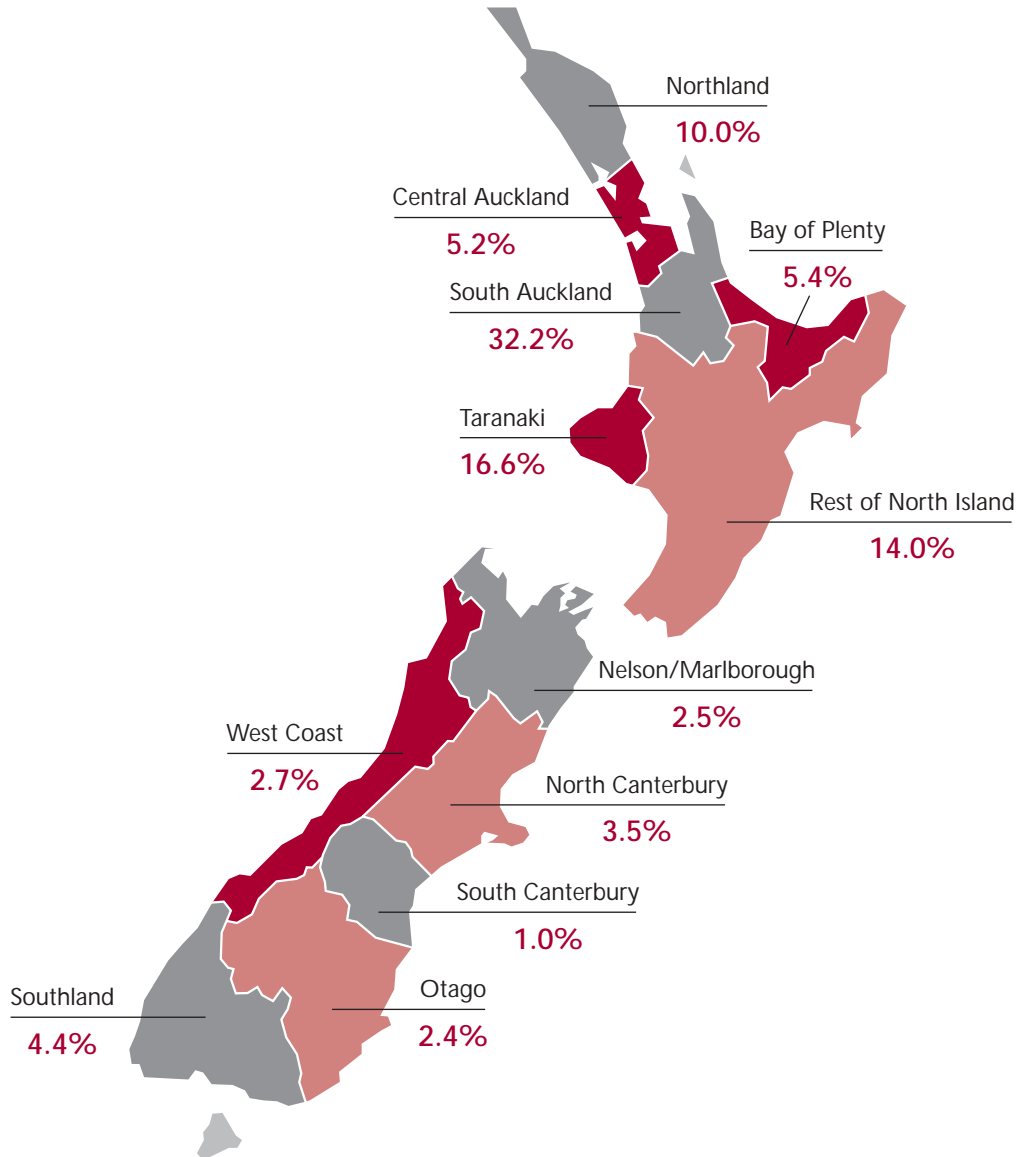


3. Regional dairy statistics

- One third of all dairy farms are located in the South Auckland region

The vast majority of dairy farms (83%) are located in the North Island, with the greatest concentration (32%) situated in the South Auckland region. Taranaki, with 17% of dairy farms, is the next most heavily populated region. South Island dairy farms account for 17% of the national total. The distribution of dairy farms within regions of each island in 2001/02 (Graph 3.1) has remained similar to previous seasons.

Graph 3.1 Regional distribution of dairy farms in 2001/02



Regional dairy statistics

- 0.5 million cows in Taranaki
- Largest average herd size (539) and average effective hectares (192) in South Canterbury
- Average herd size in the South Island reaches 394

Farms in the South Island are, on average, larger than those in the North Island, in terms of both physical size and cow numbers. The overall number of herds in New Zealand (13,649) has dropped compared with the previous season, even though the number of herds in the South Island has increased (Table 3.1). Seventy-six percent of the total cows are in the North Island, with 29% in the South Auckland region. The average herd size in both islands continues to increase. Within the South Island, South Canterbury has the largest average herd size with 539 cows, up markedly from the previous season's figure of 483 cows. In the North Island, Hawkes Bay has the largest average herd size with 468 cows. The smallest herds are in Central Auckland, Northland and Taranaki, averaging 199, 220 and 221 cows respectively. South Auckland has the highest average cows per hectare (2.85), followed by Taranaki and South Canterbury (2.82 each). The lowest average cows per hectare are found in the West Coast (2.13) and Northland (2.15).

Table 3.1 Herd analysis by region in 2001/02

Farming region	Total herds	Total cows	Total effective hectares	Average herd size	Average effective hectares	Average cows per hectare
Northland	1,364	300,043	141,266	220	104	2.15
Central Auckland	711	141,274	61,393	199	86	2.34
South Auckland	4,399	1,073,564	384,065	244	87	2.85
Bay of Plenty	731	187,615	69,181	257	95	2.74
Central Plateau	489	193,597	75,380	396	154	2.65
Western Uplands	82	24,555	9,682	299	118	2.60
East Coast	15	4,053	1,530	270	102	2.80
Hawkes Bay	66	30,896	11,048	468	167	2.69
Taranaki	2,272	501,004	180,417	221	79	2.82
Wellington	664	187,441	70,560	282	106	2.67
Wairarapa	600	160,611	60,445	268	101	2.69
North Island	11,393	2,804,653	1,064,967	246	93	2.69
Nelson/Marlborough	344	83,450	32,642	243	95	2.57
West Coast	365	98,274	47,623	269	130	2.13
North Canterbury	475	234,431	80,550	494	170	2.81
South Canterbury	139	74,945	26,637	539	192	2.82
Otago	331	136,818	51,853	413	157	2.65
Southland	602	260,132	100,658	432	167	2.59
South Island	2,256	888,050	339,963	394	151	2.58
New Zealand	13,649	3,692,703	1,404,930	271	103	2.67



- Highest per 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 186,323kg of milksolids (Table 3.2). These figures are consistent with the South Canterbury region having the largest average herd size. In the North Island, the Hawkes Bay region recorded the highest average farm production with 147,282kg of milksolids.

In 2001/02, average production per effective hectare and per cow was higher in the South Island than the North Island. North Canterbury recorded the highest average milksolids per hectare in the South Island (1,006 kg), while Taranaki had the highest average milksolid production in the North Island (889 kg).

However, Southland had the highest average milksolids per cow (358kg) followed closely by North Canterbury (357kg). The lowest average milksolids per cow was recorded in Northland (268kg).

Table 3.2 Farm production analysis by region in 2001/02

Farming region	Average litres per farm	Average milkfat per farm	Average protein per farm	Average milksolids per farm	Average milkfat per effective hectare	Average protein per effective hectare	Average milksolids per effective hectare	Average milkfat per cow	Average protein per cow	Average milksolids per cow
Northland	718,717	34,123	25,532	59,654	329	246	575	153	115	268
Central Auckland	694,857	32,600	24,670	57,270	380	288	668	162	123	285
South Auckland	864,747	41,849	31,261	73,110	489	364	853	171	127	298
Bay of Plenty	945,528	44,344	33,384	77,728	473	356	829	172	129	301
Central Plateau	1,439,736	68,397	51,344	119,741	466	348	814	176	132	308
Western Uplands	993,540	47,553	35,618	83,171	416	311	727	160	119	279
East Coast	1,023,110	43,431	34,918	78,348	483	390	873	176	142	318
Hawkes Bay	1,754,399	83,085	64,198	147,282	478	367	845	179	138	317
Taranaki	776,545	40,179	29,674	69,853	512	377	889	181	134	315
Wellington	1,116,245	52,553	40,394	92,947	498	382	881	186	143	329
Wairarapa	1,020,210	50,149	37,733	87,883	503	377	880	187	141	328
North Island	878,069	42,656	31,946	74,602	466	348	814	172	129	301
Nelson/Marlborough	851,628	41,773	30,763	72,536	444	326	770	171	126	297
West Coast	924,026	47,195	33,727	80,922	374	266	639	177	126	303
North Canterbury	2,109,371	98,760	76,644	175,404	566	440	1,006	201	156	357
South Canterbury	2,236,424	105,056	81,266	186,323	557	432	989	200	155	355
Otago	1,741,800	80,763	62,979	143,742	520	406	926	196	153	349
Southland	1,799,542	85,042	66,535	151,578	516	403	920	201	157	358
South Island	1,597,032	75,815	58,287	134,101	496	379	875	192	146	338
New Zealand	996,904	48,137	36,300	84,436	471	353	824	175	132	307

South Taranaki continues to be the district with the most herds (1,330) and cows (309,243), followed by Matamata-Piako (Table 3.3). Waimate in South Canterbury has the highest average herd size, with 671 cows and largest average effective hectares (240).



Regional dairy statistics

Table 3.3 Herd analysis by district in 2001/02

Region	District	Total herds	Total cows	Average herd size	Average effective hectares	Average cows per hectare
Northland	Far North	389	77,195	198	97	2.08
	Whangarei	449	108,407	241	110	2.21
	Kaipara	526	114,441	218	103	2.15
Central Auckland	Rodney	264	53,072	201	92	2.19
	Manukau City	27	5,872	217	82	2.64
	Papakura	12	2,259	188	72	2.58
South Auckland	Franklin	408	80,071	196	83	2.40
	Waikato	866	210,670	243	92	2.72
	Hamilton City	14	3,070	219	82	2.70
	Waipa	727	186,826	257	89	2.92
	Otorohanga	451	126,320	280	99	2.85
	Thames-Coromandel	109	24,327	223	90	2.52
	Hauraki	523	115,364	221	85	2.64
	Matamata-Piako	1,280	291,404	228	77	3.00
Bay of Plenty	South Waikato	429	115,583	269	95	2.89
	Western Bay of Plenty	252	68,945	274	98	2.80
	Tauranga	10	2,619	262	95	2.65
	Kawerau/Whakatane	366	91,155	249	94	2.70
	Opotiki	103	24,896	242	90	2.70
Central Plateau	Taupo	122	66,747	547	228	2.54
	Rotorua	367	126,850	346	130	2.68
Western Uplands	Waitomo	66	19,989	303	118	2.64
	Ruapehu	16	4,566	285	120	2.42
East Coast	Gisborne	6	1,776	296	114	2.84
	Wairoa	9	2,277	253	94	2.77
Hawkes Bay	Napier/Hastings	24	12,228	510	190	2.47
	Central Hawkes Bay	42	18,668	444	154	2.82
Taranaki	New Plymouth	585	122,064	209	80	2.64
	Stratford	357	69,697	195	75	2.63
Wellington	South Taranaki	1,330	309,243	233	80	2.94
	Wanganui	29	8,857	305	125	2.56
	Rangitikei	90	28,878	321	119	2.75
	Manawatu	305	84,080	276	103	2.68
	Palmerston North City	42	14,460	344	119	2.90
	Horowhenua	160	43,317	271	103	2.65
	Kapiti Coast	29	6,514	225	91	2.54
	Upper Hutt City	9	1,335	148	71	2.14
Wairarapa	Tararua	388	96,067	248	94	2.67
	Masterton	23	7,738	336	125	2.79
	Carterton	84	22,186	264	100	2.68
	South Wairarapa	105	34,620	330	121	2.77
North Island		11,393	2,804,653	246	93	2.69
Nelson/Marlborough	Marlborough	85	18,401	216	87	2.46
	Kaikoura	31	9,469	305	115	2.73
	Nelson City	6	1,000	167	77	2.24
	Tasman	222	54,580	246	96	2.60
West Coast	Buller	129	33,766	262	114	2.32
	Grey	73	24,354	334	158	2.13
	Westland	163	40,154	246	131	1.97



Regional dairy statistics

Region	District	Total herds	Total cows	Average herd size	Average effective hectares	Average cows per hectare
North Canterbury	Hurunui	49	28,310	578	204	2.85
	Waimakariri	74	22,279	301	120	2.49
	Christchurch City	10	2,712	271	93	2.67
	Banks Peninsula	13	1,728	133	76	1.79
	Selwyn	163	75,922	466	157	2.82
South Canterbury	Ashburton	166	103,480	623	206	3.03
	Timaru/MacKenzie	92	43,401	472	167	2.82
Otago	Waimate	47	31,544	671	240	2.82
	Waitaki/Central Otago	89	46,897	527	196	2.72
	Dunedin City	89	22,699	255	104	2.44
Southland	Clutha	153	67,222	439	164	2.72
	Gore	91	42,610	468	176	2.67
	Invercargill	49	20,375	416	161	2.51
	Southland	462	197,147	427	166	2.58
South Island		2,256	888,050	394	151	2.58
New Zealand		13,649	3,692,703	271	103	2.67

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

Waimate district has the highest average production per farm with 224,885 kilograms of milksolids (Table 3.4). Ashburton district recorded the highest average kilograms of milksolids per effective hectare (1,061), whereas the highest production per cow was recorded in Waimakariri (371 kg of milksolids). The North Island district with the highest production is Taupo, with an average of 164,388 kilograms of milksolids per farm.

Table 3.4 Farm production analysis by district in 2001/02

Region	District	Average litres per farm	Average kg milkfat per farm	Average kg protein per farm	Average kg milksolids per farm	Average kg milkfat per effective hectare	Average kg protein per effective hectare	Average kg milksolids per effective hectare	Average kg milkfat per cow	Average kg protein per cow	Average kg milksolids per cow
Northland	Far North	660,362	30,856	23,242	54,098	310	233	542	150	112	262
	Whangarei	775,175	37,558	27,795	65,353	344	254	598	156	115	272
	Kaipara	713,680	33,607	25,293	58,899	331	249	580	154	116	269
Central Auckland	Rodney	659,001	32,248	23,837	56,085	348	256	604	159	117	276
	Manukau City	810,078	35,858	27,793	63,651	440	341	780	168	130	297
	Papakura	669,404	29,688	23,058	52,746	382	296	678	144	112	256
	Franklin	711,182	32,698	25,050	57,748	398	304	702	164	126	290
South Auckland	Waikato	878,099	41,665	31,433	73,098	465	350	815	170	128	298
	Hamilton City	735,744	37,349	27,286	64,635	465	339	804	173	127	300
	Waipa	947,265	45,675	34,354	80,029	517	387	904	176	132	308
	Otorahanga	984,952	47,493	35,581	83,075	490	366	857	172	128	300
	Thames-Coromandel	770,901	36,813	27,620	64,433	415	311	726	165	124	288
	Hauraki	770,768	37,130	27,680	64,811	446	332	777	169	126	295
	Matamata-Piako	773,398	38,248	28,196	66,444	505	371	876	168	124	291
Bay of Plenty	South Waikato	986,770	47,724	35,698	83,422	511	381	892	176	132	308
	Western Bay of Plenty	958,953	45,862	34,269	80,131	469	350	819	167	125	291
	Tauranga	897,413	41,726	31,559	73,285	411	309	720	152	114	267
	Kawerau/Whakatane	962,738	44,431	33,693	78,124	486	368	853	178	135	313
	Opotiki	856,201	40,572	30,300	70,873	447	332	779	164	122	285
Central Plateau	Taupo	1,959,642	93,834	70,554	164,388	435	326	761	172	128	300
	Rotorua	1,266,906	59,940	44,959	104,899	476	356	832	178	133	310
Western Uplands	Waitomo	983,016	47,474	35,333	82,808	418	310	729	157	116	273
	Ruapehu	1,036,952	47,880	36,790	84,670	407	313	720	171	132	303



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 milk solids per farm	Average kg milkfat per effective hectare	Average kg protein per effective hectare	Average kg milk solids per effective hectare	Average kg milkfat per cow	Average kg protein per cow	Average kg milk solids per cow
East Coast	Gisborne	1,175,345	49,364	39,962	89,326	490	397	887	179	145	324
	Wairoa	921,621	39,475	31,555	71,030	478	385	863	174	140	314
Hawkes Bay	Napier/Hastings	1,931,350	91,129	70,360	161,490	440	339	779	177	136	313
	Central Hawkes Bay	1,653,285	78,488	60,676	139,164	500	383	883	180	138	319
Taranaki	New Plymouth	725,228	37,043	27,259	64,302	469	344	813	177	131	308
	Stratford	680,622	34,268	25,718	59,986	461	346	807	175	132	307
	South Taranaki	824,864	43,144	31,799	74,943	544	401	945	185	136	321
Wellington	Wanganui	1,194,903	55,048	42,539	97,587	464	356	821	181	139	320
	Rangitikei	1,262,483	61,422	46,566	107,989	527	399	926	191	145	336
	Manawatu	1,090,934	51,619	39,659	91,278	499	383	883	186	143	329
	Palmerston North City	1,363,070	64,142	49,212	113,354	548	418	966	190	145	335
	Horowhenua	1,069,309	49,389	38,221	87,610	485	374	859	183	142	325
	Kapiti Coast	912,788	40,840	31,991	72,831	470	369	838	192	151	343
	Upper Hutt City	596,328	27,378	21,189	48,567	385	299	684	184	142	326
Wairarapa	Tararua	943,969	47,064	35,178	82,242	505	377	882	189	141	331
	Masterton	1,415,238	67,057	51,370	118,427	552	421	973	198	151	349
	Carterton	1,026,461	49,260	37,286	86,546	496	375	871	188	142	330
	South Wairarapa	1,210,405	58,558	44,545	103,103	490	370	860	177	134	311
North Island		878,069	42,656	31,946	74,602	466	348	814	172	129	301
Nelson/Marlborough	Marlborough	745,800	35,756	26,631	62,387	414	307	721	166	124	289
	Kaikoura	1,205,260	57,914	43,408	101,322	512	386	898	189	143	332
	Nelson City	713,706	31,727	24,428	56,155	439	338	777	195	150	344
	Tasman	846,495	42,094	30,750	72,844	446	325	771	169	124	293
West Coast	Buller	927,636	46,716	33,515	80,230	414	294	708	178	127	305
	Grey	1,155,572	57,360	41,855	99,216	368	266	633	176	127	303
	Westland	817,469	43,022	30,254	73,276	345	243	588	178	125	303
North Canterbury	Hurunui	2,471,884	116,574	89,649	206,222	575	442	1,016	201	154	355
	Waimakariri	1,381,481	62,017	48,799	110,816	520	407	926	208	163	371
	Christchurch City	1,176,533	53,356	41,662	95,018	536	419	955	204	160	364
	Banks Peninsula	482,560	21,933	16,804	38,737	296	227	523	163	125	288
	Selwyn	2,034,686	94,241	73,565	167,806	575	450	1,024	205	161	366
	Ashburton	2,583,778	123,069	95,035	218,104	599	462	1,061	196	152	348
South Canterbury	Timaru/MacKenzie	2,014,458	93,774	72,848	166,622	566	441	1,008	203	158	361
	Waimate	2,670,911	127,140	97,745	224,885	538	414	951	193	149	342
Otago	Waitaki/Central Otago	2,216,532	102,619	79,836	182,455	533	415	948	194	151	345
	Dunedin City	1,167,061	52,798	41,289	94,087	498	390	888	205	160	365
	Clutha	1,799,973	84,317	65,790	150,107	525	410	935	192	150	342
Southland	Gore	1,906,394	89,297	69,679	158,976	518	405	923	197	153	350
	Invercargill	1,799,125	83,849	66,208	150,057	509	399	908	205	161	366
	Southland	1,778,539	84,331	65,951	150,282	517	404	920	201	157	359
South Island		1,597,032	75,815	58,287	134,101	496	379	875	192	146	338
New Zealand		996,904	48,137	36,300	84,436	471	353	824	175	132	307.23

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

