

# 2021



15

Education  
and science

Neuchâtel 2022

## Education Statistics 2021



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA  
Federal Statistical Office FSO

# Pupils and students, 2020/21

Primary level, lower and upper secondary levels

T1

Education level	Total	Male	Female	National origin		
				Swiss	Foreign	Un-specified
<b>Compulsory education</b>	<b>976 105</b>	<b>502 488</b>	<b>473 617</b>	<b>709 256</b>	<b>266 275</b>	<b>574</b>
Primary level 1–2 <sup>1/2</sup>	181 082	93 325	87 757	129 474	51 507	101
Primary level 3–8 <sup>2</sup>	530 230	272 776	257 454	383 854	146 028	348
Lower secondary level	264 793	136 387	128 406	195 928	68 740	125
Basic requirements	68 264	38 846	29 418	42 758	25 498	8
Extended requirements	164 558	79 434	85 124	134 636	29 884	38
Without differentiation <sup>2</sup>	31 971	18 107	13 864	18 534	13 358	79
<b>Upper secondary level</b>	<b>364 015</b>	<b>190 566</b>	<b>173 449</b>	<b>278 217</b>	<b>85 671</b>	<b>127</b>
Transitional education lower – upper sec.	16 949	8 858	8 091	8 157	8 785	7
Vocational education and training (VET) <sup>3</sup>	215 710	128 043	87 667	165 746	49 948	16
Vocational baccalaureate <sup>4</sup>	11 092	5 463	5 629	9 949	1 143	.
General education	104 453	42 018	62 435	81 771	22 583	99
Complement. education in upper secondary	15 811	6 184	9 627	12 594	3 212	5

<sup>1</sup> kindergarten, first learning cycle

<sup>2</sup> including special needs school classes, classes for foreign language speaking pupils, introduction classes, other special classes

<sup>3</sup> including preparation for federal vocational baccalaureate integrated in vocational education and training (FVB1)

<sup>4</sup> federal vocational baccalaureate after vocational education and training (FVB2)

# Students, 2020/21

Tertiary level

T2

Education level	Total	Male	Female	National origin		
				Swiss	Foreign	Un-specified
<b>Professional education</b>	<b>61 960</b>	<b>34 006</b>	<b>27 954</b>	<b>53 848</b>	<b>7 815</b>	<b>297</b>
Colleges of higher education	35 855	18 733	17 122	30 937	4 863	55
Preparation for the federal professional diploma examination <sup>1</sup>	19 016	11 774	7 242	16 723	2 069	224
Preparation for the advanced federal professional diploma examination <sup>1</sup>	3 697	2 198	1 499	3 354	325	18
Professional education not governed by the VPETA	3 392	1 301	2 091	2 834	558	.
<b>Higher education institutions</b>	<b>270 475</b>	<b>128 908</b>	<b>141 567</b>	<b>200 146</b>	<b>70 329</b>	
Universities of applied sciences including universities of teacher education	105 900	49 654	56 246	87 289	18 611	
Universities	22 807	6 398	16 409	20 417	2 390	
Humanities and social sciences	164 575	79 254	85 321	112 857	51 718	
Economics	47 387	14 844	32 543	35 483	11 904	
Law	23 037	14 744	8 293	14 898	8 139	
Exact and natural sciences	16 668	6 621	10 047	13 699	2 969	
Medicine and pharmacy	32 048	19 268	12 780	18 404	13 644	
Engineering, architecture	20 478	7 438	13 040	15 829	4 649	
Interdisciplinary and others	20 332	13 915	6 417	11 031	9 301	
	4 625	2 424	2 201	3 513	1 112	
<b>Tertiary level</b>	<b>332 435</b>	<b>162 914</b>	<b>169 521</b>	<b>253 994</b>	<b>78 144</b>	<b>297</b>

<sup>1</sup> The survey of students is not exhaustive as there is no formal regulation governing preparation for the federal examinations and courses are often taught in the form of modules which are only included in the survey if the single module corresponds to at least half a school year (full-time equivalent).

# Pupils, 2020/21

Compulsory education, cantons

T3

Canton	Compulsory education <sup>1</sup>			
	Total	Primary level 1–2 <sup>2</sup>	Primary level 3–8	Lower secondary
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>976 105</b>	<b>181 082</b>	<b>530 230</b>	<b>264 793</b>
ZH	174 468	34 376	96 088	44 004
BE	112 879	20 648	62 295	29 936
LU	45 236	7 551	25 373	12 312
UR	3 885	679	2 156	1 050
SZ	17 032	3 111	9 224	4 697
OW	4 209	678	2 345	1 186
NW	4 189	716	2 288	1 185
GL	4 515	858	2 375	1 282
ZG	14 845	2 708	7 970	4 167
FR	40 699	7 346	21 834	11 519
SO	29 018	5 428	16 040	7 550
BS	19 467	3 900	10 671	4 896
BL	32 612	5 458	17 873	9 281
SH	8 908	1 520	5 010	2 378
AR	6 231	1 274	3 411	1 546
AI	1 864	367	1 004	493
SG	59 060	11 049	32 321	15 690
GR	19 271	3 615	10 394	5 262
AG	80 408	14 814	44 566	21 028
TG	31 632	6 203	17 141	8 288
TI	37 355	8 512	15 552	13 291
VD	99 934	17 516	54 078	28 340
VS	38 346	6 847	20 797	10 702
NE	20 523	3 570	11 057	5 896
GE	61 026	10 852	33 725	16 449
JU	8 493	1 486	4 642	2 365

<sup>1</sup> including special needs school classes, classes for foreign language speaking pupils, introduction classes, other special classes

<sup>2</sup> kindergarten, first learning cycle

# Teachers in 2020/21 and staff employed in higher education institutions in 2020

(public education)

T4

Education level <i>Type of staff</i>	Persons <sup>1</sup>			Full-time equivalents <sup>2</sup>
	Total	of whom		
			Female %	Foreign %
<b>Compulsory education<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>97 339</b>	<b>76.4</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>62 846</b>
Primary level 1–2 <sup>4</sup>	19 257	94.6	4.1	9 579
Primary level 3–8	53 632	83.3	5.4	32 937
Lower secondary level	34 445	56.0	8.9	20 331
<b>Upper secondary level</b>	<b>29 842</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>17 701</b>
General education	12 644	49.0	8.7	7 662
Vocational education and training (VET) <sup>5</sup>	17 198	42.9	7.3	10 039
<b>Tertiary level: colleges of higher education</b>	<b>2 616</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>764</b>
<b>Tertiary level: higher education institutions<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>97 925</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>64 767</b>
Universities of applied sciences/Universities of teacher education	29 543	48.1	21.6	18 753
Teaching staff with management responsibility	2 079	31.9	27.6	1 861
Other teaching staff	12 567	43.5	21.4	6 214
Assistants and scientific staff	7 220	45.3	27.6	4 826
Managerial, clerical and technical staff	7 677	62.8	14.5	5 852
Universities and institutes of technology	68 382	45.5	45.2	46 014
Professors	4 638	25.2	50.9	4 264
Other teaching staff	9 783	30.4	35.7	2 653
Assistants and scientific staff	33 527	45.0	59.6	23 593
Managerial, clerical and technical staff	20 434	58.1	24.7	15 503

<sup>1</sup> The figures include all teachers working at the level of education considered (double-counting possible).

<sup>2</sup> Full-time equivalents are expressed as the ratio of actual hours employed and the normal hours of a person employed full-time (e.g. a person employed for 50% of a full-time job counts as 0.5 full-time equivalents).

<sup>3</sup> excluding special needs school classes, classes for foreign language speaking pupils, introduction classes and other special classes

<sup>4</sup> kindergarten, first learning cycle

<sup>5</sup> including transitional education from lower to upper secondary level, federal vocational baccalaureate and complementary education in upper secondary

<sup>6</sup> The number of persons employed in higher education institutions is based on the reference day 31 December. The full-time equivalents relate to the entire calendar year.

## Selected degrees and certificates, 2020

T5

Education level	Total	Male		Female	
		absolute	%	absolute	%
<b>Upper secondary level</b>					
Federal VET certificate	6 890	4 109	59.6	2 781	40.4
Federal VET diploma	63 270	35 113	55.5	28 157	44.5
Federal vocational baccalaureate	14 418	7 703	53.4	6 715	46.6
Baccalaureate	19 098	8 021	42.0	11 077	58.0
Specialised baccalaureate	3 168	745	23.5	2 423	76.5
Specialised school certificate	4 725	1 261	26.7	3 464	73.3
Transition programmes federal vocational/specialised baccalaureate – University (certificate of university aptitude test)	1 278	642	50.2	636	49.8
<b>Tertiary level</b>					
Professional education					
Diploma from professional education not governed by the VPETA <sup>1</sup>	237	81	34.2	156	65.8
Federal diploma of higher education	13 012	7 768	59.7	5 244	40.3
Advanced federal diploma of higher education	2 538	1 844	72.7	694	27.3
Colleges of higher education diploma (advanced federal diploma of higher education)	9 908	4 924	49.7	4 984	50.3
Higher education institutions					
Diploma from a university of teacher education	1 088	553	50.8	535	49.2
Bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences and teacher education	17 184	7 659	44.6	9 525	55.4
Master's degree from a university of applied sciences and teacher education	4 915	2 241	45.6	2 674	54.4
First university degree or diploma	110	20	18.2	90	81.8
Bachelor's degree from a university	15 396	7 166	46.5	8 230	53.5
Master's degree from a university	14 684	7 008	47.7	7 676	52.3
Doctorate	4 424	2 354	53.2	2 070	46.8

<sup>1</sup> VPETA: vocational and professional education and training act

## Educational institutions, 2020/21

T6

Education level	Total	Private sector <sup>1</sup> %
Compulsory education	9 446	10.1
Upper secondary level	859	44.2
Tertiary level	420	59.8

<sup>1</sup> government dependent private and independent private educational institutions

Source: FSO – Educational institutions statistics (SBI)

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## Public education expenditure by administrative and educational level, 2018

T7

Education level	In CHF millions				
	Total		Administrative level making expenditure		
	absolute	%	Confederation	Cantons	Communes
<b>Total</b>	<b>38 901.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4 194.1</b>	<b>24 209.2</b>	<b>10 498.6</b>
of which salaries	25 775.3	66.3	2 243.9	17 552.0	5 979.4
teachers' salaries only	18 430.3	47.4	0.0	14 406.4	4 023.9
Compulsory education	17 213.4	44.2	18.6	7 344.3	9 850.6
Special needs schools	1 929.0	5.0	–	1 503.2	425.8
Upper secondary: Vocational education and training (VET)	3 504.7	9.0	67.2	3 264.4	173.1
Upper secondary: General education	2 377.3	6.1	3.5	2 371.1	2.7
Tertiary: Professional education	475.7	1.2	52.0	423.6	0.1
Tertiary: Higher education institutions	8 416.8	21.6	1 110.2	7 302.5	4.1
Research	4 331.4	11.1	2 930.7	1 399.0	1.7
Non-attributable expenditure	653.6	1.7	11.9	601.1	40.6

Sources: FSO – Public education expenditure (ÖBA), FFA – Financial Statistics

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		Recipients	Amount (CHF millions)
Canton grants	All levels	47 315	363.3
	Upper secondary level	29 886	201.3
	Tertiary level <sup>1</sup>	17 925	159.8
Canton loans	All levels	2 843	21.5
	Upper secondary level	195	1.8
	Tertiary level	2 609	19.4
Federal subsidies <sup>2</sup>	Tertiary level	12 248	72.7

<sup>1</sup> Including federal subsidies to the cantons according to the Education Contributions Act

<sup>2</sup> Subsidies to persons completing preparatory courses for federal examinations according to the Federal Act on Vocational and Professional Education and Training

Sources: FSO – Cantonal scholarships and loans (STIP),  
Subject-based funding in professional education (aHBB)

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<b>Published by:</b>	Federal Statistical Office (FSO)
<b>Information:</b>	<a href="http://www.education-stat.admin.ch">www.education-stat.admin.ch</a> , university: <a href="mailto:sius@bfs.admin.ch">sius@bfs.admin.ch</a> , other parts of the educational system: <a href="mailto:lernstat@bfs.admin.ch">lernstat@bfs.admin.ch</a>
<b>Editor:</b>	Nathalie Quartier, FSO
<b>Contents:</b>	BILD-P Section
<b>Series:</b>	Swiss Statistics
<b>Topic:</b>	15 Education and science
<b>Original text:</b>	German/French
<b>Translation:</b>	FSO language services
<b>Layout:</b>	DIAM Section, Prepress/Print
<b>Online:</b>	<a href="http://www.statistics.admin.ch">www.statistics.admin.ch</a>
<b>Print:</b>	<a href="http://www.statistics.admin.ch">www.statistics.admin.ch</a> Federal Statistical Office, CH-2010 Neuchâtel, <a href="mailto:order@bfs.admin.ch">order@bfs.admin.ch</a> , tel. +41 58 463 60 60 Printed in Switzerland
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<b>FSO number:</b>	420-2100