

# Dairy Sector Quickfacts

ECONOMICS AND MARKETS

Last update October 2023



## Herds and cows<sup>1</sup>

Total number of herds **10,796**

Average herd size **449**

Number of cows (milking) **4.84M**

## Milk production<sup>1</sup>



**20.78** BILLION

litres of milk processed by New Zealand dairy companies in 2021/22

## Export markets<sup>2</sup>

**\$25.7** BILLION



of dairy exports for the year ending April 2023.

*That's around one in every four export dollars earned by New Zealand.*

## TOP 5 MARKETS for New Zealand dairy exports are<sup>2</sup>:

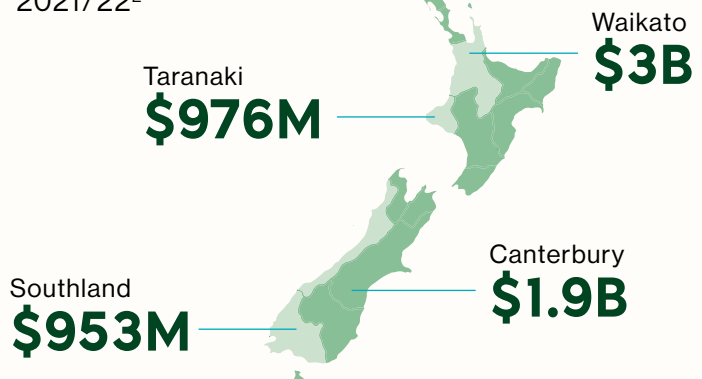


Dairy makes a critical contribution to New Zealand and contributed around **\$11.3** BILLION in to New Zealand's GDP in the year to March 2023.<sup>2</sup>



Dairy sector debt has decreased from **\$41.7 billion in 2018** to **\$37.2 billion in August 2023**.<sup>4</sup> This demonstrates the commitment of dairy farmers to prioritise debt repayment.

Greatest Contribution to regional GDP in 2021/22<sup>2</sup>



## References

1. DairyNZ & LIC. (2023). New Zealand Dairy Statistics 2021/22. DairyNZ. (dairynz.co.nz)
2. Solid foundations Dairy's economic contribution to New Zealand. (2023)
3. Assets - loans by purpose. Dairy farming. (2023)