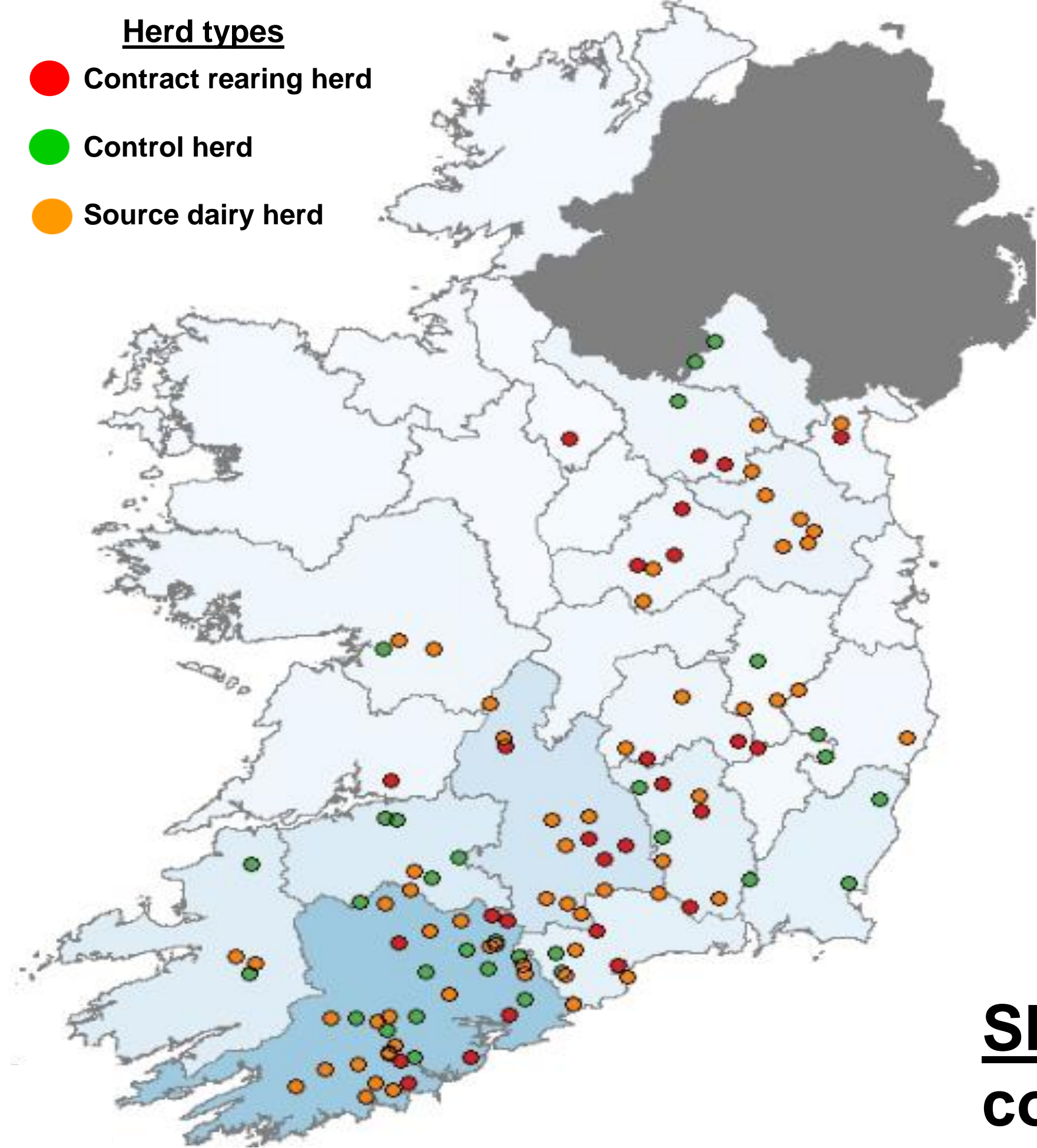
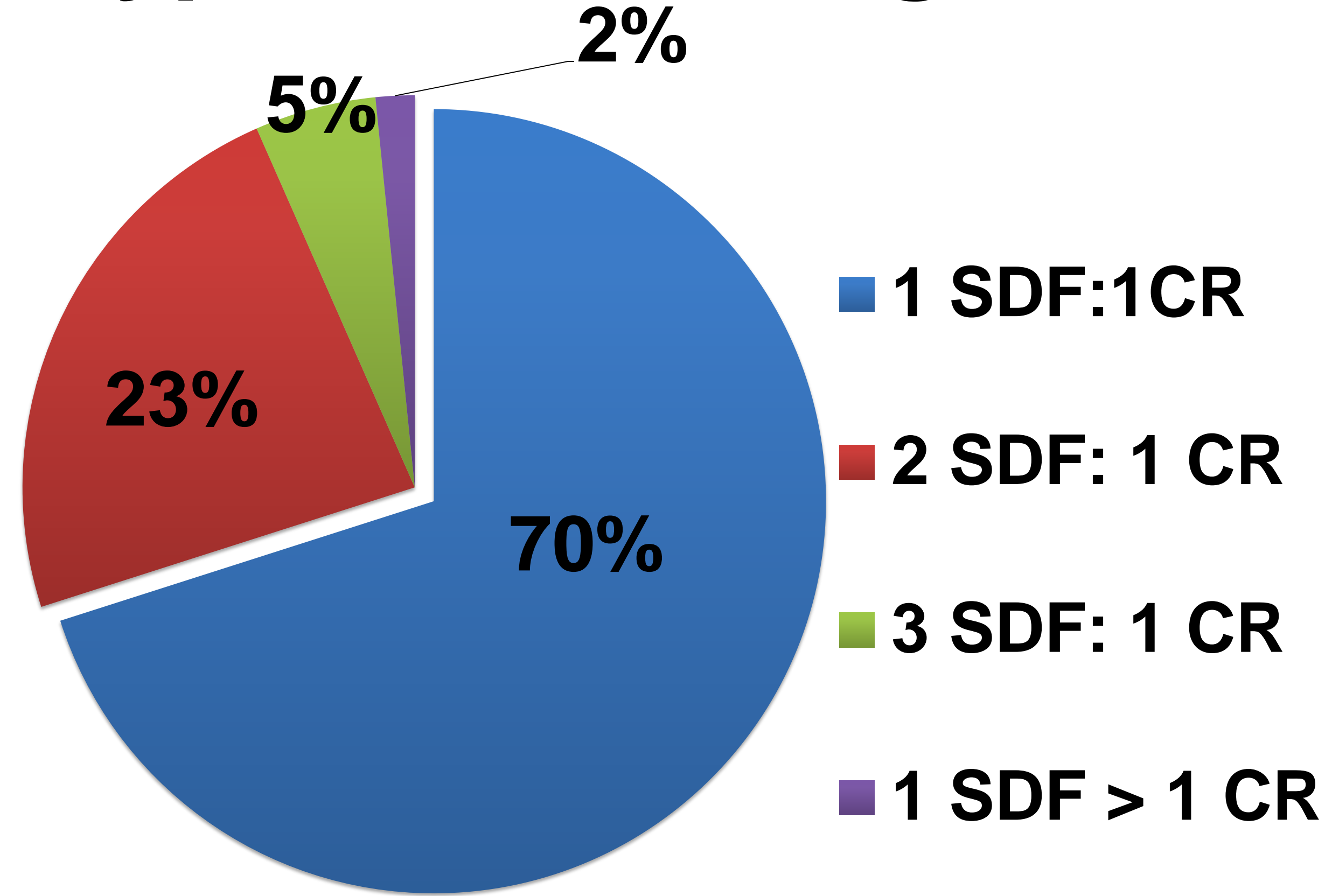


Research study

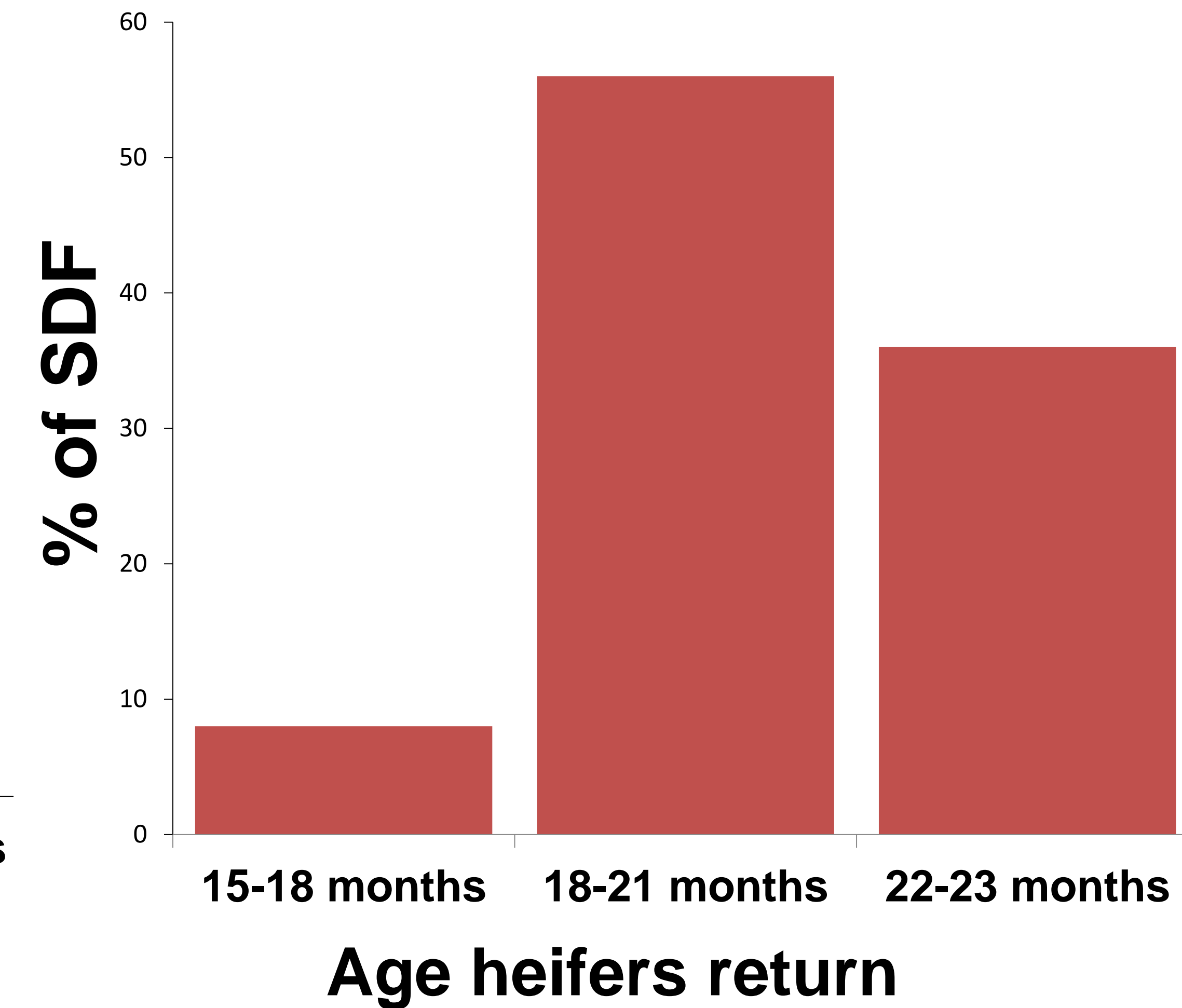
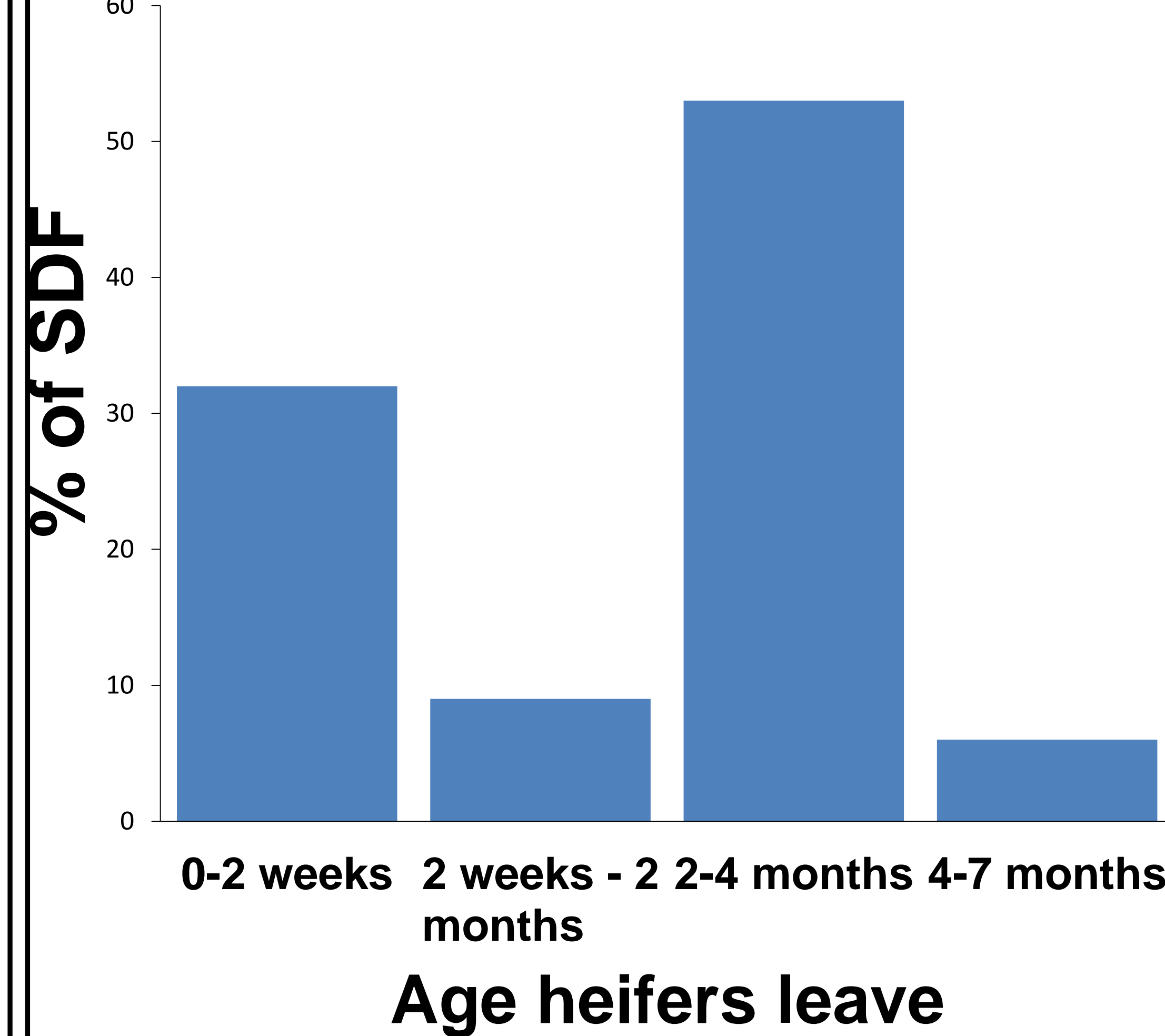


Type of CR arrangements



SDF – Source dairy farm (sending heifers to contract rearer) (n=63) **CR** – Contract rearer (n=52)

When do heifers leave and return to home farm?



Who are the source dairy farmers?

- Source herd size - 198 cows (60 - 380)
- Average no. heifers sent to contract rearer - 64 heifers (15 - 329)
- Most likely to send heifers to CR in same county
- Most likely to be located in Munster



Take home messages

- **100%** of source farms have open herds – route for disease entry
- **88%** of CRs had no biosecurity plan - written SOP
- **48%** of arrangements had no contract – written document
- **28%** of CRs rear for multiple herds – increased risk of disease spread