

Rapid Response Evidence Service in the Brazilian Federal Government: From Policy Problems to Evidence Informed Solutions



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Background

- The National School of Public Administration (ENAP) is a central organization of the Brazilian Federal Government.
- Accountable for conducting policy-oriented research, innovation projects and professional training for the civil service and policymakers.
- Public Knowledge Broker Organization operating inside the government.
- **"Evidência Express" (EvEx)** is a demand-driven rapid response evidence service that was created in 2020 to connect research and policymaking, facilitating knowledge translation and promoting a better understanding of research implications for social and political issues.

Learnings

- **Coproduction** and collaboration boost policymaker engagement with evidence.
- Ongoing **dialogue** helps researchers turn policy issues into actionable research questions.
- Enap's credibility and **legitimacy** with policymakers and the civil service is crucial to the success of the Rapid Response Service.
- Enap is embedded in **everyday policymaking**. This internal perspective enables the Service to deliver solutions aligned with public sector realities.
- **State capacity** is key: stronger ministries show greater involvement in evidence production.

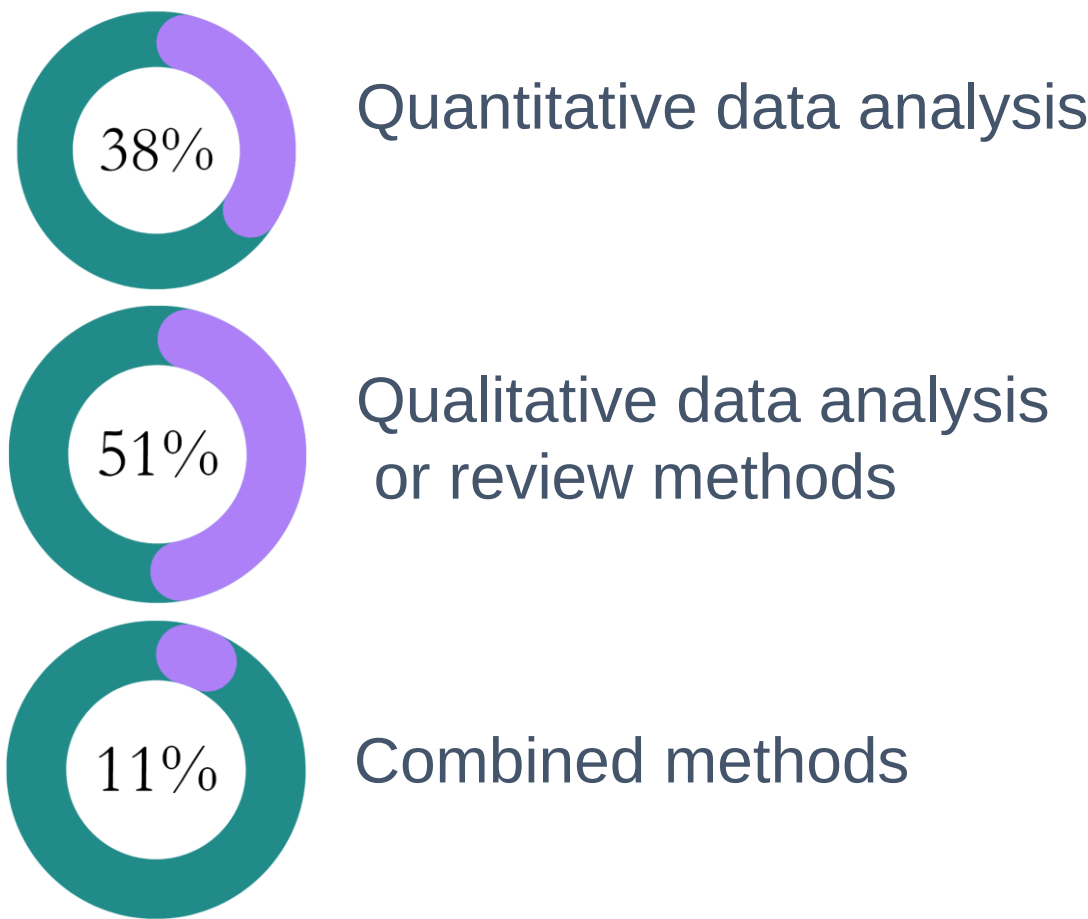
Challenges

- Multimethod and multi topics: research capacity.
- Rapid response X research quality / depth.
- Databases organization X timeliness.
- Finding professionals who possess both research and policy skills, and can effectively translate between the two.
- Future research: systematically understand how the evidence produced by the service has been used to influence policy (besides what we know anecdotally).

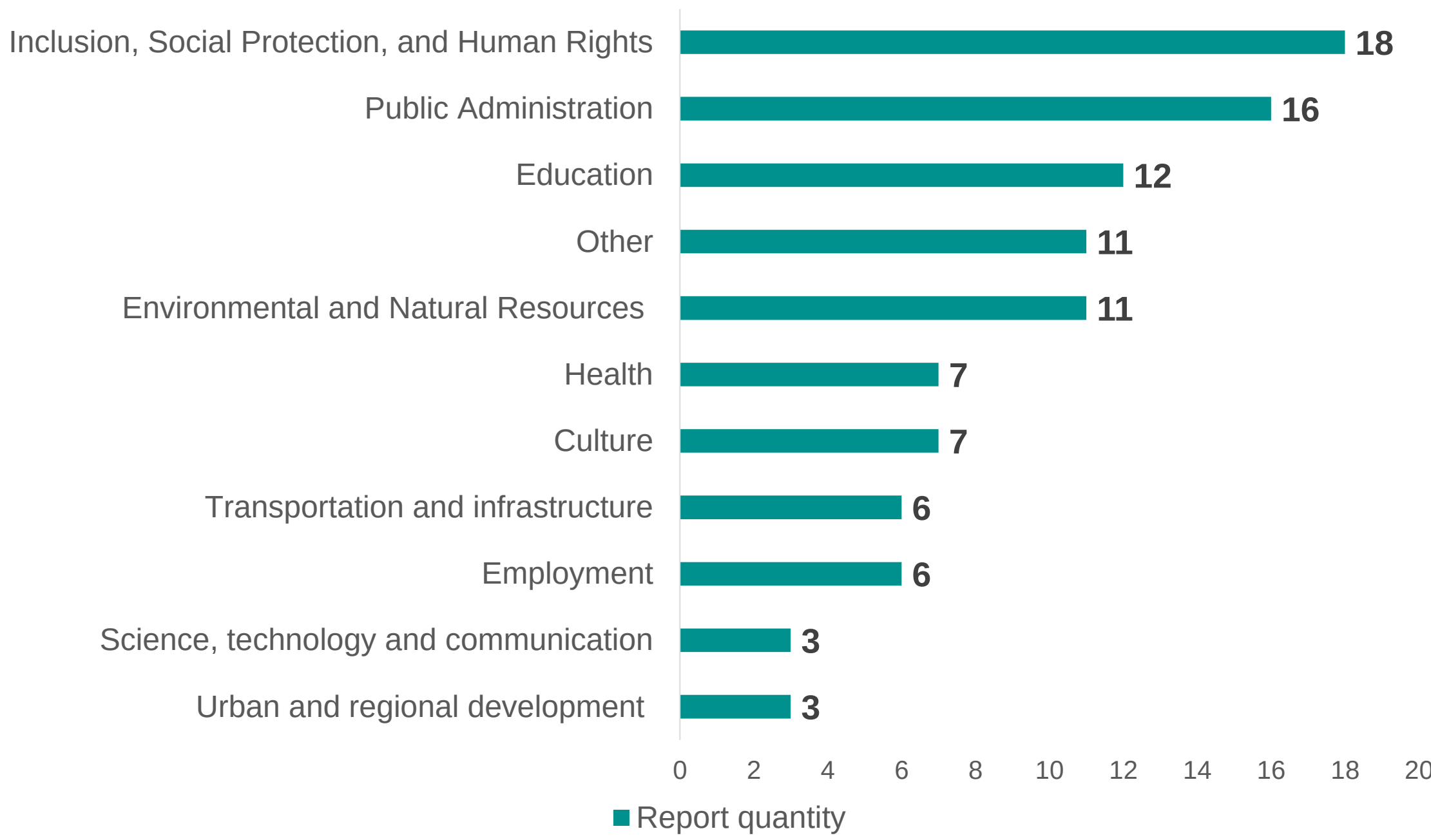
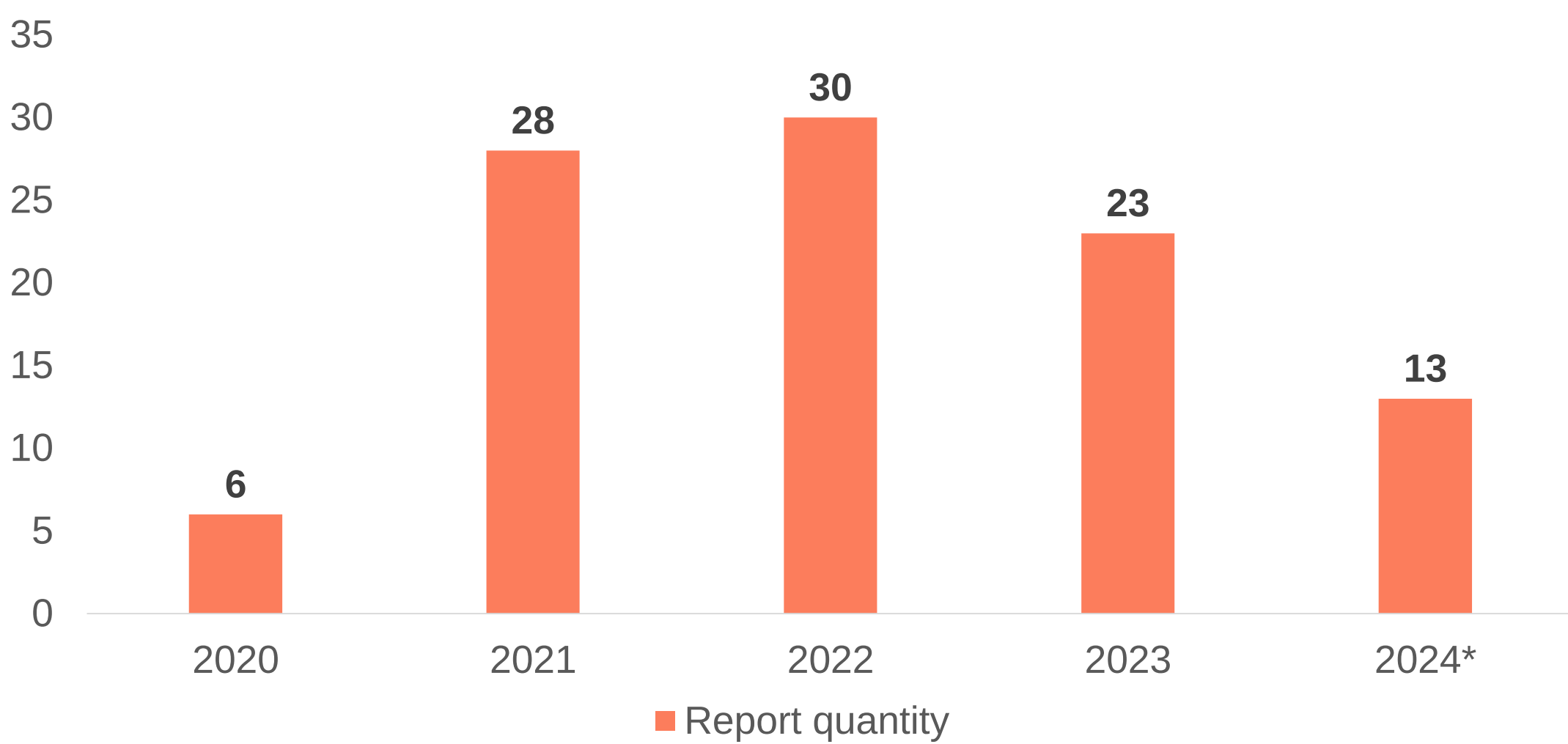
Results

31 different public organizations served

100 reports elaborated in less than 4 years



- **Identifying the policy context:** the motivation for evidence demand (why), people involved (who), intended uses (for what), and audience (for whom).
- Translating policy problems into research questions requires public administration knowledge, public policy decision-making processes and contexts. **Tailored research plans.**
- **Intermediation** between researchers and policymakers: a crucial part of framing an objective and feasible research question that addresses the real challenges of public policy.
- Research questions for policy design, formulation, implementation, evaluation, audit and control responses, civil society participation.



Public Organizations	Report quantity
Central Government Evaluation Committee	26
Ministries of Economy, Planning, Treasury and Public Administration	16
Enap	13
Ministries of Human Rights, Justice and Racial Equality	11
Regulatory Agencies	10
Ministries of Health, Culture and Education	7
Ministries of Agriculture, Urban and Regional Development and Infrastructure	7
Local government	6
Ministries of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communication	3
Presidency of the Republic	1
Total	100

Source: administrative data/Enap

