

DAIRY METHANE ACTION ALLIANCE (DMAA) 2026 SUMMARY BRIEF

NOVEMBER 2026

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INTRODUCTION

Methane action across the dairy sector

Given methane's high potency and short atmospheric lifetime compared to carbon dioxide, reducing methane emissions from dairy cattle is a critical opportunity to slow the rate of global warming in the near term. As climate change poses growing risks to companies, especially those in the food sector, methane action offers a powerful opportunity to accelerate climate action, drive innovation and enhance resilience across supply chains.

Dairy-producing and -sourcing companies increasingly recognize the critical role they can play in reducing methane emissions. Leading companies are already acting by measuring and disclosing their dairy methane emissions, setting reduction targets, assessing their impacts and working with farms to drive reductions.

DMAA overview and goals

The Dairy Methane Action Alliance (DMAA) is a global initiative to accelerate action and transparency on methane across the dairy sector. DMAA signatory companies, including Agropur, Bel Group, Clover Sonoma, Danone, Idaho Milk Producers, Kraft Heinz, General Mills, Lactalis USA, Savencia Fromage & Dairy and Starbucks, commit to account for and publicly disclose methane emissions within their dairy supply chains and publish and implement a comprehensive methane action plan. These companies represent a diverse set of value chain stakeholders and together hold 31% of the U.S. and 10% of the E.U. dairy market share.

Accounting for and disclosing dairy methane emissions are the first critical steps toward identifying significant sources of emissions, developing targeted emissions-reduction plans and gauging progress. By committing to these actions, DMAA companies are demonstrating how reducing methane emissions can help manage climate-related business risks, strengthen operational resilience and create long-term business value.

This brief summarizes the most recent public disclosures from the ten DMAA signatory companies, including their dairy methane emissions, dairy methane action plans (DMAPs) and progress reports. While emissions disclosures establish a baseline and track progress, DMAPs are targeted climate transition plans that chart a clear path from commitment to action. They outline methane reduction strategies across farmer and supplier engagement, innovation and public policy advocacy, helping strengthen supply chain resilience and long-term business value. This brief highlights progress since the previous summary, the strategies companies are using to reduce methane in their dairy supply chains and the barriers that remain.



DMAA SIGNATORY PROGRESS TO DATE

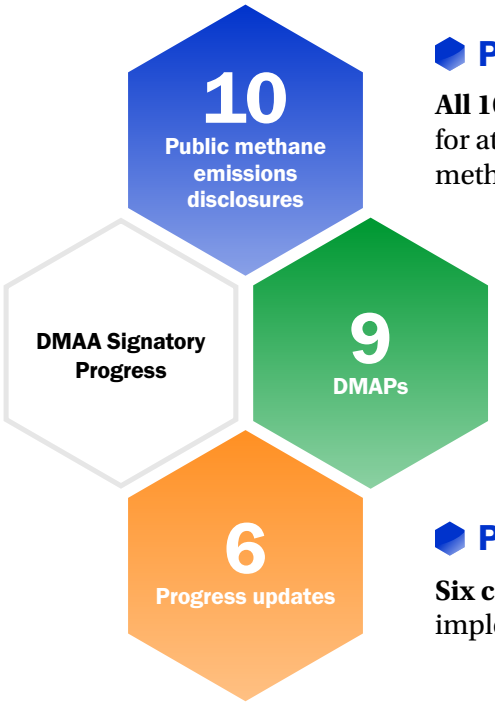
2023 — DMAA launches with 8 founding companies.

2024 — Initial emissions disclosures.

2025 — Three new companies join, initial DMAPs published.

2026 — New companies disclose emissions and publish first DMAPs, 6 companies publish second disclosure and report on DMAP progress.

This summary brief represents data from current DMAA members only. DMAA companies that joined in 2025 disclosed for the first time in 2026 and have therefore not yet published progress disclosures; this timeline also reflects all disclosures despite different reporting timeframes.



Public methane emissions disclosure

All 10 DMAA companies have disclosed dairy methane emissions for at least one year, with seven disclosing multiple years of dairy methane emissions.

DMAPs

Nine DMAA companies have published DMAPs outlining action items across farmer and supplier engagement, innovation and public policy.

Progress updates

Six companies have published progress updates on the implementation of their initial DMAPs.

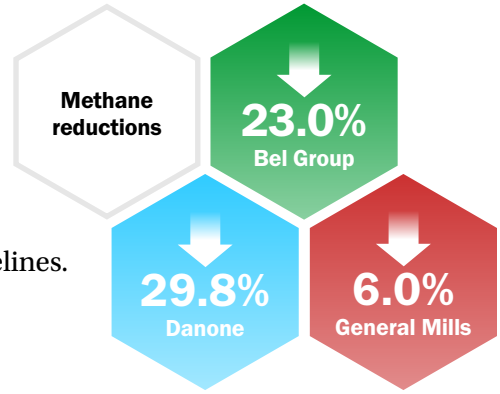
Methane targets

Three companies — Bel Group, Clover Sonoma and Danone — have set methane-specific greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets.

- **Bel Group:** Reduce absolute methane emissions by 30% by 2030, from a 2017 baseline
- **Clover Sonoma:** Reduce methane emissions intensity by 30% by 2035, from a 2023 baseline
- **Danone:** Reduce absolute methane emissions from fresh milk in dairy products by 30% by 2030, from a 2020 baseline

Methane reductions

Three DMAA companies — Bel Group, Danone and General Mills — report that they have reduced dairy methane emissions by 23.0%, 29.8% and 6.0%, respectively, from their baselines.



Key challenges

Reducing dairy methane emissions is an incremental process, and it can take time for companies to see measurable results from their DMAPs. Companies reporting slower progress cite the time needed to implement reduction strategies and realize their impact, alongside increased dairy procurement volumes driven by growing demand for dairy-based products.

TABLE 1:
Most recent DMAA signatory disclosures

Company	Disclosure
Agropur*	DMAP
Bel Group	DMAP, Progress Disclosure
Clover Sonoma	DMAP, Progress Disclosure
Danone	DMAP, Progress Disclosure
General Mills	DMAP, Progress Disclosure
Kraft Heinz**	Dairy Methane Disclosure
Idaho Milk Products*	DMAP
Lactalis USA	DMAP, Progress Disclosure
Savencia Fromage & Dairy*	DMAP
Starbucks	DMAP, Progress Disclosure

**Company joined DMAA in 2025 and published its DMAP in 2026 and has therefore not yet published a progress disclosure.*

***DMAP and progress disclosure not yet published.*



DAIRY METHANE EMISSIONS DISCLOSURE: KEY INSIGHTS

All DMAA companies have disclosed at least one year of dairy methane emissions, with most now reporting multiple years' worth of dairy methane emissions. Data included in all charts and tables represent the most recently published data, which is 2025 data for most companies and 2024 or 2023 data for the remainder. This lag is a normal part of the disclosure process, reflecting the time needed to collect farm-level data, calculate and verify emissions, and align disclosures with annual reporting cycles. Emissions data published to date for all DMAA companies is available in the Appendix.



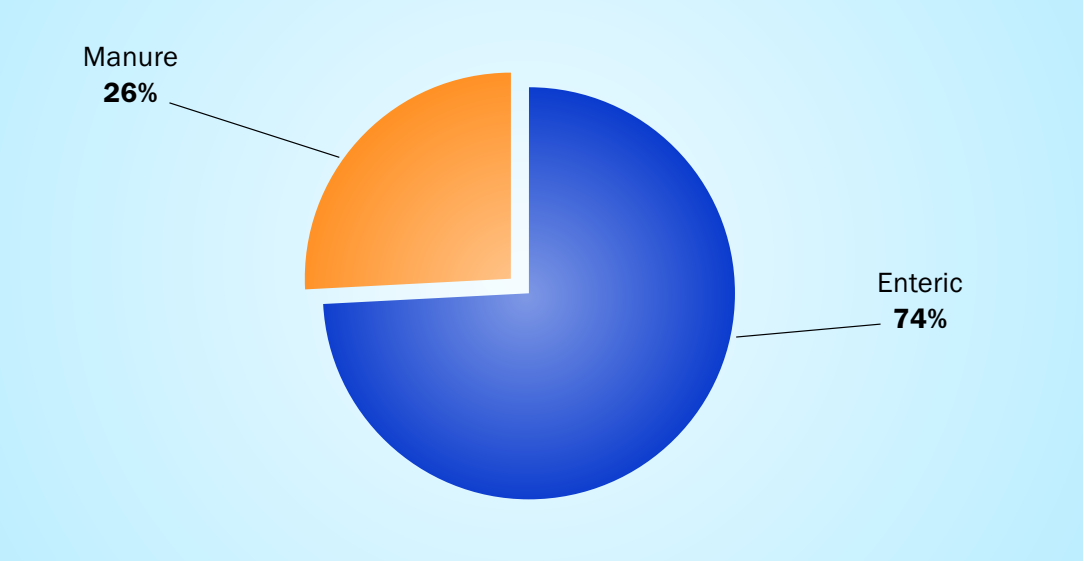
DMAA companies show signs of progress in methane reductions. In addition to the progress since baseline reported by Bel Group, Danone and General Mills (see DMAA Signatory Progress to Date), companies have shown other signs of emissions progress in their recent disclosures. For example, from 2024 to 2025, Agropur and Danone reported a reduction in total dairy methane emissions. Looking at specific emissions sources, Agropur, Clover Sonoma and Danone reported reductions in enteric emissions, and Agropur and Danone also reported reductions in manure methane emissions. Additionally, Clover Sonoma has lowered its methane intensity, a metric they use to track progress that measures emissions per unit of production, by around 5% from baseline.

Some companies reported increases in dairy methane emissions over the same period. In many cases, increases reflect improved measurement and reporting that capture emissions previously unaccounted for, an important step that gives companies a clearer picture of where to focus reduction efforts moving forward. In other cases, these increases are associated with business changes, including higher dairy procurement volumes.

DMAA company methane emissions reflect the company's size and exposure to dairy. Participating DMAA companies range from large multinational brands and retailers with diverse product portfolios to smaller independently owned dairy companies. As a result, their total dairy methane emissions vary widely from 3,804 to 169,089 metric tons of methane per year (t CH_4/yr), with a mean of 71,608 t CH_4/year and a median of 70,832 t CH_4/year (see Appendix). Dairy's share of each company's total GHG emissions also varies with its product mix, ranging from 3% to 52% with a mean of 28%.

Enteric methane drives DMAA company dairy methane footprints. Among the eight companies that reported emissions by source, enteric fermentation accounts for an average of 74% of dairy methane emissions, manure management for 26% and feed for less than 0.5% (see Figure 1). This pattern holds regardless of company size: enteric fermentation is the largest source for every reporting company, ranging from 59% to 81% of dairy methane emissions. The group's average is consistent with broader emissions patterns, falling between the U.S. average of 66% from enteric methane and the global average of 92%.

FIGURE 1:
Average contribution of dairy methane emissions by source across all DMAA companies (%)*



**Methane emissions from feed are not included in the chart since they contribute minimally to overall corporate dairy methane emissions.*



DAIRY METHANE ACTION PLAN DISCLOSURE: KEY INSIGHTS

Nine DMAA companies have published DMAPs. General Mills and Starbucks have since replaced their original plans with updated versions and report implementation progress separately in their progress disclosures. Each plan outlines how the company will reduce methane across its dairy supply chain in support of its broader emissions-reduction goals.

These plans are also translating into action. Since launching their initial DMAPs, five companies have expanded farmer engagement to more farms and new sourcing regions.

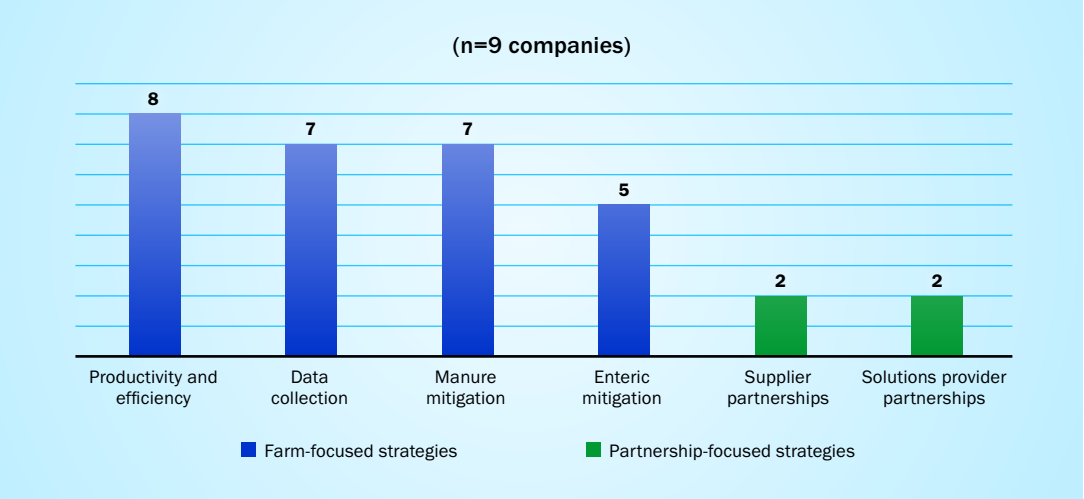
DMAA provides guidance on developing a DMAP, which can be a standalone disclosure or a component of a company-wide climate transition action plan. See Table 1 for links to each company's most recent DMAP.

Farmer and supplier engagement

Farmer and supplier engagement is critical to reducing methane emissions in the dairy supply chain, making it a priority for every DMAA company. Companies' action plans group engagement strategies into six categories: four focused on farms (data collection, productivity and efficiency, enteric methane mitigation and manure methane mitigation) and two focused on partnerships with suppliers and solutions providers (see Figure 2). Farm-focused strategies appear most often, as most DMAA companies buy some or all of their milk directly from farms.

Although enteric emissions account for nearly three-quarters of DMAA companies' dairy methane footprint, more companies are implementing improved manure management actions than enteric actions (seven versus five). This may reflect differences in implementation requirements between manure and enteric methane mitigation strategies. Despite requiring large up-front capital for equipment and ongoing maintenance, manure methane interventions have the potential to deliver ongoing emissions reductions while generating additional value through recovered fiber for bedding, improved nutrient management, and renewable energy production. Enteric solutions, on the other hand, typically require ongoing feed and herd management adjustments, recurring costs, and repeated implementation.

FIGURE 2:
Number of companies that disclose action items for farmer and supplier engagement strategy



Better data collection allows companies to identify emissions-reduction opportunities. As a first step in plans to reduce methane, seven DMAA companies are working with farms to collect primary data to establish emissions baselines and pinpoint the largest reduction opportunities. Using tools such as FARM ES and Cool Farm Tool, farmers are collecting data on milk production, animal health and welfare, and emissions. Many then use this data to build individualized plans that align with farm and company goals, often starting with gains in milk production and efficiency.

Featured action — Farmer engagement: Clover Sonoma's farmer engagement program focuses on milk production and efficiency, enteric methane and manure management. Working with each farm, the company identifies areas for improvement and develops a plan to strengthen nutrition and management practices, including optimizing rations, improving forage quality and enhancing cow comfort. To address enteric methane, Clover Sonoma is piloting available and emerging feed additives with farmers. Clover Sonoma also helps farmers fund manure management projects by assisting with grant applications and providing direct financial support.

Featured action — Supplier engagement: While Danone sources much of its fresh milk directly from farms, it relies on suppliers to provide other dairy-based ingredients. Danone's Supplier Engagement Program incorporates GHG reduction goals into supplier contracts. In Europe, Danone is working with cooperative FrieslandCampina to support and incentivize its farmers to adopt emissions-reducing practices and technologies, such as innovative manure management. In the U.S., Danone is working with processor Leprino to reduce on-farm emissions. Early projects focus on implementing BioFiltro's wastewater treatment technology on farms in California

Innovation

Companies are investing in innovation to mitigate enteric methane and develop new products that reduce dependence on dairy as a raw material. Of the seven DMAA companies that describe an innovation strategy, six are working to close the gap in enteric solutions, partnering with developers of next-generation technologies, such as methane-reducing feed additives and animal genetics. Some are also targeting raw material procurement by developing new products built on dairy alternatives. Innovation is a major opportunity for companies to plan for long-term methane reduction, particularly where effective solutions do not yet exist.

Featured action — Innovation: Bel Group's innovation strategy includes a focus on plant-based and alternative protein products to reduce raw material emissions. Its activities range from investing, through Bel Ventures, in a start-up that develops plant-based recipes to partnering with technology providers to develop plant-based cheeses in-house.

Public policy advocacy

DMAA companies are focusing their policy advocacy on advancing innovation. Seven DMAA companies engage in policy, supporting measures that streamline the regulatory process for new enteric-methane-reducing feed additives and fund research and technical support to reduce methane emissions. Two DMAA companies based in the E.U. have advocated for including dairy methane reduction in the E.U.'s Vision for Agriculture and Food, a policy framework that aims to ensure a secure, sustainable and competitive food system. Policy advocacy offers companies an opportunity to expand their methane strategies beyond their own supply chains, helping build the conditions needed to accelerate progress across the sector.

Featured action — Public policy advocacy: Lactalis USA supports the Innovative FEED Act, which is designed to streamline the regulatory process for feed additives, including those that reduce enteric methane. The company has also called for increased funding for conservation programs included in the U.S. Farm Bill and for the retention of climate action funds in the Inflation Reduction Act. It has also supported increased funding for the National Organic Program and research programs such as the Organic Research and Extension Initiative and the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research.

Barriers to action and systemic challenges

Cost is one of the most cited barriers to methane action for farmers and companies. To address it, companies prioritize practices and technologies with a positive return on investment, such as improving milk production efficiency. Five companies also pay premiums to farms that adopt methane-reducing practices, and two help farmers apply for external funding. The loss of federal funding has also created setbacks, with two companies canceling manure management projects after funding for the supporting programs was withdrawn. Farmers' knowledge and motivation are other common barriers that three companies address through education and technical support.

Broader systemic challenges slow progress to reduce methane. Several companies cite farmer and consumer concerns about feed additive safety, limited options for methane-reducing technologies and the effort and expense of monitoring, reporting and verification required to accurately attribute emissions reductions. Additionally, the lag between implementing mitigation strategies and realizing their impact can limit near-term methane reductions. Further, companies continue to navigate the ongoing tension of working to achieve emissions reductions while responding to growing demand and broader business priorities.





CONTINUING THE MOMENTUM

DMAA companies have laid the groundwork for dairy methane action. Every signatory now discloses its dairy methane emissions, nine have published DMAPs and more companies are reporting on implementation each year. Importantly, the sector would not have visibility into this progress without companies first disaggregating and disclosing dairy methane emissions, underscoring the value of transparent methane accounting as a prerequisite for action and accountability. The next phase will involve turning plans into measurable reductions and scaling successes.

Next steps for DMAA companies

- **Report progress annually**: Publish yearly progress disclosures that track dairy methane emissions against baselines and report on the status of DMAP action items. Advance leadership by strengthening annual disclosures according to the "good-better-best" framework outlined in the DMAP guide.
- **Advance implementation**: Continue carrying out DMAP projects and share lessons learned, including what has worked, what has not and why.
- **Expand scope and scale**: Extend projects and programs to more farms and sourcing regions, move successful pilots toward wider adoption and set methane-specific reduction targets where they do not yet exist.
- **Strengthen data**: Increase the use of primary farm data and report emissions by source to better target interventions and demonstrate impact.

The role of industry and other stakeholders

Companies cannot deliver methane reductions at scale on their own. Continued progress depends on action across the dairy value chain:

- **Solution providers**: Develop and bring to market cost-effective, proven enteric methane solutions, the area where companies report the largest gap and generate evidence that addresses farmer and consumer concerns about feed additive safety.

- **Finance providers and funders**: Expand financing options, such as grants, cost-share programs and blended finance, that lower the upfront cost for farms adopting methane-reducing practices and technologies.
- **Policymakers**: Streamline regulatory pathways for methane-reducing feed additives, provide stable funding for conservation and on-farm programs and invest in research and technical assistance.
- **Industry peers**: Align on consistent, cost-effective approaches to monitoring, reporting and verification, and collaborate across the supply chain to share costs and accelerate adoption.

By continuing to measure, disclose, act and collaborate, DMAA companies and their partners can show that meaningful dairy methane reductions are achievable across the sector. And companies throughout the dairy sector can follow DMAA's lead. The Alliance's publicly available guidance and resources provide a starting point for any company looking to measure its dairy methane emissions, develop reduction strategies and strengthen supply chain resilience.





APPENDIX: DMAA COMPANY EMISSIONS

The table below summarizes reported emissions from DMAA companies. It includes emissions from the baseline year and subsequent years, as available. In their progress reports, companies are asked to disclose baseline year, previous year, and current year emissions.

Total GHG = total greenhouse gas emissions (scope 1 + 2 + 3)
t CO_2e/yr = metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents per year
t CH_4/yr = metric tons of methane per year
ND = Not disclosed

	Total GHG	Total dairy methane			Enteric methane emissions	Manure methane emissions	Feed methane emissions
unit	t CO_2e/yr	t CH_4/yr	t CO_2e/yr	% total GHG	% of total dairy methane	% of total dairy methane	% of total dairy methane
Agropur							
2023 (Baseline)	9,700,363	155,465	4,353,025	45%	69%	31%	ND
2024 (Previous)	9,045,721	159,501	4,466,037	49%	69%	31%	ND
2025 (Current)	9,907,628	158,014	4,424,389	45%	69%	31%	ND
Percent change from previous year	10%	-1%	-1%				
Percent change from baseline	2%	2%	2%				
Bel Group							
2017 (Baseline)	4,457,217	55,115	1,488,108	33%	81%	19%	ND
2023 (Previous)	3,848,736	40,745	1,100,108	29%	81%	19%	ND
2024 (Current)	4,185,402	42,453	1,146,242	27%	81%	19%	ND
Percent change from previous year	9%	4%	4%				
Percent change from baseline	-6%	-23%	-23%				

	Total GHG	Total dairy methane			Enteric methane emissions	Manure methane emissions	Feed methane emissions
unit	t CO_2e/yr	t CH_4/yr	t CO_2e/yr	% total GHG	% of total dairy methane	% of total dairy methane	% of total dairy methane
Clover Sonoma							
2023 (Baseline)	215,058	3,744	101,851	47%	69%	31%	ND
2024 (Previous)	212,237	3,801	103,405	49%	76%	24%	ND
2025 (Current)	198,004	3,804	103,461	52%	73%	27%	ND
Percent change from previous year	-7%	0%	0%				
Percent change from baseline	-8%	2%	2%				
Danone							
2020 (Baseline)	23,306,181	151,500	4,090,500	18%	80%	20%	0%
2023	21,659,000	131,407	3,548,000	16%	ND	ND	ND
2024 (Previous)	19,791,227	113,126	3,054,390	15%	80%	20%	0%
2025 (Current)	18,609,242	106,288	2,869,771	15%	80%	20%	0%
Percent change from previous year	-6%	-6%	-6%				
Percent change from baseline	-20%	-30%	-30%				
General Mills							
2020 (Baseline)	17,620,000	17,286	466,718	3%	71%	28%	1%
2023*	19,466,300	21,897	591,216	3%	71%	28%	1%
2024 (Previous)	15,244,000	15,951	430,689	3%	71%	28%	1%
2025 (Current)	15,222,000	16,274	439,381	3%	71%	28%	1%
Percent change from previous year	0%	2%	2%				
Percent change from baseline	-14%	-6%	-6%				
Idaho Milk Products							
2025 (Baseline)	1,073,392	18,895	513,951	48%	80%	20%	0%

Clover Sonoma reported methane intensity (t CH_4/t fat- and protein-corrected milk) for 2023, 2024, and 2025, 0.0291, 0.0292, and 0.0277, respectively. 2025 methane intensity was lower by 5.2 and 4.9% compared to 2024 and 2023.

**Following a divestiture, emissions for 2020, 2024, and 2025 were recalculated. Data for 2023 were published in General Mill's initial emissions disclosure and do not reflect this update.*

	Total GHG	Total dairy methane			Enteric methane emissions	Manure methane emissions	Feed methane emissions
unit	t CO_2e/yr	t CH_4/yr	t CO_2e/yr	% total GHG	% of total dairy methane	% of total dairy methane	% of total dairy methane
Kraft Heinz							
2023 (Baseline)	25,187,618	99,210	2,678,670	11%	ND	ND	ND
Lactalis USA							
2023 (Baseline)	ND*	96,363	2,620,854	ND	73%	27%	ND
2024 (Current)	ND*	116,050	3,155,077	ND	73%	27%	ND
Percent change from previous year	ND*	20%	20%				
Savencia Fromage & Dairy							
2025 (Baseline)	9,858,043	169,089	4,565,404	46%	75%	25%	0%
Starbucks							
2019 (Baseline)	12,606,220	28,120	787,353	6%	59%	40%	1%
2023	13,118,945	27,744	749,095	6%	59%	40%	1%
2024 (Previous)	13,065,610	29,535	826,971	6%	59%	40%	1%
2025 (Current)	13,495,908	30,444	852,444	6%	59%	40%	1%
Percent change from previous year	3%	3%	3%				
Percent change from baseline	7%	8%	8%				

Disaggregated total greenhouse gas data for the Lactalis USA division is not available to disclose.