



01

Population

1155-1400

## Switzerland's population

2014



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## ■ Briefly...

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- **Population composition:** At the end of 2014, the **permanent resident population** was 8,237,666. This represents an increase of 98,035 persons (+1.2% in 2014).
- **Natural population change:** The number of **live births** grew (+3.1%) to reach 85,287 in 2014. The same year fewer **deaths** (63,938 compared to 64,961 in 2013) were registered.
- **Migration and Integration:** The net migration declined by 10,883 compared to the previous year. In 2014, 32,836 foreign persons became Swiss citizens.
- **Families and households:** Switzerland counted 3.5 million households in 2013. Of these 1,070,800 **family households** had at least one child under 25 years.
- **Marital status, marriage and divorce:** The number of **marriages** increased by +5.3% and the total of registered partnerships by +3.9%.
- **Ageing:** Currently 1,465,565 million persons aged **65 years** or older live in Switzerland, representing 17.8% of the resident population. The life expectancy for men at the age of 65 is 19.4 and for women 22.4 years.
- **Switzerland in an international comparison:** Switzerland differs from its neighbouring countries with marked net migration and a higher life expectancy for men and women.
- **Swiss living abroad:** In 2014, 746,885 Swiss citizens lived temporarily or permanently **abroad**.
- **Information, sources and publications**

## Population composition

### Permanent resident population, 2014

Total	Men	Women	Swiss	Foreigners
8,237,666	4,073,880	4,163,786	6,239,207	1,998,459

Source: FSO – STATPOP

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At the end of 2014, the permanent resident population totalled 8,237,666 inhabitants, which represents an increase of 98,035 persons (+1.2%) compared to 2013.

### Permanent resident population by canton, 2014

	Total	Men	Women	Swiss	Foreigners
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>8,237,666</b>	<b>4,073,880</b>	<b>4,163,786</b>	<b>6,239,207</b>	<b>1,998,459</b>
Zurich	1,446,354	717,702	728,652	1,073,065	373,289
Berne	1,009,418	494,008	515,410	857,915	151,503
Lucerne	394,604	195,965	198,639	325,336	69,268
Uri	36,008	18,399	17,609	31,864	4,144
Schwyz	152,759	78,152	74,607	122,299	30,460
Obwalden	36,834	18,693	18,141	31,609	5,225
Nidwalden	42,080	21,481	20,599	36,363	5,717
Glarus	39,794	20,136	19,658	30,798	8,996
Zug	120,089	60,633	59,456	88,446	31,643
Fribourg	303,377	151,587	151,790	238,449	64,928
Solothurn	263,719	131,036	132,683	208,749	54,970
Basel-Stadt	190,580	91,760	98,820	124,274	66,306
Basel-Landschaft	281,301	137,719	143,582	221,378	59,923
Schaffhausen	79,417	39,111	40,306	59,542	19,875
Appenzell A.Rh.	54,064	27,271	26,793	45,763	8,301
Appenzell I.Rh.	15,854	8,121	7,733	14,169	1,685
St. Gallen	495,824	247,516	248,308	380,500	115,324
Graubünden	195,886	97,752	98,134	160,497	35,389
Aargau	645,277	323,221	322,056	491,344	153,933
Thurgau	263,733	132,602	131,131	200,849	62,884
Ticino	350,363	170,541	179,822	253,633	96,730
Vaud	761,446	373,187	388,259	509,124	252,322
Valais	331,763	164,399	167,364	256,485	75,278
Neuchâtel	177,327	86,540	90,787	132,575	44,752
Geneva	477,385	230,606	246,779	281,897	195,488
Jura	72,410	35,742	36,668	62,284	10,126

Source: FSO – STATPOP

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In 2014 all Swiss cantons reported population growth. The highest increases were registered in the cantons of Fribourg (+1.9%), Geneva and Zug (+1.7%), Vaud (+1.6%), Zurich, Valais (+1.5%), Aargau (+1.4%) and Thurgau (+1.3%). The canton Uri had the lowest rate of growth (+0.4%).

In 2014, 1,998,459 foreign citizens lived in Switzerland (24.3% of the permanent resident population). Two-thirds came from a EU28 or EFTA country. This population registered an increase of 3.1% (+61,012 persons) compared to the previous year.

### Permanent resident population by nationality

Nationality	1970	1990	2010 <sup>4</sup>	2014
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,084,903</b>	<b>1,127,109</b>	<b>1,766,277</b>	<b>1,998,459</b>
Germany	118,289	84,485	263,271	298,027
France	55,864	51,729	95,643	116,896
Italy	583,850	381,493	287,130	306,414
Austria	44,734	29,123	37,013	40,291
Spain	121,239	116,987	64,126	79,610
Portugal	3,632	86,035	212,586	262,748
Serbien und Montenegro <sup>2</sup>	...	...	*	*
Serbien <sup>3</sup>	...	...	121,908	78,092
Montenegro	...	...	2,022	2,537
Kosovo	...	...	58,755	99,799
Croatia	...	...	33,507	29,940
Bosnia and Herzegovina	...	...	35,513	32,583
Macedonia	...	...	60,116	63,516
Ex-Yugoslavia <sup>2</sup>	24,971	141,397	*	*
Turkey	12,215	64,899	71,835	70,051
Europe	1,030,157	1,036,760	1,504,943	1,698,241
Africa	5,113	20,291	71,527	86,705
America	18,419	29,149	74,511	78,977
Asia, Oceania	9,345	40,649	114,539	132,996

<sup>1</sup> Incl. without indication.

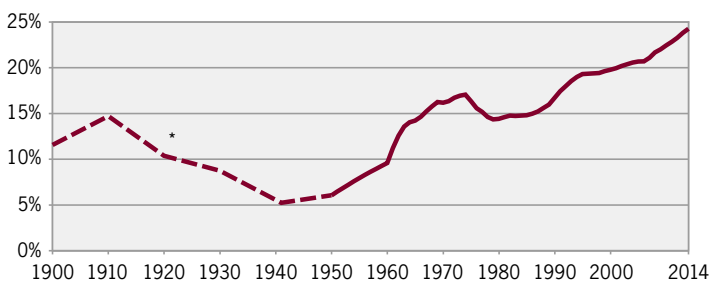
<sup>2</sup> The citizenship is kept on historical grounds.

<sup>3</sup> Including persons not yet attributed to one of the new states of ex-Serbia and Montenegro.

<sup>4</sup> Since 2010: Change of the production procedure and new definition of permanent resident population, which encloses persons in asylum process with a duration of stay from at least 12 months.

Sources: FSO – FPC, PETRA, STATPOP

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\*1900–1960: The composition of the foreign permanent resident population no longer corresponds to today's definition

Sources: FSO – ESPOP, PETRA, STATPOP

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The number of foreign citizens in Switzerland was subject to ample fluctuations in the 20th century, largely depending on the economic and political situation. In 1910, the proportion of foreign nationals in Switzerland already represented 14.7% – a value only reached again in 1967. However, the foreign population in Switzerland declined in the years 1975–1979 and 1983. Since then, the proportion increased steadily and amounted to 24.3% at the end of 2014. Switzerland accommodates one of the highest percentages of foreign residents in Europe. This is primarily a consequence of large waves of immigration, a restrictive naturalisation policy, the high birth rates combined with low mortality rate amongst the foreign population.

## Natural population change

By natural population change, we understand events that naturally increase or diminish the **size of the population**, i.e. **live births** and **deaths**.

### Live births

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,216</b>	<b>73,661</b>	<b>83,939</b>	<b>78,458</b>	<b>85,287</b>
Boys	51,235	37,717	42,914	40,402	43,850
Girls	47,981	35,944	41,025	38,056	41,437
<b>Age of the mother at birth</b>					
less than 20 years	3,562	1,746	1,007	834	440
20–24 years	29,262	16,671	12,853	8,529	5,971
25–29 years	35,565	29,333	34,261	22,861	19,971
30–34 years	19,609	19,197	26,133	30,130	32,732
35–39 years	8,569	5,660	8,393	13,798	20,829
40–44 years	2,423	972	1,248	2,205	4,940
45 years or older	226	82	44	101	404

Source: FSO – BEVNAT

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Women are increasingly postponing the age of childbirth. Whereas in 1970, 20–29-year-olds still accounted for 65.3% of all births, by 2014 the proportion was only 30.4%. More than half of childbirths (63.0%) were accounted for women aged 30–39.

### Fertility<sup>1</sup>

	1970 <sup>2</sup>	1980	1990	2000	2014
<b>Average age at maternity</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>29.8</b>	<b>31.7</b>
Swiss	27.9	28.0	29.3	30.6	32.2
Foreigners	27.1	27.1	27.6	28.5	30.5
<b>Average number of children per woman<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>2.04</b>	<b>1.55</b>	<b>1.59</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.54</b>
Swiss	1.82	1.53	1.55	1.28	1.43
Foreigners	2.90	1.70	1.78	2.14	1.87

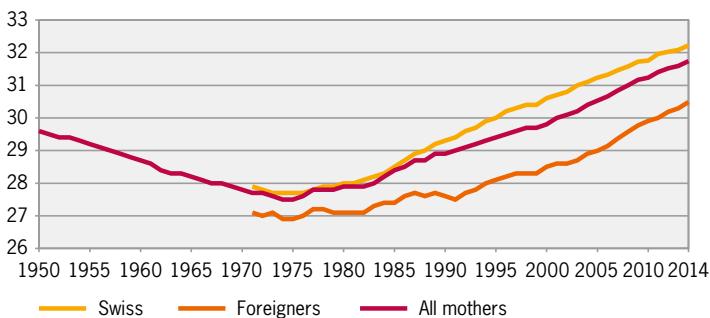
<sup>1</sup> Fertility is the number of live births of the female population. Therefore the number of live births is calculated in relation to the number of women of fertile age (15–49 years).

<sup>2</sup> For 1970 no data available. Data comes from ESPOP available from 1971.

<sup>3</sup> Total fertility rate

Source: FSO – BEVNAT, ESPOP

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Sources: FSO – BEVNAT, ESPOP, PETRA, STATPOP

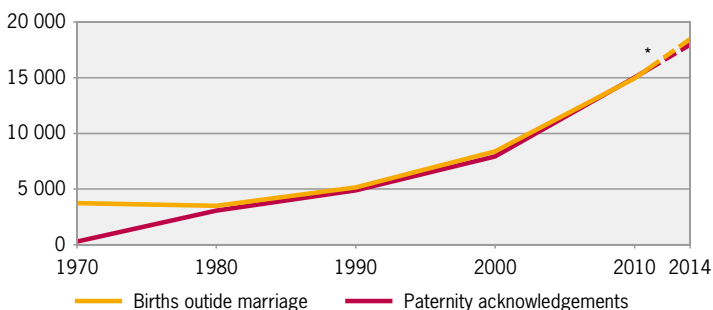
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The rise in the average age at maternity may be explained by two diverging trends: Whereas the proportion of women under 30 giving birth has decreased, the proportion of those above 35 has grown. Longer education, later entry into working life, changing lifestyles and behavior are presumed to be the reasons for this development in industrial countries. However, it is observed that the average age of mothers of foreign nationality remains lower than that of Swiss women and they continue to give birth to more children.

The majority of children are born to married mothers. However the percentage of births outside marriage increased from 3.8% in 1970 to 21.7% in 2014.

A rise in births outside marriage and increasing acknowledgments of paternity are recorded. In 2014 17,973 acknowledgements were registered.





\* Since 2011 acknowledgements are registered 1–5 years after the child's birth.

Source: FSO – BEVNAT, ESPOP, PETRA, STATPOP

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Mothers do not need to acknowledge their children as parentage comes from the act of giving birth. However, fathers who are not married to the mother of their child have to make a declaration of acknowledgement of parentage at the registry office or in court. The acknowledgement can be made before or after the birth.

From 1980 to 2005, the majority of children were acknowledged after their birth. At present, the number of paternity acknowledgements is 6 times greater than in 1980. This increase has taken place alongside the rise in the number of births outside of marriage.

## Deliveries

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2014
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>99,184</b>	<b>73,247</b>	<b>83,316</b>	<b>77,600</b>	<b>84,073</b>
Single	98,276	72,486	82,336	76,490	82,524
Multiple	908	761	980	1,110	1,549
Twins	898	747	949	1,079	1,517
Others	10	14	31	31	32

<sup>1</sup> Incl. both live births and stillbirths

Source: FSO – BEVNAT

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The number of maternities registered during a calendar year corresponds to the number of women giving birth. Each maternity is counted as one event, regardless of the number of children being born (live or stillborn).

The share of multiple birth has doubled over the last 30 years, from 1.0% in 1970 to 2.0% in 2014.

## Deaths

A component of natural population change, **death** is a natural cause of population reduction. **Mortality** represents the occurrence of death in a given population. **Life expectancy** represents the average number of years that a person can expect to live.

### Deaths

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,091</b>	<b>59,097</b>	<b>63,739</b>	<b>62,528</b>	<b>63,938</b>
Men	29,954	30,847	32,492	30,400	30,950
Women	27,137	28,250	31,247	32,128	32,988
Swiss	53,084	55,506	59,802	58,190	57,971
Foreigners	4,007	3,591	3,937	4,338	5,967
<b>Age</b>					
0 years	1,293	596	472	336	303
1–19 years	1,271	771	609	380	211
20–39 years	1,991	2,005	2,313	1,565	831
40–64 years	11,623	9,881	9,207	8,645	7,546
65–79 years	23,604	23,646	20,415	17,915	16,101
80–99 years	17,269	22,093	30,481	33,228	37,997
100 years or older	40	105	242	459	949
Deaths of children under the age of one	1,494	667	574	386	331
Infant mortality rate <sup>1</sup>	15.1	9.1	6.8	4.9	3.9
<b>Life expectancy at birth (in years)</b>					
Men	70.1	72.3	74.0	76.9	81.0
Women	76.2	78.9	80.8	82.6	85.2

<sup>1</sup> Deaths of children under the age of one per 1000 live births

Source: FSO – BEVNAT

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Whereas the total number of deaths remained relatively stable during the last 30 years, the age structure of the deceased was changing. The proportion of deaths before the age of 65 has decreased strongly. In 1970 there were 28.3% of the population below the age of 65 compared to 14.0% in 2014. On the other hand, the proportion of deaths among persons aged 75 and older has greatly increased. Among the 85-plus age group, the rise is especially pronounced. In 2014, 45.2% of the deceased were 85 or older; in 1970 the proportion was 20.0%.

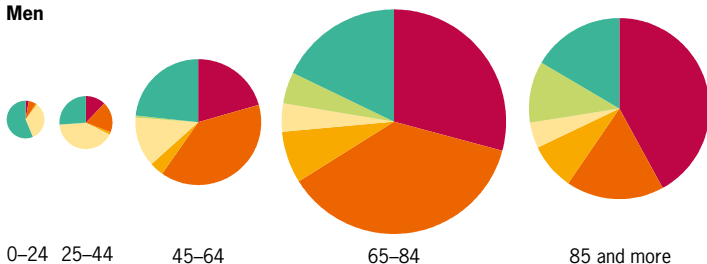
## Leading causes of death

Most deaths are due to a small number of causes: cardiovascular disease, cancer, dementia, diseases of the respiratory tract, as well as accidents and violent deaths. The order of importance of these causes varies according to period of life.

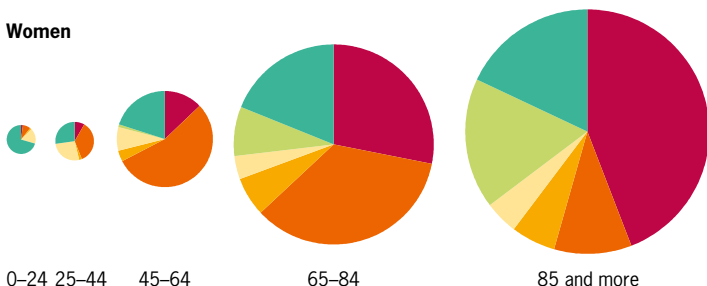
### Leading causes of death by age group in 2013

G 4

#### Men



#### Women



Surfaces are proportional to the absolute number of deaths.

Source: FSO – Causes of death statistics

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The relative importance of the causes of death varies depending on age. In the first two years of life, hereditary diseases predominate as causes of death. Between 2 and 15, the very rare cases of deaths are spread across a variety of causes of death. From 16 to approx. 34 years accidents and suicide are the prevailing causes. From around the age of 40, cancer is the most frequent cause of death. After the age of 80 cardiovascular diseases are most common.

**International migrations** are changes of residence that involve crossing a national boundary.

### International migrations

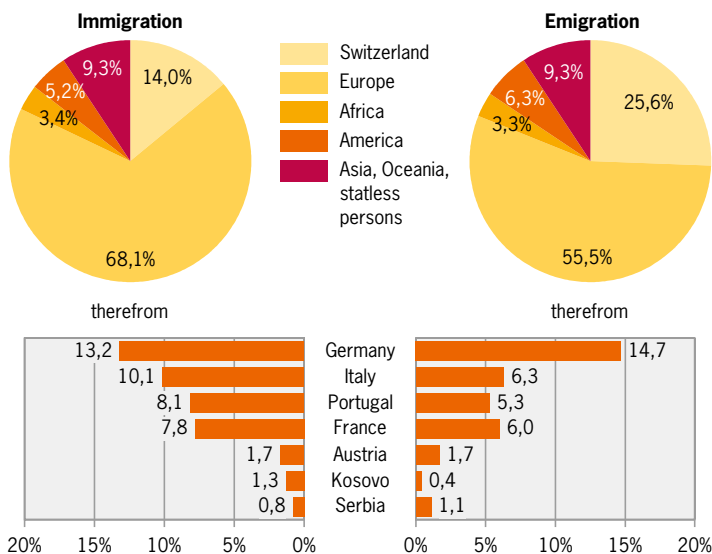
	1990	2000	2010	2014
<b>Immigration<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>154,244</b>	<b>110,302</b>	<b>161,778</b>	<b>187,326</b>
Swiss	31,465	26,102	22,283	26,177
Foreigners	122,779	84,200	139,495	161,149
<b>Emmigration</b>	<b>97,601</b>	<b>90,078</b>	<b>96,839</b>	<b>111,103</b>
Swiss	31,888	30,776	26,311	28,496
Foreigners	65,713	59,302	70,528	82,607
<b>Net migration<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>56,643</b>	<b>20,224</b>	<b>64,939</b>	<b>76,223</b>
Swiss	-423	-4,674	-4,028	-2,319
Foreigners	57,066	24,898	68,967	78,542

<sup>1</sup> Until 2010 incl. change of status and switchers from the asylum process, since 2011 incl. conversions from non permanent residence status.

Sources: FSO – ESPOP, STATPOP

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The migration movement distinguishes between international migration and internal migration. International migration indicates migration from abroad into Switzerland (immigration) and from Switzerland to a foreign country (emigration). Internal migration refers to migration within Switzerland, either between two communities from a same canton (intra-cantonal) or between two communities of different cantons (inter-cantonal).



Sources: FSO – ESPOP, PETRA, STATPOP

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The **acquisition of Swiss citizenship** is an important step towards integration of the immigrant-population. The naturalisation has an impact on the nationality distribution of the resident population.

### Acquisition of Swiss citizenship

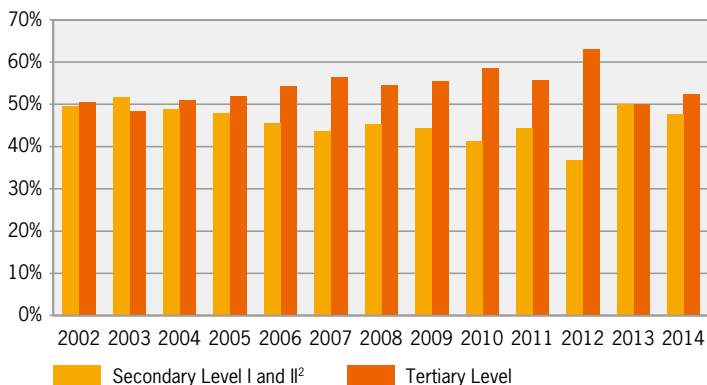
	1990	2000	2010	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,658</b>	<b>28,700</b>	<b>39,314</b>	<b>32,836</b>
Men	3,228	13,314	18,553	15,474
Women	5,430	15,386	20,761	17,362
Of which:				
Europe	6,970	21,975	30,458	25,885
EU-28 countries	6,198	13,386	15,673	17,070
Africa	273	1,824	2,499	2,017
America	600	1,875	2,015	1,962
Asia	796	2,981	4,261	2,858
Oceania/stateless/ no indication	19	45	81	114

Sources: PETRA, STATPOP

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In 1990, 8658 foreign citizens were naturalised, in 2006 their numbers reached 46,711. In 2014 32,836 persons acquired a Swiss passport. 42% of the concerned people were under 30 years old. The following graph reveals clearly that a large proportion of the immigrant population has completed tertiary education.

**Educational level of the immigrants<sup>1</sup>, after immigration year, in %** **G 6**



<sup>1</sup> Only persons over 18 years

<sup>2</sup> Secondary school level I: Compulsory school not completed, only compulsory school completed, domestic schooling, business school 1–2 year, language course

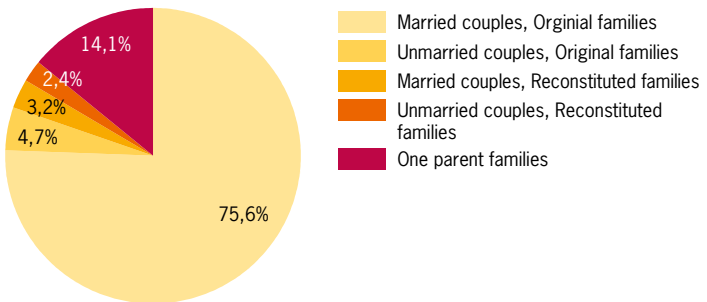
## Families and households

### Family households with children

In 2013 about 1 million households in Switzerland were family households<sup>1</sup> with at least one child under 25 years<sup>2</sup>. In 80.3% couples with exclusively biological or adopted children, called original families, lived in these households. 14.1% of the households represented one-parent families with mostly single mothers (83.4% of one-family households). A relatively small percentage of 5.6% were patchwork families, households in which at least one parent has brought in a child from a previous relationship into the new family.

#### Family households with at least one child under 25 years according to type, 2013

G 7



Source: FSO – STATPOP

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Although family forms have changed by the increase of one-parent and patchwork families, the vast majority of children under 25 years (83.7%) lived in original families.

<sup>1</sup> Because the used data are from a random sample survey (SR 2012) a confidence interval would be given to each number in order to allow a statement about the accuracy of the results. However, to make reading the text easier, the confidence interval is omitted.

<sup>2</sup> This contribution takes into account children and adolescents up to the age of 25, as long as they live in their parents' household.

## Division of childcare and household chores between women and men

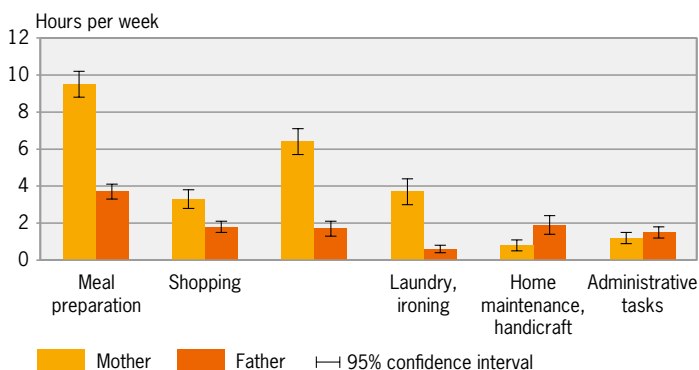
Today, the majority of women are employed. Does that mean that the household chores and family-related tasks are split evenly between men and women?

Statistics show that **household chores** remain a female domain. Women do the main part of household duties and family-related tasks, with the exception of administrative and manual work. In couple households with one or more children (0 to 12), mothers are spending significantly more time on preparing meals, cleaning, washing and ironing compared to fathers.

### Time spent on chosen household chores, 2013

Mothers and fathers in couple households with a child or children aged between 0 and 12

G 8



Source: FSO – SLFS 2013

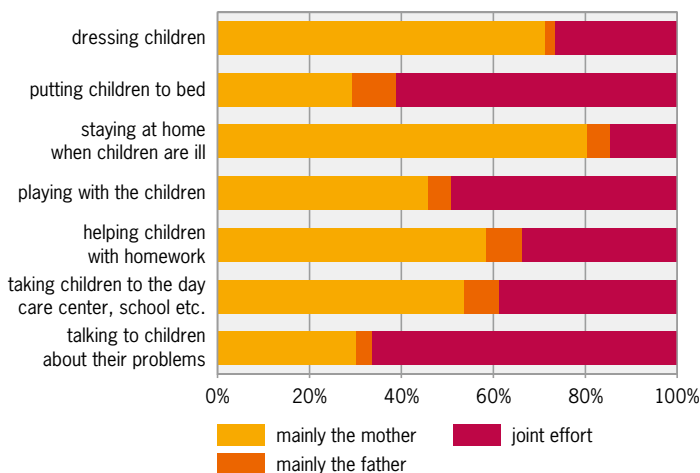
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In most couple households **childcare** is mainly done by mothers. The share of childcare duties done by men in couple households amounts to less than 10.0%. Men reach the highest proportion (9.5%) for putting children to bed.

### Division of childcare in couple households with a child or children aged between 0 and 12

G 9



Source: FSO – FGS 2013

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In four fifth of couple households' mothers are staying home when children are ill. Regarding the duty of dressing children, there are also mainly mothers (71%) in couple households who are in charge.

However, “putting children to bed (61%)” and “talking to children about their problems (66%)” are childcare duties which are shared by both parents.

The division of childcare responsibilities may be associated with the employment model and the education level of woman. However, if both partners work either full-time or part-time, the division is more equal.

## Share of couple households with a child or children aged between 0 and 12 where childcare is mainly carried out by mothers\*

G 10



\* In order to determine the cases where childcare is mainly carried out by mothers, all seven tasks areas shown in chart G9 were combined. Childcare is mainly carried out by women if e.g., they are mainly responsible for three or more tasks and the parents carry out the other tasks jointly or if one task is mainly carried out by fathers while mothers are mainly responsible for at least four other areas. Concerning the employment model, only couple households where one of the depicted employment models applies were taken into account. Couples with a different employment situation were not taken into account.

Source: FSO – FGS 2013

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## Households

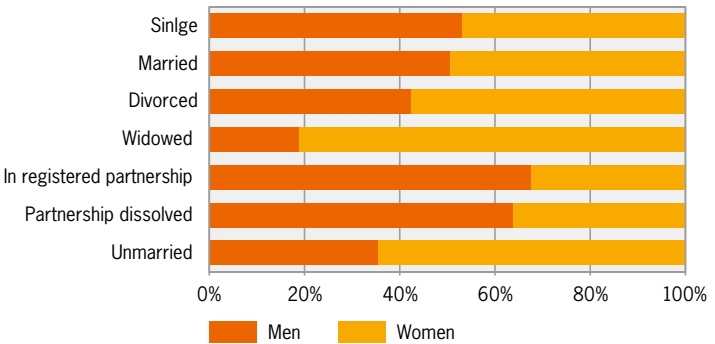
In 2013 there were 3.5 million private households in Switzerland. 35.1% of them were one-person households. Another third of the households are composed of two persons. Three- and four-person households (13.3% and 12.8%) represent each approximately a tenth of the households.

## ■ Marital status, marriage and divorce

Demographic events such as **marriage** and **divorce** have no influence on the size of the population. The resulting **civil status**, however, is visible in the composition of the population. Population statistics differentiate between **seven forms of marital status**: single, married, divorced, widowed, unmarried<sup>3</sup>, in registered partnership and dissolved partnership.

At the end of 2014, single and married persons were more or less equally distributed between both sexes (proportion of men and women among single persons: 53.1% and 47.0%, men and women among married persons: 50.5% and 49.5%). Among the divorcees, women represent a greater share (57.6%).

### Permanent resident population by sex and marital status, 2014 G 11



Source: FSO – STATPOP

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More significant differences were seen among widowed persons: the percentage of women is 81.2%. The reasons for this are the higher life expectancy of women and greater propensity of men to remarry. The share of divorced persons in the total population rose from 1.9% in 1970 to 8.0% today.

<sup>3</sup> The marital status unmarried is a result of a declaration of invalidity of union or a declaration of disappearance of the previous partner.

## Marriages

In 2014, 41,891 marriages were contracted. More than 70.0% (29,339) of these marriages were between two single persons (= first marriage). In 12,552 marriages, at least one of the spouses was not previously single.

### Marriages

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,693</b>	<b>35,721</b>	<b>46,603</b>	<b>39,758</b>	<b>41,891</b>
Men					
of which single	41,536	30,212	38,316	30,467	32,787
widowed	1,437	791	795	618	462
divorced <sup>1</sup>	3,720	4,718	7,492	8,673	8,642
Women					
of which single	42,607	31,175	39,624	31,531	33,987
widowed	950	417	436	432	291
divorced <sup>1</sup>	3,136	4,129	6,543	7,795	7,609
Average age at first marriage (in years)					
Men	26.5	27.4	29.1	30.3	31.8
Women	24.1	25.0	26.7	27.9	29.6

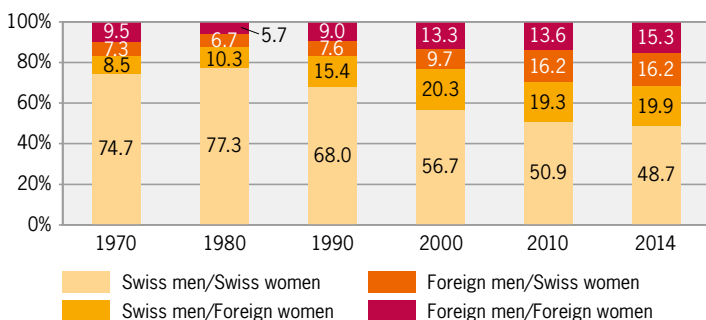
<sup>1</sup> Incl. other marital status

Source: FSO – BEVNAT

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### Marriages by citizenship

G 12



Source: FSO – BEVNAT

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For several decades, there has been a rise in the number of marriages in which at least one of the spouses is a foreign citizen. In 2014, this concerned 21,497 of all marriages of which 15,060 (36.0% of the total) were between a Swiss and a foreign citizen. In most cases the foreign partner comes from a neighboring state: 1220 Swiss men married a German woman and 922 Swiss women married an Italian man.

## Partnership

The Federal Registered Partnerships Act enabling couples to formalise their relationship came into effect on 1 January 2007. Couples may register their relationship at the registry office of their place of residence and thereby formalise their living situation with mutual rights and obligations.

### Registered partnership

	2007	2010	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>720</b>
Couples (Men)	1431	499	450
Couples (Women)	573	221	270

Source: FSO – BEVNAT

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The highest number of registered partnerships were recorded in the first year (2004 in total), thereafter the number decreased steadily. In 2014 there were 720 registered partnerships which corresponds to a decrease of 64.1% compared with 2007.

Among women partnerships are mainly between Swiss citizens.

Partnerships between Swiss men and a partner from another country of origin are most common.

### Registered partnership by sex and nationality of the partner

	2007	2010	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>720</b>
<b>Women</b>			
Between Swiss partners	378	133	163
Between a swiss and a foreigner partner	159	67	78
Between foreigner partners	36	21	29
<b>Men</b>			
Between Swiss partners	543	130	128
Between a swiss and a foreigner partner	782	280	251
Between foreigner partners	106	89	71

Source: FSO – BEVNAT

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## Divorces

In 2014, 16,737 divorces were registered. Most divorces occur when both – man and woman – are aged between 40 and 49.

Divorces occur most frequently in the seventh year of marriage (5.6%). But an increasing number of couples who have been married for 20 years or longer are getting divorced (30.2%). If this trend continues, this would mean that 2 of 5 couples will get divorced at some point in their lifetime.

## Divorces

	1970	1990	2010	2014 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,406</b>	<b>13,184</b>	<b>22,081</b>	<b>16,737</b>
Duration of marriage <sup>1</sup>				
0–4 years	1,568	3,128	2,454	2,062
5–9 years	1,926	3,473	6,117	4,256
10–14 years	1,143	2,051	4,087	3,044
15–19 years	778	1,679	3,216	2,320
20 years or older	991	2,853	6,207	5,055
Average duration of marriage at time of divorce (in years)	11.6	11.9	14.5	15.0
Consolidated divorce rate	15.4	33.2	54.4	40.9

<sup>1</sup> Calculation: year of the divorce minus year of the marriage.

<sup>2</sup> Since 2011, this change in source results in a series break in the divorce statistics. Thus, the information on divorces involving two spouses of foreign nationality is no longer entirely available in the divorce statistics.

## Demographic ageing

The demographic ageing describes the increase of the proportion of people 65 and older in a given population. This change is visible in the age pyramid.

Demographic ageing results one hand from the decline in birth rates, characterized by lower annual birth rates and by a shift of giving birth at an older age. On the other hand, demographic aging is influenced by the lower mortality rate, which is expressed in the higher life expectancy.

This trend will accelerate further when the high birthrate age group (the baby boomers) reach retirement age.

### Permanent resident population by age, 2014

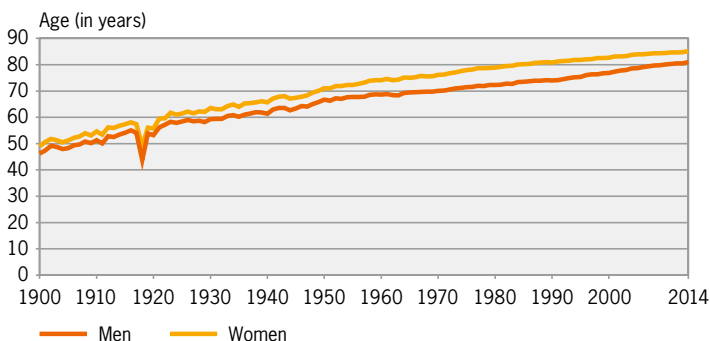
	Total	Men	Women	Swiss	Foreigners
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,237,666</b>	<b>4,073,880</b>	<b>4,163,786</b>	<b>6,239,207</b>	<b>1,998,459</b>
Age					
0–19 years	1,663,752	854,293	809,459	1,256,302	407,450
20–39 years	2,198,925	1,111,562	1,087,363	1,460,545	738,380
40–64 years	2,909,424	1,464,324	1,445,100	2,213,649	695,775
65–79 years	1,056,864	495,252	561,612	929,627	127,237
80–99 years	407,158	148,159	258,999	377,634	29,524
100 years or older	1,543	290	1,253	1,450	93

Source: FSO – STATPOP

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### Life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth in Switzerland rose significantly during the 20th century and is currently one of the highest in the world. Specifically, it has risen from 46.2 to 81.0 years for men and from 48.8 to 85.2 years for women since 1900. Nevertheless a gradual slowing-down of this trend can be observed. The difference between the two sexes has been decreasing for years; in 2014 life expectancy increase was 4.2 years.

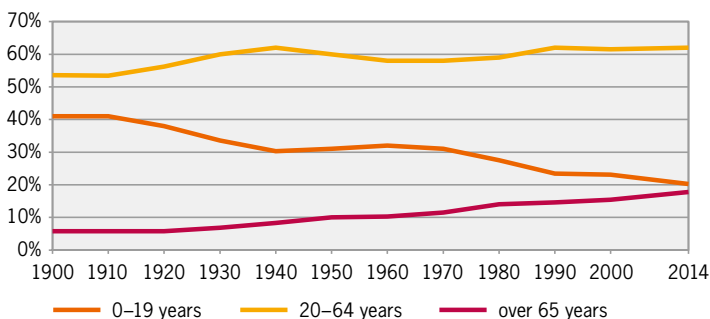


Sources: FSO – BEVNAT, ESPOP, STATPOP

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The graph G14 reveals clearly the peculiarities of an ageing population. The decline in the proportion of young people (0–19) was compensated almost completely by the increase in the proportion of older people (aged 65 and over). The proportion of 20- to 64-year-olds is relatively stable. During the entire period under review it was between 53.6% and 62.0%.

**Development of the proportion of the people less than 20 years, between 20–64 year and over 65 years according to the permanent resident population**



Sources: FSO – ESPOP, STATPOP

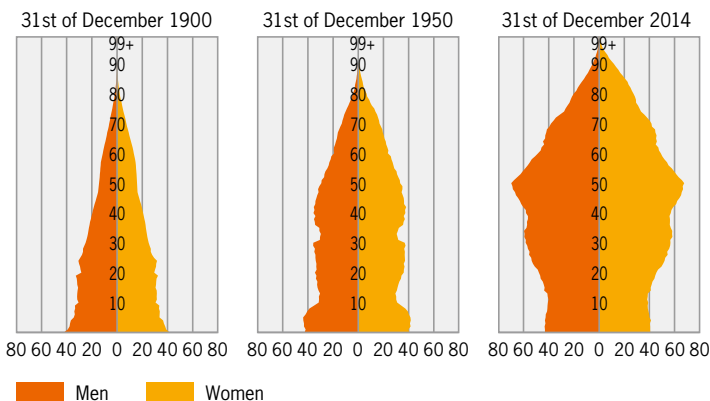
© FSO, Neuchâtel 2015



## Age structure of the population

Number of people in 1000

G 15



Sources: FSO – FPC, STATPOP

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During the course of the 20th century, the number of the older people has strongly risen, while the number of young people in employable age (20 to 64 years) has dropped relatively.

Over the next thirty years, the age pyramid will change further and the shape of a fir tree develops into an "urn". According to the various scenarios, the top of the age pyramid will further expand as the high birth-rate groups enter into the higher age categories. However, the base of the age pyramid may widen if there are more births or even narrow if birthrates fall. In 2014, 1,465,565 million people (17.8%) aged 65 and over lives in the country. Of these, 10.0% were women and 7.8% men. Due to the higher mortality of men, the proportion of women increases with age.

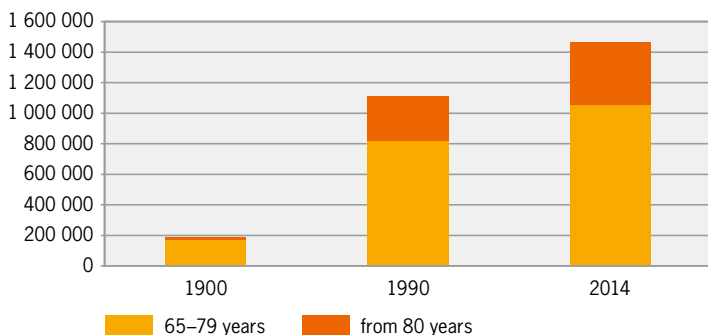
$$\text{Youth dependency ratio} = \frac{\text{Persons aged 0–19 years}}{\text{Persons aged 20–64 years}}$$

$$\text{Old-age dependency ratio} = \frac{\text{Persons aged 65+ years}}{\text{Persons aged 20–64 years}}$$

The ratio between generations are especially influenced by the ageing of the population; which means that the older population is growing, facing increasingly fewer young people.

## Permanent resident population at the age of 65–79 years and from 80 years

G 16



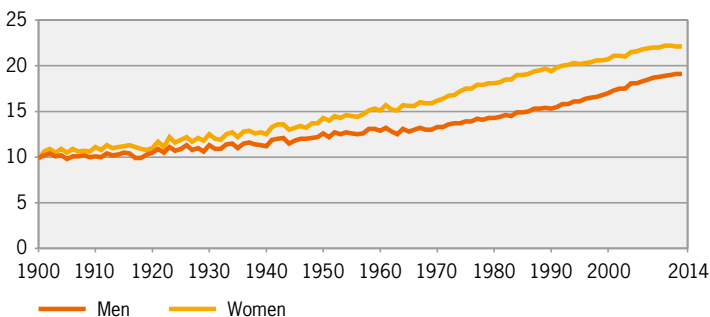
Source: FSO – STATPOP

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In 2014, 1,465,565 million people (17.8%) aged 65 and over lives in the country. Of these, 10.0% were women and 7.8% men. Due to the higher mortality of men, the proportion of women increases with age.

## Life expectancy at 65 years

G 17



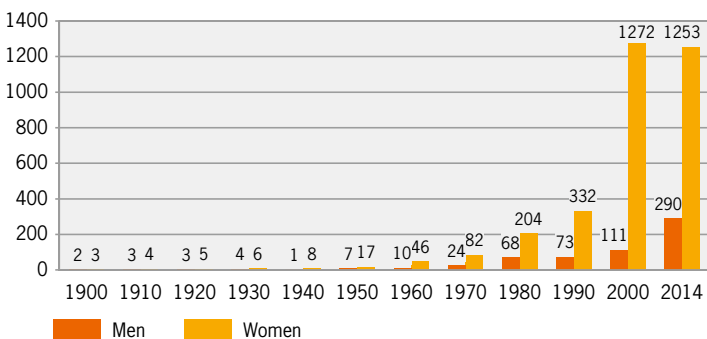
Sources: FSO – ESPOP, STATPOP

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The number of people 100 years and older is rising. On 31st December 2014, 1,543 centenarians and people older than 100 lived in Switzerland.

## Number of centenarians

G 18



Sources: FSO – ESPOP, STATPOP

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## Switzerland in international comparison

Switzerland differs from its neighbouring countries with its marked net migration, a leading marriage rate, as well as a higher life expectancy for men and women. The proportion of older people is higher in Germany and Italy than in Switzerland. France stands out for its high fertility rate.

### Main indicators for different countries, 2014

	Switzerland	Italy	Germany	France	Austria
Population (in 1000) <sup>1</sup>	8,240	60,782	80,767	65,835	8,506
Share of the population under 15 years (in %) <sup>1</sup>	14.9	13.9	13.1	18.6	14.3
Share of the population 65 or older (in %) <sup>1</sup>	17.8	21.4	20.8	18.0	18.3
Share of foreigners (in %) <sup>1</sup>	24.3	8.1	8.7	6.3	12.4
Average number of children per woman <sup>2</sup>	1.5	1.4	1.4	2.0	1.4
Life expectancy at birth (in years) <sup>3</sup>					
Men	81.0	80.3	78.6	79.0	78.6
Women	85.2	85.2	83.2	85.6	83.8
Net migration (per 1000 persons)	9.3	1.8	7.2	0.5	8.7
Marriages (per 1000 persons) <sup>2</sup>	5.1	3.2	4.6	...	4.8
Divorces (per 1000 persons) <sup>2</sup>	2.0	...	2.1	...	...

<sup>1</sup> January 1, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> Germany, France, Italy, Austria: 2013.

Sources: Switzerland: FSO; other countries: Eurostat, on August 14, 2015

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## Swiss living abroad

### Swiss living abroad by country of domicile

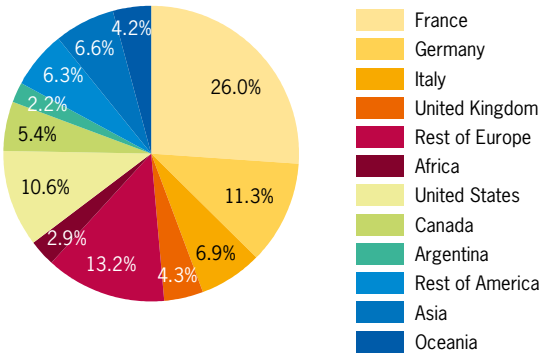
	1995	2000	2005	2010	2014
<b>Total</b>	<b>527,795</b>	<b>580,396</b>	<b>634,216</b>	<b>695,123</b>	<b>746,885</b>
Europe	326,193	358,786	395,336	429,498	461,838
France	137,528	151,037	169,437	181,462	194,474
Germany	65,664	67,728	71,115	77,827	84,671
Italy	36,821	41,140	46,327	49,187	51,353
United Kingdom	22,543	25,043	26,441	29,505	32,529
Africa	16,650	17,467	18,017	20,008	21,491
Americia	143,030	154,872	163,122	174,158	181,222
United States	62,793	67,929	71,773	75,252	78,696
Canada	32,218	34,192	36,204	39,186	39,618
Argentina	14,163	14,546	14,931	15,690	15,893
Asia	19,845	24,167	30,378	41,466	50,592
Oceania	22,077	25,104	27,363	29,993	31,742

Source: FDFA/Relations with the Swiss abroad

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### Swiss living abroad by country of domicile, 2014

G 19



Source: FDFA/Relations with the Swiss Abroad

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Around 746,885 Swiss citizens lived abroad temporarily or permanently in 2014. This is roughly equivalent to the population of the canton Vaud. Three-fifths of the Swiss living abroad lived in Europe – most of them in France, Germany and Italy. One quarter of the Swiss citizens resided in America (primarily in the United States and Canada). The number of Swiss living abroad continues to increase every year.

## ■ Information's, sources and publications

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Here you will find the information on the sources and publications:

- BEVNAT (Vital Statistics) provides data on births, deaths, marriages, registered partnerships, divorces, adoptions and acknowledgements of paternity.

Additional information on BEVNAT: [www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Data Library → Surveys, Sources → Vital statistics (BEVNAT) → Overview

- STATPOP (Population and Households Statistics), which is part of the annual system of census since 2010, provides data on the size and composition of the resident population in Switzerland as well as on migration and the acquisition of Swiss citizenship, in the cantons, districts and communes.

Additional information on STATPOP: [www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Data Library → Surveys, Sources → Population and Households Statistics (STATPOP) → Overview

### **Electronic publications**

In the interactive application STAT-TAB, you will find cubes from STATPOP and BEVNAT which will allow you to create your own personalised tables (available in German and French): [www.pxweb.bfs.admin.ch](http://www.pxweb.bfs.admin.ch) → Population

Additional detailed information, texts and tables are published on our website: [www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Topics → Population

The newsletter Demos (demographic information) of the FSO is published 2 times per year (available in German and French). [www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Topics → Population → Look it up! → Newsletter



