



May 2026 Insights

Tracking Methane Action in the Dairy and Coffee Sector



By Changing Markets Foundation

Key findings

1. Targets

Despite 91% of companies publicly recognising the link between livestock and climate change, just three companies have published a target to reduce their methane emissions by 2030. Just one, Danone, has set a target in line with the Global Methane Pledge to reduce methane emissions by 30% below 2020 levels by 2030. Two others, Friesland Campina and General Mills have published slightly weaker targets, scoring half points.¹

Setting methane reduction targets in line with science of at least 30% by 2030 is the single most important step companies can take to drive real emissions reductions. Without targets, there is no clear pathway, accountability, or incentive to act. Specific methane targets drive focused action, as we have seen with Danone, which this year reported that it already achieved 29.8% reduction in methane emissions from its fresh milk and dairy products.

2. Methane disclosure

Disclosure is another important marker of leadership in the dairy sector, but progress remains uneven. Eight companies including General Mills, Starbucks and Clover Sonoma are reporting livestock methane emissions (three report in CO₂e, and five in CH₄). However, 15 companies, including Arla, Lactalis and McDonalds (McCafe) did not disclose methane emissions for 2024 or 2025, leaving major gaps in transparency across the sector.

3. Methane reductions

Three companies (Danone, Le Groupe Bel, and Nestlé) have disclosed their methane reductions for 2024 or 2025, others lag behind or report inconsistently. For example, Kraft Heinz **reported** methane reductions for 2023, but it has not yet not yet reported 2024 data. Danone stands out, already nearing a 30% methane reduction five years ahead of its 2030 target*² – showing that ambition, when backed by clear goals, can deliver results.

“Scope 3 emissions related to milk purchases are the most significant, representing 31.7% of SBTi scope emissions, notably due to methane emissions from the supply of fresh milk used in dairy products. Therefore, Danone has made it one of its priorities to decarbonize its value chain, achieving a 29.8% reduction in methane emissions in 2025 compared to 2020 (25% in 2024).” Danone, **2025 Annual Report**.

1 Le Groupe Bel have privately disclosed a methane reduction target (with the promise that it will be published in June 2026) which does not have a clear baseline, and thus cannot score within the methodology.

2 **Danone** explains the reduction by the following levers:

- Procurement decisions (mainly volume) for 17.6%,
- Farm performance management for 11.2% which is composed of herd management (5.9%) and manure management (3.6%), farm portfolio mix (1.2%) and feed additives (0.5%),
- Other factors (mainly change in scope and methodology) for 1.0%.

Table 1: Methane disclosure

Report livestock methane emissions in CH ₄	Report livestock methane emissions in CO ₂ e	Do not report livestock methane emissions
 ✓	 ✓	 ✓
 ✓	 	 ✗
 ✓	 ✓	 ✗
 ✓		 ✗
 ✓		 ✗
		 ✗
		 ✗
		 ✗
		 ✓
		 ✓* * Lactalis USA is a DMAA member
		 ✗
		 ✗
		 ✓
		 ✗
		 ✗

✓ = DMAA ✗ = not DMAA member  = Nestlé left DMAA in 2025

4. Dairy Methane Action Alliance (DMAA)

Collective initiatives are helping to push parts of the industry forward. DMAA members score nearly double the points of non-members on average (46 vs 23). DMAA membership appears to drive improvements, particularly in methane disclosure and action plans. However, membership alone is not enough – performance varies widely between companies from Danone in 1st to Agropur in 16th place, showing that commitment must be backed by meaningful implementation.

Several DMAA members lost points because they failed to report emissions and reduction data relating to 2024 or 2025, despite the fact that Alliance requires regular annual reporting.

5. Co-operatives

Performance among dairy co-operatives remains mixed, with most companies showing inconsistent disclosure and limited target-setting on methane emissions. Compared to DMAA members, cooperatives on average score significantly less (24 for co-operatives vs 46 for DMAA members). Only one cooperative (Agropur) is a member of DMAA.

FrieslandCampina (41.5) and Arla (41) score higher than other co-operatives assessed, reflecting stronger engagement on methane-related action and disclosure. However, neither company has published a standalone methane reduction target or is reporting its methane emissions transparently.

Meanwhile, Agropur (16), DMK (12.5), and Dairy Farmers of America (8) continue to score poorly across most indicators, demonstrating that methane remains a major blind spot for large parts of the co-operative dairy sector. Overall, the results indicate that many co-operatives are still falling behind in recognising methane as a priority climate risk. Given the central role co-operatives play in dairy supply chains, closing this gap will be critical to sector-wide progress.

6. A closer look at coffee

Methane action among coffee companies is beginning to take shape, but progress is uneven. Starbucks, a member of DMAA, has pulled ahead of its peers, demonstrating stronger performance particularly on disclosure and methane action plan. Other coffee companies are lagging behind – all scoring under 25 points, with Dunkin’ scoring no points at all. Given their reliance on dairy supply chains, this represents a major gap in addressing value chain emissions.

Table 2: DMAA members outperform non-members

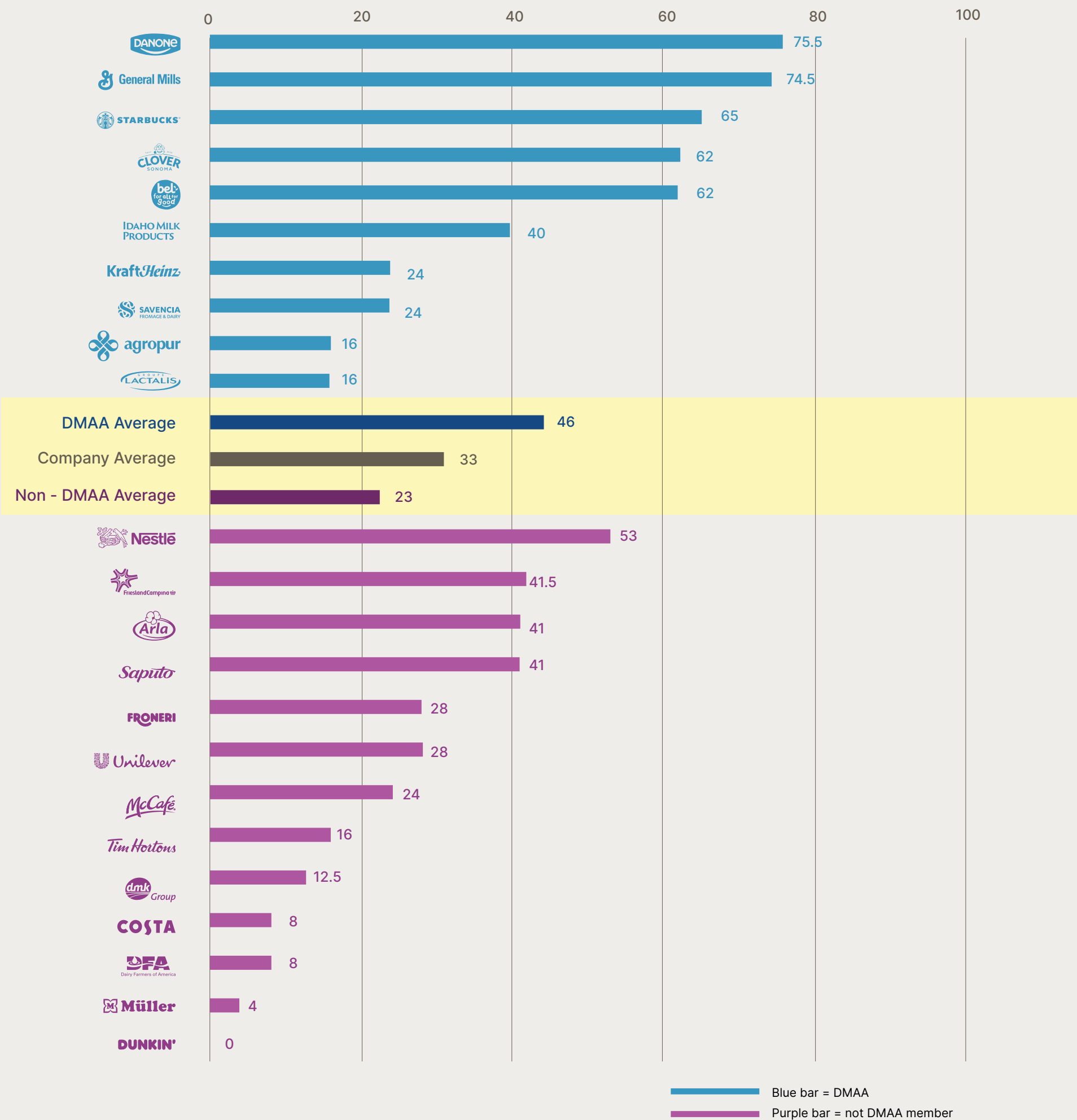
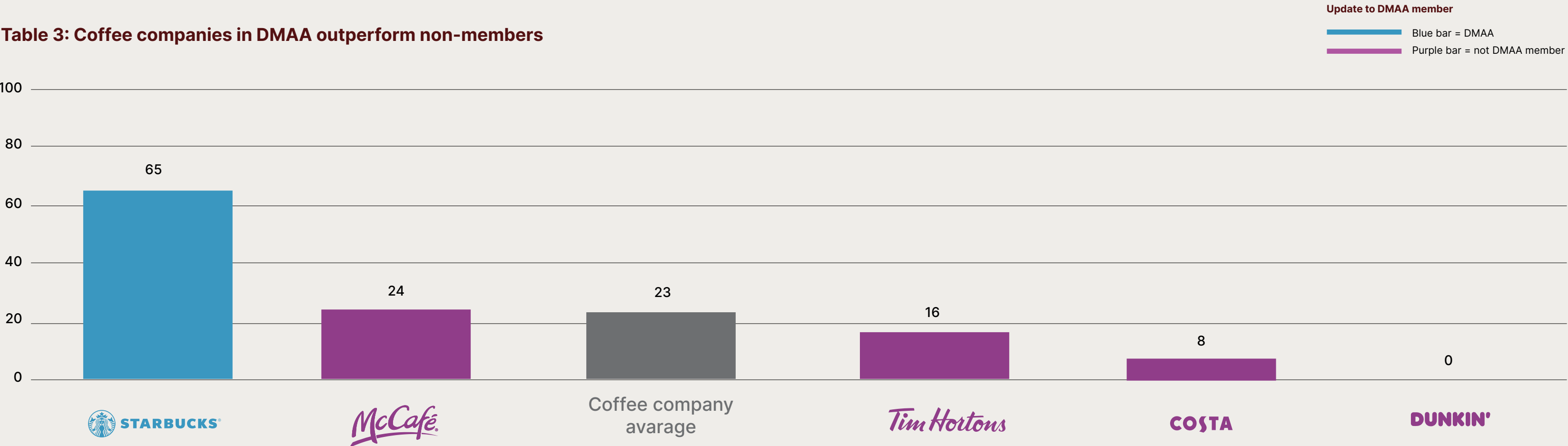


Table 3: Coffee companies in DMAA outperform non-members



7. Laggards

Despite growing industry awareness, several companies continue to score poorly across nearly every category assessed, with weak disclosure, limited transparency and little evidence of meaningful methane action. Dunkin (0), Müller (4), Dairy Farmers of America (8), and Costa (8) are the lowest performers, demonstrating how methane remains a major blind spot across key players of the dairy and coffee supply chain.

8. Sector comparison: Dairy vs Retailers

Despite the mixed performance seen, dairy and coffee companies are currently leading dairy methane action within the food sector, with eight publicly disclosing their methane emissions and three having a reduction target. This stands in stark contrast to super-markets – [our recent report](#) showed that no major global supermarket discloses methane emissions, has set a target or published an action plan in 2026. This highlights a major blind spot further up the value chain, and a leadership vacuum amongst the major food retailers. The full [scores](#) of retailers are available on [Methane Action Tracker](#).

9. Regulation is changing the landscape

The policy landscape is shifting, with new EU regulations including the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) set to raise expectations on corporate disclosures and supply chain accountability.

Reporting is becoming a legal obligation, and while the extent to which methane must be disclosed is still evolving, companies will likely need to account for it more explicitly. This includes stronger requirements to address double materiality and the existing disclosure shows that climate will be a material issue for most dairy companies and retailers. This means that they will have to report emissions across scopes, and separately account for methane within greenhouse gas inventories. Although the revised Greenhouse Gas Protocol does require companies to account separately for methane, it does not currently require standalone Scope 3 methane reporting. However, emissions estimates indicate that methane is a material issue for most dairy companies, as it represents a significant percentage of the overall emissions. This means that the direction of travel is clear: companies will need to put systems in place to account and report methane emissions. As scrutiny increases, companies that already have these systems in place, will be better prepared for incoming regulations.

Most companies in this assessment will be covered by the revised CSRD and CSDDD Directives. Although a lot remains to be decided, including if methane will have to be addressed under CSDDD as an air pollutant, the case for methane action is clear, as regulatory and investor scrutiny increases.

Methane is a financial risk, not just an environmental issue.

Under double materiality, methane is both a climate and financial risk.

Failure to act exposes companies to:

- Transition risks as climate policies tighten
- Legal risks linked to environmental harm
- Reputational risks as scrutiny increases
- Supply chain risks driven by worsening climate crisis.

Table 4: Dairy and coffee methane action tracker overview

Europe

North america

Yes

No

Up

Down

No change

No action

Company	HQ region	DMAA member	Total score (/108)	Ranking (2026)	Ranking (2025)	Ranking trend	Disaggregated livestock methane emissions reporting	Absolute Livestock methane specific commitment	Livestock methane emissions action plan	Reporting methane emissions reductions
			75.5	1	3		Reported methane emissions of 2,870 MtCO ₂ e (2025).	Published a target to reduce 30% of its methane emissions from fresh milk in dairy products by 2030 (compared to a 2020 baseline).	Yes, clear action plan in place.	Methane reductions of 29.8% from fresh milk and dairy from 2020 were reported in 2026.
			74.5	2	2		Reported methane emissions of 21,176 MtCH ₄ (2024).	Published a wider dairy emissions related target to reduce absolute scope 1, 2, and scope 3 GHG emissions from purchased goods and services, fuel and energy-related activities, upstream transportation and distribution, waste generated in operations, business travel, and end of life treatment of sold products 30% by FY2030 from a FY2020 base year.	Yes, clear action plan in place.	
			65	3	5		Reported methane emissions of 27,698 Mt CH ₄ (2024).		Yes, clear action plan in place.	
			62	4	7		Reported methane emissions of 3,809 Mt CH ₄ (2024).		Yes, clear action plan in place.	
			62	4	1		Le Groupe Bel privately disclosed data to the Changing Markets Foundation with the promise that it will be published in June 2026. With this information, Le Groupe Bel report their methane emissions for scope 3 in CH ₄ .		Yes, clear action plan in place.	Methane reductions of over 10% from 2017 to 2024 were reported privately to the Changing Markets Foundation with the promise that it will be published in June 2026.
			53	6	4		Reported methane emissions of 13.86 MtCO ₂ e (2025) for ingredients, packaging and manufacturing only.		Taking actions that will reduce methane emissions, but no clear action plan.	Methane reductions of 20.1% from 2018 were reported in 2025.

Europe

North america

Yes

No

Up

Down

No change

No action

Company	HQ region	DMAA member	Total score (/108)	Ranking (2026)	Ranking (2025)	Ranking trend	Disaggregated livestock methane emissions reporting	Absolute Livestock methane specific commitment	Livestock methane emissions action plan	Reporting methane emissions reductions
 FrieslandCampina			41.5	7	8			Published a wider dairy emissions related target to achieve a 33 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions on its farms by 2030.	Taking actions that will reduce methane emissions, but no clear action plan.	
			41	8	6				Taking actions that will reduce methane emissions, but no clear action plan.	
			41	8	10		Reported methane emissions of estimated 12.826 MtCO ₂ e (2025).		Taking actions that will reduce methane emissions, but no clear action plan.	
IDAHO MILK PRODUCTS			40	10	22		Reported methane emissions of 17,140.86Mt CH ₄ (2025).			
			28	11	22					
			28	11	12					
			24	13	12					
			24	13	15					
			24	13	16					

Company	HQ region	DMAA member	Total score (/108)	Ranking (2026)	Ranking (2025)	Ranking trend	Disaggregated livestock methane emissions reporting	Absolute Livestock methane specific commitment	Livestock methane emissions action plan	Reporting methane emissions reductions
 agropur			16	16	22					
			16	16	14					
<i>Tim Hortons</i>			16	16	14					
			12.5	19	9				Taking actions that will reduce methane emissions, but no clear action plan.	
COSTA			8	20	18					
			8	20	18					
 Müller			4	22	22					
DUNKIN'			0	23	23					

