



# 17 Feb CVMA releases results from member survey on veterinary professional associates

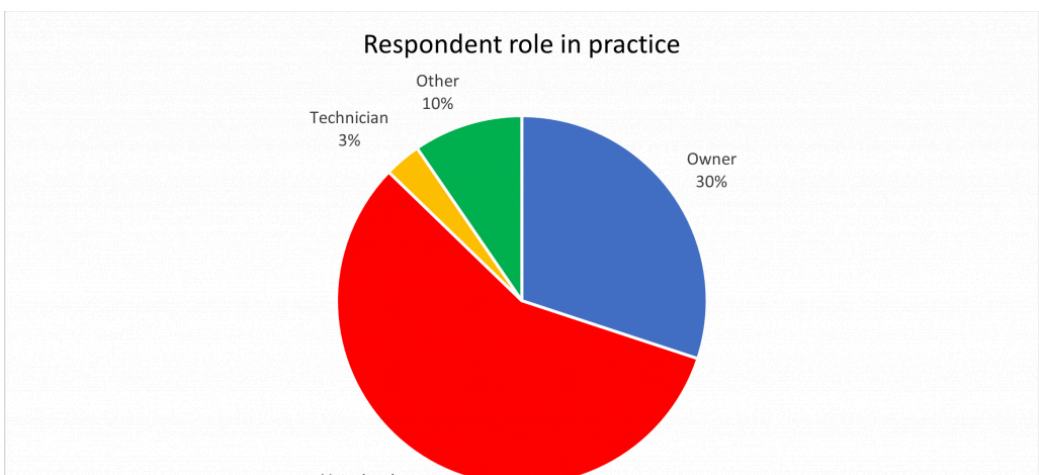
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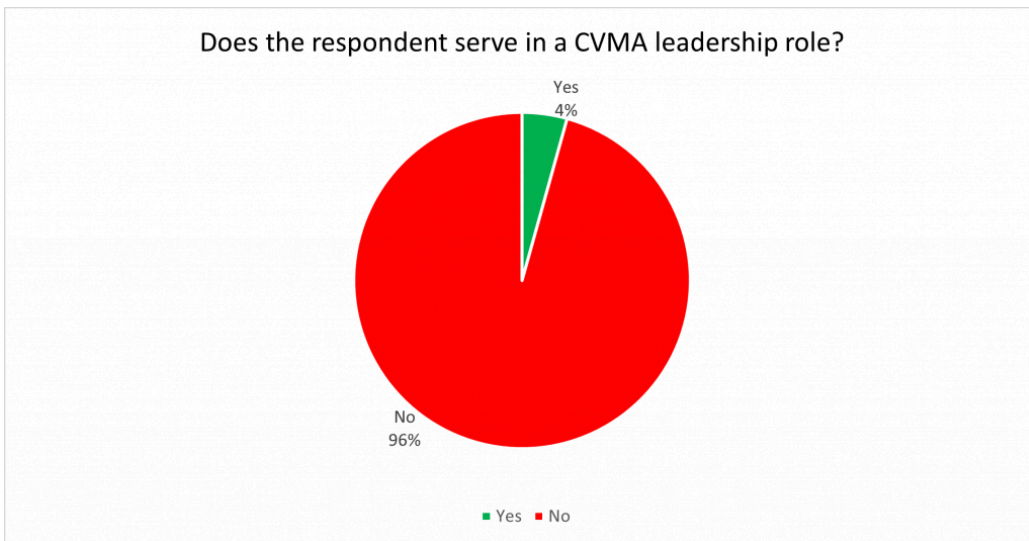
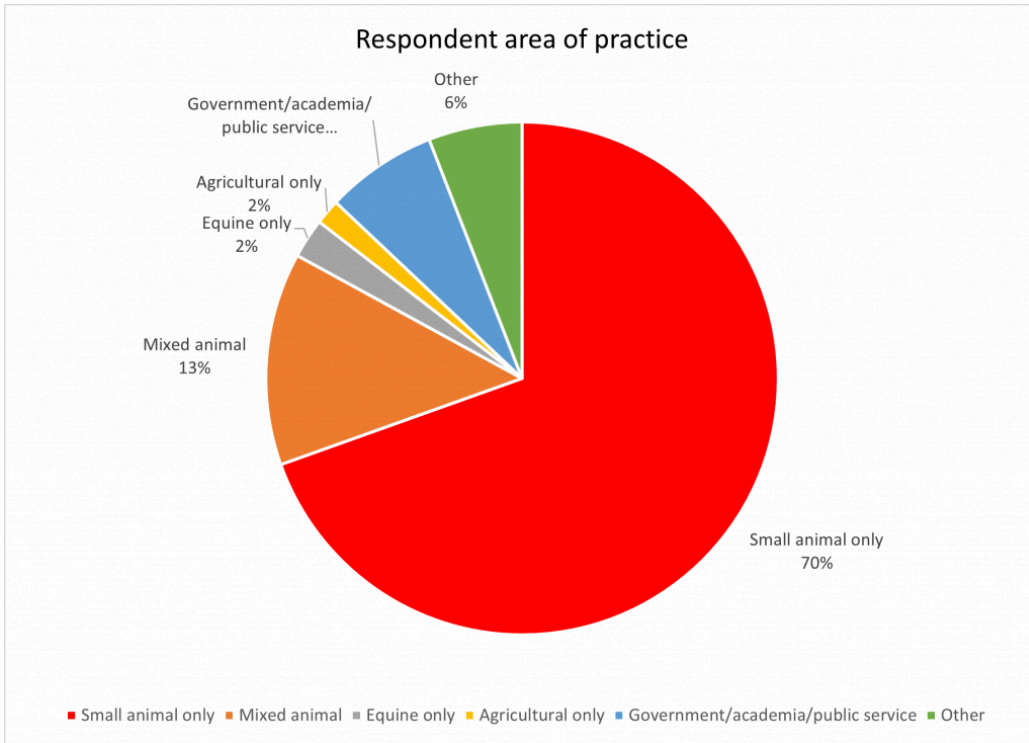
On Friday, January 28, CVMA distributed a survey via email to its membership base to ask about their sentiments toward the concept of a veterinary professional associate (VPA). This document reports on the 440 survey responses received from CVMA's survey distribution.

[Click here to read CVMA's position statement](#) on the veterinary professional associate proposal.

## Demographics

The following charts represent demographic information about the survey respondents.

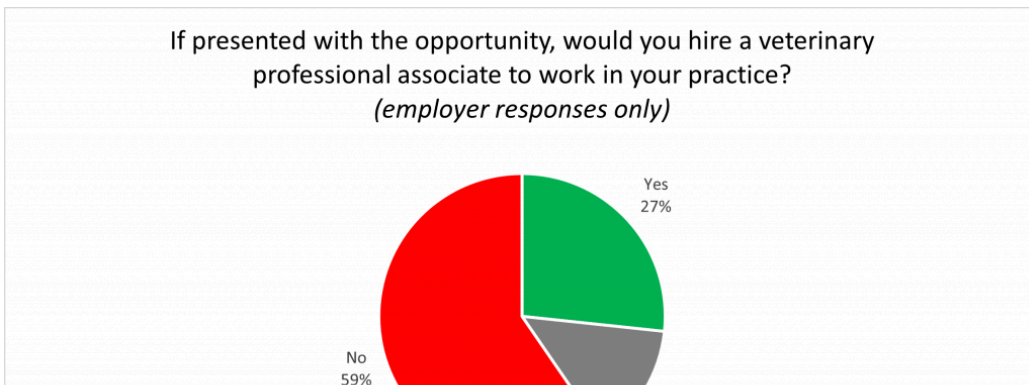
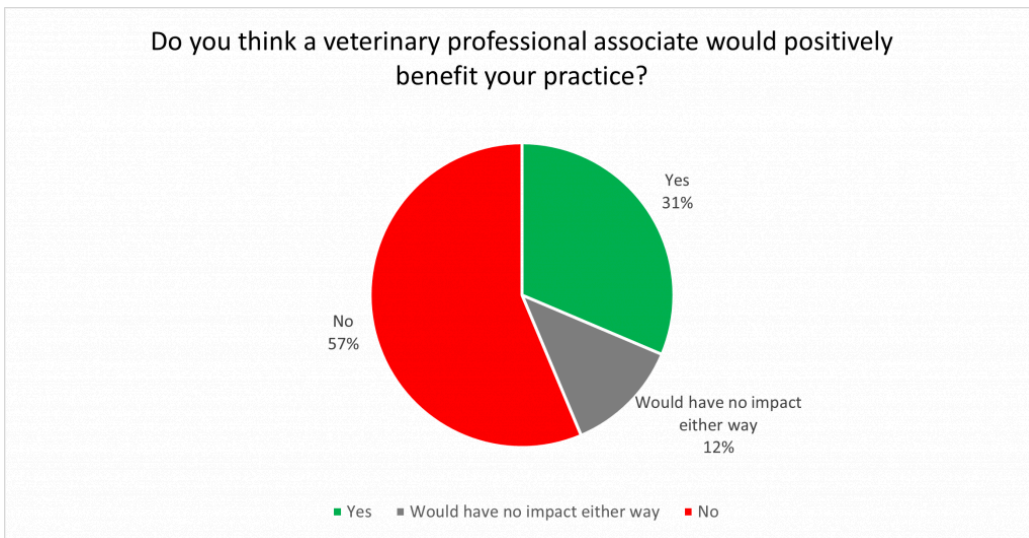
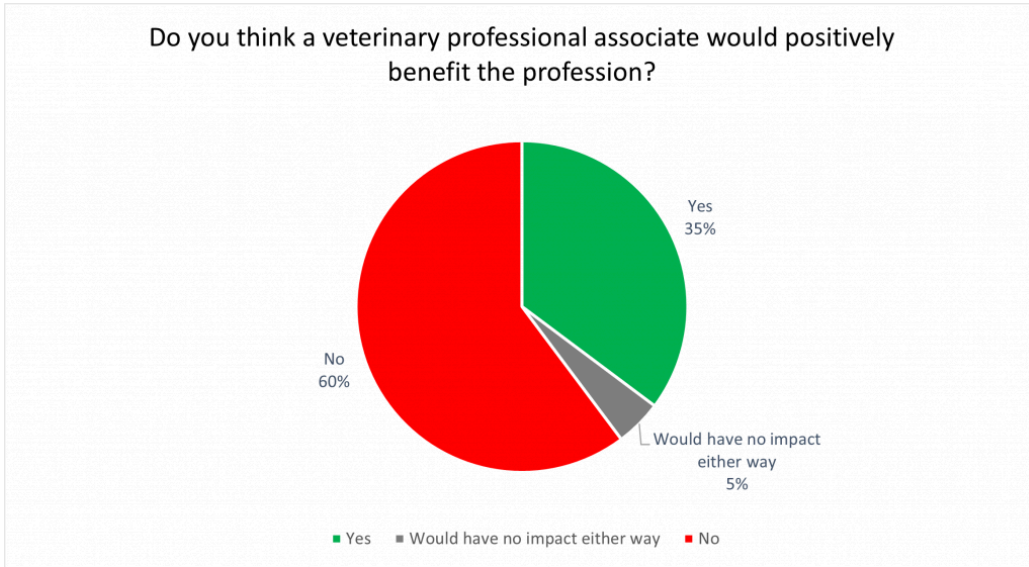


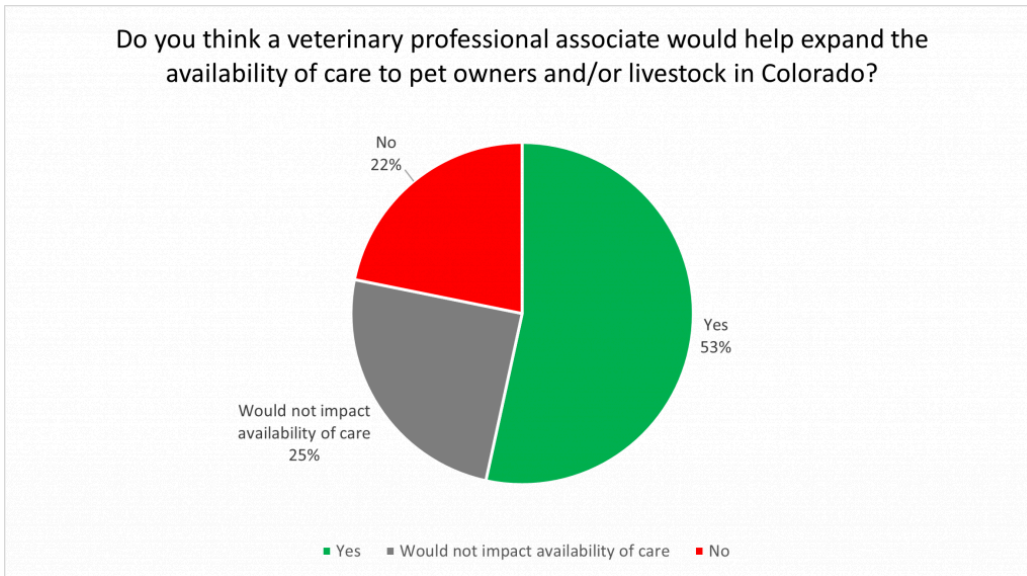
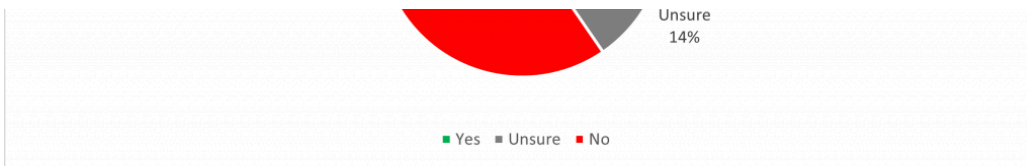


### Survey snapshot

The following represents the high-level responses to the four quantitative

questions posed in the survey.






### Survey verbatim responses

CVMA also provided an open-ended comment field for respondents to submit comments. Of the concerns reported in the survey by Colorado veterinarians, key concerns included:

- *Surgery:* Colorado veterinarians are concerned about a VPA’s ability to perform surgery with only 2.5 years of schooling. Veterinary technicians do not perform surgery and have a similar amount of schooling; veterinarians perform surgery only after a 4-year doctoral program.
- *Liability:* Colorado veterinarians report concerns about a VPA adding to the liability burden of a veterinarian. Many Colorado veterinarians indicated they are not willing to take on additional liability for more workers. VPAs would need to have their own liability coverage.
- *Veterinary technicians:* Many Colorado veterinarians identified veterinary technicians as an underutilized group of veterinary professionals, and would prefer to elevate existing technicians rather than create an entirely new level of veterinary professional.

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