

MTM i-Map
Migration and Development Layer

SWITZERLAND

Latest update of contents: January 2013

This profile is based exclusively on desk research.

The profile provides data from official national sources to the extent possible, complemented by data of international organisations and research projects in case national data was not available.

Data may deviate according to source due to differences in data collection methods and in definitions applied.

NB: Sources are referred to with a reference number (R1, R2, etc.). A list of references including all sources as well as an overview on national data collection on migration and remittances are provided in the section 7 'Sources'.

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1 Switzerland at a Glance

Table 1.1 – Switzerland at a Glance			
Topic	Indicator	Data	Source
Population	Total (2011)	7,870,134	EUROSTAT (EN , FR), for forecasts please refer to: UNDESA (EN)
	Growth rate (2000 – 2009, annual average)	0.8%	World Bank (AR , EN , FR) Migration and Remittances Factbook (EN)
	Female (2011)	51%	EUROSTAT (EN , FR)
	Birth rate (per 1000) (2008)	10.1	Federal Statistical Office (EN , FR) Statistical Yearbook 2011 (FR)
	Fertility rate (births per woman) (2011)	1.51731	EUROSTAT (EN , FR)
	Mortality rate (per 1000) (2011)	7.8	Federal Statistical Office (EN , FR)
	Life expectancy at under 1 year (years) (2011)	82.8	EUROSTAT (EN , FR)
	Under 15 years (2011)	1,190,816	EUROSTAT (EN , FR)
	15-64 years (2011)	5,349,624	EUROSTAT (EN , FR)
	65 years and over (2011)	1,328,362	EUROSTAT (EN , FR)
Economy	GDP (2011, preliminary data)	CHF 586,784 millions*	Federal Statistical Office (EN , FR)
	GDP per capita (2011)	CHF 72,905**	Federal Statistical Office (EN , FR)
	GDP growth rate (2011)	1.9%	EUROSTAT (EN , FR)
	Public debt (of GDP)	40.9 %	Federal Statistical Office (EN , FR) Statistical Yearbook 2011 (FR)
	Inflation rate (estimates, 2012)	-0.5%	Federal Statistical Office (FR)
	Unemployment rate (2008)	3.4%	Federal Statistical Office (EN , FR) Statistical Yearbook 2011 (FR)
	Main import countries	European Union (EU) (27), United States (US), China, Japan	WTO (EN , FR) Trade Profile (EN , FR)
Main export countries	EU (27), US, Hong Kong, China, Japan	WTO (EN , FR) Trade Profile (EN , FR)	
Migration	Net migration rate (per 1000)	4.8	UN data (EN)
	Emigration rate of tertiary educated	8.9%	World Bank Migration and Remittances Factbook (EN)

	Internal migration (2011, total)	477,853	BFS (FR)
	Immigrants (of total population) (2011)	25%	Own calculation based on EUROSTAT data
Development	Human Development Index (HDI) Rank	11 out of 169	UNDP (EN , FR) HDR 2010 (AR , EN , FR)
	Gender Inequality Index	1.5	UNDP (EN , FR) HDR 2011 (AR , EN , FR)
	Multidimensional Poverty Index	n/a	n/a
	GINI Coefficient (Income)	n/a	n/a
	Literacy rate	n/a	n/a
	Population living below USD 1.25/day	n/a	n/a
Aid Activity	Official Development Assistance (ODA) spent (total) (2011)	USD 3113.67 millions***	OECD Statistics (EN)
	Bilateral Development Assistance (2010)	USD 1728.23 millions****	OECD Statistics (EN)
	ODA contributed to multilateral agencies (2010)	USD 587.64 millions *****	OECD Statistics (EN)
	ODA (main recipients, 2011)	Togo, Kosovo, Nepal, Bangladesh, Mozambique	OECD Statistics (EN)
* EUR 477,759.3 million ** EUR 59,359.22 *** EUR 2,334.79 million **** EUR 1314.64 million ***** EUR 447 million			
N.B: Currencies were converted according to EC exchange rates (EN , FR) of December of the year in which the data was collected.			

2 The Migration Situation

2.1 Immigration Movements

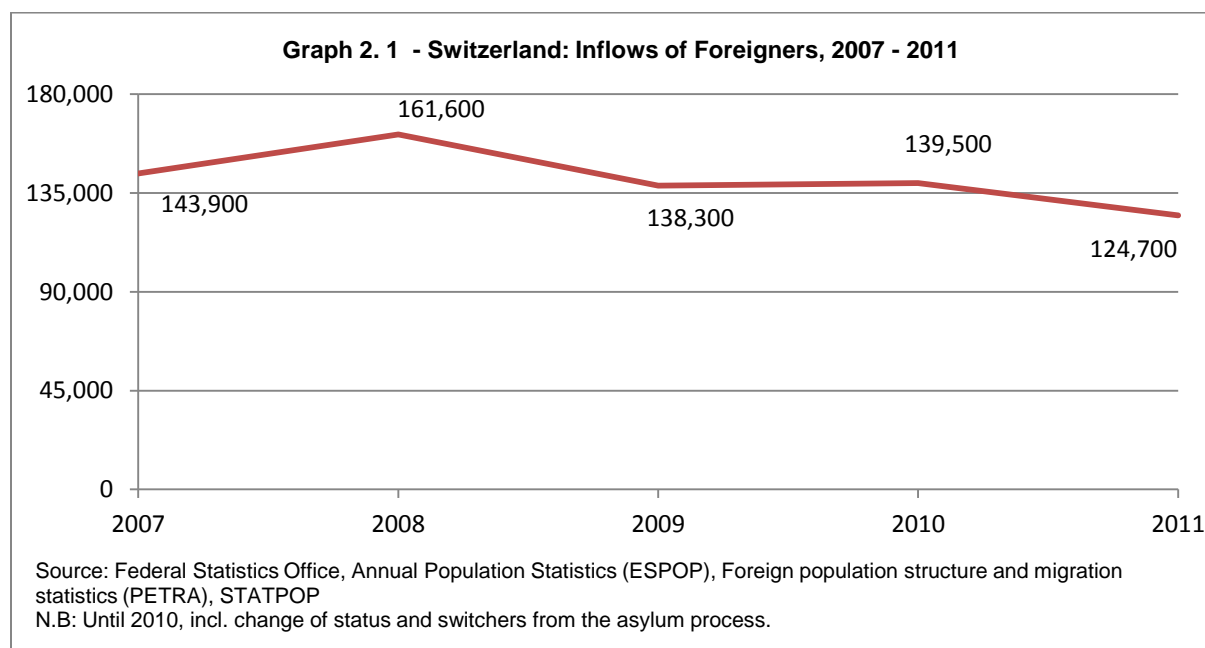
2.1.1 The Extent of Immigration Movements

Stock of Immigrants

In 2011, a total of **1,940,349 persons of foreign origin** resided in Switzerland ([R1](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#))).

Immigration Flows

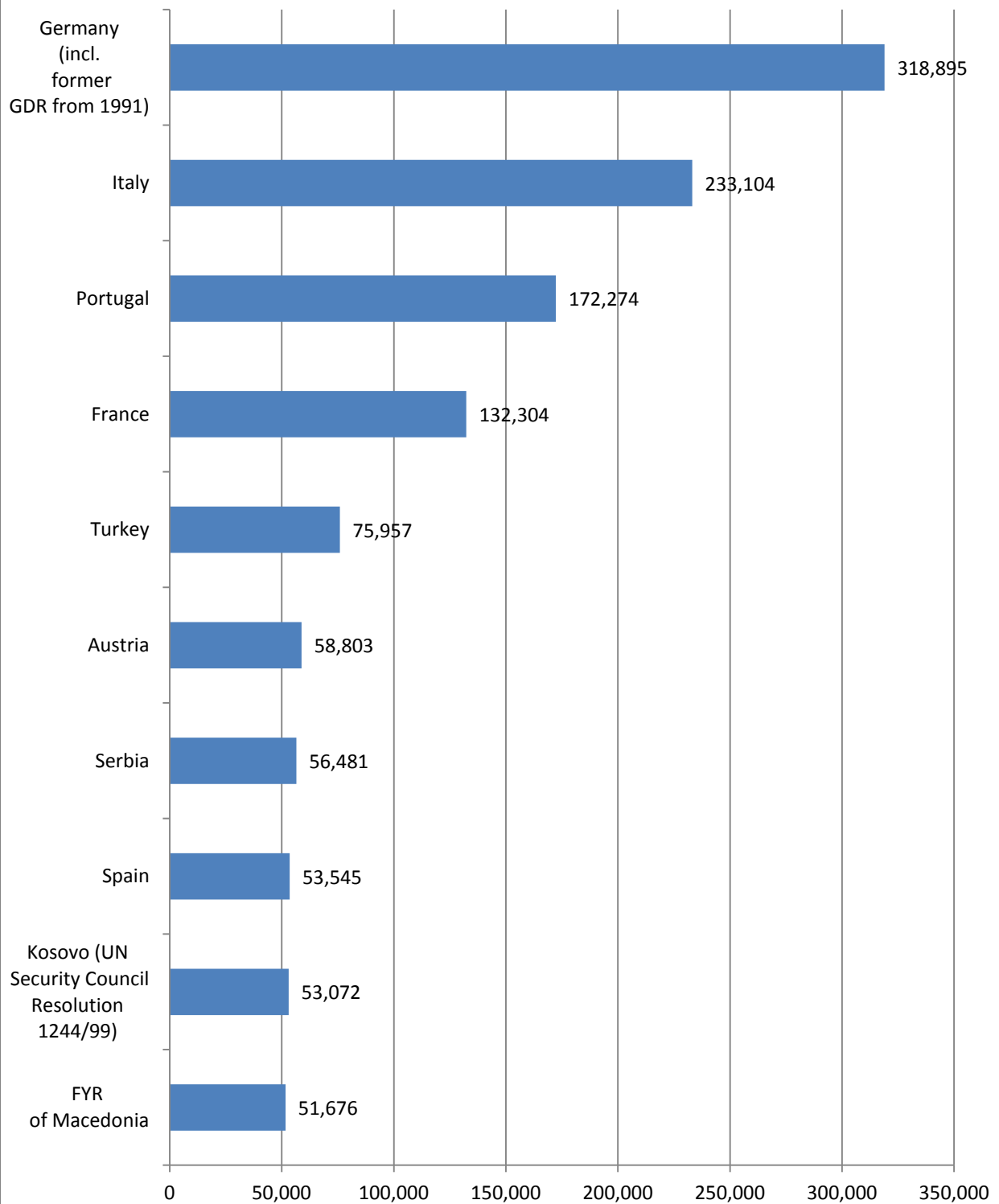
In the past five years, the immigration inflows to Switzerland declined (see graph 2.1) ([R2](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#))).



2.1.2 Main Countries of Origin

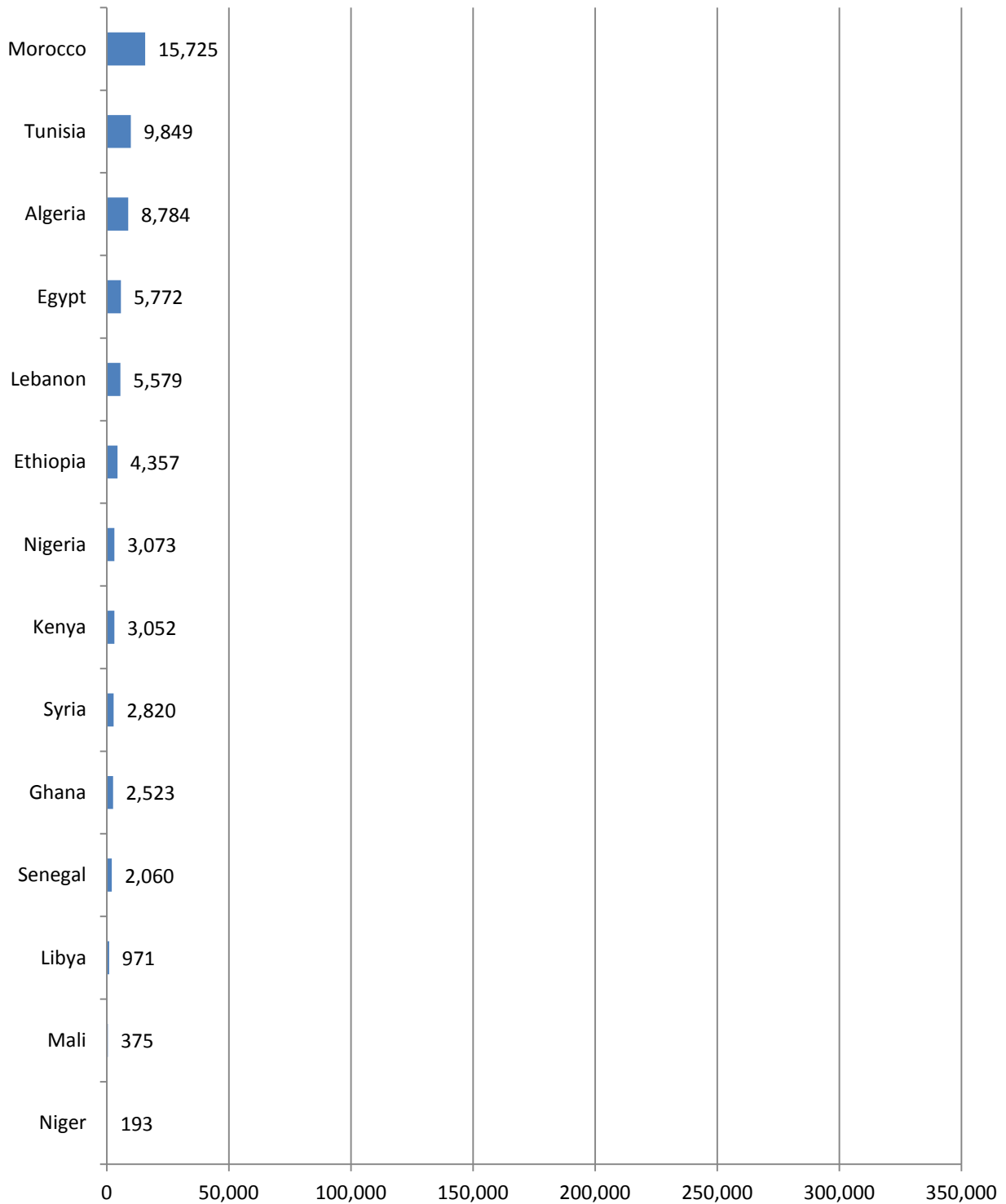
In 2011, the most significant foreign country of birth was Germany, followed by Italy and Portugal (graph 2.2a). Among Southern MTM states, the most important foreign country of birth was Morocco, followed by Tunisia and Algeria (graph 2.2b) ([R1](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#))). However, the difference between Northern and Southern countries of origin remain significant.

Graph 2.2a- Switzerland: Population by Country of Birth (Top Ten Countries of Origin), 2011



Source: EUROSTAT

Graph 2.2b - Switzerland: Population by Country of Birth (Born in Southern MTM States), 2011

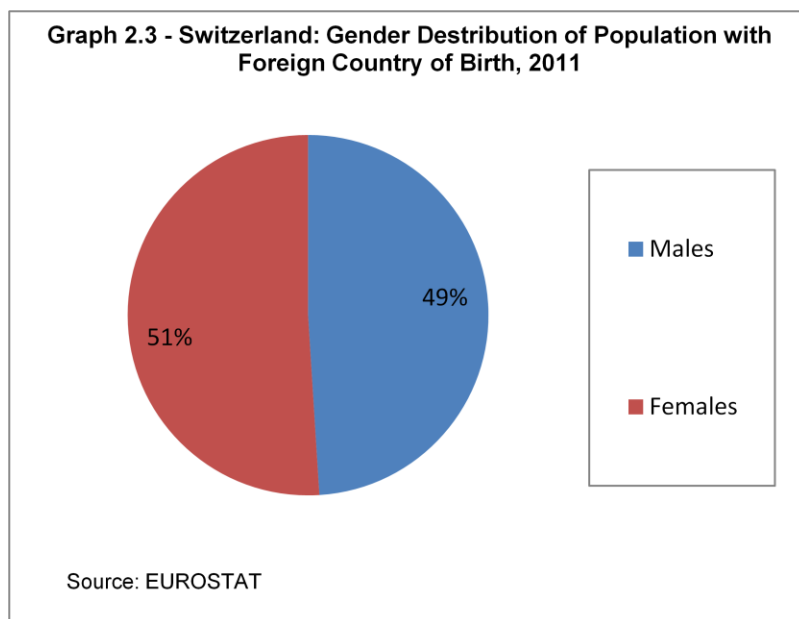


Source: EUROSTAT (2012)

Further data on migration and integration is accessible through the [Swiss interactive statistical database \(STAT-TAB\)](#) (FR).

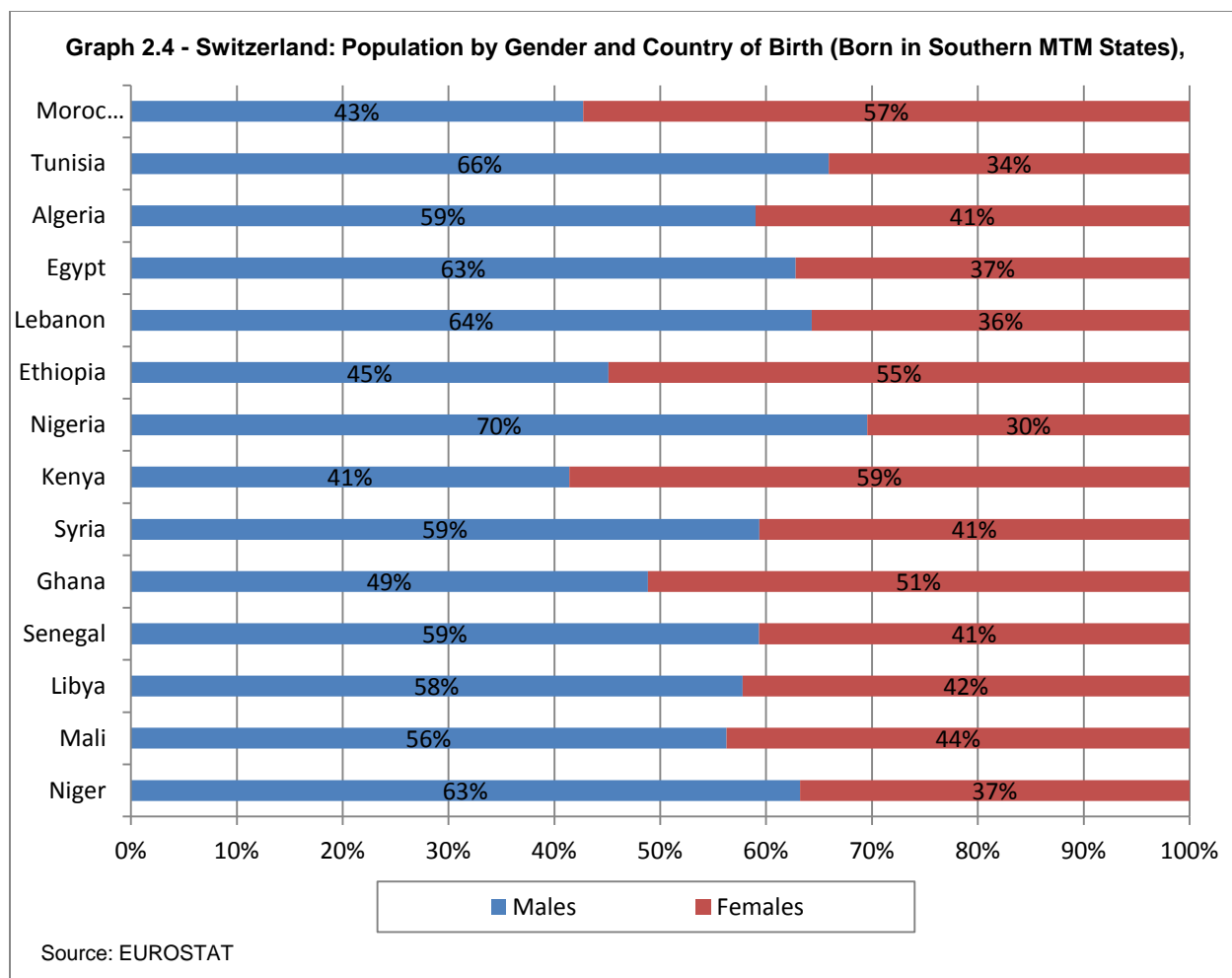
2.1.3 Characteristics of Immigrants Population

Gender



The gender distribution of the population of foreign origin was almost equal in 2011 and stayed the same throughout the past 10 years (graph 2.3).

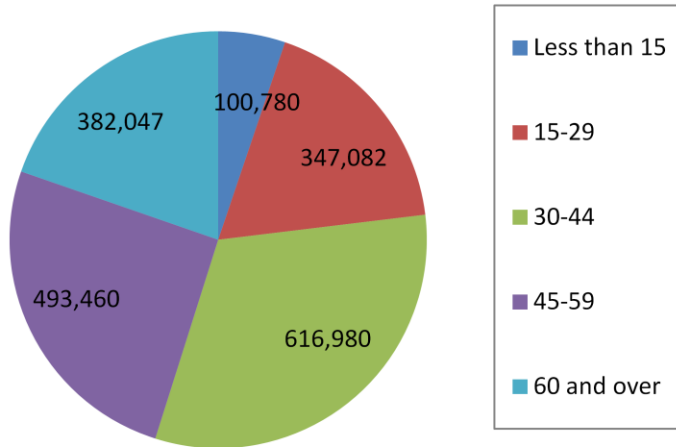
The gender distribution among the population born in Southern MTM states varies significantly according to country (graph 2.4). The highest share of males was found among the population born in Nigeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Egypt and Niger (over 60%) ([R1](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#))).



Age

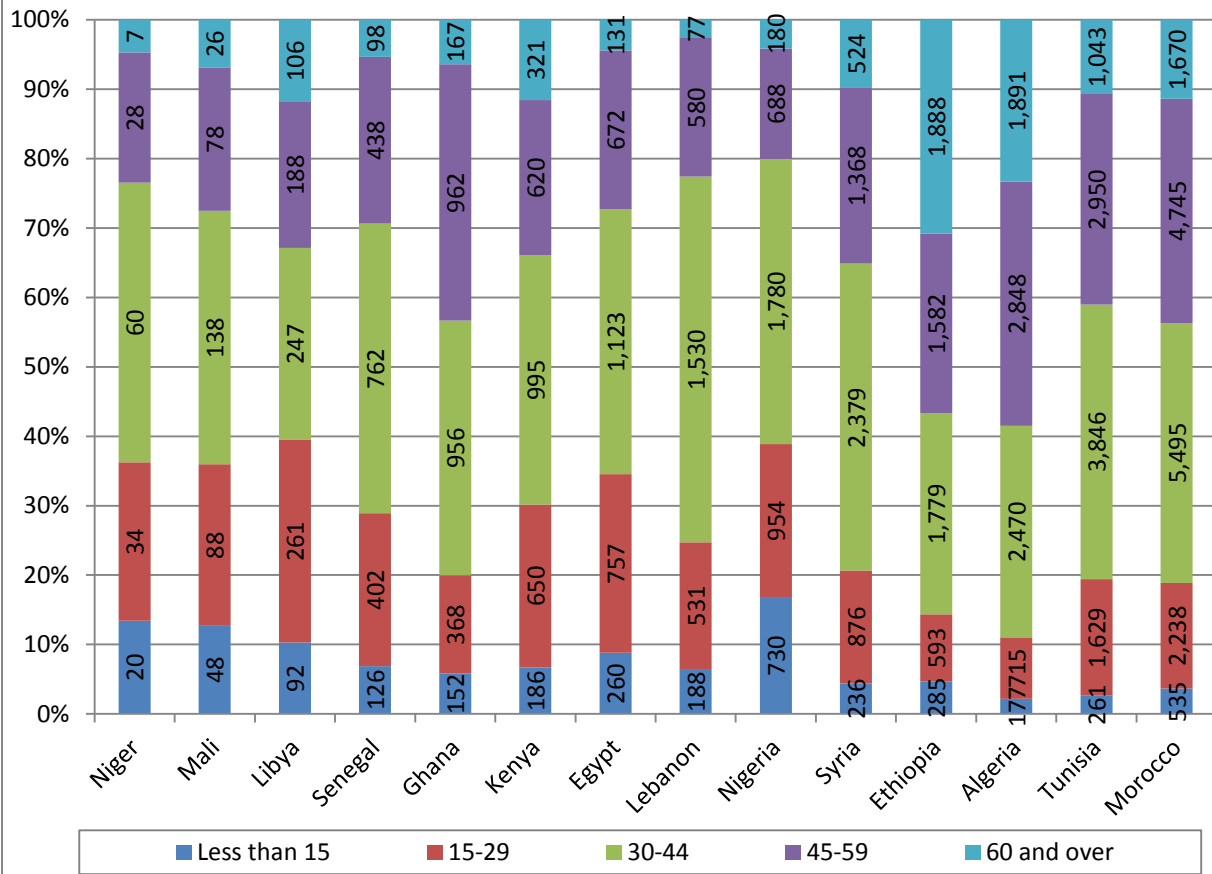
Graphs 2.5 and 2.6 display data on the population in 2011 by age group and foreign country of birth (both in general and specifically on Southern MTM states) ([R1](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#))).

Graph 2.5 - Switzerland: Population by Age Group and Foreign Country of Birth, 2011



Source: EUROSTAT

Graph 2.6 - Switzerland: Population by Age Group and Country of Birth (only Southern MTM States),

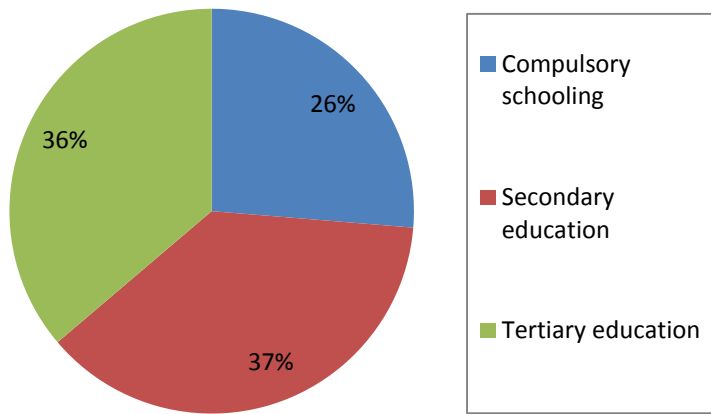


Source: EUROSTAT

Level of Education

The share of the population with foreign nationality with primary, secondary and tertiary education is almost equal in 2011 (graph 2.7) (R3 (EN, FR) (FR)). No breakdown according to country of origin could be collected at this stage.

Graph 2.7 - Switzerland: Level of Education of Population with Foreign Nationality, 2011 (estimates)

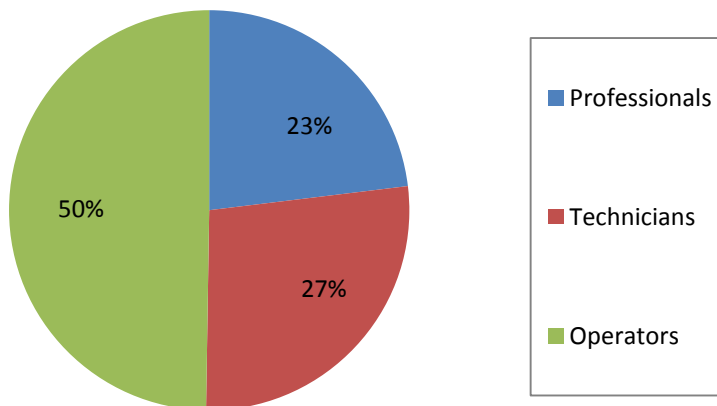


Source: Federal Statistical Office, 2012

Business Area/Sector of Activity/Professional Position

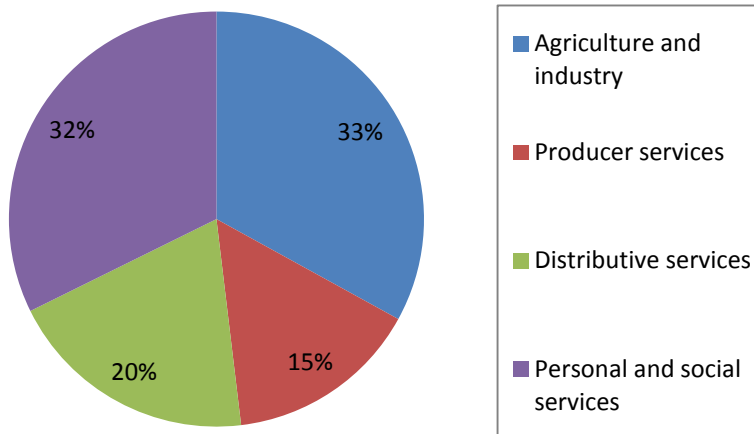
In 2008, the main occupation of the foreign-born population was operators (graph 2.8) and the main sectors of activity were 'agriculture and industry' and 'personal and social services' (graph 2.9) (([R4](#) (EN))).

Graph 2.8 - Switzerland: Occupation of Foreign-born Population (% of Employed Population aged 15 and above), 2008



Source: OECD Profile of Immigrant Populations in the OECD, 2008

Graph 2.9 - Switzerland: Sectors of Activity of the Foreign-born Population (% of Employed Population aged 15 and above) , 2008



Source: OECD Profile of Immigrant Populations in the OECD, 2008

Further information on the foreign population in Switzerland, provided by the [Federal Statistical Office \(EN, FR\)](#), can be accessed through the following reports:

- [Migration and Integration Analysis: Integration \(FR\)](#); and
- [Foreigners in Switzerland \(FR\)](#).

Statistical data on key indicators with regard to integration (including, inter alia, poverty, criminality, racism and discrimination, culture, religion and media, education, family, language, housing, labour market, politics and health) can be accessed [here \(FR\)](#).

Further data on the foreign population in Switzerland is available with regard to, inter alia,

- [The development of their wages, health and education \(DE, FR\)](#);
- [Labour market \(DE, FR\)](#); and
- [Acquiring Swiss citizenship \(DE, FR\)](#).

The [Swiss Labour Force Survey \(SLFS\) 2011 in Brief \(EN\)](#) stated that between the 4th quarter of 2010 and the 4th quarter of 2011, the number of Swiss nationals in employment grew (+1.4% to 3.419 million), as did the number of foreign nationals in employment (+5.8% to 1.346 million).

3 Transnational Life of Migrants

3.1 National Legislation and Policy Framework on the Transnational Life of Migrants

Dual citizenship

Dual citizenship is permitted in Switzerland (R5 ([EN](#), [FR](#))).

Voting Rights of Foreigners

Foreigners are not allowed to vote at national level. Some cantons, however, grant foreigners the right to vote at cantonal or communal level ([R6](#) (EN)). Further information on voting rights of foreigners is available [here](#) (EN).

Visa Requirements

Information on visa requirements can be accessed [here](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)).

3.2 Involvement of Migrant Organisations in their Countries of Origin

The EC-funded project [European-wide African Diaspora Platform for Development \(EADPD\)](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) will produce a **Comprehensive Database on African Migrant Organisations**, which will provide information on the African migrant organisations in EU MS and Switzerland working in the field of migration and development, as well as on their activities and funding sources.

Information on migrants' associations is available, inter alia, in the following publications:

- [Migrants' associations and social networks of migrants](#) (DE);
- [Inventory of migrants' associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud](#) (FR); and
- [Turkish diaspora and migrants communities in Switzerland](#) (FR).

3.3 Initiatives Related to the Transnational Life of Migrants

The following examples of initiatives related to transnational life of migrants have been introduced by national and international institutions (table 3.1).

Table 3.1 – Switzerland: Initiatives by National and International Institutions Related to the Transnational Life of Migrants

National Actor	Initiative	Cooperation	Aim
Working group Diaspora (consists of staff from SDC, FOM, IOM Switzerland (FR) , Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Political Affairs Division IV (PAIV) (EN , FR), and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) (EN , FR)*	Mapping study of the sub-Saharan African Diaspora	Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies (SFM) (EN , FR), Swiss Red Cross (EN , FR).	To provide a basis for the operation and implementation of projects of the Interdepartmental Steering Group on Return Assistance (ILR) to develop partnerships between the sub-Saharan African Diaspora and the Swiss authorities
Federal Department of Justice and Police (FDJP) (EN , FR) - Federal Office for Migration (FOM) (EN , FR)	Publication of the brochure Welcome to Switzerland (EN , FR), provision of information for new residents arriving from abroad, and other brochures on topics that are relevant for foreigners working and/or living in Switzerland (accessible here (EN , FR))	n/a	To provide relevant information to immigrants

N.B: This list is not exhaustive.
Initiatives related to the transnational life of migrants in the cultural, health, and sanitary fields are not covered in this section.
Source: * FOM publication [The work of the ILR](#) (EN)

Furthermore, Switzerland (among other donors) is funding the project [Strengthening African and Middle Eastern Diaspora Policy through South-South Exchange \(AMEDIP\)](#) (EN), implemented by ICMPD. The objective of AMEDIP is ‘to enhance the institutional capacities of national authorities charged with migration and development to better harness the contributions of their diaspora communities’. It covers Algeria, Cape Verde, Egypt, Ethiopia, EU-27, Ghana, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Senegal, Switzerland, Tunisia and Turkey.

4 Financial Remittances Transfers and Migrants' Investments

4.1 National Legislation on Economic Incentives for Migrants

In Switzerland, parts of migrants' salaries that are sent as remittances for the purpose of maintenance payments for children (of minor age or in vocational education) and for families can be taken into account within the scope of social security deductions of the tax return (R7 ([EN](#), [FR](#))).

Bilateral Agreements on the Avoidance of Double Taxation

Switzerland has concluded bilateral agreements on the avoidance of double taxation with the following Southern MTM states:

- [Algeria, 2006](#) (FR);
- [Ghana, 2008](#) (FR);
- [Morocco, 1993](#) (FR); and
- [Tunisia, 1994](#) (FR);

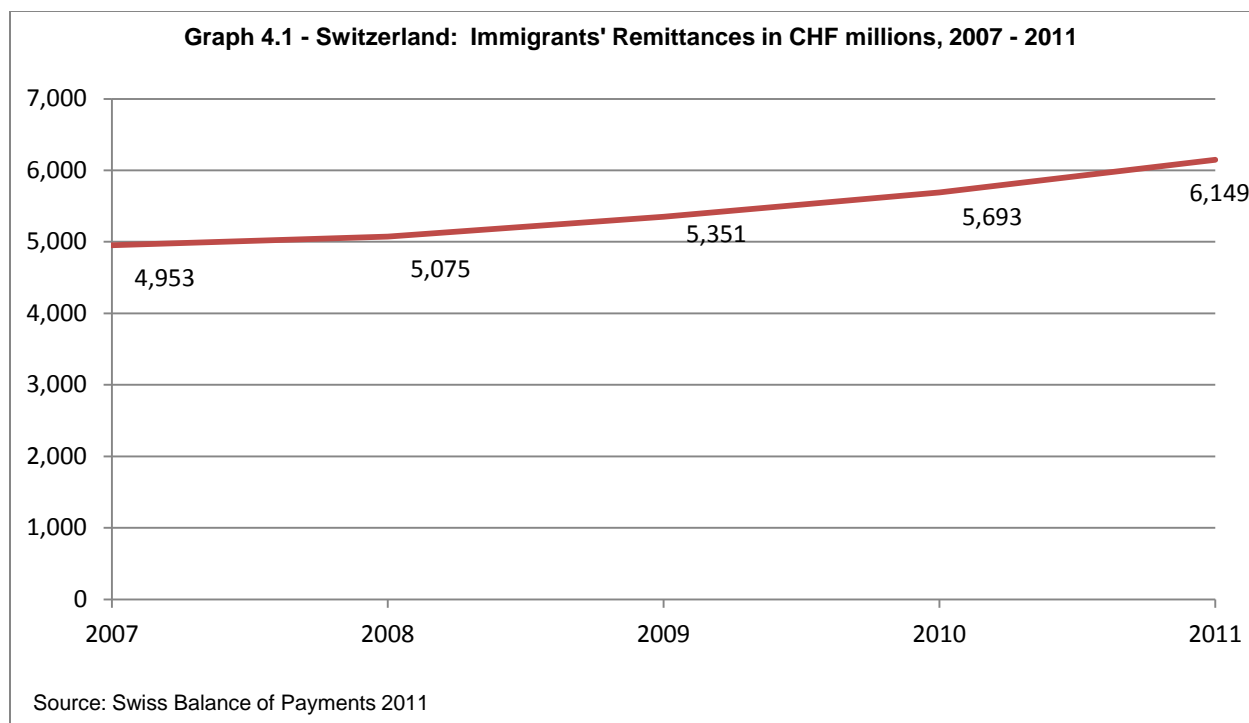
Further bilateral agreements can be accessed [here](#) (FR).

Information on migration partnerships, bilateral labour migration agreements, and bilateral social security agreements with Southern MTM states can be accessed in section 6.2.

4.2 Financial Remittances Data: Outflows and Characteristics

4.2.1 Financial Remittances Outflows

The amount of remittances sent from Switzerland increased by nearly 20% from 2007 to 2011 (graph 4.1) (R 8 ([EN](#), [FR](#))).



Amount/Frequency of Financial Remittances Outflows from Switzerland

No data on the amount or frequency of remittances outflows from Switzerland could be collected at this stage.

4.2.2 Main Countries of Destination of Financial Remittances

No data could be collected at this stage.

4.2.3 Characteristics of Financial Remittances Senders

No data could be collected at this stage on gender, age, level of education and business area/sector of activity/professional position of remittances senders.

4.3 Migrant Financial Remittances Marketplace: Channels and Costs

4.3.1 Mode of Financial Remittances Transfers from Switzerland

No data could be collected at this stage.

4.3.2 Financial Remittances Marketplace

The brochure [International money transfers from Switzerland](#) (EN) provides information (last updated in 2008) on the costs, transfer times, and terms of use of remittances transfers via:

- **Banks** (i.e. Banca dello Stato del Cantone Ticino, Bank op, Banque cantonale de Genève (BCGR), Banque cantonale de Vaud (BCV), Berner Kantonalbank (BEKB/BCBE), Basler Kantonalbank (BKB), Crédit Suisse (CS), Luzerner Kantonalbank (LUKB), Migros Bank, Raiffeisen, UBS, Zürcher Kantonalbank (ZKB));
- **Post** (PostFinance);
- **Money Transfer Operators (MTOs)** (i.e. MoneyGram, Vigo, Western Union); and
- **Online payment systems** (i.e. www.ikobo.com, www.moneybookers.ch, www.paypal.ch).

4.3.3 Costs of Money Transfers from Switzerland

The money transfer price comparison service [Send Money Home](#) (EN), established by the [UK Government Department for International Development](#) (EN) allows for an overview on the sending costs of different money transfer operators for remittances from Switzerland to the following southern MTM states:

- Egypt;
- Ethiopia;
- Ghana;
- Jordan;
- Kenya;
- Lebanon;
- Libya;
- Morocco;
- Nigeria;
- Senegal; and
- Tunisia.

4.4 Collective Financial Remittances and Donations

No data could be collected at this stage.

4.5 Migrant Capital Investments and Entrepreneurship

4.5.1 Enterprises Started/Jobs Created by Immigrants in Switzerland

Foreigners have a lower propensity to self-employment than persons born in Switzerland: In the second quarter of 2009, Switzerland had 76,000 self-employed foreign workers among a foreign-born workforce of 974,000; in 2000, the self-employment rate of persons of African origin amounted to 9%, hence being below the average of 12.8%.

The lower propensity to self-employment is partly due to structural characteristics of immigrants (e.g. level of education, age of population), as well as to obstacles, such as having temporary residence permits ([R9](#) (EN)).

Jobs created through enterprises started by immigrants in Switzerland were estimated at around 275,000 in 2009 ([R9](#) (EN)).

4.5.2 Investment Volume of Immigrants in Switzerland

No data could be collected at this stage.

4.5.3 Financial Capacities of Immigrants in Switzerland

The [Swiss Wage Structure Survey 2004](#) (EN) provides information on the gross monthly salary of Swiss and foreign nationals, according to economic sectors and years of service (see table on p.74 of the survey).

4.6 Initiatives Related to Financial Remittances Outflows and Migrants' Investments

The following examples of initiatives related to financial remittances and migrants' investments have been introduced by national and international institutions (table 4.1).

**Table 4.1 – Switzerland: Initiatives by National and International Institutions
Related to Financial Remittances and Migrants’ Investments**

National Actor	Initiative	Aim
Federal Department for Economic Affairs (FDEA) (EN , FR) State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO (EN , FR) Economic Cooperation and Development Division (EN , FR)	Publication of the brochure International money transfers from Switzerland (available in English, German, Italian, Albanian, Bosnian, Macedonian, and Serbian)	Provide information on international money transfers from Switzerland
N.B: This list is not exhaustive.		

5 'Return' Migration and Reintegration

5.1 National Programmes Facilitating Voluntary 'Return' and Reintegration of Immigrants

Return assistance is aimed at '*facilitating the voluntary return of migrants to their country of origin and their reintegration*' and is implemented by the Federal Office for Migration (FOM) ([EN](#), [FR](#)), under the Federal Department of Justice and Police (FDJP) ([EN](#), [FR](#)). Return assistance is provided to asylum seekers and certain other categories of migrants such as victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. The legal basis for return assistance are the Asylum Act ([EN](#), [FR](#)) and the Asylum Decree 2 on Financial Issues ([R 10](#) (EN)).

Return assistance includes the following instruments ([R 10](#) (EN)):

- Return counselling services in the cantons;
- Individual return assistance;
- Return assistance from reception centres;
- Country-specific return assistance programmes (with Georgia, Guinea, Iraq, and **Nigeria**); and
- Structural aid and prevention of irregular migration.

Further information on the individual instruments can be accessed through the FDJP information sheet [Return Assistance Switzerland \(2011\)](#) (EN).

Priority regions of the return assistance programmes and structural aid projects, including Southern MTM States, are:

- **West Africa**, in the framework of which a country return assistance programme for **Nigeria** and a regional return assistance programme covering **Mali**, Burkina Faso, Guinea, and Sierra Leone were set up. From 2005 to 2008, 102 Nigerians had participated in the return assistance programme, 89 of whom had started their own occupational projects; and
- **The Maghreb, in the framework of which 63 persons returned** to Algeria, 39 to Libya, 1 to Mauritania, 4 to Morocco, and 4 to Tunisia (2005-2008). A total of 66 occupational projects were carried out.

Migrants returning in the framework of the return assistance services have their travel arrangements taken care of and are provided with reintegration services such as start-up aid, medical care, occupational support, housing (i.e. rent, renovation costs), and special measures for vulnerable persons ([R 11](#) (EN)).

For further background information on return please refer to the IOM ([EN](#), [FR](#)) publication [Return Migration: Policies and Practices in Europe \(2004\)](#) (EN).

5.2 ‘Return’ Migration Movements From Switzerland

N.B: This section only deals with ‘return’ migration from Switzerland to the respective countries of origin. Information on ‘return’ migration to Switzerland from abroad can be accessed [here](#) (EN, FR).

5.2.1 Main Countries of ‘Return’ From Switzerland

No data on the main countries of ‘return’ from Switzerland at a general level could be collected at this stage.

Statistical data on persons ‘returned’ in the framework of return assistance programmes is accessible in the FOM (EN, FR) publication [The Work of the Inter-Agency Steering Committee on Return Assistance \(ILR\) \(2009\)](#) (EN) (pp. 16 f.).

The FOM (EN, FR) publication [Turkish diaspora and migrants communities in Switzerland \(2010\)](#) (FR) provides information on the Turkish community in Switzerland, including their ‘return’.

5.2.2 Characteristics of ‘Return’ Migrants from Switzerland

No data on the gender, age groups, level of education or business area, sector of activity or professional position could be collected at this stage.

5.3 Initiatives Facilitating Voluntary ‘Return’ and Reintegration of Immigrants

The following examples of initiatives related to ‘return’ migration and reintegration have been introduced by national and international institutions (table 5.1).

Agency	Initiative	Aim
Federal Office for Migration (FOM) (EN, FR) under the Federal Department of Justice and Police (FDJP) (EN, FR)	Swiss social insurance system: Sojourn in Switzerland and departure (AR, EN, FR), a practical guide for those planning to leave Switzerland permanently	To provide practical information needed when planning definitive departure from Switzerland, by explaining the elements of the Swiss social insurance systems, i.e. the Swiss old-age, survivors’ and disability insurance (AHV/IV, 1 st pillar), and the occupational benefit plans (2 nd pillar)
N.B.: This list is not exhaustive. Source: * Federal Council Report on international Co-operation on migration (2011) (FR)		

Furthermore, the [Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation \(SDC\)](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) as well as the [European University Institute](#) (EN) financially supported the research project [Cross-Regional Information System on the Reintegration of Migrants in their Countries of Origin \(CRIS\)](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)). This project includes fieldwork in Armenia, **Mali**, and **Tunisia** and aims at *'addressing the social economic legal and institutional factors and conditions shaping returnees' patterns of reintegration in their countries of origin'*. In the framework of this project, training courses will be held on [Fostering the Social and Professional Reintegration of Return Labour Migrants](#) (EN).

6 Migration and Development: Actors, Policies and Frameworks of Cooperation

6.1 Linkages between Migration and Development in National Policies

Policy Paper	Linkages between Migration and Development
Legislature Plan 2011 - 2015 (FR)	Goal 16 of the legislature plan states that the ' <i>chances of migration will be used and its risks will be managed</i> ' [unofficial translation].
Federal Council Report on international Co-operation on migration (2011) (FR)	Swiss migration policy aims at allowing for the immigration that is necessary to ensure economic, societal, and cultural wealth. It also aims at contributing to the wealth of countries of origin and transit through utilising synergies between migration and development (see page 8 for more details).
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (EN , FR) Session of the Commission on Population and Development of the United Nations Economic and Social Council Policy Paper of the Swiss Confederation on International Migration and Development (n.d.) (EN)	Topics covered include, inter alia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges of global migration • Switzerland's interests and concerns (referring to migration partnerships and repatriation aid programmes) • Labour migration in Swiss Confederation
Final report of the interdepartmental working group on migration (IDAG) (2004) (DE)	The Final report of IDAG comprises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of migration policies • Conflict areas and options for action <p>The report does not directly address Migration and Development but covers related topics such as the facilitation of portability of social security rights.</p> <p>The report further states that Switzerland is convinced that due to demographic and economic reasons it needs legal migration.</p>
N.B: This list is not exhaustive.	

Furthermore, Switzerland is actively engaged in the [Global Forum on Migration and Development \(GFMD\)](#) (EN) as a member of the steering group (in 2011, it held the chairmanship of the GFMD). Switzerland advocated for the organisation of a UN High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD). It is also involved in regional processes on migration (e.g. the [Rabat Process](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)), the [Budapest Process](#) (EN), and the [International Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees \(IGC\)](#) (EN)).

The [Commitment to Development Index \(CDI\)](#) (EN), established by the [Centre for Global Development](#) (EN), describes the impact of other policies on development. The **developmental impact of Swiss migration policy is rated at a score of 8.6** (a score of 5 being considered average). Further information can be accessed [here](#) (EN).

At European level, the [Commission Staff Working Paper: Migration and Development \(2011\) accompanying the Global Approach to Migration](#) (EN) examines the European Union approach to M&D.

6.2 Relevant Bilateral Agreements and Other Frameworks of Cooperation

Migration Partnerships with Southern MTM States

Switzerland has concluded migration partnerships with the following Southern MTM states (non-exhaustive list):

- Nigeria (2011) ([R 12](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#))); and
- Tunisia (2012) ([R 13](#) (FR)).

Further information on migration partnerships can be accessed [here](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)). The concept of migration partnerships is anchored in the Federal Law on Foreigners, which entered into force in January 2008 ([R 14](#) (FR)).

Other bilateral agreements relevant to migration

Switzerland has concluded other bilateral agreements relevant to migration with the following Southern MTM states (not exhaustive):

- Tunisia ([Cooperation agreement on migration \(2012\)](#) (FR) and [Agreement of the exchange of young professionals \(2012\)](#) (FR) (unofficial translation));
- Nigeria ([Agreement on immigration matters \(2004\)](#) (EN/FR)); and
- Senegal ([Agreement on migration matters \(2003\)](#) (FR)).

No information on bilateral social security agreements could be collected at this stage.

6.3 The Protection of Immigrants' Rights in Switzerland

The Role of National Authorities with Regard to Protection of Migrants' Rights

The Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights ([EN](#), [FR](#)) was established in 2010 in order to strengthen the capacities of public authorities on all levels to **protect and promote**, inter alia, **human rights**. One of the six focus topics in this area is **migration** ([EN](#), [FR](#)).

The Role of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) with Regard to the Protection of Migrants' Rights

Examples for NGOs active in areas related to the protection of migrants' rights in Switzerland are listed below:

- Amnesty International, Swiss Section ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- Association humanrights.ch ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- Caritas (FR);
- FIZ Advocacy and Support for Migrant Women and Victims of Trafficking ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- Forum for the Integration of Migrants (FR);
- Salvation Army ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- Swiss Foundation of the International Social Service ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- Swiss Interchurch Aid ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- Swiss Labour Assistance (FR);
- Swiss Red Cross ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- Swiss Refugee Aid (FR); and
- Solidarité sans Frontières (SOSF) ([EN](#), [FR](#)).

6.4 Description of Most Relevant National Migration and Development Actors

Several national actors are active in areas related to Migration and Development in Switzerland (table 6.2).

Table 6.2 - Switzerland: National Actors Active in the Area of Migration and Development	
National Actors	Involvement with Migration and Development
<u>Political Affairs Division IV (PAIV)</u> (EN , FR) under the <u>Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)</u> (EN , FR) and <u>Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)</u> (EN , FR)*	<p>The FDFA is involved in the external migration policy, notably through the SDC and the PAIV.</p> <p>The PAIV has a facilitating role with regard to the cooperation and coordination between the federal offices in order to ensure coherence between Swiss migration policy and foreign policy instruments. Focus areas of its works include international migration</p>

	<p>dialogues and counter-trafficking in persons*</p> <p>The SDC is Switzerland's international cooperation agency. It is 'responsible for the overall coordination of development activities and cooperation with Eastern Europe, as well as for the humanitarian aid delivered by the Swiss Confederation'**. In 2008, the Global Programme on Migration and Development (GPMD) was established as a section of SDC.</p>
<p><u>Federal Office for Migration (FOM) (EN, FR)</u> under the <u>Federal Department of Justice and Police (FDJP) (EN, FR)</u>*</p>	<p>The FOM is in charge of the Swiss migration policy. In the realm of external migration policy, it mainly deals with bilateral, regional, and multilateral migration dialogues, voluntary and forced return, prevention of irregular migration, services connected to the 'protection in the region' programmes, and migration partnerships in cooperation with the <u>Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) (EN, FR)</u>.</p>
<p><u>State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) (EN, FR)</u> under the <u>Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER) (EN, FR)</u> *</p>	<p>It contributes directly or indirectly to the implementation of migration foreign policy, notably in the areas of economic development cooperation and labour market policy.</p>
<p><u>Interdepartmental working group on migration*</u> (co-chaired by the <u>Federal Department of Justice and Police (FDJP) (EN, FR)</u> and the <u>FDFA (EN, FR)</u>)</p>	<p>It deals with integration and external migration policies.</p>
<p><u>Special Ambassador on Migration</u> (appointed by the Federal Council)*</p>	<p>It facilitates interdepartmental coordination.</p>
<p><u>Federal Commission on Migration (EN, FR)</u></p>	<p>It advises the Federal Council and the public administration on questions of migration and publishes reports, position papers, and recommendations. The FCM is an extra-parliamentary commission.</p>
<p><u>Plenary Session of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Migration*</u></p>	<p>It is the main organ for interdepartmental coordination on migration.</p>
<p><u>Committee on International Cooperation on Migration*</u></p>	<p>It coordinates the operational implementation of all instruments of Swiss external migration policy and steers different thematic and regional working groups. It convenes at least six times a year and is co-chaired by FOM, PAIV, and SDC</p>
<p>N.B: This list is not exhaustive Source: *<u>Federal Council (EN, FR) Report on international Co-operation on migration (2011) (FR)</u> **<u>SDC website (EN, FR)</u></p>	

Further national actors that may be involved with regard to questions related to Swiss external migration policies on an ad hoc basis are ([R 14](#) (FR)):

- [Federal Office of Police](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) (e.g. fight against trafficking and smuggling in persons),
- [Department of International Law](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) under the [Federal Department of Foreign Affairs](#);
- [Integration Office FDFA/FDEA](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)), which is a common unit of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), and the Federal Department of Economic Affairs (FDEA));
- [Federal Office of Public Health](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- [Federal Statistical Office](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)); and
- [Swiss Federal Customs Administration](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)).

In addition, several aspects of migration are (partially) dealt with by cantons and municipalities, such as integration or return assistance. Possibilities to enhance the involvement of civil society in migration and developmental topics are being considered ([R 14](#) (FR)).

A list of NGOs involved in M&D as well as relevant education and research institutes can be accessed [here](#).

Switzerland cooperates with international organisations working in areas relevant for M&D, such as:

- [IOM](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- [UNHCR](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#));
- [ILO](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- [International Centre for Migration Policy Development \(ICMPD\)](#) (EN); and
- Certain regional organisations such as [ECOWAS](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) or the [Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees \(IGC\)](#) (EN).

Joint chambers of commerce

Table 6.3 lists joint chambers of commerce covering Southern MTM States.

Table 6.3 - Switzerland: Examples of Joint Chambers of Commerce Covering the Southern MTM States

- [Swiss-Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industries](#) (FR)
- [Arab-Swiss Chamber of Commerce and Industry \(CASCI\)](#) (EN)
- Chamber of Commerce Switzerland-Central and West Africa

N.B: This list is not exhaustive

Source: http://www.amcham.ch/members_interests/p_business_ch.asp?s=1&c=11, accessed on 8 November 2012

The national development cooperation

Priority countries of the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) include (only MTM States listed):

- [Egypt](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- [Libya](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- [Mali](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- [Morocco](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#));
- [Niger](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)); and
- [Tunisia](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)).

The [SDC map with priority countries and regions and countries with special programmes](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) provides an overview on SDC's geographic engagement.

The SDC publication [The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and Migration \(2011\)](#) summarises SDC's work in the field of migration, including:

- Migration and Development;
- Labour migration;
- Diaspora: Migrants Communities;
- Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs);
- Human Trafficking; and
- International Dialogue on Migration.

SDC funded, inter alia, the [Pilot Project on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies](#) (EN) and the project [Strengthening African and Middle Eastern Diaspora Policy through South-South Exchange \(AMEDIP\)](#) (EN).

Information on invitations to tender of the SDC is accessible [here](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)).

7 Sources

7.1 List of References

Table 7.1 – Switzerland: List of References				
Reference	Source	Type of data collection/ methodology**	Frequency	Accessibility
R1	Eurostat (EN , FR)	Based on data collected by the national statistical agencies and conveyed to EUROSTAT	annual	Free
R2	Federal Statistical Office (EN , FR)	n/a	n/a	Free
R3	Federal Statistical Office (EN , FR) publication Scenarios for the population development in Switzerland 2010 – 2060 (appendix) (EN , FR)	Projections of the active population and projections of the population according to level of training	n/a	Free
R4	OECD (EN , FR) publication A Profile of Immigrant Populations in the OECD (2008) (EN)	n/a	n/a	Free
R5	Switzerland's Official Web Portal (EN , FR)	n/a	n/a	Free
R6	The Immigrant Voting Project (EN)	n/a	n/a	Free
R7	State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO (EN , FR) brochure International money transfers from Switzerland (EN , FR))	n/a	n/a	Free
R 8	Swiss National Bank (EN , FR) Balance of Payments 2011 (EN , FR))	n/a	Annual	Free
R9	OECD (EN , FR) publication Open for Business. Migrant Entrepreneurship in OECD Countries (2010) (EN)	Based on a series of logistic regression analysis and on a comparison of the structure of activity of self-employed Swiss and immigrants	One-time	Free
R 10	FOM (EN , FR) information sheet Return Assistance Switzerland (EN))	n/a	n/a	Free
R 11	FOM (EN , FR) publication The Work of the Inter-Agency Steering Committee on Return Assistance (ILR) (EN))	n/a	n/a	Free
R12	Memorandum of Understanding between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Federal	n/a	n/a	Free

	Republic of Nigeria on the Establishment of a Migration Partnership (EN, FR)			
R13	Memorandum of Understanding between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Republic of Tunisia on the Installation of a Migration Partnership (FR) (unofficial translation)	n/a	n/a	Free
R 14	Federal Council (EN, FR) Report on international Cooperation on migration (2011) (FR)	n/a	n/a	Free
** N.B: Information on type of data collection / methodology is only provided for the main country-specific surveys.				

7.2 Overview on National Data Collection on Migration and Remittances

For detailed information on the statistical system of Switzerland please refer to:

- The [Country Profiles of Statistical Systems](#) (EN) of the [United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs \(UNDESA\)](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#));
- The [World Bank](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) [Statistical Capacity Indicator](#) (EN), which provides an overview on the statistical capacity score of Switzerland; and
- The [Country Reports](#) (EN) of the [Prominstat project](#) (EN), funded by the [European Commission \(EC\)](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)).

Table 7.2 provides a brief overview on national data collection on migration and remittances.

Table 7.2 – Switzerland: Overview on National Data Collection on Migration and Remittances (Non-Exhaustive List)			
Name of Dataset (Institution responsible for data collection)	Frequency	Data Provided	Accessibility**
Central Aliens Register (Federal Office for Migration)	In operation since 1980	Persons meant to be included: Foreigners with permanent/long-term residence permit (incl. recognised refugees), foreigners with temporary/short-term residence permit, foreign seasonal workers,	Free access to selected outputs through the Swiss Federal Statistical Office

(FOM) (EN, FR))*	(updated annually)	foreign students, cross-border workers. Changes of status (naturalisation, deliverance of another permit, acquisition or loss of citizenship) are recorded. Please click here (EN) for information on variables of the dataset and here (EN) for further information.	(FSO) (EN, FR)
<u>Federal Population Census</u> (EN, FR) (FSO (EN, FR)) *	Ten years	Persons meant to be included: Persons with usual place of residence: All persons declaring a place of residence in Switzerland. Please click here (EN) for information on variables of the dataset and here (EN) for further information.	Free access to selected outputs through FSO (EN, FR)
<u>The Swiss Household Panel</u> (EN, FR) (Swiss Foundation for Research in Social Sciences (EN, FR), University of Lausanne (EN, FR)) *	Yearly since 1999	Persons covered: Permanent resident population of Switzerland speaking sufficient French, German, or Italian to conduct an interview. Please click here (EN) for information on variables of the dataset and here (EN) for further information.	<u>The Swiss Household Panel</u> (EN, FR) produces aggregate statistics on request
<u>Swiss Labour Force Survey</u> (EN, FR) (FSO (EN, FR)) *	annual	Persons covered: All persons aged 15 +, Swiss or foreigners. Among foreigners: annual or long-term permit only. Please click here (EN) for information on variables of the dataset and here (EN) for further information.	Free access to selected outputs through FSO (EN, FR)
<u>Swiss Wage Structure Survey 2004</u> (FSO (EN, FR)) *	Biannually since 1994	Persons covered: Employees from the secondary and tertiary sectors (+ horticulture), Swiss or foreigners. Among foreigners: permanent or annual residence permit, short or long-term permit, foreign cross-border commuters. The survey is based on a total gross sample of 32,830 (sampling units: the firm and the employee). Please click here (EN) for information on variables of the dataset	Free access to selected outputs through FSO (EN, FR)

		and here (EN) for further information.	
Income and Consumption Survey 2006 (FSO (EN, FR)) *	First survey: 1990; yearly since 2000	Persons covered: All persons, Swiss or foreigners. The survey is based on a stratified random sample (total gross sample: 10,260). Please click here (EN) for information on variables of the dataset and here (EN) for further information.	Free access to selected outputs through FSO (EN, FR)
International Social Survey (ISSP) (EN) (Swiss Foundation for Research in Social Sciences (EN, FR), University of Lausanne (EN, FR)) *	Annual, since 1984	Persons covered: Swiss population included in the extended telephone register aged 18 and older. The survey is based on a stratified random/multi-stage random sample (sampling units: households) Please click here (EN) for information on variables of the dataset and here (EN) for further information.	Free access to selected outputs on the website of the Gesis-Gesellschaft Sozialwissenschaftlicher Infrastruktureinrichtungen (EN)
Balance of Payments 2011 (EN, FR) (Swiss National Bank (EN, FR))		Remittances data	Free access through annual reports of the Swiss National Bank (EN, FR)
Source: * PROMINSTAT database (EN) N.B: This list is not exhaustive. Information on additional datasets (such as the Health Monitoring of the Swiss migrant survey (EN), the Register of students attending a university or federal institute of technology (EN), the Register of students attending a Specialised High School (EN), the Register of asylum seekers and temporarily admitted (EN)) is accessible in the PROMINSTAT database (EN)			