VEuPathDB
Eukaryotic Pathogen, Vector & Host Informatics Resources

User Impact & Sustainability Survey- REPORT SUMMARY

The VEuPathDB User Impact and Sustainability Survey was conducted to assess the importance of VEuPathDB resources for biomedical researchers and **explore potential funding strategies** following changes in the funding landscape.

The survey gathered insights into end-users' **reliance on VEuPathDB databases, key features accessed, and the feasibility of alternative funding models**. The survey was conducted from 14 September 2024 – 7 January 2025.
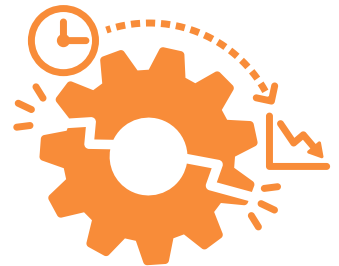
1 Impact of loss of VEuPathDB

KEY THEMES

- **Disruption to scientific research**
- **Loss of resource centralization (*i.e.*, no "one-stop shop")**
- **Disappearance of specialized data**
- **Barriers to education and training**
- **Damage to data-sharing, collaboration, & community**
- **Increased financial burden**
- **Adverse impacts on future research**

"Losing VEuPathDB would set research back 20–30 years."

74% ⬇

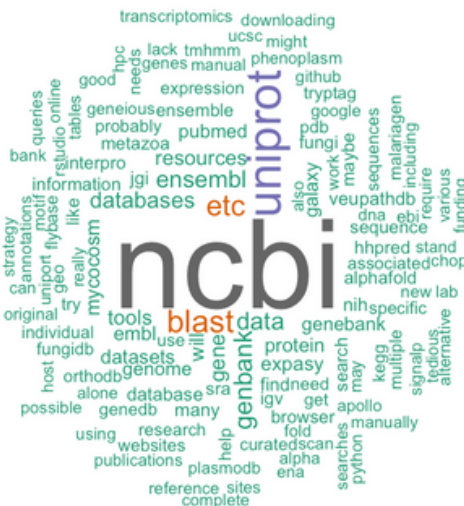**Average decrease in productivity due to loss of VEuPathDB, as estimated by end-users**

2 Lack of clear alternatives

? How else would you accomplish the tasks for which you use VEuPathDB?

- **58% are unsure how to complete tasks without VEuPathDB**
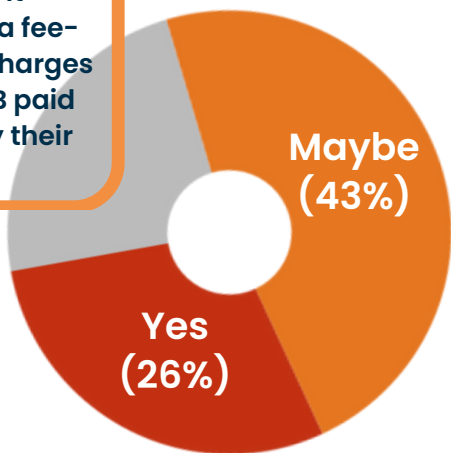- **38% indicated it will be cumbersome**

20% would use other resources, but most mentioned generic sites (*ex:* NCBI) that do not replicate the functionality of VEuPathDB

~50 other resources were mentioned but none were cited frequently, indicating most end-users do not have workable alternatives to VEuPathDB

3 Fee-for-service model feasibility

Would you consider it appropriate to institute a fee-for-service model, with charges for access to VEuPathDB paid from users' grants or by their institutions?

Maybe (43%)

Yes (26%)

79% of respondents support a **fee-for-service model (fully or partially)**

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Equitable fees: account for lab size & income disparities
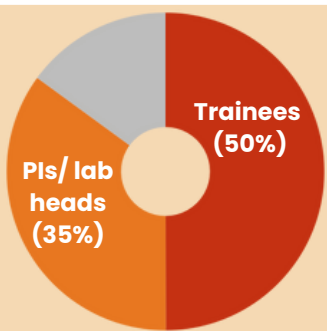
Balance sustainability with FAIR data principles

Clearly communicate costs & lead times

WHO TOOK THE SURVEY?

1, 862 RESPONDENTS

90% from academic institutions

Trainees (50%)

PIs/ lab heads (35%)

81 Countries represented

80% Frequent usage (daily/weekly)

The survey responses highlight a strong consensus that **VEuPathDB is an irreplaceable resource**. While there is **openness to alternative funding models**, the community strongly favors **solutions that maintain broad accessibility**.

Read the full report at this link

Contact us: help@veupathdb.org