

This report is a summary of the work on cost-benefit analysis of fire safety at the University of Karlstad, and studies of the costs for the rescue service in the Nordic countries, the Netherlands and Great Britain carried out by the Swedish Defence Research Institute. The studies were initiated and financed by the Swedish Rescue Services Agency. However the results and conclusions presented in their reports and this summary are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Agency.

The aim of cost-benefit analysis is to show the economic effects of changes in various measures such as smoke detectors, sprinklers, rescue service cover, chimney sweeping etc. The economy is here understood to represent the whole nation's economy. Costs and benefits are measured as the sum of the costs and benefits to the municipalities, central government, businesses and households. By weighing up all the costs and benefits for a certain measure the researchers can calculate the optimal safety level for that particular measure.

The comparison of costs for the rescue service in various countries concern only the financial costs to the municipality or region for providing the service. The comparison is from a financial or accounting perspective so the costs are not for the economy as a whole. One important aspect of the study has been to show how various factors affect the cost level in different countries and municipalities. The study included geographical and demographic factors, pay levels, equipment costs, organisational forms, accounting methods and ambition levels.

Cost-benefit analysis often demands a sound statistical material as a basis. This, together with other needs has forced the Swedish Rescue Services Agency to start work on a statistics system covering many aspects of rescue service work. The aim is to provide the various actors working in the rescue service sector with an objective statistical material.

Sammanfattning

Denna rapport är en sammanfattning av ett arbete över kostnad/nytta-analys över brandsäkerhet vid Högskolan i Karlstad samt en studie över kostnaderna för räddningstjänsten i de nordiska länderna, Nederländerna och Storbritannien. Studierna är initierade och finansierade av Räddningsverket. De resultat och slutsatser som presenteras i rapporten och den engelska sammanfattningen är författarnas och representerar inte nödvändigtvis verkets uppfattning.

Syftet med kostnad/nytta-analyser är att visa de ekonomiska effekterna av förändringar vid olika mätningar vad gäller rökdetektorer, sprinklers, sotning etc.

Jämförelsen av kostnader för räddningstjänst i olika länder rör endast den finansiella kostnaden för kommunen eller regionen för att hålla denna tjänst. En betydande aspekt på studien har varit att visa hur olika faktorer påverkar kostnadsnivån i olika länder och kommuner.