



Content Analysis of the *Journal of Chiropractic Education* and its Relationship to Public Health

Claire Johnson, MSEd, DC, DACBSP

Bart Green, MSEd, DC, DACBSP



Objective

- To study the quality and quantity of papers published in the first 20 years of the *Journal of Chiropractic Education*
- To document studies about the teaching of public health



Why is journal content important?

- Articles reflect awareness of various topics such as - public health
- Literature is the foundation for new knowledge





Why is journal content important?

- Provides evidence of the culture of the profession
- Indicates the level and amount of research activity in a particular field





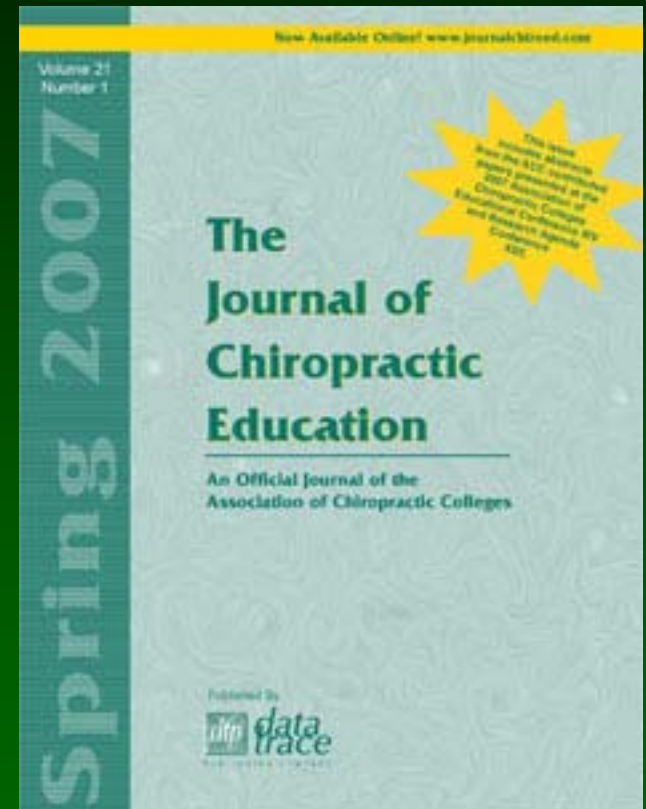
“Bibliometric analysis can ...
uncover patterns of relative
investment or relative advantage of
a country in a particular subject...”

May, RM. The scientific wealth of nations. *Science*.
1997;275:793-96.



Why is JCE content important?

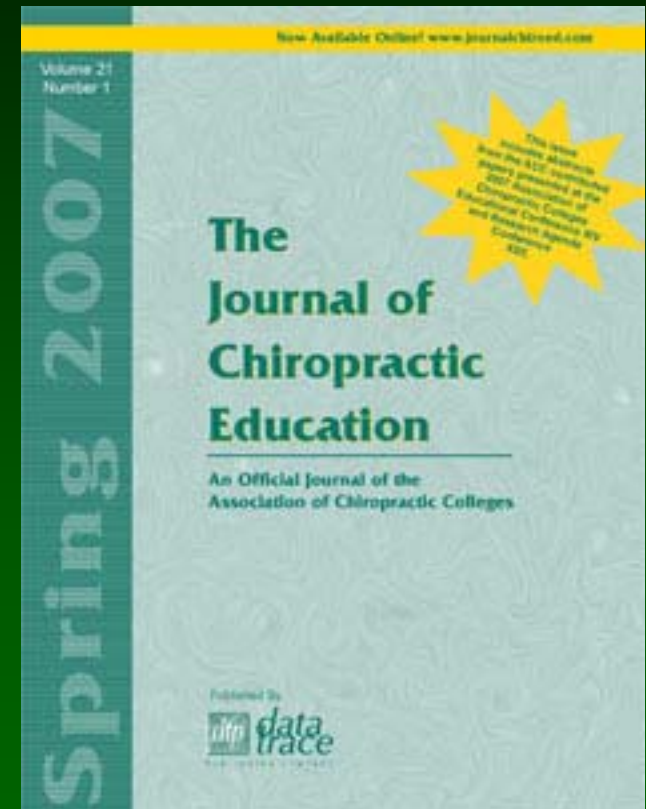
- The only journal dedicated solely to chiropractic education
- Education drives the future of the profession
- Identifies the information available in educational programs
- Confirms who is contributing
- Shows what topics are important to the profession





JCE Background

- First published in 1987
- Publishes quantitative and qualitative papers
- Publishes the proceedings for the ACC and ACC-RAC
- Peer reviewed, indexed





Methods

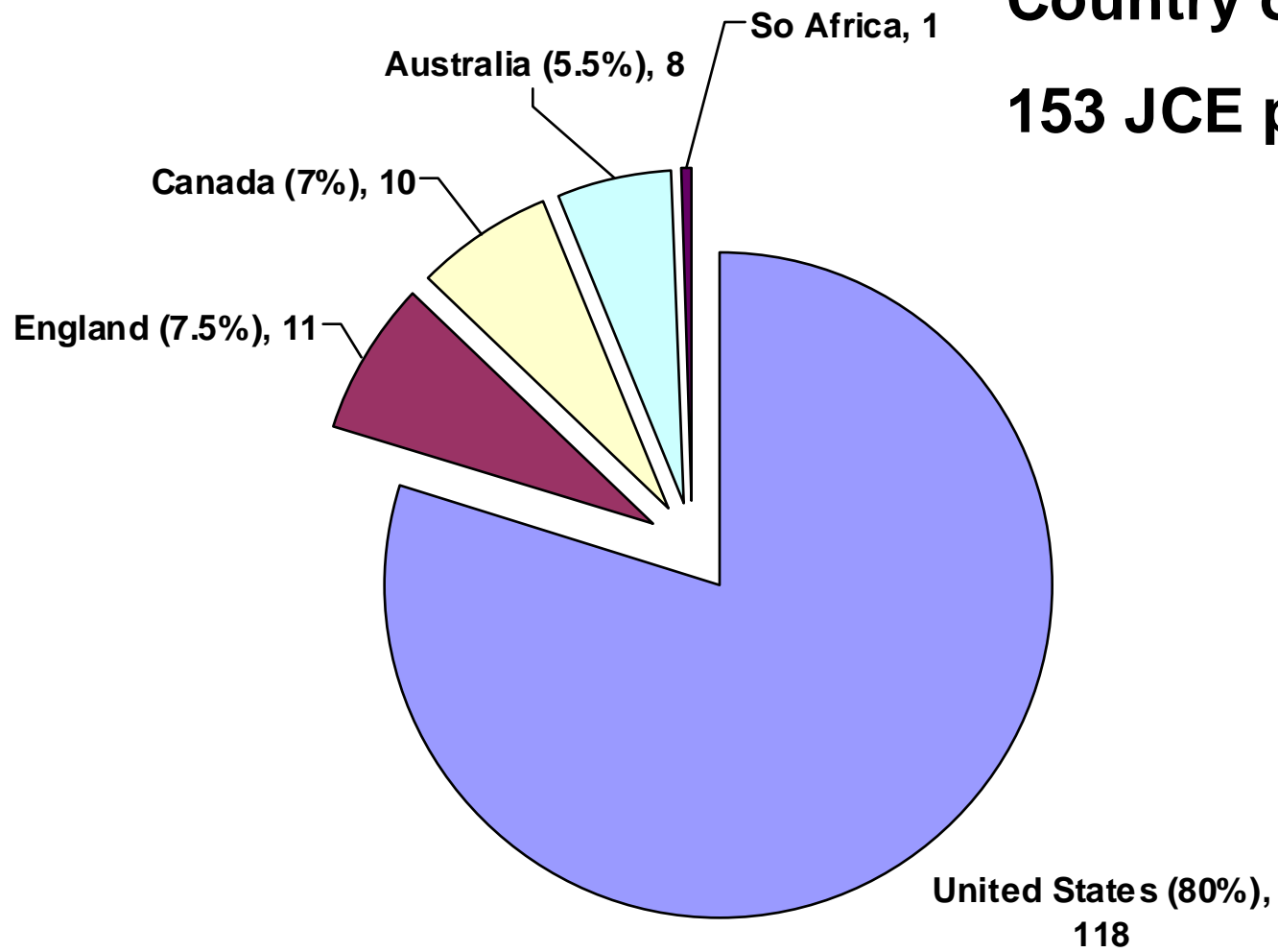
- The first 20 volumes of the JCE were retrieved (1987-2006)
- Only full articles were included
- Abstracts from proceedings and ephemera were excluded
- Each article was reviewed by hand for the type of study, geographic region of origin, college of origin



Results

- 153 JCE papers were retrieved
- Articles originated from 5 countries and represented 23 chiropractic colleges.
- The majority (80.2%) of JCE papers were from the United States.

Country of origin 153 JCE papers





Results

- Of the 153 articles, only 4 related to public health issues or public health education.
- All 4 were from the United States
- 2 originated from chiropractic colleges
- 2 were authored or had primary author from a non-chiropractic college

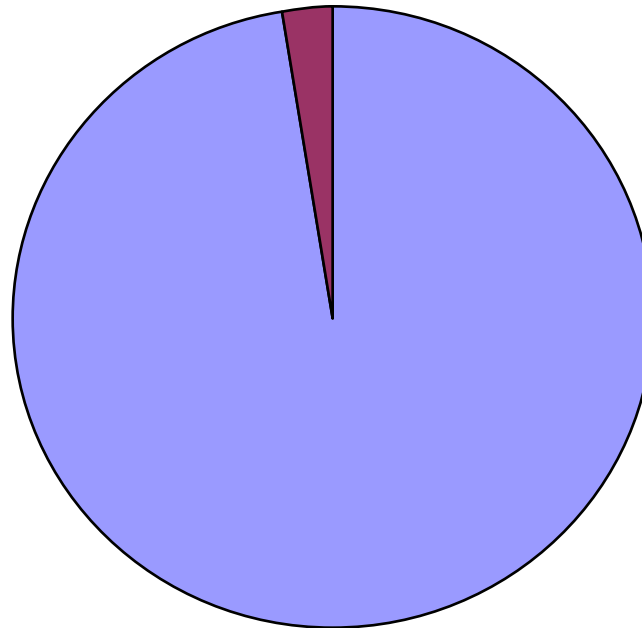


Results

- Pfefer, MT, Globe, G , Terre, L. How much health promotion and disease prevention is enough? Should chiropractic colleges focus on efficacy training in screening for family violence? J Chiropr Educ 2006;20:128-137.
- Bougie, JD, Singh, BB. Screening for harmful and hazardous drinking by chiropractic students. J Chiropr Educ 2005;19:85-91.
- Flora, H, Krishnan, SP, Victory, KS. Public health in chiropractic colleges: A preliminary study. J Chiropr Educ 1995;9:17-25.
- Gemmell, HA. Proposal for the development of a wellness department at a chiropractic college. J Chiropr Educ 1989;3:3-9.

Public Health publications in the past 20 years of JCE

Public
Health, 4, 3%



Other
Educational,
149, 97%



Discussion

- Chiropractic educational literature contributes little to public health
- Little foundation for new knowledge in public health educational programs in chiropractic





Discussion

- Evidence suggests the culture of the education of the chiropractic profession has little value for public health
- There is a low level and lack of educational research activity in this particular field





Conclusion

If we value public health in chiropractic...

- More attention to increase the value for public health in chiropractic culture
 - Media
 - Educational programs
 - Health policy
 - Involvement at local and national levels



Conclusion

If we value public health in chiropractic...

- More research and scholarship is needed in the area of public health
 - Promote faculty scholarship
 - Collaborate with other programs
 - Seek out grants and funding for public health programs



Conclusion

If we value public health in chiropractic...

- More attention is needed in publication of high quality public health related articles
 - Move beyond commentaries and narrative reviews
 - Dedicate more resources to complete and publish public health studies

