

Media release

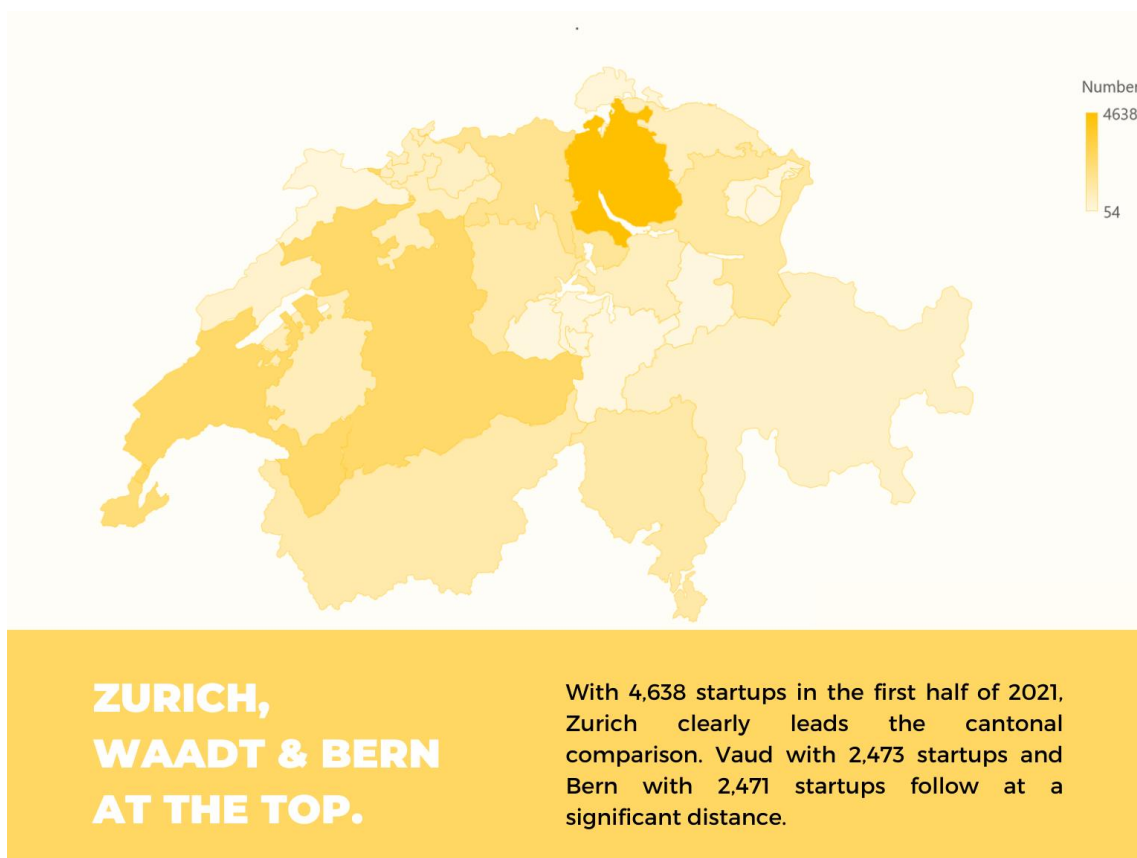
Startup Boom in Switzerland continues after the Corona-led record year

St. Gallen/Zurich/Lausanne, 30. June 2021:

After the year 2020, which was marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, and went down in history as a record year in terms of the number of new companies founded, Switzerland is now heading for a new record this year. In the first half of 2021, 26'387 new companies were entered in the commercial register. This represents an increase of +20.9% compared to the same time period last year. The high increase compared to the first half of 2020 is partly due to the lockdown measures put in place at that time. The Swiss startup scene is showing optimistic signs and looks confident into the future.

In which areas are the startup scene booming?

Most new companies were established in the cantons of Zurich (4'638), Vaud (2'473), Bern (2'471) and Geneva with 2'173 new entries. These four cantons make up almost half of all new incorporations in Switzerland. But which cantons are the winners in percentage compared to the previous year? The canton of Schaffhausen recorded an increase of a remarkable +63.7% compared to the previous half year. Followed by Zug with +40.3%, Uri with +32.7% and Bern with an increase of +31.6%. Except for Appenzell Innerrhoden (-19.4%) and Obwalden (-9.2%), all cantons recorded a growth. The exact founding numbers and percentage changes are shown in the following chart.



(Sources: Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce SHAB; Analysis and Graphic: IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG)

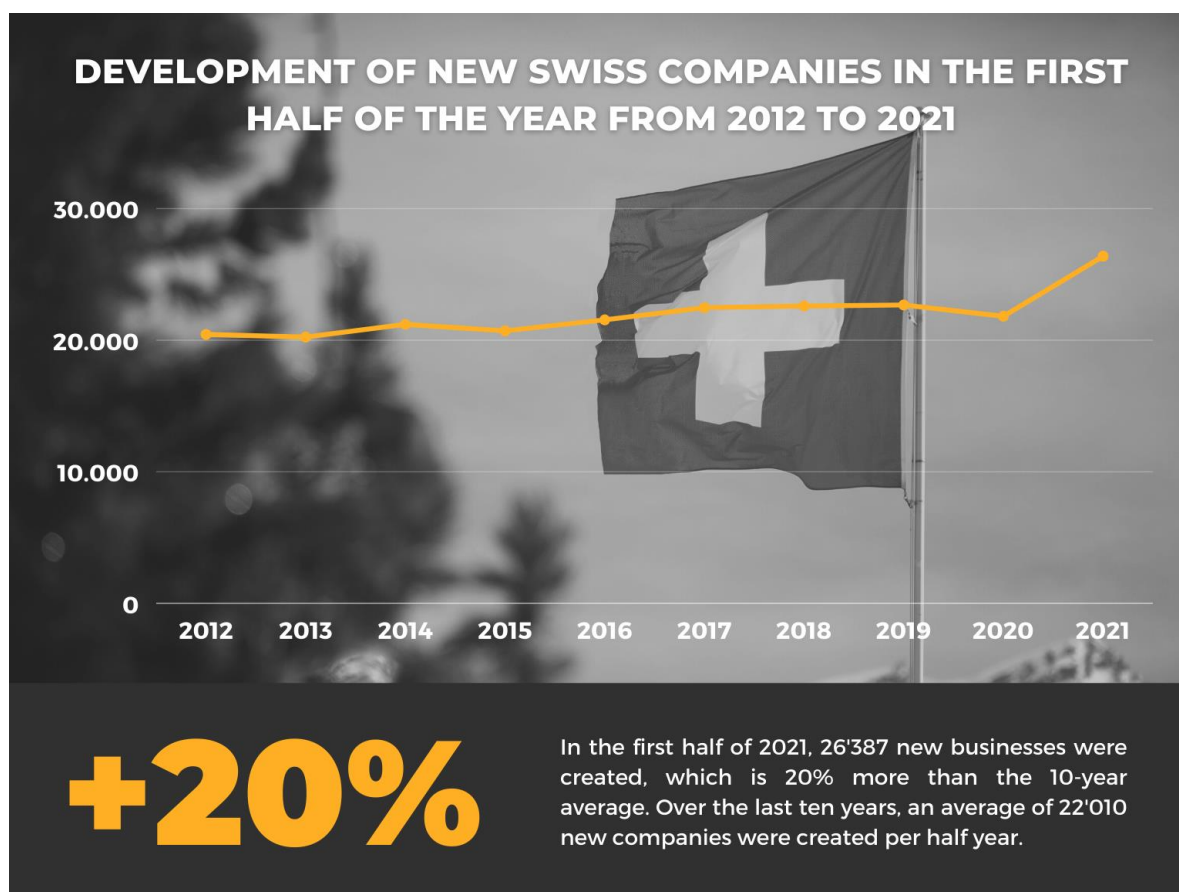
Analysis of Swiss company incorporations in the 1st half of 2021

	First half year 2021	Change in %	First half year 2020
BE	2'471	31.6%	1'878
FR	854	16.2%	735
JU	175	6.1%	165
NE	461	15.8%	398
SO	702	20.8%	581
Espace Mitelland	4'663	24.1%	3'757
AG	1'697	18.5%	1'432
BL	675	18.8%	568
BS	705	11.4%	633
Northwestern	3'077	16.9%	2'633
LU	1'124	12.7%	997
NW	161	29.8%	124
OW	108	-9.2%	119
SZ	752	19.7%	628
UR	69	32.7%	52
ZG	1'552	40.3%	1'106
Central	3'766	24.5%	3'026
ZH	4'638	16.5%	3'981
Zurich	4'638	16.5%	3'981
AI	54	-19.4%	67
AR	168	11.3%	151
GL	102	13.3%	90
GR	576	16.8%	493
SG	1'345	23.6%	1'088
SH	221	63.7%	135
TG	775	17.2%	661
Eastern	3'241	20.7%	2'685
GE	2'173	23.4%	1'761
VD	2'473	18.7%	2'084
VS	1'161	21.7%	954
Southwestern	5'807	21.0%	4'799
TI	1'195	27.0%	941
Tessin	1'195	27.0%	941
Total	26'387	20.9%	21'822

(Sources: Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce SHAB; Analysis and Graphic: IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG)

Comparison of the last 10 years

Since modest decreases in 2012 and 2015, the Office of the Commercial Register has seen a consistent increase in new entries until 2020. In the first half of 2020, new entries dropped temporarily due to the COVID-19 measures. On average, 22'010 new companies were registered per half-year over the last 10 years. The current six months of 2021 show a significant growth of 20% over the 10-year average, with 26'387 new registrations.



(Sources: Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce SHAB; Analysis and Graphic: IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG)

Comparison of legal forms

In the first half of the current year, 10'024 new limited liability companies (LLC) were founded in Switzerland, representing an increase of +18.5%. Followed by the sole proprietorship with 8'743 new registrations (+21%), the public limited company (Ltd) with 5'212 new registrations (+25%) and the general partnership with 800 (+21.8%) registrations.

Legal forms	First half year 2021	Change in %	First half year 2020
Limited liability company (LLC)	10'024	18.5%	8'461
Sole proprietorship	8'743	21.0%	7'227
Public limited company (Ltd.)	5'212	25.0%	4'169
General partnership	800	21.8%	657
Other	1'608	22.9%	1'308
Total	26'387	20.9%	21'822

(Sources: Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce SHAB; Analysis and Graphic: IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG)

New companies by sectors

In terms of new companies by sectors, all sectors except for three are showing positive signs compared to the previous year. The top three growth sectors include Other Services (including video production, photography, facility management, gardening) with +69%, Agriculture & Forestry (+59.7%) and Retail Trade with +42.8%. The sectors with declines are Transport & Logistics (-3.5%) and High Tech (-1.6%).



Sectors	First half year 2021	Change in %	First half year 2020
Other private & business services	1'622	69.0%	960
Agriculture & Forestry	337	59.7%	211
Retail Trade	2'555	42.8%	1'789
Culture & Non-profit	1'003	35.4%	741
Real Estate	2'584	30.2%	1'984
Printing & Publishing	101	24.7%	81
Finance & Insurance	1'740	22.9%	1'416
IT & ICT	1'412	21.9%	1'158
Mobility	706	17.7%	600
Gastronomy & Accommodation	1'671	16.4%	1'436
Public Health	1'261	16.3%	1'084
Education	497	15.0%	432
Consulting	2'557	14.8%	2'228
Architecture & Engineering	1'273	14.4%	1'113
Trade	3'866	9.5%	3'531
Wholesale	1'320	9.2%	1'209
Hairdresser & Cosmetics	674	8.2%	623
Marketing & Communication	538	0.7%	534
Hightech	123	-1.6%	125
Transport & Logistics	547	-3.5%	567
Total	26'387	20.9%	21'822

(Sources: Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce SHAB; Data Partner: Bisnode D&B Schweiz AG; Analysis: IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG)

We are happy to provide media representatives with specifically prepared analyses on regions, cantons or sectors. Please contact us.

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About the IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen

Since 1989, IFJ The Institute for Young Entrepreneurs has accompanied 150' 000 entrepreneurs on their way to independence.

As the main point of contact for young entrepreneurs in Switzerland, IFJ offers the most frequently used online services in Switzerland for incorporations and mutations in the commercial register. People interested in starting up a business, Startups and established companies attend IFJ's intensive courses and conferences with active networking. They also use the tools for businessplan, accounting and Smart Work, and receive legal support for trademark protection and contracts. The numerous checklists and blog articles contain a concentrate of specialist knowledge from more than 30 years of experience in the field of Startups.

In the startup space, IFJ offers workstations, meeting rooms as well as seminar and event rooms.

Well-known partners and the public sector count on collaborations with the IFJ.
This allows us to offer comprehensive startup support free of charge.

www.ifj.ch

www.startwerk.ch

www.businessplan.ch

www.startupspace.ch