



Statistical Data on Switzerland 2009



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Legend:

Three dots (...) instead of a figure means that the data has not (yet) been gathered or calculated.

A dash (-) instead of a figure is used for the value absolute zero.

A figure indicated with a superior «p» means that this figure is provisional.

Abbreviations for names of cantons:

These are explained in the table on page 2.

Rounded figures:

In general, figures are rounded up or down, which may cause the sum of rounded figures to differ from the end total.

Sources:

Statistical results are usually presented here without reference to sources. Such information is extensively presented in our portal «Statistics Switzerland»

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The Federal Statistical Office's (FSO) "Statistical Data on Switzerland" booklet – with easily accessible and comprehensible charts and texts – provides the most important statistical information in German, French, Italian, English and Romansh.

While "Statistical Data on Switzerland", with a print run of 100 000, is the FSO's most widely read publication, the Swiss Statistics Portal (www.statistics.admin.ch), with 2.5 million visits annually (2008), is the online point of reference for Swiss statistics. All FSO publications, including Statistical Data on Switzerland, various publications from other public statistics offices and tens of thousands of downloadable files from the Statistical Encyclopaedia (www.lexikon-stat.admin.ch) are available free of charge from the Statistics Portal.

Both the booklet and the portal serve their purpose: people who need the most up-to-date statistical information or detailed results will find them in the Statistics Portal; those who wish to always have a statistical emergency ration to hand, even when they are far from modern communication networks, will opt for this handy booklet. Depending on their need, users can rely on the comprehensive data and information available in the Statistics Portal or the compact information in the booklet.

Both the booklet and the portal have their popular hits: in the booklet, there is the much sought-after international cross comparison of more than 40 key figures in Switzerland, its most important neighbouring countries and the 25 countries of the European Union. A popular feature of the Statistics Portal is the recently introduced "What's new?" page, which presents a brief overview of the latest publications and related links (www.statistics.admin.ch → News → What's new?).

I wish you an informative reading experience with "Statistical Data on Switzerland 2009" and many rewarding and extended visits to the FSO's Swiss Statistics Portal.

Dr Jürg Marti

Director General
Federal Statistical Office (FSO)

Neuchâtel, January 2009

Additional information:

- Additional in-depth information on individual topics is available from the concurrently published "Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland": www.statistics.admin.ch → Services → Swiss statistical publications → Statistical yearbooks → Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland.
- Press releases in NewsMail format: verbatim copies of the FSO's press releases can be subscribed to directly as NewsMails sent to your email address. This service is quick and free of charge. (Subscribe at: www.news-stat.admin.ch)
- From the same source you also get regular notifications about the FSO's latest publications and information about specific topics (thematic newsletter).
- The Statistical Information Service answers specific questions: telephone 032 713 60 11 or email: info@bfs.admin.ch.

Permanent resident population by canton, 2007

	Total in '000	Foreigners in %	Urban in %	Density km ²	Population growth 1997–2007 in %
Switzerland	7 593.5	21.1	73.4	190	7.0
Zurich (ZH)	1 307.6	22.9	95.0	787	10.7
Bern (BE)	963.0	12.5	62.3	165	2.6
Lucerne (LU)	363.5	15.8	51.0	254	6.0
Uri (UR)	35.0	8.7	0.0	33	-2.2
Schwyz (SZ)	141.0	17.2	80.2	166	12.7
Obwalden (OW)	34.0	11.9	0.0	71	6.8
Nidwalden (NW)	40.3	10.0	87.5	167	8.2
Glarus (GL)	38.2	19.1	0.0	56	-1.3
Zug (ZG)	109.1	22.0	96.1	527	14.8
Fribourg (FR)	263.2	16.7	55.5	165	14.5
Solothurn (SO)	250.2	18.7	77.2	317	3.6
Basel-Stadt (BS)	185.2	30.3	100.0	5 006	-4.1
Basel-Landschaft (BL)	269.1	18.1	91.7	520	5.4
Schaffhausen (SH)	74.5	21.9	74.0	250	1.1
Appenzell A. Rh. (AR)	52.7	13.2	53.0	217	-2.5
Appenzell I. Rh. (AI)	15.5	9.8	0.0	90	3.9
St. Gallen (SG)	465.9	20.9	66.7	239	5.0
Graubünden (GR)	188.8	14.8	49.2	27	1.7
Aargau (AG)	581.6	20.4	65.4	417	8.9
Thurgau (TG)	238.3	19.9	49.5	276	5.7
Ticino (TI)	328.6	25.2	86.8	120	7.5
Vaud (VD)	672.0	29.0	74.8	238	10.5
Valais (VS)	298.6	19.1	56.7	57	9.2
Neuchâtel (NE)	169.8	23.4	74.5	237	2.6
Geneva (GE)	438.2	37.4	99.2	1 783	10.5
Jura (JU)	69.6	11.8	30.1	83	0.9

Permanent resident population in the largest cities, 2007

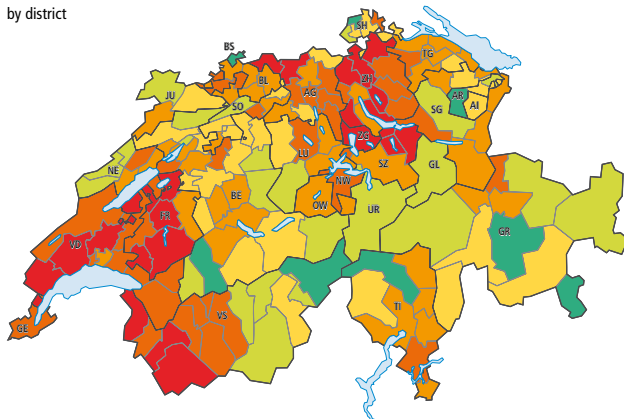
	City		Urban agglomeration	
	in '000	Population growth 1997–2007 in %	in '000	Population growth 1997–2007 in %
Total	943.9	2.5	2 789.0	8.2
Zurich	358.5	5.9	1 132.2	11.0
Geneva	180.0	4.3	503.6	11.5
Basel	163.5	-4.5	489.9	2.4
Bern	122.7	-1.4	346.3	2.8
Lausanne	119.2	4.6	317.0	8.7

Growth in urban areas

Today, a third of the Swiss population lives in agglomerations of the five largest cities: Zurich, Basel, Geneva, Bern and Lausanne. A third lives in the remaining urban areas, and a final third lives in the country. The proportion of urban residents in the population declined from 74.5% to 73.4% between 1981 and 2007, whereas the proportion living in the country increased from 25.5% to 26.6% for the same period.

Population growth, 1997–2007

by district



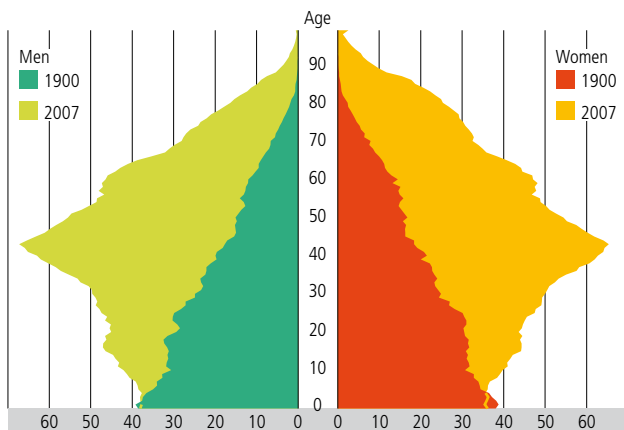
Changes of the permanent resident population, %



CH: +7.0 %

Age structure of the population

Number of persons in '000



An ageing society

In the course of the 20th century, the number of older citizens has increased, while the proportion of youth and persons of working age (20 to 64 years old) has declined. The shape of the “age pyramid” (1900) has transformed into that of a “fir tree” (2007). The structure that typifies Switzerland today is one dominated by the baby boom generation (years of birth 1959–1971). This comprises a more thinly populated youth generation and an increasing number of older persons.

Live births, 2007

Total	74 494
Boys for every 100 girls	105.2
Out of wedlock, share live births in %	16.2
Multiple births	1 215
Twin births	1 191
Children per woman ¹	1.46

Deaths, 2007

Total	61 089
Age at death	
0–19	547
20–39	1 057
40–64	8 333
65–79	15 891
≥ 80	35 261

Migration, 2007

Immigrants	165 634
of which foreigners	143 855
Emigrants	90 175
of which foreigners	60 688
Balance	75 459
Swiss	–7 708
Foreigners	83 167

International migration² 2007

Total net movements	423 346
----------------------------	----------------

Marriages, 2007

Total	40 330
Swiss	20 414
Swiss/Foreign	8 276
Foreign/Swiss	6 861
Foreign/Foreign	4 779
Average age at marriage	
Single men	31.2
Single women	28.9

Divorces, 2007

Total	19 882
illegitimate children in %	45.1
Length of marriage	
0–4 years	2 160
5–9 years	5 483
10–14 years	3 701
15 or more years	8 538
Summary of divorces ¹	49.1

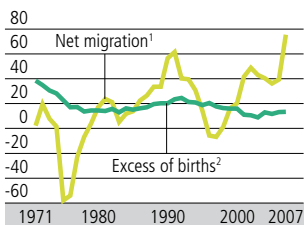
1 Number of children that each woman in a lifetime gives birth to, based on the age-specific year of birth in year of observation.

2 Movement between communes, excl. movements within

3 Proportion of marriages, ending in divorce sooner or later, based on the year of observation

Net migration and excess of births over deaths

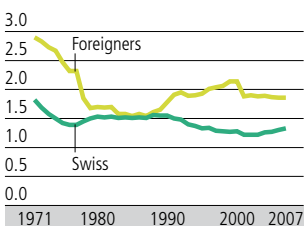
in '000



1 incl. change of status: change from residence permit valid for less than 12 months to residence permit valid 12 months or longer

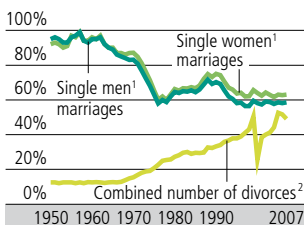
2 Live births minus deaths

Combined births¹



1 Number of children per women, see note 1 in left column

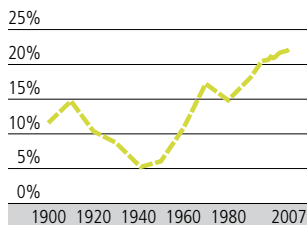
Marriages and divorces



1 Proportion in % of single men or women less than 50 years old who marry or are married in the year under observation

2 See note 3 in left column

Share of foreign permanent resident population

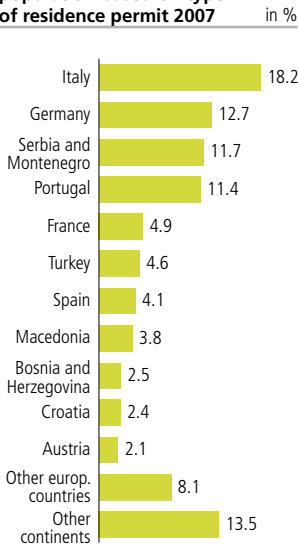


Foreign resident population by type of permit, 2007

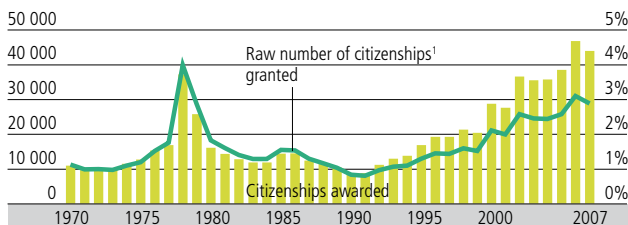
	in '000
Total¹	1 703.8
Resident – B permit	450.3
Permanent resident – C permit	1 091.4
Temporary resident (≥ 12 months)	29.3
L permit	
International officials and diplomats	27.6
Temporary resident (< 12 months)	61.0
L permit	
Asylum seekers – N permit	17.9
Provisionally accepted – F permit	22.8

¹ Includes adjustment

Foreign permanent resident population based on type of residence permit 2007



Awarding Swiss citizenship



¹ Number of citizenships awarded as a % of the foreign permanent population

Many foreigners born in Switzerland, but not naturalised

In Switzerland, foreigners account for 21.1% of the permanent resident population. More than half of the foreign residents without a Swiss passport (54%) have either been living in Switzerland for more than fifteen years or were born here. Compared with the naturalisation rate of 2.9% (2007: 43 900 people), this indicates a significant lack of integration. The foreign population in Switzerland is young. For every 100 foreigners of working age there are only 10.7 of pensionable age (compared with 31.3 among the Swiss). This is also related to the fact that 25.1% of the children born in Switzerland in 2007 had foreign nationality. In 2007 the immigration figures increased by 34.2% compared to the previous year. Of these immigrants, 69.2% came from the EU or the EFTA area.

As previously, most people continue to live in a family situation

Today, the family is still the most dominant form of living. Nearly three-quarters of the population live as couples – 49% with children, 26% without (2007). 6% live in single-parent households. The traditional family – parents with children – still dominates in the 35–49 age group (58%; compared to unmarried couples with children = 2%). Also, only a minority of childless adults live alone – 28% of 21–34 year olds, and 37% of 35–49 year olds (2000). As a general tendency, founding a family is increasingly postponed. Only every fifth woman (21%) born between the years 1965/69 has had a child before the age of 25. In the case of those women born between 1945/49 it was 44%. Young adults are staying longer at home with their parents (23% of men born between 1970/74 left home before they were twenty years old, compared with 45% of those born during 1945/49).

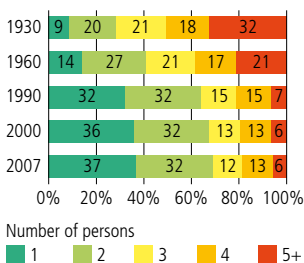
Religious denomination, 2000 in %

Protestant ¹	35.3
Roman Catholic	41.8
Christian Catholic	0.2
Orthodox Christian	1.8
Other Christian	0.2
Jewish	0.2
Islamic	4.3
Other churches and religions	0.8
Non-denominational	11.1
No information available	4.3

¹ Incl. neo-apostolic churches and Jehovah's Witnesses

Size of household

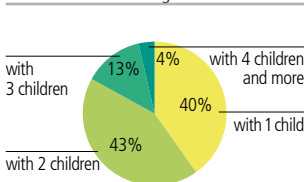
Private households only



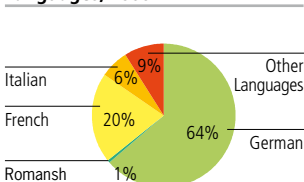
Private households, 2007 in '000

Total	3 324.3
Single-person households	1 224.8
Family households	2 055.1
Childless couples	936.2
Couples with children	908.1
Single persons with children	179.6
Single persons with parents	31.1
Non-family households	44.4

Family households with children, 2000



Languages, 2000¹



¹ Population by main language group

Climate data, 2007

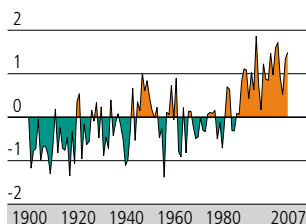
Weather station	Average temperature		Annual rainfall		Annual sunshine	
	°C	Dev. ¹ in °C	mm	Index ²	hours.	Index ²
Lugano (273 m. above sea level)	13.5	1.9	1 143	74	2 317	114
Basel-Binningen (316)	11.3	1.7	952	122	1 785	112
Geneva-Cointrin (420)	11.2	1.4	1 127	116	2 077	123
Neuchâtel (485)	10.8	1.5	1 302	140	1 843	119
Sion (482)	10.8	1.6	757	127	2 257	113
Zurich-MeteoSwiss (556)	10.1	1.6	1 153	106	1 770	119
Bern-Zollikofen (553)	9.5	1.3	1 291	126	1 941	119
St. Gallen (779)	9.1	1.7	1 129	90	1 583	114
Davos-Village (1 594)	4.1	1.3	1 006	93	1 803	107

¹ Deviation from long-term mean value (1961–1990)

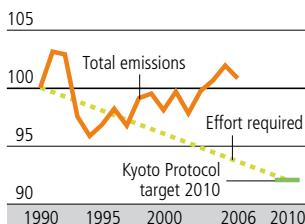
² 100 = long-term mean value (1961–1990)

Temperature fluctuations

Deviations from long-term mean value
1961–1990, in °C

**Greenhouse gas emissions**

Index 1990=100

**Climate Change**

The greenhouse effect is a natural phenomenon, without which, the average temperature of the earth would be around 30°C lower. Through the emission of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and so on) man exerts an influence on the composition of the atmosphere, thus reinforcing the greenhouse effect. Consequently, a rise in temperatures has been observed since 1970 – to an extent that cannot be explained by natural climate fluctuations.

Land use

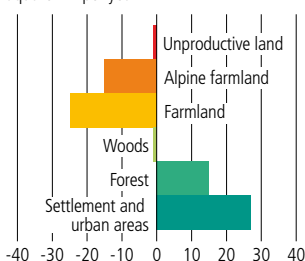
Period of survey 1992–1997

	km ²	%
Total surface area	41 285	100
Forest, woods	12 716	30.8
Farmland	9 873	23.9
Alpine farmland	5 378	13.0
Settlement and urban areas	2 791	6.8
Lakes and watercourses	1 740	4.2
Unprod. land	8 787	21.3

Annual change in land use

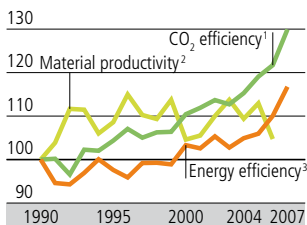
Changes 1979/85–1992/97

Square km per year



Eco-efficiency

Index 1990 = 100

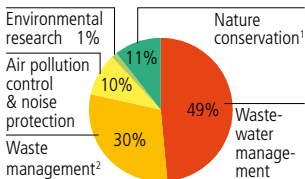
1 GDP / CO₂ emissions

2 GDP / Total material requirement

3 GDP / Final energy consumption

Public expenditure for environmental protection, 2006

Total: CHF 3.7 billion



1 Incl. direct payments to the agricultural industry for environmental performance.

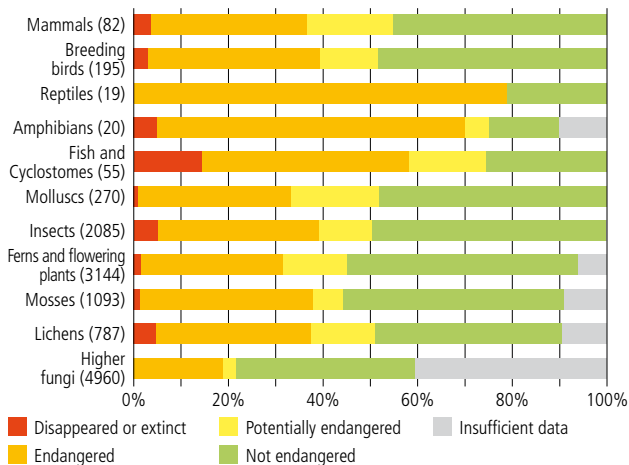
2 Not including domestic waste incinerators

Eco-efficiency of the economy

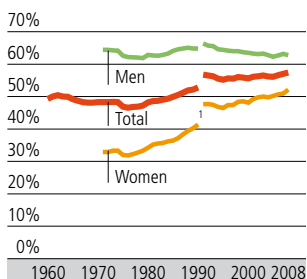
An increase in eco-efficiency is achieved by generating more money in relation to CO₂ emissions, to the quantity of consumed energy or to the total material requirement. However, an increase in efficiency can also indicate that the service sector is increasing in importance at the expense of the energy-, material-, and CO₂-intensive industrial sector and that environmentally-polluting production processes have been transferred abroad.

Biodiversity – Threatened species

Status 1994–2007, by species groups

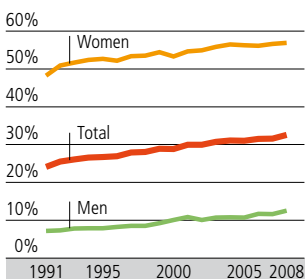


People in employment as % of the permanent resident population



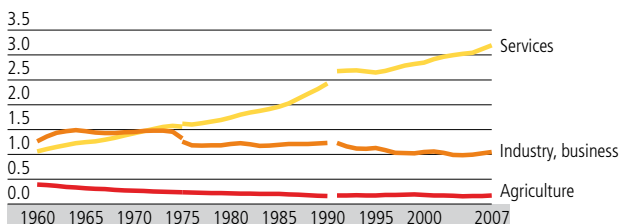
1 New calculation method from 1991 onwards

People in part-time employment as % of the employed persons



People employed¹ by economic sector

in millions



1 New calculation method from 1975 resp. 1991 onwards

Persons in employment by type of authorisation and gender

in '000

	1991	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007
Total	4 075	3 952	4 080	4 201	4 304	4 413
Swiss	3 032	2 966	3 100	3 136	3 198	3 257
Foreigners	1 043	986	980	1 065	1 106	1 156
Permanent residents	556	564	595	574	573	587
Temporary residents	180	205	183	242	264	283
Seasonal workers ¹	72	38	23	–	–	–
Cross-border workers	181	146	143	176	187	203
Temporary visitors	20	17	20	56	63	63
Other foreigners	33	17	16	18	19	20
Men	2 389	2 282	2 301	2 331	2 385	2 447
Women	1 686	1 670	1 779	1 870	1 919	1 966

1 As of 1.6.2002 seasonal work permits are no longer issued

Self-employed

Despite substantial fluctuations in the economy, the number of self-employed has remained more or less stable over the last ten years. In 2008 self-employed people comprised 14% of the workforce (1998: 15%). The financial and social situation of the self-employed is, however, precarious. In 2008, 24% of full-time self-employed people (including employees in their own company) applied for cantonal assistance with paying health insurance premiums, against only 18% for full-time employees. The fact that one fifth of full-time employees contributes neither to the second pillar, nor to third-pillar insurance, combined with the fact that one out of five has no daily allowance insurance for illness at all, are further indications of a critical situation.

Foreign manpower

Foreign manpower is an important element of the Swiss labour market. The strong growth experienced in the second half of the 20th century would not have been possible without the input of foreign labour and the "guest worker". Since the sixties, their share has always exceeded 20%, and today comprises 26% of the workforce. Foreign workers are particularly present in the industrial sector (2008: 36%; services sector: 25%). Nearly two-thirds (2008: 65%) of foreign workers are nationals of an EU or an EFTA country. With a share of 35%, southern Europeans represent the largest group among foreign workers, followed by nationals from northern and western Europe (27%). 22% of foreign workers come from the western Balkan countries, or from Turkey. Of foreign workers who immigrated to Switzerland during the past ten years, more than four fifths (82%) have obtained educational qualifications at the secondary level II, or at tertiary level. In the case of earlier immigrants, this proportion reaches only 61%.

Unemployment¹

	1980	1990	2000	2007	2008
Unemployed	6 255	18 133	71 987	109 189	101 725
Proportion of whom are long term unemployed ² as %	...	6.6	20.1	18.7	15.5
Unemployment rate ³ , %	0.2	0.5	1.8	2.8	2.6
Men	0.2	0.4	1.7	2.6	2.4
Women	0.3	0.6	2.0	3.0	2.8

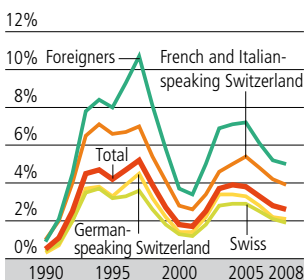
1 Unemployed based on SECO figures

2 Length of unemployment exceeds 12 months

3 Unemployment rate according to international definition: see page 24

Unemployment is closely related to economic trends. The unemployment rate reached an historic high (5.2%) in 1997. After falling to 1.7% (2001), it then rose once more in the following years (2004: 3.9%) and has since fallen again (2008: 2.6%). Different population groups are affected to a differing extent. The unemployment rate among low-skilled people, young people (aged 15–24), foreigners (many of whom have relatively low skill levels) and in non-German speaking areas of Switzerland, remains relatively high. The differences between men and women are less marked.

Unemployment rate



Wages level, 2006

gross monthly wage median¹

	Total	Level of qualifications ²			
		a	b	c	d
Switzerland³	5 674	10 463	6 796	5 463	4 400
Lake Geneva region (VD, VS, GE)	5 699	10 666	6 784	5 717	4 544
Espace Mittelland (BE, FR, SO, NE, JU)	5 552	9 840	6 527	5 417	4 389
North-western Switzerland (BS, BL, AG)	5 902	10 713	6 863	5 617	4 463
Zürich (ZH)	6 154	11 904	7 510	5 635	4 470
Eastern Switzerland (GL, SH, AR, AI, SG, GR, TG)	5 302	8 848	6 250	5 154	4 332
Central Switzerland (LU, UR, SZ, OW, NW, ZG)	5 537	9 778	6 642	5 262	4 303
Ticino (TI)	4 899	8 448	5 600	5 048	3 921

1 Standardised monthly wage: full-time equivalent based on 40 1/3 hours a week and 4 weeks a month

2 Level of qualifications:

a = Extremely demanding and difficult tasks

b = Independent and skilled work

c = Work requiring professional/technical skills

d = Simple and repetitive tasks

3 Private and public (Confederation) sectors combined

Income from employment, 2007¹

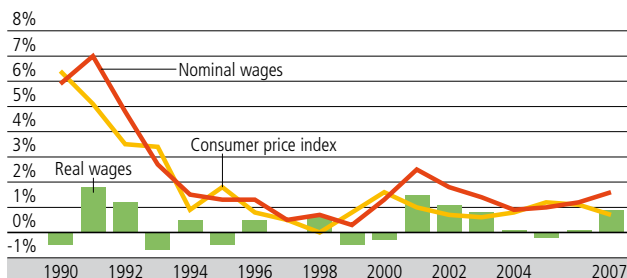
distribution in %

	Income category (CHF 1000 p.a. gross)					
	≤ 26	26–52	52–78	78–104	> 104	no inform.
Total	16.1	18.1	26.3	15.4	14.1	10.1
Men, full time	2.4	8.4	32.2	22.6	24.1	10.3
Women, full time	7.0	22.1	33.4	16.8	9.3	11.4
Men, part time	36.8	22.2	17.1	7.8	7.4	8.7
Women, part time	40.9	31.4	13.3	3.6	1.4	9.3

1 Employed persons, excl. apprentices

Evolution of nominal wages, the consumer price index and real wages

Change compared with the previous year in %



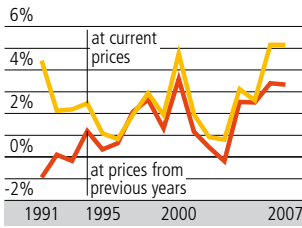
Evolution of real wages

base year: 1939 = 100

	1980	1990	1995	2000	2006	2007
Total	254	272	279	279	289	292
Men	241	257	264	264	271	274
Women	279	302	307	311	326	328

Trends in Switzerland's economy

Changes in GDP



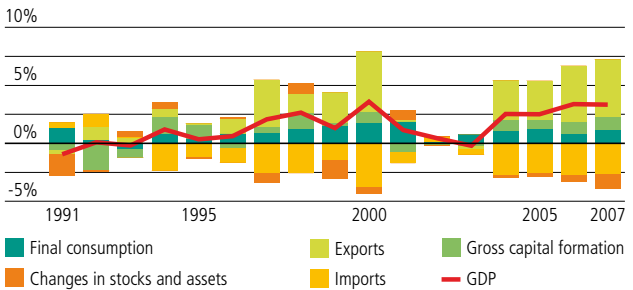
At the beginning of the 90s, Switzerland went through a period of structural adjustment with weak economic growth. Since 1997, however, the Swiss economy has picked up, albeit with a significant slow-down at the start of the century as a result, among other things, of turbulence in the financial sector.

A dynamic export sector driving the Swiss economy

The figure below demonstrates the role played by the foreign trade sector (both imports and exports) as a driving force for the economy since 1997. Indeed, periods of strong growth coincide with periods of flourishing foreign trade. Accordingly, exports were the one component of GDP which contributed to growth in the fat years (from 1997 to 2000, and again from 2004 to 2007).

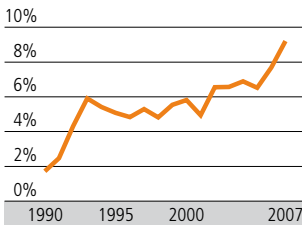
Share of components of GDP in economic growth

in % of previous year



Role of the external sector increasing

Share of the external sector in GDP
at current prices

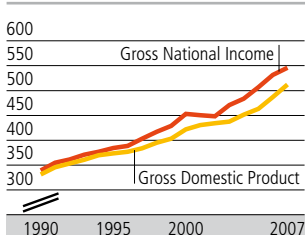


One result of strong exports is the growing contribution of net exports (the balance of exports and imports) to GDP, which clearly demonstrates the growing importance of the rest of the world for the Swiss economy.

Stronger growth in Gross National Income (GNI)

GDP and GNI at current prices

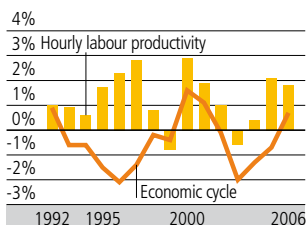
in CHF billion



In addition to the growing importance of net exports, net income from abroad (from employment and capital) has been growing strongly in recent years. This has brought about a stronger growth in GNI than in GDP, which similarly illustrates the growing internationalisation of the Swiss economy. However, it should be noted that following the losses made by Swiss bank subsidiaries abroad as a result of the financial crisis, the GNI is unusually less dynamic in 2007 and goes against this trend.

The economic cycle and labour productivity

Year on change



Average year on change

in %

Period	Hourly labour productivity	Economic cycle
1991–1996	1.3	Stagnation
1996–2000	1.4	Growth
2000–2003	0.7	Stagnation
2003–2006	1.4	Growth
1991–2006	1.2	

Once we have measured the level of economic activity by GDP, we can look at the efficiency with which factors of production are used (i.e. labour and capital). Labour efficiency is measured by hourly productivity; that is, the value added per hour of labour.

The figures and tables above present trends in labour productivity and the economic cycle between the years 1991 and 2006. An economic cycle refers to fluctuations in economic activity, that exhibit a certain regularity, and that can be measured by comparing changes in GDP over long-term trends.

Generally speaking, labour productivity and the economic cycle tend to move in the same direction. For example, growth in the economy corresponds to a phase of accelerated growth in productivity. The period from 1991 to 1996, however, represents an exception in this respect, inasmuch as an increase in labour productivity could be observed even in a period of economic stagnation. This situation was due to a fall in the number of total hours worked in the economy for this period.

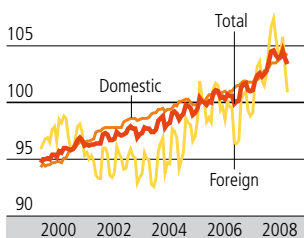
Changes in consumer price index

changes in yearly average in %

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	0.8	1.2	1.1	0.7	2.4
Foodstuffs and non-alcoholic beverages	0.5	-0.7	0.0	0.5	3.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	3.5	4.7	1.1	2.1	2.6
Shoes and clothing	-2.7	-0.1	1.9	0.3	4.0
Housing and energy	1.6	3.0	2.8	2.1	4.9
Household items and expenditure	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.8
Health care	0.9	0.6	0.0	-0.2	-0.2
Transport	1.5	3.4	2.8	1.0	3.5
News and media	-0.7	-5.7	-6.9	-3.0	-2.9
Leisure and culture	-0.4	-0.6	-0.2	-0.5	0.6
Education	1.5	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.5
Restaurants and hotels	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.4	2.3
Other goods and services	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.1	0.8

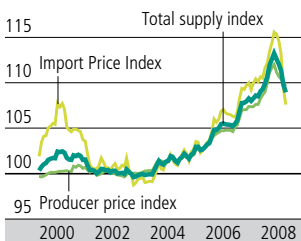
Consumer price index by origin

110 Index, December 2005 = 100



Producer and import price index

120 Index, May 2003 = 100

International comparison of price indices, 2007^P

EU-27 = 100

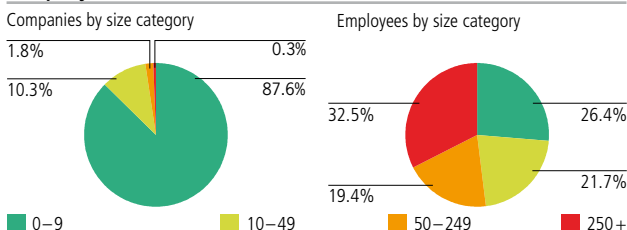
	Switzerland	Germany	France	Italy
Gross domestic product	122	103	110	103
Real individual consumption	130	102	109	106
Foodstuffs and non-alcoholic drinks	132	106	103	114
Alcoholic drinks and tobacco	91	97	107	105
Shoes and clothing	111	103	91	103
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	160	113	124	105
Interior decoration, equipment and household management	106	97	104	106
Health care	138	103	107	123
Transportation	104	102	99	95
News and media	111	106	108	99
Leisure and culture	114	100	109	101
Education	186	101	116	121
Hotels and guest houses	116	98	115	104
Other goods and services	125	99	108	101
Real collective consumption	136	111	127	116
Gross fixed investment	108	107	107	89
Machines and devices	97	102	99	101
Construction	123	116	112	83
Software	100	84	107	96

Continuing structural change and lasting dominance of SMEs

The structure of economy in Switzerland continued to change between 1995 and 2005. Some areas of the secondary sector in particular, such as construction, the textile and leather industries, paper, printing and publishing and mechanical engineering, have been subject to major falls in employment levels, while the tertiary sector, such as business support services, IT, research and development and health and social services, have seen significant growth. The percentage of total employment represented by the tertiary sector has grown from 65% to 69% between 1995 and 2005 (market-oriented companies only).

The dominance of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – that is, companies with fewer than 250 employees – has continued uninterrupted. They represent 99.7% of private sector companies and employ two-thirds of the working population (2005).

Company size¹, 2005



¹ Only private sector companies. The size of a company is determined by the number of full-time equivalents (part-time positions are added together to make full-time posts)

Market-oriented companies and employees by economic activity

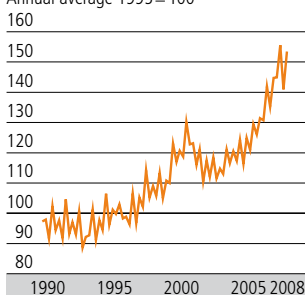
In '000	1995		2005	
	Companies	Employees	Companies	Employees
Total	286.1	3 118.5	298.7	3 185.4
Sector 2	74.4	1 098.3	72.5	1 000.6
Mining	0.4	5.7	0.3	4.3
Manufacturing	41.4	744.5	37.4	677.5
of which:				
Food and luxury food industry	2.9	68.7	2.3	66.6
Paper, printing and publishing	4.8	77.2	4.1	60.3
Oil and chemical industries	0.8	69.6	0.9	68.5
Metalworking industry	7.7	107.3	7.7	98.2
Mechanical engineering	3.7	113.8	3.4	98.9
Electrical and precision engineering industry	5.2	137.3	5.0	141.7
Power and water supply	0.3	18.2	0.5	24.8
Construction	32.4	329.8	34.4	294.0
Sector 3	211.7	2 020.1	226.2	2 184.8
Retail sector, repair of consumer goods	74.0	625.1	68.8	614.1
Hotels and catering	23.9	223.8	25.1	211.6
Transport, telecommunications	10.3	254.5	10.7	245.0
Banking and insurance industry	3.6	187.7	5.8	196.2
Property, rental of machinery and equipment	4.1	20.1	5.4	29.8
IT activities, research and development	5.8	36.9	11.2	72.8
Business support services	46.5	251.5	55.8	318.5
Public administration; Social security; Education	4.3	52.6	4.3	64.9
Health and social services	19.4	280.4	19.5	334.1
Other services to third parties	19.9	87.7	19.6	97.8

New companies, 2006

Economic activity	Total new companies	Created jobs	Created jobs (full-time)	Created Jobs (part-time)
Total	11 595	22 553	15 552	7 001
Sector 2	2 349	4 903	3 878	1 025
Industry	861	1 804	1 220	584
Construction	1 488	3 099	2 658	441
Sector 3	9 246	17 650	11 674	5 976
Retail sector	2 372	4 353	2 907	1 446
Hotels and catering	316	985	557	428
Transport and communications	477	1 049	829	220
Banking and insurance	549	1 087	818	269
Property, business services	3 598	6 424	4 266	2 158
IT services	827	1 339	1 005	334
Education	193	449	175	274
Health and social services	281	740	378	362
Other public and personal services	633	1 224	739	485

Production in the secondary sector

Indexed change in the quarterly results
Annual average 1995 = 100



Production in the secondary sector (excluding construction) was significantly lower in the recession years between 1991 and 1993; and during 1995/96 it remained low. Towards the end of the 90s it rose considerably, only to suffer serious setbacks in the years 2002 and 2003. From 2004, business take advantage of the good economic climate and showed positive figures. This sector shows an overall growth in production of 50% between 1990 and 2007.

Retail sales

variation from the previous year in %

		2003	2004	2005 ²	2006	2007
		Nominal	Real ¹	Nominal	Real ¹	Nominal	Real^{1}
Total	Nominal	-0.4	2.1	1.3	1.6	3.6
	Real¹	-0.9	1.4	1.7	1.9	4.0
Food, drink and tobacco products	Nominal	2.6	1.8	0.2	1.1	2.9
	Real ¹	1.3	0.9	0.2	1.0	2.4
Clothing and footwear	Nominal	-3.0	-0.5	3.6	1.8	4.5
	Real ¹	-2.6	2.4	3.8	-0.1	4.2
Other groups	Nominal	-1.2	2.8	0.9	1.8	3.8
	Real ¹	-1.3	1.5	1.1	3.4	5.0

1 Adjusted for price changes in accordance with the domestic consumer price index

2 From 2005 onwards, "Total" and "Other groups" do not include "Motor vehicles" and "Fuels"

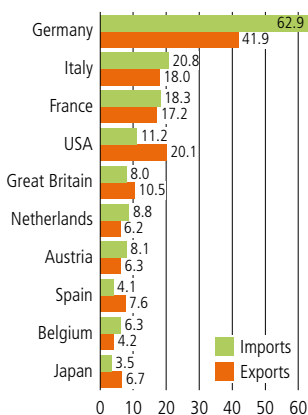
Labour costs

Labour costs include all costs incurred by the employer in employing manpower. In general they represent the largest part of production costs. In Switzerland, they are composed as follows: 83.4% salaries and indemnities, 15% social security contributions on the part of the employer, and 1.6% vocational training and staff recruitment costs, as well as other costs (2006).

Labour costs are a key indicator for making comparisons between business locations, varying widely from country to country. At €33.81 per hour of work performed (2006), Switzerland belongs to the top of the European field, together with Denmark (€33.1), Island (€32.4) and Sweden (€32.2). Neighbouring countries whose hourly labour costs exceed the European average (i.e. France, Germany and Austria) show costs between €26 and €31.

Foreign trade: our key partners in 2007

in CHF billion



Foreign trade represents a high proportion of gross domestic product (GDP) in Switzerland. Its most important trading partners are the industrialised countries, which accounted for 77.9% of Swiss exports and 88.1% of imports in 2006. The EU plays a particularly important role (62% of exports and 79.5% of imports).

Foreign trade: the key goods

in CHF million

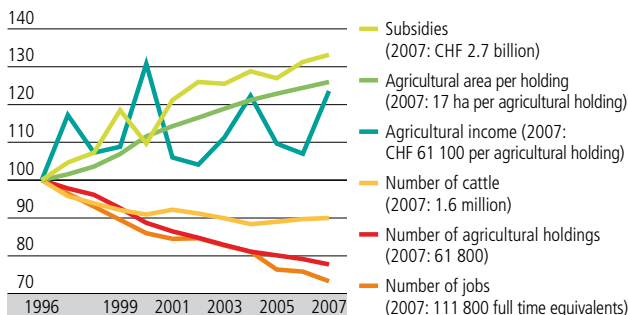
	Imports			Exports		
	1990	2006	2007	1990	2006	2007
Total	96 611	177 148	193 216	88 257	185 216	206 252
of which:						
Agricultural and forestry products	8 095	11 938	13 403	2 998	6 180	7 463
Textiles, clothing, footwear	8 806	9 392	10 040	4 984	4 406	4 637
Chemicals	10 625	35 785	41 260	18 422	62 975	68 811
Metals	9 025	15 519	18 477	7 537	13 424	15 498
Machinery, electronics	19 794	32 018	35 118	25 527	38 630	43 065
Vehicles	10 230	15 495	17 098	1 485	4 942	5 723
Instruments and watches	5 786	12 171	13 678	13 330	31 305	35 388

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Industrie und Dienstleistungen (in German)

Agricultural land and forests account for 37% and 31% respectively of Switzerland's territory. The landscape is therefore shaped to a large extent by agriculture and forestry. These activities are important not only for food production, construction materials and renewable energies, but also for maintaining decentralised economic activity and for protecting landscape diversity. In 2007, the combined contribution of these two sectors to the gross added value of Switzerland's economy amounted to 1.2%.

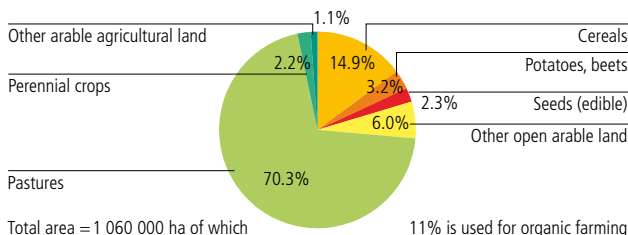
A few key indicators in agriculture

Index 1996=100



Agricultural area used, 2007

Excl. summer pastures



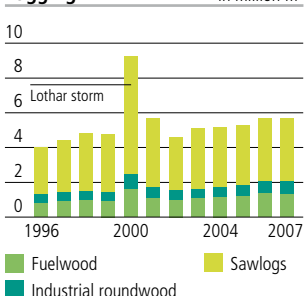
Output of agriculture¹, 2007

	in %
Crop output	44.1
Cereals	4.3
Forage plants	13.0
Vegetables and horticultural products	12.9
Fruits and grapes	5.1
Wine	4.1
Other crop outputs	4.7
Animal output	47.3
Cattle	12.2
Pigs	9.3
Milk	21.5
Other animals and animal products	4.2
Agricultural services output	5.8
Non-agricultural secondary activities	2.9

¹ Total value = CHF 11 billion

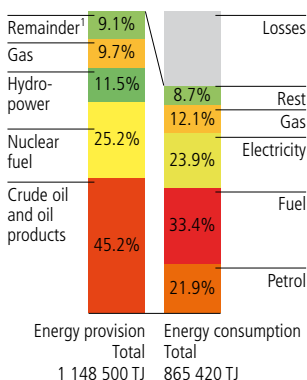
Logging

in million m³



► www.statistics.admin.ch → Topics → Agriculture and Forestry

Energy provision and consumption, 2007



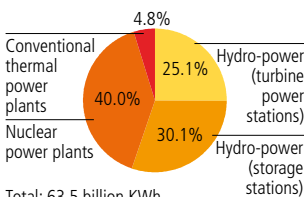
¹ incl. export surplus of electricity (0.7%)
Total 100.7%

Increased consumption

Final energy consumption is closely linked to economic development and population growth. More residents, larger homes, greater production, rising consumption, heavier motor vehicles and so on, all lead to increased energy consumption in spite of improved energy efficiency. The largest energy consumption group is transport, accounting for around one-third of final energy consumption.

Nearly 60% of final energy consumption is covered for by fossil fuels. Only 16.9% comes from renewable energy sources, hydro-power being the main source (10.9%).

Electricity generation by power plant type, 2007

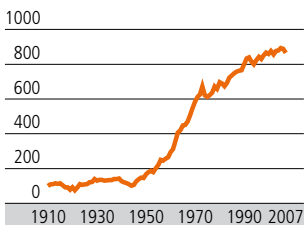


Total: 63.5 billion KWh

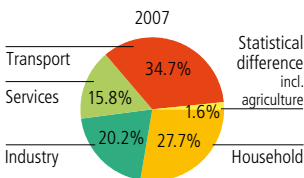
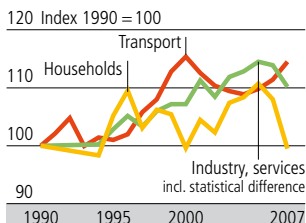
Renewable energy, 2007

Share of end use	in %
Hydropower	12.14
Solar	0.14
Geo-thermal	0.79
Biomass (wood and biogas)	3.58
Wind	0.01
Renewable energy use from waste	1.35
Energy use in wastewater treatment	0.20
Biofuel	0.06

Energy consumption in '000 TJ



Final consumption of energy by consumer groups



► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Energie (in German)

► www.bfe.admin.ch (Federal Office of Energy) → Topics → Energy Statistics

Construction expenditure	in CHF million, prices of 2000				
	1980	1990	2000	2006	2007
Total	34 198	47 588	43 708	46 983	45 792
Public expenditure	11 389	14 507	15 983	14 890	14 433
Civil engineering	6 791	7 740	10 060	9 153	8 849
of which roads	...	...	5 221	4 022	3 949
Building construction	4 599	6 767	5 923	5 737	5 584
Private expenditure	22 809	33 081	27 725	32 094	31 359
of which housing	...	...	17 147	21 522	20 760

Housing construction

	1980	1990	2000	2006	2007
New residential	20 806	16 162	16 962	17 192	17 051
of which single-family dwellings	16 963	11 200	13 768	12 031	11 982
New dwellings	40 876	39 984	32 214	41 989	42 915
with 1 room	2 122	2 010	528	480	490
2 rooms	4 598	5 248	1 779	2 125	2 724
3 rooms	7 094	8 937	4 630	7 126	7 977
4 rooms	11 557	12 487	10 783	15 636	15 598
5 rooms or more	15 505	11 302	14 494	16 622	16 126

Housing supply

	1980	1990	2000	2006	2007
as of year-end	2 702 656	3 140 353	3 574 988	3 791 574	3 835 370
of which remained empty in %	0.74	0.55 ¹	1.26 ¹	1.07 ¹	0.97 ¹

¹ As of 1 June following year

Trend towards larger apartments ...

The number of apartments is growing faster than the population. Between 1990 and 2000, apartments increased by 8% and the population by 6%, bringing the average number of persons per inhabited apartment down from 2.4 to 2.3. At the same time, the average per capita living space increased from 39 m² to 44 m².

... and single-family houses

Single-family houses as a percentage of total building stock rose from 40% to 56% between 1970 and 2000. 70% of newly constructed buildings for housing purposes are now (2007) single-family homes, despite the efforts of town and country planners to counter this trend and the fact that building land is becoming increasingly scarce.

Continued low rate of home-ownership

The vast majority of dwellings (73.3%) belong to private individuals (2000) – and not, as is often supposed, to corporate bodies. Nevertheless, the home-ownership rate in Switzerland is relatively low: in 2000, only 34.6% of all permanently occupied dwellings were used by the owners themselves. That is by far the lowest percentage of all European countries. However, home ownership has increased somewhat since 1970, mainly thanks to the rapid increase in condominium-style apartment ownership.

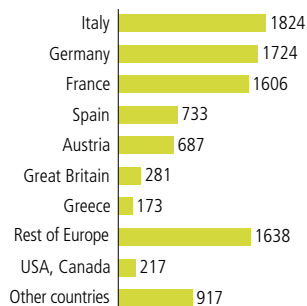
► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Bau- und Wohnungswesen
(in German)

Important tourism indicators

	2000	2006	2007
Supply (beds)¹			
Hotels and health establishments	264 495	271 591	270 146
Demand: arrivals in '000			
Hotels and health establishments	13 894	14 811	15 633
Demand: overnight stays in '000			
Hotels and health establishments	35 020	34 848	36 365
Domestic guests	14 862	15 204	15 447
Foreign guests	20 158	19 644	20 918
Length of stay average number of nights			
Hotels and health establishments	2.5	2.4	2.3
Domestic guests	2.5	2.2	2.1
Foreign guests	2.6	2.5	2.5
Gross occupancy rate: hotels and health establishments			
expressed as a % of available beds	36.2	35.2	36.9
Tourism account CHF million			
Receipts from foreign visitors to Switzerland	11 223	13 544	14 623
Expenditure by Swiss nationals abroad	9 167	11 556	12 298
Balance	2 057	1 988	2 325

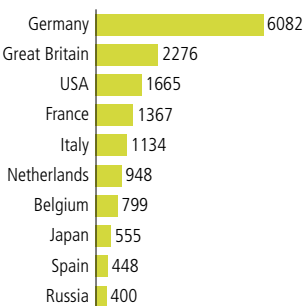
¹ Beds available: total beds in registered establishments

Travel destinations of Swiss tourists¹, 2005



¹ Permanent resident population, travel abroad incl. overnight stay, in '000
Total: 9.8 million

Overnight stays of foreign visitors in Switzerland¹, 2007



¹ in '000, excl. supplementary accommodation

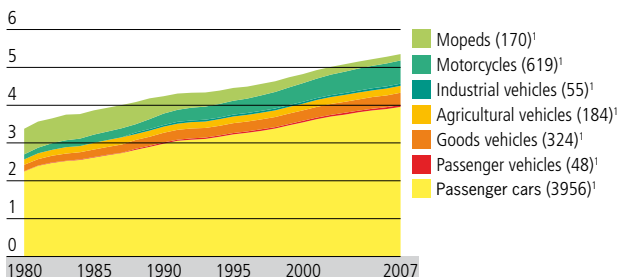
Infrastructure

Transport infrastructure covers a third of the settlement areas in Switzerland (according to the Area survey from 1992/97).

In 2006 the railway network covered 5065 km, national highways 1758 km (of which motorways comprise 1361 km), cantonal roads 18 117 km and municipal roads 51 446 km (as at 1984).

Pool of road motor vehicles

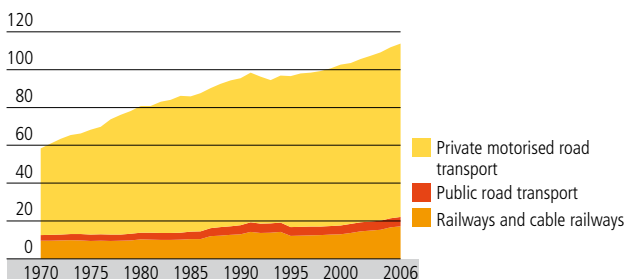
in millions



¹ in brackets: refers to 2007, in '000

Passenger transport performance

in billion person km travelled p.a.



Daily mobility, 2005

average per person p.d.¹

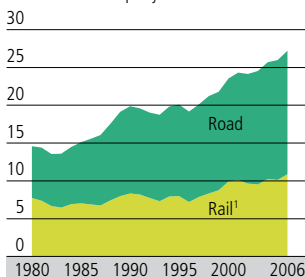
	Daily distance in km	Travel time in min. ²		Daily distance in km	Travel time in min. ²
Total	38.2	98.4	Means of transport		
			On foot	2.1	36.9
			Bicycle	0.8	4.3
			Moped	0.1	0.2
			Motorcycle	0.6	1.3
			Car	25.5	38.4
			Bus/Tram	1.5	6.1
			Post bus	0.2	0.4
			Train	6.2	7.2
			Other	1.2	3.6
Purpose of trip purpose					
Work and education	10.6	22.3			
Shopping	4.4	13.3			
Services and escort	0.5	1.0			
Business	3.3	6.4			
Leisure	16.8	50.0			
Other non-specified	2.5	5.4			

¹ Daily mobility of permanent population over & inc. the age of 10 in Switzerland

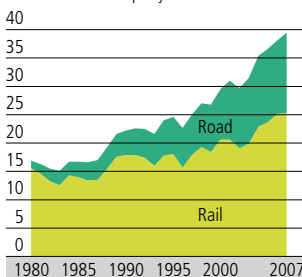
² Includes waiting time

Goods transport

All transport, transport in billion tonne-kilometres per year

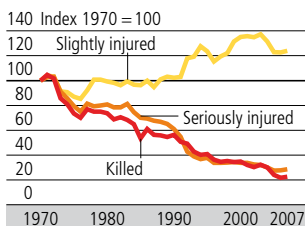


Transalpine goods traffic, transport in million net tonnes per year



1 Net tonne-kilometres not including the weight of goods vehicles (incl. trailers) containers and swap bodies in multimodal transport

Victims of road accidents



Road accidents by type of carrier

Road traffic (2007)	
Persons killed	384
Persons seriously injured	5 235
Persons slightly injured	21 897
Rail traffic (2006)	
Persons killed	26
Air traffic (2007)	
Persons killed in Switzerland	12

Transport costs

The economic cost of transport, i.e. the costs met directly by the public sector, third persons or by those using the services, reached CHF 75 billion in 2003. Mobility therefore costs us more than health care or the public educational system. Of this, road transport costs the economy around six times more than the railways. In the case of personal road vehicles (private cars) the cost per person kilometre is CHF 0.50. The cost per person kilometre for rail in contrast, is CHF 0.40. In goods transport the costs per tonne kilometre for heavy road vehicles reaches CHF 0.57, whereas for transport by rail it is CHF 0.27. Around 6.5 of the CHF 75 billion relates to external costs, which are borne by persons other than those who cause the initial damage (i.e. non-internalised externalities – in particular, resulting costs incurred by damage to the environment and health, as well as damage to buildings and loss of value). According to the latest studies carried out by the Federal Office for Spatial Development, road and rail transport generates external annual costs of CHF 8.5 billion (year of reference 2005).



	Year ¹	Switzerland	Germany	Greece
Inhabitants (at the start of the year) in '000	2008	7 591	82 221	11 215
Inhabitants per km ²	2006	180	231	84
People under 15 in %	2007	15.8	13.9	14.3
People over 64 in %	2007	16.2	19.8	18.6
Births per 1000 inhabitants	2007	9.7	8.3	9.8
Births outside of marriage in %	2007	16	30	5
Marriages per 1000 inhabitants	2007	5.3	4.5	5.2
Divorces per 1000 inhabitants	2007	2.6	2.3	1.2
Migration balance per 1000 inhabitants	2007	9.9	0.5	3.7
Foreign residents in % of total population	2004	21.8	8.9	8.1
Persons per household	2005	2.2	2.1	2.6
25–34 year olds with a university degree in %	2005	31	23	25
Percentage of households with internet access	2007	70	71	25
Life expectancy, men in years	2006	79.2	77.2	77.2
Life expectancy, women in years	2006	84.2	82.4	81.9
Infant mortality ²	2007	3.9	3.8	3.8
Practising doctors per 100 000 inhabitants	2007	390	346	500
Cost of the health care system as a % of GDP	2007	11.3	10.6	9.1
Social security spending as a % of GDP	2005	29.2	29.5	24.2
Agricultural land as % of total land	2005	38.2	48.8	64.9
Forest land as % of total land	2005	30.5	31.8	29.1
CO ₂ emissions from the burning of fossil fuels in tonnes per inhabitant	2004	6.0	10.3	8.5
Cars per 1000 inhabitants	2004	516	550	379
Road accidents: fatalities per 1 million inhabitants	2005	55	65	145
Employees in agriculture in %	2007	4.0	2.3	11.6
Employees in industry in %	2007	22.9	29.4	22.4
Employees in services in %	2007	73.1	67.9	66.1
Employment rate Women Aged 15+	2007	59.9	52.8	42.7
Employment rate Men Aged 15+	2007	75.8	66.0	64.7
Unemployment rate (according to the international definition)	2007	3.6	8.6	8.1
Women	2007	4.5	8.7	12.6
Men	2007	2.9	8.4	5.0
15–24 year-olds	2007	7.1	12.1	22.0
Long-term unemployed as a % of the unemployed	2007	40.8	56.6	50.3
Part-time employees Women in % ³	2007	59.3	46.2	10.5
Part-time employees Men in % ³	2007	12.9	9.5	2.8
Working week in hours	2007	41.7	39.5	40.6
Foreign trade (goods and services) as % of GDP	2006	49	42	28
GDP per capita in PPP US\$	2006	37 747	31 950	23 200
Average real growth in GDP per year, in %	1985–2006	1.5	1.4	...
Inflation rate	2007	0.8	2.3	3.0
Public surplus/deficit as % of GDP	2007	0.8	0,4	–2.8
Public debt as % of GDP	2007	56.8	65.0	94.5

¹ or most recent year available

² children who died in their first year of life per 1000 live births

³ of employed women or men



Spain	France	Italy	Netherlands	Austria	Sweden	U.K.	EU-27
45 283	63 753	59 618	16 404	8 332	9 183	61 186	497 482
85	110	192	483	98	20	246	118
14.5	18.6	14.1	18.1	15.6	17.0	17.6	15.8
19.7	16.2	19.9	14.5	16.9	17.4	16.0	16.9
10.8	12.8	9.5	11.0	9.2	11.7	12.6	10.6
28	50	21	40	38	55	44	32
4.6	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.3	5.2	5.2	4.9
1.2	2.2	0.8	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.0
16.7	1.1	8.3	-0.4	3.9	5.9	2.6	4.0
6.6	5.6	3.4	4.3	9.4	5.3	4.7	
2.9	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.4	...	2.3	2.4
40	39	16	35	20	37	35	...
45	49	43	83	60	79	67	54
77.7	77.3	77.9	77.7	77.2	78.8	72.5	75.2
84.4	84.4	83.8	82.0	82.8	83.1	81.1	81.5
3.7	3.8	3.8	4.1	3.7	2.5	4.5	4.7
368	338	...	370	376	357	236	347
8.4	11.1	8.7	9.3	10.1	9.2	8.4	
20.8	31.5	26.4	28.2	28.8	32.0	26.8	27.2
58.1	53.8	50.0	57.8	39.0	7.9	70.1	...
35.9	28.3	33.9	10.8	46.8	67.1	11.8	...
7.7	6.2	8.0	11.4	9.2	5.8	9.0	...
454	494	581	448	501	456	504	...
102	88	93	46	93	49	55	...
4.5	3.5	3.9	3.1	5.9	2.3	1.4	5.7
29.3	23.1	30.3	20.2	27.4	21.7	22.3	27.7
66.2	73.4	65.7	76.8	66.8	76.0	76.4	66.6
48.2	51.4	37.9	59.3	53.4	60.4	55.3	49.7
68.5	62.2	60.8	73.3	69.5	68.3	69.1	65.3
8.0	7.7	5.7	3.2	4.4	6.9	4.8	7.0
10.5	8.4	7.4	3.7	5.1	7.4	5.2	7.7
6.1	7.1	4.6	2.8	3.9	6.4	5.5	6.5
18.2	18.2	18.5	6.1	8.7	23.5	14.3	15.4
21.2	41.3	49.9	41.7	27.9	12.9	24.7	43.7
23.0	30.5	26.6	74.9	41.5	40.3	42.5	31.3
4.3	5.7	4.9	23.7	7.4	11.7	10.8	7.8
40.9	39.2	39.2	38.9	42.5	39.8	42.5	40.5
29	28	28	70	53	47	30	38
29 382	31 048	28 866	36 548	35 695	34 870	32 990	...
2.9	2.2	1.7	2.7	1.9	2.0	2.6	...
2.8	1.6	2.0	1.6	2.2	1.7	2.3	2.3
2.2	-2.7	-1.9	0.4	-0.5	3.5	-2.9	-0.9
36.2	64.2	104.0	45.4	59.1	40.6	43.8	58.7

Total assets and profits of banks, 2007

Bank categories	No. institutions		Total assets		Annual profits	Annual losses
	1990	2007	CHF million	Change ¹	CHF million	CHF million
Total	495	330	3 457 897	8.3	14 101	4 306
Cantonal banks	29	24	356 580	3.9	2 627	–
Major banks	4	2	2 341 136	6.5	2 847	4 251
Regional and savings banks	204	76	85 311	–0.7	506	–
“Raiffeisen” banks ²	2	1	123 076	8.0	701	–
Other banks	218	183	487 838	18.8	6 498	31
Branches of foreign banks	16	30	34 444	45.6	457	23
Private banking	22	14	29 513	59.0	464	–

1 % change over previous year

2 an association with 390 member banks (at year-end 2007)

Balance-sheet structure of the banks, 2007

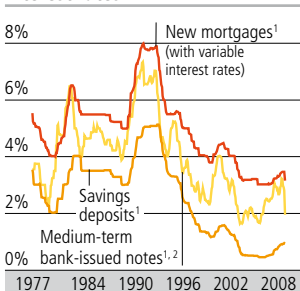
Assets	in %
Total	100
incl. foreign	67.1
Liquid assets	0.8
Due from money market	3.4
Due from banks	29.3
Total credits	20.9
Mortgage claims	19.7
Security holdings	14.8
Financial investments	2.1
Holdings	1.3
Tangible assets	0.6
Other assets	6.9
Liabilities	in %
Total	100
incl. foreign	62.1
Money-market commitments	5.1
Bank commitments	26.7
Customer funds	43.8
Liabilities in the form of savings and deposits	9.7
Other commitments on sight	9.6
Other commitments on term	24.7
Bonds	1.2
Loans and debenture bonds	9.7
Other liabilities	9.2
Own assets	4.1

Private insurance, 2007

in CHF million

Insurance type	Revenue ¹	Expendit. ¹
Total	120 873	81 134
Life insurance	35 417	35 242
Insurance against accident and loss	49 793	28 795
Re-insurance	35 663	17 097

1 At home and abroad

Interest rates

1 Up until 2007, average of all cantonal banks, 2008 average of 60 institutions (including all cantonal banks)

2 Up until 2007 for 3–8 year term, from 2008 for 5 year term

Exchange rates in Switzerland¹

	2003	2005	2007
\$ 1	1.3453	1.2458	1.1999
¥ 100	1.1620	1.1309	1.0191
€ 1	1.5210	1.5481	1.6427
£ 1	2.1974	2.2634	2.4011

1 Bank purchase rate, mid-year

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Banken, Versicherungen (in German)

► www.snb.ch/en (Swiss National Bank)

► www.finma.ch (Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority: Private Insurance)

The three tiers of the social security system

Social security in Switzerland is based on a three-tier system:

- In addition to individual means of subsistence (remuneration from work, fortune etc), the first tier includes the coverage of basic needs. It is available to everyone and includes the education and legal system as well as public security.
- The second tier includes all social insurances and is intended to cover risks such as old-age, illness, disability, unemployment and maternity.
- The third tier includes all welfare benefits, with social welfare from the state providing the last safety net and guaranteeing the right to a minimum standard of living. This comes into effect when none of the other social security provisions apply (principle of subsidiarity).

Before social welfare is called upon, a series of other benefits are available in the third tier, aimed at avoiding dependence on social welfare. These can be divided into benefits which guarantee the basic existence needs (e.g. grants or free legal aid) and complementary benefits which supplement insufficient or expired social insurance provisions or lack of private insurance.

Total expenditure on social security

In 2006, total expenditure on social security amounted to 138.5 billion francs. 127 billion can be attributed to actual social benefits. About four fifths of these are spent on social insurances (the second tier of the social security system).

Social insurance: expenditure and revenue

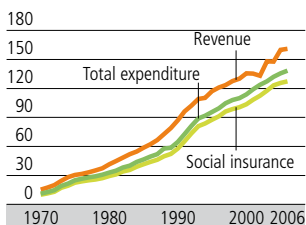
in CHF billion (without double accounting)

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006
Total expenditure	64.6	95.6	113.7	135.5	138.5
of which social insurance	57.8	87.6	103.5	125.7	127.4
Revenue	87.1	117.0	135.7	160.0	161.1
Level of expenditure on social insurance ¹	19.5	25.6	26.9	29.3	28.4

¹ Total expenditure in relation to GDP

Social insurance: expenditure and revenue

in CHF billion



Social contribution by function, 2006

	in %
Old age insurance	44.5
Health insurance / health care	26.4
Disability insurance	12.5
Survivors' insurance	4.4
Families / child benefits	4.9
Unemployment	3.8
Social exclusion	2.9
Accommodation & housing	0.6

What is the expenditure for?

The distribution of social benefits among the different risks and needs (function of social benefits) is extremely uneven: more than four fifths of social benefits are attributed to old-age, illness and disability.

Social insurance: beneficiaries, 2007

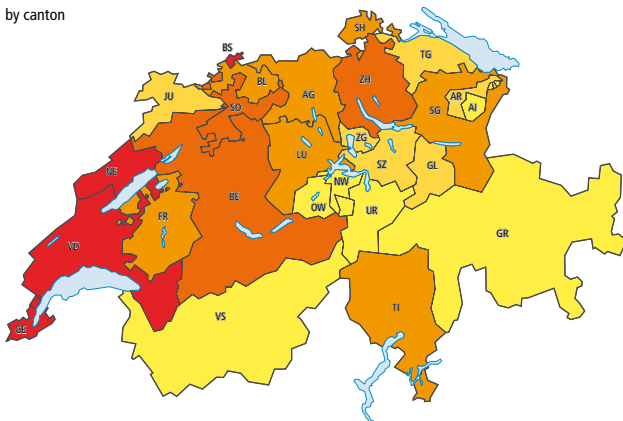
		in '000	
AVS: old-age pensions	1 755.8	Occupational pensions ² : disability insurance	134.8
AVS: supplementary benefits	69.8	Occupational pensions ² : other benefits	87.9
AVS: survivors' benefits	148.5	Disability insurance	295.3
Supplementary benefits, old-age pensions ¹	155.6	Additional disability benefits	183.9
Supplementary benefits, survivors' insurance ¹	3.1	Supplementary disability insurance	97.9
Occupational old-age pensions ²	507.3	Accident insurance ³ : survivors' pensions	26.2
Widows' and widowers' pensions ²	166.1	Accident insurance ³ : disability benefits	85.5
		Unemployment benefits ⁴	261.3

1 Supplementary old age and survivors' insurance
2 Occupational pensions (figures 2006)

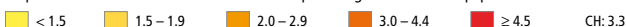
3 Accident insurance (figures 2006)
4 Unemployment insurance

Level of social assistance, in 2006

by canton



Proportion of social assistance beneficiaries as a percentage of the resident population



Social welfare

In 2006, 245 000 people (3.3% of the population) needed support from social benefits. The regional differences are considerable: urban cantons have much higher social welfare rates than rural ones.

The social welfare risk varies greatly depending on age, family structure and nationality.

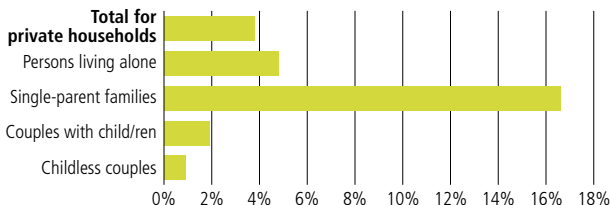
- Children and young people under 18 have the highest social welfare rates. The rate tends to decrease with age. A slightly higher rate is seen once again in the 36 to 45 age group, in connection with child costs, career breaks, divorce or a reduction in working hours.

- Single parents in particular frequently receive social benefits. The financial burden of child costs, combined with additional costs caused by separation or divorce, lead to greater risk of needing social welfare. Furthermore, childcare responsibilities mean that a full-time job is generally not possible.
- Foreigners are also over-represented in social welfare compared to the rest of the population. This is accounted for by their frequent lack of professional qualifications, poor chances in the labour market and family structure.

Level of social assistance, 2006

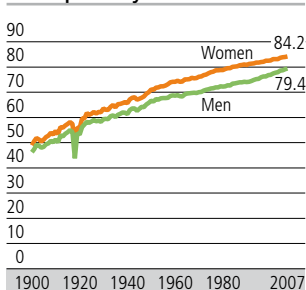
in %	
Total	3.3
Age group	
0–17 years of age	4.9
18–25 years of age	4.5
26–35 years of age	3.6
36–45 years of age	3.9
46–55 years of age	3.1
56–64 years of age	2.1
65–79 years of age	0.2
80 years of age and over	0.6
Swiss nationals	
Men	2.3
Women	2.2
Foreign nationals	
Men	6.7
Women	7.0

Level of social assistance¹ by household unit, 2006



¹ Ratio between the number of household units receiving assistance and the number of private households, in %

The main objectives of social welfare are the return to economic independence and social integration. For younger age groups in particular, an improvement in the work situation and integration into professional life are the main ways to escape dependence on social welfare. An important factor for better chances on the labour market is, therefore, a good professional education and training.

Life expectancy

of 70), mainly due to ischemic heart disease accidents and violence, as well as lung cancer.

Assessment of health

In 2007, 88% of men and 85% of women described their health as good or very good and only 3% of men and women qualified it as bad or very bad. However, temporary physical and mental problems often seem to have a negative effect on work and everyday life. On average, Swiss people are not fit for work on 9 days a year.

Infectious diseases¹ 2007

Acute gastro-intestinal infections	7 840
Meningitis	73
Hepatitis B	105
Tuberculosis	473
AIDS	154

¹ New cases

Accidents, 2007

	Men	Women
Occupational accidents	205 745	57 147
Non-occupational accidents	287 807	170 229

Disabled¹, 2008

Degree of disability	Men	Women
40–49%	5 258	6 390
50–59%	20 454	20 585
60–69%	8 946	7 735
70–100%	101 649	81 045

¹ Receiving govt. disability pensions

Underlying causes of death, 2006

	Number of deaths		Death rate ¹	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
All causes	29 212	31 071	625.0	399.0
of which:				
Infectious diseases	309	314	6.9	4.4
Cancer-related illness, all types	8 624	7 037	187.0	117.0
Circulatory system	10 110	12 282	208.0	131.0
Ischemic heart disease	4 721	4 451	98.0	47.5
Cerebrovascular diseases	1 568	2 465	31.7	27.1
Diseases of the respiratory system, all types	1 984	1 702	40.1	20.1
Accidents and acts of violence	2 218	1 503	52.8	24.6
Accidents, all types	1 264	987	29.7	13.6
Suicide	863	445	20.9	9.4

¹ Age-standardised death rate per 100 000 inhabitants

Infant mortality

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2006	2007
per 1000 live births	15.0	9.1	6.8	4.9	4.4	3.9

Consumption of alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs, 2007

Illegal drugs are mainly used by teenagers and young adults, usually just a few times or occasionally. Currently, approximately 7% of 15–39 year-olds consume cannabis; in 1992, only 4% did. Much more serious from the public health angle is the consumption of tobacco and alcohol. In all, approximately 28% of the population smoke, 24% of women and 32% of men. The percentages have fallen slightly compared to 1992, the most noticeably for 35–44 year olds and in particular for men (35–44 year old men: from 41% to 32%; women: from 31% to 27%). For alcohol, the percentage of those drinking alcohol daily has decreased to 14% (1992: 21%).

Medical services, 2007

	in % ¹	
	Men	Women
Physicians' consultations	73.4	86.2
Hospitalisation	10.7	12.2
Home care	1.4	3.6

¹ Population from age 15

Physicians and dentists

per 100 000 inhabitants

	1980	2007
Physicians with private practice	117	205
Dentists	35	52

Hospitalisation rate in acute hospitals, 2007^P

	in % ¹		
	Total	Men	Women
15–59 years old	12.7	10.6	14.9
60–79 years old	29.3	32.0	26.9
80+ years old	46.1	53.4	42.3

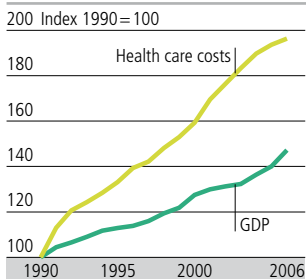
¹ of the corresponding population category

Nursing homes, 2007^P

	in '000 in % ¹	
	in '000	in % ¹
Total nb. of clients	183.4	2.4
of which:		
Clients ≥ 80 years old	101.7	29.1
Men	25.9	21.8
Women	75.8	32.8

¹ of the corresponding population category

Health care costs



In 2006, 10.8% of the GDP went on health (1990: 8.1%). Development of supply is a fundamental factor in this increase: e.g. expanded facilities, growing specialisation and greater use of technology, and greater comfort. The impact of the ageing population and the escalation of social insurance benefits are not so significant.

	in CHF million	
	1996	2006
Total	37 469	52 773
Inpatient treatment	17 744	24 063
Outpatient treatment	10 933	16 588
of which:		
Doctors	5 306	7 538
Dentists	2 682	3 398
Home care	773	1 141
Other services ¹	1 269	1 788
Healthcare resources ²	4 540	6 561
of which:		
Pharmacies	2 812	3 815
Doctors	996	1 673
Prevention	967	1 141
Administration	2 015	2 631

¹ Such as laboratory analyses, radiology, transport

² Medicines and therapeutic apparatus

Moving towards a Swiss educational system

The educational system in Switzerland is characterised distinctly by federalism.

The wide variety of educational systems in place is particularly apparent in schools falling under compulsory education. Depending on the canton in question, there are for example, at Secondary level 1, two, three or even four different types of schools, differing in their levels of requirements. During the nine compulsory school years the total number of hours of tuition ranges from 7100 to 8900 hours per pupil.

The Swiss educational system is in a process of transformation – in recent years, the cantons have reformed their educational systems, national structures have been reorganised (including the introduction of a professional baccalaureate and universities of applied sciences, as well as the implementation of the Bologna Reform); the demand for education has risen and the schools offering an all-round education have gained in importance.

Students

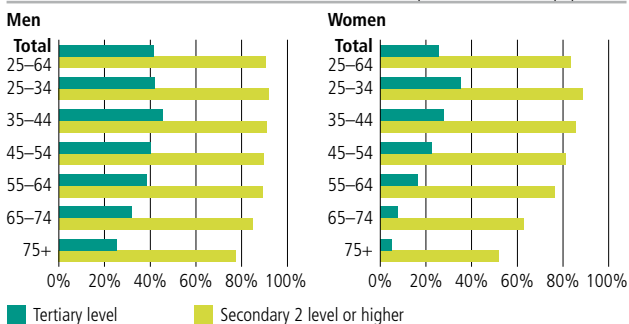
Educational level	Number in '000			% of women		
	1980/81	1990/91	2007/08	1980/81	1990/91	2007/08
Total	1 234.1	1 291.8	1 506.8	46	46	48
Pre-education	120.3	139.8	151.7	49	49	49
Compulsory education	849.6	711.9	788.1	49	49	49
Primary	451.0	404.2	445.1	49	49	49
Lower secondary	362.3	271.6	298.4	49	49	50
Special syllabus schools	36.4	36.2	44.6	39	38	37
Upper secondary	299.0	295.8	329.9	43	45	47
Schools of general education ¹	74.8	74.5	103.1	53	55	59
Vocational training ²	224.2	221.3	226.8	39	42	41
Higher education	85.3	137.5	225.9	30	35	49
Universities	61.4	85.9	116.9	32	39	50
Higher vocat. schools	...	...	60.8	...	...	48
Advanced vocat. training	...	36.2	48.1	...	33	50
Unclassified levels	–	6.7	11.3	–	51	49

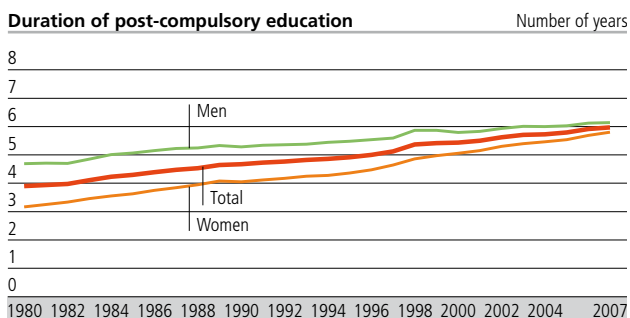
1 Including schools for teaching professions and preparation for higher vocational studies after apprenticeships

2 Incl. induction/preliminary training

Education level, 2008

Share of the permanent resident population





Gender differences – still visible in the choice of studies

It is especially women who have benefited from the growth in education of the past few decades. Differences in education based specifically on gender have continuously diminished. Today virtually as many women as men start a post-compulsory level of education and also complete their studies. As before, men still remain longer in education than women and their entry share at a tertiary level remains higher than that of women.

At the compulsory school level, girls are more successful – they rarely have to repeat a class, they are rarely moved to a special class, and at Secondary level 1 they more frequently attend a school with extended requirements. PISA studies confirm that at the end of the compulsory school years, girls have better marks than boys in reading, but do worse in mathematics. There is much evidence to suggest that this is fundamentally linked with established role models. There are distinct differences in choices of faculty and area of study. In the area “industry and crafts”, men predominate; whereas in sales, as well as in health care and physical therapy, women predominate. The balance between the sexes in these vocational areas has hardly shifted since 1980. Even at a university level the differences are marked – men continue to show a preference for technical fields, natural sciences and economics, whereas women are oriented more towards the humanities, social work and the arts.

PISA 2006: results above the OECD average

In the 2006 PISA tests, Switzerland scored well in all those areas examined (natural sciences, mathematics and reading). In the natural sciences – the focus of the 2006 tests – the average score of Swiss pupils reached 512 points, thus bringing it above the OECD average of 500 points. If one breaks down the results by level of skill, 10% of 15 year-olds in Switzerland are in the top levels 5 and 6. In the OECD average only 9% of pupils fall into this range. At the other end of the scale, 16% of pupils in Switzerland did not achieve higher than level 1 (the lowest level) in comparison with 19% of the OECD average.

Selected educational qualifications, 2007

Educational level	Total	% of Women
Upper secondary level		
Academic baccalaureate	17 461	58.1
Vocational baccalaureate	10 615	44.8
Vocational training certific. ¹	51 487	42.0
Commercial diploma	2 474	51.4
Higher education		
Higher vocational training		
UAS diploma	4 186	31.9
Swiss Federal diploma	2 563	17.8
Swiss Fed. profes. diploma	11 723	37.3
Universities of Applied Science		
Diploma	9 649	41.3
Bachelor's degree	1 874	85.5
Master's degree	218	71.6
Universities		
Licentiate/Diploma	7 015	55.1
Bachelor's degree	7 168	48.7
Master's degree	3 626	43.1
Doctorate	3 236	38.5

¹ Includes Swiss Federal vocational diploma

**Teachers 2006/07^P
University staff 2007**

	FTEs	% of Women
Pre-school	8 200	95.6
Compulsory school ¹	52 500	65.8
Primary school	29 400	78.9
Lower secondary school	23 100	51.4
Upper secondary school ²	7 700	41.4
Universities	31 504	41.4
Professors	2 849	14.6
Other lecturers	2 722	24.4
Assistants ³	15 002	40.1
Univ. of Applied Sciences	11 198	41.3
Professors	3 682	31.0
Other lecturers	2 150	39.6
Assistants ³	2 043	37.4

¹ Excluding schools with a special curriculum

² Only schools providing a general education (secondary, technical and vocational schools etc.)

³ Including scientific staff

Public expenditure on education, 2006

	in CHF billion
Total	26.8
of which costs of teaching staff accounted for	14.6
Pre-school	1.0
Compulsory school	11.4
Special schools	1.3
Basic vocational training	3.4
General schools	2.1
Higher vocational training	0.1
Universities	7.0
Undistributed funds	0.5

Further education

Here, we differentiate between two types of further education – non-formal education (such as attending courses, seminars, private tuition and conferences and informal study (includes specialised literature, study with aid of CD-ROM or from family members). The majority of the population in Switzerland (79% of the permanent population between 25 and 64 years of age or 83% of employed aged between 25 and 64) undertook further education in one form or another in 2006. Informal study is markedly more common than non-formal education (74% of the permanent population and 77% of employed, compared with 48% and 53% respectively for non-formal study).

Focus on research

Research and development (R&D) is an important factor for a national economy. With 2.94% of its GDP being spent in this area (2004), Switzerland is one of the most R&D-oriented countries in the world.

In 2004 around CHF 13.1 billion was spent on domestic R&D. Of this, around 74% was in the private sector, 23% in universities and the remaining 3% was divided between the Confederation and various private, non-profit organisations.

Swiss companies abroad have traditionally invested heavily in R&D activities. Expenditure on R&D in the private sector abroad was around CHF 9.6 billion in 2004, which is roughly equivalent to domestic private sector spending.

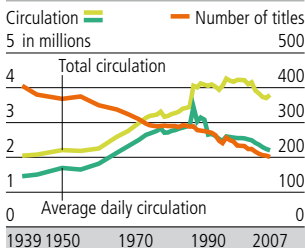
► www.statistik.admin.ch
→ Themen → Bildung und Wissenschaft (in German)

The Swiss press in upheaval

The market for daily newspapers in Switzerland has changed fundamentally since the turn of the new century. In German-speaking Switzerland the free-of-charge commuters' newspaper "20 Minuten" has become the largest publisher with over 1.2 million readers each edition¹. With the establishment of the newspaper entitled "Le Matin bleu" (with 524 000 readers) in 2005 in French-speaking Switzerland, together with the French language edition of "20 Minuten" (with 470 000 readers), the two free newspapers are in the top three ranking of the most-read dailies. In 2006 and 2007 further free dailies were launched in German-speaking Switzerland.

¹ Source: WEMF MACH Basic (2008/II; population over 14 years old, number of readers per edition)

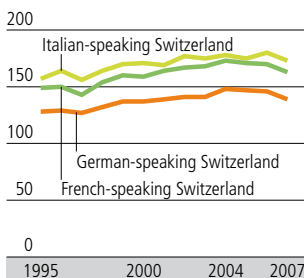
Evolution of paid newspapers



Source: Verband S.P./WEMF circulation statistics (considered are publications of general interests published at least once a week).

Television usage

in minutes per day and per inhabitant



Source: Mediapulse AG Telecontrol (based on population over 3 yrs of age, mean per day Monday–Sunday)

Radio usage

in minutes per day and per inhabitant

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
German-speaking Switzerland	111	106	106	102	105
French-speaking Switzerland	105	101	99	97	98
Italian-speaking Switzerland	106	103	100	96	99

Source: Mediapulse AG Telecontrol (based on population over 15 yrs of age, mean p.d. Monday–Sunday)

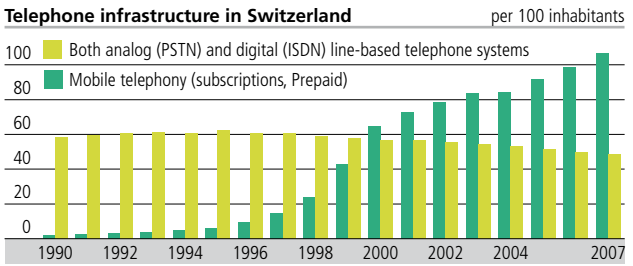
Books – still going strong

Book production in Switzerland does not appear to have been greatly affected by the threat of competition from the electronic media. With more than 11 000 new titles per year, the number of new publications has more than doubled since the 60s.

Book production, 2007¹

Total	11 410
German	6 631
French	2 509
Italian	361
English	1 225
Other languages	684
of which Romansh	21

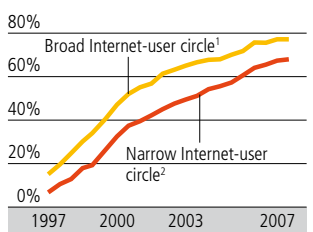
¹ Books published in Switzerland which appeared in bookshops



Widespread use of the Internet

Internet usage has greatly increased in recent years and continues to grow, albeit more slowly. The number of regular internet users (defined as more than once a week) has risen from 0.7 million users (1998) to 4 million in the first quarter of 2008. Over three quarters of households have a PC and, as at the end of 2007, there were 2.3 million broadband connections (ADSL or cable modem).

Internet usage in Switzerland
% of the population, 14 years and over



1 At least once within the past 6 months
2 Several times per week
Source: REMP

Cinema – downward trend halted

In 1931 there were 325 cinemas in Switzerland. With increasing popularity of the seventh art in Switzerland, this number grew continuously in the following years and between 1963–1964 reached a maximum of 646 cinemas. At this time some 40 million spectators were visiting Swiss cinemas.

After this the number of cinemas decreased continuously up until the start of the 90s. The lowest point was reached in 1992–1993 with 302 cinemas and 15 million spectators. Since then the number of cinemas has only changed slightly: in 2007 there were 307 cinemas and 13.7 million spectators.

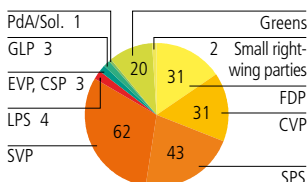
An important trend is the distinction between the number of screens and the number of cinemas. The number of screens (550 in 2007 as compared to 382 in 1992) continues to increase; the number of cinemas is stable at the lowest level of cinema history. The increase in the number of cinema screens is a result of the introduction of cinema complexes and multiplexes. This brings with it the disappearance of more and more small cinemas.

The choice of films has also changed. At the beginning of the 80s around 3000 different films were shown in Switzerland. Today this figure is about 1400. In contrast the number of premieres has risen continuously and these are screened in increasingly quick succession. However, the public gets to see less repeats and classics.

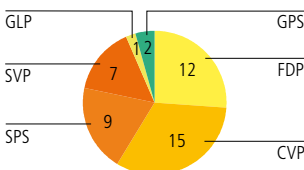
The political system

The Swiss Confederation, made up of 26 cantons, has been in existence since 1848. The Government (Federal Council) is a collegial body consisting of 7 members (from 2008: 2 FDP, 2 SPS, 1 CVP as well as 2 BDP, a split-off from the SVP). They are elected by both chambers in parliament; the National Council (representing the people, 200 seats) and the Council of States (representing the cantons, 46 seats). The Swiss political system is also characterised by far-reaching democratic rights (initiatives and referendums) and national votes.

National elections, 2007: distribution of seats



Council of States, 2007: distribution of seats



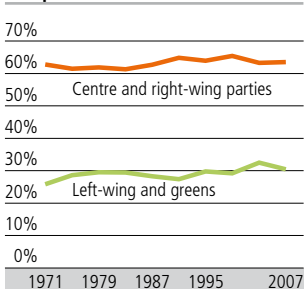
National elections, 2007

Party	Seats	Share of the votes in %
FDP	31	15.8
CVP	31	14.5
SPS	43	19.5
SVP	62	28.9
LPS	4	1.9
Middle parties ¹	6	4.3
PdA/Sol	1	1.1
Greens ²	20	9.8
Small right-wing parties ³	2	2.5
Other parties	0	1.8

1 EVP, CSP, GLP
2 GPS, FGA

3 SD, EDU, FPS, Lega
See below for abbreviation

The political situation¹



1 Share of the vote at national elections

National elections, 2007

After decades of high stability, the Swiss political landscape has changed. The conservative/liberal side already began to shift towards the right-wing in the 1990s. The SVP (Swiss People's Party) almost tripled its share of votes and is now clearly the strongest party. Their gains are at the expense of the small, right-wing parties as well as the other conservative, Federal Council parties, the FDP (Radical Free Democratic Party) and the CVP (Christian Democratic People's Party). At the latest elections, the gains made by the Greens could not, make up for the losses of the SPS, with the result that the left-wing/Green camp was rather weakened. This camp is however, stronger than it was 20 years ago.

Parties abbreviations

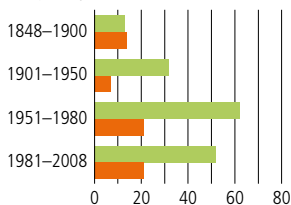
FDP Radical Democratic Party
CVP Christian Democratic Party
SPS Social Democratic Party
SVP Swiss People's Party
LPS Liberal Party of Switzerland
BDP Citizens' Democratic Party Switzerland

EVP Evangelical People's Party
CSP Christian Social Party
GLP Green Liberal Party
PdA Labour Party
Sol. Solidarity
FGA Feminist and green-alternative groups

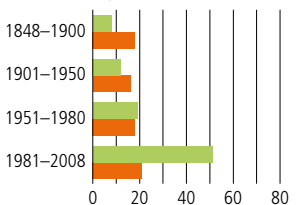
GPS Green Party of Switzerland
SD Swiss Democrats
EDU Federal democratic union
FPS Freedom Party of Switzerland
Lega Lega dei Ticinesi

National Popular Votes

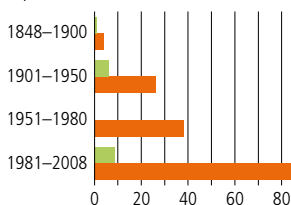
Compulsory referendums¹



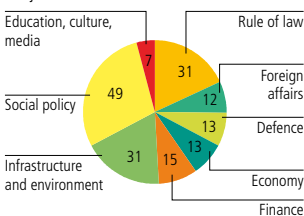
Non-compulsory referendums



Popular initiatives²



Subject 1991-2008

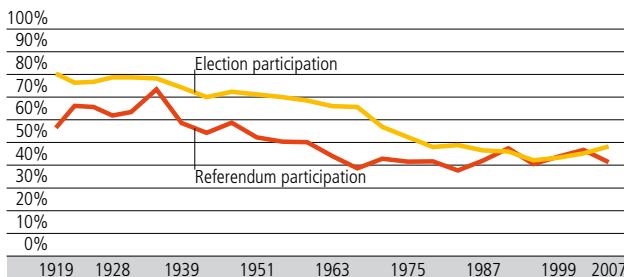


Accepted Rejected

1 Includes counter proposals to popular initiatives

2 Includes popular initiatives with counter proposals

Participation rate in national elections and referendums



The strongest decline in voter turnout has been observed since 1967, a trend which is not least of all attributable to the introduction of the women's right to vote. The decline in voter turnout is subject to strong fluctuation, depending on the subject of the referendum. In the 90s, voter turnout fluctuated between the extremes of 31% and 79%. From the turn of the century on, voter turnout has somewhat stabilised, both for national elections, as for referendums; and is currently slightly rising.

Final accounts of the public administration

in CHF billion

	Revenue			Expenditure			Surplus		
	2000	2006	2007 ²	2000	2006	2007 ²	2000	2006	2007 ²
Total¹	157.2	183.8	192.9	148.1	175.3	182.0	9.2	8.4	10.9
Confederation	52.0	58.5	59.0	48.2	53.1	54.4	3.8	5.4	4.6
Cantons	62.8	73.8	78.3	60.2	71.7	74.4	2.6	2.1	3.9
Communes	42.1	47.5	50.6	40.6	45.9	48.6	1.5	1.7	2.0
Social insurances	42.3	50.0	52.1	41.0	50.8	51.6	1.3	-0.7	0.5

1 Double counts not included in total, without SUVA (swiss professional accident insurance)

2 Part-estimates

Federal, cantonal and communal debt

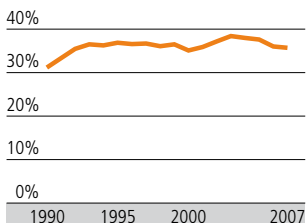
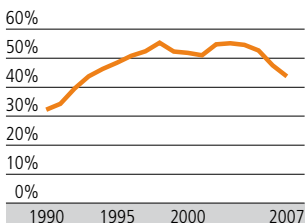
in CHF billion

	1980	1990	2000	2005	2006	2007
Total	77.1	106.5	218.5	244.0	231.3	222.8
Confederation	31.7	38.5	105.3	130.4	123.6	120.8
Cantons	22.4	30.5	64.1	65.4	62.7	58.4
Communes ¹	23.0	37.4	49.1	48.2	44.9	43.5

Per inhabitant, in francs at current prices

	1980	1990	2000	2005	2006	2007
	12 072	15 491	30 306	32 528	30 601	29 238

1 Part-estimates

Public spending ratio in % of GDP**Public debt** in % of GDP

The public spending ratio measures the expenditure of the public authorities expressed as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It includes federal, cantonal and communal expenditure as well as the compulsory social insurances (AVS/AI/APG/AC). Despite a considerable increase in expenditure since 1970, in international comparison Switzerland is in a good position. Most European countries have much higher public expenditure.

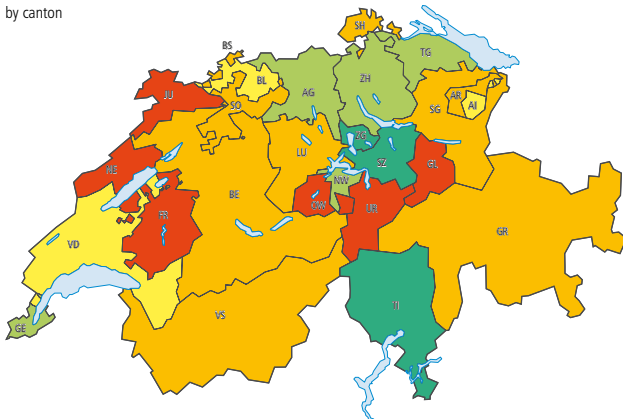
Switzerland's public debt ratio remains low in comparison with other OECD countries; however, between the years 1990 to 2003, it rose continuously. Thanks to a strong economic recovery, together with the shedding of surplus gold reserves of the Swiss National Bank, as well as various structural measures (i.e. relief programme, debt and expenditure slow-down) it has been possible to reduce gross public debt since 2005.

Revenue: Confederation, Cantons and Communes

	1990	1995	2000	2006	2006
	in %	in %	in %	in %	CHF billion
Total	100	100	100	100	151.0
Taxes	77.8	72.3	72.4	71.7	108.3
Income and wealth taxes	54.5	49.8	48.5	48.7	73.6
Stamp duty	2.5	1.6	3.2	1.9	2.9
Property and maintenance tax	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	2.0
Consumption taxes	16.8	17.5	18.0	17.6	26.6
Transport levies	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.1	1.6
Customs duties	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.7	1.0
Agricultural taxes	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Incentive taxes	...	...	0.1	0.1	0.1
Casino and gambling taxes	...	...	...	0.3	0.4
Other income	22.2	27.7	27.6	28.3	42.7

Tax burden on private individuals, 2006

by canton



Overall index of income and wealth tax paid by private individuals



Federal, cantonal and communal expenditure by function

following deductions in double payment

	1990	1995	2000	2006	2006
	in %	in %	in %	in %	CHF billion
Total	100	100	100	100	141.8
General administration	7.0	6.5	6.4	6.4	9.1
Justice, police and fire protection	5.7	5.8	5.5	5.8	8.3
Defence	7.7	5.7	4.4	3.4	4.8
Foreign relations	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	2.4
Education	19.2	19.1	18.4	19.6	27.8
Culture and leisure	3.6	3.0	3.1	3.1	4.3
Health care	12.4	12.8	12.6	14.1	20.1
Social welfare	15.5	17.9	19.0	20.7	29.3
Transport	10.6	10.3	10.5	10.2	14.5
Environment & spatial planning	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.5	5.0
Economy	6.0	5.4	5.5	4.4	6.3
of which agriculture	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.0	4.2
Finance and taxes	6.3	7.5	8.7	7.1	10.1

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Themen → Öffentliche Finanzen (in German)

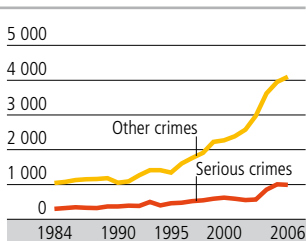
Unrecorded offences

Statistics on crime can only be collected for offences reported to the police or at a victims' support centre. All other reprehensible acts constitute so-called unrecorded offences of varying proportions, depending on the area. In the case of burglary, for example, the number of unrecorded offences is low, due to the fact that insurance companies only reimburse the victim if the burglary has been reported to the police. We know today that the readiness of a victim to report to the police is low in areas such as "violence in the family". Victims' support centres are only called upon in some cases.

As soon as the police have been informed of a reprehensible act, investigations begin. Today, if a conviction is made, a prison sentence, a fine, or a community service order can be imposed as punishment. It can be a suspended sentence. In some cases the court orders specific measures (e.g. in the case of alcohol or drug addiction).

Convictions for violent crimes¹

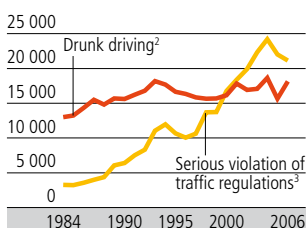
The frequency of convictions for offences involving bodily harm has risen, especially in the area of less serious harm. Among other things, this can be a consequence of an increased readiness to report these acts. The rise in serious crime involving bodily harm in the past year is related to the fact that bodily harm caused within a partnership is now prosecuted ex officio. Police are now permitted to investigate without one of the aggressed parties having to report the incident.



1 Intentional criminal acts involving bodily harm. Convictions of adults only

Convictions for violation of the Road Traffic Act (SVG)¹

In 2005 (15 665) there were roughly 10% fewer drunk driving convictions with blood alcohol concentration over the upper legal limit than in the previous year. This decrease can partly be attributed to the introduction on 1st January 2005 of new anti-drunk driving measures, including the lowering of the legal alcohol limit to 0.5‰ and the possibility of carrying out random alcohol tests. In 2006 (18 163) the number of these convictions was almost the same as in 2004 (18 641). Since 2004, convictions for gross violation of traffic regulations, mainly speeding, are on the decline.



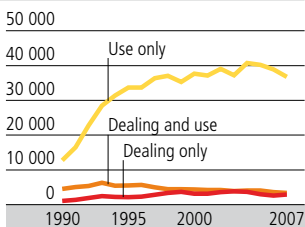
1 Convictions of adults only

2 Over the legal alcohol limit (Art. 91 Para.1, Part 2 SVG)

3 Art. 90.2 SVG

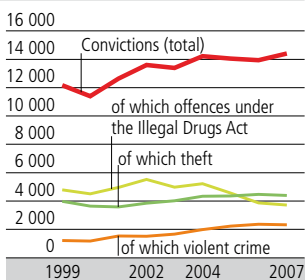
Arrests for drug crimes

At the beginning of the 90s an increase in drug consumption was recorded. This was less a result of a rise in drug cases than a reflection of more intensive prosecution.



Juvenile convictions

In statistics of juvenile judgements all convictions of youths (10 to less than 18 years of age) are recorded. In the case of a reprehensible act carried out by a minor, conflict can also be resolved by means of mediation or arbitration between the author of the offence and the victim. If such endeavours end successfully, conviction does not follow and these cases do not appear in the statistics of juvenile judgements.



Convictions by demographic characteristics¹, 2006

	Number	Part in %
Total	97 911	100.0
Men	83 747	85.5
Women	14 164	14.5
<hr/>		
< 20 year olds	5 568	5.7
20–29 year olds	35 805	36.6
30–39 year olds	25 110	25.6
40–49 year olds	18 127	18.5
50–59 year olds	8 970	9.2
60 or over	4 331	4.4
<hr/>		
Swiss nationality	49 711	50.8
Foreign nationality	48 200	49.2

¹ Adults only

Men under the age of 40 appear more frequently in matters of criminal law. Foreign nationals convicted refers, apart from those members of the foreign resident population, also to tourists, asylum seekers and other temporary visitors to Switzerland. A direct comparison with convictions of Swiss nationals is therefore not possible.

Convictions by main sentence, 2006

	Number	Part in %
Fine only	37 299	38.1
Treatment	574	0.6
Conditional custodial sentence	44 973	45.9
Unconditional custodial sentence	15 065	15.4

Infringements punished only with a fine (minor offences) are only very rarely entered into criminal records; for this reason the number of indictments is unreliable.

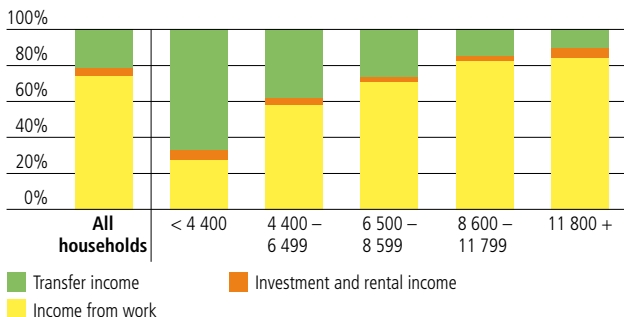
Disposable household income 2006

by gross income group¹

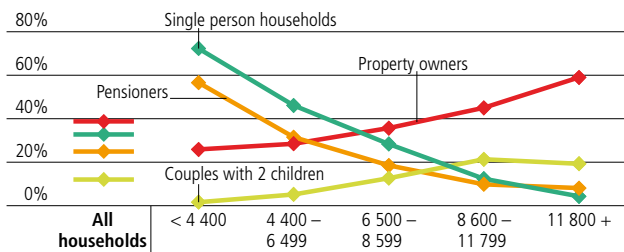
Amounts in CHF per month	All households	Up to 4 399	4 400 to 6 499	6 500 to 8 599	8 600 to 11 799	11 800 and over
Gross income	8 492	3 050	5 520	7 508	10 082	16 315
Mandatory expenditure	-2 521	-875	-1 535	-2 136	-2 958	-5 103
Disposable income	5 971	2 175	3 985	5 371	7 125	11 212

¹ The five income groups in the table and in the two graphs on this page are structured in such a way that they all include roughly the same number of cases (around 20% of households). The income (gross and disposable) and deductions are average figures. The disposable income of the group with the lowest income, for example, is an average of CHF 2 175 per household per month. The average for the group with the highest income is CHF 11 212 and for all households CHF 5 971

Gross income composition, 2006

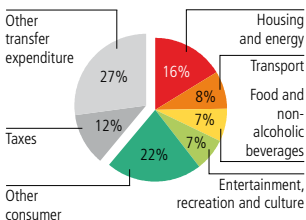


Proportion of different household categories by gross income category, 2006



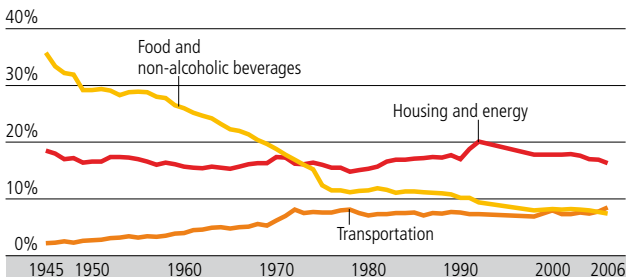
The composition of gross household income varies widely according to income group. In the lower income groups, transfer payments feature strongly (such as old age and survivors' insurance payments), whereas in the upper income groups, income from work dominates. These differences are correlated with differences between household-type distributions based on income groups.

Composition of household expenditure, 2006



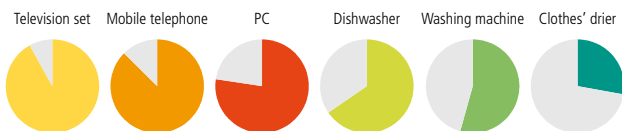
In 2006 consumer expenditure represented over 60% of all expenditure. Housing and energy costs accounted for the largest share, with 16% of total household expenditure.

Trends in selected household expenditure items



Since the second world war, the proportion of expenditure outlaid for food has decreased from over 35% to approximately 7%. In contrast, expenditure on other items has increased, such as for transport, from 2% to approximately 8%.

Household equipment: selected consumer goods 2006



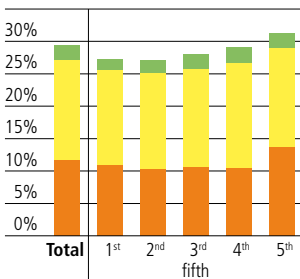
Almost 92% of households own a television set, and over 77% a Computer. In contrast, only 28% have their own clothes drier.

Compulsory expenditure – representing nearly a quarter of income

Households do not have their entire gross income at their disposal, as certain expenditure is compulsory; namely, taxes and social security contributions (old age and survivors' insurance; disability insurance; pension fund premiums and basic health care cover). So-called compulsory expenditure accounts for a good quarter of the entire population's income. This proportion varies only marginally among income groups. Nonetheless, individual expenditure components carry different weights. In the lower income groups, direct federal, cantonal and communal taxes proportionally form a lesser share and social insurance costs (in particular, health insurance) a greater share. In the two lowest income groups overall, the expenditure burden is comparable at 27% (i.e. compulsory expenditure as a proportion of total gross household income). In the upper income groups the burden increases, rising to 31% for the highest fifth of households.

Burden on households of compulsory expenditure items, 2006

Share of compulsory expenditure in gross household income by various income groups¹



■ Direct taxes
 ■ Social security contributions
 ■ Alimony

¹ Here, households are divided into five income groups of equal size: the lowest of which comprises one-fifth of all households with the lowest gross household income (the first fifth and so on)

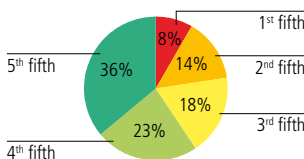
Income distribution

Disposal income, i.e. what remains after deducting compulsory expenditure, is important in determining the standard of living. The number of persons in a household among whom this income has to be shared is also a decisive factor. In order to compare the standard of living (or level of well-being) between households of different sizes, one must take into account both the number and the age of all its members, i.e. their actual needs. The needs of a child differ from that of an older person. These needs can be taken into consideration by using the equivalent household size. The resulting equivalent disposable income serves as a measure for determining the standard of living of all persons living together in a household.

The equivalent disposable income differs strongly between households. In 2006 the fifth of the population with the lowest income accounted for over 8.3%, whilst the fifth with the highest income received over 36% of total income.

Disposable income equality, 2006

Various income groups' share¹ of total disposable equivalent income



¹ Here, households are divided into five income groups of equal size: the lowest of which comprises one-fifth of all households with the lowest gross household income (the first fifth and so on)

Where is the poverty line positioned?

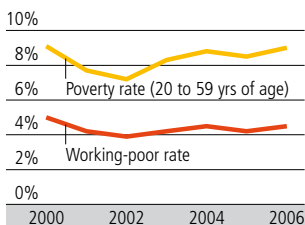
In order to avoid arbitrarily defined values, the poverty line in Switzerland is based on the recommendations of the Swiss Conference for Social Assistance (SCSA). This body issues broadly accepted values which define what amount of money and services are necessary in order to lead a dignified and socially integrated life in this country. These guidelines are intended as recommendations for establishing the level of social assistance; however some assumptions must be made in order to be able to apply the term "poverty" in statistical terms.

The poverty line can be drawn from the sum of basic needs (defined by the SCSA) + living costs + health insurance premiums + CHF 100 per household member from the age of 16 and over. In 2006 the poverty line was, on national average, CHF 2200 for a single person, and CHF 4650 for a couple with two children (under the age of 16). These are only theoretical figures, as 26 canton-specific poverty lines are calculated. All persons between the ages of 20–59, living in a household whose income after deduction of social insurance contributions (odl-age insurance, disability insurance, etc.) and of taxes, falls under the poverty line, are considered as poor.

How many people are living in poverty?

In Switzerland around 380 000 people aged between 20 and 59, in other words 9% of the population, are affected by poverty (2006). Those people who live in households whose members work a total of at least 36 hours per week and yet have an income which is still below the poverty line are referred to as the working poor. In 2006 this applied to 4.5% of the working population, or around 146 000 people.

Poverty trends



Are we headed in the right direction ?

	Assessment
1 Meeting needs – how well do we live ?	
Life expectancy in good health is improving	+
Income is not rising	R
Violence is rising	-
The unemployment rate is stagnating	R
2 Fairness – how well are resources distributed ?	
Poverty is not declining	R
Official development assistance is stagnating	R
Men's and women's wage gap is slowly being narrowed	+
3 Preservation of resources – what are we leaving behind for our children ?	
Teenage reading skills are barely changing	R
Public debt has risen	-
The investment to GDP ratio is stagnating	R
The number of employees in science and technology is rising	+
Breeding bird populations remain more or less stable	R
Developed land is encroaching upon the landscape	-
4 Decoupling – how efficiently are we using our resources ?	
Freight transport is growing faster than the economy	-
The public to total transport ratio is increasing	+
Per capita fossil fuel consumption is stagnating	R
Material consumption to GDP ratio is fluctuating	R

Assessment of trends since 1990:

- + Positive (towards greater sustainability)
- Negative (moving away from sustainability)
- R Neutral

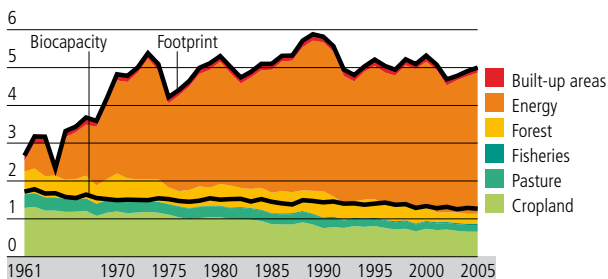
In most areas of life, beginnings for sustainable development have been assessed, but opposite trends can be identified as well.

Thus, improvements made in eco-efficiency have often been compensated by an increase in consumption. A further contradiction exists insofar as improvements within Switzerland are sometimes in contrast to deterioration at a global level.

Fairness between generations is a current topic – the relatively positive assessment of the current situation could be at the expense of future generations. For example, 16 per cent of teenagers today do not have even basic reading skills. Furthermore, growth of developed land is largely at the expense of valuable agricultural land.

In absolute terms, Switzerland is far from having attained sustainability. The ecological footprint shows that Switzerland consumes four times more environmental services and resources than the biosphere can provide on a renewable basis. The main cause for the large footprint is energy consumption – it constitutes three quarters of our ecological footprint.

Switzerland's footprint and biocapacity in global hectares per capita



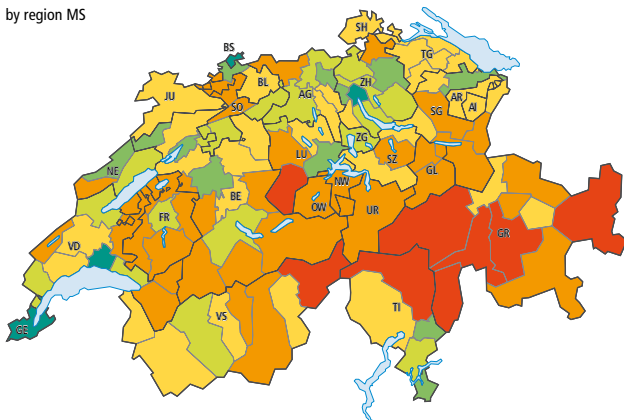
► www.statistics.admin.ch → Topics → Sustainable Development

Regional Disparities

Diversity and regional differences – like disparities – are part of every working society. They are of basic interest to all citizens, as well as for policies and economics. Where can I pay the lowest taxes? In which regions are the most new apartments being built? Depending on the characteristic or viewpoint under consideration, regional disparities can be seen positively as a contribution to diversity or negatively as counterproductive to a country's cohesion. The FSO has developed a set of key indicators in nine subject areas to analyse regional disparities in Switzerland.

Accessibility of services, in 2001

by region MS



Accessibility index

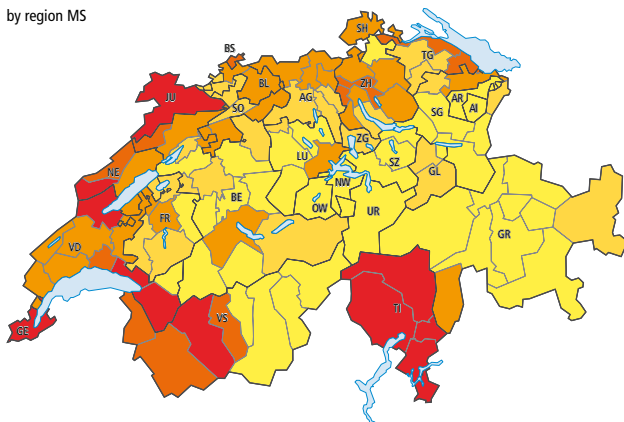
CH: 100

< 50.0 50 – 74.9 75 – 99.9 100 – 149.9 150 – 299.9 ≥ 300.0

Reading aid: the low accessibility index in Swiss towns shows good accessibility of services such as schools, cinemas post offices etc.

Unemployment among young people, in 2006

by region MS



15–24 year old unemployed persons as percentage of all 15–24 year old economically active persons

CH: 4.3

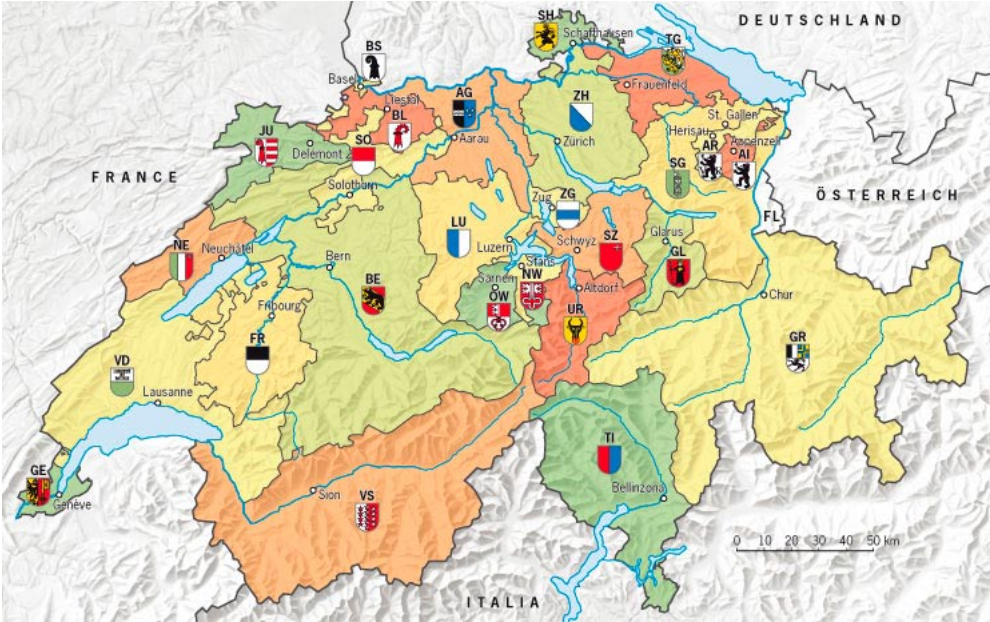
< 3.0 3.0 – 3.9 4.0 – 4.9 5.0 – 5.9 ≥ 6.0

► www.statistik.admin.ch → Regional → Regionale Disparitäten
(in German)

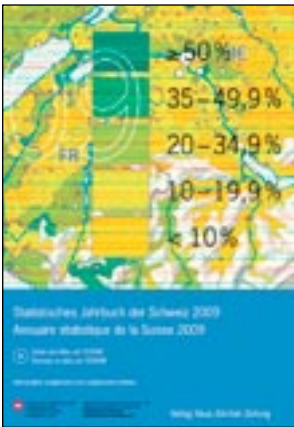
Switzerland and its Cantons

26 cantons
166 districts
2636 municipalities
Situation on 1.1.2009

o Cantonal capital



For the key to the canton abbreviations, see the table on page 2



Statistical Yearbook

of Switzerland 2009 with CD-ROM

The Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland is the standard reference work on Swiss statistics. It provides a comprehensive picture of Switzerland's social and economic situation and contains, in addition to numerous tables, illustrated overviews of all themes of public statistics. The whole yearbook is published in German and French; in addition, a cross-section summary with the most important statistical information is available in English and Italian.

The CD-ROM that accompanies the Statistical Yearbook includes the contents of the Yearbook 2009, complemented by numerous regional statistical and additional tables, as well as two interactive atlases, the new Statistical Atlas of Switzerland and the Stat@las Europe.

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The **Swiss Statistical Portal** (www.statistics.admin.ch) is the comprehensive online service for Swiss public statistics. The portal makes available press releases and publications from the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) and other public statistical offices, as well as continually updated detailed results presented in the form of indicators and downloadable tables. The Data Library offers various databases (such as the Statistical Encyclopaedia and an online data search function) as well as comprehensive information on statistical fundamentals (surveys, registers, nomenclatures); attractive maps and atlases are included in the "Regional" and "International" chapters. By subscribing to the NewsMail service or to automatic RSS feeds, users can keep up to date about our wide range of offerings. The "What's New?" page provides an overview of our latest publications over the past 30 days.