

Swiss Customs working for the economy, security and health of the nation



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Finance FDF
Federal Customs Administration FCA

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Editorial



Dear reader,

2015 was a challenging year for the Federal Customs Administration, with migration, terrorism and cross-border crime placing great demands on the Border Guard. Commercially organised smuggling, which distorts competition and damages our economy, also remained at a high level. The Customs Investigation Section and the customs offices had over 14,000 new cases to process last year. The duties evaded ran into millions of francs – money that is missing elsewhere. Companies that pay duties are at a disadvantage as a result.

Customs controls are thus necessary, as it is a case of protecting not only Switzerland as a business location, but also the health and safety of the public. You can find out where Customs agents and border guards were working and what results they achieved for Switzerland in the “FCA facts and figures 2015”.

Christian Bock,
Director General of Swiss Customs

What **DO**

Swiss
CUSTOMS
agents

do **?**

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Federal Customs Administration FCA

The Federal Customs Administration's Civil Customs and the uniformed and armed Border Guard (BG) perform numerous tasks on behalf of the state, the economy and the population.

Within the scope of the Customs Act, they essentially have the same basic mission and the same powers, with Civil Customs focusing largely on commercial goods traffic and the BG on tourist traffic. It is not just a case of

collecting customs duties, consumption taxes and incentive fees; they also have to implement over 200 customs and non-customs laws and ordinances.

The BG additionally performs security police and migration duties. The Central Office for Precious Metal Control, which is attached to the FCA, checks the authenticity of precious metals, jewellery and watches.



Swiss Customs – for the business world, security and health




**Zoll
Douane
Dogana**

Zoll

Douane

Dogana

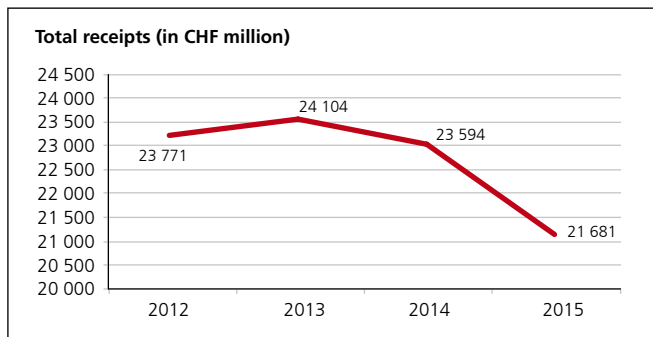
A female border guard is shown from the back, wearing a high-visibility yellow vest over a blue uniform. Her long brown hair is tied in a ponytail. The vest has text in three languages: German, French, and Italian. In the background, a dark blue police car with flashing lights is visible, along with green foliage.

Grenzwachtkorps
Garde-frontière
Guardia di confine

**WORKING
for
the
Confederation**

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Receipts



**With the receipts from Customs,
the Confederation finances
important tasks in the fields of
social services, health and education.**

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

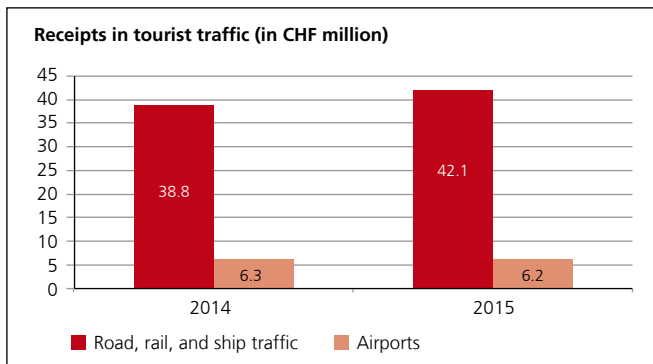
Main sources of receipts (in CHF million)			
	2013	2014	2015
Import duties	1 059	1 068	1 055
Value added tax	12 225	11 712	10 040
Mineral oil tax	5 005	4 970	4 715
Tobacco duty	2 295	2 257	2 198
Heavy vehicle charge	1 517	1 493	1 457
Other receipts*	2 003	2 094	2 216

* CO2 tax, automobile duty, motorway tax stickers, VOC and beer tax, etc.



Shopping tourism

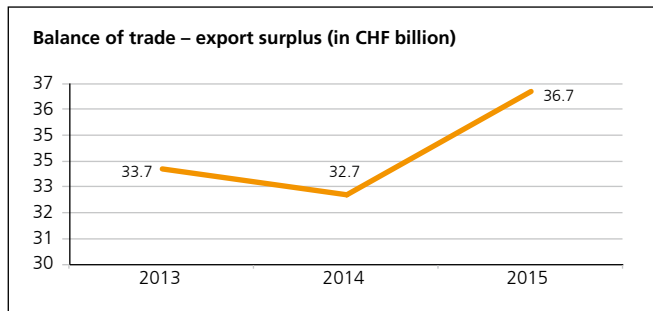
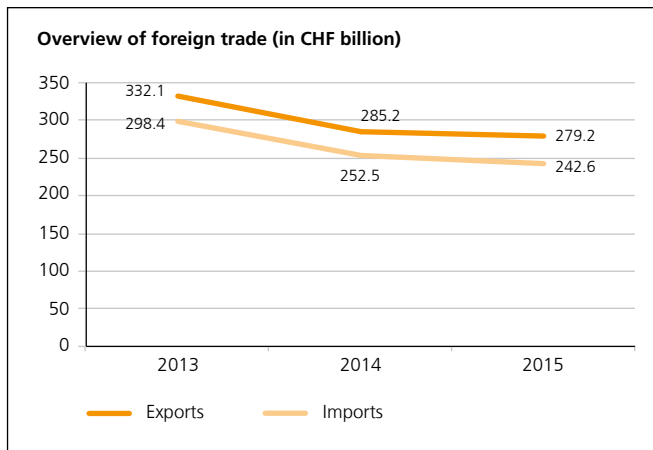
35,813
cases of smuggling
were detected
in tourist traffic.



Working
on behalf
of the
ECONOMY

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss foreign trade



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Imports and exports by continent (in CHF billion)		
	Imports	Exports
Europe	164.7	127.5
EU	156.5	121.0
Germany	50.0	39.7
Italy	18.7	14.9
France	16.1	16.8
Asia	38.2	105.9
China	12.4	19.4
Japan	3.4	6.6
North America	20.5	33.0
United States	19.5	29.5
Latin America	7.9	4.5
Africa	7.9	3.3
Oceania	0.6	2.6

The EU is by far the most important market for Swiss products.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Free trade

30
free trade agreements
were in force for Switzerland
end of 2015.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Commercial import, export and transit

Customs declarations (number of assessments in millions)			
	2013	2014	2015
Imports	18.0	19.2	21.0
Exports	6.3	6.5	6.6
Transit	6.9	7.5	7.8

35.4 million
customs declarations
were processed by Swiss Customs
in 2015.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Customs investigation

Customs investigators
found a car rental agent with

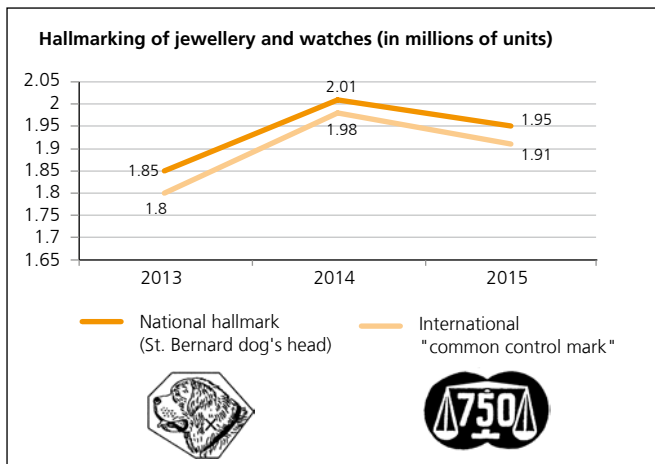
2 smuggled
luxury sports cars
worth almost
CHF 0.5 million.

The duties on these amounted to
CHF 54,000.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Precious metal control

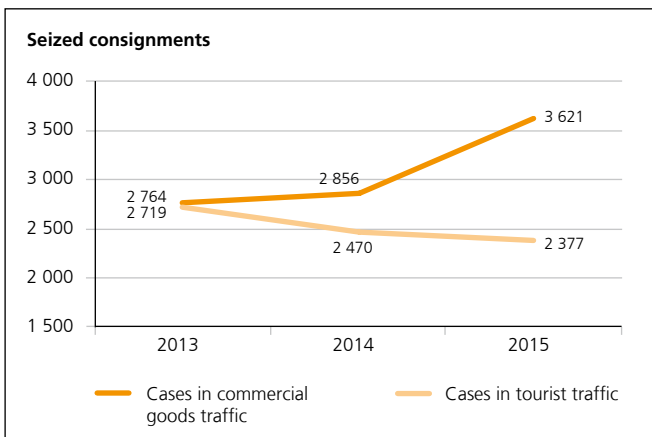


1,391
counterfeit watches
and 2,709 items
of jewellery were seized
in 2015.



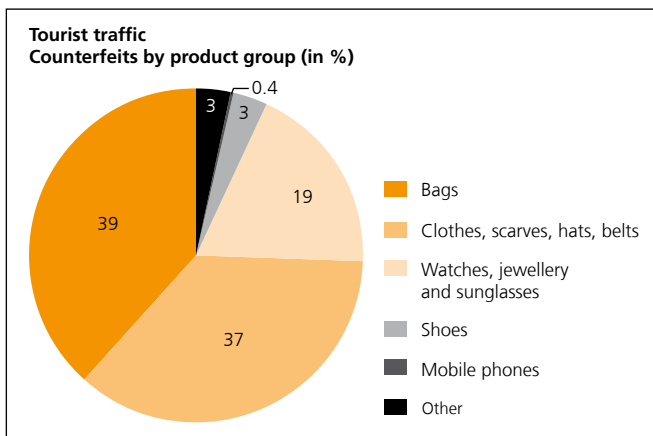
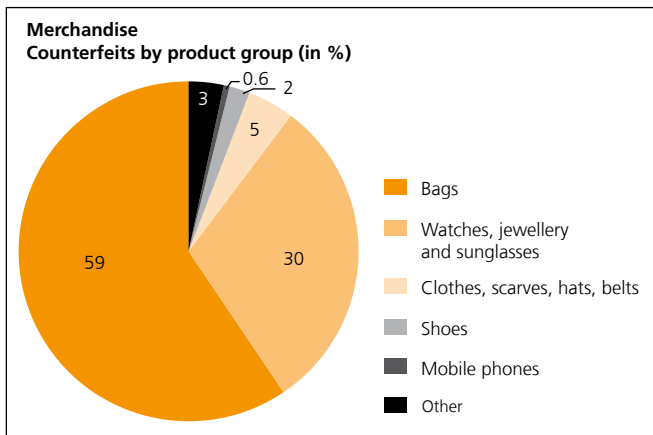
What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Product piracy



12,458
counterfeit products
were withdrawn
from circulation
in 2015.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?



WORKING
on behalf of
security



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Migration

	2013	2014	2015
Illegal residence	11 992	14 265	31 038
Illegal entry at external borders	361	323	265
Suspected smuggling	211	384	466
Illegal residents in the Schengen area seeking asylum	5 339	6 347	18 036





What do Swiss Customs agents do?

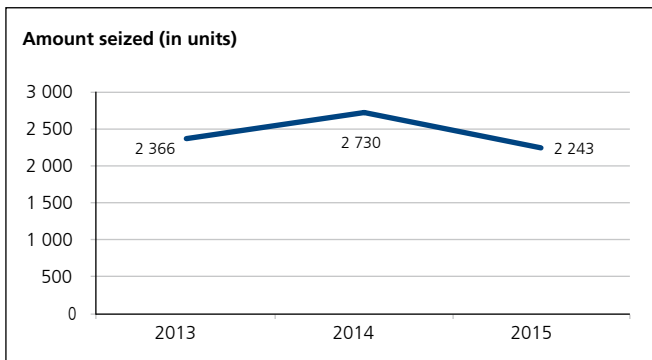
Tracing people and stolen property, and cross-border crime

	2013	2014	2015
Persons for whom an alert had been issued	16 741	18 482	19 942
Objects for which an alert had been issued	1 460	2 111	2 184
Goods suspected to originate from a criminal offence	644	542	478
Items suspected to have been used in a criminal offence	419	443	400

The BG found
19,942
people wanted
by the police, **6,386**
of whom were
wanted for arrest.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Weapons



Amount seized (in units)			
	2013	2014	2015
Passports	437	404	588
ID cards	442	404	561
Residence permits	219	183	312
Driving licences	602	545	600

**A total of
2,193
forged documents
were seized in 2015.**



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Narcotics

Drugs seized (in kg)	2013	2014	2015
Hashish and marijuana	416	709	744
Heroin	40	76	14
Cocaine	90	58	121
Kat	2 894	1 614	10 247
Designer drugs	177	27	25
GBL, "coma in a bottle" (in litres)	11	26	23

**121 kg
of cocaine**

was seized in 2015, which was

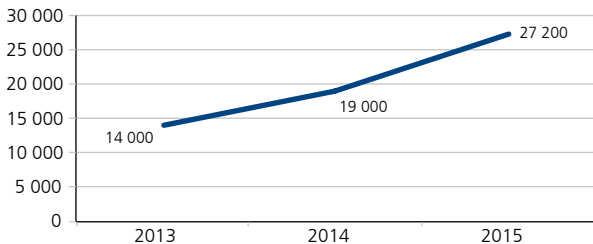
**twice as much
as the previous year.**



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Safety of heavy vehicles

Number of infringements*



* Safety deficiencies in heavy goods vehicles, drivers who were unfit to drive, violations of the regulations on rest periods, etc.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

A driver had a
blood alcohol concentration
of a record **0.229%**.



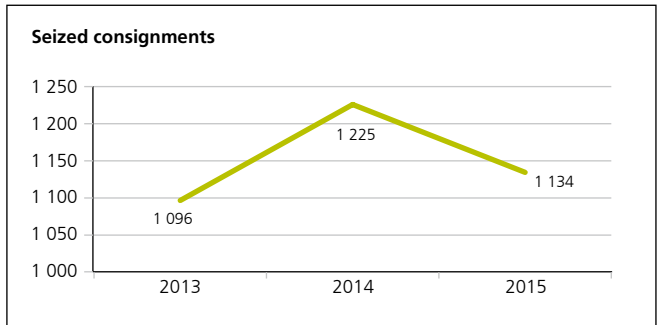
Working

on behalf of

health

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Illegal medications



The most frequently seized “drugs” were the following:

1. Erectile dysfunction treatments
2. Sleeping pills and tranquilizers
3. Slimming aids



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Banned doping substances

Customs reported

569

**consignments
to Antidoping Switzerland.**

The list of prohibited substances
and methods (doping list) has been
published at www.antidoping.ch.

Zoll Douane Customs



**Other
areas**

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs agents work on behalf of cultural property



Switzerland fights the theft
of and illegal trade in cultural
property.



In **214** cases,
the Federal Office of Culture
conducted an in-depth investigation
of Customs reports
on suspicious consignments.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

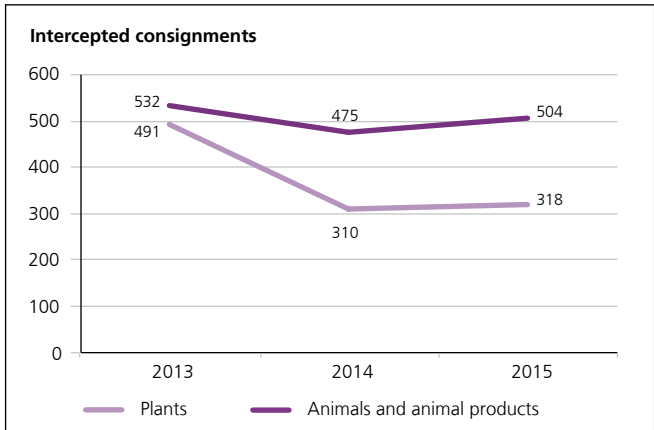
Swiss Customs agents work on international assignments

74 employees
were involved overseas
in security activities,
peace building,
technical cooperation
or training.

Overall, they worked
4,267
deployment days.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs agents work for species protection



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Customs discovered
69
live animals
which had been **smuggled**
into Switzerland.

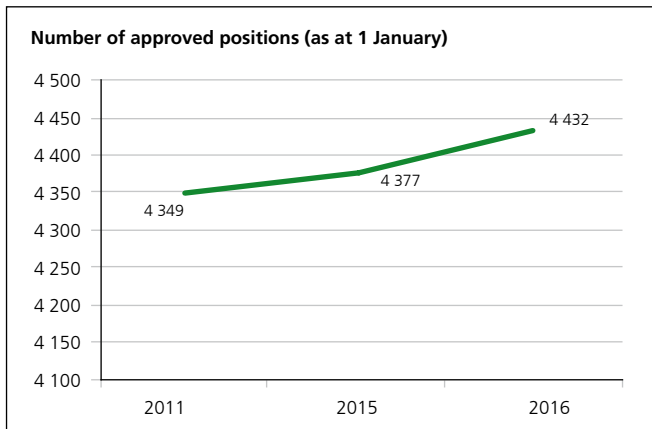


Swiss Customs

STAFF

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Employees



Structure (as at 1 January)

	2011	2015	2016
Customs technical personnel	1 365	1 389	1 385
Other civilian personnel	936	905	919
Border Guard personnel	1 994	2 027	2 073
Precious Metal Control personnel	54	56	55

At Swiss Customs, we train apprentices:

- New basic commercial training programme
- Chemical laboratory assistants
- Specialists in information and documentation
- Mediamaticians

Every year, over **150** aspirants
commence their career
as a border guard
or customs expert.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

You will find us here

How to find us and when exactly we are there can be found online at:

www.ezv.admin.ch → [Contact](#)



What do Swiss Customs agents do?





Welcome to the Customs Museum

Take a behind-the-scenes look at the work of Swiss Customs. The Swiss Customs Museum is situated opposite Gandria on Lake Lugano. The museum, referred to in the vernacular as the "Smugglers' Museum", attracts some 20,000 visitors each year.

The museum is open daily from 15 April to 23 October 2016, from 1.30 pm to 5.30 pm, and entry is free of charge.

"BEGUILING APPEARANCE - MURKY SHADOWS?" Visit our new special exhibition on counterfeiting and piracy.

www.zollmuseum.ch

**SCHWEIZER
ZOLLMUSEUM**

MUSEE SUISSE DES DOUANES
MUSEO DELLE DOGANE SVIZZERO
SWISS CUSTOMS MUSEUM

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Are you looking for further information?

You will find this on www.ezv.admin.ch.

“Should I or shouldn’t I?” You will find answers to this question and much more in our Customs app: “Travel and goods”.

We provide regular information and news about Swiss Customs in our specialist magazine Forum Z.: www.ezv.admin.ch → *Documentation*.



Europe's highest border post at 3,474 metres above sea level.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Information

Federal Customs Administration Customs Information Office

From May 2016

Tel.: +41 58 467 15 15

www.customsinfo.admin.ch

Monday to Friday

8 am to 11.30 am and 1.30 pm
to 5 pm

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What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Border Guard Command

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Swiss Border Guard Command

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Swiss Border Guard Command

Region VI

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Swiss Border Guard Command

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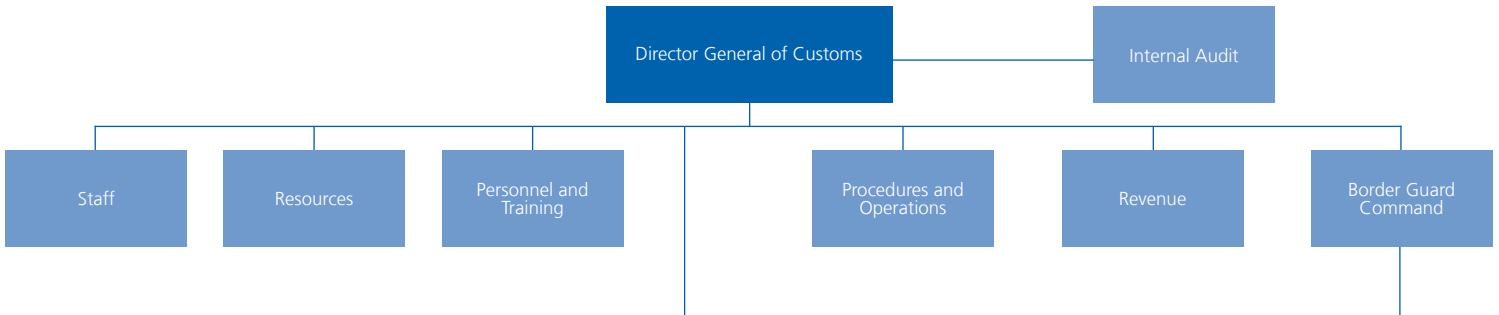
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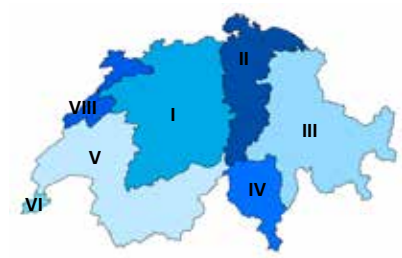
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Organisation of Swiss Customs



- District Directorate of Customs I
Basel
- District Directorate of Customs II
Schaffhausen
- District Directorate of Customs III
Geneva
- District Directorate of Customs IV
Lugano



- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| SBG Region I | Basel |
| SBG Region II | Schaffhausen |
| SBG Region III | Chur |
| SBG Region IV | Lugano |
| SBG Region V | Lausanne |
| SBG Region VI | Geneva |
| SBG Region VIII | Porrentruy |
| * | |

* SBG Region VII Aargau/Zurich was divided between SBG Region I (Basel) and Region II (Schaffhausen) on 1 April 2011 as part of a reorganisation.



A day at the Swiss border

Approximately 750,000 people, 350,000 cars and 20,000 heavy goods vehicles cross the Swiss border every day.

On a daily basis, Swiss Customs employees

- took CHF **59.4 million** in receipts,
- discovered **3 cases** involving stolen goods or material used for burglaries,
- stopped **55 people** who were wanted or had an arrest warrant issued against them,
- seized **6 forged** identity documents or those belonging to someone else,
- confiscated **6 prohibited** weapons,
- seized **30.6 kg** of drugs,
- discovered **85 cases** of illegal residence,
- withdrew **4 consignments** of prohibited medications and doping preparations from circulation, and
- prevented **74 heavy** goods vehicles from continuing their journey due to hazardous deficiencies.