



Trajectories in the Social Security System (SHIVALV)

Description

The Statistics on Trajectories in the Social Security System (SHIVALV) are an exhaustive annual statistical survey covering all persons in the permanent resident population aged between 18 and 64/65 who receive financial assistance from one or more of Switzerland's three social benefit schemes: unemployment insurance (UI), social assistance (SA) and invalidity insurance (II). Additional information on employment is obtained from the individual OASI accounts for this group of people.

Monthly data is used to produce longitudinal indicators offering an insight into receipt of benefits from one or more systems. These indicators also provide information on recipients entering and leaving the system, retention rates, re-entry and transitions as people enter, leave and move between the various benefit systems. A typology of trajectory profiles and comprehensive graphical representations is also provided. The results are broken down by socio-demographic characteristics.

Methodology

These statistics are based on administrative data from the Swiss unemployment insurance scheme (from the employment and labour market statistics system (PLASTA) and the payment system for unemployment insurance funds [SIPAC]; SECO), the central registers for social insurance (invalidity insurance, individual social security accounts, Central Compensation Office, Federal Social Insurance Office) and the Social Assistance Statistics (FSO) (annual exhaustive survey). Data from the STATPOP population statistics are also included. Data from various sources are linked to create a new, separate data record at the level of the individual. This essentially shows, for each person in the population and for each month of the survey period, whether they received benefits from any one of the three social benefit systems (unemployment insurance, social assistance or invalidity insurance) and whether or not they received income from work.

The figures on social assistance only cover recipients of financial assistance (i.e. social assistance in the narrower sense). In the case of invalidity insurance recipients, the statistics only cover pensions (partial and full pensions).

This includes recipients of unemployment insurance, invalidity insurance or social assistance who received financial benefits in the form of daily unemployment insurance allowances, invalidity insurance pensions or social assistance during the survey period. The dataset includes all benefit recipients aged between 18 and 64/65 who reside in Switzerland.

Variables used:

- Monthly data on benefit status (unemployment, invalidity, social assistance) and economic activity status
- Number of benefit recipients, recipient rates and recipients of multiple benefits
- Trajectory indicators including entry and exit from the system, retention rates, re-entry to the system and transitions as people enter, leave and move between the different benefit systems, in addition to a typology of trajectory profiles.
- socio-demographic characteristics

Survey date / period:

- Available since 2010
- The dataset is usually produced in the 2nd quarter of year T for the data year T-

Periodicity:

- Annual

Degree of regionalisation:

- Switzerland

Linkages:

- Unemployment insurance registers (PLASTA/SIPAC; SECO)
- Social insurance central registers (invalidity insurance, individual account; Central Compensation Office, CCO)
- Social Assistance Statistics (SHS, FSO)
- Population Statistics (STATPOP, FSO)

Revision policy

Routine revisions

- The indicators on trends in the social security system are reviewed annually: Indicators released for the current year are provisional; definitive results are published in the following year.

Methodological revisions:

- The methodology is revised as necessary.
- 2023 release: The base data was completed with data from the population statistics (STATPOP) and individual social security accounts (CI). The indicators underwent a review, whereby the existing indicators were revised and new indicators introduced. New indicators have been calculated for the entire time series (from 2010).
- 2024 release: The method for calculating individual indicators was revised to increase consistency and accuracy. A routine revision was also introduced. New indicators have been produced for the entire time series (from 2010).

Details of the methodological revisions are explained in the different revision analyses in [German](#) and [French](#).

Legal basis

Federal Statistics Act (FStatA) of 9 October 1992 (SR 431.01)

Ordinance of 30 April 2025 on Federal Statistics (SR 431.011)

Organisation

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