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Statistical base and overviews

025-1200

Statistical Data on Switzerland 2012



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Legend:

Three dots (...) instead of a figure means that the data has not (yet) been gathered or calculated.

A dash (–) instead of a figure is used for the value absolute zero.

A figure indicated with a superior "p" means that this figure is provisional.

Abbreviations for names of cantons:

These are explained in the table on page 4.

Rounded figures:

In general, figures are rounded up or down, which may cause the sum of rounded figures to differ from the end total.

Sources:

Statistical results are usually presented here without reference to sources. Such information is extensively presented in our portal "Statistics Switzerland"
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Contents

Foreword	3
Population	4
Territory and Environment	9
Employment and Income	11
National Economy	14
Prices	16
Industry and Services	17
Agriculture and Forestry	20
Energy	21
Construction and Housing	22
Tourism	23
Mobility and Transport	24
Switzerland and Europe	26
Banks, Insurance	28
Social Security	29
Health	32
Education and Science	34
Culture, Media and Information Society	37
Politics	39
Public Administration and Finance	41
Crime and Criminal Justice	43
Economic and Social Situation of the Population	45
Sustainable Development	49
Regional Disparities	50
Switzerland and its Cantons	51

Since 1997 the pocket statistics “Statistical Data on Switzerland” has complemented the full-size Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland. Information from the 21 different topics covered by federal statistics is presented in the form of tables, graphs and texts. The pocket statistics is a valued and useful reference work for decision makers in politics, business and the government administration, as well as for the general public.

The Statistical Data on Switzerland 2012 documents a milestone in the modernisation and future orientation of official statistics. For the first time it contains initial findings from the new population census. In 2011 the full census that took place every ten years was replaced by a system of four annual surveys, each focusing on a different subject: the register-based survey with data from the harmonised cantonal and communal population registers as well as the main federal registers, the structural survey of 200 000 persons as well as random sample surveys on recurring and current topics. I would like to thank everyone who took part in these surveys for their commitment. The new system makes it possible to provide data on the population, on households as well as on buildings and dwellings in a way that meets today's expectations.

The chapter on “Regional Disparities” has been revised for the 2012 edition and now presents some of the results from the “Urban Audit”, a European comparison of towns and urban agglomerations in the areas of unemployment, population and the number of museums.

We hope you will find it interesting.

Dr Jürg Marti

Director General
Federal Statistical Office (FSO)

Neuchâtel, January 2012

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Permanent resident population by canton, 2010

At year-end	Total in '000	Foreigners in %	Urban in %	Density km ²	Population growth 2000–2010 in %
Switzerland	7 870.1	22.4	73.7	197	9.2
Zurich (ZH)	1 373.1	24.1	95.1	827	13.0
Bern (BE)	979.8	13.4	62.6	168	3.7
Lucerne (LU)	377.6	16.7	50.9	264	8.4
Uri (UR)	35.4	9.7	0.0	34	0.2
Schwyz (SZ)	146.7	18.6	80.2	172	12.3
Obwalden (OW)	35.6	13.4	0.0	74	9.5
Nidwalden (NW)	41.0	11.4	87.7	170	7.7
Glarus (GL)	38.6	20.4	0.0	57	0.1
Zug (ZG)	113.1	23.7	96.1	546	12.9
Fribourg (FR)	278.5	18.3	55.8	175	17.6
Solothurn (SO)	255.3	19.8	77.3	323	4.4
Basel-Stadt (BS)	185.0	32.5	100.0	4 999	0.9
Basel-Landschaft (BL)	274.4	19.3	91.8	530	5.3
Schaffhausen (SH)	76.4	23.1	75.8	256	4.1
Appenzell A. Rh. (AR)	53.0	14.2	52.9	218	–1.1
Appenzell I. Rh. (AI)	15.7	10.0	0.0	91	4.2
St. Gallen (SG)	478.9	21.8	66.9	245	6.3
Graubünden (GR)	192.6	16.7	49.8	27	3.2
Aargau (AG)	611.5	21.9	65.8	438	11.8
Thurgau (TG)	248.4	21.5	49.8	288	9.0
Ticino (TI)	333.8	26.0	87.8	122	9.6
Vaud (VD)	713.3	31.0	74.7	253	14.8
Valais (VS)	312.7	21.0	56.8	60	13.0
Neuchâtel (NE)	172.1	23.0	74.6	240	3.7
Geneva (GE)	457.7	39.1	99.2	1 862	12.2
Jura (JU)	70.0	12.5	30.5	84	2.0

Permanent resident population in the largest cities, 2010

	City		Urban agglomeration	
	in '000	Population growth 2000–2010 in %	in '000	Population growth 2000–2010 in %
Total	1 077.1	7.3	3 042.2	10.5
Zurich	372.9	10.0	1 188.6	13.2
Geneva	187.5	7.0	526.4	13.2
Basel	163.2	0.9	497.7	4.6
Bern	124.4	1.1	353.3	3.7
Lausanne	127.8	10.5	336.4	12.8
Winterthur	101.3	13.7	139.9	14.6

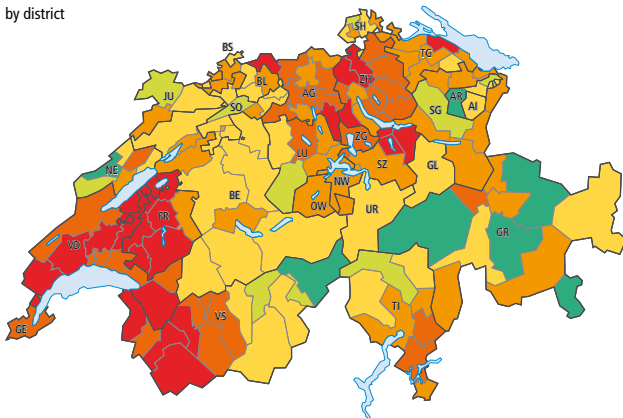
The population is mostly urban

74% of the population now (2010) live in urban areas; in 1930 the urban population was only 36%. About half of the urban population lives in the agglomerations of the five major cities of Zurich, Basel, Geneva, Bern and Lausanne.

Since 2000, population growth has been higher in urban areas than in rural areas (2010: +1.1% compared with +0.9%).

Population growth, 2000–2010

by district



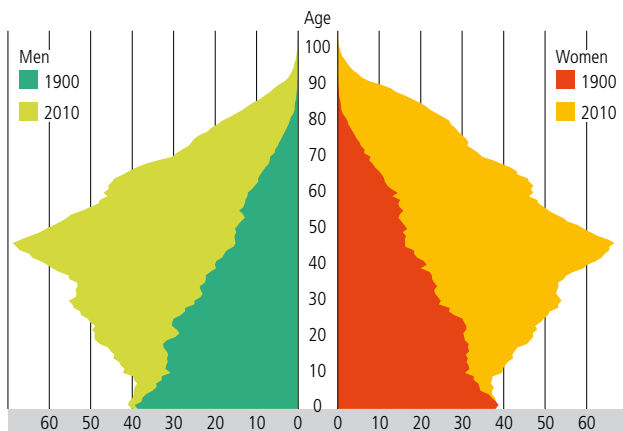
Changes of the permanent resident population, in %

CH: +9.2 %



Age structure of the population

Number of persons in '000



Ageing society

During the course of the 20th century, the proportion of elderly people increased, while that of young people (under 20) and people of working age (aged 20–64) declined. As a result of this process, the shape of the “age pyramid” (1900) has been transformed into one of a “fir tree” (2010) in which the baby boom generation (born between 1959 and 1971) predominates. The ageing of the population will continue. The proportion of persons aged 65 and over is expected to rise from 17% (2010) to 28% in 2060. Switzerland’s population growth in recent years is mainly attributable to net immigration and to a lesser extent to an excess of births over deaths.

Children born alive, 2010

Total	80 290
Boys for every 100 girls	104.9
Proportion of children out of wedlock	18.6
Children per woman ¹	1.5

1 Average number of children that would be born to a woman over her lifetime given the age-specific fertility rates in the year of observation

Deaths, 2010

Total	62 649
Age at death	
0–19	515
20–39	880
40–64	8 139
65–79	15 881
≥80	37 234

International migration, 2010

Immigrants	161 778
of which foreigners	139 495
Emigrants	96 839
of which foreigners	70 528
Net migration	64 939
Swiss	–4 028
Foreigners	68 967

Internal migration² 2010

Total movements	444 813
------------------------	----------------

2 Movement between communes, excl. movements within a given commune

Marriages, 2010

Total	43 257
Swiss/Swiss	22 058
Swiss/Foreign	8 328
Foreign/Swiss	7 000
Foreign/Foreign	5 871
Average age at marriage	
Single men	31.6
Single women	29.4

Divorces, 2010

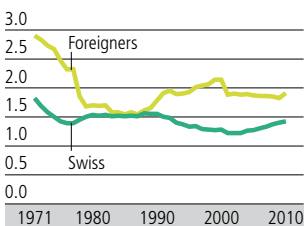
Total	22 081
with minors involved in %	43.5
Duration of marriage	
0–4 years	2 454
5–9 years	6 117
10–14 years	4 087
15 or more years	9 423
Total divorce rate ³	54.4

3 Proportion of marriages, ending in divorce sooner or later, based on the divorce rates of the year of observation

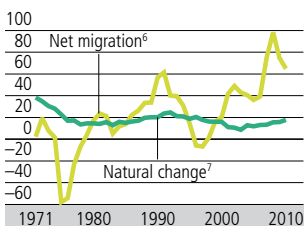
Multiple births⁴, 2010

Total	1 478
of which twin births	1 456

4 Number of deliveries; children born alive and stillborn children

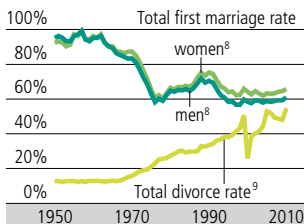
Total fertility rate⁵

5 Number of children per women, see note 1

Net migration and natural change
in '000

6 Incl. change of status: change from residence permit valid for less than 12 months to residence permit valid 12 months or longer

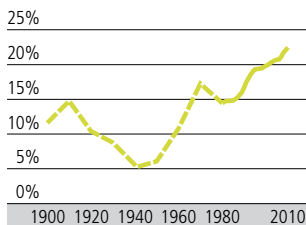
7 Live births minus deaths

Marriages and divorces

8 Probability of first marriage for a person under the age of 50 based on the age-specific first marriage rates of the year of observation

9 See note 3

Share of foreign permanent resident population

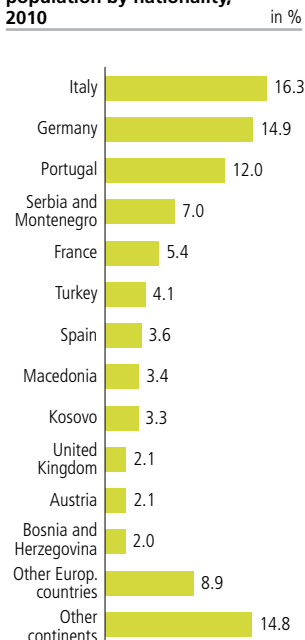


Foreign resident population by type of permit. 2010

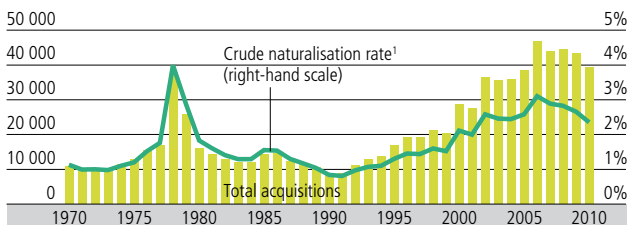
	in '000
Total¹	1 837.1
Resident – B permit	577.8
Permanent resident – C permit	1 112.3
Temporary resident (≥ 12 months) – L permit	18.6
International officials and diplomats	28.2
Temporary resident (< 12 months) – L permit	58.3
Asylum seekers – N permit	13.3
Provisionally accepted – F permit	22.8

¹ Includes adjustment

Foreign permanent resident population by nationality, 2010



Acquisition of Swiss citizenship



¹ Number of citizenship acquisitions as a percentage of the foreign permanent resident population

Foreign population: more than half were born in Switzerland or have been residents for more than 15 years

Foreigners account for 22% of the permanent resident population. More than half of the residents without a Swiss passport (51%) have been living in Switzerland for more than 15 years or were born here. In 2010, 39 300 persons (2.3% of the foreign resident population) obtained Swiss citizenship. The foreign population is young: for every 100 foreigners of working age (aged 20–64) there are only 11 aged 65 and over (compared with 33 among the Swiss). 26% of children born in Switzerland in 2010 had foreign citizenship. In 2010, the number of immigrations increased by 0.9% compared with the previous year. Of these immigrants, 66% came from the EU/EFTA area.

Changing living patterns

Increasingly fewer people live in a family household with children. In 1970, it was 65%; today (2010) it is 47%. More and more people live alone (1970: 7%; 2010: 17%) or as couples without children (1970: 18%; 2010: 27%).

The decision to get married and start a family is being made increasingly late in life: The age at first marriage for women rose from 24 (1970) to 29 (2010) and for men from 26 to 31 years; the average age of mothers at first birth rose from 25 to 30 years.

Today the traditional middle-class family model of "father as sole breadwinner and mother at home" has become the exception: two-thirds of mothers living in a couple and whose youngest child is under 7 (69%) are in employment, but most often part-time, because in most families it is still the case that fathers tend to do more paid work (generally full-time) and mothers are mainly responsible for domestic and family work (cf. p. 48).

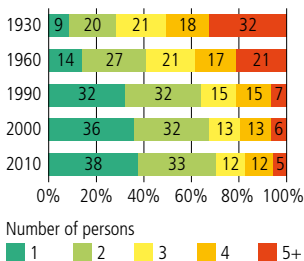
A growing number of children live with only one parent. This proportion is particularly high among 15–19-year-olds (2009: 17%; 1980: 11%).

Languages, 2000 ¹	in %
German	63.7
French	20.4
Italian	6.5
Serbo-Croatian	1.5
Albanian	1.3
Portuguese	1.2
Spanish	1.1
English	1.0
Turkish	0.6
Romansh	0.5
Other Slavic languages	0.3
Other languages	1.9

¹ Population by main language group

Size of households

Private households only

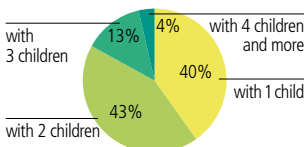


Private households, 2010 in '000

Total	3 436.0
Single-person households	1 289.7
Family households	2 105.3
Childless couples	989.2
Couples with children	897.8
Lone parents with children	184.2
Lone persons with parents	34.2
Non-family households	40.9

Family households with children, 2000

Single children under 18



Religious affiliation, 2000 in %

Protestant ¹	35.3
Roman Catholic	41.8
Christian Catholic	0.2
Orthodox Christian	1.8
Other Christian	0.2
Jewish	0.2
Islamic	4.3
Other churches and religions	0.8
No affiliation	11.1
Unknown	4.3

¹ Incl. neo-apostolic churches and Jehovah's Witnesses

Climate data, 2010

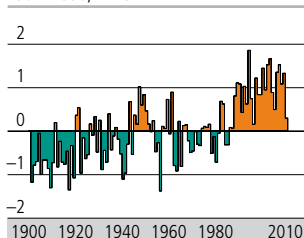
Weather station	Average temperature		Annual rainfall		Annual sunshine	
	°C	Dev. ¹ in °C	mm	Index ²	hours	Index ²
Lugano (273 m. above sea level)	12.1	0.5	1 854	120	1 949	96
Basel-Binningen (316)	9.9	0.3	835	107	1 480	93
Geneva-Cointrin (420)	10.1	0.5	812	85	1 777	105
Neuchâtel (485)	9.8	0.5	713	76	1 679	108
Sion (482)	10.1	0.9	480	80	2 057	103
Zurich / Fluntern (556)	8.8	0.3	1 002	92	1 477	100
Bern-Zollikofen (553)	8.6	0.7	915	89	1 659	101
St. Gallen (776)	7.6	0.2	1 513	121	1 443	109
Davos (1594)	2.7	-0.1	1 003	100	1 617	96

¹ Deviation from long-term mean value (1961–1990)

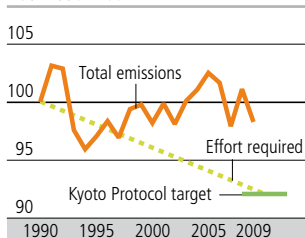
² 100 = long-term mean value (1961–1990)

Temperature fluctuations

Deviations from long-term mean value
1961–1990, in °C

**Greenhouse gas emissions**

Index 1990=100

**Climate Change**

Since the middle of the 20th century, global warming of the atmosphere that cannot be explained by natural influences alone has been observed. The greenhouse effect plays a central role in this change. This phenomenon, which is natural in itself, is amplified by human activity, particularly through the burning of fossil fuels and the resulting emission of the greenhouse gas carbon-dioxide (CO₂). The main sources of these emissions are transport (especially road transport), households (building heating systems and hot water) and industry.

Land use

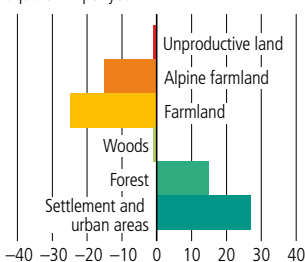
Period of survey 1992–1997

	km ²	%
Total surface area	41 285	100
Forest, woods	12 716	30.8
Farmland	9 873	23.9
Alpine farmland	5 378	13.0
Settlement and urban areas	2 791	6.8
Lakes and watercourses	1 740	4.2
Unprod. land	8 787	21.3

Annual change in land use

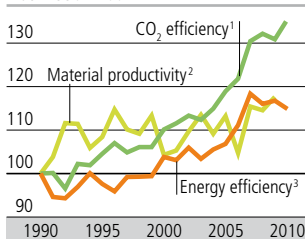
Changes 1979/85–1992/97

Square km per year



Eco-efficiency

Index 1990 = 100

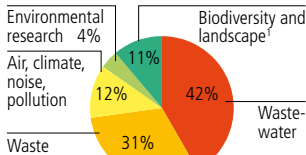
1 GDP / CO₂ emissions

2 GDP / Total material requirement

3 GDP / Final energy consumption

Public expenditure for environmental protection, 2009

Total: CHF 4.0 billion



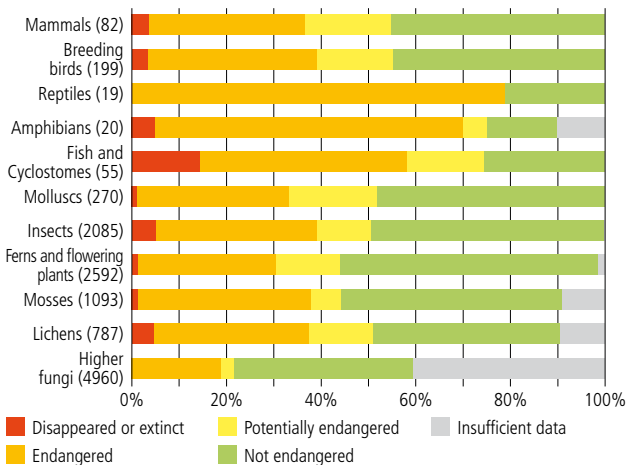
1 Incl. direct payments to the agricultural industry for environmental performance

Eco-efficiency

An increase in eco-efficiency is achieved when the economic value produced increases in relation to environmental pollution, such as the amount of CO₂ emissions, energy consumption or the global material requirement. An increase in domestic eco-efficiency can have several explanations: on the one hand the use of technologies that are environmentally friendlier; on the other hand structural changes, such as the growing importance of the services sector or the relocation of environmentally harmful production processes abroad.

Biodiversity – Threatened native species

Status 1994 – 2010, by species groups

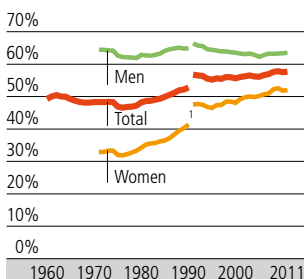
**Biodiversity**

The variety of types of landscape found in Switzerland provides a multitude of different habitats for flora and fauna, thus creating favourable conditions for a rich biodiversity. Human activity puts strain on the variety of species, however. While landscape modification can certainly create habitats for new species as well, the standardisation and intensive use of the landscape is leading to a decline in populations and to the loss of some species.

► www.statistics.admin.ch → Topics → Territory and Environment

Labour force

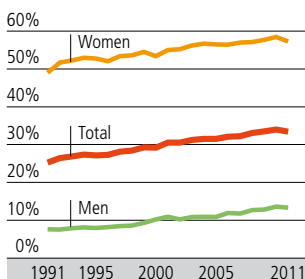
as % of the permanent resident population



1 New calculation method from 1991 onwards

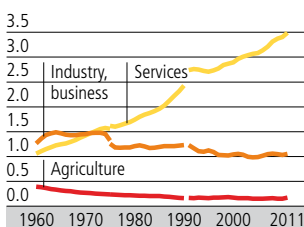
People in part-time employment

as % of the employed persons



People employed¹ by economic sector

in millions



1 New calculation method from 1975 resp. 1991 onwards

Employed persons according to employment status¹

2nd Qtr, permanent resident population, in '000

	2010	2011
Total	4 282	4 368
Self-employed	571	591
Family workers	85	88
Employee	3 398	3 455
Apprentice	228	234

1 Sociological definition

Persons in employment by type of authorisation and gender

in '000

	1991	1995	2000	2009	2010	2011
Total	4 135	3 993	4 107	4 572	4 594	4 719
Swiss	3 084	3 001	3 138	3 330	3 339	3 402
Foreigners	1 051	992	969	1 242	1 255	1 317
Permanent residents	551	564	588	611	626	636
Temporary residents	177	202	181	346	341	368
Seasonal workers ¹	85	43	25	–	–	–
Cross-border workers	183	148	140	219	228	245
Temporary visitors	21	19	20	47	43	46
Other foreigners	34	17	15	19	17	22
Men	2 425	2 306	2 319	2 499	2 530	2 596
Women	1 710	1 687	1 788	2 073	2 064	2 123

1 As of 1.6.2002 seasonal work permits are no longer issued

Large increase in number of employed women

Between 2006 and 2011 the number of women in employment (+10.3% to 2.121 million) grew more than that of men in employment (+8.6% to 2.587 million). Women are increasingly combining career and family life and mainly work part-time. In 2011, 57.4% of women worked part-time (2006: 56.5%). In contrast, only 13.5% of men work part-time, although this percentage has also increased slightly since 2006 (+1.5 percentage points). The tertiarisation of the economy has also contributed to the increased number of women in employment, as 86.4% of working women work in the tertiary sector in 2011 (men: 63.8%).

Foreign labour force

The foreign labour force is an important element of the Swiss labour market. The strong growth experienced in the second half of the 20th century would not have been possible without the input of foreign labour and the "guest worker". Since the sixties, their share has always exceeded 20%, and comprises 27.9% of the workforce (2011). Foreign workers are particularly present in the industrial sector (2011: 36.8%; services sector: 26.1%).

Two-thirds of employed persons of foreign nationality (2011: 68.4%) are EU or EFTA nationals. Roughly half of them come from either Germany (26.5%) or Italy (23.0%).

Of foreign workers who immigrated to Switzerland during the past ten years, more than four fifths (82.9%) have obtained educational qualifications at the secondary level II, or at tertiary level. In the case of earlier immigrants, this proportion reaches only 58.0%.

Unemployment¹

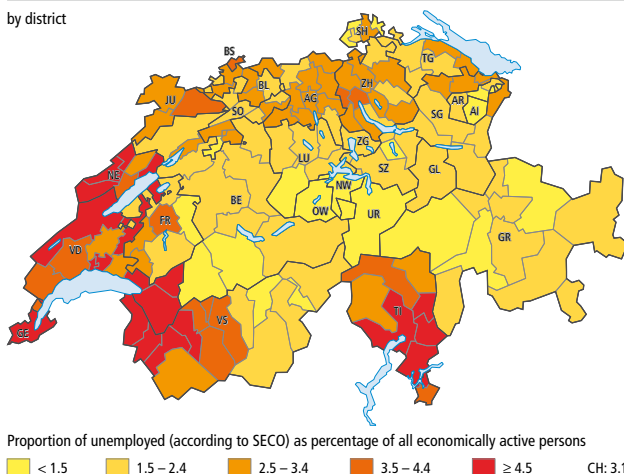
	1991	1995	2000	2010	2011
Unemployed	39 222	153 316	71 987	151 986	122 892
Proportion of whom are long term unemployed ² as %	4.4	28.7	20.1	21.4	20.1
Unemployment rate, %	1.1	4.2	1.8	3.9	3.1
Men	1.0	3.9	1.7	3.8	3.0
Women	1.2	4.8	2.0	3.9	3.3
Swiss	0.8	3.2	1.3	2.8	2.2
Foreigners	2.1	8.0	3.7	7.5	6.1
15 – 24 years	1.1	3.9	1.8	4.4	3.2

1 Unemployed based on SECO figures – Unemployment rate according to international definition: see page 26

2 Length of unemployment exceeds 12 months

Unemployment rate, 2011

by district



Wages level, 2010

gross monthly wage¹, median

	Level of qualifications ²				
	Total	a	b	c	d
Switzerland³	5 979	11 311	7 134	5 724	4 540
Lake Geneva region (VD, VS, GE)	6 083	11 917	7 429	6 067	4 727
Espace Mittelland (BE, FR, SO, NE, JU)	5 890	10 475	6 870	5 680	4 644
North-western Switzerland (BS, BL, AG)	6 220	11 963	7 268	5 850	4 591
Zürich (ZH)	6 349	12 819	7 749	5 805	4 481
Eastern Switzerland (GL, SH, AR, AI, SG, GR, TG)	5 568	9 523	6 500	5 389	4 418
Central Switzerland (LU, UR, SZ, OW, NW, ZG)	5 932	10 667	6 824	5 612	4 548
Ticino (TI)	5 076	8 690	5 907	5 274	3 948

Gross monthly wage¹, private and public sector, 2010

median, in Swiss francs

	Level of qualifications ²			
	Total	a + b	c	d
Communal public sector ⁴	7 202	8 263	6 865	5 424
Cantonal public sector	7 777	9 382	6 972	5 476
Confederation	7 249	9 667	6 582	5 897
Private sector, total	5 928	7 629	5 674	4 525
Private sector (companies with less than 5 employees)	5 082	5 746	4 831	3 987
Private sector (companies with 1000 employees and more)	6 546	9 960	6 154	4 529

1 Standardised monthly wage: full-time equivalent based on 40 1/3 hours a week and 4 weeks a month

2 Level of qualifications:

a = Extremely demanding and difficult tasks

b = Independent and skilled work

c = Work requiring professional/technical skills

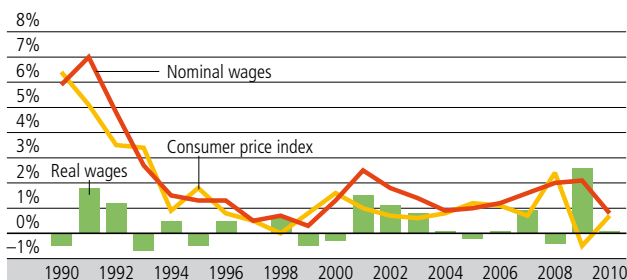
d = Simple and repetitive tasks

3 Private and public (Confederation) sectors combined

4 Figures 2008

Evolution of nominal wages, the consumer price index and real wages

Change compared with the previous year in %



Evolution of real wages

index 1939 = 100

	1980	1990	2000	2008	2009	2010
Total	254	272	279	290	298	298
Men	241	257	264	273	280	280
Women	279	302	311	326	335	336

Broad-based growth of the Swiss economy in 2010

After a gloomy 2009 for the Swiss economy in the wake of the financial crisis, economic activity in Switzerland, measured by gross domestic product (GDP), recorded a significant increase of 2.7%. The export sectors benefited from a much more favourable international economic climate. The machinery and equipment goods industry was also kept buoyant by the sharp rise in investments in Switzerland. The financial intermediaries, however, continued to suffer from the effects of the financial crisis, but regained modest growth.

On the demand side, all areas saw growth. After the slump of 2009, investments in goods equipment in particular once again showed a positive trend, which can be explained by the increase in orders and a promising outlook for Swiss industry. Furthermore, investments in construction continue to be favoured by the prevailing low mortgage rates. As far as foreign trade was concerned, the improvement in the economic situation of Switzerland's main trade partners resulted in growth both of exports and imports and once again in a trade surplus. Gross national income (GNI) grew by 6.9% in 2010 after growth of 9.1% in 2009. This trend is largely due to an improvement in the results posted by the subsidiaries of Swiss businesses abroad coupled with the fall in investment income paid abroad. Thus, in 2010 the balance of foreign income reached CHF 42.5 billion, surpassing for the first time the surplus registered before the financial crisis (CHF 37 billion in 2006).

Gross domestic product (GDP) and its components

Percentage change over previous year at prices of preceding year

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 ^P	2010 ^P
GDP	0.4	-0.2	2.5	2.6	3.6	3.6	2.1	-1.9	2.7
Final consumption expenditure	0.3	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.6
Gross capital formation	-0.6	-1.2	3.5	2.4	1.6	-0.4	-2.7	-3.2	1.5
Exports of goods and services	-0.1	-0.5	7.9	7.8	10.3	9.6	3.1	-8.6	8.4
Imports of goods and services	-1.1	1.3	7.3	6.6	6.5	6.1	0.3	-5.5	7.3

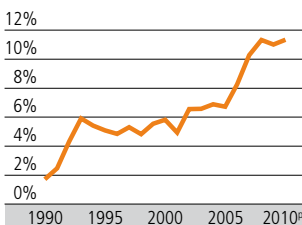
GDP in CHF billion, at current prices	434	438	451	464	491	521	545	536	551
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Balance of trade tending towards a surplus

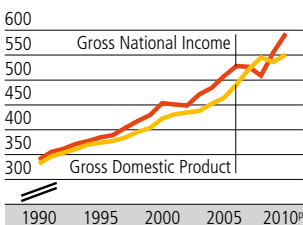
Foreign trade has been a driving force for the Swiss economy since 1997. In fact, the periods of strong growth have coincided with booming foreign trade. Exports are the component of gross domestic product (GDP) which made the largest contribution to growth during the lean years (1997 to 2000 and 2004 to 2007). One of the consequences of the dynamism of exports has been the increase in the trade balance share (balance between exports and imports) in GDP, showing the growing significance of the rest of the world to the Swiss economy. In 2009, however, Switzerland suffered the brunt of the slowdown in the global economy, resulting in a trade deficit and thus contributing significantly to the decline in GDP. In 2010 the trade balance once again showed a trade surplus (+1.3 percentage points), contributing positively to the GDP. The increasingly significant role of the rest of the world is also evident in the income earned abroad, which has also been an increasingly important factor in determining gross national income (GNI), which is generally more dynamic than GDP.

The years 2007 and 2008 stand out because GNI was, exceptionally, less dynamic due to losses posted by Swiss bank branches abroad.

Share of the external sector in GDP
at current prices

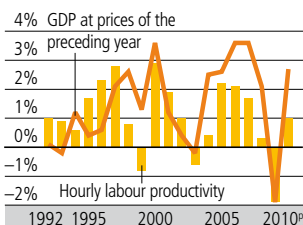


GDP and GNI at current prices
in CHF billion



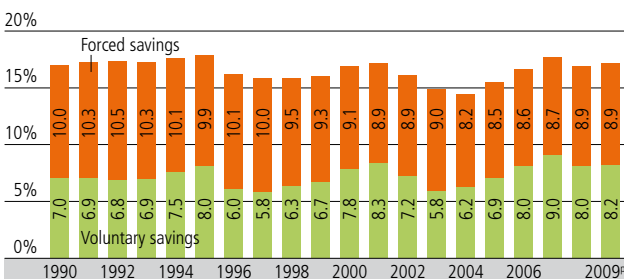
Once economic activity measured by GDP is known, one can investigate the efficiency with which productive resources (labour and capital) are utilised. Labour efficiency is measured by hourly labour productivity, i.e. the value added created per hour worked. The graph represents the development of hourly labour productivity and GDP. Generally speaking, we find similar tendencies for both trends. During an expansion phase (GDP growth), hourly labour productivity also tends to grow, while during an economic slow-down phase (stagnating or falling GDP), productivity declines.

Annual growth rate



Savings rate of households and NPISHs¹

Share of gross disposable income



¹ Non-profit institutions serving households

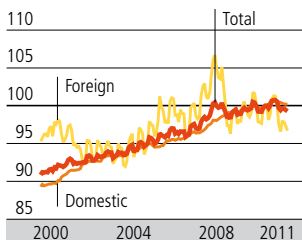
Changes in consumer price index

changes in yearly average in %

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	0.7	2.4	-0.5	0.7	0.2
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	0.5	3.1	-0.2	-1.1	-3.3
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	2.1	2.6	2.7	1.2	1.7
Clothing and footwear	0.3	4.0	2.4	1.1	1.4
Housing and energy	2.1	4.9	-1.1	2.4	2.4
Household furniture and furnishings and routine maintenance	0.3	0.8	0.8	-0.4	-1.3
Health	-0.2	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	-0.2
Transport	1.0	3.5	-3.3	2.4	1.1
Communications	-3.0	-2.9	-4.9	-1.4	0.1
Recreation and culture	-0.5	0.6	-0.6	-2.1	-3.3
Education	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.4
Restaurants and hotels	1.4	2.3	1.7	0.8	1.5
Other goods and services	0.1	0.8	0.5	1.3	0.2

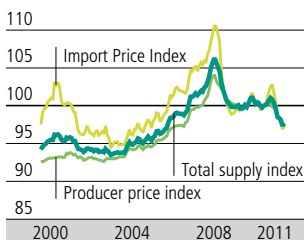
Consumer price index by origin

115 Index, December 2010 = 100



Producer and import price index

115 Index, December 2010 = 100



International comparison of price indices, 2010

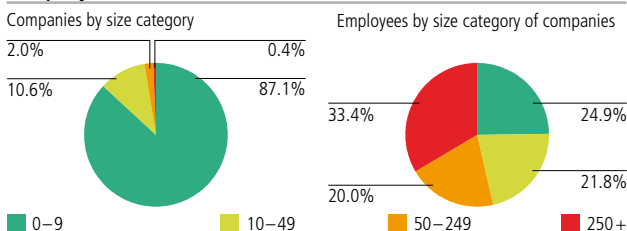
EU-27 = 100

	Switzerland	Germany	France	Italy
Gross domestic product	143	105	113	105
Actual individual consumption	151	104	111	105
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	149	110	109	106
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	112	99	109	104
Clothing and footwear	125	103	105	104
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	195	108	123	104
Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house	123	99	108	105
Health	148	105	112	119
Transport	115	106	105	94
Communication	107	83	121	103
Recreation and culture	133	104	106	106
Education	218	99	117	103
Restaurants and hotels	142	104	103	107
Miscellaneous goods and services	146	103	112	106
Actual collective consumption	165	115	131	119
Gross fixed investment	136	113	112	98
Machinery and equipment	117	100	100	104
Construction	164	127	121	96
Software	120	93	104	100

Continuing structural change and lasting dominance of SMEs

The share of total employment represented by the tertiary sector grew from 68.5% to 69.6% between 2001 and 2008 (only market-oriented companies). Overall, approximately 280 000 new jobs were created: 51 000 in the secondary and 229 000 in the tertiary sector (i.e. a growth of 5.0% and 10.4% respectively). The biggest growth was registered in «health and social services» (approx. +89 000 or +29.6%) and in «professional, scientific and technical services» (approx. +39 000 or +17.2%); individual branches of the economy experienced falls in employment levels: most markedly, the «paper and printing industry» (–9500 or –18.7%) and the «textile, apparel and leather industries» (–4800 or –20.8%). The dominance of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), i.e. companies with fewer than 250 employees, continued unabated. SMEs represented 99.6% of market-oriented companies and employed two-thirds of the working population in such companies (2008).

Company size¹, 2008



¹ Only market-oriented companies. The size of a company is determined by the number of full-time equivalents (part-time positions are added together to make full-time posts)

Market-oriented companies and employees by economic activity

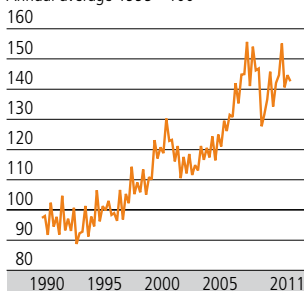
	2008	
	Companies	Employees
according to NOGA 2008, in '000		
Total	312.9	3 494.1
Sector 2	73.1	1 063.2
of which:		
Mining and quarrying	0.2	4.4
Manufacture of food and tobacco products	2.2	66.5
Manufacture of textiles and apparel	1.6	18.3
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	9.1	80.5
Manufacture of pharmaceutical products	0.2	35.2
Manufacture of metal products	7.5	109.3
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products; watches and clocks	2.2	115.6
Manufacture of electrical equipment	0.8	42.1
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	0.4	24.4
Construction of buildings and Civil engineering	5.3	103.3
Sector 3	239.8	2 430.8
of which:		
Wholesale trade	19.8	202.5
Retail trade	34.7	369.3
Accommodation	4.8	76.8
Food and beverage service activities	20.8	149.7
IT and other information services	11.2	70.5
Financial service activities	1.6	131.3
Architectural and engineering activities	18.1	93.7
Administrative and support service activities	11.2	140.0
Human health activities	16.7	263.5

New companies, 2009

Economic activity (NOGA 2008)	Total new companies	Created jobs	Created jobs (full-time)	Created Jobs (part-time)
Total	11 471	21 793	14 444	7 349
Sector 2	1 878	3 883	3 063	820
Industry and Energy	641	1 219	880	339
Construction	1 237	2 664	2 183	481
Sector 3	9 593	17 910	11 381	6 529
Trade and repair sector	2 115	3 806	2 394	1 412
Transport and warehousing	374	716	533	183
Accommodation, food and beverage service activities	272	1 002	574	428
Information and communication	959	1 652	1 187	465
Banking and insurance	700	1 423	1 012	411
Real estate activities and services	1 138	2 351	1 339	1 012
Professional and scientific activities	2 804	4 436	3 086	1 350
Education	213	383	195	188
Health and social services	405	1 020	439	581
Arts and recreation	233	499	217	282
Other service activities	380	622	405	217

Production in the secondary sector

Indexed change in the quarterly results
Annual average 1995 = 100



Overall production in the secondary sector (excluding the construction industry) grew by 48% between 1990 and 2010. The trend is highly cyclical. Thus, production dropped in the recessionary years 2002 and 2003 and picked up again during the good economic situation in 2004. But it plummeted again during the financial crisis at the end of 2008. However in 2010 the situation started to improve.

Retail sales

variation from the previous year in %

		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	Nominal	2.8	3.5	4.1	0.0	1.2
	Real	3.3	4.2	3.1	0.5	2.4
of which:						
Food, drink and tobacco products	Nominal	2.0	2.9	7.4	1.9	1.6
	Real	1.9	2.1	4.2	1.7	2.4
Clothing and footwear	Nominal	3.0	4.3	0.3	-1.4	1.3
	Real	1.0	4.1	-3.6	-4.0	0.2
Fuel	Nominal	8.6	4.5	9.4	-15.4	1.5
	Real	1.1	2.0	2.0	-2.2	-6.4
Total excluding fuel	Nominal	2.6	3.5	3.9	0.9	1.2
	Real	2.9	3.9	2.5	0.9	2.2

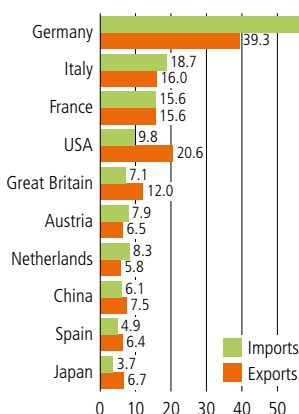
Labour costs

Labour costs include all costs incurred by the employer in employing the labour force. In general they represent the largest part of production costs. In Switzerland, they are composed as follows: 83.4% wages and salaries, 15.0% social security contributions on the part of the employer, and 1.6% vocational training and staff recruitment costs as well as other costs (2008, total sectors II and III).

Labour costs are a key indicator for making comparisons between business locations, varying widely from country to country. With average labour costs of € 35.1 per man-hour in industry and in large parts of the service sector (2008), Switzerland, together with Belgium (€33.7), Luxembourg (€ 33.6), France (€31.8), Denmark and Sweden (€34.7 and €33.3 respectively in 2007) belongs to the top group.

Foreign trade: our key partners, 2010

in CHF billion



Foreign trade represents a high proportion of gross domestic product (GDP) in Switzerland. Its most important trading partners are the industrialised countries which accounted in 2010 for 75% of Swiss exports and 85.8% of imports. The EU plays a particularly important role in this respect (58.6% of exports and 77.5% of imports).

Foreign trade: the key goods

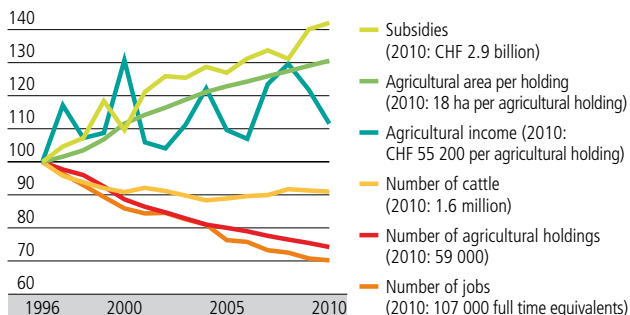
in CHF million

	Imports			Exports		
	1990	2009	2010	1990	2009	2010
Total	96 611	168 998	183 436	88 257	187 448	203 484
of which:						
Agricultural and forestry products	8 095	13 306	13 398	2 998	8 262	8 498
Textiles, clothing, footwear	8 806	9 042	8 956	4 984	3 688	3 386
Chemicals	10 625	34 964	37 787	18 422	71 771	75 909
Metals	9 025	12 323	14 379	7 537	10 489	12 739
Machinery, electronics	19 794	29 250	31 438	25 527	33 741	36 435
Vehicles	10 230	14 961	16 581	1 485	5 343	4 013
Instruments and watches	5 786	15 378	18 620	13 330	32 407	36 971

Agricultural land and forests account for 37% and 31%, respectively, of Switzerland's territory. The landscape is therefore in large measure shaped by agriculture and forestry. These two sectors are important not only for food production, construction materials and renewable energy, but also for maintaining decentralised economic activity and for protecting landscape diversity and biodiversity. In 2010, the combined contribution of these two sectors to the gross value added of Switzerland's economy amounted to 1.1%.

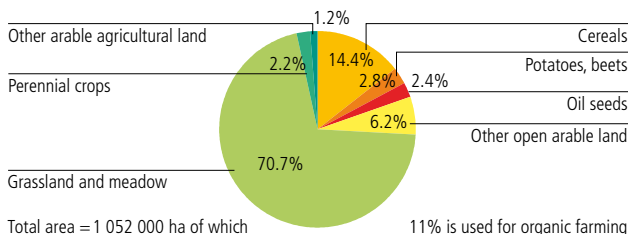
A few key indicators in agriculture

Index 1996=100



Agricultural area used, 2010

Excl. summer pastures

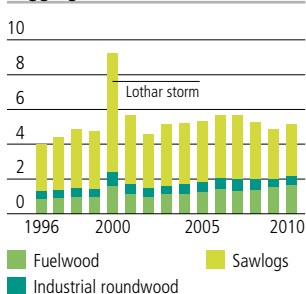


Output of agriculture¹, 2010 in %

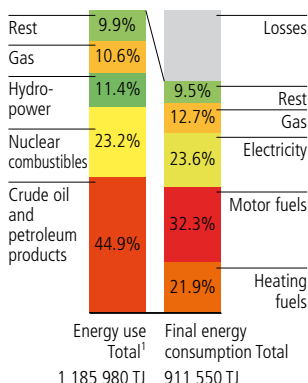
Crop output	43.8
Cereals	3.6
Forage plants	12.0
Vegetables and horticultural products	14.1
Fruits and grapes	5.1
Wine	4.4
Other crop outputs	4.6
Animal output	46.6
Cattle	11.9
Pigs	9.2
Milk	20.5
Other animals and animal products	5.0
Agricultural services output	6.4
Non-agricultural secondary activities	3.3

1 Total value = CHF 10.3 billion

Logging in million m³



Total energy use and final consumption, 2010

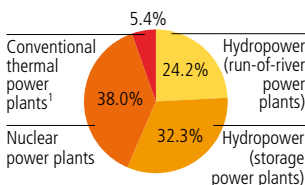


Increased consumption

Final energy consumption is closely linked to economic development and population growth. More residents, larger homes, greater production, rising consumption, heavier motor vehicles and so on, all lead to increased energy consumption in spite of improved energy efficiency. The largest energy consumption group is transport, accounting for around one-third of final energy consumption.

Over two thirds of final energy consumption are covered for by fossil fuels. 19.4% comes from renewable energy sources, hydro-power being the main source.

Electricity generation by power plant type, 2010



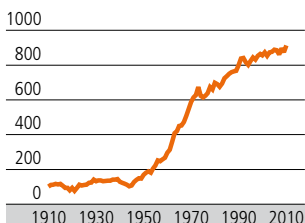
Total: 66.3 billion kWh

¹ Incl. district heating power stations and various renewable energies

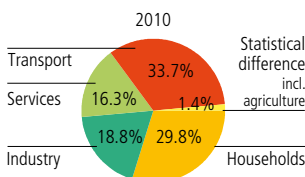
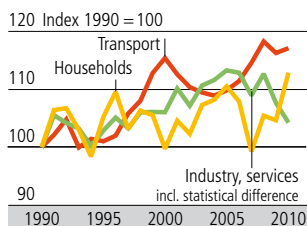
Renewable energy, 2010

Share of final consumption	in %
Hydropower	12.17
Solar power	0.23
Ambient heat	1.19
Biomass (wood and biogas)	4.34
Wind power	0.01
Renewable energy from waste	1.24
Energy from sewage treatment plants	0.20
Biogenic fuels	0.07

Final energy consumption in '000 TJ



Final energy consumption by consumer groups



► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Energie (in German)

► www.bfe.admin.ch (Federal Office of Energy) → Topics → Energy Statistics

Construction expenditure

in CHF million, prices of 2000

	1980	1990	2000	2009	2010
Total	34 198	47 588	43 708	47 379	49 232
Public expenditure	11 389	14 507	15 983	15 399	15 956
Civil engineering	6 791	7 740	10 060	9 617	9 648
of which roads	...	...	5 221	4 407	4 738
Building construction	4 599	6 767	5 923	5 783	6 308
Private expenditure	22 809	33 081	27 725	31 980	33 276
of which housing	...	...	17 147	21 494	22 991

Housing construction

	1980	1990	2000	2009	2010
New residential	20 806	16 162	16 962	14 166	14 736
of which single-family dwellings	16 963	11 200	13 768	9 149	9 387
New dwellings	40 876	39 984	32 214	39 733	43 632
with 1 room	2 122	2 010	528	584	725
2 rooms	4 598	5 248	1 779	3 591	3 913
3 rooms	7 094	8 937	4 630	8 859	10 608
4 rooms	11 557	12 487	10 783	14 045	15 438
5 rooms or more	15 505	11 302	14 494	12 654	12 948

Housing supply

	1980	1990	2000	2009	2010
as of year-end	2 702 656	3 140 353	3 574 988	4 008 351 ²	4 079 060
of which remained empty in %	0.74	0.55 ¹	1.26 ¹	0.92 ¹	0.94 ¹

¹ As of 1 June following year² As of 2009 the housing stock is calculated on the basis of the Buildings and Dwellings Statistic (BDS)**Trend towards larger apartments ...**

The number of apartments is growing faster than the population. Between 1990 and 2000, apartments increased by 8% and the population by 6%, bringing the average number of persons per inhabited apartment down from 2.4 to 2.3. At the same time, the average per capita living space increased from 39 m² to 44 m².

... and single-family houses

Single-family houses as a percentage of total building stock rose from 40% to 58% between 1970 and 2010. 64% of newly constructed buildings for housing purposes are single-family homes in 2010, despite the efforts of town and country planners to counter this trend and the fact that building land is becoming increasingly scarce.

High-rise buildings are the exception

Two thirds (66%) of all multi-family houses and residential buildings with ancillary use have less than four storeys. Only 6% of residential buildings under consideration in Switzerland can be described as large buildings, i.e. buildings that have more than five storeys as well as more than six apartments. These buildings are mainly found in urban areas (96%) and the majority (64%) of them are located in one of the five largest larger urban zones in Switzerland. If high-rise buildings are defined as multi-family buildings or residential buildings with ancillary use which have more than nine stories as well as more than nine apartments, the proportion of high-rise buildings is only 0.4% of residential buildings under consideration. Consequently, high-rise buildings are an exception in Switzerland. In rural areas there are virtually no high-rise buildings.

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Bau- und Wohnungswesen
(in German)

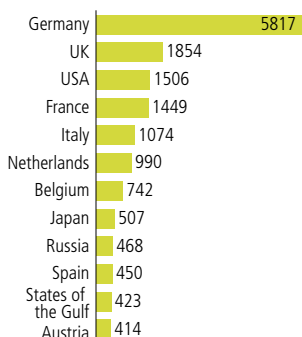
Main tourism indicators

	2000	2009	2010
Supply (beds)¹			
Hotels and health establishments	264 495	273 974	275 193
Demand: arrivals in '000			
Hotels and health establishments	13 894	15 564	16 203
Campsites ²	...	1 050	932
Youth hostels	...	476	471
Demand: overnight stays in '000			
Hotels and health establishments	35 020	35 589	36 208
Foreign guests in %	58	57	56
Campsites ²	...	3 654	3 281
Foreign guests in %	...	47	47
Youth hostels	804	946	939
Foreign guests in %	46	42	42
Duration of stay nights			
Hotels and health establishments	2.5	2.3	2.2
Campsites ²	...	3.5	3.5
Youth hostels	...	2.0	2.0
Gross occupancy rate: hotels and health establish.			
as percentage of beds surveyed ¹	36.2	35.6	36.0
Tourism balance of payment CHF millions			
Revenue from foreign visitors to Switzerland	11 223	15 377	15 607 ^p
Expenditure made by Swiss tourists abroad	9 167	11 847	11 625 ^p
Balance	2 057	3 530	3 982 ^p

1 Annual average number of beds surveyed in open and temporarily closed establishments

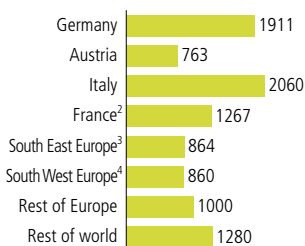
2 Calculation method revised in 2010; 2009 data recalculated

Overnight stays made by foreign visitors in Switzerland¹, 2010



1 in thousands, excl. supplementary accommodation

Foreign travel destinations of Swiss tourists¹, 2010



1 Permanent resident population, travel abroad with overnight stays, in thousands; Total: 10.0 million

2 including overseas departments, Monaco

3 Greece, Turkey, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Albania, Slovenia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia

4 Spain, Portugal, Andorra, Gibraltar

Travel behaviour

In 2010, 85.5% of people living in Switzerland undertook at least one private trip with overnight stays. To be more precise, each person undertook on average 2.6 trips with overnight stays and 10.7 day trips. More than half (57%) of all trips with overnight stays were long trips (minimum 4 overnight stays). Trips abroad represented 60% of trips with overnight stays and 9% of day trips.

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Tourismus (in German)

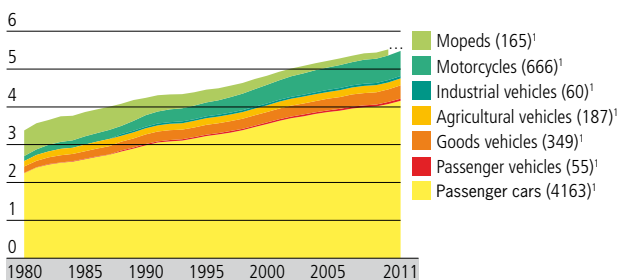
Infrastructure

Transport infrastructure covers a third of the settlement and urban areas in Switzerland (according to the Land use statistics from 1992/97).

In 2010 the length of national highways was 1790 km (of which motorways comprise 1406 km), cantonal roads 18 040 km and municipal roads 51 622 km (as at 1984). The railway network covers 5124 km.

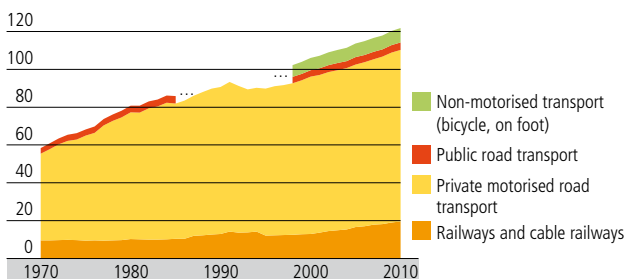
Pool of road motor vehicles

in millions



Passenger transport performance

in billion person km travelled p.a.



Daily mobility, 2005

average per person p.d.¹

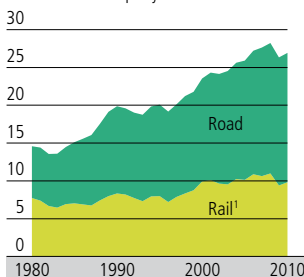
	Daily distance in km	Travel time in min. ²		Daily distance in km	Travel time in min. ²
Total	38.2	98.4	Means of transport		
Purpose of trip purpose			On foot	2.1	36.9
Work and education	10.6	22.3	Bicycle	0.8	4.3
Shopping	4.4	13.3	Moped	0.1	0.2
Services and escort	0.5	1.0	Motorcycle	0.6	1.3
Business	3.3	6.4	Car	25.5	38.4
Leisure	16.8	50.0	Bus/Tram	1.5	6.1
Other non-specified	2.5	5.4	Post bus	0.2	0.4
			Train	6.2	7.2
			Other	1.2	3.6

1 Daily mobility of permanent population aged 10 and over in Switzerland

2 Includes waiting time

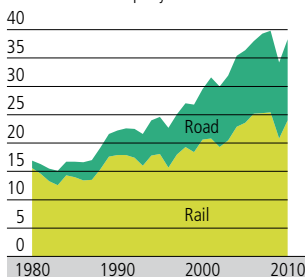
Goods transport

All transport, transport in billion tonne-kilometres per year

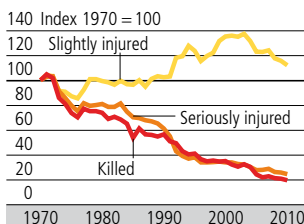


1 Net tonne-kilometres not including the weight of goods vehicles (incl. trailers) containers and swap bodies in multimodal transport

Transalpine goods traffic, transport in million net tonnes per year



Victims of road accidents



Road accidents by type of carrier, 2010

Road traffic	
Persons killed	327
Persons seriously injured	4 458
Persons slightly injured	19 779
Rail traffic	
Persons killed	20
Air traffic	
Persons killed in Switzerland	9

Transport costs

The economic cost of transport, that is the actual sums paid by causers, the state or third parties, as well as the non-monetary costs such as damage to the environment and noise, amounted to over CHF 82 billion in 2005. Mobility thus costs us more than, for instance, the health care service or the public education system. And road transport accounts for six times more of these costs than rail transport. In the case of personal road vehicles (private cars) the cost per person kilometre is CHF 0.54. The cost per person kilometre for rail in contrast, is CHF 0.40. In goods transport the costs per tonne kilometre for heavy road vehicles reaches CHF 0.57, whereas for transport by rail it is CHF 0.24. Around 7.9 of the CHF 82 billion relates to external costs, which are borne by persons other than the causers (i.e. non-internalised externalities – in particular, resulting costs incurred by damage to the environment and health, as well as damage to buildings and loss of value).











	Year ¹	Switzerland	Germany	Greece
Inhabitants (at the start of the year) in '000	2010	7 786	81 802	11 305
Inhabitants per km ²	2010	189	229	86
People under 20 in %	2010	21.0	18.8	19.4
People over 64 in %	2010	16.8	20.7	18.9
Live births per 1000 inhabitants	2009	10.1	8.3	10.5
Births outside of marriage in %	2010	19	33	7
Marriages per 1000 inhabitants	2010	5.5	4.7	5.1
Divorces per 1000 inhabitants	2010	2.8	2.3	1.2
Net international migration rate as percentage of the population	2009	1.0	0.1	0.3
Foreigners as percent. of the total population	2010	22.0	8.7	8.4
Persons per private household	2001	2.2	2.2	2.8
People aged 25 to 64 with tertiary education in %	2010	35	27	24
Expenditure on research and development in % of GDP	2010	3.0	2.8	...
Female life expectancy at birth (in years)	2010	84.6	83.0	83.1
Male life expectancy at birth (in years)	2010	80.2	78.0	78.7
Infant deaths ² per 1000 live births	2010	3.8	3.4	2.8
Number of doctors per 100 000 inhabitants	2009	385	363	613
Cost of the healthcare system in % of GDP	2009	11.4	11.2	10.6
Expenditure on social security in % of GDP	2009	26.4	31.4	28.0
Agricultural area as % of the total area	2009	36.9	48.5	32.2
Forest area as % of the total area	2009	30.8	31.8	30.4
Greenhouse gas emissions in CO ₂ equivalents in tonnes per inhabitant	2009	6.7	11.2	10.9
Cars per 1000 inhabitants	2009	514	509	443
Road accidents: fatalities per 1 million inhabitants	2009	45	51	129
Employees in agriculture in %	2010	3.3	1.6	12.5
Employees in industry in %	2010	21.1	28.4	19.7
Employees in services in %	2010	75.6	70.0	67.8
Employment rate for women aged 15 to 64	2010	72.5	66.1	48.1
Employment rate for men aged 15 to 64	2010	84.6	76.0	70.9
Unemployment rate (according to the international definition)	2010	4.7	7.2	12.7
Women	2010	5.1	6.6	16.4
Men	2010	4.3	7.6	10.1
15–24 year-olds	2010	7.9	9.9	32.9
Long-term unemployed as a % of the unemployed	2010	31.3	47.3	45.0
Part-time employees: women in % ³	2010	60.0	45.0	10.2
Part-time employees: men in % ³	2010	12.3	8.7	3.4
Working week in hours	2010	35.2	35.7	42.3
Gross domestic product (GDP) per inhabitant, in PPS	2010	35 900	28 800	21 900
Average annual growth rate in real GDP	2000–2010	1.7	1.0	2.2
Inflation rate	2010	0.6	1.2	4.7
Public surplus/deficit in % of GDP	2010	0.6	–4.3	–10.6
Public gross debt in % of GDP	2010	38.3	83.2	144.9

1 Or most recent year available

2 Children who died in their first year of life per 1000 live births

3 Of employed women or men

							
Spain	France	Italy	Netherlands	Austria	Sweden	U.K.	EU-27
45 989	64 716	60 340	16 575	8 375	9 341	62 027	501 126
91	102	200	399	100	21	255	114
19.8	24.7	19.0	23.7	20.8	23.4	23.8	21.4
16.8	16.6	20.2	15.3	17.6	18.1	16.5	17.4
10.8	12.9	9.5	11.2	9.1	12.0	12.9	...
32	54	25	44	40	54	47	37
3.6	3.8	3.6	4.4	4.5	5.3	4.3	4.5
2.2	2.1	0.9	1.9	2.1	2.5	2.0	2.0
0.4	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.3
12.3	5.8	7.0	3.9	10.5	6.3	7.0	6.5
2.9	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.4	...
31	29	15	32	19	34	35	26
1.4	2.3	1.3	1.8	2.8	3.4	1.8	2.0
85.3	85.0	84.5	83.0	83.5	83.6	82.5	82.4
79.1	78.0	79.1	78.9	77.9	79.6	78.3	76.4
3.2	3.9	3.4	3.8	3.9	2.5	4.3	4.3
355	327	411	286	468	372	266	...
9.2	11.6	9.5	11.2	9.8	9.6	9.8	...
25.0	33.1	29.8	31.6	30.8	32.1	29.2	29.5
51.9	47.0	51.4	49.6	38.2	8.2	73.1	...
31.1	27.5	33.2	11.0	47.0	67.2	11.8	...
8.0	8.0	8.2	12.1	9.6	6.5	9.2	9.2
480	482	606	462	522	465	459	473
59	69	70	43	76	38	38	70
4.3	2.9	3.8	2.8	5.2	2.1	1.2	...
23.1	22.0	28.8	15.9	24.9	19.9	19.1	...
72.6	75.1	67.5	81.3	69.8	78.0	79.7	...
52.3	59.7	46.1	69.3	66.4	70.3	64.6	58.2
64.7	68.1	67.7	80.0	77.1	75.1	74.5	70.1
20.2	9.4	8.5	4.5	4.5	8.6	7.9	9.7
20.6	9.7	9.7	4.5	4.3	8.4	7.0	9.7
19.8	9.1	7.7	4.5	4.6	8.7	8.8	9.7
41.6	22.9	27.8	8.7	8.8	25.2	19.6	20.9
36.6	40.2	48.5	27.6	25.2	17.7	32.7	39.9
23.1	30.0	29.0	76.2	43.3	39.7	42.4	31.4
5.2	6.4	5.1	24.2	7.8	12.2	11.0	7.9
38.6	38.0	37.8	30.6	37.8	36.5	36.4	37.5
24 500	26 300	24 600	32 500	30 800	30 100	27 300	24 400
2.1	1.1	0.4	1.4	1.6	2.1	1.7	1.4
2.0	1.7	1.6	0.9	1.7	1.9	3.3	2.1
-9.3	-7.1	-4.6	-5.1	-4.4	0.2	-10.3	-6.6
61.0	82.3	118.4	62.9	71.8	39.7	79.9	80.1

Total assets and profits of banks, 2010

Bank categories	No. institutions		Total assets		Annual profits	Annual losses
	1990	2010	CHF million	Change ¹	CHF million	CHF million
Total	625	320	2 714 535	1.7	13 779	3 132
Cantonal banks	29	24	421 548	4.5	2 606	–
Major banks	4	2	1 482 146	2.6	6 123	2 674
Regional and savings banks	204	69	96 070	4.1	390	–
“Raiffeisen” banks	2	1	147 239	5.5	627	–
Other banks	218	179	496 821	–5.4	3 553	363
Branches of foreign banks	16	32	24 913	4.3	151	94
Private banking	22	13	45 798	16.8	329	–

1 % change over previous year

Balance-sheet structure of the banks, 2010

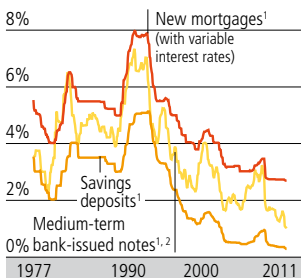
Assets	in %
Total	100
of which foreign	53.5
Liquid assets	3.9
Money markets paper held	5.3
Claims against banks	22.2
Claims against customers	19.1
Mortgage claims	28.3
Security holdings	7.6
Financial investments	5.3
Participating interests	2.2
Tangible assets	0.9
Other	5.3
Liabilities	
Total	100
of which foreign	52.5
Money market paper issued	3.4
Liabilities towards banks	18.5
Liabilities towards customers	65.8
Liabilities in the form of savings and deposits	16.8
Liabilities on sight	21.0
Liabilities on time	13.3
Medium term bank-issues notes	1.3
Loans and debenture bonds	13.3
Own assets	5.3
Other	7.1

Private insurance, 2010

in CHF million

Insurance type	Revenue ¹	Expendit. ¹
Total	109 573	71 455
Life insurance	32 558	27 330
Insurance against accident and loss	49 092	29 262
Re-insurance	27 924	14 863

1 At home and abroad

Interest rates

1 Up until 2007, average of all cantonal banks, 2008 average of 60 institutions (including all cantonal banks)

2 Up until 2007 for 3–8 year term, from 2008 for 5 year term

Exchange rates in Switzerland¹

	2006	2008	2010
\$ 1	1.253	1.083	1.042
¥ 100	1.077	1.052	1.188
€ 1	1.573	1.587	1.381
£ 1	2.307	1.997	1.609

1 Bank purchase rate, mid-year

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Banken, Versicherungen (in German)

► www.snb.ch/en (Swiss National Bank)

► www.finma.ch (Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority) → Private Insurance

The three tiers of the social security system

Social security in Switzerland is based on a three-tier system:

- In addition to individual means of subsistence (remuneration from work, fortune etc), the first tier includes the coverage of basic needs. It is available to everyone and includes the education and legal system as well as public security.
- The second tier includes all social insurances and is intended to cover risks such as old-age, illness, disability, unemployment and maternity.
- The third tier includes all means-tested social benefits, with social assistance from the state providing the last safety net and guaranteeing the right to a minimum standard of living. This comes into effect when none of the other social security provisions apply (principle of subsidiarity).

Before social assistance is called upon, a series of other benefits are available in the third tier, aimed at avoiding dependence on social assistance. These can be divided into benefits which guarantee the basic existence needs (e.g. grants or free legal aid) and complementary benefits which supplement insufficient or expired social insurance provisions or lack of private insurance.

Total expenditure on social security

In 2008, total expenditure on social security amounted to 144 billion francs. 135 billion can be attributed to actual social benefits. About four fifths of these are spent on social insurances (the second tier of the social security system).

¹ The basis of the calculation was revised in 2011. New results for the years 2009 and 2010 will be available as of mid-2012.

Social insurance: expenditure and revenue

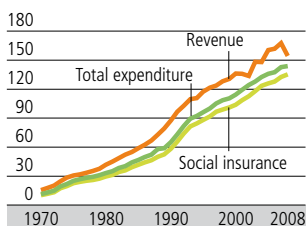
in CHF billion (without double accounting)

	1990	1995	2000	2007	2008 ^p
Total expenditure	64.8	95.8	114.0	142.5	143.6
of which social insurance	58.0	87.8	103.7	132.4	135.0
Revenue	87.3	117.3	136.0	167.3	154.2
Level of expenditure on social insurance ¹	19.6	25.6	27.0	27.3	26.4

¹ Total expenditure in relation to GDP

Social insurance: expenditure and revenue

in CHF billion



Social contribution by function, 2008^p

	in %
Old age	46.0
Illness / healthcare	26.4
Disability	12.5
Surviving dependent	4.4
Families / child benefits	5.1
Unemployment	2.6
Social exclusion	2.6
Housing	0.5

What is the expenditure for?

The distribution of social benefits among the different risks and needs (function of social benefits) is extremely uneven: more than four fifths of social benefits are attributed to old-age, illness and disability.

Social insurance: beneficiaries, 2010

in '000

OASI ¹ : old-age pensions	1 981.2	BV ³ : disability benefits	133.9
OASI ¹ : supplementary benefits	64.9	BV ³ : other benefits	71.5
OASI ¹ : survivors' benefits	159.1	IV ⁴ : disability benefits	279.5
EL (OAI): old-age pensions ²	168.2	IV ⁴ : additional disability benefits	96.0
EL (SI): survivors' benefits ²	3.3	EL (IV): suppl. disability benefits	105.6
BV ³ : old-age pensions	577.2	UV ⁵ : survivors' pensions	23.0
BV ³ : widows' and widowers' pensions	174.0	UV ⁵ : disability benefits	85.4
		ALV ⁶ : unemployment benefits	321.9

1 Old-age and survivors' insurance (AHV)

2 Supplementary (EL) old age (OAI) and survivors' insurance (SI)

3 Occupational pensions (BV, figures 2009)

4 Disability insurance (IV)

5 Accident insurance (UV)

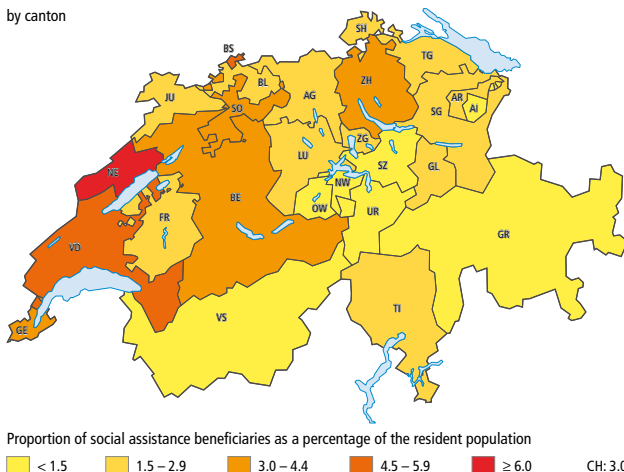
6 Unemployment insurance (ALV)

Health insurance

The average annual cantonal premiums per insured person for the compulsory health insurance rose from CHF 1850 (2000) to 2834 (2010). In 2010 the average annual premium was CHF 3377 for adults, CHF 2689 for young persons and CHF 870 for children. Great differences can, however, be observed between cantons. In 2010 the average annual premium was CHF 3964 in Basel Stadt and CHF 1959 in Appenzell Innerrhoden. The average gross annual amount of services provided per insured person (i.e. including the insured person's participation towards costs) rose from CHF 2131 (2000) to CHF 3123 (2010): in 2010 this amount was CHF 3909 per year for adults, CHF 1339 for young persons and CHF 962 for children. The average net annual amount of services provided per insured person (i.e. excluding the insured person's participation towards costs) rose from CHF 1816 (2000) to CHF 2684 (2010): in 2010 this amount was CHF 3367 per year for adults, CHF 1008 for young persons and CHF 868 for children.

Level of social assistance, 2010

by canton



Social assistance

In 2010, 231 406 persons, 3% of the total population, were supported by social assistance. There are considerable regional differences: the highest rates are found in larger towns with a distinct inner-city character. Groups of persons who are to a greater degree dependent on social assistance are over-represented in these towns. This includes for example, single parents, foreigners and the unemployed.

The risk of becoming reliant on social assistance varies greatly depending on a person's age, family structure and nationality.

Social assistance rates are highest among children and young people under 18. In general, rates tend to diminish with increasing age.

Single parents in particular are more likely to receive social assistance benefits. In Switzerland almost one household in six with a single parent receives social assistance benefits.

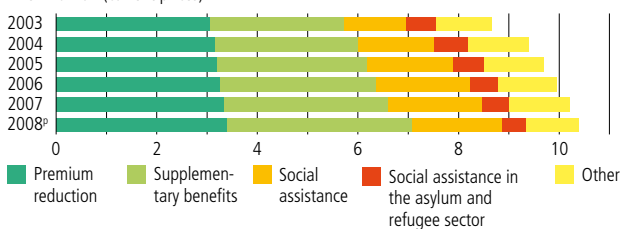
Representing around 46% of all social assistance recipients, the presence of foreigners in social assistance figures is greater than that in the total population (their share in the resident population is 22%).

Level of social assistance, 2010

in %	
Total	3.0
Age group	
0–17 years of age	4.4
18–25 years of age	3.9
26–35 years of age	3.1
36–45 years of age	3.2
46–55 years of age	3.2
56–64 years of age	2.3
65–79 years of age	0.2
80 years of age and over	0.4
Swiss nationals	2.0
Men	2.1
Women	2.0
Foreign nationals	6.0
Men	5.7
Women	6.4

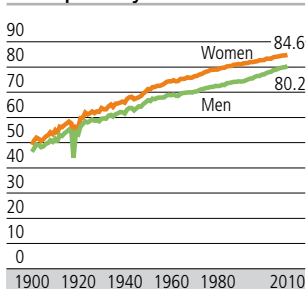
Net expenditure on means-tested social benefits

In CHF billion (current prices)



Means-tested social benefits

Means-test social benefits are the last level in the social security system. They are only called upon when benefits from other social insurances are unavailable or are exhausted. Furthermore recipients must be in a situation of need: They are only paid to persons in modest financial situations.

Life expectancy

Life expectancy has shot up during the last century, largely as a result of falling infant and child mortality. Life expectancy has also continued to increase in recent years. Since 1990 it has risen for women by 3.8 years and for men by 6.2 years (2010). Men tend to die earlier (before the age of 70), mainly due to ischemic heart disease, accidents and violence, as well as lung cancer.

State of health

In 2007, 88% of men and 85% of women described their health as good or very good and only 3% of men and women qualified it as bad or very bad. However, temporary physical and mental problems seem to affect work and everyday life. On average, Swiss inhabitants are unfit for work due to illness or accident on 9 days a year.

Infectious diseases¹, 2010

Acute gastro-intestinal infections	7 853
Meningitis	52
Hepatitis B	64
Tuberculosis	548
AIDS	147

¹ New cases

Accidents, 2010

	Men	Women
Occupational accidents	205 004	61 835
Non-occupational accidents	304 997	192 027

Disabled¹, 2010

Degree of disability	Men	Women
40–49%	5 671	6 548
50–59%	19 588	19 827
60–69%	8 764	7 629
70–100%	97 130	78 960

¹ Receiving govt. disability pensions

Underlying causes of death, 2009

	Number of deaths		Death rate ¹	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
All causes	30 034	32 442	591.0	385.0
of which:				
Infectious diseases	331	345	6.6	4.5
Cancer-related illness, all types	8 824	7 238	177.0	113.0
Circulatory system	9 872	12 356	186.0	123.0
Ischemic heart disease	4 479	4 098	85.1	40.6
Cerebrovascular diseases	1 511	2 401	27.9	24.5
Diseases of the respiratory system, all types	2 128	1 963	39.5	21.5
Accidents and acts of violence	2 219	1 361	49.6	20.2
Accidents, all types	1 292	1 019	28.1	12.7
Suicide	827	278	19.3	6.2

¹ Age-standardised death rate per 100 000 inhabitants

Infant mortality

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2009	2010
per 1000 live births	15.1	9.1	6.8	4.9	4.3	3.8

Consumption of alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs, 2007

Illegal drugs are mainly used by teenagers and young adults, usually just a few times or occasionally. In 2007, approximately 7% of 15–39 year-olds consumed cannabis; in 1992, only 4% did. Much more serious from the public health angle is the consumption of tobacco and alcohol. In all, approximately 28% of the population smoke, 24% of women and 32% of men. The percentages have fallen slightly compared to 1992, the most noticeably for 35–44 year olds and in particular for men (35–44 year old men: from 41% to 32%; women: from 31% to 27%). For alcohol, the percentage of those drinking alcohol daily has decreased to 14% (1992: 21%).

Services, 2007

	in % ¹	
	Men	Women
Physicians' consultations	73.4	86.2
Hospitalisation	10.7	12.2
Home care	1.4	3.6

1 Population from age 15

Physicians and dentists

	per 100 000 inhabitants	
	1990	2010
Physicians with private practice ¹	153	205
Dentists	48	52

1 Since 2008, physicians with ambulatory sector as main function

Hospitalisation rate in acute hospitals, 2010

	in % ¹		
	Total	Men	Women
15–59 years old	10.9	9.0	12.7
60–79 years old	26.0	28.7	23.7
80+ years old	47.0	53.2	43.7

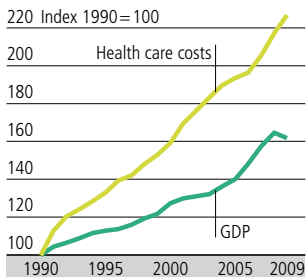
1 of the corresponding population category

Nursing homes, 2010

	in '000	in % ¹
Total nb. of clients	189.1	2.4
of which:		
Clients ≥ 80 years old	105.9	28.8
Men	26.9	21.3
Women	79.0	32.8

1 of the corresponding population category

Health care costs



In 2009, 11.4% of the GDP went on health (1990: 8.1%). Development of supply is a fundamental factor in this increase: e.g. expanded facilities, growing specialisation and greater use of technology, and greater comfort. The impact of the ageing population is not so significant.

	in CHF million	
	1999	2009
Total	41 104	60 984
Inpatient treatment	18 979	27 764
Outpatient treatment	12 358	19 185
of which:		
Physicians	6 010	8 577
Dentists	2 736	3 709
Home care	848	1 308
Other services ¹	1 394	2 046
Healthcare resources ²	5 199	7 423
of which:		
Pharmacies	3 153	4 243
Physicians	1 214	1 937
Prevention	1 015	1 522
Administration	2 160	3 043

1 Such as laboratory analyses, radiology, transport

2 Medicines and therapeutic apparatus

Moving towards a Swiss educational system

The educational system in Switzerland is characterised distinctly by federalism. The wide variety of educational systems in place is particularly apparent in schools falling under compulsory education. Depending on the canton in question, there are for example, at Secondary level one, two, three or even four different types of schools, differing in their levels of requirements. During the nine compulsory school years the total number of hours of tuition ranges from 7100 to 8900 hours per pupil.

The Swiss education system is changing. In addition to the implementation of HarmoS (Intercantonal agreement on harmonisation of compulsory education) in some cantons, in recent years the cantons have also reformed their education systems beyond compulsory education. National structures have been extended, the vocational matura and universities of applied sciences have been introduced and the Bologna reforms implemented. The demand for education has risen and the general education schools have gained in importance.

Students

Educational level	Number in '000			% of women		
	1980/81	1990/91	2009/10	1980/81	1990/91	2009/10
Total	1 234.1	1 291.8	1 522.4	46	46	48
Pre-education	120.3	139.8	147.2	49	49	49
Compulsory education	849.6	711.9	769.3	49	49	49
Primary	451.0	404.2	436.1	49	49	49
Lower secondary	362.3	271.6	294.4	49	49	50
Special syllabus schools	36.4	36.2	38.8	39	38	36
Upper secondary	299.0	295.8	343.3	43	45	47
Schools of general education ¹	74.8	74.5	106.3	53	55	58
Vocational training ²	224.2	221.3	237.0	39	42	43
Higher education	85.3	137.5	250.1	30	35	49
Universities and institutes of technology	61.4	85.9	126.9	32	39	50
Universities of Applied Sciences	...	...	69.7	...	...	50
Advanced vocat. training	...	36.2	53.5	...	33	46
Unclassified levels	–	6.7	–	–	51	–

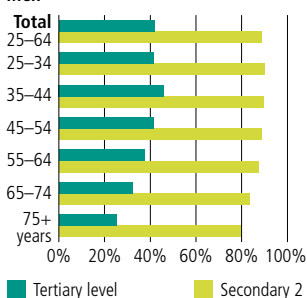
1 Including schools for teaching professions and preparation for higher vocational studies after apprenticeships

2 Incl. induction/preliminary training

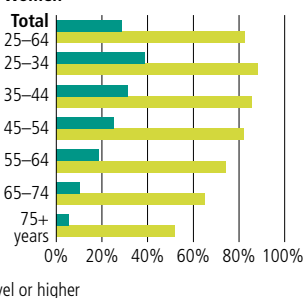
Education level, 2010

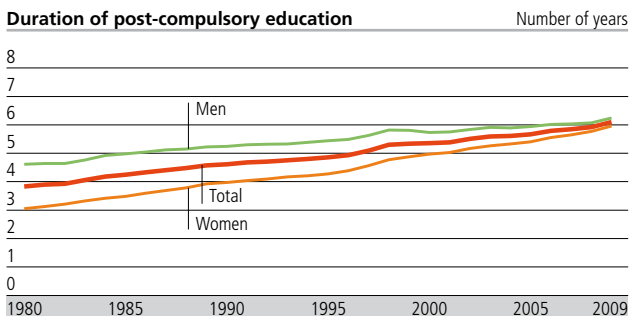
Share of the permanent resident population

Men



Women





Increased participation in education

Over the past thirty years the participation in education at upper secondary level and especially at tertiary level has risen considerably. Educational courses giving access to universities are particularly concerned. Since 1990 the number of vocational and general matriculation certificates has increased by almost three-quarters. The number of university degrees has also more than doubled between 1997 and 2009. This is in no small part due to the establishment of the universities of applied sciences.

In accordance with this development the educational level of the Swiss population is expected to rise considerably in the coming years. The percentage of persons with a tertiary-level qualification in the population groups aged 25–64 is expected to rise from 35% in 2009 to 50% by 2025.

The gender gap has narrowed

Women have been the main beneficiaries of the educational boom in recent decades. Today almost as many women as men undertake and complete post-compulsory education or vocational training. But men continue to pursue longer studies; their rate of entry into tertiary level education is also higher than that of women. Conversely, girls are more successful in compulsory education: they repeat a class less frequently, they are transferred to a special class less frequently and at the lower secondary level they attend schools with higher educational requirements.

Particularly striking differences still exist in the choice of subject area. This applies to both vocational training and university. Job sectors are dominated by either men or women, not least due to traditional role models. In the industry and handicrafts sector, men predominate; in the retail, health and personal care sectors, women are in the majority. At the university level men still tend to opt for technical, scientific and business fields, while women choose the humanities, social work and the arts.

Selected educational qualifications, 2010

Educational level	Total	% of Women
Upper secondary level		
Academic baccalaureate	18 865	57.6
Vocational baccalaureate	12 249	46.0
Vocational training certific. ¹	63 079	44.4
Commercial diploma	2 897	49.9
Higher education		
Higher vocational training		
PET diploma	7 337	48.5
Swiss Federal diploma	3 160	20.9
Swiss Fed. profes. diploma	13 144	38.9
Universities of Applied Science		
Diploma	2 024	55.3
Bachelor's degree	10 474	53.0
Master's degree	2 081	59.6
Universities		
Licentiate/Diploma	3 500	62.1
Bachelor's degree	11 537	51.8
Master's degree	7 964	49.2
Doctorate	3 588	43.4

¹ Includes Swiss Federal vocational diploma

Teachers, 2009/10 University staff, 2010

	Full-time equivalents	% of women
Pre-school	8 091	95.7
Compulsory school ¹	51 600	67.8
Primary school	28 200	80.6
Lower secondary school	23 500	52.3
Upper secondary school ²	8 300	43.5
Universities		
Professors	3 243	17.0
Other lecturers	2 994	25.5
Assistants ³	17 785	41.0
Univ. of Applied Sciences		
Professors	4 358	32.7
Other lecturers	2 485	41.5
Assistants ³	2 783	40.3

¹ Excluding schools with a special curriculum

² Only schools providing a general education (secondary, technical and vocational schools etc.)

³ Including scientific staff

Public expenditure on education, 2009

	in CHF billion
Total	29.7
of which costs of teaching staff accounted for	15.3
Pre-school	1.0
Compulsory school	12.9
Special schools	1.7
Day care	0.1
Basic vocational training	3.6
General schools	2.3
Higher vocational training	0.2
Universities, Univ. of Applied Sciences	7.3
Undistributed funds	0.5

Further education

A distinction is made here between two types of further education – non-formal education (such as attending courses, seminars, private tuition and conferences and informal study (includes specialised literature, study with aid of CD-ROM or from family members)). The majority of the population in Switzerland (nearly 80% of the permanent population between 25 and 64 years of age or 83% of employed aged between 25 and 64) undertook further education in one form or another in 2009. Informal study is markedly more common than non-formal education (74% of the permanent population and 78% of employed, compared with 50% and 55% respectively for non-formal study).

Focus on research

Research and development (R&D) is an important factor for a national economy. With 3.01% of its GDP being spent in this area (2008), Switzerland is one of the most R&D-oriented countries in the world.

In 2008 around CHF 16.3 billion was spent on domestic R&D. Of this, around 73% was in the private sector, 24% in universities and the remaining 2.5% was divided between the Confederation and various private, non-profit organisations.

Private sector expenditure abroad amounted to CHF 15.8 billion in 2008 and is slightly higher than the inland expenditure of CHF 12 billion.

► www.statistics.admin.ch →
Topics → Education and science

The Swiss press in upheaval

The market for daily newspapers has changed fundamentally since the turn of the century. In German-speaking Switzerland the free-of-charge commuters' newspaper "20 Minuten" has become the largest daily with over 1.4 million readers per edition¹. With the establishment of the "Le Matin Bleu"² newspaper (with 559 000 readers) in 2005 in French-speaking Switzerland, together with the French-language edition of "20 Minuten" (with 526 000 readers), the two free newspapers are in the top three ranking of the most-read dailies.

1 Source: WEMF MACH Basic (2009/II; population aged 14 and over, readers per edition)
2 The publication of "Le Matin Bleu" was stopped in September 2009.

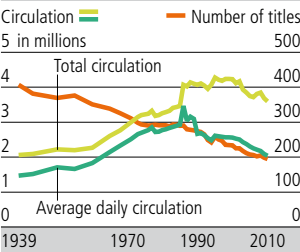
Widespread use of the internet and mobile phones

The number of regular internet users (defined as more than once a week) rose from 0.7 million (1998) to 4.8 million in the third quarter of 2010. Over four fifth of households have a PC and as of the end of 2009, there were 2.7 million broadband internet connections (ADSL or cable modem). Mobile telephony has grown similarly fast. The number of mobile phone connections rose from 125 000 (1990) to 1.7 million (1998) to 9.3 million (2009), which corresponds to 120 mobile phone connections per 100 inhabitants.

Reading is still very popular

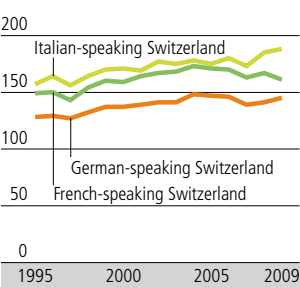
In Switzerland in 2008, a majority of the population read newspapers (97%), books (81%) and magazines (79%). Some 20% of the population read comic books. Although readers' age, sex, education have little influence on newspaper and magazine readership, they have a greater impact on the reading of books and comic books. These last two are more likely to be read by persons under thirty, university graduates, persons with a high household income and town and suburb dwellers.

Evolution of paid newspapers



Source: Verband S.P./WEMF circulation statistics (considered are publications of general interests published at least once a week).

Television usage in minutes per day and per inhabitant



Source: Mediapulse AG Telecontrol (based on population over 3 yrs of age, mean per day Monday–Sunday)

Radio usage in minutes per day and per inhabitant

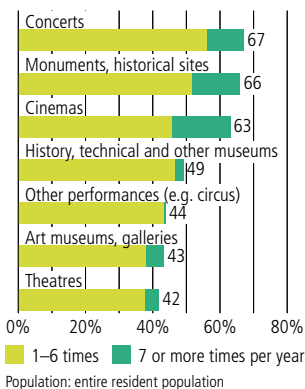
	2006	2007	2008	2009 ¹
German-speaking Switzerland	102	105	109	119
French-speaking Switzerland	97	98	99	106
Italian-speaking Switzerland	96	99	99	108

1 Due to changes in the method, it is not possible to make a comparison with previous years.
Source: Mediapulse AG Radiocontrol (based on population over 15 years of age, mean p.d. Monday–Sunday)

Cultural behaviour

Visiting concerts, monuments and cinemas were among the most popular cultural activities in 2008. The most popular styles of music are pop and rock, followed by classical music. People also spend much time listening to music privately. Radio but also television remain the most frequently used media to listen to music. Young listeners use a lot MP3 players for this purpose. People with a high level of education and a good income are the most likely to avail themselves of cultural offerings; gender and nationality play a marginal role in this respect. Cultural activities are pursued more often in cities and urban agglomerations than in rural areas.

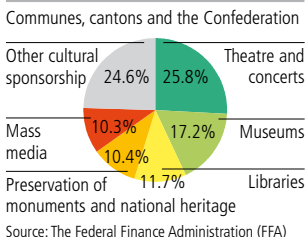
Participation rates, 2008



Spending on culture

In 2007, a quarter of total public spending on culture by the Confederation, cantons and communes, i.e. CHF 579 million, went to the sector "Theater and Concerts". Some CHF 384 million was spent on the "Museums" sector. This was followed by the sectors "Libraries", "Mass Media" (print media, cinema, television, radio etc.) and "Preservation of Monuments and National Heritage" with contributions ranging from CHF 230 and 260 million.

Use of public spending by cultural sector, 2007



Cinema: A wide variety of available choices

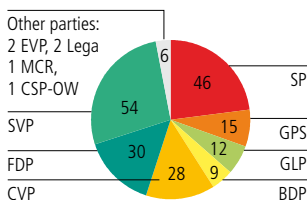
After the peak of popularity in 1964–65 (646 cinemas, approximately 40 million tickets), the number of spectators decreased continuously until the beginning of the 1990s. The lowest point was reached in 1992–93, with 302 cinemas and 15 million spectators. Since the introduction of cinema complexes and multiplex cinemas in 1993, the number of cinema screens has increased again, but not the number of spectators (2010: 558 screens and 14.8 million tickets). The choice of films has also changed significantly. At the beginning of the 1980s, approximately 3000 films were shown every year in Switzerland. Today this number is about 1400. In contrast, the number of premieres has risen continuously since 2004 (to approximately 400 per year).

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Kultur, Medien, Informationsgesellschaft, Sport (in German)

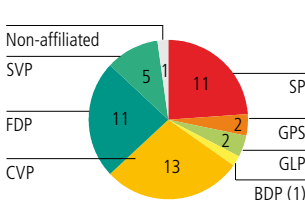
The political system

The Swiss Confederation, today made up of 26 cantons, has been in existence since 1848. The Government (Federal Council) is a collegial body consisting of 7 members (from 2009: 2 FDP, 2 SP, 1 CVP, 1 SVP, 1 BDP). They are elected by both chambers in parliament: the National Council (representing the people, 200 seats) and the Council of States (representing the cantons, 46 seats). The Swiss political system is also characterised by far-reaching democratic rights (initiatives and referendums) and popular votes.

National elections, 2011: distribution of seats



Council of States, 2011: distribution of seats



National elections, 2011

	Share of the votes in %	Seats	Women	Men	Percentage of women
FDP	15.1	30	7	23	23.3
CVP	12.3	28	9	19	32.1
SP	18.7	46	21	25	45.7
SVP	26.6	54	6	48	11.1
GLP	5.4	12	4	8	33.3
BDP	5.4	9	2	7	22.2
GPS	8.4	15	6	9	40.0
Small right-wing parties ¹	2.7	3	1	2	33.3
Other parties ²	5.4	3	2	1	66.6

¹ SD, EDU, Lega (2 seats, 1 woman), MCR (1 seat)

² EVP (2 seats, 2 women), CSP, PdA, Sol., splinter groups (CSP-OW 1 seat)

See below for abbreviation

National elections, 2011

The party system of the past decades underwent a change in the 2011 National Council Elections. The weakening of the traditional centre-right parties, the FDP and the CVP has continued but for the first time in years it was not the SVP who benefitted from these losses but the new GLP and BDP parties.

These parties were the clear and only winners of the National Council Elections 2011. Almost all other parties belonged to a greater or lesser extent to the losers. Hardest hit were the centre-right parties, the CVP, FDP and the SVP as well as the Greens.

Parties abbreviations

FDP Radical Democratic Party¹

CVP Christian Democratic Party

SPS Social Democratic Party

SVP Swiss People's Party

BDP Citizens' Democratic Party

EVP Evangelical People's Party

CSP Christian Social Party

GLP Green Liberal Party

PdA Labour Party

Sol. Solidarity

GPS Green Party of Switzerland

SD Swiss Democrats

EDU Federal democratic union

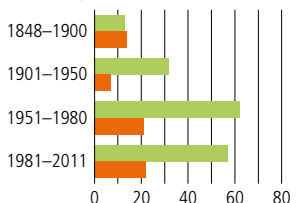
Lega Lega dei Ticinesi

MCR Mouvement Citoyens Romands

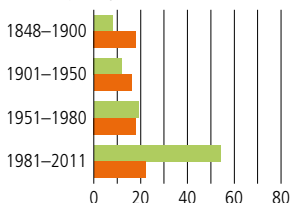
¹ 2009: merger of the FDP (Free Democratic Party) with the LPS (Liberal Party) under the designation «RDP. The Liberals»

National Popular Votes

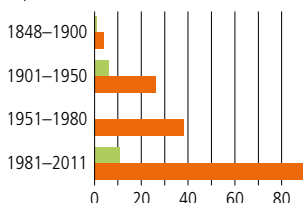
Compulsory referendums¹



Non-compulsory referendums



Popular initiatives²



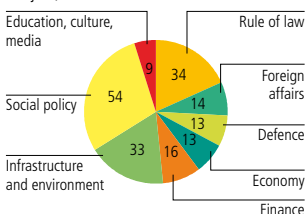
Accepted

Rejected

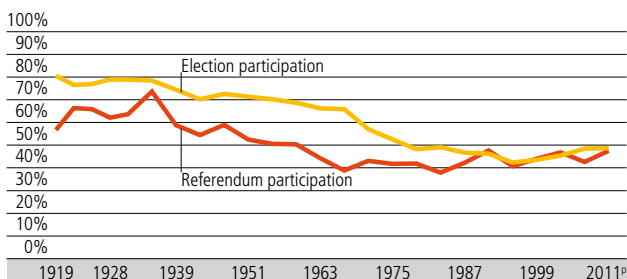
¹ Includes counter proposals to popular initiatives

² Includes popular initiatives with counter proposals

Subject, 1991–2011



Participation rate in national elections and referendums



The strongest decline in voter turnout in national elections started after 1967, a trend which is not least of all attributable to the introduction of the women's right to vote. The decline in voter turnout in popular votes is subject to strong fluctuation, depending on the subject of the referendum. Since the 1990s, voter turnout fluctuated between the extremes of a minimum participation of 28% and a maximum of 79%. From the turn of the century on, voter turnout has somewhat stabilised, both for national elections, as for referendums; and is currently slightly rising.

Final accounts of the public administration

in CHF billion

	Revenue			Expenditure			Surplus		
	2000	2009	2010 ²	2000	2009	2010 ²	2000	2009	2010 ²
Total¹	163.6	196.3	193.7	151.8	185.8	190.1	11.8	10.5	3.6
Confederation	52.0	68.1	62.9	48.2	58.7	60.0	3.8	9.4	2.9
Cantons	62.8	75.8	77.8	60.0	73.6	75.7	2.8	2.3	2.1
Communes	42.1	42.4	43.4	40.6	42.9	43.5	1.5	-0.5	-0.1
Social insurances	44.5	53.2	53.5	41.1	53.9	54.9	3.4	-0.6	-1.3

1 Double counts not included in total

2 Part-estimates

Public administration debt

in CHF billion

	1990	2000	2007	2008	2009	2010 ³
Total¹	104.8	220.4	226.0	222.5	209.0	210.0
Confederation	38.1	108.1	120.9	121.4	110.7	110.0
Cantons	29.2	63.1	60.8	56.1	52.8	56.0
Communes	37.4	49.1	44.2	44.9	45.3	44.0
Social insurances	0.1	5.8	5.0	4.2	5.8	7.4

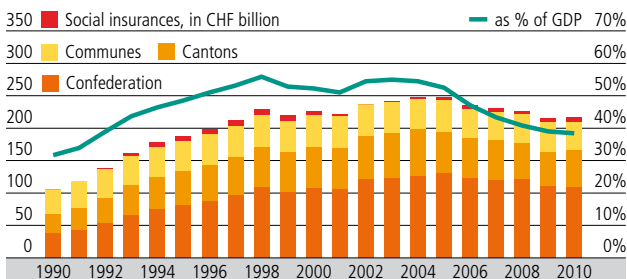
Per inhabitant, in francs² 15 241 30 574 29 666 29 298 27 138 26 974

1 Double counts not included in total

2 At current prices

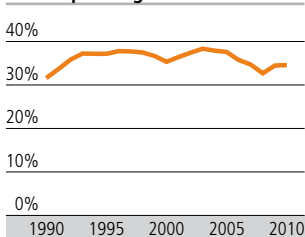
3 Part-estimates

Public debt



The public spending ratio measures the expenditures of public authorities expressed as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). It includes expenditures by the Confederation, the cantons and municipalities as well as public social insurance funds (old age and survivors' insurance, disability insurance, maternity insurance and unemployment insurance).

Public spending ratio in % of GDP



Despite a considerable increase since 1970, in international comparison Switzerland is in a good position: it has one of the lowest public spending ratios of all OECD countries. Most European countries register markedly higher public expenditure.

Switzerland's public debt ratio is also relatively low compared with other OECD countries; between 1990 and 2003, however, it rose continuously. Thanks to a strong economic recovery until 2008, together with the shedding of surplus gold reserves of the Swiss National Bank as well as various structural measures (i.e. relief programmes, debt and expenditure brakes) it has been possible to reduce continuously gross public debt since 2005. By the end of 2010, the debt ratio dropped to 38.4%.

Revenue: Public administration, 2009

following deductions in double payment

	in %	CHF billion
Total	100	196.3
Ordinary receipts	96.5	189.4
Operating revenue	91.0	178.6
Tax revenue	80.3	157.6
Patents and commissions	2.0	3.9
Compensation	8.2	16.2
Miscellaneous revenue	0.1	0.1
Transfer revenue	0.4	0.8
Financial revenue	4.5	8.9
Investment revenue	1.0	1.9
Extraordinary receipts	3.5	6.9
Extraordinary revenue	0.8	1.5
Revenue from extraordinary investments	2.7	5.4

Public administration expenditure by function, 2009

following deductions in double payment

	in %	CHF billion
Total	100	185.8
General administration	7.2	13.4
Public order and security, defence	7.7	14.2
Education	17.4	32.3
Culture and leisure	2.6	4.9
Health care	6.1	11.3
Social security	39.2	72.8
Transport and telecommunications	8.9	16.6
Environmental protection and spatial planning	3.1	5.7
Economy	4.2	7.9
Finance and taxes	3.5	6.6

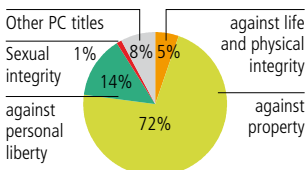
Crime figures offer only a limited reflection of the reality of criminal behaviour: On the one hand, criminal standards and sanctions are affected by changes in society and on the other, crime figures are also strongly influenced by manpower resources, prosecution priorities, the efficiency of the police and justice system and the population's readiness to report crime. It is generally hard to determine which causes are responsible for changes in crime figures and to what extent.

Crime reporting

In 2010 a total of 429 324 criminal cases with 656 858 offences were registered. Of these offences, 80% came under the Swiss Criminal Code (SCC), 14% under the Narcotics Act (NarcA), 4% under the Foreign Nationals Act (FNA) and 2% under other federal legislation. The detection rate for homicides was 91%, for property offences 19%.

The breakdown by nationality and residence status shows that offenders were of Swiss nationality in 51% of Criminal Code offences, 58% of Narcotics Act offences and 61% of offences against other federal legislation. Foreigners with residence constituted 30%, 22% and 22% of offenders. This means that a substantial part of foreign delinquency is "imported", namely 19% (Criminal Code), 20% (Narcotics Act) and 17% (other). For offences against the Foreign Nationals Act, 82% of offenders were non-residents.

Offences according to Criminal Code titles 2010

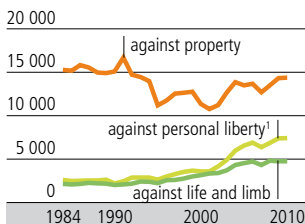


Convictions

In the mid-1980s slightly more than 45 000 convictions against adults were registered overall. This number has doubled and is around 98 000 in 2010. Depending on the law under which the conviction is made, the trend varies greatly.

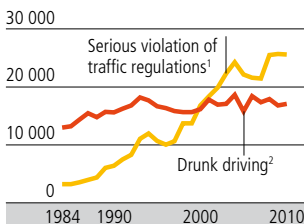
The number of convictions for offences against the Criminal Code has remained stable whereas ever increasing road traffic checks have lead to more cases with convictions against the Road Traffic Act (RTA) when considered over a longer period. The number of convictions against the Narcotics Act has been stable for several years as have convictions for offences against the Foreign Nationals Act.

Selected offences SCC



1 Threat, coercion, trafficking in human beings, deprivation of liberty and abduction, hostage taking, unlawful entry

Selected offences RTA

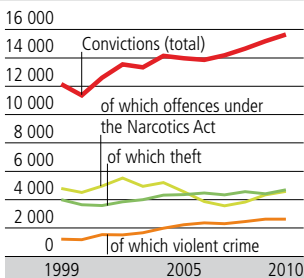


1 Art. 90.2 RTA

2 Over the legal alcohol limit (Art. 91 Para. 1, Part 2 RTA)

Juvenile convictions

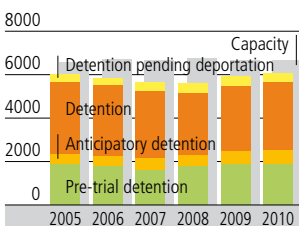
The trend for convictions of minors shows a rising trend in numbers (1999 to 2010: +29%), with the number of illegal drug offences being stable and those for theft and less serious violent crime are on the increase. It can also be assumed here that the increase in the number of cases is due rather to stronger checks than to an increase in juvenile delinquency.



Deprivation of liberty and execution of sentences

In Switzerland in 2010 there were 114 (mostly small) prison establishments with a total of 6683 detention places. On the reference day, 1 September 2010, 6181 persons were detained. Thus, the total occupancy rate was 93%. Of the 6181 inmates, 61% were serving prison sentences, 31% were in pre-trial detention, 6% were in detention subject to coercive measures under the Foreign Nationals Act and the remaining 2% were detained for other reasons. With a few exceptions, prison establishments in Switzerland were not overpopulated.

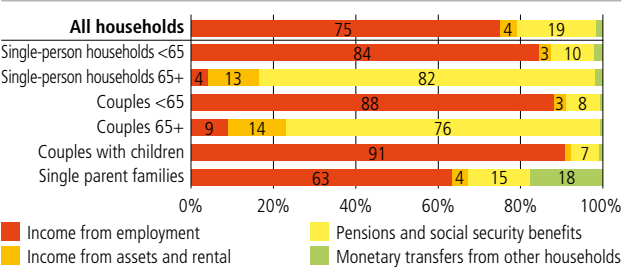
Prison population by sentence type



Recidivism

The reconviction rates of adults convicted in 2006 for crimes and less serious offences, over an observation period of 3 years (i.e. until 2009) were 25%, for minors 34%. The highest reconviction rates are for persons with two or more previous convictions: for adults 64% and for minors 66%.

Composition of gross income by household type, 2006–2008



Household budgets: Income

Averaged out over all households, income from employment at 75% represents the main component of household income. The second important component consists of pensions from the first and second pillars of the Swiss pension system and other social security benefits at more than 19%. The remainder of household income is made up of income from assets and transfers from other households.

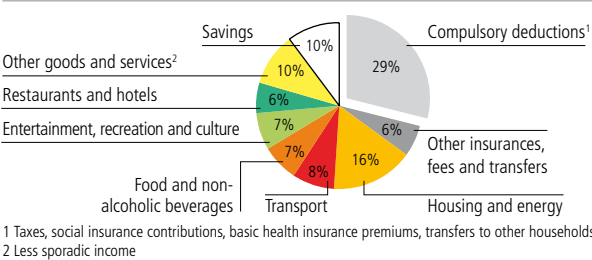
The picture becomes more differentiated when the composition of household income is considered by household type. This shows, for example, that in households aged 65 and over, pensions represent the major part of the household income, but income from employment and, in particular, income from assets play a relatively important role. Transfers from other households represent an important source of income only in specific types of households, such as single-parent families, where the average amounts to almost 18%.

Household budgets: Expenditure

The variations in the composition of spending are less pronounced. Compulsory deductions, which comprise almost 29% of gross income, are the largest item. In the area of consumer expenditure, the largest item is expenditure on housing at 16%. Other large items include expenditure on food and non-alcoholic drinks, on transport and on entertainment, recreation and culture.

After all expenditure has been deducted, on average 10% of the gross income is left for saving. There are significant differences in this area depending on household type. Households over the age of 65 on average save less than younger households. Sometimes this figure is even a minus, which means that these households are living on their capital, among other things.

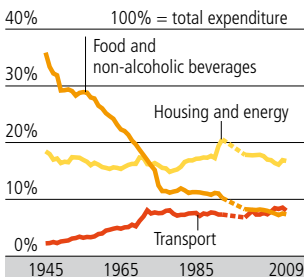
Composition of household budget, 2006–2008



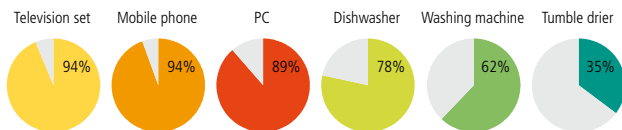
Household expenditure over time

The composition of household expenditure has changed significantly over time. These changes are considerably larger than the differences between households today. For example, the share of total expenditure represented by expenditure on food and non-alcoholic drinks in 1945 was 35%, but nowadays this has fallen to 8%. In contrast the proportion of other expenditure has increased, such as expenditure on transport, which has risen from around 2% to over 8%.

Trends in selected household expenditure items



Availability of selected consumer goods, 2009



Availability of consumer goods

Information about the availability of a selection of durable consumer goods shows that households in Switzerland are very well-equipped with IT hardware. A total of 89% of people live in a household with a computer and 94% in a household with a mobile phone. These proportions are continuing to rise: in 1998 only 55% of people lived in a household with a computer.

In the case of household appliances, such as dishwashers, washing machines and tumble dryers, there has also been an increase. In 2009 more than 78% of the population lived in a household with a dishwasher, while in 1998 the figure was only 61%.

Material deprivation

The reasons for not owning a durable good are not necessarily financial. In 2010, only 1% of people living in Switzerland went without a computer for financial reasons. As far as owning a car for private use is concerned, this percentage rises to 4%. Material deprivation is most often associated with a lack of financial reserves. 21% of persons living in a private household do not have the means to meet unexpected expenses of CHF 2000. This is followed by deprivation associated with living conditions: 17% of the population live in a neighbourhood that is too noisy, 14% in a neighbourhood with problems of delinquency and 10% in a neighbourhood with pollution problems. Furthermore, 10% of the population cannot afford to take a week's holiday away from home.

Unequal distribution of income

Inequalities in the distribution of income are assessed on the basis of equivalent disposable income. The latter is calculated by deducting compulsory expenditure from the household's gross income and by dividing the disposable income thus obtained by the equivalent size of the household. Thus the equivalent disposable income is an indication of people's standard of living, regardless of the type of household in which they live.

In 2010, the average disposable income of the wealthiest persons (20% of the population) was 4.3 times greater than that of the poorest persons (20%).

Risk of monetary poverty

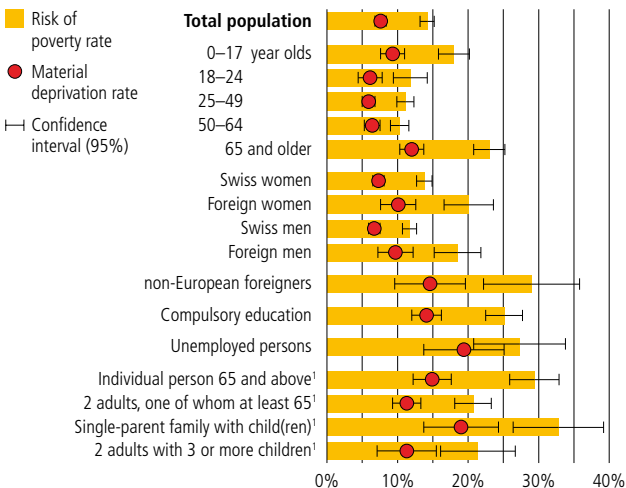
The European Union has fixed the threshold for risk of poverty at 60% of the median equivalised household income. Poverty is, therefore, seen as a form of inequality: the fact of being considered at risk of poverty depends not only on a person's own economic situation but also on the economic situation of the other persons in the corresponding country.

For example, the threshold of risk of poverty was CHF 28 540 per year for a single person in 2010 and CHF 59 935 per year for two adults with two children aged under 14.

In 2010, 14.2% of Switzerland's resident population were at risk of poverty, i.e. almost one in seven. The social groups most at risk of monetary poverty are persons in one-parent or large families, 65 year olds or older, in particular those who live alone, adults without post-compulsory education, and also children aged from 0 to 17 years.

Risk of poverty and material deprivation, 2010

by various socio-demographic characteristics

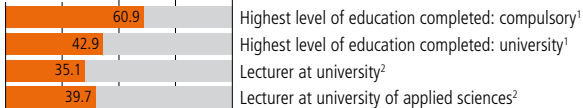


¹ Persons in a household with these characteristics

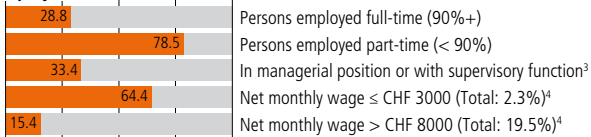
Key data on gender equality

Percentage of women (latest available data 2009–2011)

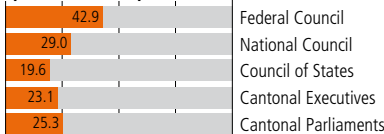
Education



Employment



Representation in politics



0% 50% 100%

1 Resident population aged 25–64

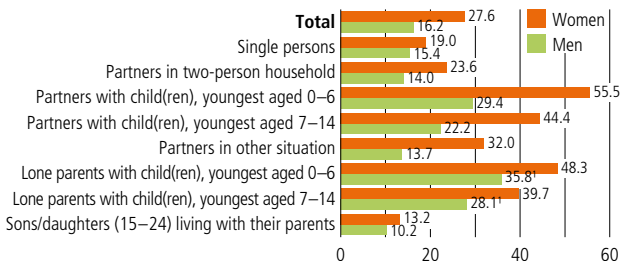
2 Professors, other lecturers, assistants and research staff

3 Employees

4 Full-time employees, private and public (Confederation) sectors

Number of hours spent on domestic work and childcare, 2010

Average, in hours per week



Involvement in voluntary work, 2010

as percentage of permanent resident population age 15 and older

	Women	Men		Women	Men
Informal	22.7	13.9	Formal	16.9	23.0
Looking after relative's children	8.1	3.7	Sports associations	4.0	9.0
Looking after adult relatives	1.6	0.4	Cultural associations	3.5	5.3
Other services for relatives	3.1	2.6	Social-charitable organisations	3.6	2.5
Looking after acquaintances ¹	5.7	1.9	Church institutions	3.6	2.1
Looking after adult friends	1.1	0.3 ¹	Pressure groups	2.1	3.1
Other services for friends	4.9	5.3	Public services	1.2	2.4
Other	0.5 ¹	0.3 ¹	Political parties, agencies	0.7	2.0

1 The assessment is based on fewer than 50 observations in the sample survey and should therefore be interpreted with great caution

► www.statistics.admin.ch → Topics → Economic and social situation of the population

Are we on the road to sustainable development?

1 Meeting needs – how well do we live?

Life expectancy in good health is improving	✓	Convictions for offences of serious violent crime are increasing	✗
Income is not rising	≈	Unemployment is increasing	✗

2 Fairness – how well are resources distributed?

Official development assistance is rising	✓	Men's and women's wage gap is being narrowed	✓
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3 Preservation of resources – what are we leaving behind for our children?

Young people's reading skills are improving	✓	The number of employees in science and technology is rising	✓
After rising, the debt ratio is at the level of 1992 again	≈	The number of breeding birds is increasing	✓
The share of investment in gross domestic product is increasing	✓	Developed land is encroaching upon the landscape	✗

4 Decoupling – how efficiently are we using our resources?

Freight transport is growing faster than the economy	✗	Per capita final energy consumption is decreasing	✓
The public to total transport ratio is increasing	✓	Material intensity is decreasing	✓

Assessment of trends since 1992:

✓	Positive (towards greater sustainability)
≈	No significant change
✗	Negative (towards lesser sustainability)

In most areas of life, beginnings for sustainable development have been assessed, but opposite trends can be identified as well. Thus, improvements made in eco-efficiency have often been compensated by an increase in consumption.

Fairness between generations is a current topic – the relatively positive assessment of the current situation could be at the expense of future generations. For example, around 17% of teenagers today do not have even basic reading skills. Furthermore, growth of developed land is largely at the expense of valuable agricultural land.

The **ecological footprint** measures the use of natural resources and illustrates the scarcity of environmental capital. The Swiss per-capita footprint is currently three times larger than the world average per capita biocapacity. The main reason for the large footprint is energy consumption.

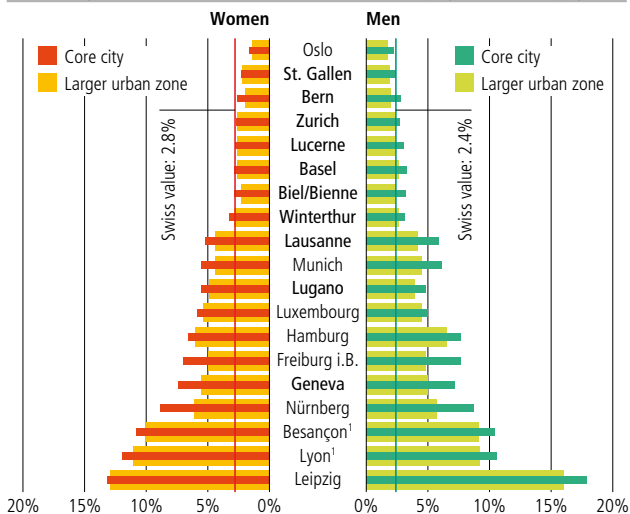
From a global perspective, economic development is still dependent on growing consumption of environmental assets and resources, which means that the higher a country's national income, the larger is its ecological footprint. The Swiss footprint is around the average of most Western European countries. North America, together with a few European countries, uses up to 4.5 times the amount of resources per person as that available per person worldwide. South-East Asia and Africa consume considerably less than the global average per person.

A European project: the Urban Audit

The European "Urban Audit" project enables the comparison of living conditions in European towns at three geographical levels: the larger urban zone, the core city and the sub-city district. Here are three examples of indicators for a selection of towns.

Unemployment, 2008

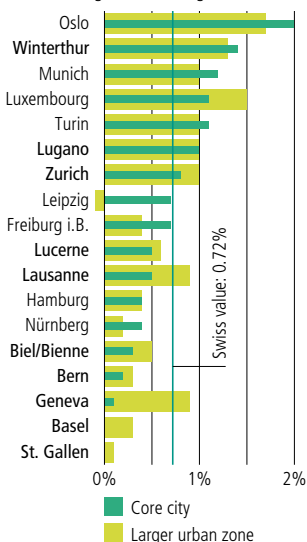
Share of unemployed in labour supply, as %



1 Data from an earlier period; no data available for Turin

Change in total resident population, 2004–2008

Annual average rate of change

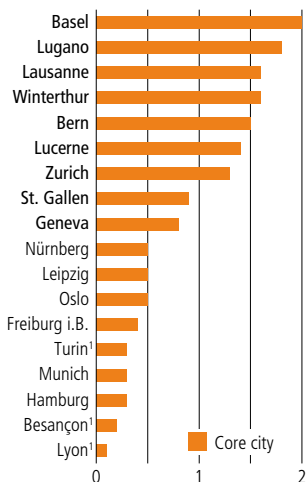


No data available for Besançon, Lyon

► www.urbanaudit.ch

Number of museums, 2008

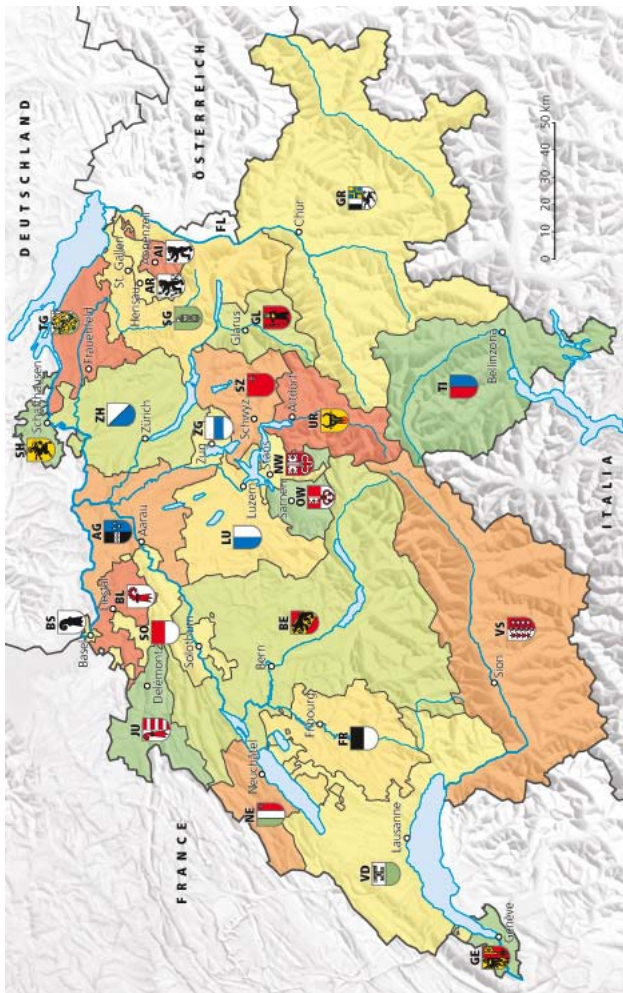
Per 10 000 inhabitants



1 Data from an earlier period

No data available for Luxembourg, Biel/Bienne

Switzerland and its Cantons



- 26 cantons
- 147 districts
- 2495 municipalities
- Situation on 1.1.2012
- Cantonal capital

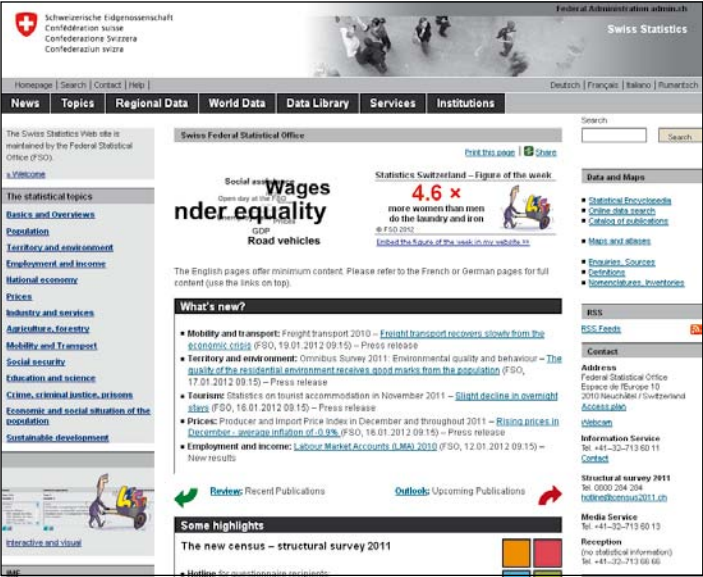
For the key to the canton abbreviations, see the table on page 4

Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland 2012 incl. DVD



The Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland is the standard reference work on Swiss statistics. It provides a comprehensive picture of Switzerland’s social and economic situation and contains, along with numerous tables, illustrated overviews of all themes of public statistics. The whole yearbook is published in German and French; in addition, a cross-section summary with the most important statistical information is available in English and Italian. The DVD that accompanies the Statistical Yearbook includes the contents of the Yearbook 2012, complemented by numerous regional statistical and additional tables, as well as tree interactive statistical atlases: the Stat@tlas of Switzerland, the Stat@las of Europe and the Election Atlas 2011.

Published by the Federal Statistical Office. 576 pages (hardback), CHF 130 (incl. DVD). Available from bookshops or directly from NZZ Libro, the publishing house of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung. Email: nzz.libro@nzz.ch



The **Swiss Statistical Portal** (www.statistics.admin.ch) is the comprehensive online service for Swiss public statistics. The portal makes available press releases and publications from the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) and other public statistical offices, as well as continually updated detailed results presented in the form of indicators and downloadable tables. Attractive maps and atlases are included in the “Regional” and “International” chapters. By subscribing to the NewsMail service or to automatic RSS feeds, users can keep up to date about our wide range of offerings. As of 2011, in addition to the four languages already present on the statistics portal (German, French, English and Italian), there are also some pages in Romansch.

The Mini Statistics Portal <http://mobile.bfs.admin.ch>, a new service introduced by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) in 2010, provides the most important statistical figures also for mobile devices.

