

# Community Governance Research Trend: A Bibliometric Analysis

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Community governance is a collaboration between the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to achieve desired outcomes in a jurisdiction, whether it is a neighborhood or an entire municipality. It is government exercised at the community level, where all decisions are made with and by the community, and the outcomes achieved are also aimed at the community. Many researchers have studied community governance an increasingly evolving topic. This research aims to determine the development of publication trends regarding community governance. This research uses quantitative methods with bibliometric analysis techniques. The data analyzed are the most productive countries and organizations in publication, co-authorship, and co-occurrence. The results show that the publication in community governance from 1954-2023 has increased year by year with different issues. America and Europe are the most productive countries in publication, with the most productive affiliations are universities in Australia. The analysis of co-authorship results in multiple researchers indicating their level of publication productivity based on their activity in producing publications as sole authors or in collaboration with other authors. The latest topics related to community governance and becoming trends are health and environmental issues. The next research can focus on the dynamics of public policy in community governance.

Keywords: community governance, bibliometric

## 1. Introduction

The existence of community governance, which legal professionals also referred to as legal community units, has a long history in Europe. In European countries, autonomous municipalities have various names, including "community council" in Spain, "Commune" in Italy, and "Parish" in England (Natsir, 2016). *The community* governance model, which is becoming increasingly popular in the public and municipal sectors is community governance. The concept typically refers to community involvement, participation, and decision-making in public affairs, and is associated with terms such as local governance, social governance, network governance, and participatory governance (Totikidis *et al*, 2005). Community governance is about the true collaboration of the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to achieve the goals and desired outcomes of a jurisdiction, whether in a neighborhood or an entire municipality (Pillora, 2011). The existence of community governance can be understood through some basic theories and the history of communities.





Like communities, the concept of community governance also gained popularity in the 1990s and beyond. Clark and Stewart are often cited on community theory in the field of government. In one of their previous works on the topic (Clarke & Stewart, 1994), stated that new patterns of community governance emerged primarily because of fragmentation at the local level of government. They note that local authorities (government) in England have always done the same thing alongside other organizations and institutions. However, the creation of specialized organizations and institutions with specific objectives (e.g., health, education, and housing) has led to fragmentation of responsibilities of local government departments. This fragmentation is further complicated in local government as a result of competitive tendering and contracting cultures, and with increased use of local authority services. There have been significant changes in recent years, and new patterns of community governance are emerging. These changes have occurred not only in the role and nature of local government but also in the disposition of other players in the system (Clarke & Stewart, 1998).

Community governance research has passed through the startup and growth stages and has entered a steady development stage. It is mainly reflected in the increase in the number of relevant literature. Community Governance is an expansion of the role of government apart from managing government affairs, which is not only at the central level (Banner, 2002). Meanwhile Community Governance is governance carried out at the community level where all decisions are made with the community, by the community, and the results obtained are also intended for the community (Totikidis *et al*, 2005). The existence of a community can run well when it has the capacity of community governance within it, and can run according to the capacity appropriate to its placement (Innes & Booher, 2002). Meanwhile, Robert J. Chaskin (2001) provides the view that each place tends to have different dimensions regarding the capacity possessed by a community. There are several communities whose main focus is different, such as focusing on organizations, individuals, affective relationships and shared values as well as the process of participation and involvement (Chaskin, 2001). In this context, it is of great theoretical and practical importance to strengthen the research on community governance.

Bibliometric studies on the community have only begun to emerge in recent years and are still relatively rare. Among them, Zhang *et al.* (2023) pointed out in a bibliometric method to conduct a quantitative review of the scientific literature concerning community management of National Parks (NPs) on a global scale. They analyzed data from published articles and

identified research hotspots and trends as well as the quantity, time, and country distribution of relevant research. Nath *et al. In* 2023, a bibliometric study to review the entire collection of Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology (CDOE) publications from 1973 to 2022, providing a comprehensive overview of the main publication characteristics. Mishra *et al.* (2021) used bibliometrics to analyze the trends and characteristics of research and development conducted on indigenous communities during 1979-2020 using the Scopus database.

The aim of this research is to use bibliometric analysis to examine the history of development, current situation, and research directions on community governance. At the same time, it will also provide a scientific basis for the practice of community governance. Therefore, this research not only encourages the progress of community governance research but also helps organizations contribute to the community governance of indigenous communities. To be clearer, this research focuses on:

- 1. What are the publication trends on community governance?
- 2. What is the analysis of co-authorship in community governance publications?
- 3. How is co-occurrence in community governance publications analyzed?

## 2. Literature review

Bibliometric analysis is a quantitative method used to analyze bibliographic data in articles or journals. This analysis is to investigate references to scientific articles cited in a journal, maps the scientific field of a journal, and is intended for grouping scientific articles according to a research field. The approach used in bibliometric analysis is the citation analysis approach to see one article that is cited by one other article, and the co-citation analysis approach to find 2 or more articles that are cited by 1 article. The scientific concepts contained in a document can be seen through the words (co-words) used. Co-word analysis is based on the analysis of the co-occurrence of words or keywords from two or more documents used to index documents.

The VOSViewer application has three visualization displays for bibliometric analysis, there are network, overlay, and density visualization. Network is used to show the network between visualized keywords. The overlay functions to display traces of research history, with darker visualization indicating longer research has been carried out. Meanwhile, brighter the color, the research carried out at the current time. Density functions as a display of research density. This visualization can be used to determine which parts of the research are still being carried out or have already been carried out a lot. From VOSViewer, we can also analyze co-authorship,



namely the collaboration of one author with another. And Co-Occurrence, which displays keyword networks in visual form.

## 3. Research Method

# 3.1. Document Types

Table 3.1. Document Types of Scopus

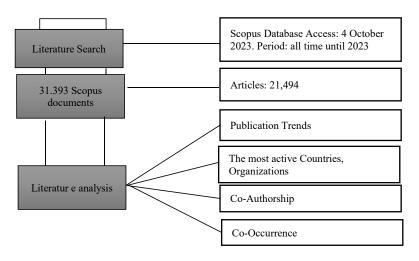
No	<b>Document Type</b>	Quantity
1	Artikel	21.494
2	Book chapter	3.998
3.	Review	2.115
4	Conference Paper	1.971
5.	Book	1.142
6.	Note	196
7.	Editorial	189
8.	Conference Review	171
9	Short survey	62
10.	Erratum	25
11.	Letter	19
12.	Retracted	6
13.	Abstract report	3
14.	Data paper	2
	Total	31,393

From Table 3.1 shows that the data collection used in this research is data from international article publications obtained from the Scopus database on October 4, 2023, using the keyword "community governance." The data from Scopus-indexed publications was chosen because these publications are widely used and serve as references in bibliometric analysis (Verma & Gustafsson, 2020). Data collection keywords (TITLE-ABS-KEY) "community governance." Search results from the Scopus database produced 31,393 documents. The results of this document start from 1954 to October 2023. In this research, the documents analyzed were 21,494 journal articles. This is because journal articles are assumed to develop more dynamically compared to other publications. Apart from that, there are tiered reviewers in the publication of journal articles, making the selection process more comprehensive and the publications of higher quality (Samsara, 2022).



## 3.2. Data Collection

Figure 3.2. Data Collection Flow



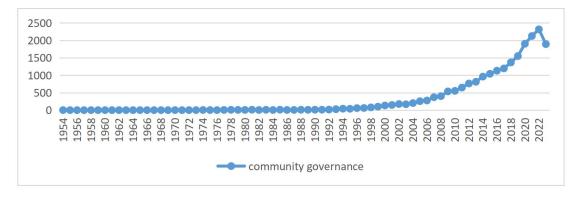
From Figure 3.2, data analysis and visualization were carried out to determine publication trends from the time of the first publication until 2023 using database analysis from Scopus. This analysis was conducted by reviewing annual publication charts with the keyword "community governance." Apart from that, it displays the countries and organizations that are most productive in the publication of community governance articles. Bibliometric analysis uses the VOSViewer application to map research trends in Community Governance studies. VOSViewer is software for building and visualizing bibliometric webs. VOSViewer is mainly used when working with small and large data sets; it displays data maps and various analytical analyses (Shah, 2020).

## 4. Results and Discussion

## 4.1. Community Governance Publication Trends

## a. Publication Trend by Year

Figure 4.1. Article Publication Trends by Year





Based on Figure 4.1,the first publication of articles related to community governance was carried out in 1954. The focus of research in the first year was related to the management of community density, which is part of natural selection. After the first publication in 1954, 15 years later there were no publications related to community governance in Scopus. As time went by, research on community governance developed into other fields. This research tends to increase from year to year, although it experiences ups and downs in certain years.

# **b. Publication by Country**

Figure 4.2. Article publication by Countries

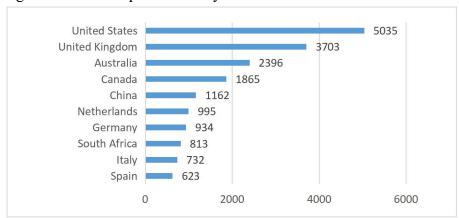


Figure 4.2 shows that research on community governance has also been carried out in several countries, especially in developed countries. The United States is still the country that pays great attention to research on community governance publications with research of 5,035 articles, followed by the United Kingdom with publications of 3,703 articles. China is the only Asian country in the top 10 in community governance research, with the publication of 1,162 articles. Currently, research on community governance is still widely carried out in American and European countries, while in other regions, it is still not an issue that is of interest to researchers in the field of state administration.

# c. Publication by Organization/Affiliates

Table 4.1. Productive Affiliates/Organizations in Community Governance Publications

Organizations	Quantity
The University of Queensland	279
Wageningen University & Research	244
The University of British Columbia	232
University of Melbourne	214

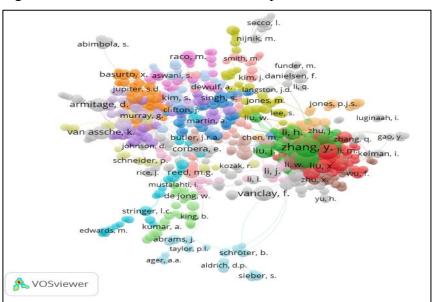


The Australian National University	210
University of Oxford	207
The University of Sydney	196
University College London	181
University of Toronto	168
UNSW Sydney	158

From Table 4.1 shows the results of article publications from affiliates or organizations of the top 10 community governance publications sourced from the Scopus database. The most productive organization/affiliation in community governance publications are universities in Australia. The university with the most publications is The University of Queensland with 279 articles published. The organizations/universities that dominate community governance publications are located in Australia, including The University of Queensland, University of Melbourne, The Australian National University, The University of Sydney, and UNSW Sydney. The productivity of these organizations/universities also shows that Australia, America, and Europe still dominate as the largest contributors to the publication of community governance articles. However, in Asia and Africa, the issue of community governance is still not commonly studied.

# 4.2. Analysis of Co-Authorship in Community Governance Publications:





The Figure 4.2 is a visualization of VOSViewer based on Co-Authorship. Co-Authorship is an analysis to see the relationship between various research themes based on the articles that have been produced (Sidiq, 2019). Co-Authorship looks at the productivity of the writer as an



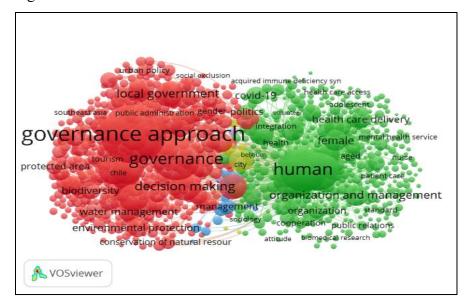
author, whether he acts as a sole writer or a writer who collaborates with other writers in his research activities (Lund, 2018). The distribution of author Co-Authorship in the VOSViewer visualization shows different groupings. Different coloring indicates collaboration between authors. Meanwhile, the thick circle indicates that the author has collaborated with several other authors. From the visualization of Figure 4.2, it is divided into 33 clusters which are marked with different colors. The cluster with the largest circle indicates that the writer is a productive writer who acts as the first writer or collaborates with other writers. Like Zhang. Y, Zhang. X, Wang. Y, Zhang, I and Vanclay. Even though this author is not the author with the largest number of publications, he is the author who is the most productive in producing community governance publications, both as a single author and in collaboration.

The different clusters in the VOSViewer visualization represent different topics in the discussion of community governance. Vanclay, who is included in cluster 23, is marked with a gray circle, along with Chen, C, Dominey-Howes, D, and others who in this cluster talk a lot about community governance issues related to environmental impact analysis. Meanwhile, Bennet, N.J together with the writer in cluster 2 marked with the largest circle and colored orange, discussed water area management. Armitage, D together with Lawrence A, Pummer, R, Sowman, M., and others who are in cluster 25 with dark gray circles discuss the issue of ecological resilience. The authors in this cluster are the first authors with the most documentation in the Scopus application, so it can be concluded that the research interests of the authors with the most published articles in the field of community governance are environmental issues.

# 4.3. Co-Occurrence Analysis in Community Governance Publications

# a. Network Visualization

Figure 4.4. Network Visualization



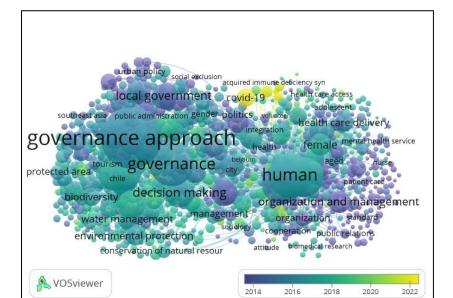


The figure 4.4 shows that Co-occurrence analysis was carried out to statistically examine research themes. This analysis is carried out through keywords used in an article publication. The keywords can be all keywords or specific keywords (Sidiq, 2019). The most dominant keyword related to community governance is governance approach. Apart from that, several keywords that are classified as the majority are human, article, humans, and governance. Analysis with VOSViewer were found 1000 items divided into 5 clusters. The cluster with the largest number of keywords is marked with a large red dot, namely governance approach.

The first cluster includes the keywords accessibility, agriculture, autonomy, biodiversity, and others. It can be seen that the first cluster discusses community governance related to sustainable development issues. The second cluster is marked with a green circle containing keywords such as "administrative personnel", "behavior", communication", "data analysis", "government", "health care", "human", "organization", and others. This indicates that the second cluster discusses community governance issues related to the behavior of government bureaucracy. The third cluster marked with a blue circle consists of the keywords "animal", "city", "disaster", management", policy, "risk, statistical analysis",", discussing disaster risk management. The fourth cluster, marked with a yellow circle, contains the keywords Australia, capacity building, government agencies, problem-solving and public-private partnership, discussing the topic of partnership. Meanwhile, the fifth cluster, marked with a purple circle, contains the keywords justice and social participation, discussing social justice issues. The research that includes the keyword community governance itself is in the first cluster. This research is marked with a small red circle, which means that there is still little research on community governance.

## b. Overlay Visualization

Figure 4.5. Overlay Visualization





The figure 4.5 shows that previous research related to community governance around 2015 and 2018 mostly discussed local government, organization, management, decision-making and other keywords marked with dark purple circles. Meanwhile, from 2016 to 2018, publications that appeared used keywords including governance approach, human, decision-making and other keywords marked with dark green circles. For research from 2018 to 2020, research tends to use the keywords sustainability, human experiment, artificial intelligence, social media, and other keywords marked with light green circles. Meanwhile, currently, from 2001 to 2022, research still tends to discuss Covid, pandemic, global health, and keywords marked with yellow circles. Circles marked with a dark color indicate that the research has been carried out for a long time, while light or yellow colors indicate that the research is a recent research issue.

## c. Density Visualization

Figure 4.6. Density Visualization



Figure 4.6 shows the analysis using density visualization. There are dense areas or high levels of density between one node and another. The level of saturation marked with yellow keywords means that the area is a topic that has been extensively researched before. Such as topics about governance approaches, human, governance, biodiversity, and local governance. Meanwhile, nodes marked in dark color indicate that these topics have not yet been widely researched, such as conservation of natural resources, biomedical research, public opinion, and communicable disease control. This provides opportunities for new research related to these topics.

From the bibliometric analysis about community governance publication trends, it shows



that the issue is developing, and future researchers can obtain novelty from the above analysis. Recommendations for further research are research on dynamic public policy on community governance.

## 5. Conclusion

Based on an analysis of community governance research trends, it appears that there has been a significant increase in article publications. In the last 10 years. According has been a very significant increase. From the Scopus database, it can be seen that American and European countries remain the most productive in publishing articles. Meanwhile, productive organizations in Australia, particularly universities, are Australia are productive organizations in the publication of community governance articles. The level of researcher productivity is shown in the VOSViewer application through co-authorship visualization. Several researchers have demonstrated their level of publication productivity as seen from their activeness in producing publications either as sole authors or in collaboration with other authors. The themes raised for community governance research are also increasingly developing, even for the most recent research in the 2000s, the theme of community governance was mostly related to the environment and health. By using VOSViewer analysis, new research in the field of community governance can be identified. So it can provide opportunities for future research to conduct studies related to community governance with the latest issues, such as the dynamics of public policy in community governance.

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