Glimpses of Veterinary Grey Literature:

Piecing together Bibliometric Data for a Clearer image

Robin R. Sewell, DVM, MLA
Medical Sciences Library
Texas A& M University

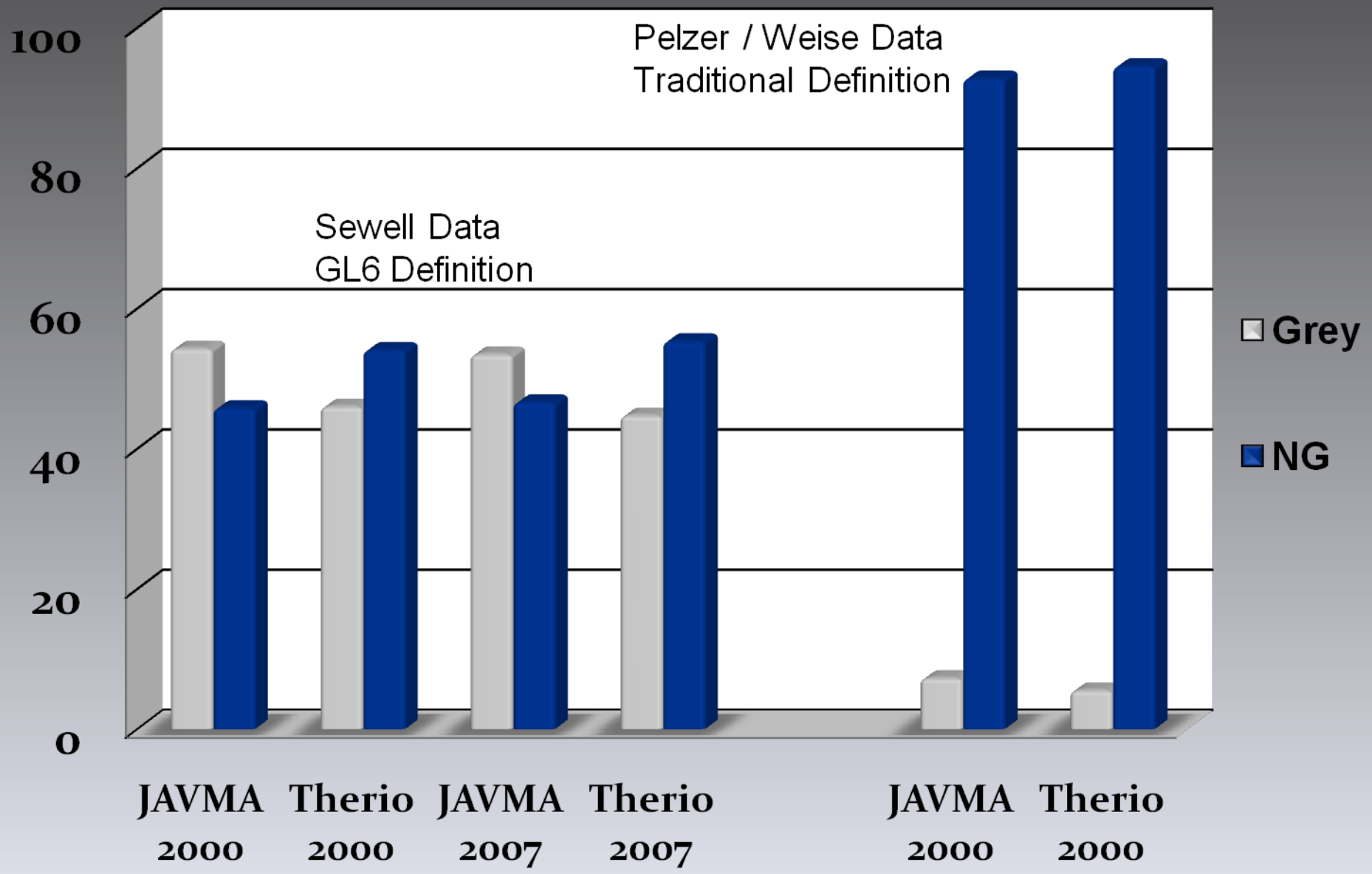
“Information produced on all levels of government, academics, business and industry in electronic and print formats **not** controlled by commercial publishing, i.e. where **publishing is not the primary activity** of the producing body.”

(Luxembourg, 1997 - Expanded in New York, 2004)

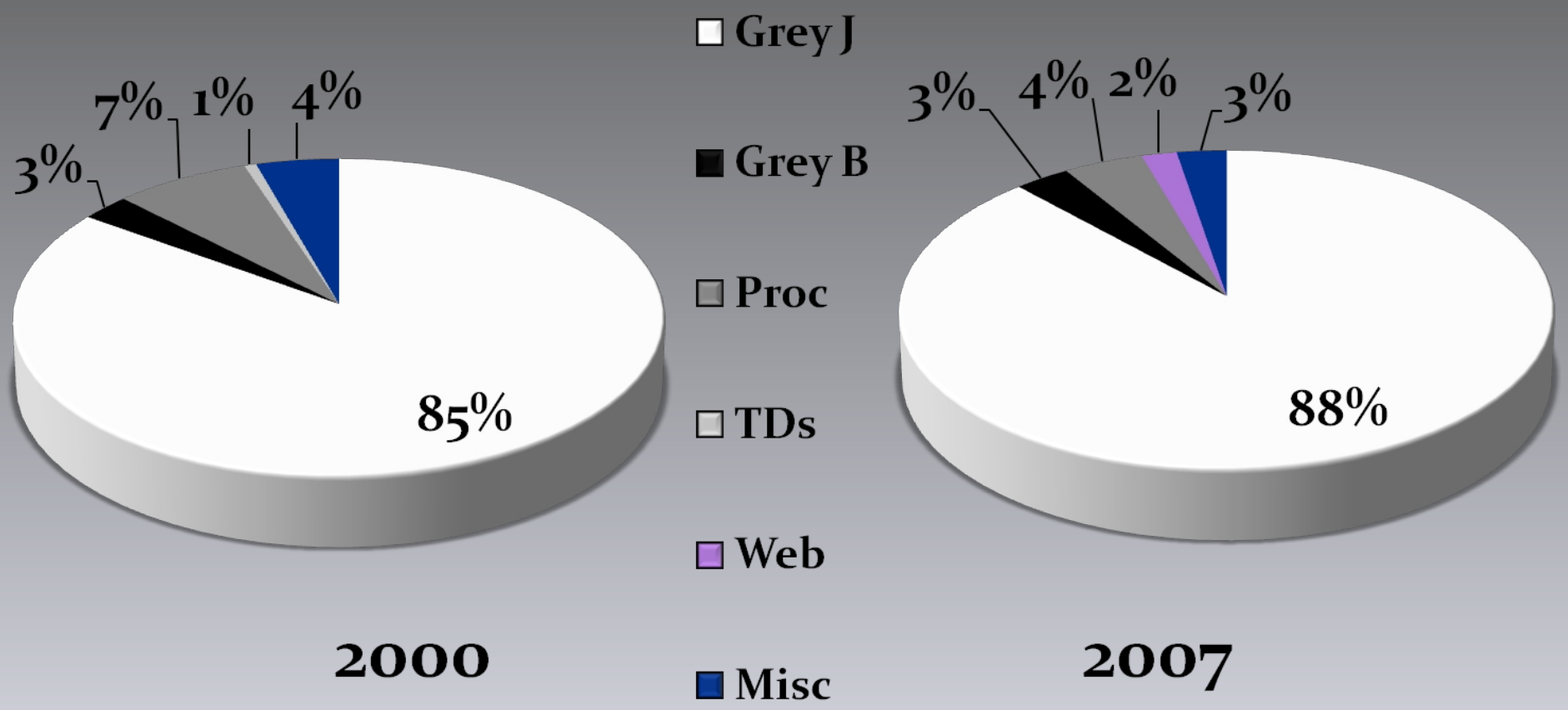
Reference Analysis Methodology

- Scopus reference data
  - Journals: JAVMA and Theriogenology
  - Years: 2000 and 2007
  - Limited to Articles and Reviews
- Semi-automated processing
  - Perl program
  - Decision tables
- Three classifications
  - Grey/Not grey
  - Publication type
  - Publisher type

Percentage of Grey and Not Grey References



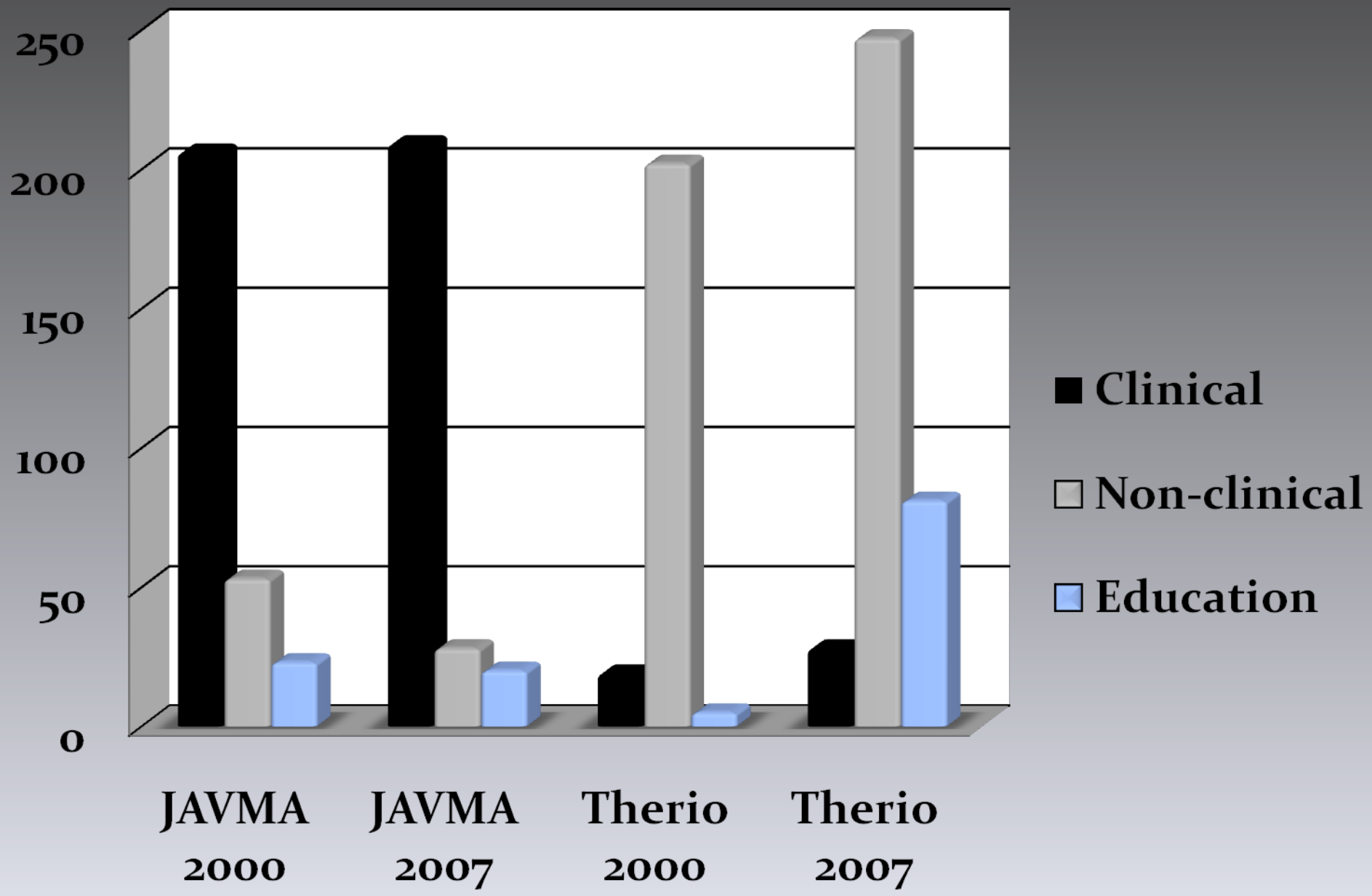
Percentage of Grey Types for JAVMA and Theriogenology



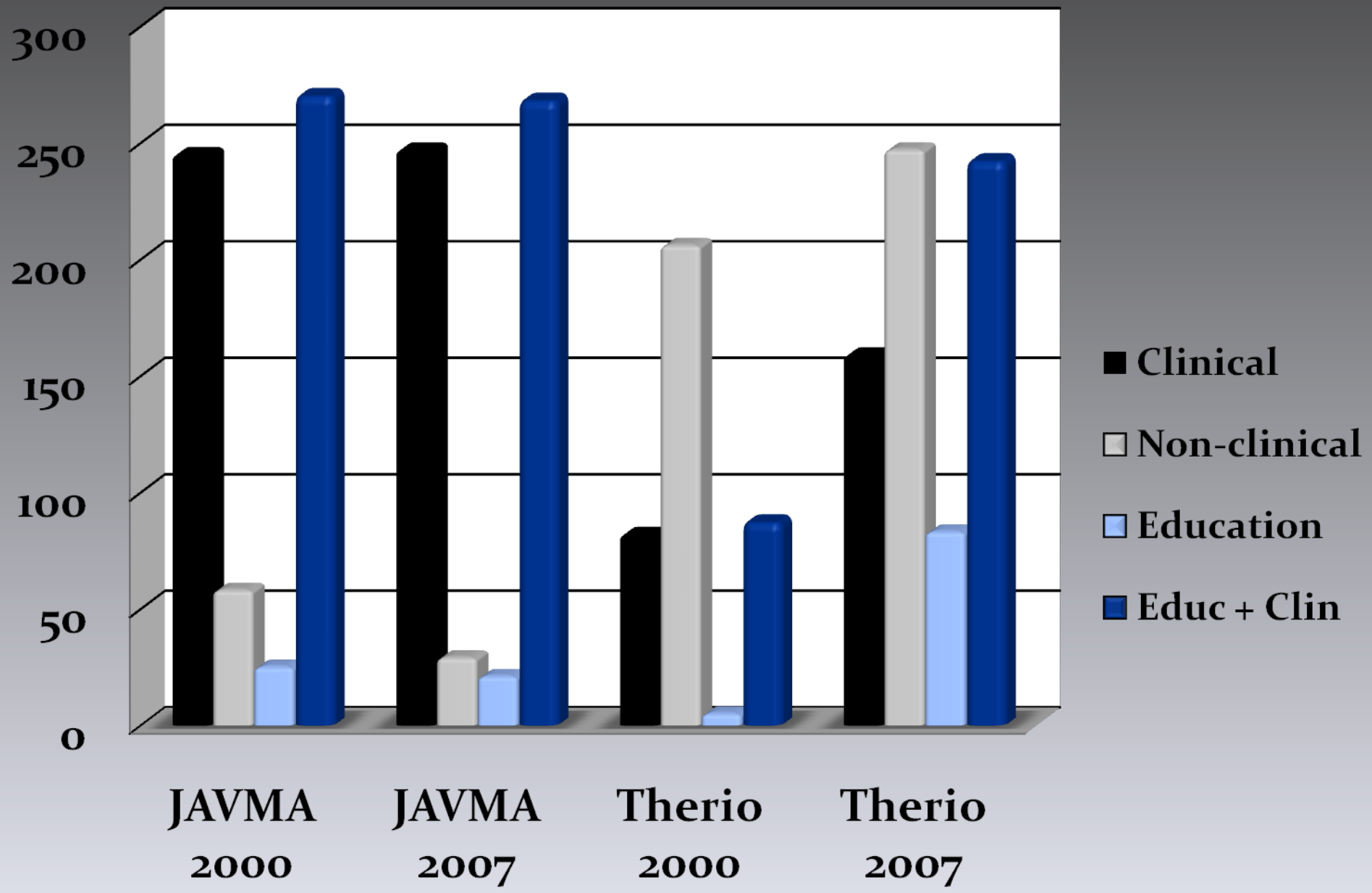
Contribution of Grey Literature

- Type of research
  - Clinical research – client owned animals
  - Non-clinical research – not client owned animals
  - Other/educational
    - Meta-analysis
    - Reviews
    - Informative articles
- Importance to …
  - Clinical practice
  - Research
  - Education = Clinical + Other/education

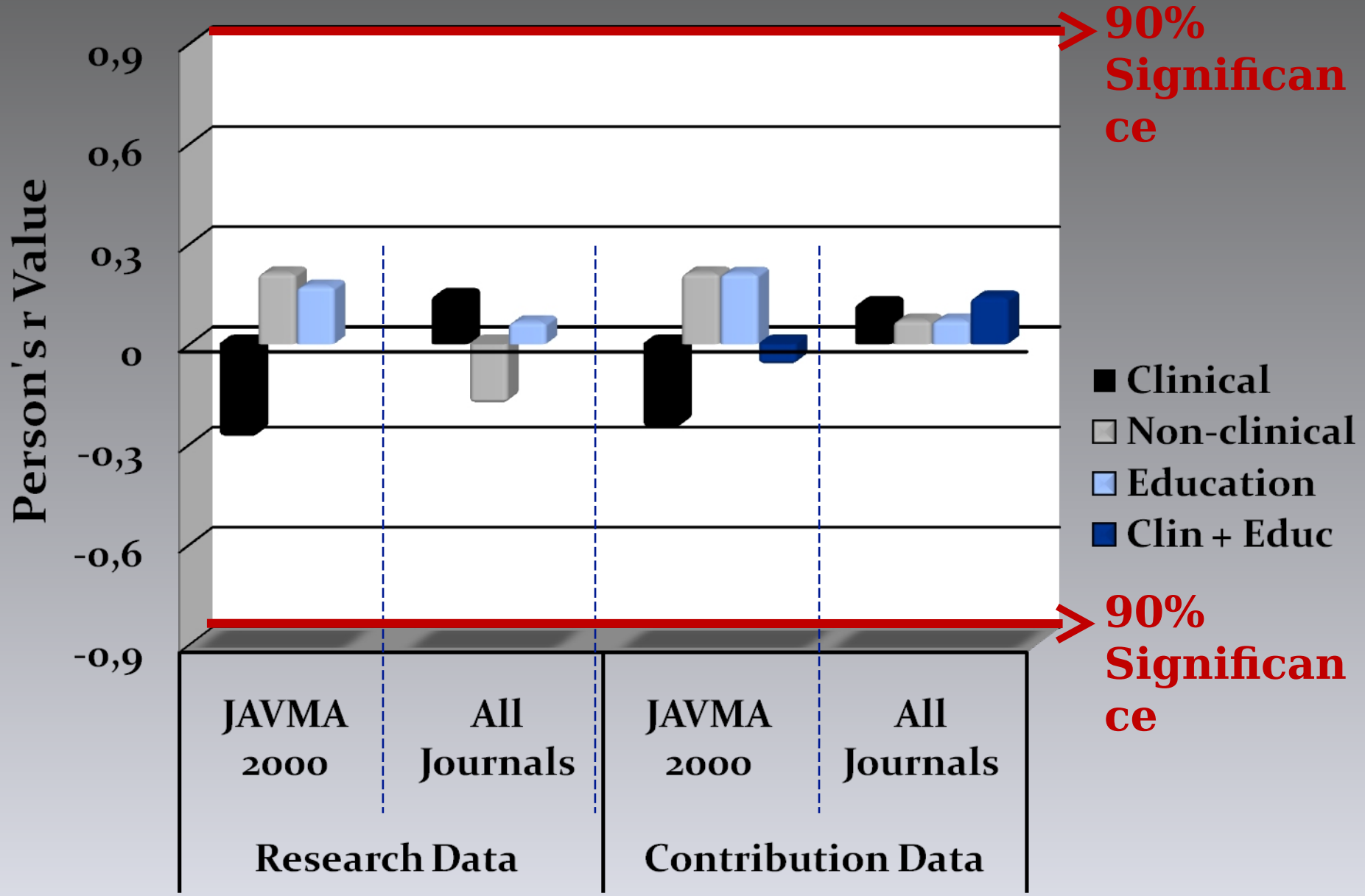
Research Type



Contribution



Correlation of Grey Literature and Impact



Overall Conclusions

- No correlation between grey literature and type of article or area of importance
- GL6 definition greatly increases the amount of information classified as grey literature
- Does using the GL6 definition measure the contribution of grey literature or the contribution of non-commercial publishers?

Questions