



VAUD

THE CANTON OF VAUD | 2018

Vaud has the 3rd largest population among Swiss cantons and is ideally positioned at the intersection of Europe's major communications 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.

04

STRENGTHS

*Tourism, healthcare, mobility, sport, education, culture...
key areas that contribute to the canton's influence
and prosperity.*

18

PROJECTS

*Voluntary curators, digital education and
the digitisation of the archives are some of the canton's
forward-looking projects.*

09

AUTHORITIES

*The three branches of government: Legislative (Grand Council),
Executive (State Council) and the Judiciary
(Authorities and Offices of the Cantonal Court).*

21

INNOVATION

*Internationally-recognised universities, start-up
companies and a stimulating R&D environment make
the canton a leading centre of innovation.*

12

PRIORITIES

*The Legislative Programme: a set of priorities to ensure
a lasting, shared prosperity.*

25

FINANCE

*A twelfth consecutive budget surplus reflects
growth of 2.48 %.*

16

HISTORY

*The canton was shaped by geological forces
and has been inhabited since prehistoric times.
It achieved independence in 1798.*

26

NUMBERS

OUR STRENGTHS

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. 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 and old traditions are just some of the elements that delight visitors to this land of discoveries.

WWW.REGION-DU-LEMAN.CH

HEALTHCARE

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

The canton also benefits from a dense network of medical-social establishments (EMS) and regional hospitals. These are complemented by an excellent home-care system and numerous private clinics.

VD.CH/SOINS

CHUV.CH



SPORT

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

[VD.CH/SPORT-INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC.ORG](https://vd.ch/sport-international-olympic.org)

MOBILITY

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

The focus is on road and railway projects that will improve the entire travel system. The upgrading of public transport ties in with the modernisation of the road network and the growth of non-motorised travel ("Soft mobility").

[VD.CH/MOBILITE](https://vd.ch/mobilite)

EDUCATION

Vaud is one of Switzerland's most important educational areas. In addition to its famous university dating back 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.

[UNIL.CH](https://unil.ch)
[EPFL.CH](https://epfl.ch)
[VD.CH/ENSEIGNEMENT-SUPERIEUR](https://vd.ch/enseignement-superieur)
[VD.CH/APPRENTISSAGE](https://vd.ch/apprentissage)

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 also a focus 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. Adding another dimension to its rich cultural legacy are the spectacular vineyards of Lavaux, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

[VD.CH/CULTURE](https://vd.ch/culture)
[MUSEES.VD.CH](https://musees.vd.ch)
[VD.CH/VAUD-2018](https://vd.ch/vaud-2018)



AUTHORITIES

THE LEGISLATURE

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

From 1946, political power in the canton was shared by a centre-right majority and a left-wing minority associated with the government. However, the 2012 elections changed the political landscape: the centre-right retained its majority in the Grand Council but is now a minority in the State Council. The Grand Council sits every Tuesday except during school holidays. Its sessions are open to the public and can be followed on the Internet.

[VD.CH/GC](https://www.vd.ch/GC)

GROUPS IN THE GRAND COUNCIL

LIBERAL-RADICAL (PLR)

• 49 members

SOCIALIST (SOC)

• 36 members

CENTRAL DEMOCRATIC UNION (UDC)

• 25 members

GREENS (VER)

• 21 members

GREEN-LIBERAL (V'L)

• 8 members

PDC – FREE VAUD

• 5 members

TOGETHER LEFT

• 5 members

The new parliament was opened on 14 April 2017.

[VD.CH/PARLEMENT](https://www.vd.ch/PARLEMENT)

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

VD.CH/AUTORITES

VD.CH/CE

THE JUDICIARY

The 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.

VD.CH/OJV

VD.CH/JUSTICE

THE STATE COUNCILLORS



NURIA GORRITE

- *socialist*

PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT,
MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE
AND HUMAN RESOURCES

BÉATRICE MÉTRAUX

- *greens*

MINISTER OF INSTITUTIONS
AND SECURITY

JACQUELINE DE QUATTRO

- *liberal-radical*

MINISTER OF TERRITORY
AND THE ENVIRONMENT

PASCAL BROULIS

- *liberal-radical*

MINISTER OF FINANCE AND
EXTERNAL RELATIONS

PIERRE-YVES MAILLARD

- *socialist*

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICES

PHILIPPE LEUBA

- *liberal-radical*

MINISTER OF THE ECONOMY,
INNOVATION AND SPORT

CESLA AMARELLE

- *socialist*

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
YOUTH AND CULTURE

Vincent Grandjean, State Chancellor

PRIORITIES

THE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME 2017–2022 AIMS TO CREATE A LASTING, SHARED PROSPERITY

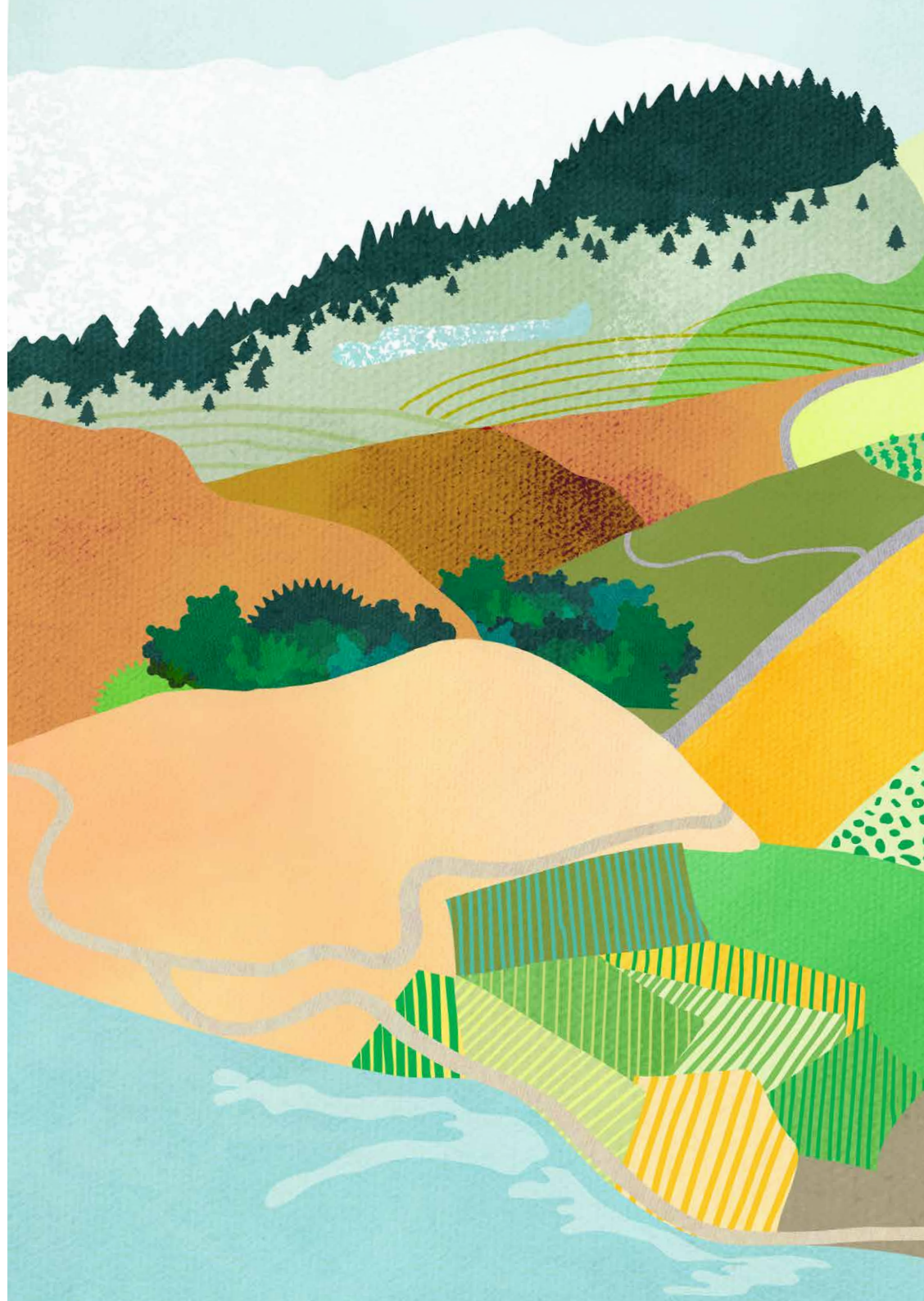
In November 2017, the State Council published its legislative programme for 2017–2022, its financial plan and its 2030 Agenda.

The principal objectives of the legislative programme are to:

- Guarantee competitiveness and ensure that it benefits everyone
- Strengthen social cohesion and enforce common rules
- Protect the environment and natural resources
- Successfully adopt digitalisation

A COHESIVE, DIGITAL SOCIETY

The legislative programme 2017–2022 is based on an in-depth analysis of the economic, social and environmental challenges the Canton faces in achieving sustainable development. Transforming the economy and adopting digitalisation have real potential for creating new jobs but they also risk excluding part of the population from the labour market. While the authorities need to maintain a favourable climate for business and stimulate innovation, they must recognise that entry into the work force is one of the basic elements of social cohesion. They also have to face up to the resurgence of radical and extremist opinions that could harm our country.



GENERATIONAL QUESTIONS AT ALL LEVELS

Promoting social cohesion also means helping different generations to live in harmony. Integrating the new generation is just as important as providing medical and social services for the elderly. Changing demographics and the growing percentage of seniors in the population will increase the need for public services and infrastructure. Like the important questions surrounding energy, the environment and climate, they will have a significant impact on public policy.

AN EVOLUTION IN THE ENTIRE PUBLIC SECTOR

In facing these challenges, the State Council has given priority to 30 measures that affect the whole spectrum of its activities. These include: supporting innovation, increasing help to participate in the job market, developing digital teaching across the whole education system, strengthening professional training, encouraging efforts to find a work-life balance, adapting the healthcare system, drawing up a climate plan and an integrated policy for managing natural resources, optimising mobility across the canton, energising the agricultural sector, carrying out major building and infrastructure projects, reducing the prison population, and combatting radicalisation.

INVESTMENTS AND CONTROL OF RISING COSTS

One element of the programme is the full implementation of the cantonal plan RIE III in 2019, clearly mandated by the voters of Vaud. The legislative programme is accompanied by a financial plan that demonstrates the State Council's intention to control rising costs, a pre-condition for the self-financing of current expenses, including those arising from the actions in the programme.

[VD.CH/2017-2022](https://vd.ch/2017-2022)

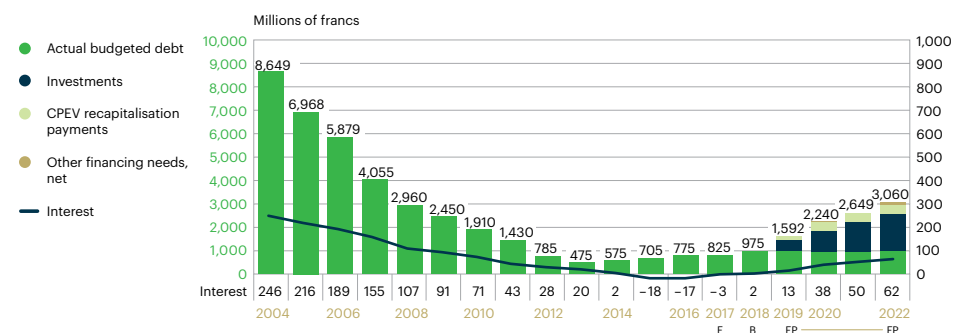
CONTROLLING COST INCREASES 2019–2022

The financial plan for the legislative programme 2017–2022 is based on the 2018 budget. In setting the provisions for 2019–2022, the State Council has made some assumptions about changes in revenues and expenses. For example, tax revenues and most other revenues are indexed by 2% per year.

The major element of the plan is the implementation, on 1 January 2019, of the Vaud roadmap RIE III. The reduction in corporate tax rates, together with measures to increase household spending power, as well as one or two years without the announced federal compensation, will negatively impact the cantonal finances by 220–240 million francs per year until 2022.

To compensate for these effects and for the measures included in the legislative programme (an extra 10 million francs per year) the State Council plans to stimulate the diversification of the economy, introduce new budgetary priorities and improve the efficiency of its services, aiming to raise annual revenues by 30 to 50 million francs. In total, the planned measures will produce a budget surplus of 160–220 million francs per year over the period 2019–2022.

The net debt of the canton, which fell by 8.2 billion from 2004 to 2013, has risen slightly since 2014. This upward trend will continue during this legislature.



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.

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.

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 vuaudi* 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.

CHRONIQUE DU CANTON DE VAUD
VD.CH/VAUD-2018

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 of Vaud 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.

PROJECTS

RECRUITING VOLUNTARY PRIVATE CURATORS

The campaign to recruit voluntary private curators has been well received. In the six months after its launch in June 2017, more than 1,300 people expressed an interest in performing this function. The campaign contributed to the success of the reform initiated in 2015 that led to the abolition of imposed curatorships from 1 January 2018.

The reform aims to give the best possible support to those who need help by improving the allocation of cases between voluntary and professional curators, thanks to the solidarity of the people of Vaud.

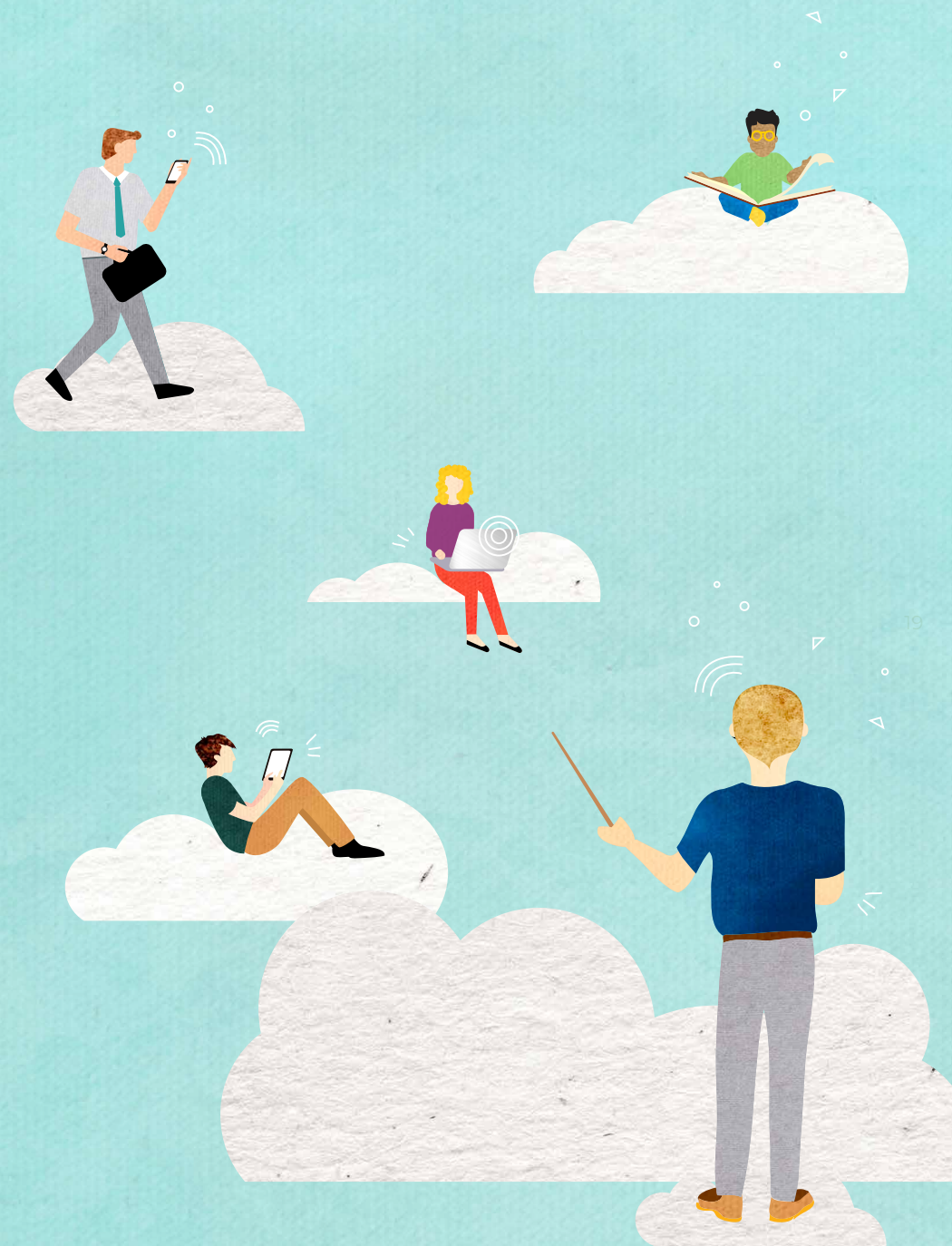
VD.CH/CURATELLES

OUR SCHOOLS IN THE DIGITAL ERA

The canton's first Digital Education Day was held in December 2017. Some 300 participants shared best practices for digital teaching in schools and discussed what is at stake.

Several examples of digital teaching were presented. Some aimed to develop awareness about the good and bad aspects of the internet, including the risks of putting personal details on line, and the need to question the sources of information. In some classes a teaching robot helped those learning to program. Educational software also proved an interesting way to help with homework or apprenticeship tasks, as well as supporting children with special educational needs.

VD.CH/VAUD-2018



HOUSE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

In February 2018, plans were presented to build The House of the Environment in the hills of Lausanne.

It will feature a wooden exterior around a central unit made of adobe, or mud blocks – a first in the canton.

In around 2020, the building will accommodate some 160 people involved in the general management of the environment who are currently spread over several sites in the Lausanne area.

THE ARCHIVES COMMIT TO THE INTERNET

To meet the new, important challenges of the digital era, in particular the dematerialisation of information and the many ways of sharing it, the cantonal archives of Vaud have decided to commit more deeply to the internet and set new policies for maintaining electronic archives.

At the Swiss Archives Day held in Lausanne in June 2017, the archivist community emphasised the importance of on-line encyclopedias in explaining the value of the archives. People with access to digitalised information can discover the existence of the archives and the treasures they contain.

During the event, a presentation with Wikipedia introduced this free, collaborative encyclopedia and explained its valuable features. The archivists underlined their determination to intervene when information is false and to enhance their entries with references to the contents of various archives.

VD.CH/ARCHIVES
VD.CH/VAUD-2018

INNOVATION

A LAND OF UNLIMITED INNOVATION

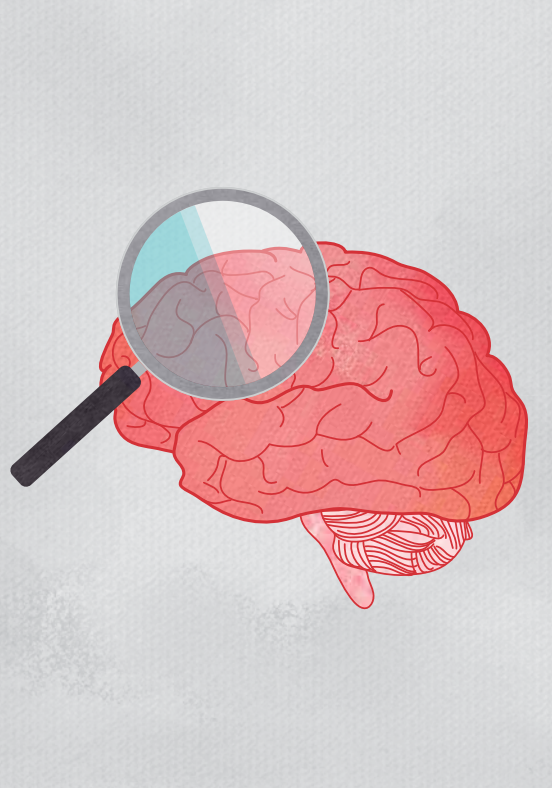
The canton of Vaud is Switzerland's principal centre of research and innovation and a leading European hub of technology. It is fully committed to supporting innovation and the creation of start-up companies.

It is home to the biggest university campus in the country and several research centres with a worldwide reputation. They include the Federal Polytechnic of Lausanne (EPFL), the University Hospital Centre of Vaud (CHUV) and the Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research. In addition, several internationally recognised companies are active in the life sciences, micro-nano technologies, digital technologies, IT, environmental and energy technologies.

This proximity enables science and industry to collaborate on a daily basis, which has facilitated major advances in new technologies.

In order to create a favourable environment for the birth and growth of companies with high added-value technologies, the canton and its partners develop specific measures to meet their needs. In 2016, Innovaud created the VAUD Scale-Up programme to guarantee their promotion, as well as targeted support for their development and international expansion.

VAUD.CH



A NOBEL PRIZE COMES TO VAUD

A unique alliance of expertise developed by these companies and scientific discoveries made in our research centres has fostered some fifteen specific areas of innovation:

- Neurotech
- Immunology
- Oncology
- Labtech
- Cybersecurity
- Drones
- Agritech
- Digital healthcare
- Digital technologies
- Sports technology
- Edtech
- Aeronautics
- Materials and metrology
- Robotics
- Energy efficiency

The Nobel Prize for Chemistry has been awarded to the Vaudois, Jacques Dubochet, Professor at the University of Lausanne, for his work in cryomicroscopy, which enables scientists to directly observe biomolecules in fine detail.

This award demonstrates the canton's appeal and influence in research and teaching. Its schools of advanced studies are essential resources and highly valuable assets that play a key role in the scientific, economic and socio-cultural life of Vaud and make a major contribution to its prosperity, its openness and its development.

On his return from the awards ceremony in Stockholm, Professor Dubochet was given an official reception by the State Council and presented with an automat specially created for him by François Junod of Sainte-Croix.

Video of the event:
[VD.CH/VAUD-2018](https://www.vd.ch/VAUD-2018)

FINANCES

CYBER ADMINISTRATION

24 Accessing all government services via the Internet, in total security, instead of handling a mountain of documents: that's what cyber administration makes possible. It has become essential in today's hyper-connected society and the Canton of Vaud is not behind.

Progressively offering services on line is a major priority for the Information Systems Management (DSI) and is at the heart of the government's legislative programme. Several important projects were initiated last year that should be implemented in 2018. First of all, the completely revised website, www.vd.ch, will become operational in the Spring providing better access to the canton's administrative services.

After rebuilding the portal for the communes, new, secure access will be made available for companies and individuals in the coming months. But before cyber administration can be fully introduced its legal framework must be adapted, and this work is in progress.

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GOOD FINANCIAL HEALTH IN 2018

The Canton of Vaud will spend a total of 9.53 billion francs on its public commitments in 2018, an increase of 231 million over 2017.

The 2018 budget anticipates new cost increases in social services (+134 million), education (+64 million) and healthcare (+24 million). These reflect the greater activity required to meet demographic pressure and support an ageing population.

Forecast revenue is almost identical to expenditure: a total of 9.53 billion, which is 2.48% greater than last year. This increase is largely made up of non-fiscal income such as profit from the Swiss National Bank (+62 million) and various federal subsidies (+40 million). Fiscal income is expected to rise by 1.4% compared to 0.8% in 2017.

EXPENDITURE PERCENTAGES

| | |
|--|-------|
| Education and training | 30.30 |
| Social security | 29.06 |
| Healthcare | 13.26 |
| Public safety | 7.67 |
| Finance and taxes | 4.60 |
| General administration | 4.50 |
| Economic affairs | 4.28 |
| Traffic | 3.58 |
| Culture, leisure, sport, churches | 1.62 |
| Environmental protection and land management | 1.13 |

NUMBERS

SIZE

321,224 hectares
4th largest Swiss canton
7.8% of national territory

SURFACE AREA

HABITAT AND INFRASTRUCTURE 10.0%

AGRICULTURE 41.6%

WOODS 32.3%

LAKES 12.1%

NON-PRODUCTIVE AREA 16.1%

FRONTIERS

750 km,
(146 with France)

CAPITAL

Lausanne, 4th largest Swiss city

COMMUNES

309 on 1 January 2017,
12 with more than 10,000 inhabitants

TOTAL POPULATION

794,384 inhabitants on 31 December 2017
Growth in 2017: 1.0%

FOREIGN POPULATION 33.6%

EMPLOYMENT FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS (2017)

349,719 jobs

PRIMARY SECTOR 9,253 (2.6%)

PRIMARY SECTOR 67,838 (19.4%)

TERTIARY SECTOR 272,628 (78.0%)

WWW.STAT.VD.CH

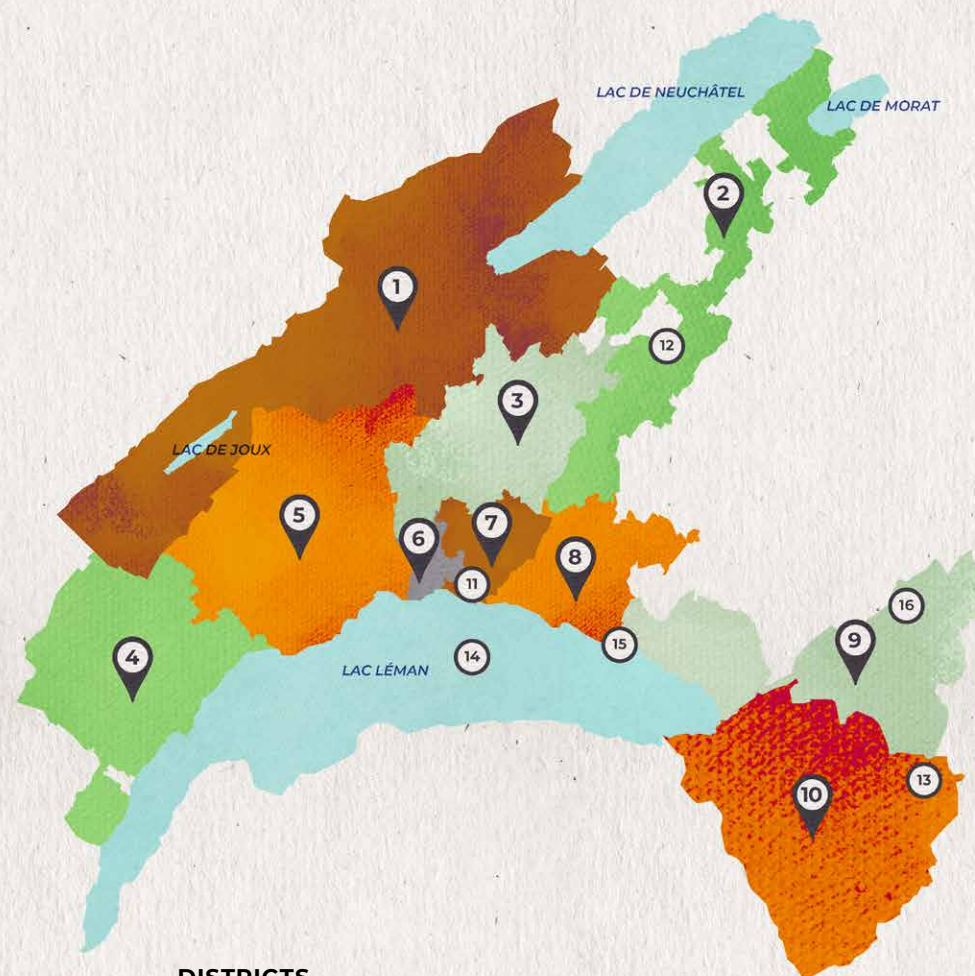
sources:

Swiss Federal Office of Statistics (OFS),

Swiss Surface Statistics, 2016 data.

OFS, Company structure statistics.

Statistics Vaud, annual population data.



DISTRICTS

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

11 MOST POPULATED COMMUNE

Lausanne, 139,624 inhabitants

12 LEAST POPULATED COMMUNE

Mauraz, 60 inhabitants

13 HIGHEST POINT

Diablerets, 3,120 metres

14 LOWEST POINT

Lac Léman, 372 metres

15 SMALLEST COMMUNE

Rivaz, 31 hectares

16 BIGGEST COMMUNE

Château-d'Œx, 11,372 hectares



Brochure "The Canton of Vaud"

1 April 2018

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