



Spatial divisions – Labour market areas and Large labour market areas

Description

The labour market areas and the large labour market areas are regions where most employed persons live and work. The two geographic subdivisions differ in size: the labour market areas are relatively small and the large labour market areas are much larger.

Methodology

Methodology used:

The statistical method for delineation uses a matrix describing commuter flows between all of Switzerland's municipalities. The first step creates regions for the whole country based on standardised criteria. In an iterative process, the algorithm gradually groups the municipalities together into regions where the majority of employed persons live and work. The second step breaks down the largest urban areas (identified based on the number of inhabitants, jobs and overnight hotel stays) into subdivisions to make the labour market areas spatially as comparable as possible. In total, 101 labour market areas have been defined. These are then grouped together into 16 large labour market areas. Lastly, the cross-border labour market areas are calculated at the same time. There are 10 of these.

Variables used:

Municipality matrices of employed persons by municipality of residence and work, FSO Population and Households Statistics (STATPOP), FSO

Structural Business Statistics (STATENT), FSO

Tourist accommodation statistics (HESTA), FSO

Cross-border Commuters Statistics (CCS), FSO

For the neighbouring area abroad: data from statistical offices of neighbouring countries or from other official bodies.

Basic data reference period:

2018 version: data reference period: commuter flows 2011 and 2014; population, jobs and overnight hotel stays 2014

Publication frequency:

Updated approximately every 10 years (see revision policy)

Degree of regionalisation:

Labour market areas and Large labour market areas

Revision:

Labour market areas and Large labour market areas have replaced MS regions.

Revision policy

The FSO periodically updates and revises all non-institutional geographic levels.

Updates:

The perimeters of non-institutional divisions are regularly modified to take into account changes taking place at institutional level (e.g. municipal mergers). With each change, the FSO reassesses the assignment of the new municipalities to the various spatial divisions.

Reassessment:

A country's spatial structure changes over time. The FSO keeps track of these developments by updating the spatial divisions roughly every 10 years, i.e. by using the same calculation methods but with new data. Exceptionally, the threshold values may be adapted.

Methodological revision :
In order to ensure that data can be compared over time, revision of the calculation methods and definitions occurs less frequently (approximately every 20 to 30 years).

Legal bases

Federal Statistics Act (FStatA) of 9 October 1992
Multi-annual programme of the Federal Statistics

Organization

Federal Statistical Office
Environment, Sustainable Development, Territory Section
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