



Language regions

Description

The language regions are the oldest non-institutional form of regionalisation in Swiss statistics. Based on the results of federal population censuses since 1860, the FSO delimits, at the level of the municipalities, the areas where the majority of the population speak German, French, Italian or Romansh. Designed as dynamic territorial units, they have been updated every ten years until 2000. Since 2017, this is the case every 5 years.

Current version: published in 2022 based on cumulative structural survey data from 2016 to 2020.

Next update: Autumn/Winter 2027

Methodology

4 units

Revision policy

The FSO periodically updates all non-institutional spatial divisions.

Update:

Modifications are limited to regularly updating the perimeters of non-institutional spatial divisions to the changes taking place at institutional level (e.g. municipal mergers). For every change, the FSO reassesses the assignment of new municipalities to the various spatial divisions.

Reassessment:

A country's spatial structure changes over time. The FSO wishes to keep track of these developments by updating the spatial divisions every five years, i.e. by using the same calculation method but with new data.

Legal basis

Federal Statistics Act of 9 October 1992 (FStatA)
Multi-annual programme for federal statistics

Organisation

Federal Statistical Office
Buildings and Dwellings Section, Spatial Nomenclature Service
Environment, Sustainable Development, Territory Section
raumnomenklaturen@bfs.admin.ch