

Communications

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Historical Time Series – Banks in Switzerland

In its Historical Time Series collection, the Swiss National Bank (SNB) is issuing a new publication called *Banks in Switzerland*. For the publication, data on the Swiss banking industry have been processed statistically and a commentary has been provided. The SNB has been collecting these data since 1907, the year of its foundation. Then, as now, it needed them in order to fulfil its statutory mandate.

The tabular section of the publication focuses mainly on data from banks' balance sheets and profit and loss statements. In addition, it presents information on off-balance-sheet business, staff numbers and bank offices. Wherever possible, unbroken time series dating back to 1906 are published.

The commentary section outlines the main legal requirements affecting the SNB's banking statistics. It also contains information on the statistical surveys upon which the data are based, on specific definitions and on the bank categories.

Obtaining the publication

The publications of the Swiss National Bank are available on the internet at www.snb.ch, *Publications*. Printed copies can be obtained from the SNB library (e-mail: library@snb.ch, phone +41 44 631 32 84).

The Historical Time Series collection published by the Swiss National Bank (SNB) consists of a series of booklets containing long statistical series. The topics presented cover the fields that were, or still are, significant for the formulation and implementation of monetary policy. By producing this series of booklets, the SNB hopes to support historical and empirical analyses of the Swiss economy.

Publications that have appeared so far:

- The monetary base and the M1, M2 and M3 monetary aggregates
- Capital and stock markets
- Swiss National Bank – Balance sheets and income statements
- Interest rates and yields