



THE CANTON OF VAUD 2015

Vaud has the 3rd largest population of any Swiss canton and is ideally positioned at the intersection of Europe's major communication routes. It offers all of Switzerland's principal advantages: strong academic institutions, a rich and diversified economy, political stability and a much-envied quality of life.



COVER IMAGE

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE IN LAUSANNE.

Lausanne consolidates its position as Olympic capital and world centre of sport administration by unveiling its new project called "House of Olympic Unity". ©3XN

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STRONG POINTS

TOURISM

The Canton de Vaud is an ideal place for a vacation. It is easy to reach and offers a full range of accommodation, from five-star luxury hotels to charming bed & breakfasts. And in Vaud you can sample all the beauty of Switzerland: explore the high Alps, the great spaces of the Jura and the authentic charm of the countryside, stroll along its lake shores and through the winding streets of its towns steeped in history.

The Canton's particular attraction is its art of living: local and international festivals, open-air sports, typical regional cuisine and top-level gastronomy, outstanding wines, old traditions... these are just a few of the elements that delight our visitors to this land of discoveries.

PANORAMIC RESTAURANT AT LEYSIN
in the Vaud Alps.
© OTV - Laurent Ryser





NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE IN LAUSANNE.

Lausanne consolidates its position as Olympic capital and world centre of sport administration by unveiling its new project called "House of Olympic Unity". © 3XN

HEALTH

Lausanne's University Hospital (CHUV) has European status and develops research partnerships with biomedical companies which stimulate the cantonal economy.

The canton also benefits from a dense network of medical-social establishments (EMS) complemented by an excellent home-care system.

www.vd.ch/soins
www.chuv.ch

SPORT

Home to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) since 1915, Lausanne was officially named the Olympic capital in 1994. Also in the canton are the Olympic Museum, 36 federations and 19 sports-related international organisations.

www.vd.ch/sport-international
www.olympic.org

MOBILITY

Supporting economic growth while preserving the quality of life requires that all the regions in the canton are linked to an efficient and comprehensive transport network open to the surrounding areas. To achieve this and address the traffic saturation on some routes, it is important that the different ways of moving around complement each other.

The Canton de Vaud is focusing on road and railway projects that will improve the entire travel chain. The upgrading of public transport ties in with the modernisation of the road network and the development of non-motorised travel (“mobilité douce”).

www.vd.ch/mobilite

EDUCATION

Vaud is one of Switzerland’s most important educational areas. In addition to its famous university dating to 1537, it has one of the two federal universities of science and technology (EPFL), and more than a dozen schools of advanced studies (HES) in fields as varied as engineering, health, education, design, the arts, and hotel management.

www.unil.ch

www.epfl.ch

www.vd.ch/enseignement-superieur

www.vd.ch/apprentissage



THE BUILDING AT 19 RUE DU DR CÉSAR-ROUX IN LAUSANNE, renovated to welcome the Santé Vaud School of Advanced Studies (HESAV).
© Lionel Henriod

AUDITORIUM OF THE SANTÉ VAUD SCHOOL OF ADVANCED STUDIES (HESAV) in the renovated building at 19 rue du Dr César-Roux. © Lionel Henriod





THE ROMAN MUSEUM IN AVENCHES
is located in an 11th century tower
overlooking the Roman amphitheatre.
© NVP 3D

CULTURE

With its numerous cultural sites, buildings, activities and festivals, the canton draws a large audience from far beyond its borders. All forms of cultural expression by well established artists take place here. There is a strong emphasis on young creative talents who benefit from prestigious training, financial assistance and multiple opportunities for presenting their work.

The canton offers more than 80 museums devoted to fine arts, science, history and many other subjects ranging from sport and games to photography and food.

It has a wealth of historical monuments, castles and fine houses as well as the exceptional vineyards of Lavaux, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

www.vd.ch/culture

www.musees.vd.ch

www.patrimoine.vd.ch

THE CANTON'S AUTHORITIES

LEGISLATIVE

Legislative power is exercised by the Grand Council, a parliament composed of 150 members elected by proportional representation. The constituencies correspond to the districts, ensuring that all the regions in the canton are represented.

Ever since 1946, political power in the canton has been shared by a centre-right majority and a left-wing minority associated with the government. However, the political landscape changed in 2012 with the centre-right becoming a minority in the State Council, and with the arrival of a new group in the Council, the Green Liberals.

The Grand Council sits every Tuesday except during school holidays. Its sessions are open to the public and can be followed on the Internet.

www.vd.ch/gc

Groups in the state Council

Liberal-Radical (PLR)

47 members

Socialist (SOC) 40 members

Central Democratic Union (UDC)

26 members

Greens (VER) 19 members

Green Liberals (V'L) 7 members

PDC – Vaud Libre 6 members

The Left POP–solidarités

5 members



**THE STATE COUNCIL
HAS A MAJORITY OF WOMEN
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITS HISTORY**

THE EXECUTIVE

Executive authority is exercised by the State Council, a government of seven members elected directly by the people. Each State Councillor also heads a Department.

Since the last cantonal elections in 2012, the State Council has a majority of women for the first time in its history: four women and three men. Three parties are represented: Socialist (3) Liberal Radical (3) and Green (1)

www.vd.ch/autorites

www.vd.ch/ce

www.vd.ch/departements

THE JUDICIARY

Judicial authorities and offices attached to the cantonal court are: the cantonal tribunal, the urban courts, the juvenile court, the bail court, the tribunal of constraints and sentencing, justices of the peace, the claims offices, the bankruptcy offices and the cantonal commercial registry.

www.vd.ch/ojv

www.vd.ch/justice

THE PRIORITY

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

BÉATRICE MÉTRAUX

Green,
head of the Department
of Institutions and Security

JACQUELINE DE QUATTRO

Liberal-Radical,
head of the Department of
Territory and the Environment

ANNE-CATHERINE LYON

Socialist,
head of the Department of
Education, Youth and Culture

PIERRE-YVES MAILLARD

Socialist,
president of the Council,
head of the Department of
Health and Social Services

PASCAL BROULIS

Liberal-Radical,
head of the Department of
Finance and External Relations

PHILIPPE LEUBA

Liberal-Radical,
head of the Department
of the Economy and Sports

NURIA GORRITTE

Socialist,
head of the Department
of Infrastructure and Human
Resources

THE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME 2012-2017

The legislative programme is an action guide for the government and the administration over a five-year period. Its measures and actions draw on the Canton's strengths to deliver the best responses to the challenges that lie ahead.

Halfway through the current term of office, more than 130 actions in the legislative programme have been undertaken. The work of the State Council, based on searching for practical comprises, continues to show results. Population growth will be the major challenge in the coming years.

www.vd.ch/2012-2017

COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Putting a sustainable development policy into action requires the use of specific tools. Since 2004 the canton of Vaud has been using such tools and making them available to the public, including boussole21.ch for the evaluation of projects, a guide to responsible professional purchasing, and Smeo for the construction of durable buildings and neighbourhoods.

www.vd.ch/durable

The Canton's objectives for sustainable development are

- to give the authorities room for manoeuvre in investment planning by keeping the public finances under control
- to combat climate warming by promoting the use of renewable energy and public transport
- to help protect the environment and promote the efficient use of natural resources
- to integrate everyone into society and the world of work.

HISTORY

A LAND AND ITS ORIGINS

45–35 million years ago

The enclosing of a sea followed by the collision of two continental plates led to the formation of the Alps. In Vaud, they reach a peak of 3,209 metres at Les Diablerets.

10–5 million years ago

The Jura was the last Alpine mass to be formed. A late geological surge pushed up the limestone rocks that are its main component. The Vaud section is one of the highest, most folded parts of the Jurassic range.

BRONZE AGE: FUNERAL CEREMONY AT LAUSANNE-VIDY, IN THE LATE 10TH CENTURY BC.

The embers of the funeral pyre are still smoking. The cremation urn and its cover lie at the feet of one of the officiants.

© Cantonal museums, Sion; Cantonal Museum of History and Archeology, Lausanne, and Museum of Art and History, Geneva. Drawing: André Houout, colourist: Jocelyne Charrance

PRINCIPAL EVENTS BEFORE OUR ERA

18, 000 BC

The Canton was almost entirely covered by glaciers. They added the final touch to the landscape creating the lakes, shaping the mountains and leaving behind important accumulations of rocks known as "moraine".

13,500 BC

After the glaciers retreated, the region was occupied by Paleolithic hunters. Around 5500 BC, they settled on the shores of the lakes. By around 2000 BC they had mastered some metallurgy and begun to clear certain areas of land.

In 58 BC

Julius Caesar prevented the Helvetians from migrating towards Gaul and imposed Roman rule. Avenches became the capital of Helvetia and the whole region prospered with new techniques of building in stone. Latin was introduced and trade flourished.



FROM THE FIRST MILLENNIUM TO THE MIDDLE AGES

4th -10th centuries

In the 5th century BC, the region was inhabited by Burgundians who lived in peace with the Helvetians. Then came 500 years of domination by the Kings of the Franks, including 150 years in the Kingdom of Burgundy where it had a good deal of autonomy.

10th – 16th centuries

At the start of the second Millennium, the comitatus waldensis (county of Vaud) was ceded to the diocese of Lausanne. During the 13th century, the Patria vaudia became a small state with Moudon as its capital. It was ruled by the Counts of Savoy, notably Pierre II de Savoie, “the little Charlemagne”, and the Archbishop of Lausanne was excluded.

1536

The Vaudois were on the losing side in the Burgundian wars (1475-1476) and in 1536 were conquered by the Bernese, who governed for them 262 years. Following a theological dispute, the church embraced the Reformation and Berne protected the Vaudois from the wars in Europe.

THE CANTON IS CREATED

Revolution

Major Davel attempted to liberate the region from the Bernese.

On March 31 1723, he entered Lausanne with 500-600 soldiers and demanded its independence. He was arrested the next day, condemned to death, and beheaded at Vidy on April 24.

January 24 1798, the independence of Vaud was proclaimed in Lausanne. The Bernese withdrew for fear of Napoleon’s army that had placed Vaud under its protection. The “Canton du Léman” was then integrated into the short-lived Helvetic Republic.

Sovereignty

On February 19 1803, Napoleon’s Act of Mediation created a Canton de Vaux within the Helvetic Confederation, on an equal footing with other cantons, and gave it a republican constitution. The first session of the Grand Council was held in Lausanne on April 14, which makes this the second most important date for patriotic Vaudois.

The Constitution

The first constitution was introduced in 1803 and went through a series of revisions, as in the other cantons. Universal suffrage was proclaimed in 1831 and Vaud was the first canton to extend it to include women, in 1959. The new constitution dates from 2003.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE CANTON?

SOME 30 PAGES OF THE HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF SWITZERLAND ARE AVAILABLE ON LINE (IN FRENCH, GERMAN, AND ITALIAN), ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY AND BY SUBJECT: POLITICS, RELIGION, THE ECONOMY, ETC.)

www.vd.ch/histoire

FINANCE

The cantonal accounts were closed for 2014 with a surplus of 800,000 francs. Expenses for the year rose to 9,517.8 million francs including closing payments of 599 million, compared with 841 million in 2013. This amount consisted of unbudgeted repayments principally concerning EMS and specialised institutions, and pre-financing in key sectors such as tourism, economic development, and professional training.

Cantonal operating expenses in 2014 were 4 million less than budgeted, rising by 322 million over 2013. This represents a rise

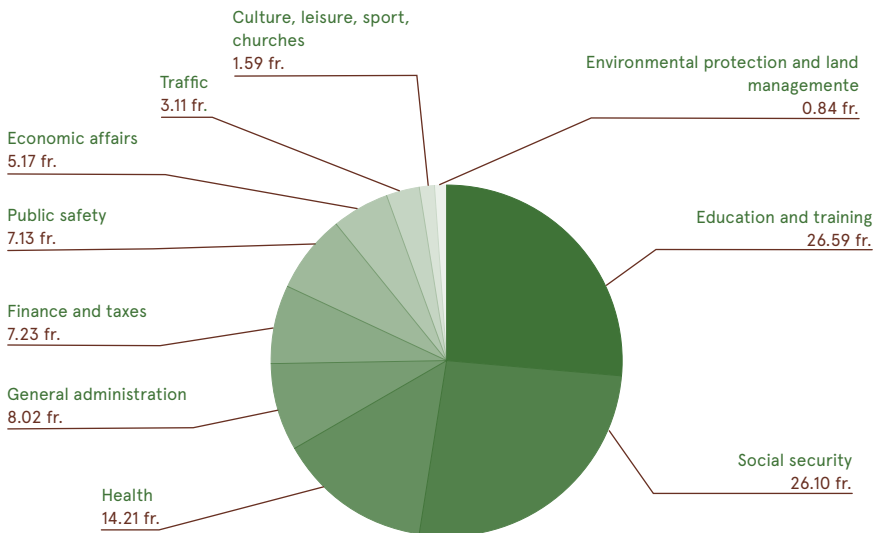
of 3.7%, in line with the budget forecast. The chief differences were in personnel cost, social work, health, training, culture and transport.

Revenues were 9,518.6 million, an increase of 72 million francs but only 0.8 greater than at year-end 2013. The largest element in revenues, income tax, rose by 1.1% (below cantonal GDP estimated to rise by 1.9% in 2014, and less than the population increase of 1.6% in 2014). The reduction of 10 million francs in corporation tax mostly reflected the lower legal rate introduced in January 2014. The taxes

considered as economy-related (real estate gains, transfer taxes, inheritance taxes and donations) showed a reduction of 60 million over the previous year.

Lastly, after nine consecutive years of reductions, the total deficit rose from 475 to 575 million, largely due to paying a new tranche of 180 million as part of the recapitalisation of the Pension Fund, and to an increase in the power of the investments.

IN 2014, EACH 100 FRANCS SPENT BY THE CANTON WAS DIVIDED AS FOLLOWS:



THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF VAUD



THE FÊTE DES VIGNERONS (HERE IN 1999) was included by the Federal Council in the list of living traditions that will be sent to UNESCO for registration as part of the cultural heritage of humanity. Once in each generation ever since the 18th century, the Confrérie des Vignerons has organised this event celebrating the efforts of wine growers and those who work the land, the fertile cycle of the seasons, the love of the country and the region of their birth. © Confrérie des Vignerons

In 2012, Switzerland published a list of its on-going traditions, including such activities as the Carnival in Basel, the Onion Fair in Berne, the Fête des Vignerons in Vevey, the art of paper cutting in Simmenthal and the Pays d'Enhaut, and the youth country festivals. Now that the inventory, identification and documentation phase is largely complete, the canton of Vaud has launched an initiative in 2014 to raise awareness of its cultural heritage. To keep this heritage alive, it is important to encourage people to pass on these traditions and give them a place in today's society.

A short introduction to the living traditions in the canton is now publicly available. People who actively maintain these traditions are offering conferences with workshops and demonstrations, and this guide will not only give them publicity but also pay tribute to their efforts, passions, skills and savoir-faire. Paper-cutting workshops, a description of life in a circus, patois courses for the younger generation, recounting Vaudois legends in the forest, demonstrating how to make oils, or friendly local gatherings to prepare raisinée... The range is huge. The guide is an invitation to try new experiences and is a first in Switzerland.

www.patrimoine.vd.ch/immateriel

INNOVATION

INNOVATION: THE CATALYST OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The canton has a major advantage in terms of innovation. It has a unique concentration of schools of advanced studies and internationally recognised research institutes. In addition, a structure of laboratories, incubators and technology platforms enables start-ups, SMEs and multi-nationals to benefit from scientific expertise and advanced equipment at institutions such as CHUV, EPFL, HEIG-VD and UNIL.

Collaborations are constantly being set up between science and key companies in the canton's

diverse and dynamic economy, leading to major technological developments. In 2014, approximately one third of the 100 best start-ups in Switzerland were located in Vaud.

Innovators receive invaluable support from the Innovaud association which provides free advice to entrepreneurs on coaching, financing, promotion and accommodation, as well as suggesting suitable partners.

For more information:

www.innovaud.ch

The 28 start-ups in Vaud ranked in the top 100 in Switzerland (2014):

Life Sciences

Abionic
Anokion
DistalMotion
Leman Micro Devices
Lunaphore
MindMaze
Gloudlab
SamanTree Technologies
SmartCardia
Sophia Genetics

Information and Communications Technology

3BaysOver
BugBuster
CashSentinel
DomoSafety
Fasttree 3D
HouseTrip
Kandou Bus
Pix4D
ScanTrust
SWISSto12
Typesafe Inc.

Energy and Environmental Technologies

ActLight
CombaGroup
OsmoBlue

Precision industry

L.E.S.S
senseFly
Imina Technologies
Swiss Space Systems

SOME PROJECTS

RER VAUD, THE KEY TO GREATER MOBILITY

The principal mission of the RER (Regional Express network) in Vaud is to provide strong links between all regions of the canton. A frequent, comfortable, train service is at the heart of the plans to develop public transport in the years ahead, replacing regional railways and buses in delivering passengers to the urban centres.

This critical link in the transport chain will be significantly improved. Extensions to Grandson and Aigle are planned, as well as direct links to the Vallée de Joux. Schedules will be increased, in particular on the la Broye line, with a normal frequency of 30 minutes on the main routes. By 2020, trains will run every 15 minutes between Cossonay and Cully.

A number of measures are being planned to handle passenger volumes that are forecast to double on RER Vaud, including the improvement of timetables and increasing the comfort of regional railways and buses. There is also an ambitious development programme for metros running from Lausanne station, the principal hub of the RERs.

THE VAUD RER (REGIONAL EXPRESS NETWORK) PROVIDES MODERN COMFORTABLE TRAINS THAT RUN FREQUENTLY.

© Jean-Bernard Sieber ARC



CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE CASTLE OF SAINT-MAIRE

Saint-Maire Castle, built from 1400-1430 in molasse and red brick, is one of the canton's most important fortresses dating from the end of the middle ages. It has played a role in the affairs of the region for most of its life, first as the official residence of the bishop, then as the headquarters of the Bernese bailiffs and today as the seat of the State Council.

The interiors that date from medieval and renaissance periods are partially preserved, especially the wonderful coloured frescoes in the corridors and the decoration of the bishop's hall. However, the serious deterioration of the castle's external walls requires a full-scale repair and restoration project to ensure its long-term protection.

THE CANTONAL CASTLE,
where the State Council meetings are held. @ Rémy Gindroz



This project is being managed by the canton's buildings heritage and logistics service. Its priorities are to conserve and restore the historic structure, renovate the technical installations and energy systems, optimise the use of space, and reallocate the rooms.

Working on the facades involves techniques for preserving and consolidating the stone. As for the interior, three new features will give provide a contemporary upgrade:

- A multi-functional press area in a suite of cellars, offering exterior access;
- An all-glass meeting room under the roof.
- An elevator, set into the walls, between the upper and lower parts of the building.

THE WALLS OF THE CANTONAL CASTLE are in need of renovation. © BIC



The completion of the work and an inauguration are scheduled for late 2017.

www.patrimoine.vd.ch/chateau-saint-maire

RELIGIOUS FRESCOES
on the interior walls of the castle.
© BIC



THE CANTON IN NUMBERS

GEOGRAPHY

Surface area	321,205 hectares
.....	4th biggest canton
.....	7.8% of national territory
Inhabited and infrastructure area.	9.3%
Farming area.....	42.4%
Wooded area.....	32.1%
Lake area	12.1%
.....	Lake Geneva,
.....	Lake Neuchâtel,
.....	Lake Morat, Lake Joux
Non-productive area.	4%
.....	other lakes, rivers,
.....	glaciers, snow,
.....	areas without vegetation
.....	or with non-productive
.....	vegetation
Highest point	Les Diablerets, 3,210 metres
Lowest point	Lake Geneva, 372 metres
Borders.....	750 kilometres,
.....	including a 146 km frontier
.....	with France

STRUCTURE

Capital	Lausanne,
.....	4th largest Swiss city
Municipalities	318 since January 1 st , 2013,
.....	of which 16 have more than
.....	10,000 inhabitants
Districts	10
Smallest municipality	Rivaz (0.31 hectares)
Biggest municipality	Château-d'Oex
.....	(113.71 hectares)

DISTRICTS

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Aigle | 6. Lavaux – Oron |
| 2. Broye – Vully | 7. Morges |
| 3. Gros-de-Vaud | 8. Nyon |
| 4. Jura – Nord vaudois | 9. Ouest lausannois |
| 5. Lausanne | 10. Riviera – Pays-d'Enhaut |

PERMANENT RESIDENT POPULATION 31.12.2013

Most populous municipality.....	Lausanne
.....	(132,626 inhabitants)
Least populous municipality.....	Mauraz
.....	(52 inhabitants)
Population.....	743,317 inhabitants
.....	31.12.2013
Growth in 2013	1.8%
Density.....	262 inhabitants per km ²
.....	(without lakes)
Non-Swiss residents ...	32.4%

EMPLOYMENT FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS, IN 2012 (PRELIMINARY DATA)

Jobs.....	331,756
Primary sector.....	9,295 (2.8%)
Secondary sector	67,764 (20.4%)
Tertiary sector.....	254,697 (76.8%)

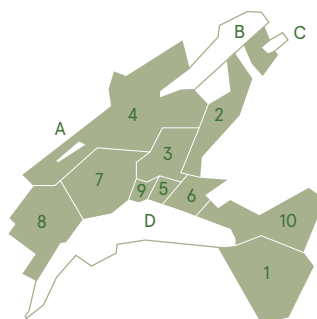
Sources:

Swiss Federal Statistical Office (OFS), Swiss Surface Statistics, data 2004-2005.

OFS, Statistique structurelle des entreprises 2011, data August 2013

Statistics Vaud, annual statistics of the population.

www.stat.vd.ch



LAKES

- | | |
|----|----------------|
| A. | Lake Joux |
| B. | Lake Neuchâtel |
| C. | Lake Morat |
| D. | Lake Geneva |

