



The Electric Power system

Switzerland



cigre

For power system expertise

Power system of Switzerland



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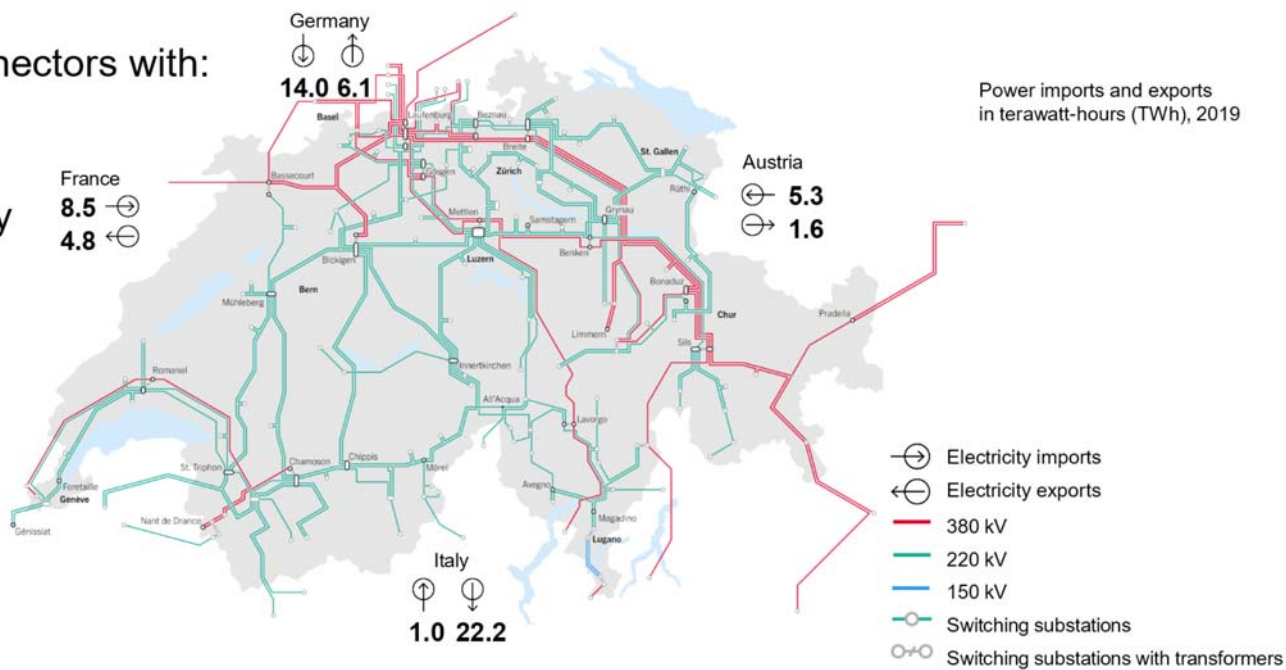
Basic facts

- Area: 41,285 km²
- Population: 8,603,900 (2019)
- 1 TSO
- approx. 630 DSOs (2018)
- Peak load: max. 10.6 GW (max. of 2017 – 2019)
- Average interruption of electricity (2019): 19 min (source: ElCom; includes planned and unplanned interruptions)



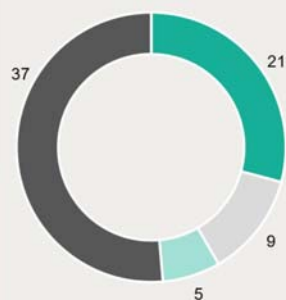
• 41 Interconnectors with:

- Austria
- France
- Germany
- Italy



Overview of the Swiss electricity market

Production 2019
72 TWh



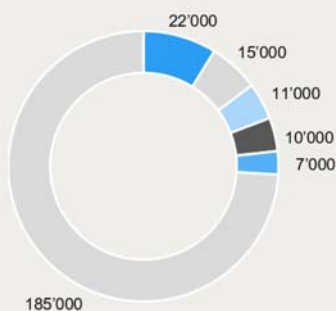
■ Axpö
■ Alpiq
■ BKW
■ Others

Transmission
6,700 km¹



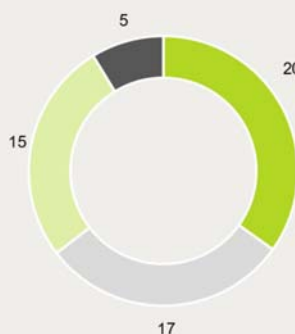
■ Swissgrid

Distribution
250,000 km



■ BKW FMB
■ EKZ
■ Groupe E
■ Romande Energie
■ CKW
■ Others²

Consumption 2019
57 TWh



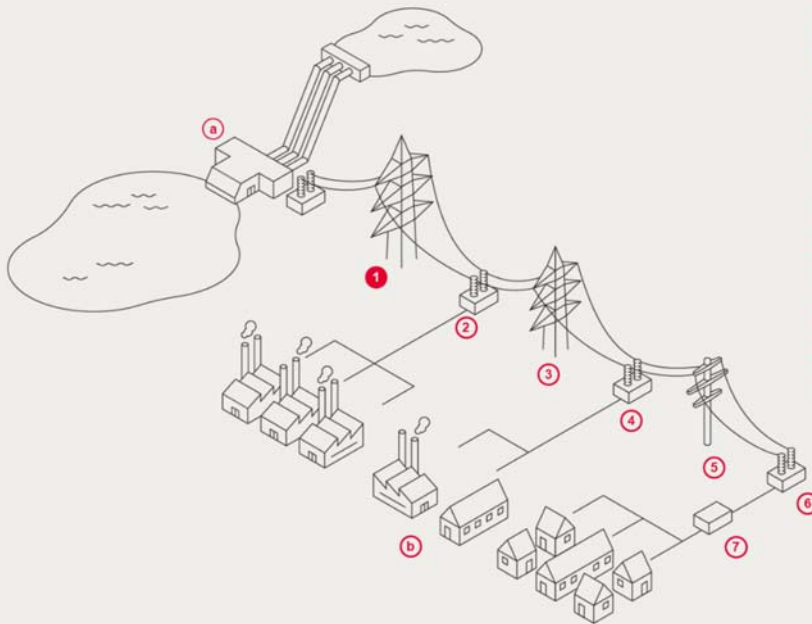
■ Private households, agriculture
■ Industry and manufacturing
■ Service sector
■ Transport sector

¹ 380 kV: 1,780 km and 220 kV: 4,920 km

² A total of ~650 distribution grid operators in Switzerland

All numbers are rounded,
Sources: Websites and annual reports of CKW, EKZ,
BKW, Alpiq, Axpö, Groupe E, Romande Energie,
SFOE, Swiss electricity statistics 2019

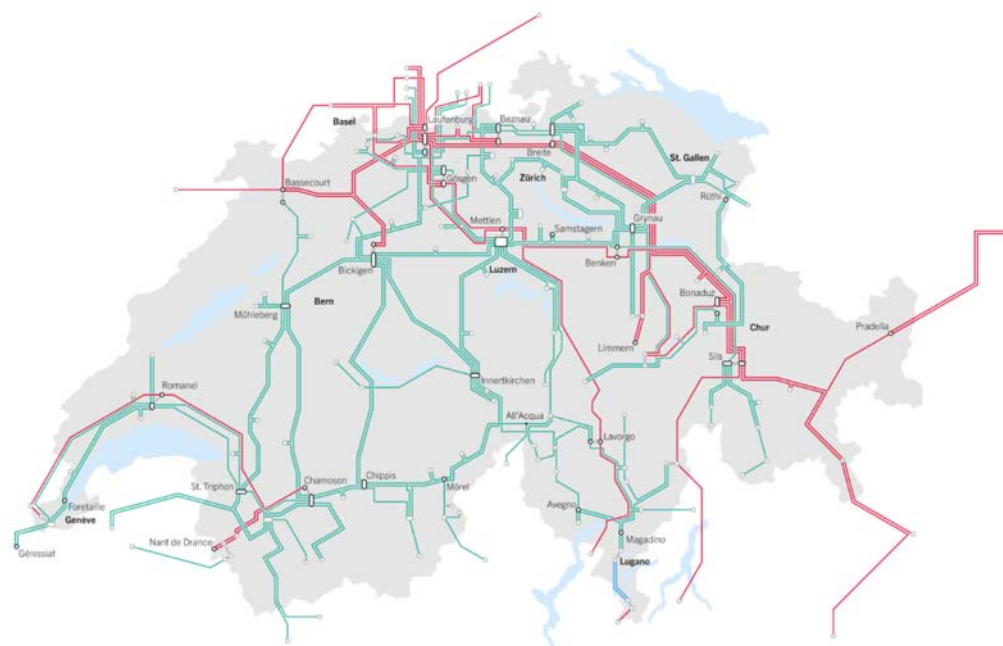
Structure of electrical power system



- (a) Generator
- ① Grid level 1: Extra-high voltage in the 220/380 kV transmission grid
- ② Grid level 2: Transformer
- ③ Grid level 3: High voltage in the 50 to 150 kV national distribution system
- ④ Grid level 4: Transformer
- ⑤ Grid level 5: Medium voltage in the 10 to 35 kV regional distribution system
- ⑥ Grid level 6: Transformer
- ⑦ Grid level 7: Low voltage in the 400/230 V regional grid
- (b) Consumers

Source: Swissgrid

Power system of Switzerland



- Switzerland's transmission grid extends across 6,700 kilometres of lines, 12,000 pylons and 125 substations with 146 switching substations, as well as 41 connections abroad
- It is comprised of both 380 kV and 220 kV lines

- 380 kV
- 220 kV
- 150 kV
- Switching substations
- ⊗ Switching substations with transformers

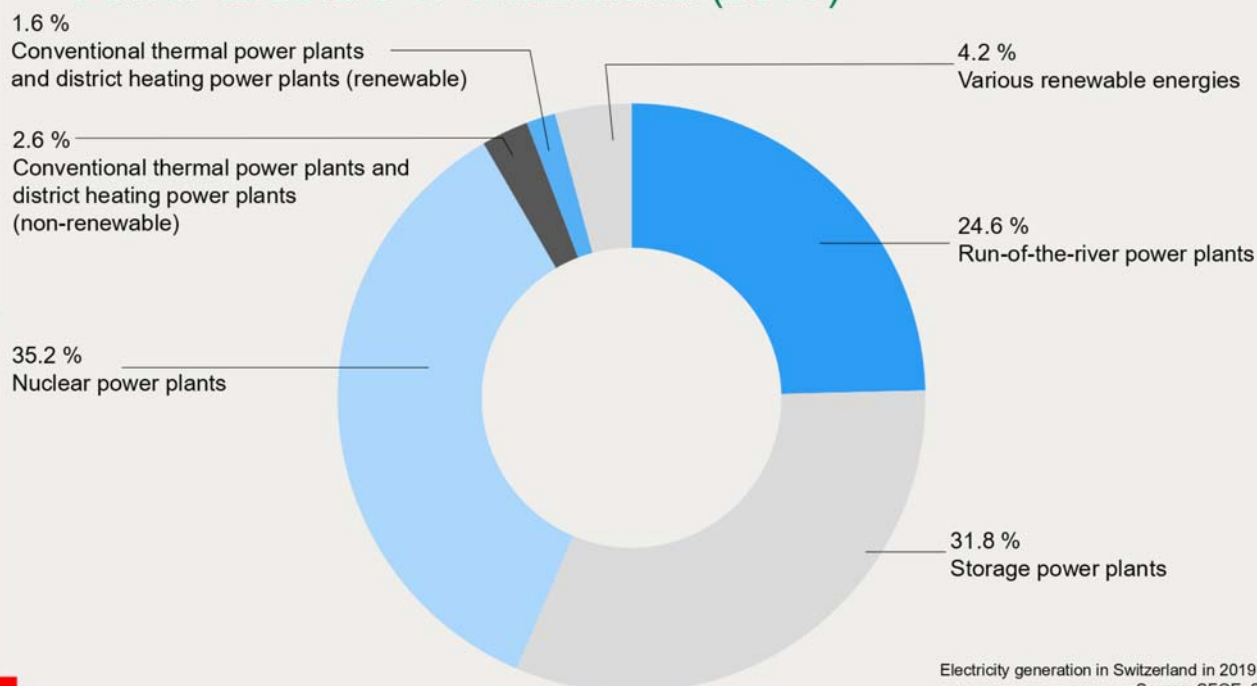
Power system of Switzerland

Source: Swissgrid 8

Information on TSO

- Name: Swissgrid
- 6,700 km
- 21 transformers
- 12,000 pylons
- 146 switching substations
- 41 connections to other countries
- 530 employees (2020)
- www.swissgrid.ch

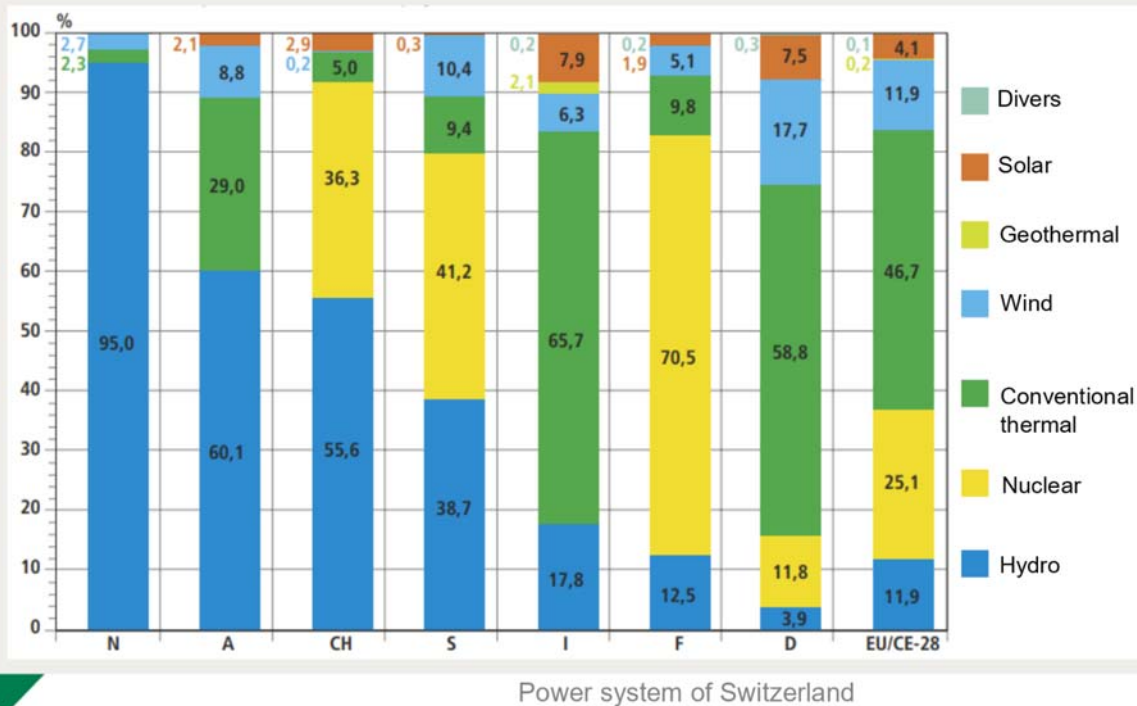
Power structure of Switzerland (2019)



Electricity generation in Switzerland in 2019 by power plant category, in %
Source: SFOE, Swiss electricity statistics 2019

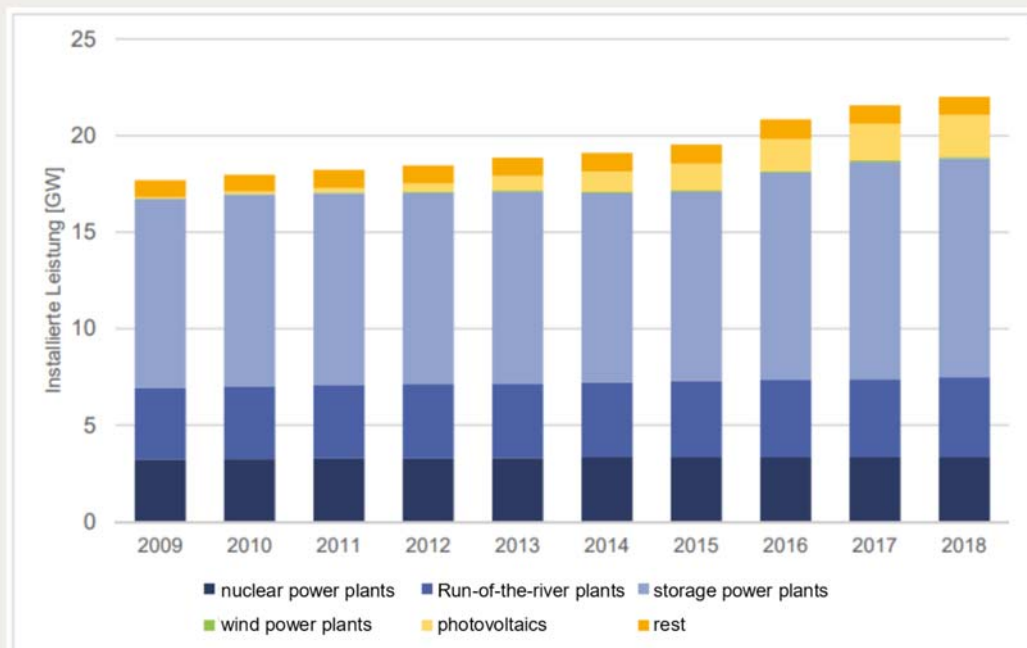
Power system of Switzerland

Power structure CH vs. Europe



Electricity generation in 2018
by power plant category, in %
Source: SFOE, Swiss
electricity statistics 2019

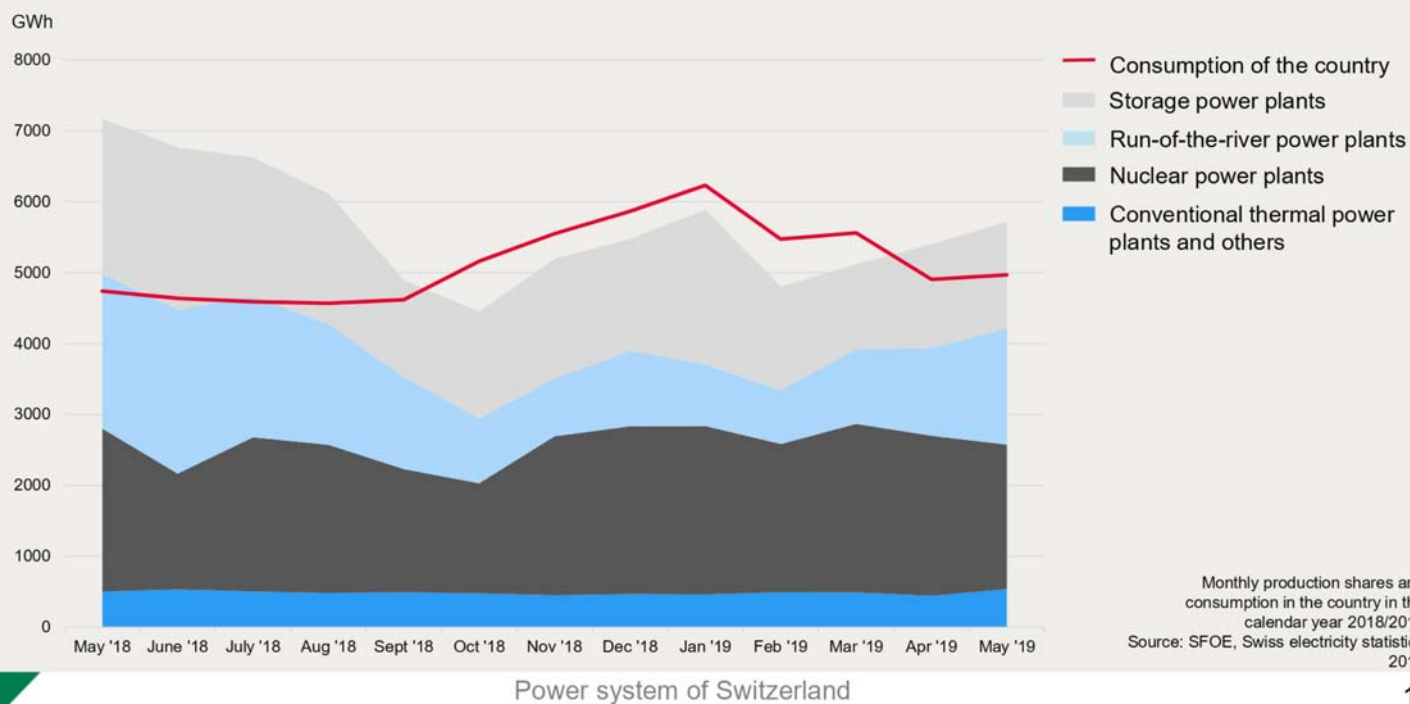
Installed capacity 2009 – 2018



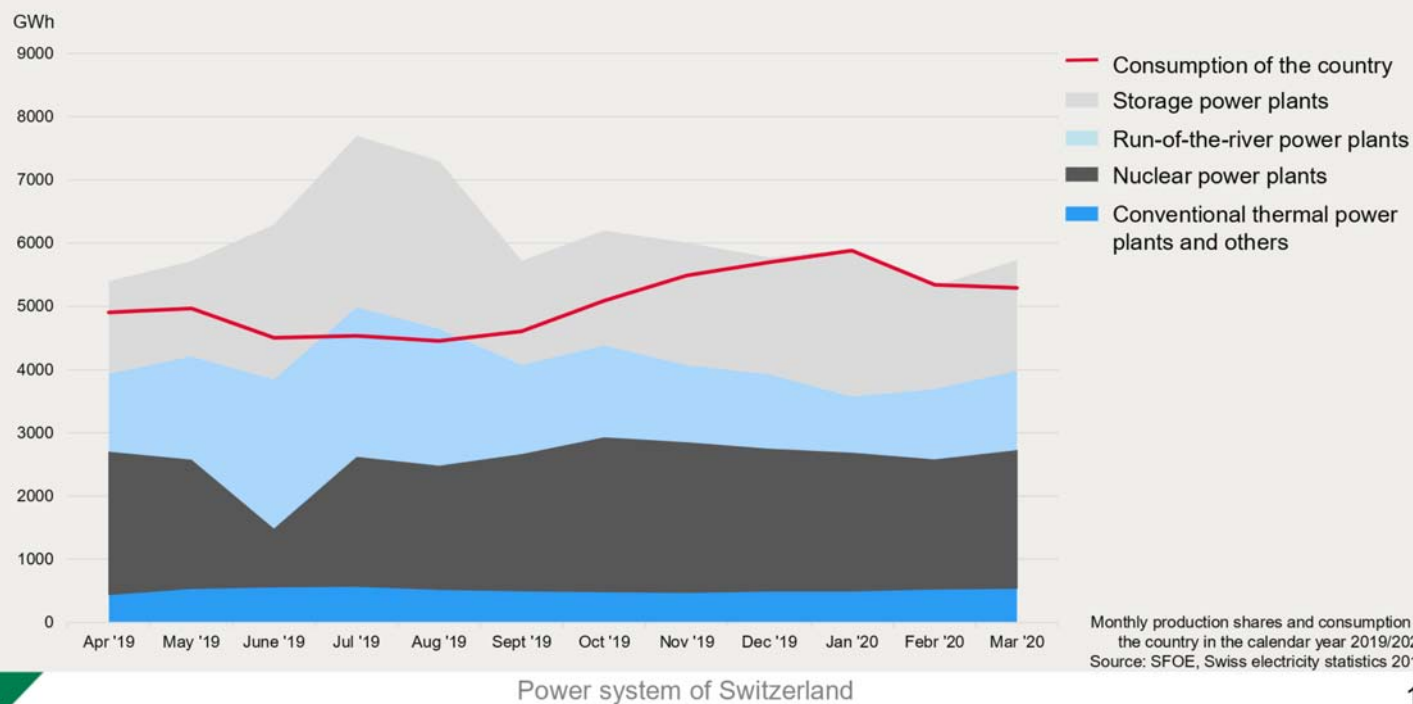
Source: ElCom, security of electricity supply of Switzerland 2020

Power system of Switzerland

Monthly production and consumption, 2018/2019

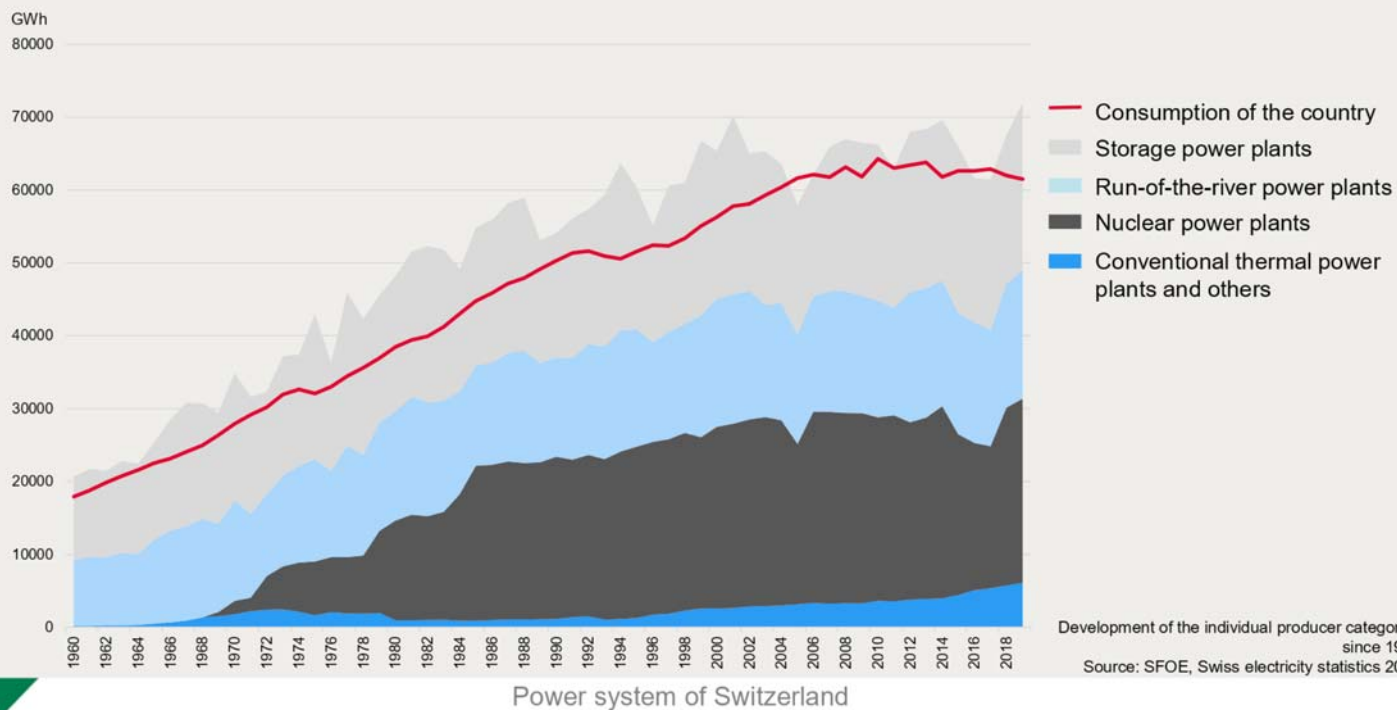


Monthly production and consumption, 2019/2020



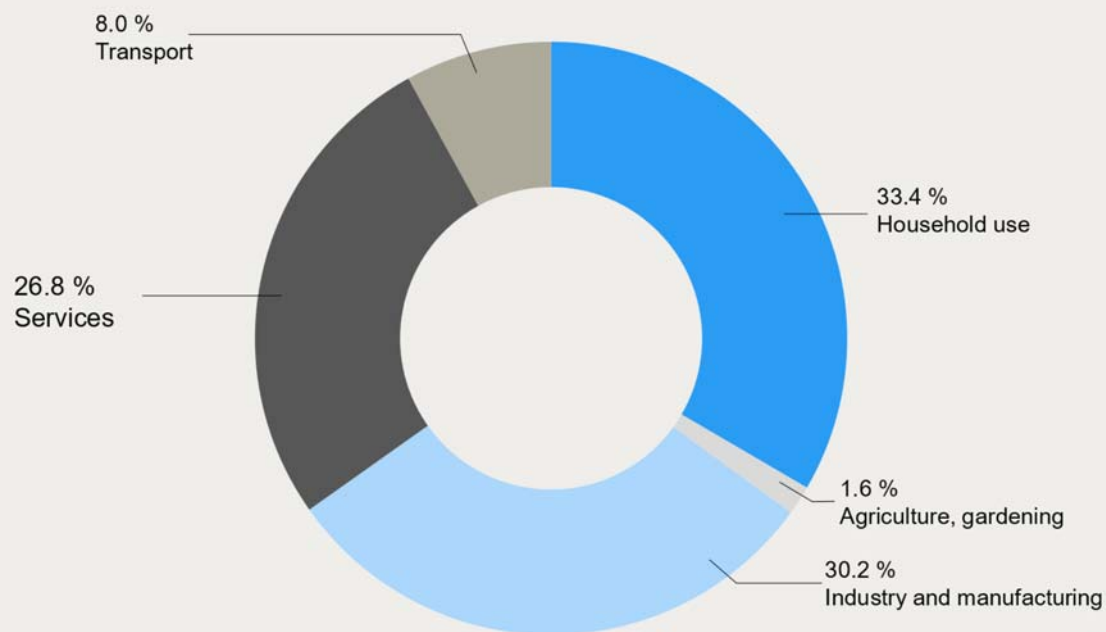
Power system of Switzerland

Development of the Swiss generation mix



Power system of Switzerland

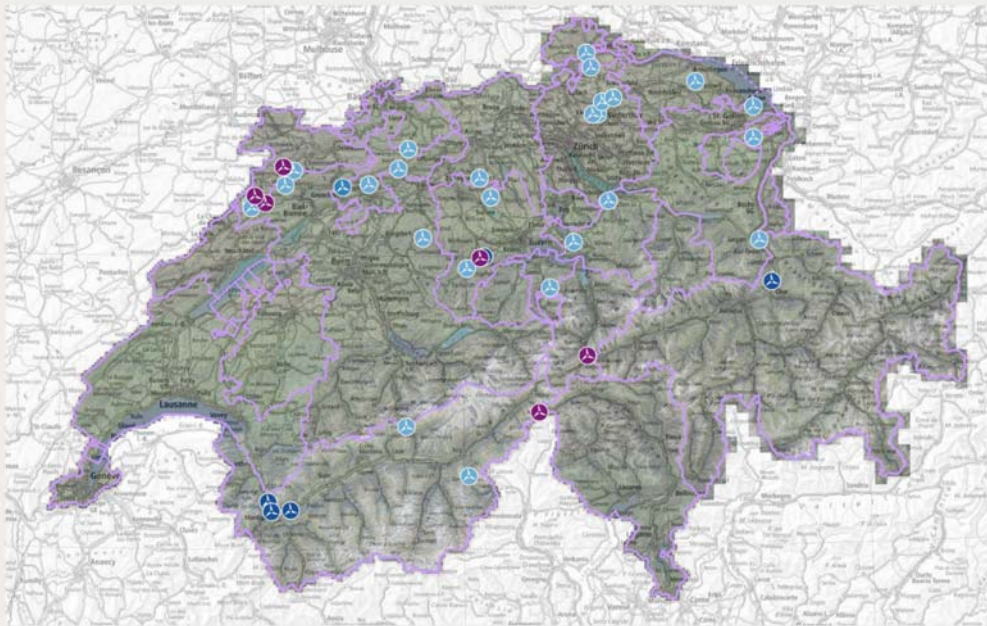
Swiss consumption in 2019 by customer category



Electricity consumption in Switzerland in 2019 by customer category, in %
Source: SFOE, Swiss electricity statistics 2019

Power system of Switzerland

Location of installed wind turbines in Switzerland



Wind energy plants

(Scale: ∞ to 1:100 000)

-  Small single plant
-  Medium single plant
-  Big single plant
-  Wind park

Turbine

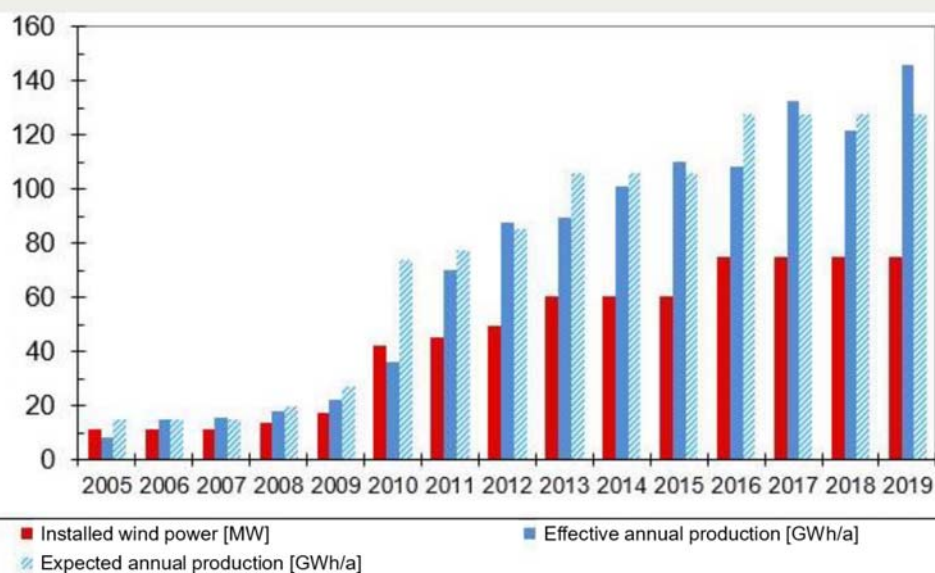
(Scale: 1:99 999 to 1:25 000)

-  Power < 100 kW
-  Power ≥ 100 kW and < 1000 kW
-  Power ≥ 1000 kW

Source: wind-data.ch, date: 17.08.2020

Power system of Switzerland

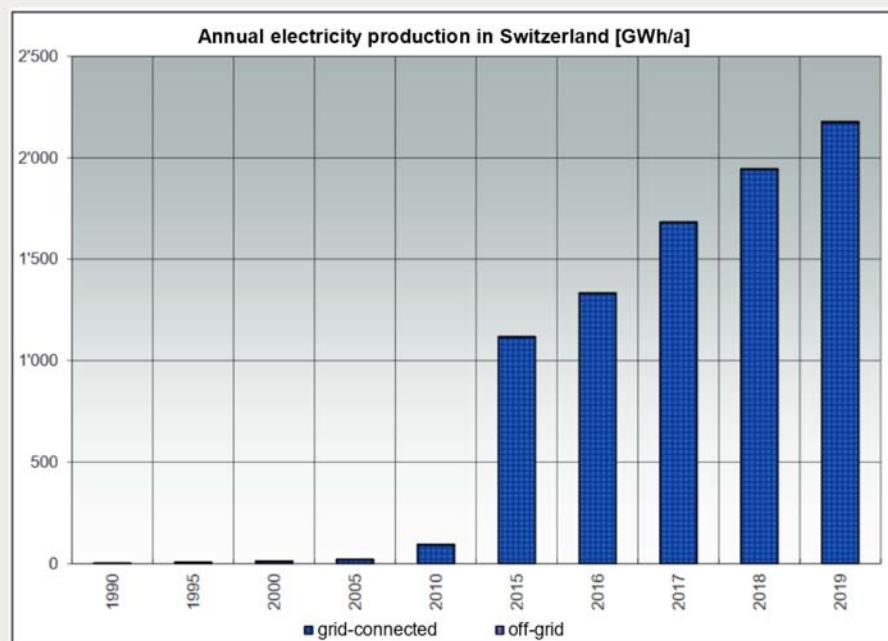
Development of wind power in Switzerland (≥ 150 kW)



Power system of Switzerland

Source: www.suisse-eole.ch, date: 17.08.2020

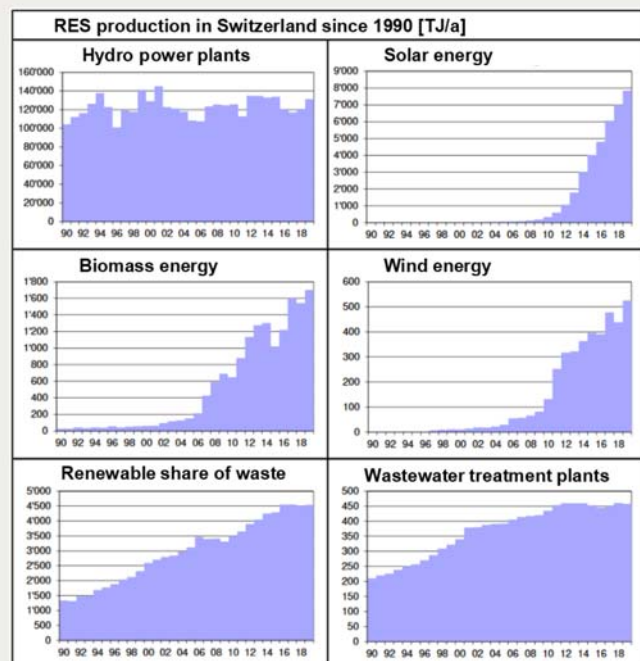
Development of photovoltaic power



Source: Swissolar / SFOE,
Markterhebung Sonnenenergie 2019, July 2020

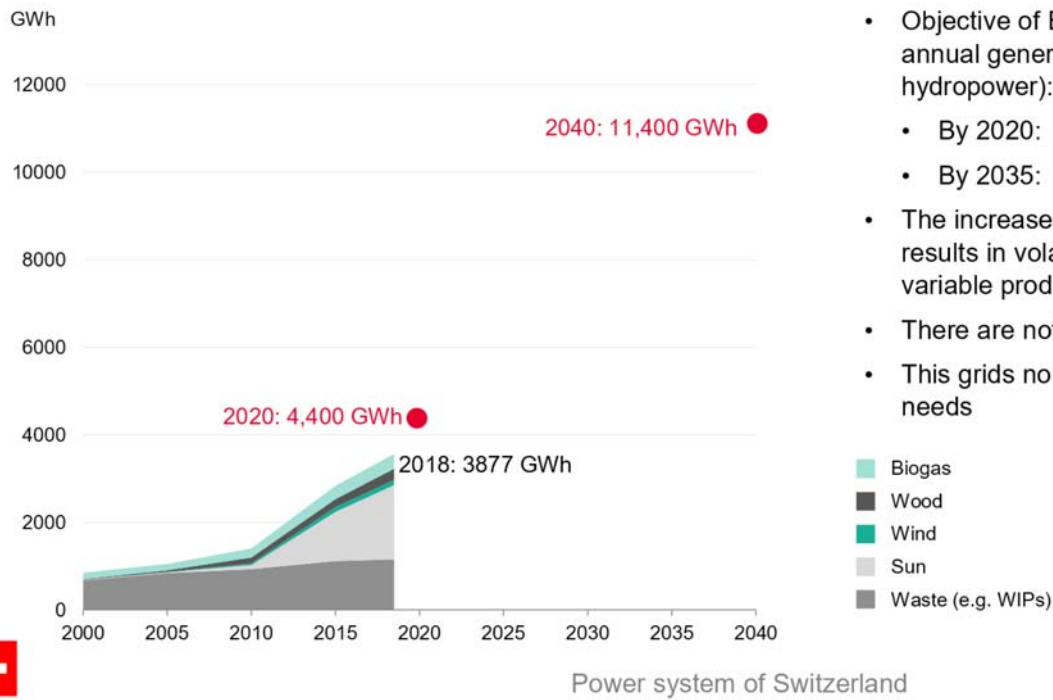
Power system of Switzerland

RES production per annum [TJ/a]



Source: SFOE,
Swiss renewable energy statistics 2019, June 2020

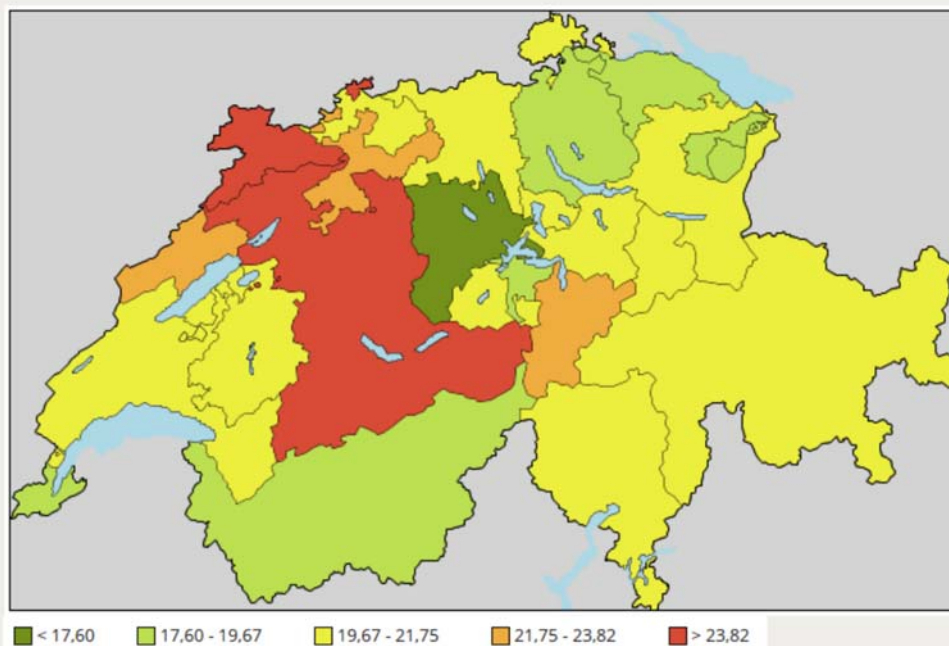
Power system of Switzerland



- Objective of Energy Strategy 2050: Increase in annual generation of renewable energy (excl. hydropower):
 - By 2020: 4,400 GW h
 - By 2035: 11,400 GW h
- The increase in generation of renewable energy results in volatile loop flows due to the highly variable production patterns
- There are not enough ways to store excess energy
- This grids no longer satisfy current transportation needs

Source: SFOE: Swiss renewable energy statistics 2018, Energy Strategy 2050 document following the referendum on 21 May 2017

Regional price differences for households

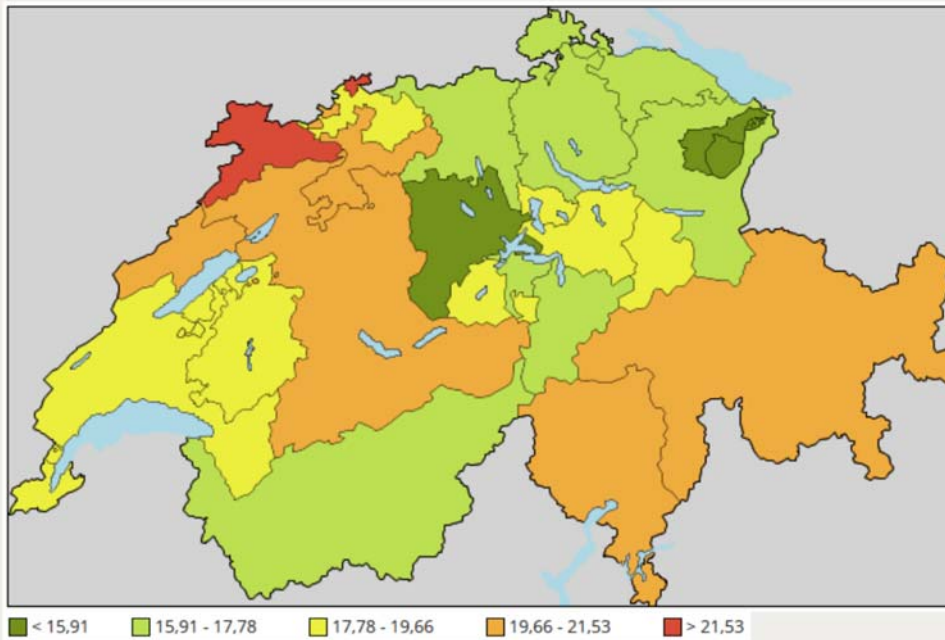


Electricity price for 2020 in CHF/MWh, category H4: flat with 5 rooms, 4,500 kWh/a, Standard product

Source: ElCom, www.strompreis.elcom.admin.ch

Power system of Switzerland

Regional price differences for industry consumers



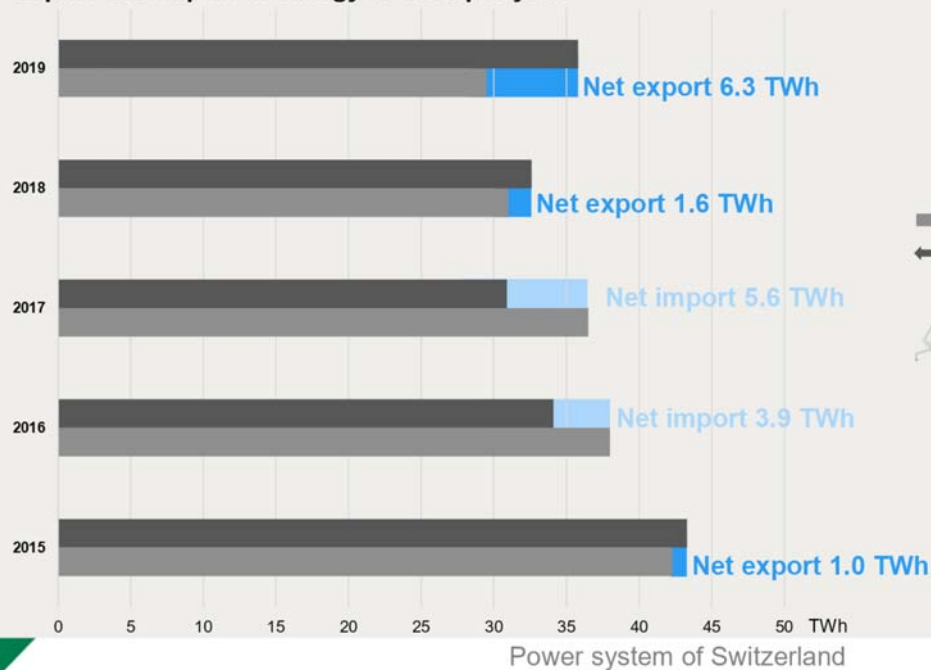
Electricity price for 2020 in CHF/MWh, category C3: mid-size company with 150,000 kWh/a, max. 50 kW

Source: ElCom, www.strompreis.elcom.admin.ch

Power system of Switzerland

Power balance: import and export

Import and export of energy in TWh per year



Ratio of the cross-border energy flows 2019



Source: SFOE, Swiss electricity statistics 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016
Cross-border energy flows, Swissgrid

Challenge: no bilateral electricity agreement with the EU

- Increasing transit through Switzerland carries the danger of overloading.
- Unplanned load flows have increased considerably.
- Increasing interventions in real-time operations are necessary – emergency measures are becoming a normal incidents.
- With the introduction of market coupling in Europe: ten-fold increase in n-1 violations.



- High costs with no benefits for Switzerland
- Impairment of grid stability
- Impairment of import capability
- Negative implications for the security of supply

Power system of Switzerland