

A stylized world map composed of a grid of small squares, rendered in shades of grey. Three curved lines originate from different parts of the map and converge towards the center, where the text 'Swiss Info Tax' is located. The lines appear to be made of a thin, light grey material.

## Swiss Info Tax

## Tax burden in Switzerland

### INTER-CANTONAL COMPARISON

- I. Taxation of net income of an operating corporation  
(annual net income CHF – 500,000; registered capital – CHF 100,000)

Canton*	Capital City	Amount of tax, CHF (2008)			
		Canton & Municipality	Confederation (8.5% flat)	Total	% of net income
Basel-Stadt	Basel	123,025	42,500	165,525	33.1
Bern	Bern	88,457	42,500	130,957	26.2
Geneva	Geneva	88,612	42,500	131,112	26.2
Jura	Delémont	108,499	42,500	150,999	30.2
Luzern	Luzern	70,350	42,500	112,850	22.6
Neuchâtel	Neuchâtel	100,500	42,500	143,000	28.6
Ticino	Bellinzona	92,560	42,500	135,060	27.0
Vaud	Lausanne	75,500	42,500	118,000	23.6
Zug	Zug	48,904	42,500	91,404	18.3
Zurich	Zurich	91,984	42,500	134,484	26.9

- II. Effective individual tax rates on income for a married couple without children  
(cantonal and municipal taxes combined)

Canton*	Capital City	Gross employment income, CHF (2009)				
		100,000	200,000	300,000	500,000	1,000,000
		Tax burden, CHF **				
Basel-Stadt	Basel	11,773	34,004	56,306	101,670	225,118
Bern	Bern	12,059	35,280	61,289	116,805	258,770
Geneva	Geneva	11,037	36,849	65,334	125,698	283,993
Jura	Delémont	13,731	38,875	68,597	128,239	285,591
Luzern	Luzern	9,509	27,267	46,895	87,011	180,014
Neuchâtel	Neuchâtel	14,948	42,101	72,701	129,149	261,333
Ticino	Bellinzona	8,871	32,092	58,903	114,555	249,845
Vaud	Lausanne	13,995	37,741	66,243	129,698	281,850
Zug	Zug	4,983	16,426	29,840	51,956	107,033
Zurich	Zurich	8,692	27,035	49,533	102,448	237,623
Confederation (direct federal tax)		1,376	10,499	22,836	47,523	107,835

\* - the most popular cantons

\*\* - source: <http://www.estv2.admin.ch/e/dienstleistungen/steuerrechner/steuerrechner.htm>

## Legal forms of companies in Switzerland

### Comparative overview

	<b>Corporation (AG / SA)</b>	<b>Limited Liability Company (GmbH / Sàrl)</b>	<b>Branch (operation unit)</b>
<b>Set-up</b>	Entry in commercial register, formal organization procedure	Entry in commercial register, formal organization procedure	Entry in commercial register, formal organization procedure
<b>Purpose</b>	Any commercial activity under the corporation name	Any commercial activity under the company name	Business operation of the mother company on the Swiss market
<b>Beneficiary</b>	Shareholders	Partners	Mother company
<b>Founder</b>	Physical person(s) or legal entity(ies) (foreign nationals/companies possible)	Physical person(s) or legal entity(ies) (foreign nationals/companies possible)	Mother company
<b>Governing bodies</b>	General meeting of shareholders Board of Directors (foreign nationals possible, but at least one director with power of sole signature, or two directors with joint signature must be domiciled in Switzerland)	Company meeting Managing Director(s) (foreign nationals possible, but at least one MD with power of sole signature, or two directors with joint signature must be domiciled in Switzerland)	Managing Director with domicile in Switzerland
<b>Registered capital</b>	Min. – CHF 100,000 Max. – no limit	Min. – CHF 20,000 Max. – no limit	Endowment capital, as decided by mother company
<b>Shares</b>	Minimum par value: CHF 0.01 20% of each share must be paid in (at least CHF 50,000)	Minimum par value: CHF 100.00 Must be fully paid in	
<b>Transfer of shares</b>	No consent of corporation or other shareholders required, unless otherwise set forth in the articles of association	Consent of company meeting is required, unless otherwise set forth in the articles of association	
<b>Audit</b>	Required for publicly owned corporations only For other corporations, if some economical thresholds are reached Opting-out of audit, if not more than 10 employees	Required if some economical thresholds are reached Opting-out of audit, if not more than 10 employees	Required if some economical thresholds are reached Opting-out of audit, if not more than 10 employees
<b>Liability</b>	Corporation's assets	Company's assets	Mother company
<b>Advantages</b>	Investors' anonymity Simple transfer of shares Limited liability	Low minimum capital Limited liability	No own capital required Low founding cost
<b>Disadvantages</b>	Costs Double taxation (income of corporation plus dividends to shareholders)	Low structural flexibility Transfer of shares is more complicated	Liability situation No legal creditor/debtor relationship between mother company and its branch