

## Introduction

Switzerland is a landlocked country in Central Europe. Neighboring countries include Austria, France, Italy, Liechtenstein, and Germany. The geography of Switzerland is mostly mountains (Alps in the south, Jura in the northwest) with a central plateau of rolling hills, plains, and large lakes. The government system is formally a confederation but similar in structure to a federal republic; the president is the chief of state and head of government. Switzerland has a modern market economy in which the prices of goods and services are determined in a free price system. Switzerland is a member of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).



**Location:** Western Europe

**Capital City:** Bern (+1 GMT)

**Chief of State:** President of the Swiss Confederation Viola Amherd

**Head of Govt.:** President of the Swiss Confederation Viola Amherd

**Currency:** Swiss Franc (CHF)

**Major Languages:** <p>German (or Swiss German) (official) 62.1%, French (official) 22.8%, Italian (official) 8%, English 5.7%, Portuguese 3.5%, Albanian 3.3%, Serbo-Croatian 2.3%, Spanish 2.3%, Romansh (official) 0.5%, other 7.9%; note - German, French, Italian, and Romansh are all national and official languages; shares sum to more than 100% because respondents could indicate more than one main language (2019 est.)</p>

**Primary Religions:** <p>Roman Catholic 34.4%, Protestant 22.5%, other Christian 5.7%, Muslim 5.4%, other 1.5%, none 29.4%, unspecified 1.1% (2020 est.)</p>

**Calling Code:** 41

**Voltage:** 230

## Key Websites

Main Government Page: [admin.ch](http://admin.ch)

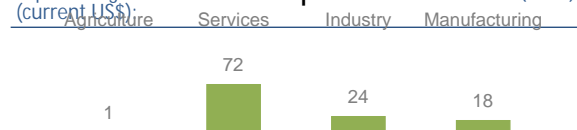
Commerce Ministry: [seco.admin.ch](http://seco.admin.ch)

Export Promotion Agency: [s-ge.com](http://s-ge.com)

Investment Promotion s-ge.com  
Agency:

## Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	High Income
Level of Development:	Developed
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$733.14 billion (2022)
GDP growth (annual %):	2.06% (2022)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$83,598.45 (2022)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$604,546,000.00 (2011)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	17.82% (2022)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	\$81.46 billion (2022)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	2.84% (2022)
Labor force, total:	5,024,491 (2022)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	4.20% (2022)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$506.41 billion (2022)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$509.68 billion (2022)



\*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.

## Rankings

Index	Rank
Corruption Perceptions Index	7 / 178
EY Globalization Index	5 / 60
Global Competitiveness Index	5 / 141
Global Enabling Trade Index	11 / 136
Global Manufacturing Competitiveness Index (GMCI)	12 / 40
Index of Economic Freedom	2 / 176
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	13 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	21 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	5 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	7 / 139

## Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

**Country rating: A3** - Changes in generally good but somewhat volatile political and economic environment can affect corporate payment behavior. A basically secure business environment can nonetheless give rise to occasional difficulties for companies. Corporate default probability is quite acceptable on average.

**Business Climate rating: A1** - The business environment is very good. Corporate financial information is available and reliable. Debt collection is efficient. Institutional quality is very good. Intercompany transactions run smoothly in environments rated A1.

### Strengths

- Very favourable business climate
- Very diversified economy, specialised in high-tech products (automotive, aviation, telecommunications, nuclear power)
- Solid public and external accounts, low public debt
- High standard of living
- Positive demographical development due to immigration

### Weaknesses

- Highly dependent on global demand (exports of goods and services equals 53% of GDP in 2022)
- Tensions on the real estate market due to elevated debt levels and sizeable overvaluation relative to incomes and rents
- Substantial household debt (83.4% of GDP in Q3 2023)

## U.S. Embassy

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<https://ch.usembassy.gov>