

NEW ZEALAND

VOICELESS ANIMAL CRUELTY INDEX 2017

Overall Rank 30

Despite New Zealand being the highest ranked country under the Animal Protection Index, it was only a *marginally adequate* performer under the Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI) 2017 due to its high levels of animal production and consumption.

Producing Cruelty

Rank 37

New Zealand slaughters the third highest number of animals on a per capita basis globally, with around 29.3 land-based animals slaughtered per person / year (compared with a global average of 9.7). The country also has the highest dependency on farmed animals, with around 13 farmed animals per person (compared with a global average of around 4). Factory farming is prevalent, particularly with poultry and pig production. The use of sow stalls for pig meat production has been banned, and battery cages are due to be phased out by 2022.

Consuming Cruelty

Rank 45

The New Zealand diet contains a relatively high proportion of animal products, with around 56.1% of the average person's diet being made up of land-based animal protein (compared with a global average of 35.2%). This equates to each person consuming around 48.2g of land-based animal protein per day (compared with a global average of 26.7g). A 2015 Roy Morgan [http://www.roymorgan.com/findings/6663-vegetarians-on-the-rise-in-new-zealand-june-2015-201602080028] poll found an increase of 27% in vegetarianism since 2011.

Sanctioning Cruelty

Rank 3

New Zealand was given an "A" under the Animal Protection Index (API) 2014, and was also a high performer under the Sanctioning Cruelty category. As a result, New Zealand is recognised as a world leader with respect to the quality of its animal welfare legislation. Nevertheless, cruelty to farmed animals – particularly in the dairy industry – remains a significant issue, and cultural attitudes present a barrier to progress in this area. Learn more about the quality of New Zealand's legislative protections on the API here

[http://api.worldanimalprotection.org/sites/default/files/api_new_zealand_report_0.pdf].



Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index

This country profile is from the 2017 Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI). The VACI tracks the animal welfare performance of 50 countries selected among the largest producers of farmed animal products in the world. The VACI was first published in 2017, and updated in 2020. Please read the VACI Terms of Use (<https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/terms-of-use/>) and Voiceless Website Terms of Use ([Website Terms and Conditions | Voiceless](#)) for further information. Voiceless does not guarantee the accuracy, reliability or currency of the information. Questions about the VACI can be directed to: info@voiceless.org.au

The 2020 VACI can be accessed here: <https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/>