2018

10

Tourism

Neuchâtel 2020

Swiss tourism statistics 2018

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Neuchâtel 2019, 8 pages, N° 2019-0338-E (Press release)

Annual press release on supplementary accommodation
Neuchâtel 2019, 10 pages, N° 2019-0389-E (Press release)

Reisen der Schweizer Wohnbevölkerung 2018
Neuchâtel 2019, 4 pages, FSO number: 502-1800 (in German)

Voyages de la population résidante suisse en 2018
Neuchâtel 2019, 4 pages, FSO number: 503-1800 (in French)

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Swiss tourism statistics 2018

Contents Yves Strauss, FSO; Lisa Joly, FSO; Irène Nuño Gómez, FSO; Benjamin Mayor, FSO; Jean-Luc Muralti, FSO; Jerry Suk, FSO; Hüseyin Dagdas, FSO

Published by Federal Statistical Office (FSO)

Neuchâtel 2020

Published by: Federal Statistical Office (FSO)

Information: Yves Strauss, FSO, tel. 058 463 65 73

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Series: Swiss Statistics

Topic: 10 Tourism

Original text: French/German

Translation: FSO language services

Layout: DIAM Section, Prepress/Print

Graphics: DIAM Section, Prepress/Print

Online: www.statistics.admin.ch

Print: www.statistics.admin.ch
Federal Statistical Office, CH-2010 Neuchâtel,
order@bfs.admin.ch, tel. +41 58 463 60 60
Printed in Switzerland

FSO number: 1074-1800

ISBN: 978-3-303-10471-2

Tourism

10 Tourism

2018

55.4 m
overnight stays in tourist accommodation

1 Switzerland	28.6 m
2 Europe	16.8 m
3 Asia	5.9 m
4 America	3.3 m
5 Africa and Oceania	0.8 m

Overnight stays by major regions in tourist accommodation

Lake Geneva Region	15.8 m
Eastern Switzerland	11.2 m
Espace Mittelland	10.1 m
Zurich	6.1 m
Central Switzerland	5.8 m
Ticino	3.8 m
Northwestern Switzerland	2.6 m

Trips by the Swiss resident population

Number of trips per person and year

24

10.6
without overnight stay

3.2
with overnight stays

Daily expenditure per person on private trips with overnight stays

CHF 108
Domestic trips

CHF 159
Trips abroad

Share of trips abroad in total trips with overnight stays

67%

664 663

Total beds surveyed in tourist accommodation

Distribution of beds by sector

Hotel sector	274 792
Holiday homes	154 149
Collective accommodation	115 680
Campsites (Pitches for passing guests x4)	120 042

CHF 19.3 bn

Gross value added by tourism

181 699

Number of jobs in tourism (FTE)

+0.1%

Growth in consumer prices in tourist accommodation (2017/2018)

Contact: info-tour@bfs.admin.ch | Due to rounding up or down, totals may differ from the absolute figures indicated.
Sources: FSO – Tourist Accommodation Statistics, Supplementary accommodation statistics, Travel Behaviour, Annual Indicators of the Tourism Satellite Accounts, Consumer price index

Table of contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Objectives

The main objective of the Swiss tourism statistics is to offer a collated overview of the tourism sector. It brings together the results of various statistics conducted by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) specific to the field of tourism and to offer a detailed insight into these.

1.2 Organisation

This publication describes the results of the FSO's Swiss tourism statistics for 2018. The first part focuses on tourist accommodation that is partly made up of the hotel sector statistics and partly of the supplementary accommodation statistics. The second section of this publication concerns the survey on the travel behaviour of the Swiss population in 2018. The tourism satellite account, in the third section, gives information on the values measuring the economic influence of tourism in Switzerland. The fourth section of the publication presents a series of economic indicators making it possible to place the findings from the tourism statistics in a wider context.

1.3 Main statistics and tourism indicators

1.3.1 Tourist accommodation statistics

The tourist accommodation statistics consider the state and development of supply and demand in the Swiss hotel sector on a monthly basis. The main supply variables are the number of establishments, rooms and beds, while in terms of demand, the main variables are arrivals and overnight stays by visitors' country of origin. These results are published every month nationally, at major region, tourist region, cantonal and commune level.

1.3.2 Supplementary accommodation statistics

The supplementary accommodation statistics aim to present the state and development of supply (annually) and demand (monthly) of commercially-run holiday homes, collective accommodation and campsites in Switzerland. Its main supply variables are the number of accommodation units and beds while in terms of demand, the main variables are arrivals and overnight stays by visitors' country of origin. In addition to publication at national level, the final results are also published at major region level and by tourist region (for campsites only).

1.3.3 Survey on the travel behaviour of the Swiss resident population

The survey on travel behaviour analyses the mobility of the Swiss resident population without its everyday trips. These data are collected annually from a sample of the population. The survey provides information on the number of journeys made, their characteristics and the profile of passengers. It also offers details of the duration, destination and the purpose of travel, the means of transport used and possible types of accommodation. It also covers passengers by sex, language, age and several other variables.

1.3.4 Annual Indicators of the Tourism Satellite Accounts

The annual indicators of the tourism satellite accounts provide initial estimates of the main aggregates of the most important tourist products in simplified form. The production of these annual indicators is focused on directly estimating the three key areas of the tourism satellite accounts: the gross value added by tourism, tourism demand as well as employment in tourism in full-time equivalent jobs. These reference values enable the economic influence of tourism in Switzerland to be measured.

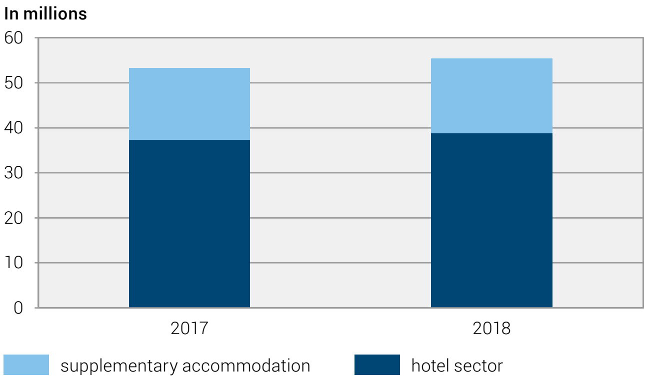
2 Tourist accommodation statistics

2.1 Tourist accommodation in Switzerland

2.1.1 Demand in tourist accommodation

In 2018, tourist accommodation in Switzerland – that includes the hotel sector and supplementary accommodation – counted a total of 55.4 million overnight stays (G 2.1.1). This corresponds to a rise of 3.9% compared with the demand from 2017. The hotel sector represents the largest share of the demand with just over 70% of overnight stays recorded.

Overnight stays in tourist accommodation **G 2.1.1**



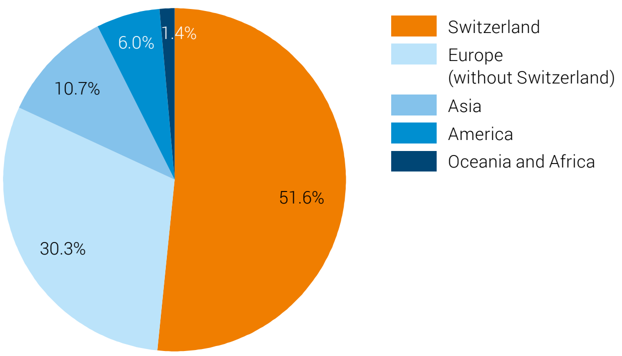
Sources: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA), supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

2.1.2 Swiss and foreign demand

Swiss clientele accounted for 51.6% of the overnight stays recorded in Swiss tourist accommodation in 2018 (G 2.1.2a). In terms of foreign demand, European visitors generated the most overnight stays with just over 30% of the total demand. Demand for supplementary accommodation mainly came from Swiss visitors (more than 65%) (G 2.1.2b), while in the hotel sector, Swiss demand was less substantial (44.9%) (G 2.1.2c).

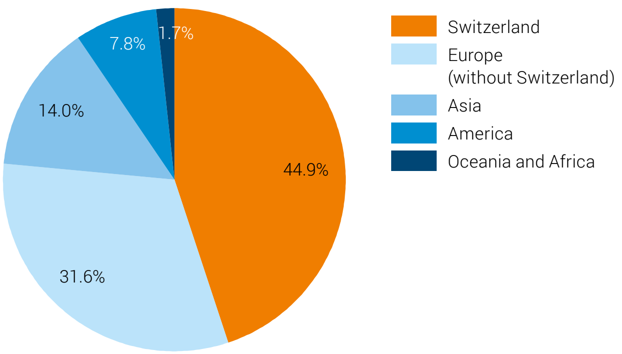
Did you know?
In 2018, more than 150 000 overnight stays (151 644) were counted on average every day in Swiss tourist accommodation.

Overnight stays in tourist accommodation, by visitors' country of residence, 2018 **G 2.1.2a**



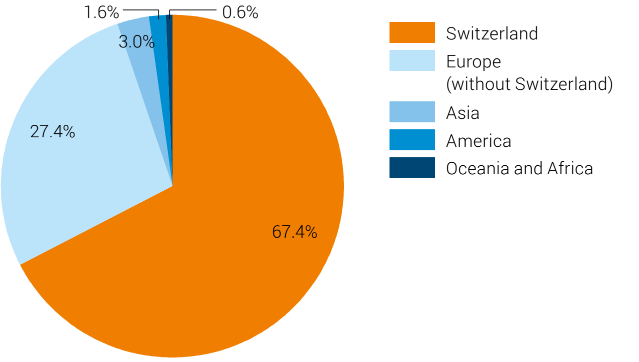
Sources: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA), supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Overnight stays in the hotel sector, by visitors' country of residence, 2018 **G 2.1.2b**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

Overnight stays in supplementary accommodation, by visitors' country of residence, 2018 **G 2.1.2c**

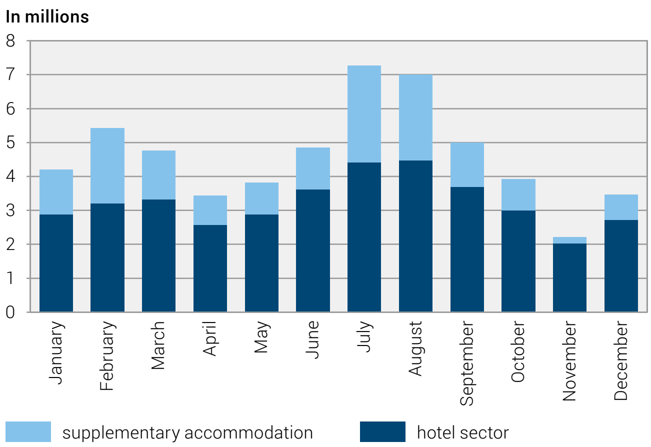


Sources: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA), supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

2.1.3 Breakdown for monthly demand

In tourist accommodation in Switzerland in 2018, the greatest number of overnight stays was recorded in the months of July and August (G 2.1.3). 14.3 million overnight stays were counted in these months alone, i.e. 25.8% of the annual demand.

Monthly breakdown for overnight stays in tourist accommodation, 2018 **G 2.1.3**



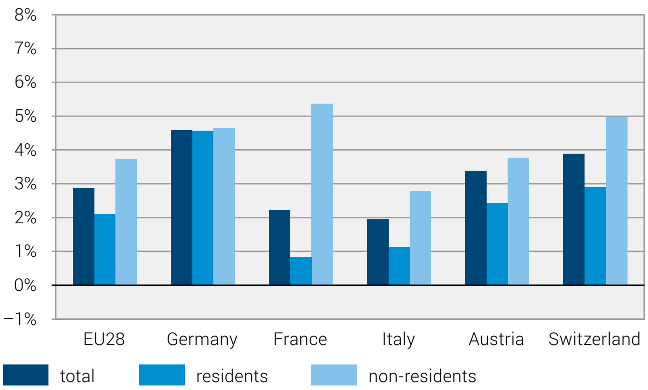
Sources: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA), supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

2.1.4 Change in demand in the countries neighbouring Switzerland

In comparison with the European results (EU28), Swiss tourist accommodation in 2018 showed an analogue but nonetheless more marked development in overnight stays (G 2.1.4) with an increase of 3.9% (versus 2.9% in the EU28) in relation to 2017. Increases were also observed in neighbouring countries (Germany, France, Italy and Austria).

In 2018 at European level, the number of overnight stays generated by both non-residents and residents grew (+3.7% and +2.1% respectively, compared with 2017). This trend has been also observed for all countries neighbouring Switzerland. For Switzerland, the scenario was virtually identical: overnight stays showed an increase both by residents (+5.0%) and non-residents (+2.9%).

Change in overnight stays in tourist accommodation by country, 2017–2018 **G 2.1.4**



Sources: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA), supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA); Eurostat © FSO 2020

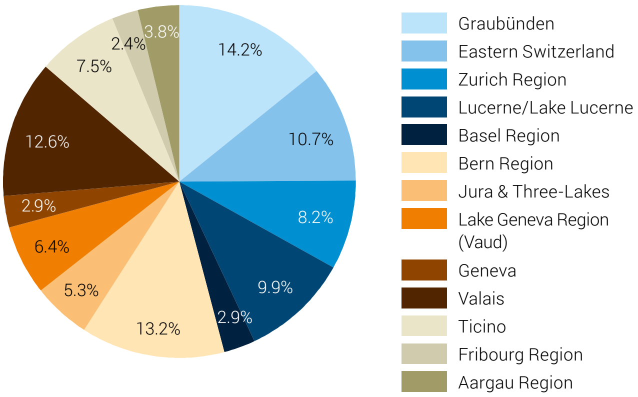
2.2 Hotel sector results

2.2.1 Supply in 2018

In 2018, there were, on annual average, 4275 open hotels and health establishments in Switzerland, corresponding to 130 049 rooms and 251 679 beds available (G 2.2.1a). The distribution of the establishments differed according to the tourist regions. Graubünden had the largest proportion (14.2%), followed by the Bern Region (13.2%). The national average capacity of a hotel establishment was 59 available beds (G 2.2.1b).

Did you know?
With 130 beds on average per establishment, Geneva had the highest number of beds in Switzerland in 2018.

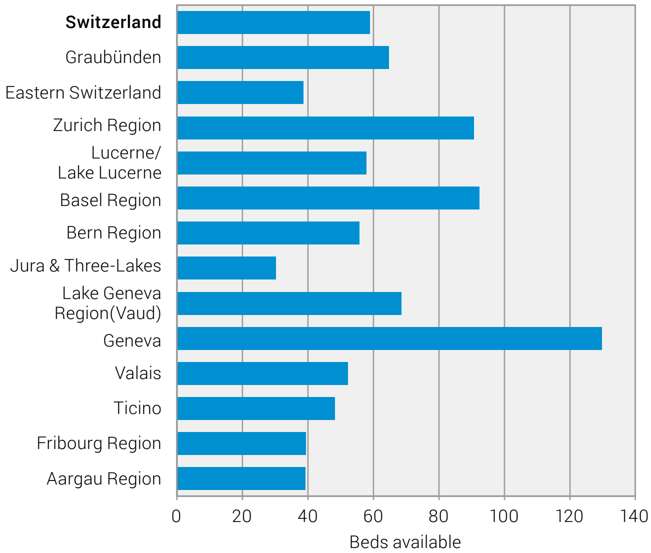
Establishments open in the hotel sector and distribution by tourist region, 2018 **G 2.2.1a**



total number of establishments open: 4 275

Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

Average number of available beds per establishment in the hotel sector, per tourist region, 2018 **G 2.2.1b**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

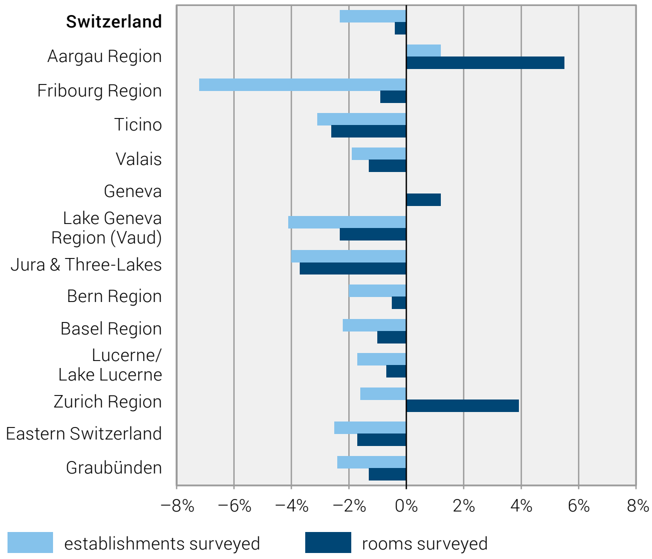
2.2.2 General change in supply

In 2018, a total of 4765 establishments and 140 884 rooms were surveyed in the hotel sector in Switzerland. The number of establishments decreased in comparison with 2017 (–113 establishments/–2.3%) (G 2.2.2a) as did the number of rooms (–520 rooms/–0.4%). Among the tourist regions, the supply, in terms of establishments, also declined in 11 in 13 regions between 2017 and 2018. As far as the number of rooms was concerned, 10 in 13 tourist regions followed the same trend as that observed at national level.

Over a comparative period of 10 years (G 2.2.2b), the number of surveyed establishments diminished greatly. Thus in 2009, the number of surveyed establishments totalled 5533 in Switzerland, corresponding in absolute terms to a decline over this period of 768 units (–13.9%). As far as the number of rooms was concerned, a drop could also be observed in comparison with 2009 but this was much less marked than for the number of establishments (–1667 rooms/–1.2%). For this period, all the tourist regions saw a decrease in supply for the number of establishments. Eastern Switzerland registered the greatest decline with 126 fewer establishments (–20.1%). Of the 8 regions registering a decrease in the number of rooms, Ticino registered the greatest decline (–1707 units/–16.0%).

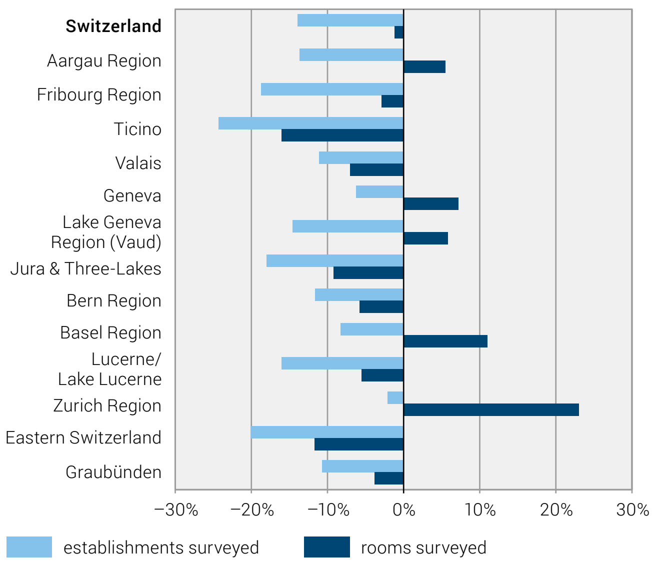
Did you know?
Over a 10 year period, the Zurich region saw the number of rooms surveyed increase by over 23% (+3557 rooms).

Supply by tourist region in the hotel sector: change, 2017–2018 **G 2.2.2a**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

Supply by tourist region in the hotel sector: change 2009 to 2018 **G 2.2.2b**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.2.3 General trend in demand

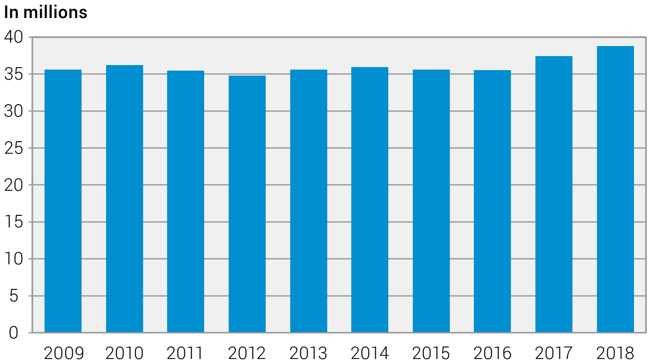
To better appreciate the results of the demand in the hotel sector in Switzerland, these should be correlated with the striking economic events which have occurred over the past ten years.

This decade has been marked by economic growth at international level with the exception of 2009 (a year during which the decrease can be attributed to the world economic crisis). At national level, the year 2011 was characterised by a strong rise in the Swiss franc's value against the Euro and other currencies (cf. G 5.7). On 6th September 2011, the introduction of the minimum exchange rate by the Swiss National Bank (SNB) stabilised exchange rates, which nonetheless remained far lower than in previous years. On 15th January 2015, the SNB announced the end of the minimum exchange rate, resulting in renewed strength of the Euro compared with the Swiss franc. In the following two years, although the Swiss franc regained some ground against the Euro it never reached its pre-2015 level.

Over the past ten years, the evolution in the total number of overnight stays in hotels and health establishments in Switzerland has been diverse (G 2.2.3). While 2008 saw a result close to the record set in 1990, a strong decline in demand was observed in 2009 (–4.7% compared with the previous year). Despite a slight recovery in 2010 (+1.7%), the number of overnight stays fell again in 2011 and in 2012 (–2.0% for each year). The trend was reversed for the years 2013 (+2.5%) and 2014 (+0.9%), however renewed decreases were observed for the years 2015 (–0.8%) and 2016 (–0.3%) A strong improvement in demand was seen in 2017 (+5.2%) which continued in 2018 with a total of 38.8 million overnight stays recorded (+3.8%).

Did you know?
The number of overnight stays registered in 2018 (38.8 million) was the best result ever seen.

Overnight stays in the hotel sector, 2009–2018 G 2.2.3



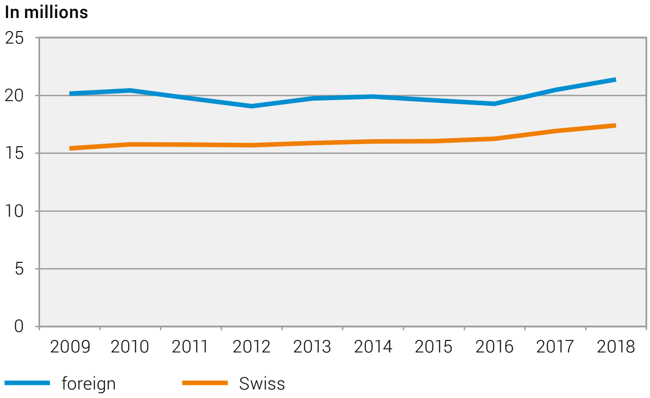
Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.2.4 Change in domestic and foreign demand

Looking back on the past 10 years, foreign and domestic demand in the hotel sector generally followed the same trends in 2009 and 2010 (G 2.2.4). From 2011 to 2012, however, differences were seen between both types of demand. On the one hand, domestic demand was quite stable although foreign demand showed a sharp decrease (2011; –3.5%/2012; –3.3%). In 2013, however, a positive trend was observed for both types of demand. This continued in 2014. Although the increase in overnight stays for Swiss clientele continued in 2015 and 2016, demand from foreign clientele saw a significant decline once again. In 2017, both foreign (+6.1%) and domestic demand (+4.2%) registered a strong increase. This situation continues in 2018. Foreign visitors generated 21.4 million overnight stays, i.e. an increase of 4.5%, while Swiss visitors accounted for 17.4 million, representing an increase of 2.9%.

Did you know?
In 2018, Swiss demand exceeded the symbolic threshold of 17 million overnight stays for the first time (17.4 million).

Change in overnight stays by foreign and Swiss visitors in the hotel sector, 2009–2018 G 2.2.4



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

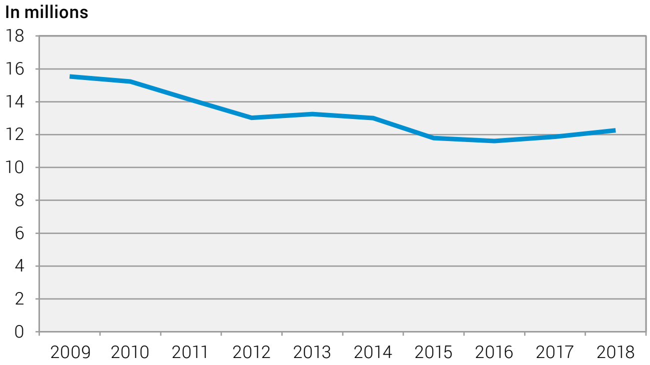
2.2.5 Change in demand from Europe

In 2018, demand from Europe (excluding Switzerland) registered 12.3 million overnight stays, representing an increase of 3.3% (+393 000 overnight stays) compared with 2017 (G2.2.5a). Nonetheless, over the past ten years apart from 2013 and 2017, this increase was an exception. Demand from European guests has seen sharp annual decreases over this period. Between 2009 and 2018, overnight stays by these visitors fell by more than 20%.

Among the main visiting countries from this continent (those with more than 600 000 overnight stays in 2018), Germany was emblematic of this change (G 2.2.5b). As of 2009, visitors from this country have registered continued declines in overnight stays (with the greatest decrease seen in 2015 with –12.3% compared with 2014). Despite a slight improvement in 2017 (+1.1%) and in 2018 (+3.9%), overnight stays by this clientele have fallen by 35.5% since 2009. The Netherlands also followed the same trend and registered a strong decrease during this period (–38.3% between 2009 and 2018). In general, for the other main visiting countries, despite rises for some of these, the decrease between 2009 and 2018 remained strong.

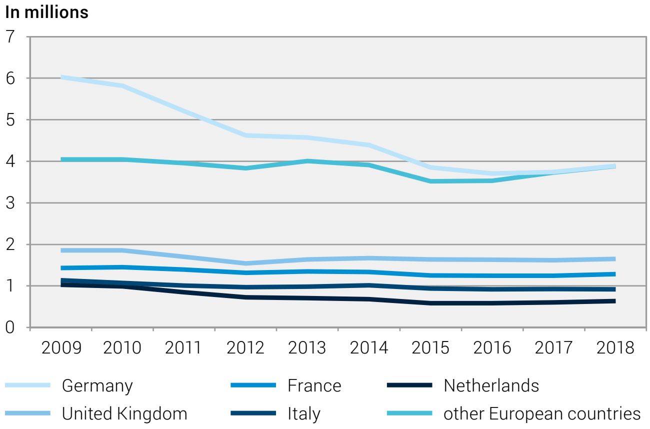
Did you know?
Almost a third (31.6%) of the total number of overnight stays in the hotel sector was generated by European clientele in 2018.

Change in overnight stays for European guests in the hotel sector, 2009–2018 **G 2.2.5a**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

Change in overnight stays for main European countries in the hotel sector, 2009–2018 **G 2.2.5b**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

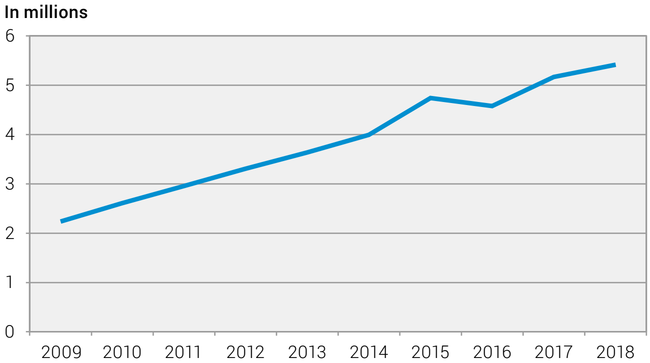
2.2.6 Change in demand from Asia

In 2018, demand from Asian visitors in the hotel sector registered 5.4 million overnight stays (G 2.2.6a). This result represents a rise of 4.8% compared with 2017. In ten years, demand from these visitors has seen strong growth, especially from 2010 onwards, with annual increases even reaching 18.6% in 2015. The only exception was 2016 in which a slight drop was observed (–3.4%).

Among the leading countries of origin from the Asian continent (those with more than 350 000 overnight stays in 2018), three countries stand out for their very strong growth over the past ten years (G 2.2.6b). Firstly, overnight stays by Chinese clientele (excluding Hong Kong) increased from 272 000 overnight stays in 2009 to 1.4 million in 2015, i.e. the highest level ever registered. This result declined slightly in 2016 but once again was very close to this record in 2018. Like India, the Gulf countries have also observed a very marked increase with more than twofold growth in overnight stays over this period. In contrast, Japan, which was still the greatest contributor to demand from the Asian continent in 2009 with 475 000 overnight stays (close to the 600 000 units seen in 2006), has slowly but steadily seen its number of overnight stays fall. Despite the improvement seen in 2017 (+13.1%) the number overnight stays fell once again in 2018 (-6.3%), reaching 383 000 units.

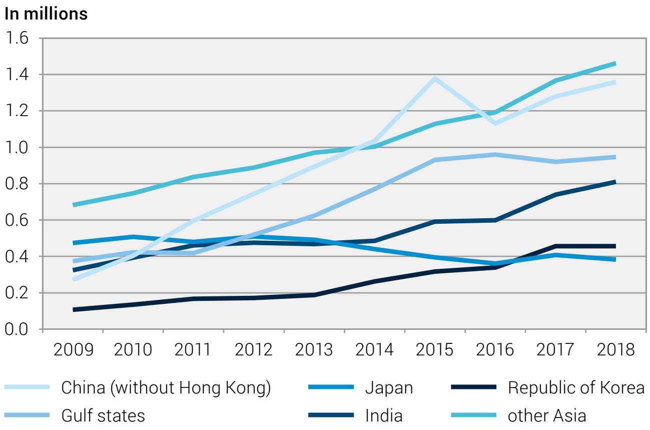
Did you know?
In 10 years (2009–2018), demand from Chinese guests (excluding Hong Kong) quadrupled.

Change in overnight stays for Asian guests in the hotel sector, 2009–2018 **G 2.2.6a**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

Change in overnight stays for main Asian countries in the hotel sector, 2009–2018 **G 2.2.6b**



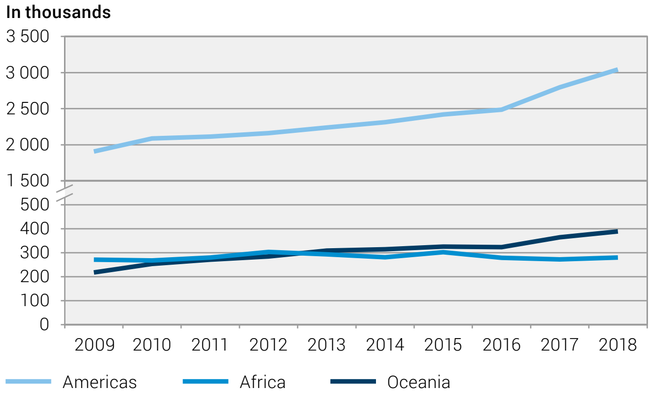
Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.2.7 Change in demand from America, Africa and Oceania

In the hotel sector, demand from visitors from the American continent registered a total 3.0 million overnight stays in 2018, i.e. an increase of 8.9% compared with 2017 (G 2.2.7a). Since 2010, overnight stays by visitors from this continent have regularly increased, the total number of overnight stays in 2018 was almost 60% higher than their total number in 2009. For 2018, visitors from the United States, who constituted the greater part of the demand from this continent with almost 75% of overnight stays, generated more than 2.3 million overnight stays i.e. growth of 10.1% compared with 2017 (G 2.2.7b). In 2018, visitors from Oceania posted 389 000 overnight stays (+6.5%) and those from Africa 280 000 units (+2.8%).

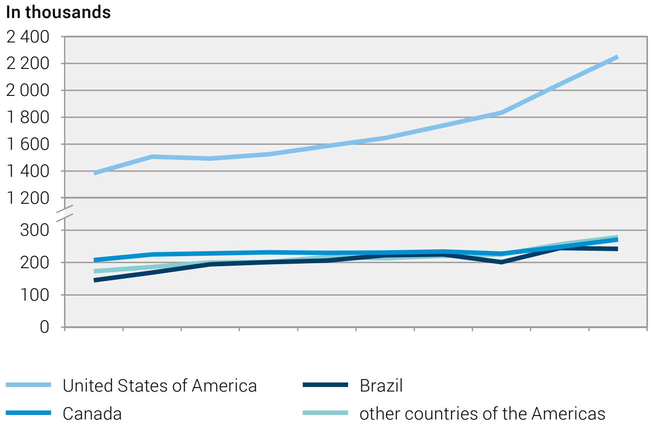
Did you know?
In 2018, the overnight stays generated by visitors from the United States reached 2.3 million, which has not happened in the hotel sector since the year 1990.

Change in overnight stays for guests from America, Africa and Oceania in the hotel sector, 2009–2018 **G 2.2.7a**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

Change in overnight stays for main American countries in the hotel sector, 2009–2018 **G 2.2.7b**



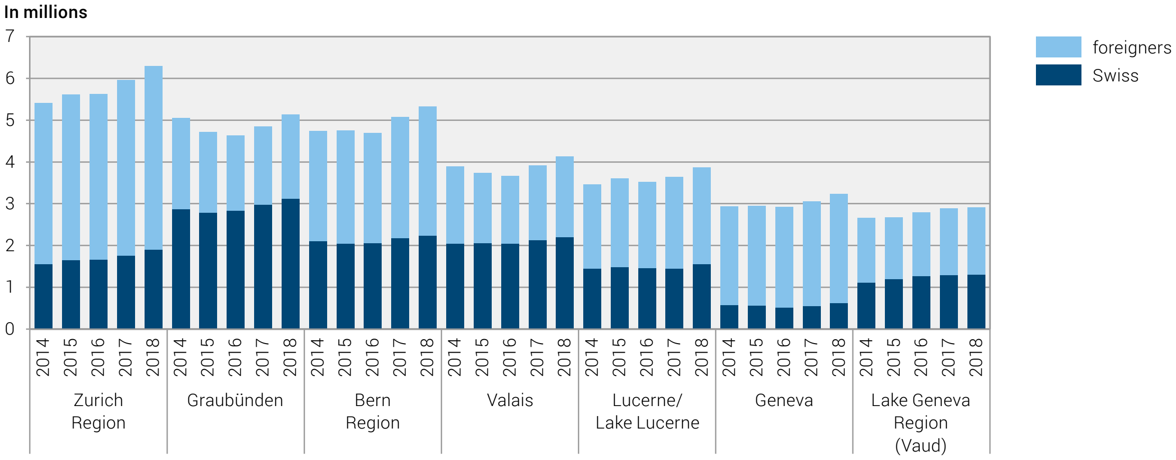
Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.2.8 Change in demand by tourist region

In 2018, eleven of the thirteen tourist regions saw the number of their overnight stays in the hotel sector increase compared with the previous year (G 2.2.8). Among these regions, the Zurich Region saw the sharpest increase with an additional 325 000 overnight stays (+5.4%). This was followed by Graubünden (+279 000 /+5.7%) and the Bern Region (+256 000/+5.0%). In contrast, Ticino recorded a marked decrease of 184 000 overnight stays, i.e. a decrease of 7.5%. However, considering the last five years as a whole, the good results for 2017 and 2018 were an exception for some regions. This was mainly the case for Graubünden and Valais that saw consecutive annual declines between 2014 and 2016. In contrast, 2018 was in keeping with continuity for most city regions: the Zurich region took the top spot with an increase of 884 000 overnight stays (+16.4%) between 2014 and 2018.

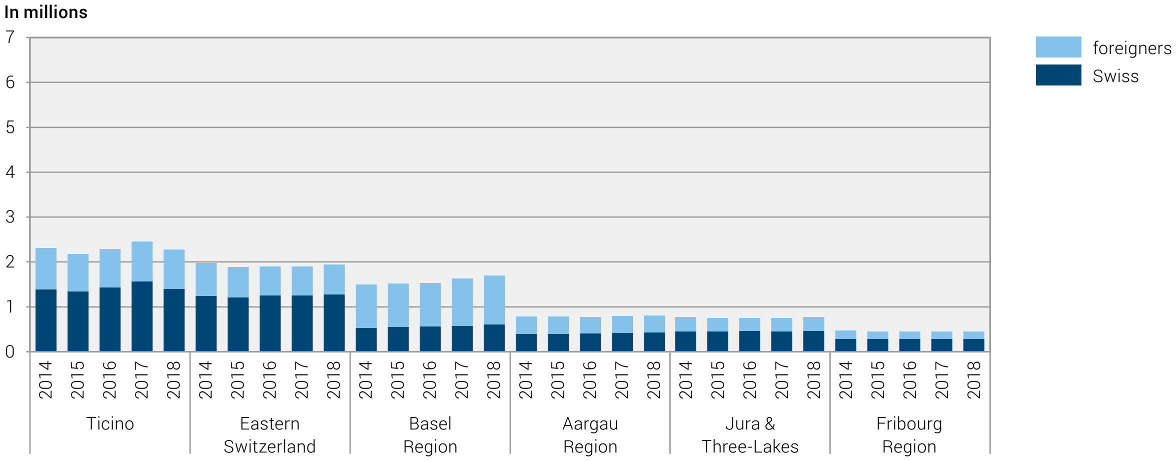
Did you know?
In 2018, the largest six tourist regions in terms of the volume of overnight stays recorded increases of 5% and over.

Overnight stays in the hotel sector by tourist region, 2014 – 2018 (1/2) **G 2.2.8**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA)

Overnight stays in the hotel sector by tourist region, 2014 – 2018 (2/2) **G 2.2.8**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA)

2.2.9 Duration of stay

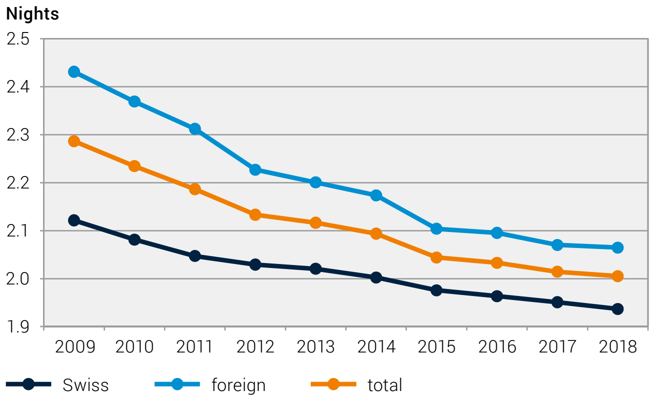
In 2018, visitors stayed an average of 2.01 nights in hotels and health establishments in Switzerland. This duration was, however, longer for foreign visitors with 2.06 nights than for Swiss visitors with 1.94 nights.

Over the past ten years, the length of stay at nationwide level has gradually decreased (G 2.2.9a). In 2009 it was 2.29 nights with a duration of 2.43 nights for foreign visitors and 2.12 nights for Swiss visitors.

Among the tourist regions, Graubünden recorded the longest stay in 2018 with 2.66 nights (G 2.2.9b). In contrast, the shortest length of stay was observed in the region of Fribourg (1.58 nights). At national level, too, the length of stay was longer for foreign clientele than for domestic visitors in the majority of tourist regions. The greatest difference was observed in Graubünden where foreign visitors stayed for an average of 3.05 nights whereas Swiss visitors stayed for 2.46 nights.

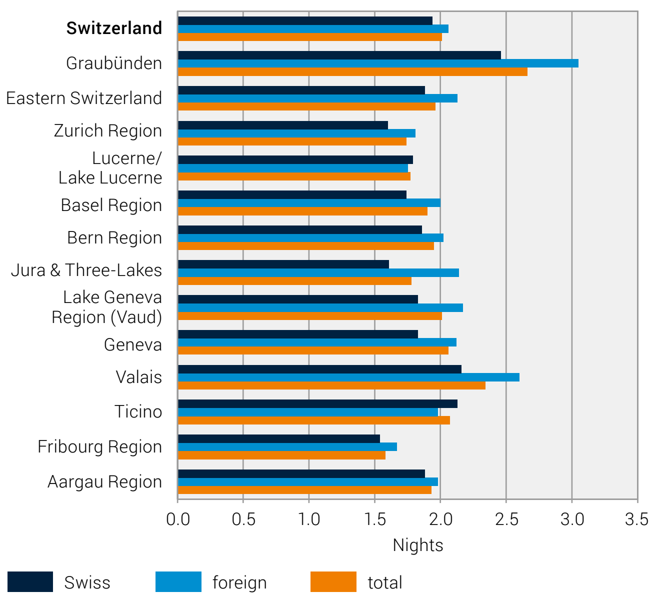
Did you know?
In 2018, the length of stay by Swiss visitors was greater than that of foreign visitors in only two tourist regions, namely Ticino and the Lucerne/Lake Lucerne Region.

Change in duration of stay in the hotel sector, 2009 to 2018 **G 2.2.9a**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

Duration of stay in the hotel sector, 2018 **G 2.2.9b**

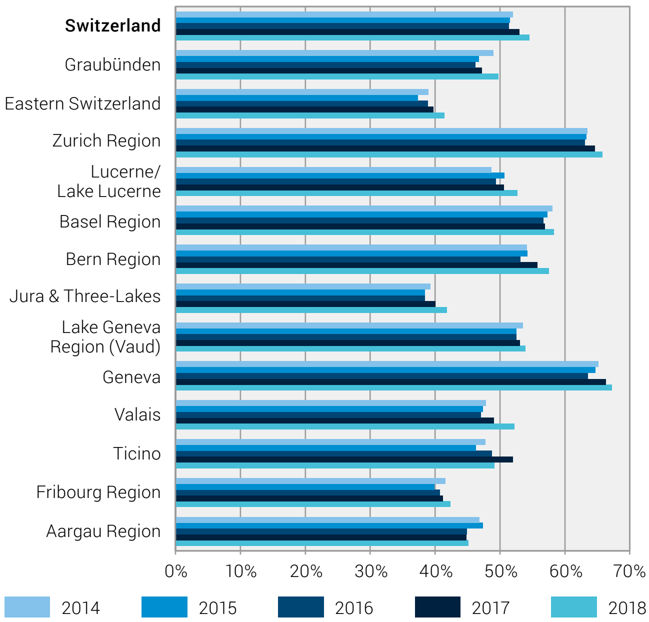


Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.2.10 Occupancy rate of rooms

In 2018, the net room occupancy rate in hotels and health establishments was 54.5% (52.9% in 2017) nationally (G 2.2.10). This was the highest rate in the last five years. This rate varied considerably depending on the tourist region. The highest rate for 2018 was recorded in Geneva with 67.2%. The region of Eastern Switzerland registered the lowest rate with 41.4%. Compared with 2017 and with the exception of Ticino, almost all tourist regions saw a rise in their net room occupancy rates. The greatest increases between the two years were observed in Valais (2017: 49.0%; 2018: 52.2%).

Net room occupancy rate in the hotel sector, 2014–2018 **G 2.2.10**



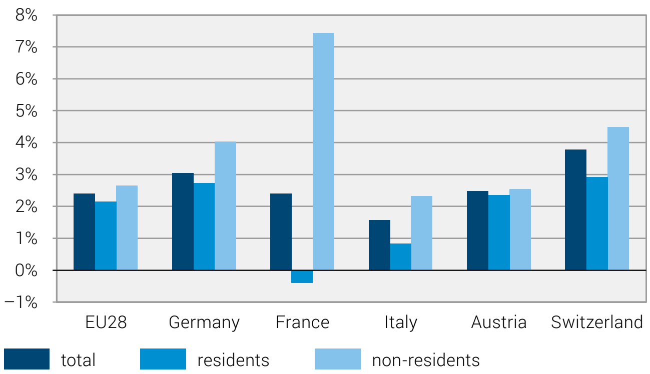
Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.2.11 Change in demand in the countries neighbouring Switzerland

In the EU28 in 2018, overnight stays in the hotel sector increased by 2.4% (G 2.2.11). An increase was also seen in Switzerland (+3.8%) and in the countries neighbouring Switzerland.

Overnight stays by residents (+2.2%) and non-residents (+2.7%) increased in the EU28 and in the countries neighbouring Switzerland with the exception of France where there was a decrease in overnight stays by residents (–0.4%). In Switzerland, overnight stays by residents showed an increase of 2.9% and overnight stays by non-residents an increase of 4.5%.

Change in overnight stays in hotels and similar establishments, by country, 2017–2018 **G 2.2.11**



Sources: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA); Eurostat © FSO 2020

2.3 Supplementary accommodation results

In the supplementary accommodation sector, the statistic covers three main types of accommodation: commercially-run holiday homes, collective accommodation and campsites. In order to present information from the supplementary accommodation sector as comprehensively as possible, the results are broken down by each type of accommodation.

2.3.1 Supply in supplementary accommodation

A) Holiday homes

In 2018, a total of 31 477 commercially run holiday homes were counted in Switzerland (G 2.3.1a). In terms of beds, this represented a capacity of 154 149 units. If we consider the distribution of holiday homes by Switzerland's seven major regions, the Lake Geneva Region has the largest share with 46.5% of the total. This was followed by Eastern Switzerland with a share of 27.8%.

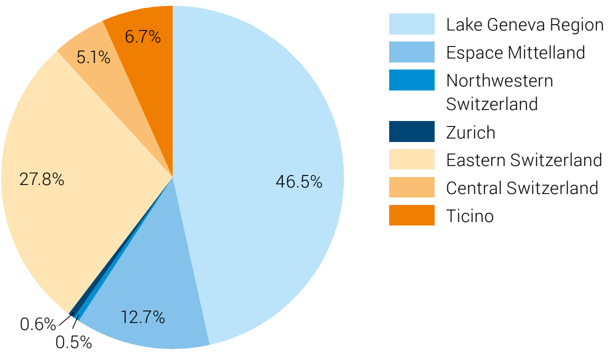
B) Collective accommodation

At national level, there were 2444 collective accommodation units, i.e. a total of 115 680 beds were surveyed for the year 2018 (G 2.3.1b). At major region level, Espace Mittelland had the greatest share of establishments (26.9%) closely followed by Eastern Switzerland (25.3%) and the Lake Geneva region (24.7%).

C) Campsites

The total number of campsites surveyed in Switzerland in 2018 was 401, i.e. 30 011 rental pitches for passing guests (G 2.3.1c). In terms of distribution at major region level, Espace Mittelland (27.4%) and the Lake Geneva region (25.7%) recorded the largest number of establishments.

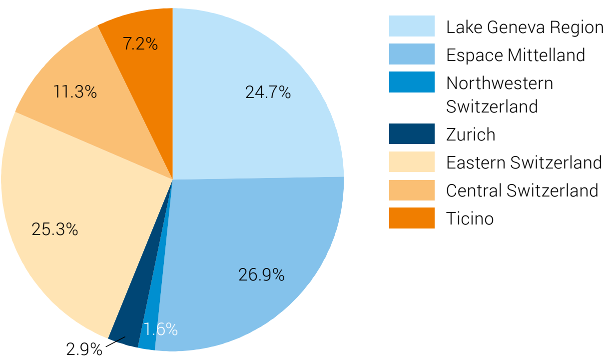
Distribution of holiday homes surveyed by major region, 2018 **G 2.3.1a**



Total number of holiday homes surveyed: 31 447

Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

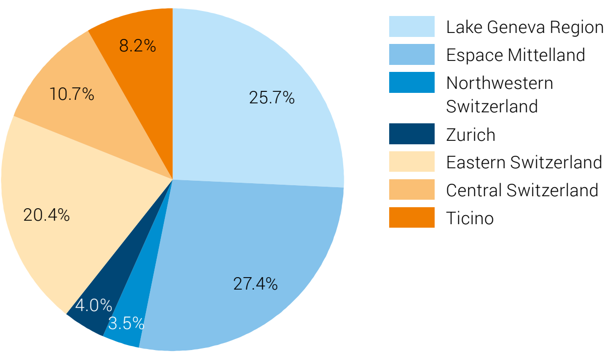
Distribution of collective accommodation surveyed by major region, 2018 **G 2.3.1b**



Total number of holiday homes surveyed: 2 444

Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Distribution of campsites surveyed by major region, 2018 **G 2.3.1c**



Total number of campsites surveyed: 401

Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.3.2 Demand in supplementary accommodation

A) Holiday homes

In 2018, overnight stays registered in holiday homes reached a total of 7.5 million nationally, i.e. an increase of 2.9% compared with 2017 (G 2.3.2.1a). Swiss guests generated 4.4 million overnight stays (–1.1%). Foreign clientele accounted for 3.2 million units (+8.9%) of which more than 80% came from European visitors. At major region level, the Lake Geneva Region counted the greatest number of overnight stays in 2018 with a total of 3.2 million units (G 2.3.2.2a).

B) Collective accommodation

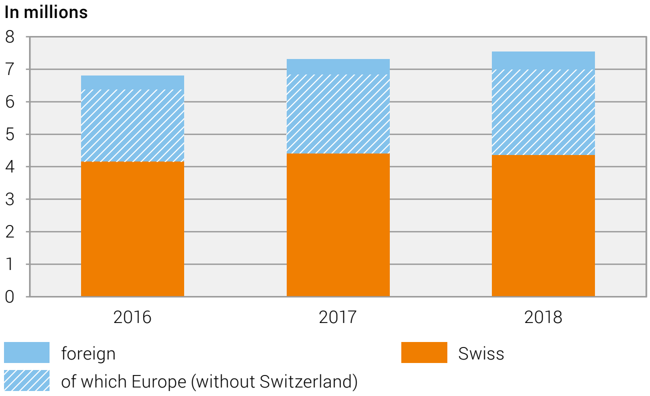
Demand for collective accommodation corresponded to 5.4 million overnight stays for 2018, an increase of 0.8% compared with the previous year (G 2.3.2.1b). Swiss visitors accounted for the largest share of overnight stays with 4.4 million units (+2.3%). Demand from foreign visitors reached 1.1 million overnight stays (–5.1%). European visitors generated almost three quarters of these stays (73.5%). Espace Mittelland and the Lake Geneva Region (G 2.3.2.2b) are the major regions with the most overnight stays (1.5 million and 1.4 million units)

Did you know?
Espace Mittelland, the Lake Geneva Region and Eastern Switzerland alone generated 77.1% of overnight stays from collective accommodation in Switzerland.

C) Campsites

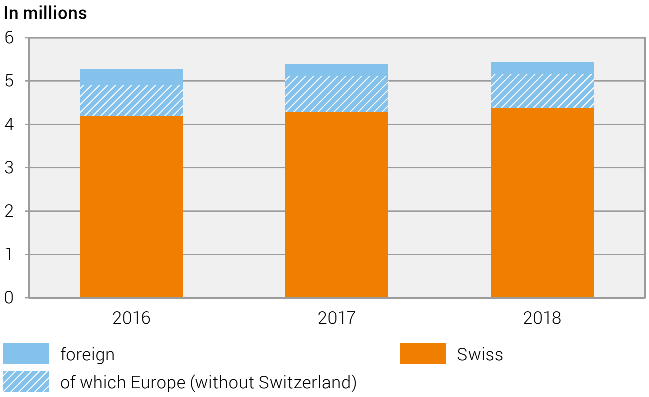
For 2018, campsites in Switzerland counted a total of 3.6 million overnight stays, which represents an increase of 12.8% compared with 2017 (G 2.3.2.1c). 2.4 million overnight stays could be attributed to Swiss clientele (+12.8%) and 1.2 million to foreign visitors (+14.4%). It should be noted that 96.7% of these foreign visitors came from Europe. The Lake Geneva Region recorded the greatest number of overnight stays with 907 000 units. It was followed by Ticino with 770 000 units (G 2.3.2.2c).

Overnight stays in holiday homes by visitors' residence, 2016 – 2018 **G 2.3.2.1a**



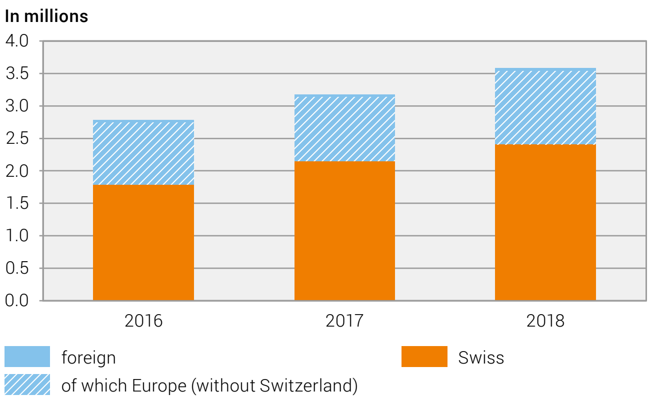
Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Overnight stays in collective accommodation by visitors' residence, 2016 – 2018 **G 2.3.2.1b**



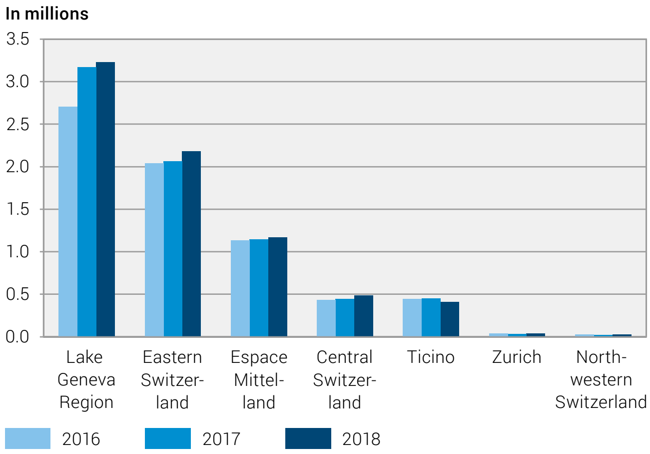
Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Overnight stays in campsites by visitors' residence, 2016 – 2018 **G 2.3.2.1c**



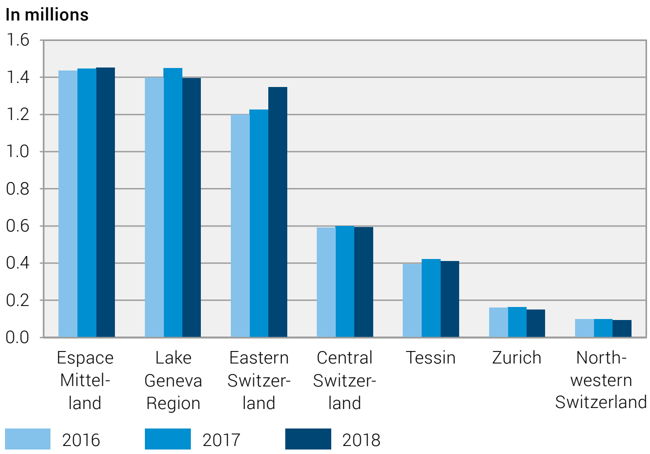
Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

Holiday homes: overnight stays by major region, 2016–2018 G 2.3.2.2a



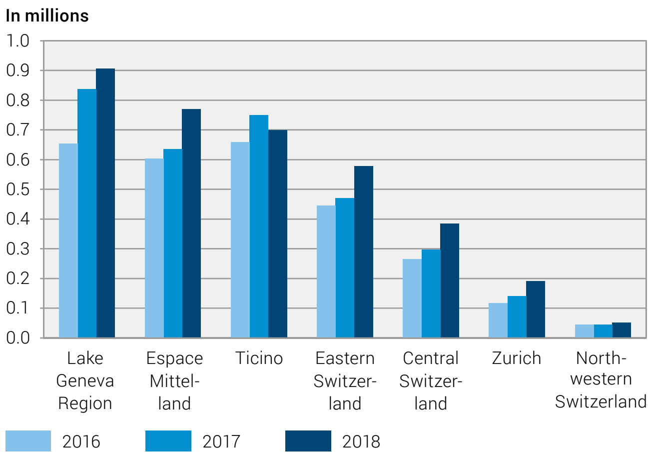
Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Collective accommodation: overnight stays by major region, 2017–2018 G 2.3.2.2b



Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Campsites: overnight stays by major region, 2016 to 2018 G 2.3.2.2c



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.3.3 Breakdown for monthly demand

A) Holiday homes

Overnight stays in holiday homes were mainly concentrated at the start of the year (G 2.3.3a). The period from January to April represented half of the total number of overnight stays (49.9%) generated in 2018. The months of July and August were also an important period in terms of overnight stays accounting for a quarter (24.6%) of overnight stays registered.

Did you know?
In holiday homes, February alone accounted for 21.2% of the annual number of overnight stays in 2018.

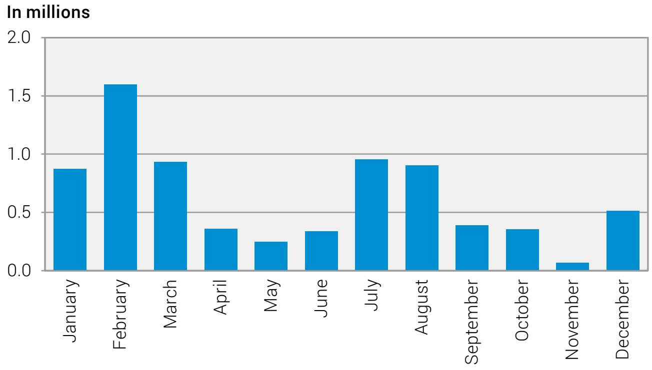
B) Collective accommodation

The monthly breakdown of demand in collective accommodation in 2018 highlighted the fact that overnight stays were mainly generated in summer, more precisely between June and September (G 2.3.3b). The share from these four summer months represented 47.1% of the annual overnight stays with a peak in July and August (28.6% of the 2018 total for both of these months accumulated). The period from January to April also showed a number of overnight stays that was consistent with a share of over one third (33.6%) of the annual demand.

C) Campsites

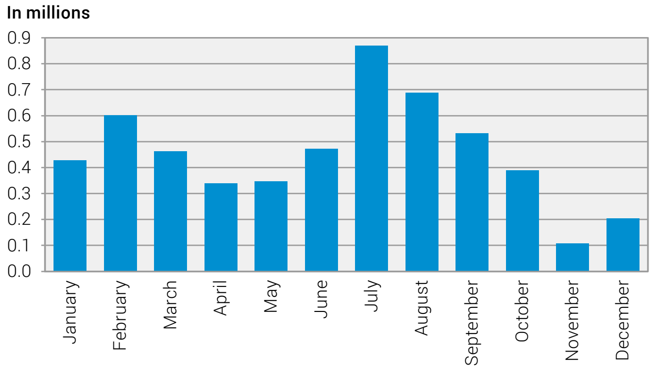
Showing strong seasonal variation, demand in campsites was unsurprisingly almost entirely concentrated over the summer period (G 2.3.3c). Two thirds of overnight stays (66.6%) were recorded between June and August.

Holiday homes: distribution by month of overnight stays, 2018 **G 2.3.3a**



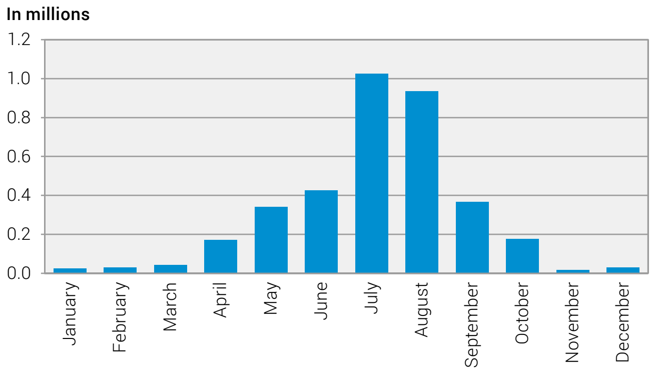
Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Collective accommodation: distribution by month of overnight stays, 2018 **G 2.3.3b**



Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Campsites: distribution by month of overnight stays, 2018 **G 2.3.3c**



Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.3.4 Duration of stay in supplementary accommodation

A) Holiday homes

The average length of stay in holiday homes in Switzerland reached 6.57 nights in 2018 (6.76 in 2017) (G 2.3.4a). However, this value varied by major region. Indeed, in Eastern Switzerland it was 7.03 nights (7.37) and in the Lake Geneva region it was 6.69 nights (6.79), i.e. the longest durations at this regional level. In contrast, the Zurich Region registered the shortest value of 4.57 nights (5.68).

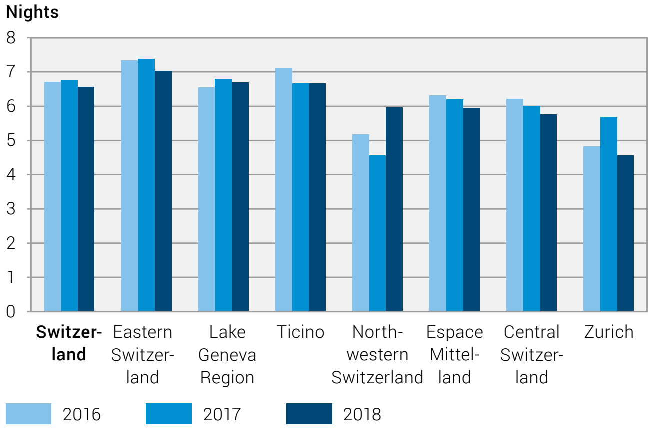
B) Collective accommodation

In 2018, the average length of stay in collective accommodation nationally was 2.47 nights (2.60 in 2017) (G 2.3.4b). Among the major regions, Ticino registered the longest stay with 2.82 nights (2.87). This was followed by Eastern Switzerland with 2.93 nights (2.87).

C) Campsites

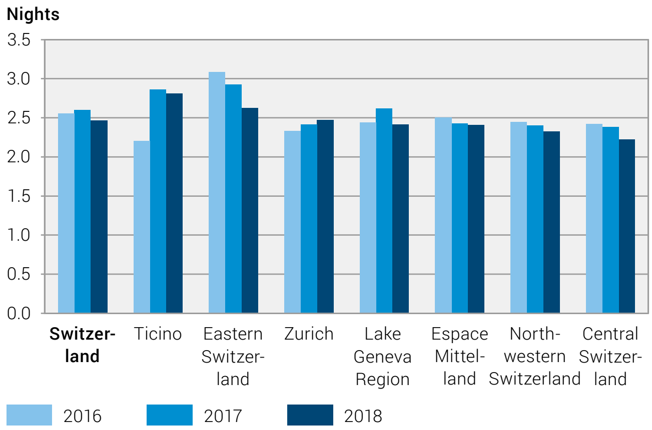
For campsites, the average length of stay in 2018 was 2.89 nights (2.92 in 2017) for Swiss territory (G 2.3.4c). This duration reached 3.87 nights (3.73) in Ticino, i.e. the highest among all the major regions. This was then followed by the Lake Geneva region with 3.35 nights (3.14).

Holiday homes: duration of stay by major region, 2016 – 2018 **G 2.3.4a**



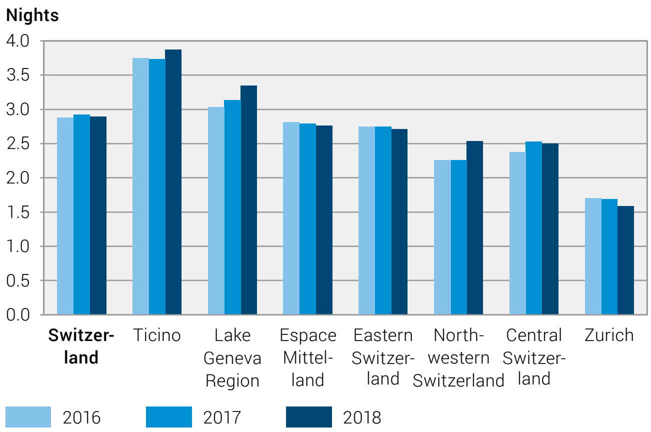
Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Collective accommodation: duration of stay by major region, 2016 – 2018 **G 2.3.4b**



Source: FSO – Supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA) © FSO 2020

Campsites: duration of stay by major region, 2016 – 2018 **G 2.3.4c**



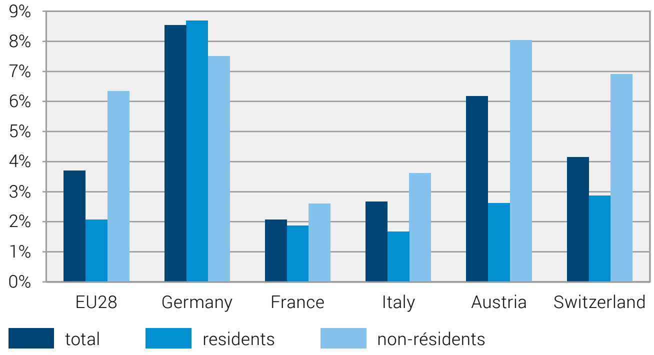
Source: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA) © FSO 2020

2.3.5 Change in demand in the countries neighbouring Switzerland

The increase in overnight stays in the EU28 in the supplementary accommodation sector rose by 3.7% (G 2.3.5). Switzerland recorded an increase of 4.2%, i.e. an increase less significant than that of Germany (+8.5%) and Austria (+6.2%).

Overnight stays by residents of the EU28 increased by 2.1% while those by non-residents increased by 6.3%. For both Switzerland and its neighbouring countries, demand from both residents (+2.9%) and non-residents (+6.9%) showed considerable increases.

Change in overnight stays in supplementary accommodation, by country, 2017–2018 **G 2.3.5**



Sources: FSO – Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA), supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA); Eurostat

3 Travel behaviour of the Swiss population in 2018

In 2018, each person resident in Switzerland undertook on average 3.2 trips with overnight stays and 10.6 day trips[1]. 67% trips with overnight stays had a destination abroad whereas those without an overnight stay mainly took place in Switzerland (88%).

3.1 Trips with overnight stays

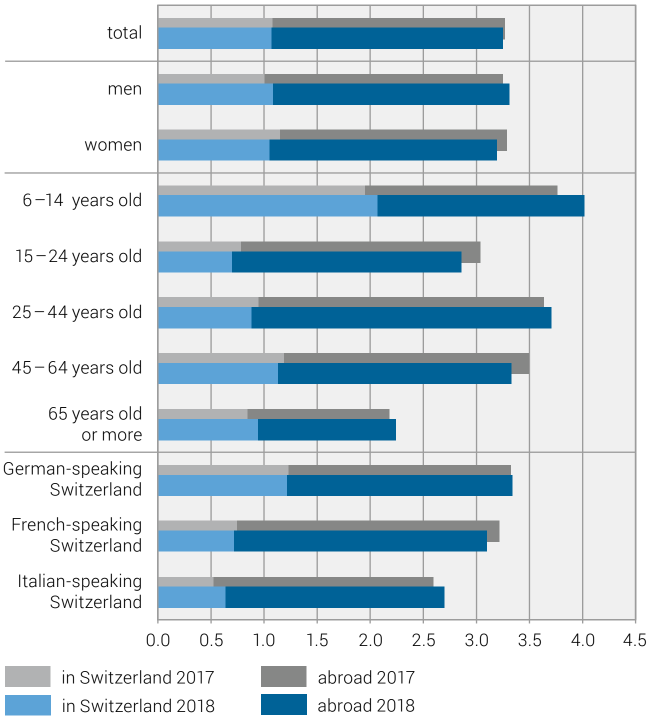
90.6% of the resident population[2] undertook at least one trip with one or more overnight stays away from home in 2018. The total number of trips was 24.9 million.

While the frequency of these trips is roughly the same for both sexes (G 3.1), contrasting behaviours appear when comparing age groups (G 3.1). With 2.1 trips per person, children aged between 6 and 14 years had most often travelled in Switzerland, while those aged 25-44 years made the most trips with overnight stays abroad (2.8). Persons living in German speaking Switzerland made 3.3 trips while those from French speaking Switzerland made 3.1 and those from Italian speaking Switzerland 2.7.

Trips with overnight stays per person

Resident population aged 6 and over

G 3.1



Source: FSO – Travel behaviour

1 Travel of at least three hours that is not part of daily mobility

2 Permanent resident population aged 6 and over 7 673 827 persons

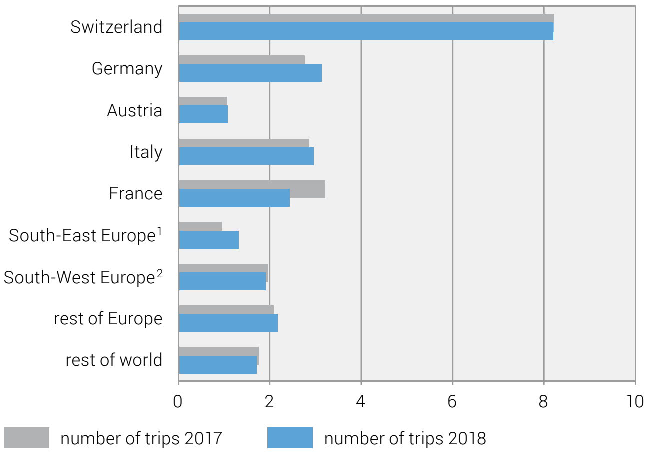
3.1.1 Destination

Of the trips with overnight stays registered in 2018, 33% had a Swiss destination (G 3.1.1). 39% of the trips were to neighbouring countries, in particular Germany (13%) and Italy (12%). After the record year of 2017 with 13% of trips with overnight stays having France as their destination, this share has returned to values similar to those of previous years (10%). 22% of trips were to other European countries, notably South-eastern European countries registered an increase of 39% compared with 2017. Finally, 7% of trips with overnight stays had a destination outside Europe.

Did you know?
90% of trips with overnight stays abroad had a European destination in 2018.

Trips with overnight stays by destination
Resident population aged 6 and over **G 3.1.1**

In millions



[1] Greece, Turkey, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Albania, Slovenia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia
[2] Spain, Portugal, Andorra, Gibraltar

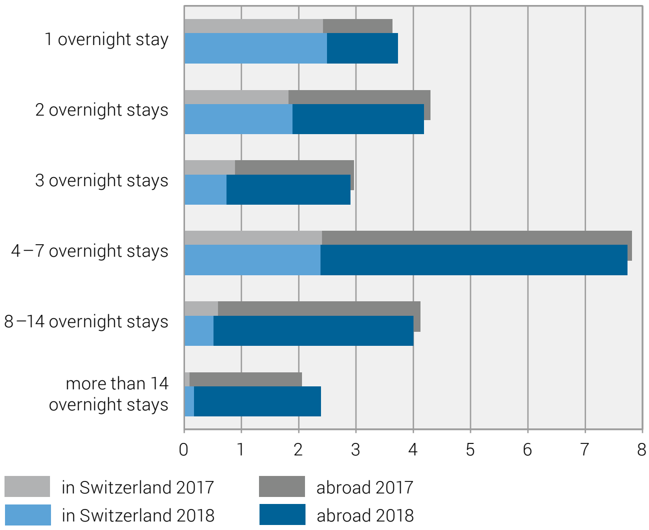
Source: FSO – Travel behaviour © FSO 2020

3.1.2 Duration of trips

66% of trips abroad included four overnight stays or more (G 3.1.2). They thus lasted longer than trips in Switzerland, which were mainly (63%) trips with one to three overnight stays.

Trips with overnight stays by trip duration
Resident population aged 6 and over **G 3.1.2**

In millions



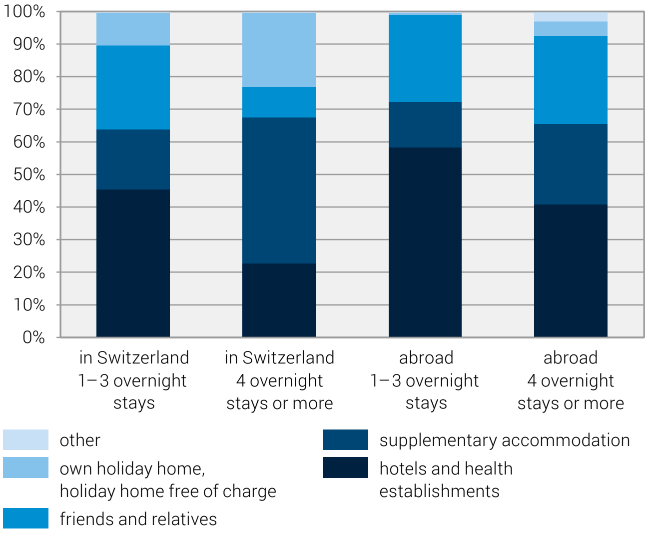
Source: FSO – Travel behaviour © FSO 2020

3.1.3 Accommodation

Hotel accommodation is the most popular choice for trips abroad of short and long duration, accounting for 58% and 41% respectively of accommodation (G 3.1.3.) Although hotel accommodation also comes first for trips in Switzerland of up to three overnight stays (46%), supplementary accommodation is preferred for longer trips of four overnight stays or more (45%). Staying with friends or family is also popular for short trips in Switzerland (26%), whereas it accounts for only 10% of longer trips.

Trips with overnight stays by accommodation type in 2018

Resident population aged 6 and over **G 3.1.3**



Source: FSO – Travel behaviour © FSO 2020

3.1.4 Principal means of transport

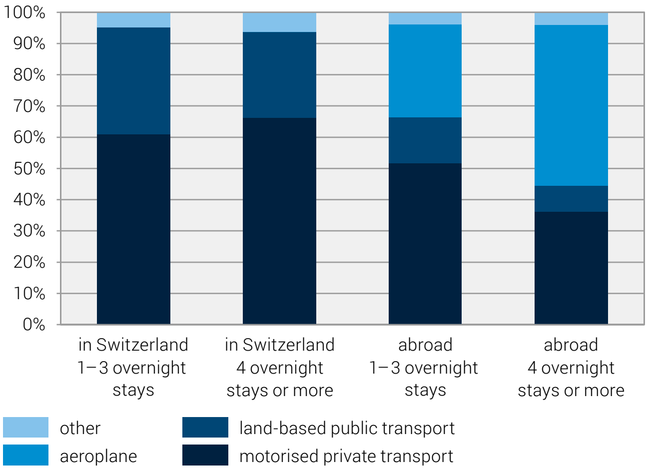
Motorised private transport is the means of transport most used for trips of one to three overnight stays, both for those taking place in Switzerland (61%) and those abroad (52%) (G 3.1.4). With regard to trips of four overnight stays or more, motorised private transport is also preferred for long trips within Switzerland (66%), whereas the aeroplane is most frequently used for long trips abroad (51%).

In Switzerland, land-based public transport is used for 34% of trips of short duration and 27% of trips of long duration. 15% of short duration trips abroad were made by land-based public transport, compared with 8% of journeys of four nights or more.

Did you know?
The aeroplane and motorised private transport are the most used means of transport for trips with overnight stays abroad.

Trips with overnight stays by main means of transport in 2018

Resident population aged 6 and over **G 3.1.4**



Source: FSO – Travel behaviour © FSO 2020

3.1.5 Comparison with Switzerland's neighbouring countries

Comparing the destinations of trips taken by the resident population aged 15 years and over from Switzerland and its neighbouring countries, noticeable differences could be seen in 2018 (G 3.1.5). In Switzerland, 30% of trips made for personal reasons with overnight stays had a destination within the country of residence. This figure is far higher among our neighbours with 80% of domestic journeys taking place in Italy and 76% in France. In Germany and Austria, this percentage was respectively 57% and 51%.

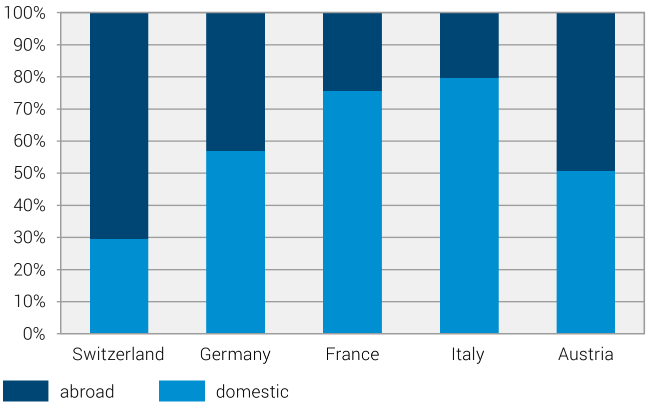
3.1.6 Long-term change in trips with overnight stays

Having experienced a downward trend, the number of trips with overnight stays made by the resident population aged 15 and over has stabilised since 2012 (G 3.1.6). Nonetheless, in comparison with the early years of the survey, the number of trips in Switzerland with only one to three overnight stays fell from 36% in 1998 to 20% in 2018. On the other hand, journeys with 4 or more overnight stays have gained ground and in 2018 had the largest share of journeys (45%), a share which was only 29% in 1998.

Private trips with overnight stays by country of residence in 2018

Resident population aged 15 and over

G 3.1.5

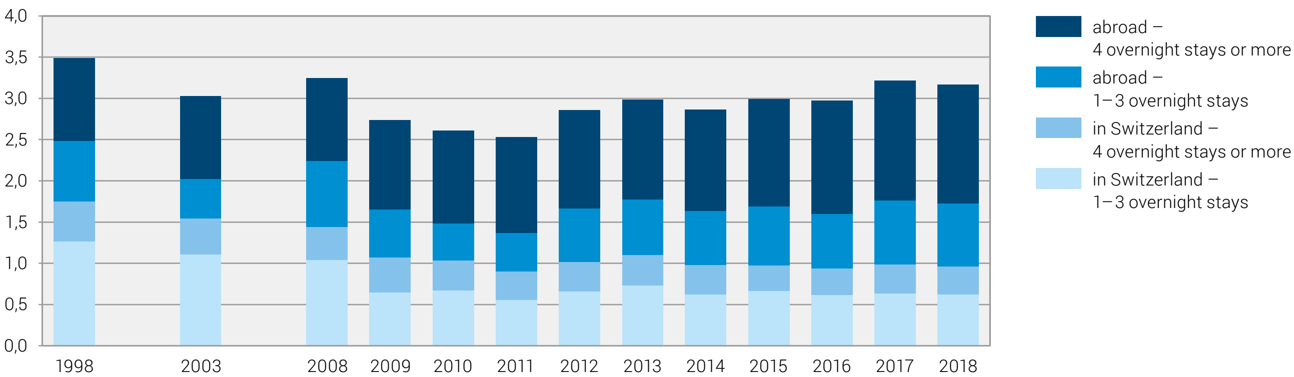


Sources: FSO – Travel behaviour; Eurostat

Trips with overnight stays per person, 1998 – 2018

Resident population aged 15 and over

G 3.1.6



Source: FSO – Travel behaviour

3.2 Day trips

In addition to trips with overnight stays, there are trips without overnight stay or day trips. The resident population aged 6 years and over made 81.5 million of these in 2018.

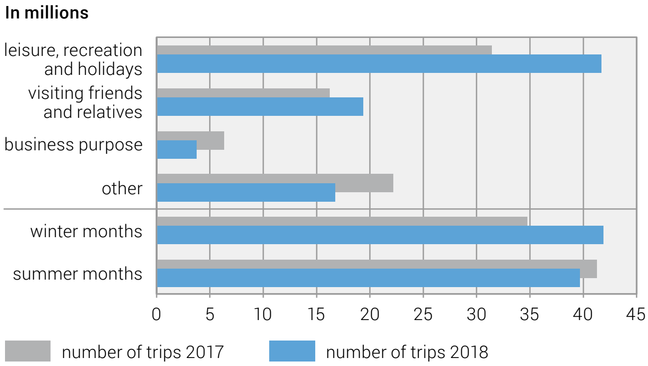
With a 33% increase compared with 2017, the purpose of 51% of day trips in 2018 was leisure and recreation (G 3.2a). Conversely, business trips only represented 5% of day trips. Moreover, day trips carried out during the winter months increased by 20% compared with 2017.

The number of day trips carried out by persons aged 15 or over returned to a value close to that of the first year of the survey which registered 73 million day trips. After peaking at 87 million in 2003, the number of day trips fell to 72 million in 2018. When considered per person, the number of day trips declined from 14.8 in 2003 to 10.4 in 2018 (G 3.2b).

Day trips by trip purpose and season

Resident population aged 6 and over

G 3.2a

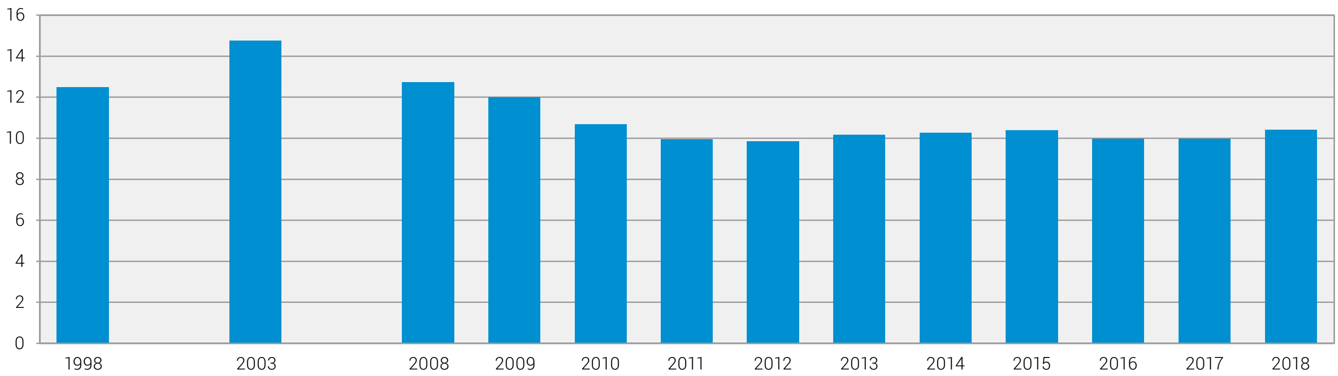


Source: FSO – Travel behaviour

Day trips per person, 1998–2018

Resident population aged 15 and over

G 3.2b



Source: FSO – Travel behaviour

4 Annual Indicators of the Tourism Satellite Account

4.1 Gross value added by tourism

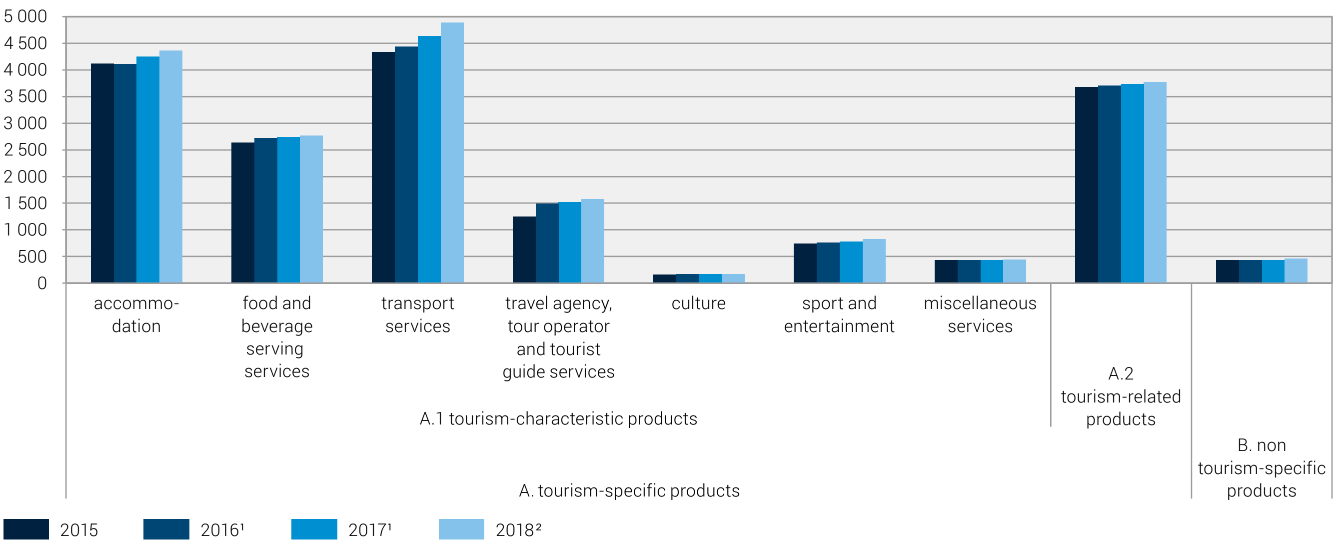
At 8.3%, the growth in gross value added by tourism between 2015 and 2018 was extremely high (G 4.1). Gross value added by tourism is composed of the two product categories tourism-specific and non-tourism specific products. Tourism-specific products account for 98% of the total gross value added by tourism. The value added generated by tourism-related products is also recorded in the category "tourism-specific products". At 21% in 2015 and then at around 20% in 2016 and 2018, the share of value added in total tourism value added that was generated by tourism-related products remained practically stable. Non-tourism specific products created around 2.4% of gross value added by tourism. It is worth noting that the latter products' shares of value added by tourism have remained more or less stable over the past four years.

Although a negative impact could be seen in tourism value added from accommodation in 2016 (–0.4%), a clear increase was observed again in 2017 (+3.3%) and 2018 (+2.9%). Food and beverage serving services saw solid growth in 2016 (+2.9%), which slowed, however, in 2017 (+0.9%) and 2018 (+0.8%). Meanwhile, tourism gross value added in transport services registered constantly high growth rates from 2016 onwards (2016 +2.3%; 2017 +4.5%; 2018 +5.5%). At 12.8%, the growth in tourism gross value added from transport services was extremely high between 2015 and 2018.

At 8.3%, the growth in all tourism gross value added between 2015 and 2018 was very good. Although the somewhat negative trends of certain individual products led to a slowing of overall growth in certain individual years, the overall trend remained positive (2016 +2.5%; 2017 +2.4; 2018 +3.1%).

Did you know?
In 2018, tourism gross value added rose by 3.1% compared with 2017.

Gross value added by tourism, by product, in CHF million, 2015 – 2018 **G 4.1**



[1] revised values
[2] provisional values

Source: FSO – Indicators of the tourism satellite account

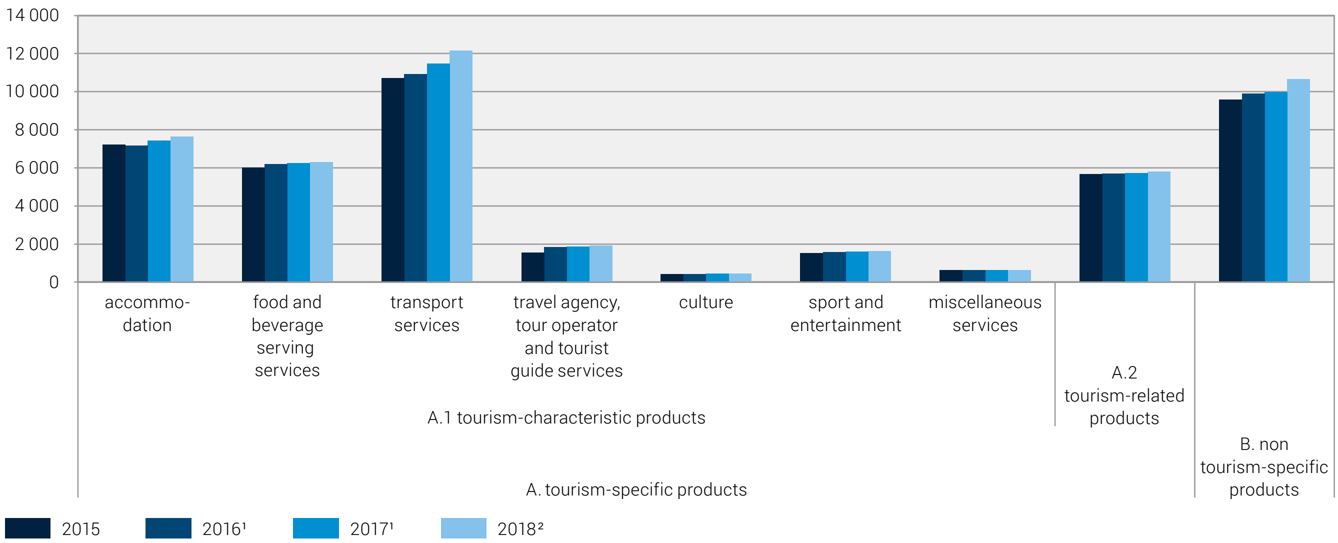
4.2 Tourism demand

Tourism demand is the total expenditure on products or services consumed by tourists (G 4.2). This includes both expenditure by tourists as well as that by third parties on behalf of tourists. The indicators of the last four years show that on average, 65% of tourism demand consisted of tourism characteristic products. Accordingly, tourism characteristic products carry a large weight in the total tourism demand. In the observation period 2015 to 2018, demand for tourism characteristic products rose by almost 10%. Total tourism demand rose by 2.5% in 2016 and this positive trend continued into the following years (2017 +2.2%; 2018 +4.1%), resulting in 9.1% growth in total tourism demand between 2015 and 2018.

The products "Accommodation", "Food and beverage serving services" and "Transport services" jointly accounted for around 55% of the tourism sector's total demand. Within the tourism-characteristic products, over 85% of the value added were accounted for by these three products between 2015 and 2018. Whereas tourism demand for accommodation fell in 2016 (–0.2%), in 2017 (+3.2%) and 2018 (+3.1%) a positive trend could be observed. For this product, overall growth of 6.1% was registered between 2015 and 2018.

Growth in food and beverage serving services was 2.9% in 2016, slowing slightly in 2017 (+0.9%) and 2018 (+0.8%). In the 2015–2018 period, total growth of 4.7% was seen for this product. Transport services showed considerable growth in 2016 (+2.0%), 2017 (+4.9%) and 2018 (+6.1%), leading to a total increase of 13.5% between 2015 and 2018.

Tourist demand, by product, in CHF million, 2015–2018 **G 4.2**



[1] revised values
[2] provisional values

Source: FSO – Indicators of the tourism satellite account

4.3 Tourism employment

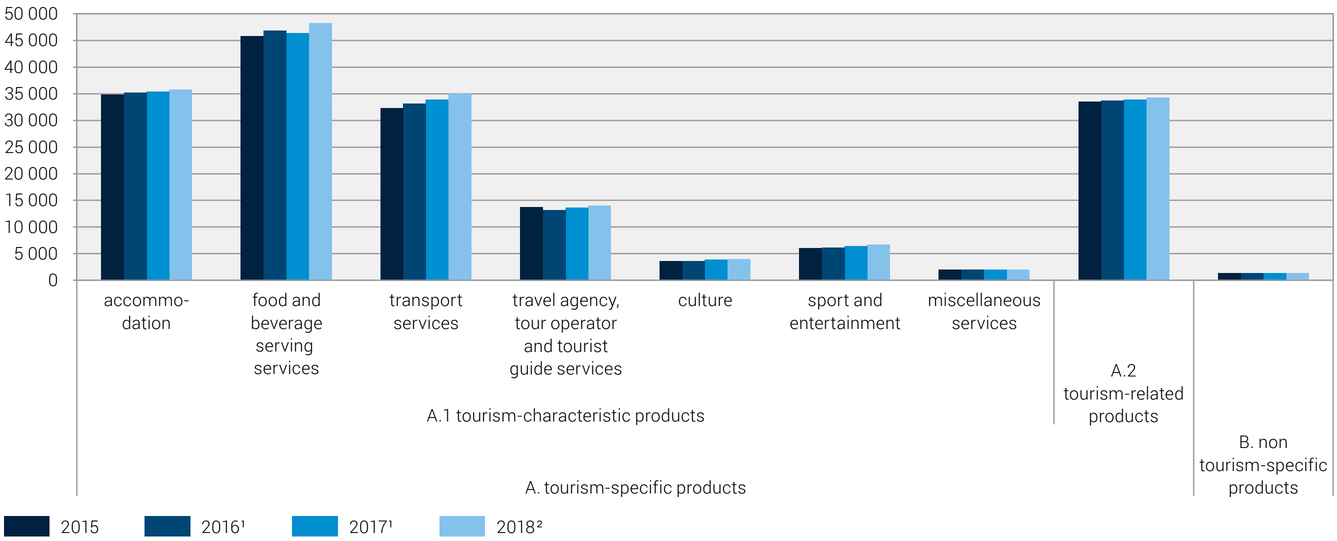
The total volume of tourism employment in 2018 corresponded to 181 699 full-time equivalents (G 4.3). This corresponds to a share of 4.4% in employment in the economy as a whole. Tourism-related employment rose slightly in 2016 (+1.1%) and 2017 (+0.9%) before a much greater increase was observed in 2018 (+2.6%). Tourism employment rose overall by 4.7% between 2015 and 2018.

Because accommodation and food and beverage serving services are labour intensive products, they are particularly important to employment in tourism. Employment in accommodation showed a positive trend in the period 2016 to 2018, with growth rates of 1.0% in 2016 and in 2018. Only 2017 showed weaker growth of 0.5%. Between 2015 and 2018, accommodation thus posted an increase of 2.6% between 2015 and 2018.

In 2016, food and beverage serving services showed growth of 2.4% with a decline in employment in the following year of –1.2%. In 2018, however, rates recovered with growth of 4.2%, leading in turn to a distinct increase overall in employment of 5.5% between 2015 and 2018.

Transport services showed a consistently positive trend (2016: +2.4%; 2017 +2.3%, 2018 +3.5%), giving rise to clear growth (+8.5%).

Tourism employment, by product, in full-time equivalents, 2015 – 2018 **G 4.3**



1 revised values
2 provisional values

Source: FSO – Indicators of the tourism satellite account

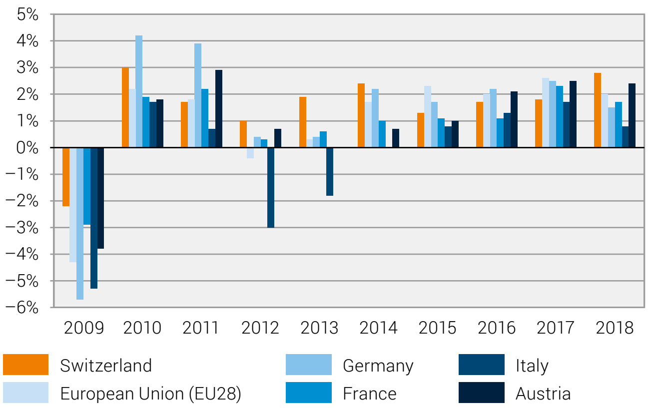
5 Economic indicators

This chapter presents indicators providing an economic context to the findings of the tourism statistics. From an economic perspective, the choice of these indicators is restricted to important general topics.

5.1 Gross domestic product in real terms

Over the last 10 years, Switzerland's GDP expressed in real terms (constant prices) has evolved in a similar manner to that of the EU28 (G 5.1). Some years nonetheless show particular characteristics, such as the year 2012 in which Switzerland showed GDP growth of 1.0% although the EU28 registered a decrease of 0.4%. Switzerland's GDP also rose in 2013 by 1.9%, while that of the EU28 rose very slightly (+0.3%). Lastly in 2015, the EU28 recorded a bigger increase in GDP for the first time in 10 years (+2.3%) than did Switzerland (+1.3%). This trend continued in 2016 and 2017. The situation was reversed once again in 2018. Switzerland's GDP showed growth of 2.8% while that of the EU28 showed growth of 2.0%.

Real gross domestic product growth rate **G 5.1**

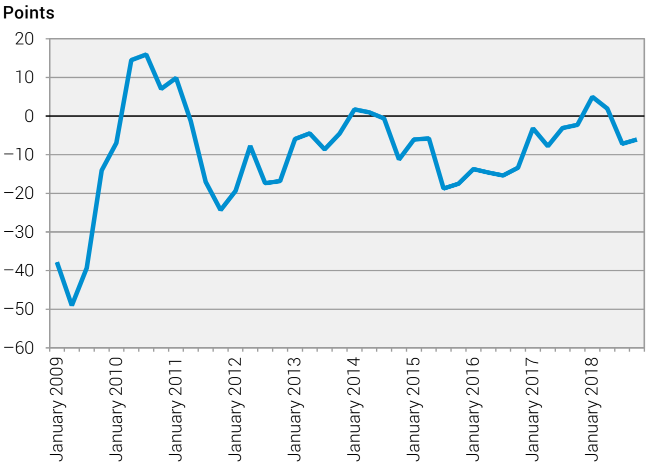


Sources: FSO – National Accounts; Eurostat

5.2 Consumer confidence index

The consumer confidence index has had contrasting fortunes during the last 10 years (G 5.2). From January 2009 to January 2010, negative values were recorded. Positive values were not seen again until April 2010. However, from April 2011, negative values were again registered, a trend that continued until the end of 2013. Values stabilised somewhat in the first half of 2014 but subsequently returned to negative figures. A negative trend continued in 2015, 2016 and 2017 although the decline in 2017 was less sharp. A recovery was seen in January and April 2018 but this was brief as negative values were observed once more from July onwards.

Consumer confidence index **G 5.2**



Source: SECO

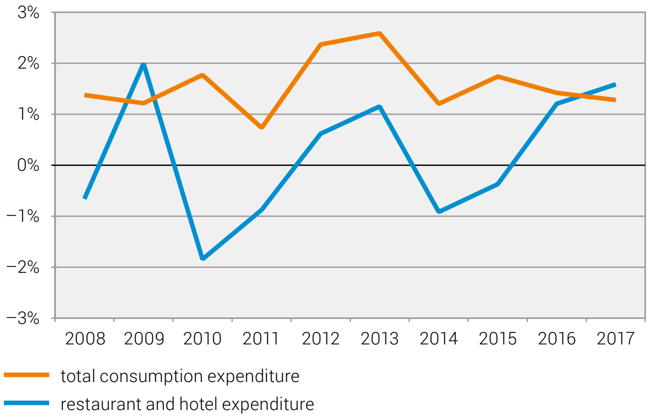
5.3 Household final consumption expenditure

If a comparison is made for Switzerland between the total household consumption expenditure and that assigned specifically to the restaurant and hotel sector, the expenditure in this sector has, overall, seen more significant fluctuation of its annual variations between 2008 and 2017 (G 5.3a). Whereas the trend for total household consumption expenditure showed not a single negative result during this period, the restaurant and hotel sector showed five in total.

In 2013, household expenditure in Switzerland in the restaurant and hotel sector registered an increase, followed by two consecutive decreases in 2014 and 2015. Two increases were seen in 2016 and 2017. In comparison, among Switzerland's neighbouring countries, it was only Austria in 2013 that registered a positive increase following the example of Switzerland (G 5.3b). In 2014, Switzerland registered a decrease while in all neighbouring countries it rose. While Switzerland saw another decline in 2015, Austria also recorded a slight dip while the other countries saw an increase. In 2016 and 2017, expenditure in Switzerland and in the neighbouring countries showed a positive result.

Household consumption expenditure in Switzerland

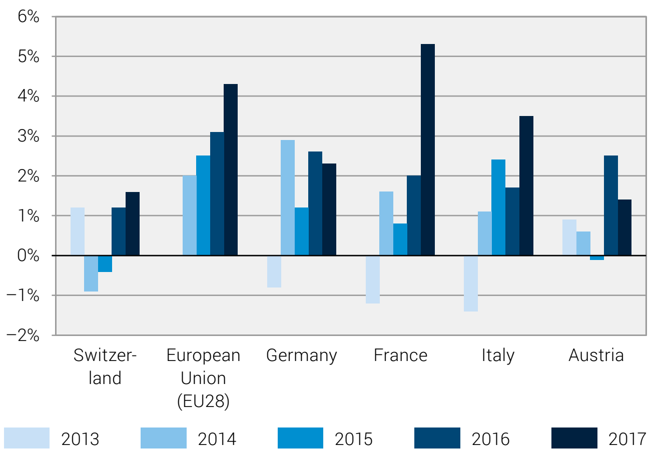
Variation compared with previous year, at previous year's prices **G 5.3a**



Source: FSO – National Accounts © FSO 2020

Hotel and restaurant expenditure in European comparison

Variation compared with previous year, at previous year's prices **G 5.3b**



Sources: FSO – National Accounts; Eurostat © FSO 2020

5.4 Swiss Consumer Price Index

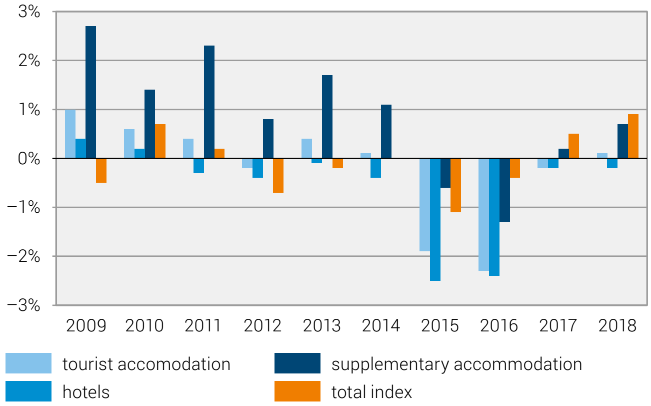
During the last 10 years, prices in the restaurant and hotel sector rose between 2009 and 2010; since that time they have fallen continuously (G 5.4). During this same period, prices in supplementary accommodation registered an increase with the exception of 2015 and 2016 (–0.6% and –1.3% respectively). Furthermore, prices in the tourist accommodation sector saw an almost stable result in 2018 (+0.1% compared with 2017) whereas those from the Swiss Consumer Price Index rose by almost one percent (+0.9%).

5.5 Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices

Compared with the EU28, inflation in the restaurant and hotel sector was weaker in Switzerland in 2014 and became negative in 2015 and 2016. EU28 inflation in this sector continued to rise (G 5.5). In 2017 and 2018, inflation in this sector once again increased but less significantly than for the EU28. If we compare inflation in this sector in 2018, a more moderate trend can be observed in Switzerland (+0.4%) than in the neighbouring countries which show values of between +3.0% (Austria) and +1.2% (Italy).

Swiss Consumer Price Index

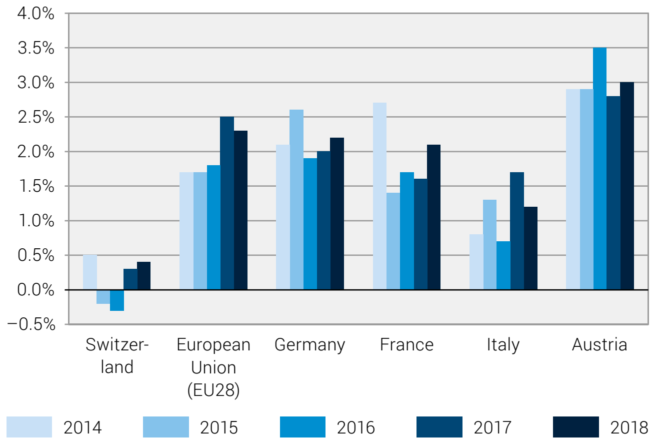
Average annual price increase (%), structure of the standard basket 2015 **G 5.4**



Source: FSO – Swiss consumer price index (CPI)

Harmonised index of consumer prices: restaurants and hotels

Variation compared with previous year **G 5.5**



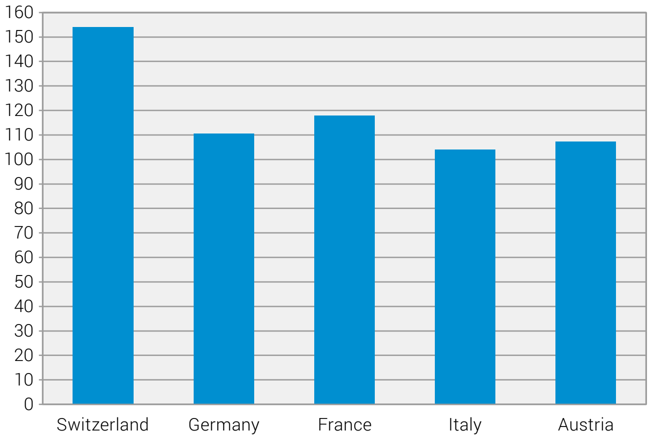
Source: Eurostat

5.6 Price level index in international comparison

In 2018, the price level in Switzerland in the restaurant and hotel sector was 54,0% higher than that in the EU28 (G 5.6). The countries neighbouring Switzerland also registered a higher price level than that in the EU28 in this sector, although at a lower level than that of Switzerland. The differences for these countries, when compared to the EU28, ranged between 4.0% for Italy and 17.9% for France.

Price level indices in restaurants and hotels, 2018

European Union (EU28) = 100 **G 5.6**



Source: Eurostat

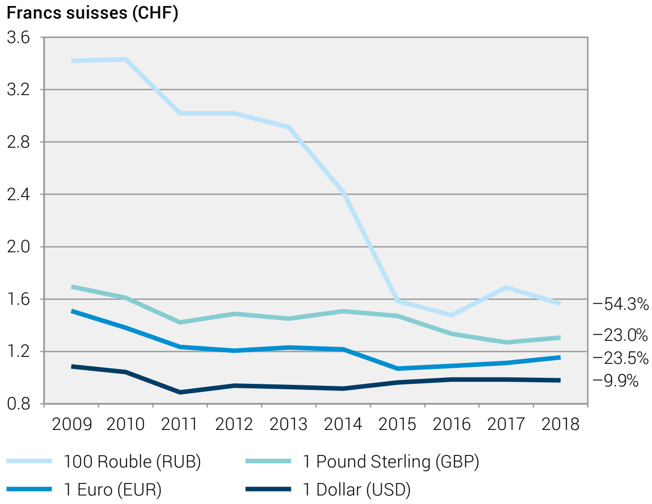
5.7 Exchange rate

Over the last decade, the value of the Swiss franc has risen considerably against the most important currencies. In 10 years, the rouble has lost 54.3% of its value against the Swiss franc, the euro 23.5%, sterling 23% and the US dollar 9.9% (G 5.7). This rise in the Swiss franc's value has resulted in an increase in prices for identical services for foreign customers.

Note: From April 2018, the Swiss National Bank (SNB) has used the average rate instead of the purchase rate.

Change in exchange rates

Annual average values, 2009 to 2018 **G 5.7**



Remarque : From April 2018, the Swiss National Bank (SNB) has used the average rate instead of the purchase rate.

Source: Swiss National Bank

6 General observations

6.1 Surveys

6.1.1 Historical considerations with regard to the tourism accommodation statistics (HESTA)

The need for tourist accommodation statistics on foreign visitors is not new. As early as 1851, surveys covering the number of tourists visiting Switzerland during the high season were planned. However, the task was postponed up to and including 1933 and left to local and private organisations. On 1 November 1934, Switzerland finally set up its national tourism statistics covering all hotel businesses that had at least two beds for guests. These statistics were compiled continuously until 2003. In May 2003, following budget cuts by the Federal Council, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) announced its decision to discontinue the tourist accommodation statistics at the end of that year.

A new survey was introduced in 2005, jointly funded by the FSO, the cantons, regions and tourism associations. The new survey was called HESTA and its purpose is to produce improved statistics with simplified content and modernised processes. It covers hotel accommodation, campsites and youth hostels.

However, the youth hostel statistics were discontinued in 2016. Establishments are included in either the hotel accommodation statistics or the supplementary accommodation statistics on the basis of criteria from the NOGA (General Classification of Economic Activities).

6.1.2 Historical considerations with regard to the supplementary accommodation statistics (PASTA)

Like the tourism accommodation statistics (HESTA), the supplementary accommodation statistics were also discontinued in 2003. The latter were reintroduced in 2016 based on current methodological criteria.

In order to better comply with the quality criteria demanded by official statistics, the definition of the population has been revised and is now more precise. In contrast to the former model used up to 2003, the new survey focuses only on commercially run accommodation. Furthermore, it no longer takes into account guest rooms or long-term lets.

In addition, thanks to an annual national census, the new statistics cover the entire country whereas the former method relied on figures from a few key cantons. It is a survey based on a sample of representative units. This means that the current results are more reliable and are no longer based on estimates.

Consequently and for all the above-mentioned reasons, results from the new and former statistics stopped in 2003 can no longer be compared directly with one another.

6.1.3 Travel behaviour of the Swiss resident population

The survey on the travel behaviour of the Swiss resident population was first carried out in 1989. In 1998 and 2003, the survey was repeated in a modified format and since 2008 has been introduced as a continuous survey in this format. In 2018, approximately 3100 Swiss residents aged 6 and older were randomly selected and interviewed on the telephone about their personal travel behaviour in the previous months. Until 2011, only persons aged 15 years and older were interviewed. The questions are about travel destinations, type of accommodation, modes of transport used, organisation of the trip, the number of overnight stays and expenditure. A trip is defined as travel that is not part of daily mobility, during which a person leaves their usual environment for at least three hours (day trip) up to a maximum of 365 days (journey with overnight stays). Changes in location in connection with activities that take place on a regular and repetitive basis (once or several times a week) are not included.

The differences mentioned in the text are significant from a statistical point of view. However, given the size of the samples, those that can be seen in the graphs are not necessarily all significant.

6.1.4 Methodological observations on the monetary tourism statistics

In recent years, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) has produced monetary statistics for tourism, in collaboration with the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). Whereas the Tourism Satellite Account, TSA, constitutes the basic composite statistics for measuring the economic impact of tourism, the TSA's indicators make it possible to calculate quickly and in simple form, initial estimates of the aggregates for the main products of tourism.

The tourism satellite account only deals with direct value added and not with so-called indirect value added. Value added is the gross production value less intermediate consumption. Direct value added is the value added generated during the production of products which are used directly in tourism (e.g. tourist use of cable cars and other aerial tramway systems). Indirect added value, in contrast, measures the added value generated by the production of goods and services necessary in order to obtain tourist products (e.g. the production of cables used for cable cars).

6.2 Dissemination of data

Provisional data on hotel accommodation are published monthly by means of a press release or newsmail and appear online 25 working days after the month under review. Final figures for the year that has just finished are also published at the start of the following year. Provisional data on supplementary accommodation (holiday homes, collective accommodation and campsites) are published on a quarterly basis in an online newsmail. Definitive annual data appear in a press release and online. Although data on campsites is collected as part of the hotel accommodation survey, they are published together with information on supplementary accommodation. The survey on the travel behaviour of the Swiss population is carried out over a whole year and the results are published annually. The tourism satellite account's annual indicators are also published once a year.

6.3 Symbols used in the charts

() figure not indicated due to lack of statistical reliability
(e) figure based on estimated data
(d) figure based on definitive data
(p) figure based on provisional data
... figure not indicated due to lack of relevance or availability
x figure not indicated due to data protection

Due to rounding up or down, totals may differ from the absolute figures indicated in the tables and charts and may not add up to 100%.

Glossary

Arrivals: Number of guests (including children) who spent one or several nights in a hotel establishment or supplementary accommodation.

Beds:
Beds available: Number of beds in open establishments, on average for the period under review.
Beds surveyed: Number of beds in the establishments surveyed, on average for the period under review.

Bed occupancy rate: As a percentage of beds or rooms occupied in hotel or supplementary accommodation.

Business trips: All trips for professional reasons, even if the respondent only accompanies another person from their household.

Campsites: Accommodation on delimited campsites on which a caravan, mobile home or tent may be left for a limited stay.

Consumer Confidence Index: Every quarter, a survey is carried out of 1200 households and commissioned by SECO. This covers subjective information on the evaluations and expectations of private households as regards their economic situation, their budget, price trends, job security, etc.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): The consumer price index (CPI) measures the change in the price of a shopping basket of representative goods and services for private household consumption. It is used to measure the inflation of goods and services and the variation in Swiss private households' purchasing power. In other words, it indicates how many consumers have to increase or decrease their expenditure to maintain the same volume of consumption despite variations in price.

Country of origin: Countries in which visitors have their permanent residence. The term "domestic visitors" denotes tourists who are resident in Switzerland and the term "foreign visitors" denotes tourists who are resident abroad.

Duration of stay: Number of nights on average in a hotel or supplementary accommodation. The duration of stay is calculated by dividing the number of overnight stays by the number of arrivals.

Establishments:
Establishments open: Number of establishments open at least one day during the month under review, on average for the period under review.
Establishments surveyed: Number of establishments surveyed (open or temporarily closed) during the month under review, on average for the period under review.

Exchange rate: The exchange rate expresses the rate at which one currency is exchanged for another.

Gross bed occupancy rate: Number of overnight stays divided by the total gross bed capacity of the period under review, as a percentage. (The gross bed capacity is the number of available beds of an establishment during the month under review, multiplied by the number of days this establishment is open during this month).

Gross room occupancy rate: Number of occupied rooms divided by the total gross room capacity of the period under review, as a percentage. (The gross room capacity is the number of available rooms of an establishment during the month under review, multiplied by the number of days this establishment is open during this month).

Gross domestic product (GDP): Gross domestic product (GDP) measures a national economy's performance during one year. It measures the value of the goods and services produced in the relevant country, provided that they are not used to produce other goods and services. In other words, it defines the total value of the production of wealth by economic agents residing within the territory. GDP is calculated based on current prices, as well as on constant prices for a given year. Using constant prices, real economic development is represented without taking into account the influence of prices.

Gross production value: Value of goods and services produced in the country, at base prices.

Gross value added: Increase in the value of goods generated by the productive system before deductions for depreciation. The gross value added is calculated as the gross production value (at base prices) minus intermediary consumption (at purchase prices).

Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP): The HICP is above all used to compare the price trend between different countries. This instrument offers Switzerland an indicator to measure the price trend of consumer goods and services according to the same criteria as those used by European countries and countries in the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

Health establishments: Health establishments are points of care offering services similar to hotels, without public funding. Examples: medical health resorts, therapeutic clinics, high altitude clinics, clinics for rheumatism, spa establishments.

Holiday homes: Accommodation that is commercially run and made available for tourism purposes (short-term accommodation) through a travel or rental agency (e.g. tourist office or booking platform) against payment. Examples: accommodation in holiday houses or apartments, chalets, etc.

Hotel accommodation: Includes the types of accommodation "hotels" and "health establishments".

Hotels: Establishments offering accommodation as well as several other services such as room cleaning or a reception. Examples: hotels, motels, guest houses, inns offering accommodation, etc.

Major region (7): The Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) is a redefinition of boundaries intended to facilitate comparisons between countries or regions of the same unit. Used by Eurostat, it thus divides the economic territory of the Union European (EU) into different regional levels. On this basis, Switzerland is divided into seven major regions:

1 **Lake Geneva Region:** Vaud, Valais, Geneva
2 **Espace Mitteland:** Bern, Fribourg, Solothurn, Neuchâtel, Jura
3 **Northwest Switzerland:** Basel-Stadt, Basel-Land, Aargau
4 **Zurich:** Zurich
5 **Eastern Switzerland:** Glarus, Schaffhausen, Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Appenzell Innerrhoden, St. Gallen, Graubünden, Thurgau.
6 **Central Switzerland:** Lucerne, Uri, Schwytz, Obwalden, Nidwalden, Zug
7 **Ticino:** Ticino

Tourist accommodation: Refers to all infrastructure used for commercial purposes and intended to regularly accommodate tourists (hotels, health establishments, holiday homes, collective accommodation and campsites).

Motorised private transport: Motorised private transport includes cars, motorbikes, mopeds and camping cars.

Net bed occupancy rate: Number of overnight stays divided by the total net bed capacity of the period under review, as a percentage. (The net bed capacity is the number of available beds in an establishment during the month under review, multiplied by the number of days this establishment was open during that month).

Net occupancy rate of rooms: Number of occupied rooms divided by the total net room capacity of the period under review, as a percentage. (The net room capacity is the number of available rooms of an establishment during the month under review, multiplied by the number of days this establishment is open during this month).

Overnight stays: Number of nights spent by visitors (including children) in a hotel establishment or supplementary accommodation.

Price level index in international comparison: The comparative price level index makes it possible to compare differences in the prices of goods or services between countries, while eliminating the impact of exchange rates. In other words, it compares price levels in certain countries with the average price level of a group of reference countries (e.g. the EU28). They are calculated based on the quotient formed by purchasing power parity and the exchange rate (on annual average) and multiplied by 100.

Public overland transport: Overland public transport includes trains, buses, Postbuses, trams and underground trains.

Rooms:
Rooms available: Number of rooms in open establishments, on average for the period under review.
Rooms surveyed: Number of rooms in the establishments surveyed, on average for the period under review.

Summer tourist season: From May to October.

Supplementary accommodation:
Collective accommodation: Establishments renting beds in group rooms, which offer the possibility of renting an individual bed in a room and not the whole room (mountain cabins and huts, hostels with dormitories, etc.). This type of accommodation also includes premises let as a whole that are intended for groups (large house or holiday camp, etc.).

Swiss household consumption expenditure: Swiss household consumption expenditure is all the expenditure households devote to purchasing consumer goods and services in Switzerland (charges, taxes, donations, remittances and other disbursements are not included). Final household consumption is therefore the value of goods and services used to meet human needs directly.

Tourism characteristic products: Products which are essential for fulfilling tourism needs or which, without tourism, would not be produced or only produced in insignificant quantities. Main components: accommodation, food and beverage serving services in hotels and restaurants, passenger transport.

Tourism-related products: Products which have an important role in fulfilling tourism needs. Examples: retail trade, petrol stations, health, communication.

Tourist region (13): At the decision of the Swiss Conference of Regional Tourism Directors (RDK/CDR), the Swiss territory, as a tourist country, is organised into thirteen main tourist regions:

1 **Graubünden:** Canton of Graubünden.
2 **Eastern Switzerland:** Cantons of Glarus, Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Appenzell Innerrhoden, Thurgau, Schaffhausen (excluding part of the district of Schaffhausen), canton of St. Gallen (excluding part of the electoral district of See Gaster).
3 **Zurich Region:** Cantons of Zurich, Zug; canton of Aargau: commune of Baden; canton Schwyz: Höfe district and part of the March district; canton of St. Gallen: parts of the electoral district of See Gaster; canton of Schaffhausen: part of the district of Schaffhausen.
4 **Lucerne / Lake Lucerne:** Cantons of Lucerne, Uri, Obwalden, Nidwalden, canton Schwyz (excluding the districts of Höfe and part of March).
5 **Basel Region:** Cantons of Basel-Stadt, Basel-Land, canton of Solothurn, districts of Dorneck and Thierstein.
6 **Bern Region:** Canton of Bern: administrative district of Emmental, Oberaargau, Bern Mittelland, Frutigen-Niedersimmental, Interlaken-Oberhasli, Obersimmental-Saanen and Thun.
8 **Jura and Three Lakes:** Cantons of Neuchâtel, Jura; canton of Bern: administrative districts of Bernese Jura, Biel/Bienne Seeland; canton of Solothurn: district of Solothurn, of Bucheggberg, of Lebern, of Thal, and of Wasseramt.
9 **Lake Geneva Region (Vaud):** Canton of Vaud.
10 **Geneva:** Canton of Geneva.
11 **Valais:** Canton of Valais.
12 **Ticino:** Canton of Ticino.
13 **Fribourg Region:** Canton of Fribourg.
14 **Aargau Region:** Canton of Aargau excl. commune of Baden. Canton of Solothurn: Gösgen, Olten and Gäu district.

Tourism-specific products: Refer to all tourism characteristic products and tourism-related products.

Trip: A trip is defined as travel during which a person leaves their usual environment for at least three hours (day trip) up to a maximum of 365 days (journey with overnight stays). A distinction is made between short trips of 1 to 3 overnight stays and long trips of 4 nights or more. Changes in location in connection with activities that take place on a regular and repetitive basis (once or several times a week) are not included.

Trips made for personal reasons: All non-professional trips such as excursions, holidays, visits, accompaniment, pilgrimages or treatments.

Winter tourist season: From November to April.

The FSO's publications

As the central statistical agency of the Confederation, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) has the task of providing Swiss statistical information to a wide range of users. Dissemination is done by topic with different information media via several channels.

The statistical topics

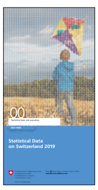
00 Statistical basis and overviews
01 Population
02 Territory and environment
03 Work and income
04 National economy
05 Prices
06 Industry and services
07 Agriculture and forestry
08 Energy
09 Construction and housing
10 Tourism
11 Mobility and transport
12 Money, banks and insurance
13 Social security
14 Health
15 Education and science
16 Culture, media, information society, sports
17 Politics
18 General Government and finance
19 Crime and criminal justice
20 Economic and social situation of the population
21 Sustainable development, regional and international disparities

The key publications

Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland

The "Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland" (German/French) published by the Federal Statistical Office has been the standard reference book for Swiss statistics since 1891. It contains the most important statistical findings regarding the Swiss population, society, government, economy and environment.

Statistical Data on Switzerland



Statistical Data on Switzerland is an appealing and entertaining summary of the year's most important figures. With 52 pages in a practical A6/5 format, the publication is free of charge and available in five languages (German, French, Italian, Romansch and English).

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This publication describes the results of the FSO's Swiss tourism statistics for 2018. The first part focuses on tourist accommodation that is partly made up of the hotel sector statistics and partly of the supplementary accommodation statistics. The second section of this publication concerns the survey on the travel behaviour of the Swiss population in 2018. The tourism satellite account, in the third section, gives information on the values measuring the economic influence of tourism in Switzerland. The fourth section of the publication presents a series of economic indicators making it possible to place the findings from the tourism statistics in a wider context.

Online
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Print
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FSO number
1074-1800

ISBN
978-3-303-10471-2