THE SOUTH AFRICAN DAIRY INDUSTRY

FANIE FERREIRA

CEO: Milk Producers' Organisation

MELKPRODUSENTE-ORGANISASIE
MILK PRODUCERS' ORGANISATION

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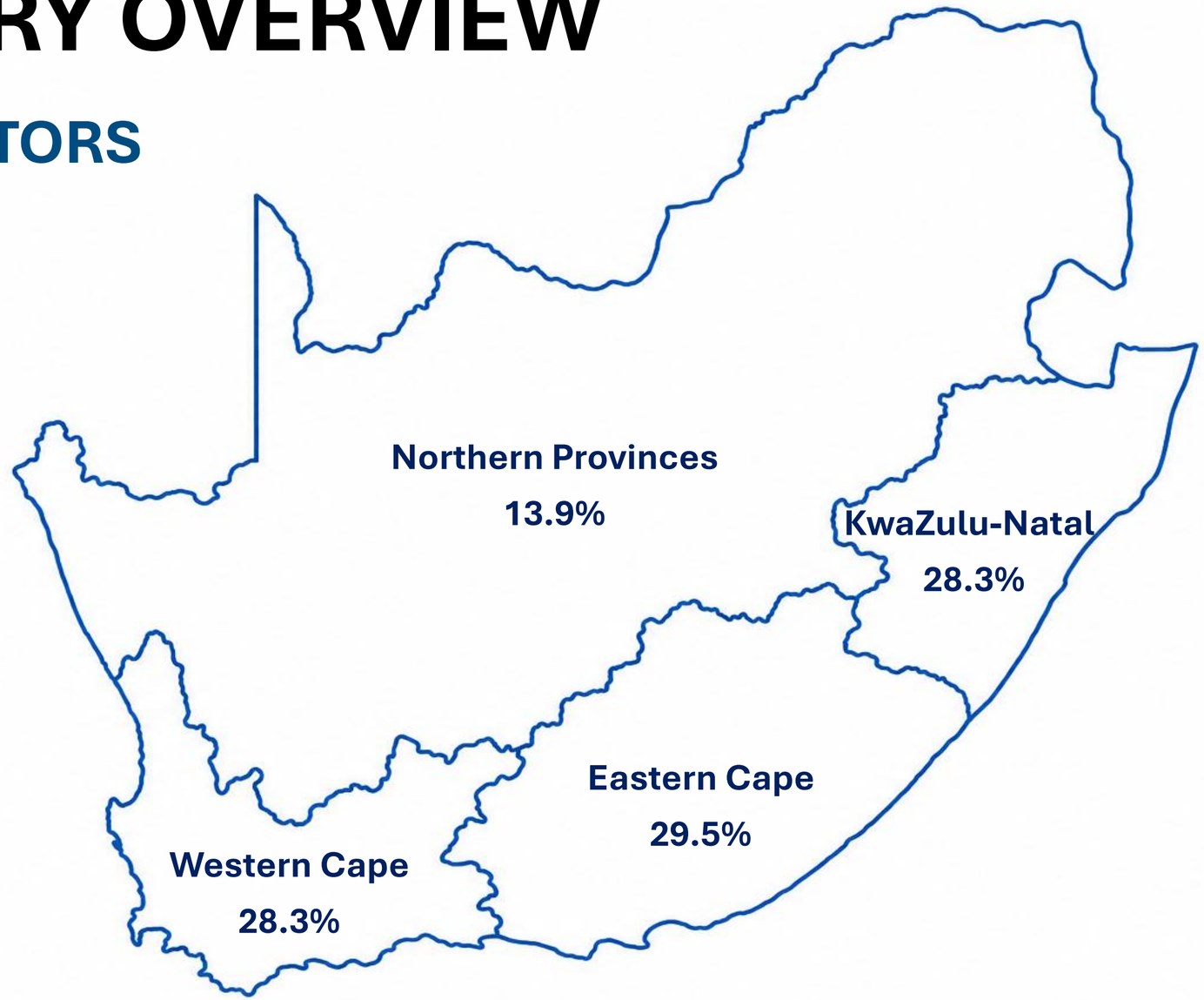
DAIRY INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

KEY INDUSTRY INDICATORS

879
DAIRY FARMERS

1 210 000
DAIRY COWS

3.5 BILLION
LITRES OF MILK PER YEAR



Distribution of unprocessed milk production across South Africa.

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Economic Indicators

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- Changes in the retail sales **quantities** and -**prices** of dairy products.

	Change in retail sales QUANTITIES (%)	Change in average retail PRICE (%)
	Jul 2024 – Jun 2025 vs. Jul 2025 - Jun 2026	June 2025 vs. June 2026
Fresh milk	**0.4**	**4.5**
UHT Milk	**3.5**	**4.5**
Flavoured Milk	**10.8**	**7.6**
Yoghurt	**3.1**	**3.5**
Maas	**2.0**	**6.6**
Pre-packaged cheese	**4.4**	**0.7**
Cream Cheese	**10.0**	**-0.03**
Butter	**0.2**	**5.8**
Cream	**5.6**	**2.9**

Sources: NielsenIQ as supplied by SAMPRO

Economic Indicators

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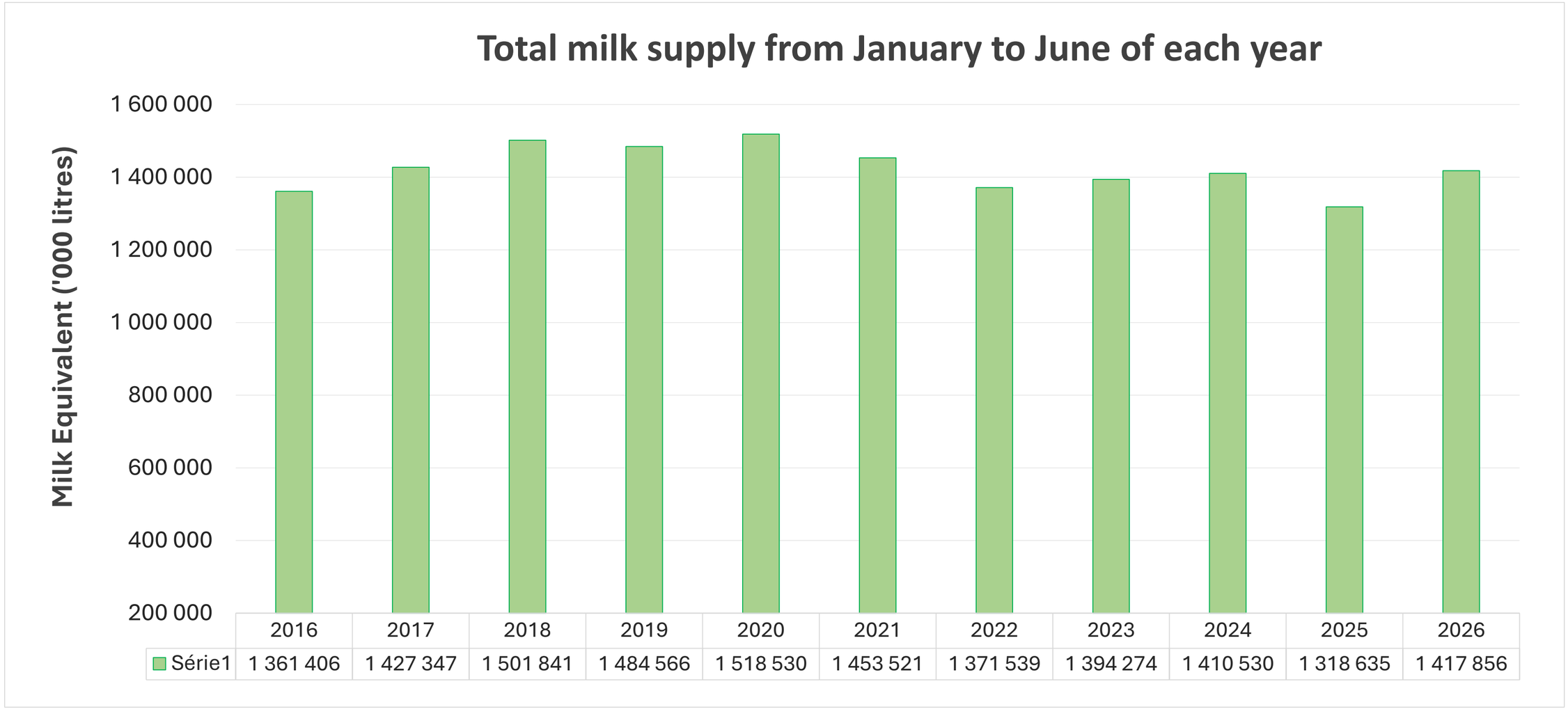

Sources: Milk SA, SARS as supplied by Agri Inspec, and the MPO.

Economic Indicators

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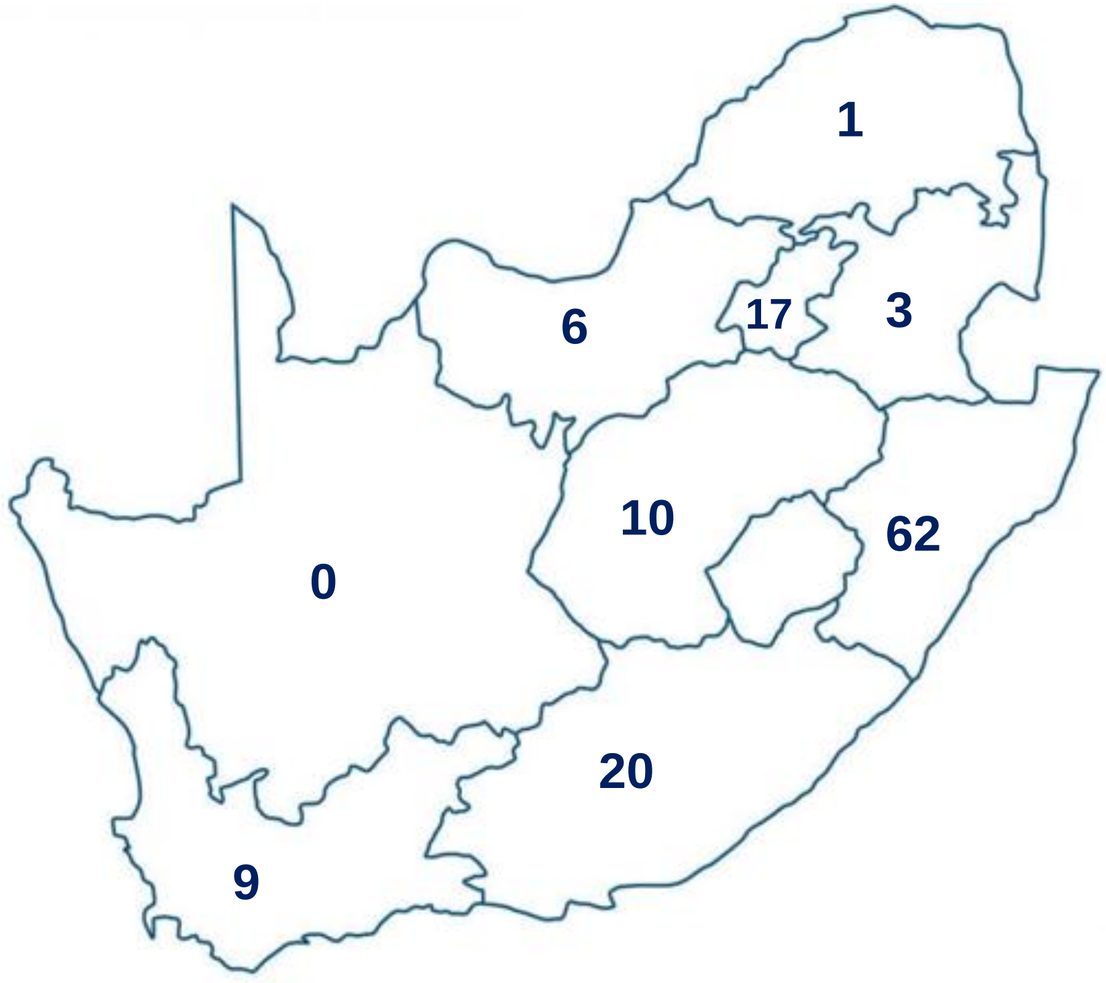
- Milk supply and -demand for the twelve months leading up to June 2026 vs. the previous corresponding period.
    - SUPPLY
        - **+ 30 115 000** more litres of milk supplied
    - DEMAND
        - **+ 98 632 000** more litres milk demanded
    - SHORTAGE
        - **68 517 000** litres milk

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

(Status as of 4 September 2026)

PROVINCE	TOTAL DAIRY COWS VACCINATED	
	1st Vaccination	2nd Vaccination
KwaZulu-Natal	360 200	334 000
Eastern Cape	308 092	116 489
Free State	15 104	19 118
Limpopo	5 475	-
Gauteng	14 832	13 720
Mpumalanga	9 863	-
North West	6 342	-
Western Cape	239 000	38 304
Northern Cape	0	-
Total	**958 511**	**521 631**

Dairy FMD outbreaks per province...



STATUTORY MEASURES FOR THE DAIRY INDUSTRY

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NEW REGULATION	A joint MPO & SAMPRO statutory measure under the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, effective 1 July 2026 replacing the levy system that expired on 30 June 2026.
HOW IT WORKS	A small levy (R0,02 / liter) is charged across dairy product categories and increases with 4% per year for inflation. Milk SA administers registration and collection.
THE RESULT	Roughly R72 million / year to strengthen the industry - funding research, transformation, consumer education, quality standards, animal health & welfare, and industry communication.
TIMELINE	1 July 2026 – 31 December 2030, jointly administered by MPO and SAMPRO under NAMC oversight.

NEW MPO PROJECTS

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Animal Health & Welfare

The focus of animal health and welfare is largely centered around practices that ensure the physical and psychological
well-being of dairy animals.

Transformation & Training

The MPO Training Institute, an affiliated company of MPO, focuses on training the farmworkers of commercial farmers, as well as on programmes aimed at achieving transformation objectives for emerging farmers.

Research & Development

Promotes coordinated, industry relevant dairy research and collaboration to support innovation, sustainability and practical solutions for the South African dairy industry.

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