

Efficiency / costs

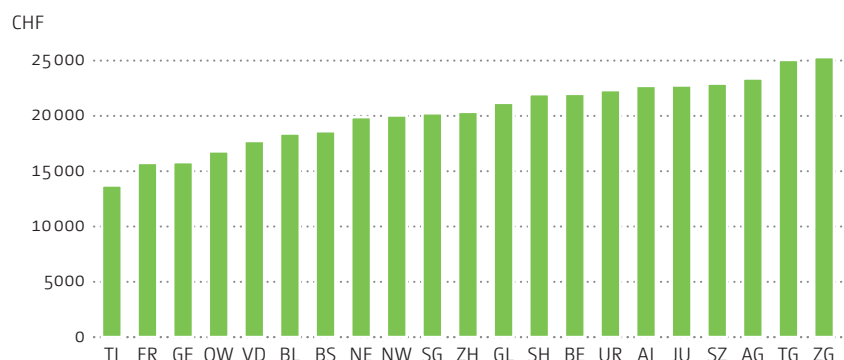
As with any education cycle, it is difficult to assess the efficiency of baccalaureate school education. Three problems arise when measuring efficiency, all of which are exacerbated in the case of baccalaureate schools. Firstly, we have no nationwide, standardised measurements of attainment at baccalaureate schools that might serve as output values. Secondly, it is relatively difficult to control the effects of self-selection and external selection, which is also why it is not possible to demonstrate the contribution made by the baccalaureate school to the formation of skills. Thirdly, as in the case of other educational levels, the inputs are relatively difficult to compare across cantons, in terms of both the real and the monetary inputs. This prevents the forming of conclusions at the current time about the efficient or inefficient use of inputs.

Annual expenditure for pupils in general education schools at upper-secondary level

The figures for annual expenditure per pupil fluctuate so markedly over time for some cantons that it can only be assumed that the data cannot be correct. This even applies if only the expenditure on staff salaries is considered (such as the salaries for teaching staff) that should be least influenced by different cost accounting methods. Even if we exclude those cantons from the intercantonal comparison that do not display any striking patterns over time, the differences between the cantons remain very high (→ Figure 155). It is not possible to assess whether these are purely due to real factors, such as differences in staff/student ratios or the rates of teachers' pay, or whether there continue to be differences in accounting or expense allocation.

155 Public expenditure for staff salaries per pupil in general education upper-secondary schools

Salaries for teaching staff and other members of staff such as management team and administrators
Averages for 2013 and 2014, including Pro-baccalaureate classes
Data: FSO, EFV



Note on Figure 155

The Federal Statistical Office has determined that it is not possible to distinguish between teaching staff and administrative staff for accounting purposes in many cantons. The data on the salaries paid to all staff is therefore used.

General education schools are baccalaureate schools, upper-secondary specialised schools and other forms of general education school. According to the Federal Statistical Office, upper-secondary specialised schools are integrated into the baccalaureate schools in some cantons, with teaching staff shared across the two streams in some cases. It is not possible to break down the salary figures by education type.

Year repetitions and premature exit from baccalaureate schooling

Premature exits from a baccalaureate school suggest an inadequate match between the pupil and the school, which is rectified by the pupil's departure. However, that does not necessarily mean that baccalaureate schools with