

Environmentally related taxes Taxes on energy use

BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

Centre for Tax Policy and Administration

Revenue from environmentally related taxes in Switzerland¹

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As a share of GDP, Switzerland has the 12th lowest environmentally related tax revenue among 34 OECD and 5 partner economies. In 2014, environmentally related tax revenues were at 1.76% of GDP, compared to 2.0% on average among the 39 countries.

In Switzerland, taxes on energy represented 51% of total environmentally related tax revenue, compared to 70% on average among the 39 countries.

Environmentally related tax revenue as a percentage of GDP, 2014 Motor vehicles Other

¹Data from OECD.Stat include all OECD countries (except Latvia) and Argentina, Brazil, China, India and South Africa. Please see OECD.Stat for country specific notes.

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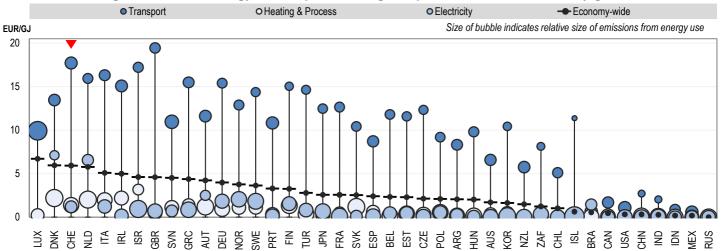
Taxes on energy use in Switzerland²

The OECD's Taxing Energy Use (2015) publication compares taxes on energy use (excise and carbon taxes) across 34 OECD and 7 partner economies. The chart below shows average tax rates, expressed in EUR per GJ, by sector across all fuels and the economy-wide average. The bubble size represents the weight of the sector in total energy use.

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- Switzerland has higher average tax rates on transport fuels (17.71 EUR/GJ) than on fuels used for heating and process purposes (1.38 EUR/GJ) or electricity generation (1.19 EUR/GJ);
- Switzerland has the 3rd highest tax rate on energy on an economy-wide basis, at EUR 5.92 per GJ, compared with EUR 2.7 per GJ on a simple-average basis across the 34 OECD and 7 partner economies.

Average tax rates on energy in transport, heating and process use, and electricity generation



²Data from Taxing Energy Use are for 2012 and include all OECD countries (except Latvia) and Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia and South Africa.

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Effective Carbon Rates

Pricing CO₂ through taxes and emissions trading systems

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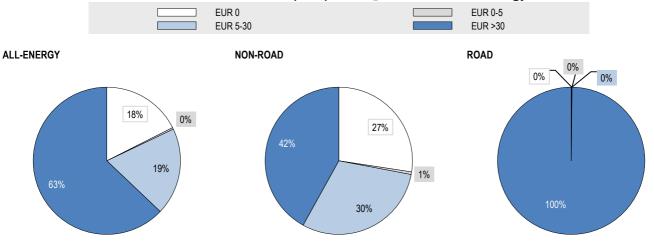
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Effective carbon rates in Switzerland

The OECD's Effective Carbon Rates (2016) publication presents the combined price signal on CO₂ emissions from taxes on energy and emissions trading systems (ETS), or the effective carbon rate (ECR).³ The charts below show shares of CO₂ emissions subject to different price ranges, for road, non-road and all emissions from energy use. EUR 30 is a conservative estimate of the climate damage from one tonne of CO₂ emissions.

- In Switzerland, 18% of carbon emissions from energy use face no price signal at all; 82% face a price at or above EUR 5 per tonne of CO₂; and 63% face a price at or above EUR 30 per tonne of CO₂. This compares to a zero price for 60% of emissions across all countries, a price at or above EUR 5 per tonne for 30% and at or above EUR 30 per tonne for 10% of emissions.
- Excluding road use, 27% of carbon emissions from energy use in Switzerland face no price signal at all; 72% face a price at or above EUR 5 per tonne of CO₂; and 42% face a price at or above EUR 30 per tonne of CO₂. This compares to a zero price for 70% of emissions across all countries, a price at or above EUR 5 per tonne for 19% and at or above EUR 30 per tonne for 4% of emissions.

Distribution of Effective Carbon Rates (ECR) on CO₂ emissions from energy use in Switzerland



Figures shown in the charts may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

³Notes on the interpretation of effective carbon rates: Box 3.1 (p.38-40), OECD's Effective Carbon Rates (2016), or consult http://oe.cd/ECRinterpretation

CO₂ emissions priced and average rates in Switzerland

The table below shows the average price signals from taxes and trading systems, and the share of emissions priced by these instruments.

- » Switzerland is subject to the Swiss ETS, which had an average permit price of EUR 24.97 per tonne of CO₂ in 2014.
- In total, taxes in Switzerland price 77% of CO₂ emissions from energy use; and the Swiss ETS covers 10%. The sectors with the highest tax coverage are road transport (100%) and residential and commercial (82%). The sectors with the highest price coverage by the ETS are industry (42%) and offroad transport (7%).

Share of emissions priced and average price signals from tax & ETS, Switzerland

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	CO ₂ emissions by sector (in t CO ₂)	Tax		ETS			Emissions not
		Average price (in EUR/tCO ₂)	Share of emissions priced	Average price (in EUR/tCO ₂)	Share of emissions priced	Overlap of tax and ETS ⁵	priced by tax or ETS
Agriculture & Fishing	450	0.0	0%	0.0	0%	0%	100%
Electricity	369	50.4	7%	0.0	0%	0%	93%
Industry	10 585	18.6	40%	25.0	42%	19%	36%
Offroad transport	315	165.0	35%	25.0	7%	3%	60%
Residential & Commercial	17 987	29.1	82%	0.0	0%	0%	18%
Road transport	16 864	252.2	100%	0.0	0%	0%	0%
Total ⁴	46 570	102.4	77%	2.4	10%	4%	18%

Access the data for all 41 countries:

http://oe.cd/emissionsdata

⁴Total average prices are weighted by the share of emissions in each sector that is priced in the country.

⁵Tax and ETS can apply to the same emissions base. The overlap describes the percentage of emissions in a sector that is priced by both tax and ETS.