

2020



15

Education
and science

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Education Statistics 2020



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Pupils and students, 2019/20

Primary level, lower and upper secondary levels

T1

Education level	Total	Male	Female	National origin		
				Swiss	Foreign	Un-specified
Compulsory education	965 937	496 990	468 947	701 210	264 106	621
Primary level 1–2 ^{1/2}	179 132	92 503	86 629	128 015	51 013	104
Primary level 3–8 ²	524 645	270 107	254 538	379 140	145 136	369
Lower secondary level	262 160	134 380	127 780	194 055	67 957	148
Basic requirements	69 810	39 748	30 062	43 938	25 854	18
Extended requirements	160 264	76 523	83 741	131 684	28 538	42
Without differentiation ²	32 086	18 109	13 977	18 433	13 565	88
Upper secondary level	361 450	190 841	170 609	277 705	83 538	207
Transitional education lower – upper sec.	17 819	9 668	8 151	8 335	9 471	13
Vocational education and training (VET) ³	218 259	129 487	88 772	169 480	48 752	27
Vocational baccalaureate ⁴	9 922	4 942	4 980	8 938	983	1
General education	101 163	40 705	60 458	79 702	21 386	75
Complement. education on upper secondary level	14 287	6 039	8 248	11 250	2 946	91

¹ kindergarten, first learning cycle

² including special needs school classes, classes for foreign language speaking pupils, introduction classes, other special classes

³ including preparation for federal vocational baccalaureate integrated in vocational education and training (FVB1)

⁴ federal vocational baccalaureate after vocational education and training (FVB2)

Students, 2019/20

Tertiary level

T2

Education level	Total	Male	Female	National origin		
				Swiss	Foreign	Un-specified
Professional education	61 566	33 999	27 567	53 540	7 589	437
Colleges of higher education	35 074	18 336	16 738	30 356	4 601	117
Preparation for the federal professional diploma examination ¹	18 939	11 867	7 072	16 667	1 985	287
Preparation for the advanced federal professional diploma examination ¹	3 631	2 381	1 250	3 259	339	33
Professional education not governed by the VPETA	3 922	1 415	2 507	3 258	664	–
Higher education institutions	258 076	124 112	133 964	191 812	66 264	
Universities of applied sciences including universities of teacher education	101 407	47 961	53 446	83 736	17 671	
Universities	156 669	76 151	80 518	108 076	48 593	
Humanities and social sciences	45 601	14 466	31 135	34 294	11 307	
Economics	22 176	14 299	7 877	14 408	7 768	
Law	15 996	6 523	9 473	13 127	2 869	
Exact and natural sciences	29 879	18 038	11 841	17 317	12 562	
Medicine and pharmacy	19 026	7 070	11 956	14 844	4 182	
Engineering, architecture	19 565	13 387	6 178	10 711	8 854	
Interdisciplinary and others	4 426	2 368	2 058	3 375	1 051	
Tertiary level	319 642	158 111	161 531	245 352	73 853	437

¹ Students are not completely surveyed because the preparations for federal exams are not formally regulated. They often take place in modular trainings, which are only surveyed if the single module corresponds to at least half a school-year (full time equivalent).

Pupils, 2019/20

Compulsory education, cantons

T3

Canton	Compulsory education ¹			
	Total	Primary level 1–2 ²	Primary level 3–8	Lower secondary level
Switzerland	965 937	179 132	524 645	262 160
ZH	171 466	34 226	93 903	43 337
BE	111 722	20 201	62 051	29 470
LU	44 536	7 376	25 010	12 150
UR	3 877	682	2 148	1 047
SZ	16 887	3 020	9 213	4 654
OW	4 207	691	2 349	1 167
NW	4 183	744	2 294	1 145
GL	4 404	827	2 351	1 226
ZG	14 578	2 619	7 887	4 072
FR	40 492	7 224	21 944	11 324
SO	28 554	5 261	15 829	7 464
BS	19 223	3 780	10 662	4 781
BL	32 361	5 504	17 894	8 963
SH	8 840	1 595	4 938	2 307
AR	6 063	1 208	3 334	1 521
AI	1 825	358	1 004	463
SG	58 476	10 781	31 897	15 798
GR	19 144	3 621	10 281	5 242
AG	79 182	14 422	43 899	20 861
TG	31 106	6 007	16 939	8 160
TI	37 528	8 629	15 481	13 418
VD	99 495	17 541	54 033	27 921
VS	38 012	6 827	20 492	10 693
NE	20 698	3 611	11 104	5 983
GE	60 604	10 967	33 022	16 615
JU	8 474	1 410	4 686	2 378

¹ including special needs school classes, classes for foreign language speaking pupils, introduction classes, other special classes

² kindergarten, first learning cycle

Teachers in 2019/20 and staff employed in higher education institutions in 2019

(public education)

T4

Education level Type of staff	Persons ¹			Full-time equivalents ²
	Total	of whom		
		Female %	Foreign %	Total
Compulsory education³	95 684	76.3	6.1	61 509
Primary level 1–2 ⁴	18 879	94.8	3.9	9 384
Primary level 3–8	52 738	83.1	5.2	32 186
Lower secondary level	33 960	55.7	8.7	19 939
Upper secondary level	29 298	45.0	7.9	17 413
General education	12 296	48.6	8.8	7 441
Vocational education and training (VET) ⁵	17 002	42.5	7.2	9 972
Tertiary level: colleges of higher education	2 296	41.0	13.4	709
Tertiary level: higher education institutions⁶	95 709	46.1	37.6	63 226
Universities of applied sciences/universities of teacher education	29 043	47.9	21.4	18 268
Teaching staff with management responsibility	2 048	31.6	27.3	1 840
Other teaching staff	12 653	43.1	21.1	6 195
Assistants and scientific staff	6 842	45.4	27.4	4 605
Managerial, clerical and technical staff	7 500	62.5	14.6	5 628
Universities and institutes of technology	66 666	45.3	44.7	44 958
Professors	4 564	24.0	50.1	4 186
Other teaching staff	9 886	30.1	35.8	2 662
Assistants and scientific staff	32 431	45.0	59.1	23 005
Managerial, clerical and technical staff	19 785	58.2	24.3	15 105

¹ The figures include all teachers working at the level of education considered (double-counting possible).

² Full-time equivalents are expressed as the ratio of actual hours employed and the normal hours of a person employed full-time (e.g. a person employed for 50% of a full-time job counts as 0.5 full-time equivalents).

³ excluding special needs school classes, classes for foreign language speaking pupils, introduction classes and other special classes

⁴ kindergarten, first learning cycle

⁵ including transitional education from lower to upper secondary level, federal vocational baccalaureate and complementary education in upper secondary

⁶ The number of persons employed in higher education institutions is based on the reference day 31 December. The full-time equivalents relate to the entire calendar year.

Selected degrees and certificates, 2019

T5

Education level	Total	Male		Female	
		absolute	%	absolute	%
Upper secondary level					
Federal VET certificate	6 707	3 933	58.6	2 774	41.4
Federal VET diploma	61 252	33 779	55.1	27 473	44.9
Federal vocational baccalaureate	14 524	7 705	53.1	6 819	46.9
Baccalaureate	18 873	8 114	43.0	10 759	57.0
Specialised baccalaureate	3 077	668	21.7	2 409	78.3
Specialised school certificate	4 234	1 066	25.2	3 168	74.8
Transition programmes federal vocational/specialised baccalaureate – University (certificate of university aptitude test)	1 259	613	48.7	646	51.3
Tertiary level					
Professional education					
Diploma from professional education not governed by the VPETA ¹	322	87	27.0	235	73.0
Federal diploma of higher education	14 717	8 772	59.6	5 945	40.4
Advanced federal diploma of higher education	2 876	1 928	67.0	948	33.0
Colleges of higher education diploma (advanced federal diploma of higher education)	9 732	4 959	51.0	4 773	49.0
Higher education institutions					
Degree from a university of teacher education	1 074	524	48.8	550	51.2
Bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences and teacher education	17 481	7 822	44.7	9 659	55.3
Master's degree from a university of applied sciences and teacher education	4 807	2 139	44.5	2 668	55.5
First university degree or diploma	101	23	22.8	78	77.2
Bachelor's degree from a university	14 771	6 985	47.3	7 786	52.7
Master's degree from a university	14 365	6 992	48.7	7 373	51.3
Doctorate	4 307	2 334	54.2	1 973	45.8

¹ VPETA: vocational and professional education and training act

Educational institutions, 2019/20

T6

Education level	Total	Private sector ¹ %
Compulsory education	9 498	10.1
Upper secondary level	863	44
Tertiary level	428	60

¹ government dependent private and independent private educational institutions

Source: FSO – Educational institutions statistics (SBI)

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Financial flows for education¹, 2018

T7

	In CHF million							
	Total		Confederation		Cantons		Communes	
	absolute	%	absolute	%	absolute	%	absolute	%
Funding	38 902	100.0	7 077	18.2	19 414	49.9	12 411	31.9
Transfers								
Confederation to cantons			-2 888		2 888		-	
Cantons to Confederation			5		-5		-	
Cantons to communes			-		-951		951	
Communes to cantons			-		2 863		-2 863	
Total after transfers	38 902	100.0	4 194	10.8	24 209	62.2	10 499	27.0

¹ The public expenditure for research is included in the public expenditure for education.

Sources: FSO – Public education expenditure (ÖBA); FFA – Financial Statistics

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Public education expenditure by administrative and educational level, 2018

T 8

Education level	In CHF millions				
	Total		Administrative level making expenditure		
	absolute	%	Confederation	Cantons	Communes
Total	38 901.9	100.0	4 194.1	24 209.2	10 498.6
of which salaries	25 775.3	66.3	2 243.9	17 552.0	5 979.4
teachers' salaries only	18 430.3	47.4	0.0	14 406.4	4 023.9
Compulsory education	17 213.4	44.2	18.6	7 344.3	9 850.6
Special needs schools	1 929.0	5.0	–	1 503.2	425.8
Upper secondary: Vocational education and training (VET)	3 504.7	9.0	67.2	3 264.4	173.1
Upper secondary: General education	2 377.3	6.1	3.5	2 371.1	2.7
Tertiary: Professional education	475.7	1.2	52.0	423.6	0.1
Tertiary: Higher education institutions	8 416.8	21.6	1 110.2	7 302.5	4.1
Research	4 331.4	11.1	2 930.7	1 399.0	1.7
Non-attributable expenditure	653.6	1.7	11.9	601.1	40.6

Sources: FSO – Public education expenditure (ÖBA); FFA – Financial Statistics © FSO 2021

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