



# Press release

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## 6 Industry and Services

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Switzerland's economic structure

### **2005-2008: Sharp rise in employment in the health and social sector**

Neuchâtel, 29.09.2009 (FSO) – **According to the Business Census 2008 conducted by the Federal Statistical Office, at the end of September Switzerland registered just under 4.2 million persons in employment and 450,000 workplaces. Thus, the number of employed persons rose by 7.4% (+289,200) compared with 2005. While the number of employed persons rose in the industrial-commercial sector and in the services sector, in 2008 the primary sector registered a decline in employment compared with 2005. Looking at the overall situation, all major regions of Switzerland registered employment increases of between 5.3% and 9.2%.**

The consequences of the financial crisis on the real economy were not yet felt in September 2008. The years since the last Business Census (2005-2007) were marked by a pronounced economic growth that continued – albeit at a slightly slower pace – in 2008. This trend was attributable in particular to the sharp growth in financial companies' value added, the good condition of Swiss industrial enterprises and the export economy, as well as consistently high domestic demand.

SWISS FEDERAL STATISTICAL OFFICE  
Press Office

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Interested readers will find the complete text of the press release in the German, French or Italian version:

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