

Performance Measurement: A Technical Perspective

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Performance-based evaluation is an important step toward government accountability. Measures of performance are not new to the government, but they have taken on a greater prominence in the United States in recent years with the passage of the Government Performance Review Act (GPRA) of 1993 (not only making them mandatory but also subject to higher review). When it comes to creating these measures, however, the devil is in the details. So what I want to focus on in this paper are the technical problems associated with measuring governmental performance.