

# Dairy sector quickfacts

FARMS, ECONOMICS, MARKETS

NEW ZEALAND DAIRYING

## FARMS AND HERDS (2018/19)



### HERDS AND COWS<sup>1</sup>

Total number of herds **11,372**

Average herd size **435**

Number of cows (milking) **4.95M**

Percentage of Holstein-Friesian/Jersey crossbreed dairy cows<sup>8</sup> **49%**

(Holstein-Friesians make up 33%)

Waikato has the most dairy cows<sup>4</sup>  
**1,117,207**

East Coast has the least<sup>4</sup>  
**5,884**

**2,890,548** North Island<sup>2</sup>

**2,055,757** South Island<sup>3</sup>



Total effective hectares of dairy land<sup>5</sup>

**1.74 MILLION**

The average dairy farm is **153ha** (average stocking rate: 2.8 cows per ha)<sup>6</sup>

**81%** of all feed eaten by dairy cows is pasture, including hay and silage<sup>7</sup>

## PRODUCTION AND ECONOMICS

**\$5.95 per kgMS** – the current estimated 2021/20 break-even costs<sup>10</sup>

**\$5.40 - \$6.90 per kgMS** Fonterra's most recent forecast farmgate milk price for 2020/21<sup>11</sup>



### MILK COMPANIES

**10** dairy companies operating in NZ<sup>9</sup>

**21.2 BILLION** litres of milk processed by NZ dairy companies<sup>14</sup> 2018/19

### EXPORT MARKETS

**\$18.1** value of dairy exports for the year ending March 2019<sup>12</sup>

New Zealand produces **3% OF ALL MILK IN THE WORLD**<sup>13</sup> 2018

## CONTRIBUTION TO NEW ZEALAND'S ECONOMY

### TOP 5

markets for New Zealand dairy exports are:<sup>16</sup>

CHINA  
AUSTRALIA  
UNITED STATES  
JAPAN  
MALAYSIA

DAIRY FARMING CONTRIBUTED

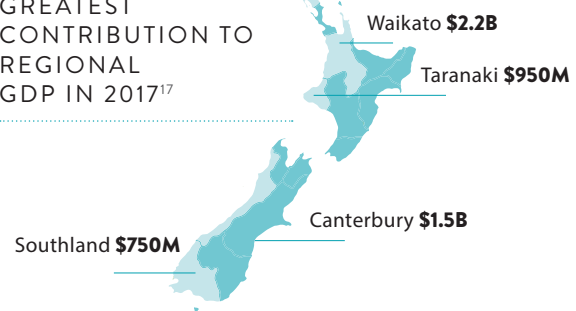
**31%**

of the total goods New Zealand exported in 2018. Dairy accounts for 35%<sup>12</sup>

**8.2B**

The dairy sector's contribution to NZ's total GDP (gross domestic product) to March 2017<sup>15</sup>

GREATEST CONTRIBUTION TO REGIONAL GDP IN 2017<sup>17</sup>



## REFERENCES

- <sup>1-6</sup> New Zealand Dairy Statistics 2018-19 ([www.dairynz.co.nz/dairystats](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/dairystats)).
- <sup>7</sup> DairyNZ Economic Survey 2017-18 ([www.dairynz.co.nz/economicsurvey](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/economicsurvey)).
- <sup>8</sup> New Zealand Dairy Statistics 2018-19([www.dairynz.co.nz/dairystats](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/dairystats)).
- <sup>9</sup> See the full Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ) list - <https://www.dcanz.com/about-dcanz/dcanz-members/>.
- <sup>10</sup> Read more on DairyNZ's Newslink site (<https://www.dairynznewslink.co.nz/business/forecast-milk-price-provides-stability-for-farmers>).
- <sup>11</sup> Fonterra milk prices (<https://www.fonterra.com/nz/en/investors/farmgate-milk-prices.html>)
- <sup>12</sup> NZIER Report "How does the dairy sector share it's growth?" ([www.nzier.org.nz](http://www.nzier.org.nz)).
- <sup>13</sup> Dairy market review: Overview of global dairy market developments in 2018 (<http://www.fao.org/3/ca3879en/ca3879en.pdf>)
- <sup>14</sup> New Zealand Dairy Statistics 2018-19 ([www.dairynz.co.nz/dairystats](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/dairystats)).
- <sup>15</sup> NZIER Report "How does the dairy sector share it's growth?" ([www.nzier.org.nz](http://www.nzier.org.nz)).
- <sup>16</sup> Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ) fast facts summary based on information collected in the year to June 2018 – see homepage: [Dcanz.com](http://Dcanz.com).
- <sup>17</sup> NZIER Report "How does the dairy sector share it's growth?" ([www.nzier.org.nz](http://www.nzier.org.nz)).