

Vela vs AWS RDS

Built for Developer Velocity vs. Traditional Operations



COMPARISON BRIEF

Vela (Developer Velocity)

BYOC Postgres platform optimized for **speed & governance**. Features instant cloning, PITR, and independent scaling—running directly in your cloud.

AWS RDS (Managed Ops)

Managed Postgres service optimized for **AWS-native operations**. Reliable for production endpoints, but not built for Git-like workflows.

Executive Summary

-  **Ship Faster**
Instant database branching/cloning for dev/QA/CI. RDS offers no instant branching capability.
-  **Move Quicker**
Common lifecycle actions (provision, restore) complete in seconds on Vela vs minutes on RDS.
-  **Lower Cost**
50–90% savings via thin clones, reducing the footprint of duplicated environments.
-  **More Platform Features**
Out-of-the-box PGREST API, visual schema editor, RLS, and Auth integration.

Performance Comparison

Medium instances, non-HA

WORKFLOW	VELA	AWS RDS
Provision DB	25s	~10 min
Restore from snapshot	20s	~10 min
Stop DB	2s	~2 min
Start DB	2s	~4 min
 Instant Cloning	20s	 Not available
Point-in-time recovery	60s	~10 min
 Vela enables interactive development workflows that are impossible with RDS latency.		

Developer Platform & Cost Impact

Why developers prefer Vela and how it impacts the bottom line

COMPARISON BRIEF

Platform Capabilities

CAPABILITY	VELA	AWS RDS
PGREST API	✓ Yes	✗ No
Visual Schema Editor	✓ Yes	✗ No
Row Level Security (RLS)	✓ Built-in	✗ No
Auth Integration	✓ Yes	✗ No
Instant Snapshots	✓ Yes	✗ No
Instant Branching	✓ Yes	✗ No

Deployment Model

Vela

BYOC

Runs in your AWS account

AWS RDS

Managed

AWS-managed only. Not BYOC.

Cost Impact (Mid-sized DBs)

MIXED WORKLOADS

50-75%

Savings vs RDS

IOPS-HEAVY OLTP

70-90%

Massive Savings

UNIT ECONOMICS

~80%

TLP-H Benchmarks

Strategic Guidance

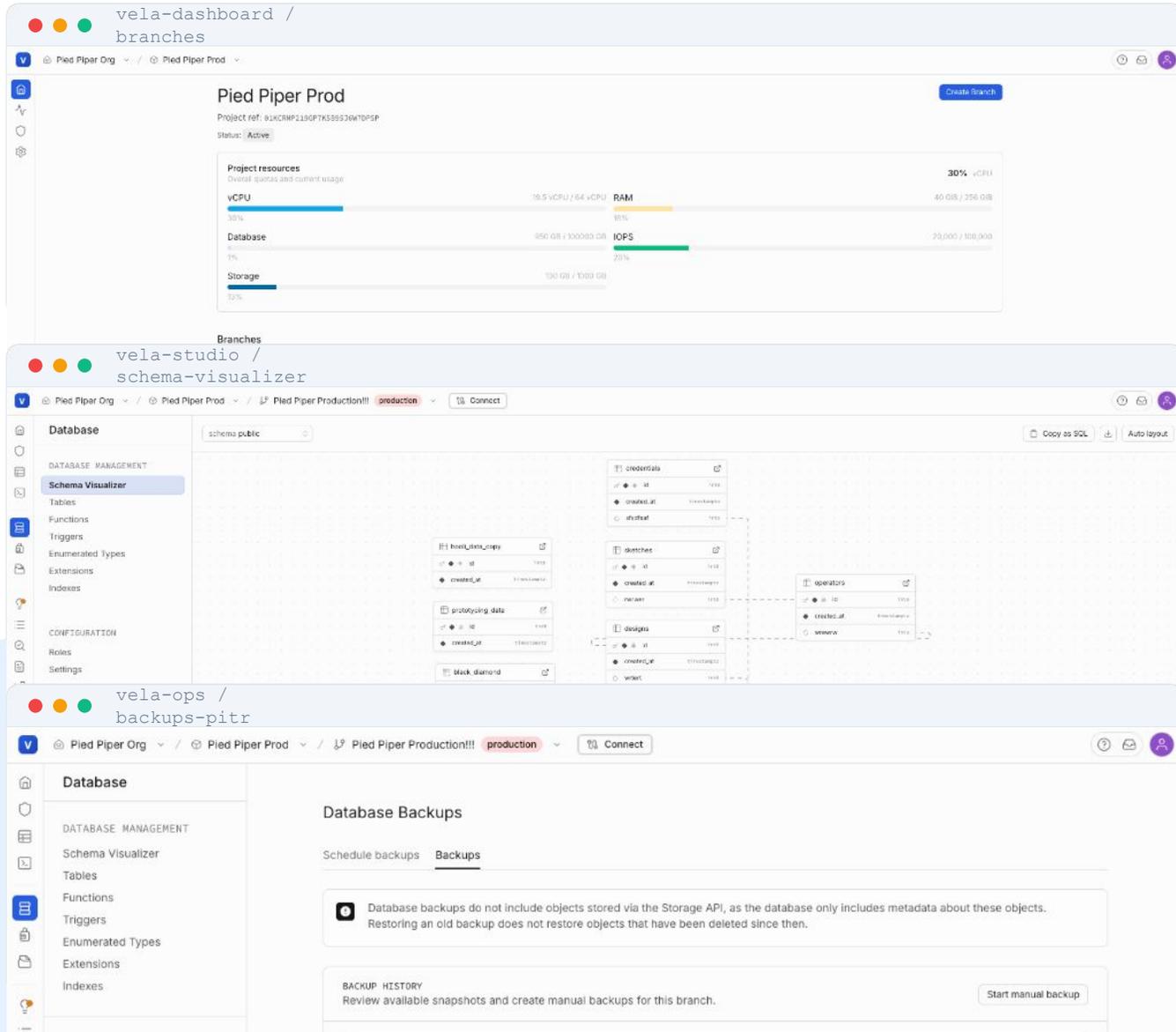
Choose Vela

- ✓ Fast dev/staging/QA via **instant clones & branching**
- ✓ Governed self-serve with **RBAC + per-branch limits**
- ✓ Need **predictable costs** for IOPS-heavy workloads

Choose RDS

- You just need a simple managed endpoint inside AWS
- Your team doesn't require branching workflows
- Standard AWS-native ops are sufficient

Vela Platform: Developer-First Experience



⚡ Instant Branching

Create isolated, zero-copy DB clones in **20 seconds**. Enable true parallel development for every feature branch.

🔑 Per-branch Data

🚀 CI/CD Ready

🔍 Visual Schema Manager

Understand your data model instantly. Visual ER diagrams allow you to manage tables and relationships without writing raw DDL.

🔗 Live ER View

✍️ No SQL Needed

🕒 Point-in-Time Recovery

Rewind your database to any second. Operational restores take **~60s** (vs 10m+ on RDS).

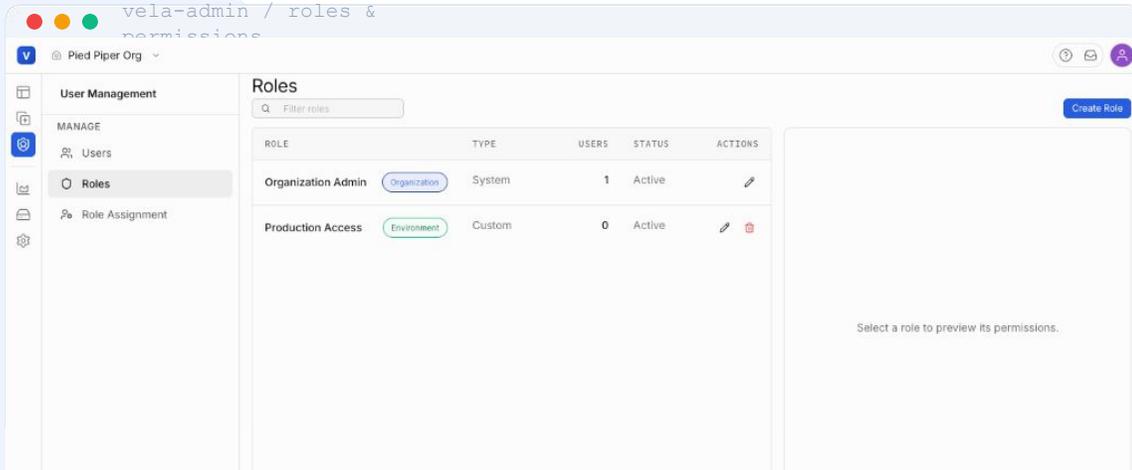
🔄 Sub-minute RTO

📷 Instant Snapshots

Governance & Performance

Built for Scale & Control

Enterprise Governance

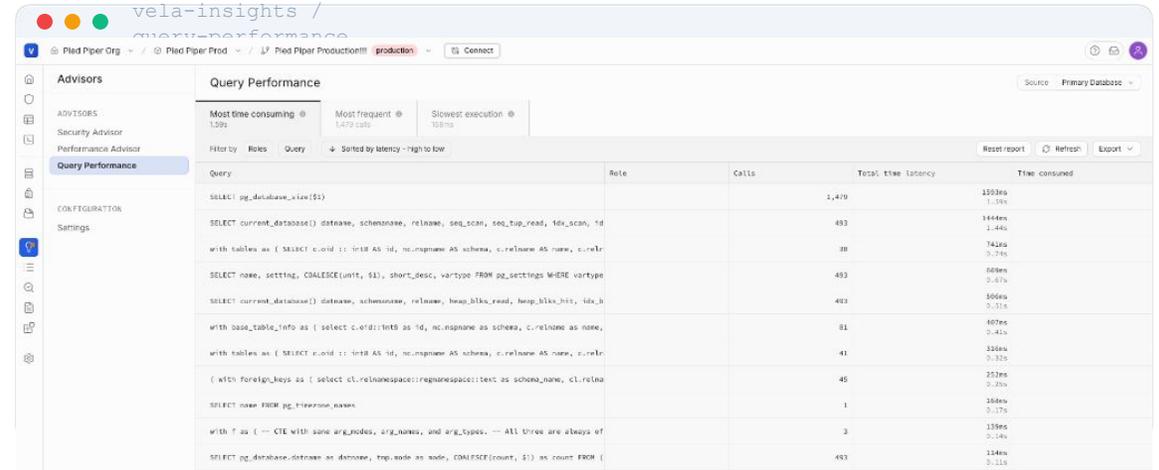


Hierarchical RBAC with custom roles ensures security at scale. Define granular policies for **Production Access** versus **Dev/Test** environments.

Per-branch limits

Org Admin

Performance Monitoring



Built-in query optimization advisor identifies bottlenecks instantly. View execution times and get **automatic index recommendations**.

Real-time metrics

Query Advisor

[Try our free sandbox — no signup required.](#)

- ✓ Instant Provisioning
- ✓ Live Branching
- ✓ Full Access

Or contact sales: sales@simplyblock.io