

Swiss Customs: security for the population, the economy and the state



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,

The Federal Customs Administration is about to embark on the digital age. We aim to achieve nothing less than a reinvention of our work in customs and border protection. This requires a comprehensive transformation of the Federal Customs Administration, not just of the working processes and the IT landscape, but also of the structures. With the DaziT* programme, we want to implement these very ambitious but absolutely essential changes in the next ten years or so.

In the future, Customs has to be uncomplicated, digital and cost-efficient, and the controls must be even more effective. Customers should be able to carry out customs formalities via an online portal round the clock and from any location. In the future, business customers should be able to access their dossiers at all times and be able to use the data. Travellers should be able to declare their goods purchased abroad via mobile end appliances with Customs – even before they enter Switzerland.

However, one thing will stay the same: the guarantee of comprehensive security and safety for the public, the economy and the state. You will find out what results we achieved last year in the “FCA facts and figures 2016”.

Christian Bock, Director General of Swiss Customs

* “DaziT” stands for “Dazi” the Romansh word for customs and for “transformation” whereas “IT”, information technology, is what makes change possible.

What DO Swiss CUSTOMS agents do ?

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Federal Customs Administration

The Federal Customs Administration (FCA) performs numerous tasks on behalf of the state, the economy and the population.

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 Border Guard (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.

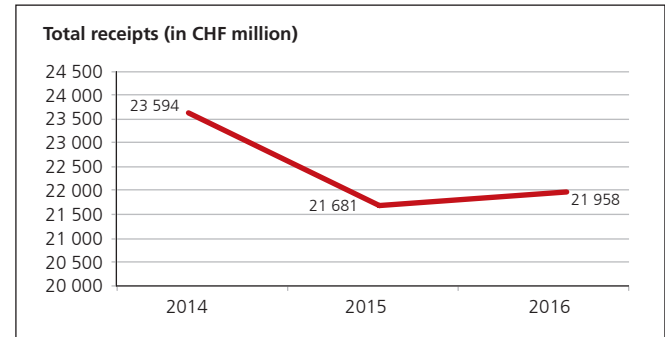
**Federal Customs Administration:
security for the population, the
economy and the state.**



WORKING for the Confederation

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Receipts



Swiss Customs generates over one third of the Confederation's receipts and thus ensures that the state functions properly.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

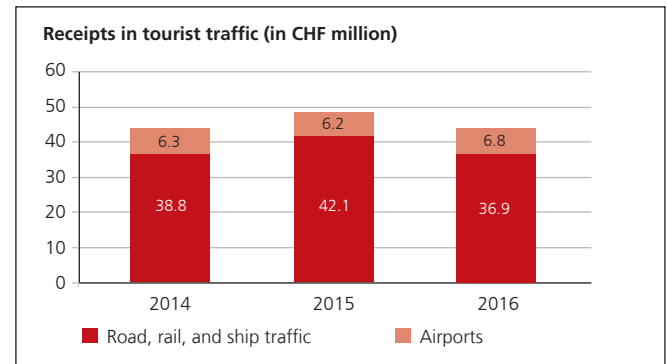
Main sources of receipts (in CHF million)	2014	2015	2016
Import duties	1,068	1,055	1,134
Value added tax	11,712	10,040	10,134
Mineral oil tax	4,970	4,715	4,688
Tobacco duty	2,257	2,198	2,131
Heavy vehicle charge	1,493	1,457	1,454
Other receipts*	2,094	2,216	2,417

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

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Shopping tourism

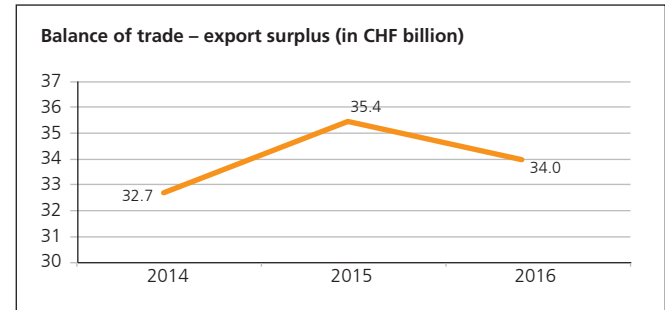
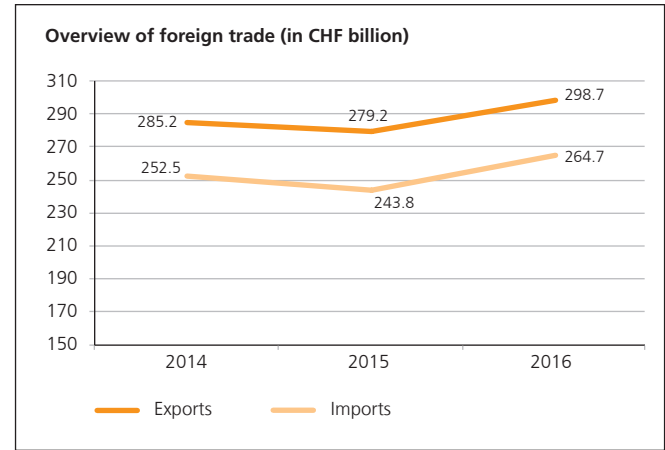
33,523
cases of smuggling
were detected
in tourist traffic.



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	153.6	150.2
EU	148.0	144.4
Germany	51.0	42.9
Italy	19.4	14.6
France	16.3	17.3
Asia	64.1	96.2
China	12.3	26.8
Japan	3.5	7.5
North America	24.7	39.8
United States	23.6	36.4
Latin America	10.6	6.0
Africa	9.0	3.4
Oceania	1.0	2.6

The EU member states are by far the most important customers for Swiss products.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Free trade

30
free trade agreements
were in force for Switzerland at the
end of 2016.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Commercial import, export and transit

Customs declarations (number of assessments in millions)			
	2014	2015	2016
Imports	19.2	21.0	22.2
Exports	6.5	6.6	6.7
Transit	7.5	7.8	7.3

36.2 million
customs declarations
were processed by Customs
in 2016.

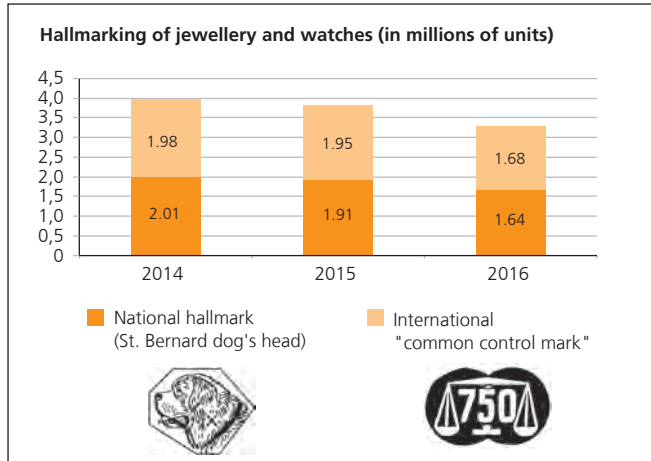
What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Customs investigation

In 2016, Swiss Customs provided
mutual assistance **11**
in criminal matters in response to
international requests.

Here, the sum of
money involved in crimes
amounted to approximately
CHF 78 million.

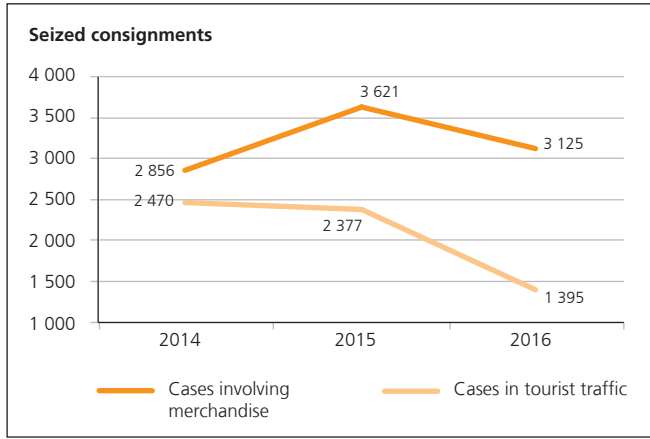
Precious metal control



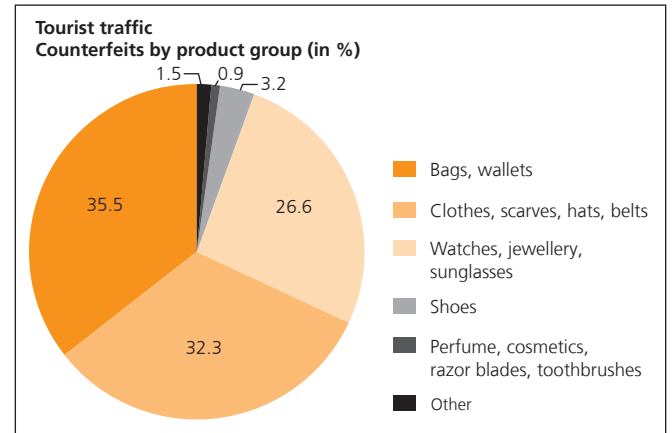
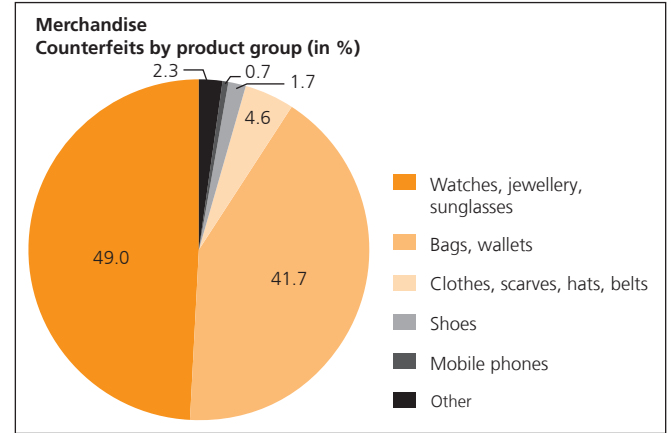
3,947
counterfeit watches
and **4,727** items
of jewellery were seized
in 2016.



Product piracy



13,604
 counterfeit products
 were withdrawn
 from circulation
 in 2016.



WORKING
on behalf of
security



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Migration

	2014	2015	2016
Illegal residence	14,265	31,038	48,838
Illegal entry at external borders	323	265	305
Suspected smuggling	384	466	303
Illegal residents in the Schengen area seeking asylum in Switzerland and processed by the FCA	6,347	18,036	16,980



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

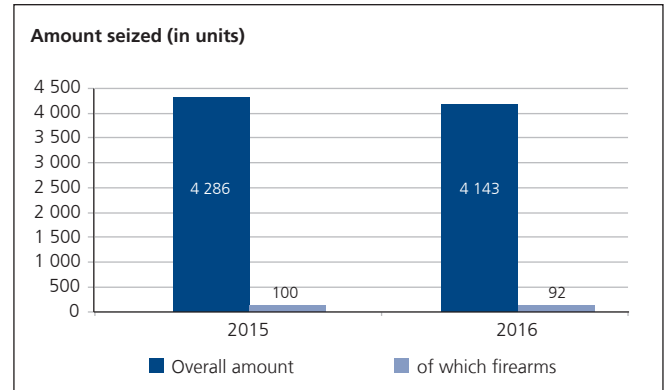
Tracing people and stolen property, and cross-border crime

	2014	2015	2016
Persons for whom an alert had been issued	18,482	19,942	22,104
Objects for which an alert had been issued	2,111	2,184	2,466
Goods suspected to originate from a criminal offence	542	478	496
Items suspected to have been used in a criminal offence	443	400	352

22,104
persons for whom an alert
had been issued,
7,381 of whom had an
arrest warrant issued
against them.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Weapons



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Forged documents

Amount seized (in units)	2014	2015	2016
Passports	404	588	762
ID cards	404	561	723
Residence permits	183	312	263
Driving licences	545	600	695
Other	83	132	779

A total of
3,222
forged documents
were seized in 2016.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Narcotics

Drugs seized (in kg)	2014	2015	2016
Hashish and marijuana	709	744	455
Heroin	76	14	62
Cocaine	58	121	103
Kat	1,614	10,247	674
Designer drugs	27	25	33
GBL, "coma in a bottle" (in litres)	26	23	45

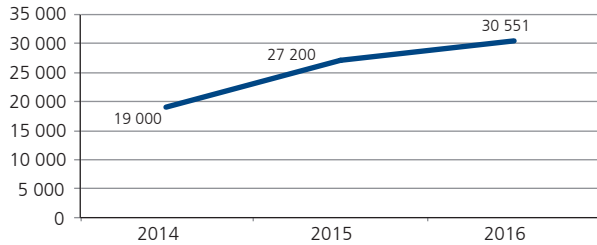
In 2016,
CHF 3.1 million of alleged
drugs money
were seized.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Safety of heavy vehicles

Number of infringements*



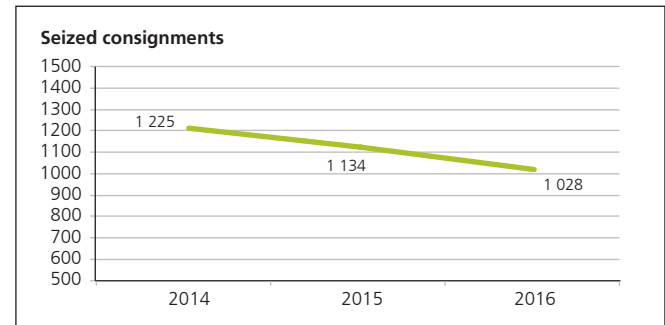
* Safety deficiencies in heavy goods vehicles, drivers who were unfit to drive, violations of the regulations on rest periods, etc.



Working on behalf of health

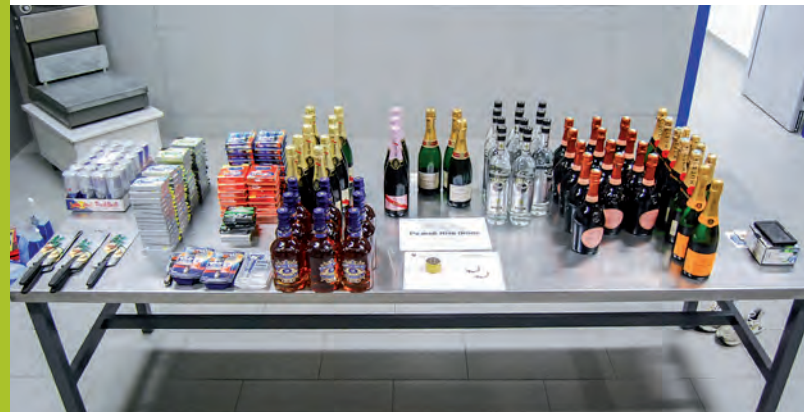
What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Illegal medications



The most frequently seized “drugs” were the following:

1. Erectile dysfunction treatments
2. Sleeping pills and tranquilizers
3. Slimming aids
4. Hair growth products



Swiss Customs reported

419

consignments

to Antidoping Switzerland.



25 kg

**of costume jewellery
were seized in one consignment.**

It contained around **1,500**
items of jewellery with
very high levels
of cadmium and nickel.

Items containing cadmium pose a health risk when worn next to the skin; nickel can cause allergic reactions.

Other areas

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs agents work on international assignments

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

Overall, they worked

5,331
deployment days.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs agents work on behalf of cultural property

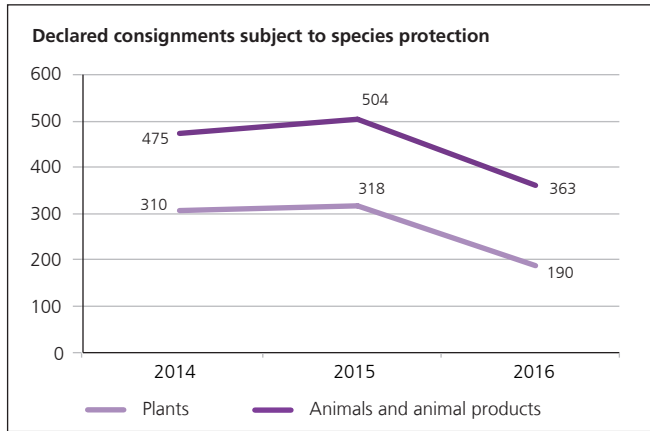
In **79** cases,
the Federal Office of Culture
conducted an in-depth investigation
of Customs reports
on suspicious consignments.



The fragment of a fresco from the “Casa di Obellio Firmo” in Pompei was handed over to the Italian authorities.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs agents work for species protection and animal protection



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

In 2016, Swiss Customs was able to prove that a person had smuggled **51** puppies.

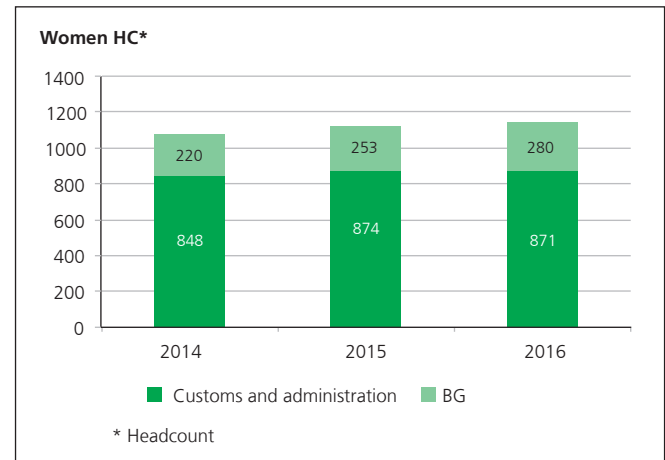
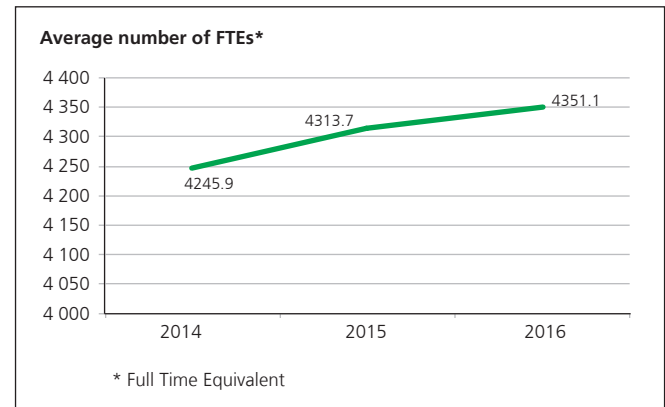
The dogs had not been vaccinated or chipped.



Swiss Customs STAFF

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Employees



At Swiss Customs, we train apprentices:

- 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.



You will
**FIND us
HERE**

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.customsinfo.admin.ch



SCHWEIZER
ZOLLMUSEUM
MUSEE SUISSE DES DOUANES
MUSEO DELLE DOGANE SVIZZERO
SWISS CUSTOMS MUSEUM

15.04.2016 – 20.10.2018

SCHÖNER SCHEIN – DUNKLER SCHATTEN?

EINE SONDERAUSSTELLUNG ZUM
THEMA FÄLSCHUNG UND PIRATERIE



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Eidgenössisches Finanzdepartement EFD
Eidgenössische Zollverwaltung EZV

STOP PIRACY
Schweizer Hartware gegen
Fälschung und Piraterie

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](#).



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 8 April to 22 October 2017, from 1.30pm to 5.30pm; additional information can be found at www.zollmuseum.ch

SCHWEIZER
ZOLLMUSEUM

MUSEE SUISSE DES DOUANES
MUSEO DELLE DOGANE SVIZZERO
SWISS CUSTOMS MUSEUM



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to 5 pm

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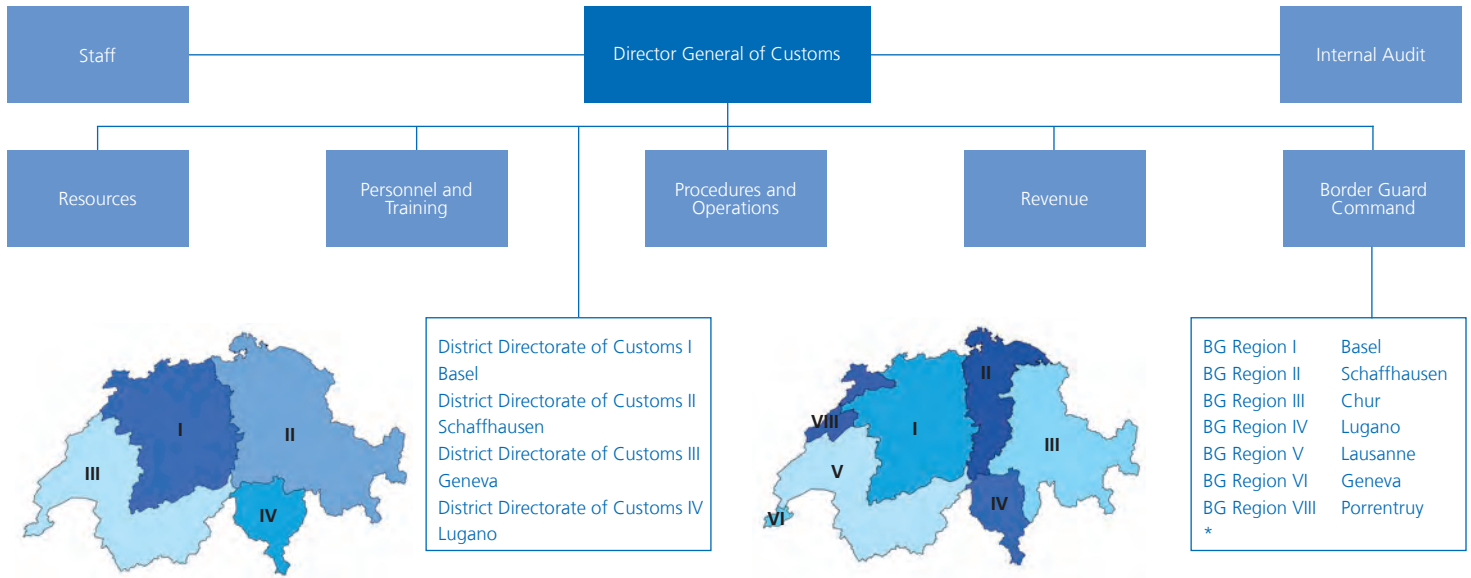
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Organisation of Swiss Customs



* BG Region VII Aargau/Zurich was divided between BG Region I and Region II on 1 April 2011 as part of a reorganisation.



A day at the Swiss border

Approximately 2,100,000 people, 1,100,000 cars and 24,000 heavy goods vehicles cross the Swiss border every day.

On a daily basis, Swiss Customs employees

- took CHF **60 million** in receipts,
- withdrew **37 counterfeit** products from circulation,
- stopped **60 people** who were wanted or had an arrest warrant issued against them,
- seized **8 identity documents**,
- confiscated **11 prohibited** weapons,
- seized **3.7 kg** of drugs,
- discovered **133 cases** of illegal residence,
- withdrew **4 consignments** of prohibited medications or doping preparations from circulation, and
- prevented **83 heavy goods vehicles** from continuing their journey due to hazardous deficiencies.