



# Press release

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## 2 Territory and environment

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New results of the Swiss Land Use Statistics

### More settlement and urban areas, fewer agricultural areas

Neuchâtel, 22.11.2013 (FSO) – **Switzerland's settlement and urban area has increased by 584 km<sup>2</sup> over a 24 year period. This is equivalent to the size of Lake Geneva. The increase is mainly at the expense of agricultural areas. The forest expanded in the higher regions while at the same time one quarter of glaciers disappeared. These are the current results of the Swiss Land Use Statistics conducted by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) which are now available for two, twelve-year periods for the first time.**

SWISS FEDERAL STATISTICAL OFFICE  
Press Office

You can find the complete text of the press release in German, French or Italian:

For German see: [Bundesamt für Statistik > Aktuell > Medienmitteilungen](#)

For French see: [Office fédéral de la statistique > Actualités > Communiqués de presse](#)

For Italian see: [Ufficio federale di statistica > Attualità > Comunicati stampa](#)