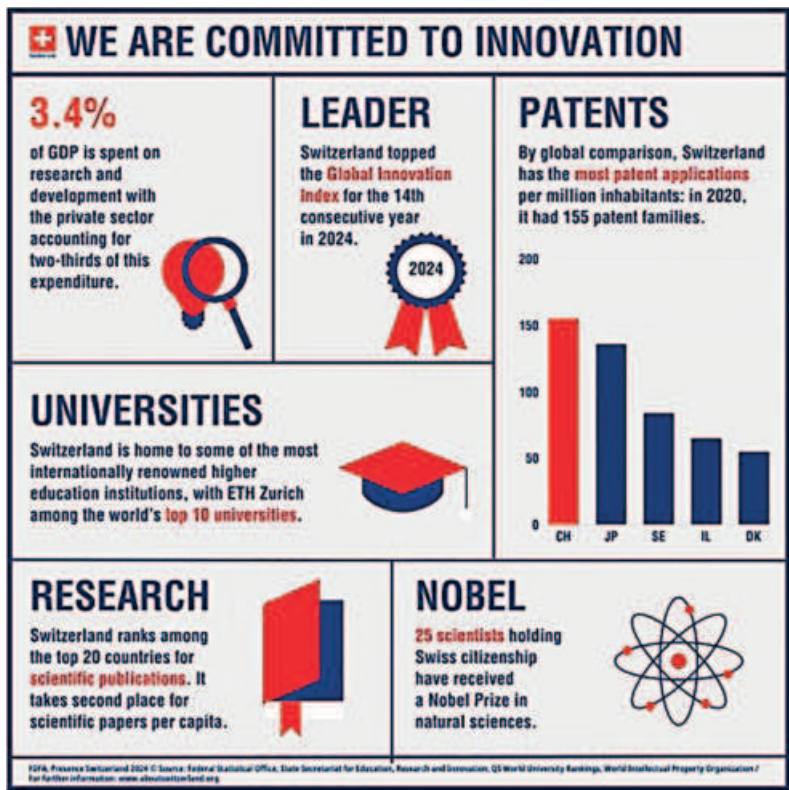




SWISS SECRETS FOR SUCCESS

Innovation, Science and Research



In the Global Innovation Index, published by Cornell University, the INSEAD business school and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), Switzerland has come in first each year for over ten years. In the period from 2018 to 2022, Switzerland came in third on the global ranking list of all scholarly publications – after the UK and the Netherlands. How does a country with a population of 8.7 million people, divided into 26 cantons, each with its own unique cultural diversity, where four official languages are spoken, and where mountains occupy 70% of the land, manage to achieve such remarkable success?

Switzerland attaches great

importance to science and research, providing more funding as a percentage of GDP than the majority of OECD countries. Its funding for research and development amounted to around 3.4% of GDP in 2021. Such spending levels place it among the countries with the highest such percentages. In the OECD, it comes in at 6th place in this regard.

Higher expenditure is not the only reason why world-class research has taken hold so deeply in Switzerland. Excellent international networking, high educational standards, stable political and legal conditions, outstanding infrastructure and societal appreciation make this

possible. Many of the universities based in Switzerland are ranked quite high, internationally. Thanks to their achievements in the natural sciences, the two federal institutes of technology (ETH Zurich and EPFL) have earned an excellent reputation worldwide.

Yet most research and development does not take place at public institutions, but rather at private companies. As a sum, Switzerland spends around CHF24.6 billion on R&D. Private companies finance (73%) and conduct (53%) the largest share.

International research collaboration is also a top priority for Switzerland. In addition to participating in numerous international research organisations and programmes, it cooperates bilaterally with selected priority countries. Switzerland's outstanding international academic networking is indispensable for its top-notch research landscape. The country is home to pioneering international research projects, including CERN.



This article is sourced from <https://www.eda.admin.ch/aboutswitzerland/en/home.html>

How Switzerland's Private Sector Works



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Swiss investments in Bangladesh

Switzerland is also a leading foreign investor in Bangladesh. Major Swiss investors operate in all crucial economic sectors, providing the Bangladeshi market with best-in-class, quality, and advanced products, technologies, and services and creating jobs.

Trade Relations with Bangladesh

Switzerland and Bangladesh share a dynamic trade relationship. Swiss exports to Bangladesh mainly consist of machinery, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals, while Bangladesh exports textiles, garments, and agricultural products to Switzerland. Swiss companies are increasingly becoming advanced technology suppliers for the local market and businesses, enabling the expansion of the latter. This bilateral trade has been growing steadily.

Support for Export Activities

Switzerland Global Enterprise (S-GE), the official Swiss organization for export and investment promotion, plays a crucial role in supporting Swiss companies in their export activities. S-GE provides consulting services and market analysis to help companies access new markets and enhance their international competitiveness. By offering expert guidance and resources, S-GE helps Swiss businesses navigate the complexities of international trade, ensuring they remain competitive on a global scale.

For more information, visit <https://www.s-ge.com/en>.

Skills Success, Swiss Made

Switzerland has one of the world's most productive and skilled workforces. But how is that achieved in practical terms?

In Switzerland, around two-thirds of young people learn a trade after compulsory schooling. These apprenticeship-style Vocational Education Training (VET) programmes at upper-secondary level begin at the age of 15 and are usually completed at 18 or 19. With this practice-oriented education, Switzerland differs from education systems abroad, which typically see most young people on a general academic route for all of their secondary schooling.

The dual system: a student and an apprentice at the same time

The predominant form of VET in Switzerland is the dual system: the young people work three to four days a week in a company as apprentices, learning the trade in practice; the rest of the time, they are students attending a vocational school to acquire the theoretical knowledge. They also attend inter-company courses. Throughout their training, they receive a salary from the company where they are employed.

Programmes for around 250 officially recognised professions are available. In 2023, the most popular were:

- Commercial Employee
- Healthcare Assistant
- Retail Specialist
- Social Care Worker
- Information Technologist

The programmes last for two, three or four years, depending on the profession. After passing their final examination, the young people receive a Federal VET Diploma or a Federal VET Certificate, both of which are recognised throughout Switzerland.

Federal vocational baccalaureate: paving the way to a university of applied sciences

A federal vocational baccalaureate (FVB) course can supplement vocational education and training with a broader academic education. The extra lessons it entails typically last an additional half day per week and start in the first year of

Low youth unemployment thanks to close links with the job market

A major feature of Swiss VET is its close links with the job market. Education and training is geared to the actual demand for vocational qualifications and to the jobs available. These direct links mean that Switzerland has one of the lowest youth unemployment rates compared to other countries.



the apprenticeship. Admission is subject to a number of conditions, such as school grades, entrance examinations and the consent of the employer. The course leads to the FVB examination. Passing this examination, and thereby obtaining a FVB qualification, grants the given student access a related field of study at a university of applied sciences.

Switzerland's system of vocational education and training is characterised by a high degree of permeability: students may decide to pursue different directions during their basic and advanced education and training and even change career with relative ease.

This article is sourced from <https://www.aboutswitzerland.eda.admin.ch/>

Swiss state-of-the-art technology and equipment to create the next generation of made-in-Bangladesh foods.

Breakfast	Coffee	Pastries & bakery	Granola & cereal bars	Breakfast cereals
Savory snacks	Spices	Nuts & seeds	Cracker	Puffed snacks
Meals	Flour & fortified flour	Rice & fortified rice	Dals & pulses	Noodles & pasta
Sweet treats	Biscuits & cakes	Wafer	Cocoa & chocolate	Cones

Let's discuss **your next project!**

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