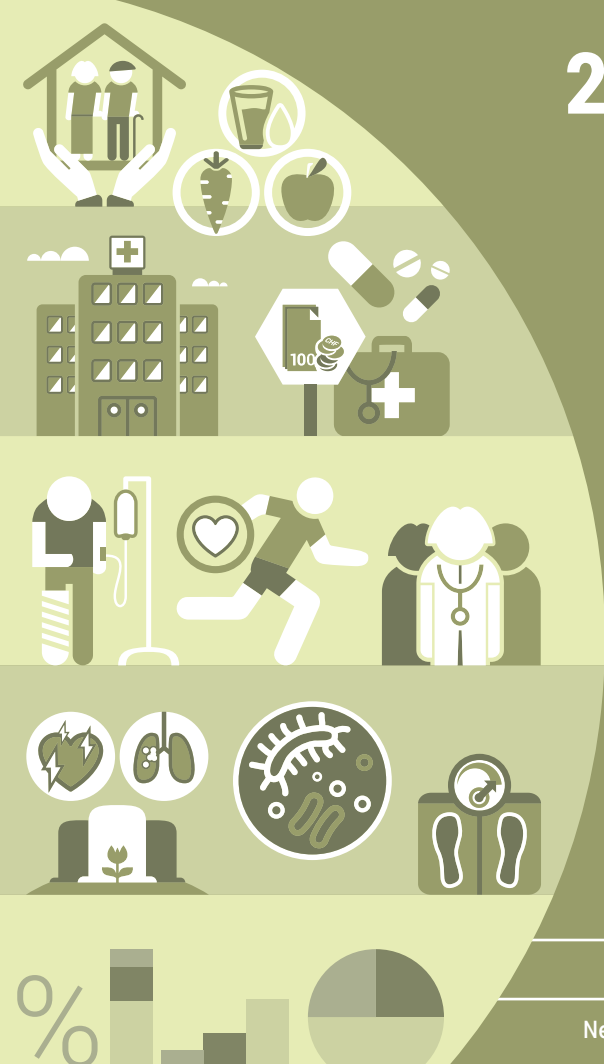


2025



14

Health

Neuchâtel 2025

Healthcare

Pocket Statistics 2025



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1 Population's health

1.1 General health and disability

	Men	Women
Life expectancy at birth in years (2023)	82.2	85.8
Healthy life expectancy at birth in years (2022)	70.7	71.1
(Very) good self-perceived health ¹ (2022)	85.7%	84.0%
Long-standing health problem ¹ (2022)	33.7%	38.2%
Functional limitations (2022)		
Eyesight: considerable or full impairment ¹	1.7%	2.4%
Hearing: considerable or full impairment ¹	1.4%	1.1%
Locomotion: cannot walk or can only walk a few steps ¹	0.7%	1.0%
Speech: considerable or full impairment ¹	0.5%	0.4%
Persons with disabilities ² (2022)	731 000	1 001 000
of which severely limited	139 000	186 000

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

² population aged 16 or over living in a private household

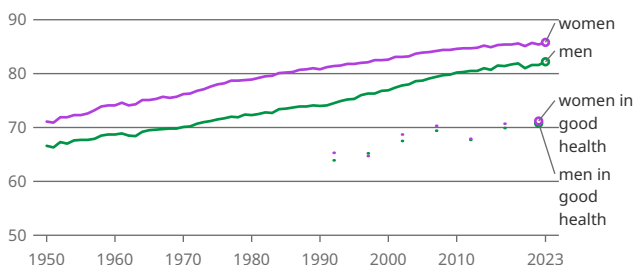
Source: FSO – SHS, BEVNAT, STATPOP, SILC

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Life expectancy in Switzerland is one of the highest in the world. Between 1990 and 2023, it increased by 8.2 years among men and by 5.0 years among women. Healthy life expectancy roughly stands at around age 71. In terms of this measure, the gap between men and women is small.

Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy at birth

In years



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.

Data as on: 05.06.2024

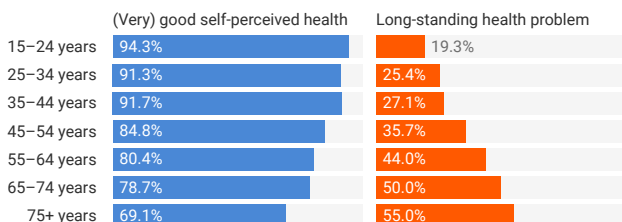
Source: FSO – BEVNAT, ESPOP, STATPOP and SHS

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Self-perceived health and long-standing problems, 2022

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

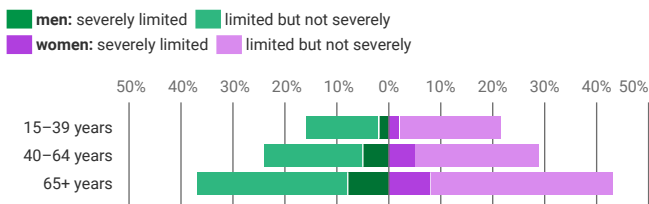
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86% of men and 84% of women assessed their state of health as good or very good. With age, these proportions decrease and the general health worsens. From the age of 65, half of the population suffers from long-standing health problems.

Limitations in activities people usually do, as well as functional limitations affecting eyesight, hearing and speech, increase with age. In 2022, 8% of persons aged 65 or over had been severely limited in their activities for at least six months. Approximately 1 732 000 persons, or 20% of the population, are considered to be disabled under the Disability Discrimination Act, of whom 325 000 are severely limited in activities people usually do.

Limitations in activities for at least six months, in 2022

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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1.2 Mental health

	Men	Women
Happy all or most of the time (2022)	84.4%	82.6%
Medium or high psychological distress ¹ (2022)	14.4%	21.1%
Moderate to serious depression ¹ (2022)	7.9%	11.7%
Treatment for psychological problems ¹ (2022)	6.0%	9.5%
Persons hospitalised for mental and behavioural disorders (2023)	37 022	41 026

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

Source: FSO – SHS, MS

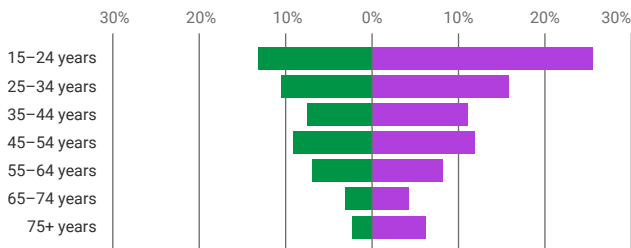
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The vast majority of the population say that they experience positive emotions far more often rather than negative emotions: 84% of the population say that they are happy, while only 3% say they feel down or depressed. 90% of the population also have sufficient social support to cope with life's difficulties. 18% of the population, however, show signs of medium (14%) or high psychological distress (4%). Depression is the most common mental disorder. 8% of men and 12% of women suffered from moderate to serious depression in 2022. Young people aged 15 to 24 are the most frequently affected.

Moderate to serious depression in 2022

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

■ men ■ women



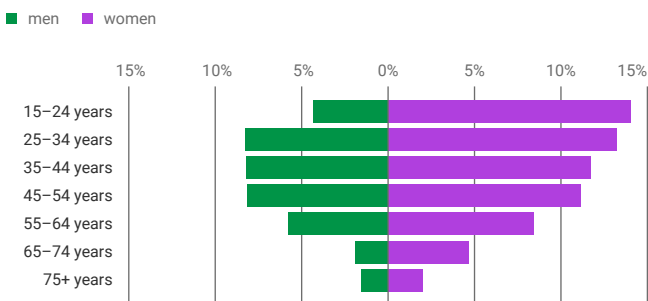
Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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In 2022, 8% 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 2022.

Treatment for psychological problems, in 2022

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



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

© FSO 2024

In 2023, 114 146 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 (29%) 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 22% of these hospitalisations; men are affected 2.1 times as often as women.

1.3 Cardiovascular disease and diabetes

	Men	Women
Persons hospitalised due to cardiovascular diseases (2023)	67 899	47 465
Number of deaths due to cardiovascular diseases (2023)	9 359	11 017
Acute myocardial infarction, number of cases (2023)	12 909	6 725
Stroke, number of cases (2023)	12 132	10 385
Hypertension ¹ (2022)	22.4%	16.8%
Excessively high levels of cholesterol ¹ (2022)	17.4%	12.2%
Diabetes ¹ (2022)	6.9%	4.0%

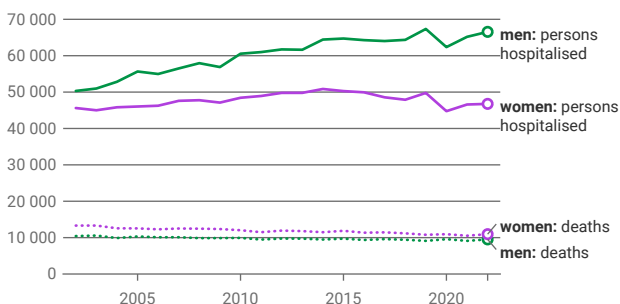
¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

Source: 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 20% 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 2023, 19 634 people (two thirds of whom were men) suffered an acute myocardial infarction and 2181 people died from this. The respective numbers for strokes are 22 517 (slightly over half of which are men) and 2580.

Deaths and persons hospitalised due to cardiovascular diseases



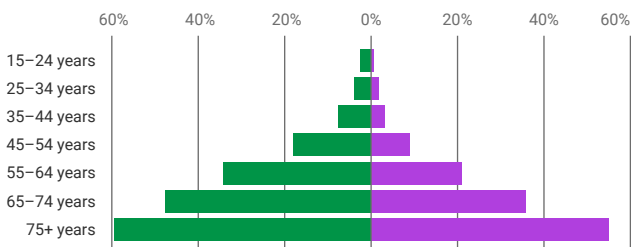
Source: FSO – Cause of Death Statistics (CoD) and Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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Persons with hypertension, 2022

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

■ men ■ women



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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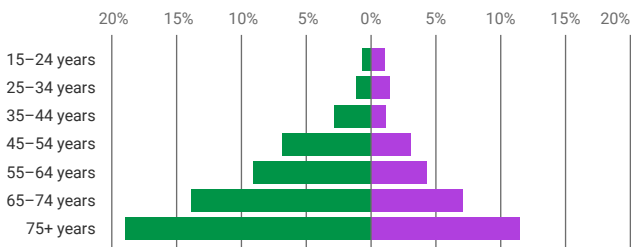
The share of persons suffering from hypertension was 20% in 2022. Men are more affected than women until the age of 75. From the age of 75 onwards, more than half the population has blood pressure that is too high. The share of people whose cholesterol level was too high was 15% in 2022.

In 2022, 6% of men and 4% had diabetes. People with a low level of education are almost three times as likely to suffer from diabetes as those with a high-level education (11% compared with 4%).

Persons with diabetes, 2022

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

■ men ■ women



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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1.4 Cancer

Annual average (for the period 2017–2021)	Men		Women	
	New cases	Deaths	New cases	Deaths
All cancers	25 618	9 376	21 063	7 756
Lung, bronchi, trachea	2 824	1 923	2 125	1 337
Breast			6 617	1 368
Prostate	7 827	1 356		
Colon-rectum	2 509	906	1 986	726
Melanoma	1 794	169	1 512	117
Cancer among children ¹ (all types)	135	13	115	13

¹ 0–14 years

Source: FSO, NCR, SCCR – National cancer statistic

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Nearly 47 000 new cases of cancer were diagnosed on average every year in the 2017–2021 period. More than one in five people will develop a cancer before the age of 70. Men are more affected by cancer and die from cancer more often than women do. For the period observed (1992–2021), the rate of new cases among men increased until 2006, after which it stabilised at a slightly lower level. Among women, the rate of new cases increased until 2016, and then remained stable up until the most recent period. Mortality is decreasing for both sexes.

Cancers (total)

Rate per 100 000 inhabitants, European standard



¹ new cases estimated on the basis of cancer registry data; excl. non-melanoma skin cancer

Data as on: 10.12.2024

Source: NACR – New cases; FSO – Deaths

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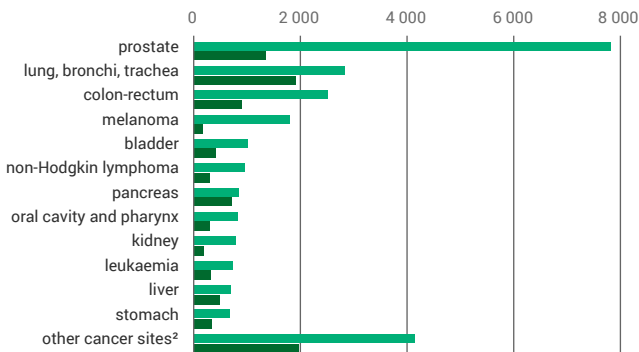
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New cases and deaths by cancer site, 2017–2021

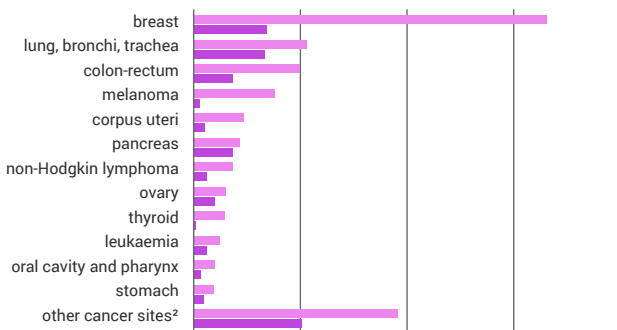
Average number per year

■ new cases¹ ■ deaths

Men



Women



¹ new cases estimated on the basis of cancer registry data

² new cases excl. non-melanoma skin cancer

Data as on: 28.06.2024, published: 10.12.2024

Source: NACR, FSO – CoD, FSO – NKS

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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 2017 and 2021, about 250 children aged 14 and under got cancer and about 27 died from this disease. Leukaemia (30%) and tumours of the central nervous system (24%) are the two most common types of cancer in children.

1.5 Infectious diseases

	2023
New diagnoses of HIV	349
New cases of tick-borne encephalitis	300
New cases of tuberculosis	418

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. Other cases of other sexually transmitted diseases are not decreasing.

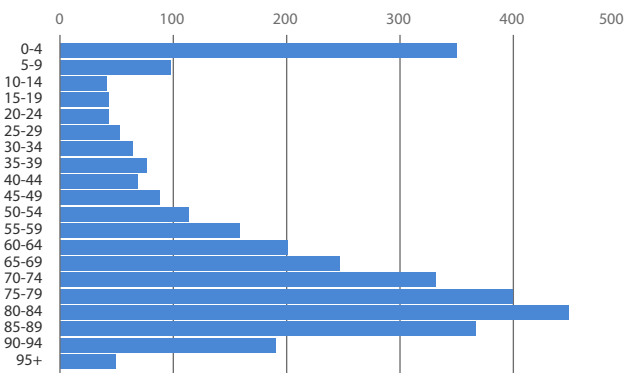
The main infectious diseases transmitted by ticks are Lyme disease (8000 to 15 000 cases per year) and meningoencephalitis (300 cases in 2023). The latter affects men about 1.5 times more often than women.

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 (3425 cases per year on average from 2019 to 2023). Winters with strong influenza epidemics are marked by excess mortality.

Hospitalisations due to influenza by age, 2019–2023

Annual average, main diagnosis



Data as on: 26.11.2024

Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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1.6 Diseases of the respiratory system

	2023
People hospitalised due to asthma	2 611
People hospitalised due to chronic obstructive respiratory disease	8 749
People hospitalised due to pneumonia	25 628
People hospitalised due to acute bronchitis or bronchiolitis	6 923

Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics

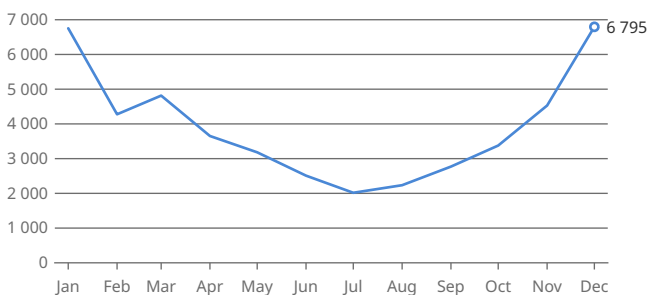
© FSO 2025

Diseases of the respiratory system can be chronic or acute. Among chronic diseases, 6% of the population suffered from asthma in 2022 and 2.5% from a chronic obstructive bronchial or pulmonary disease. Asthma is more common in people aged under 35. In contrast, people aged at least 75 are most affected by chronic obstructive disease. The latter are the cause of more hospitalisations than asthma and of a greater number of deaths (2161 compared with 88 in 2023).

Among acute diseases of the respiratory system, pneumonia is the cause of the greatest number of people hospitalised (25 628 in 2023) and deaths (1215 in 2023). Acute respiratory disease is extremely seasonal in nature, leading to increased take up of health care services during the winter months.

Hospitalisations with a main diagnosis of acute respiratory disease, in 2023

By hospital discharge date



Data as on: 26.11.2024

Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

gr-e-14.04.01.02.07

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1.7 Musculoskeletal disorders

	Men	Women
People with back or kidney problems (2022)	40.1%	50.0%
Persons with osteoarthritis or arthritis (2022)	11.8%	19.6%
Persons with osteoporosis ¹ (2022)	1.4%	9.7%
Persons hospitalised for musculoskeletal disorders (2023)	72 681	86 154
Hip replacement	13 348	16 329
Knee prosthesis	11 405	15 389

¹ from age 45

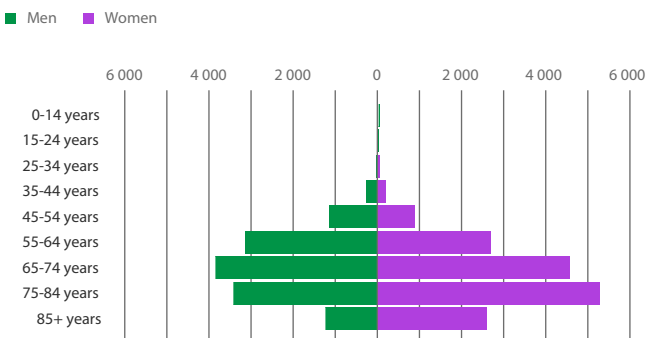
Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS), Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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Back pains or lower back pains are the most common physical problems: 45% of the population suffer from these. The proportion of the population affected by osteoarthritis or arthritis increases sharply with age, reaching 42% from the age of 75.

Musculoskeletal disorders are the most common cause for hospitalisation after traumatic injuries. Disorders of the limb joints (osteoarthritis, arthritis) and back problems are the reasons for 53% and 23% of these hospitalisations. The use of prostheses is sometimes necessary. In 2023, 29 677 persons were hospitalised for hip replacements. This is 42% more than in 2010. Knee prostheses are slightly less common (26 794).

Persons hospitalised for hip replacements, 2023



Data as on: 26.11.2024

Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

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1.8 Births and health of newborns

	2023
Live births	80 024
Average age at maternity	32.4
Rate of caesareans	33.5%
Premature births (< 37 completed weeks of pregnancy)	6.2%
Low birth weight births (< 2500 g)	5.9%
Stillbirths	4.2‰
Infant mortality (before the age of one)	3.3‰
Twins	3.0%

Source: FSO – BEVNAT, MS, CoD

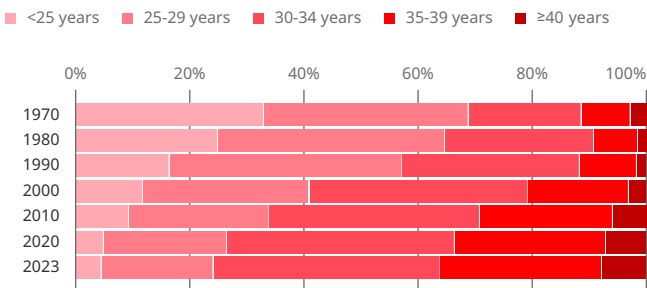
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The average age of mothers at maternity has continued to increase since the 1970s. In 2023, the share of women under the age of 30 who had given birth was less than 25% compared with 70% in 1970. 95% of births take place at the hospital and a third of deliveries are by caesarean. The rate of caesareans vary by up to 100% depending on the region.

265 infants and children under the age of one died in 2023. This corresponds to a rate of 3.3 deaths per thousand live births. 55% 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 334 stillbirths were registered.

3.0% of children were born as twins and 0.04% as triplets. 2370 children were born as a result of a treatment in 2022 using assisted reproduction technology by in-vitro fertilisation, i. e. 3.0% of live births.

Live births by age of mother



Data as on: 28.03.2024

Source: FSO – Vital Statistics (BEVNAT)

gr-e-14.03.08.03

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1.9 Causes of death

	Men	Women
Total deaths (2023)	35 109	36 713
Cardiovascular diseases	9 359	11 017
Cancer	9 438	7 629
COVID-19	744	613
Dementia	2 077	4 370
Accidents	1 573	1 459
Suicide (except assisted suicide)	721	274
Assisted suicide	693	1 036

Source: FSO – BEVNAT, CoD

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In 2023, 71 822 deaths were recorded, 4% more than in 2022. The most common causes of death were cardiovascular disease (28%) and cancer (24%). For the first time since 2020, COVID-19 (2%) was no longer among the five leading causes of death. The table shows the main causes of death which vary greatly by age group.

Leading causes of death by age group in 2023

Men	0–24 years	25–44 years	45–64 years	65–84 years	85+ years
Total (N)	378	754	4 345	16 695	12 937
Cardiovascular diseases	1,3%	10,5%	18,0%	23,4%	35,5%
Malignant tumours	5,6%	15,0%	34,6%	33,9%	16,6%
COVID-19	0,0%	0,1%	0,8%	2,1%	2,8%
Respiratory diseases	2,1%	1,2%	4,1%	7,4%	7,7%
Accidents and violent deaths	33,6%	45,0%	11,8%	4,7%	5,3%
Dementia	0,0%	0,0%	0,3%	4,8%	9,8%
Other	57,4%	28,2%	30,3%	23,8%	22,3%
Women	0–24 years	25–44 years	45–64 years	65–84 years	85+ years
Total (N)	239	415	2 515	13 016	20 528
Cardiovascular diseases	1,7%	6,3%	10,2%	21,4%	38,7%
Malignant tumours	10,0%	29,2%	50,3%	32,8%	9,5%
COVID-19	0,4%	0,5%	0,6%	1,7%	1,8%
Respiratory diseases	0,8%	2,9%	3,5%	7,8%	5,8%
Accidents and violent deaths	21,8%	30,4%	8,6%	3,8%	4,6%
Dementia	0,0%	0,2%	0,8%	8,1%	16,1%
Other	65,3%	30,6%	26,0%	24,4%	23,5%

Source: FSO – Cause of Death Statistics (CoD)

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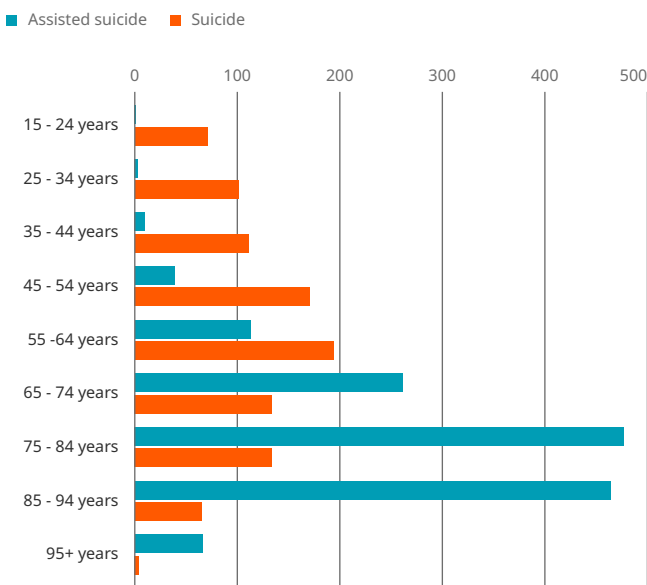
Interactive graphic:

www.bfs.admin.ch/asset/en/gr-e-14.03.04-2023

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 2019-2023

Mean number of cases per year



Data as on: 16.12.2024

Source: FSO – Cause of Death Statistics (CoD)

gr-e-14.03.04.10

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995 people committed suicide in 2023. The vast majority were men (72%) and almost half (47%) were under 55. In the same year, the number of assisted suicides was 1729. Women account for the majority (60%) and about nine out of ten (91%) persons seeking assisted suicide are over 64. Assisted suicide is mostly requested by persons suffering from serious and incurable diseases such as cancer (33%) or neurodegenerative diseases (11%). 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 2010–2019		
Compulsory education	17.1 years	22.4 years
Tertiary level (higher education institutes)	20.1 years	23.6 years
(Very) good self-perceived health by educational level ¹ (2022)		
Compulsory education	66.9%	68.0%
Tertiary level (higher education institutes)	90.6%	90.7%
Deprivation of really needed medical care for financial reasons ² (2022)	3.4%	3.0%

¹ population aged 25 or over in a private household

² population aged 16 or over in a private household

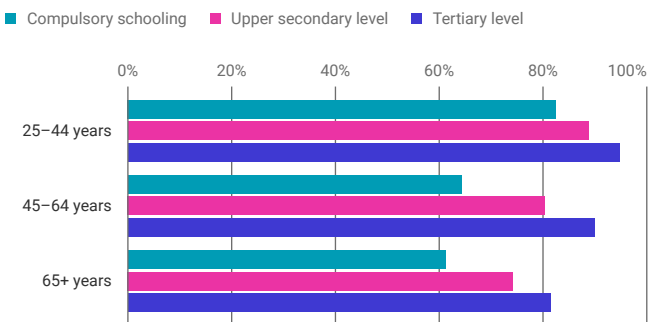
Source: FSO – SHS, SILC

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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 almost 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 7% among persons at-risk-of-poverty.

(Very) good self-perceived health according to educational level, 2022

Population aged 25 or over living in a private household



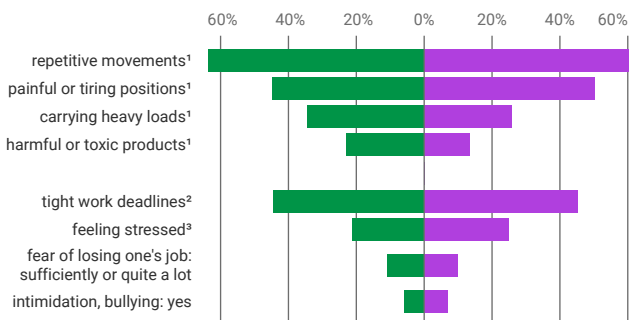
Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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Physical and psychosocial risks at work, 2022

Employed population aged 15 to 64 years

■ men ■ women



¹ at least one quarter of working time

² three quarters of working time or more

³ most of the time or always

Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

© FSO 2024

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: 45%; 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 2022, 6% of people in employment experienced bullying or intimidation at work. The frequency of psychosocial risks increased overall between 2012 and 2022. This is particularly true of stress. The proportion of people affected rose from 18% to 23%.

2.2 Health behaviour

2022 ¹	Men	Women
Pays attention to diet	65.6%	75.8%
5 portions of fruit and vegetables per day, at least 5 days per week	10.7%	20.4%
Not physically active enough	21.2%	26.6%
Overweight or obese	52.3%	33.8%
Smoker	27.1%	20.8%
Consumes alcohol daily	12.4%	4.9%

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

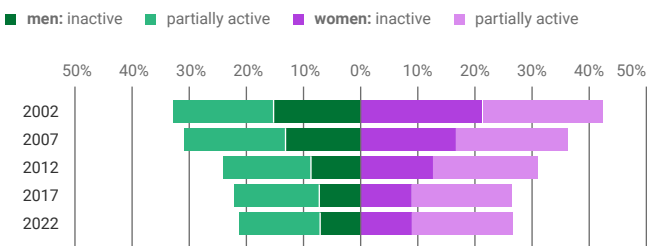
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76% of the population were sufficiently physically active in 2022. Persons with compulsory schooling are less often physically active than those with tertiary level education (60% compared with 80%). The share of inactive persons has fallen by more than 50% since 2002.

66% of men and 76% of women say that they pay attention to what they eat. 12% of the population were obese in 2022. 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 (22% compared with 10%); the difference is even greater among women (21% compared with 8%).

Insufficient physical activity

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

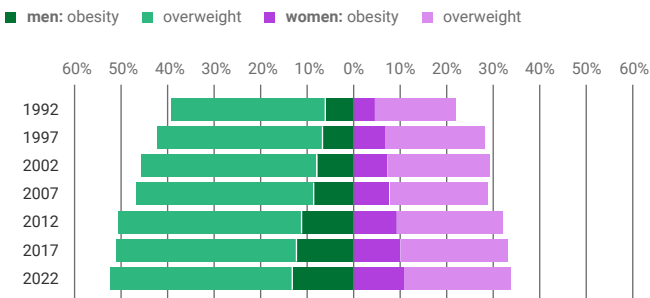


Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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Overweight and obesity

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household



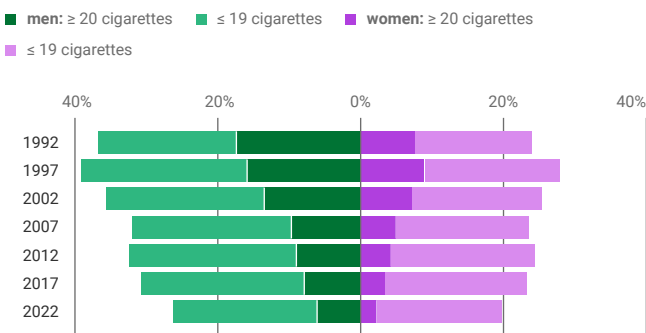
Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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Between 1992 and 2022, the percentage of smokers fell from 37% to 27% among men and from 24% to 21% among women. Smoking is most common among men aged between 25 and 54 (33%) and women between 15 and 44 (25%). 60% of smokers would like to quit.

Smokers by number of cigarettes per day

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household



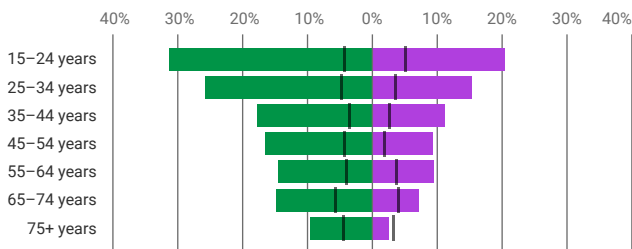
Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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Hazardous drinking, 2022

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household

■ **men:** binge drinking at least once a month
 ■ **women:** binge drinking at least once a month
 | chronic hazardous drinking



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 2024

Along with smoking, excessive alcohol consumption is one of the main causes of premature death and ill health. In 2022, 13% of men never drank alcohol and 12% drank every day. Among women, 21% are teetotal and 5% are daily drinkers. Chronic hazardous drinking (regularly drinking too much) was observed among 4% of the population and 15% got drunk (drinking too much on a single occasion) at least once a month. Young men aged 15 to 24 were the most likely to engage in binge drinking (31%).

3 Health system

3.1 Hospitals

	2023
Hospitals	275
Beds	37 926
Personnel (full-time equivalents)	185 775
Hospitalisation cases	1 506 380
Hospitalisation rate (for 1000 inhabitants)	112.9
Average length of stay in acute care (in days)	5.0
Average daily cost of acute care (CHF)	2 625

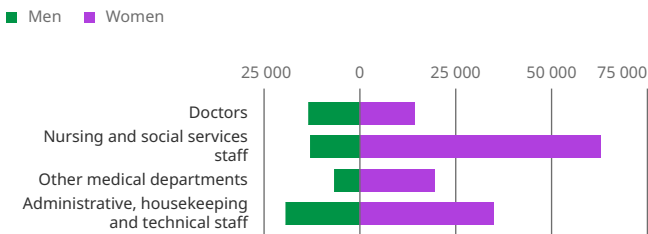
Source: FSO – KS, MS

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In 2023, there were 101 general hospitals and 174 special clinics (psychiatry, rehabilitation, etc.). These 275 institutions operate on 596 sites. Since 2010, the number of hospitals and clinics has fallen by 8%, while the number of beds has remained stable. In 2023, hospitals employed some 243 000 people in 185 775 full-time equivalent posts. This is 33% more than in 2010. 74% of jobs are held by women. Nursing and social services staff accounted for 42% of jobs, medical technical or therapeutic staff for 15% and doctors for 14%.

Hospital personnel, 2023

By function and sex, in full-time equivalents



Data as on: 26.11.2024

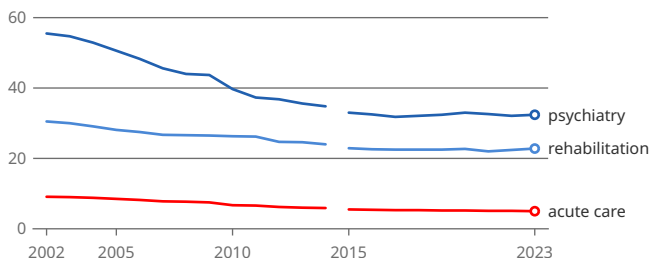
Source: FSO – Hospital Statistics (KS)

gr-e-14.04.01.03

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Average length of stay in hospitals

In days



Data as on: 26.11.2024

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

gr-e-14.04.01.02.09

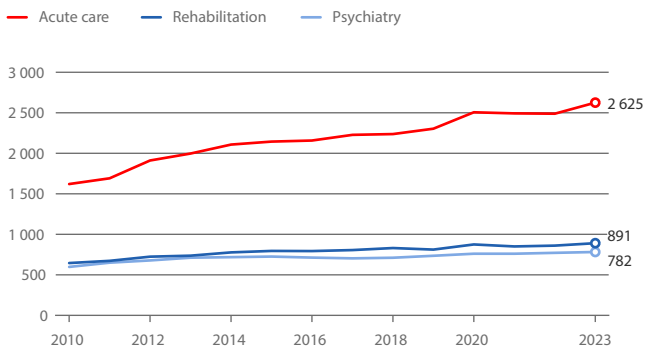
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In 2023, the average length of stay in acute care was 5.0 days. The average length of stay in psychiatric services was six times longer (32 days). The average length of stay decreased continuously until 2017, when the values stabilised.

The average cost of a day's hospitalisation in acute care was CHF 2625 on average in 2023. This represents a rise of 63% 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



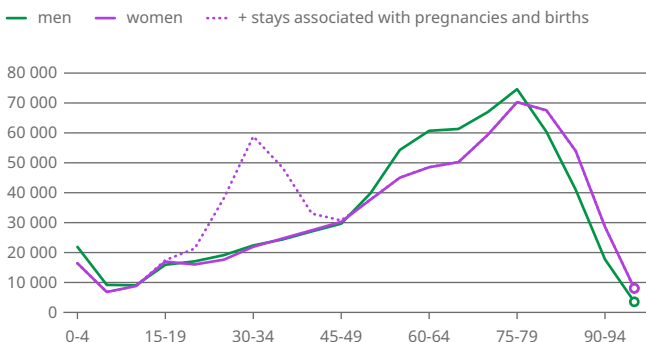
Data as on: 26.11.2024

Source: FSO – Hospital Statistics (KS)

gr-e-14.04.01.04

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Hospitalisation cases by age, 2023¹



¹ without newborns (N=80 800)

Data as on: 26.11.2024

Source: FSO – Hospital Medical Statistics (MS)

gr-e-14.04.01.02.01

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In 2023, the number of hospitalisations rose to 676 190 for men and 749 388 for women. There were also 41 504 male and 39 296 female births. 23.9 million outpatient consultations (treatments, examinations) were also recorded.

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

3.2 Nursing homes

	2023
Nursing homes	1 474
Personnel, full-time equivalents	103 355
Residents as at 31.12.	92 626
Men	28 782
Women	63 844
Accommodation rate in nursing homes among persons aged ≥ 80 years as at 31.12.	13.5%
Average length of stay (in days)	822
Average cost per day (CHF)	342

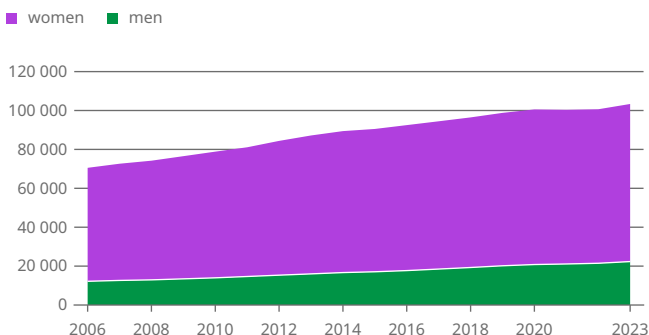
Source: FSO – Statistics on Medico-Social Institutions (SOMED)

© FSO 2025

In 2023, the 1485 nursing homes for older people employed more than 143 949 persons equating to 103 355 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs, i. e. 31% more than in 2010. Nursing staff and facilitators make up 66% of this figure. Nearly eight out of ten full-time equivalent jobs were held by women.

Nursing home personnel

In full-time equivalents



Data as on: 12.11.2024

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

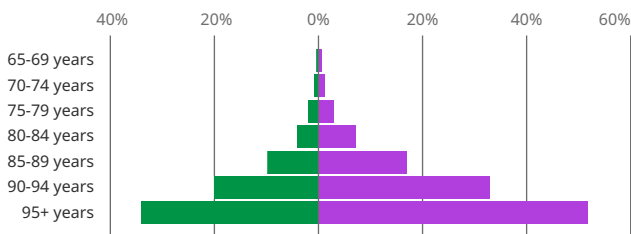
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Persons living in a nursing home, 2023

Rate by age group as at 31.12

■ men ■ women



Data as on: 12.11.2024

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

gr-e-14.03.09.01

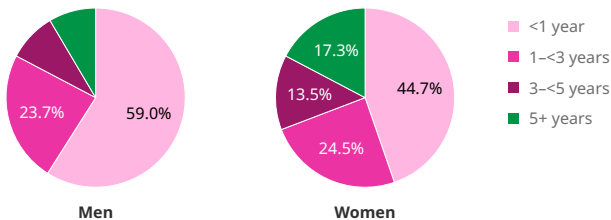
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13% of the population aged 80 and over reside in nursing homes. During 2023, 162 993 clients stayed – some for a short stay – in a nursing home, 20% more than in 2010. Women represent 66% of the clientele. Three quarters of the residents were aged 80 and over. There are almost 100 354 places in nursing homes.

50% 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 14%. The average length of a stay is two and a half years (822 days). The per-day cost was CHF 342 on average.

Length of stay in nursing homes, 2023

Persons discharged from nursing homes, 2023



Data as on: 12.11.2024

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

gr-e-14.04.02.03

© FSO 2024

3.3 Home care services

	2023
Number of enterprises	2 971
Personnel (full-time equivalents)	29 085
Clients	464 882
Men	197 274
Women	267 608
Recourse to home care services among the population $\geq$ 80 years	37%
Average cost per client (CHF)	7 199

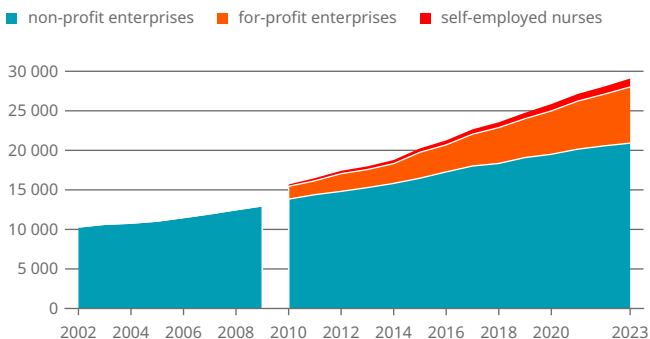
Source: FSO – Statistics on Home Care Services (SPITEX)

© FSO 2025

In 2023, the 2971 providers of home care services employed almost 63 700 persons, equivalent to 29 085 full-time jobs. 72% of full-time equivalent staff were employed by non-profit enterprises. Jobs in home care services have increased by 67% since 2012. 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



survey modified in 2010 to include for-profit enterprises and self-employed nurses

Data as on: 12.11.2024

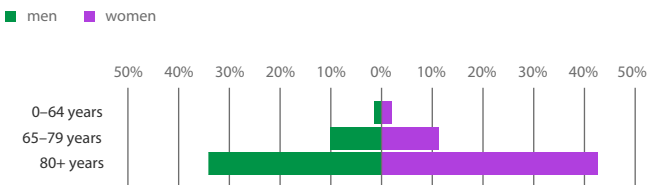
Source: FSO – Statistics on Home Care Services (SPITEX)

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Recourse to home care services, 2023

Percentage of the population by age group



Data as on: 12.11.2024

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

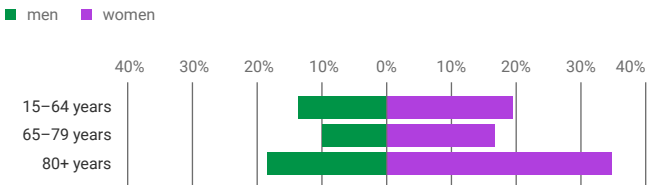
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In Switzerland, almost 465 000 people received assistance or home care services during 2023. This accounted for almost 5% of the total population, and 39% of those aged 80 and over. About 3 in 5 clients were women and 42% of the clients were 80 years 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, 2022

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



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) (2022)	19 313
Doctors in FTE in the outpatient sector per 100 000 inhabitants (2022)	219
Dental practices (2022)	4 053
Dental practices per 100 000 inhabitants (2022)	46

Source: FSO – MAS, STATENT

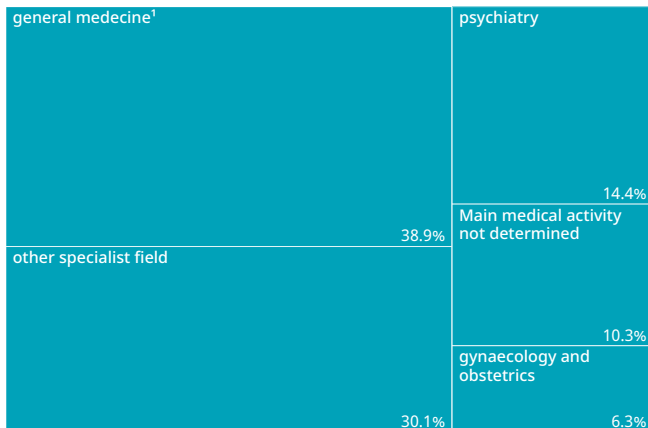
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In 2022, 26 221 doctors, corresponding to 19 313 FTEs, worked in medical practices or outpatient centres. Of these, 39% were general practitioners (specialist qualifications: general internal medicine and paediatrics; medical practitioner). The number of doctors in full time equivalents working in the outpatient sector per 100 000 inhabitants was 219 in 2022. The number of dental practices was 46 per 100 000 inhabitants in 2022.

Activities of physicians in medical practices, 2022

In full-time equivalents (FTEs)

Total 17 111 FTEs



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

Data as on: 18.10.2024

Source: FSO – MAS

gd-e-14.04.05.10

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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 (2022)

General practitioner	72.8%
Specialist doctor	46.0%
Dentist	55.9%
Pharmacist	42.0%

¹ population aged 15 or over living in a private household

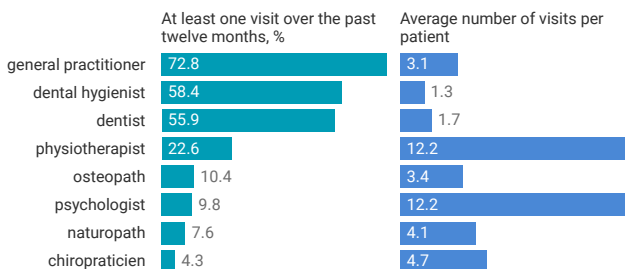
Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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83% of the population visit a doctor at least once a year (all medical areas), and 56% 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 3.1 for the doctor and even 12.2 for the physiotherapist.

Visits to a health care provider, 2022

Population aged 15 or over living in a private household



Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

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4 Costs and funding

	2022
Health expenditure (in CHF million)	91 482
Of which for	
Inpatient curative care	19 580
Outpatient curative care	19 248
Long-term care, help	18 360
Health goods	14 559
Health expenditure in relation to the gross domestic product (GDP)	11.7%

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

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Inpatient curative care accounts for 21.4% of healthcare expenditure, compared with 21.0% for outpatient curative care, including that provided in hospitals. Long-term care includes care for older people in nursing homes and home care. This care generates 20.1% of healthcare expenditure.

Costs of health care by service, 2022

CHF per month and per inhabitant

Inpatient curative care	186
Outpatient curative care	183
Rehabilitative care	21
Long-term care + help	174
Other services	94
Medical goods	138
Prevention	35
Administration	38
Total	869

Data as on: 31.03.2024

Source: FSO – Health care costs and financing (COU)

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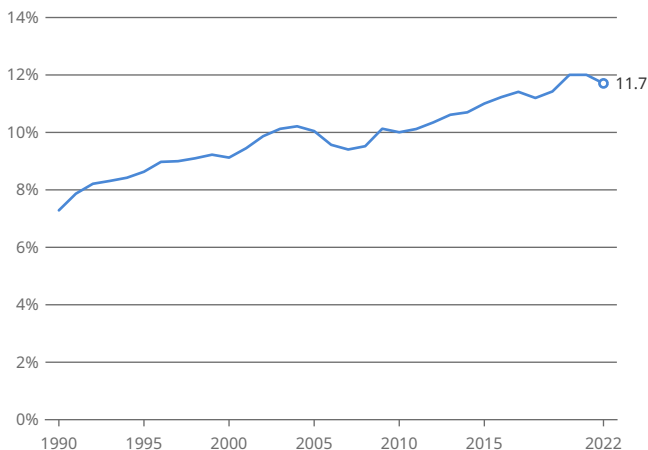


Interactive graphic:

www.bfs.admin.ch/asset/en/gr-e-14.05.03-2024

Costs of health care in relation to GDP

In % of GDP



Data as on: 31.03.2024

Source: FSO – Health care costs and financing (COU)

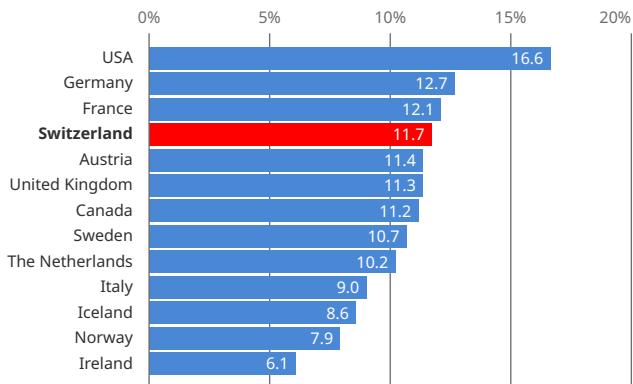
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The ratio between health expenditure and the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 3.1 percentage points since 1995, reaching 11.7% in 2022. This value places Switzerland in the top group of European countries with the highest expenditure-to-GDP ratio.

Costs of health care in OECD countries, 2022

As a percentage of gross domestic product



Data as on: 31.03.2024

Source: FSO – Health care costs and financing (COU); OECD – Health Statistics 2023

gr-e-14.05.02

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Financing of health care by source, 2022

CHF per month and per inhabitant

State:	payments for services	193
	payments for social security	91
Households:	compulsory health insurance (LAMal/KVG) premiums	264
	supplementary health insurance (LCA/VVG) premiums	68
	other financing	7
	cost sharing (LAMal/KVG and LCA/VVG) and out-of-pocket payments	187
Enterprises:	social security contributions	35
	private financing	12
Financing source unknown		26
Total		882

Data as on: 31.03.2024

Source: FSO – Health care costs and financing (COU)

© FSO 2024



Interactive graphic:

www.bfs.admin.ch/asset/en/gr-e-14.05.02.01-2024

In 2022, households financed 60% of health expenditure. Mandatory health insurance premiums from households covered 30% of health expenditure. The government's contribution to health expenditure is 32%. Almost seven out of every ten francs of this public funding corresponds to contributions for services, in particular those provided by hospitals, nursing homes and home help and care services. The rest is accounted for by social insurance subsidies in the form of reduced health insurance premiums or supplementary benefits and disability allowances under the OASI (AHV/AVS) and invalidity insurance (AI/IV) schemes.

Further information

www.health-stat.admin.ch

Online

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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