

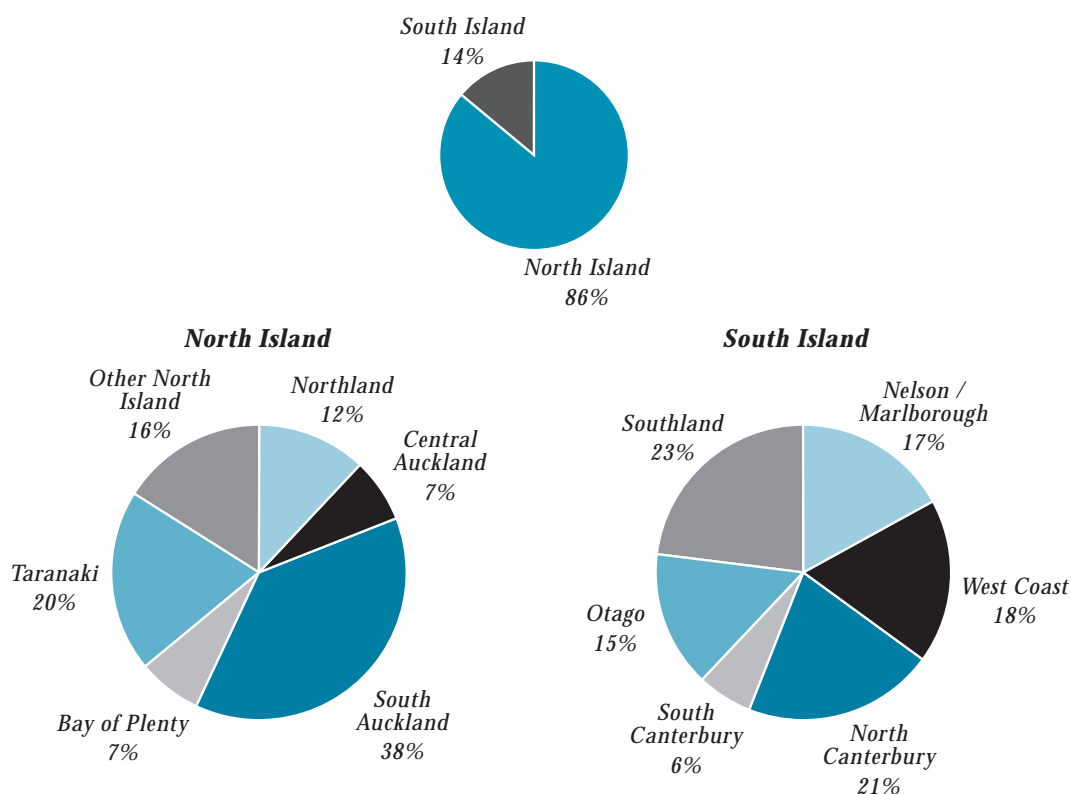
3. Regional dairy statistics

- No change in the distribution of the number of dairy farms from 1997/98 to 1998/99**

During the 1998/99 season, eight of the 15 dairy companies mainly supplied product for export (seasonal supply) and seven supplied the domestic market (town supply).

The distribution of dairy farms in 1998/99 has remained the same as the previous season. South Island farms account for 14% of the national total.

Graph 3.1: Regional distribution of dairy farms in 1998/99



The number of dairy cows increased by 2% from 1997/98 to 1998/99, with the North Island cow population rising by 0.9% (from 2,596,727 to 2,620,567) and the South Island cow population rising by 6.8% (from 625,864 to 668,752). The rate of increase for both the North and South Islands is less than 1997/98.



• Larger average herd size in the South Island

Farms in the South Island region are on average, larger both in terms of physical size and cow numbers than those in the North Island. Within the South Island, South Canterbury has the largest average herd size with 437 cows. In the North Island Hawkes Bay has the largest average herd size with 347 cows (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: 1998/99 Herd analysis by region

| <i>Farming region</i> | <i>Total herds</i> | <i>Total cows</i> | <i>Average herd size</i> | <i>Average effective hectares</i> | <i>Average cows per hectare</i> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Northland | 1,491 | 290,898 | 195 | 98 | 2.1 |
| Central Auckland | 807 | 151,570 | 188 | 83 | 2.4 |
| South Auckland | 4,765 | 991,591 | 208 | 77 | 2.8 |
| Bay of Plenty | 818 | 188,375 | 230 | 86 | 2.8 |
| Central Plateau | 494 | 148,997 | 302 | 124 | 2.6 |
| Western Uplands | 78 | 19,206 | 246 | 111 | 2.4 |
| East Coast | 19 | 3,761 | 198 | 72 | 2.9 |
| Hawkes Bay | 66 | 22,887 | 347 | 140 | 2.5 |
| Taranaki | 2,453 | 481,034 | 196 | 74 | 2.8 |
| Wellington | 712 | 172,334 | 242 | 97 | 2.7 |
| Wairarapa | 632 | 149,914 | 237 | 92 | 2.7 |
| North Island | 12,335 | 2,620,567 | 212 | 84 | 2.7 |
| Nelson/Marlborough | 343 | 78,571 | 229 | 91 | 2.7 |
| West Coast | 371 | 80,787 | 218 | 118 | 2.0 |
| North Canterbury | 432 | 177,579 | 411 | 148 | 2.9 |
| South Canterbury | 112 | 48,915 | 437 | 163 | 2.9 |
| Otago | 302 | 112,577 | 373 | 139 | 2.8 |
| Southland | 467 | 170,323 | 365 | 139 | 2.7 |
| South Island | 2,027 | 668,752 | 330 | 130 | 2.6 |
| New Zealand | 14,362 | 3,289,319 | 229 | 91 | 2.7 |



• Highest farm production recorded in South Canterbury

South Island farms have, on average, higher per farm production, with South Canterbury recording the highest average farm production at 73,467 kilograms of milkfat and 56,522 kilograms of protein. In the North Island the Hawkes Bay region recorded the highest average farm production with 54,731 kilograms of milkfat and 41,540 kilograms of protein (Table 3.2).

In 1998/99 production per effective hectare and per cow shows that milkfat and protein per hectare and per cow is higher in the South Island than the North Island. At a regional level this translates to a higher protein to milkfat ratio for the East Coast of the South Island for the 1998/99 season.

Table 3.2: 1998/99 Farm production analysis by region

| <i>Farming region</i> | <i>Average litres per farm</i> | <i>Average milkfat per farm</i> | <i>Average protein per farm</i> | <i>Average milkfat per effective hectare</i> | <i>Average protein per effective hectare</i> | <i>Average milkfat per cow</i> | <i>Average protein per cow</i> |
|-----------------------|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Northland | 584,564 | 27,267 | 20,510 | 284 | 213 | 135 | 101 |
| Central Auckland | 569,315 | 26,211 | 19,911 | 325 | 246 | 135 | 102 |
| South Auckland | 651,280 | 31,077 | 23,200 | 410 | 305 | 145 | 108 |
| Bay of Plenty | 735,661 | 34,088 | 25,659 | 400 | 300 | 143 | 107 |
| Central Plateau | 1,013,650 | 47,567 | 35,419 | 400 | 297 | 155 | 115 |
| Western Uplands | 775,020 | 36,323 | 27,198 | 340 | 255 | 144 | 108 |
| East Coast | 624,979 | 29,821 | 22,295 | 426 | 317 | 149 | 111 |
| Hawkes Bay | 1,177,029 | 54,731 | 41,540 | 383 | 290 | 152 | 115 |
| Taranaki | 607,462 | 31,027 | 22,650 | 426 | 311 | 153 | 111 |
| Wellington | 782,695 | 35,852 | 27,206 | 374 | 284 | 142 | 107 |
| Wairarapa | 768,307 | 36,858 | 27,468 | 407 | 302 | 151 | 112 |
| North Island | 666,414 | 31,879 | 23,776 | 389 | 289 | 145 | 108 |
| Nelson/Marlborough | 734,258 | 34,896 | 25,494 | 389 | 283 | 148 | 107 |
| West Coast | 667,206 | 33,553 | 23,997 | 294 | 209 | 152 | 108 |
| North Canterbury | 1,506,616 | 69,929 | 53,595 | 461 | 355 | 160 | 123 |
| South Canterbury | 1,592,985 | 73,467 | 56,522 | 464 | 359 | 162 | 125 |
| Otago | 1,343,833 | 61,705 | 47,715 | 449 | 347 | 157 | 122 |
| Southland | 1,304,457 | 61,304 | 47,627 | 443 | 344 | 164 | 127 |
| South Island | 1,156,229 | 54,326 | 41,333 | 412 | 313 | 157 | 119 |
| New Zealand | 735,544 | 35,047 | 26,254 | 392 | 292 | 147 | 109 |

Central Otago has the largest farms and highest herd size with an average herd size of 704 cows and an average of 260 hectares (Table 3.3). Matamata-Piako (in South Auckland) is the district with the most herds with 1,426 herds, while South Taranaki is the district with the most cows (292,999).



Regional dairy statistics

Table 3.3: 1998/99 Herd analysis by district

| <i>Region</i> | <i>District</i> | <i>Total herds</i> | <i>Total cows</i> | <i>Average herd size</i> | <i>Average effective hectares</i> | <i>Average cows per hectare</i> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Northland | Far North | 422 | 77,537 | 184 | 93 | 2.1 |
| | Whangarei | 475 | 98,847 | 208 | 105 | 2.1 |
| | Kaipara | 594 | 114,514 | 193 | 96 | 2.1 |
| Central Auckland | Rodney | 304 | 53,061 | 175 | 86 | 2.2 |
| | Manukau | 32 | 7,096 | 222 | 76 | 2.9 |
| | Papakura | 18 | 4,378 | 243 | 93 | 2.7 |
| | Franklin | 453 | 87,035 | 192 | 81 | 2.5 |
| South Auckland | Thames-Coromandel | 124 | 24,459 | 197 | 84 | 2.5 |
| | Hauraki | 568 | 112,216 | 198 | 76 | 2.7 |
| | Waikato | 941 | 197,638 | 210 | 81 | 2.7 |
| | Matamata-Piako | 1,426 | 277,181 | 194 | 68 | 3.0 |
| | Hamilton | 10 | 1,891 | 189 | 78 | 2.6 |
| | Waipa | 791 | 170,616 | 216 | 79 | 2.9 |
| | Otorohanga | 465 | 106,218 | 228 | 85 | 2.8 |
| | South Waikato | 439 | 100,888 | 230 | 85 | 2.8 |
| | Western Bay of Plenty | 299 | 67,486 | 226 | 85 | 2.7 |
| Bay of Plenty | Tauranga | 10 | 2,379 | 238 | 89 | 2.6 |
| | Whakatane | 399 | 94,235 | 236 | 87 | 2.8 |
| | Opotiki | 110 | 24,275 | 221 | 86 | 2.7 |
| | Central Plateau | 112 | 40,645 | 363 | 163 | 2.4 |
| Central Plateau | Rotorua | 383 | 108,836 | 284 | 113 | 2.7 |
| | Western Uplands | 63 | 15,394 | 244 | 110 | 2.4 |
| Western Uplands | Waitomo | 63 | 15,394 | 244 | 110 | 2.4 |
| | Ruapehu | 15 | 3,812 | 254 | 112 | 2.4 |
| East Coast | Gisborne | 8 | 1,500 | 188 | 62 | 3.0 |
| | Wairoa | 11 | 2,261 | 206 | 80 | 2.7 |
| Hawkes Bay | Napier/Hastings | 24 | 8,796 | 367 | 153 | 2.3 |
| | Central Hawkes Bay | 42 | 14,091 | 335 | 133 | 2.6 |
| Taranaki | New Plymouth | 638 | 117,456 | 184 | 73 | 2.6 |
| | Stratford | 399 | 70,579 | 177 | 69 | 2.7 |
| | South Taranaki | 1,416 | 292,999 | 207 | 75 | 2.9 |
| Wellington | Wanganui | 29 | 7,570 | 261 | 118 | 2.4 |
| | Rangitikei | 97 | 26,220 | 270 | 108 | 2.7 |
| | Manawatu | 325 | 76,021 | 234 | 92 | 2.7 |
| | Palmerston North | 44 | 11,962 | 272 | 109 | 2.6 |
| | Horowhenua | 173 | 41,370 | 239 | 97 | 2.6 |
| | Kapiti Coast | 31 | 7,119 | 230 | 86 | 2.9 |
| | Upper Hutt | 13 | 2,072 | 159 | 67 | 2.5 |
| | Wairarapa | 406 | 89,471 | 220 | 85 | 2.7 |
| Wairarapa | Masterton | 23 | 7,209 | 313 | 118 | 2.8 |
| | Carterton | 94 | 22,262 | 237 | 88 | 2.8 |
| | South Wairarapa | 112 | 31,888 | 285 | 114 | 2.6 |
| | North Island | 12,335 | 2,620,567 | 212 | 84 | 2.7 |
| Nelson/Marlborough | Tasman | 222 | 49,005 | 221 | 90 | 2.6 |
| | Nelson | 6 | 1,146 | 191 | 67 | 3.0 |
| | Marlborough | 87 | 19,380 | 223 | 86 | 2.8 |
| | Kaikoura | 28 | 9,040 | 323 | 126 | 2.7 |
| West Coast | Buller | 126 | 27,782 | 220 | 105 | 2.2 |
| | Grey | 60 | 14,804 | 247 | 139 | 1.8 |



Regional dairy statistics

Table 3.3 continued

| Region | District | Total herds | Total cows | Average herd size | Average effective hectares | Average cows per hectare |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| North Canterbury | Westland | 185 | 38,201 | 206 | 120 | 1.8 |
| | Hurunui | 40 | 22,169 | 554 | 212 | 2.7 |
| | Waimakariri | 70 | 17,018 | 243 | 91 | 2.9 |
| | Christchurch | 11 | 2,832 | 258 | 100 | 2.7 |
| | Banks Peninsula | 14 | 2,134 | 152 | 78 | 2.1 |
| South Canterbury | Selwyn | 151 | 57,399 | 380 | 130 | 3.0 |
| | Ashburton | 146 | 76,027 | 521 | 187 | 2.9 |
| | Timaru | 71 | 26,080 | 367 | 132 | 3.0 |
| | Waimate | 41 | 22,835 | 557 | 217 | 2.7 |
| | Waitaki | 73 | 36,406 | 499 | 180 | 2.9 |
| Otago | Central Otago | 5 | 3,521 | 704 | 260 | 2.9 |
| | Dunedin | 99 | 26,117 | 264 | 98 | 2.8 |
| | Clutha | 125 | 46,533 | 372 | 142 | 2.8 |
| Southland | Southland | 371 | 135,347 | 365 | 140 | 2.7 |
| | Gore | 56 | 21,268 | 380 | 142 | 2.8 |
| | Invercargill | 40 | 13,708 | 343 | 129 | 2.7 |
| South Island | | 2,027 | 668,752 | 330 | 130 | 2.6 |
| New Zealand | | 14,362 | 3,289,319 | 229 | 91 | 2.7 |

NOTE: Districts with fewer than five farms have been added to a neighbouring district to preserve the anonymity of the farms.

Central Otago district with five farms has the highest average production per farm with 120,927 kilograms of milkfat per farm and 94,851 kilograms of protein per farm. The North Island district with the highest production is Taupo with an average of 58,759 kilograms of milkfat per farm and 43,832 kilograms of protein per farm (Table 3.4).

Table 3.4: 1998/99 Farm production analysis by district

| Region | District | Average litres per farm | Average kg milkfat per farm | Average kg protein per farm | Average kg milkfat per effective ha | Average kg protein per effective ha | Average kg milkfat per cow | Average kg protein per cow |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Northland | Far North | 534,786 | 24,696 | 18,679 | 268 | 202 | 129 | 97 |
| | Whangarei | 634,552 | 30,073 | 22,482 | 293 | 219 | 140 | 105 |
| | Kaipara | 579,956 | 26,849 | 20,234 | 287 | 216 | 135 | 101 |
| Central Auckland | Rodney | 503,355 | 24,044 | 17,856 | 283 | 209 | 132 | 98 |
| | Manukau | 726,199 | 31,285 | 24,636 | 414 | 324 | 141 | 111 |
| | Papakura | 805,249 | 34,977 | 27,557 | 378 | 293 | 141 | 110 |
| | Franklin | 593,122 | 26,960 | 20,652 | 344 | 263 | 135 | 103 |
| South Auckland | Thames-Coromandel | 603,922 | 28,090 | 21,123 | 338 | 254 | 138 | 103 |
| | Hauraki | 603,115 | 28,453 | 21,358 | 382 | 287 | 141 | 106 |
| | Waikato | 656,458 | 30,710 | 32,140 | 383 | 288 | 142 | 106 |
| | Matamata-Piako | 598,753 | 29,166 | 21,600 | 433 | 320 | 146 | 108 |
| | Hamilton | 576,738 | 28,631 | 20,944 | 369 | 267 | 140 | 101 |
| Bay of Plenty | Waipa | 685,223 | 32,595 | 24,392 | 419 | 313 | 146 | 109 |
| | Otorohanga | 731,286 | 35,018 | 26,048 | 416 | 309 | 149 | 110 |
| | South Waikato | 742,103 | 35,442 | 26,371 | 425 | 315 | 151 | 112 |
| | Western Bay of Plenty | 705,588 | 33,201 | 24,878 | 392 | 293 | 143 | 107 |
| | Tauranga | 767,916 | 35,128 | 26,726 | 370 | 280 | 141 | 107 |
| Central Plateau | Whakatane | 765,198 | 35,047 | 26,492 | 411 | 310 | 144 | 108 |
| | Kawerau | 1,046,084 | 53,346 | 39,214 | 364 | 269 | 127 | 94 |
| | Opotiki | 707,336 | 32,922 | 24,666 | 381 | 285 | 143 | 106 |
| | Taupo | 1,250,961 | 58,759 | 43,832 | 372 | 276 | 158 | 118 |
| | Rotorua | 944,254 | 44,295 | 32,960 | 408 | 303 | 154 | 114 |



Regional dairy statistics

Table 3.4 continued

| Region | District | Average litres per farm | Average kg milkfat per farm | Average kg protein per farm | Average kg milkfat per effective ha | Average kg protein per effective ha | Average kg milkfat per cow | Average kg protein per cow |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Western Uplands | Waitomo | 765,023 | 36,218 | 26,933 | 340 | 253 | 145 | 108 |
| | Ruapehu | 817,009 | 36,765 | 28,311 | 340 | 263 | 141 | 109 |
| East Coast | Gisborne | 595,399 | 28,591 | 21,288 | 465 | 343 | 155 | 114 |
| | Wairoa | 646,493 | 30,715 | 23,028 | 398 | 298 | 145 | 108 |
| Hawkes Bay | Napier/Hastings | 1,220,557 | 56,160 | 42,504 | 337 | 256 | 146 | 110 |
| | Central Hawkes Bay | 1,152,156 | 53,914 | 40,989 | 410 | 309 | 155 | 111 |
| Taranaki | New Plymouth | 558,849 | 28,155 | 20,511 | 388 | 282 | 147 | 107 |
| | Stratford | 534,221 | 26,753 | 19,653 | 387 | 284 | 146 | 107 |
| | South Taranaki | 650,003 | 33,526 | 24,458 | 455 | 331 | 158 | 115 |
| Wellington | Wanganui | 835,686 | 37,499 | 28,581 | 330 | 249 | 139 | 106 |
| | Rangitikei | 889,297 | 42,484 | 31,774 | 402 | 301 | 151 | 113 |
| | Manawatu | 752,833 | 34,707 | 26,257 | 374 | 282 | 141 | 106 |
| | Palmerston North | 879,711 | 39,980 | 30,408 | 378 | 285 | 142 | 107 |
| | Horowhenua | 775,562 | 34,711 | 26,602 | 367 | 281 | 140 | 107 |
| | Kapiti Coast | 748,515 | 32,277 | 25,093 | 394 | 306 | 138 | 107 |
| | Upper Hutt | 463,690 | 21,055 | 16,005 | 314 | 238 | 129 | 98 |
| | Tararua | 700,848 | 33,980 | 25,232 | 404 | 299 | 150 | 111 |
| Wairarapa | Masterton | 1,058,927 | 49,242 | 37,128 | 431 | 323 | 155 | 116 |
| | Carterton | 784,134 | 36,774 | 27,643 | 422 | 316 | 151 | 113 |
| | South Wairarapa | 938,074 | 44,743 | 33,388 | 399 | 297 | 155 | 115 |
| | | 666,414 | 31,879 | 23,776 | 389 | 289 | 145 | 108 |
| North Island | Tasman | 695,496 | 33,655 | 24,295 | 383 | 275 | 148 | 106 |
| | Nelson | 630,876 | 26,865 | 20,960 | 417 | 323 | 148 | 114 |
| | Marlborough | 712,274 | 32,794 | 24,360 | 392 | 289 | 144 | 106 |
| | Kaikoura | 1,132,052 | 52,985 | 39,489 | 426 | 318 | 159 | 119 |
| West Coast | Buller | 668,405 | 33,178 | 23,750 | 322 | 230 | 146 | 104 |
| | Grey | 787,434 | 38,859 | 28,019 | 287 | 206 | 156 | 112 |
| | Westland | 627,397 | 32,088 | 22,860 | 276 | 197 | 154 | 110 |
| North Canterbury | Hurunui | 2,097,676 | 96,967 | 74,181 | 478 | 365 | 173 | 132 |
| | Waimakariri | 820,763 | 36,099 | 28,145 | 413 | 322 | 142 | 111 |
| | Christchurch | 890,408 | 38,090 | 30,065 | 386 | 306 | 140 | 111 |
| | Banks Peninsula | 432,567 | 19,349 | 14,671 | 258 | 194 | 125 | 94 |
| | Selwyn | 1,394,981 | 63,690 | 49,442 | 471 | 367 | 158 | 123 |
| | Ashburton | 1,938,391 | 92,442 | 69,959 | 494 | 375 | 172 | 130 |
| | Timaru | 1,334,873 | 60,671 | 46,980 | 463 | 360 | 158 | 123 |
| South Canterbury | Waimate | 2,039,958 | 95,627 | 73,046 | 467 | 356 | 169 | 129 |
| | Otago | Waitaki | 1,853,746 | 84,470 | 65,727 | 484 | 377 | 166 |
| Otago | Central Otago | 2,670,151 | 120,927 | 94,851 | 481 | 375 | 169 | 132 |
| | Dunedin | 904,321 | 40,887 | 31,426 | 412 | 317 | 145 | 111 |
| | Clutha | 1,341,084 | 62,529 | 48,210 | 455 | 352 | 162 | 125 |
| | Southland | Southland | 1,296,156 | 61,101 | 47,437 | 440 | 342 | 164 |
| Southland | Gore | 1,396,754 | 64,682 | 50,177 | 466 | 361 | 167 | 130 |
| | Invercargill | 1,252,226 | 58,457 | 45,816 | 434 | 339 | 160 | 125 |
| | | 1,156,229 | 54,326 | 41,333 | 412 | 313 | 157 | 119 |
| New Zealand | | 735,544 | 35,047 | 26,254 | 392 | 292 | 147 | 109 |

