

CRIF study: The Lockdown has led to a 38% reduction in business start-ups

Zurich, 21st April 2020 – After the Lockdown, the number of new businesses being set up in Switzerland fell by 38% compared with the same period of the previous year. 63% fewer companies were set up in Ticino, and several Cantons in the French-speaking area of Switzerland also reported reductions of more than 50%. Of the different sectors, the arts and entertainment sector reported the largest reduction, at 51%.

CRIF AG has looked at how many new businesses were established after the Lockdown and compared this number with the same period of the previous year. The period under observation lasted for one month. All in all, 2,143 companies were set up in Switzerland during this time. This is 38% fewer than last year. The number of company start-ups has fallen in every canton. The worst affected are the Cantons of Appenzell Innerrhoden (-74%), Ticino (-63%), Glarus (-56%), Freiburg (-53%) and Geneva (-52%).

The numbers have also fallen in cantons that have a relatively high number of companies and company start-ups: Bern (-44%), Vaud (-40%), Zurich (-32%) and Zug (-31%). The Canton of Schwyz reported the smallest reduction, at 16%.

In absolute numbers, the Canton of Zurich reported the highest number of start-ups (424), followed by Vaud (199) and Bern (159).

A look at the individual sectors reveals that the arts and entertainment sector registered the largest reduction, with 51% fewer company start-ups. Sectors that provide economic services and freelance services are also badly affected (-50% and -46% respectively). Hospitality has also suffered a drop of 42%.

The finance and insurance sector reported the lowest fall, at minus 9%, followed by the healthcare industry (-30%) and the real estate sector (-34%).

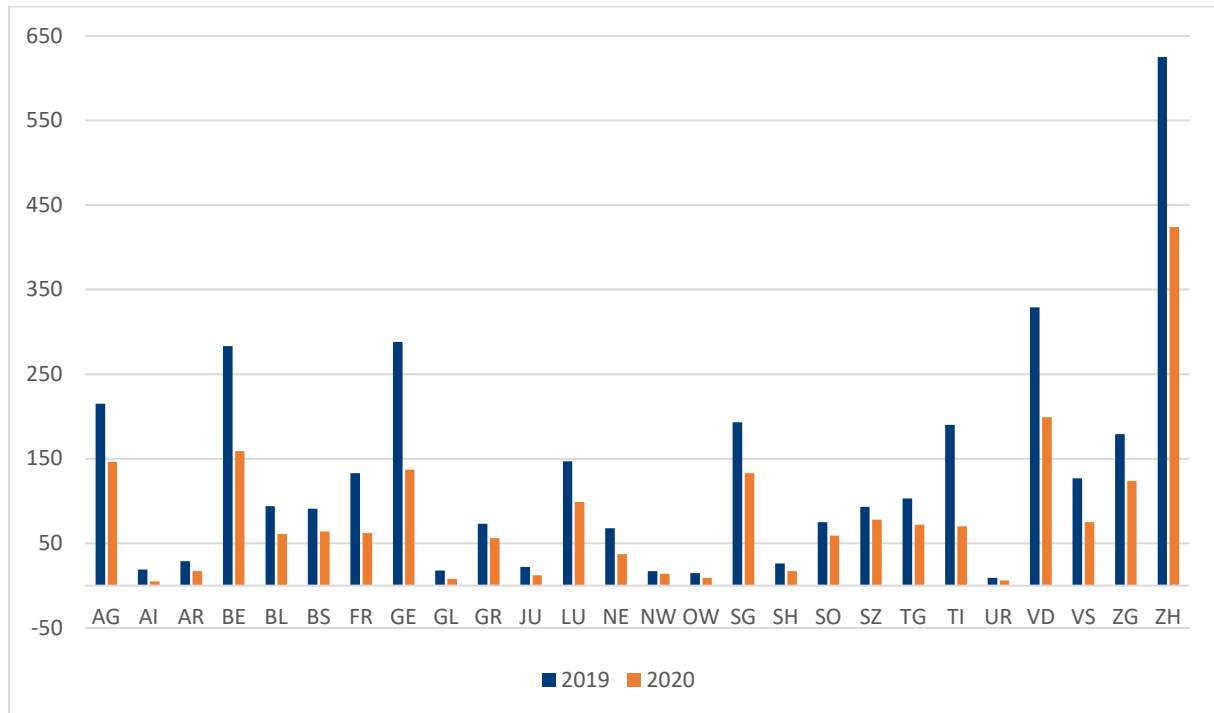
About the survey process

In this survey, we took account of all those businesses that were entered into the Commercial Register for the first time from 18th March to 14th April 2020 (one month). These numbers were compared with the period from 18th March to 14th April 2019.

New company start-ups by Canton, 18th March to 14th April

Canton	2019	2020
Aargau	215	146
Appenzell Innerrhoden	19	5
Appenzell Ausserrhoden	29	17
Bern	283	159
Basel-Landschaft	94	61
Basel-Stadt	91	64
Freiburg	133	62
Geneva	288	137
Glarus	18	8
Graubünden	73	56
Jura	22	12
Lucerne	147	99
Neuchâtel	68	37
Nidwalden	17	14
Obwalden	15	9
St. Gallen	193	133
Schaffhausen	26	17
Solothurn	75	59
Schwyz	93	78
Thurgau	103	72
Ticino	190	70
Uri	9	6
Vaud	329	199
Valais	127	75
Zug	179	124
Zurich	625	424
Total for Switzerland	3461	2143

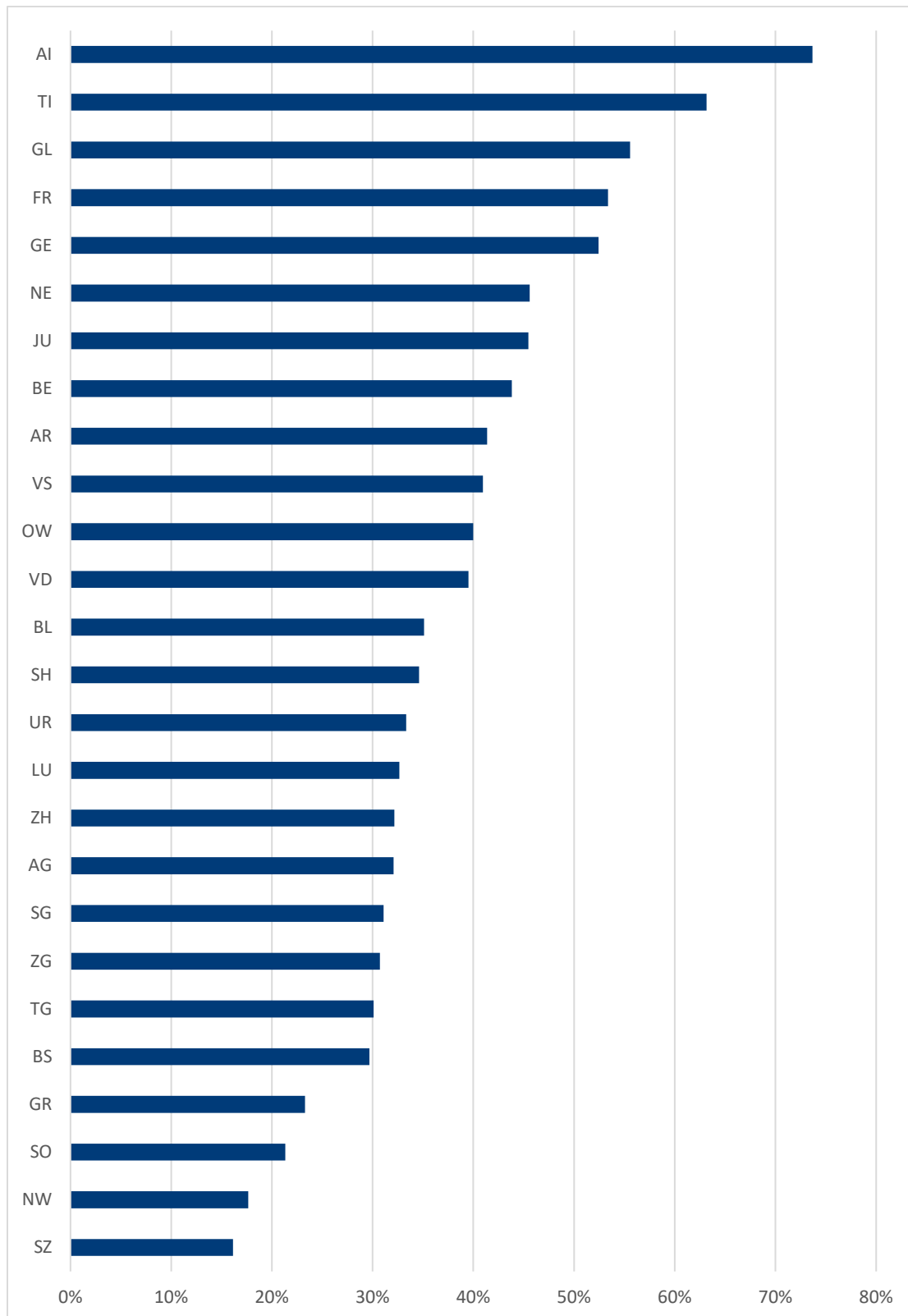
New company start-ups by Canton, 18th March to 14th April



Reduction in business start-ups by Canton as a percentage over the same period of the previous year

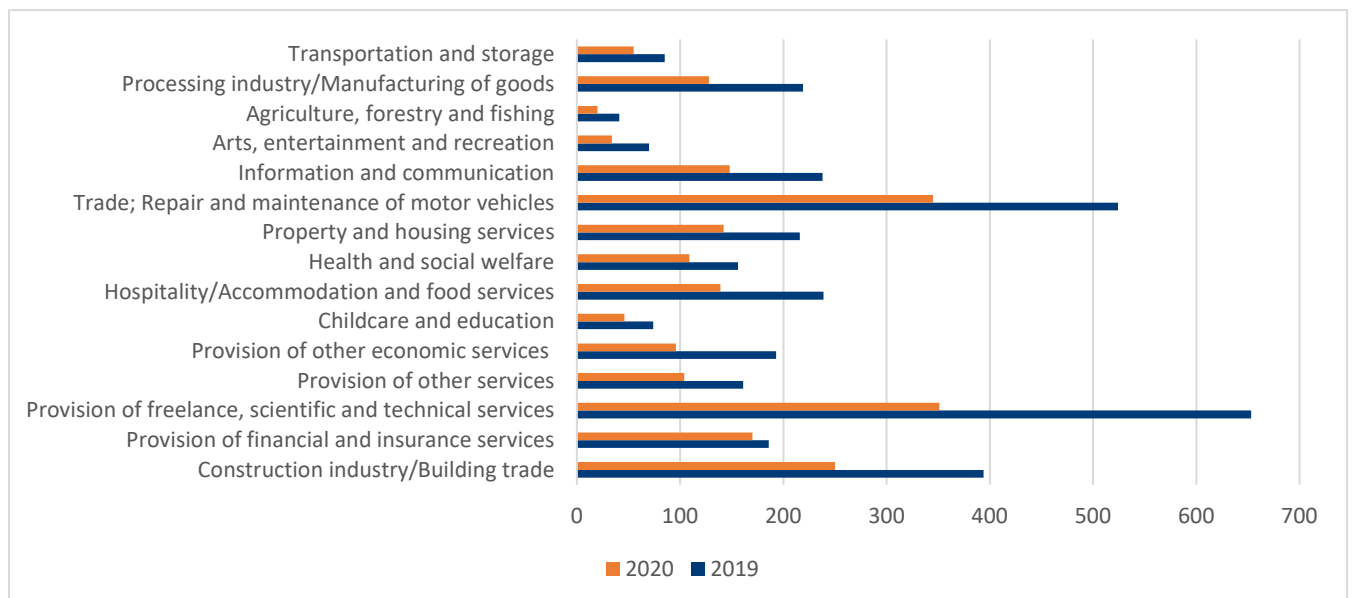
Canton	Variation
Appenzell Innerrhoden	74%
Ticino	63%
Glarus	56%
Freiburg	53%
Geneva	52%
Neuchâtel	46%
Jura	45%
Bern	44%
Appenzell Ausserrhoden	41%
Valais	41%
Obwalden	40%
Vaud	40%
Basel-Landschaft	35%
Schaffhausen	35%
Uri	33%
Lucerne	33%
Zurich	32%
Aargau	32%
St. Gallen	31%
Zug	31%
Thurgau	30%
Basel-Stadt	30%
Graubünden	23%
Solothurn	21%
Nidwalden	18%
Schwyz	16%
Total	38%

Reduction in business start-ups by Canton as a percentage compared with the same period of the previous year



New start-ups by sector, 18th March to 14th April

Sector	2019	2020
Construction industry/Building trade	394	250
Provision of financial and insurance services	186	170
Provision of freelance, scientific and technical services	653	351
Provision of other services	161	104
Provision of other economic services	193	96
Childcare and education	74	46
Hospitality/Accommodation and food services	239	139
Health and social welfare	156	109
Property and housing services	216	142
Trade; Repair and maintenance of motor vehicles	524	345
Information and communication	238	148
Arts, entertainment and recreation	70	34
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	41	20
Processing industry/Manufacturing of goods	219	128
Transportation and storage	85	55
Total	3461	2143



Reduction in start-ups by sector as a percentage compared with the same period of the previous year

Sector	Variation
Provision of financial and insurance services	9%
Health and social welfare	30%
Trade; Repair and maintenance of motor vehicles	34%
Property and housing services	34%
Transportation and storage	35%
Provision of other services	35%
Construction industry/Building trade	37%
Information and communication	38%
Childcare and education	38%
Processing industry/Manufacturing of goods	42%
Hospitality/Accommodation and food services	42%
Provision of freelance, scientific and technical services	46%
Provision of other economic services	50%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	51%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	51%
Total	38%

