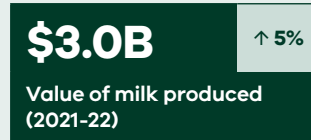


Victorian dairy industry

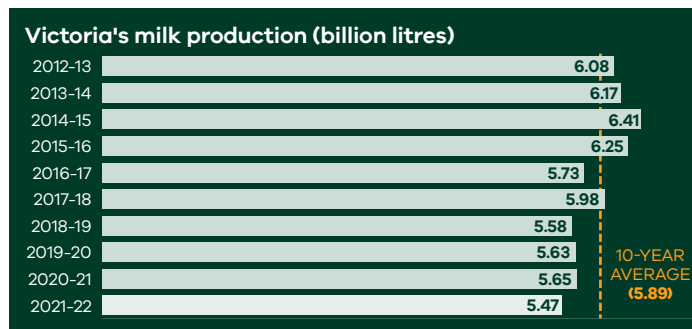
Fast Facts
June 2024



Dairy herd facts and figures

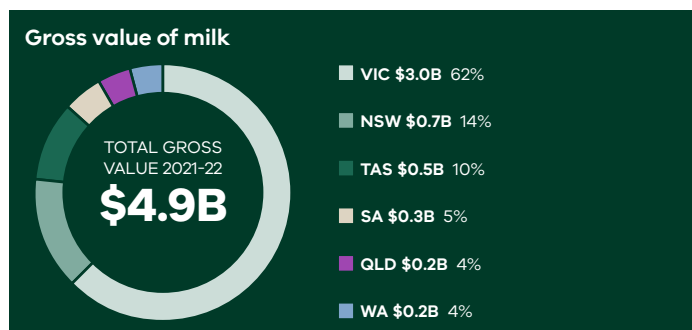
- There were 2,980 dairy farms in Victoria in 2021-22, accounting for 68% of the 4,400 dairy farms in Australia.
- Victorian dairy farms are concentrated in Gippsland (35%), south-west Victoria (33%), and northern Victoria (32%).
- In Victoria, there was a total of 1.3 million dairy cattle (including cows in milk and dry, heifers and calves less than one-year-old) in 2021-22. Victoria's herd size represents 60% of the national dairy herd of 2.2 million head.

How much milk is produced?



- Victoria is Australia's largest dairy-producing state, producing 5.47 billion litres of milk in 2021-22—close to two-thirds of Australia's milk production.
- Northern Victoria, south-west Victoria, and Gippsland dairying regions account for approximately 19%, 22% and 23% of Australia's milk production, respectively.
- On average, manufactured exports account for 29% of milk produced in Victoria, while the remaining milk is used for domestic manufacturing (60%) and drinking milk sales (11%).

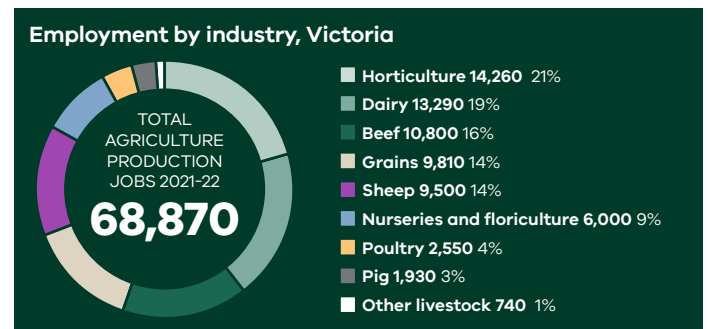
What is the value of milk produced?



- In 2021-22, the gross value of the 5.47 billion litres of milk produced in Victoria was \$3 billion, an increase of \$155 million (up 5%) on the previous year.

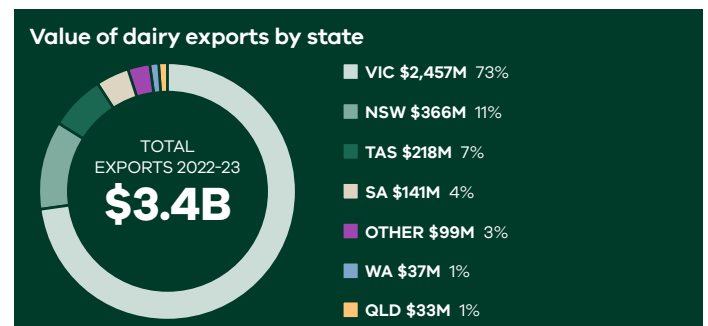
- Milk accounted for 15% of Victoria's gross agricultural production value of \$20.2 billion.
- The dairy industry is Victoria's third-largest agricultural industry, after grains (\$4.2 billion) and horticulture (\$3.9 billion).
- Victoria contributed 62% to Australia's gross value of milk production, estimated at \$4.9 billion, cementing its position as the nation's largest milk producer.

Industry employment



- Approximately 13,290 persons worked on farms producing milk in 2021-22, representing a 3.3% increase from 2020-21 job numbers.
- The dairy industry contributed 19% to Victorian agricultural jobs.

How much dairy is exported?



- Victoria's total dairy exports were valued at \$2.5 billion in 2022-23, representing 13% of its total food and fibre exports (\$19.6 billion).
- Milk and cream products were the highest value dairy category, contributing 53% of Victoria's dairy exports. Cheese and whey products were the second highest value category at \$902 million (37% of dairy exports).
- Victoria is the largest dairy exporter, accounting for 73% of Australia's total dairy exports (\$3.4 billion).
- China remained the top destination for Victorian dairy exports in 2022-23, at \$788 million, followed by Japan (\$359 million), and Indonesia (\$208 million).

Data attribution: Sourced from publicly available data published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) | ABARES | Agriculture Policy and Programs Branch analysis. Data are the latest available as of June 2024.