

The Survey of Rural Decision Makers is a biennial survey of New Zealand's primary sector conducted by Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research since 2013. In 2021, there were 6700 respondents representing commercial and lifestyle farms, forests and growing operations from Cape Reinga to Rakiura.

Restricting stock

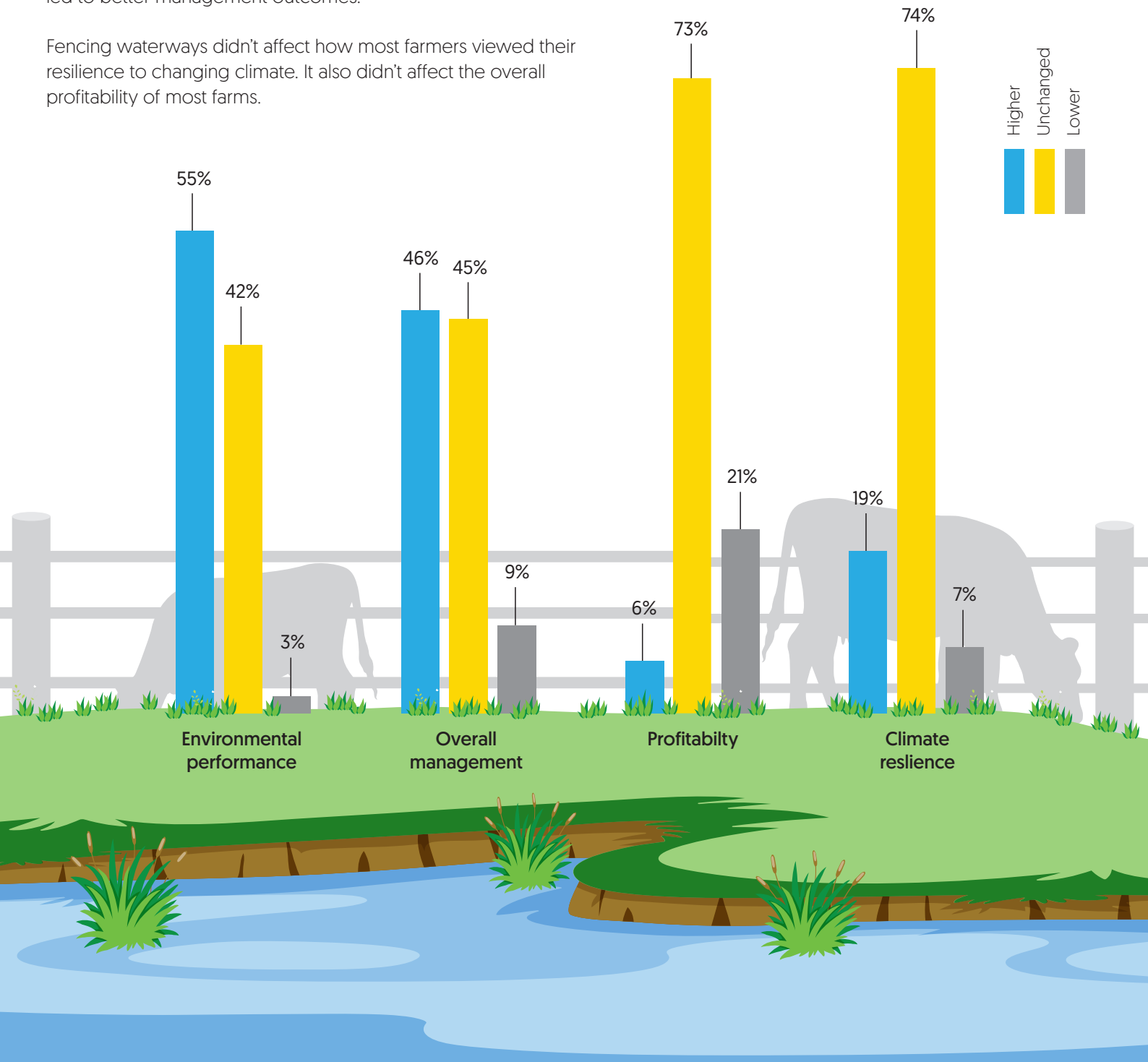
from waterways

Dairy and beef farmers are taking measures to restrict stock from waterways.

Results of fencing waterways

For most commercial dairy and beef farmers, fencing waterways improved the farm's environmental performance. Fencing also led to better management outcomes.

Fencing waterways didn't affect how most farmers viewed their resilience to changing climate. It also didn't affect the overall profitability of most farms.



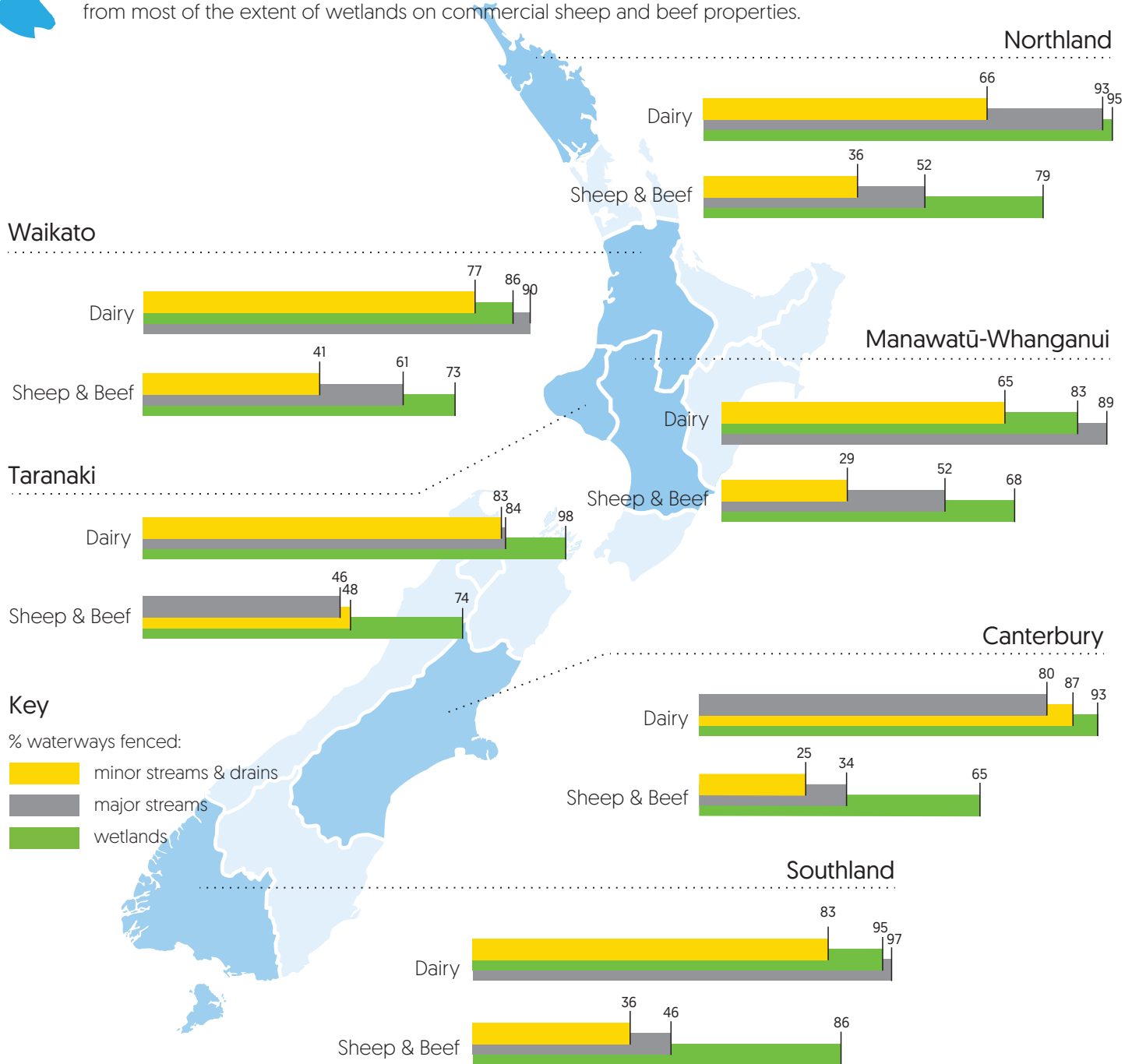
Extent of waterways fenced in 6 selected regions



Dairy farmers are fencing nearly all the wetlands on their properties, especially in Taranaki, Southland and Northland, where 95% or more of the extent of wetlands on farms is fenced. Southland dairy farmers have fenced the highest proportion of streams.



The majority of major streams on commercial sheep and beef farms in Waikato, Northland, and Manawatū-Whanganui are fenced, with Taranaki and Southland not far behind. Stock are excluded from most of the extent of wetlands on commercial sheep and beef properties.



Key

% waterways fenced:

- minor streams & drains
- major streams
- wetlands

The Survey of Rural Decision Makers is designed to build a better picture of decision making at the farm level, tackling topics that cannot be easily addressed in official statistics or directly by organisations. It is a valuable resource for policy makers, regional councils, industry groups and businesses.

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Further results will be added to our website as they become available:
www.landcareresearch.co.nz/srdm-2021



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