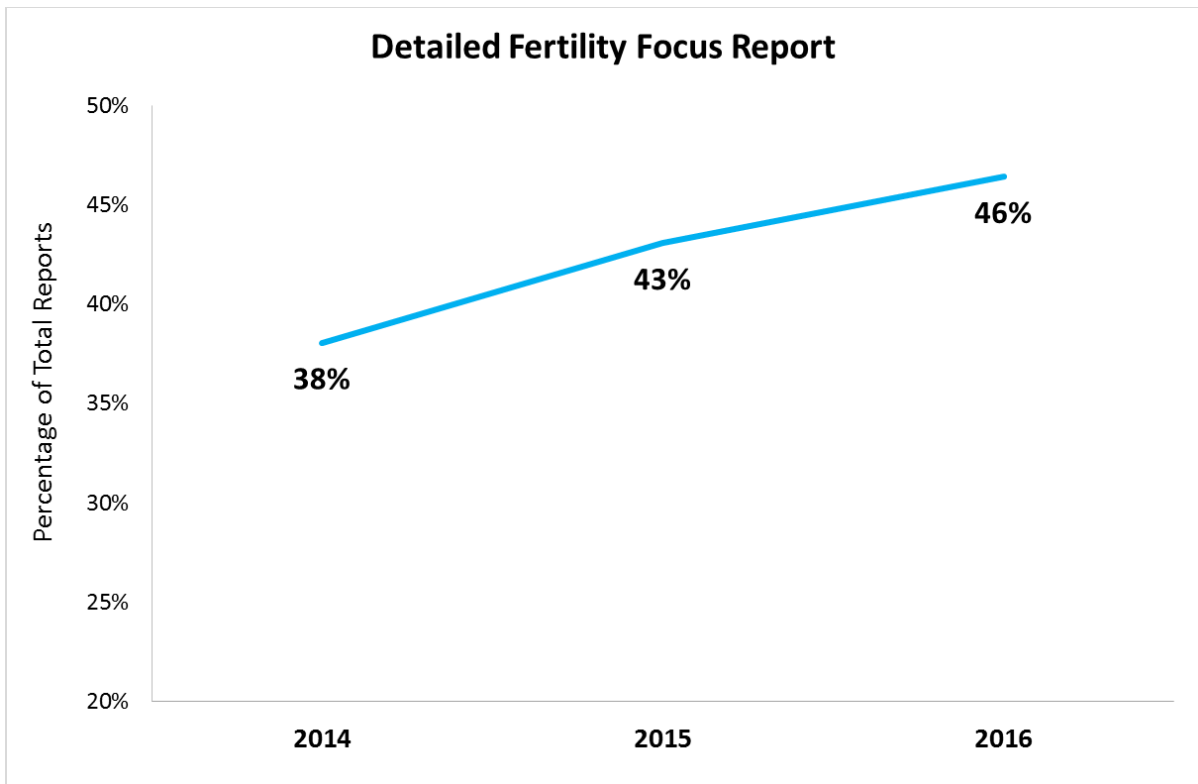


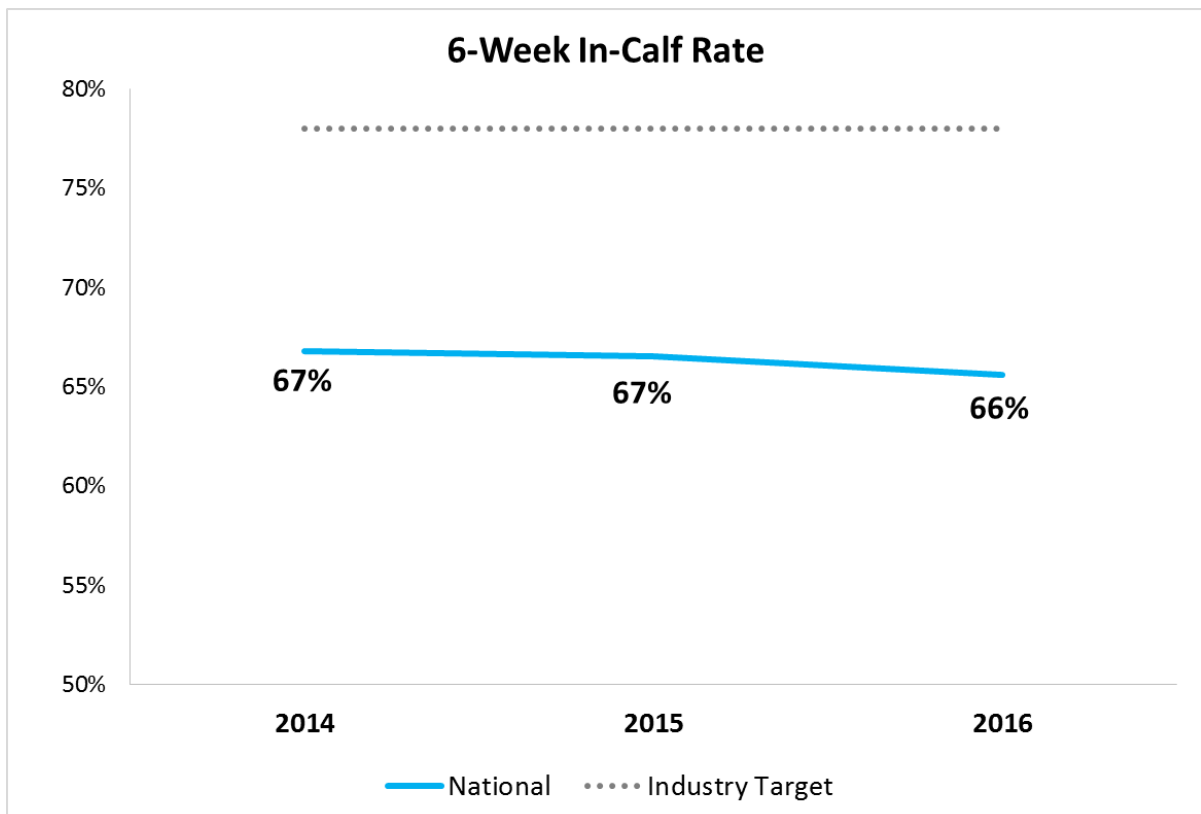
## Another season has come to an end, so how did we do?

These are the key highlights from the 2016 spring mating results (seasonal calving herds with a Detailed Fertility Focus report):

More of NZ's farmers have quality data to make decisions with as 46% of all Fertility Focus reports are now Detailed, up 3% on last year.

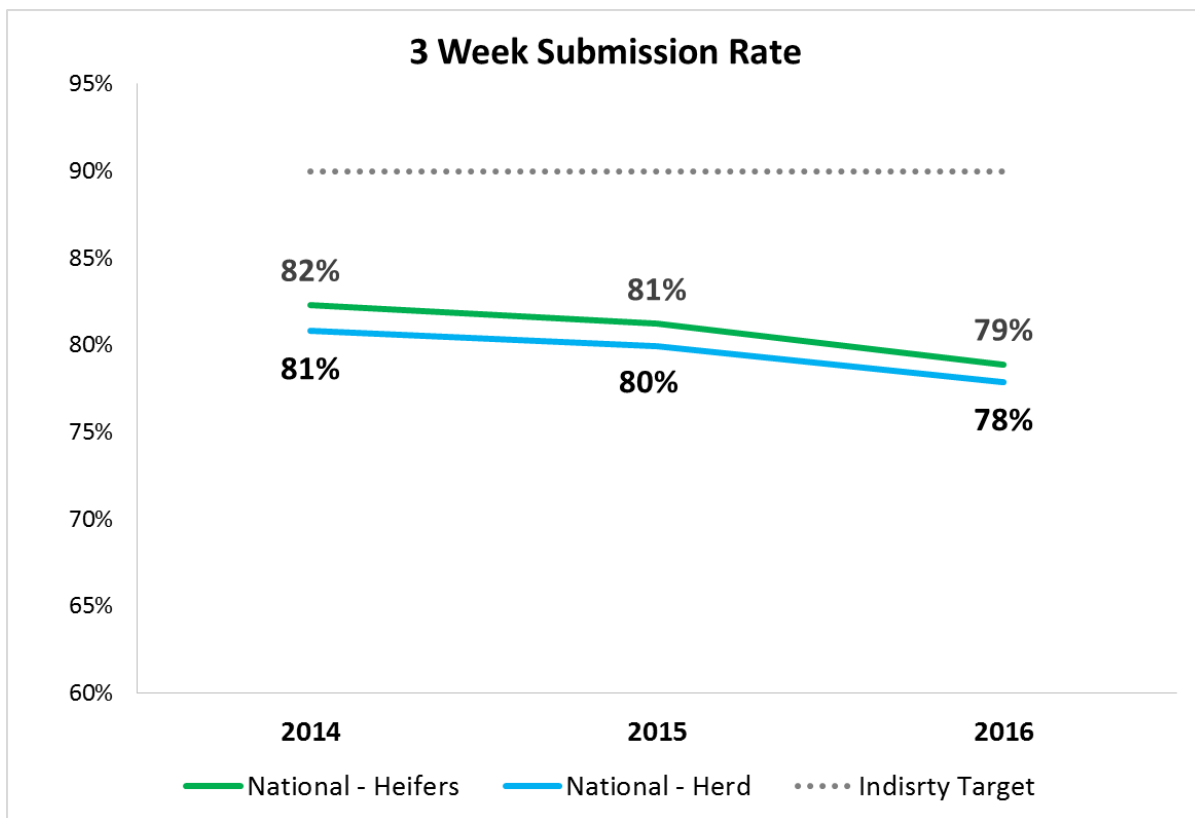


The national average 6 week in-calf rate has declined this year to 66%, down 1% on last year and 2014, which fits with what we have been hearing from the field.

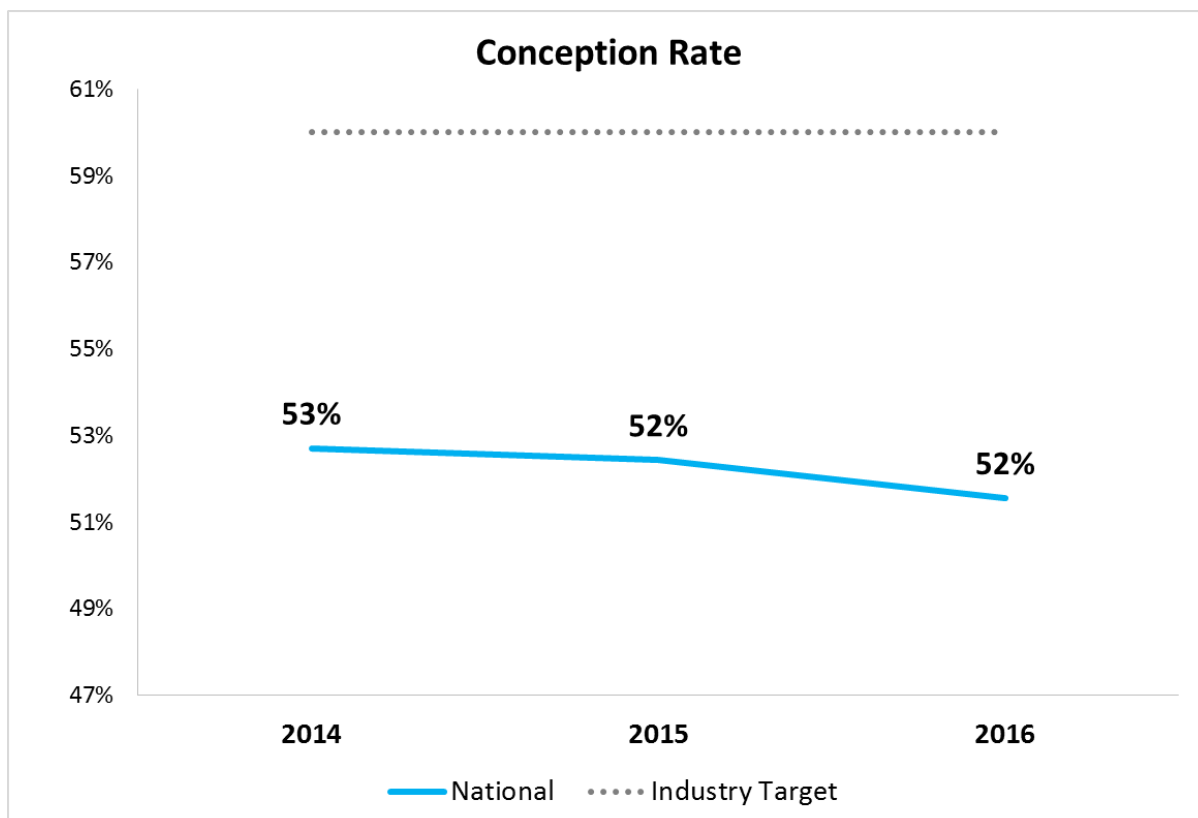


This drop in 6 week in-calf rate is as a result of a drop in both submission and conception rates.

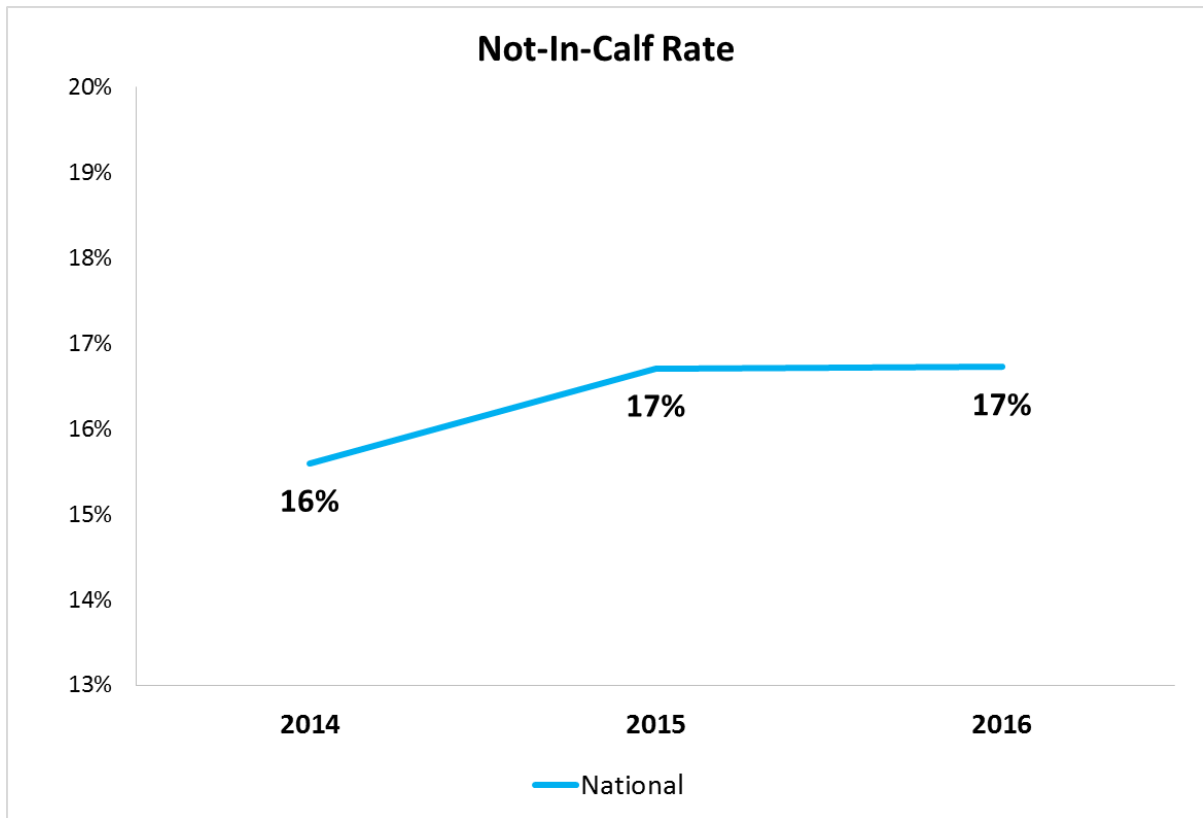
Herd and Heifer (first calvers) 3 week submission rates both dropped this year, 2.1% and 2.3% respectively. Looks like the first calvers took a harder hit than the older cows.



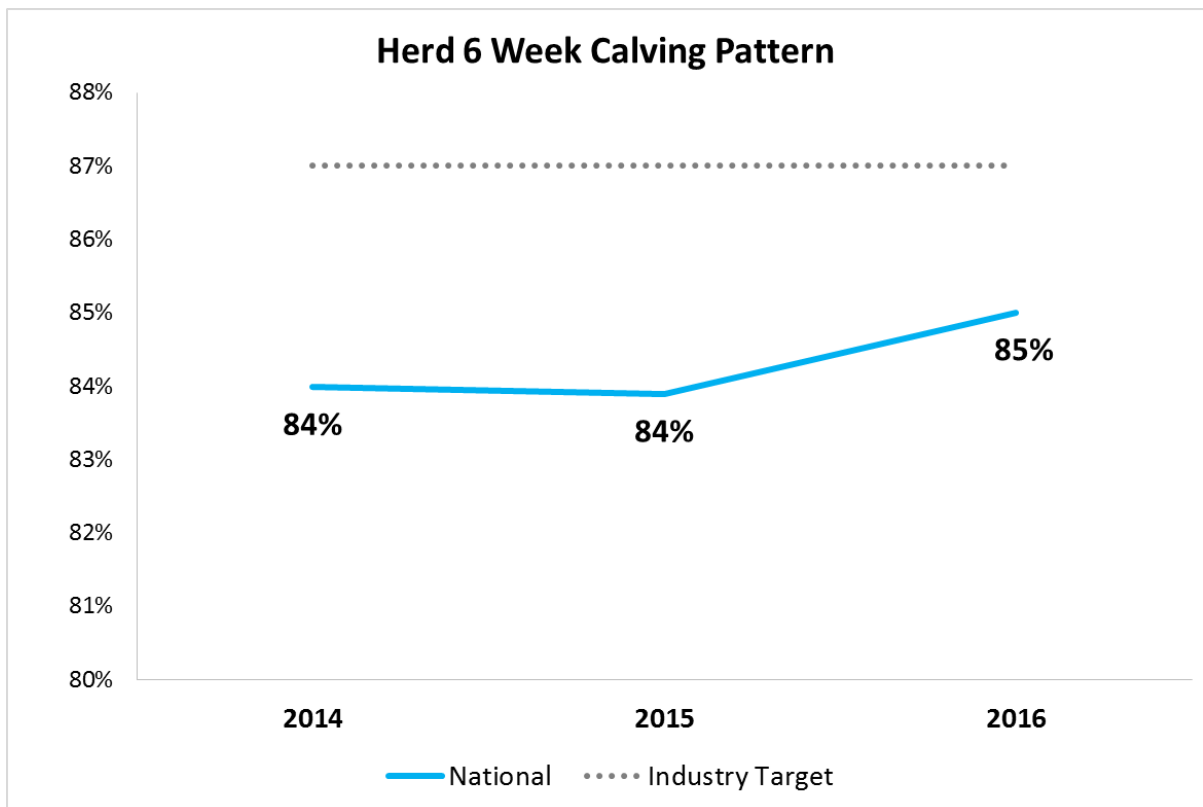
The drop in conception rate was not as great as for submission rate, just a 0.9% drop.



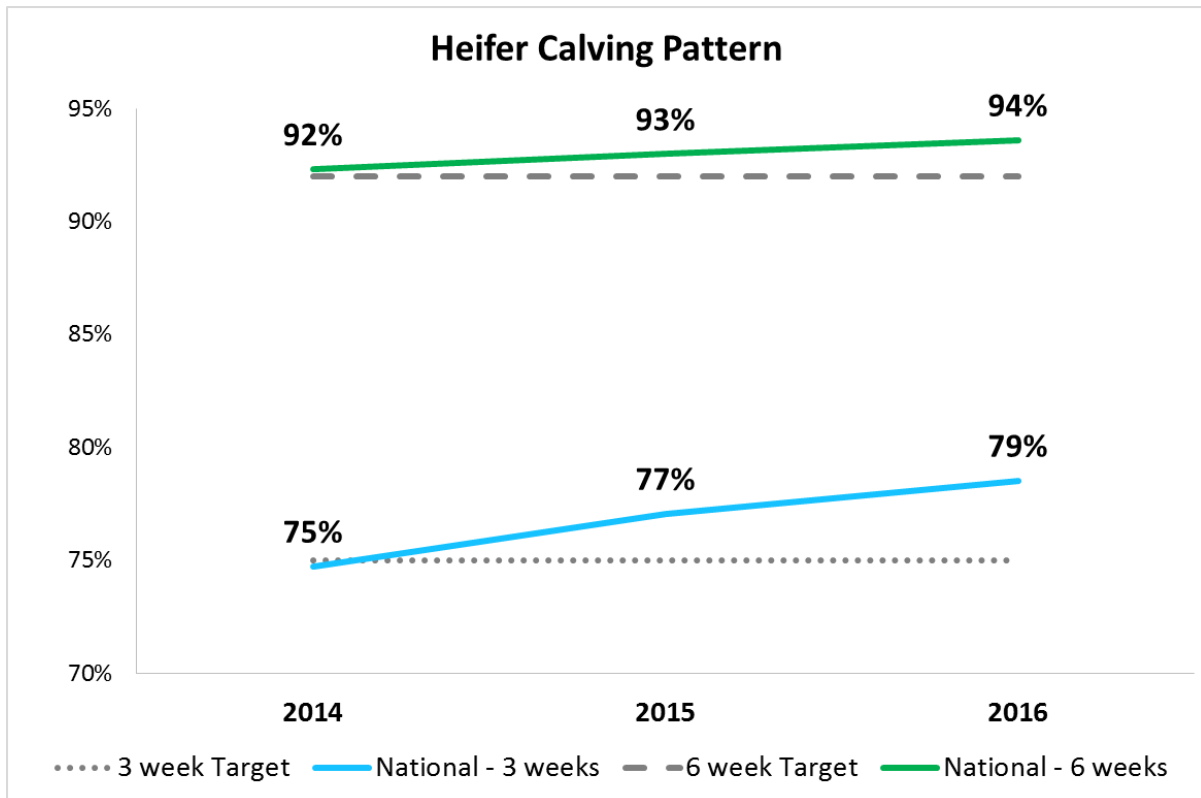
However, in contrast to reports from the field, Not-In-Calf rate is the same this year as last year (17%), with average total mating length being just under 11 weeks both years.



On the bright side, the Herd and Heifer (first calvers) calving patterns have improved over the last 3 seasons.



The improvement in Heifer calving pattern ties in with the improvement in heifer liveweights reported by [LIC](#).



### So what does this all mean?

We have had a hard couple of seasons with the payout and a harsh 2016 spring, but we are coming out the other side now.

We are doing a good job of tightening calving pattern, now we need to:

- Work on making sure our cows have a smooth transition period
- Are in good body condition score at calving & mating, and
- Couple these with top notch heat detection

Nailing these should help to lift our 3 week submission rate and conception rate.

For more information, or any questions, contact the 6 Weeks Team at [info@6weeks.co.nz](mailto:info@6weeks.co.nz).