

The Swiss Health System

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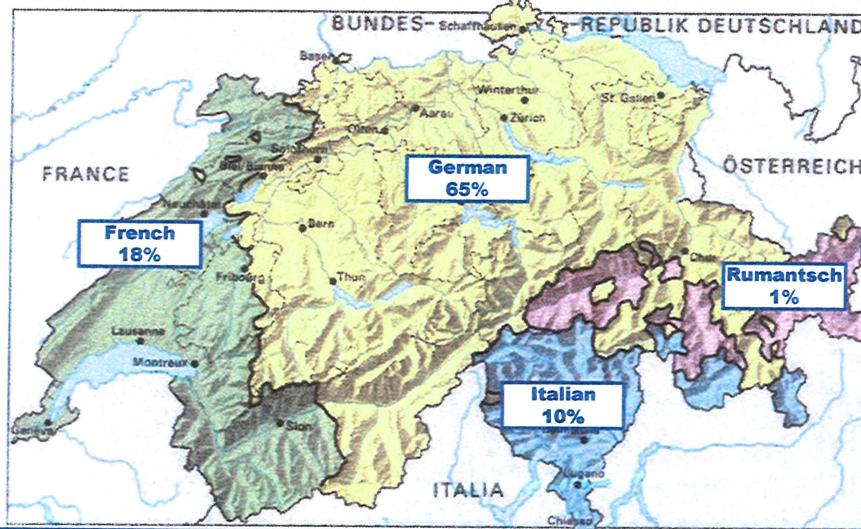
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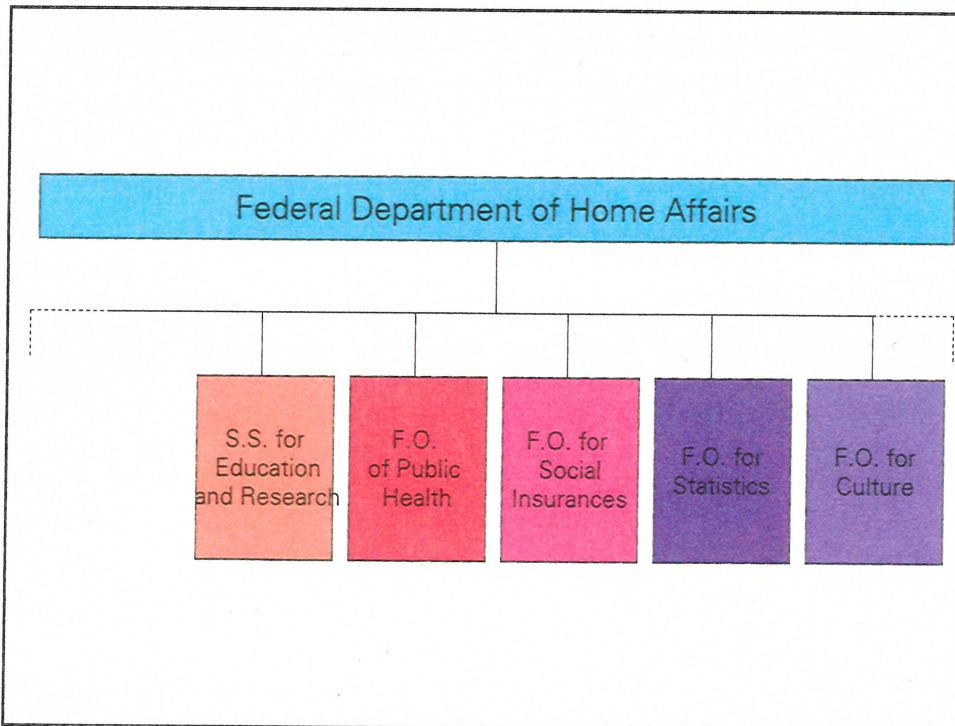


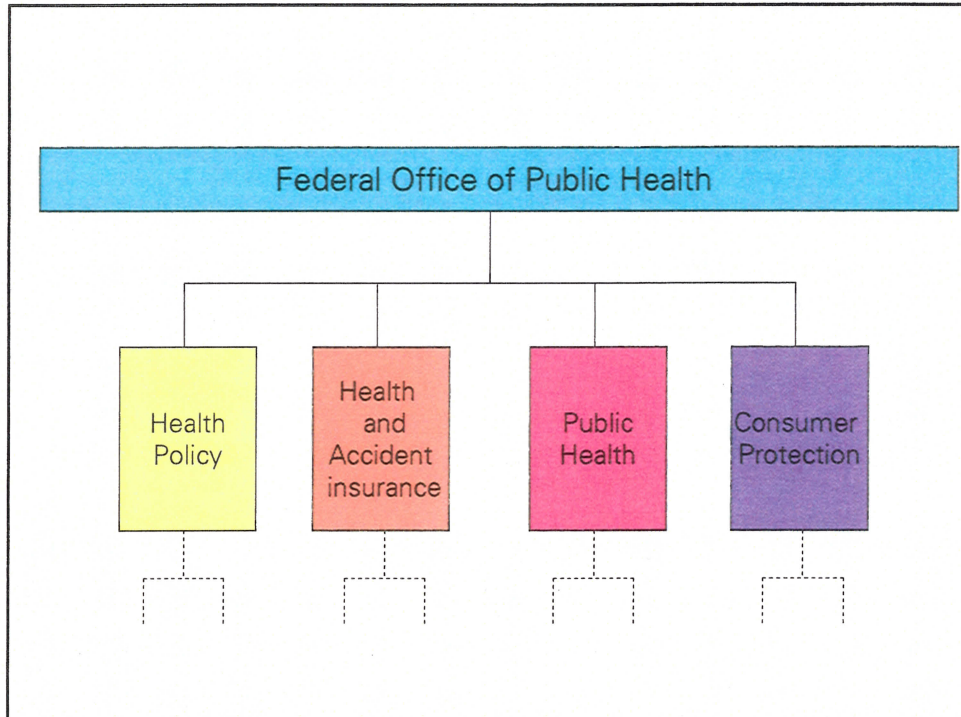
Permanent population : ~ 7'200'000 : Swiss ~ 5'800'000 Foreigners ~ 1'400'000 (2001)

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Switzerland : 4 languages





Federal Constitution of the Swiss Confederation

Health and accident insurance (Art. 117)

- **The Federal Government shall legislate on health and accident insurance**
- **It can declare the health and accident insurance compulsory for the entire or parts of the population**

Federal Constitution of the Swiss Confederation

Protection of health (Art. 118)

- **Within the limits of its powers, the federal government shall take measures for the protection of health.**
- **It shall legislate on :**
 - a. **the handling of foodstuffs and of therapeutic products, narcotics, organisms, chemicals and articles that may be dangerous to health;**
 - b. **Efforts to combat communicable, widespread or malignant human and animal diseases;**
 - c. **Protection against ionizing radiation.**

Federal government's powers within the health system

Controlling epidemics

Prevention (specific sectors)

Control of foodstuffs

Narcotics

Toxic substances and radiation protection

Legislation on the healthcare system

Supervision of private-sector insurance companies



Responsibilities of cantonal authorities within the health system

**In the absence of federal
legislation, the cantonal
authorities are responsible for
taking measures to protect health**

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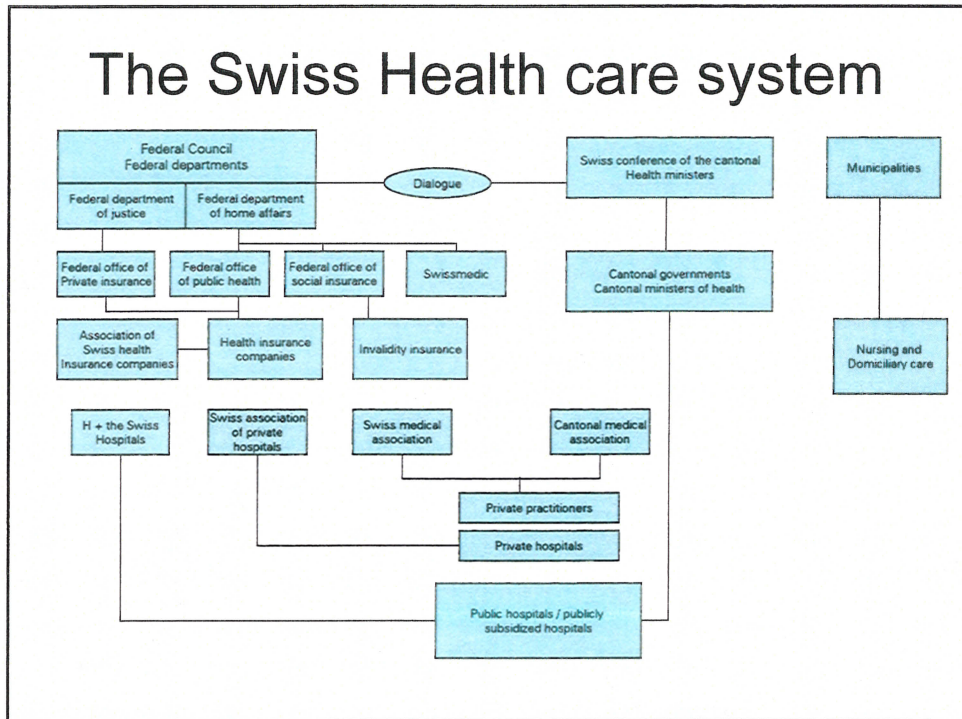


Responsibilities of cantonal authorities within the health system

- **Provision of health care**
- **Disease prevention and health education**
- **Licensing the health professions**

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The Swiss Health care system



Assets of the Swiss health system

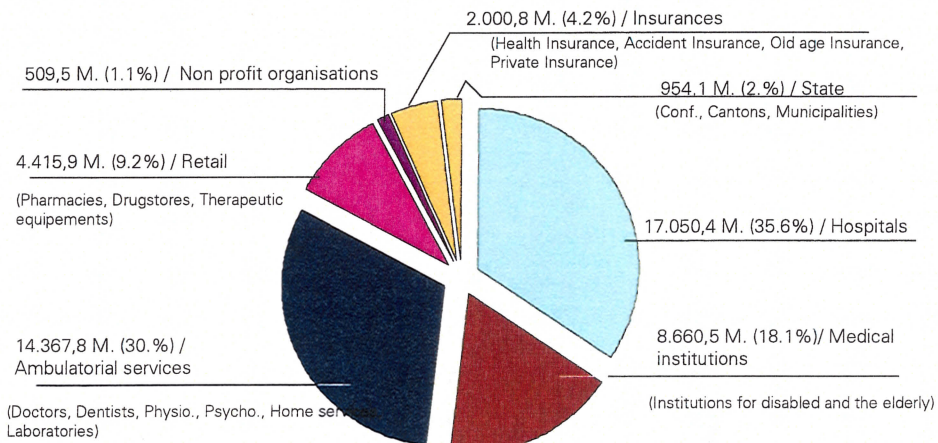
- **Health outcome indicators among the best worldwide and continue to improve (exceptions: mental health, substance abuse)**
- **High customers satisfaction, hardly any waiting times**
- **No accumulated deficits**
- **Health is one of the most important economic sector**
- **Excellent biomedical research**

Challenges for the Swiss health system

- **Financing**
- **Growing inequities in health**
- **Demographic challenges**
- **Quality**
- **Shortages of health care personnel**
- **Predominance of health care in health system**
(Prevention represented 2,1% of the Swiss health expenditures in 2003)

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Components of health care system and costs (2002)



Source: Federal Office of Statistics

in CHF of Total 47.959 M. (100%)

Financing of the health sector in 2002

