



## MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

### TERRITORIAL ORGANISATION

MUNICIPAL LEVEL	INTERMEDIATE LEVEL	REGIONAL OR STATE LEVEL	TOTAL NUMBER OF SNGs
2 294 Municipalities (Commune, Gemeinden, Comuni) Average Municipal Size: 3 590 Inhabitants	-	26 States (Canton, Kanton, Cantone)	2 320

### SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

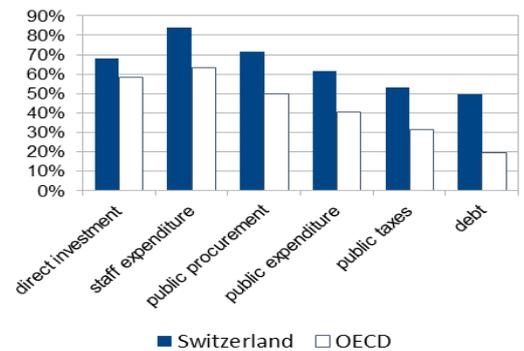
The Swiss Confederation has a two-tier of SNGs: municipalities and states. The last constitutional reform (in force since 2008) reassigned several policy areas to either the federal or cantonal level in order to clarify the division of tasks between them. The Confederation is now solely responsible for seven task areas (foreign affairs, monetary motorways, etc.), the cantons for ten (police, education, healthcare, welfare, utilities, etc.) and the Confederation and cantons continue to assume joint responsibility for sixteen task areas (regional traffic, regional development, environmental protection, flood protection, etc.). Municipalities' autonomous and non-autonomous tasks are assigned by respective state and thus differ from one state to another. They typically include education, health and social welfare, water, electricity, and traffic, local roads, land use planning, natural resource management, recreation and culture, municipal police, etc.

Figure 1. The role of subnational governments in public finance in Switzerland, 2014

### SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

As in most federations, the share of subnational expenditure, investments, staff expenditure, and public procurement is higher than the OECD average. The share of SNG debt in total public debt is also way higher (Figure 1).

**More:** OECD/UCLG (2016), *Subnational Governments around the World: Structure and Finance*, [Country Profile: Switzerland](#)

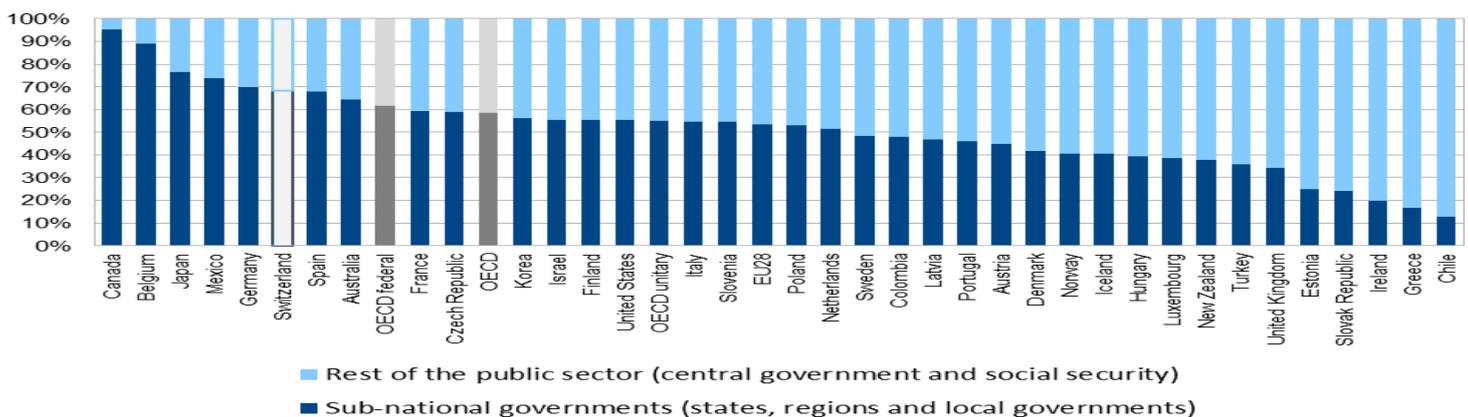


Source: OECD National Accounts.

### SUBNATIONAL PUBLIC INVESTMENT

Public investment is a share responsibility across levels of government. Subnational governments (states, provinces, regions and municipalities) undertook 59 % of total public investment across the OECD countries and in particular 61% across the OECD federal countries in terms of volume in 2014. Variations across countries are important, as the subnational share of public investment ranges from 12 % in Chile to 97% in Canada, and 69% in Switzerland (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Subnational public direct investment in OECD countries, 2014 (as a share of public direct investment)



Note: 2013 figures for Mexico, 2012 figures for Chile, 2014 figures for Turkey. Source: OECD National Accounts.

**More:** Toolkit provides detailed information on multi-level governance of public investment, [Country Profile: Switzerland](#)

#### More information:

- OECD/UCLG (2016a), *Subnational Governments around the World: Structure and Finance*, Country Profile: Switzerland.
- OECD (2016b), *Subnational governments in OECD countries: Key data*, 2016 edition (brochure).
- OECD (2016c), *Regions at a Glance 2016*, OECD Publishing, Paris.
- OECD (2015a), *Implementation Toolkit, Effective Public Investment across Levels of Government*, Country Profile: Switzerland.
- OECD (2015b), OECD National Accounts Statistics (database), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/na-data-en>.
- OECD (2014), *Recommendation of the Council on Effective Public Investment across Levels of Government*, OECD Publishing, Paris.
- OECD (2011), *Territorial Reviews: Switzerland*, OECD Publishing, Paris.