

The small forward coolly kicked the goal from about 30 metres to put the Hawks up by a point.

Less than a minute remains when Hawk Brad Sewell delivers a mighty kick from the middle of the ground and goals. The final result was a hard-earned seven-point win to the

Proxies and Ethics - Graham Smith

Proxies

- Used when there is no unambiguous measure
- As closely related as possible to the underlying concept
- Are all measurements proxies in some sense?
 - E.g. temperature

Examples of proxies

Morale Staff turnover

Particulate pollution Scattering length

Museum exhibit popularity Floor wear

Satisfaction Number of complaints

Physical fitness Resting pulse rate

Features of proxies

- Cheaper and easier to measure
- Relationship not necessarily linear
- Connected possibly indirectly with the construct

Reporting proxies

Report what we measure

Ethics

- Recognise power of measurement
- Recognise possibility of corruption

AES Guidelines

- Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations; in particular
 - A2: Identify different interests
 - A5: Look for potential risks or harms
 - B11: Identify purpose and commissioners
 - B12: Obtain informed consent
 - B16: Report significant problems

Conclusions

- When to refuse:
 - Serious conflict between ethics and what commissioner wants
- Curb your enthusiasm!
 - Recognise limitations in what the performance measurement project can achieve

