

Electronic Information Resources In Lithuanian Academic Libraries: purchase, demand and use of commercial Databases

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1. Databases in Lithuanian higher schools

- First DB – 1999 – EBSCO.
- . At the beginning of 2007 libraries subscribed to over 80 DB.
- . Since 2001 Ministry of culture and Ministry of education and science of the Republic of Lithuania support the acquisition of DB.
- . Ministries cover about 70 % of database price; the rest is covered by the subscribing library.

2. Databases in Lithuanian higher schools

- Lithuania is participating in eIFL.net project since 1999; hereof the libraries can save •from 90 to 99 percent of actual database price

Savings with eIFL

DB	Number of institutions sharing the cost of the resource within the country	Percentage saved
AMP	3	95
IoP	5	96
CUP	10	98
OUP	19	99
ProQuest	21	99
APS	6	93
Gale	5	98
Sage	9	98
Wiley	15	99
Emerald	11	90
EBSCO	56	98

3. The use and demand of databases in the libraries of Lithuanian higher schools

Survey analysis

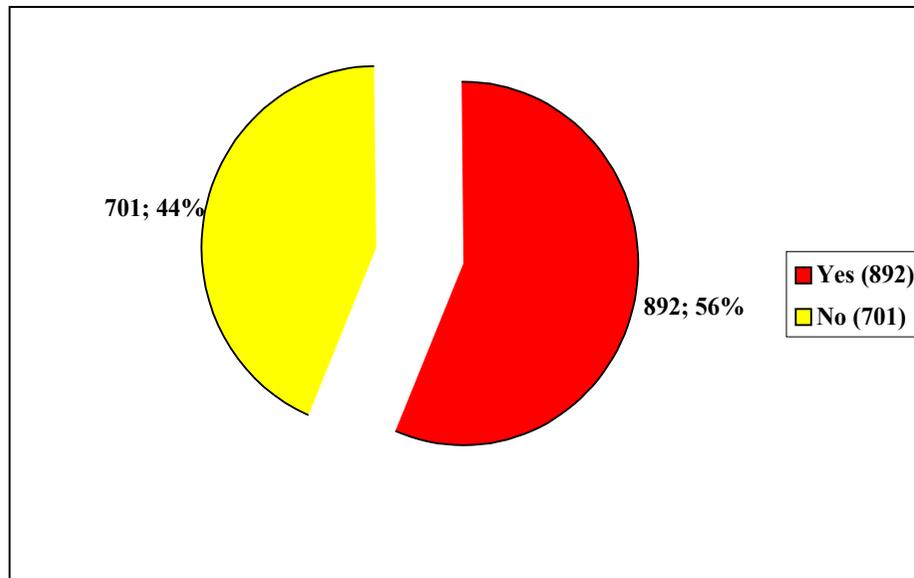
Tasks of survey:

- To find out if databases are used and the frequency and intention of use and why they are not used.
- To find out user attitude on particular databases and on database as not traditional source of information.
- To estimate more effective principles and ways to spread information.
- To create ways for databases optimization.

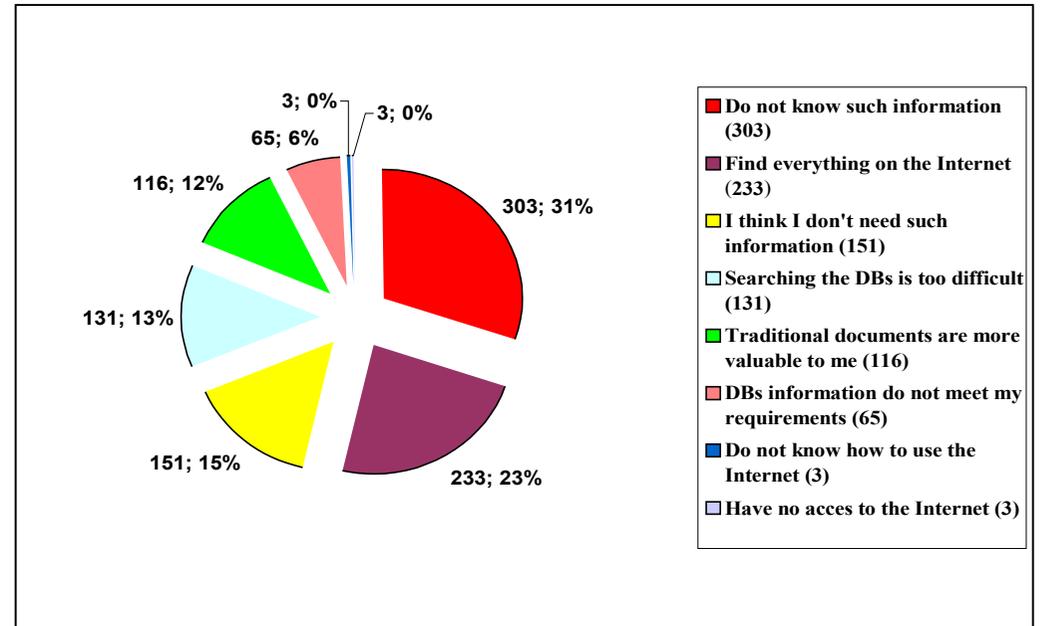
Participated **4** institutions. Number of answers received - **1705**.

Applicable answers - **93,431%**.

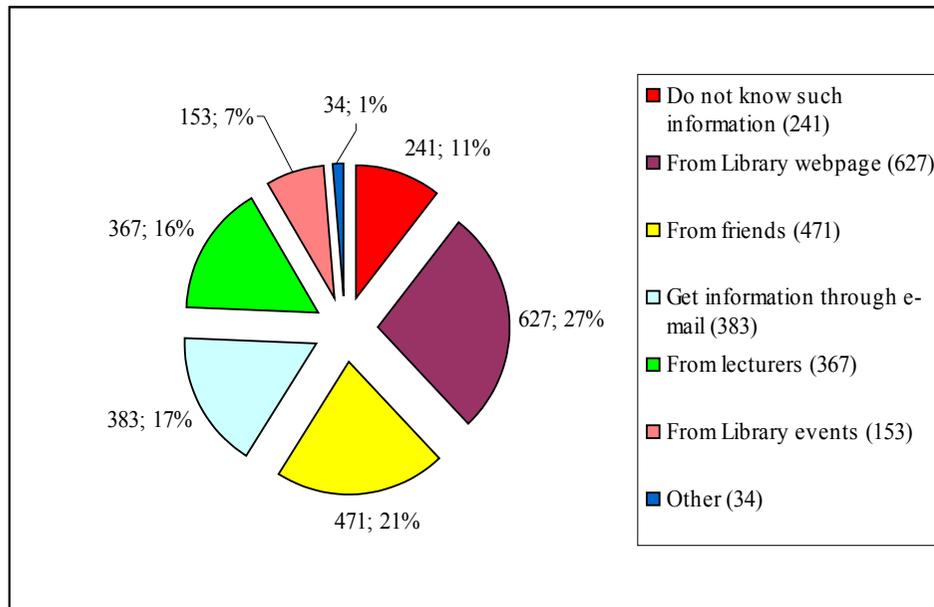
Do you use DBs subscribed by your library?



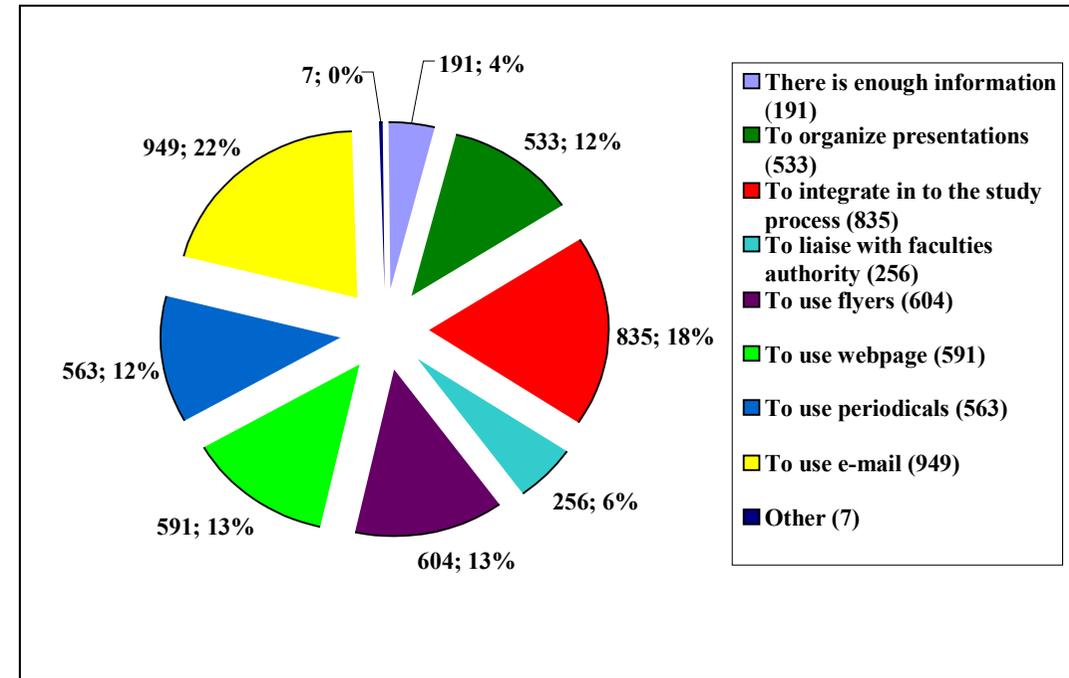
If you don't use DBs, indicate reason



Purpose for using DBs



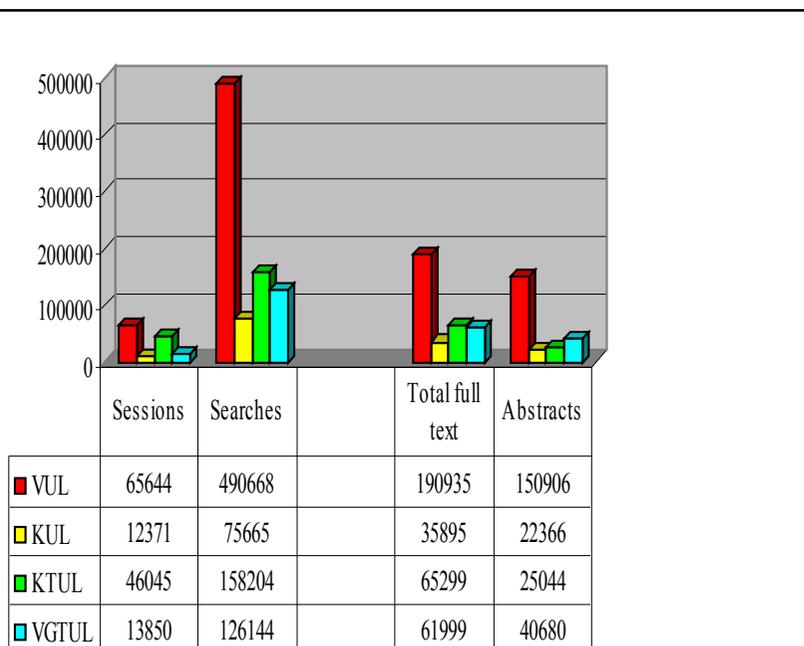
What could help to learn more about DBs and increase use of them?



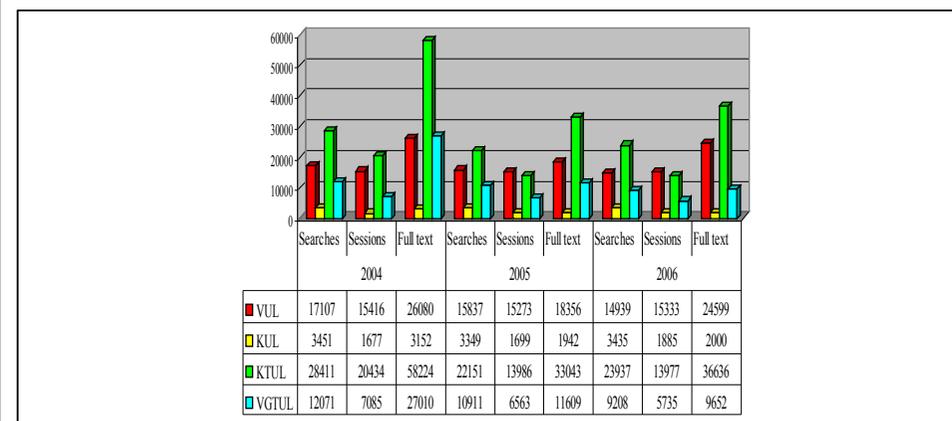
4. DBs use in the libraries of Lithuanian universities

Statistical analysis

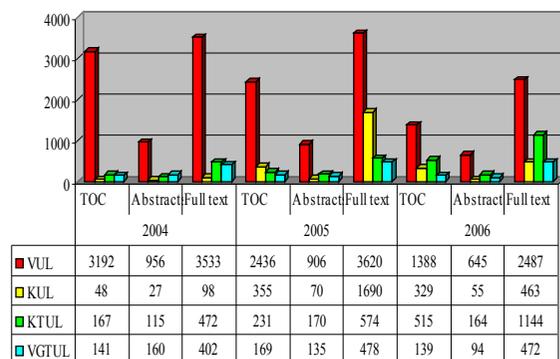
DB EBSCO (2004–2006)



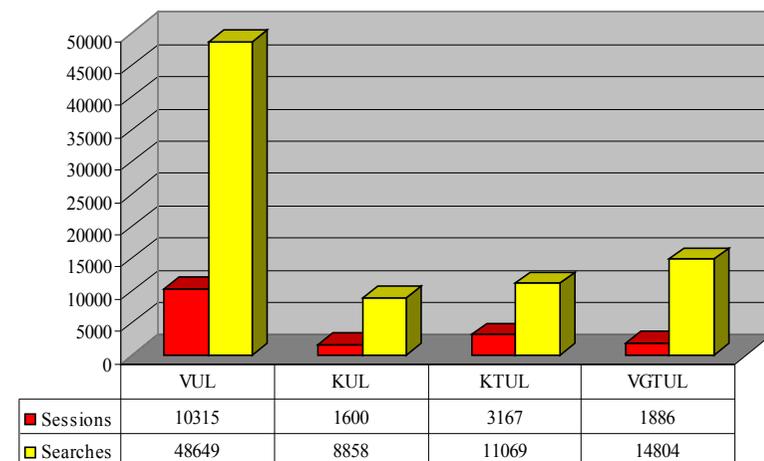
DB Science Direct (2004–2006)



Cambridge Journals Online (2004–2006).



DB ProQuest (2004–2006)



5. Conclusions

- Number of databases used in Lithuanian academic libraries is growing better each year. This shows the demand of such type of information among users. It is important to point out positive effect in subscribing electronic information resources of non-commercial associations (LMBA, eIFL).
- Research of user opinions and fulfillment of their demands is one of the most important aims of an academic library. Surveys, interviews, expert questioning and so on could accomplish research of user's opinion. Proper analysis of user surveys is an important prerequisite for the increase of electronic resource usage, selection of resources and spread of information.
- Statistical analysis of database use should be performed constantly. It is one of the ways for library to verify if a selected resource is useful, to find user priorities, to discard unused products and to forecast future subscriptions and to plan financial resources of a library.