

Switzerland Immigration Detention Data Profile



Quick Facts	
Immigration detainees (2018)	3,284
Detained asylum seekers (2018)	2,155
Detained minors (2019)	7
Immigration detention capacity (2020)	Not Available
International migrants (2019)	2,572,000
New asylum applications (2019)	14,203
Number of immigration detainees on a given day (2020)	267

NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/europe/switzerland>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

STATISTICS

Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Total number of immigration detainees by year	3,284	2018	Number of immigration detainees on a given day	267	2020
	3,724	2017			
	5,732	2016			
	5,417	2014			
	6,039	2013			
	6,806	2012			
	7,540	2011			
Top nationalities of detainees	Algeria, Nigeria, Albania, Morocco, Kosovo	2018	Number of detained asylum seekers	2,155	2018
	Albania, Algeria, Nigeria, Morocco, Kosovo	2017			
Total number of detained minors	7	2019	Number of detained unaccompanied minors		
	8	2018		2	2018
	21	2017		4	2017
	25	2016			
	37	2015			
	131	2014			
	130	2013			
	177	2012			
	176	2011			
Number of detained accompanied minors	5	2019	Number of apprehensions of non-citizens	14,420	2018
	6	2018		13,800	2014
	17	2017		15,045	2013
				14,170	2012
Immigration detainees as a percentage of total international migrant population	0.16	2018	Estimated total immigration detention capacity	Not Available	2020
	0.3	2013		352	2018
Number of dedicated long-term immigration detention centres	5	2020	Estimated capacity of dedicated long-term immigration detention centres	166	2020
	5	2011		91	2011
Number of transit facilities	2	2020	Number of criminal facilities	33	2020
	2	2011		20	2011

Number of deportations/forced returns only	2,486	2018	Criminal prison population	6,909	2020
	3,021	2017		6,884	2015
				7,072	2013
				6,599	2012
Percentage of foreign prisoners	69.6	2020	Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	80	2020
	71	2015		83	2015
	74.3	2013		87	2013
	73.8	2012		82	2012
Demographics and immigration-related statistics					
		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	8,700,000	2020	International migrants	2,572,000	2019
	8,603,899	2020		2,438,700	2015
	8,299,000	2015		2,335,100	2013
	7,700,000	2012			
International migrants as a percentage of the population	29.9	2019	Refugees	116,700	2019
	29.4	2015		104,037	2018
	28.9	2013		93,056	2017
				82,608	2016
				73,336	2015
				69,390	2015
				52,464	2014
				50,747	2012
Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants	9.87	2016	Total number of new asylum applications	14,203	2019
	7.63	2014		14,269	2019
	6.48	2012		9,042	2016
	6.6	2011		22,113	2014
				32,359	2012
Stateless persons	49	2018			
	62	2017			
	66	2016			
	76	2015			
	79	2014			
	69	2012			

DOMESTIC LAW

LEGAL TRADITION				
Legal tradition	Name		Observation Date	
	Civil law			
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Constitutional guarantees?	Yes/No	Constitution and Articles	Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Yes	Federal Constitution of the Swiss Confederation - (Constitution fédérale de la Confédération Suisse du 18 Avril 1999), Articles 10 and 31	1999	1999
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Core pieces of national legislation	Name		Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Federal Act on Foreign Nationals and Integration - (Loi Fédérale sur les Etrangers et l'Intégration du 16 Décembre 2005)		2005	2014
	Asylum Act - (Loi sur l'Asile du 26 Juin 1998)		1998	2014
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Additional legislation	Name		Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Ordonnance sur l'Exécution du Renvoi et de l'Expulsion d'Etrangers		1999	2020
GROUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE IMMIGRATION-RELATED DETENTION				
Immigration-status-related grounds	Name		Observation Date	
	Detention to prevent unauthorised entry at the border		2020	
	Detention for failing to respect a voluntary removal order		2020	
	Detention to effect removal		2020	
	Detention during the asylum process		2020	
	Detention pending transfer to another Schengen country		2020	
	Detention for unauthorized stay resulting from criminal conviction		2020	
	Detention to prevent absconding		2020	
	Detention to ensure transfer under the Dublin Regulation		2020	
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES				
Does the country provide specific criminal penalties for immigration-related violations?	Fines	Incarceration	Observation Date	
	Yes	Yes	2020	
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES				
Grounds for criminal immigration-related detention/incarceration and maximum potential duration of incarceration	Grounds for Incarceration	Maximum Number of Days of Incarceration		Observation Date
	Unauthorized entry	365		2020
	Unauthorised stay	365		2020
	Unauthorized exit	365		2020

CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES				
Has the country decriminalized immigration-related violations?	Has the country decriminalized immigration-related violations?		Observation Date	
	No		2020	
LENGTH OF DETENTION				
Maximum length for administrative immigration detention in law.	Number of Days		Observation Date	
	540		2020	
LENGTH OF DETENTION				
Average length of detention	Number of Days		Observation Date	
	28		2018	
	25		2017	
	25		2016	
	21		2014	
	22		2013	
	20		2012	
	23		2011	
LENGTH OF DETENTION				
Maximum length of detention for persons detained upon arrival at ports of entry	Number of Days		Observation Date	
	15		2020	
PROCEDURAL STANDARDS				
Provision of basic procedural standards	Name	In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Independent review of detention	Yes		2020
	Right to appeal the lawfulness of detention	Yes		2020
	Access to consular assistance	Yes		2020
	Right to legal counsel	Yes		2020
	Access to free interpretation services	No		2020
NON-CUSTODIAL MEASURES (ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION)				
Types of non-custodial measures	Name	In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Release on bail	No	infrequently	2020
	Supervised release and/or reporting	No	infrequently	2020
	Registration (deposit of documents)	No	infrequently	2020
	Designated non-secure housing	No	infrequently	2020
	Electronic monitoring	No	No	2020

VULNERABLE PERSONS				
Is the detention of vulnerable persons provided in law? Are they detained in practice?	Name	In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Accompanied minors	Provided	Yes	2020
	Unaccompanied minors	Provided	Yes	2020
	Asylum seekers	Provided		2020
EXPEDITED REMOVAL AND RE-ENTRY BAN				
Re-entry ban	Name		Observation Date	
	Yes		2020	

COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
Latest Update	<p>As the GDP previously reported (see 27 June update), while Swiss authorities did not issue a moratorium on new detention orders during the pandemic, many immigration detainees were released due to the impossibility of conducting returns. This has been confirmed by Amnesty International Switzerland, which informed the GDP that some cantons declared a moratorium on administrative detention orders within the context of Dublin returns, and that some decided to release detainees who had been in immigration detention related to negative Dublin-decisions. According to the rights watchdog, released asylum seekers were placed in "very basic" structures, "where more or less appropriate measures against Covid-19 have been taken (information, distribution of soap, separation of infected people...., depending on the canton and on the responsible persons for the camps)." Regarding deportations, there was no general policy implemented. Switzerland's official position has been that individual case assessments are taken to decide whether a deportation is executable within a reasonable time frame. Immigration detainees are not under specific measures regarding testing, and are subjected to the same regime as the rest of the country, Amnesty reported. Tests are being conducted only on individuals showing one or more Covid-19 symptoms. With the closing of most borders, asylum applications at the borders have no longer been accepted. Emergency measures have been taken regarding the domestic asylum procedures, such as the opening of new shelters to avoid overcrowding. As Covid-19 cases declined, borders were reopened to members of the Schengen zone. Switzerland has implemented mandatory quarantine for travelers entering the country from a list of several dozen territories and countries, including recently Spain. Individuals who do not follow quarantine rules face a 10,000 Swiss franc fine. Most of the restrictions in the country were lifted in June, with schools and shops reopening.</p>	2020
	<p>Responding to the Global Detention Project Covid-19 survey, AsyLex reported that although Switzerland has not established a moratorium on new immigration detention orders, many immigration detainees have been released because returns are no longer possible. Certain local governments (cantonal authorities) have released all detainees, confirming information provided to the GDP by the Director General of the Geneva Cantonal Population and Migration Office (Office Cantonal de la Population et des Migrations) (see 9 June Switzerland update on this platform), whereas other local authorities have not released anyone. However, all detainees in Dublin procedures were released towards the end of March, AsyLex indicated that for released detainees, no "alternatives to detention" programs were used; instead, according to AsyLex, people were returned to crowded "camps," referring to "asylum accommodation" (Asylunterkünften) or "asylum centres" (Asylzentren), which they said may lack adequate protections for preventing the spread of Covid-19. AsyLex explained that these places are often underground, with up to 15 people sleeping in one room. Blick TV investigated these facilities and published a video filmed by a detainee showing an overcrowded dormitory where social distancing is impossible to implement (see link below). AsyLex also said that immigration detainees have only been tested for Covid-19 if infection is suspected. In addition, according to the organisation, deportations were not halted as removals to Serbia and Albania took place and potentially to other countries. On 9 June, the Swiss Supreme Court handed down a judgment in a case brought by AsyLex concerning the detention of a Somali national prior to deportation. The Court found that due to limitations on the ability to deport people, "detention pending removal" was unlawful during this period. AsyLex explained that the law stipulates that to detain people under this provision deportation must be foreseeable, as per Article 76 of the Federal Act on Foreign Nationals and Integration (AIG). In a statement on their website published on 11 June, AsyLex also mentioned that they presented challenges in more than 40 cases throughout Switzerland during the Covid-19 pandemic, invoking various provisions (Articles 78(6)(a); 80(a)(6); and 80(a)(7)) of the AIG as well as Article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights. More than 30 of their clients were released from detention, while other cases are still pending.</p>	2020
	<p>Responding to the Global Detention Project's Covid-19 survey, the Geneva Cantonal Population and Migration Office (Office Cantonal de la Population et des Migrations or OCPM) reported that while Geneva had not established a moratorium on new immigration detention orders, no new orders have been issued since the end of April, owing to the impossibility of deporting people. The OCPM also confirmed that all immigration detainees in the canton had been released towards the end of April by orders of the OCPM and the Geneva first instance administrative tribunal. The Migration Office stated that two immigration detainees had tested positive for Covid-19 and that they had been placed in isolation in the Champ-Dollon prison in Geneva. One of the positive Covid-19 cases received medical assistance at the Cantonal Hospital (HUG) and the other remained in isolation in prison and was serving a prison sentence. Immigration detainees placed in the Frambois immigration detention centre since the end of May have not been tested for Covid-19 upon entry. As former criminal prisoners subject to deportation orders, the protocol followed requires the nurse to contact the facility where these persons were previously detained prior to their transfer to Frambois in order to enquire about their health and to know whether a Covid-19 test has been undertaken. At present, it seems that only persons showing symptoms of the disease are tested in criminal facilities.</p>	2020
	<p>Since the beginning of April, certain immigration detention centres, including the Frambois and Favra centres in Geneva, have been closed. Around 30 people were detained in the centres at the time. Reports suggest that they may have been assigned to a temporary residence or may be prohibited from entering a specific perimeter or region. The situation in Geneva is complicated by the fact that detention spaces in the canton are shared with other cantons as part of an agreement, or "concordat." However, according to Tribune de Genève, Geneva is taking charge of all detainees previously held in the Vaud and Neuchâtel cantons. In Bern, certain immigration detainees have been released by order of the court. Nonetheless, the Director of Security of Bern rejected a request to release all immigration detainees and stated that every case is examined individually. At the end of March, it was reported that around a dozen asylum seekers and seven employees had been infected with the virus in the federal asylum centres. The halt of deportations may also have legal consequences, as reported by the Neue Zürcher Zeitung. As authorities have a period of six months to return rejected asylum seekers in Dublin procedures, depending upon the duration of the Covid-19 crisis, numerous deportations may no longer be feasible. As stated by Marcel Suter from the cantonal migration authorities, "if returns are stopped for a long time, it is difficult to get them going again." Migrant workers in irregular situations in Switzerland (estimated at 100,000) have been left in a precarious situation due to the coronavirus crisis. Various organisations and support centres in Zurich, Lucerne, Basel, Bern, Geneva, and Lausanne have been providing food and food vouchers. However, requests for advice and financial support have continued to flood in. Bea Schwager, head of the Zurich centre SPAZ (Sans-Papiers Anlaufstelle Zürich), said that "in Zurich, over 400 people have called us for financial aid to cover essential expenses during confinement." She added that the organisation had "received about CHF 100,000 but much of that money has already been spent." In Lausanne, before the crisis, the Protestant church gave out 80 food rations, whereas today, it distributes 350. In mid-April, the Protestant Social Centre and the Vaud Collective Support of Sans Papiers, together with other organisations, wrote to the federal, cantonal, and municipal authorities requesting financial aid and other support for the most vulnerable. For now however, no response has been provided. On 1 April, the Swiss Federal Council passed a legal order (ordonnance Covid-19 asile) regarding the measures taken with respect to asylum in view of the Covid-19 crisis. Article 6 of the order allows the Swiss Migration Secretariat (Secrétariat d'Etat aux Migrations, or SEM) to conduct an interview without a legal representative being present with the asylum seeker. In addition, following a review of the asylum legislation in March 2019, time limits for appeals against negative asylum decisions had been reduced from 30 days to 7. The order has now amended this time-frame and re-established a 30 day period for people to respond to decisions by the SEM. In some of the country's prisons, alternatives to incarceration have been implemented. In Bern, 27 vulnerable prisoners that were accommodated in open or semi-open prisons have been released. In addition, sentences of less than 30 days for prisoners that "do not present any risk for society" have been suspended. In the Champ-Dollon prison in Geneva, the number of inmates has been reduced from 650 to 560 as certain detainees have been assigned to house arrest, given electronic tags and others have been given reporting obligations. As of 15 April, authorities had confirmed that there were 35 people that tested positive in prisons, including 33 staff members.</p>	2020
	<p>Swiss authorities have temporarily closed some immigration detention facilities, and detainees who have contracted the virus have been placed in isolation in prisons. In the early stages of the virus' spread within the country, three Covid-19 cases were detected within federal asylum centres (Chevilles, Basel, and Bern). Transfers between such facilities were subsequently reduced, but the State Secretariat for Migration ('SEM') decided against introducing systematic testing for Covid-19. As cases continued to rise within the country, various NGOs and official bodies urged the adoption of additional measures to protect vulnerable persons. On 18 March, Solidarité Sans Frontières' called for several measures, including: access to health for asylum seekers; the release of immigration detainees; and the suspension of deportations. On 20 March, staff working at the Basel federal asylum centre criticised the lack of protective measures within the facility. The employees stated that approximately 200 refugees lived in the centre, most of them sleeping in 12 person rooms, and they were practically "shoulder to shoulder when serving food." The SEM denied these allegations and said that it was following the Federal Office of Health's recommendations in asylum centres. On 23 March 2020, a detainee at the Frambois immigration detention centre tested positive and was thus placed in isolation at the Champ-Dollon prison in Geneva. A staff member also contracted the virus, and three other detainees were placed in isolation at the Geneva prison. The Frambois and Favra detention centres in Geneva were temporarily closed and detainees released. During a protest in early April at the Champ-Dollon prison in Geneva, some 40 prisoners refused to return to their cells in the afternoon protesting against the conditions of their detention due to the measures taken to avoid the spread of Covid-19. The prisoners later complied with orders and returned to their cells.</p>	2020

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
International treaties	Name		Ratification Year
	CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities		2014
	ICPED, International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance		2016
	ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights		1992
	ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights		1992
	ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination		1994
	CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women		1997
	CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment		1986
	OPCAT, Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment		2009
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child		1997
	CRSR, Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees		1955
	PCRSR, Protocol to the Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees		1968
	CRSSP, Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons		1972
	CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children		2006
	CTOCSP, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime		2006
	OP CRC Communications Procedure		2017
	VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations		1965
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified	16/19		
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
International treaty reservations	Name	Reservation Year	Observation Date
	CRC Article 37	1997	
	CRC Article 40	1997	
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Individual complaints procedure	Name		Acceptance Year
	ICERD, declaration under article 14 of the Convention		2003
	CEDAW, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1999		2008
	CAT, declaration under article 22 of the Convention		1986
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number	Observation Date	
	3/5		
	3/5		

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Relevant recommendations issued by treaty bodies	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year
	Human Rights Committee	§34. The Committee takes note of the progress made in the granting of legal aid to asylum seekers. It remains concerned, however, about reports that migrants are being placed in administrative detention virtually as a matter of course and that adults are not separated from unaccompanied minors (arts. 7, 9 and 13). §35. The State party should: (a) pursue its efforts with respect to the granting of legal aid to asylum seekers and ensure that they have access to remedies; (b) see to it that adults and unaccompanied minors are strictly separated ; and (c) establish and apply alternative measures to administrative detention. §36. The Committee notes that efforts made to improve conditions of detention. It wishes to express concern, however, about information that, in certain regional institutions, juveniles are held with adults and are not adequately supervised (arts. 7, 9, 10 and 24). §37. The State party should: (a) pursue its efforts to reduce prison overcrowding, in particular by applying non-custodial measures, including in respect of foreign detainees; and (b) ensure strict separation of adults and juveniles and adequate supervision of the latter.	2017
	Committee against Torture	§ 17: The State party should develop and implement alternatives to administrative detention and should use detention only as a last resort, particularly where unaccompanied minors are concerned, and, when detention is necessary and proportionate, for as short a period as possible. The State should continue its efforts to provide special facilities in all cantons in order to accommodate migrants in administrative detention under an appropriate regime.	2015
	Committee against Torture	§ 13: The State party should reconsider the maximum period of administrative detention, resort to it only in exceptional circumstances and limit its duration in light of the principle of proportionality. § 17: The State party must also take measures to ensure that minors and adults, as well as detainees serving under different prison regimes, are separated. Finally, it must take steps to ensure the application of legislation and procedures concerning health-care access for all prisoners, especially those with psychiatric problems.	2010
Regional treaties, regulations, and directives			
Regional legal instruments	Name		Year of Ratification (Treaty) / Transposed (Directive) / Adoption (Regulation)
	ECHR, Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (commonly known as the European Convention on Human Rights)		1974
	ECHR7, Protocol 7 to the European Convention on Human Rights (amended by protocol 11)		1988
	ECPT, European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment of Punishment		1988
	Return Directive		2011
	CATHB, Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings		2012
	CPCSE, Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse		2014

Regional treaties, regulations, and directives

	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year	Observation Date
Recommendations issued by regional human rights mechanisms	European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)	§ 37: agir au plus vite aux niveaux fédéral, concordataire et cantonal afin que les personnes faisant l'objet de mesures de contrainte en matière de droit sur les étrangers ne soient pas hébergées en milieu carcéral et soient toujours placées dans des centres spécifiquement conçus à cet effet, répondant aux critères énoncés dans les 7ème et 19ème rapports généraux du CPT. En attendant, lorsqu'il n'y a encore aucune alternative au placement en milieu carcéral, il convient de veiller à ce que les personnes concernées bénéficient de conditions de détention appropriées.	2012	2020

Bilateral/Multilateral agreements linked to readmissions

Bilateral/multilateral agreements linked to readmission	Name	Year in Force	Observation Date
	Austria	1911	2017
	Croatia	1993	2017
	Kuwait	2017	2017
	Tunisia	2014	2017
	Albania	2000	2017
	Algeria	2007	2017
	Armenia	2005	2017
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2009	2017
	Bulgaria	2009	2017
	Croatia	1997	2017
	Czech Republic	2011	2017
	Estonia	1998	2017
	Finland	2010	2017
	France	2000	2017
	Georgia	2005	2017
	Germany	1994	2017
	Greece	2009	2017
	Hong Kong	2000	2017
	Hungary	1995	2017
	Italy	2000	2017
	Kyrgyzstan	2003	2017
	Kosovo	2010	2017
	Latvia	1998	2017
	Lebanon	2006	2017
	Lithuania	1996	2017
	Macedonia	2012	2017
	Moldova	2011	2017
	Norway	2005	2017
	Philippines	2003	2017
	Poland	2006	2017
	Romania	2009	2017
	Russian Federation	2011	2017
	Serbia	2010	2017
	Slovakia	2007	2017
	Slovenia	2005	2017
	Sweden	2003	2017
	Ukraine	2004	2017
	United Kingdom	2006	2017
	Viet Nam	2006	2017
	Spain	2005	2017

Bilateral/Multilateral agreements linked to readmissions			
Bilateral/multilateral agreements linked to readmission	Name	Year in Force	Observation Date
	Luxembourg	2007	2017
	Netherlands	2007	2017
	Belgium	2007	2017
	Austria	2001	2017
	Montenegro	2011	2017
	Benin	2012	2017
	Afghanistan	2006	2017
	Denmark	2013	2017
	Sierra Leone	2004	2017
	China	2004	2004
	Sri Lanka	1994	1994
Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms			
Visits by special procedures of the Human Rights Council	Name	Year of Visit	Observation Date
	Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	2006	
Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms			
Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	Recommendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
	No	2008	2020
	Yes	2012	

INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS		
Governing structures		
Federal or centralized governing system	Federal or centralized governing system	Observation Date
	Federal system	2020
Governing structures		
Centralized or decentralized immigration authority	Centralized or decentralized immigration authority	Observation Date
	Decentralized immigration authority	2020

Institutions responsible for immigration detention

	Agency	Ministry	Ministry Typology	Observation Date
Custodial authority	Canton Bern, Migrationsdienst des Kantons Bern/ Einwohnerdienste, Migration und Fremdenpolizei der Stadt Bern	Canton Bern, Migrationsdienst des Kantons Bern/ Einwohnerdienste, Migration und Fremdenpolizei der Stadt Bern	Regional Authority-Immigration or Citizenship	2020
	Office cantonal de la population et des migrations (OCPM)	Canton of Geneva, Office cantonal de la population / Service de la Population, Canton Vaud / Service des Migrations, Canton Neuchâtel	Regional Authority-Immigration or Citizenship	2020
	Migration Office	Department of Security and Justice, Migration Office, Canton Appenzell Ausserrhoden	Regional Authority-Internal or Public Security	2020
		Office for Migration, Canton Basel-Stadt / Service de la Population, Canton Vaud / Office for Migration, Canton Basel-Landschaft		2011
		Canton St. Gallen, Ausländeramt des Kantons St. Gallen		2011
		Canton Zurich, Migrationsamt des Kantons Zürich / Service de la Population, Canton Vaud		2011
		Office for Migration and Integration, Canton Aargau		2011
		Canton Bern, Migrationsdienst des Kantons Bern / Service de la Population, Canton Vaud / Service des Migrations, Canton Neuchâtel		2011
		Canton Bern, Migrationsdienst des Kantons Bern/ Einwohnerdienste, Migration und Fremdenpolizei der Stadt Bern / Service des Migrations, Canton Neuchâtel		2011
		Canton Basel-Stadt, Justiz- und Sicherheitsdepartement, Bevölkerungsdienste und Migration		2011
		Department of Corrections, Canton Glarus		2011
		Kantonales Migrationsamt, Canton Schaffhausen		2011
		Office for Migration, Canton Schwyz		2011
		Migration und Schweizer Ausweise, Asyl und Rückkehr, Canton Solothurn		2011
		Office for Migration, Canton Zug		2011
		Canton of Geneva, Office cantonal de la population, Service Étrangers et Confédérés		2011
		Department of Security and Justice, Migration Office, Canton Appenzell Ausserrhoden		2011
		Service de la population et des migrants, Canton Fribourg / Service de la Population, Canton Vaud / Service des Migrations, Canton Neuchâtel		2011
		Canton St Gallen / Canton Appenzell Innerrhoden		2011
		Canton Nidwald, Amt für Justiz Abteilung Migration / Office for Migration and Labour, Canton Uri		2011
		Canton Zurich, Migrationsamt des Kantons Zürich		2011
	Office Federale des Migrations	Federal Department of Justice and Police	Justice	2011
		Service des Migrations, Canton Neuchâtel		2011
		Department of Asylum and Repatriation, Migration Office, Canton Lucerne		2011
		Department of Justice and Security, Migration, Canton Thurgau		2011
		Canton Grison, Amt für Polizeiwesen und Zivilrecht / Canton Ticino		2011
		Justiz, Polizei and Militärdepartement, Canton Appenzell Innerrhoden		2011
		Migration Department, Canton Obwalden		2011
		Canton Bern, Migrationsdienst des Kantons Bern/ Einwohnerdienste, Migration und Fremdenpolizei der Stadt Bern / Service des Migrations, Canton Neuchâtel	Regional Authority-Immigration or Citizenship	2011
	Migration Office	Department of Security and Justice, Migration Office, Canton Appenzell Ausserrhoden		2011
	Office for Migration	Office for Migration, Canton Basel-Stadt / Service de la Population, Canton Vaud / Office for Migration, Canton Basel-Landschaft		2011
	Office for Migration	Service de la population et des migrants, Canton Fribourg / Service de la Population, Canton Vaud /		2011
	Migration Office	Department of Asylum and Repatriation, Migration Office, Canton Lucerne		2011
	Service des Migrations	Service des Migrations, Canton Neuchâtel		2011
	Migration Office	Canton Nidwald, Amt für Justiz Abteilung Migration / Office for Migration and Labour, Canton Uri		2011
	Migration Office	Migration Department, Canton Obwalden		2011
	Migration Office	Canton St. Gallen, Ausländeramt des Kantons St. Gallen		2011
		Justiz, Polizei and Militärdepartement, Canton Appenzell Innerrhoden		2011
	Justiz, Polizei and Militärdepartement, Canton Appenzell Innerrhoden	Justiz, Polizei and Militärdepartement, Canton Appenzell Innerrhoden	Regional Authority-Internal or Public Security	2011
		Office for Migration and Integration, Canton Aargau		2011

Institutions responsible for immigration detention

Custodial authority	Agency	Ministry	Ministry Typology	Observation Date
		Canton St Gallen / Canton Appenzell Innersoden		2011
		Canton Basel-Stadt, Justiz- und Sicherheitsdepartement, Bevlkerungsdienste und Migration		2011
		Office for Migration, Canton Schwyz		2011
		Department of Corrections, Canton Glarus		2011
		Canton Grison, Amt fr Polizeiwesen und Zivilrecht / Canton Ticino		2011
		Kantonales Migrationsamt, Canton Schaffhausen		2011
		Migration und Schweizer Ausweise, Asyl und Rckkehr, Canton Solothurn		2011
		Office for Migration, Canton Zug		2011
		Canton Zurich, Migrationsamt des Kantons Zrich / Service de la Population, Canton Vaud		2011
		Republique et Canton de Genve		2008
		Service de la population et des migrants, Canton Fribourg		2008
		Canton Lucerne, Amt fr Migration		2008
		Canton Grison, Amt fr Polizeiwesen und Zivilrecht		2008
		Canton Basel-Landschaft, Amt fr Migration		2008
		Canton Ticino, Sezione della popolazione Ufficio della migrazione		2008
		Canton St Gallen, Auslnderamt des Kantons St. Gallen		2008
		Canton Zurich, Migrationsamt des Kantons Zrich		2008
		Canton Solothurn, Amt fr ffentliche Sicherheit		2008
		Service de la population et des migrants, Canton Fribourg		2008
		Canton Grison, Amt fr Polizeiwesen und Zivilrecht		2008
		Canton Basel-Landschaft, Amt fr Migration		2008
		Republique et Canton de Genve		2008
		Canton Solothurn, Amt fr ffentliche Sicherheit		2008
		Canton St Gallen, Auslnderamt des Kantons St. Gallen		2008
		Canton Lucerne, Amt fr Migration		2008
		Canton Ticino, Sezione della popolazione Ufficio della migrazione		2008
		Canton Zurich, Migrationsamt des Kantons Zrich		2008

Institutions responsible for immigration detention															
Detention Facility Management		Entity Name							Entity Type			Observation Date			
		Chef de service, service de l'application des peines et mesures, Departement des Institutions, Republique et Canton de Genève							Governmental			2020			
		Conseil de la Fondation romande de détention LMC							Governmental			2020			
		Canton Ticino, Justice Department							Government-local			2020			
		Etat de Fribourg							Governmental			2020			
		Canton de Glarus							Governmental			2020			
		Canton des Grisons							Governmental			2020			
		Canton Grison							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de Lucerne							Government-local			2020			
		Canton Neuchatel							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de Nidwald							Government-local			2020			
		Canton d'Obwald							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de St Gallen							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de St Gall							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de Soleure							Government-local			2020			
		Canton Schwyz							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de Zurich							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de Zoug							Government-local			2020			
		Canton d'Argovie							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de Berne							Government-local			2020			
		Canton du Jura							Government-local			2020			
		Canton de Genève							Governmental			2020			
		Cantonal Police							Government-local			2020			
		Department of Security and Justice (Canton Appenzell Ausserrhoden)							Government-local			2020			
		Office of Police and Military Affairs (Polizei- und Militärdirektion)							Government-local			2020			
Institutions responsible for immigration detention															
Formally designated detention estate?		Formally designated immigration detention estate?					Types of officially designated detention centres					Observation Date			
		No										2020			
Institutions responsible for immigration detention															
Types of detention facilities used in practice	Immigration detention centre (Administrative)	Immigration field office (Administrative)	Transit centre (Administrative)	Reception centre (Administrative)	Offshore detention centre (Administrative)	Hospital (Administrative)	Border guard (Administrative)	Police station (Criminal)	National penitentiary (Criminal)	Local prison (Criminal)	Juvenile detention centre (Criminal)	Informal camp (Ad hoc)	Immigration detention centre (Ad hoc)	Surge facility (Ad hoc)	Observation Date
	Yes		Yes							Yes					2020

Detention monitoring institutions			
Authorized monitoring institutions	Institution	Institution Type	Observation Date
	National Commission for the Prevention of Torture	OPCAT National Preventive Mechanism (NPM)	2020
	European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)	International or Regional Bodies (IRBs)	2020
	Federal Commission against Racism (Eidgenössische Kommission gegen Rassismus EKR)	National Human Rights Institution (or Ombudsperson) (NHRI)	2020
Detention monitoring institutions			
Is the national human rights institution (NHRI) recognized as independent?	Is the NHRI recognized as independent by the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions?		Observation Date
	No		2020
Detention monitoring institutions			
Does national preventive mechanism (NPM) carry out visits?	Does NPM carry out visits in practice?		Observation Date
	Yes		2020
Detention monitoring institutions			
Does NPM publicly release reports on immigration detention?	Does NPM publicly release reports on immigration detention?		Observation Date
	Yes		2020
Detention monitoring institutions			
Do NGOs carry out visits?	Do NGOs regularly carry out visits?		Observation Date
	Yes		2019
Detention monitoring institutions			
Do parliamentary organs carry out visits?	Do parliamentary organs carry out visits?		Observation Date
	Yes		2019
Detention monitoring institutions			
Do parliamentary organs publicly report on their detention findings?	Do parliamentary organs publicly report on their detention findings?		Observation Date
	Yes		2019
Detention monitoring institutions			
Do international and/or regional bodies (IRBs) visit immigration-related detention facilities?	Do international and/or regional bodies (IRB) regularly visit immigration-related detention facilities?		Observation Date
	Yes		2020
Detention monitoring institutions			
Do IRBs publicly report their findings from inspections?	Do IRBs publicly report their findings from detention inspections?		Observation Date
	Yes		2020

More information about immigration detention in Switzerland is available at the website of the Global Detention Project
(www.globaldetentionproject.org)

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