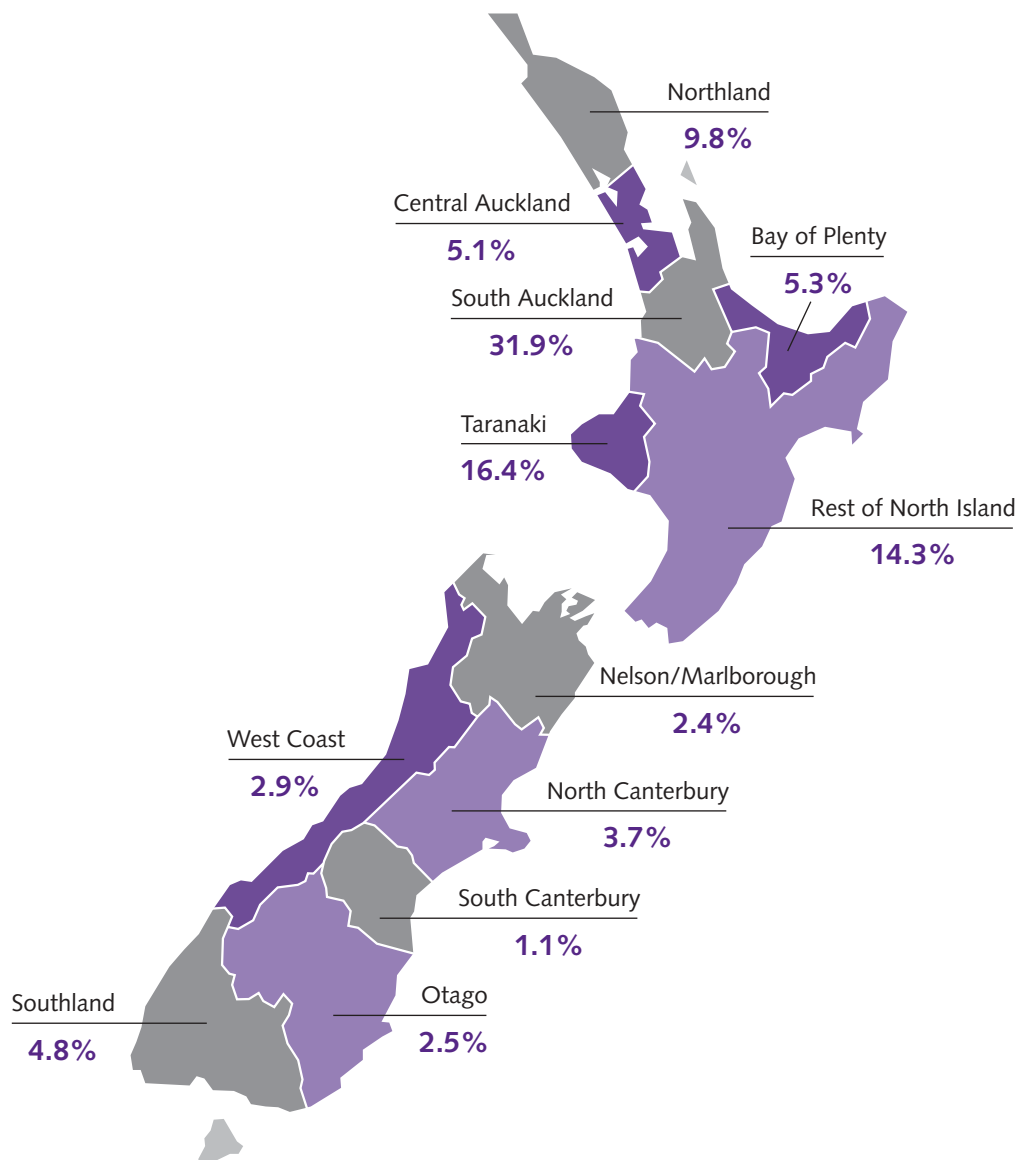


### 3. Regional dairy statistics

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

The vast majority of dairy herds (83%) are located in the North Island, with the greatest concentration (32%) situated in the South Auckland region. Taranaki, with 16% of dairy herds, is the next most heavily populated region. South Island dairy herds account for 17% of the national total, but have 26% of the cows. The distribution of dairy herds within regions of each island in 2002/03 (Graph 3.1) has remained similar to previous seasons.

Graph 3.1 Regional distribution of dairy herds in 2002/03



- Close to 1,000,000 cows in the South Island
- Largest average herd size (591) and average effective hectares (202) in South Canterbury
- Average herd size in the South Island reaches 422

Farms in the South Island are, on average, larger than those in the North Island, in terms of both geographical size and cow numbers. The overall number of herds in New Zealand (13,140) has dropped compared with the previous season, even though the number of herds in the South Island has increased (Table 3.1). Seventy-four 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 591 cows, up markedly from the previous season's figure of 539 cows. In the North Island, Hawkes Bay has the largest average herd size with 477 cows. The smallest herds are in Central Auckland, Taranaki and Northland, averaging 205, 225 and 230 cows respectively. South Canterbury has the highest average cows per hectare (2.92), followed by North Canterbury (2.81) and South Auckland (2.80). Herds with the lowest average cows per hectare are found in the West Coast (2.03) and Northland (2.11).

Table 3.1 Herd analysis by region in 2002/03

Farming region	Total herds	Total cows	Total effective hectares	Average herd size	Average effective hectares	Average cows per hectare
Northland	1,285	295,691	143,561	230	112	2.11
Central Auckland	667	136,561	59,762	205	90	2.33
South Auckland	4,186	1,070,507	391,771	256	94	2.80
Bay of Plenty	700	185,400	72,039	265	103	2.67
Central Plateau	482	197,046	77,528	409	161	2.61
Western Uplands	81	26,128	10,599	323	131	2.58
East Coast	15	3,431	1,543	229	103	2.56
Hawkes Bay	64	30,502	11,442	477	179	2.62
Taranaki	2,152	484,324	183,240	225	85	2.71
Wellington	654	190,344	77,262	291	118	2.54
Wairarapa	579	161,543	62,204	279	107	2.63
<b>North Island</b>	<b>10,865</b>	<b>2,781,477</b>	<b>1,090,949</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.63</b>
Nelson/Marlborough	309	83,209	34,080	269	110	2.49
West Coast	375	100,769	51,815	269	138	2.03
North Canterbury	482	255,349	88,559	530	184	2.81
South Canterbury	142	83,944	28,633	591	202	2.92
Otago	335	144,750	55,515	432	166	2.60
Southland	632	291,139	113,730	461	180	2.60
<b>South Island</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>959,160</b>	<b>372,332</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>2.55</b>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>13,140</b>	<b>3,740,637</b>	<b>1,463,281</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>2.61</b>



## Regional dairy statistics

- Highest average per farm and average per hectare production recorded in South Canterbury
- Highest average per cow production recorded in North Canterbury

South Island farms have, on average, higher per farm production than farms in the North Island, with South Canterbury recording the highest average farm production at 211,269 kilograms 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 157,308 kilograms of milksolids.

In 2002/03, average production per effective hectare and per cow was higher in the South Island than the North Island. South Canterbury recorded the highest average milksolids per hectare in the South Island (1,077 kg), while South Auckland had the highest average milksolid production in the North Island (909 kg).

However, North Canterbury had the highest average milksolids per cow (376 kg). The lowest average milksolids per cow was recorded in Western Uplands (280 kg).

Table 3.2 Farm production analysis by region in 2002/03

Farming region	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	790,398	37,871	28,642	66,514	344	260	604	163	123	286
Central Auckland	770,014	36,451	27,880	64,332	412	315	727	176	135	311
South Auckland	958,460	47,099	35,530	82,630	519	390	909	185	139	324
Bay of Plenty	1,013,995	48,076	36,415	84,491	486	367	853	181	137	318
Central Plateau	1,513,675	72,229	54,488	126,717	476	358	834	183	137	320
Western Uplands	1,055,486	51,038	38,577	89,615	411	311	722	159	120	280
East Coast	910,194	38,228	31,675	69,903	455	377	832	182	151	333
Hawkes Bay	1,871,048	88,542	68,766	157,308	479	370	849	182	140	322
Taranaki	743,129	38,363	28,643	67,005	461	344	805	170	127	296
Wellington	1,008,873	47,249	36,557	83,806	414	320	734	163	126	289
Wairarapa	1,000,206	49,190	37,224	86,414	460	346	806	174	131	305
<b>North Island</b>	<b>923,865</b>	<b>45,183</b>	<b>34,145</b>	<b>79,328</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>309</b>
Nelson/Marlborough	942,575	46,858	35,000	81,858	452	337	789	181	135	316
West Coast	941,835	48,454	35,199	83,653	369	266	635	183	132	316
North Canterbury	2,330,673	110,391	86,295	196,686	591	462	1,053	211	165	376
South Canterbury	2,500,108	118,373	92,895	211,269	603	474	1,077	206	162	368
Otago	1,792,102	83,655	65,955	149,610	509	402	910	195	154	348
Southland	1,811,970	86,084	67,826	153,911	495	390	885	191	150	341
<b>South Island</b>	<b>1,700,379</b>	<b>81,361</b>	<b>63,192</b>	<b>144,553</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>344</b>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>1,058,307</b>	<b>51,447</b>	<b>39,174</b>	<b>90,621</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>315</b>

South Taranaki continues to be the district with the most herds (1,273) and cows (302,814), followed by Matamata-Piako (Table 3.3). Waimate in South Canterbury has the highest average herd size, with 683 cows and largest average effective hectares (244).



## Regional dairy statistics

Table 3.3 Herd analysis by district in 2002/03

Region	District	Total herds	Total cows	Total effective hectares	Average herd size	Average effective hectares	Average cows per hectare
Northland	Far North	366	78,951	39,440	216	108	2.04
	Whangarei	421	104,971	48,891	249	116	2.19
	Kaipara	498	111,769	55,230	224	111	2.09
Central Auckland	Rodney	244	49,615	22,234	203	91	2.25
	Manukau City	26	5,553	2,434	214	94	2.36
	Papakura	11	2,123	812	193	74	2.62
South Auckland	Franklin	386	79,270	34,282	205	89	2.36
	Waikato	816	212,100	82,026	260	101	2.68
	Hamilton City	12	2,796	992	233	83	2.80
	Waipa	686	185,572	65,623	271	96	2.88
	Otorohanga	434	123,834	45,174	285	104	2.78
	Thames-Coromandel	107	23,834	9,882	223	92	2.43
	Hauraki	501	115,715	45,241	231	90	2.58
	Matamata-Piako	1,212	291,130	100,464	240	83	2.95
Bay of Plenty	South Waikato	418	115,526	42,370	276	101	2.79
	Western Bay of Plenty	233	67,188	25,324	288	109	2.73
	Tauranga	10	2,860	1,019	286	102	2.68
	Kawerau/Whakatane	360	91,375	36,700	254	102	2.62
	Opotiki	97	23,977	8,996	247	93	2.68
Central Plateau	Taupo	123	69,892	28,338	568	230	2.55
	Rotorua	359	127,154	49,190	354	137	2.64
Western Uplands	Waitomo	63	20,661	8,300	328	132	2.60
	Ruapehu	18	5,467	2,299	304	128	2.48
East Coast	Gisborne	6	1,729	780	288	130	2.74
	Wairoa	9	1,702	763	189	85	2.43
Hawkes Bay	Napier/Hastings	24	12,953	5,283	540	220	2.37
	Central Hawkes Bay	40	17,549	6,159	439	154	2.77
Taranaki	New Plymouth	549	114,629	45,847	209	84	2.55
	Stratford	330	66,881	26,721	203	81	2.53
	South Taranaki	1,273	302,814	110,672	238	87	2.83
Wellington	Wanganui	26	7,595	3,183	292	122	2.46
	Rangitikei	90	28,971	11,494	322	128	2.63
	Manawatu	305	86,041	34,379	282	113	2.55
	Palmerston North City	40	15,275	6,155	382	154	2.58
	Horowhenua	155	44,100	18,335	285	118	2.53
	Kapiti Coast	29	6,905	3,028	238	104	2.42
	Upper Hutt City	9	1,457	688	162	76	2.17
Wairarapa	Tararua	369	95,681	36,685	259	99	2.63
	Masterton	22	7,881	2,792	358	127	2.83
	Carterton	81	22,515	8,807	278	109	2.63
	South Wairarapa	107	35,466	13,920	331	130	2.61
North Island		10,865	2,781,477	1,090,949	256	100	2.63
Nelson/Marlborough	Marlborough	80	18,293	7,266	229	91	2.51
	Kaikoura	30	9,583	4,086	319	136	2.41
West Coast	Tasman/Nelson City	199	55,333	22,728	278	114	2.50
	Buller	134	35,677	16,707	266	125	2.18
	Grey	78	25,857	13,167	332	169	2.03
	Westland	163	39,235	21,941	241	135	1.89



## Regional dairy statistics

Region	District	Total herds	Total cows	Total effective hectares	Average herd size	Average effective hectares	Average cows per hectare
North Canterbury	Hurunui	48	29,434	10,484	613	218	2.82
	Waimakariri	75	27,152	10,173	362	136	2.56
	Christchurch City	10	2,884	980	288	98	2.82
	Banks Peninsula	12	1,587	962	132	80	1.74
	Selwyn	156	79,816	27,799	512	178	2.83
	Ashburton	181	114,476	38,161	632	211	2.97
South Canterbury	Timaru/MacKenzie	96	52,540	17,409	547	181	2.98
	Waimate	46	31,404	11,224	683	244	2.80
Otago	Waitaki/Central Otago	91	50,735	18,802	558	207	2.78
	Dunedin City	86	21,859	9,131	254	106	2.38
	Clutha	158	72,156	27,582	457	175	2.62
Southland	Gore	101	46,937	17,336	465	172	2.72
	Invercargill	47	19,515	7,729	415	164	2.47
	Southland	484	224,687	88,665	464	183	2.58
South Island		2,275	959,160	372,332	422	164	2.55
New Zealand		13,140	3,740,637	1,463,281	285	111	2.61

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

Waimate district has the highest average production per farm with 244,723 kilograms of milksolids (Table 3.4). Timaru/MacKenzie district recorded the highest average kilograms of milksolids per effective hectare (1,105), whereas the highest production per cow was recorded by Christchurch City (388 kg of milksolids). The North Island district with the highest production is Napier/Hastings, with an average of 180,529 kilograms of milksolids per farm.

Table 3.4 Farm production analysis by district in 2002/03

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	737,275	34,653	26,428	61,081	320	243	564	158	120	277
	Whangarei	838,692	41,047	30,695	71,741	359	268	628	163	122	285
	Kaipara	788,613	37,552	28,534	66,086	349	265	614	166	126	292
Central Auckland	Rodney	716,365	35,378	26,385	61,763	382	284	666	170	127	297
	Manukau City	892,403	39,413	31,207	70,620	452	357	809	186	147	334
	Papakura	797,436	36,252	28,314	64,567	478	372	850	183	143	327
	Franklin	794,902	36,936	28,589	65,525	427	330	757	180	139	319
South Auckland	Waikato	979,098	47,093	35,929	83,022	492	374	866	183	139	322
	Hamilton City	831,889	41,882	31,089	72,972	502	371	873	180	134	314
	Waipa	1,021,519	50,072	37,864	87,936	534	401	935	184	139	323
	Otorahanga	1,034,624	50,579	38,190	88,769	492	370	862	176	133	309
	Thames-Coromandel	821,722	39,560	29,926	69,486	430	324	754	176	133	308
	Hauraki	869,507	42,630	32,165	74,796	483	364	847	187	141	327
	Matamata-Piako	897,735	45,190	33,729	78,919	560	417	977	189	141	330
Bay of Plenty	South Waikato	1,056,931	51,593	38,977	90,571	525	395	920	188	142	330
	Western Bay of Plenty	1,055,871	51,341	38,561	89,901	488	366	854	178	133	311
	Tauranga	1,054,932	49,456	37,870	87,325	446	340	786	161	123	284
	Kawerau/Whakatane	1,004,650	46,764	35,669	82,434	488	371	859	185	141	325
	Opoiki	943,868	44,958	33,877	78,835	480	359	839	177	133	310
Central Plateau	Taupo	1,966,548	93,908	71,270	165,178	433	327	759	170	128	298
	Rotorua	1,358,512	64,801	48,738	113,539	491	369	860	187	140	328
Western Uplands	Waitomo	1,053,725	51,572	38,786	90,358	416	312	728	159	119	278
	Ruapehu	1,061,650	49,170	37,845	87,015	397	306	703	161	125	286
East Coast	Gisborne	1,036,627	43,538	36,075	79,613	460	381	842	153	127	281
	Wairoa	825,906	34,688	28,742	63,430	452	374	826	201	166	367



## 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
Hawkes Bay	Napier/Hastings	2,156,107	101,825	78,703	180,529	425	329	754	176	136	311
	Central Hawkes Bay	1,700,013	80,572	62,804	143,376	511	395	906	185	143	328
Taranaki	New Plymouth	695,203	35,488	26,442	61,930	430	320	750	169	126	294
	Stratford	659,260	33,294	25,169	58,463	417	315	733	164	124	289
	South Taranaki	785,539	40,916	30,492	71,409	486	362	848	171	128	299
Wellington	Wanganui	1,072,613	48,395	37,839	86,234	404	313	717	162	126	288
	Rangitikei	1,112,778	53,648	41,040	94,688	432	330	762	164	125	289
	Manawatu	963,361	45,348	35,036	80,384	410	317	727	161	124	285
	Palmerston North City	1,292,625	60,958	46,883	107,841	430	329	760	173	133	305
	Horowhenua	998,592	46,094	35,930	82,024	417	324	740	165	128	293
	Kapiti Coast	902,637	39,929	31,507	71,437	400	316	716	165	130	295
Wairarapa	Upper Hutt City	586,273	26,933	20,729	47,662	347	268	615	165	127	291
	Tararua	911,932	45,527	34,119	79,646	458	342	800	173	130	303
	Masterton	1,448,473	68,092	52,627	120,719	535	412	946	188	145	334
	Carterton	991,593	47,393	36,263	83,655	446	340	786	170	130	300
North Island	South Wairarapa	1,218,981	59,297	45,493	104,790	463	353	816	176	134	310
		<b>923,865</b>	<b>45,183</b>	<b>34,145</b>	<b>79,328</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>309</b>
	Nelson/Marlborough	830,348	40,598	30,611	71,209	453	340	794	179	135	314
	Marlborough	1,114,053	54,224	40,789	95,013	429	325	754	179	135	315
West Coast	Tasman/Nelson City	961,840	48,265	35,892	84,156	454	338	793	182	135	317
	Buller	921,113	46,833	34,132	80,964	392	284	676	180	131	311
	Grey	1,190,366	59,759	44,223	103,983	366	269	635	182	133	315
North Canterbury	Westland	839,941	44,377	31,758	76,135	351	251	602	187	133	320
	Hurunui	2,670,875	126,973	98,523	225,495	586	454	1,040	208	161	369
	Waimakariri	1,673,449	76,772	60,669	137,441	541	428	969	212	168	380
	Christchurch City	1,374,685	62,189	48,972	111,161	603	477	1,080	217	172	388
	Banks Peninsula	512,026	23,329	17,975	41,304	304	234	538	176	136	312
	Selwyn	2,311,584	108,040	84,925	192,965	604	476	1,080	215	169	384
South Canterbury	Ashburton	2,702,626	130,385	101,444	231,828	619	481	1,100	209	163	372
	Timaru/MacKenzie	2,317,970	109,260	85,978	195,239	618	487	1,105	207	163	370
	Waimate	2,880,223	137,392	107,331	244,723	572	447	1,019	203	159	363
Otago	Waitaki/Central Otago	2,375,815	111,202	87,489	198,691	567	446	1,012	202	159	360
	Dunedin City	1,157,364	52,704	41,649	94,353	487	386	873	205	162	367
	Clutha	1,801,403	84,635	66,783	151,418	487	385	872	185	147	332
Southland	Gore	1,821,577	85,789	67,385	153,174	504	396	900	185	146	331
	Invercargill	1,740,950	81,346	64,948	146,295	483	385	869	193	154	346
	Southland	1,816,861	86,606	68,198	154,804	494	389	883	192	151	343
South Island		<b>1,700,379</b>	<b>81,361</b>	<b>63,192</b>	<b>144,553</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>344</b>
New Zealand		<b>1,058,307</b>	<b>51,447</b>	<b>39,174</b>	<b>90,621</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>315</b>

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

