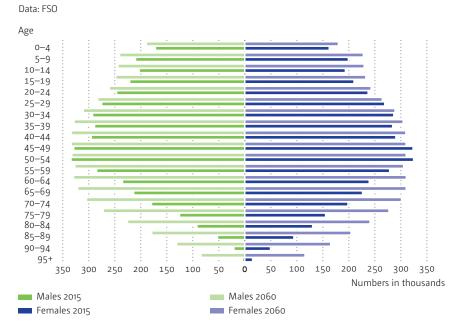
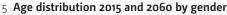
states who migrated to Switzerland in the 1990s, it was only from 2005 onwards that the number of foreign nationals from neighbouring countries rose significantly. Most immigrants came from Italy and Germany, accounting for 300 000 people each. The number of people migrating to Switzerland from outside of Europe has developed even more dynamically than the number of people from within Europe, despite the freedom of movement with the EU. In 1990 the proportion of foreign residents who had migrated from non-European countries was still around the 7.9% mark. By 2015 it had almost doubled to reach 15.1%.

From the age pyramid to the «age balloon»

By the year 2060 the age distribution of the population will differ markedly from the current situation in two respects (\rightarrow Figure 5). For both genders, the proportion of under-40s as well as the proportion of over-80s will increase significantly. The age pyramid so typical in all countries a hundred years ago has changed shape over recent decades and is starting to resemble a balloon instead, i.e. the majority of the population is between 30 and 60-years-old. In future both the base of the pyramid, i.e. the youngest cohorts, and the tip of the pyramid comprising the oldest people will expand more strongly, creating a polarised age structure.





Concentration of young population in the centre of the country

Switzerland's young people are very unevenly distributed across the country's cantons and regions, with marked differences between the cantons as well as uneven distributions within individual cantons. The youth quotient (\rightarrow Figure 6), i.e. the proportion of people aged under 20 relative to the working-age population (aged 20 to 64), provides an indication of the financial burden to be borne by the working population in relation to the school-age