

2018



21

Sustainable
development,
regional and
international
disparities

Neuchâtel 2018

Agenda 2030 – A Brief Guide 2018

23 key indicators to monitor the 2030 Agenda goals
for sustainable development



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Switzerland has had a sustainable development monitoring system since 2003. This MONET system of indicators (acronym for the German "Monitoring der nachhaltigen Entwicklung" Monitoring Sustainable Development) makes it possible to determine the extent to which Switzerland is on the path to sustainable development.

The MONET system was extended to take into account the 2030 Agenda goals and its targets adapted to the Swiss context. This extended system includes 85 indicators that have recently been published on the Swiss Statistics website (www.monet2030.admin.ch). This allows for the statistical observation of the implementation of these goals in the Swiss context.

This brochure shows the 23 key indicators taken from the MONET 2030 indicator system, which summarise Switzerland's position in the implementation of this political agenda. Further information on 2030 Agenda are available on page 29.

Are we on the right track?

The assessment of each indicator is represented by one of the symbols below. They result from a comparison of the targeted trend (white arrow against a blue background) and the observed trend (black arrow against white background). In certain cases, the observed development cannot be determined due to technical reasons or the length of the time series. The indicator trend is therefore not qualified (grey box).

Trend:

-  positive (towards the goal of sustainable development)
-  negative (against the goal of sustainable development)
-  unchanged
-  no assessment

This method does not inform about the achievement of a goal. It only shows whether or not the observed trend is heading towards the goal. The trends are analysed from 2000 to the latest available value. For more recent series, the analysis goes back to the year of available data. The start of the analysed period is marked with a ▲ in the graphics if it does not coincide with the beginning of the period shown.

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No poverty

Swiss target 1.2: *Poverty in Switzerland is declining in the long term.*

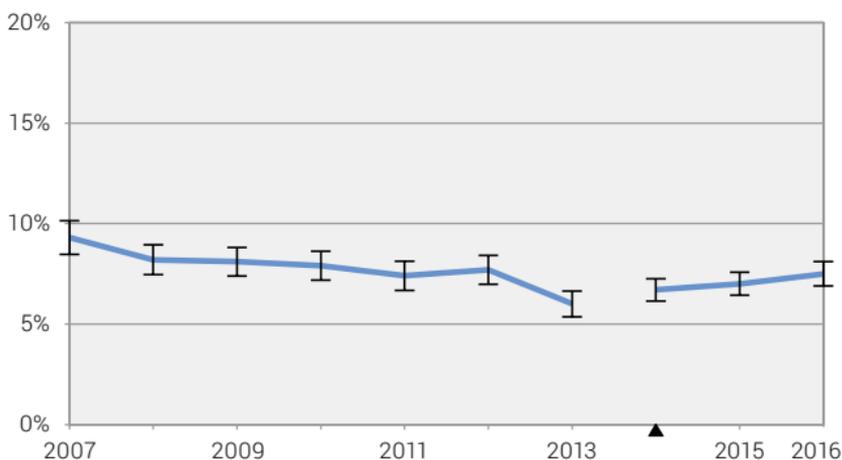
Poverty is more than the lack of income and resources to ensure a sustainable livelihood. Its manifestations include hunger and malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion as well as the lack of participation in decision-making.



Poverty rate

Share of the permanent resident population in private households living under the poverty line

G1



┌ confidence interval (95%)

Excluding the imputed rent

2014: break in the time series due to methodological adaptations

Source: FSO – Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)

© FSO 2018

- 7.5% of Switzerland's population was living below the poverty line in 2016.
- The development between 2014 and 2016 is not significant.
- In 2016, the poverty rate among women was 1.9 percentage points higher than that among men.
- People are considered as poor if they do not have the financial means to buy goods and services that are necessary for a socially integrated life.



Zero hunger

Swiss targets 2.1/2.2: *The population has a healthy and balanced diet.*

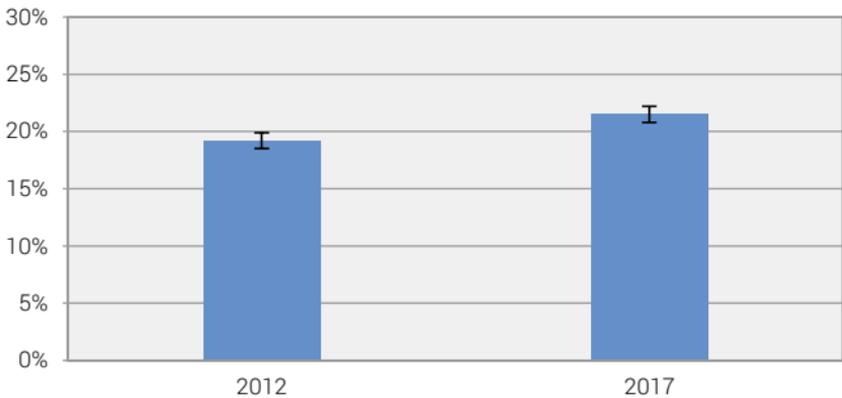
Agriculture, forestry and fisheries can provide nutritious food for all and generate decent incomes, while supporting people-centred rural development and protecting the environment.



Fruit and vegetables consumption

Percentage of the population that eats at least 5 portions of fruit and vegetables per day (on at least 5 days per week)

G2.1



I confidence interval (95%)

Source: FSO – Swiss Health Survey (SHS)

© FSO 2018

- 21.5% of the population ate at least 5 portions of fruit and vegetables per day on at least 5 days per week in 2017.
- Twice as many women as men followed this type of diet.



Zero hunger

Swiss target 2.4 (excerpt): [...] Agriculture [...] increases resource efficiency, thus helping to reduce Switzerland's ecological footprint.

Agriculture, forestry and fisheries can provide nutritious food for all and generate decent incomes, while supporting people-centred rural development and protecting the environment.

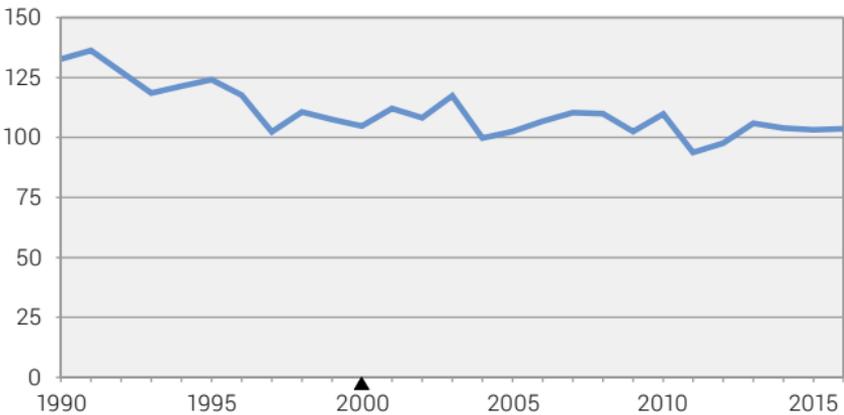


Nitrogen balance from agriculture

Difference between the quantities of nitrogen entering cultivated land and those extracted from it

G2.2

Thousand tonnes



1990–2015: revised data

Source: FSO – Nitrogen balance

© FSO 2018

- In 2016, the annual nitrogen surplus in Swiss agriculture was 103 600 tonnes.
- A decrease of 1% has been observed since 2000.
- A surplus of nitrogen is a source of air and water pollution.



Good health and well-being

Swiss target 3.4 (excerpt): *The increase in the morbidity burden due to non-communicable diseases and mental disorders has been halted and premature deaths are on the decline [...].*

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being for all at all ages is essential to sustainable development. Significant strides have been made in increasing life expectancy.

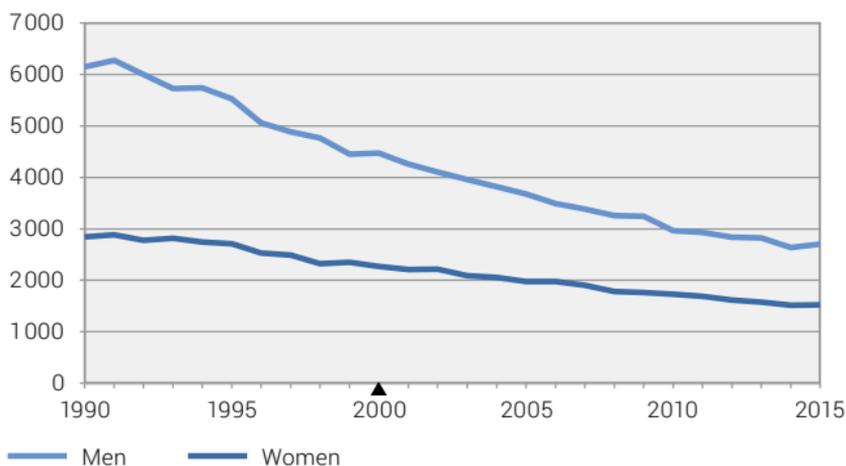


Years of potential life lost

Standardised rate by age for 100 000 population, all causes of death, standard European population

G3

Standardised rate



Source: FSO – Cause of death statistics (CoD)

© FSO 2018

- In 2015, the number of potential years of life lost before the age of 70 per 100 000 inhabitants in Switzerland was 1 521 for women and 2 703 for men.
- A decrease of 33% for women and 39.6% for men has been observed since 2000.
- The decline observed is due, among other things, to changes in individual behaviour, prevention and health promotion measures as well as medical advances.



Quality education

Swiss target 4.1 (excerpt): *During compulsory schooling, all children learn and develop basic knowledge [...].*

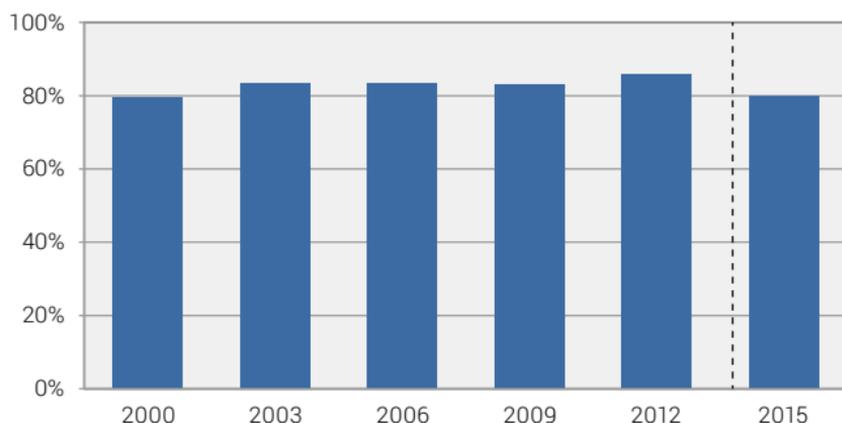
Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to improving people's lives and sustainable development.



Reading skills of 15-year-olds

Share of 15-year-olds reaching at least reading skills level 2 (scale <1 to 6¹)

G4



¹ 2009: Change in the skills profiles

2015: break in the time series due to methodological adaptations

Sources: FSO – Consortium PISA.ch

© FSO 2018

- 80% of 15-year-olds in Switzerland attained at least the minimum level required to manage modern daily life in 2015.
- An increase of 6.3 percentage points is observed between 2000 and 2012 (2015 not comparable, owing to a change in methodology).
- The ability to read is an essential skill to develop one's knowledge and to actively participate in society.



Gender equality

Swiss target 5.1: Men and women have equal rights. The law ensures their legal and actual equality.

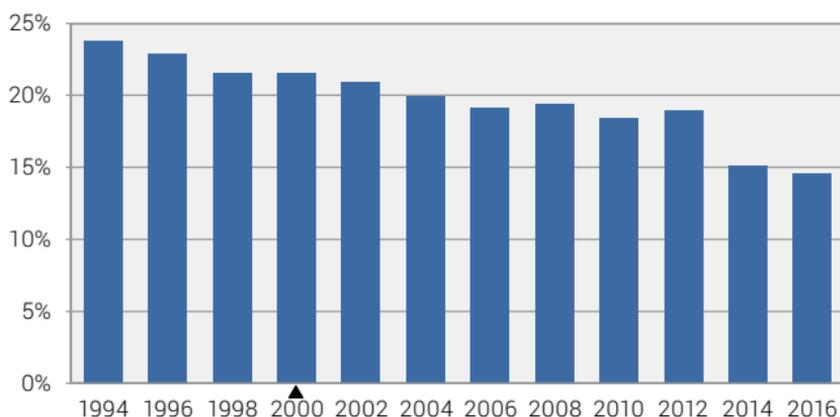
Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. Providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes will fuel sustainable economies and benefit societies and humanity at large.



Wage gap between women and men

Wage gap¹ between women and men as a percentage of men's monthly gross wage, private sector

G5.1



¹ Compared to the median wage

Source: FSO – Swiss Earnings Structure Survey (ESS)

© FSO 2018

- In Switzerland, women earned 14.6% less than men in the private sector in 2016.
- A decrease of 6.9 percentage points has been observed since 2000.
- This gap can be explained in part by the over-representation of women in low-paid jobs and by a lower level of education, in particular among women of a certain age.



Gender equality

Swiss target 5.2: All forms of violence against women and girls are largely curbed.

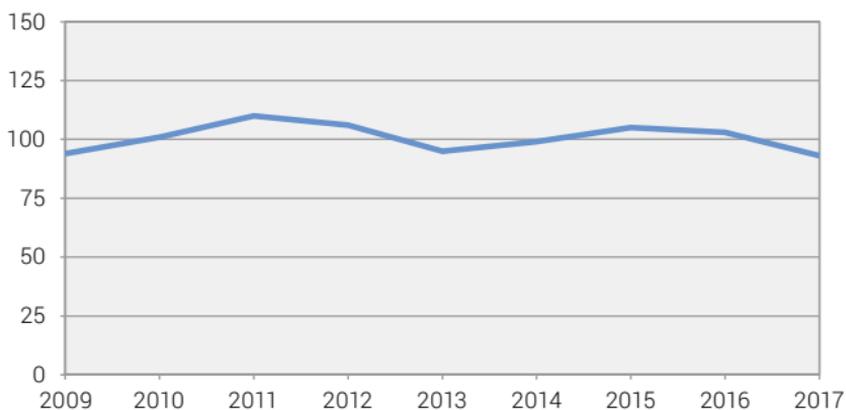
Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.



Domestic violence

Number of victims of serious, physical domestic violence recorded by the police

G5.2



Source: FSO – Police crime statistic (PCS)

© FSO 2018

- In 2017, 65 women and 28 men were recorded as victims of serious domestic violence.
- Qualification of the development is not appropriate given the number of cases.
- Serious physical violence considered in the domestic context includes murder, attempted murder with serious bodily harm and serious bodily harm.



Clean water and sanitation

Swiss target 6.1 (excerpt): Switzerland ensures the preservation of groundwater resources to guarantee the quality of its drinking water in the long term [...].

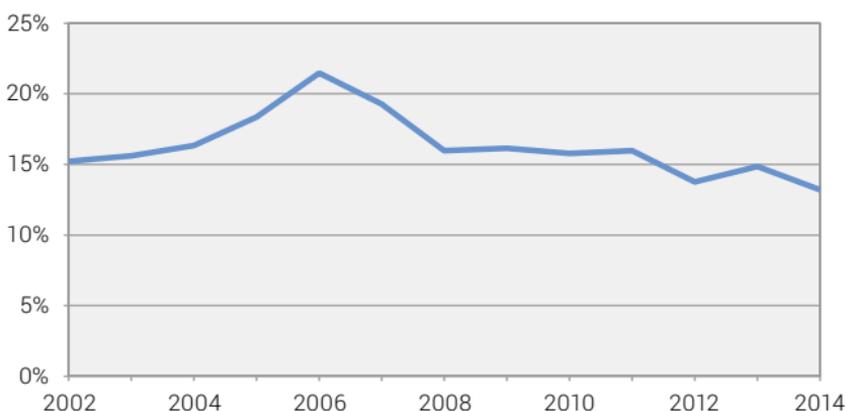
Clean, accessible water for all is an essential part of the world we want to live in.



Nitrate in groundwater

Percentage of monitoring sites with exceedances of nitrate level requirements (25 mg/l)

G6



Source: FOEN – NAQUA

© FSO 2018

- In 2014, 13.2% of Switzerland's groundwater monitoring sites exhibited nitrate concentrations above the statutory levels (25mg/l).
- Given the variability of the data, no significant trend can be detected.
- Nitrate enters groundwater mainly through the use of nitrogenous fertilisers in farming. Nitrate concentration is highest in intensively farmed areas.



Affordable and clean energy

Swiss target 7.2 (excerpt): *The share of cost-efficient renewable energies in the total energy consumption is to continuously increase [...].*

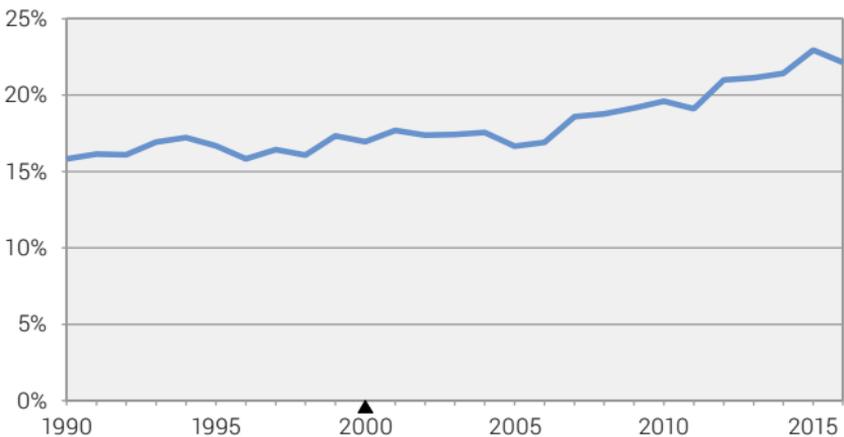
Energy is central to nearly every major challenge and opportunity the world faces today. Sustainable energy is opportunity – it transforms lives, economies and the planet.



Renewable energies

In relation to final energy consumption

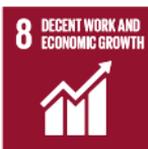
G7



Source: SFOE – Swiss renewable energies statistics

© FSO 2018

- In Switzerland, renewable energies accounted for 22.1% of total energy consumption in 2016.
- An increase of 5.2 percentage points has been observed since 2000.
- Renewable energies include traditional energy sources (hydro-power and wood) and also new energy sources (wind, sun, biofuel, biogas, ambient heat).



Decent work and economic growth

Swiss target 8.2: *The Swiss economy is strengthening its long-term work and resource productivity and is increasing its competitiveness and capacity to innovate.*

Sustainable economic growth will require societies to create the conditions that allow people to have quality jobs that stimulate the economy while not harming the environment. Job opportunities and decent working conditions are also required for the whole working age population.

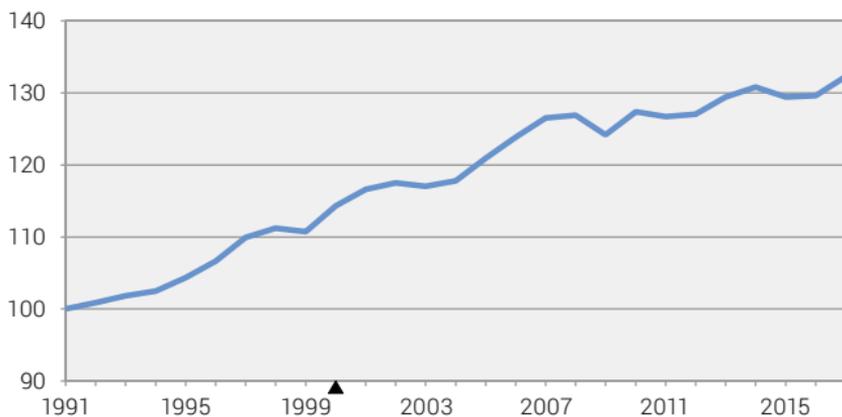


Labour productivity

Hourly labour productivity growth at previous year's prices, reference year 2010

G8.1

Index 1991 = 100

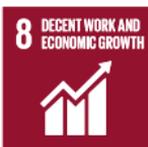


2016 and 2017: provisional data

Source: FSO – National Accounts

© FSO 2018

- Since 2000, labour productivity in Switzerland has risen at an average annual growth rate of 0.9%.
- An increase of 15.7% has been observed since 2000.
- This indicator does not provide any precise information on employment. When not accompanied by economic growth, an increase in labour productivity may also entail a decline in work volume.



Decent work and economic growth

Swiss target 8.6: Broad availability of qualified young people is ensured and broad access to opportunities are offered to young people.

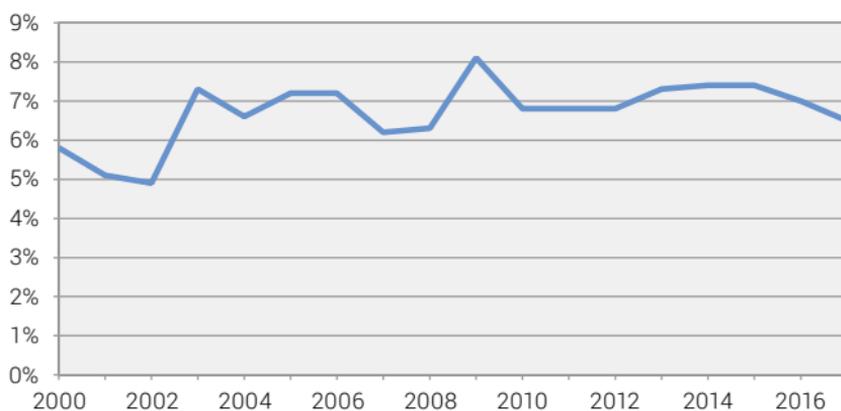
Sustainable economic growth will require societies to create the conditions that allow people to have quality jobs that stimulate the economy while not harming the environment. Job opportunities and decent working conditions are also required for the whole working age population.



NEET: Young people neither in employment nor in training

Percentage of economically inactive young people aged 15 to 24 who are not in education or training

G8.2



Source: Eurostat

© FSO 2018

- 6.5% of young people aged 15 to 24 years were unemployed and not in education or training in 2017.
- A decrease of 0.7 percentage points has been observed since 2000.
- In 2017, the share of young women who were not employed or in training was 2 percentage points lower than the share of young men.



Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Swiss target 9.4: Companies exploit their resource efficiency through optimally designing their production processes and products. The economic and technical potential to close resource cycles is used.

Technological progress is the foundation of efforts to achieve environmental objectives, such as increased resource and energy-efficiency. Without technology and innovation, industrialization will not happen, and without industrialization, development will not happen.

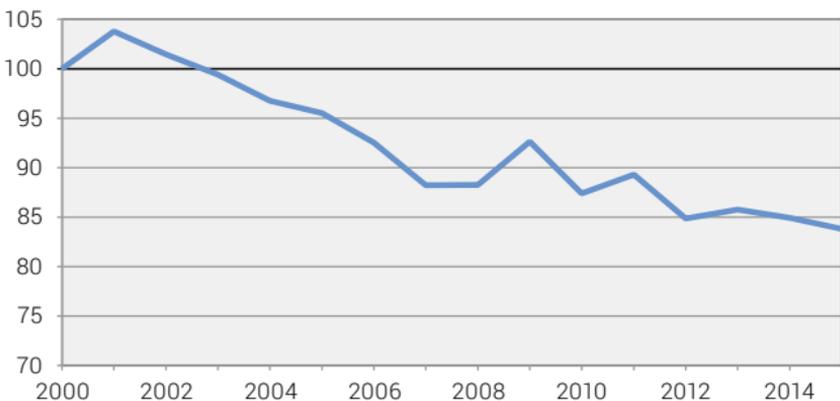


Material intensity

Raw material consumption (RMC) to Gross Domestic Product ratio

G9.1

Index 2000=100



Sources: FSO – Environmental accounts,
National accounts

© FSO 2018

- The ratio of raw material consumption (RMC) to GDP in Switzerland has fallen since 2000 with an annual average decrease of 1.2%.
- A decrease of 16.2% has been observed since 2000.
- As well as raw materials extracted in Switzerland, the domestic raw material consumption (RMC) data also take into account the total amount of raw material used outside Switzerland during production processes and the transport of goods and services consumed in Switzerland.



Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Swiss target 9.5: *Switzerland remains a leader in education, research and innovation.*

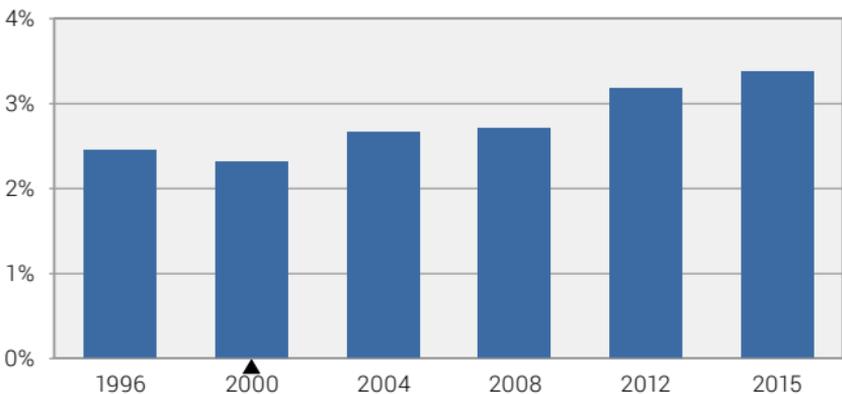
Technological progress is the foundation of efforts to achieve environmental objectives, such as increased resource and energy-efficiency. Without technology and innovation, industrialization will not happen, and without industrialization, development will not happen.



Expenditure on research and development

In relation to gross domestic product

G9.2



Source: FSO – Science and Technology

© FSO 2018

- Research and development expenditure accounted for 3.4% of the GDP in 2015.
- An increase of 1.1 percentage points has been observed since 2000.
- The indicator does not provide any information on the relevance of this spending to sustainable development.



Reduced inequalities

Swiss target 10.4: Inequalities and differences that are no longer justified due to societal trends will be progressively eliminated with future revisions of laws.

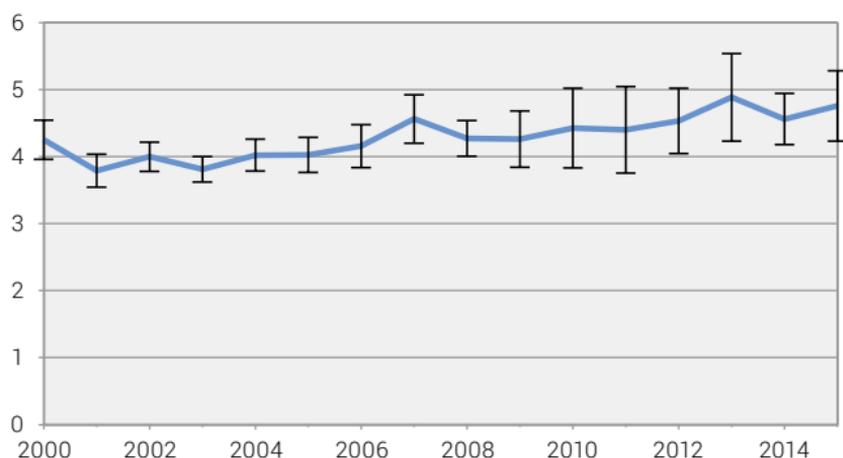
Inequality still persists and large disparities remain in access to health and education services and other assets. Additionally, while income inequality between countries may have been reduced, inequality within countries has risen.



Distribution of equivalised disposable income (S80/S20)

Ratio of income share of the population's highest income quintile to that of the population's lowest income quintile¹

G10.1



I confidence interval (95%)

¹ Quintile share ratio S80/S20

Source: FSO – Household budget survey (HBS)

© FSO 2018

- The equivalised disposable income of the richest 20% was 4.8 times higher than that of the poorest 20% in 2015.
- Income distribution between the richest and the poorest has not changed significantly.
- Disposable income is the income after deduction of government transfers such as taxes and social benefits.



Reduced inequalities

Swiss target 10.a (excerpt): *The Confederation recognises the WTO Agreements on “special and differential treatment provisions” for developing countries and in particular the least developed countries [...].*

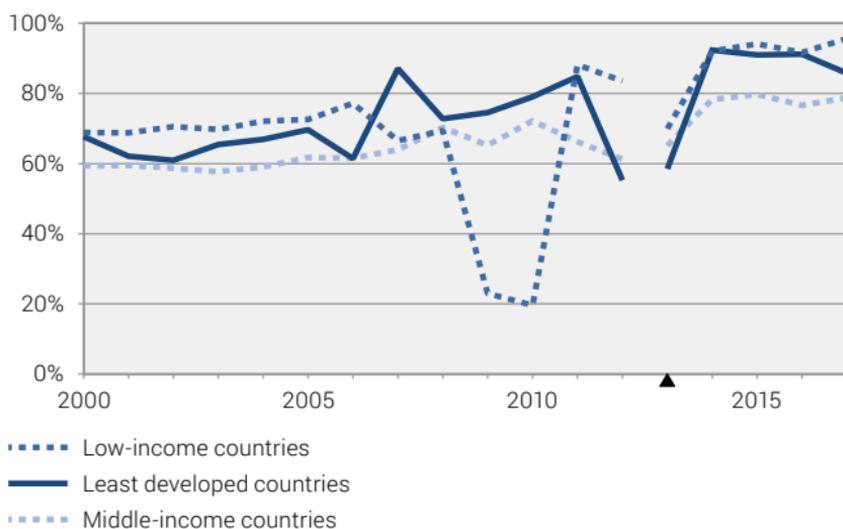
The international community has made significant strides towards lifting people out of poverty. However, inequality still persists and large disparities remain.



Duty-free imports from developing countries

Share of duty-free imports in the total value of all imported goods by countries' income categories ¹

G10.2



¹ Country groups according to OECD/DAC

2012: break in the time series due to methodological adaptations

Source: Swiss Customs Administration – foreign trade statistics

© FSO 2018

- The share of duty-free goods imported into Switzerland from the least developed countries was 85.8% of the total value of imports in 2017.
- An increase of 27.4 percentage points has been observed since 2013.
- This indicator does not provide information on the social and environmental effects of market opening in Switzerland or abroad.

Swiss target 11.1: The proportion of moderately priced dwellings is maintained or increased in high demand areas; disadvantaged population groups have access to affordable housing.

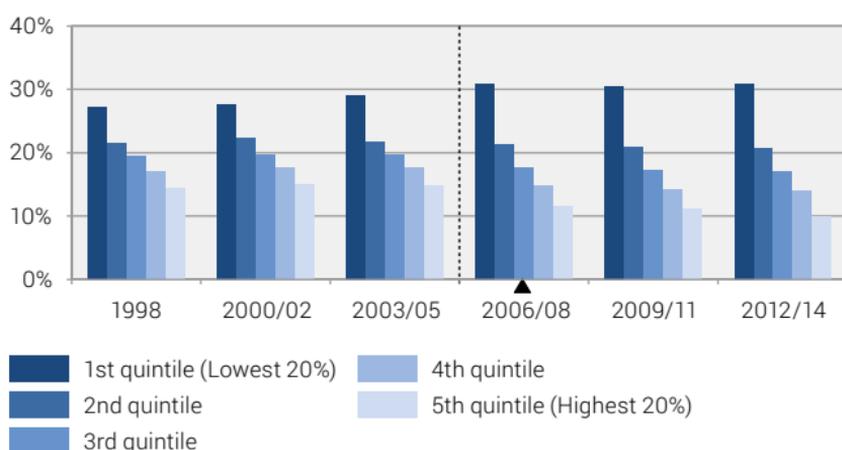
The future we want includes cities of opportunities for all, with access to basic services, energy, housing, transportation and more.



Housing costs

Proportion of housing costs (incl. utilities) in gross household income, by income category

G 11



2006/08: change in definitions and calculation of housing costs

Source: FSO – Household budget survey (HBS)

© UST 2018

- The proportion of rental costs in the disposable income of the poorest households (lowest 20%) in Switzerland came to 31% in 2012/14.
- No change observed since 2006/08.
- Housing costs include rent (or mortgage interest), heating and energy costs, waste removal taxes, water treatment costs as well as ongoing maintenance costs.



Responsible consumption and production

Swiss target 12.5 (excerpt): *The environmental impact of waste is limited [...].*

Sustainable consumption and production aims at "doing more and better with less," increasing net welfare gains from economic activities by reducing resource use, degradation and pollution along the whole lifecycle, while increasing quality of life.

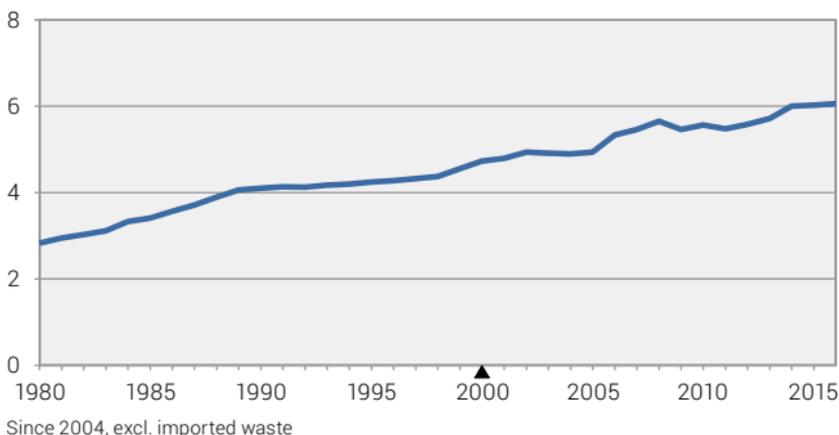


Total municipal waste generation

Incl. recycling

G12

Milions tonnes



Source: FOEN – Waste Statistics

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- Switzerland produced 6.1 million tonnes of municipal waste in 2016, 52.5% of which were collected separately for recycling.
- An increase of 28.1% has been observed since 2000.
- Municipal waste groups together household waste and other similar types of waste from crafts and industry.



Climate action

Swiss target 13.2: By 2030, greenhouse gases have been reduced by 50% compared with 1990 and at least 30% are due to domestic measures (average reduction 2021–2030 of minus 35% or 25%).

Climate change is now affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives, costing people, communities and countries dearly today and even more tomorrow.

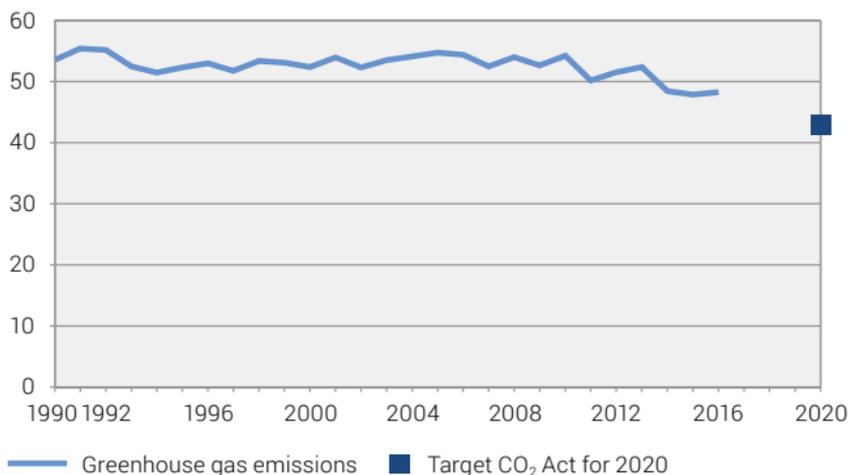


Greenhouse gas emissions

CO₂ equivalents without uptake of CO₂ by forests (carbon sink) and certificates for emission reductions

G13

Millions tonnes



Source: FOEN – Greenhouse gas inventory

© FSO 2018

- Greenhouse gas emissions in CO₂ equivalents amounted to 48.3 million tonnes in 2016.
- A decrease of 9.9% has been observed since 1990 (Reference year for the Federal CO₂ Act). This decrease does not fully correspond to the decline required to fulfil the objective of the Federal CO₂ Act in 2020.
- International air traffic emissions and emissions generated abroad from the production and transportation of imported products are not taken into consideration.



Life below water

Swiss target 14.1: Nitrogen inputs from air and water will be reduced.

The world's oceans – their temperature, chemistry, currents and life – drive global systems that make the Earth habitable for humankind. Careful management of this essential global resource is a key feature of a sustainable future.

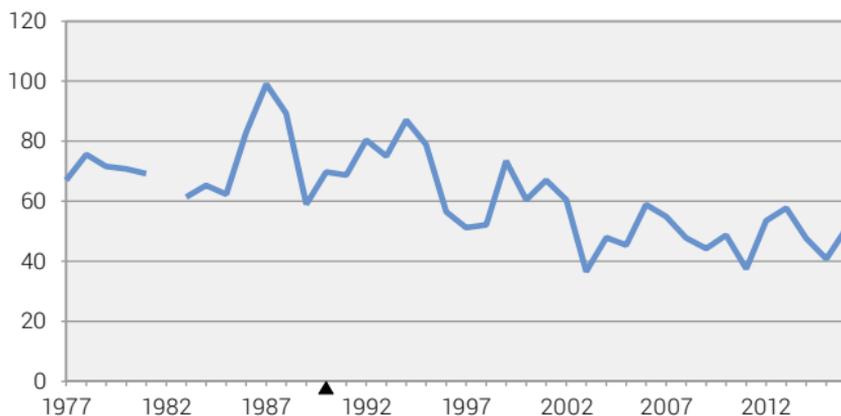


Nitrogen load exported

Total nitrogen load on the Rhine at Basel

G14

Thousand tonnes



Source: Federal office of the Environment FOEN

© FSO 2018

- The total nitrogen load in the Rhine at Basel amounted to 50 686 tonnes in 2016.
- A decrease of 27.4% has been observed since 1990 (the variability in data means that a longer time series has to be taken into consideration in order to detect any trend).
- Annual variations are caused by weather conditions and in particular precipitation patterns.



Life on land

Swiss target 15.3: Soil functions are sustainably conserved. Land use does not lead to degradation and where possible soils and their functionality are restored.

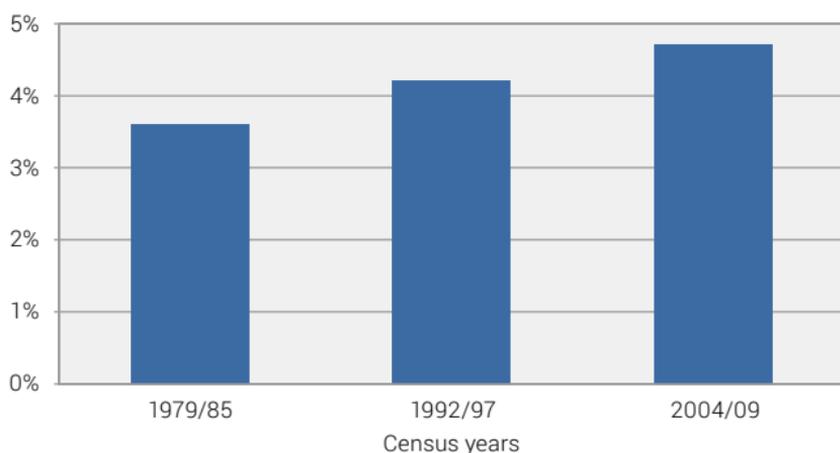
Conservation of biodiversity is essential to social and economic development, and to human survival. In our country, spatial planning has a large impact on biodiversity and ecosystems.



Soil sealing

Soil sealing as a percentage of total land area

G15.1



Source: FSO – Land use statistics (AREA)

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- In 2009, 4.7% of the land area was sealed with impermeable material.
- An increase of 1 percentage point has been observed since 1985, i.e. around 43 300 hectares.
- Sealed areas include buildings, greenhouses and areas covered with hard surfaces (asphalt, concrete, artificially laid gravel or stone surfaces, etc.).



Life on land

Swiss target 15.5: *By 2020, the conservation status of populations of national priority species will be improved and extinction prevented insofar as possible. The state of endangered habitats will be improved.*

Conservation of biodiversity is essential to social and economic development, and to human survival. In our country, spatial planning has a large impact on biodiversity and ecosystems.

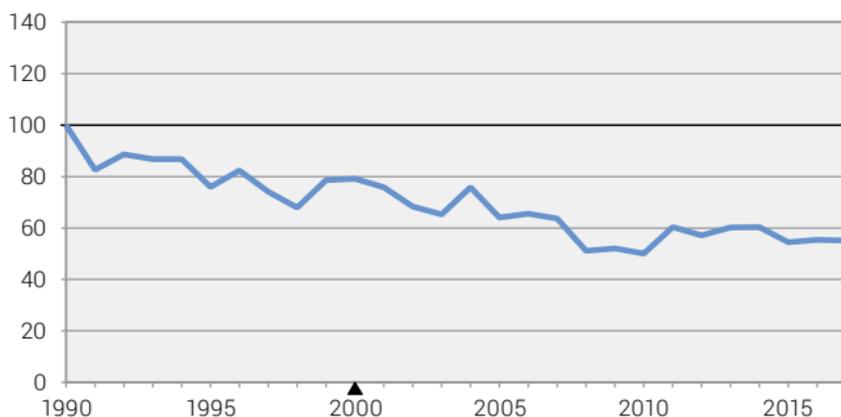


Red List

Trend in breeding bird populations from the Red List

G15.2

Index 1990 = 100



Source: Swiss Ornithological Institute

© FSO 2018

- Since 2000, populations of breeding birds on the red list have declined at an average annual rate of 2.1%.
- A decrease of 30.3% has been observed since 2000.
- The observation of long-term trends enables conclusions to be drawn about the success of measures implemented for the conservation of species, changes in their habitats and the impact of harmful factors.



Peace, justice and strong institutions

Swiss target 16.1: Switzerland prevents violence, crime and terrorism and fights them effectively.

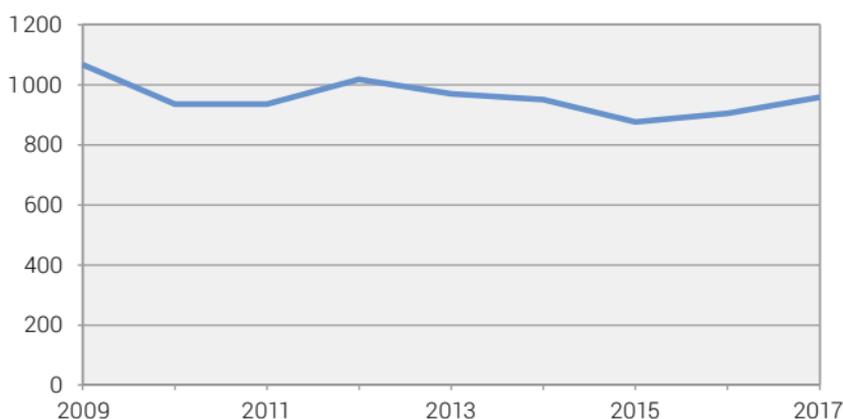
Sustainable Development Goals highlight the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.



Violent offences

Number of victims for completed serious violent offences¹ known to the police

G16



¹ Homicide, grievous bodily harm, female genital mutilation, violent robbery, hostage-taking, rape, grand robbery, hostage-taking, rape

Source: FSO – Police Crime Statistics (PCS)

© FSO 2018

- 959 violent crimes were reported to the Swiss police in 2017.
- A decrease of 10.1% has been observed since 2009.
- In 2017, 66.5% of victims of serious domestic violence were women.



Partnerships for the goals

Swiss target 17.2 (excerpt): *As a long-term objective for the amount of official development assistance, the Confederation recognises in principle the target of 0.7% of gross national income [...].*

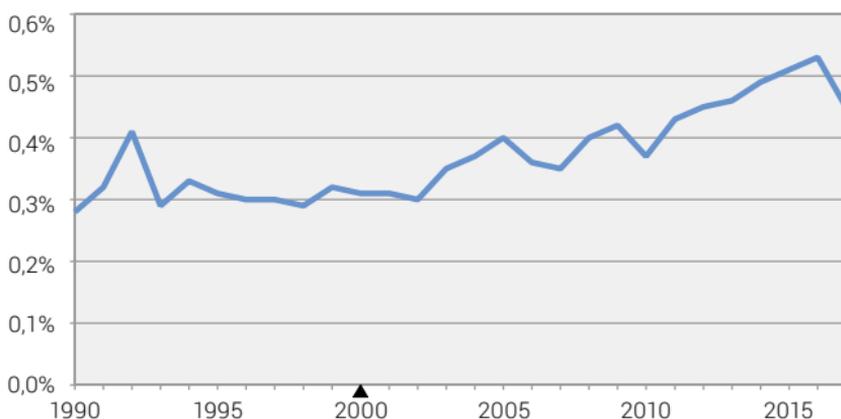
A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. These inclusive partnerships built upon principles and values, a shared vision, and shared goals that place people and the planet at the centre, are needed at the global, regional, national and local level.



Official Development Assistance

In proportion to gross national income (GNI)¹

G17



¹ GNI calculated according to the EU system of national and regional accounts (ESNA2010)

2016 and 2017: provisional data

Sources: SDC, FSO, SECO – National Accounts

© FSO 2018

- Swiss official development assistance amounted to 0.45% of gross national income in 2017.
- An increase of 0.14 percentage points has been observed since 2000.
- The main objective of official development assistance is to facilitate the economic and social development of the recipient countries.

United Nations 2030 Agenda for sustainable development

In 1992, the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro provided the basis for implementing a sustainable development policy by proposing Agenda 21 (Action Plan for the 21st Century). The Rio+20 Conference was an opportunity to renew commitments by defining the next stages of sustainable development in The Future We Want report.

In 2015, the 193 UN member states adopted the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. The 2030 Agenda focuses on 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) with 169 targets. This global reference framework for sustainable development applies to all countries, whether in the north or south, rich or poor. It is intended to help strengthen economic growth, promote human welfare, and protect the environment. It also takes up aspects such as peace, the rule of law and good governance, which are all essential to sustainable development.

By declaring the 2030 Agenda as its new reference framework for sustainable development, Switzerland has reinforced its commitment to pursuing a sustainable development policy that was established in 1992. This renewed commitment has taken the concrete form of a report on the state of the implementation of the Agenda 2030 goals by Switzerland at national and international level. This report was presented by the Federal Council to the UN High-Level Political Forum for sustainable development in July 2018.

It is based on an inventory of activities used by the Confederation at national and international level relating to the 2030 Agenda targets that have been adapted to the Swiss context. It incorporates the 85 indicators of the MONET 2030 monitoring system.

The monitoring of the SDGs at global level is assured by the UN through its series of 232 indicators. Some of these were used for monitoring the SDGs and the targets adapted to the Swiss context.



Additional information:

More information on MONET 2030 available at:

www.monet2030.admin.ch

Swiss platform for the 2030 Agenda:

www.agenda2030.admin.ch

UN platform for the sustainable development goals
of the 2030 Agenda:

sustainabledevelopment.un.org

Comprehensive information about sustainable development policy
in Switzerland:

www.are.admin.ch/are/en/home/sustainable-development.html

Publications

FSO, ARE, FOEN, SDC: Sustainable Development Report 2012.
Neuchâtel 2012

FDFA, DETEC: Switzerland implements the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Switzerland's Country Report 2018. Bern 2018.

ARE, SDC: Switzerland implements the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Baseline assessment of Switzerland serving as basis for the country report 2018. Bern 2018.

Downloads:

www.agenda2030.admin.ch → Reporting → National reporting

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