
Statistical Data on Switzerland

This chapter presents the main statistical findings in English for our international readers. Statistics reveal the current status of Swiss demographics and society as well as the Swiss economy and the environment. They also reveal how things have changed over time. The content structure is based on the one used by the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat).

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Switzerland in an international context

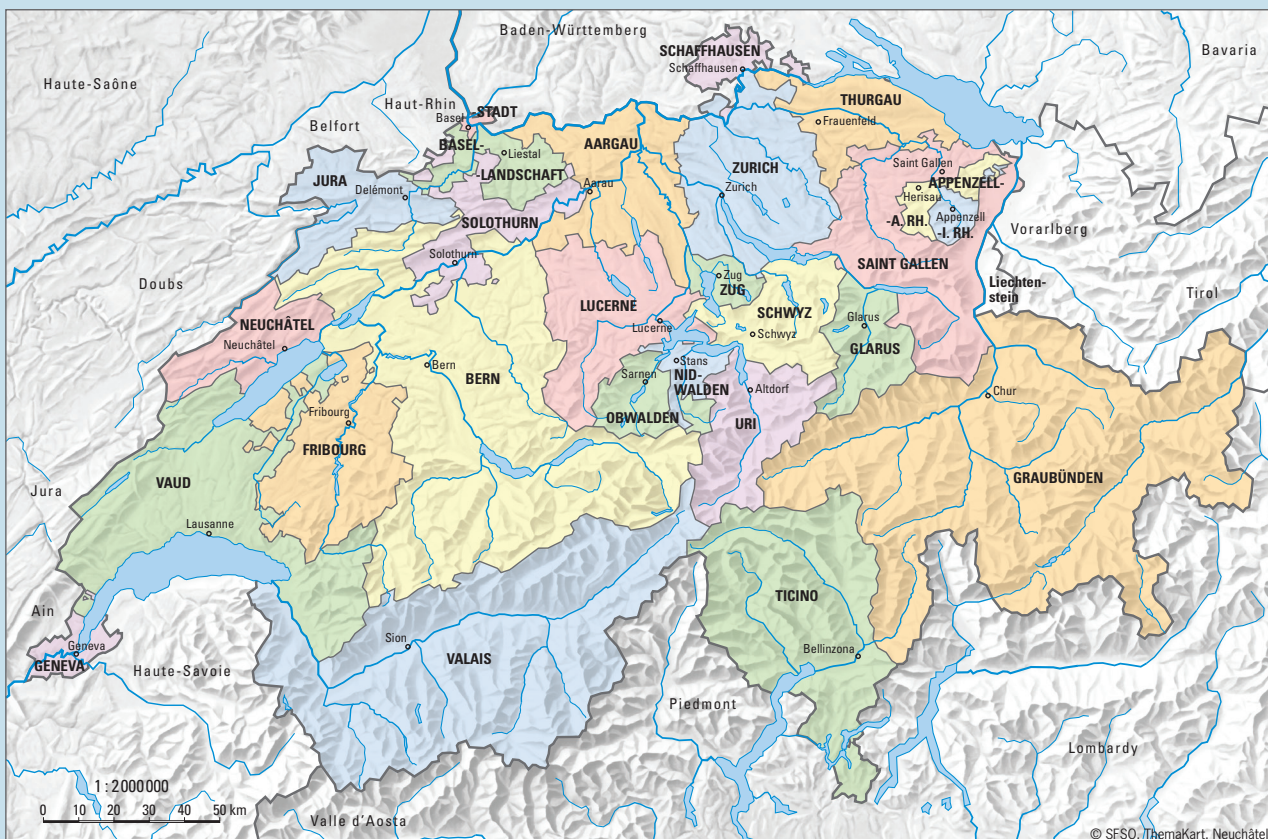
Switzerland has a population of 8.54 million people (31 December 2018) for a territory of 41 000 km². The country lies in Central Western Europe with the Alps forming a natural boundary between its northern and southern parts. With four official languages (German, French, Italian and Romansh), Switzerland is characterized by cultural and linguistic diversity.

The Swiss Confederation (in Latin *Confoederatio Helvetica*, whence the international ISO abbreviation "CH") was created in 1848 by formally bringing together 26 historically close but very politically and geographically distinct cantons into a common political entity that still guarantees wide autonomy to each of its members. Ever since 1959, the seven-member Swiss cabinet (Federal Council) has been made up of representatives from Switzerland's four leading political parties: the Radical Democratic Party (FDP), the Socialist Party (SP), the Christian Democratic Party (CVP) and the Swiss People's Party (SVP). Cabinet members (Federal Councillors) are elected every four years in a joint session of the two freshly elected houses of the Swiss Parliament: the National Council (200 members representing the people) and the Council of States (46 members representing the Cantons). The Swiss people wield considerable power in the Swiss political system: voting privileges are wide-ranging and it is relatively easy for the people to submit popular initiatives and call for referendums. Swiss citizens are therefore called to the ballot box several times a year.

Compared to other countries, Switzerland has a fairly robust economy in terms of gross domestic product (GDP). If we consider GDP per capita, it is among the richest countries in the world. That said, the Swiss economy has grown at a slower rate than other OECD countries since 1990. Following this slump, the Swiss economy recovered again after the turn of the millennium. Since then it has been growing more strongly (with the exception of 2009 in the wake of the financial crisis). By international comparison, the Swiss unemployment rate remains low and employment rate high.

As in all modern societies, the tertiary sector dominates the Swiss economy. Important branches include financial services and tourism. As for the secondary sector, Switzerland's lack of raw materials has led to the development of specialised manufacturing industries such as the machinery manufacture, pharmaceuticals production and watchmaking. In 2017, the primary sector's share in the value added of the Swiss economy was only 0.6%. Foreign trade is extremely important to the Swiss economy; the value of total imports and exports per capita as well as the share of imports and exports to GDP are among the highest in the world.

Political structure



Switzerland in comparison with other countries

	Year	Switzerland	Germany	France	Italy	Netherlands	Austria	Sweden	United Kingdom
National accounts, prices and income									
Gross domestic product (GDP) per inhabitant, in PPS ¹	2018	48 100	37 800	32 100	29 700	39 900	39 400	37 300	32 500
Average annual real growth in the GDP per inhabitant, in %	2000–2018	1.0	1.3	0.7	0.1	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.2
Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)	2018	0.9	1.9	2.1	1.2	1.6	2.1	2.0	2.5
Equality: Gender-specific pay gaps (sectors 2 and 3) in %	2017	17.0	21.0	15.4	5.0	15.2	19.9	12.6	20.8
Population									
Number of inhabitants in '000	2018 ⁵	8 484	82 792	66 926	60 484	17 181	8 822	10 120	66 274
Inhabitants per km ² of the total area	2017 ⁵	212	234	106	203	501	107	25	272
People under 20 years of age in %	2018 ⁵	20.0	18.4	24.3	18.2	22.2	19.5	23.1	23.5
People age 65 and over in %	2018 ⁵	18.3	21.4	19.7	22.6	18.9	18.7	19.8	18.2
Foreigners as percentage of the total population	2018 ⁵	25.0	11.7	7.0	8.5	5.8	15.7	8.8	9.5
Live births per 1000 inhabitants	2017	10.4	9.5	11.5	7.6	9.9	10.0	11.5	11.5
Female life expectancy at birth in years	2017	85.6	83.4	85.6	85.2	83.4	84.0	84.1	83.1
Male life expectancy at birth in years	2017	81.6	78.7	79.6	80.8	80.2	79.4	80.8	79.5
Health									
Hospital beds per 100 000 inhabitants	2017 ⁶	453	800	598	318	332	737	222	254
Health care costs as % of GDP ²	2017	12.3	11.2	11.3	8.8	10.1	10.4	11.0	9.6
Infant mortality per 1000 birth (live births)	2017	3.5	3.2	3.8	2.6	3.5	2.9	2.4	3.8
Education									
Young people (18–24) without post-compulsory education in %	2018	27.1	35.5	15.7	31.6	27.5	19.9	29.2	15.2
Persons (25–64) with highest educational attainment at tertiary level in %	2018	43.7	29.1	36.9	19.3	38.3	32.7	43.2	43.2
Education expenditure in % of GDP	2016	5.0	4.5	5.4	3.8	5.5	5.4	7.1	5.4
Employment									
Employment rate for women	2018	79.9	74.3	68.2	56.2	75.8	72.0	81.0	73.2
Employment rate for men	2018	88.5	82.9	75.8	75.1	84.7	81.6	84.4	82.6
Unemployment rate (15–74), ILO-based ³	2018	4.7	3.4	9.1	10.6	3.8	4.9	6.3	4.0
Women	2018	5.1	2.9	9.1	11.8	4.0	4.7	6.2	4.0
Men	2018	4.4	3.8	9.0	9.7	3.7	5.0	6.4	4.1
15–24 year-olds	2018	7.9	6.2	20.8	32.2	7.2	9.4	17.4	11.3
Social Security									
Social security expenditure as % of GDP	2017	28.3	29.7	34.1	29.1	29.3	29.4	28.8	26.3
Tourism, agriculture and forestry									
Beds in hotels and health establishments per 1000 inhabitants	2018	32.4	22.3	19.5	37.4	16.7	69.8	24.9	...
Agricultural area, as % of the total area	2009 ⁶	36.9	52.2	46.5	48.7	50.8	34.0	8.5	64.1
Wooded areas, as % of the total area	2009 ⁶	30.8	32.3	25.9	31.0	10.7	40.6	63.3	13.1
Transport, environment and energy									
Number of passenger cars per 1000 inhabitants	2017 ⁶	539	553	491	637	487	555	479	476
Road accidents, fatalities per 1 million inhabitants	2017 ⁶	27.0	39.0	54.0	56.0	36.0	47.0	25.0	28.0
Total land area in km ²	2009 ⁶	41 285	357 108	632 834	301 336	41 543	83 879	441 370	248 528
Percentage of settlement and urban areas in %	2009 ⁶	7.5	6.9	4.4	6.6	9.7	3.9	1.5	5.9
Greenhouse gas emissions in CO ₂ equivalents, tonnes per person	2017 ⁶	5.6	11.0	6.9	7.1	11.2	9.3	5.2	7.1
Gross energy consumption, TOE ⁴ per inhabitant	2017 ⁶	3.1	3.9	3.8	2.6	4.6	3.9	5.0	2.8

1 Purchasing Power Standards
2 Source: OECD-Health Data
3 Unemployment figures based on the International Labour Organisation's definitions
4 Tonnes of crude oil equivalent

5 At 1 January
6 At 31 December
Sources: Eurostat; OECD-Health Data
It is possible that the data vary from those published by the Swiss Federal Statistical Office in other publications.

1 Economy and finance

National accounts

Gross domestic product by expenditure approach¹

In CHF million, at current prices, % changes over time

Expenditure approach	At current prices					Change with respect to previous year, in %, at current prices			
	2014	2015	2016	2017 ^p	2018 ^p	2015	2016	2017 ^p	2018 ^p
Final consumption expenditure	422 812	426 775	432 518	440 183	448 702	0.9	1.3	1.8	1.9
Households and NPISH ²	345 035	348 702	353 151	359 636	367 250	1.1	1.3	1.8	2.1
General government	77 777	78 073	79 367	80 546	81 452	0.4	1.7	1.5	1.1
Gross capital formation	150 972	150 920	152 806	158 673	156 539	-0.0	1.2	3.8	-1.3
Gross fixed capital formation	155 130	155 598	158 225	163 532	166 721	0.3	1.7	3.4	1.9
Fixed assets and software	94 803	94 557	97 623	102 403	104 527	-0.3	3.2	4.9	2.1
Construction	60 327	61 041	60 601	61 129	62 194	1.2	-0.7	0.9	1.7
Changes in inventories	2 630	-3 027	-7 194	-6 717	-7 100	*	*	*	*
Acquisitions less disposals of valuables	-6 788	-1 651	1 775	1 858	-3 081	*	*	*	*
Exports	417 598	407 054	434 901	435 421	455 992	-2.5	6.8	0.1	4.7
Goods	301 544	292 023	312 386	311 756	327 973	-3.2	7.0	-0.2	5.2
Services	116 054	115 031	122 515	123 665	128 019	-0.9	6.5	0.9	3.5
Less: Imports	341 664	330 492	358 720	364 735	371 688	-3.3	8.5	1.7	1.9
Goods	250 780	240 319	262 463	261 799	269 002	-4.2	9.2	-0.3	2.8
Services	90 883	90 173	96 257	102 936	102 686	-0.8	6.7	6.9	-0.2
GDP	649 718	654 258	661 504	669 542	689 545	0.7	1.1	1.2	3.0
Per capita	79 344	78 994	79 001	79 218	80 986	-0.4	0.0	0.3	2.2

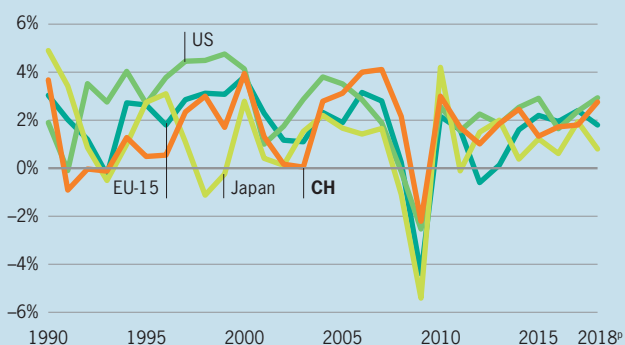
1 Revised figures

2 NPISH: Non-profit institutions serving households

Source: FSO – National Accounts

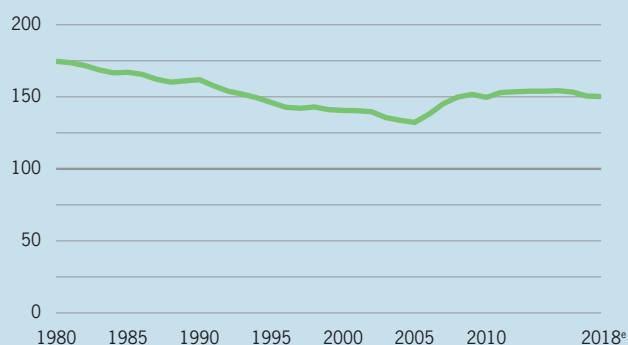
Real GDP growth

At prices of preceding year



Per capita GDP in purchase price parity (PPP)

Compared to average of 30 OECD countries = 100



Public finance

Key public finance figures¹

In % of GDP

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 ²
General government expenditure ratio										
General government	32.2	32.0	32.0	32.2	33.1	32.7	32.8	32.9	32.9	32.4
Confederation	10.4	10.3	10.7	10.3	10.5	10.4	10.6	10.7	10.7	10.4
Cantons	12.8	12.8	12.9	13.3	13.9	13.5	13.6	13.5	13.5	13.4
Municipalities	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.1
Social security funds	9.2	9.1	8.9	9.0	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.3	9.3	9.1
Deficit/surplus ratio										
General government	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.4	-0.4	-0.2	0.6	0.3	1.2	1.4
Confederation	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.1	-0.0	0.4	0.1	0.8	0.8
Cantons	0.4	0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.7	-0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5
Municipalities	-0.1	-0.1	-0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.0	-0.0	0.0
Social security funds	-0.2	-0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
Debt to GDP ratio										
General government	32.0	30.5	29.8	30.6	30.3	30.6	30.0	28.9	29.3	27.6
Confederation	18.0	17.1	16.8	16.8	16.4	15.8	15.0	14.0	14.5	13.2
Cantons	7.6	7.1	6.8	7.3	7.5	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.2	7.9
Municipalities	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.7
Social security funds	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2
Tax-to-GDP ratio (IMF / OECD)										
General government	27.0	26.7	27.0	27.0	27.1	26.9	27.6	27.7	28.5	28.1
Confederation	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.5	9.6	9.4	9.9	9.7	10.4	10.1
Cantons	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.0
Municipalities	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4
Social security funds	6.4	6.3	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.6

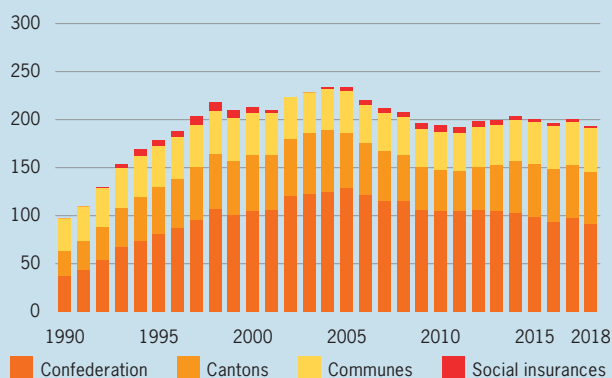
1 Revised figures

2 Some data are estimates.

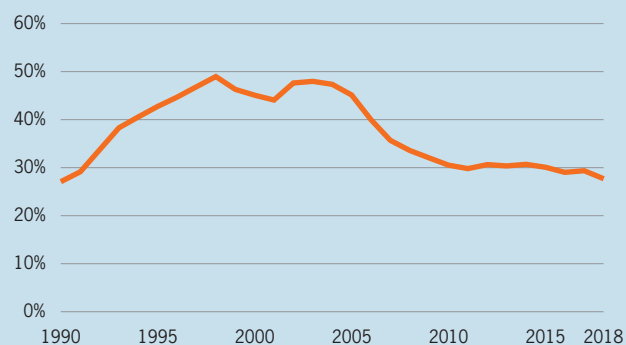
Source: Federal Finance Administration (FFA)

Public debt

In CHF billion



As % of GDP



Prices and income

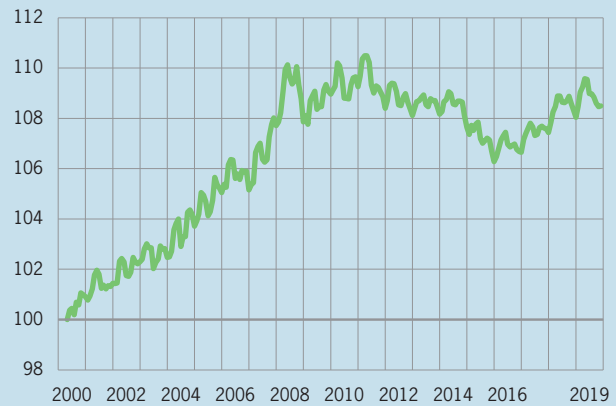
General fluctuations in Swiss consumer prices

Average % changes over time

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total	-1.1	-0.4	0.5	0.9	0.4
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-0.8	0.4	0.4	1.3	0.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0.0	-0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8
Clothing and footwear	0.3	1.3	2.8	1.6	1.9
Housing and energy	-0.6	-0.1	1.2	1.3	0.4
Household furniture and furnishings and routine maintenance	-2.1	-2.2	-1.8	-0.5	1.7
Health	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-1.0	-0.2
Transport	-4.4	-2.4	1.5	2.7	0.4
Communications	-0.9	-1.5	-1.6	0.4	0.8
Recreation and culture	-2.0	0.8	1.0	1.7	-0.3
Education	1.2	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.7
Restaurants and hotels	0.0	-0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6
Other goods and services	-0.8	-1.8	-0.4	0.5	0.6

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Index Mai 2000 = 100



Source: FSO – Consumer Price Index (CPI)

International comparison of price level indices. 2018^p, EU-28 = 100

	Switzerland	Germany	Spain	France	Italy	Netherlands	Austria	Sweden	United Kingdom	Danemark	Norway
Gross Domestic Product	146	107	92	109	99	113	111	124	112	131	148
Actual individual consumption	159	103	94	107	101	115	113	129	118	138	154
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	160	102	95	115	111	101	125	117	94	130	163
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	120	95	85	114	95	106	95	127	157	113	226
Clothing and footwear	122	99	92	110	101	106	106	126	93	139	131
Housing and energy	172	109	94	114	92	123	101	109	158	152	142
Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house	119	103	101	106	103	104	109	112	99	116	121
Health	207	103	111	97	121	130	126	170	125	136	175
Transport	116	106	88	107	101	116	107	112	104	128	142
Communication	117	99	145	96	111	128	84	121	108	99	120
Recreation and culture	150	104	94	108	101	105	113	127	104	145	151
Education	219	114	89	98	94	123	163	176	137	155	202
Restaurants and hotels	154	110	86	118	104	114	107	138	105	151	161
Miscellaneous goods and services	160	99	93	103	99	114	110	134	111	136	162
Actual collective consumption	173	123	87	126	110	131	117	113	100	148	159
Gross fixed capital formation	131	118	86	110	85	110	106	122	97	120	144

Source: Eurostat

Wage growth



Balance of payments

Swiss Balance of Payments (BoP).¹ In CHF million, at current prices²

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Current Account, net	43 046	89 124	48 596	66 898	74 054	56 072	73 612	62 595	43 627	72 397
Goods, net	12 827	35 659	26 109	37 672	49 794	50 784	51 779	49 924	49 957	58 971
Receipts	234 867	288 010	306 872	311 952	346 436	301 570	292 098	312 386	311 756	327 973
Expenses	222 040	252 351	280 762	274 280	296 641	250 786	240 319	262 463	261 799	269 002
Services, net	28 751	26 599	22 055	21 602	20 249	20 045	18 755	20 031	16 076	20 273
Receipts	99 795	98 806	95 577	102 437	105 891	110 836	109 478	117 114	120 137	123 982
Expenses	71 044	72 208	73 522	80 835	85 641	90 791	90 723	97 083	104 060	103 709
Primary income, net	10 453	35 626	8 204	15 789	15 628	2 457	15 698	2 341	-9 153	2 577
Receipts	103 434	130 070	97 699	116 057	112 855	140 072	144 664	146 502	153 979	144 486
Expenses	92 981	94 444	89 494	100 268	97 228	137 614	128 966	144 161	163 132	141 908
Secondary income, net	-8 984	-8 759	-7 773	-8 166	-11 618	-17 214	-12 619	-9 701	-13 253	-9 425
Receipts	30 332	26 957	28 619	34 093	34 598	36 481	36 479	42 119	47 617	43 292
Expenses	39 316	35 716	36 392	42 259	46 216	53 695	49 099	51 820	60 870	52 717
Capital Transfers, net	-3 767	-4 617	-8 382	-2 177	701	-10 571	-29 412	2 406	1 110	5 220
Receipts	144	359	483	345	1 694	717	3 269	3 730	2 077	8 728
Expenses	3 911	4 975	8 865	2 522	992	11 288	32 682	1 324	967	3 509
Financial Account, net	7 369	115 276	25 758	68 921	105 596	42 927	33 425	81 531	39 455	73 921
Direct investment, net	-4 019	58 723	19 656	13 684	34 651	-8 600	6 837	27 451	-72 784	111 615
Portfolio investment, net	27 863	-32 522	12 810	-16 896	15 770	8 557	52 024	19 524	23 320	9 779
Other investment, net	-70 381	-48 984	-48 844	-100 973	43 012	10 051	-115 519	-49 220	29 391	-62 407
Reserve assets, total	52 219	137 802	42 628	174 591	12 943	33 961	94 434	77 075	61 360	13 479
Derivatives and structured products, net	1 688	257	-491	-1 485	-779	-1 041	-4 350	6 701	-1 832	1 456
Net Errors and Omissions	-31 910	30 769	-14 456	4 201	30 842	-2 574	-10 774	16 530	-5 282	-3 696

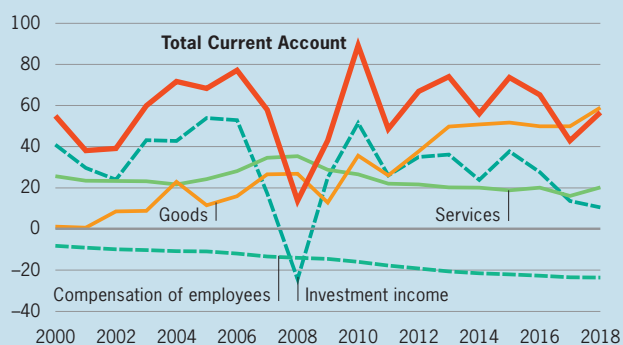
1 The minus sign (-) indicates a surplus of expenses over receipts in the current account and the capital transfer, and an import of capital in the financial account.

2 Revised figures

Source: Swiss National Bank (SNB)

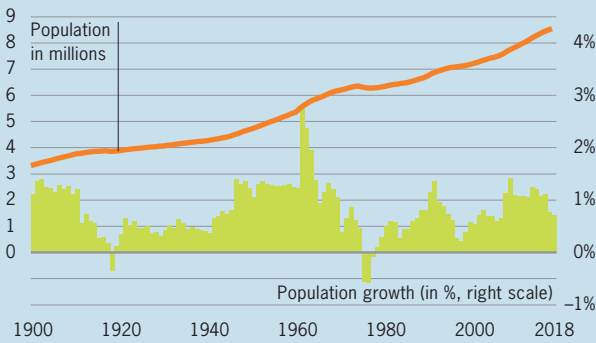
Current Account balance

In CHF billion

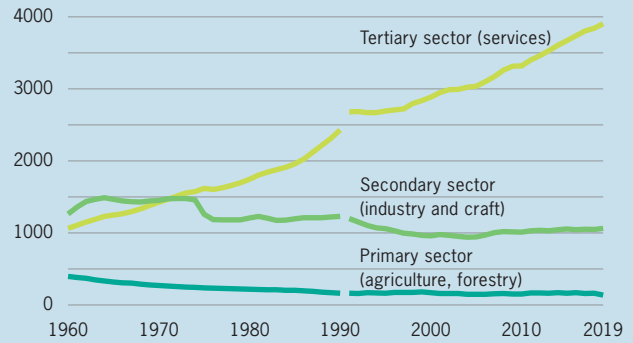


2 Population

Population and population growth

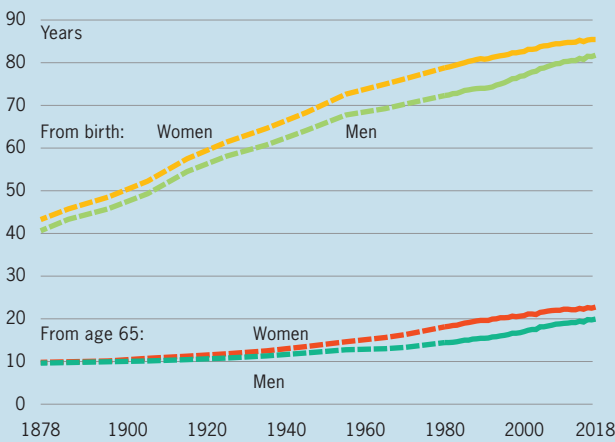


Persons in employment¹, in thousands



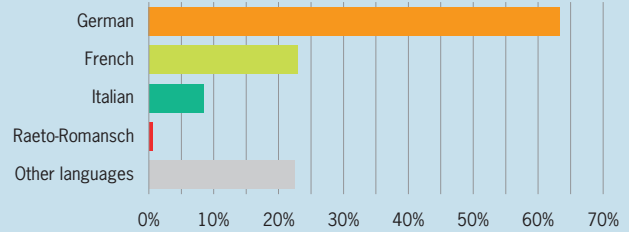
¹ New calculation method from 1975/1991 onwards

Life expectancy

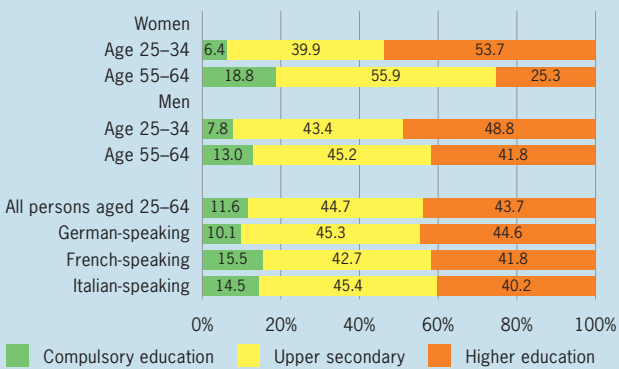


The main languages in Switzerland 2017

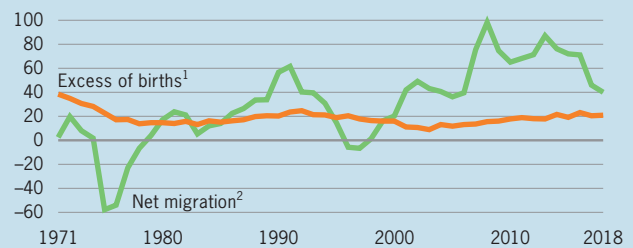
Question: "What is your main language, i.e. the language you think in and know best?"



Educational attainment 2018



Net migration and excess of births over deaths, in thousands



¹ Live births minus deaths

² Incl. change of status: change from residence permit valid for less than 12 months to residence permit valid 12 months or longer.

Selected criteria

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010 ¹	2015	2016	2017	2018
Permanent resident population in '000	4 717	5 360	6 193	6 335	6 751	7 204	7 870	8 327	8 420	8 484	8 545
Foreigners	285	514	1 002	914	1 127	1 424	1 766	2 048	2 101	2 126	2 148
Urban	...	...	...	5 341	5 675	6 033	6 637	7 037	7 120	7 191	7 242
Rural	...	...	...	995	1 076	1 171	1 233	1 290	1 300	1 293	1 303
Age groups, in %											
Age 0–19	30.6	31.8	31.0	27.5	23.4	23.1	20.9	20.1	20.1	20.0	20.0
Age 20–64	59.8	57.9	57.5	58.6	62.0	61.5	62.2	61.9	61.8	61.7	61.5
Age 65+	9.6	10.3	11.5	13.9	14.6	15.4	16.9	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.5
Excess of births over deaths, per 1000 inhabitants	8.0	7.9	6.8	2.3	3.0	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.7	2.4	2.4
Migration balance, per 1000 inhabitants	2.5	4.2	-2.9	2.7	8.4	2.8	8.3	8.7	8.5	5.4	4.7
Live births per 1000 inhabitants	18.1	17.7	16.1	11.7	12.5	11.0	10.3	10.5	10.5	10.3	10.3
Infant born out of wedlock, in %	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.8	6.1	10.7	18.6	22.9	24.2	25.2	25.7
Age of mother at birth of first child	26.8	26.0	25.3	26.3	27.6	28.7	30.2	30.7	30.8	30.8	30.9
Total birth rate	2.40	2.44	2.10	1.55	1.59	1.50	1.52	1.54	1.55	1.52	1.52
Deaths per 1000 inhabitants	10.1	9.8	9.2	9.4	9.5	8.7	8.0	8.2	7.8	7.9	7.9
Deaths in the first year of life, per 1000 live births	31.2	21.1	15.1	9.1	6.8	4.9	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.3
Marriages per 1000 inhabitants	7.9	7.8	7.6	5.7	6.9	5.5	5.5	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.8
Average age of woman at marriage	25.8	24.9	24.1	25.0	26.7	27.9	29.4	29.6	29.8	29.9	30.0
Total marriage rate for single women under the age of 50, in %	92	96	87	66	75	64	65	60	60	58	58
Divorces per 1000 inhabitants	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.7	2.0	1.5	2.8	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9
Total divorce rate, in %	12	13	15	27	33	26	54	41	41	39	40
Life expectancy at birth ²											
Men	66.4	68.7	70.3	72.3	74.0	76.9	80.2	80.7	81.5	81.4	81.7
Women	70.9	74.1	76.2	78.8	80.8	82.6	84.6	84.9	85.3	85.4	85.4

¹ From 2010, new definition of the permanent resident population, which also includes asylum seekers with a total length of stay of at least 12 months.

² Sources: until 1980: official life tables; after 1980: annual life tables

Sources: FSO – Federal Population Census, Annual Population Statistics (ESPOP, STATPOP), Vital Statistics (BEVNAT)

A large foreign population

Foreigners account for 25% of the permanent resident population (2018). More than half of the residents without a Swiss passport have been living in Switzerland for more than 15 years or were born here. In 2018, 44,500 persons obtained Swiss citizenship. The majority of Switzerland's foreign permanent resident population are of European origin, the most of whom are nationals of an EU or EFTA member state. The largest group of foreigners are Italian (14.3%), followed by nationals of Germany (14.3%), Portugal (12.3%) and France (6.3%).

An aging society

There are now many more elderly people than 50 years ago. The number of over 64-year-olds has more than doubled since 1950, while the number of 80+ year-olds has even quadrupled. In contrast, the number of under twenties has increased much less and has actually declined since the early Seventies. This aging process is the result of longer life expectancy and fewer births. According to FSO population scenarios, this trend will continue over the next few decades.

3 Health

Selected indicators

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2016	2017	2018
Life expectancy in years ¹										
Women, at birth	70.9	74.1	76.2	79.1	80.8	82.6	84.6	85.3	85.4	85.4
Women, at age 65	14.0	15.2	16.3	18.3	19.4	20.7	22.2	22.6	22.5	22.7
Men, at birth	66.4	68.7	70.3	72.4	74.0	76.9	80.2	81.5	81.4	81.7
Men, at age 65	12.4	12.9	13.3	14.4	15.3	17.0	18.9	19.8	19.7	19.9
Infant mortality, deaths per 1000 live births	31.0	21.1	15.1	9.1	6.8	4.9	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.3
Perinatal deaths per 1000 live births	34.7	25.6	18.1	9.5	7.7	6.6	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.7
AIDS, new cases per million inhabitants	...	...	...	0.5	91.2	31.5	22.8	8.4	9.6	9.0
Deaths per 100 000 inhabitants										
Lung cancer	15.7	22.0	28.9	35.0	35.1	31.6	28.6	25.6	25.6	...
Cirrhosis of the liver	9.1	10.0	12.5	10.3	7.8	5.4	5.0	4.0	3.8	...
Road accidents	16.7	25.2	26.5	18.5	13.2	7.4	3.8	2.4	2.7	...
Suicides	23.0	19.0	19.5	24.9	20.1	17.2	11.1	10.2	10.4	...
Occupational diseases, new cases of illness per 10 000 FTEs	...	...	28.8	...	...	...	10.0	7.9	8.2	...
Disability, recipients of disability benefits	...	...	...	...	16 815	23 570	31 644	35 467	35 992	36 338
Practising physicians per 1000 inhabitants	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.3
Hospitals, beds per 1000 inhabitants	14.6	11.6	10.0	9.3	8.2	6.2	4.9	4.5	4.5	4.5
Healthcare costs										
in CHF million	...	2 083	5 678	14 252	28 151	45 226	65 158	80 499	82 744	...
in % of GDP	...	5.2	5.8	7.7	8.3	9.8	10.7	12.2	12.4	...

¹ Figures up to and including 1980: based on Official Mortality Tables; figures from 1990 onwards: based on complete Annual Mortality Tables

Source: FSO

State of health

86% of men and 83% of women perceived their general state of health as good or very good (2017). The percentage of people who consider their health to be (very) good steadily drops with age. This proportion is also lower among people whose level of education does not exceed compulsory schooling than among people with tertiary level education (66% compared to 91%). The percentage of people who rated themselves as being in (very) good health has decreased within 15 years (2007: 87%; 2017: 85%). This decline is valid for all age groups but is particularly pronounced for men aged between 55 and 74.

42% of the population are overweight or obese; 51% of men and 33% of women.

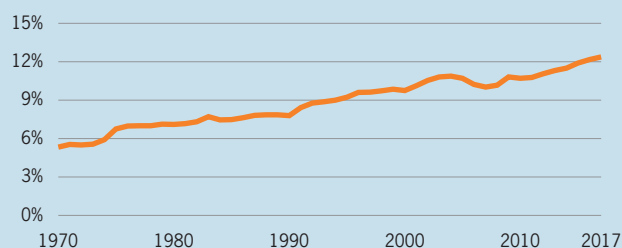
87% of men and 77% of women consume alcohol; 15% of men and 7% of women consume alcohol on a daily basis. The frequency of alcohol consumption increases with age: 34% of men and 16% of women aged 65 years and older consume alcohol on a daily basis. The percentage of daily consumers among men has fallen from 31% to 11% since 1992.

27% of the Swiss population smoke; 35% of men and 23% of women. The largest proportion of smokers among men and women are between 25 and 34 years (men: 42%; women: 31%). While compared to 1992 the percentage of male smokers fell from 37% to 31% in 2017, this percentage remained stable among females.

Health care costs

In 2017, 12.4% of the GDP went on health (1990: 8.1%). Development of supply is a fundamental factor in this increase: e.g. expanded facilities, growing specialization and greater use of technology, greater comfort. The impact of the aging population and the escalation of social insurance benefits are not so significant.

Healthcare costs, in % of GDP



4 Education

Selected indicators

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Share of public expenditures for education at federal, cantonal and municipal levels, in % of GDP	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	...
Education expectancy ¹ , in years					
Total	17.1	17.1	17.1	17.2	...
Primary Level 1–2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	...
Primary Level 3–8 & lower secondary	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	...
Upper secondary education	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	...
Tertiary education	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	...
Dropout rate ²	6.5	5.9	5.6	5.3	5.2
Highest level of education attained, persons aged 25–64					
At least upper secondary education	87.2	87.3	87.4	87.8	88.4
Tertiary education	38.4	39.8	41.2	42.6	43.7

1 For a five-year-old child under current conditions

2 Share of persons aged 18–24, who have only completed lower secondary education and are not currently attending any training or continuing education courses, in %.

Sources: FSO – Student Statistics, Statistics on Completed Education and Diplomas, Statistics on Public Expenditures for Education

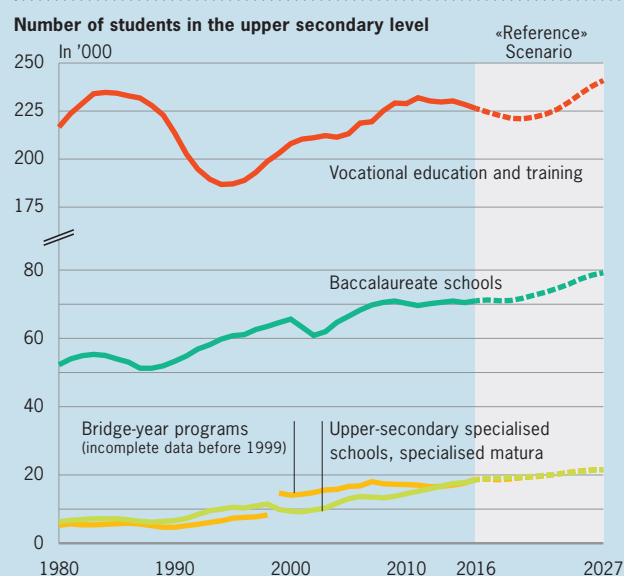
Students

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Pre-Primary	168 860	172 439	172 688	173 937
Primary	490 469	498 338	507 686	514 644
Lower secondary	261 629	257 491	256 176	256 125
Upper secondary	352 841	352 292	352 669	352 747
Post-secondary non-tertiary (ISCED 4)	13 625	13 083	13 033	12 729
Short cycle tertiary (ISCED 5)	10 280	4 407	4 094	4 180
Bachelor's or equivalent (ISCED 6)	195 437	199 641	203 274	207 284
Master's or equivalent (ISCED 7)	65 036	66 707	68 425	70 070
Doctoral or equivalent (ISCED 8)	23 697	24 394	24 825	25 209

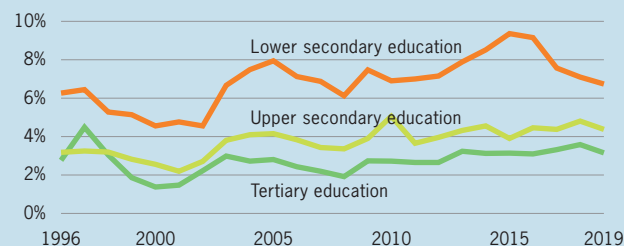
Source: FSO – Student Statistics

In Switzerland, the education system from the pre-school level (nursery school) to the tertiary level (higher education institutions and higher vocational education) is a task of the state whose primary responsibility lies with the 26 cantons. In the post-compulsory sector (grammar schools, vocational education and training and higher educational institutions), the Confederation and the cantons share joint responsibility for public education.

In 2017, the public sector invested CHF 38.1 billion in education. In international comparison, Switzerland's education expenditures in relation to GDP are slightly below the OECD average. Switzerland ranks significantly higher if one considers expenditure per student or vocational trainee.



Unemployment rate by level of education



5 Labour Market

Selected indicators

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Persons in employment, in '000¹	4 477	4 590	4 660	4 716	4 815	4 885	4 945	5 010	5 046	5 099
Men	2 472	2 519	2 558	2 585	2 630	2 659	2 683	2 733	2 760	2 769
Women	2 006	2 071	2 102	2 131	2 185	2 226	2 263	2 278	2 285	2 330
Swiss nationals	3 268	3 309	3 326	3 341	3 371	3 398	3 430	3 456	3 478	3 489
Foreigners	1 209	1 280	1 334	1 375	1 444	1 487	1 516	1 554	1 568	1 611
Sector 1	150	165	165	160	168	163	167	157	160	135
Sector 2	1 008	1 026	1 036	1 028	1 044	1 052	1 042	1 049	1 046	1 062
Sector 3	3 319	3 398	3 459	3 527	3 603	3 670	3 736	3 804	3 839	3 902
Unemployed (ILO-based)² in '000¹	205	176	184	208	218	210	223	213	226	205
Standardised activity rate^{1,3}	67.0	67.3	67.2	67.3	67.8	67.9	68.3	68.3	68.4	68.4
Men	74.5	74.5	74.1	74.0	74.2	74.0	74.2	74.3	74.4	74.0
Women	59.8	60.4	60.7	61.0	61.6	62.0	62.6	62.4	62.6	63.0
Swiss nationals	65.6	65.6	65.3	65.4	65.7	65.7	66.1	66.0	66.1	65.9
Foreigners	72.1	73.4	74.0	73.8	74.6	74.9	75.3	75.5	75.7	76.3
Unemployment rate (ILO-based)², in %¹	4.6	3.9	4.1	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.2

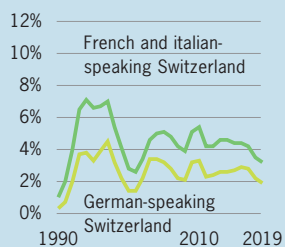
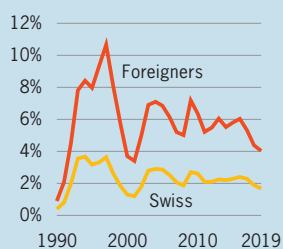
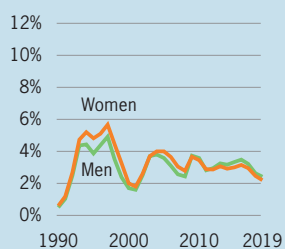
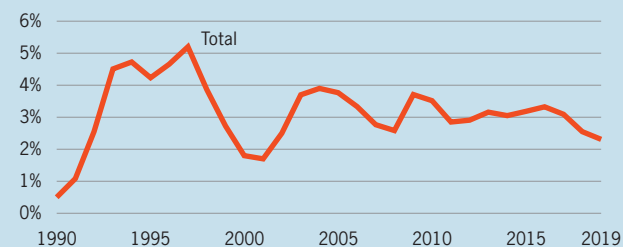
1 Data for the second quarter. Revised figures

2 ILO: International Labour Organisation

3 Persons in employment in % of permanent resident population (age 15+)

Sources: FSO – Employment Statistics (ES), Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS), Swiss Wage Index (SWI)

Unemployment¹ rate (annual median)



1 Unemployment figures as per the Swiss Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco)

6 Living conditions and social protection

Living conditions

Private households by household type

2015–2017 cumulated

	Number of households ¹	Confidence interval ± (in %)
Total	3 671 439	0.1
Non-family households	1 381 055	0.1
One-person households	1 297 339	0.1
Non-family households with several persons	83 717	1.8
One-family households	2 264 168	0.1
Couples without children	1 006 997	0.2
Couples with children	1 035 010	0.2
Lone mothers and fathers with children	222 160	1.0
Two-or-more-family households ²	26 216	2.8

1 The Structural Survey includes all the private households of the permanent resident population.

2 Private households with at least 2 independent family nuclei

Source: FSO – Structural Survey

Expenditure among private households

In % of consumer expenditure

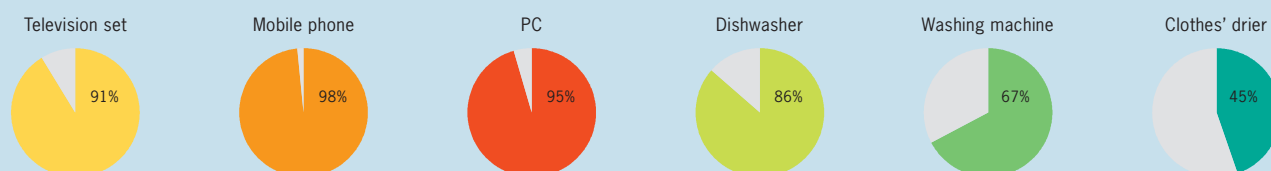
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.4
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
Restaurants and holiday accommodation	5.8	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.8
Clothing and footwear	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0
Housing and energy	15.1	14.8	14.7	14.7	14.8
Furniture and fittings, daily expenses	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.3	2.2
Healthcare	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.5
Transport	7.8	8.2	7.6	7.7	7.5
Telecommunications	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Entertainment, recreation and cultural pastimes	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.8
Other goods and services	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.2

Source: FSO – Household Budget Survey (HBS)

Income distribution

In 2017, the average gross income of private households in Switzerland was CHF 9,917 per month. Employee income, pensions and social benefits made up the largest proportion of gross income. There were very considerable differences in income between the income groups. In 2015 – 2017, the average gross income of the quintile with the highest-income at CHF 20,023 was almost six times that of the lowest income quintile (CHF 3389).

Availability of selected consumer goods, 2017



Social protection

Social security: Total expenditure, benefits and revenues

Double counting eliminated from calculation

	1990	2000	2010	2015	2017 ^p
At current prices, in CHF million					
Total expenditure	62 820	108 927	157 901	181 766	189 509
Social security benefits	55 860	98 234	142 986	165 131	174 680
Revenues	87 248	132 294	183 246	211 262	222 358
In relation to GDP, in %					
Total expenditure	17.5	23.7	25.9	27.8	28.3
Social security benefits	15.6	21.4	23.5	25.2	26.1
Revenues	24.3	28.8	30.1	32.3	33.3

Source: FSO – Total Social Security Accounts

Social security: Expenditure according to type

Double counting eliminated from calculation,

in % of total expenditure

	2000	2005	2010	2015	2017 ^p
Social security benefits	90.2	91.8	90.6	90.8	92.2
Not means-tested	83.8	85.8	84.4	84.1	85.3
Cash benefits	61.4	61.3	60.4	58.4	58.9
Benefits in kind	22.4	24.5	23.9	25.7	26.3
Means-tested	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.7	6.9
Other expenditure	9.8	8.2	9.4	9.2	7.8
Implementation costs	5.2	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.0
Other expenditure ¹	4.6	2.5	3.6	3.2	1.8

¹ Mainly net payments from occupational pension plans for other types of insurance coverage

Source: FSO – Total Social Security Accounts

Social security: Revenues according to type

Double counting eliminated from calculation, in % of total revenues

	2014	2015	2016	2017 ^p
National insurance contributions	65.8	66.0	65.9	65.3
of whom Employer-paid	31.0	30.4	29.9	29.2
State contributions	23.1	23.6	23.6	23.6
Confederation	10.2	10.4	10.4	10.3
Cantons and communes	12.9	13.2	13.2	13.3
Other revenues	11.0	10.4	10.5	11.0
Asset income	10.4	9.9	9.9	10.5
Other revenues	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5

Source: FSO – Total Social Security Accounts

Social security: Benefits according to intended purpose

In %

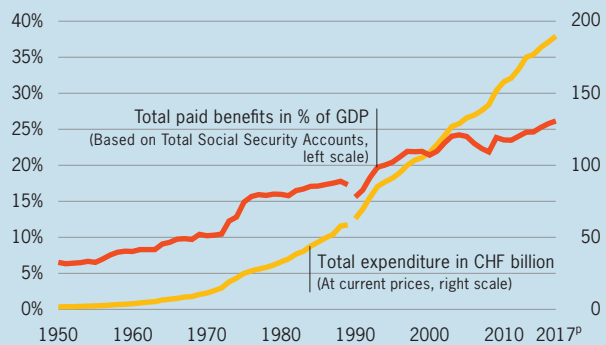
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2017 ^p
Illness/healthcare	27.6	28.4	28.9	31.0	31.7
Disability	10.9	11.6	9.7	8.4	8.1
Old-age	42.6	40.3	42.4	42.5	42.4
Surviving dependants	5.9	5.5	5.3	4.9	4.8
Family / children	6.4	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.0
Unemployment	3.1	4.9	4.6	3.6	3.6
Housing	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1
Social marginalisation	2.6	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.4

Source: FSO – Total Social Security Accounts

Marked increase in social benefits since 1950

Since the introduction of the federal old-age and survivors' pension scheme in 1948, revenues, benefits and expenditure for social security have risen enormously, both in absolute terms and in constant rates per inhabitant. This can be explained by both the gradual expansion of the welfare state and the fact that more people are forced to seek financial support from the state when the economy is not doing well. In the second half of the 20th century, the social expenditure to GDP ratio consequently rose from 6.5% in 1950 to 26.1% in 2017.

Social security: long-term growth



Standard of living, social situation and poverty

Income and living conditions in Europe, in 2017

	EU-28	Switzerland	Germany	Austria	France	Italy	Spain	Portugal	Greece	Norway
Percentage of people living in a household who ...										
cannot afford paying for one week holiday ¹	30.0	8.5	15.3	14.2	23.1	43.0	34.3	44.3	50.9	6.6
cannot face unexpected financial expenses ²	33.8	20.7	29.3	20.6	29.6	38.3	36.6	36.9	52.7	17.4
cannot afford a full meal every second day ³	7.9	1.5	7.0	5.5	7.1	13.4	3.7	3.0	13.2	2.9
cannot keep home adequately warm for financial reasons	7.8	0.4	3.3	2.4	4.9	15.2	8.0	20.4	25.7	0.8
has arrears	9.1	8.2	4.4	5.9	9.1	6.1	9.3	7.7	44.9	5.3
Percentage of people living in a household who do not own for financial reasons ...										
a telephone ⁴	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.0
a washing machine ⁵	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.2	1.1	1.1	0.1
a car	6.8	5.2	6.3	6.4	2.7	2.7	4.6	6.5	9.7	4.6
a colour television	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3	1.2
Material deprivation rate (3 items and more)	14.5	4.6	9.1	7.4	11.1	17.9	12.8	18.0	36.0	4.8
Severe material deprivation rate (4 items and more)	6.6	1.2	3.4	3.7	4.1	10.1	5.1	6.9	21.1	2.3

- 1 Cannot afford paying for a one week annual holiday away from home
 2 Cannot face unexpected financial expenses equal to 1/12 of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold (set at 60%) for a person living alone (CHF 2500, within one month in Switzerland)
 3 Cannot afford a meal with meat, chicken, fish (or vegetarian equivalent) every second day

- 4 As the survey in Switzerland was carried out by telephone, the deprivation rate for this object is zero.
 5 No washing machine in the dwelling for personal use or no access to a communal laundry room in the building.

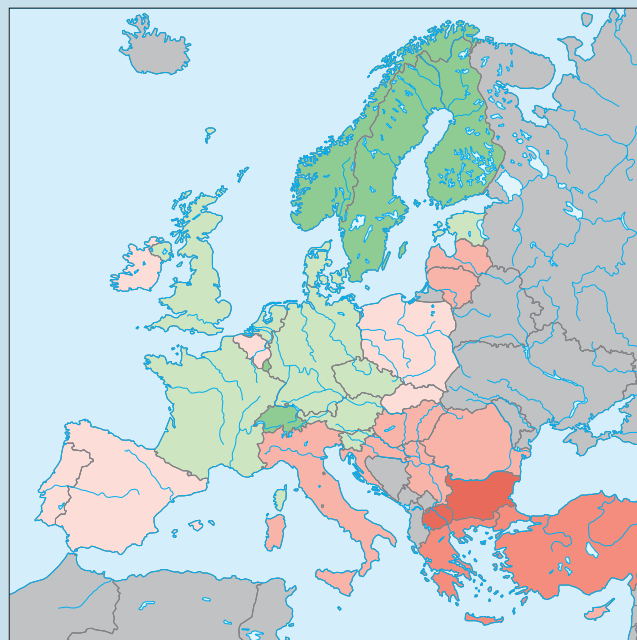
Source: FSO – Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)

Material deprivation

Material deprivation is a more absolute measure of social exclusion than for example the risk of poverty which is calculated on the basis of a relative threshold. Material deprivation is the fact of not possessing durable consumer goods or the absence of the conditions of a minimal existence due to lack of financial resources (financial difficulties). Material deprivation is defined as the absence, for financial reasons, of at least three out of nine factors in the table above, severe material deprivation by the absence of four.

According to this definition, 1.2% of the population living in Switzerland suffered severe material deprivation in 2017. This affects 6.6% of people in the European Union. Switzerland is one of the least affected country. The most disadvantaged countries included Turkey – where severe material deprivation affects 28.7% of the population –, Bulgaria (30.0%) and North Macedonia (31.1%).

Severe material deprivation rate in Europe, in 2017



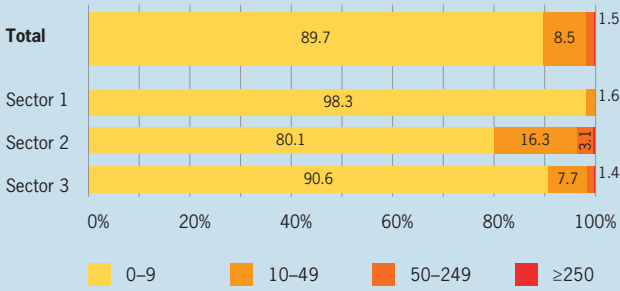
Severely materially deprived people, percentage of the resident population

- < 2.5
- 2.5 – 4.9
- 5.0 – 9.9
- 10.0 – 19.9
- 20.0 – 29.9
- ≥ 30.0
- Data not available

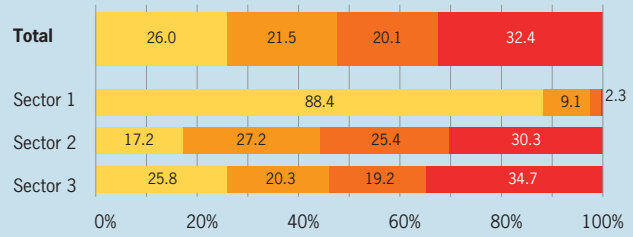
7 Industry, trade and services

Company¹ size 2017

Breakdown of size categories²



Jobs per size category²

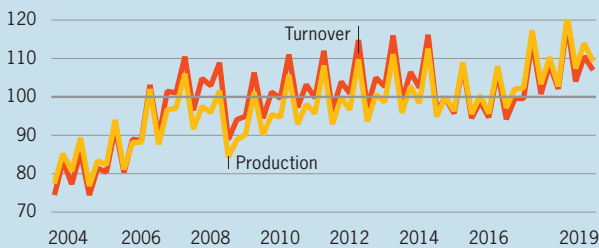


1 Only commercial companies

2 The size of the companies is measured according to its number of jobs.

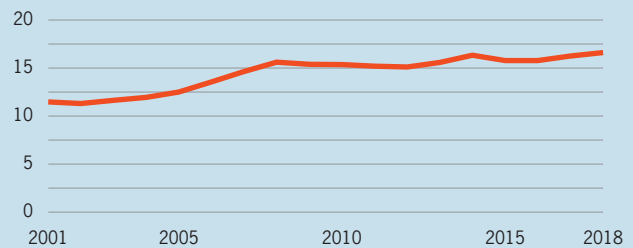
Secondary sector production and turnover

Indexed quarterly results, yearly average 2015 = 100



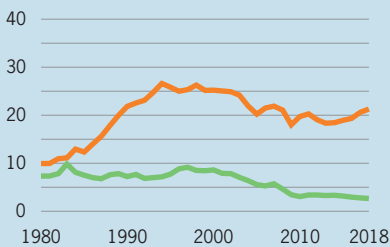
Tourism income

In CHF billion

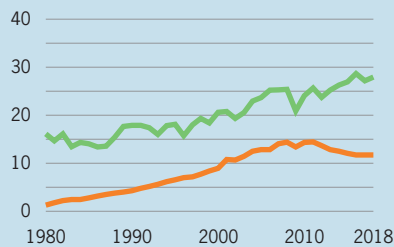


Trans-Alpine freight traffic¹ in millions of net tonnes

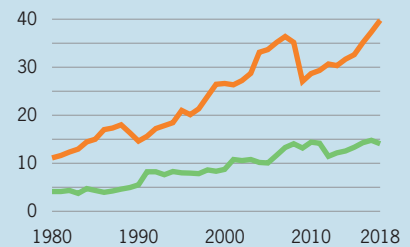
France



Switzerland



Austria

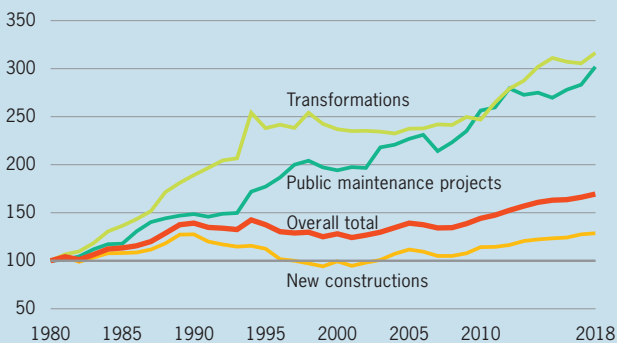


— Road traffic

— Rail traffic

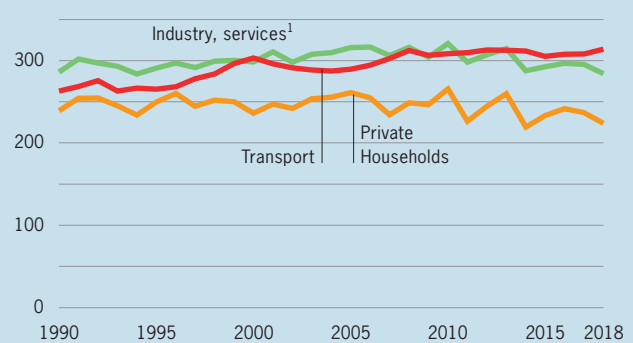
1 Alpine route considered: From Mt Cenis/Fr jus to Brenner

Construction expenditure¹ Index 1980 = 100



1 At 2000 prices

Final energy consumption by user category, in thousand TJ



1 Incl. statistical difference and agriculture

Company structure

Companies¹ and jobs according to economic branch. 2017^D

Branch of economic activity (NOGA 2008)	Companies	Jobs
Total	590 253	4 464 755
Sector 1	53 010	158 102
Sector 2	90 483	1 087 579
of which:		
Mining and quarrying	264	4 429
Manufacture of food and tobacco products	4 562	101 147
Manufacture of textiles and apparel	2 874	14 805
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	9 650	67 393
Manufacture of pharmaceutical products	258	46 020
Manufacture of metal products	7 619	96 480
Manuf. of computer, elec., optical prod.; watches, clocks	1 974	108 005
Manufacture of electrical equipment	810	32 364
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	763	30 208
Construction of buildings and Civil engineering	9 233	110 088
Sector 3	446 760	3 219 074
of which:		
Wholesale trade	23 423	228 756
Retail trade	34 881	343 840
Accommodation	5 437	74 055
Food and beverage service activities	23 071	167 940
IT and other information services	17 559	104 838
Financial service activities	5 923	123 564
Architectural and engineering activities	24 729	128 491
Administrative and support service activities	21 874	191 414
Human health activities	58 701	406 286

¹ Only commercial companies

Source: FSO – Statistics on enterprise structure (SES)

Ongoing structural change with SMEs continuing to predominate

The structure of branches in the Swiss economy has changed steadily since 1995. The most striking examples relate to the economic branches within the secondary sector such as construction, textile, leatherworks, paper, cardboard, printing and publishing and engine building where companies have had to lay off workers. In contrast, economic branches within the tertiary sector such as business services, IT services, R&D, healthcare and social services have grown sharply.

In 2017, some 590,000 private enterprises were counted in Switzerland. More than 446,000 enterprises are active in the service sector. Over 90,000 enterprises are active in the industrial sector and roughly 53,000 in the primary sector. More than 99% of all enterprises in Switzerland are small and medium-sized enterprises, i.e. enterprises with fewer than 250 employees (calculated as full-time equivalents); 90% are micro-enterprises, i.e. with fewer than 10 employees. At 7.5 employees, the average enterprise size remained almost stable between 2005 and 2017.

New companies.

Branch of economic activity (NOGA 2008)	Total new companies		Created jobs	
	2016	2017	2016	2017
Total	39 125	39 303	53 031	53 480
Sector 2	4 912	5 035	8 047	8 176
Industry and Energy	1 713	1 879	2 421	2 683
Construction	3 199	3 156	5 626	5 493
Sector 3	34 213	34 268	44 984	45 304
Trade and repair sector	4 511	4 403	6 283	6 081
Transport and warehousing	885	953	1 228	1 334
Accommodation, food and beverage service activities	1 228	1 136	2 444	2 006
Information and communication	2 191	2 292	2 967	3 105
Banking and insurance	1 432	1 349	2 121	1 955
Real estate activities and services	3 548	3 605	5 277	5 474
Professional and scientific activities	8 156	8 315	10 049	10 610
Education	1 949	2 042	2 238	2 382
Health and social services	4 472	4 526	5 383	5 535
Arts and recreation	2 215	2 164	2 950	2 943
Other service activities	3 626	3 483	4 044	3 879

Source: FSO – Swiss Business Demographics (BDEMO)

Industry, construction and trade

Annual indices secondary sector.

Annual average 2015=100. Working day adjusted

	2016	2017	2018
Production sector 2 (economic activities)	99.9	104.3	108.9
B-E Industry	100.0	104.9	110.5
B Mining and quarrying	100.7	102.3	98.8
C Manufacturing	100.3	106.0	111.9
D Electricity supply	97.6	96.3	100.6
E Water supply, waste management	*	*	*
F Construction	99.4	101.5	101.5
Turnover sector 2 (economic activities)	98.4	101.6	107.1
B-E Industry	98.4	101.9	108.8
B Mining and quarrying	99.3	100.9	97.5
C Manufacturing	98.6	103.2	110.4
D Electricity supply	96.6	93.9	100.5
E Water supply, waste management	*	*	*
F Construction	98.7	100.1	100.7

Sources: FSO – Industry Production, Orders and Turnover Statistics (INDPAU), Construction Industry Production, Orders and Turnover Statistics (BAPAU)

Turnover in retail sector

Average % change compared to previous year

	2016	2017	2018
Nominal turnover in retail sector			
Total	-1.8	-0.5	0.3
Total excluding fuel	-1.6	-0.9	-0.2
Food, beverages and tobacco	0.1	-1.8	1.8
Clothing, footwear	-3.5	-4.8	-6.3
Remaining classes of goods (excluding fuel)	-2.5	1.2	-0.5
Automotive fuel	-6.6	6.9	8.5
Real turnover in retail sector			
Total	-1.2	-0.5	-0.1
Total excluding fuel	-1.1	-1.0	-0.7
Food, beverages and tobacco	-0.1	-2.2	0.7
Clothing, footwear	-4.7	-7.4	-7.9
Remaining classes of goods (excluding fuel)	-0.8	2.3	0.0
Automotive fuel	-1.2	-0.5	-0.2

Source: FSO – Retail Sales Statistics

Construction expenditures. In CHF million, at year 2000 prices¹

	2015	2016	2017
Total	55 727	55 878	56 745
Government-funded projects²	18 410	18 517	18 617
Civil engineering	10 776	10 455	10 391
of which roads	4 594	4 255	4 503
Building construction	7 633	8 061	8 225
of which residential buildings ³	541	644	867
Privately-funded projects⁴	37 317	37 361	38 128
Infrastructure ⁵	4 123	4 196	4 345
Housing	25 720	25 989	26 110
Agriculture and forestry	585	559	487
Industry, small business, services	6 889	6 617	7 186

¹ Construction deflators based on FSO National Accounts

² Construction expenditure of the Confederation, the cantons, the municipalities and corresponding public enterprises, including public maintenance work

³ Without public maintenance work

⁴ Without private maintenance work

⁵ Infrastructure: provision, disposal, road transport, other transport and communication; education, research; health; leisure, culture; other infrastructure

Source: FSO – Annual Construction and Housing Statistics

Financial markets

Assets and liabilities of banks in Switzerland

Year end	2016	2017	2018
In CHF million			
Assets			
Domestic	1 854 010	1 898 293	1 942 400
Foreign	1 247 365	1 351 150	1 282 603
Liabilities			
Domestic	1 721 291	1 837 919	1 889 451
Foreign	1 380 085	1 411 524	1 335 551
Balance sheet total	3 101 375	3 249 443	3 225 003
As % of balance sheet total			
Assets			
Domestic	59.8	58.4	60.2
Foreign	40.2	41.6	39.8
Liabilities			
Domestic	55.5	56.6	58.6
Foreign	44.5	43.4	41.4

Source: Swiss National Bank (SNB)

Yields on Swiss Confederation bond issues and average rates of interest. In %

Year end	2016	2017	2018
CHF Swiss Confederation bond issues, 10 years	-0.14	-0.10	-0.15
Domestic mortgage loans, in CHF	1.63	1.53	1.45
Amounts due in respect of domestic customer deposits, in CHF	0.18	0.15	0.12
Liabilities arising out of cash bonds, in CHF	1.11	1.01	0.91

Source: Swiss National Bank (SNB)

Number of staff at banks in Switzerland¹

Year end	2016	2017	2018
All banks	120 840	108 939	107 388
In Switzerland	101 377	91 904	90 660
Foreign	19 463	17 035	16 728
Big banks	50 399	38 307	37 050
In Switzerland	34 525	24 910	24 097
Foreign	15 874	13 397	12 953

¹ From 2000 on figures for part-time workers, apprentices and trainees have been adjusted (full-time equivalents).

Source: Swiss National Bank (SNB)

Insurance companies' revenue from premiums

In Switzerland and abroad, in CHF million

Insurance branch	2016	2017	2018
Total	127 292	127 273	115 037
Life insurance	32 606	31 410	31 511
Accident and indemnity	46 504	47 857	42 203
Reinsurance	48 183	48 006	41 323

Source: Federal Office of Private Insurance (FOPi)

Compensation paid out by insurance companies

In Switzerland and abroad, in CHF million

Type of insurance	2016	2017	2018
Total	82 781	77 891	97 613
Life insurance	30 549	30 651	34 043
Accident and indemnity insurance	30 643	31 044	31 079
Reinsurance	21 589	16 196	32 490

Source: Federal Office of Private Insurance (FOPi)

Number of people working for insurance companies

In Switzerland only, year end

	2016	2017	2018
Total	35 685	34 400	34 811
Life insurance	6 222	5 417	5 298
Indemnity insurance	26 548	26 002	26 816
Reinsurance	2 915	2 981	2 697

Source: Federal Office of Private Insurance (FOPi)

Tourism

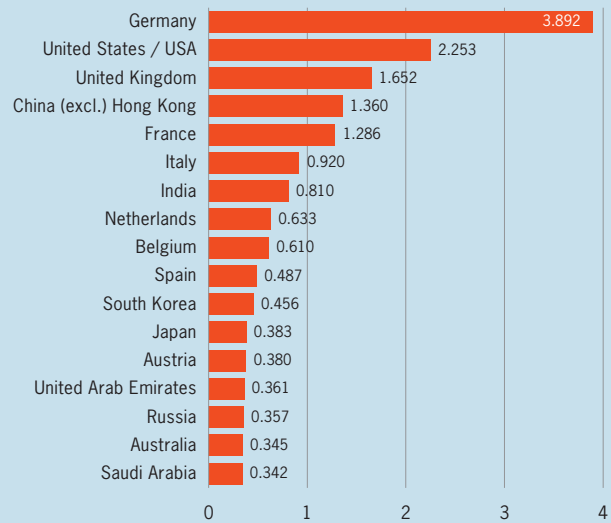
Selected tourism indicators

	2016	2017	2018
Supply (beds)¹			
Hotels and health establishments	271 710	275 203	274 792
Demand: arrivals in '000			
Hotels and health establishments	17 478	18 562	19 353
Campsites	967	1 087	1 238
Demand: overnight stays in '000			
Hotels and health establishments	35 533	37 393	38 807
of which foreign guests	19 288	20 473	21 394
Campsites	2 786	3 174	3 580
of which foreign guests	997	1 025	1 172
Duration of stay average number of nights			
Hotels and health establishments	2.0	2.0	2.0
Campsites	2.9	2.9	2.9
Gross occupancy rate: hotels and health establishments			
expressed as a % of available beds	35.7	37.2	38.7
Tourism balance of payments			
CHF millions			
Receipts from foreign visitors to Switzerland	15 756.0 ^r	16 228.3 ^r	16 596.1 ^p
Expenditure by Swiss residents abroad	16 224.7 ^r	17 570.0 ^r	17 948.5 ^p
Balance	-468.7 ^r	-1 341.8 ^r	-1 352.5 ^p

¹ Total beds surveyed in surveyed establishments on annual average

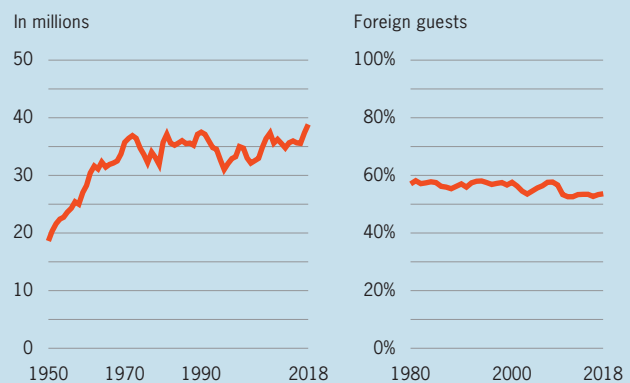
Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics; Tourism balance of payments

Main countries of origin of foreign guests¹ 2018



¹ Overnight stays in millions, excl. supplementary accommodation

Overnight stays (hotels and health establishments)



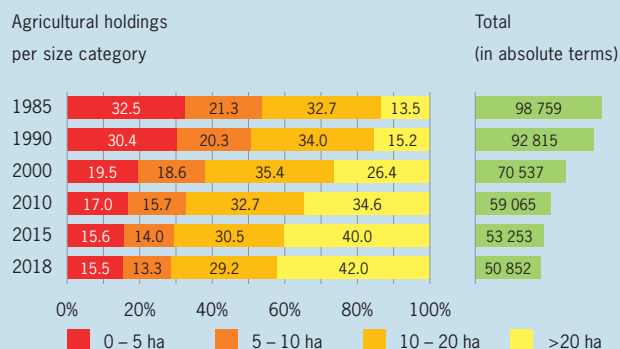
8 Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Key agricultural figures

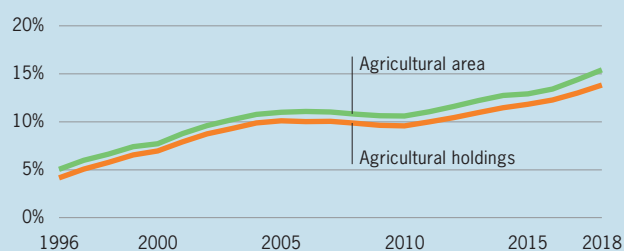
	2000	2010	2015	2018
Agricultural holdings				
Number of agricultural holdings, in '000	70.5	59.1	53.3	50.9
Agricultural area, in '000 ha	1 072	1 052	1 050	1 045
Agricultural area per holding, in ha	15.2	17.8	19.7	20.6
Holdings with agricultural area <5 ha, in %	19.5	17.0	15.6	15.5
Holdings with agricultural area ≥50 ha, in %	1.7	3.3	4.8	5.6
Cattle-raising				
Agricultural holdings with cows				
Number of holdings, in '000	48.3	37.8	33.7	31.9
Number of cows, in '000	714	700	701	690
Agricultural holdings with pigs				
Number of holdings, in '000	15.3	8.8	6.9	6.2
Number of pigs, in '000	1 498	1 589	1 496	1 418
Land use				
Area under arable, in '000 ha	408	404	398	398
% of total agricultural area	38	38	38	38
Area under cereals, in '000 ha	183	152	144	144
% of total agricultural area	17	14	14	14
Area under grass, in '000 ha	629	612	613	608
% of total agricultural area	59	58	58	58
Labour force				
Total labour force per agricultural holding	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.0
Price indexes				
Producer Price Index – Agriculture (December 2015 = 100)	114.3	101.0	100.3	102.4
Purchase Price Index – Agriculture (December 2015 = 100)	95.5	103.5	101.1	101.0
Economic Accounts for Agriculture (at current prices)				
Total value of output at basic prices (in CHF million)	11 077	10 047	10 213	10 669 ^p

Source: FSO

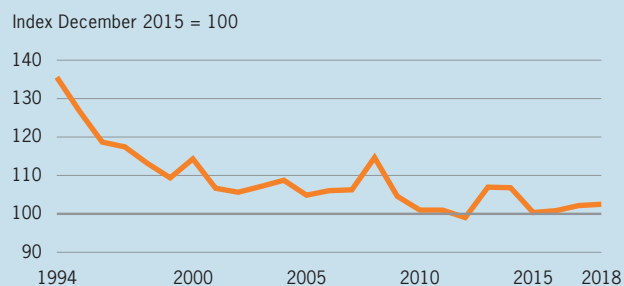
Structural changes in agriculture



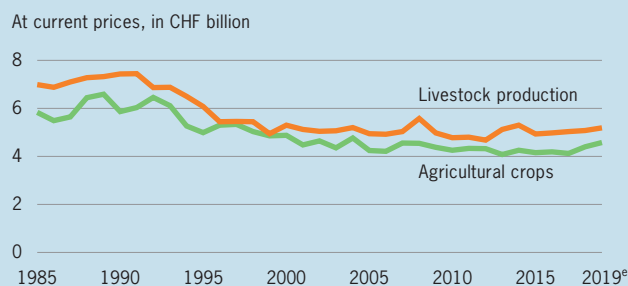
Organic farms



Agricultural prices



Agricultural crops and livestock production



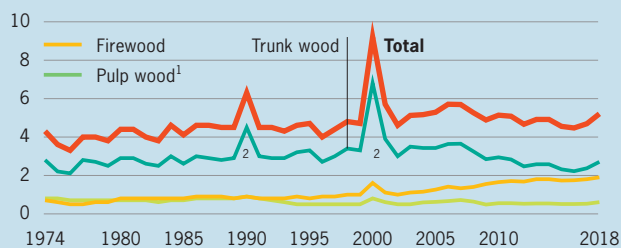
Key forestry figures

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Forest area in hectares	1 266 406	1 267 086	1 270 590	1 272 038
Operations in m ³	4 551 897	4 458 991	4 687 542	5 198 202
Type of wood in %				
Softwood	63.4	63.1	64.3	69.4
Hardwood	36.6	36.9	35.7	30.6
Agglomerated wood in %				
Trunk wood	50.8	49.7	50.5	51.9
Pulpwood	10.7	10.9	10.8	11.3
Firewood	38.1	39.1	38.4	36.6
Other	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2

Source: FSO – Forestry Statistics

Timber industry

Variations in domestic use, in millions m³



1 Incl. other categories of wood
2 Storms: Vivian (25.-27.2.1990), Lothar (26.12.1999)

Professional fishing. Yield in kg

	Area in km ²	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total	1 232.3	1 591 004.0	1 586 284.7	1 505 331.7	1 381 365.5	1 365 728.9	1 374 700.0
Lake Geneva ¹	345.4	434 124	428 813	404 532	344 240	337 141	322 415
Lake Neuchâtel	215.0	351 538	360 426	331 156	314 240	338 519	233 514
Lake Constance ²	172.6	213 551	167 995	153 006	139 682	118 341	105 610
Lake Lucerne	113.7	114 708	121 051	89 354	105 602	96 471	90 208
Lake Zurich ³	88.1	155 434	177 895	215 611	188 580	155 304	136 806
Lake Thun	47.7	33 736	29 464	29 657	23 915	36 093	31 259
Lake Maggiore ¹	40.8	35 456	45 145	39 983	42 584	35 322	42 240
Lake Biel	39.4	70 354	72 050	79 339	78 079	84 212	104 630
Lake Zug	38.4	35 716	32 073	29 163	22 778	29 359	30 884
Other ⁴	131.2	146 387	151 373	133 531	121 665	134 967	138 567

1 Lake area fished from Switzerland

2 Including Untersee

3 Including Obersee

4 Lake Lugano, Lake Brienz, Lake Walen, Lake Murten, Lake Hallwil and Lake Sempach

Sources: Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN); lake area: GG25 © 2009 Federal Office of Topography swisstopo

9 International trade

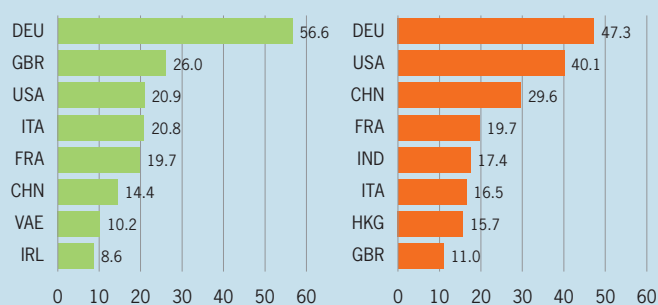
Imports and exports according to economic areas and type of goods. In CHF million

	Imports				Exports			
	1990	2000	2010	2018	1990	2000	2010	2018
Total	96 611	139 402	183 436	273 389	88 257	136 015	203 484	303 886
Economic area								
Europe	77 575	110 918	144 544	174 846	60 812	86 839	126 096	142 267
of which:								
Germany	32 529	40 584	58 570	56 566	19 307	29 174	39 278	47 251
France	10 708	14 246	15 600	19 735	8 748	11 956	15 578	19 718
Africa	1 684	2 356	2 213	10 478	1 842	2 081	3 432	3 684
Asia	8 965	12 467	23 114	54 203	14 840	22 749	41 956	103 866
of which:								
China	419	2 301	6 086	14 437	415	1 403	7 467	29 587
Hong Kong	902	895	1 636	3 833	2 265	3 841	6 535	15 670
Japan	4 246	3 925	3 681	4 669	4 206	5 767	6 735	7 765
North America	6 225	10 867	10 774	22 792	7 685	18 678	23 450	43 929
of which USA	5 921	10 288	9 828	20 875	6 976	17 427	20 558	40 068
Latin America	1 055	1 572	2 078	9 259	1 950	3 800	5 712	6 838
Oceania	152	304	413	1 299	874	1 223	2 438	3 003
Type of goods								
Business cycle total	89 844	128 615	173 991	201 849	80 875	126 549	193 480	233 224
of which:								
Products of the chemical and pharmaceutical industry	10 624	21 899	37 787	50 159	18 422	35 892	75 909	104 372
Machines, appliances, electronics	19 793	31 583	31 438	32 079	25 527	37 137	36 435	33 520
Vehicles	10 230	14 903	16 581	19 299	1 485	3 054	4 013	5 020
Metals	9 025	10 735	14 379	15 907	7 537	10 892	12 738	14 402
Watches	1 043	1 622	2 643	4 007	6 777	10 297	16 167	21 180

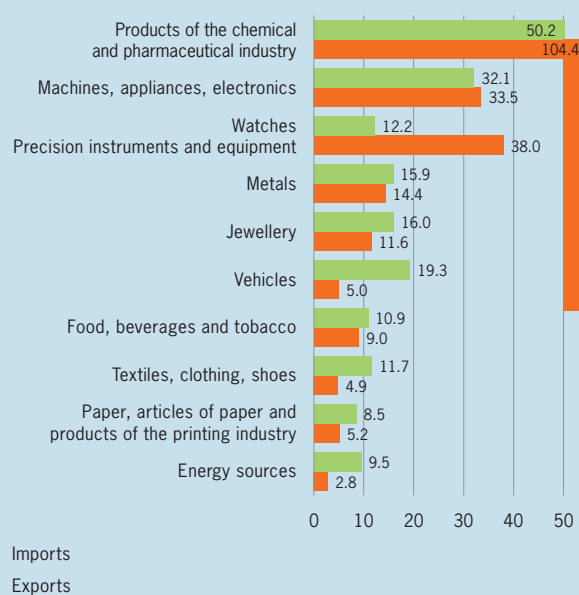
Source: Federal Customs Administration

Swiss foreign trade in 2018, in CHF billion

Key trading partners



Main goods



Switzerland is among those countries with the highest share of foreign trade in the gross domestic product. Switzerland's main trade partners are the industrialised countries. The EU is of particular importance (45% of exports, 59% of imports, 2018).

10 Transport

Selected criteria

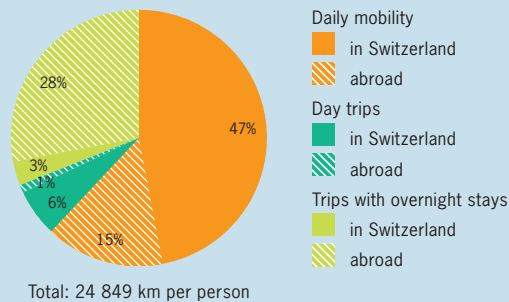
	1990	2000	2010	2018
Length of network, in km				
Rail	5 049	5 032	5 124	...
Road ^{1,2}	70 970	71 132	71 452	71 555
of which motorways	1 495	1 638	1 790	1 859
No. of vehicles³				
Private motor vehicles	2 985 397	3 545 247	4 075 825	4 602 688
Motorcycles	299 264	493 781	651 202	739 344
Commercial vehicles	252 136	278 518	335 200	428 808
of which delivery vehicles	196 845	227 316	283 458	374 819
Transport⁴				
Passenger transport, rail ⁵	12 678	12 620	19 177	20 590
Passenger transport, road ⁶	77 759	79 142	90 861	102 034
Freight traffic, rail ⁵	9 045	11 080	11 074	11 776
Freight traffic, road	11 524	13 609	16 906	17 716
Transport accidents				
Road accidents involving injury to persons	23 834	23 737	19 609	18 033
Deaths	954	592	327	233
Injured persons	29 243	30 058	24 237	21 831
serious injuries	11 182	6 191	4 458	3 873
minor injuries	18 061	23 867	19 779	17 958

- 1 Breakdown into cantonal and secondary roads taken into account (year: 2010)
 2 Secondary roads: as at 1984
 3 Road
 4 In million passenger-km or million tonne-km.
 5 Railways only
 6 Private transport

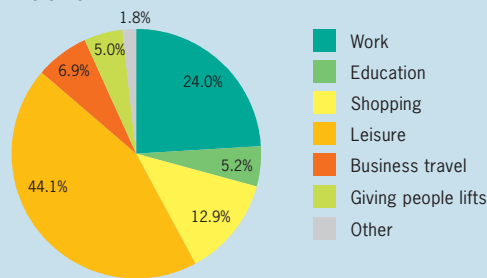
Sources: FSO; Federal Office of Transport (FOT)

Average annual mobility by type of mobility in 2015

Distances in Switzerland and abroad



Trip purposes in 2015, in Switzerland¹



1 People from the age of 6

Trans-Alpine freight traffic. 2018¹, in million net tonnes

	Rail			Road		
	Total	Transit %	Variation ² %	Total	Transit %	Variation ² %
Total	44.6	...	13.2	72.7	...	7.7
France	2.6	...	-59.4	21.3	...	-2.7
Switzerland	27.9	...	21.8	11.7	...	-6.4
of which:						
Simplon Pass	12.6	...	85.3	1.0	...	42.9
Gotthard Pass	15.3	...	-5.0	8.4	...	-15.2
Austria	14.0	...	38.6	39.8	...	20.2

- 1 Rail: Alpine arc Mt Cenis-Brenner; road: Alpine arc Fréjus-Brenner
 2 Variation (total) compared to 2004

Source: Federal Office of Transport (FOT)

11 Environment

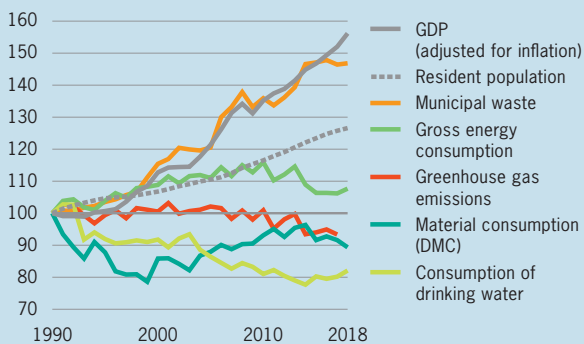
Selected environmental indicators¹

	2000	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Population density (inhabitants per km ²)	180	197	206	208	211	212	214
Water consumption per inhabitant per day (in litres)	405	325	300	307	299	300	304
Consumption of fossil fuels (in gigajoules per inhabitant)	83.4	77.3	65.4	65.2	65.3	63.8	61.6
Nitrogen balance ² on farmlands (in kg N/ha farmland)	67	72	69	68	69	66	...
Share of organic farmland in total farmland (in %)	7.7	10.6	12.7	12.9	13.4	14.4	15.4
Total emissions of greenhouse gases in CO ₂ equivalents (in millions of tonnes)	52.5	54.2	48.5	47.9	48.3	47.2	...
Particulate matter (PM10) concentration yearly average in city centres (in µg/m ³) ³	28.7	23.5	17.5	19.8	18.0	18.6	18.5
NO ₂ concentration, yearly average in city centres (in µg/m ³) ⁴	47.3	42.2	40.1	40.9	39.2	38.6	34.8
Share of renewable energy in final energy consumption (in %)	17.0	19.7	21.5	23.0	22.3	22.6	23.3
Municipal waste excl. recycled waste (in kg/inhabitant)	361	349	339	342	340	334	334
Share of separately collected waste ⁵ in total waste (in %)	45	50	54	53	53	53	53
National expenditure for environmental protection (in CHF billion)	8.5	10.8	11.3	11.5	12.3	12.2	12.4 ^p

- 1 Some data revised
- 2 Calculations by method OECD
- 3 Threshold value = 20 µg/m³
- 4 Threshold value = 30 µg/m³
- 5 Paper, cardboard, plant waste, glass, tinplate, aluminium, polyethylene terephthalate (PET), batteries

Sources: FSO; Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN); Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE)

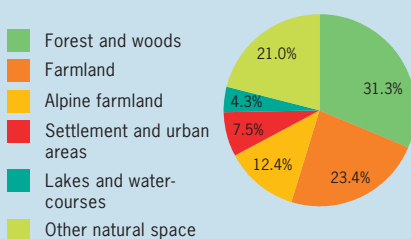
Use of resources and emissions, index 1990 = 100



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

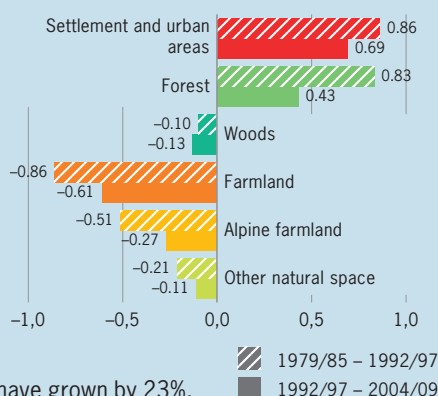
Land use

Period of survey 2004 – 2009



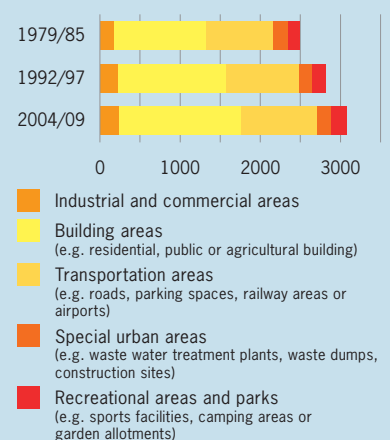
Change in land use

in square metre per second



Settlement and urban areas

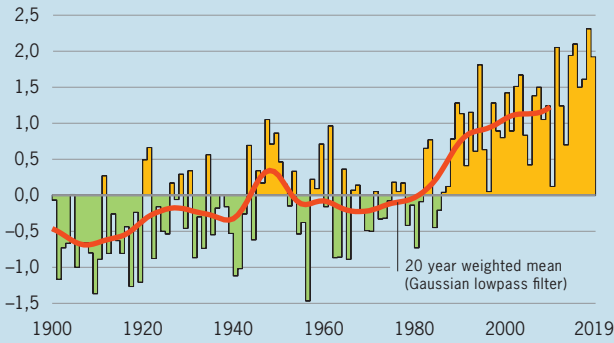
in km²



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

Temperature fluctuations

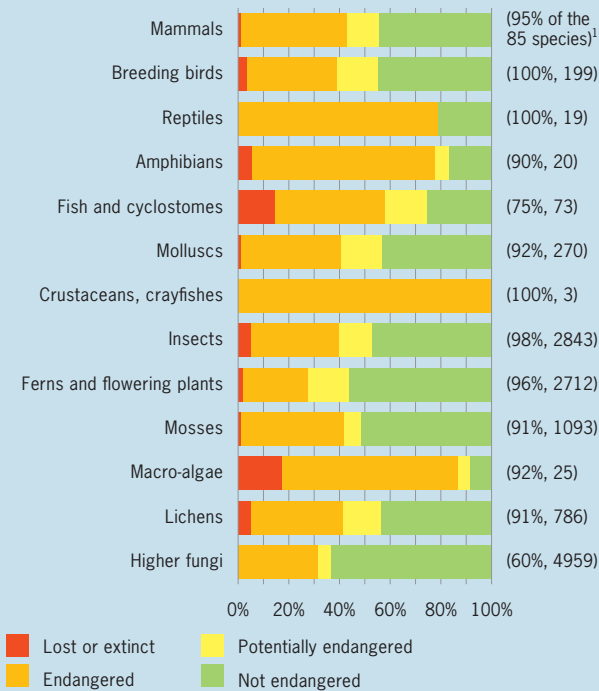
Deviations from long-term mean value 1961–1990, in °C



The air temperature varies from year to year and is characterised by colder and warmer periods. 9 out of 10 of the warmest years in Switzerland since records began in 1864 have been in the 21st century and 2018 was the warmest year so far.

Endangered animals and plants (red lists)

Status 1994–2018, depending on the species group

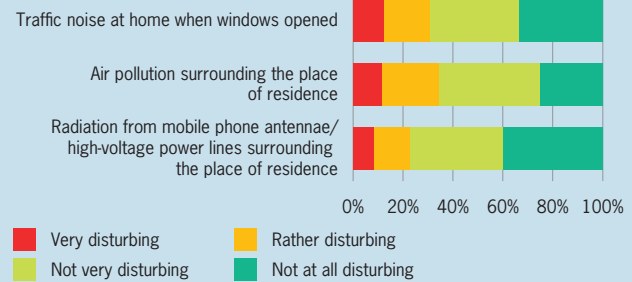


¹ Reading aid: The endangerment status was assessed for 95% of the 85 mammal species. Data are deficient for the remaining species.

There are around 46 000 known species of flora, fauna and fungi in Switzerland. Of the species examined, 35% are on the red list, i.e. they are considered endangered, missing or extinct.

Perception of environmental conditions in the place of residence, 2019

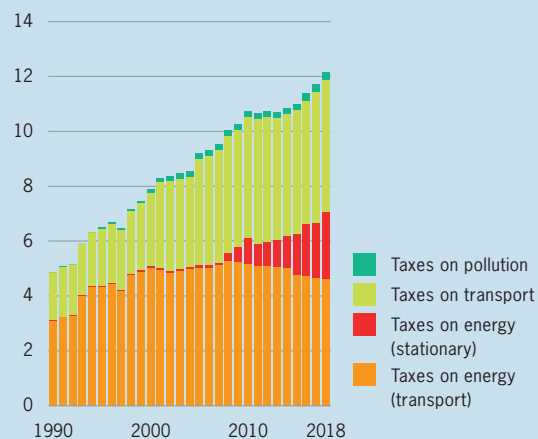
Share of population



In 2019, 31% of the population found traffic noise at home with open windows to be very or rather disturbing. 34% were of this opinion with regard to air pollution surrounding the house and 23% with regard to radiation from power lines or mobile telephony antennas.

Environmentally related taxes revenue

CHF billion, at current prices



Environmentally related taxes make environmentally damaging goods and services more expensive and encourage consumers and producers to think about the consequences of their decisions. In 2018, environmentally related taxes revenue corresponded to 6.3% of the total tax and social contributions.

12 Energy

Electricity production. In GWh

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2015	2018
Hydropower plants	31 273	33 542	30 675	37 851	37 450	39 486	37 428
Nuclear power stations	1 850	13 663	22 298	24 949	25 205	22 095	24 414
Conventional thermal power stations	1 763	957	1 013	2 372	3 123	2 661	3 008
Various renewable	...	...	88	176	474	1 715	2 708
Gross production	34 886	48 162	54 074	65 348	66 252	65 957	67 558
Minus storage pump consumption	965	1 531	1 695	1 974	2 494	2 296	3 987
Net production	33 921	46 631	52 379	63 374	63 758	63 661	63 571

Source: Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) – Electricity statistics

Breakdown of final consumption according to energy resource. In terajoules¹

	1990	2000	2010	2018
Total	794 290	847 080	903 770	830 880
Petroleum products	496 820	501 800	485 490	409 930
Motor fuels	243 600	208 430	190 410	115 630
Heating fuels	253 220	293 370	295 080	294 300
Electricity	167 680	188 540	215 230	207 530
Gas	63 640	93 160	115 940	112 280
Coal	14 360	5 770	6 210	4 290
Wood ²	28 600	27 860	39 530	38 310
District heating	10 420	13 180	17 030	19 400
Household and industrial waste	8 680	10 440	10 040	10 870
Other renewable energy sources ³	4 090	6 330	14 300	28 270

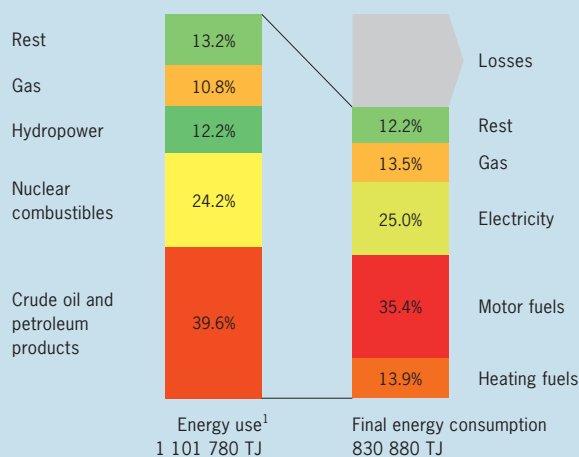
¹ One terajoule (TJ) corresponds to roughly 24 tonnes of crude oil or around 0.28 million kWh

² Figures from 1990 onwards are based on new survey methodology.

³ Solar power, biogas, biofuel, ambient heat

Source: Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) – National Energy Statistics

Total energy use and final consumption, 2018

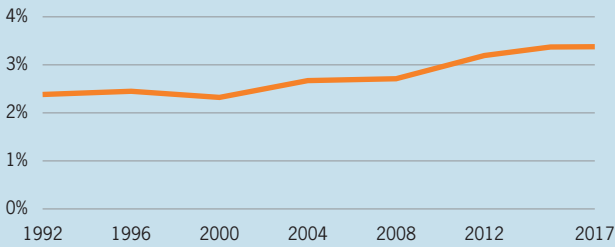


¹ Incl. export surplus of electricity (0.5%)

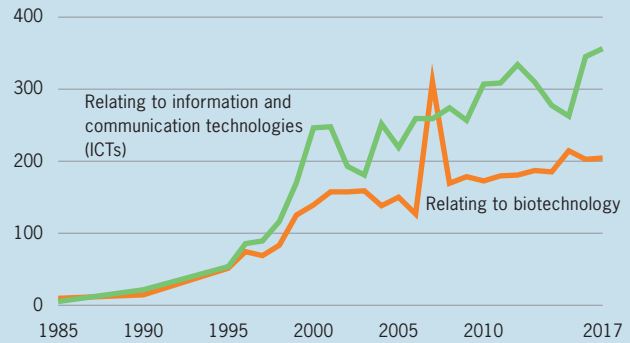
13 Science and technology

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD)

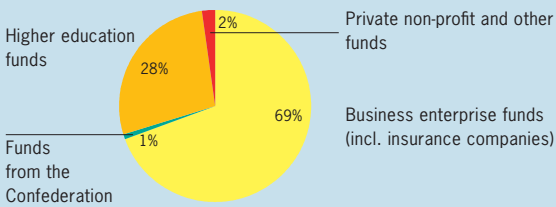
In % of GDP



Patent applications filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

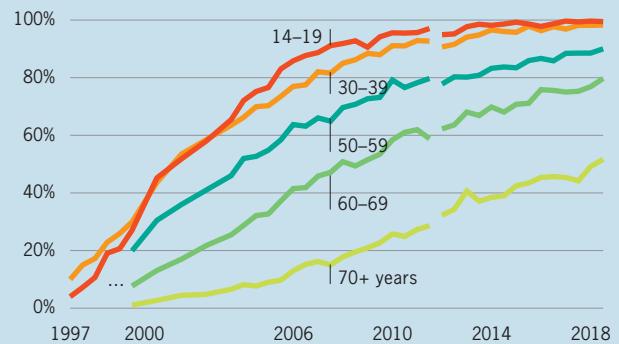


Total intramural expenditure on R&D by category 2017



Internet usage

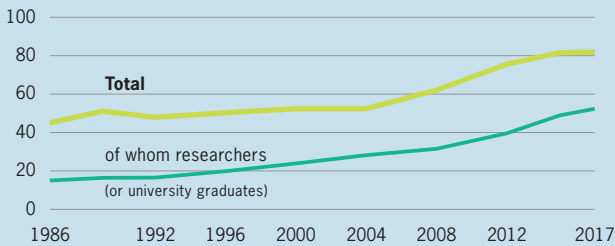
Regular Internet users¹ by age groups



1 Respondents who stated that they use the internet several times per week.

R&D personnel

In thousand full-time equivalents



Company intramural R&D expenditure in Switzerland

In CHF million

	2015	2017
Total	22 059	22 550
Private companies	15 660	15 649
of which:		
Pharmaceutical and chemical companies	6 165	6 146
Machinery manufacture and metal processing companies	1 910	2 154
Confederation	194	184
of which Federal Department of Economic Affairs (DEA)	139	137
University-level institutions	5 885	6 217
Universities	4 560	4 796
Research laboratories run by Swiss fed. instit. of technology	715	672
Universities of applied sciences	610	750
Private non-profit organisations and other institutions	320	499

Source: FSO – Surveys of R&D activities of private companies, university-level institutions and the Confederation

Triadic patent families in international comparison¹

	1990	2000	2010	2017
Total OECD	32 365	55 263²	50 213²	47 922
As % of OECD total				
Switzerland	2.4	1.8	2.1	2.4
Japan	29.7	33.0	38.4	36.7
United States	34.8	28.3	25.4	25.1
EU-28 ²	30.9	32.1	26.3	27.4

¹ A triadic patent family is when a single invention is protected by patents in the three main economies (European Patent Office (EPO), Japanese Patent Office (JPO), US Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO)). Revised figures.

² Average of the 28 Member States of the EU

Source: OECD

R&D personnel by sector of economic activity and function 2017

	Total	Private enterprises	Confederation	Higher education institutions
Total persons	125 045	55 239	1 825	67 981
of which women	44 777	14 079	723	29 975
Total in full-time equivalents	81 751	49 353	875	31 523
Researchers	46 088	22 909	455	22 724
Technicians	22 152	18 139	222	3 791
Other support staff	13 512	8 306	198	5 008

Source: FSO – R&D in private enterprises, in the field of higher education and in the federal administration

Telecommunications infrastructure. Status on 31 December

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^p
Wireline						
Connection						
in '000	2 848	2 717	2 591	2 330	1 543	151
per 100 inhabitants	35.0	33.0	31.1	27.7	18.2	1.8
Access channels						
in '000	3 754	3 557	3 329	2 936	1 938	302
per 100 inhabitants	46.1	43.2	40.0	34.9	22.8	3.5
Broadband access						
in '000	3 438	3 536	3 701	3 774	3 916	3 956
per 100 inhabitants	42.2	42.9	44.4	44.8	46.2	46.3
Cable TV subscribers ¹						
in millions	2.69	2.64	2.51	2.43	2.37	2.24
per 100 inhabitants	33.1	32.1	30.2	28.9	27.9	26.2
Internet subscribers						
in millions	3.47	3.55	3.71	3.79	3.92	...
per 100 inhabitants	42.6	43.1	44.6	45.0	46.2	...
Public phones						
in '000	10.6	9.6	8.5	7.2	4.8	1.9
per 100 inhabitants	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.2
Wireless						
Cellphone subscribers						
in '000	10 829	11 688	11 283	11 241	11 089	10 808
per 100 inhabitants	134.7	143.6	137.0	135.0	131.7	127.4

¹ Television subscribers with coaxial cable-based or fibre optic/coaxial cable-based infrastructure

Source: Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM) – Telecommunications Statistics

Internet usage. In % of the population aged 14 and over

	Regular Internet users ¹	Occasional Internet users ²
04.2011–09.2011	78.5	85.2
10.2011–03.2012	79.3	85.0
04.2012–09.2012 ³	78.1	85.2
10.2012–03.2013	79.0	85.0
04.2013–09.2013	81.1	86.7
10.2013–03.2014	81.1	86.6
04.2014–09.2014	82.6	87.5
10.2014–03.2015	82.7	87.4
04.2015–09.2015	83.4	88.0
10.2015–03.2016	84.4	88.9
04.2016–09.2016	85.2	89.4
10.2016–03.2017	85.6	89.5
04.2017–09.2017	85.5	89.6
10.2017–03.2018	85.7	89.8
04.2018–09.2018	86.6	90.3
10.2018–03.2019	87.7	91.0

¹ Respondents who stated that they use the internet several times per week.

² Respondents who stated that they have used the internet at least once in the past six months

³ Due to changes in the methodology, the results from autumn 2012 onwards cannot be compared with those of previous surveys.

Sources: FSO; MA-Net; Net-Matrix-Base

