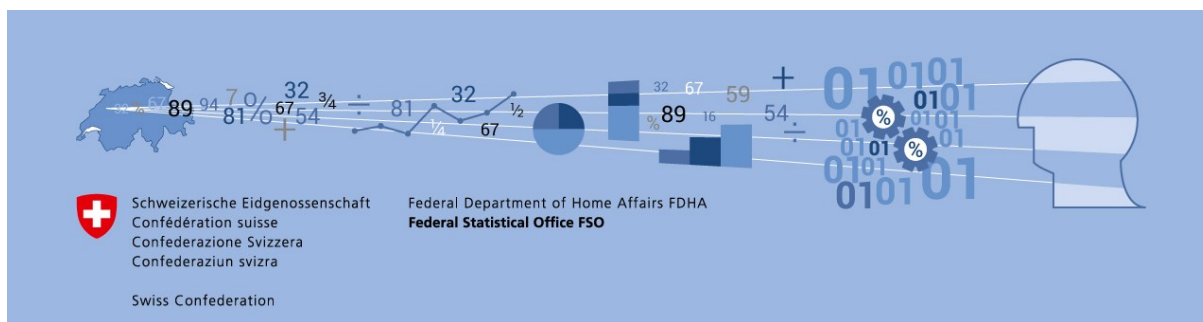




Press Release

Embargo: 26.10.2026, 8:30 am

04 National Economy

Gross domestic product and labour productivity in 2011–2024: regional data

Revision of cantonal GDP: A more accurate picture of regional economies

Following the revision of Switzerland's gross domestic product (GDP), published in 2025, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) is releasing a revised provisional series of cantonal GDP figures for the period from 2011 to 2024. This revision noticeably alters the GDP levels of the cantons, while for the most part confirming the observed long-term growth trends.

In recent years, the Swiss economy has undergone a profound change, shaped by globalisation, the growing specialisation within certain activities and changes to firm (enterprise) structures. In order to better reflect these changes, the FSO has completely revised the method used to regionalise gross value added (GVA), on which the calculation of cantonal GDP is based (see box).

The new method is based on a bottom-up approach using data specific to each firm. From now on, the majority of the value added is no longer estimated but is taken directly from this microdata or fixed at the firm level. At this stage, the validation analyses have focused on aggregated data. More detailed analyses by sector still need to be carried out, which explains why the results are still provisional. The FSO will publish the more detailed, consolidated results in March 2027.

Revised levels but similar trajectories

For 2022, the last year for which GDP was calculated using the old method, the revision results in significantly higher GDP figures in eight cantons (Schaffhausen, Zug, Geneva, Neuchâtel, Basel-Stadt, Schwyz, Vaud and Nidwalden), with the largest revision in Schaffhausen (+48.5%). This reflects the concentration of highly productive industries and Schaffhausen's role as an economic centre for Eastern Switzerland. All the results by canton are presented at the end of the press release.

In the other cantons, the figures were revised downwards. The extent of the changes varies by canton. Despite these adjustments, the growth profiles remain broadly similar. The cantons that recorded the highest growth before the revision generally retain this position afterwards. Despite the changes in level, the hierarchy of cantons based on their GDP remains relatively stable.

Increased regional concentration of high value-added activities

The new method allows value added to be linked more directly to the locations where it is actually created, which improves the way the regional concentration of certain industries is taken into account. In Basel-Stadt, for example, it is now easier to assign the value added of the sector “industry and construction” to this canton, leading the figure to be revised upwards. In Geneva and Zug, the main adjustments concern the trade sector.

Depending on the size of the cantonal economy, a few large firms can have a significant influence on the results. The increased use of more detailed data offers the advantage of better reflecting the economic reality. However, the disadvantage is that the estimations are more susceptible to fluctuations from one year to the next.

It should also be noted that the value added of public administration activities has been revised downwards across all cantons. This adjustment does not convey a decline in public administration activities, but is mainly the result of methodological adjustments introduced during the 2025 revision of Switzerland’s GDP. The change can be explained in particular by the statistical re-classification of public teaching activities in another economic sector, and a new method for allocating military expenditure.

GDP growth between 2023 and 2024 in most cantons

Between 2023 and 2024, GDP at the previous year’s prices grew in 17 of 26 cantons. Some of the sharpest rises were recorded in Zug (+11.0%), Schaffhausen (+9.0%) and Basel-Stadt (+6.4%). In Zug, the increase is principally driven by industry and services, while trade showed more moderate growth. In Schaffhausen, energy, education and health activities as well as trade contributed the most to economic growth. On the other hand, industrial activities saw less dynamic growth in Schaffhausen. Finally, in Basel-Landschaft, growth is mainly driven by financial activities and services.

Of the nine cantons in which GDP declined between 2023 and 2024, six (Fribourg, Geneva, Nidwalden, Graubünden, St Gallen and Bern) fall within a range between –0.5% and –1.9%. Valais (–2.6%), Ticino (–3.9%) and Jura (–7.7%) recorded the most marked declines in 2024. Valais experienced a downturn in industry, trade and services, while energy, education and health recorded modest growth. Ticino recorded a decline in all economic activities apart from public administration. Finally, in the canton of Jura, industry declined in 2024, affecting the economy of the entire canton, as did services.

Contrasting labour productivity trends in the major regions

Following a 0.8% decline in 2023, hourly labour productivity at national level rose by 1.4% in 2024. However, the changes at previous year’s prices vary widely between major regions, with a marked increase in two regions, weak growth in two other regions, and a decline in three regions. For the second year in a row, Ticino saw the biggest drop in productivity (–3.7%), driven by a marked decline in GDP (–3.9%) and a slight decrease in actual hours worked (–0.3%).

Conversely, hourly labour productivity more than doubled in Central Switzerland in 2024. With an increase of 6.3%, it is the region that experienced the most growth on this metric. Northwestern Switzerland also recorded a strong increase (+4.4%), mainly driven by sustained GDP growth (+4.0%), particularly in Basel-Landschaft. The productivity of this major region has therefore grown every year since 2021, with rates of between 3.5% and 8.7%. Finally, productivity fell slightly in the Lake Geneva region (–0.5%), where the increase in actual hours worked (+1.4%) exceeded GDP growth (+0.9%).

Methodological revision of cantonal GDP, 2026

Until now, economic output has been estimated for the major regions and distributed top-down to the cantons, primarily on the basis of the employment figures. This implicitly assumed that the value added per job within an industry was uniform across regions. As value added is increasingly decoupled from the pure employment figures, this assumption now falls short.

The new method uses a bottom-up approach based on granular microdata from individual establishments. Most of the value added is now no longer estimated, but can be taken directly from the microdata or fixed at firm level. For a smaller part of the data, a mixed effects model is used. This makes it possible to estimate the contribution to value added of the establishments of complex, multi-regional firms. Industry- and canton-specific features are incorporated into the estimation of the economic structure.

To optimally support this methodological switch, the level of detail in the publication will be gradually expanded. The current provisional model will be followed by disaggregated data as experimental statistics in March 2027. From this date, a retropolation of the historical time series from 2000 will be published to allow long-term comparisons. The gradual expansion will be completed in October 2027 when the definitive detailed data are published.

Information

Information

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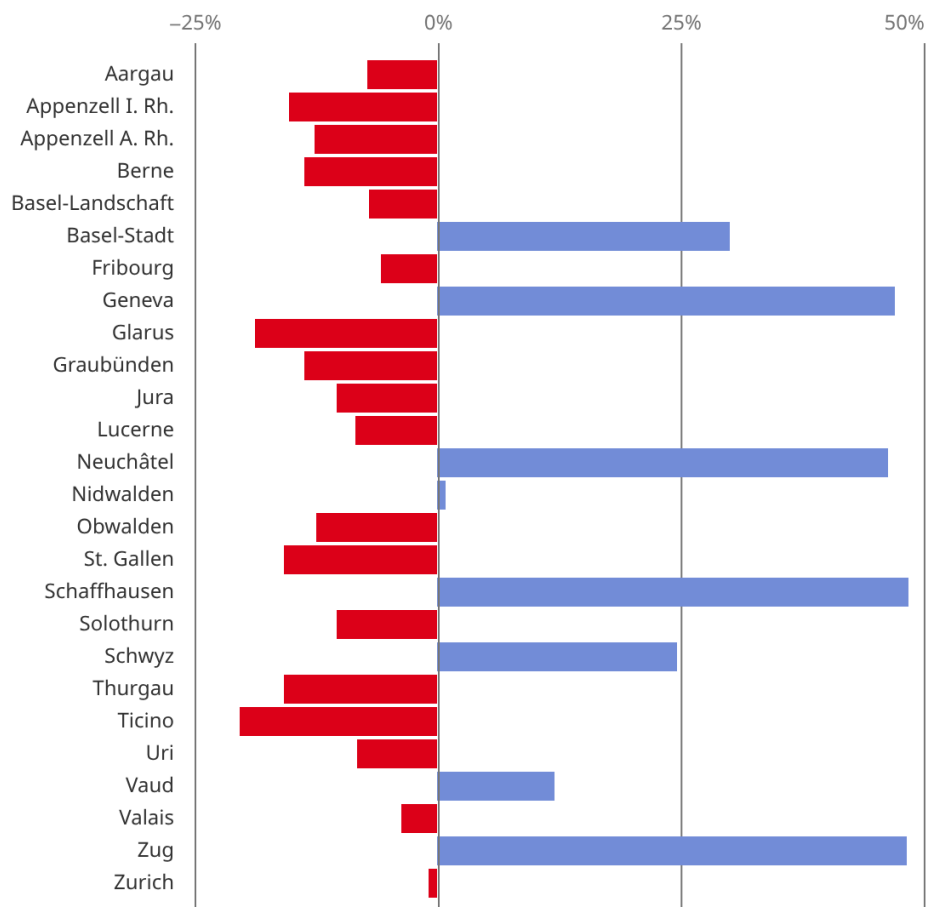
Access to results

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.

To enable them to carry out their duties, the cantons and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs received access to the information in this press release four working days prior to release.

Impact of revision on cantonal gross domestic product, 2022

Change in GDP



Provisional data

Data as on: 26.10.2026

Source: FSO – National Accounts (NA)

gr-e-04.02.06.04

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Gross domestic product: Comparison before and after revision

Reference year 2022

Canton	GDP in 2022 (billion CHF)			GDP per capita in 2022 (CHF)		
	Old method	New method	Revision	Old method	New method	Revision
 Aargau	47.5	44.1	-7.2%	67'224	62'162	-7.5%
 Appenzell Ausserrhoden	3.7	3.3	-12.7%	67'341	58'527	-13.1%
 Appenzell Innerrhoden	1.2	1.0	-15.2%	75'526	63'797	-15.5%
 Basel-Landschaft	22.8	21.2	-7.1%	77'693	71'922	-7.4%
 Basel-Stadt	41.2	53.6	+30.0%	209'782	271'612	+29.5%
 Bern	89.4	77.1	-13.8%	85'151	73'181	-14.1%
 Fribourg	21.4	20.2	-5.8%	64'502	60'557	-6.1%
 Geneva	61.2	90.0	+47.0%	119'644	175'175	+46.4%
 Glarus	3.1	2.5	-18.7%	75'430	61'088	-19.0%
 Graubünden	16.7	14.4	-13.6%	82'817	71'288	-13.9%
 Jura	5.8	5.2	-10.4%	78'546	70'102	-10.8%
 Lucerne	31.9	29.2	-8.5%	75'544	68'862	-8.8%
 Neuchâtel	18.7	27.4	+46.4%	106'165	154'894	+45.9%
 Nidwalden	3.3	3.3	+0.7%	74'952	75'245	+0.4%
 Obwalden	2.9	2.5	-12.5%	74'902	65'357	-12.7%
 Schaffhausen	8.5	12.7	+48.5%	100'959	149'323	+47.9%
 Schwyz	11.6	14.5	+24.7%	70'739	87'897	+24.3%
 Solothurn	20.8	18.6	-10.4%	73'803	65'913	-10.7%
 St. Gallen	44.6	37.6	-15.8%	85'320	71'633	-16.0%
 Thurgau	20.3	17.1	-15.8%	70'504	59'198	-16.0%
 Ticino	36.1	28.7	-20.4%	102'190	80'997	-20.7%
 Uri	2.2	2.0	-8.3%	58'392	53'332	-8.7%
 Valais	21.8	21.0	-3.8%	61'387	58'890	-4.1%
 Vaud	64.5	72.3	+12.1%	78'021	87'114	+11.7%
 Zug	25.2	37.3	+48.3%	192'958	285'102	+47.8%
 Zurich	164.5	162.9	-1.0%	104'620	103'243	-1.3%

The population figures before and after the revision have changed as a result of the reclassification of residents with protection status S.

Data status: 26.10.2026
Source: FSO - National Accounts

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Gross domestic product and growth by canton - new model

Reference year 2024

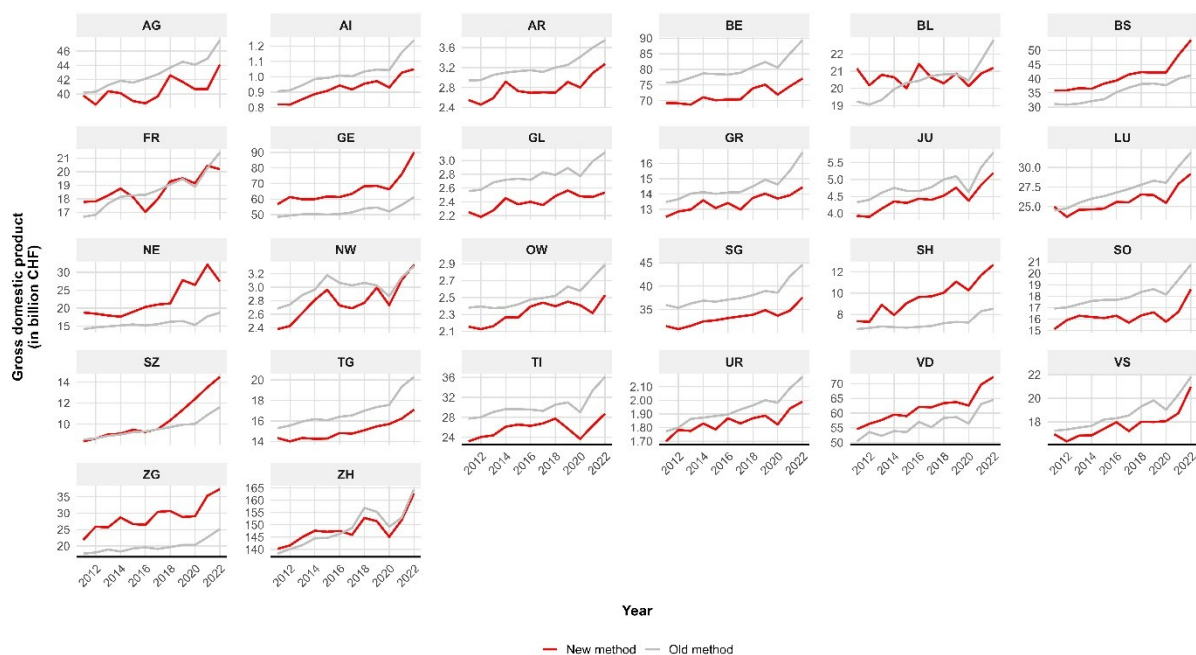
Canton	GDP (billion CHF) 2024	Growth rate (PYP) 2023-2024	GDP per capita (CHF)2024
 Aargau	46.9	2.7%	64'013
 Appenzell Ausserrhoden	3.1	0.1%	54'642
 Appenzell Innerrhoden	1.1	1.2%	67'414
 Basel-Landschaft	24.4	6.4%	81'193
 Basel-Stadt	60.3	3.9%	300'128
 Bern	82.0	-1.9%	76'747
 Fribourg	21.3	-0.5%	61'791
 Geneva	87.4	-1.0%	165'459
 Glarus	2.9	5.4%	69'822
 Graubünden	15.4	-1.7%	74'679
 Jura	5.0	-7.7%	67'176
 Lucerne	35.6	4.4%	81'675
 Neuchâtel	25.6	2.6%	142'993
 Nidwalden	3.5	-1.4%	76'840
 Obwalden	2.7	2.3%	69'602
 Schaffhausen	13.3	9.0%	151'492
 Schwyz	13.3	0.1%	78'794
 Solothurn	19.8	5.0%	68'511
 St. Gallen	37.0	-1.8%	68'688
 Thurgau	18.5	1.9%	62'163
 Ticino	27.9	-3.9%	77'707
 Uri	2.1	0.6%	55'133
 Valais	21.8	-2.6%	59'186
 Vaud	80.7	4.1%	94'739
 Zug	42.4	11.0%	317'725
 Zurich	167.0	0.8%	103'442

Data status: 26.10.2026

Source: FSO - National Accounts

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Method comparison: Gross domestic product (GDP)



Data status: 26.10.2026
Source: FSO - National Accounts

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