



## Press release

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### 06 Industry and services

Economic trends in 1st quarter 2025

## Rise in turnover and fall in employment in Swiss market sector activities in Q1 2025

Switzerland saw a mixed performance across market sector activities in the 1st quarter 2025. While turnover rose by 2.1% compared with the same quarter of the previous year, employment in these same sectors fell by 0.1% (total employment +0.6%). These are provisional findings from the Federal Statistical Office (FSO).

In the secondary sector (industry and construction), turnover rose by 2.6% and employment by 0.2%. The tertiary sector (services) recorded an increase in turnover of 1.7%, while employment fell by 0.2%.

### Secondary sector

Different trends were observed across the secondary sector in the 1st quarter 2025. In the industrial section there was an increase in turnover of 2.5% and a fall in employment of 0.4%, while in construction there was an increase in both turnover (+5.0%) and employment (+1.5%).

### Tertiary sector

Trends varied among different tertiary sector market activities in the first quarter of 2025. While service section activity turnover increased by 1.7% over the same quarter of the previous year, employment figures fell slightly, by 0.2%. In the tertiary sector as a whole, however, there was a 0.7% increase in employment. In the retail division, turnover increased by 1.7% in the same period, while employment fell by 1.8%.

### Focus: robust growth in Swiss construction

The Swiss construction has exhibited robust growth over the past decade. At 6.6%, employment growth in the construction section far outstripped that of the industrial section, where employment grew by 2.5% in the same period. In terms of turnover, the construction section recorded a growth in turnover of 11.3% between 2015 and 2024, while the industrial section saw an even more substantial increase of 40.2%. In 2024, the most recent year of comparison, similar developments were observed in both sections. The construction section grew by 3.5% and industry by 4.0%. Construction accounts for a large share of employment in the tertiary sector – some 34% – but the industrial section accounts for the bigger share, at 66%. Construction makes up 20% of turnover in this sector, industry 80%. These figures illustrate the continued strength of the Swiss construction and highlight its role as a vital and rapidly growing section of economic activity.

## Methodological appendix

### Sources

The results in this press release come from the following surveys:

The **Job Statistics (JOBSTAT)** cover NOGA sections B to S.

The survey is based on a random sample of some 18 000 secondary and tertiary sector enterprises. Data on jobs, vacancies, difficulties in recruiting personnel and the employment outlook are collected on a quarterly basis.

The **Industry Production, Orders and Turnover Statistics (INDPAU)** cover NOGA sections B to E.

The survey is based on a random sample of around 3000 enterprises. It is a quarterly survey for which turnover data are collected monthly. The Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) and the Swiss Gas Industry Association (VSG) provide data on the electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply sector (NOGA 35). The Swiss organisation for the compulsory stockpiling of oil products (CARBURA) provides data on the manufacture of refined petroleum products (NOGA 19).

The **Construction Industry Production, Orders and Turnover Statistics (BAPAU)** cover NOGA section F.

The quarterly survey is based on a random sample of around 3000 enterprises. The Swiss Contractors' Association (SBV) conducts its own survey among its members (some 1300 companies). Data from this survey is used by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) to calculate the building construction (NOGA 41) and civil engineering figures (NOGA 42) for the BAPAU statistics.

The **Retail Trade Turnover Statistics (DHU)** cover NOGA division 47 (retail trade).

They are based on a random sample of some 3000 enterprises. It is a monthly survey, with small-sized companies being asked to provide monthly turnover figures on a quarterly basis.

The **Turnover Statistics in the Services Sector (DLU)** cover the NOGA market activities G to N (excluding K).

The survey is based on a random sample of approximately 7000 enterprises. This is a monthly survey, with small-sized companies being asked to provide monthly turnover figures on a quarterly basis.

### Market activities

Market activities are economic activities that generate turnover on the market. The concept of market activities includes the industrial sector, the construction industry and services. It is based on the Eurostat concept of 'Total Market Production'.

*It encompasses:*

Industry:

- B Mining and quarrying
- C Manufacturing
- D Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply

Construction:

- F Construction

Wholesale and retail trade:

- G Wholesale and retail trade and repair and maintenance of motor vehicles and motorcycles
  - 45 Wholesale trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
  - 46 Wholesale trade
  - 47 Retail trade

Services:

- H Transportation and storage
- I Accommodation and food service activities
- J Information and communication
- L Real estate activities
- M Professional, scientific and technical activities (except divisions 72 and 75 and group 70.1)
- N Administrative and support service activities

*It does not include:*

- K Financial and insurance activities
- O Public administration
- P Education
- Q Human health and social work activities
- R Arts, entertainment and recreation
- S Other service activities
- or divisions 72 Scientific research and development, 75 Veterinary activities or group 70.1 Activities of head offices.

### Nomenclatures

The statistics are based on the General Classification of Economic Activities (NOGA) from the year 2008, which meets international standards and classifies businesses into different economic activity groups based on their

economic activities.

### **Calendar adjustment**

Turnover changes are adjusted for working days and holidays.

The calendar adjustment process recalculates the time series for each new value. Published, adjusted figures may vary slightly for this reason.

### **Additional results**

All results are published on the statistics website:

[Job Statistics \(JOBSTAT\) | Federal Statistical Office \(admin.ch\)](#)

[Secondary sector | Federal Statistical Office \(admin.ch\)](#)

[Tertiary sector | Federal Statistical Office \(admin.ch\)](#)

[STAT-TAB – Interactive tables | Federal Statistical \(admin.ch\)](#)

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## **Online**

Further information and publications: [www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home.gnpdetail.2025-0622.html](http://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home.gnpdetail.2025-0622.html)

Statistics counts for you: [www.statistics-counts.ch](http://www.statistics-counts.ch)

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## **Access to results**

This press release has been established on the basis of the European Statistics Code of Practice, which ensures the independence, integrity and accountability of national and community statistical offices. Privileged access is supervised and under embargo.

The Swiss National Bank (exercise of its monetary policy) and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (production of quarterly GDP estimate) received the data forming the basis of this press release five working days before publication for the purpose of the tasks mentioned. The press agencies received this press release with an embargo of 15 minutes.