

Statistical base and overviews

025-1000

Statistical Data on Switzerland 2010



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Legend:

Three dots (...) instead of a figure means that the data has not (yet) been gathered or calculated.

A dash (-) instead of a figure is used for the value absolute zero.

A figure indicated with a superior "p" means that this figure is provisional.

Abbreviations for names of cantons:

These are explained in the table on page 4.

Rounded figures:

In general, figures are rounded up or down, which may cause the sum of rounded figures to differ from the end total.

Sources:

Statistical results are usually presented here without reference to sources. Such information is extensively presented in our portal "Statistics Switzerland" www.statistics.admin.ch

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1860–2010: 150th anniversary of the Federal Statistical Office

One hundred and fifty years ago, in June 1860, the Federal Council founded the “Statistical Office” – today’s Federal Statistical Office in order to meet the information demands of the state. In so doing it was following the example of other countries that had already established such an office.

Over the years the number of topics covered by statistics increased in keeping with the varying and ever-growing concerns of each generation. The Federal Statistical Office developed into a modern statistical service centre for society and the state. Today, for example, in addition to topics relating to economic statistics, those on environment and gender equality are at the forefront of public interest.

Since the creation of the Office, statistical results have been available not only to policy makers but to the public as a whole. The first work to cover all themes comprehensively, the Statistical Yearbook, was published in 1891 and its abridged version, the Swiss Pocket Statistics has been published since 1914. Both publications embody the wide availability of statistics. The practical size and the concise but comprehensive content of the pocket statistics probably explains why it is translated into five languages (German, French, Italian, Romansch and English) and has an annual circulation of over 100 000 copies (the FSO’s largest circulation).

Switzerland’s historical statistical publications are available in libraries and more recently can be consulted in electronic format in the statistics portal and on the FSO anniversary website. A multimedia time machine follows the evolution of statistics and the FSO together with texts and images.

As it enters its 150th year, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) hopes you will enjoy reading this edition of the pocket statistics and invites you to visit the statistics portal at www.statistics.admin.ch and from there the anniversary website at www.fso150years.ch.

Dr Jürg Marti

Director General
Federal Statistical Office (FSO)

Neuchâtel, January 2010

Additional information:

- If you would like to learn more about the FSO’s 150 year history, please visit our website www.fso150years.ch
- Press releases by email: copies of the FSO’s press releases can be subscribed directly as NewsMails sent to your email address. Subscription: www.news-stat.admin.ch).
- The most recent FSO publications as well as the newsletter on various topics are also available by email.
- The FSO’s information centre provides answers to specific questions: Tel. 032 713 60 11 or email info@bfs.admin.ch

Permanent resident population by canton, 2008

	Total in '000	Foreigners in %	Urban in %	Density km ²	Population growth 1998–2008 in %
Switzerland	7 701.9	21.7	73.6	193	8.1
Zurich (ZH)	1 332.7	23.5	95.1	802	12.2
Bern (BE)	969.3	12.8	62.4	166	3.0
Lucerne (LU)	368.7	16.2	51.0	258	7.4
Uri (UR)	35.2	9.1	0.0	33	-1.3
Schwyz (SZ)	143.7	17.9	80.2	169	13.6
Obwalden (OW)	34.4	12.4	0.0	72	7.6
Nidwalden (NW)	40.7	10.6	87.7	169	9.2
Glarus (GL)	38.4	19.4	0.0	56	-0.8
Zug (ZG)	110.4	22.9	96.0	533	14.4
Fribourg (FR)	268.5	17.2	55.6	168	15.7
Solothurn (SO)	251.8	19.2	77.2	319	3.4
Basel-Stadt (BS)	186.7	30.7	100.0	5 045	-2.0
Basel-Landschaft (BL)	271.2	18.5	91.8	524	5.6
Schaffhausen (SH)	75.3	22.6	74.2	253	2.1
Appenzell A. Rh. (AR)	53.1	13.7	53.1	218	-1.4
Appenzell I. Rh. (AI)	15.5	10.1	0.0	90	4.5
St. Gallen (SG)	471.2	21.5	66.9	242	5.9
Graubünden (GR)	190.5	15.6	49.6	27	2.3
Aargau (AG)	591.6	21.0	65.6	424	10.3
Thurgau (TG)	241.8	20.6	49.5	280	6.8
Ticino (TI)	332.7	25.4	87.1	121	8.7
Vaud (VD)	688.2	29.9	74.7	244	12.5
Valais (VS)	303.2	20.0	56.8	58	10.5
Neuchâtel (NE)	170.9	23.7	74.5	238	3.2
Geneva (GE)	446.1	38.1	99.2	1 815	11.8
Jura (JU)	69.8	12.1	30.2	83	1.2

Permanent resident population in the largest cities, 2008

	City		Urban agglomeration	
	in '000	Population growth 1998–2008 in %	in '000	Population growth 1998–2008 in %
Total	1 056.8	5.3	2 970.2	9.7
Zurich	365.1	8.4	1 154.5	12.6
Geneva	183.3	6.1	513.2	12.9
Basel	164.9	-2.3	494.3	3.5
Bern	122.9	-0.3	348.7	3.3
Lausanne	122.3	7.1	324.4	10.7
Winterthur	98.2	12.0	135.0	13.4

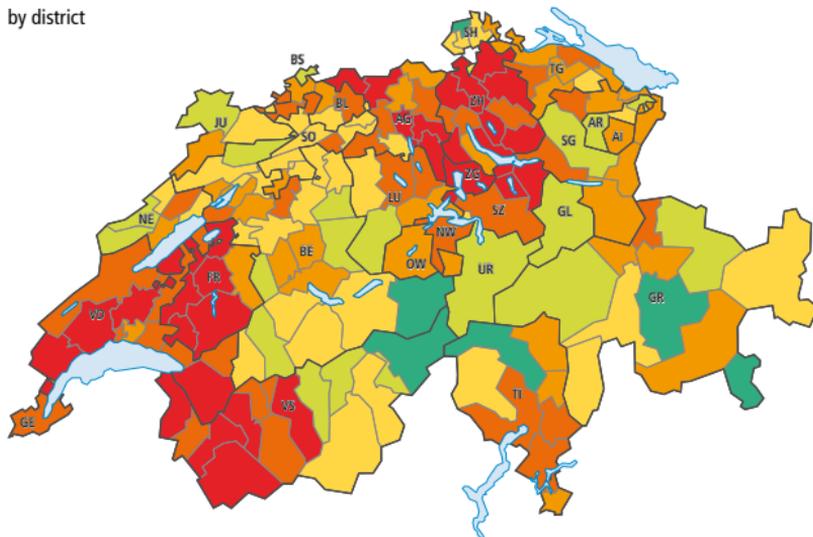
The population is mostly urban

Seventy-four per cent of the population now (2008) live in urban areas; in 1930 the urban population was only 36%. About half of the urban population lives in the agglomerations of the five major cities of Zurich, Basel, Geneva, Bern and Lausanne.

Since 2000, population growth has been higher in urban areas than in rural areas (2008: +1.6% compared with +1.0%).

Population growth, 1998–2008

by district



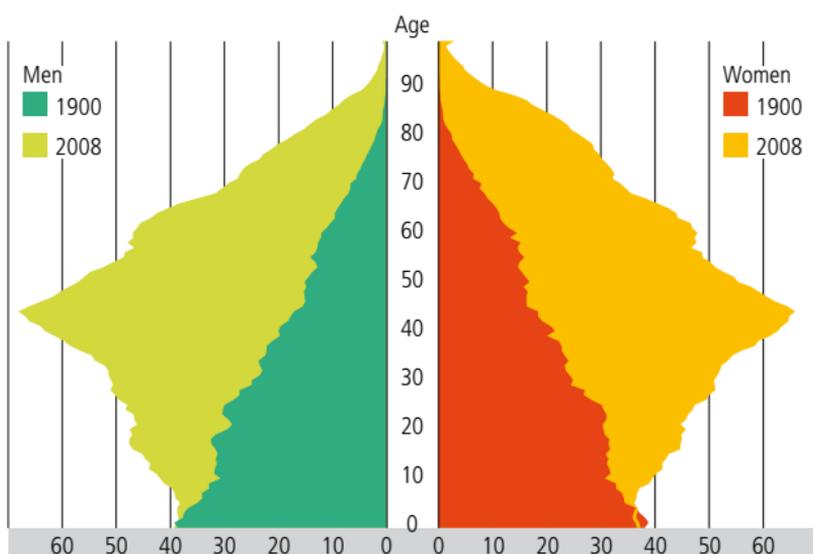
Changes of the permanent resident population in %

CH: +8.1 %



Age structure of the population

Number of persons in '000



Ageing society

During the course of the 20th 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” (1900) has been transformed into one of a “fir tree” (2008) in which the baby boom generation (born between 1959 and 1971) predominates.

The ageing of the population will continue. The proportion of persons aged 65 and over is expected to rise from 17% (2008) to 28% in 2050.

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 (2008: 86% compared with 14%).

Live births, 2008

Total	76 691
Boys for every 100 girls	106.5
Proportion of live births outside marriage in %	17.1
Multiple births	1 305
Twin births	1 275
Children per woman ¹	1.48

Deaths, 2008

Total	61 233
Age at death	
0–19	538
20–39	1 055
40–64	8 114
65–79	15 667
≥80	35 859

International migration, 2008

Immigrants	184 297
of which foreigners	161 629
Emigrants	86 130
of which foreigners	58 266
Net migration	98 167
Swiss	-5 196
Foreigners	103 363

Internal migration² 2008

Total movements	434 688
------------------------	----------------

Marriages, 2008

Total	41 534
Swiss/Swiss	21 394
Swiss/Foreign	8 423
Foreign/Swiss	6 605
Foreign/Foreign	5 112
Average age at marriage	
Single men	31.4
Single women	29.1

Divorces, 2008

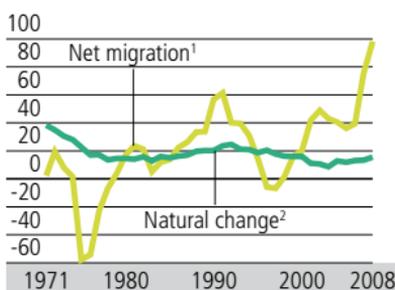
Total	19 613
with minors involved in %	44.8
Duration of marriage	
0–4 years	2 037
5–9 years	5 502
10–14 years	3 552
15 or more years	8 522
Total divorce rate ³	48.4

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

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

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

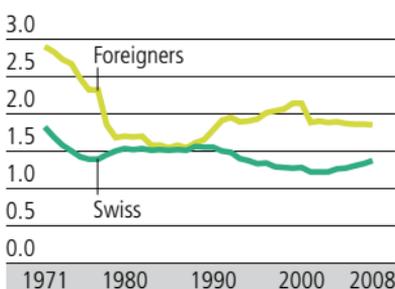
Net migration and natural change in '000



1 Incl. change of status: change from residence permit valid for less than 12 months to residence permit valid 12 months or longer

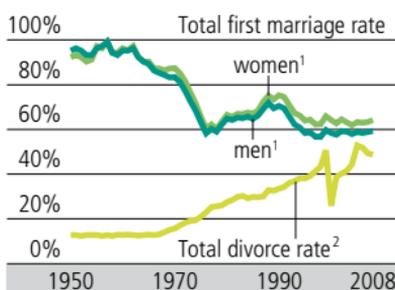
2 Live births minus deaths

Total fertility rate¹



1 Number of children per woman, see note 1 in left column

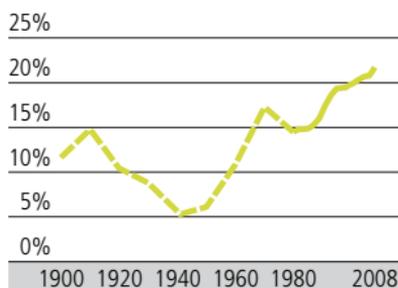
Marriages and divorces



1 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

2 See note 3 in left column

Share of foreign permanent resident population

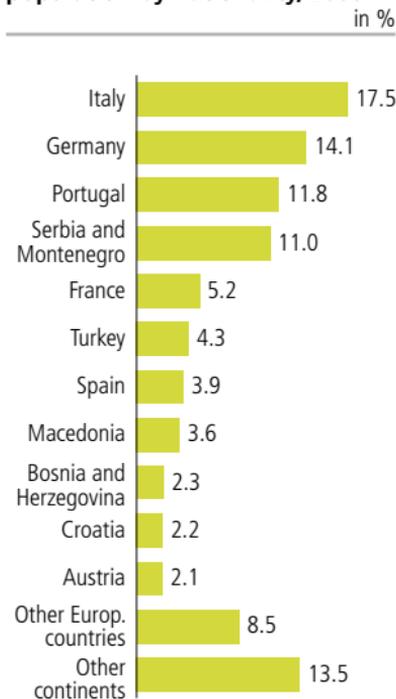


Foreign resident population by type of permit, 2008

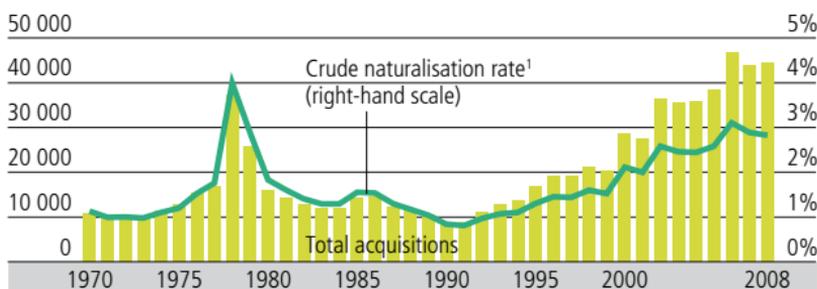
Type of permit	Population (in '000)
Total¹	1 763.6
Resident – B permit	516.9
Permanent resident – C permit	1 103.4
Temporary resident (≥ 12 months) – L permit	18.6
International officials and diplomats	27.3
Temporary resident (< 12 months) – L permit	53.1
Asylum seekers – N permit	17.8
Provisionally accepted – F permit	23.0

¹ Includes adjustment

Foreign permanent resident population by nationality, 2008



Acquisition of Swiss citizenship



¹ Number of citizenship acquisitions as a percentage of the foreign permanent resident population

Foreign population: more than half were born in Switzerland or have been residents for more than 15 years

Foreigners account for 22% of the permanent resident population. More than half of the residents without a Swiss passport (53%) have been living in Switzerland for more than 15 years or were born here. In 2008, 44 440 persons (2.8% of the foreign resident population) obtained Swiss citizenship, which is a small number in European comparison.

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 32 among the Swiss). Twenty-six per cent of children born in Switzerland in 2008 had foreign citizenship.

In 2008, the number of immigrations rose by 11% compared with the previous year. Of these immigrants, 63% came from the EU/EFTA area.

Changing living patterns

Increasingly fewer people live in a family household with children. In 1970, it was 70%; today (2008) it is 55%. More and more people live alone (1970: 7%; 2008: 17%) or as couples without children (1970: 18%; 2008: 26%).

The decision to get married and start a family is being made increasingly late in life: The age at first marriage for women rose from 24 (1970) to 29 (2008) and for men from 26 to 31 years; the average age of mothers at first birth rose from 25 to 29 years.

The traditional middle-class "single breadwinner" model is now the exception: Two thirds of mothers (66%) are in employment, although mostly only part-time, because in most families it is still the case that fathers tend to do more paid work (generally full-time) and mothers are mainly responsible for domestic and family work (cf. p. 48).

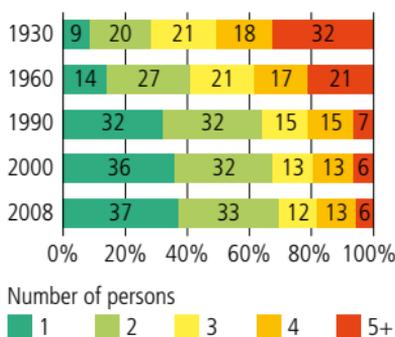
A growing number of children live with only one parent. This proportion is particularly high among 15–19-year-olds (2008: 17%; 1980: 11%).

Languages, 2000 ¹	in %
German	63.7
French	20.4
Italian	6.5
Serbo-Croatian	1.5
Albanian	1.3
Portuguese	1.2
Spanish	1.1
English	1.0
Turkish	0.6
Romansh	0.5
Other Slavic languages	0.3
Other languages	1.9

¹ Population by main language group

Size of households

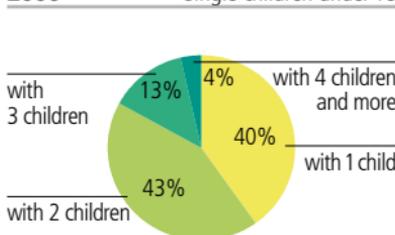
Private households only



Private households, 2008

	in '000
Total	3 362.1
Single-person households	1 246.7
Family households	2 072.2
Childless couples	953.8
Couples with children	905.0
Lone parents with children	181.3
Lone persons with parents	32.1
Non-family households	43.2

Family households with children, 2000



Religious affiliation, 2000

	in %
Protestant ¹	35.3
Roman Catholic	41.8
Christian Catholic	0.2
Orthodox Christian	1.8
Other Christian	0.2
Jewish	0.2
Islamic	4.3
Other churches and religions	0.8
No affiliation	11.1
Unknown	4.3

¹ Incl. neo-apostolic churches and Jehovah's Witnesses

Climate data, 2008

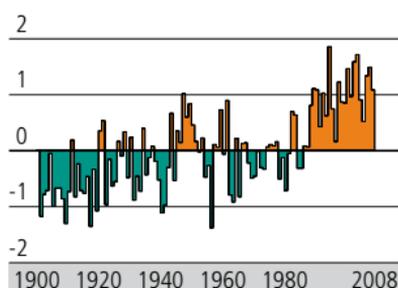
Weather station	Average temperature		Annual rainfall		Annual sunshine	
	°C	Dev. ¹ in °C	mm	Index ²	hours	Index ²
Lugano (273 m. above sea level)	12.6	1.0	2 189	142	1 989	98
Basel-Binningen (316)	10.8	1.2	870	112	1 607	101
Geneva-Cointrin (420)	10.8	1.0	1 135	117	1 960	116
Neuchâtel (485)	10.3	1.0	968	104	1 601	103
Sion (482)	10.8	1.6	561	94	2 164	109
Zurich / Fluntern (556)	9.6	1.1	1 213	112	1 631	110
Bern-Zollikofen (553)	9.0	0.8	945	92	1 798	110
St. Gallen (776)	8.6	1.2	1 373	110	1 597	115
Davos-Village (1 594)	3.8	1.0	1 164	108	1 718	102

¹ Deviation from long-term mean value (1961–1990)

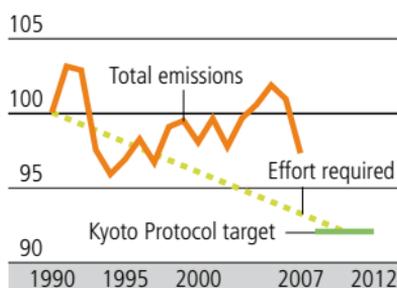
² 100 = long-term mean value (1961–1990)

Temperature fluctuations

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

**Greenhouse gas emissions**

Index 1990=100

**Climate Change**

With greenhouse gas emissions continuing to increase, man is visibly influencing the earth's climate system; this can be seen by rising temperatures which exceed the natural range. The emissions are mainly from transport (especially road transport), households (heating of homes and warm water) and industry.

Land use

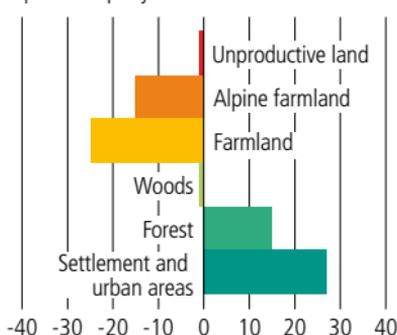
Period of survey 1992–1997

	km ²	%
Total surface area	41 285	100
Forest, woods	12 716	30.8
Farmland	9 873	23.9
Alpine farmland	5 378	13.0
Settlement and urban areas	2 791	6.8
Lakes and watercourses	1 740	4.2
Unprod. land	8 787	21.3

Annual change in land use

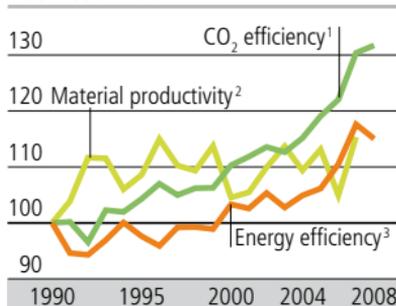
Changes 1979/85–1992/97

Square km per year



Eco-efficiency

Index 1990 = 100

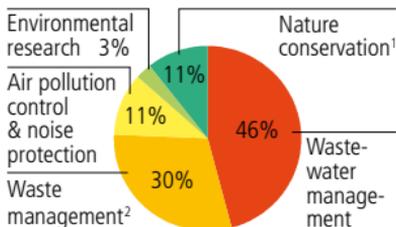
1 GDP / CO₂ emissions

2 GDP / Total material requirement

3 GDP / Final energy consumption

Public expenditure for environmental protection, 2007

Total: CHF 3.8 billion



1 Incl. direct payments to the agricultural industry for environmental performance.

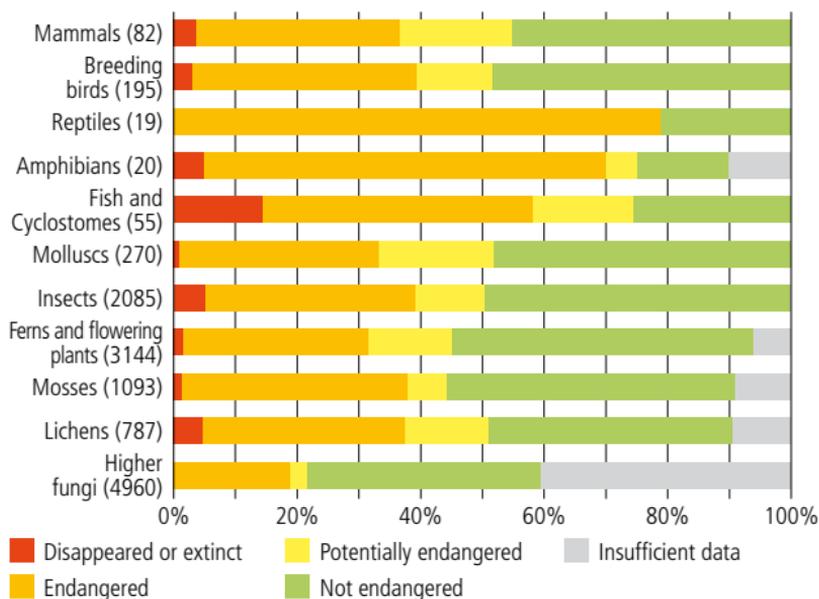
2 Not including domestic waste incinerators

Eco-efficiency

An increase in eco-efficiency is achieved when economic value produced increases in relation to the amount of CO₂ emissions, energy consumption or material requirement. However, an increase in efficiency can also indicate that the service sector is increasing in importance at the expense of the energy-, material-, and CO₂-intensive industrial sector and that environmentally-polluting production processes have been transferred abroad.

Biodiversity – Threatened species

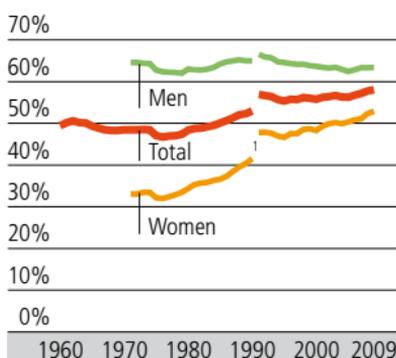
Status 1994–2007, by species groups



The variety of types of landscape found in Switzerland provides a multitude of different habitats for flora and fauna, thus creating favourable conditions for a rich biodiversity. Human activity puts considerable strain on the variety of species, however. While landscape modification by man can certainly create habitats for new species as well, the increasing standardisation and intensive use of the landscape is inevitably leading to a decline in populations and ultimately to the loss of some species.

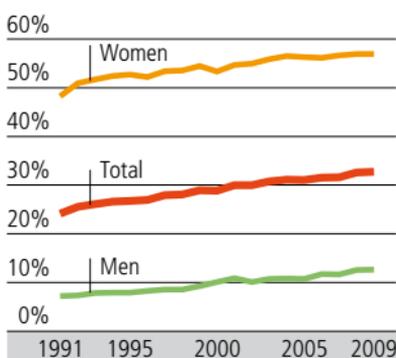
► www.statistics.admin.ch → Topics → Territory and Environment

Labour force as % of the permanent resident population

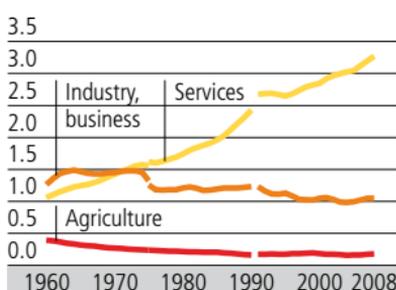


1 New calculation method from 1991 onwards

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



People employed¹ by economic sector in millions



1 New calculation method from 1975 resp. 1991 onwards

Employed persons according to employment status¹

2nd Qtr, permanent resident population, in '000

	2008	2009
Total	4 229	4 280
Self-employed	588	557
Family workers	83	93
Employee	3 345	3 400
Apprentice	213	231

1 Sociological definition

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

	1991	1995	2000	2006	2007	2008
Total	4 075	3 952	4 080	4 304	4 413	4 500
Swiss	3 032	2 966	3 100	3 198	3 257	3 291
Foreigners	1 043	986	980	1 106	1 156	1 209
Permanent residents	556	564	595	573	587	606
Temporary residents	180	205	183	264	283	321
Seasonal workers ¹	72	38	23	–	–	–
Cross-border workers	181	146	143	187	203	212
Temporary visitors	20	17	20	63	63	49
Other foreigners	33	17	16	19	20	21
Men	2 389	2 282	2 301	2 385	2 447	2 474
Women	1 686	1 670	1 779	1 919	1 966	2 026

1 As of 1.6.2002 seasonal work permits are no longer issued

Large increase in number of employed women between 2004 and 2009

Between 2004 and 2009 the number of women in employment (+10.4% to 1.972 million) grew more than that of men in employment (+6.2% to 2.308 million). Women are increasingly combining career and family life and mainly work part-time. In 2009, 57.2% of women worked part-time (2004: 56.8%). In contrast, only 12.9% of men work part-time, although this percentage has also increased slightly since 2004 (+1.8 percentage points). The tertiarisation of the economy has also contributed to the increased number of women in employment, as 87.0% of working women work in the tertiary sector (men: 64.5%).

Foreign labour force

The foreign labour force is an important element of the Swiss labour market. The strong growth experienced in the second half of the 20th century would not have been possible without the input of foreign labour and the “guest worker”. Since the sixties, their share has always exceeded 20%, and today comprises 27% of the workforce. Foreign workers are particularly present in the industrial sector (2009: 36%; services sector: 26%). Nearly two-thirds (2009: 67%) of foreign workers are nationals of an EU or an EFTA country. With a share of 35%, southern Europeans represent the largest group among foreign workers, followed by nationals from northern and western Europe (30%). 21% of foreign workers come from the western Balkan countries, or from Turkey.

Of foreign workers who immigrated to Switzerland during the past ten years, more than four fifths (82%) have obtained educational qualifications at the secondary level II, or at tertiary level. In the case of earlier immigrants, this proportion reaches only 62%.

Unemployment¹

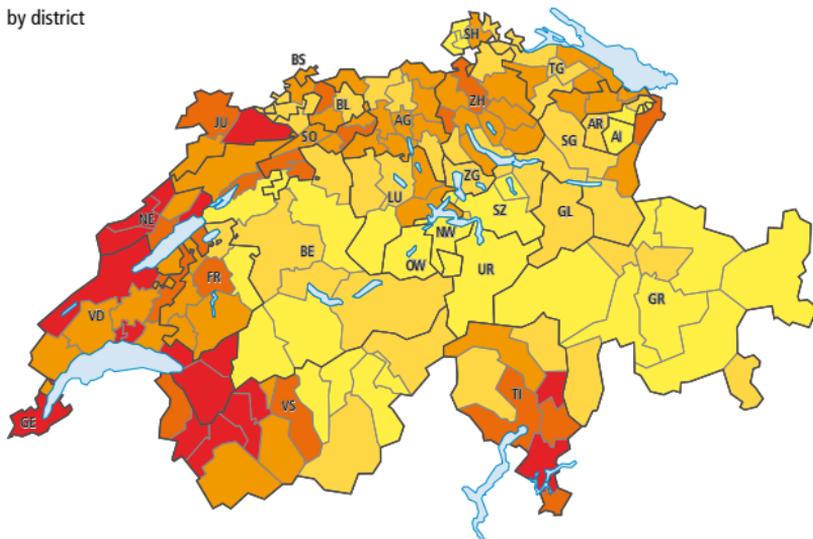
	1991	1995	2000	2008	2009
Unemployed	39 222	153 316	71 987	101 725	146 089
Proportion of whom are long term unemployed ² as %	4.4	28.7	20.1	15.5	13.1
Unemployment rate, %	1.1	4.2	1.8	2.6	3.7
Men	1.0	3.9	1.7	2.4	3.7
Women	1.2	4.8	2.0	2.8	3.7
Swiss	0.8	3.2	1.3	1.9	2.7
Foreigners	2.1	8.0	3.7	5.0	7.2
15–24 years	1.1	3.9	1.8	3.0	4.6

1 Unemployed based on SECO figures – Unemployment rate according to international definition: see page 26

2 Length of unemployment exceeds 12 months

Unemployment rate, 2009

by district



Proportion of unemployed (according to SECO) as percentage of all economically active persons

< 2.0
 2.0–2.9
 3.0–3.9
 4.0–4.9
 ≥ 5.0
 CH: 3.7

Wages level, 2008

gross monthly wage median¹

	Level of qualifications ²				
	Total	a	b	c	d
Switzerland³	5 823	10 936	6 995	5 622	4 466
Lake Geneva region (VD, VS, GE)	5 938	10 880	7 205	5 958	4 593
Espace Mittelland (BE, FR, SO, NE, JU)	5 716	10 273	6 705	5 571	4 528
North-western Switzerland (BS, BL, AG)	6 095	11 664	7 150	5 844	4 610
Zürich (ZH)	6 250	12 656	7 771	5 678	4 420
Eastern Switzerland (GL, SH, AR, AI, SG, GR, TG)	5 439	9 286	6 346	5 302	4 372
Central Switzerland (LU, UR, SZ, OW, NW, ZG)	5 674	10 172	6 588	5 416	4 436
Ticino (TI)	4 983	8 770	5 762	5 195	3 953

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

2 Level of qualifications:

a = Extremely demanding and difficult tasks

b = Independent and skilled work

c = Work requiring professional/technical skills

d = Simple and repetitive tasks

3 Private and public (Confederation) sectors combined

Income from employment, 2008¹

distribution in %

	Income category (CHF 1000 p.a. gross)					
	≤ 26	26–52	52–78	78–104	> 104	no inform.
Total	16.3	16.9	25.4	15.4	15.2	10.9
Men, full time	2.1	7.0	30.4	22.5	26.5	11.5
Women, full time	6.8	20.1	33.7	17.1	10.3	12.1
Men, part time	35.0	21.2	17.5	10.4	6.5	9.4
Women, part time	41.4	30.2	13.6	3.6	1.6	9.6

1 Employed persons, excl. apprentices

Evolution of nominal wages, the consumer price index and real wages

Change compared with the previous year in %



Evolution of real wages

index 1939 = 100

	1980	1990	2000	2006	2007	2008
Total	254	272	279	289	292	290
Men	241	257	264	271	274	273
Women	279	302	311	326	328	326

Effects of the financial crisis on the Swiss economy

The year 2008 was marked by a worsening of the financial crisis and the beginning of its spread to the economy as a whole. Thus, the growth of economic activity in Switzerland, measured by gross domestic product (GDP), slowed down compared with previous years, but remained nevertheless positive (+1.8%). The banking sector declined significantly due to negative trends in the stock markets. Steep declines in the amounts of assets managed and transactions carried out led to a fall in the value of the sector's value added. But the value added was still supported by deposit and loan activities, which continued to develop. Other branches of the economy registered positive trends, despite certain slowdowns due to a loss of dynamism in foreign trade.

While the poor results registered by Swiss banks abroad did not affect their activities in Switzerland, they did lead to a collapse in property income earned abroad. Although Switzerland's creditor position with respect to the rest of the world had traditionally assured it a positive balance vis-à-vis other countries, the situation was reversed in 2008. Switzerland became a net payer and its gross national income (GNI) for the first time fell below its gross domestic product (GDP).

Gross domestic product (GDP) and its components

Percentage change over previous year at prices of preceding year

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 ^p	2008 ^p
GDP	3.6	1.2	0.4	-0.2	2.5	2.6	3.6	3.6	1.8
Final consumption expenditure	2.4	2.6	0.3	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.4	2.1	1.4
Gross capital formation	1.7	-0.0	-0.6	-1.2	3.5	2.4	1.6	-1.0	-2.6
Exports of goods and services	12.5	0.5	-0.1	-0.5	7.9	7.8	10.3	9.5	2.9
Imports of goods and services	10.3	2.3	-1.1	1.3	7.3	6.6	6.5	6.0	0.4
GDP in CHF billion, at current prices	422	430	434	438	451	464	491	521	542

Foreign trade increasingly important for Swiss industry

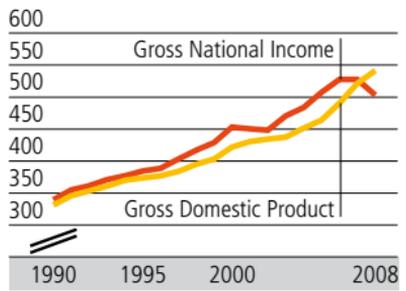
Foreign trade has been a driving force for the Swiss economy since 1997. In fact, the periods of strong growth have coincided with booming foreign trade. Exports are the component of gross domestic product (GDP) which made the largest contribution to growth during the lean years (1997 to 2000 and 2004 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 GDP, showing the growing significance of the rest of the world to the Swiss economy.

This increasingly significant role is also evident in the income earned abroad, which has also played an increasingly significant role in determining gross national income (GNI), which is generally larger than GDP. The years 2007 and 2008 stood out because GNI was exceptionally less dynamic due to losses posted by Swiss bank branches abroad.

Share of the external sector in GDP at current prices



GDP and GNI at current prices in CHF billion



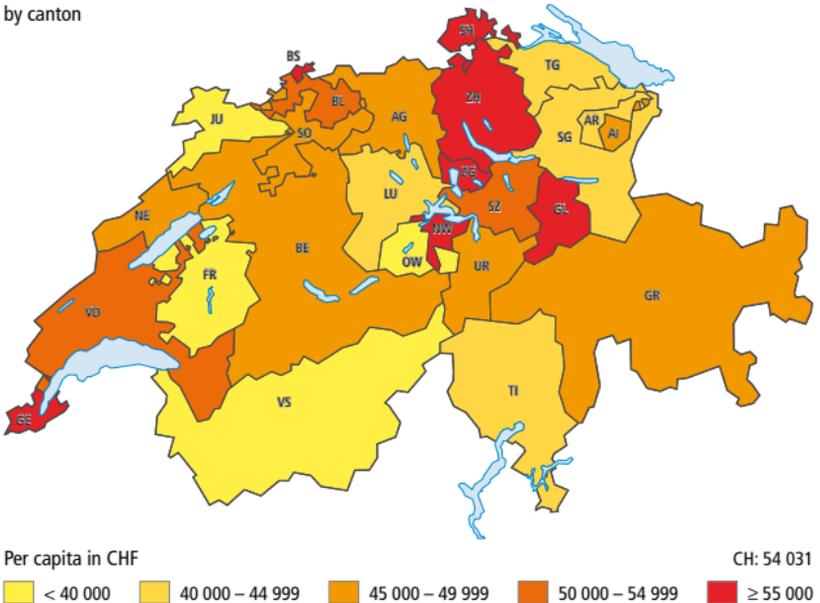
Once economic activity measured by GDP is known, one can investigate the efficiency with which productive resources (labour and capital) are utilised. Labour efficiency is measured by hourly labour productivity, i.e. the value added created by hour worked. The graph above represents the development of hourly labour productivity and GDP. Generally speaking, we find similar tendencies for both developments. During an expansion phase (GDP growth), hourly labour productivity also tends to grow, while during an economic slow-down phase (stagnating or falling GDP), productivity declines.

Annual growth rate



National income by canton, 2005P

by canton



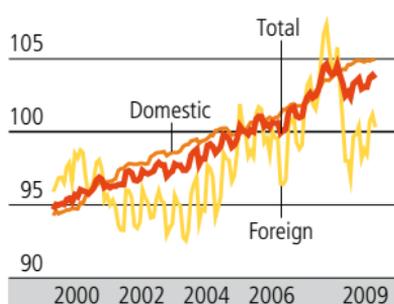
Changes in consumer price index

changes in yearly average in %

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	1.2	1.1	0.7	2.4	-0.5
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-0.7	0.0	0.5	3.1	-0.2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	4.7	1.1	2.1	2.6	2.7
Clothing and footwear	-0.1	1.9	0.3	4.0	2.4
Housing and energy	3.0	2.8	2.1	4.9	-1.1
Household furniture and furnishings and routine maintenance	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.8
Health	0.6	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.3
Transport	3.4	2.8	1.0	3.5	-3.3
Communications	-5.7	-6.9	-3.0	-2.9	-4.9
Recreation and culture	-0.6	-0.2	-0.5	0.6	-0.6
Education	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6
Restaurants and hotels	1.1	1.2	1.4	2.3	1.7
Other goods and services	0.9	0.9	0.1	0.8	0.5

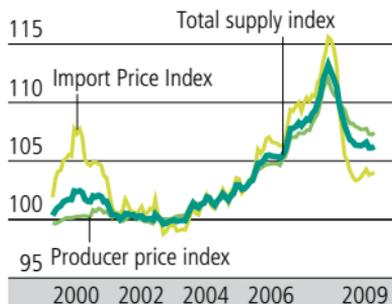
Consumer price index by origin

110 Index, December 2005 = 100



Producer and import price index

120 Index, May 2003 = 100



International comparison of price indices, 2008*

EU-27 = 100

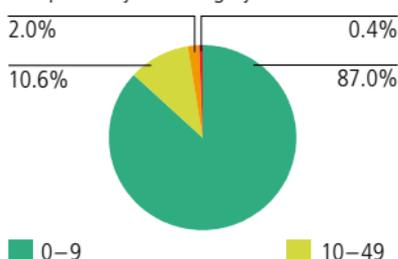
	Switzerland	Germany	France	Italy
Gross domestic product	127	105	112	103
Actual individual consumption	134	103	111	107
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	138	106	105	115
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	97	99	111	108
Clothing and footwear	123	105	94	108
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	171	110	126	104
Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house	107	99	106	104
Health	134	105	111	115
Transport	103	105	103	97
Communication	93	93	117	106
Recreation and culture	118	102	110	108
Education	184	98	115	116
Restaurants and hotels	122	99	117	105
Miscellaneous goods and services	133	103	110	104
Actual collective consumption	142	113	131	117
Gross fixed investment	117	113	110	88
Machinery and equipment	101	104	99	102
Construction	141	123	117	78
Software	105	95	102	98

Continuing structural change and lasting dominance of SMEs

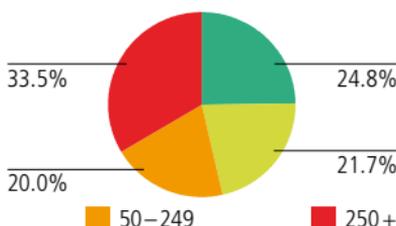
The share of total employment represented by the tertiary sector grew from 66.5% to 69.2% between 1998 and 2008 (only market-oriented companies). Overall, approximately 464 000 new jobs were created – 62 000 in the secondary and 403 000 in the tertiary sector (i.e. a growth of 6.1% and 20.1%, respectively). The biggest growth was registered in health and social services (approx. 115 000 or 42%) and in business-related services (approx. 96 000 or 37%); individual branches of the economy experienced falls in employment levels: most markedly, the paper, printing and publishing industry (–12 000 jobs or –17%) and the textile industry (–11 000 jobs or –37%). The dominance of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), i.e. companies with fewer than 250 employees, continued unabated. SMEs represented 99.6% of private sector companies and employed two-thirds of the working population (2008).

Company size¹, 2008

Companies by size category



Employees by size category of companies



¹ 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

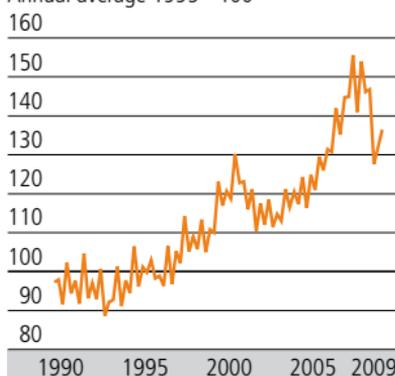
NOGA 2002, in '000	1998		2008	
	Companies	Employees	Companies	Employees
Total	301.4	3 015.5	310.0	3 479.4
Sector 2	75.0	1 011.6	74.4	1 073.2
Mining	0.3	5.0	0.2	4.4
Manufacturing	40.3	702.1	37.3	733.0
of which:				
Food and luxury food industry	2.7	65.7	2.2	66.1
Paper, printing and publishing	4.8	70.4	4.0	58.2
Oil and chemical industries	0.8	63.0	0.9	71.8
Metalworking industry	8.0	99.6	7.8	110.0
Mechanical engineering	3.5	111.9	3.3	105.8
Electrical and precision engineering industry	4.9	133.6	4.9	170.2
Power and water supply	0.3	21.3	0.5	25.4
Construction	34.0	283.3	36.4	310.4
Sector 3	226.4	2 003.9	235.6	2 406.2
Retail sector, repair of consumer goods	76.1	610.4	69.2	657.5
Hotels and catering	25.7	220.4	25.6	226.3
Transport, telecommunications	11.0	231.0	10.8	252.5
Banking and insurance industry	4.3	187.0	7.6	218.3
Property, rental of machinery and equipment	4.4	21.8	6.3	40.8
IT activities, research and development	7.8	47.5	12.0	85.1
Business support services	51.9	262.9	58.4	359.0
Public administration; Social security; Education	4.4	54.2	4.5	66.4
Health and social services	19.9	277.8	20.5	393.2
Other services to third parties	20.9	90.9	20.7	107.3

New companies, 2007

Economic activity	Total new companies	Created jobs	Created jobs (full-time)	Created Jobs (part-time)
Total	11 837	22 841	15 651	7 190
Sector 2	2 419	5 004	4 069	935
Industry	937	2 008	1 518	490
Construction	1 482	2 996	2 551	445
Sector 3	9 418	17 837	11 582	6 255
Retail sector	2 290	4 068	2 686	1 382
Hotels and catering	255	913	541	372
Transport and communications	504	963	678	285
Banking and insurance	583	1 162	872	290
Property, business services	3 807	6 817	4 402	2 415
IT services	956	1 638	1 209	429
Education	151	351	123	228
Health and social services	290	832	408	424
Other public and personal services	582	1 093	663	430

Production in the secondary sector

Indexed change in the quarterly results
Annual average 1995 = 100



Overall production in the secondary sector (excluding the construction industry) grew by 52% between 1990 and 2008. The trend is highly cyclical. Thus, production dropped in the recessionary years 2002 and 2003 and picked up again during the good economic situation in 2004, only to plummet again during the financial crisis at the end of 2008.

Retail sales

variation from the previous year in %

		2004	2005 ²	2006	2007	2008
Total	Nominal	2.1	1.3	1.6	3.6	4.3
	Real¹	1.4	1.7	1.9	4.0	2.9
Food, drink and tobacco products	Nominal	1.8	0.2	1.1	2.9	7.8
	Real ¹	0.9	0.2	1.0	2.4	4.6
Clothing and footwear	Nominal	-0.5	3.6	1.8	4.5	0.9
	Real ¹	2.4	3.8	-0.1	4.2	-3.0
Other groups	Nominal	2.8	0.9	1.8	3.8	3.0
	Real ¹	1.5	1.1	3.4	5.0	4.0

¹ Adjusted for price changes in accordance with the domestic consumer price index

² From 2005 onwards, "Total" and "Other groups" do not include "Motor vehicles" and "Fuels"

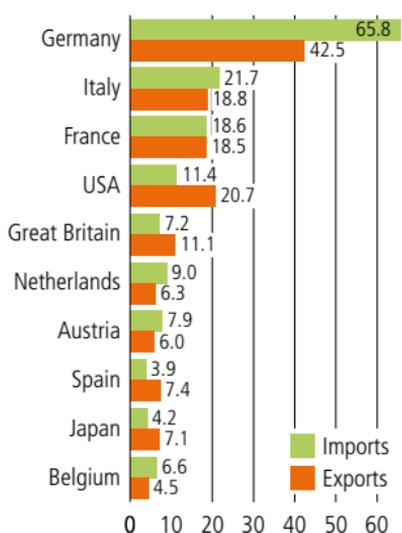
Labour costs

Labour costs include all costs incurred by the employer in employing the labour force. In general they represent the largest part of production costs. In Switzerland, they are composed as follows: 83.4% salaries and indemnities, 15% social security contributions on the part of the employer, and 1.6% vocational training and staff recruitment costs, as well as other costs (2008).

Labour costs are a key indicator for making comparisons between business locations, varying widely from country to country. At €33.81 per hour of work performed (2006), Switzerland belongs to the top of the European field, together with Denmark (€33.1), Island (€32.4) and Sweden (€32.2). Neighbouring countries whose hourly labour costs exceed the European average (i.e. France, Germany and Austria) show costs between €26 and €31.

Foreign trade: our key partners, 2008

in CHF billion



Foreign trade represents a high proportion of gross domestic product (GDP) in Switzerland. Its most important trading partners are the industrialised countries, which accounted for 76.5% of Swiss exports and 87.6% of imports. The EU plays a particularly important role (60.9% of exports and 78.8% of imports).

Foreign trade: the key goods

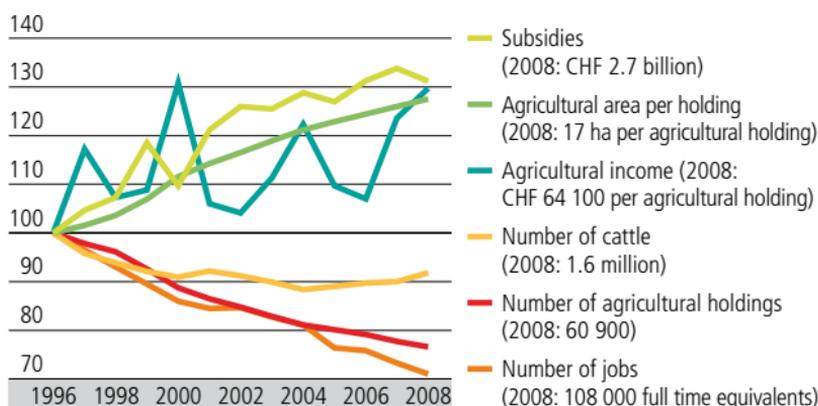
in CHF million

	Imports			Exports		
	1990	2007	2008	1990	2007	2008
Total	96 611	193 216	197 521	88 257	206 252	215 984
of which:						
Agricultural and forestry products	8 095	13 403	14 199	2 998	7 463	8 455
Textiles, clothing, footwear	8 806	10 040	10 040	4 984	4 637	4 468
Chemicals	10 625	41 260	38 272	18 422	68 811	71 918
Metals	9 025	18 477	18 089	7 537	15 498	15 276
Machinery, electronics	19 794	35 118	35 611	25 527	43 065	43 806
Vehicles	10 230	17 098	16 750	1 485	5 723	6 094
Instruments and watches	5 786	13 678	15 139	13 330	35 388	37 988

Agricultural land and forests account for 37% 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 2008, the combined contribution of these two sectors to the gross value added of Switzerland's economy amounted to 1.2%.

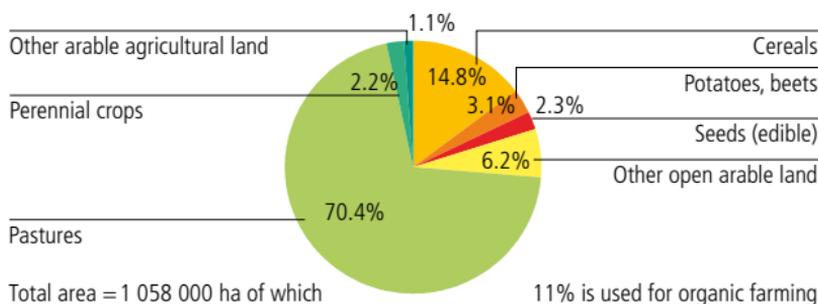
A few key indicators in agriculture

Index 1996=100



Agricultural area used, 2008

Excl. summer pastures



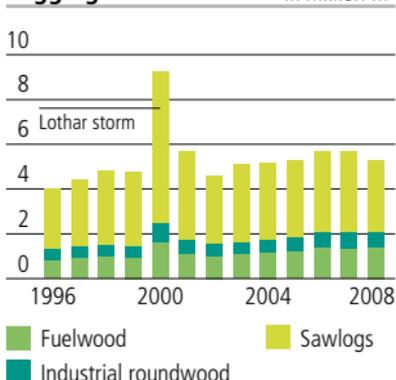
Output of agriculture¹, 2008

	in %
Crop output	41.4
Cereals	4.1
Forage plants	11.1
Vegetables and horticultural products	12.6
Fruits and grapes	4.8
Wine	4.1
Other crop outputs	4.8
Animal output	49.8
Cattle	11.5
Pigs	10.3
Milk	23.7
Other animals and animal products	4.3
Agricultural services output	5.8
Non-agricultural secondary activities	3.1

¹ Total value = CHF 11 billion

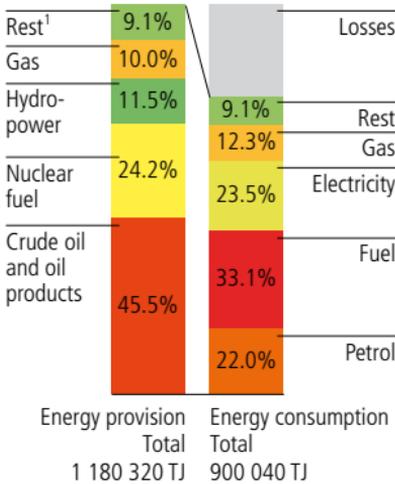
Logging

in million m³



► www.statistics.admin.ch → Topics → Agriculture and Forestry

Energy provision and consumption, 2008



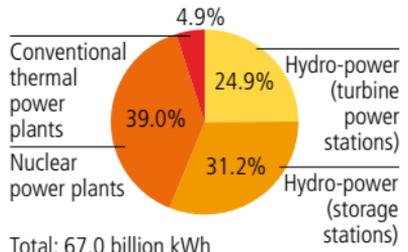
¹ incl. export surplus of electricity (0.3%)
Total 100.3%

Increased consumption

Final energy consumption is closely linked to economic development and population growth. More residents, larger homes, greater production, rising consumption, heavier motor vehicles and so on, all lead to increased energy consumption in spite of improved energy efficiency. The largest energy consumption group is transport, accounting for around one-third of final energy consumption.

Over two thirds of final energy consumption are covered for by fossil fuels. Only 18.5% comes from renewable energy sources, hydro-power being the main source.

Electricity generation by power plant type, 2008



Total: 67.0 billion kWh

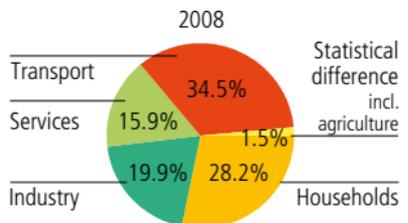
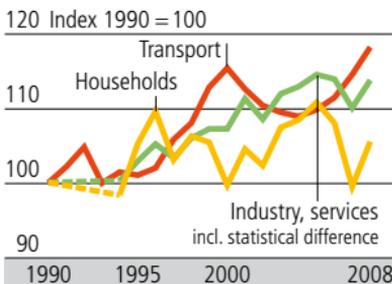
Renewable energy, 2008

Share of end use	in %
Hydropower	12.08
Solar	0.15
Geo-thermal	0.90
Biomass (wood and biogas)	3.90
Wind	0.01
Renewable energy use from waste	1.20
Energy use in wastewater treatment	0.20
Biofuel	0.07

Energy consumption in '000 TJ



Final consumption of energy by consumer groups



► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Energie (in German)

► www.bfe.admin.ch (Federal Office of Energy) → Topics → Energy Statistics

	in CHF million, prices of 2000				
	1980	1990	2000	2007	2008
Total	34 198	47 588	43 708	45 792	45 958
Public expenditure	11 389	14 507	15 983	14 433	14 909
Civil engineering	6 791	7 740	10 060	8 849	9 432
of which roads	...	...	5 221	3 949	4 115
Building construction	4 599	6 767	5 923	5 584	5 476
Private expenditure	22 809	33 081	27 725	31 359	31 048
of which housing	...	...	17 147	20 760	20 409

Housing construction

	1980	1990	2000	2007	2008
New residential	20 806	16 162	16 962	17 051	16 678
of which single-family dwellings	16 963	11 200	13 768	11 982	11 320
New dwellings	40 876	39 984	32 214	42 915	44 191
with 1 room	2 122	2 010	528	490	635
2 rooms	4 598	5 248	1 779	2 724	3 413
3 rooms	7 094	8 937	4 630	7 977	9 174
4 rooms	11 557	12 487	10 783	15 598	16 151
5 rooms or more	15 505	11 302	14 494	16 126	14 818

Housing supply

	1980	1990	2000	2007	2008
as of year-end	2 702 656	3 140 353	3 574 988	3 835 370	3 880 087
of which remained empty in %	0.74	0.55 ¹	1.26 ¹	0.97 ¹	0.90 ¹

¹ As of 1 June following year

Trend towards larger apartments ...

The number of apartments is growing faster than the population. Between 1990 and 2000, apartments increased by 8% and the population by 6%, bringing the average number of persons per inhabited apartment down from 2.4 to 2.3. At the same time, the average per capita living space increased from 39 m² to 44 m².

... and single-family houses

Single-family houses as a percentage of total building stock rose from 40% to 56% between 1970 and 2000. 68% of newly constructed buildings for housing purposes are now (2008) single-family homes, despite the efforts of town and country planners to counter this trend and the fact that building land is becoming increasingly scarce.

Continued low rate of home-ownership

The vast majority of dwellings (73.3%) belong to private individuals (2000) – and not, as is often supposed, to corporate bodies. Nevertheless, the home-ownership rate in Switzerland is relatively low: in 2000, only 34.6% of all permanently occupied dwellings were used by the owners themselves. That is by far the lowest percentage of all European countries. However, home ownership has increased somewhat since 1970, mainly thanks to the rapid increase in condominium-style apartment ownership.

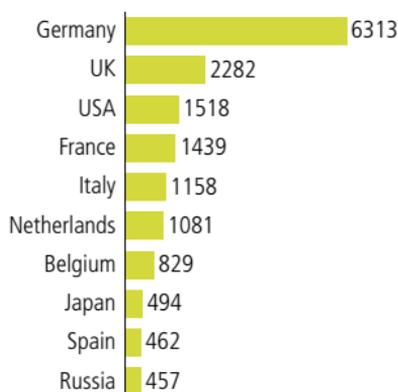
► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Bau- und Wohnungswesen
(in German)

Main tourism indicators

	2000	2007	2008
Supply (beds)¹			
Hotels and health establishments	264 495	270 146	270 487
Demand: arrivals in '000			
Hotels and health establishments	13 894	15 633	15 997
Campsites	...	720	834
Youth hostels	...	461	490
Demand: overnight stays in '000			
Hotels and health establishments	35 020	36 365	37 334
Foreign guests in %	58	58	58
Campsites	...	2 772	2 987
Foreign guests in %	...	48	48
Youth hostels	804	912	978
Foreign guests in %	46	42	45
Duration of stay nights			
Hotels and health establishments	2.5	2.3	2.3
Campsites	...	3.8	3.6
Youth hostels	...	2.0	2.0
Gross occupancy rate: hotels and health establish.			
as percentage of beds surveyed ¹	36.2	36.9	37.7
Tourism balance of payment CHF millions			
Revenue from foreign visitors to Switzerland	11 223	14 621	15 605 ^P
Expenditure made by Swiss tourists abroad	9 167	12 120	11 838 ^P
Balance	2 057	2 501	3 767 ^P

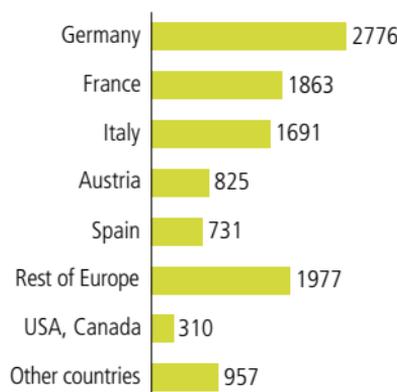
¹ Annual average number of beds available in open and temporarily closed establishments

Overnight stays made by foreign visitors in Switzerland¹, 2008



¹ in '000, excl. supplementary accommodation

Travel destinations of Swiss tourists¹, 2008



¹ Permanent resident population, travel abroad incl. overnight stay, in '000; Total: 11.1 million

Travel behaviour

In 2008, 83.5% of people living in Switzerland undertook at least one trip with overnight stays. To be more precise, each person undertook on average 3.2 trips with overnight stays and 12.7 day trips. More than half (57%) of all trips with overnight stays were short trips (maximum 3 overnight stays). Trips abroad represent 8% of day trips and 56% of trips with overnight stays.

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Tourismus (in German)

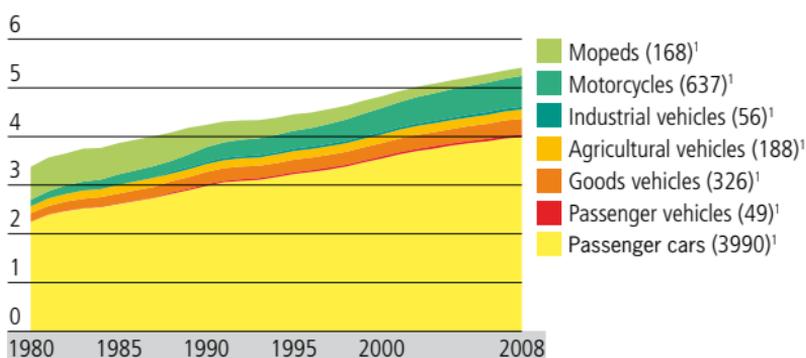
Infrastructure

Transport infrastructure covers a third of the settlement and urban areas in Switzerland (according to the Land use statistics from 1992/97).

In 2007 the railway network covered 5107 km, national highways 1764 km (of which motorways comprise 1383 km), cantonal roads 18 160 km and municipal roads 51 446 km (as at 1984).

Pool of road motor vehicles

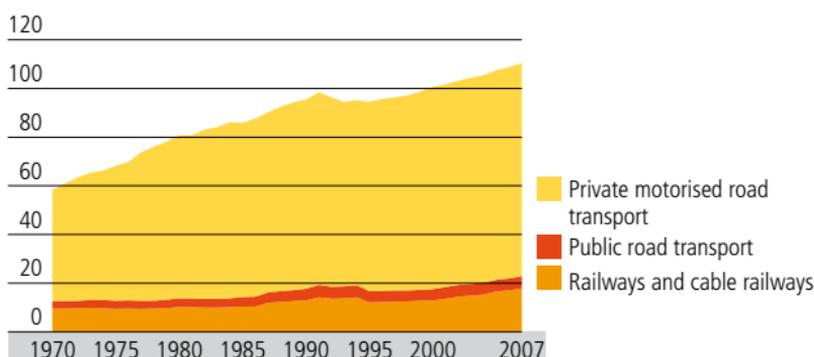
in millions



1 In brackets: refers to 2008, in '000

Passenger transport performance

in billion person km travelled p.a.



Daily mobility, 2005

average per person p.d.¹

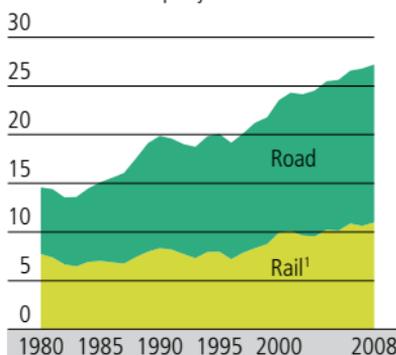
	Daily distance in km	Travel time in min. ²		Daily distance in km	Travel time in min. ²
Total	38.2	98.4	Means of transport		
			On foot	2.1	36.9
			Bicycle	0.8	4.3
			Moped	0.1	0.2
			Motorcycle	0.6	1.3
			Car	25.5	38.4
			Bus/Tram	1.5	6.1
			Post bus	0.2	0.4
			Train	6.2	7.2
			Other	1.2	3.6
Purpose of trip purpose					
Work and education	10.6	22.3			
Shopping	4.4	13.3			
Services and escort	0.5	1.0			
Business	3.3	6.4			
Leisure	16.8	50.0			
Other non-specified	2.5	5.4			

1 Daily mobility of permanent population aged 10 and over in Switzerland

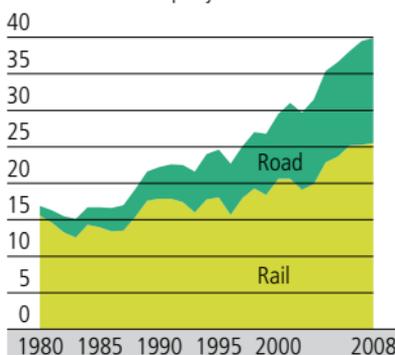
2 Includes waiting time

Goods transport

All transport, transport in billion tonne-kilometres per year

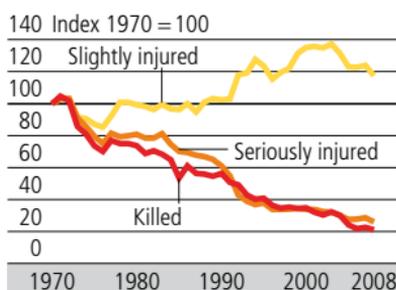


Transalpine goods traffic, transport in million net tonnes per year



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

Victims of road accidents



Road accidents by type of carrier, 2008

Road traffic		
Persons killed		357
Persons seriously injured		4 780
Persons slightly injured		20 776
Rail traffic		
Persons killed		24
Air traffic		
Persons killed in Switzerland		16

Transport costs

The economic cost of transport, that is the actual sums paid by causers, the state or third parties, as well as the non-monetary costs such as damage to the environment and noise, amounted to over CHF 82 billion in 2005. Mobility thus costs us more than, for instance, the health care service or the public education system. And road transport accounts for six times more of these costs than rail transport. In the case of personal road vehicles (private cars) the cost per person kilometre is CHF 0.54. The cost per person kilometre for rail in contrast, is CHF 0.40. In goods transport the costs per tonne kilometre for heavy road vehicles reaches CHF 0.57, whereas for transport by rail it is CHF 0.24. Around 7.9 of the CHF 82 billion relates to external costs, which are borne by persons other than the causers (i.e. non-internalised externalities – in particular, resulting costs incurred by damage to the environment and health, as well as damage to buildings and loss of value).



	Year ¹	Switzerland	Germany	Greece
Inhabitants (at the start of the year) in '000	2008	7 593	82 218	11 214
Inhabitants per km ²	2008	184	230	85
People under 20 in %	2008	21.5	19.4	19.5
People over 64 in %	2008	16.4	20.1	18.6
Live births per 1000 inhabitants	2008	10.1	8.3	10.5
Births outside of marriage in %	2007	16	31	6
Marriages per 1000 inhabitants	2008	5.4	4.6	4.6
Divorces per 1000 inhabitants	2008	2.6	2.3	1.2
Net migration rate per 1000 inhabitants	2007	9.4	0.5	3.6
Foreigners as percent. of the total population	2008	21.1	8.8	8.1
Persons per private household	2001	2.2	2.2	2.8
People aged 25 to 64 with tertiary education in %	2007	31	24	22
Internet access of household in %	2007	70	71	25
Male life expectancy at birth (in years)	2007	79.5	77.4	77.0
Female life expectancy at birth (in years)	2007	84.4	82.7	81.8
Infant deaths ² per 1000 live births	2007	3.9	3.9	3.5
Number of doctors per 100 000 inhabitants	2007	379	346	...
Cost of the healthcare system as % of GDP	2007	10.8	10.4	9.6
Expenditure on social security as a % of GDP	2007	27.3	27.7	24.4
Agricultural area as % of the total area	2000	36.9	53.5	66.0
Forest area as % of the total area	2000	30.8	29.5	22.8
Greenhouse gas emissions in CO ₂ equivalents in tonnes per inhabitant	2006	6.8	11.6	11.8
Cars per 1000 inhabitants	2007	525	566	369
Road accidents: fatalities per 1 million inhabitants	2007	51	60	144
Employees in agriculture in %	2006	3.8	2.2	12.0
Employees in industry in %	2006	22.9	29.8	22.0
Employees in services in %	2006	72.9	68.0	65.9
Employment rate for women aged 15 to 64	2008	73.5	65.4	48.7
Employment rate for men aged 15 to 64	2008	85.4	75.9	75.0
Unemployment rate (according to the international definition)	2008	3.4	7.5	7.7
Women	2008	4.0	7.5	11.4
Men	2008	2.8	7.4	5.1
15–24 year-olds	2008	7.0	10.5	22.1
Long-term unemployed as a % of the unemployed	2008	33.6	52.6	47.5
Part-time employees: women in % ³	2008	57.3	45.4	9.9
Part-time employees: men in % ³	2008	12.8	9.4	2.8
Working week in hours	2008	41.7	40.4	40.8
Foreign trade (goods and services) as % of GDP	2007	51.3	43.4	28.3
Per capita GDP (in USD, adjusted for PPP)	2008	41 600	35 600	29 800
Average annual growth rate in real GDP	1998–2008	2.0	1.5	4.0
Inflation rate	2008	2.3	2.8	4.2
Public surplus/deficit as % of GDP	2006	1.0	–1.5	...
Public debt as % of GDP	2006	47.2	67.6	...

1 Or most recent year available

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

3 Of employed women or men



Spain	France	Italy	Netherlands	Austria	Sweden	U.K.	EU-27
45 283	63 614	59 619	16 405	8 332	9 183	60 781	497 445
87	101	196	395	99	21	249	112
19.7	24.9	19.0	24.0	21.3	23.7	24.1	21.7
16.6	16.3	20.0	14.7	17.1	17.5	16.0	16.4
11.5	13.0	9.7	11.3	9.3	11.9	13.0	10.9
28	52	21	40	38	55	44	32
4.5	4.3	4.1	4.6	4.2	5.2	4.4	4.9
2.8	2.2	0.9	2.0	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.0
15.6	4.8	8.4	-0.1	2.2	5.9	2.9	...
11.6	5.8	5.8	4.2	10.3	5.7	6.6	6.2
2.9	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.4	...	2.4	...
29	27	14	30	18	31	31	23
45	49	43	83	60	79	67	54
77.8	77.3	78.5	78.1	77.5	79.0	77.3	75.8
84.3	84.4	84.2	82.5	83.1	83.0	81.7	82.0
3.7	3.8	5.5	4.1	3.7	2.5	4.8	4.7
368	338	...	315	374	357	249	...
8.5	11.0	8.7	9.8	10.1	9.1	8.4	...
21.0	30.5	26.7	28.4	28.0	29.7	25.3	26.2
58.8	55.7	44.4	56.6	40.4	7.3	69.4	...
33.3	31.1	22.7	7.8	40.9	73.5	11.5	...
9.9	8.4	9.3	12.7	10.6	7.2	10.5	...
481	490	600	492	512	467	463	...
94	76	87	48	83	52	50	...
4.9	3.7	4.2	3.3	5.6	2.3	1.3	5.7
29.5	24.3	29.8	20.4	28.1	22.0	22.0	27.7
65.6	71.1	66.0	76.3	66.3	75.8	76.7	66.6
54.9	60.1	47.2	71.1	65.8	71.8	65.8	59.0
73.5	69.3	70.3	83.2	78.5	76.7	77.3	72.7
11.3	7.8	6.7	2.8	3.8	6.2	5.6	7.0
13.0	8.3	8.5	3.0	4.1	6.6	5.1	7.5
10.1	7.3	5.5	2.5	3.6	5.9	6.1	6.6
24.6	19.0	21.3	5.3	8.0	20.2	15.0	15.6
17.9	39.3	45.7	34.7	24.3	12.7	24.1	37.2
22.7	29.3	27.9	75.3	41.5	41.4	41.7	31.0
4.2	5.9	5.3	23.9	8.0	13.3	11.2	7.9
40.7	39.3	39.3	38.9	42.3	39.9	42.5	40.5
29.9	27.5	29.3	70.6	56.7	48.7	28.0	38.3
32 000	33 400	30 300	41 200	38 400	36 900	36 300	...
3.5	2.0	1.2	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.6	...
4.1	3.2	3.5	2.2	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.7
2.0	-2.3	-3.3	0.6	-1.7	2.4	-2.7	...
39.6	63.6	106.4	47.4	62.0	45.9	43.4	...

Total assets and profits of banks, 2008

Bank categories	No. institutions		Total assets		Annual profits	Annual losses
	1990	2008	CHF million	Change ¹	CHF million	CHF million
Total	495	327	3 079 620	-10.9	8 422	38 926
Cantonal banks	29	24	389 316	9.2	2 157	57
Major banks	4	2	1 885 316	-19.5	-	38 185
Regional and savings banks	204	75	89 922	5.4	457	-
"Raiffeisen" banks ²	2	1	131 575	6.9	564	-
Other banks	218	180	519 097	6.4	4 690	496
Branches of foreign banks	16	31	23 717	-31.1	196	177
Private banking	22	14	40 677	37.8	357	11

1 % change over previous year

2 an association with 367 member banks (at year-end 2008)

Balance-sheet structure of the banks, 2008

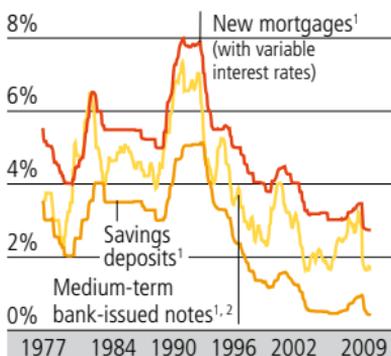
Assets	in %
Total	100
of which foreign	62.1
Liquid assets	4.2
Money markets paper held	4.5
Claims against banks	26.7
Claims against customers	19.0
Mortgage claims	22.8
Security holdings	6.9
Financial investments	3.2
Participating interests	1.6
Tangible assets	0.7
Other	10.4
Liabilities	
Total	100
of which foreign	58.7
Money market paper issued	3.0
Liabilities towards banks	23.6
Liabilities towards customers	56.9
Liabilities in the form of savings and deposits	11.6
Liabilities on sight	12.4
Liabilities on time	21.3
Medium term bank-issues notes	1.6
Loans and debenture bonds	9.9
Own assets	4.6
Other	12.0

Private insurance, 2008

in CHF million

Insurance type	Revenue ¹	Expendit. ¹
Total	119 362	103 854
Life insurance	32 419	33 309
Insurance against accident and loss	49 277	30 258
Re-insurance	37 666	40 287

1 At home and abroad

Interest rates

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

2 Up until 2007 for 3–8 year term, from 2008 for 5 year term

Exchange rates in Switzerland¹

	2004	2006	2008
\$ 1	1.2419	1.2530	1.0830
¥ 100	1.1483	1.0773	1.0518
€ 1	1.5437	1.5729	1.5867
£ 1	2.2746	2.3068	1.9971

1 Bank purchase rate, mid-year

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Banken, Versicherungen (in German)► www.snb.ch/en (Swiss National Bank)► 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 welfare benefits, with social welfare from the state providing the last safety net and guaranteeing the right to a minimum standard of living. This comes into effect when none of the other social security provisions apply (principle of subsidiarity).

Before social welfare is called upon, a series of other benefits are available in the third tier, aimed at avoiding dependence on social welfare. 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 2007, total expenditure on social security amounted to 142.5 billion francs. 132.4 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 insurance: expenditure and revenue¹

in CHF billion (without double accounting)

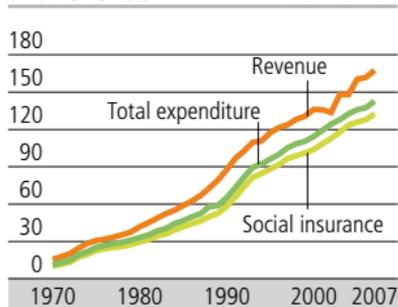
	1990	1995	2000	2006	2007
Total expenditure	64.8	95.8	114.0	137.3	142.5
of which social insurance	58.0	87.8	103.7	127.5	132.4
Revenue	87.3	117.3	136.0	161.6	167.3
Level of expenditure on social insurance ²	19.6	25.6	27.0	28.0	27.3

¹ Partly revised

² Total expenditure in relation to GDP

Social insurance: expenditure and revenue

in CHF billion



Social contribution by function, 2007

	in %
Old age insurance	45.6
Health insurance / health care	26.5
Disability insurance	12.3
Survivors' insurance	4.4
Families / child benefits	4.9
Unemployment	3.0
Social exclusion	2.8
Accommodation & housing	0.5

Social welfare

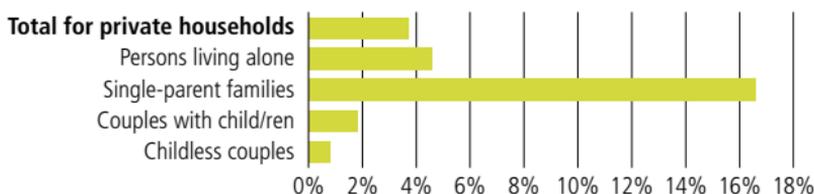
In 2007, 233 500 people (3.1% of the population) needed support from social benefits. The regional differences are considerable: urban cantons have much higher social welfare rates than rural ones. The social welfare risk varies greatly depending on age, family structure and nationality.

- Children and young people under 18 have the highest social welfare rates. The rate tends to decrease with age. A slightly higher rate is seen once again in the 36 to 45 age group, in connection with child costs, career breaks, divorce or a reduction in working hours.
- Single parents in particular frequently receive social benefits. The financial burden of child costs, combined with additional costs caused by separation or divorce, lead to greater risk of needing social welfare. Furthermore, childcare responsibilities mean that a full-time job is generally not possible.
- Foreigners are also over-represented in social welfare compared to the rest of the population. This is accounted for by their frequent lack of professional qualifications, poor chances in the labour market and family structure.

Level of social assistance, 2007
in %

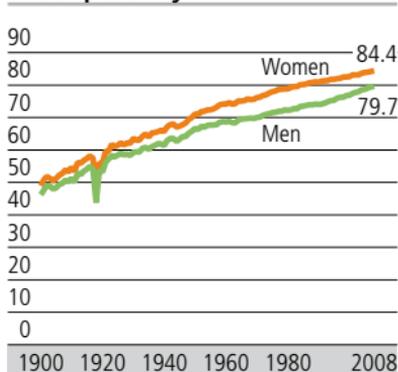
Total	3.1
Age group	
0–17 years of age	4.7
18–25 years of age	4.1
26–35 years of age	3.3
36–45 years of age	3.6
46–55 years of age	3.0
56–64 years of age	2.1
65–79 years of age	0.2
80 years of age and over	0.6
Swiss nationals	2.2
Men	2.2
Women	2.1
Foreign nationals	6.5
Men	6.2
Women	6.7

Level of social assistance¹ by household unit, 2007



¹ Ratio between the number of household units receiving assistance and the number of private households, in %

The main objectives of social welfare are the return to economic independence and social integration. For younger age groups in particular, an improvement in the work situation and integration into professional life are the main ways to escape dependence on social welfare. An important factor for better chances on the labour market is, therefore, a good professional education and training.

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 2000 it has risen for women by 1.8 years and for men by 2.8 years (2008). Life expectancy has risen more among women than among men who tend to die earlier (before the age of 70), mainly due to ischemic heart disease accidents and violence, as well as lung cancer.

State of health

In 2007, 88% of men and 85% of women described their health as good or very good and only 3% of men and women qualified it as bad or very bad. However, temporary physical and mental problems often seem to affect work and everyday life. On average, Swiss people are unfit for work due to illness or accident on 9 days a year.

Infectious diseases¹, 2008

Acute gastro-intestinal infections	9 951
Meningitis	67
Hepatitis B	77
Tuberculosis	520
AIDS	130

¹ New cases

Accidents, 2008

	Men	Women
Occupational accidents	207 189	60 642
Non-occupational accidents	300 718	180 059

Disabled¹, 2009

Degree of disability	Men	Women
40–49%	5 542	6 565
50–59%	20 240	20 382
60–69%	8 978	7 731
70–100%	100 020	80 619

¹ Receiving govt. disability pensions

Underlying causes of death, 2007

	Number of deaths		Death rate ¹	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
All causes	29 544	31 545	615.0	394.0
of which:				
Infectious diseases	320	319	6.8	4.3
Cancer-related illness, all types	8 836	7 184	187.0	117.0
Circulatory system	10 107	12 506	202.0	129.0
Ischemic heart disease	4 637	4 398	93.4	45.4
Cerebrovascular diseases	1 585	2 540	30.9	26.9
Diseases of the respiratory system, all types	2 020	1 713	39.7	19.3
Accidents and acts of violence	2 306	1 476	53.8	23.1
Accidents, all types	1 280	981	29.4	12.9
Suicide	920	440	21.9	9.1

¹ Age-standardised death rate per 100 000 inhabitants

Infant mortality

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2007	2008
per 1000 live births	15.1	9.1	6.8	4.9	3.9	4.0

Consumption of alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs, 2007

Illegal drugs are mainly used by teenagers and young adults, usually just a few times or occasionally. Currently, approximately 7% of 15–39 year-olds consume cannabis; in 1992, only 4% did. Much more serious from the public health angle is the consumption of tobacco and alcohol. In all, approximately 28% of the population smoke, 24% of women and 32% of men. The percentages have fallen slightly compared to 1992, the most noticeably for 35–44 year olds and in particular for men (35–44 year old men: from 41% to 32%; women: from 31% to 27%). For alcohol, the percentage of those drinking alcohol daily has decreased to 14% (1992: 21%).

Medical services, 2007

	in % ¹	
	Men	Women
Physicians' consultations	73.4	86.2
Hospitalisation	10.7	12.2
Home care	1.4	3.6

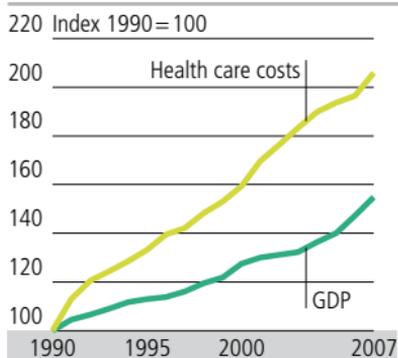
¹ Population from age 15

Hospitalisation rate in acute hospitals, 2008

	in % ¹		
	Total	Men	Women
15–59 years old	12.6	10.3	14.9
60–79 years old	29.1	31.8	26.8
80+ years old	47.0	54.4	43.2

¹ of the corresponding population category

Health care costs



In 2007, 10.6% of the GDP went on health (1990: 8.1%). 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.

Physicians and dentists per 100 000 inhabitants

	1980	2008
Physicians with private practice ¹	117	196
Dentists	35	52

¹ Since 2008, physicians with ambulatory sector as main function

Nursing homes, 2008

	in '000 in % ¹	
	Total nb. of clients	
of which:		
Clients ≥ 80 years old	103.4	28.9
Men	25.9	21.1
Women	77.6	32.9

¹ of the corresponding population category

	in CHF million	
	1997	2007
Total	38 210	55 215
Inpatient treatment	18 024	25 173
Outpatient treatment	11 173	17 406
of which:		
Doctors	5 456	7 856
Dentists	2 701	3 551
Home care	768	1 212
Other services ¹	1 237	1 831
Healthcare resources ²	4 779	6 761
of which:		
Pharmacies	2 915	3 956
Doctors	1 079	1 734
Prevention	939	1 281
Administration	2 058	2 762

¹ Such as laboratory analyses, radiology, transport
² Medicines and therapeutic apparatus

Moving towards a Swiss educational system

The educational system in Switzerland is characterised distinctly by federalism.

The wide variety of educational systems in place is particularly apparent in schools falling under compulsory education. Depending on the canton in question, there are for example, at Secondary level one, two, three or even four different types of schools, differing in their levels of requirements. During the nine compulsory school years the total number of hours of tuition ranges from 7100 to 8900 hours per pupil.

The Swiss educational system is in a process of transformation – in recent years, the cantons have reformed their educational systems, national structures have been reorganised (including the introduction of a professional baccalaureate and universities of applied sciences, as well as the implementation of the Bologna Reform); the demand for education has risen and the schools offering an all-round education have gained in importance.

Students

Educational level	Number in '000			% of women		
	1980/81	1990/91	2007/08	1980/81	1990/91	2007/08
Total	1 234.1	1 291.8	1 506.8	46	46	48
Pre-education	120.3	139.8	151.7	49	49	49
Compulsory education	849.6	711.9	788.1	49	49	49
Primary	451.0	404.2	445.1	49	49	49
Lower secondary	362.3	271.6	298.4	49	49	50
Special syllabus schools	36.4	36.2	44.6	39	38	37
Upper secondary	299.0	295.8	329.9	43	45	47
Schools of general education ¹	74.8	74.5	103.1	53	55	59
Vocational training ²	224.2	221.3	226.8	39	42	41
Higher education	85.3	137.5	225.9	30	35	49
Universities	61.4	85.9	116.9	32	39	50
Higher vocat. schools	...	...	60.8	...	...	48
Advanced vocat. training	...	36.2	48.1	...	33	50
Unclassified levels	–	6.7	11.3	–	51	49

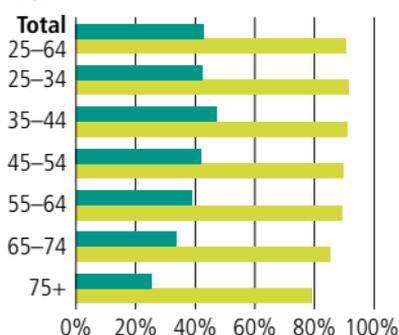
1 Including schools for teaching professions and preparation for higher vocational studies after apprenticeships

2 Incl. induction/preliminary training

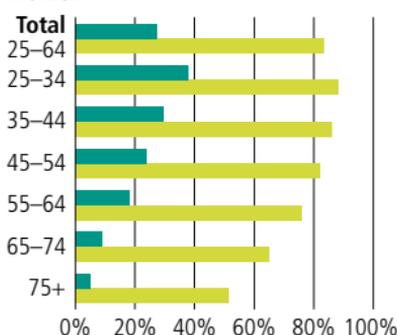
Education level, 2009

Share of the permanent resident population

Men

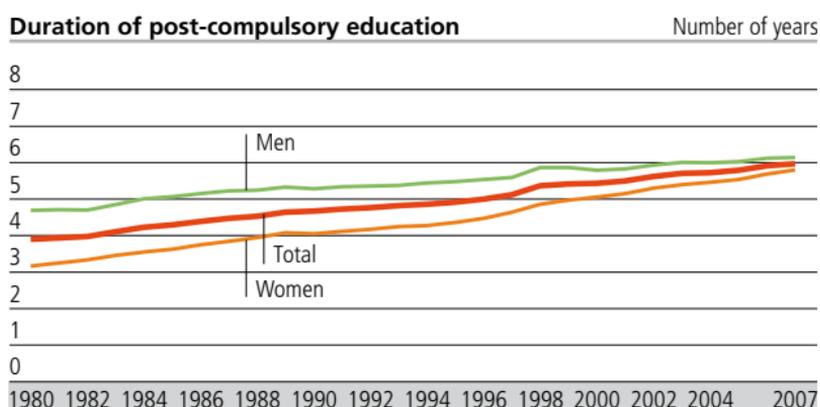


Women



■ Tertiary level

■ Secondary 2 level or higher



The gender gap has narrowed

Women have been the main beneficiaries of the educational boom in recent decades. Gender-specific educational differences have narrowed continuously. Today almost as many women as men undertake and complete post-compulsory education or vocational training. But men continue to pursue longer studies; their rate of entry into tertiary level education is also higher than that of women.

Conversely, girls are more successful in compulsory education: they repeat a class less frequently, they are transferred to a special class less frequently and at the lower secondary level they attend schools with higher educational requirements. By the time they finish compulsory schooling, they have – as the PISA studies demonstrate – better reading skills but worse maths skills than boys. There is considerable evidence to suggest that girls lag behind in maths in no small part because of stereotypical notions of their traditional social roles.

Particularly striking differences still exist in the choice of subject area. This applies to both vocational training and university. Different fields are dominated by either men or women. 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.

PISA 2006: results above the OECD average

In the 2006 PISA tests, Switzerland scored well in all those areas examined (natural sciences, mathematics and reading). In the natural sciences – the focus of the 2006 tests – the average score of Swiss pupils reached 512 points, thus bringing it above the OECD average of 500 points. If one breaks down the results by level of skill, 10% of 15 year-olds in Switzerland are in the top levels 5 and 6. In the OECD average only 9% of pupils fall into this range. At the other end of the scale, 16% of pupils in Switzerland did not achieve higher than level 1 (the lowest level) in comparison with 19% of the OECD average.

Selected educational qualifications, 2008

Educational level	Total	% of Women
Upper secondary level		
Academic baccalaureate	18 093	57.7
Vocational baccalaureate	10 883	44.5
Vocational training certific. ¹	57 095	43.7
Commercial diploma	2 555	49.5
Higher education		
Higher vocational training		
UAS diploma	4 243	31.3
Swiss Federal diploma	2 818	19.0
Swiss Fed. profes. diploma	12 468	38.5
Universities of Applied Science		
Diploma	7 071	47.6
Bachelor's degree	5 804	55.1
Master's degree	361	73.7
Universities		
Licentiate/Diploma	6 108	57.1
Bachelor's degree	8 690	50.4
Master's degree	5 413	45.4
Doctorate	3 209	41.4

¹ Includes Swiss Federal vocational diploma

**Teachers, 2007/08
University staff, 2008**

	FTEs	% of Women
Pre-school	8 200	96.0
Compulsory school ¹	51 000	66.3
Primary school	27 900	79.7
Lower secondary school	23 100	51.0
Upper secondary school ²	8 300	42.3
Universities	32 751	41.2
Professors	2 900	15.0
Other lecturers	2 851	24.4
Assistants ³	15 868	40.1
Univ. of Applied Sciences	12 036	41.7
Professors	4 167	33.1
Other lecturers	1 945	39.4
Assistants ³	2 268	38.5

¹ Excluding schools with a special curriculum

² Only schools providing a general education (secondary, technical and vocational schools etc.)

³ Including scientific staff

Public expenditure on education, 2007

	in CHF billion
Total	27.0
of which costs of teaching staff accounted for	14.9
Pre-school	1.0
Compulsory school	11.5
Special schools	1.4
Basic vocational training	3.3
General schools	2.2
Higher vocational training	0.2
Universities, Univ. of Applied Sciences	6.7
Undistributed funds	0.7

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 (79% of the permanent population between 25 and 64 years of age or 83% of employed aged between 25 and 64) undertook further education in one form or another in 2006. Informal study is markedly more common than non-formal education (74% of the permanent population and 77% of employed, compared with 48% and 53% respectively for non-formal study).

Focus on research

Research and development (R&D) is an important factor for a national economy. With 2.94% of its GDP being spent in this area (2004), Switzerland is one of the most R&D-oriented countries in the world.

In 2004 around CHF 13.1 billion was spent on domestic R&D. Of this, around 74% was in the private sector, 23% in universities and the remaining 3% was divided between the Confederation and various private, non-profit organisations.

Swiss companies abroad have traditionally invested heavily in R&D activities. Expenditure on R&D in the private sector abroad was around CHF 9.6 billion in 2004, which is roughly equivalent to domestic private sector spending.

► www.statistik.admin.ch
→ Themen → Bildung und Wissenschaft (in German)

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 1.4 million readers per edition¹. With the establishment of the "Le Matin bleu" newspaper (with 559 000 readers) in 2005 in French-speaking Switzerland, together with the French-language edition of "20 Minuten" (with 526 000 readers), the two free newspapers are in the top three ranking of the most-read dailies.

¹ Source: WEMF MACH Basic (2009/II; population aged 14 and over, readers per edition)

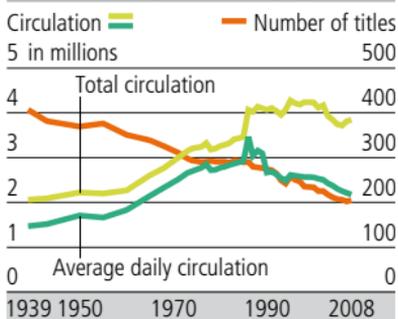
Widespread use of the internet and mobile phones

The number of regular internet users (defined as more than once a week) rose from 0.7 million (1998) to 4.3 million in the first quarter of 2008. Over three quarters of households have a PC and as of the end of 2007, there were 2.3 million broadband internet connections (ADSL or cable modem). Mobile telephony has grown similarly fast. The number of mobile phone connections rose from 125 000 (1990) to 1.7 million (1998) to 8.2 million (2007), which corresponds to 110 mobile phone connections per 100 inhabitants.

Books – still going strong

Book production in Switzerland does not appear to have been greatly affected by the threat of competition from the electronic media. With more than 11 000 new titles per year, the number of new publications has more than doubled since the 1960s.

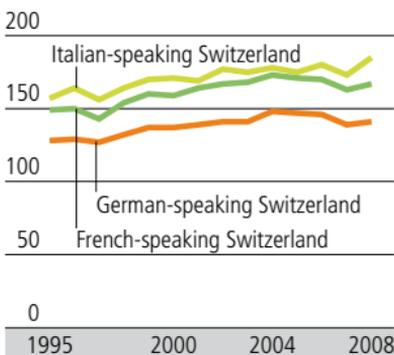
Evolution of paid newspapers



Source: Verband S.P./WEMF circulation statistics (considered are publications of general interests published at least once a week).

Television usage

in minutes per day and per inhabitant



Source: Mediapulse AG Telecontrol (based on population over 3 yrs of age, mean per day Monday–Sunday)

Radio usage

in minutes per day and per inhabitant

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
German-speaking Switzerland	106	106	102	105	109
French-speaking Switzerland	101	99	97	98	99
Italian-speaking Switzerland	103	100	96	99	99

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

Book production, 2008¹

Total	11 126
German	6 331
French	2 416
Italian	319
English	1 302
Other languages	758
of which Romansh	31

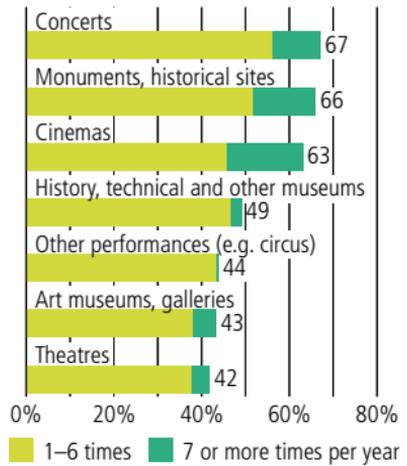
¹ Books published in Switzerland which appeared in bookshops

Cultural behaviour

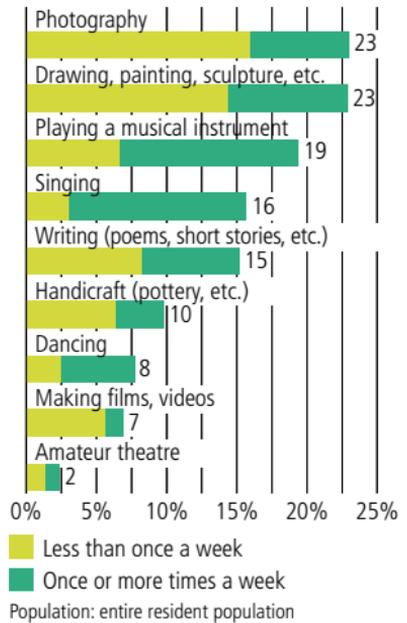
Visiting concerts, monuments and cinemas were among the most popular cultural activities in 2008. The most popular styles of music are pop and rock, followed by classical music. People also spend much time listening to music privately. Radio and television remain the most frequently used media to listen to music, but 4 out of 5 young listeners also use MP3 players for this purpose. People with a high level of education and a good income are the most likely to avail themselves of cultural offerings; gender and nationality play a marginal role in this respect. Cultural activities are pursued more often in cities and urban agglomerations than in rural areas.

The most frequently reported cultural activities pursued at an individual level (i.e. carried out on a regular basis with an artistic ambition) are photography, fine arts and playing a musical instrument. The most popular musical instruments are the piano and the guitar. Women tend to play to piano and men the guitar.

Participation rates, 2008



Amateur activities, 2008



Cinema: A wide variety of available choices

After the peak of popularity in 1964–65 (646 cinemas, approximately 40 million tickets), the number of spectators decreased continuously until the beginning of the 1990s. The lowest point was reached in 1992–93, with 302 cinemas and 15 million spectators. Since the introduction of cinema complexes and multiplex cinemas in 1993, the number of cinema screens has increased again, but not the number of spectators (2008: 564 screens and 14.3 million tickets).

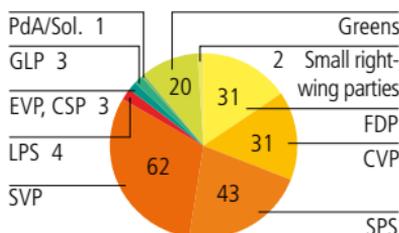
The choice of films has also changed significantly. At the beginning of the 1980s, approximately 3000 films were shown every year in Switzerland. Today this number is about 1400. In contrast, the number of premieres has risen continuously since 2004 (to approximately 400 per year).

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Kultur, Medien, Informationsgesellschaft, Sport (in German)

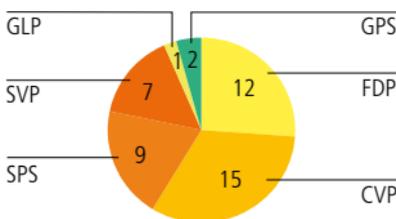
The political system

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 2009: 2 FDP, 2 SPS, 1 CVP, 1 SVP, 1 BDP). 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 elections, 2007: distribution of seats



Council of States, 2007: distribution of seats

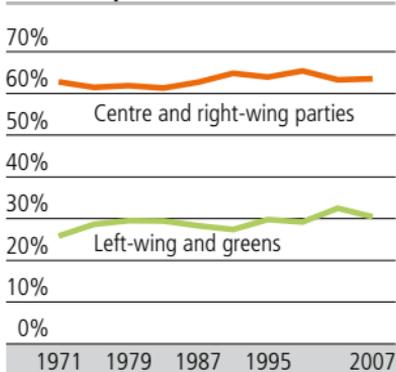


National elections, 2007

Party	Seats	Share of the votes in %
FDP	31	15.8
CVP	31	14.5
SPS	43	19.5
SVP	62	28.9
LPS	4	1.9
Middle parties ¹	6	4.3
PdA/Sol	1	1.1
Greens ²	20	9.8
Small right-wing parties ³	2	2.5
Other parties	0	1.8

1 EVP, CSP, GLP 3 SD, EDU, FPS, Lega
2 GPS, FGA See below for abbreviation

Political spectrum¹



1 Share of the vote at national elections

National elections, 2007

After decades of high stability, the Swiss political landscape has changed. The conservative/liberal side already began to shift and distinct itself in the 1990s. The SVP (Swiss People's Party) almost tripled its share of votes and is now clearly the strongest party. Their gains are at the expense of the small, right-wing parties as well as the other conservative, Federal Council parties, the FDP (Radical Democratic Party) and the CVP (Christian Democratic Party). At the latest elections, the gains made by the Greens could not make up for the losses of the SPS, with the result that the left-wing/Green camp was rather weakened. This camp is however, stronger than it was 20 years ago.

Parties abbreviations

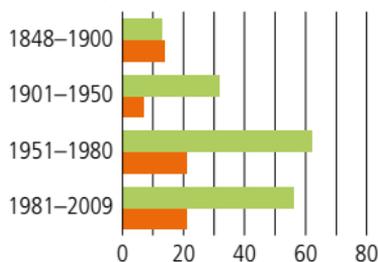
FDP Radical Democratic Party
CVP Christian Democratic Party
SPS Social Democratic Party
SVP Swiss People's Party
LPS Liberal Party of Switzerland
BDP Citizens' Democratic Party

EVP Evangelical People's Party
CSP Christian Social Party
GLP Green Liberal Party
PdA Labour Party
Sol. Solidarity
FGA Feminist and green-alternative groups

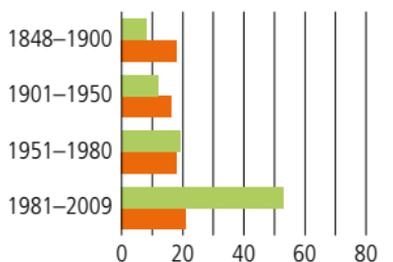
GPS Green Party of Switzerland
SD Swiss Democrats
EDU Federal democratic union
FPS Freedom Party of Switzerland
Lega Lega dei Ticinesi

National Popular Votes

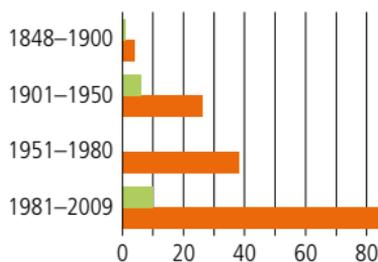
Compulsory referendums¹



Non-compulsory referendums

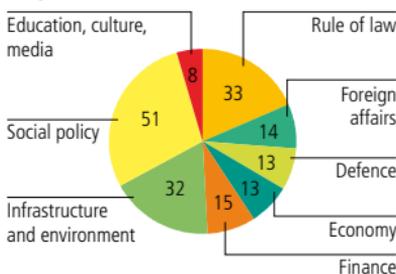


Popular initiatives²



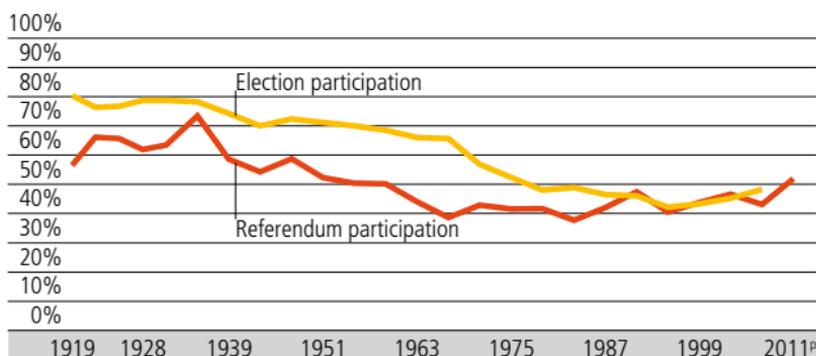
Accepted Rejected

Subject, 1991-2009



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

Participation rate in national elections and referendums



The strongest decline in voter turnout in national elections has been observed since 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 28% and 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.

Final accounts of the public administration							in CHF billion		
	Revenue			Expenditure			Surplus		
	2000	2007	2008 ²	2000	2007	2008 ²	2000	2007	2008 ²
Total¹	157.2	190.7	207.0	148.1	179.6	201.4	9.2	11.2	5.6
Confederation	52.0	58.7	64.2	48.2	54.2	66.0	3.8	4.6	-1.9
Cantons	62.8	78.2	84.3	60.2	74.7	79.1	2.6	3.5	5.2
Communes	42.1	49.1	53.4	40.6	46.5	51.6	1.5	2.6	1.8
Social insurances	42.3	52.1	52.0	41.0	51.6	51.5	1.3	0.5	0.5

¹ Double counts not included in total, without SUVA (swiss professional accident insurance)

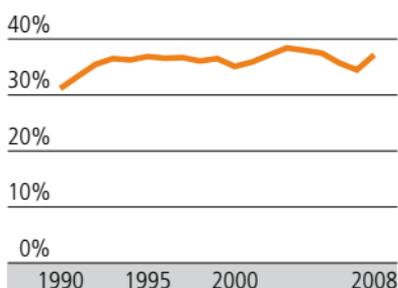
² Part-estimates

Federal, cantonal and communal debt							in CHF billion	
	1980	1990	2000	2006	2007	2008		
Total	77.1	106.5	218.5	231.3	227.0	223.7		
Confederation	31.7	38.5	105.3	123.6	120.9	121.7		
Cantons	22.4	30.5	64.1	62.7	61.5	59.7		
Communes ¹	23.0	37.4	49.1	44.9	44.6	42.3		

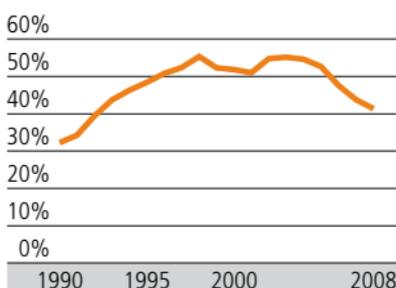
Per inhabitant, in francs at current prices	12 072	15 491	30 306	30 604	29 795	29 013

¹ Part-estimates

Public spending ratio in % of GDP



Public debt in % of GDP



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).

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.

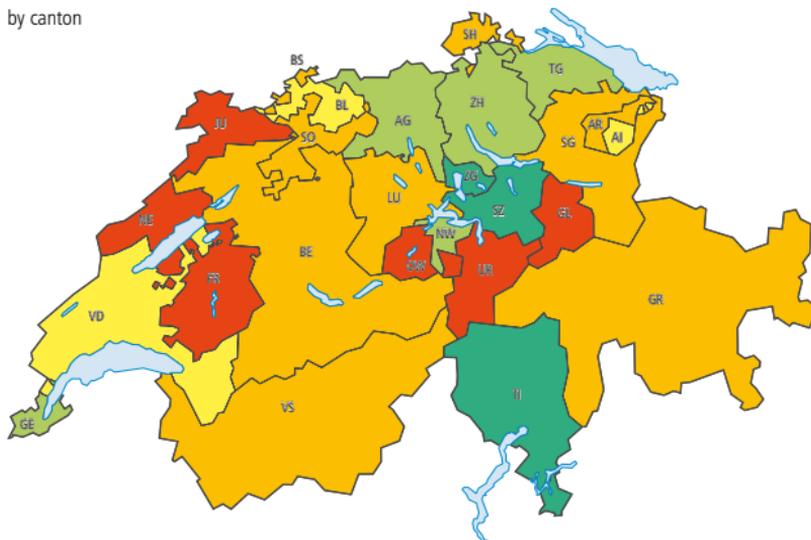
Switzerland's public debt ratio is also relatively low compared with other OECD countries; between 1990 and 2003, however, it rose continuously. Thanks to a strong economic recovery until 2008, together with the shedding of surplus gold reserves of the Swiss National Bank as well as various structural measures (i.e. relief programmes, debt and expenditure brakes, it has been possible to reduce gross public debt since 2005. By the end of 2008, the debt ratio dropped to 41.3%.

Revenue: Confederation, Cantons and Communes

	1990	2000	2006	2007	2007
	in %	in %	in %	in %	CHF billion
Total	100	100	100	100	156.6
Taxes	77.8	72.4	71.7	73.1	114.5
Income and wealth taxes	54.5	48.5	48.7	50.4	78.9
Stamp duty	2.5	3.2	1.9	1.9	3.0
Property and maintenance tax	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	2.1
Consumption taxes	16.8	18.0	17.6	17.4	27.2
Transport levies	0.4	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.7
Customs duties	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.0
Agricultural taxes	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Incentive taxes	...	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Casino and gambling taxes	...	...	0.3	0.3	0.4
Other income	22.2	27.6	28.3	26.9	42.1

Tax burden on private individuals, 2006

by canton



Overall index of income and wealth tax paid by private individuals



Federal, cantonal and communal expenditure by function

following deductions in double payment

	1990	2000	2006	2007	2007
	in %	in %	in %	in %	CHF billion
Total	100	100	100	100	146.0
General administration	7.0	6.4	6.4	7.5	10.9
Justice, police and fire protection	5.7	5.5	5.8	5.9	8.6
Defence	7.7	4.4	3.4	3.1	4.6
Foreign relations	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	2.3
Education	19.2	18.4	19.6	19.5	28.4
Culture and leisure	3.6	3.1	3.1	3.1	4.6
Health care	12.4	12.6	14.1	14.5	21.1
Social welfare	15.5	19.0	20.7	20.8	30.3
Transport	10.6	10.5	10.2	9.7	14.2
Environment & spatial planning	4.3	3.9	3.5	3.6	5.3
Economy	6.0	5.5	4.4	4.1	6.0
of which agriculture	3.7	3.4	3.0	2.9	4.2
Finance and taxes	6.3	8.7	7.1	6.6	9.7

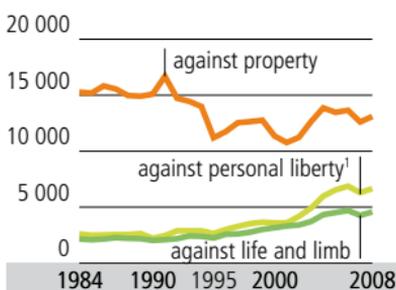
► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Öffentliche Finanzen (in German)

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.

Convictions under the Swiss Criminal Code (SCC)

As far as convictions according to the SCC are concerned, figures remained practically constant between 1984 and 2001. A large increase was observed between 2002 and 2004. Since then the curve has mostly flattened out again. Offences against property continue to form the largest group of SCC crimes. Since 1984 they have decreased slightly. However, the number of convictions for offences against personal liberty (incl. unlawful entry, threatening, and coercion) has increased, as has that for crimes endangering life or health. The marked increase since 2004 must also be seen in connection with the fact that since 2004, police may intervene in domestic violence without the victim filing charges.

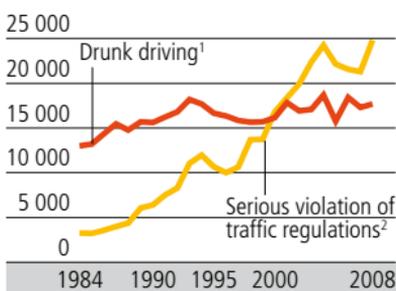
Selected criminal offences (SCC)



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

Convictions for violation of the Road Traffic Act (SVG)

As far as road traffic offences are concerned, the number of drink driving convictions has remained more or less stable since 1984. In contrast, there has been a marked increase in convictions for serious infringement of the Highway Code. Most such cases were for speeding. In part this trend can be attributed to the growth in traffic volume and intensified road checks.

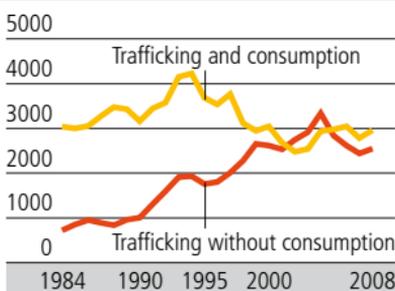


¹ Over the legal alcohol limit (Art. 91 Para.1, Part 2 SVG)

² Art. 90.2 SVG

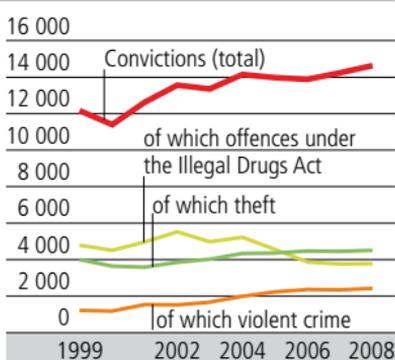
Drug-related convictions

Having shown a marked increase up until the mid 1990s, convictions for drug trafficking have been stable on the whole. (Convictions for drug use only are generally no longer recorded in criminal records and are therefore not taken into account here).



Juvenile convictions

All convictions of minors (aged 10 to under 18) are recorded in the juvenile convictions statistics. When minors commit a crime, the possibility exists for the victim and perpetrator to solve the conflict by means of mediation. If this proves successful, no sentence is passed, which is why these cases are not reflected in the juvenile conviction statistics.



Convictions by demographic characteristics, 2008

	Number	Part in %
Total	91 271	100.0
Men	77 408	84.8
Women	13 863	15.2
<hr/>		
18–19 year olds	4 518	5.0
20–29 year olds	32 447	35.6
30–39 year olds	22 560	24.7
40–49 year olds	17 686	19.4
50–59 year olds	9 028	9.9
60 or over	5 032	5.5
<hr/>		
Swiss nationality	44 570	48.8
Foreign nationality	46 701	51.2

Most crimes are committed by men under 40. Convictions of persons of foreign nationality include not only persons from the foreign resident population but also tourists, asylum seekers and other persons whose stay in Switzerland is of a temporary nature. A direct comparison with convictions of persons of Swiss nationality is, therefore, not possible.

With the revised Law of Penal Sanctions that came into force on 1 January 2007, two new types of sentence were introduced: the monetary penalty, which in contrast to the fine, is assessed on the basis of individually established daily rates depending on income and fortune and which can also be converted into a sentence of detention, and community work. Nowadays (2008) monetary penalties are most frequently imposed, usually in association with a fine. The imposition of a fine as the main sentence has almost disappeared. The number of unconditional custodial sentences has also greatly decreased, the majority (65%) of which last no longer than six months.

Income by gross income group¹, 2007

	Total households	Up to 4 599	4 600 to 6 699	6 700 to 8 899	8 900 to 12 499	12 500 and above
Income structure in %						
Income from employment	73.8	26.4	59.9	70.1	81.0	84.4
Income from assets and letting	4.7	5.0	2.9	3.3	3.1	6.8
Transfer income	21.5	68.6	37.2	26.7	16.0	8.9
Income amount in CHF per month						
Gross income	8 979	3 229	5 731	7 767	10 515	17 568
Compulsory expenditure	-2 702	-996	-1 635	-2 248	-2 991	-5 608
Disposable income	6 276	2 233	4 097	5 520	7 524	11 960

Composition of compulsory expenditure, 2007



¹ The five income groups in the table and in the two graphs on this page are structured in such a way that they all include roughly the same number of cases (around 20% of households). The income (gross and disposable) and deductions are average figures.

Household income:

What does it include? How much is available for spending?

The composition of gross household income varies widely according to income group. In the lower income groups, transfer payments feature strongly (such as old age and survivors' insurance payments), whereas in the upper income groups, income from work dominates.

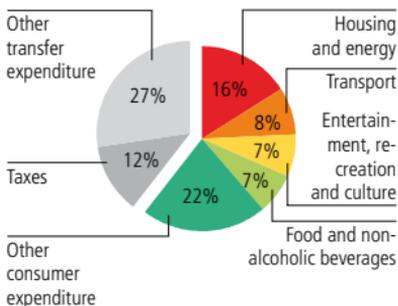
Compulsory expenditure includes taxes, social insurance contributions (Old-age and survivors' insurance, disability insurance, occupational pension funds) as well as premiums for basic health insurance. In 2007, households spent on average 30% of their gross income on these expenses. This percentage changes very little among the different income groups. However, it is put together differently: the proportion of social insurance contributions and taxes, which are of course income-related, increases with the level of income, whereas that of (non-income-related) health insurance decreases.

What is income spent on?

In 2007, consumer expenditure represented over 60% of total household expenditure. Housing and energy costs accounted for the largest share, with 16% of total household expenditure.

Since the Second World War, the proportion of expenditure outlaid for food has decreased from more than 35% to approximately 7%. In contrast, expenditure on other items has increased; for transport, for example, from 2% to approximately 8%.

Composition of household expenditure, 2007



How much is left over?

In 2007, after deduction of all expenditure, households had an average of CHF 600 to put away as savings, i.e. 6.8% of gross income. Households with the lowest incomes are generally not in a position to put away savings. Their expenditure often exceeds their income. Moreover, 54% of households in this income category are pensioner households that finance some of their expenditure by drawing on their assets.

Distribution of wealth, 2005¹

Net asset levels in CHF 1000	Taxpayers	
	number	in %
Total	4 607 122	100
0	1 205 036	26.2
1–100	1 875 686	40.7
101–500	1 066 744	23.2
501–1 000	268 394	5.8
1 001–5 000	171 117	3.7
5 001–10 000	12 503	0.3
> 10 000	7 642	0.2

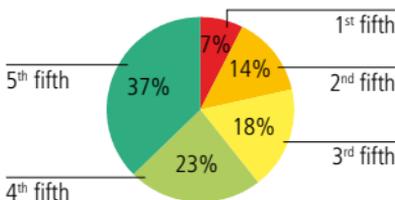
¹ Declared net assets of natural persons in tax returns as per 31 December 2005

Income distribution

Disposable income, i.e. what remains after deducting compulsory expenditures, is important in determining the standard of living. The number of persons in a household among whom this income has to be shared is also a decisive factor. In order to compare the standard of living (or level of well-being) between households of different sizes, one must take into account both the number and age of all its members, i.e. their actual needs. The needs of a child differ from those of an older person. These needs can be taken into consideration by using the equivalent household size. The resulting equivalent disposable income serves as a measure for determining the standard of living of all persons living together in a household. The equivalent disposable income differs significantly between households. In 2007, the quintile of the population with the lowest income accounted for 7% of total income, while the quintile with the highest income had 37% of total income.

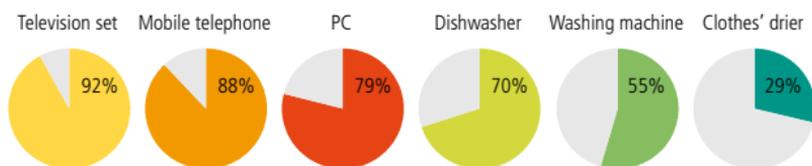
Disposable income equality, 2007

Various income groups' share¹ of total disposable equivalent income



¹ Here, households are divided into five income groups of equal size: the lowest of which comprises one-fifth of all households with the lowest gross household income (the first fifth and so on)

Household equipment: selected consumer goods, 2007



Where is the poverty line positioned?

In order to avoid arbitrarily defined values, the poverty line in Switzerland is based on the recommendations of the Swiss Conference for Social Assistance (SCSA). This body issues broadly accepted values which define what amount of money and services are necessary in order to lead a dignified and socially integrated life in this country. These guidelines are intended as recommendations for establishing the level of social assistance; however some assumptions must be made in order to be able to apply the term "poverty" in statistical terms.

The poverty line can be drawn from the sum of basic needs (defined by the SCSA) + living costs + health insurance premiums + CHF 100 per household member from the age of 16 and over. In 2007 the poverty line was, on national average, CHF 2250 for a single person, and CHF 4700 for a couple with two children (under the age of 16). These are only theoretical figures, as 26 canton-specific poverty lines are calculated. All persons between the ages of 20–59, living in a household whose income after deduction of social insurance contributions (old-age insurance, disability insurance, etc.) and of taxes, falls under the poverty line, are considered as poor.

How many people are living in poverty?

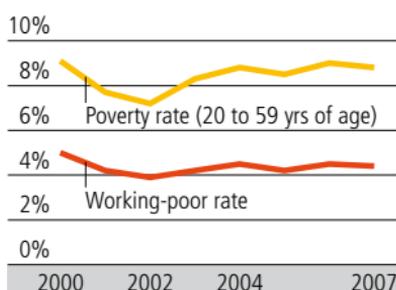
In Switzerland around 380 000 people aged between 20 and 59, in other words 8.8% of the population, are affected by poverty (2007). Those people who live in households whose members work a total of at least 36 hours per week and yet have an income which is still below the poverty line are referred to as the working poor. In 2007 this applied to 4.4% of the working population, or around 147 000 people.

Poverty in different population groups, 2007

	Poverty rate ¹	Working poor rate ¹
Total	8.8	4.4
Women	11.1	4.1
Men	6.8	4.6
Foreigners	15.0	7.9
Swiss citizens	6.7	3.3
Type of household		
Single household	8.7	1.9
Lone parent	26.3	9.9
Couple without children	6.0	2.2
Couple with 1 child	9.1	5.1
Couple with 2 children	11.4	7.6
Couple with 3 and more children	23.9	18.0

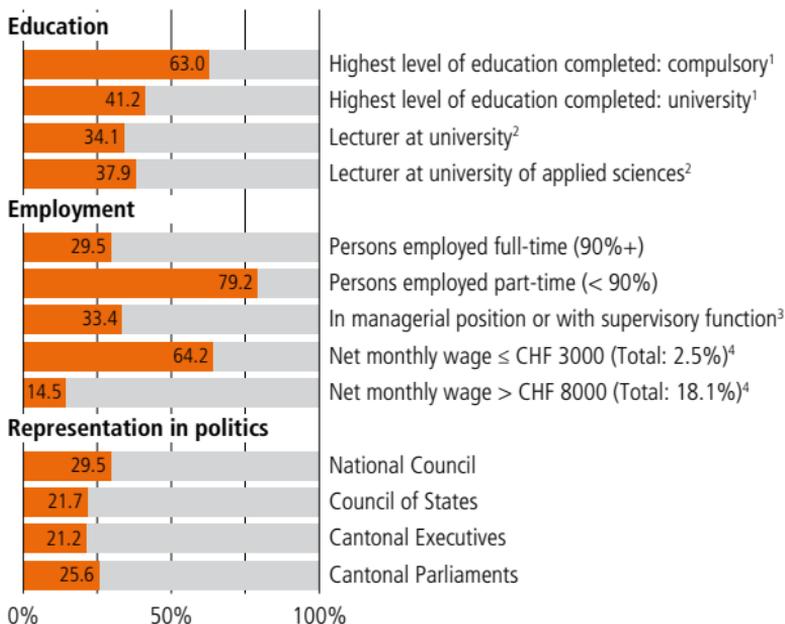
¹ 20–59 year olds

Poverty trends



Key data on gender equality

Percentage of women (latest available data 2008/2009)

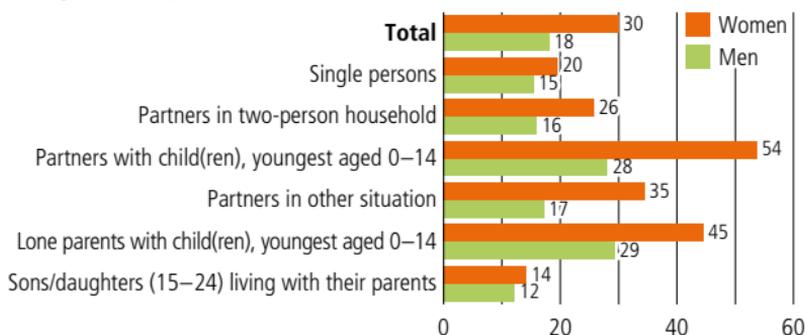


0% 50% 100%

- 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

Number of hours spent on domestic work and caring for the family, 2007

Average, in hours per week



Participation in voluntary work, 2007

as percentage of resident population

	Women	Men		Women	Men
Informal	26.3	15.2	Organised	20.1	27.9
Child-care for relatives	8.2	3.7	Sports clubs	5.0	11.4
Care of adult relatives	1.8	0.6	Cultural associations	3.9	5.8
Other services for relatives	3.5	3.0	Social, charitable organisations	4.4	2.7
Child-care for acquaintances	7.4	1.8	Church institutions	4.3	2.7
Care of adult acquaintances	1.5	0.5	Pressure groups	3.0	5.1
Other services for acquaintances	6.8	6.6	Public services	1.3	3.1
Other	0.3	0.2	Political parties, public offices	1.0	2.3

► www.statistics.admin.ch → Topics → Economic and social situation of the population

Are we headed in the right direction?

1 Meeting needs – how well do we live?

Life expectancy in good health is improving		Violence is rising	
Income is not rising		The unemployment rate is stagnating	

2 Fairness – how well are resources distributed?

Poverty is not declining		Men's and women's wage gap is slowly being narrowed	
Official development assistance is rising			

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

Teenage reading skills are barely changing		The number of employees in science and technology is rising	
Public debt has risen		Breeding bird populations remain more or less stable	
The investment to GDP ratio is stagnating		Developed land is encroaching upon the landscape	

4 Decoupling – how efficiently are we using our resources?

Freight transport is growing faster than the economy		Per capita final consumption of energy is stagnating	
The public to total transport ratio is increasing		Material consumption to GDP ratio is fluctuating	

Assessment of trends since 1990:

 Positive (towards greater sustainability)  Neutral  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.

A further contradiction exists insofar as improvements within Switzerland are sometimes in contrast to deterioration at a global level.

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, 16% of teenagers today do not have even basic reading skills. Furthermore, growth of developed land is largely at the expense of valuable agricultural land.

The **ecological footprint** measures the use of natural resources and illustrates the scarcity of environmental capital. The Swiss per-capita footprint is currently three times larger than the world average per capita biocapacity. The main reason for the large footprint is energy consumption.

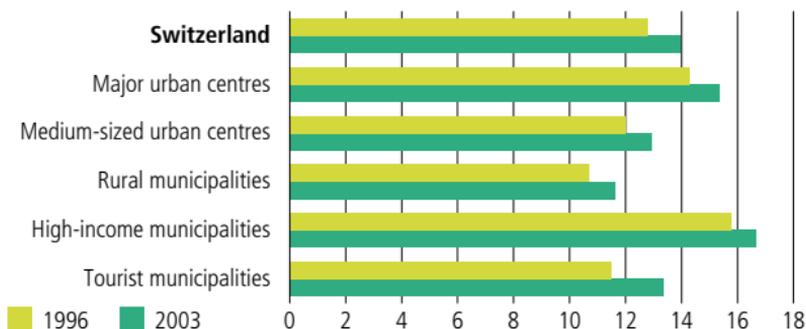
From a global perspective, economic development is still dependent on growing consumption of environmental assets and resources, which means that the higher a country's national income, the larger is its ecological footprint. The Swiss footprint is around the average of most Western European countries. North America, together with a few European countries, uses up to five times the amount of resources per person as that available per person worldwide. South-East Asia and Africa consume considerably less than the global average per person.

Diversity and regional differences, i.e. disparities, are part of every society founded on a division of labour. They are of fundamental interest to all citizens, policymakers and business leaders. Where are apartment rents high? In which regions is there high unemployment among young people? Depending on which feature is being considered and the point of view adopted, regional disparities can be seen positively as a contribution to diversity or negatively as counterproductive to a country's cohesion. The FSO has developed a set of key indicators divided into nine themes to analyse regional disparities in Switzerland.

Average apartment rent

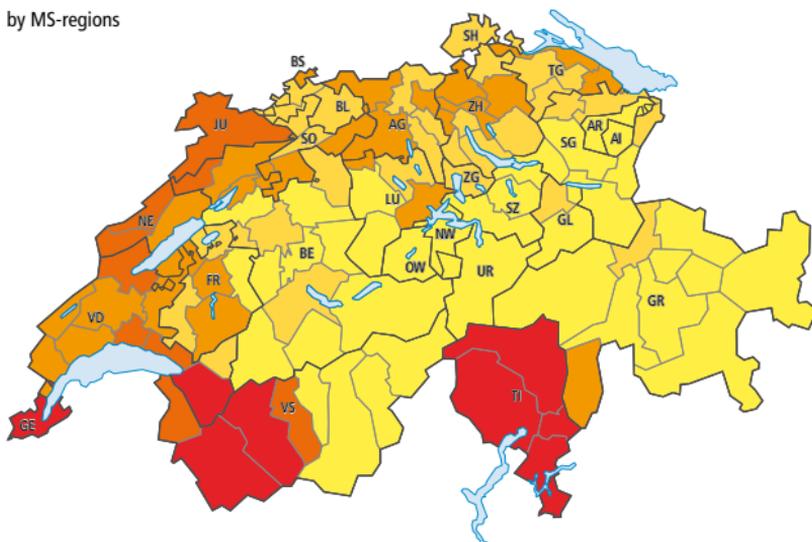
in five selected types of municipality

in CHF per m²



Unemployment among young people, 2008

by MS-regions

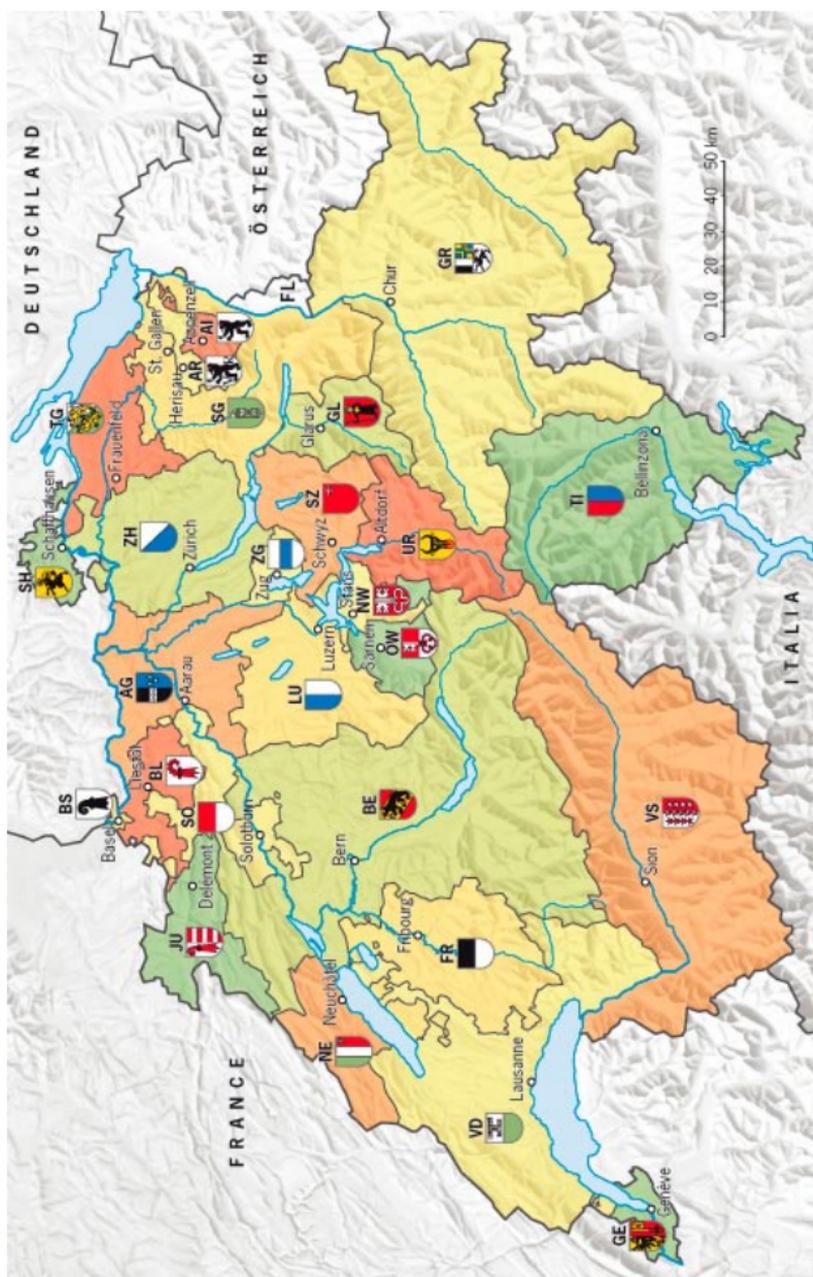


15–24 year old unemployed persons as percentage of all 15–24 year old economically active persons

■ < 2.0
 ■ 2.0 – 2.9
 ■ 3.0 – 3.9
 ■ 4.0 – 4.9
 ■ ≥ 5.0
 CH: 3.0

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Regional → Regionale Disparitäten
(in German)

Switzerland and its Cantons

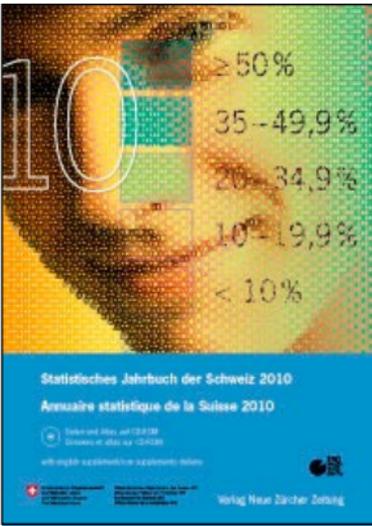


26 cantons
150 districts
2596 municipalities
Situation on 1.1.2010

o Cantonal capital

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

Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland 2010 incl. CD-ROM



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 CD-ROM that accompanies the Statistical Yearbook includes the contents of the Yearbook 2010, complemented by numerous regional statistical and additional tables, as well as an interactive Statistical Atlas of Switzerland. To mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Federal

Statistical Office, the yearbook CD is being complemented by an instructive dossier with texts about the history of federal statistics.

Published by the Federal Statistical Office. 568 pages (hardback), CHF 130 (incl. CD-ROM). Available from bookshops or directly from NZZ Libro, the publishing house of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung. Email: nzz.libro@nzz.ch

The **Swiss Statistical Portal** (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. The Data Library offers various databases (such as the Statistical Encyclopaedia and an online data search function) as well as comprehensive information on statistical fundamentals (surveys, registers, nomenclatures); 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. The "What's New?" page provides an overview of our latest publications over the past 30 days.