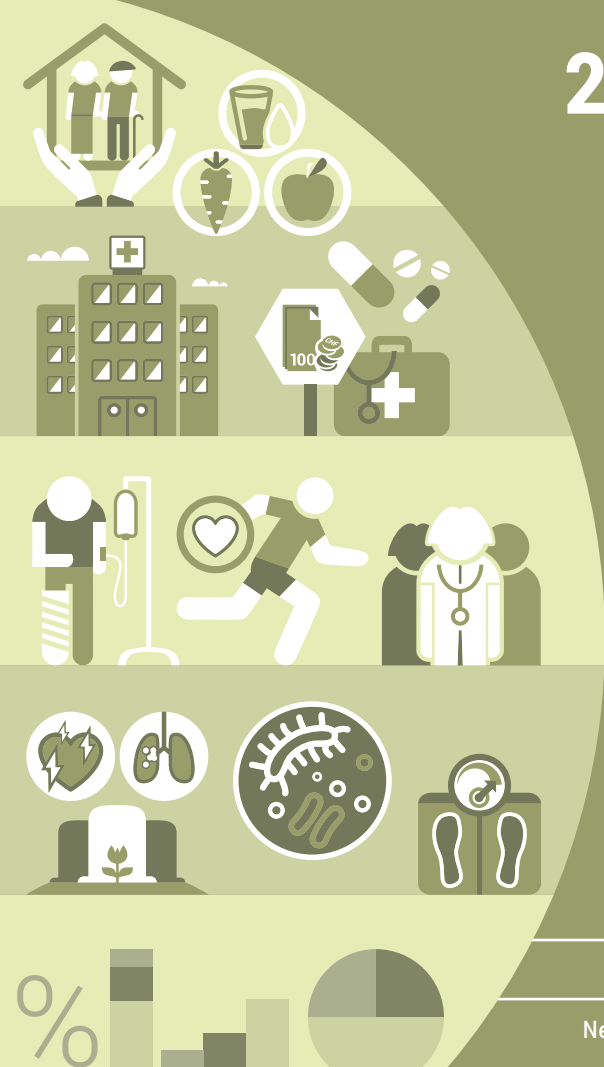


2023



14

Health

Neuchâtel 2023

Healthcare

Pocket Statistics 2023



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1 Population's health

1.1 General health and disability

	Men	Women
Life expectancy at birth in years (2021)	81.6	85.7
Healthy life expectancy at birth in years (2017)	69.8	70.8
(Very) good self-perceived health ¹ (2017)	85.9%	83.5%
Long-standing health problem ¹ (2017)	30.5%	34.7%
Functional limitations (2017)		
Eyesight: considerable or full impairment ¹	0.9%	1.4%
Hearing: considerable or full impairment ¹	1.0%	1.2%
Locomotion: cannot walk or can only walk a few steps ¹	0.7%	1.2%
Speech: considerable or full impairment ¹	0.5%	0.3%
Persons with disabilities ² (2020)	652 000	836 000
of which severely limited	132 000	183 000

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

² population aged 16 or over living in a private household

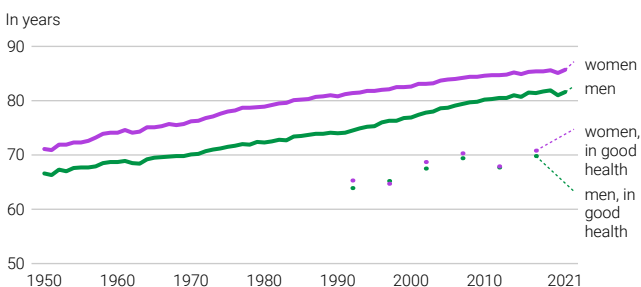
Sources: FSO – SHS, BEVNAT, STATPOP, SILC

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Life expectancy in Switzerland is one of the highest in the world. Between 1990 and 2021, it increased by 7.6 years among men and by 4.9 years among women. Healthy life expectancy roughly stands at around age 70. In terms of this measure, the gap between men and women is small.

Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy at birth

G1



The 2012 data relating to healthy life expectancy are not directly comparable with those from other years because of a change in the answer modalities concerning self-perceived health.

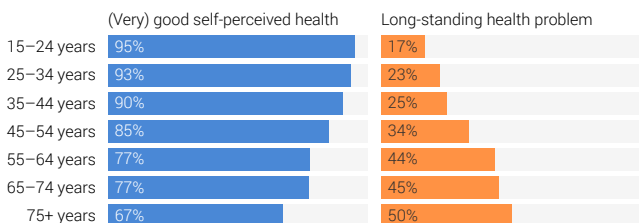
Source: FSO – BEVNAT, ESPOP, STATPOP and SHS

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Self-perceived health and long-standing problems, 2017

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G2



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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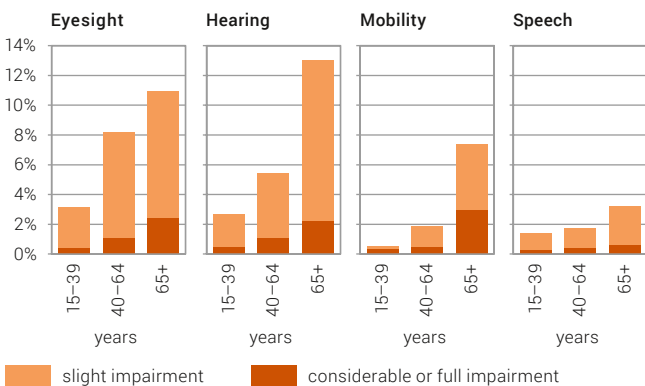
86% of men and 84% of women assessed their state of health as good or very good. With age, these proportions decrease and the general health worsens. From the age of 75, half of the population suffers from long-standing health problems.

Functional limitations increase considerably with age. Thus, 45% of people with considerable or full visual impairments are aged 65 or over. Approximately 1 500 000 persons, or 20% of the population, are considered to be disabled under the Disability Discrimination Act, of whom 315 000 are severely limited in activities people usually do.

Functional limitations, 2017

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G3



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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1.2 Mental health

	Men	Women
Happy all or most of the time (2017)	86.3%	84.7%
Medium or high psychological distress ¹ (2017)	11.7%	18.3%
Moderate to serious depression ¹ (2017)	7.8%	9.5%
Treatment for psychological problems ¹ (2017)	4.4%	7.7%
Persons hospitalised for mental and behavioural disorders (2021)	34 643	39 472

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

Sources: FSO – SHS, MS

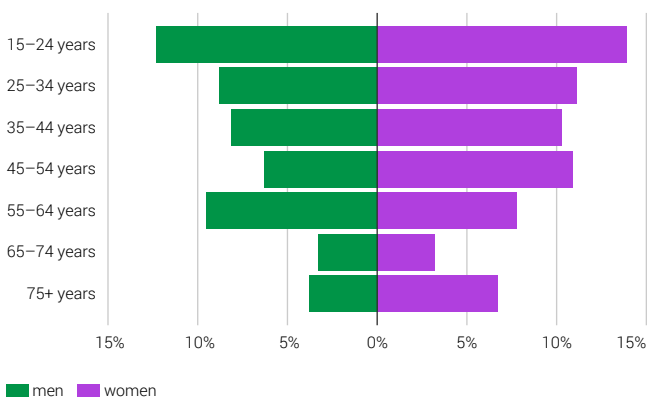
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The vast majority of the population say that they experience positive emotions far more often rather than negative emotions: 85% of the population say that they are happy, while only 3% say they feel down or depressed. 90% of the population also have sufficient social support to cope with life's difficulties. 15% of the population, however, show signs of medium (11%) or high psychological distress (4%). Depression is the most common mental disorder. 8% of men and 10% of women suffered from moderate to serious depression in 2017. Young people aged 15 to 24 are the most frequently affected.

Moderate to serious depression in 2017

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G4



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

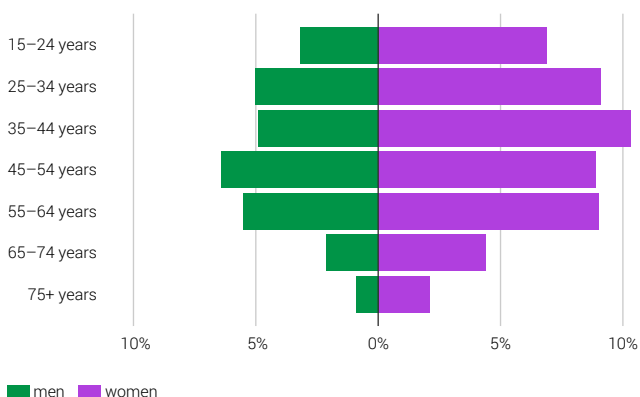
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In 2017, 6% of the population were in treatment for psychological problems and 9% used at least one psychotropic drug (antidepressant, sleeping pill, sedative). Women use psychotropic drugs more often than men, and older people significantly more than younger people. In addition, just over 1% of persons in the age group 15–24 years took medication for attention disorders in 2017.

Treatment for psychological problems, in 2017

Over a one-year period. Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G5



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

© FSO 2023

In 2021, 109 135 hospitalisations due to mental and behavioural disorders were recorded. It is common for the same person to be hospitalised several times for different mental or behavioural disorders. Mood disorders (mainly depression) are the most frequent cause (30%) of these hospitalisations. The share of hospitalisations due to mental disorders, such as schizophrenia, is 14%. Men in the 25–44 age group are most frequently affected by these disorders. Disorders related to the consumption of alcohol and other psychoactive substances are the cause of 21% of these hospitalisations; men are affected 2.0 times as often as women.

1.3 Cardiovascular disease and diabetes

	Men	Women
Persons hospitalised due to cardiovascular diseases (2020)	62 367	44 753
Number of deaths due to cardiovascular diseases (2020)	9 568	10 943
Acute myocardial infarction, number of cases (2020)	12 413	6 499
Stroke, number of cases (2020)	11 359	9 682
Hypertension ¹ (2017)	19.2%	16.0%
Excessively high levels of cholesterol ¹ (2017)	14.3%	10.8%
Diabetes ¹ (2017)	5.4%	3.5%

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

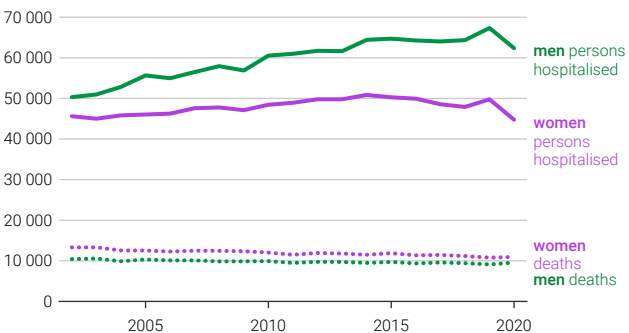
Sources: FSO – MS, CoD, SHS

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Cardiovascular diseases are the first most common cause of death – and the third most common cause of hospitalisation. Since 2002, the number of hospitalisations for cardiovascular diseases has increased by 12% very likely as a result of increasing population numbers and an ageing population. Over the same period, the number of deaths caused by these illnesses however has fallen by 14%. In 2020, 18 912 people (two thirds of whom were men) suffered an acute myocardial infarction and 2349 people died from this. The respective numbers for strokes are 21 041 (slightly over half of which are men) and 2790.

Deaths and persons hospitalised due to cardiovascular diseases

G6



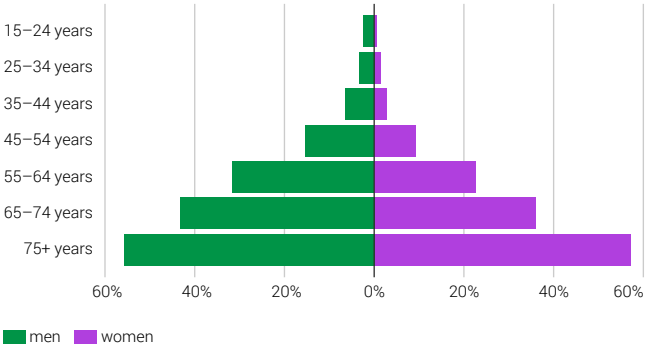
Source: FSO – Cause of Death Statistics (CoD) and Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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Persons with hypertension, 2017

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G7



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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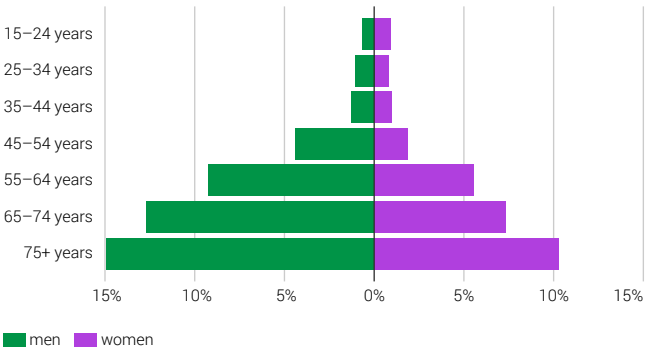
The share of persons suffering from hypertension was 18% in 2017. Men are more affected than women until the age of 75. From the age of 75 onwards, half of the population suffers from too high blood pressure. The share of persons with excessively high levels of cholesterol was 13% in 2017.

In 2017, 5% of men and 3% suffered from diabetes. Persons with a low level of educational attainment are twice as likely to suffer from diabetes as those with a high-level education (8% compared with 4%).

Persons with diabetes, 2017

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G8



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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1.4 Cancer

Annual average (for the period 2015–2019)	Men		Women	
	New cases	Deaths	New cases	Deaths
All cancers	24 486	9 466	20 496	7 795
Lung, bronchi trachea	2 807	1 971	1 988	1 301
Breast			6 489	1 400
Prostate	7 105	1 362		
Colon-rectum	2 542	925	1 995	752
Melanoma	1 668	175	1 439	125
Cancer among children ¹ (all types)	126	11	104	12

¹ 0–14 years

Source: FSO, NCR, SCCR – National cancer statistic

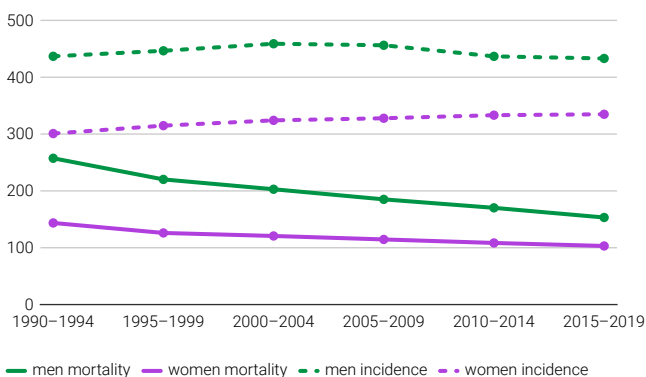
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More than 40 000 new cases of cancer are diagnosed every year. More than one in five will develop a cancer before the age of 70. Men are more affected by cancer and die from cancer more often than women do. The rate of new cases has slowly increased among women since the end of the 1980s. Among men, it rose slightly until the start of the 2000s, after which it has tended to decline.

Cancers (total)

Rate per 100,000 inhabitants, European standard

G9



incidence: new cases estimated on the basis of cancer registry data; excl. non-melanoma skin cancer

Sources: NACR – New cases; FSO – Deaths

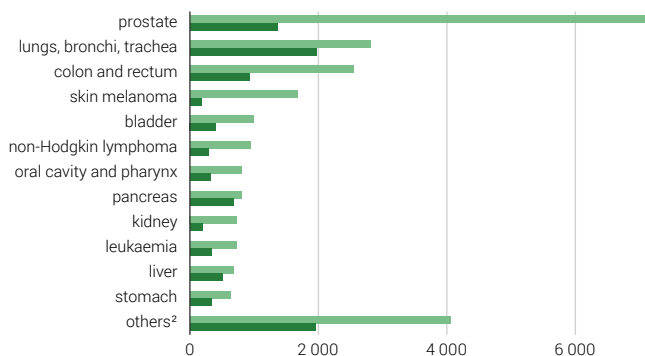
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Cancers by site, 2015–2019

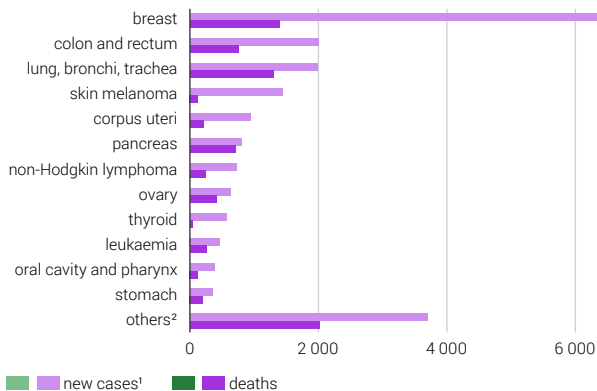
Average number per year

G10

Men



Women



¹ new cases estimated on the basis of cancer registry data

² new cases excl. non-melanoma skin cancer

Sources: NACR – New cases; FSO – Deaths

© FSO 2023

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men but it is cancer of the lung, bronchi and trachea that cause the most deaths. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women. Along with lung cancer, it is also responsible for the most deaths.

Every year between 2015 and 2019, about 230 children aged 14 and under got cancer and about 23 died from this disease. Leukaemia (31%) and tumours of the central nervous system (24%) are the two most common types of cancer in children.

1.5 Infectious diseases

	2021
New diagnoses of HIV	328
New cases of tick-borne encephalitis	285
New cases of tuberculosis	360

Source: FOPH – Reporting System for Notifiable Infectious Diseases

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The number of new cases of infection with the HIV virus has fallen sharply since 2009. 41% of new diagnoses in 2021 concerned men who had sexual relations with men. Other cases of other sexually transmitted diseases are not decreasing.

The main infectious diseases transmitted by ticks are Lyme disease (8000 to 15 000 cases per year) and meningoenzephalitis (285 cases in 2021). The latter affects men about 1.5 times more often than women.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis has decreased over the past ten years; the majority of cases occur in people of foreign origin who come from a country with a high incidence of tuberculosis.

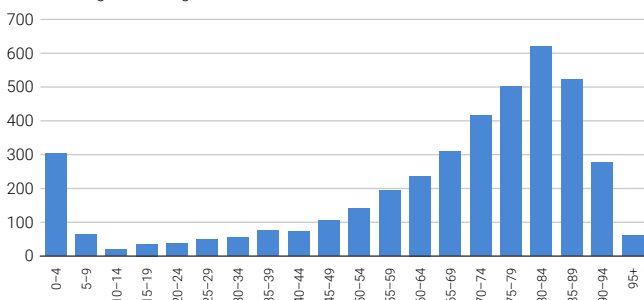
Until the appearance of COVID-19, influenza was the main seasonal infectious disease. It may require hospitalisation, especially among older persons (4100 cases per year on average from 2017 to 2021). Winters with strong influenza epidemics are marked by excess mortality.

Hospitalisations due to influenza by age, 2017–2021

By age groups

G11

Annual average, main diagnosis



Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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1.6 COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2)

	2021
New COVID cases (SARS-CoV-2)	896 767
Hospitalisations of COVID patients ¹	43 293
Persons vaccinated for COVID-19 ²	5 955 684

¹ Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

² at least one dose

Source: FOPH, FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

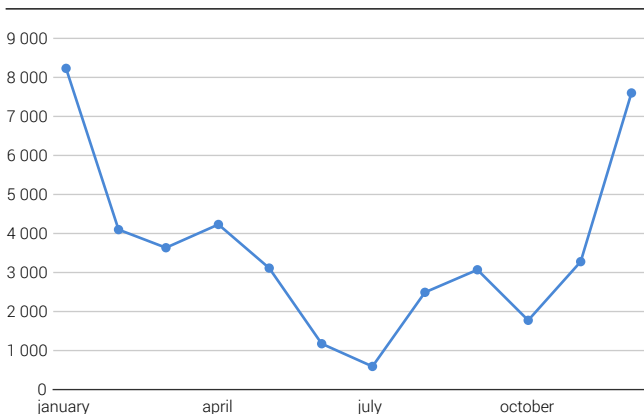
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The new coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2, «severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2») appeared in Switzerland in February 2020. Nearly 897 000 coronavirus cases were recorded in 2021, almost double the number in 2020. In 2021, 43 293 hospital admissions with a COVID-19 diagnosis were recorded (40 871 in 2020). They concerned 37 770 people. 33% of them were at least 75 years old. In the same year, close to six million people received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. In 2021, 5887 people died from COVID-19 (provisional data).

Hospitalisations of COVID patients, 2021

By date of admission

G12



Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

© FSO 2023

1.7 Musculoskeletal disorders

	Men	Women
People with back or kidney problems (2017)	38.0%	48.6%
Persons with osteoarthritis or arthritis (2017)	10.2%	18.6%
Persons with osteoporosis (2017)	0.8%	5.4%
Persons hospitalised for musculoskeletal disorders (2021)	67 442	80 855
Hip replacement	11 988	14 924
Knee prosthesis	9 399	13 193

Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS), Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

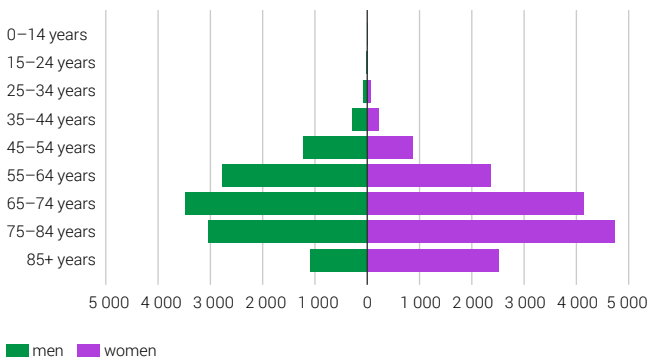
© FSO 2023

Back pains or kidney pains are the most common physical problems: two in five people suffer from these. The proportion of the population affected by osteoarthritis or arthritis increases sharply with age, reaching 40% from the age of 75.

Musculoskeletal disorders are the second most common cause for hospitalisation after traumatic injuries. Disorders of the limb joints (osteoarthritis, arthritis) and back problems are the reasons for 52% and 24% of these hospitalisations. The use of prostheses is sometimes necessary. In 2021, 26 912 persons were hospitalised for hip replacements. This is 28% more than in 2010. Knee prostheses are slightly less common (22 592).

Persons hospitalised for hip replacements, 2021

G13



Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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1.8 Births and health of newborns

	2021
Live births	89 644
Average age at maternity	32.3
Rate of caesareans	33.1%
Premature births (< 37 completed weeks of pregnancy)	6.4%
Low birth weight births (< 2500 g)	5.9%
Stillbirths	4.4‰
Infant mortality (before the age of one)	3.1‰
Twins	2.9%

Sources: FSO – BEVNAT, MS, CoD

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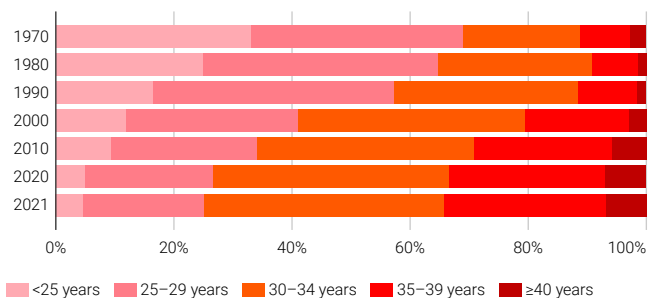
The average age of mothers at maternity has continued to increase since the 1970s. In 2021, the share of women under the age of 30 who had given birth was 25% compared with 70% in 1970. 95% of births take place at the hospital and a third of deliveries are by caesarean. The rate of caesareans vary by up to 100% depending on the region.

280 infants and children under the age of one died in 2021. This corresponds to a rate of 3.1 deaths per thousand live births. Almost 60% of these deaths occurred in the 24 hours following birth. Above all infant deaths affect children with a very low birth weight or those born very prematurely. The same year 395 stillbirths were registered.

2.9% of children were born as twins and 0.04% as triplets. 2207 children were born as a result of a treatment in 2020 using assisted reproduction technology by in-vitro fertilisation, i. e. 2.6% of live births.

Live births by age of mother

G14



Source: FSO – Vital Statistics (BEVNAT)

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1.9 Causes of death

	Men	Women
Total deaths (2020)	37 624	38 571
Cardiovascular diseases	9 568	10 943
Cancer	9 224	7 706
COVID-19	4 902	4 392
Dementia	2 135	4 389
Accidents	1 347	1 283
Suicide (except assisted suicide)	696	276
Assisted suicide	510	741

Sources: FSO – BEVNAT, CoD

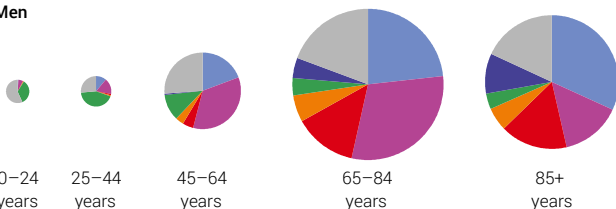
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In 2020, 76 195 deaths were recorded. This was 12% more than in 2019. COVID-19 was the third cause of death, after cardiovascular diseases and cancer. The graphic shows the main causes of death which vary greatly by age group. The areas are proportional to the absolute number of deaths.

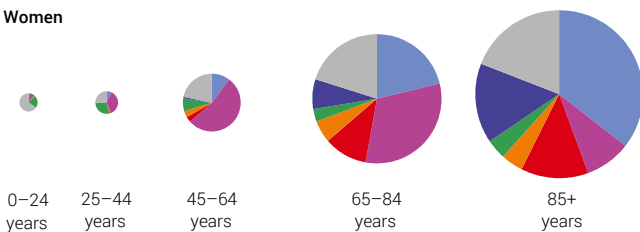
Leading causes of death by age group in 2020

G15

Men



Women



Areas are proportional to the absolute number of deaths.

Source: FSO – Cause of Death Statistics (CoD)

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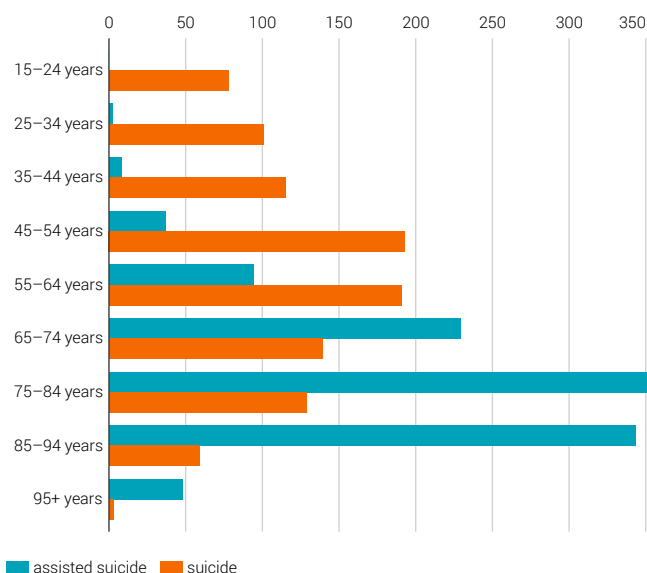
Perinatal causes of death predominate in the first year of life, followed by congenital diseases. Although death from the age of 1 to 14 is uncommon, there are many different causes. The majority of deaths from the age of 15 to roughly 45 are caused by accidents and suicide. After this age, the most common cause of death is cancer. From around the age of 80 this is overtaken by cardiovascular diseases. In 2020, it was observed that COVID-19 related deaths also varied by age: the percentage of people who died from COVID-19 was greater among those aged 65 and over than among younger people.

Assisted suicide and suicide by age, period 2016–2020

By age groups

G16

Mean number of cases per year



Source: FSO – Cause of Death Statistics (CoD)

© FSO 2023

972 people committed suicide in 2020. The vast majority were men (72%) and almost half (47%) were under 55. In the same year, the number of assisted suicides was 1251. Women account for the majority (59%) and almost nine out of ten (88%) persons seeking assisted suicide are over 64. Assisted suicide is mostly requested by persons suffering from serious and incurable diseases such as cancer (38%) or neurodegenerative diseases (12%). From the age of 65, assisted suicides outnumber suicides.

2 Health determinants

2.1 Social situation and employment

	Men	Women
Life expectancy at 65 years in 2011–2014		
Compulsory education	15.6 Years	22.1 Years
Tertiary level (higher education institutes)	18.9 Years	23.1 Years
<hr/>		
(Very) good self-perceived health by educational level ¹ (2017)		
Compulsory education	69.9%	64.4%
Tertiary level (higher education institutes)	90.5%	91.0%
<hr/>		
Deprivation of really needed medical care for financial reasons ² (2020)	2.7%	2.7%

¹ population aged 25 or over in a private household

² population aged 16 or over in a private household

Sources: FSO – SHS, SILC

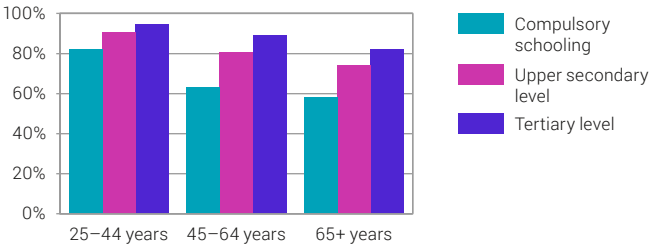
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The lower a person's social position (measured by educational attainment), the poorer their health. Men aged 65 years with low educational attainment thus have a life expectancy 3 years shorter than their counterparts with a university education. Access to care is also affected by social inequalities: 3% of the population are deprived of really needed medical care for financial reasons, especially dental care. This share increases to 6% among persons at-risk-of-poverty.

(Very) good self-perceived health according to educational level, 2017

Population aged 25 or over living in a private household

G17



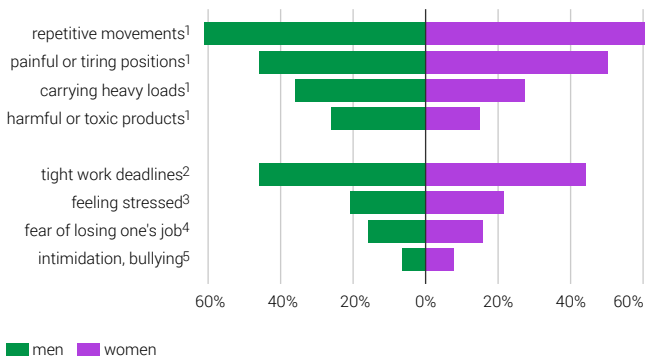
Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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Physical and psychosocial risks at work, 2017

Employed population aged 15 to 64 years

G18



¹ at least one quarter of working time

² three quarters of working time or more

³ most of the time or always

⁴ sufficiently or quite a lot

⁵ yes

Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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Poor working conditions may be a health risk. Typical physical risks include repetitive movements, painful positions, carrying heavy loads and exposure to toxic products. Men are in general more exposed than women. However, this is not the case for painful and tiring positions (men: 46%; women: 50%), which are common in the care and childcare professions where women account for the majority of workers. The frequency of physical risks remained stable over time. Psychosocial risks are linked to the work organisation. Tight work deadlines are a typical example of a risk related to work intensification. In 2017, 7% of people in employment experienced bullying or intimidation at work. The frequency of psychosocial risks increased overall between 2012 and 2017. This is particularly true of stress and the fear of losing one's job.

2.2 Health behaviour

2017 ¹	Men	Women
Pays attention to diet	62.8%	73.4%
5 portions of fruit and vegetables per day, at least 5 days per week	14.6%	28.3%
Insufficiently active	22.2%	26.4%
Overweight or obese	51.0%	33.0%
Smoker	31.0%	23.3%
Consumes alcohol daily	14.9%	7.1%

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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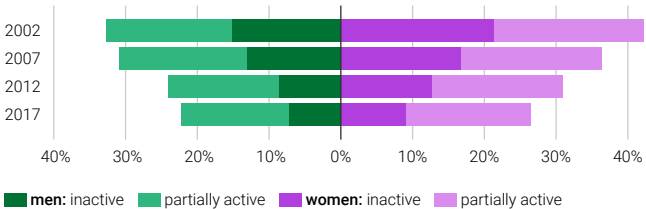
76% of the population were sufficiently physically active in 2017. Persons with compulsory schooling are less often physically active than those with tertiary level education (61% compared with 79%). The share of inactive persons has fallen by more than 50% since 2002.

63% of men and 73% of women say that they pay attention to what they eat. 11% of the population were obese in 2017. This is twice the 1992 figure. The share of overweight people increases with age up to 74 years. The share of obese people is twice as high among men with a low level of educational attainment compared with those with a high level of educational attainment (20% compared with 10%); the difference is even greater among women (21% compared with 6%).

Insufficient physical activity

G19

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household



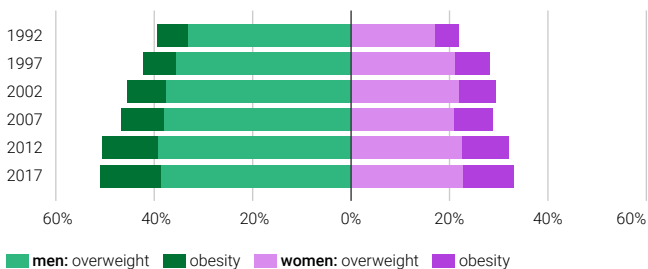
Source – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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Overweight and obesity

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G20



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

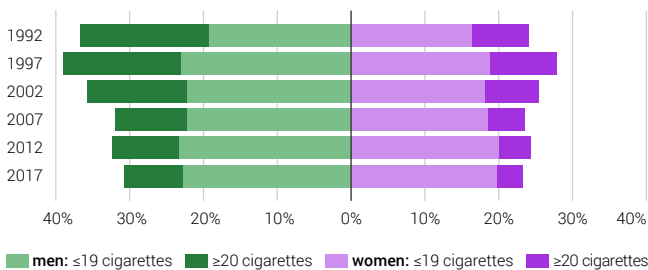
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Between 1992 and 2017, the percentage of smokers fell from 37% to 31% among men and remained stable among women (23%). Smoking is most common among men aged between 25 and 34 (42%) and women between 15 and 34 (30%). 61% of smokers would like to quit.

Smokers by number of cigarettes per day

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G21



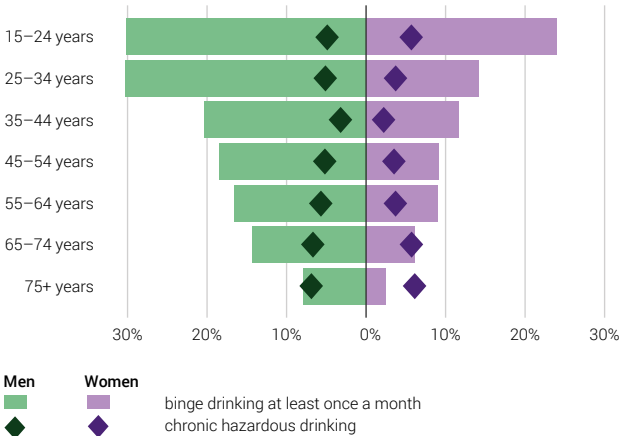
Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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Hazardous drinking, 2017

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G22



binge drinking: standard-sized glasses of alcohol on one occasion: men: ≥ 5 , women: ≥ 4
 chronic hazardous drinking, per day in standard-sized glasses: men: ≥ 4 , women: ≥ 2

Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

© FSO 2023

Along with smoking, excessive alcohol consumption is one of the main causes of premature death and ill health. In 2017, 13% of men never drank alcohol and 15% drank every day. Among women, 23% are teetotal and 7% are daily drinkers. Chronic hazardous drinking (regularly drinking too much) was observed among 5% of the population and 16% got drunk (drinking too much on a single occasion) at least once a month. Young men are most affected by binge drinking, while older people of both sexes are affected by chronic hazardous drinking.

3 Health system

3.1 Hospitals

	2021
Hospitals	274
Beds	37 845
Personnel (full-time equivalents)	177 882
Hospitalisation cases	1 439 973
Hospitalisation rate (for 1000 inhabitants)	114.9
Average length of stay in acute care (in days)	5.1
Average daily cost of acute care (CHF)	2 492

Sources: FSO – KS, MS

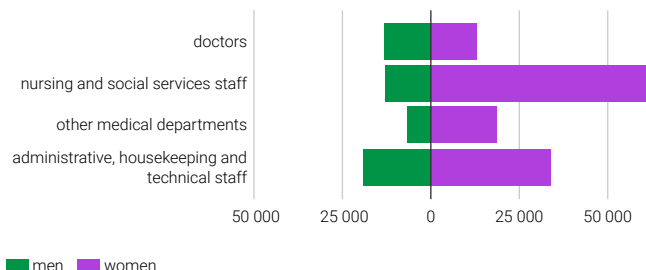
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In 2021, there were 104 general hospitals and 172 special clinics (psychiatry, rehabilitation, etc.). These 276 institutions operate on 579 sites. Since 2010, the number of hospitals and clinics has fallen by 8%, while the number of beds has remained stable. In 2021, hospitals employed some 231 500 people in 177 900 full-time equivalent posts. This is 28% more than in 2010. 74% of jobs are held by women. Nursing and social services staff make up 42% of jobs and doctors make up 15% of full-time equivalent jobs.

Hospital personnel by function and sex, 2021

In full-time equivalents

G23



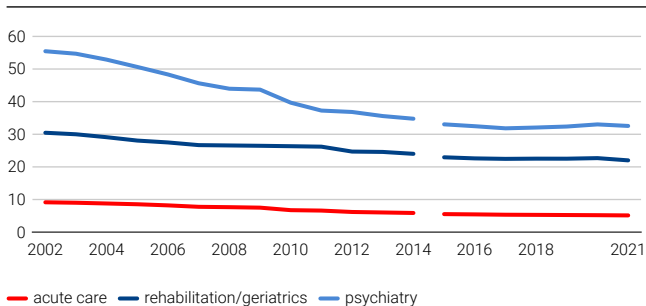
Source: FSO – Hospital Statistics (KS)

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Average length of stay in hospitals

In days

G24



break in series as of 2015: new definition and new data source

Source: FSO – Hospital Statistics (KS), Hospital Medical Statistics (MS) from 2015 © FSO 2023

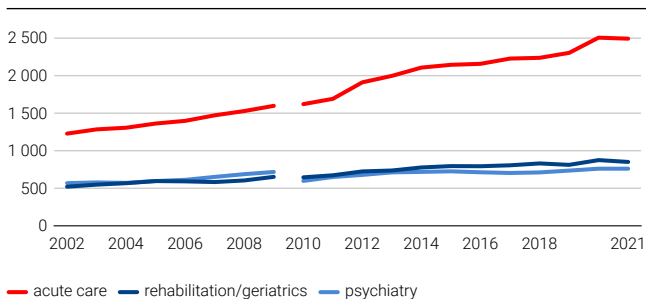
In 2021, the average length of stay in acute care was 5.1 days. The average length of stay in psychiatric services was six times longer (33.5 days). The average length of stay decreased continuously until 2017, when the values stabilised.

The average cost of a day's hospitalisation in acute care was CHF 2492 on average in 2020. This represents a rise of 54% compared with 2010. Daily costs in psychiatry and rehabilitation/geriatrics have changed only slightly since 2015.

Average hospitalisation costs

In CHF per day and patient

G25

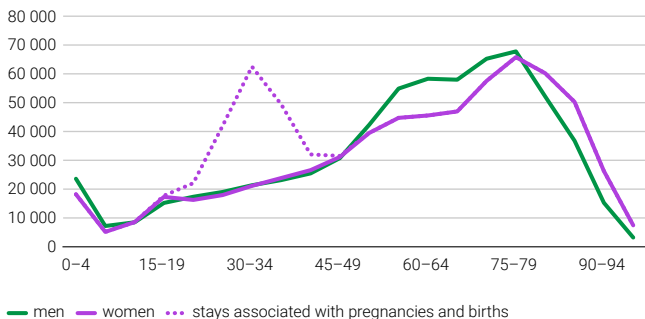


break in series as of 2010: revision of survey

Source: FSO – Hospital Statistics (KS) © FSO 2023

Hospitalisation cases by age, 2021¹

G26



¹ without newborns (N=86 118)

Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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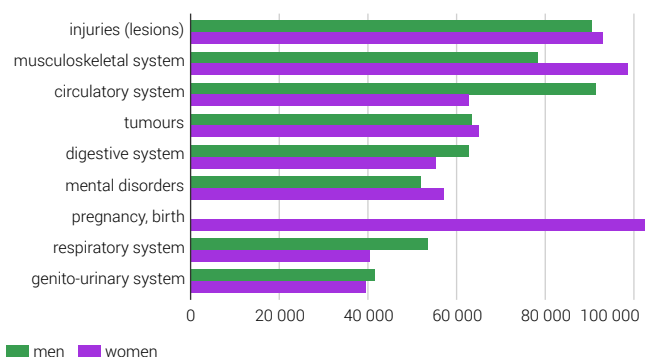
In 2021, the number of hospitalisations rose to 677 594 for men and 762 379 for women. There were also 44 157 male and 41 961 female births. 20.7 million outpatient consultations (treatments, examinations) were also recorded.

Injuries (lesions) are the most frequent cause of hospitalisation. Diseases of the musculoskeletal system (osteoarthritis, joint and back problems) are in second place, ahead of diseases of the circulatory system.

Most frequent diagnostic groups in 2021

Number of hospitalisations

G27



ICD-10 chapters excluding chapter 21 "Factors influencing health status"

Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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3.2 Nursing homes

	2021
Nursing homes	1 536
Personnel, full-time equivalents	100 361
Residents as at 31.12.	89 300
Men	26 781
Women	62 519
Accommodation rate in nursing homes among persons aged ≥ 80 years as at 31.12.	13.7%
Average length of stay (in days)	875
Average cost per day (CHF)	329

Source: FSO – Statistics on Medico-Social Institutions (SOMED)

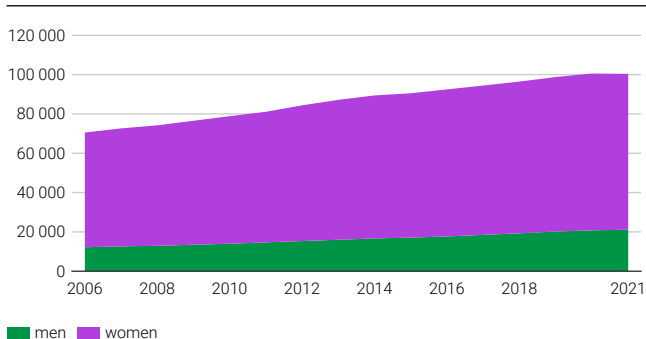
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In 2021, the 1536 nursing homes for older people employed more than 138 500 persons equating to 100 361 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs, i. e. 27% more than in 2010. Nursing staff and facilitators make up 67% of this figure. Eight in ten FTE are filled by women.

Nursing home personnel

In full-time equivalents

G28



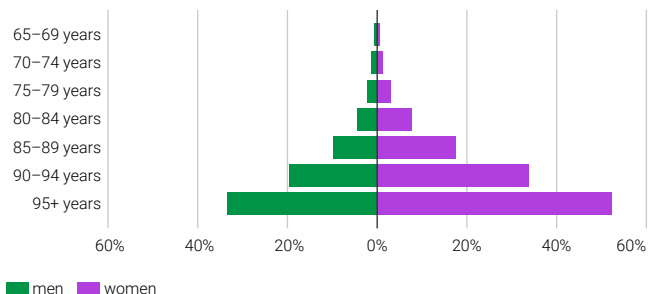
Source: FSO – Statistics on Medico-Social Institutions (SOMED)

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Persons living in a nursing home, 2021

Rate by age group as at 31.12.

G29



Source: FSO – Statistics on Medico-Social Institutions (SOMED), Population and Household Statistics (STATPOP)

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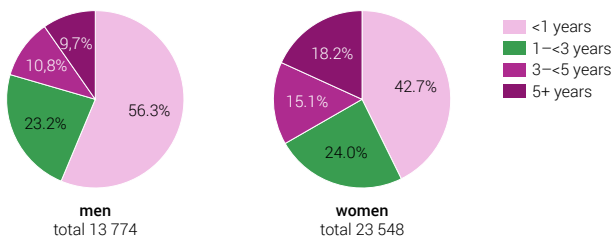
14% of the population aged 80 and over reside in nursing homes. During 2021, 153 096 clients stayed – some for a short stay – in a nursing home, 13% more than in 2010. Women represent 67% of the clientele. Three quarters of the residents were aged 80 and over. There are almost 100 500 places in nursing homes.

48% of older people in nursing homes stay there for less than one year. The proportion of older people staying in nursing homes for 5 years or more is 15%. The average length of a stay is two and a half years (875 days). The per-day cost was CHF 329 on average.

Length of stay in nursing homes, 2021

Persons discharged from nursing homes, 2021

G30



Source: FSO – Statistics on Medico-Social Institutions (SOMED)

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3.3 Home care services

	2021
Number of enterprises	2 613
Personnel (full-time equivalents)	27 134
Clients	440 747
Men	190 257
Women	250 490
Recourse to home care services among the population ≥ 80 years	37%
Average cost per client (CHF)	6 755

Source: FSO – Statistics on Home Care Services (SPITEX)

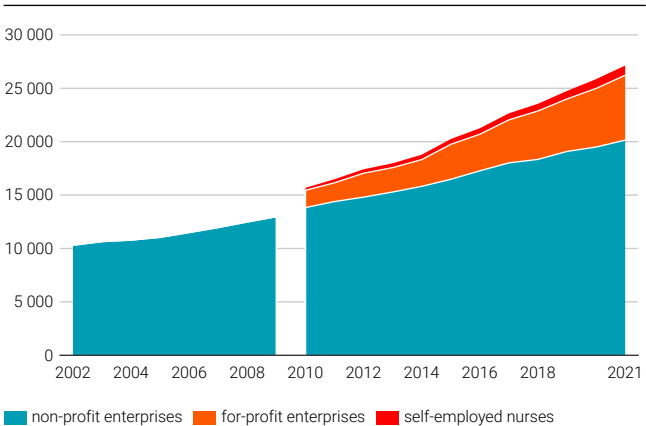
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In 2021, the 2613 providers of home care services employed almost 59 200 persons, equivalent to 27 134 full-time jobs. 74% of full-time equivalent staff were employed by non-profit enterprises. Jobs in home care services have increased by 65% since 2011. Employment growth among non-profit enterprises is slower than among other types of providers (for-profit enterprises and self-employed nurses).

Jobs in home care services

In full-time equivalents

G31



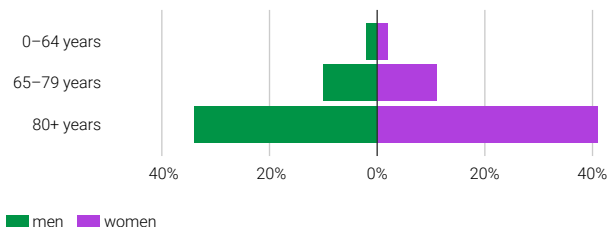
Source: FSO – Statistics on Home Care Services (SPITEX)

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Recourse to home care services, 2021

Number of persons by age group

G32



Source: FSO – Statistics on Home Care Services (SPITEX)

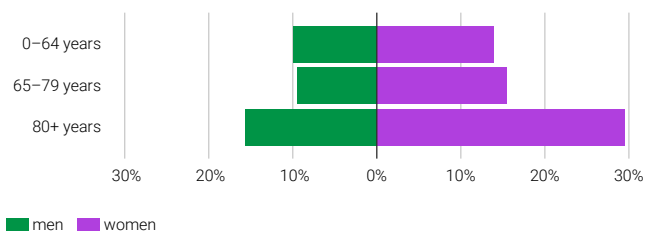
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In Switzerland, almost 441 000 people received assistance or home care services during 2021. This accounted for almost 5% of the total population, and 37% of those aged 80 and over. About 3 in 5 clients were women and 41% of the clients were 80 years and over. The share of persons receiving informal care from relatives for care or daily tasks is at 13% greater than that of persons making use of home care services. Furthermore, 59% of persons who make use of home care services are also helped by relatives.

Recourse to informal assistance, 2017

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household, over a 1 year period

G33



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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3.4 Doctors and dentists

Doctors in medical practices and outpatient centres, in full-time equivalents (FTE) (2020)	18 016
Doctors in FTE in the outpatient sector per 100 000 inhabitants (2020)	208
Dental practices (2020)	4 049
Dental practices per 100 000 inhabitants (2020)	47

Sources: FSO – MAS, STATENT

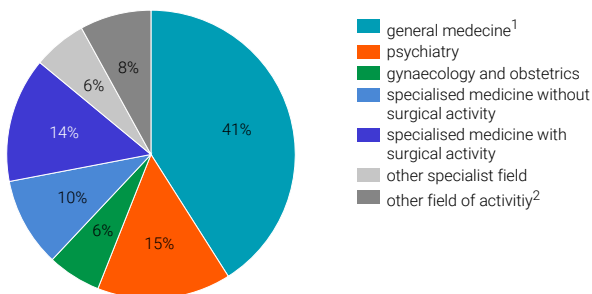
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In 2020, 23 031 doctors, corresponding to 18 016 FTEs, worked in medical practices or outpatient centres. Of these, 41% were general practitioners (specialist qualifications: general internal medicine and paediatrics; medical practitioner). The number of doctors in full time equivalents working in the outpatient sector per 100 000 inhabitants was 208 in 2020. The number of dental practices was 47 per 100 000 inhabitants in 2020.

Activities of physicians in medical practices, 2020

In full-time equivalents

G34



¹ Specialist titles: general internal medicine, paediatrician; general practitioner

² other field of activity: main activity does not correspond to any postgraduate medical degree

Source: FSO – Structural data from medical practices and ambulatory centres (MAS)

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3.5 In-practice consultations

Share of the population having consulted these health professionals at least once over a period of one year¹ (2017)

General practitioner	70.7%
Specialist doctor	42.8%
Dentist	59.6%
Pharmacist	42.5%

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

Sources: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

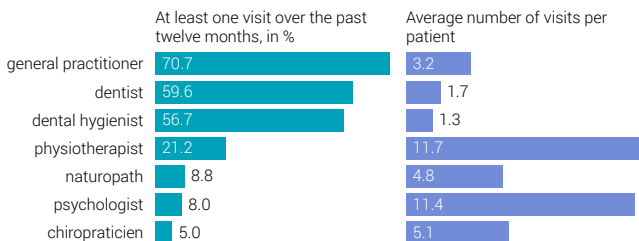
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81% of the population visit a doctor at least once a year (all medical areas), and 60% visit a dentist. The share of people consulting a doctor increases with age, while it is stable for dentist visits. The average number of consultations per patient a year increases from 1.7 for the dentist to 3.2 for the doctor and even 11.7 for the physiotherapist.

Visits to a health care provider, 2017

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

G35



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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4 Costs and funding

	2020 ^P
Health expenditure (in CHF million)	83 311
Of which for	
Outpatient curative care	20 178
Long-term care	17 209
Inpatient curative care	16 223
Health goods	12 694
Health expenditure in relation to the gross domestic product (GDP)	11.8%

^P provisional data

Source: FSO – Statistics on health care costs and funding (COU)

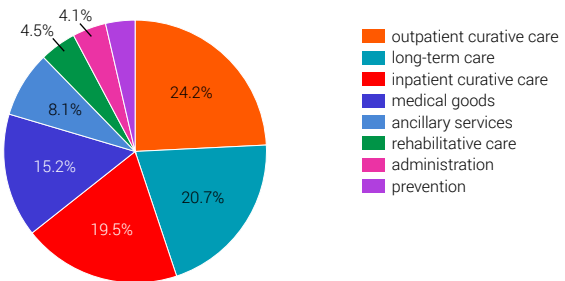
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Outpatient curative care including that provided in hospitals represents almost a quarter of health expenditure costs. Long-term care includes care for older people in nursing homes and home care. It generates just over one fifth of health expenditure costs, slightly more than inpatient curative care.

Health expenditure by function, 2020^P

G36

Total: CHF 83.3 billions



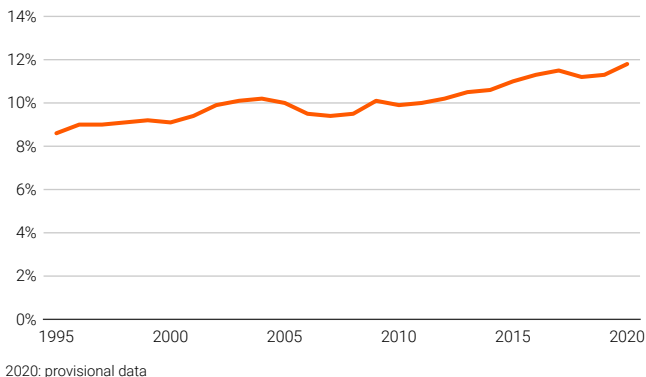
^P provisional data

Source: FSO – Statistics on health care costs and funding (COU)

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Health expenditure in relation to GDP

G37



Source: FSO – Statistics on health care costs and funding (COU)

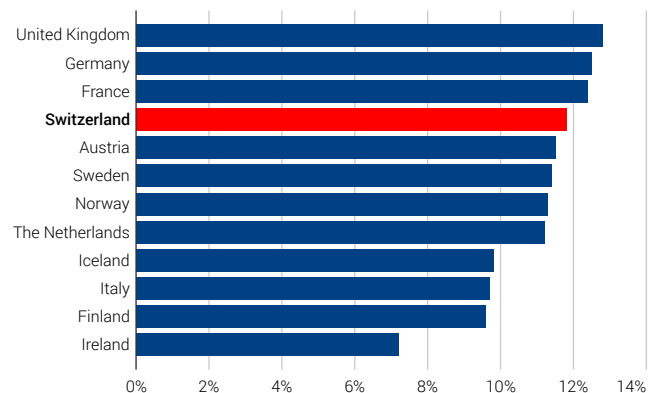
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The ratio between health expenditure and the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 3.2 percentage points since 1995, reaching 11.8% in 2020. This value places Switzerland in the top group of European countries with the highest expenditure-to-GDP ratio.

Health expenditure in OECD countries, 2020^P

Health expenditure in relation to GDP

G38

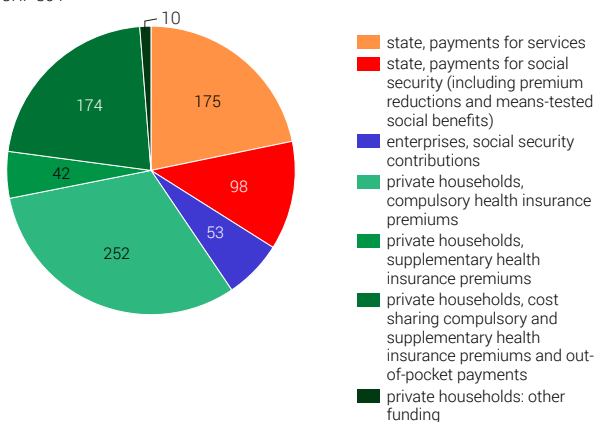
^P provisional data

Sources: FSO – Statistics on health care costs and funding (COU); OECD, Health Statistics 2022

© FSO 2023

CHF per month and per inhabitant

Total: CHF 804

^P provisional data

Source: FSO – Statistics on health care costs and funding (COU)

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In 2020, households financed 59% of health expenditure. Mandatory health insurance premiums from households covered 31% of health expenditure. The government's contribution to health expenditure is 34%. Over 6 in every 10 francs of this public funding correspond to payments from the cantons and communes to hospitals, nursing homes and home care services.

Further information

www.health-stat.admin.ch
(with file providing graphical data)

Online

www.statistics.admin.ch

Print

www.statistics.admin.ch

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The information in this publication contributes to the measurement of sustainable development goal (SDG) **no. 3 “Good health and well-being”** of the UN’s 2030 Agenda. In Switzerland, the MONET 2030 indicator system is used to track the implementation of these goals.



The MONET 2030 indicator system

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