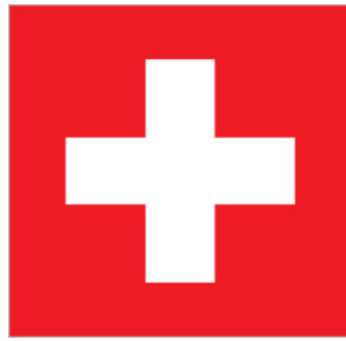




SWITZERLAND



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President of the Swiss Confederation Ueli MAURER

Head of Government

President of the Swiss Confederation Ueli MAURER

Government Type

federal republic (formerly a confederation)

Capital

Bern

Legislature

bicameral Federal Assembly or Bundesversammlung (in German), Assemblée Federale (in French), Assemblea Federale (in Italian) consists of the Council of States or Staenderat (in German), Conseil des Etats (in French), Consiglio degli Stati (in Italian) (46 seats) and the National Council or Nationalrat (in German), Conseil National (in French), Consiglio Nazionale (in Italian) (200 seats)

Judiciary

Federal Supreme Court (consists of 38 justices and 19 deputy justices organized into 7 divisions)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Martin Werner DAHINDEN

US Ambassador

Ambassador Edward "Ed" MCMULLEN

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 41,277 sq km
Land: 39,997 sq km
Water: 1,280 sq km

Climate

temperate, but varies with altitude; cold, cloudy, rainy/snowy winters; cool to warm, cloudy, humid summers with occasional showers

Natural Resources

hydropower potential, timber, salt

as of February 2019

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

this prosperous economy has low unemployment, a highly skilled labor force, a world class banking and finance sector, and high-tech manufacturing; in the last ten years, Switzerland has brought its economic practices largely into conformity with the EU's in order to gain access to the Union's Single Market and to enhance the country's international competitiveness

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$523.1 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$62,100 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$313.5 billion (2017 est.)

partners: Germany 15.2%, US 12.3%, China 8.2%, India 6.7%, France 5.7%, UK 5.7%, Hong Kong 5.4%, Italy 5.3% (2017)

Imports

\$264.5 billion (2017 est.)

partners: Germany 20.9%, US 7.9%, Italy 7.6%, UK 7.3%, France 6.8%, China 5% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

8.3 million (July 2018 est.)

Population Growth

0.68% (2018 est.)

Ethnicity

Swiss 70.3%, German 4.2%, Italian 3.2%, Portuguese 2.6%, French 2%, Kosovar 1%, other 18.7% (2017 est.)

Language

German (or Swiss German) (official) 62.8%, French (official) 22.9%, Italian (official) 8.2%, English 5.1%, Portuguese 3.7%, Albanian 3.1%, Serbo-Croatian 2.4%, Spanish 2.3%, Romansh (official) 0.5%, other 7.5% (2016 est.)

Religion

Roman Catholic 36.5%, Protestant 24.5%, other Christian 5.9%, Muslim 5.2%, other 1.4%, Jewish 0.3%, none 24.9%, unspecified 1.3% (2016 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 73.8% of total population (2018)

rate of urbanization: 0.88% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

