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Statistical base and overviews

025-1600

# Statistical Data on Switzerland 2016



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Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA  
**Federal Statistical Office FSO**

## Federal Statistical Office

Espace de l'Europe 10  
CH-2010 Neuchâtel

### Information:

Telephone +41 58 463 60 11  
Fax +41 58 463 60 12

### Ordering of publications:

Telephone +41 58 463 60 60  
Fax +41 58 463 60 61  
[www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch)

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These are explained in the table on page 4.

### Rounded figures:

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### Sources:

Statistical results are usually presented here without reference to sources. Such information is extensively presented in our portal "Statistics Switzerland"  
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### Concept:

Bernhard Morgenthaler †, Armin Grossenbacher

### Editing:

Etienne Burnier

### Graphics, Layout:

Daniel von Burg, Etienne Burnier

### Maps:

Sabine Kuster

### Translation:

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Dear readers,

Here is the 20th edition of Statistical Data on Switzerland, one of the Federal Statistical Office's flagship publications. It is published every year at the same time as the Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland, which is a lengthier publication containing 600 pages.

There are a few new features in this 2016 edition. The "sustainable development" chapter includes previously unpublished data on population services. These data make it possible to see whether a given location has optimum access to infrastructure, establishments and services that are of importance to the population such as restaurants, schools, medical practices etc. They provide information on the quality of life and highlight the differences between the regions. The "space and environment" chapter has been largely reworked. This year it presents the use of resources and greenhouse gas emissions and a chart on the population's perception of environmental conditions. The "mobility and transport" chapter contains new information on the cost and financing of road, railway and air transport.

Among the statistics developed by the FSO, survey data may call for longer or more complex processing depending on the circumstances. As a result, survey data are not necessarily based on the same year. In many cases, they are based on data from 2014 or even 2015 whereas others are from previous years. Nonetheless, the results published are always the most recent. You can also consult the most recent figures for a topic at any time in our online offerings.

2016 will also bring a number of changes for the FSO, notably with the going live of the new statistics portal. The more modern and interactive website is adapted to the latest technology, including mobile devices. Furthermore, a new type of publication was also developed in the area of mobile end devices in 2015: digital publications, i.e. DigiPubs. One of the first DigiPubs covered the National Council elections. Other topics will be published in DigiPub format during 2016.

Georges-Simon Ulrich

Director General  
Federal Statistical Office (FSO)

Neuchâtel, February 2016

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**Permanent resident population by canton, 2014**

At year-end	Total in '000	Foreigners in %	Urban in %	Density km <sup>2</sup>	Population growth 2010–2014 in %
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>8 237.7</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>84.5</b>	<b>206.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Zurich (ZH)	1 446.4	25.8	99.3	870.8	5.3
Bern (BE)	1 009.4	15.0	74.4	172.8	3.0
Lucerne (LU)	394.6	17.6	64.0	276.1	4.5
Uri (UR)	36.0	11.5	88.1	34.1	1.7
Schwyz (SZ)	152.8	19.9	81.8	179.4	4.1
Obwalden (OW)	36.8	14.2	27.8	76.6	3.5
Nidwalden (NW)	42.1	13.6	50.6	174.2	2.6
Glarus (GL)	39.8	22.6	75.5	58.5	3.1
Zug (ZG)	120.1	26.3	100.0	579.9	6.2
Fribourg (FR)	303.4	21.4	74.0	190.3	8.9
Solothurn (SO)	263.7	20.8	86.1	333.6	3.3
Basel-Stadt (BS)	190.6	34.8	100.0	5 150.8	3.0
Basel-Landschaft (BL)	281.3	21.3	97.5	543.5	2.5
Schaffhausen (SH)	79.4	25.0	89.9	266.4	4.0
Appenzell A. Rh. (AR)	54.1	15.4	76.6	222.6	2.0
Appenzell I. Rh. (AI)	15.9	10.6	0.0	91.9	1.1
St. Gallen (SG)	495.8	23.3	82.6	254.2	3.5
Graubünden (GR)	195.9	18.1	44.5	27.6	1.7
Aargau (AG)	645.3	23.9	85.1	462.5	5.5
Thurgau (TG)	263.7	23.8	67.2	305.6	6.2
Ticino (TI)	350.4	27.6	92.0	127.8	5.0
Vaud (VD)	761.4	33.1	89.6	269.8	6.8
Valais (VS)	331.8	22.7	75.1	63.6	6.1
Neuchâtel (NE)	177.3	25.2	89.7	247.3	3.0
Geneva (GE)	477.4	40.9	100.0	1 942.1	4.3
Jura (JU)	72.4	14.0	53.0	86.4	3.4

**Permanent resident population in the largest cities, 2014**

	City		Urban agglomeration	
	in '000	Population growth 2010–2014 in %	in '000	Population growth 2010–2014 in %
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 125.2</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>3 383.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Zurich	391.4	5.0	1 315.7	5.3
Geneva	194.6	3.8	570.2	4.7
Basel	168.6	3.3	537.1	3.0
Bern	130.0	4.5	406.9	3.8
Lausanne	133.9	4.8	402.9	6.2
Winterthur	106.8	5.4	150.5	5.1

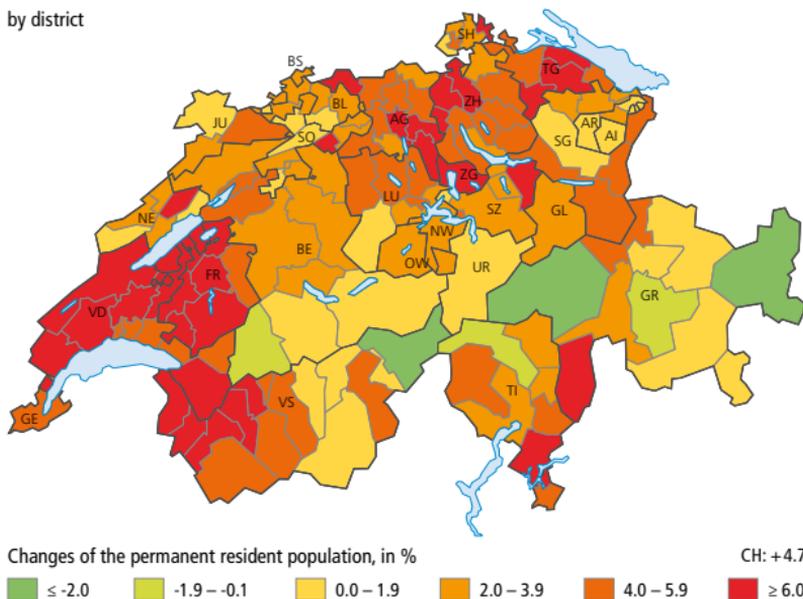
**The population is mostly urban**

84.5% of the population (2014) live in urban areas. About half of the urban population live in one of Switzerland's five largest agglomerations (Zurich, Geneva, Basel, Bern and Lausanne).

Population growth has been higher in urban areas than in rural areas (2014: +1.2% compared with +1.0%).

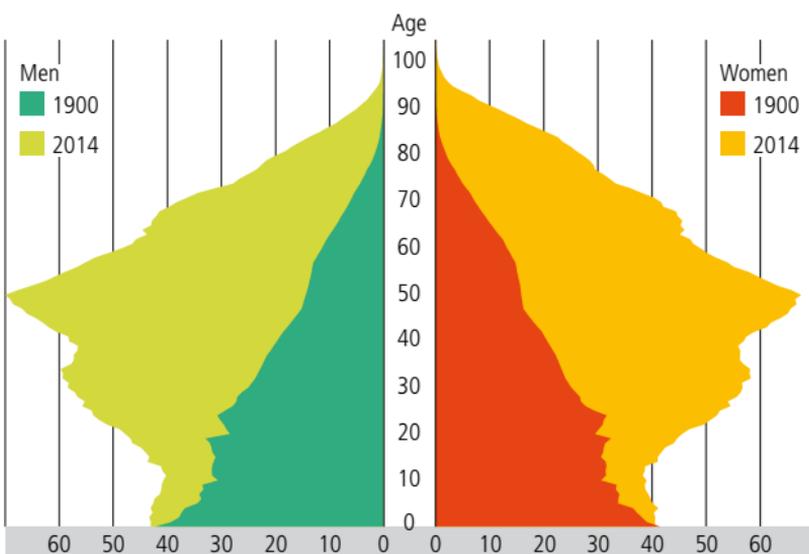
## Population growth, 2010–2014

by district



## Age structure of the population

Number of persons in '000



## Ageing society

During the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the proportion of elderly people increased, while that of young people (under age 20) and people of working age (aged 20–64) declined. As a result of this process, the shape of the age “pyramid” has been transformed into one of a “fir tree” (2014) in which the baby boom generation (born between 1960 and 1971) predominates. The ageing of the population will continue. The proportion of persons aged 65 and over is expected to rise from 17.8% (2014) to 28% in 2060. Switzerland’s population growth in recent years is mainly attributable to net immigration and to a lesser extent to an excess of births over deaths.

## Children born alive, 2014

<b>Total</b>	<b>85 287</b>
Boys for every 100 girls	105.8
Proportion of children out of wedlock in %	21.7
Children per woman <sup>1</sup>	1.5

1 Average number of children that would be born to a woman over her lifetime given the age-specific fertility rates in the year of observation

## Deaths, 2014

<b>Total</b>	<b>63 938</b>
Age at death (years)	
0–19	514
20–39	831
40–64	7 546
65–79	16 101
≥80	38 946

## International migration, 2014

Immigration	187 326
of which foreigners	161 149
Emigration	111 103
of which foreigners	82 607
Net migration	76 223
Swiss	–2 319
Foreigners	78 542

## Internal migration<sup>2</sup>, 2014

<b>Total movements</b>	<b>491 978</b>
------------------------	----------------

2 Movements between communes, excl. movements within a given commune

## Marriages, 2014

<b>Total</b>	<b>41 891</b>
Swiss/Swiss	20 394
Swiss/Foreign	8 237
Foreign/Swiss	6 823
Foreign/Foreign	6 437
Average age at marriage (years)	
Single men	31.8
Single women	29.6

## Divorces, 2014

<b>Total</b>	<b>16 737</b>
with minors involved in %	44.5
Duration of marriage	
0–4 years	2 062
5–9 years	4 256
10–14 years	3 044
15 or more years	7 375
Total divorce rate <sup>3</sup>	40.9

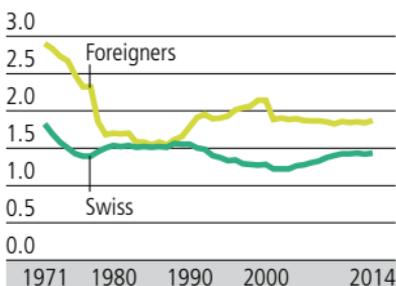
3 Proportion of marriages, ending in divorce sooner or later, based on the divorce rates of the year of observation

## Multiple births<sup>4</sup>, 2014

<b>Total</b>	<b>1 549</b>
of which twin births	1 517

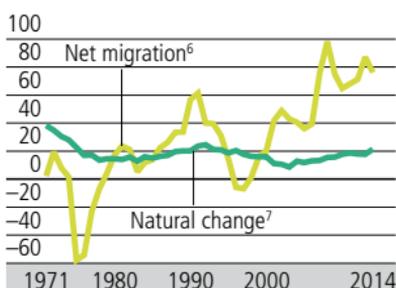
4 Number of deliveries; children born alive and stillborn children

## Total fertility rate<sup>5</sup>



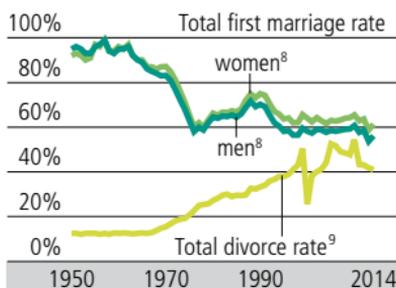
5 Number of children per woman, see note 1

## Net migration and natural change in '000



6 Until 2010, change of status included, since 2011 incl. conversions from non permanent residence status

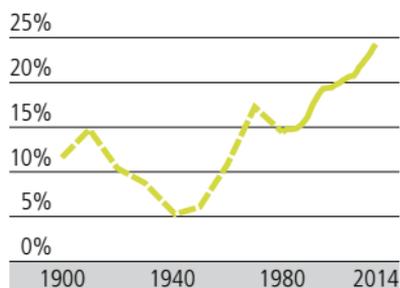
## Marriages and divorces



8 Probability of first marriage for a person under the age of 50 based on the age-specific first marriage rates of the year of observation

9 See note 3. Since 2011, divorces between two foreigners are not always recorded

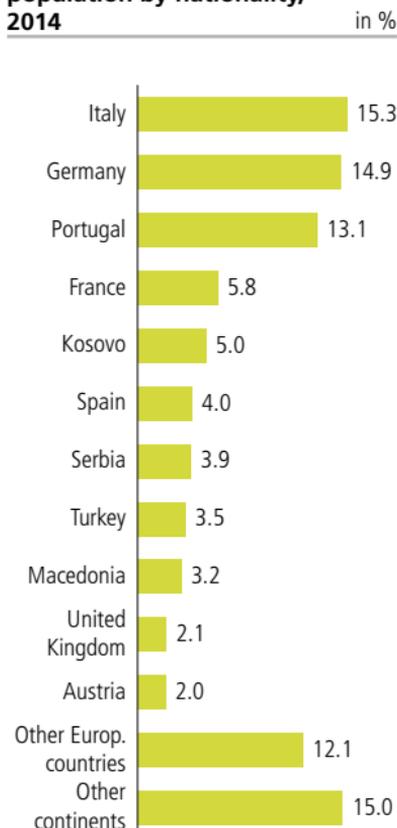
### Share of foreign permanent resident population



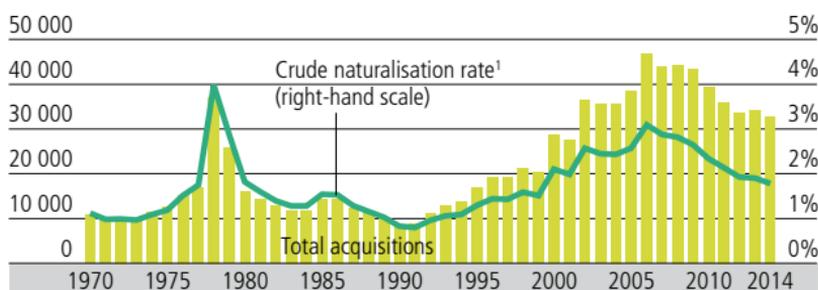
### Foreign permanent and non permanent resident population by type of permit, 2014

	in '000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 085.3</b>
Resident – B permit	648.1
Permanent resident – C permit	1 255.8
International officials and diplomats	19.7
Temporary resident (L permit)	96.0
Asylum seekers – N permit	19.4
Provisionally accepted – F permit	28.6
Non-attributable	7.7

### Foreign permanent resident population by nationality, 2014



### Acquisition of Swiss citizenship



<sup>1</sup> Number of citizenship acquisitions per 100 holders of annual and permanent residence permits at the beginning of the year

### Foreign population: more than half were born in Switzerland or have been residents for at least 10 years

Foreigners account for 24.3% of the permanent resident population. More than half of the residents without a Swiss passport (55.5%) have been living in Switzerland for 10 years or more or were born here. In 2014, 32 836 persons (1.8% of the foreign permanent resident population) obtained Swiss citizenship. The foreign population is young: for every 100 foreigners of working age (aged 20–64) there are only 11 aged 65 and over (compared with 36 among the Swiss) in 2014. 28.8% of children born in Switzerland in 2014 had foreign citizenship. In 2014, the number of immigrations decreased by 3.1% compared with the previous year. Of these immigrants, 62% came from EU/ EFTA countries.

## Increasingly multifaceted living patterns

In 2013, only 29% of private households belonged to the household type "Couple with child(ren)". Of the households with at least one child under 25 years 14% are lone parent families and 6% patchwork families. These high figures are the result of a great number of divorces (16 737 in 2014). Furthermore the proportion of non-marital births almost doubled between 2000 and 2014, from 11% to 22%.

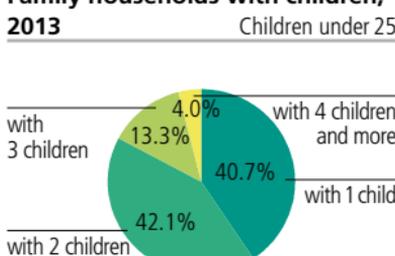
The decision to get married and start a family is being made increasingly late in life: The age at first marriage among women rose from 24 (1970) to 30 (2014) and among men from 26 to 32 years; the average age of mothers at first birth rose from 25 to 31 years.

The traditional middle-class "single breadwinner" model is now the exception: In 2014, almost eight in ten mothers (78,5%) in couple households were in employment. It still holds true that fathers tend to do more paid work (generally full-time) and mothers are mainly responsible for house and family work.

### Private households, 2013

	in '000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 532.6</b>
Single-person households	1 240.6
Family households	2 184.0
Childless couples	975.2
Couples with children	1 019.7
Lone parents with children	203.3
Non-family households	70.3

### Family households with children, 2013



### Main languages, 2013<sup>1</sup>

	in %
German	64.5
French	22.6
Italian	8.3
Romansh	0.5
English	4.7
Portuguese	3.5
Albanian	2.6
Serbo-Croatian	2.5
Spanish	2.2
Turkish	1.1
Other languages	5.3

<sup>1</sup> Resident permanent population aged 15 or more and living in a private household. Several languages possible

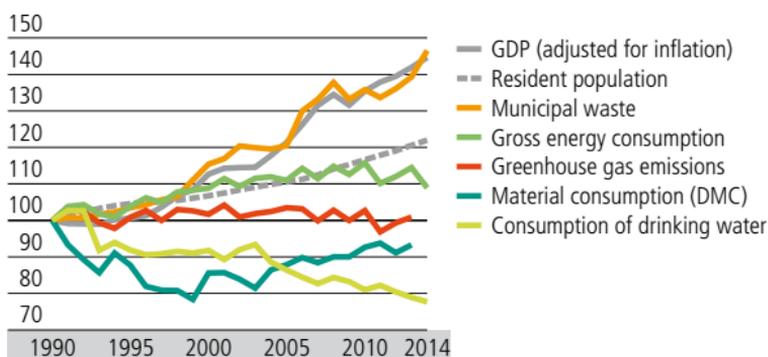
### Religious affiliation, 2013<sup>2</sup>

	in %
Protestant	26.1
Roman Catholic	38.0
Other Christian communities	5.8
Jewish religious community	0.2
Islamic religious communities	5.1
Other churches and religious communities	1.3
No affiliation	22.2
Unknown	1.3

<sup>2</sup> Resident permanent population aged 15 or more and living in a private household

## Use of resources and emissions

Index 1990 = 100



A growing population and economy are usually accompanied by a rise in the consumption of natural resources and an increase in emissions – unless behaviours change or technological advances lead to improved efficiency. Energy and land consumption, for example, tend to grow at roughly the same rate as the population in the same way that the volume of municipal waste keeps step with GDP. Greenhouse gas emissions, on the other hand, have remained more or less constant since 1990. Water consumption and material consumption have even decreased despite the needs of a growing population and economy.

## Land use

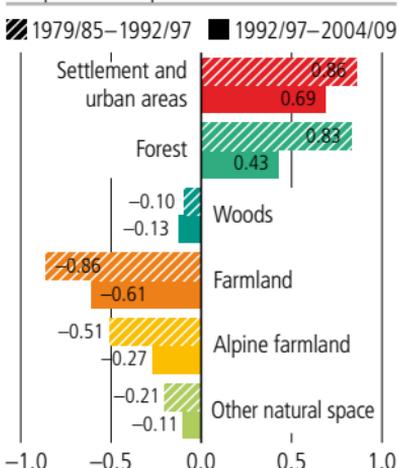
Period of survey 2004–2009

	km <sup>2</sup>	%
<b>Total surface area</b>	<b>41 285</b>	<b>100</b>
Forest and woods	12 931	31.3
Farmland	9 678	23.4
Alpine farmland	5 139	12.4
Settlement and urban areas	3 079	7.5
Lakes and watercourses	1 769	4.3
Other natural space	8 690	21.0

Within 24 years, settlement and urban areas have grown by 23%, mainly at the expense of agricultural areas. According to the latest figures, settlement and urban areas constitute 7.5% of Switzerland's surface area and 4.7% of the surface is sealed.

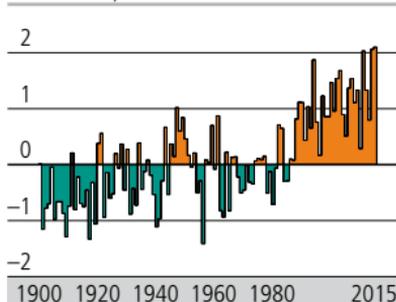
## Change in land use

in square metre per second



## Temperature fluctuations

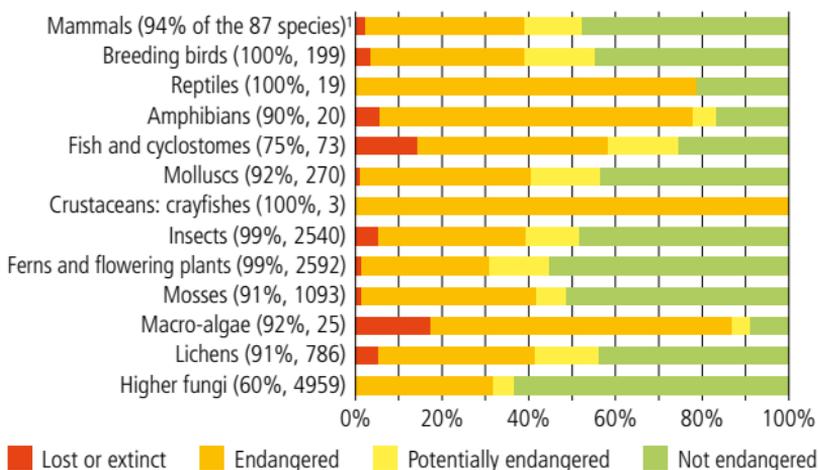
Deviations from long-term mean value 1961–1990, in °C



The air temperature varies from year to year and is characterised by colder and warmer periods. 10 out of 11 of the warmest years in Switzerland since records began in 1864 have been in the 21st century and 2015 was the warmest year so far.

## Endangered animals and plants (red lists)

Status 1994–2014, depending on the species group

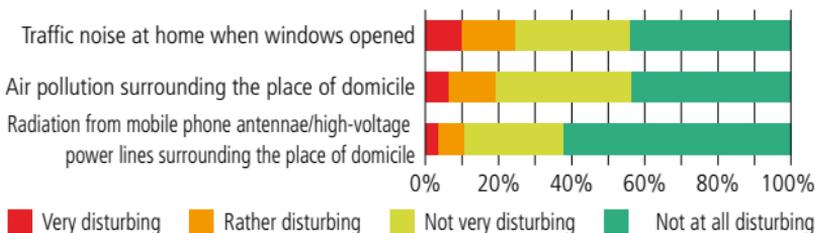


1 Reading aid: The endangerment status was assessed for 94% of the 87 mammal species. Data are deficient for the remaining species.

There are around 46 000 known species of flora, fauna and fungi in Switzerland. Of the species examined, 36% are on the red list, i.e. they are considered endangered, missing or extinct.

## Perception of environmental conditions in the place of residence, 2015

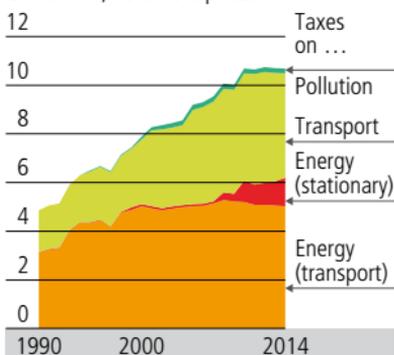
Share of population



In 2015, 24% of the population found traffic noise at home with open windows to be very or rather disturbing. 19% were of this opinion with regard to air pollution surrounding the house and 10% with regard to radiation from power lines or mobile telephony antennas. These perceptions approximately correspond to those observed in 2011.

## Environmentally related taxes revenue

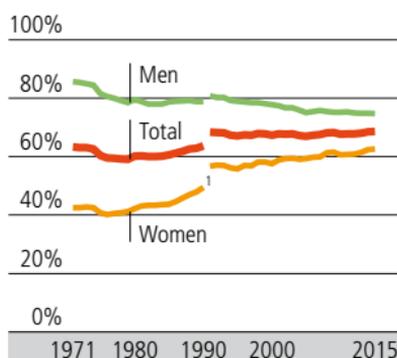
CHF billion, at current prices



Environmentally related taxes make environmentally damaging goods and services more expensive and encourage consumers and producers to think about the consequences of their decisions. In 2014, environmentally related taxes revenue corresponded to 6.1% of the total tax and social contributions.

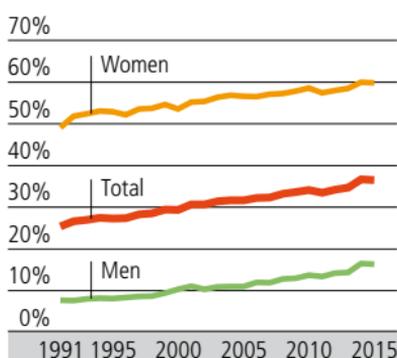
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## Labour force as % of the permanent resident population (15+)

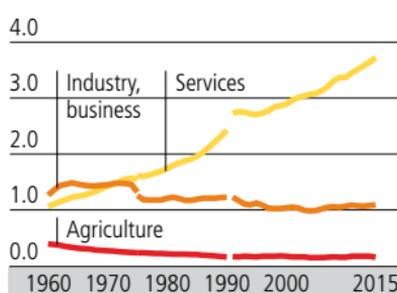


1 New calculation method from 1991 onwards

## People in part-time employment as % of the employed persons



## People employed<sup>1</sup> by economic sector in millions



1 New calculation method from 1975 resp. 1991 onwards

## Employed persons according to employment status<sup>1</sup>

Permanent resident population, in '000  
2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr

	2014	2015
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 519</b>	<b>4 590</b>
Self-employed	590	559
Family workers	99	85
Employee	3 620	3 733
Apprentice	210	212

1 Sociological definition

## Persons in employment by type of authorisation and gender in '000

2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr	1991	2000	2005	2010	2014	2015
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 101</b>	<b>4 074</b>	<b>4 189</b>	<b>4 553</b>	<b>4 870</b>	<b>4 948</b>
Swiss	3 050	3 105	3 130	3 301	3 407	3 452
Foreigners	1 051	969	1 058	1 252	1 463	1 496
Permanent residents	551	588	576	624	715	721
Temporary residents	177	181	235	341	389	410
Seasonal workers <sup>1</sup>	85	25	–	–	–	–
Cross-border workers	183	140	176	228	281	294
Temporary visitors	21	20	53	42	51	46
Other foreigners	34	15	18	17	27	26
Men	2 408	2 302	2 321	2 510	2 654	2 691
Women	1 693	1 772	1 868	2 043	2 215	2 257

1 As of 1.6.2002 seasonal work permits are no longer issued

## Considerable increase in women's participation in labour market

Between 2010 and 2015, the number of women in employment increased at a much greater rate than that of employed men (+10.3% to 2,273 million compared with +6.8% to 2,703 million). Part-time employment has also been increasing for many years. In 2015, 59.8% of women were working part-time (2010: 58.6%). In contrast, 16.4% of men worked part-time, although this percentage has also increased since 2010 (+2.7 percentage points). The increase in women's labour force participation and in part-time employment can be attributed to the tertiarisation of the economy. 86.8% of women in employment in 2015 worked in the tertiary sector (men: 64.9%) and part-time employment is mainly found in the service sector (9 out of 10 part-time jobs).

## Foreign workers

Foreign workers are an important factor in the Swiss labour market. Since the 1960s, their share of the labour force has always exceeded 20%; in 2014, it was 29.9%. Foreign labour is particularly important in the industrial sector (2014: 38.9%; Service sector: 28.0%).

In 2014, 78.4% of foreigners in employment were citizens from an EU or EFTA country. Two thirds of the permanent resident population from the EU came from Germany (25.4%), Italy (21.4%) and Portugal (20.5%).

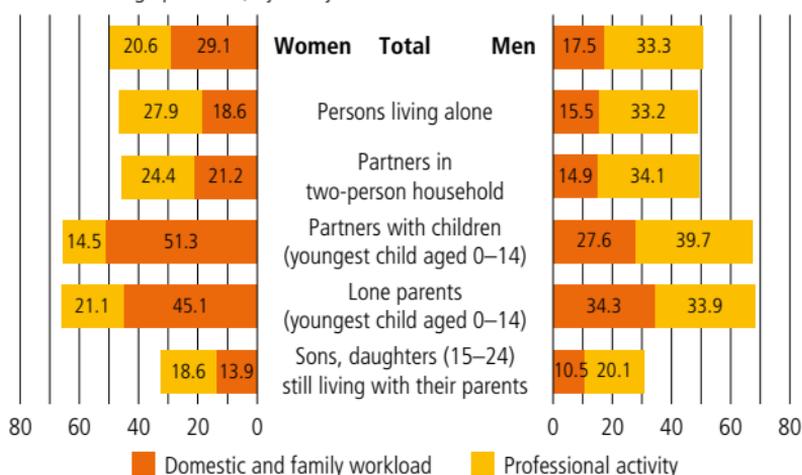
### Unemployment rate<sup>1</sup> by major region and other criteria

2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter	2005	2010	2013	2014	2015
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Lake Geneva region	6.5	5.7	6.5	6.2	6.6
Espace Mittelland	4.0	4.0	3.4	4.1	3.4
Northwest Switzerland	4.1	4.4	3.8	4.1	3.1
Zurich	4.2	3.8	4.0	4.5	4.1
Eastern Switzerland	3.8	3.6	3.8	2.8	3.7
Central Switzerland	2.9	3.1	2.1	3.7	3.1
Ticino	6.1	5.4	6.4	6.6	6.2
Men	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.0
Women	5.1	4.8	4.2	4.5	4.3
Swiss	3.2	3.2	2.9	3.2	2.8
Foreigners	8.9	7.5	7.9	7.9	8.0
15–24 years	8.8	7.2	7.0	7.7	6.4
25–39 years	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.6
40–54 years	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.5
55–64 years	3.7	3.4	3.2	3.7	3.7

1 Unemployment rate based on ILO

### Time spent on professional activity and on domestic and family workload, 2013

Hours on average per week, by family situation<sup>1</sup>



1 Only economically active persons aged 15 to normal retirement age

### Involvement in voluntary work, 2013

as a percentage of permanent resident population age 15 and older

	Total	Informal	Organised
<b>Total</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>20.0</b>
Men	31.8	13.8	22.2
Women	34.8	23.2	17.9

### Wage level<sup>1</sup> per main region, private sector, 2014

	Total	Professional position <sup>2</sup>			
		a	b	c	d
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>6 189</b>	<b>9 990</b>	<b>8 019</b>	<b>6 711</b>	<b>5 657</b>
Lake Geneva region (VD, VS, GE)	6 118	10 344	8 456	6 655	5 515
Espace Mittelland (BE, FR, SO, NE, JU)	6 112	9 204	7 153	6 697	5 773
North-western Switzerland (BS, BL, AG)	6 451	10 321	8 429	7 068	5 856
Zurich (ZH)	6 614	12 199	9 397	7 444	5 846
Eastern Switzerland (GL, SH, AR, AI, SG, GR, TG)	5 813	8 313	7 183	6 097	5 367
Central Switzerland (LU, UR, SZ, OW, NW, ZG)	6 196	9 425	7 575	6 493	5 684
Ticino (TI)	5 125	7 999	6 129	5 366	4 640

### Gross monthly wage<sup>1</sup>, private and public sector, 2012

	Total	Level of competences <sup>3</sup>			
		a	b	c	d
<b>Whole economy</b>	<b>6 439</b>	<b>4 857</b>	<b>5 417</b>	<b>6 870</b>	<b>8 806</b>
Private sector	6 118	4 771	5 282	6 730	8 450
Public sector	7 750	5 402	6 337	7 239	9 276

1 Standardised monthly wage: full-time equivalent based on 40 hours a week and 4 1/3 weeks a month

2 Professional position

a = top, upper and middle management

b = lower management level

c = lowest management level

d = no management function

3 Level of competences

a = Simple physical or manual tasks

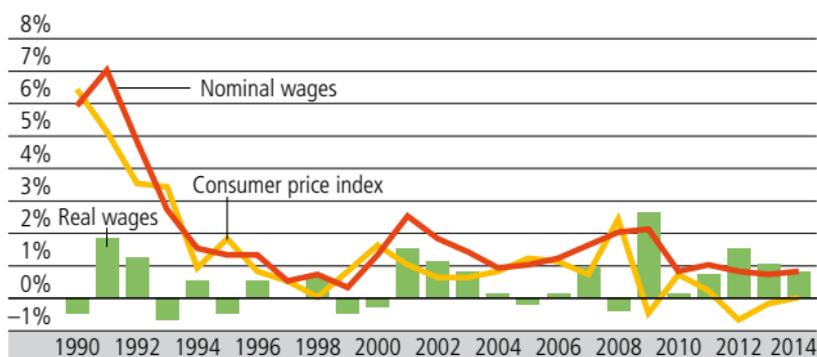
b = Practical tasks such as sales, care, data processing and administration, operating machinery and electronic devices, security, driving vehicles

c = Complex practical tasks which require an extensive amount of knowledge in a specialised field

d = Tasks which involve complex problem-solving and decision-making, requiring an extensive amount of factual and theoretical knowledge in a specialised field

### Evolution of nominal wages, consumer prices and real wages

Change compared with the previous year in %



### Evolution of real wages

index 1939 = 100

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2013	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>311</b>
Men	241	257	264	280	289	291
Women	279	302	311	336	347	351

## Foreign trade the main source of GDP growth in 2014

Economic activity in Switzerland in 2014 measured by GDP again recorded sustained growth of 1.9% compared with 1.8% in 2013 (variation at previous year's prices).

More than half of GDP growth in 2014 was due to foreign trade and in particular to the good results of the balance of goods (excluding non-monetary gold). Sales abroad from the pharmaceutical, watch and jewellery industries registered strong growth. Conversely, due to the sharp increase in business service imports, licence fees and tourist expenditure abroad, the balance of services declined and did not contribute to growth.

Also in terms of demand, final consumption slowed down (+1.3% compared with +2.1% in 2013), reflecting the deterioration of household consumer confidence, while investments registered a marked increase (+2.1%), mainly from the construction sector.

On the production side, GDP growth was mainly generated by the manufacturing industry, construction and non-financial services such as health and telecommunications. Conversely, the growth of the financial sector (banks and insurances) subsided following the sharp rise of 2013.

### Gross domestic product (GDP) and its components

Percentage change over previous year at prices of preceding year

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 <sup>p</sup>	2014 <sup>p</sup>
<b>GDP</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Final consumption expenditure	1.3	2.0	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.0	2.6	2.1	1.3
Gross capital formation	5.2	-3.3	7.2	4.5	-4.9	12.1	-10.3	-9.0	5.0
Exports of goods and services	6.3	11.4	3.9	-10.0	12.8	4.9	1.1	15.2	-6.9
Imports of goods and services	3.2	5.8	4.9	-3.8	8.1	9.2	-2.6	13.4	-8.1
GDP in CHF billion at current prices	538	573	597	587	606	618	624	635	642

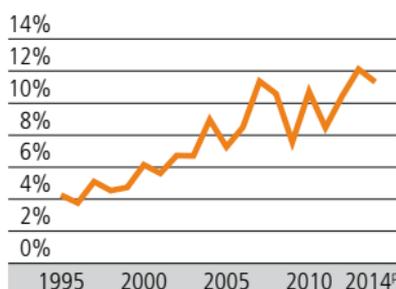
### Importance of relations with the rest of the world

From 1997, foreign trade played a leading role in the growth of the GDP. In fact, the periods of strong growth have coincided with booming foreign trade. Exports are the component of the GDP which made the largest contribution to growth during the prosperous years (1997 to 2000 and 2004 to 2007). One of the consequences of the dynamism of exports was an increase in the share of the foreign contribution (balance between exports and imports) to the GDP, showing the growing significance of the rest of the world to the Swiss economy. In 2009, however, Switzerland suffered the brunt of the slowdown in the global economy, which resulted in a negative contribution by foreign trade.

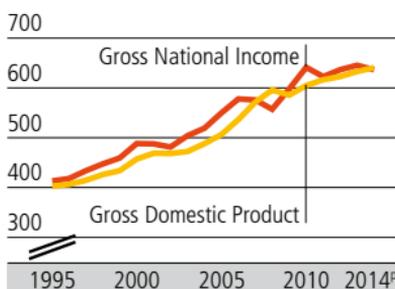
Since the financial crisis of 2008, foreign trade's contribution to growth in GDP has become more erratic. The increasing importance of the rest of the world is also evident in the investment income earned abroad, which has also played an increasingly significant role in determining gross national income (GNI), which is generally more

dynamic than the GDP. The years 2008 and 2011 stood out because GNI was exceptionally less dynamic due to losses posted by Swiss bank subsidiaries abroad in 2008 and currency exchange effects in 2011. In 2014, the GNI did not only decline (-1.3%) but was lower than the GDP. This deterioration was due to the considerable increase in investment income paid abroad concerning direct foreign investments in Switzerland, portfolio investment income as well as the growth of salaries paid to cross-border workers.

**Share of the external sector in GDP**  
at current prices

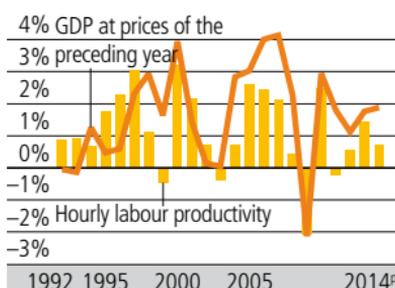


**GDP and GNI at current prices**  
in CHF billion



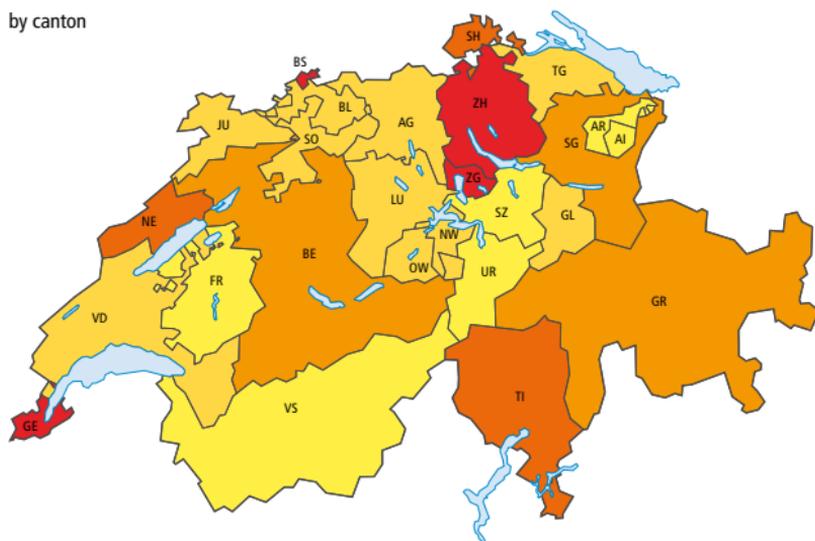
Once economic activity measured by GDP is known, one can investigate the efficiency with which productive resources (labour and capital) are utilised. Labour efficiency is measured by hourly labour productivity, i.e. the value added created by hour worked.

**Annual growth rate**



## Gross domestic product per inhabitant, 2013

by canton



Gross domestic product per inhabitant at current prices, in Swiss francs



► [www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Topics → National Economy

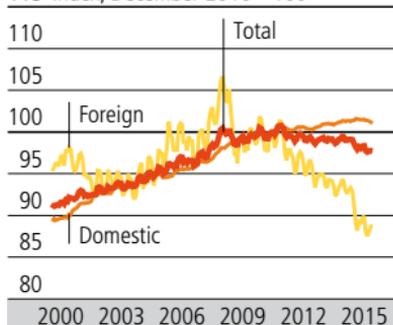
## Changes in consumer price index

changes in yearly average in %

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-1.1</b>
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-3.3	-1.0	1.2	0.9	-0.8
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	1.7	1.1	1.3	1.0	0.0
Clothing and footwear	1.4	-6.0	-3.7	-1.3	0.3
Housing and energy	2.4	0.8	0.1	1.0	-0.6
Household furniture and furnishings and routine maintenance	-1.3	-1.9	-1.6	-1.0	-2.1
Health	-0.2	-0.3	-0.9	-0.9	-0.4
Transport	1.1	-2.2	-0.9	-1.2	-4.4
Communications	0.1	-0.6	-2.3	-2.3	-0.9
Recreation and culture	-3.3	-2.8	0.0	0.1	-2.0
Education	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.2
Restaurants and hotels	1.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0
Other goods and services	0.2	0.1	0.6	-0.8	-0.8

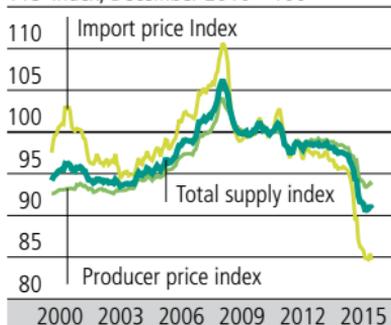
## Consumer price index by origin

115 Index, December 2010 = 100



## Producer and import price index

115 Index, December 2010 = 100



## International comparison of price indices, 2014

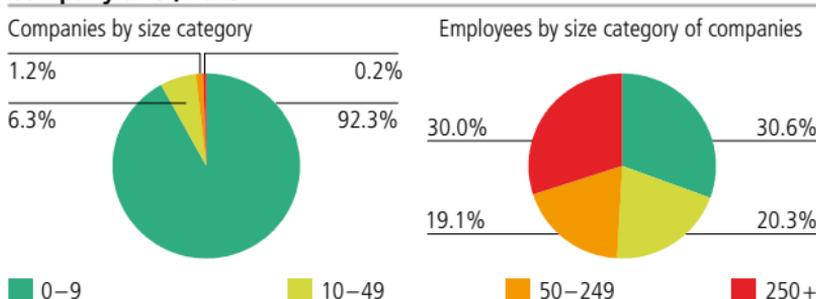
EU-28 = 100

	Switzerland	Germany	France	Italy
Gross domestic product	146	104	110	101
Actual individual consumption	156	101	107	103
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	155	104	110	110
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	118	93	106	97
Clothing and footwear	123	102	102	105
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	173	105	115	100
Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house	123	98	105	105
Health	188	101	105	115
Transport	113	104	102	99
Communication	122	103	97	119
Recreation and culture	139	105	107	101
Education	239	110	110	94
Restaurants and hotels	153	98	109	109
Miscellaneous goods and services	156	97	106	98
Actual collective consumption	171	119	126	113
Gross fixed investment	136	114	113	89
Machinery and equipment	118	99	99	99
Construction	168	129	123	82
Software	100	103	98	107

## More than 99% of enterprises are SMEs

More than 99% of all enterprises in Switzerland are small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) i.e. enterprises with fewer than 250 employees. The proportion of micro-enterprises (with fewer than 10 employees) in 2013 is larger in the service sector than in the secondary sector (92.9% compared with 82.5%). The average size of enterprises also differs accordingly (service sector: 9 employees; secondary sector: 12 employees). Approximately two thirds of employees work in SMEs; around one third in large enterprises (with fewer than 250 employees). Slightly more than a fourth of jobs (28%) are accounted for by micro-enterprises and around a fifth (19%) by enterprises with 10 to 49 employees. In 2013 the share of total employment represented by the tertiary sector in the case of private enterprises was 70.8%. Overall in private enterprises around 160 000 employees worked in the primary sector 1 098 000 in the secondary and 3 045 000 in the tertiary. The healthcare and retail sectors counted the most employees in private enterprises (359 000 and 352 000 employees respectively).

### Company size<sup>1</sup>, 2013



<sup>1</sup> Only market-oriented companies. The size of a company is determined by the number of full-time equivalents (part-time positions are added together to make full-time posts)

### Market-oriented companies and employees by economic activity

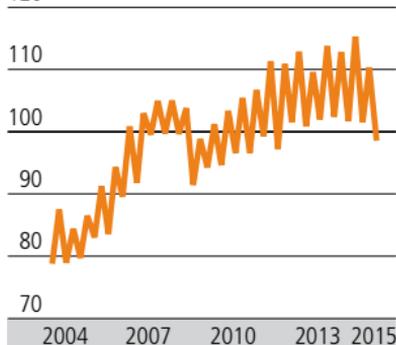
according to NOGA 2008, in '000	2013	
	Companies	Employees
<b>Total</b>	<b>563.2</b>	<b>4 303.3</b>
<b>Sector 1</b>	<b>55.3</b>	<b>159.9</b>
<b>Sector 2</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>1 098.4</b>
of which:		
Manufacture of food and tobacco products	3.3	86.4
Manufacture of textiles and apparel	2.5	14.2
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	10.2	73.5
Manufacture of pharmaceutical products	0.3	42.7
Manufacture of metal products	7.8	87.9
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products; watches and clocks	2.2	113.4
Manufacture of electrical equipment	0.9	37.0
Electricity, gas and steam supply	0.7	30.0
Construction of buildings and Civil engineering	8.2	110.3
<b>Sector 3</b>	<b>417.9</b>	<b>3 045.0</b>
of which:		
Wholesale trade	24.3	234.6
Retail trade	37.1	352.0
Accommodation	5.6	77.0
Food and beverage service activities	23.2	161.4
IT and other information services	15.1	84.3
Financial service activities	6.3	198.1
Architectural and engineering activities	24.0	118.3
Administrative and support service activities	3.7	22.0
Human health and social assistance	51.6	358.6

### New companies, 2013

Economic activity (NOGA 2008)	Total new companies	Created jobs	Created jobs (full-time)	Created Jobs (part-time)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12 440</b>	<b>22 281</b>	<b>13 829</b>	<b>8 452</b>
<b>Sector 2</b>	<b>2 156</b>	<b>4 712</b>	<b>3 611</b>	<b>1 101</b>
Industry and Energy	663	1 188	825	363
Construction	1 493	3 524	2 786	738
<b>Sector 3</b>	<b>10 284</b>	<b>17 569</b>	<b>10 218</b>	<b>7 351</b>
Trade and repair sector	2 281	3 691	2 123	1 568
Transport and warehousing	342	581	376	205
Accommodation, food and beverage service activities	273	786	381	405
Information and communication	951	1 668	1 120	548
Banking and insurance	659	1 200	855	345
Real estate activities and services	1 212	2 097	1 102	995
Professional and scientific activities	3 200	4 877	3 044	1 833
Education	238	342	140	202
Health and social services	500	1 267	559	708
Arts and recreation	237	428	203	225
Other service activities	391	632	315	317

### Production in the secondary sector

Indexed change in the quarterly results  
Annual average 2010=100



Overall production in the secondary sector (excluding the construction industry) grew by 31% between 2004 and 2014. The trend is highly cyclical. In the positive economic climate of 2005 to 2007, production rose considerably. It plummeted again during the financial crisis at the end of 2008. But in 2010 the situation began to improve. In 2010 Swiss production had regained the index level of 2007.

### Retail sales

variation from the previous year in %

		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>Nominal</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>
	<b>Real</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>
of which:						
Food, drink and tobacco products	Nominal	2.3	-0.5	1.7	2.3	1.8
	Real	3.1	2.1	2.4	1.1	0.9
Clothing and footwear	Nominal	2.0	-4.0	-2.3	-2.0	-1.1
	Real	0.9	-5.6	4.0	1.9	0.2
Fuel	Nominal	2.2	4.7	6.9	1.9	-5.7
	Real	-5.7	-1.4	2.5	4.2	-2.6
<b>Total excluding fuel</b>	<b>Nominal</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>
	<b>Real</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>

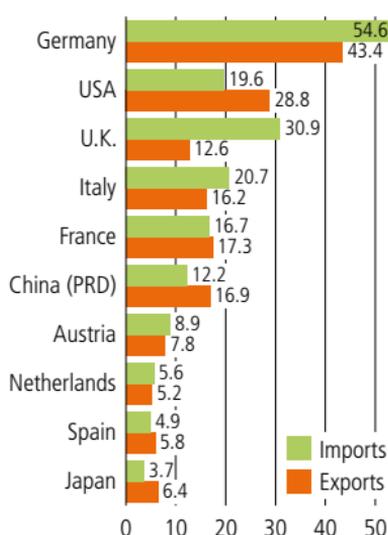
### Labour costs

Labour costs are the costs incurred by enterprises for the production factor of labour. They generally account for a large proportion of the production costs for goods and services. Labour costs are composed of gross wages and salaries (79.1%), social contributions from employers (17.6%) and other costs, particularly those associated with vocational training and personnel recruitment (3.3%). In 2012 the average cost per hour worked for enterprises in the secondary and tertiary sector was CHF 61.30 overall.

Labour costs are one of the most important indicators for estimating the attractiveness of different national business locations and can vary considerably from country to country. In 2012 due to the strength of the Swiss franc (2012 Euro exchange rate: CHF 1.21), the average cost per hour worked in Switzerland in enterprises with ten or more employees reached Euro 51.25. In Switzerland's neighbouring countries of Austria, Germany and France, the average cost per hour worked was Euro 29.75, Euro 30.50 and Euro 34.25.

### Foreign trade: our key partners, 2014

in CHF billion



Switzerland is one of the countries in which foreign trade represents the highest share of gross domestic product (GDP). Its most important trading partners in 2014 were the industrialised countries that accounted for 59.9% of exports and 76.3% of imports. The EU plays a particularly important role in this respect (45.0% of exports and 66.1% of imports).

### Foreign trade: the key goods

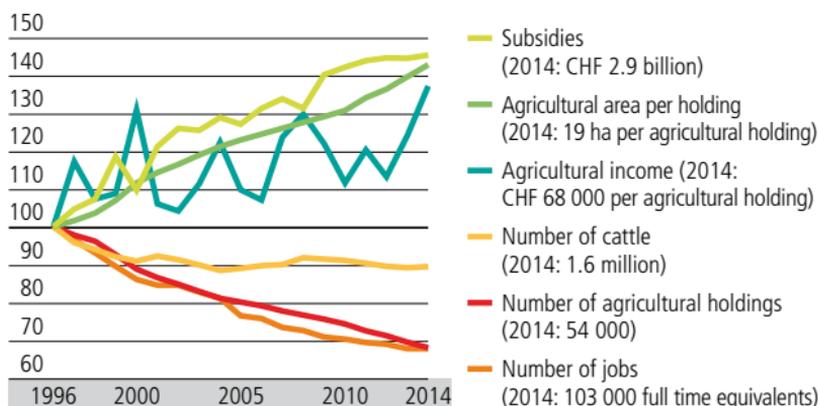
in CHF million

	Imports			Exports		
	1990	2013	2014	1990	2013	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>96 611</b>	<b>298 394</b>	<b>252 505</b>	<b>88 257</b>	<b>332 137</b>	<b>285 179</b>
of which:						
Agricultural and forestry products	8 095	14 055	14 062	2 998	9 201	9 415
Textiles, clothing, footwear	8 806	8 904	9 247	4 984	3 097	3 173
Chemicals	10 625	41 849	42 945	18 422	80 934	85 323
Metals	9 025	14 119	14 395	7 537	12 082	12 481
Machinery, electronics	19 794	30 237	30 347	25 527	33 305	33 341
Vehicles	10 230	15 854	16 151	1 485	5 252	5 682
Instruments and watches	5 786	19 149	20 072	13 330	45 315	47 076

Agricultural areas and forest and woodland account for 36% and 31% respectively of Switzerland's territory. The landscape is therefore in large measure shaped by agriculture and forestry. These two sectors are important not only for food production, construction materials and renewable energy, but also for maintaining decentralised economic activity and for protecting landscape diversity and biodiversity. In 2014, the share of both sectors in the gross value added of the Swiss economy was 0.8%.

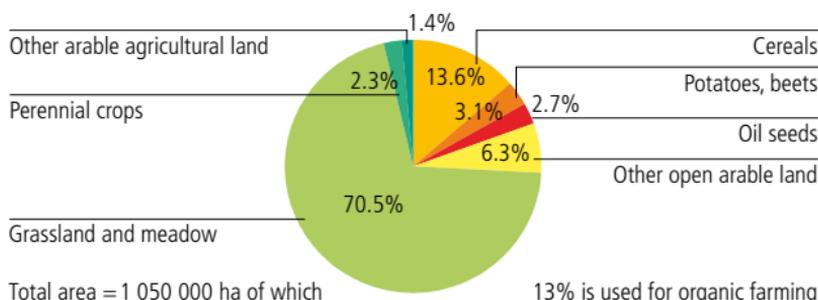
## A few key indicators in agriculture

Index 1996=100



## Agricultural area used, 2014

Excl. summer pastures



## Output of agriculture<sup>1</sup>, 2015

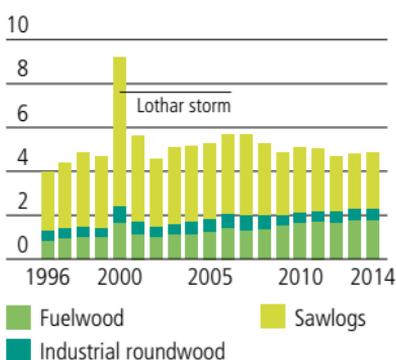
in %

Crop output	40.6
Cereals	3.7
Forage plants	8.5
Vegetables and horticultural products	13.9
Fruits and grapes	5.4
Wine	4.4
Other crop outputs	4.7
Animal output	48.0
Cattle	13.9
Pigs	8.2
Milk	19.8
Other animals and animal products	6.1
Agricultural services output	7.0
Non-agricultural secondary activities	4.4

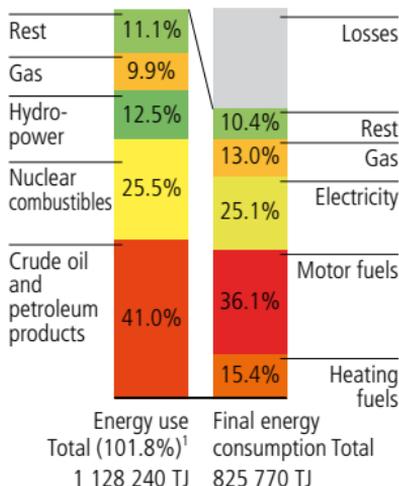
<sup>1</sup> Total value = CHF 10.1 billion

## Logging

in million m<sup>3</sup>



## Total energy use and final consumption, 2014

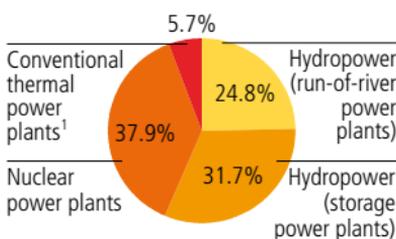


<sup>1</sup> Incl. export surplus of electricity (1.8%)

## Increased consumption

Final energy consumption is closely linked to economic development and population growth. Increasing numbers of inhabitants, larger dwellings, growing production, rising consumerism, heavier motor vehicles etc. lead to increased energy consumption unless this is compensated for by greater energy efficiency. In 2014, transport was the largest consumer group with narrowly 38% of the final energy consumption. 65% of the final consumption were covered by fossil fuels and 21.4% came from renewable energies, mainly hydropower.

## Electricity generation by power plant type, 2014



Total: 69.6 billion kWh

<sup>1</sup> Incl. district heating power stations and various renewable energies

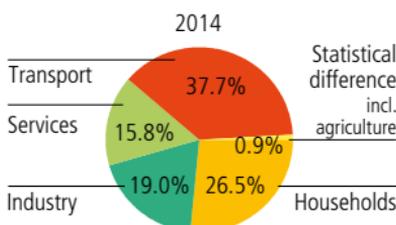
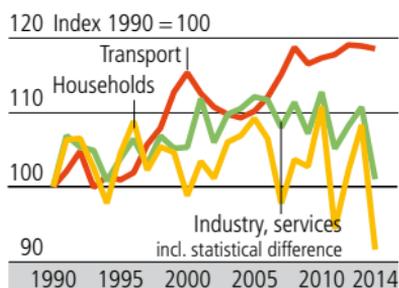
## Renewable energy, 2014

Share of final consumption	in %
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.42</b>
Hydropower	12.97
Solar power	0.61
Ambient heat	1.53
Biomass (wood and biogas)	4.50
Wind power	0.04
Renewable energy from waste	1.37
Energy from sewage treatment plants	0.22
Biogenic fuels	0.19

## Final energy consumption in '000 TJ



## Final energy consumption by consumer groups



► [www.statistique.admin.ch](http://www.statistique.admin.ch) → Thèmes → Energie (not available in English)

► [www.bfe.admin.ch](http://www.bfe.admin.ch) (Federal Office of Energy) → Topics → Energy Statistics

**Construction expenditure**

in CHF million, prices of 2000

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2013
<b>Total</b>	<b>34 198</b>	<b>47 588</b>	<b>43 708</b>	<b>49 240</b>	<b>53 416</b>
Public expenditure	11 389	14 507	15 983	15 958	17 233
Civil engineering	6 791	7 740	10 060	9 649	10 309
of which roads	...	...	5 221	4 739	4 432
Building construction	4 599	6 767	5 923	6 309	6 924
Private expenditure	22 809	33 081	27 725	33 281	36 183
of which housing	...	...	17 147	22 995	24 842

**Housing construction**

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2013
New residential buildings with apartments	20 806	16 162	16 962	14 736	14 176
of which single-family dwellings	16 963	11 200	13 768	9 387	8 567
New dwellings	40 876	39 984	32 214	43 632	50 166
with 1 room	2 122	2 010	528	725	1 588
2 rooms	4 598	5 248	1 779	3 913	7 066
3 rooms	7 094	8 937	4 630	10 608	13 721
4 rooms	11 557	12 487	10 783	15 438	16 341
5 rooms or more	15 505	11 302	14 494	12 948	11 450

**Housing supply**

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2014
as of year-end	2 702 656	3 140 353	3 574 988	4 079 060 <sup>2</sup>	4 289 428
of which remained empty in %	0.74	0.55 <sup>1</sup>	1.26 <sup>1</sup>	0.94 <sup>1</sup>	1.19 <sup>1</sup>

1 As of 1 June following year

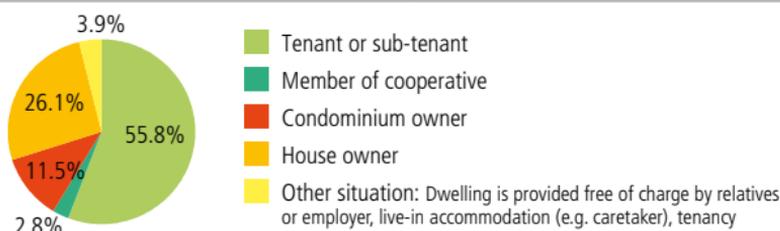
2 As of 2009 the housing stock is calculated on the basis of the Buildings and Dwellings Statistic (BDS)

**Trend towards single-family houses**

Single-family houses as a percentage of total building stock rose from 40% to 57% between 1970 and 2014. 60% of newly constructed buildings for housing purposes are single-family homes in 2013.

**Continuous increase in the home ownership rate since 1970**

At the end of 2013, 37.5% of households in Switzerland lived in their own dwelling. This corresponds to 1 325 707 households. Since 1970 the home ownership rate has risen continuously (1970: 28.5%, 1980: 30.1%, 1990: 31.3%, 2000: 34.6%). The number of dwellings in condominium ownership has shown the greatest increase. Their number rose from 237 700 to 404 876 between 2000 and 2013 (+70%). However, the majority of privately owned dwellings continue to be composed of households who own the house in which their dwelling is located (2000: 809 700, 2013: 920 831).

**Type of occupant of occupied dwellings 2013**

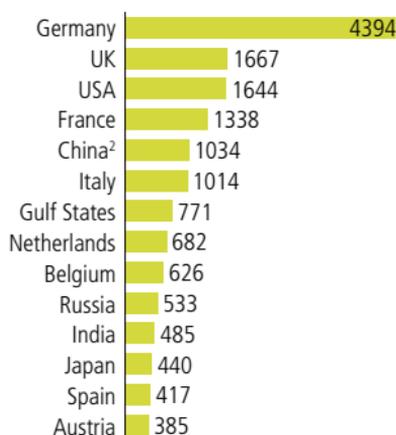
► [www.statistique.admin.ch](http://www.statistique.admin.ch) → Thèmes → Construction, logement  
(not available in English)

## Main tourism indicators

	2012	2013	2014
<b>Supply (beds)<sup>1</sup></b>			
Hotels and health establishments	271 168	271 298	272 636
<b>Demand: arrivals in '000</b>			
Hotels and health establishments	16 298	16 831	17 162
Campsites	917	891	836
Youth hostels	459	480	485
<b>Demand: overnight stays in '000</b>			
Hotels and health establishments	34 766	35 624	35 934
Foreign guests in %	55	55	55
Campsites	2 964	2 864	2 673
Foreign guests in %	41	41	39
Youth hostels	917	947	951
Foreign guests in %	41	42	42
<b>Duration of stay nights</b>			
Hotels and health establishments	2.1	2.1	2.1
Campsites	3.2	3.2	3.2
Youth hostels	2.0	2.0	2.0
<b>Gross occupancy rate: hotels and health establish.</b>			
as percentage of beds surveyed <sup>1</sup>	35.0	36.0	36.1
<b>Tourism balance of payment CHF million</b>			
Revenue from foreign visitors to Switzerland	15 100	15 552	15 976 <sup>P</sup>
Expenditure made by Swiss tourists abroad	14 256	14 970	15 681 <sup>P</sup>
Balance	843	582	295 <sup>P</sup>

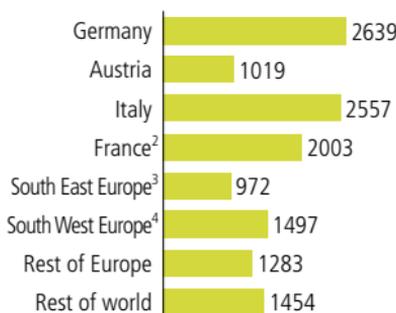
<sup>1</sup> Annual average number of beds surveyed in open and temporarily closed establishments

### Overnight stays made by foreign visitors in Switzerland<sup>1</sup>, 2014



<sup>1</sup> in thousands, excl. supplementary accommodation  
<sup>2</sup> without Hong Kong

### Foreign travel destinations of Swiss tourists<sup>1</sup>, 2014



<sup>1</sup> Permanent resident population, trips abroad with overnight stays, in thousands; Total: 13.4 million

<sup>2</sup> including overseas departments, Monaco

<sup>3</sup> Greece, Turkey, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Albania, Slovenia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia

<sup>4</sup> Spain, Portugal, Andorra, Gibraltar

## Travel behaviour

In 2014, 87.5% of people over 6 years old living in Switzerland undertook at least one private trip with overnight stays. To be more precise, each person undertook on average 2.9 trips with overnight stays and 10.3 day trips. More than half (56%) of all trips with overnight stays were long trips (minimum 4 overnight stays). Trips abroad represented 63% of trips with overnight stays and 10% of day trips.

► [www.statistique.admin.ch](http://www.statistique.admin.ch) → Thèmes → Tourisme (not available in English)

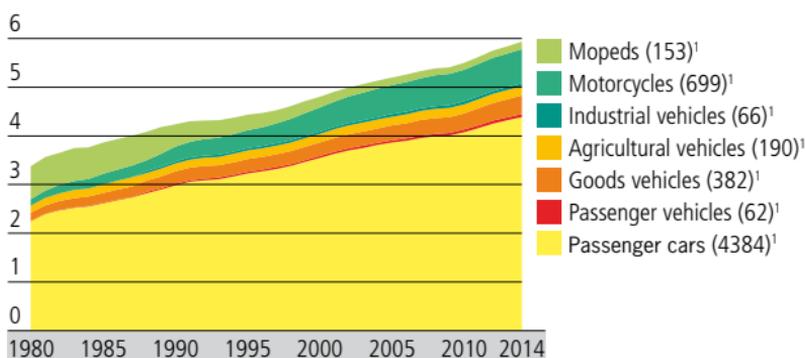
## Infrastructure

Transport infrastructure covers around a third of the settlement and urban areas in Switzerland (according to the Land use statistics from 2004/09).

In 2014, the length of national highways was 1823 km (of which motorways comprised 1429 km), that of cantonal roads 17 933 km and that of communal roads 51 797 km (as at 1984). In 2010, the railway network covered 5124 km.

### Pool of road motor vehicles

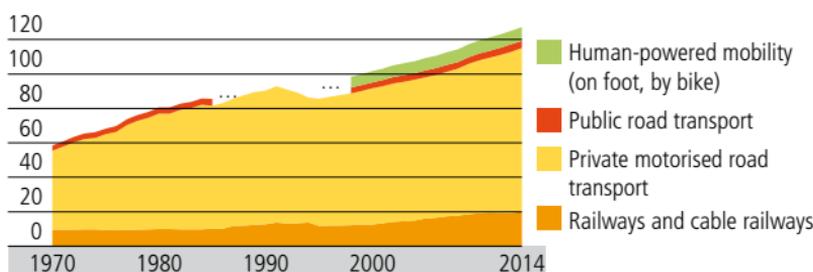
in millions



1 In brackets: refers to 2014, in thousands

### Passenger transport performance

in billion person km travelled per year



### Daily mobility, 2010

average per person per day<sup>1</sup>

	Daily distance in km	Travel time in min. <sup>2</sup>		Daily distance in km	Travel time in min. <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.7</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>Means of transport</b>		
<b>Purpose of trip</b>			On foot	2.0	31.4
Work and education	10.9	20.5	Bicycle	0.8	3.8
Shopping	4.7	11.8	Moped	0.0	0.2
Services and escort	1.8	3.1	Motorcycle	0.5	0.9
Business travel	2.5	3.9	Car	23.8	33.2
Leisure	14.7	40.5	Bus/Tram	1.4	4.8
Other	2.1	3.6	Post bus	0.1	0.3
			Train	7.1	6.4
			Other	0.9	2.4

1 Daily mobility within Switzerland of permanent population aged 6 and over

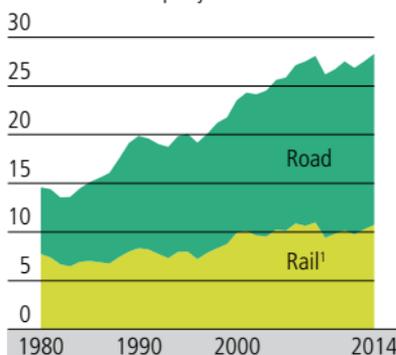
2 Excludes waiting and transfer time

### Commuter traffic

Some nine out of ten employed persons in Switzerland were commuters in 2013, i.e. people who leave the building in which they live to get to their place of work. Of these, about 70% worked outside their commune of residence and 20% even worked outside their canton of residence.

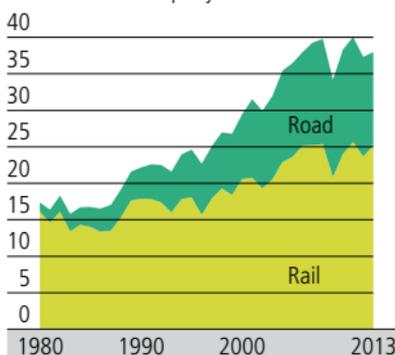
## Goods transport

**All transport**, transport in billion tonne-kilometres per year



1 Net tonne-kilometres not including the proper weight of goods vehicles (incl. trailers), containers and swap bodies in multimodal transport

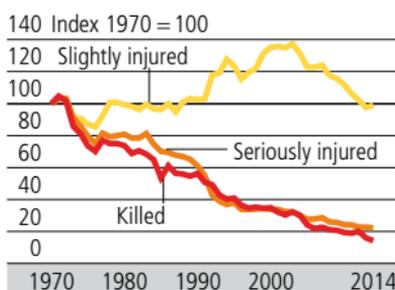
**Transalpine goods traffic**, transport in million net tonnes per year



## Road accidents by type of carrier, 2014

Road traffic	
Persons killed	243
Persons seriously injured	4 043
Persons slightly injured	17 478
Rail traffic	
Persons killed	28
Air traffic (civil aviation only)	
Persons killed	2

## Victims of road accidents



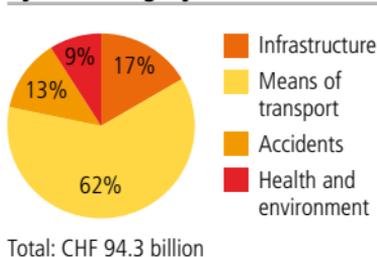
## Costs and funding of transport

In 2010, road, rail and air traffic in Switzerland generated total costs of CHF 94.3 billion. In addition to expenditure on infrastructure and means of transport, this also included the cost of accidents and costs for transport-related damage to the environment and health.

### Costs and funding of transport, 2010

	CHF billion	%
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>94.3</b>	<b>100</b>
Passenger transport	73.5	78
Motorised road transport	53.6	57
Human-powered mobility (on foot, by bike)	6.0	6
Rail transport	8.3	9
Air transport	5.7	6
Goods transport	20.8	22
Road transport	18.1	19
Rail transport	2.0	2
Air transport	0.7	1
<b>Funding</b>		
Part of transport users	79.9	85
Part of public sector	6.9	7
Part of general public	7.3	8

### Total costs of transport by cost category, 2010





	Year	Switzerland	Germany	Greece
Inhabitants in '000	2014 <sup>4</sup>	8 140	80 767	10 927
Inhabitants per km <sup>2</sup>	2013 <sup>4</sup>	202	230	84
People under 20 in %	2014 <sup>4</sup>	20.3	18.1	19.6
People over 64 in %	2014 <sup>4</sup>	17.6	20.8	20.5
Foreigners as % of the total population	2014 <sup>4</sup>	23.8	8.7	7.8
Live births per 1000 inhabitants	2013	10.3	8.3	8.6
Births outside of marriage in %	2013	21.1	34.8	7.0
Female life expectancy at birth (in years)	2013	85.0	83.2	84.0
Male life expectancy at birth (in years)	2013	80.7	78.6	78.7
Total area in km <sup>2</sup>	2009 <sup>5</sup>	41 285	357 113	120 168
Agricultural area as % of the total area	2009 <sup>5</sup>	36.9	51.7	35.4
Forest area as % of the total area	2009 <sup>5</sup>	30.8	33.9	33.4
Greenhouse gas emissions in CO <sub>2</sub> equivalents (t per inhabitant)	2013 <sup>5</sup>	6.5	11.6	9.6
Employment rate	2014	79.8	73.8	49.4
Employment rate for women	2014	75.1	69.5	41.1
Employment rate for men	2014	84.4	78.1	58.0
Unemployment rate (15–74) ILO-based	2014	4.5	5.0	26.5
Women	2014	4.7	4.6	30.2
Men	2014	4.4	5.3	23.7
15–24 year-olds	2014	8.6	7.7	52.4
Long-term unemployed based on ILO-definition (15–74) in %	2014	35.2	44.3	73.5
Gross domestic product (GDP) per inhabitant, in purchasing power standard (PPS)	2013	40 600	32 000	...
Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)	2014	–	1	–1
Gross energy consumption, TOE <sup>1</sup> per inhabitant	2013 <sup>5</sup>	3.4	4.0	2.2
Share of renewable energies in gross energy consumption in %	2013 <sup>5</sup>	19.0	10.3	10.7
Beds in hotels and health establishments per 1000 inhabitants	2014	33.5	21.8	73.2
Cars per 1000 inhabitants	2013 <sup>5</sup>	531.0	538.0	...
Road accidents: fatalities per 1 million inhabitants	2009 <sup>5</sup>	46	54	139
Expenditure on social security in a % of GDP	2013	25.5	28.6	...
Cost of the healthcare system in % of GDP	2012	11.4	10.9	9.2
Infant deaths <sup>2</sup>	2013	3.9	3.3	3.7
Young people (18–24) without post-compulsory education in %	2014	28.7	35.6	16.2
Persons (25–64) with highest educational attainment at tertiary level in %	2014	40.2	27.1	28.1
Education expenditure in % of GDP	2011	5.3	5.0	...
At-risk-of-poverty rate <sup>3</sup>	2014	...	9.9	13.2
Median of the equivalised disposable net income, in purchasing power standard (PPS)	2014	...	19 299	8 610
Housing costs as % of the disposable household income	2014	...	27.3	42.5

1 Tonnes of crude oil equivalent

2 Children who died in their first year of life per 1000 live births

3 As % of all employed persons

4 On January 1st

5 On December 31st

6 EU-28



Spain	France	Italy	Netherlands	Austria	Sweden	U.K.	EU-27
46 512	65 836	60 783	16 829	8 507	9 645	64 308	502 601
93	104	199	498	103	24	264	117
19.8	24.6	18.6	22.9	19.9	22.7	23.6	21.0
18.1	18.0	21.4	17.3	18.3	19.4	17.5	18.5
10.1	6.3	8.1	4.4	12.4	7.1	7.8	...
9.1	12.4	8.6	10.2	9.4	11.9	12.2	10.0
40.9	...	26.9	47.4	...	54.4	...	...
86.1	85.6	85.2	83.2	83.8	83.8	82.9	83.3
80.2	79.0	80.3	79.5	78.6	80.2	79.2	77.8
493 501	548 763	301 392	37 357	83 920	449 159	244 436	...
52.9	54.2	51.4	55.0	38.2	8.1	65.1	...
31.9	31.7	33.2	11.9	47.0	66.0	14.8	...
6.9	7.5	7.3	11.7	9.4	5.8	9.0	8.8 <sup>6</sup>
56.0	64.3	55.7	73.1	71.1	74.9	71.9	64.9
51.2	60.9	46.8	68.1	66.9	73.1	67.1	59.7
60.7	67.7	64.7	78.1	75.2	76.5	76.8	70.2
24.5	10.3	12.7	7.4	5.6	7.9	6.1	10.2
25.4	10.0	13.8	7.8	5.4	7.7	5.8	10.3
23.6	10.5	11.9	7.2	5.9	8.2	6.4	10.1
53.2	24.2	42.7	12.7	10.3	22.9	16.9	22.0
52.8	42.8	61.4	40.0	27.2	18.9	35.8	49.4
24 500	27 800	25 200	32 600	33 200	32 700	27 200	25 800
-0	1	0	0	2	0	2	1
2.6	3.9	2.6	4.8	4.0	5.1	3.1	3.3 <sup>6</sup>
14.7	9.0	16.5	4.2	29.6	34.8	5.0	11.8 <sup>6</sup>
40.3	19.4	36.9	15.0	70.4	24.8	...	26.9
474.0	490.0	608.0	471.0	546.0	...	442.0	...
68	67	79	41	81	43	43	78
25.4	32.6	29.5	31.6	29.8	30.5	29.9	...
9.2	11.2	...	11.8	10.4	9.1	...	...
2.7	3.6	2.9	3.8	3.1	2.7	3.8	...
39.3	17.1	32.1	30.5	18.4	26.5	16.3	27.0
34.7	33.2	16.9	34.4	29.9	38.7	40.5	29.3
4.8	5.7	4.3	5.9	5.8	6.8	6.0	5.3
12.6	8.0	11.1	5.3	7.2	7.8	8.7	9.6
14 195	19 307	15 274	18 805	21 662	20 614	16 933	...
19.1	18.3	17.1	29.4	18.3	22.0	25.1	22.6

## Total assets and profits of banks, 2014

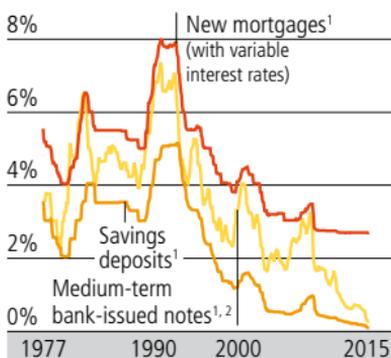
Bank categories	No. institutions		Total assets		Annual profits	Annual losses
	1990	2014	CHF million	Change <sup>1</sup>	CHF million	CHF million
<b>Total</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>3 041 719</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>14 180</b>	<b>6 813</b>
Cantonal banks	29	24	522 628	5.5	2 298	–
Major banks	4	2	1 460 240	10.4	7 849	3 092
Regional and savings banks	204	63	108 954	2.4	391	–
“Raiffeisen” banks	2	1	185 703	7.0	743	–
Other banks	218	151	697 540	14.9	2 634	3 691
Branches of foreign banks	16	27	59 248	–24.7	210	29
Private banking	22	7	7 407	–88.7	55	–

<sup>1</sup> % change over previous year

## Balance-sheet structure of the banks, 2014

Assets	in %
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
of which foreign	48.1
Liquid assets	14.0
Money markets paper held	1.0
Claims against banks	14.7
Claims against customers	21.5
Mortgage claims	30.2
Security holdings	5.1
Financial investments	6.5
Participating interests	2.5
Tangible assets	0.8
Other	3.7
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
of which foreign	48.1
Money market paper issued	3.7
Liabilities towards banks	13.8
Liabilities towards customers	71.1
Liabilities in the form of savings and deposits	21.0
Liabilities on sight	28.7
Liabilities on time	8.4
Medium term bank-issues notes	0.8
Loans and debenture bonds	12.1
Own assets	5.6
Other	5.7

## Interest rates



<sup>1</sup> Up until 2007, average of all cantonal banks, 2008 average of 60 institutions (including all cantonal banks)

<sup>2</sup> Up until 2007 for 3–8 year term, from 2008 for 5 year term

Exchange rates in Switzerland<sup>1</sup>

	2010	2012	2014
\$ 1	1.042	0.938	0.915
¥ 100	1.188	1.176	0.865
€ 1	1.381	1.205	1.215
£ 1	1.609	1.486	1.507

<sup>1</sup> Bank purchase rate, mid-year

## Private insurance, 2014

in CHF million

Insurance type	Revenue <sup>1</sup>	Expendit. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>122 374</b>	<b>81 936</b>
Life insurance	34 831	29 546
Insurance against accident and loss	49 422	30 745
Reinsurance	38 120	21 644

<sup>1</sup> At home and abroad

► [www.statistique.admin.ch](http://www.statistique.admin.ch) → Thèmes → Banques, assurances (not available in English)

► [www.snb.ch/en](http://www.snb.ch/en) (Swiss National Bank)

► [www.finma.ch](http://www.finma.ch) (Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority) → Private Insurance

## The three tiers of the social security system

Social security in Switzerland is based on a three-tier system:

- In addition to individual means of subsistence (remuneration from work, fortune etc), the first tier includes the coverage of basic needs. It is available to everyone and includes the education and legal system as well as public security.
- The second tier includes all social insurances and is intended to cover risks such as old-age, illness, disability, unemployment and maternity.
- The third tier includes all means-tested social benefits. These are the last level in the social security system. They are only called upon when benefits from other social insurances are unavailable or are exhausted. Furthermore recipients must be in a situation of need: They are only paid to persons in modest financial situations.

Before social assistance is called upon, a series of other benefits are available in the third tier, aimed at avoiding dependence on social assistance. These can be divided into benefits which guarantee the basic existence needs (e.g. grants or free legal aid) and complementary benefits which supplement insufficient or expired social insurance provisions or lack of private insurance.

## Total expenditure on social security

In 2013, total expenditure on social security amounted to 171 billion francs. 154 billion can be attributed to actual social benefits. About four fifths of these are spent on social insurances (the second tier of the social security system).

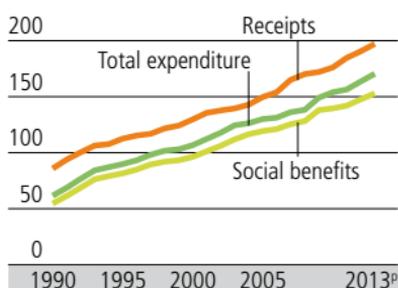
## Social security: expenditure and receipts

in CHF billion (without double accounting)

	1990	1995	2000	2010	2013 <sup>P</sup>
Total expenditure	62.2	90.4	107.4	154.3	170.9
of which social benefits	55.2	82.3	96.9	139.9	153.6
Receipts	86.2	113.0	130.2	176.4	197.7
Total expenditure in relation to GDP	18.2	23.4	24.6	26.7	26.9

## Social insurance: expenditure and receipts

in CHF billion



## Social contribution by function, 2013<sup>P</sup>

	in %
Old age	42.8
Sickness / healthcare	29.9
Disability / Infirmity	9.5
Survivors	5.1
Family / children	5.9
Unemployment	3.7
Social exclusion	2.7
Housing	0.5

## What is the expenditure for?

The distribution of social benefits among the different risks and needs (function of social benefits) is extremely uneven: more than four fifths of social benefits are attributed to old-age, sickness/healthcare and disability/infirmity.

### Social insurance: beneficiaries, 2014

in '000

OASI <sup>1</sup> : old-age pensions	2196.5	BV <sup>3</sup> : disability benefits	131.7
OASI <sup>1</sup> : supplementary benefits	58.7	BV <sup>3</sup> : other benefits	67.2
OASI <sup>1</sup> : survivors' benefits	173.3	IV <sup>4</sup> : disability benefits	259.9
EL (OAI): old-age pensions <sup>2</sup>	192.9	IV <sup>4</sup> : additional disability benefits	79.3
EL (SI): survivors' benefits <sup>2</sup>	3.6	EL (IV): suppl. disability benefits	112.9
BV <sup>3</sup> : old-age pensions	670.4	UV <sup>5</sup> : survivors' pensions	21.0
BV <sup>3</sup> : widows' and widowers' pensions	184.5	UV <sup>5</sup> : disability benefits	83.6
		ALV <sup>6</sup> : unemployment benefits	302.9

1 Old-age and survivors' insurance (AHV)

2 Supplementary (EL) old age (OAI) and survivors' insurance (SI)

3 Occupational pensions (BV, figures 2013)

4 Disability insurance (IV)

5 Accident insurance (UV)

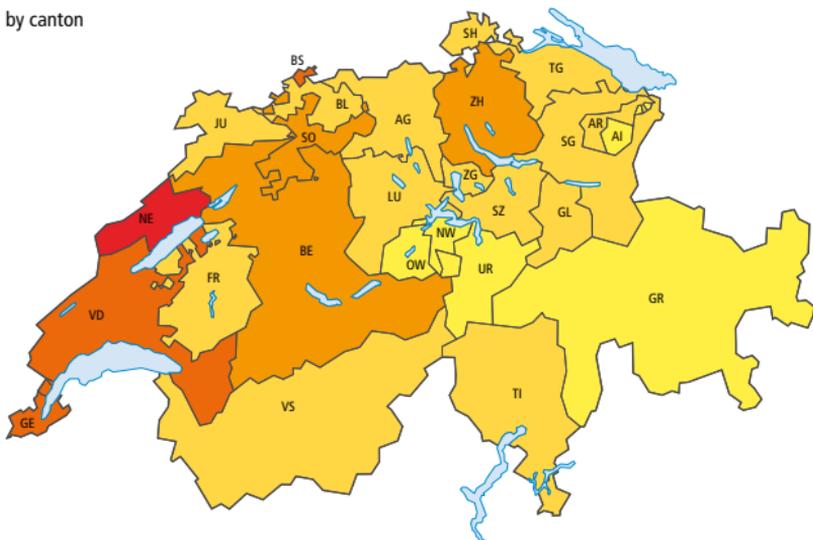
6 Unemployment insurance (ALV)

## Health insurance

The average annual cantonal premiums per insured person for the compulsory health insurance rose from CHF 1917 (2001) to 3105 (2013). In 2013 the average annual premium was CHF 3661 for adults, CHF 3162 for young persons and CHF 932 for children. Great differences can, however, be observed between cantons. In 2013 the average annual premium was CHF 4317 in Basel Stadt and CHF 2245 in Appenzell Innerrhoden.

## Social assistance rate, 2014

by canton



Proportion of social assistance beneficiaries as percentages of the resident population

< 1.5
  1.5 – 2.9
  3.0 – 4.4
  4.5 – 5.9
  ≥ 6.0

CH: 3.2

## Rising expenditure on means-tested social benefits

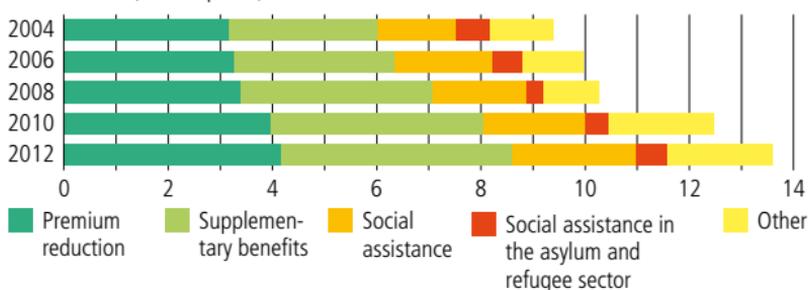
In 2012, net expenditure on means-tested social benefits in Switzerland totalled CHF 12.7 billion, i.e. approximately CHF 438 million more than in the previous year (+3.6%). Two thirds of this expenditure were accounted for supplementary benefits relating to old-age and survivors/invalidity (AHV/IV) insurance (CHF 4.4 billion) and to the health insurance premium reduction (CHF 4.2 billion). Following in third place was social assistance narrowly defined, with a net expenditure of CHF 2.4 billion. Social assistance expenditure thus showed a nominal rise of 14.4% compared with the previous year.

Expenditure per social assistance beneficiary rose by 7.9% from CHF 8781 in 2011 to CHF 9473 in 2012.

The cantons were the principal disbursers of means-tested social benefits. In 2012, 43.9% of net expenditure was borne by the cantons, 32.2% by the Confederation (mainly for premium reductions, supplementary benefits (EL/PC) and social assistance in the asylum and refugee sector), and 23.5% by the communes.

### Net expenditure on means-tested social benefits

In CHF billion (current prices)



### Social assistance

In 2014, 261 983 persons, 3.2% of the total population, were supported by social assistance. There are considerable regional differences: the highest rates are found in larger and medium sized towns with a distinct inner-city character. Groups of persons who are to a greater degree dependent on social assistance are over-represented in these towns. This includes for example, single parents, foreigners and the long-term unemployed.

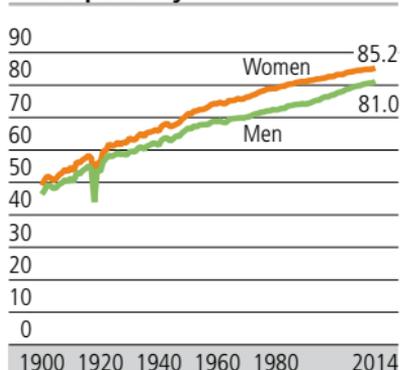
The risk of becoming reliant on social assistance varies greatly depending on a person's age, family structure and nationality.

Social assistance rates are highest among children and young people under 18. In general, rates tend to diminish with increasing age. They are lowest (social assistance rate 0.2%) among persons aged 65 and over, who receive support when needed from the OAS supplementary benefits.

### Level of social assistance, 2014

in %	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Age group	
0–17 years of age	5.2
18–25 years of age	3.9
26–35 years of age	3.9
36–45 years of age	3.6
46–55 years of age	3.3
56–64 years of age	2.7
65–79 years of age	0.2
80 years of age and over	0.3
Swiss nationals	
Men	2.3
Women	2.1
Foreign nationals	
Men	6.3
Women	6.6

► [www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Topics → Social security

**Life expectancy**

Life expectancy has shot up during the last century, largely as a result of falling infant and child mortality. Life expectancy has also continued to increase in recent years. Since 1991 it has risen for women by 4.0 years and for men by 6.9 years (2014). Men tend to die earlier (before the age of 70), mainly due to ischemic heart disease, accidents and violence, as well as lung cancer.

**Self-rated health**

In 2012, 84% of men and 81% of women described their health as good or very good and only 4% of men and women qualified it as bad or very bad. However, temporary physical and mental problems seem to affect work and everyday life. Swiss inhabitants were unable for health reasons to go to work or to carry out work at home for an average of 13 days in 2012.

**Infectious diseases<sup>1</sup>, 2014**

Acute gastro-intestinal infections	8 883
Meningitis	37
Hepatitis B	48
Tuberculosis	473
AIDS	65

<sup>1</sup> New cases

**Accidents, 2014**

	Men	Women
Occupational accidents	202 569	65 587
Non-occupational accidents	309 818	203 441

**Disabled<sup>1</sup>, 2014**

Degree of disability	Men	Women
40–49%	5 682	6 656
50–59%	16 730	17 038
60–69%	7 991	7 057
70–100%	90 483	74 784

<sup>1</sup> Receiving govt. disability pensions

**Underlying causes of death, 2013**

	Number of deaths		Death rate <sup>1</sup>	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
<b>All causes</b>	<b>31 257</b>	<b>33 704</b>	<b>555.0</b>	<b>371.0</b>
of which:				
Infectious diseases	352	415	6.4	4.8
Cancer-related illness, all types	9 200	7 475	167.0	107.0
Circulatory system	9 719	11 793	164.0	109.0
Ischemic heart disease	4 097	3 628	69.9	33.4
Cerebrovascular diseases	1 465	2 238	24.3	21.5
Diseases of the respiratory system, all types	2 167	1 949	36.4	20.4
Accidents and acts of violence	2 177	1 642	44.0	21.0
Accidents, all types	1 312	1 285	25.3	13.7
Suicide	786	284	16.9	6.0

<sup>1</sup> Age-standardised death rate per 100 000 inhabitants

**Infant mortality**

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2014
per 1000 live births	15.1	9.1	6.8	4.9	3.8	3.9

## Consumption of alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs, 2012

Illegal drugs are mainly used by teenagers and young adults. In 2012, approximately 11% of 15–39 year-olds consumed cannabis. Much more serious from the public health angle is the consumption of tobacco and alcohol. About 28% of the population as a whole smoked at the time of the survey in 2012: 24% of women and 32% of men. The percentages have fallen slightly compared to 1992, but in comparison with the 2007 Health Survey, they have remained stable. The percentage of people drinking alcohol every day has fallen to 13% (1992: 20%). 17% of men and 9% of women consumed alcohol on a daily basis.

Services, 2012	in % <sup>1</sup>	
	Men	Women
Physicians' consultations	70.9	85.7
Hospitalisation	10.2	13.1
Home care	1.3	4.2

<sup>1</sup> Population from age 15

## Physicians and dentists per 100 000 inhabitants

	1990	2014
Physicians with private practice <sup>1</sup>	153	216
Dentists	48	51

<sup>1</sup> Since 2008, physicians with ambulatory sector as main function

## Hospitalisation rate in acute hospitals, 2014

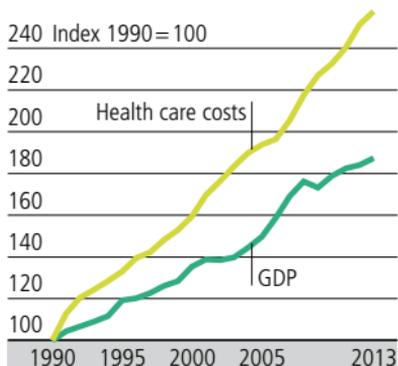
	in % <sup>1</sup>		
	Total	Men	Women
15–59 years old	10.5	8.6	12.5
60–79 years old	25.0	27.6	22.6
80+ years old	47.4	53.2	44.2

<sup>1</sup> of the corresponding population category

## Residential long-term care facilities

	in '000	
	2009	2014
Total nb. of clients	190.4	204.3
of which:		
Clients ≥ 80 years old	105.4	112.7
Men	26.3	29.7
Women	79.0	83.1

## Health care costs



In 2013, 10.9% of the GDP went on health (1990: 7.9%). Development of supply is a fundamental factor in this increase: e.g. expanded facilities, growing specialisation and greater use of technology, and greater comfort. The impact of the ageing population is not so significant.

	in CHF million	
	2003	2013
<b>Total</b>	<b>49 265</b>	<b>69 227</b>
Inpatient treatment	23 242	31 312
Outpatient treatment	14 647	23 695
of which:		
Physicians	6 743	10 335
Dentists	3 080	4 001
Home care	1 031	1 950
Other services <sup>1</sup>	1 547	2 385
Medical goods <sup>2</sup>	6 307	7 316
of which:		
Pharmacies	3 644	4 363
Physicians	1 586	1 948
Prevention	1 123	1 536
Administration	2 400	2 983

<sup>1</sup> Such as laboratory analyses, radiology, transport  
<sup>2</sup> Medicines and therapeutic apparatus

## Moving towards a Swiss educational system

Switzerland's education system is characterised by strong federalism. The diversity of the different education systems is particularly noticeable in compulsory schooling: depending on the canton, in lower secondary schools for example, there are two, three or four different performance levels.

The Swiss education system is changing. Along with the harmonisation of compulsory education, children will be expected to attend school for eleven instead of nine years. In most cantons, attendance at the previously optional pre-school level is now compulsory. In the last two decades, the national structures have also been reformed beyond compulsory education (introduction of the vocational Matura and the universities of applied sciences as well as the implementation of the Bologna reform). These reforms are also reflected in increasing demand for education.

### Students

Educational level	Number in '000			% of women		
	2000/01	2005/06	2013/14	2000/01	2005/06	2013/14
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 441.7</b>	<b>1 496.1</b>	<b>1 568.3</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>48.1</b>	<b>48.6</b>
Compulsory education	957.2	957.3	910.3	48.7	48.6	48.5
Pre-school	156.4	156.1	162.2	48.5	48.4	48.5
Primary	473.7	454.1	450.4	49.3	49.2	49.2
Lower secondary	278.5	298.4	263.7	49.7	49.6	49.2
Special syllabus schools	48.6	48.7	34.1	37.9	37.7	35.7
Upper secondary	315.7	324.5	361.7	47.8	47.5	47.9
Higher education	160.5	204.7	289.7	41.9	46.8	49.6
Advanced vocat. training	96.7	112.4	142.2	45.6	49.1	50.2
Universities and institutes of technology	25.1	54.1	87.3	25.9	44.4	52.1
Universities of applied sciences <sup>1</sup>	38.7	38.2	60.2	43.1	43.6	44.4
Unclassified levels	7.1	9.7	6.6	51.6	49.5	49.1

<sup>1</sup> Including universities for teacher education

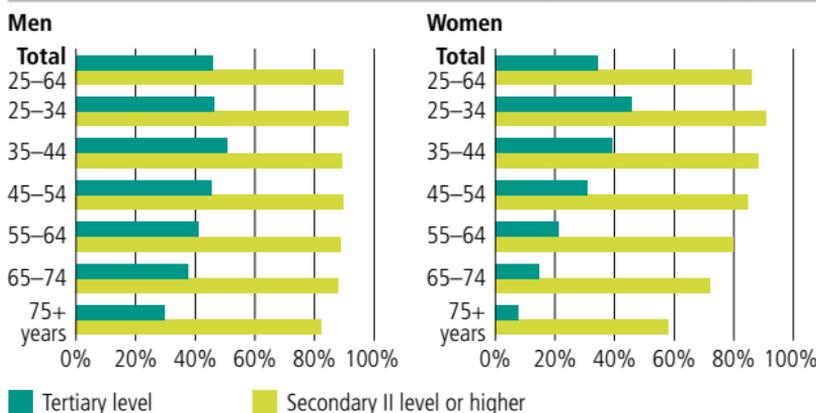
### The gender gap has narrowed

Women have been the main beneficiaries of the educational boom in recent decades. Today almost as many women as men undertake and complete post-compulsory education or vocational training. Whereas the gender ratio in the universities and universities of applied sciences is now almost even, men are still more likely than women to complete higher vocational education. Accordingly, on average men still remain longer in education than women. Conversely, girls are more successful in compulsory education: they are transferred to a special class less frequently and at the lower secondary level they attend schools with higher educational requirements.

Particularly striking differences still exist in the choice of subject area. This applies to both vocational training and university. Job sectors are dominated by either men or women, not least due to traditional role models. In the industry and handicrafts sector, men predominate; in the retail, health and personal care sectors, women are in the majority. At the university level men still tend to opt for technical, scientific and business fields, while women choose the humanities, social work and the arts.

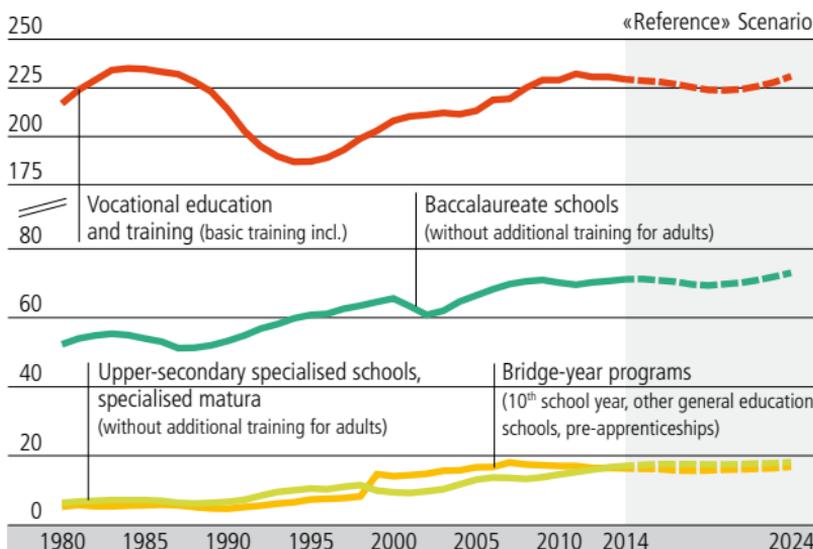
Education level, 2014

Share of the permanent resident population



Number of students in the upper secondary level

In '000



**Increased participation in education**

Over the past thirty years the participation in education at upper secondary level and especially at tertiary level has risen considerably. Educational courses giving access to universities are particularly concerned. The percentage of people taking the Matura examinations for example (vocational Matura and academic Matura) rose from 25.7% in 2000 to 37.5% in 2014 (including specialised Matura). The number of students almost doubled between 2000 and 2014. This is in no small part due to the establishment of the universities of applied sciences and teacher education.

In accordance with this development the educational level of the Swiss population is expected to rise considerably in the coming years. The percentage of persons with a tertiary-level qualification in the population groups aged 25–64 is expected to rise from 40% in 2014 to 50% by 2027.

**Selected educational qualifications, 2014**

Educational level	Total	% of women
<b>Upper secondary level</b>		
Academic baccalaureate	18 439	57.0
Vocational baccalaureate	14 177	47.2
Voc. training certificate <sup>1</sup>	66 998	45.6
Commercial diploma	180	42.8
<b>Higher education</b>		
Higher vocational training		
PET diploma	8 076	48.6
Swiss Federal diploma	2 635	24.9
Swiss Fed. prof. diploma	14 537	37.6
Universities of Applied Science		
Diploma	1 093	48.1
Bachelor's degree	15 252	55.8
Master's degree	3 513	54.3
Universities		
Licentiate/Diploma	319	69.6
Bachelor's degree	14 362	52.5
Master's degree	12 948	51.1
Doctorate	3 849	43.3

1 Includes Swiss Federal vocational diploma

**Teachers, 2013/14  
University staff, 2014**

	Full-time equivalents	% of women
<b>Compulsory school<sup>1</sup></b>		
Pre-school	9 061	94.7
Primary school	29 155	81.7
Lower secondary school	20 940	54.2
<b>Upper secondary school<sup>2</sup></b>		
Universities	39 781	44.0
Professors	3 705	20.4
Other lecturers	2 786	27.9
Assistants <sup>3</sup>	20 086	43.1
<b>Univ. of applied sciences<sup>4</sup></b>		
Professors	1 578	29.9
Other lecturers	5 839	40.7
Assistants <sup>3</sup>	3 891	43.0

1 Excluding schools with a special curriculum, double counts possible

2 Schools providing general and vocational education

3 Including scientific staff

4 Including universities for teacher education

**Public expenditure on education, 2013**  
in CHF billion

<b>Total</b>	<b>35.4</b>
of which costs of teaching staff	17.0
Compulsory school (incl. pre-school)	15.4
Special schools	1.9
Basic vocational training	3.5
General schools	2.3
Higher vocational training	0.3
Universities	7.6
Undistributed funds	0.6

**Further education**

A distinction is made here between two types of further education – non-formal education (such as attending courses, seminars, private tuition and conferences) and informal study (includes specialised literature, study with aid of CD-ROM or from family members). The majority of the population in Switzerland (nearly 80% of the permanent population aged 25–64) undertook further education in one form or another in 2011. It appears that the integration in the labor market and the level of education are positively associated with participation in continuing education courses.

**Focus on research**

Research and development (R&D) is an important factor for a national economy. With 2.96% of its GDP being spent in this area (2012), Switzerland is one of the most R&D-oriented countries in the world.

In 2012 around CHF 18.5 billion was spent on domestic R&D. Of this, around 69% was in the private sector, 28% in universities and the remaining 3% was divided between the Confederation and various private, non-profit organisations.

Private sector expenditure abroad amounted to CHF 15 billion in 2012 and is slightly higher than the inland expenditure of CHF 13 billion.

► [www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) →  
Topics → Education and science

### The Swiss press in upheaval

The market for daily newspapers has changed fundamentally since the turn of the century. In German-speaking Switzerland, the free-of-charge commuters' newspaper "20 Minuten" has become the largest daily with over 1.5 million readers per edition. In French-speaking Switzerland, "20 minutes", with 535 000 readers, has also become the most widely read title. In Italian-speaking Switzerland, a newsstand newspaper, the "Corriere del Ticino plus", is still the leading daily (129 000 readers). However, "20 minuti", which was launched in September 2011, already has 93 000 readers.

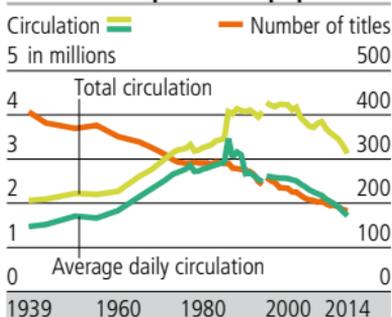
### Internet and mobile telephony

Towards the end of the 20th century, the upsurge in mobile telephony preceded that of the internet, before the shift to mobile internet took place. The number of mobile phone lines increased from 0.1 million in 1990 to 11,4 million at the end of 2014, equating to 138 lines per 100 inhabitants. While the number of regular internet users (those who use the internet several times a week) aged 14 years and over was 0.7 million in 1998, this figure was 5.4 million at the beginning of 2015. The convergence can be clearly seen in the rapidly growing number of mobile phone users who access the internet via mobile broadband (3G+). The number of users rose from 1.2 million in 2010 to 3.6 million in 2014.

### The ten largest libraries

A very large number of documents is accessible through libraries: In 2014, the ten most important libraries measured by their holdings had collections totalling more than 54 million copies.

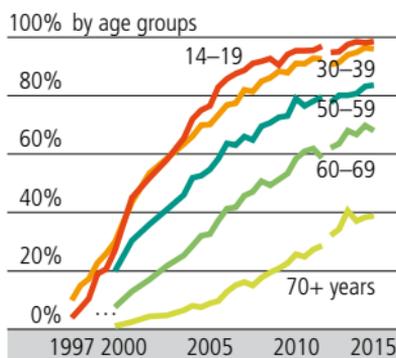
### Evolution of paid newspapers



Source: Association Swiss Media/WEMF (considered are publications of general interest published at least once a week)

### Internet usage

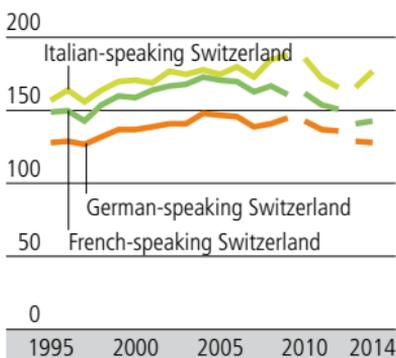
Regular Internet users<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Respondents who stated that they use the Internet several times per week. Source: Net-Matrix-Base, FSO

### Television usage

in minutes per day and per inhabitant



Source: Mediapulse AG; since 2013 Kantar Media, 1983-2012 Telecontrol (based on population over 3 years of age, mean per day Monday-Sunday)

### Radio usage

in minutes per day and per inhabitant

	2010	2012	2013
German-speaking Switzerland	117	110	109
French-speaking Switzerland	103	93	89
Italian-speaking Switzerland	106	105	104

Source: Mediapulse AG Radiocontrol (based on population over 15 years of age, mean p.d. Monday-Sunday)

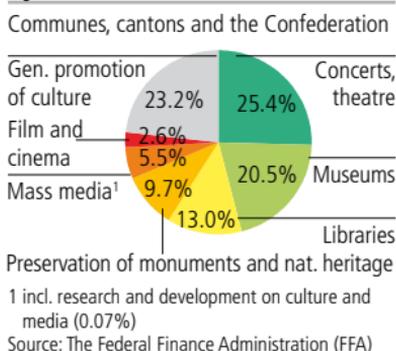
### Private households' expenditure on culture

In 2013 approximately CHF 10.1 billion was spent on culture per year. This is equal to an amount of CHF 238 per month and per household and a share of 4.3% of total consumer spending. At 74% or CHF 7.5 billion, spending on the media – e.g. on newspapers, books, television and internet subscriptions as well as on receiving and recording devices – accounted for the bulk of all cultural expenditure. Leaving media spending to one side, at CHF 775 million, the greatest expenditure goes to theatre and concerts.

### Cultural funding by the public sector

In 2013, a fourth of total public spending on culture by the Confederation, cantons and communes, i.e. CHF 693 million, went to the sector "concerts and theatre". Some CHF 559 million was spent on the "Museums and Fine Arts" sector. This was followed by the sectors "Libraries", "Preservation of Monuments and National Heritage", "Mass media" and "Film and cinema", with contributions ranging from more than CHF 353, CHF 264, 148 to CHF 72 million.

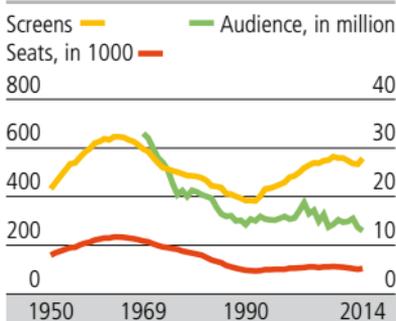
### Use of public spending by cultural sector, 2013



### Film and cinema in Switzerland

In the early 2000s, approximately 1300 films were shown every year in Switzerland. Today this number is about 1700. During the same period, the share of Swiss films has increased from 10% to nearly 16%. In 2013, a total of 715 film production companies generated CHF 361 million with over 14 000 commissioned films (commercials, corporate films etc.) and independent films (cinema films, television films etc.). They employed over 1500 permanent employees, roughly a third of whom were women.

### Cinema

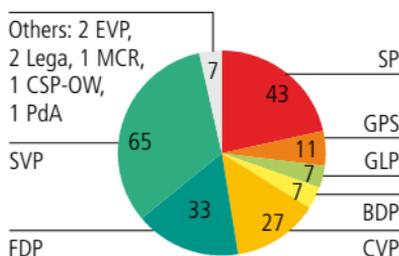


► [www.statistique.admin.ch](http://www.statistique.admin.ch) → Thèmes → Culture, médias, société de l'information, sport (not available in English)

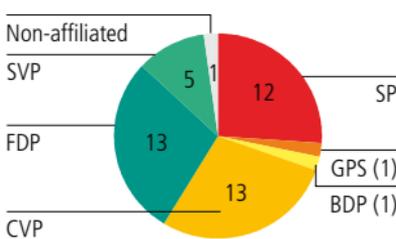
## The political system

The Swiss Confederation, today made up of 26 cantons, has been in existence since 1848. The Government (Federal Council) is a collegial body consisting of 7 members (from 2016: 2 FDP, 2 SP, 2 SVP, 1 CVP). They are elected by both chambers in parliament: the National Council (representing the people, 200 seats) and the Council of States (representing the cantons, 46 seats). The Swiss political system is also characterised by far-reaching democratic rights (initiatives and referendums) and popular votes.

### National Council, 2015: distribution of seats



### Council of States, 2015: distribution of seats



### National Council Elections, 2015

	Share of the votes in %	Seats	Women	Men	Percentage of women
FDP	16.4	33	7	26	21.2
CVP	11.6	27	9	18	33.3
SP	18.8	43	25	18	58.1
SVP	29.4	65	11	54	16.9
GLP	4.6	7	3	4	42.9
BDP	4.1	7	1	6	14.3
GPS	7.1	11	5	6	45.5
Small right-wing parties <sup>1</sup>	2.6	3	1	2	33.3
Other parties <sup>2</sup>	5.3	4	2	2	50.0

<sup>1</sup> SD, EDU, Lega (2 seats, 1 woman), MCR (1 seat)

<sup>2</sup> EVP (2 seats, 2 women), CSP, PdA (1 seat), Sol., splinter groups (CSP-OW 1 seat)

See below for abbreviation

### National Council Elections 2015

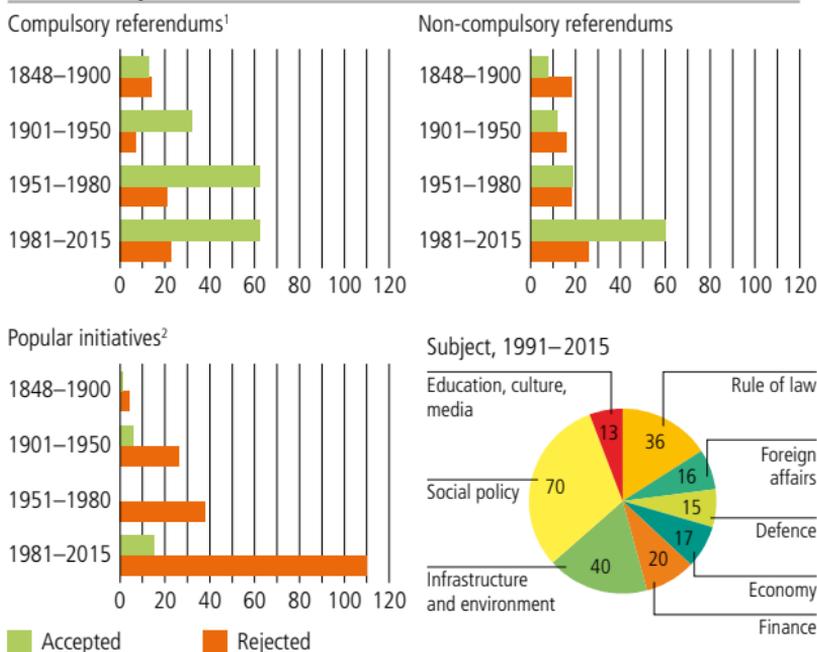
There were two winners of the national council elections in 2015: with a considerable increase in votes, the Swiss People's Party (SVP/UDC) which showed the greatest electoral strength (29.4%) achieved by a party since the first proportional representation vote in 1919 and secondly, the Radical Democratic Party/The Liberals (FDP/PLR) which increased its share for the first time since 1979. Losses were registered by the new centre parties, the Conservative Democratic Party (BDP/PBD), the Green Liberal Party (GLP/PVL) and the Christian Democratic People's Party (CVP/PDC) which reached a record low level. Therefore, the trend of the 2011 national council elections in which the emergent new centre parties (GLP/PVL, BDP/PBD) suppressed political polarisation was stopped, and to some extent reversed.

#### Parties abbreviations

FDP Radical Democratic Party <sup>1</sup>	EVP Evangelical People's Party	GPS Green Party of Switzerland
CVP Christian Democratic People's Party	CSP Christian Social Party	SD Swiss Democrats
SP Social Democratic Party	GLP Green Liberal Party	EDU Federal democratic union
SVP Swiss People's Party	PdA Labour Party	Lega Lega dei Ticinesi
BDP Conservative Democratic Party	Sol. Solidarity	MCR Mouvement Citoyens Romands

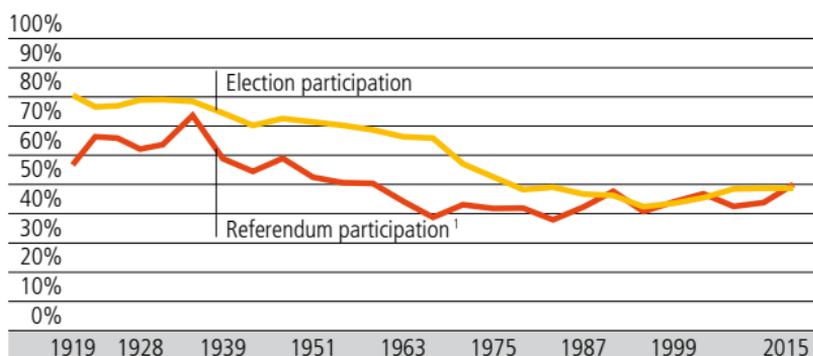
<sup>1</sup> 2009: merger of the FDP (Free Democratic Party) with the LPS (Liberal Party) under the designation "RDP. The Liberals"

### National Popular Votes



1 Includes counter proposals to popular initiatives  
 2 Includes popular initiatives with counter proposals

### Participation rate in national elections and referendums



1 These are average values for elections that took place within two years before and two years after the respective National Council elections. Until 1931, within one and a half years before and one and a half years after the elections, in accordance with the three-year cycle that was the norm at that time.

The strongest decline in voter turnout in national elections started after 1967, a trend which is not least of all attributable to the introduction of the women's right to vote. The decline in voter turnout in popular votes is subject to strong fluctuation, depending on the subject of the referendum. Since the 1990s, voter turnout fluctuated between the extremes of a minimum participation of 28% and a maximum of 79%. From the turn of the century on, voter turnout has somewhat stabilised, both for national elections, as for referendums; and is currently slightly rising (45%).

## Final accounts of the public administration

in CHF billion

	Revenue			Expenditure			Surplus		
	2000	2010	2014 <sup>2</sup>	2000	2010	2014 <sup>2</sup>	2000	2010	2014 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>164.4</b>	<b>193.8</b>	<b>207.1</b>	<b>152.7</b>	<b>191.4</b>	<b>207.7</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>-0.6</b>
Confederation	52.0	63.5	64.9	48.2	60.3	64.7	3.8	3.1	0.2
Cantons	63.2	77.2	82.7	60.3	76.1	85.1	2.8	1.2	-2.3
Communes	42.1	42.7	45.5	40.6	43.2	46.1	1.5	-0.5	-0.6
Social insurances	44.9	54.4	62.0	41.6	55.8	59.8	3.4	-1.4	2.2

1 Double counts not included in total

2 Part-estimates

## Public administration debt

in CHF billion

	1990	2000	2010	2012	2013	2014
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>104.8</b>	<b>220.4</b>	<b>205.8</b>	<b>213.4</b>	<b>219.8</b>	<b>221.8</b>
Confederation	38.1	108.1	108.9	111.0	110.4	107.7
Cantons	29.2	63.1	52.5	55.2	61.3	64.8
Communes	37.4	49.1	45.8	47.3	48.9	49.9
Social insurances	0.1	5.8	7.4	6.3	4.8	4.2

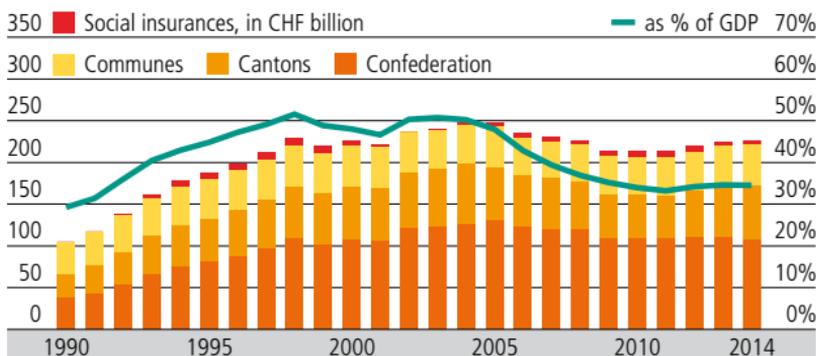
Per inhabitant, in francs<sup>2</sup> 15 503 30 595 26 145 26 542 27 000 26 931

1 Double counts not included in total

2 At current prices

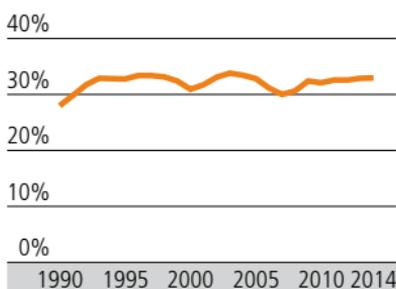
3 Part-estimates

## Public debt



The public spending ratio measures the expenditures of public authorities expressed as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). It includes expenditures by the Confederation, the cantons and municipalities as well as public social insurance funds (old age and survivors' insurance, disability insurance, maternity insurance and unemployment insurance).

## Public spending ratio in % of GDP



Despite a considerable increase since 1970, in international comparison Switzerland is in a good position: it has one of the lowest public spending ratios of all OECD countries. Most European countries register markedly higher public expenditure.

Switzerland's public debt ratio is also relatively low compared with other OECD countries; between 1990 and 2003, however, it rose continuously. Thanks to a strong economic recovery until 2008, together with the shedding of surplus gold reserves of the Swiss National Bank as well as various structural measures (i.e. relief programmes, debt and expenditure brakes), the reduction of gross public debt was possible on an ongoing basis from 2005 to 2011. Debt increased again for the first time as of 2012. By the end of 2013, the debt ratio amounted to 34.6%.

#### Revenue: Public administration

in CHF billion. Following deductions in double payment

	2010	2012	2013
<b>Total</b>	<b>193.8</b>	<b>200.7</b>	<b>205.9</b>
Ordinary receipts	193.8	200.0	204.6
Operating revenue	183.0	189.5	194.1
Tax revenue	161.5	168.4	172.3
Patents and commissions	3.9	2.7	2.6
Compensation	16.7	17.4	18.2
Miscellaneous revenue	0.3	0.4	0.3
Transfer revenue	0.5	0.6	0.7
Financial revenue	8.8	8.2	8.3
Investment revenue	2.1	2.2	2.2
Extraordinary receipts	0.0	0.7	1.3
Extraordinary revenue	0.0	0.7	0.1
Revenue from extraordinary investments	0.0	0.0	1.2

#### Public administration expenditure by function

in CHF billion. Following deductions in double payment

	2010	2012	2013
<b>Total</b>	<b>191.4</b>	<b>200.5</b>	<b>204.8</b>
General administration	13.9	16.6	16.2
Public order and security, defence	14.5	15.2	15.9
Education	32.7	34.6	35.4
Culture, sport and leisure, church	5.0	5.1	5.2
Health care	11.3	13.7	13.7
Social security	75.2	77.8	80.5
Transport and telecommunications	16.6	16.8	16.9
Environmental protection and spatial planning	5.9	6.1	6.2
Economy	7.7	7.8	8.0
Finance and taxes	8.5	6.8	6.7

► [www.statistique.admin.ch](http://www.statistique.admin.ch) → Thèmes → Finances publiques (not available in English)

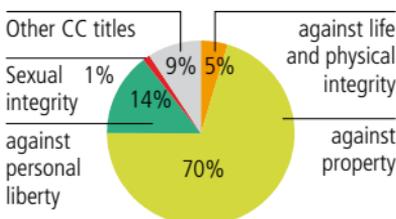
Crime figures offer only a limited reflection of the reality of criminal behaviour: On the one hand, criminal standards and sanctions are affected by changes in society and on the other, crime figures are also strongly influenced by manpower resources, prosecution priorities, the efficiency of the police and justice system and the population's readiness to report crime. It is generally hard to determine which causes are responsible for changes in crime figures and to what extent.

## Crime reporting

In 2014 the following number of offences were recorded in the Police Crime Statistics: 526 066 under the Swiss Criminal Code (SCC), 80 986 under the Narcotics Act (NarcA), 39 544 under the Foreign Nationals Act (FNA) and 12 521 under other federal legislation. The detection rate for homicides was 95%, for property offences 18%.

The breakdown by nationality and residence status shows that offenders were of Swiss nationality in 47% of Criminal Code offences, 55% of Narcotics Act offences and 59% of offences against other federal legislation. Foreigners with residence constituted 30%, 21% and 23% of offenders. This means that a substantial part of foreign delinquency is "imported", namely 23% (Criminal Code), 25% (Narcotics Act) and 18% (other). For offences against the Foreign Nationals Act, 82% of offenders were non-residents.

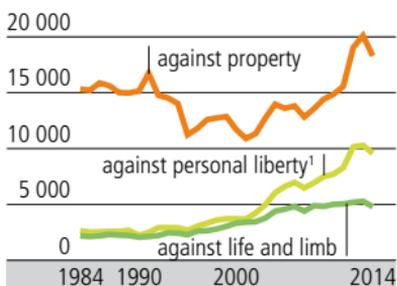
## Offences according to Criminal Code titles 2014



## Convictions

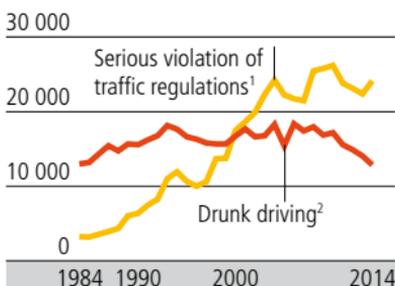
Whereas in the mid-1980s, slightly more than 45 000 convictions against adults were registered, this number has now more than doubled and in 2014 was approximately 110 100. Depending on the law under which the conviction was made, the trend varies greatly. In the last three years, an increase of 14% has been recorded for crimes against the Penal Code. With regard to the Road Traffic Act (SVG), ever increasing road traffic checks have led to more cases with convictions. The number of convictions against the Narcotics Act have been stable for several years. Convictions for crimes against the Foreign Nationals Act stabilised in 2014 following a continuous increase since 2000.

### Selected offences SCC



1 Threat, coercion, trafficking in human beings, deprivation of liberty and abduction, hostage taking, unlawful entry

### Selected offences RTA

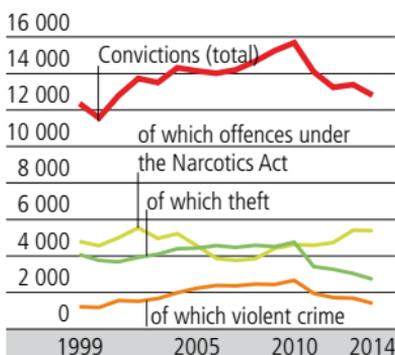


1 Art. 90.2 RTA

2 Over the legal alcohol limit (Art. 91 Para. 1, Part 2 RTA)

### Juvenile convictions

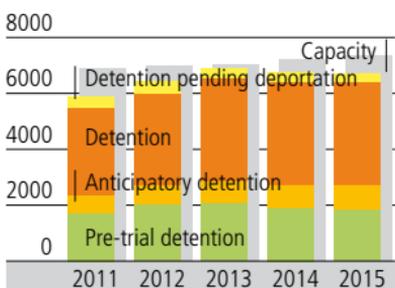
Convictions of minors show a falling trend (2010 to 2014: -18%). The number of illegal drug offences has increased while the number of traffic accidents, thefts and less serious violent crimes has fallen considerably. Serious violent crimes are stable at a low level.



### Imprisonment

In Switzerland in 2015 there were 117 (mostly small) prison establishments with a total of 7343 detention places. On the reference day of 2 September 2015, 6884 persons were in detention. Thus, the total occupancy rate was 94%. Of the 6884 inmates, 66% were serving custodial sentences, 27% were in pre-trial detention, 5% were in detention subject to coercive measures under the Foreign Nationals Act, and the remaining 2% were detained for other reasons.

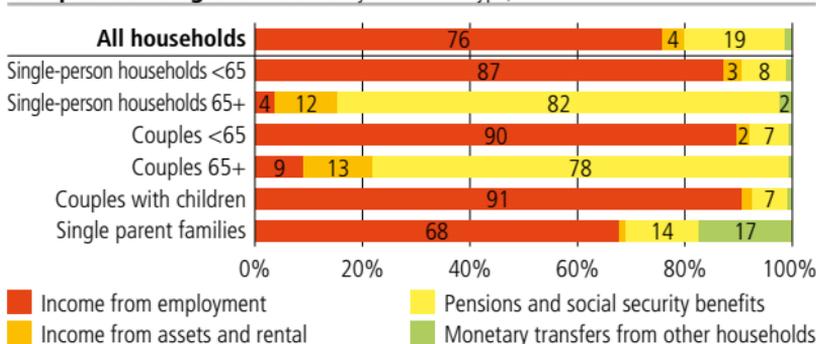
### Prison population by sentence type



### Recidivism

The reconviction rates of adults convicted in 2010 for crimes and less serious offences, over an observation period of 3 years (i.e. until 2013) was 24%, for minors 32%. The highest reconviction rates were for adults with two or more previous convictions (adults: 61%; minors: 61%).

**Composition of gross income** by household type, 2009–2011



**Household budgets: Income**

Averaged out over all households, income from employment at 76% represents the main component of household income. The second important component consists of pensions from the first and second pillars of the Swiss pension system and other social security benefits at 19%. The remainder of household income is made up of income from assets and transfers from other households.

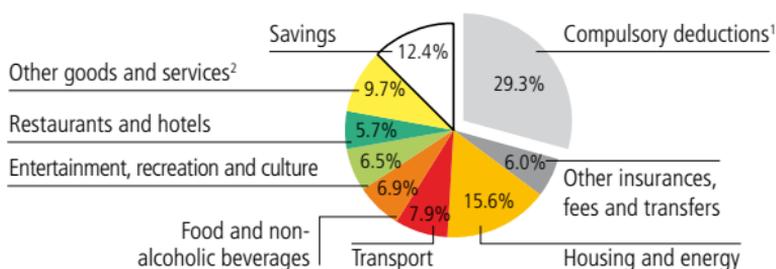
The picture becomes more differentiated when the composition of household income is considered by household type. This shows, for example, that in households aged 65 and over, pensions represent the major part of the household income, but income from employment and, in particular, income from assets play a relatively important role. Transfers from other households represent an important source of income only in specific types of households, such as single-parent families, where the average amounts to 17%.

**Household budgets: Expenditure**

The variations in the composition of spending are less pronounced. Compulsory deductions, which comprise 29% of gross income, are the largest item. In the area of consumer expenditure, the largest item is expenditure on housing at 16%. Other large items include expenditure on food and non-alcoholic drinks, on transport and on entertainment, recreation and culture.

After all expenditure has been deducted, on average 12% of the gross income is left for saving. There are significant differences in this area depending on household type. Households over the age of 65 on average save less than younger households. Sometimes this figure is even a minus, which means that these households are living on their capital, among other things.

**Composition of household budget, 2009–2011**

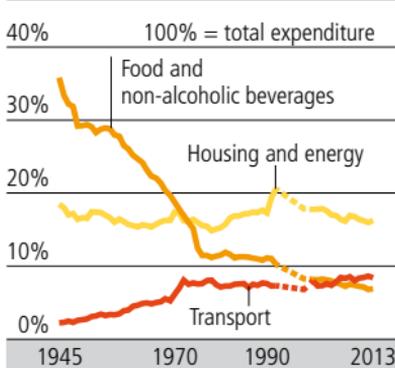


<sup>1</sup> Taxes, social insurance contributions, basic health insurance premiums, transfers to other households  
<sup>2</sup> Less sporadic income

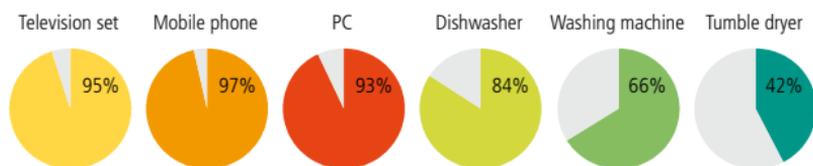
## Household expenditure over time

The composition of household expenditure has changed significantly over time. These changes are considerably larger than the differences between households today. For example, the share of total expenditure represented by expenditure on food and non-alcoholic drinks in 1945 was 35%, but nowadays this has fallen to 7%. In contrast the proportion of other expenditure has increased, such as expenditure on transport, which has risen from around 2% to more than 8%.

## Trends in selected household expenditure items



## Availability of selected consumer goods, 2013

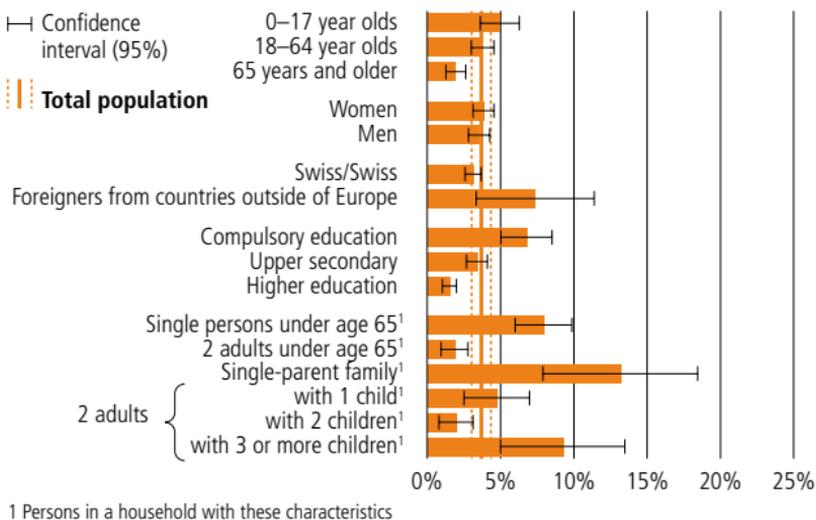


## Availability of consumer goods

Information about the availability of a selection of durable consumer goods shows that households in Switzerland are very well-equipped with IT hardware. A total of 93% of people live in a household with a computer and 97% in a household with a mobile phone. These proportions are continuing to rise: in 1998 only 55% of people lived in a household with a computer.

In the case of household appliances, such as dishwashers, washing machines and tumble dryers, there has also been an increase. In 2013 more than 84% of the population lived in a household with a dishwasher, while in 1998 the figure was only 61%.

## Material deprivation rate by various socio-demographic characteristics, 2013



### Material deprivation

The reasons for not owning a durable good are not necessarily financial. In 2013, only 1% of people living in Switzerland went without a computer for financial reasons; as far as owning a car for private use is concerned, this percentage was almost 4%. One of the most common material deprivation is caused by a lack of financial reserves. 20% of the population living in private households did not have the means to meet unexpected expenses of CHF 2500. This is followed by deprivation which affects the perceived inconveniences with regard to the residential environment. 16% of the population say that they are exposed to noise from neighbours or the street, 15% are confronted with problems of crime, violence or vandalism and 12% with a too wet accommodation. In addition, 9% of the population could not afford a week's holiday away from home each year.

### Monetary poverty and risk of poverty

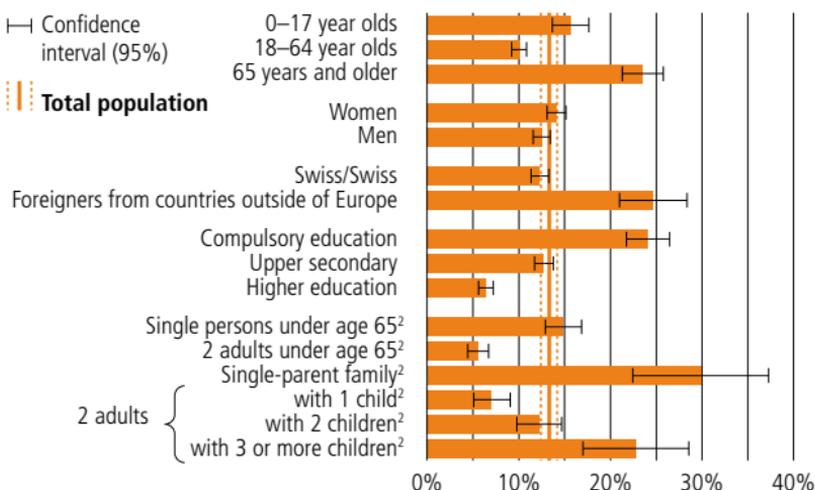
In 2012, 7.7% of the permanent resident population in private households in Switzerland was affected by income poverty. This corresponds to approximately 590 000 persons. The average poverty threshold, based on the social subsistence level, was approximately CHF 2200 per month for a single person and CHF 4050 per month for two adults with two children. According to the relative at-risk-of-poverty concept, 13.3% (2013) or some 1 035 000 persons were at risk of poverty. In 2013, the risk of poverty's threshold for a single person was approximately CHF 2560 per month for a single person (60% of the median of the equivalent available income) and CHF 5380 for two adults with two children.

### Poverty of employed persons

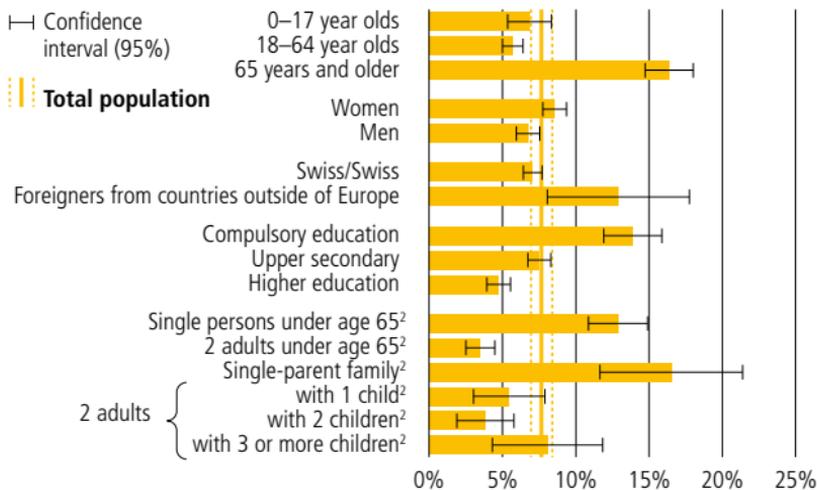
People living in households with high labour participation tend to have the lowest poverty rates. Successful integration in the labour market generally offers effective protection from poverty. Nevertheless, in 2012 some 3.5% or approximately 130 000 individuals were affected by poverty despite being in employment.

The phenomenon of working poverty is best understood in relation to the (longer term) security and insecurity of the employment situation. If working conditions and methods can be considered as clearly or tending to be insecure, the risk of poverty is greater.

**Risk of poverty rate<sup>1</sup>** by various socio-demographic characteristics, 2013



**Poverty rate<sup>1</sup> by various socio-demographic characteristics, 2012**



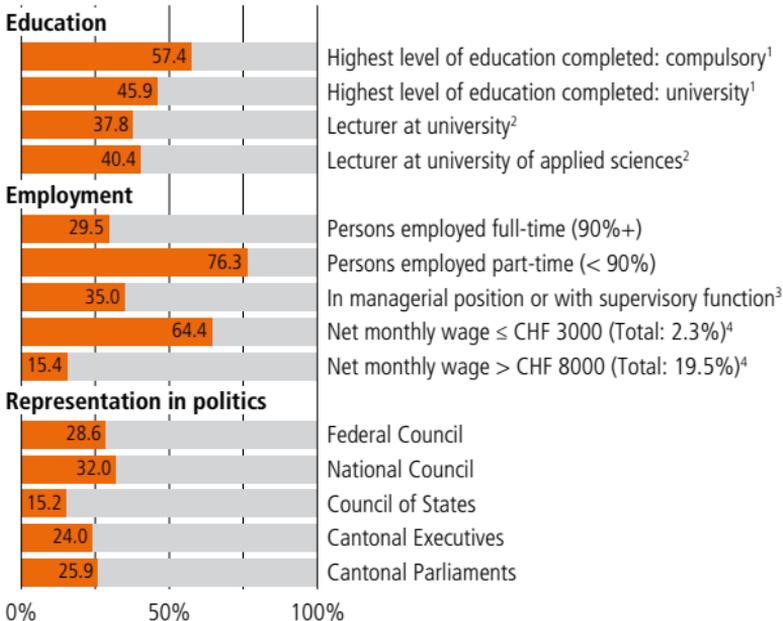
1 Based on the income without considering any assets  
 2 Persons in a household with these characteristics

**Inequalities in income distribution**

Inequalities in income distribution are assessed on the basis of equivalised disposable income. This is calculated as follows: A household's compulsory expenditure is deducted from the household's gross income; the resulting balance is divided by the equivalent size of the household. Thus the equivalised disposable income acts as an index of people's standard of living, regardless of the type of household in which they live. In 2013, the equivalised disposable income of the wealthiest 20% of the population was four times greater than that of the poorest 20%.

**Key data on gender equality**

Percentage of women (latest available data 2010–2016)



1 Resident population aged 25–64  
 2 Professors, other lecturers, assistants and research staff  
 3 Employees  
 4 Full-time employees, private and public (Confederation) sectors

► [www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Topics → Economic and social situation of the population

## Are we on the road to sustainable development?

### 1 Meeting needs – how well do we live?

People's health is improving	  	Convictions for serious violent offences are increasing	  
Income are slightly increasing	  	Unemployment rate based on ILO definition is increasing	  

### 2 Fairness – how well are resources distributed?

Official development assistance is rising	  	The wage gap between women and men is gradually narrowing	  
The poverty rate decreases	  		

### 3 Preservation of resources – what are we leaving behind for our children?

Teenage reading skills are improving	  	The number of people working in science and technology is rising	  
Following an increase, public debt has fallen below its level in 1992	  	Populations of breeding birds are increasing	  
The share of investment in gross domestic product is about the same	  	The settlement area used per capita is increasing	  

### 4 Decoupling – how efficiently are we using our natural resources?

No significant change in the freight transport intensity	  	Per capita final energy consumption is decreasing	  
The public to total transport ratio is increasing	  	Material intensity is decreasing	  

#### Aimed evolution

-  Growth
-  Stabilisation
-  Decrease

#### Noted evolution

-  Growth
-  No marked change
-  Decrease

#### Assessment of trends since 1992

-  Positive (towards sustainability)
-  Unchanged
-  Negative (moving away from sustainability)

In most areas of life, beginnings for sustainable development have been assessed, but opposite trends can be identified as well. Thus, improvements made in eco-efficiency have often been compensated by an increase in consumption.

Fairness between generations is a current topic – the relatively positive assessment of the current situation could be at the expense of future generations. For example, around 14% of teenagers do not have even the minimum reading skills necessary to cope with modern daily life. Furthermore, the settlement area has grown mainly at the expense of valuable agricultural areas.

The **ecological footprint** measures the level of exploitation and limits of renewable natural resources. In 2011, the Swiss per-capita ecological footprint is almost three times larger than the world average per capita biocapacity. The main reason for the large footprint is energy consumption.

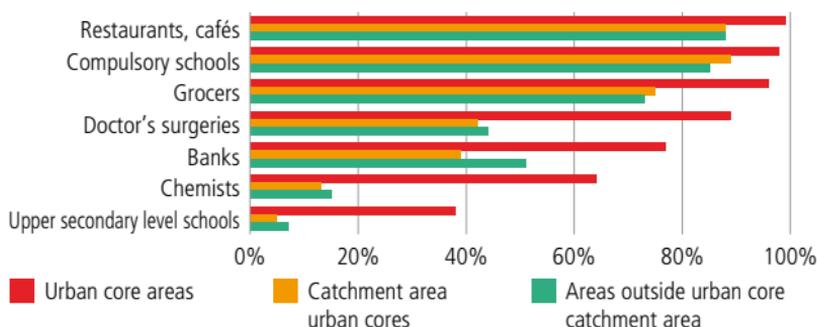
From a global perspective, economic development is still dependent on growing consumption of environmental assets and resources, which means that the higher a country's national income, the larger is its ecological footprint. The Swiss footprint is around the average of most Western European countries. The United States and some European countries consume almost four times the global capacity available, while South-East Asian and African countries consume considerably less.

## Services for the population: spatial distribution and accessibility

The Federal Statistical Office has analysed the spatial distribution and accessibility of some thirty services that are important for everyday life. This study aims to observe the quality of life in the regions as well as regional disparities. Two results are shown as examples below.

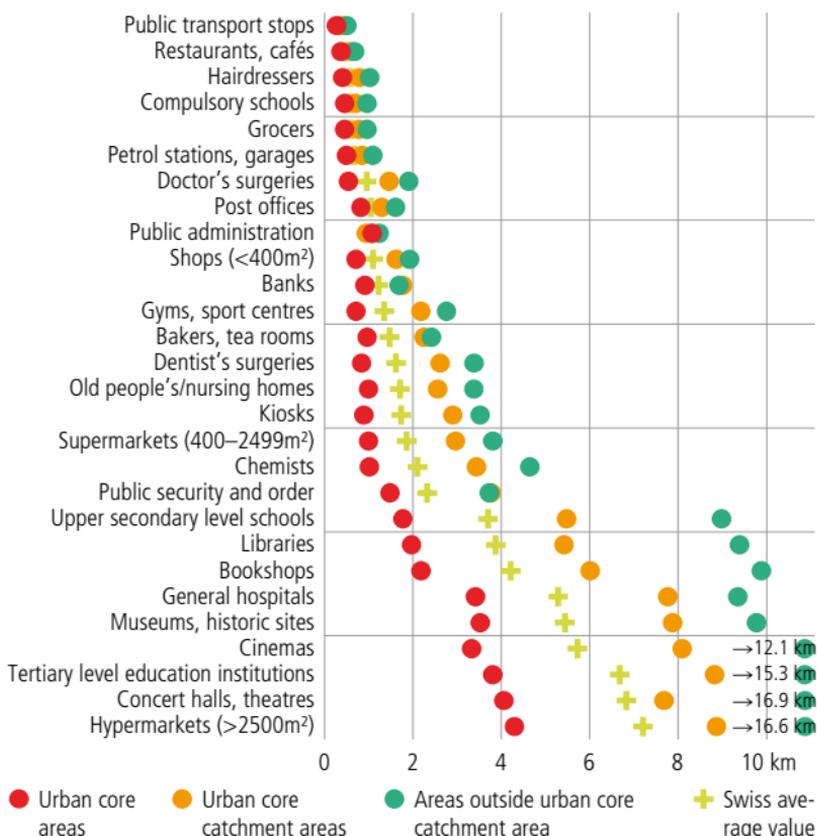
### Services in the communes, 2011

Percentage of communes with at least one establishment

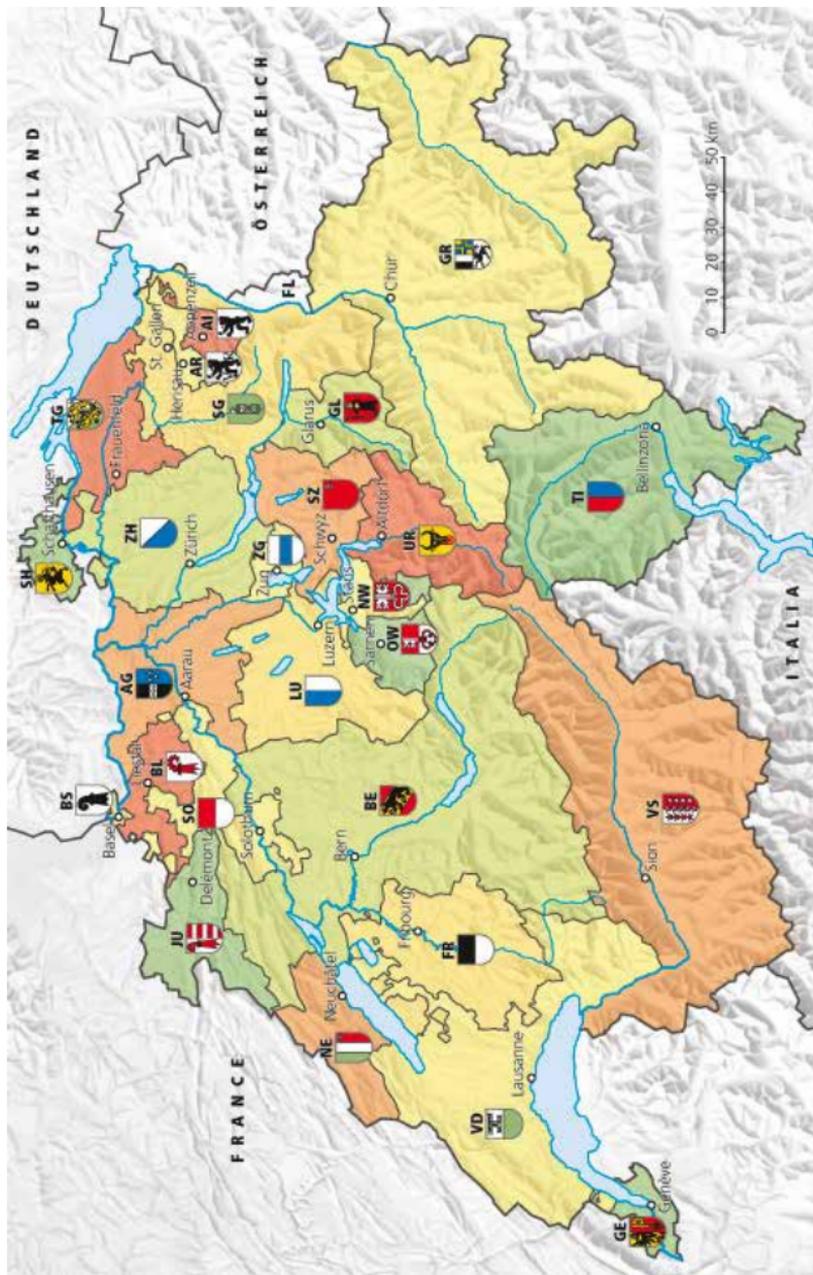


### Mean distance to the nearest service, 2011

Distance calculated on the motorway network, in km



# Switzerland and its Cantons



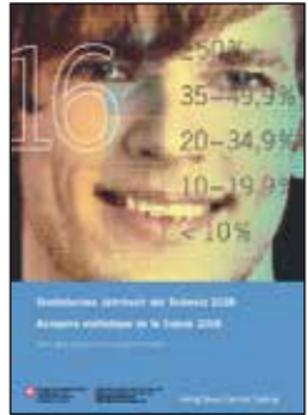
- 26 cantons
- 148 districts
- 2294 municipalities
- Situation on 1.1.2016
- o Cantonal capital

For the key to the canton abbreviations, see the table on page 4

## Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland 2016

The Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland is the standard reference work on Swiss statistics. It provides a comprehensive picture of Switzerland's social and economic situation and contains, along with numerous tables, illustrated overviews of all themes of public statistics. The whole yearbook is published in German and French; in addition, a cross-section summary with the most important statistical information is available in English and Italian. The latest results from the land use statistics are shown in map form in a separate chapter.

Published by the Federal Statistical Office. 616 pages (hardback), CHF 120. Available from bookshops or directly from NZZ Libro, the publishing house of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung. Email: [nzz.libro@nzz.ch](mailto:nzz.libro@nzz.ch)



## Graphical Statistical Atlas of Switzerland 1914–2014

The "Graphical Statistical Atlas of Switzerland 1914" is one of Switzerland's earliest and most comprehensive thematic national atlases. It is also an excellent graphical compendium of the first 50 years of official statistics in Switzerland. To mark the 100 year anniversary of its publication, the Federal Statistical Office has fully reproduced this impressive but still difficult to obtain work. In doing so, the FSO aims to make the atlas accessible to the wider general public.

At the same time, the original tables from 1914 have been completed by new statistical maps and diagrams with up-to-date figures from the same topics in 2014. In the form of a supplement, the atlas offers direct comparisons and an exciting visual journey through time, illustrating Switzerland's social and spatial structures a century ago and today.

Published by the Federal Statistical Office. 130 pages (hardback), CHF 89 (incl. VAT). Available at the Federal Statistical Office. Email: [order@bfs.admin.ch](mailto:order@bfs.admin.ch)



The [Swiss Statistical Portal](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) ([www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch)) is the comprehensive online service for Swiss public statistics. The portal makes available press releases and publications from the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) and other public statistical offices, as well as continually updated detailed results presented in the form of indicators and downloadable tables. Attractive maps and atlases are included in the "Regional" and "International" chapters. By subscribing to the NewsMail service or to automatic RSS feeds, users can keep up to date about our wide range of offerings. As of 2011, in addition to the four languages already present on the statistics portal (German, French, English and Italian), there are also some pages in Romansch.

The Mini Statistics Portal <http://mobile.bfs.admin.ch>, a new service introduced by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) in 2010, provides the most important statistical figures also for mobile devices.

