

Swiss model of dentistry.

Principles, characteristics and current challenges.

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Topics.

- The structures of the SSO, our professional association
- Population and migration
- Swiss model of dentistry
- Dental training
- Immigration from Europe
- Use of practice capacity

The structures of the SSO.

The SSO...

- was founded in 1886 and it still unites around 70 percent of all the dentists working in Switzerland.
- has a federalist structure, made up of 20 cantonal sections (plus the Principality of Lichtenstein). The federal structures ensure that the differing legal and cultural circumstances of the cantons are taken into account.
- collaborates in questions of dentistry with 11 different scientific societies.
- The leadership of the SSO is carried out by members in a “militia” system.

Population and migration.

Permanent resident population

8,417,700 residents

2,100,000 foreigners

24.9% foreign element

+ 2.5% population growth

Migration in 2016

192,700 immigrations

117,200 emigrations

+ 75,500 migration balance



Swiss model of dentistry. Principles.

- Caries and tooth loss are – with a few definable exceptions – avoidable.
- Communal solidarity does not paying for avoidable illnesses.
- Independently practising dentists ensure the provision of dental care.
- School dental services.
- Freedom of choice in treatment: The dentist and the patient decide for themselves on the nature of treatment and payment.



Swiss model of dentistry

Dental specialists.

- **6,400 dentists** (private practices, university hospitals, dentistry centres)
- **2,500 dental hygienists**
- **1,200 dental care assistants**
- **Total: 10,100 dental specialists**

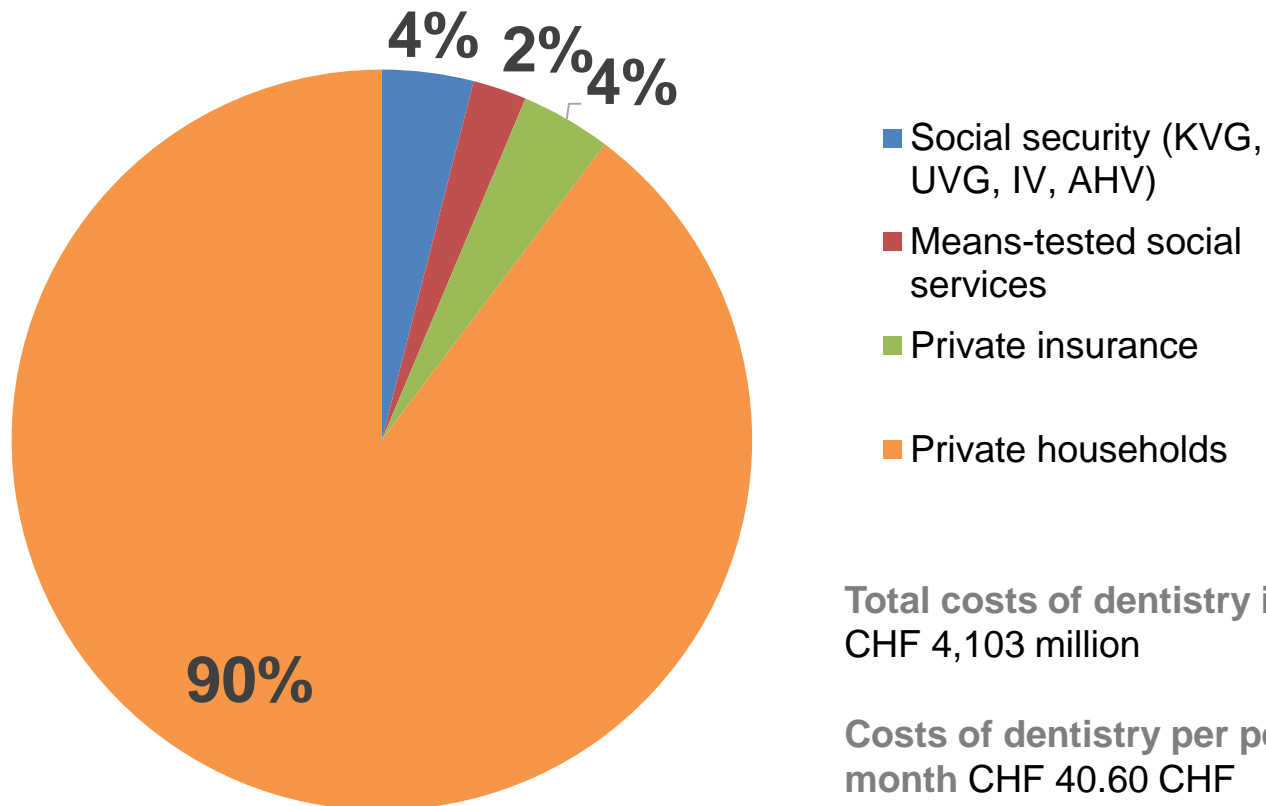
Density of care provision, CH v. EU (2015)

Switzerland: 74 dentists per 100,000 inhabitants

EU 2015: 69 dentists per 100,000 inhabitants

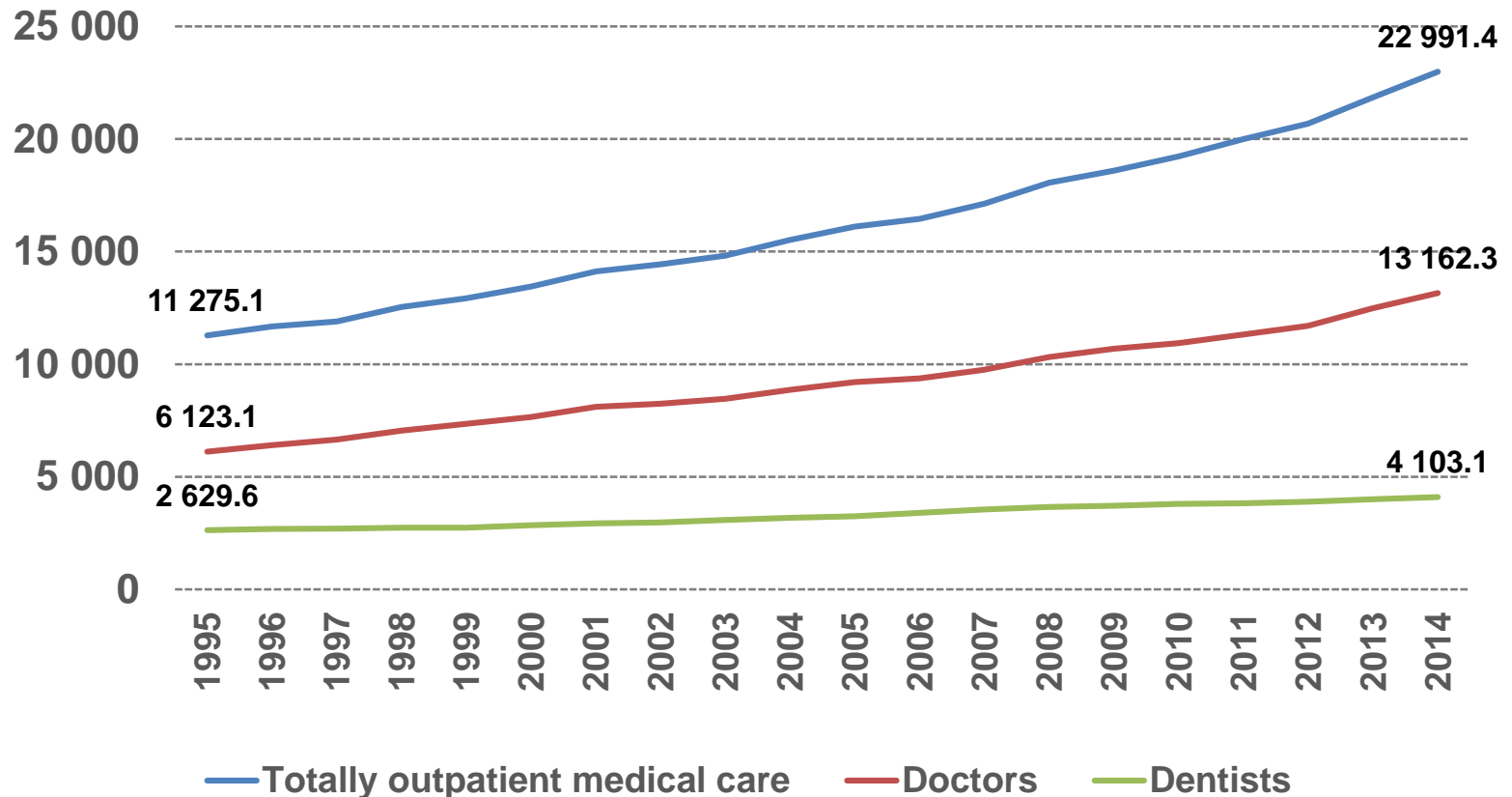


Swiss model of dentistry. Funding.



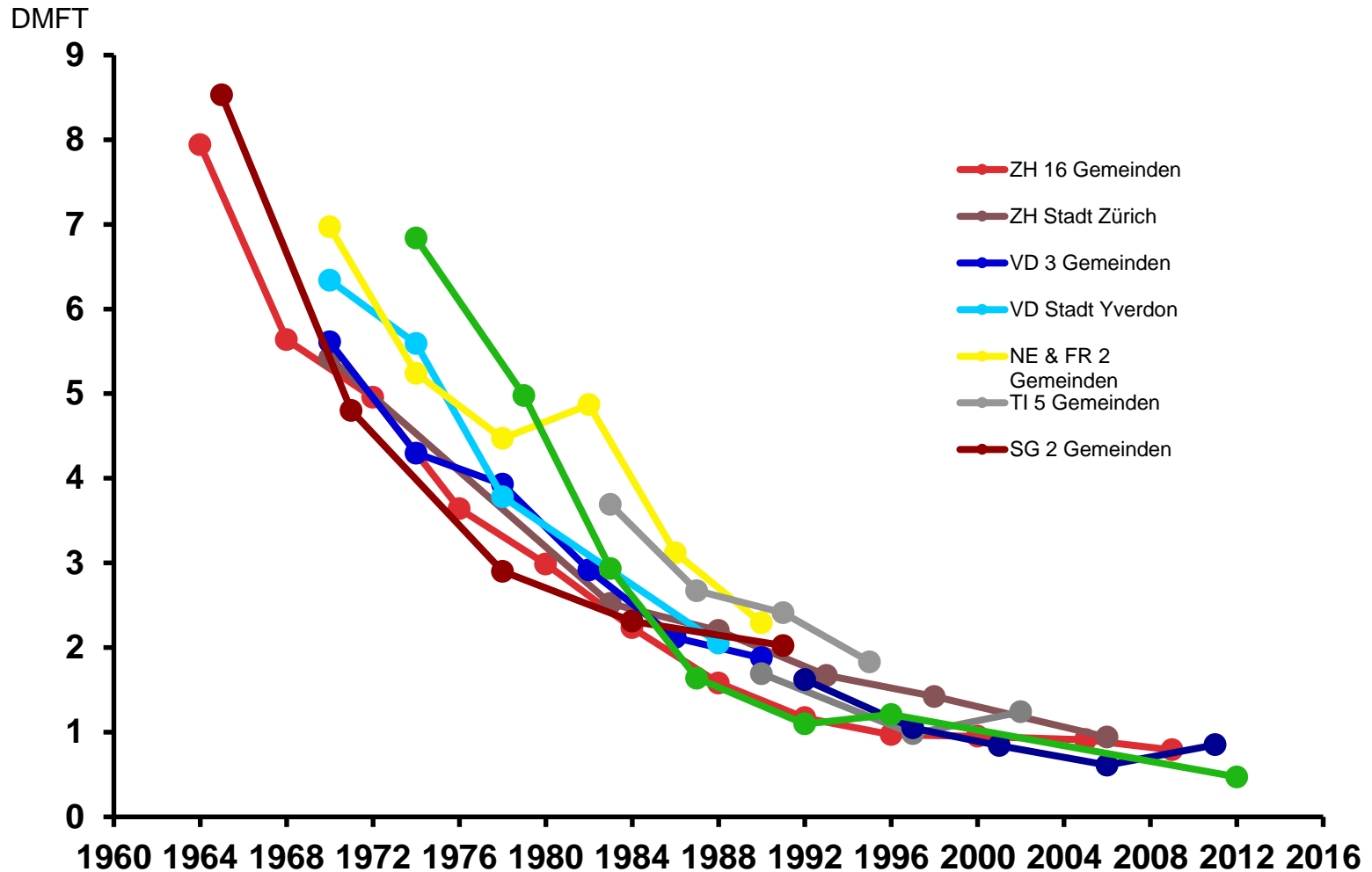
Swiss model of dentistry. Cost trends.

In CHF million



Source: SFSO (as of September 2016)

Reduction in caries among 12-year-olds.

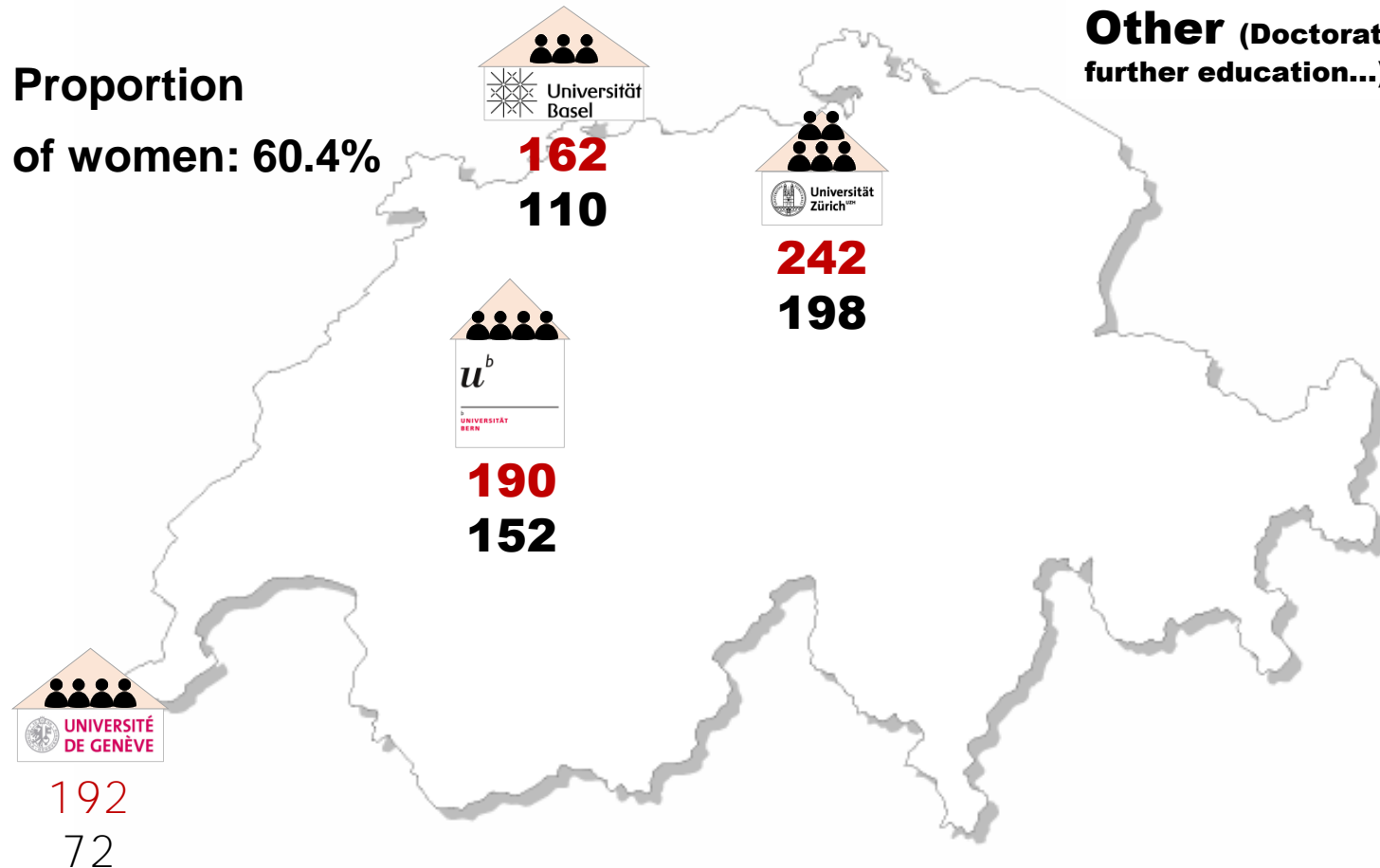


Source: Oral epidemiology ward, University of Zurich

Dental training in Switzerland.

Proportion
of women: 60.4%

Students
**Other (Doctorate,
further education...)**

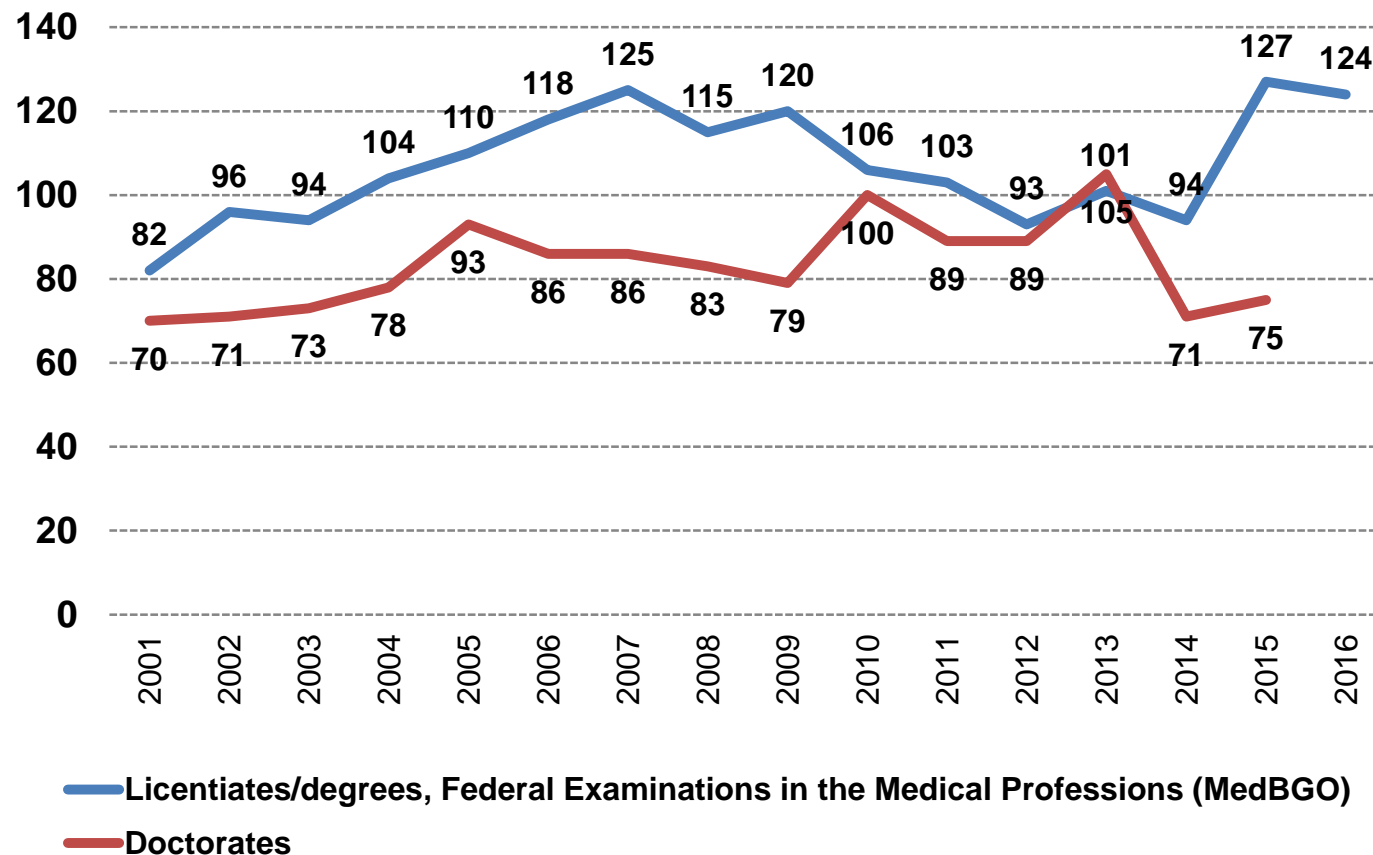


Dental training in Switzerland.

Structure.

- 1. Degree in dentistry:** 3-Year Bachelor's degree course and 2-year Master's. Unlike at universities in the EU, in the Master's degree course the students complete many hours of practical training on patients (Mazevet study, 2015).
- 2. Swiss Federal certification** as a prerequisite for independent professional activity (Swiss degree in dentistry).
- 3. Practical activity and doctorate:** The Swiss Federal final examination is usually followed by a period of at least two years as an assistant at a university clinic, public dental clinic or in a private practice. Study for a doctorate (Dr. med. dent.) is not obligatory.
- 4. Further education in dentistry:** 4 Swiss Federal dentistry qualifications can be obtained, as well as 5 private further education qualifications from the SSO.

Dental training in Switzerland. Yearly qualifications, 2001 to 2016.



Further education qualifications in Switzerland

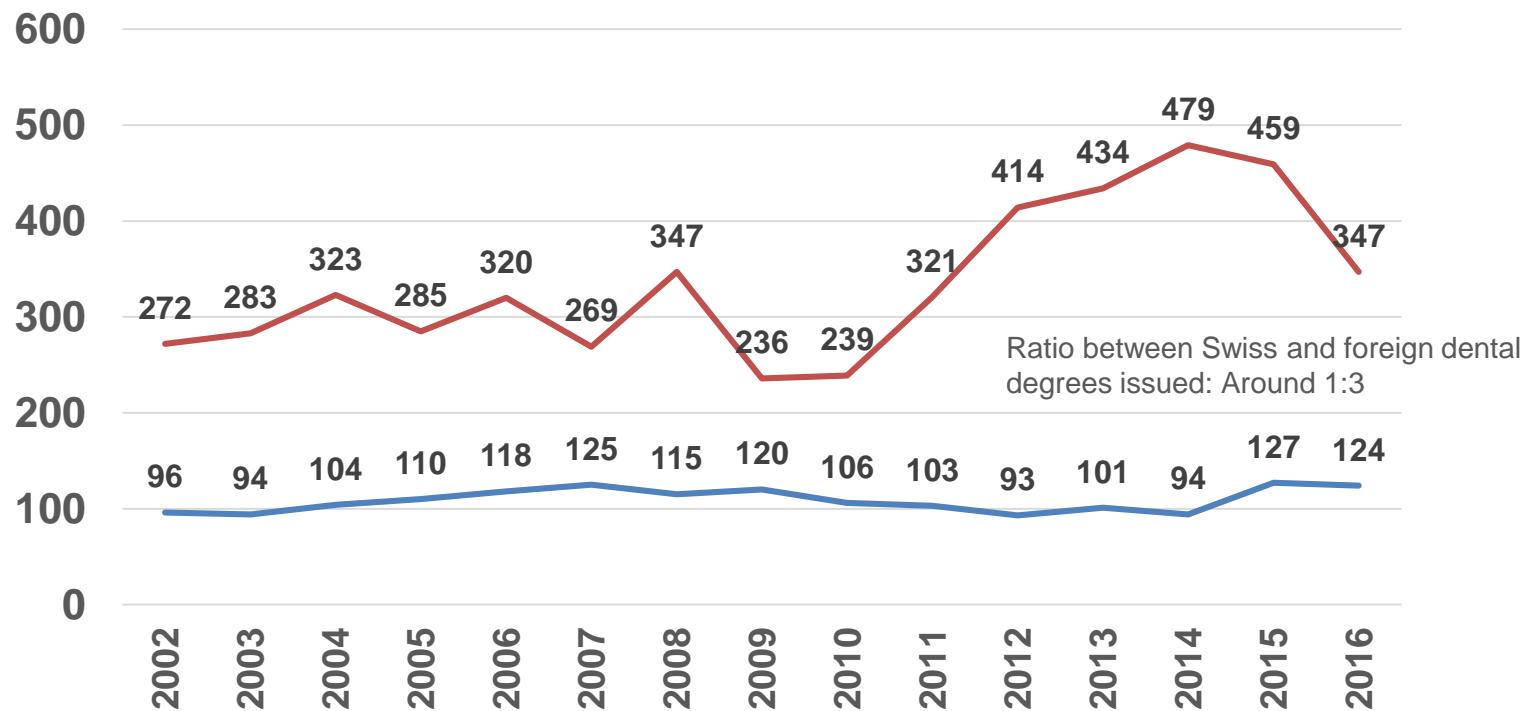
Dentistry qualifications

- Orthodontics (EU-recognised)
- Oral surgery (EU-recognised)
- Parodontology
- Reconstructive dentistry

Further education certificates (tied to SSO membership) must be recertified every 7 years)

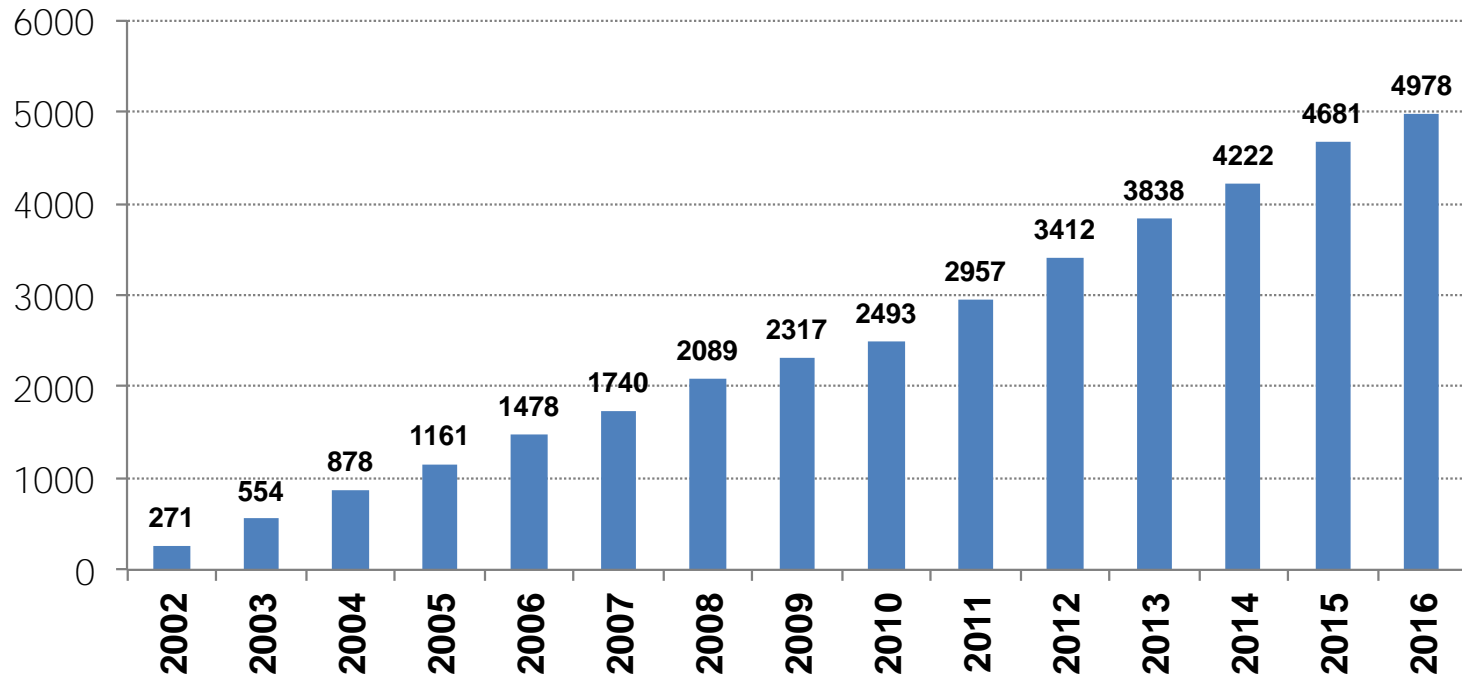
- General dentistry
- Paediatric dentistry
- Endodontology
- Preventive and restorative dentistry
- Implantology
- <http://www.bzw-ssso.ch>

Swiss degrees v. recognised EU-/EFTA dental degrees. Annual recognitions.



- Licentiates/degrees, Federal Examinations in the Medical Professions (MedBGO)
- Recognised EU and EFTA degrees

EU/EFTA degrees recognised by the BAG. 2002 to 31.10.2016.



Current challenges.

Immigration.

- **Since 2002 over 4,900 dentists** from EU/EFTA countries and other nations have had their foreign degrees officially recognised.
- In comparison: **From 1896 to the present day**, around **8,600 Swiss degrees** have been awarded in total in Switzerland.
- Around three quarters (72.4%) of all the degrees recognised in Switzerland come from the three neighbouring states of German, Italy and France.

Current challenges.

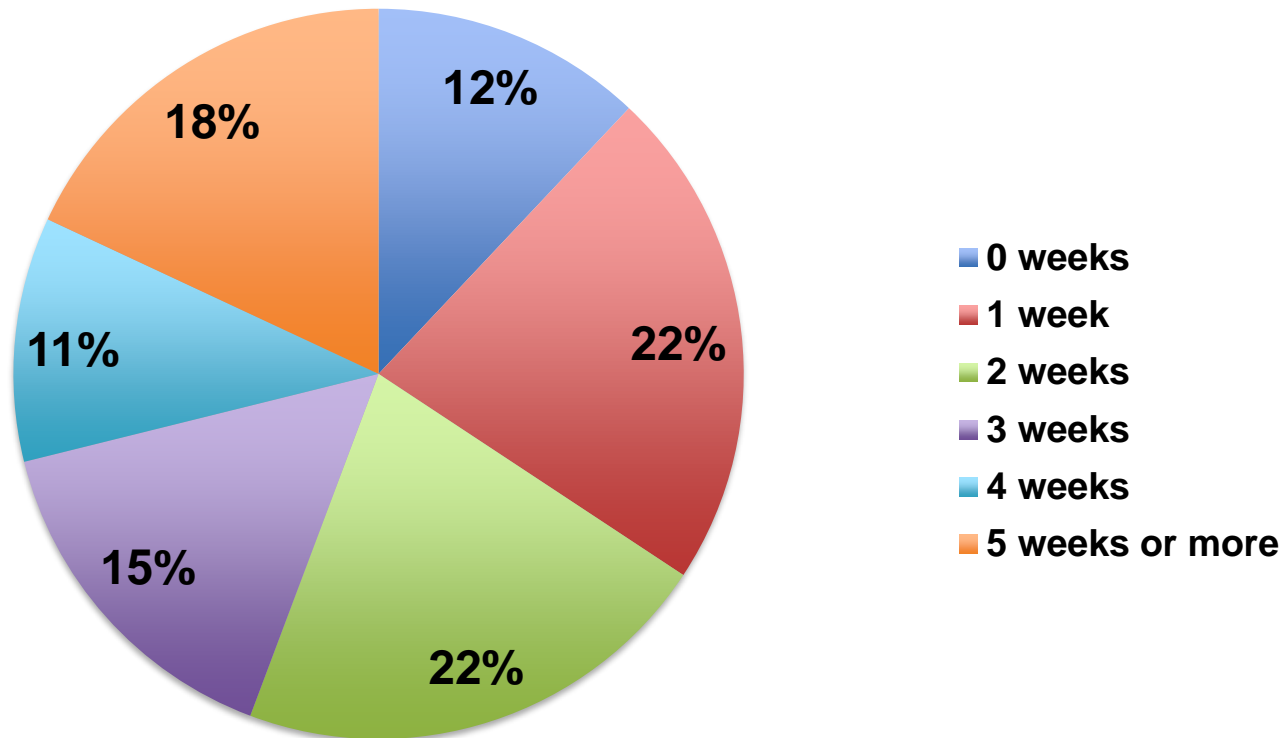
Consequences of immigration.

- The **number of newly opened dental practices** in Switzerland has **doubled since 2012** – the competition is increasing particularly fast in cities and conurbations. Many practitioners can no longer make full use of the capacity of their practices. There are clear signs of an excess of supply.
- **Consequences for the professional association:** Membership of the SSO is not obligatory. Most of the new arrivals do not join the association and its **level of organisation is falling.**

Survey in 2015 on the level of capacity utilisation in the dental practices of SSO members.

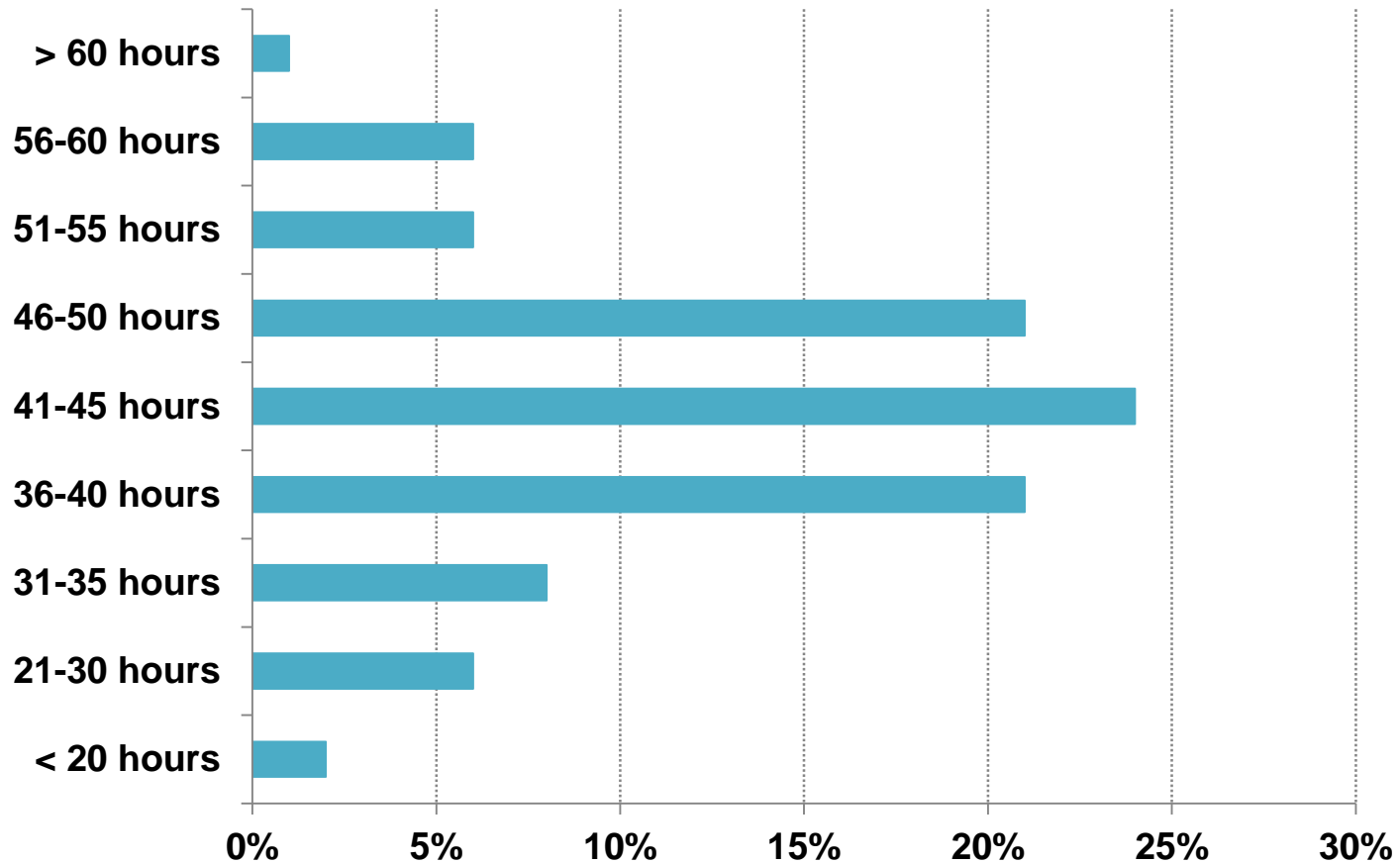
- Letters were sent to all **3,090 SSO members** with the status “Active member A, practice owner or spouse involved in the practice, as well as senior members”. A total of **1,385 people** took part in the survey.
- Method: The survey was conducted **online** by means of a structured questionnaire.
- The return rate was **45 percent**.

For how many weeks from today are you at least 90% busy?



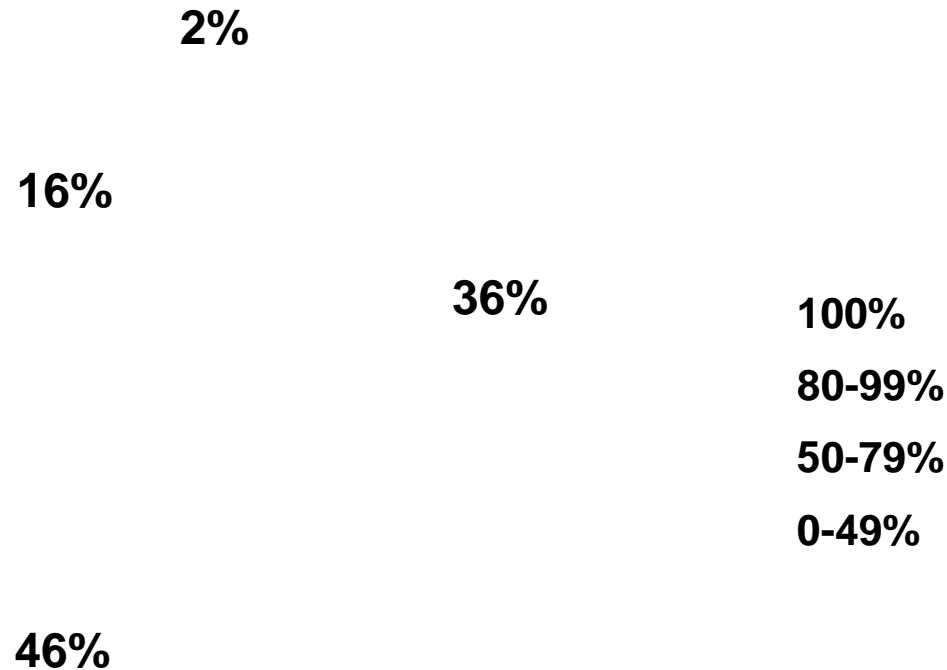
Percentage of those surveyed, based on 1,330 replies

Average workload per week.



Percentage of those surveyed, based on 1,356 replies

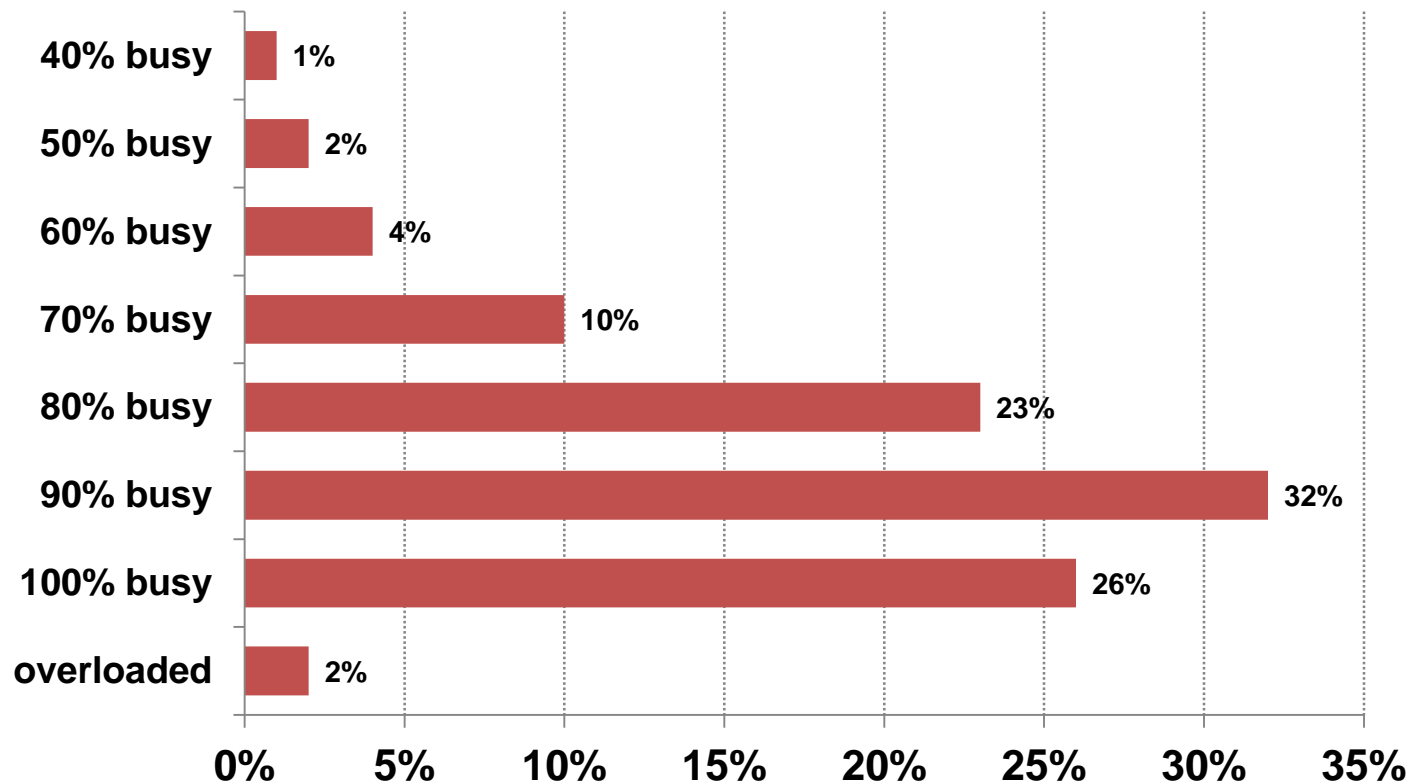
How busy were you with your workload in the last four weeks?



Percentage of those surveyed, based on 1,328 replies

Practice capacity utilisation.

Is your dental practice...



Percentage of those surveyed, based on 1,303 replies

Practice capacity utilisation. Dental practices which are 70% busy or less.

