The University of Zurich
Excellence in Diversity

Switzerland’s Largest University
The University of Zurich (UZH) was founded in 1833 “by the will of the people”. With a current enrollment of around 27,650 students, UZH is now the largest university in Switzerland, and with seven faculties, 150 departments and around 100 different subject areas, it boasts the most comprehensive academic program in the country.

Twelve Nobel Prizes
The University’s international standing is reflected in the many renowned academic distinctions conferred upon its members over the years, including 12 Nobel Laureates, among them Albert Einstein and Erwin Schrödinger.

Commitment to Health
The proximity between medical research and the clinical services provided in the University’s four hospitals translates into first-rate medical care for the general population.

Sharing Knowledge
All those with a thirst for knowledge are welcome at UZH. The University’s museums, libraries and a variety of events and lectures are free and open to the public.
Research and Teaching
UZH offers degree programs in 50 disciplines at Bachelor’s, Master’s and doctoral level as well as a broad range of continuing education programs. The University conducts research in a wide array of fields and provides research-based services. Inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration plays an important role in research at UZH.

Top-Ranked
In 2020, UZH ranked 56th in the Academic Ranking of World Universities and 76th in the QS Ranking. In the THE Ranking for 2021, UZH was in place 73. Thus in all three major rankings UZH is one of the 100 top universities worldwide.

Fostering Innovation
UZH supports the transfer of knowledge from research to industry and encourages research and innovation in targeted areas with research clusters and priority programs.
UZH in Figures
Students by Faculty and Academic Level

27,656 students

14,778 Bachelor's students

6,769 Master's students

5,625 PhD candidates

484 Teaching diploma candidates
UZH in Figures
Growth in Student Numbers

20,617 students in 2000

27,656 students in 2020

+7,039 students
+5,580 women
+1,459 men
UZH in Figures
Degrees Awarded

5,679
degrees awarded in 2020

2,496 Bachelor’s degrees
2,065 Master’s degrees
795 PhDs
224 Teaching diplomas

Other qualifications awarded:
Advanced Federal Diploma: 43 (Faculty of Medicine), 55 (Vetsuisse Faculty);
other: 1 (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)
UZH in Figures
Origin of Students

23,003 students from Switzerland
21,977 (2019)

11,077 → Zurich
2,533 → Aargau
1,904 → St. Gallen
910 → Lucerne
904 → Thurgau
805 → Ticino
701 → Graubünden
678 → Zug
666 → Schwyz
589 → Bern
428 → Solothurn
357 → Schaffhausen
271 → Baselland
186 → Basel-Stadt
165 → Appenzell
137 → Glarus
119 → Vaud
113 → Valais
97 → Fribourg
87 → Geneva
78 → Nidwalden
68 → Obwalden
60 → Uri
36 → Appenzell
27 → Neuchatel
7 → Jura
4,653 students from abroad (by country of origin)
UZH in Figures
Employees

7,088 full-time-equivalent positions on 31 Dec 2020

- 3,790 Professorships
- 691 Non-professorial academic staff
- 2,607 Administrative and technical staff

Non-professorial academic staff includes the representative bodies for junior researchers and senior researchers and teaching staff.
### UZH in Figures

#### Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total professorial appointments at UZH</th>
<th>Of which</th>
<th>Women of professorial appointments were women in 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table includes all categories of professorships: full and associate professorships (inc. ad personam), assistant professorships (inc. with tenure track), externally funded assistant professorships.
Many UZH research projects in 2020 addressed pandemic-related issues. Here are just a few of them.

Researchers at UZH ...

... are developing a vaccination using spores of the Bacillus subtilis bacterium – a vaccine that could simply be swallowed.

... are testing 5,000 known chemical agents against coronaviruses. The approach is the only one of its kind in the world.

... are analyzing the legal security of data-sharing practices.

... are investigating how the Federal Council’s communications are received by the populace.

Researchers at UZH are advancing our knowledge about coronavirus and studying how the pandemic is changing our lives.
... are researching natural SARS-CoV-2 infection in animals and its effects on humans.

... are working to produce a suitable virus gene of SARS-CoV-2 as a messenger RNA vaccine in sufficient quantities.

... are analyzing the churches’ new digital services.

... are looking into how the lockdown affects the mental health of professional musicians.

... are examining why men are more likely to die from Covid-19.

... are discovering the personal factors that contribute to being productive and good-humored when working from home.

... are collecting data on the use of digital media.

Details about all research projects.
Research Priority Programs
In order to maintain its standing at the forefront of international research and scholarship, UZH has established various University Research Priority Programs (URPPs). These programs aim to strengthen and bring together high-performing academic fields and to support promising young scholars.

New National Center of Competence in Research at UZH
The NCCR Evolving Language has as its focus the origins and future of language.

Centers of Competence
Researchers from a variety of disciplines work together in over 20 Centers of Competence.

Medical Research
UZH supports cutting-edge research in biomedicine and encourages targeted translational research activities.

Technology Platforms
UZH researchers have access to the most up-to-date technology platforms.

UZH Innovation Hub
The UZH Innovation Hub – a hub for innovation and entrepreneurship at the University – accelerates the development of new findings and ideas and encourages the transfer of innovative research and teaching to industry and society.
143
spin-off companies (cumulative)
1999–2020

- Total
- Operational, independent
- Sold, active business
- Discontinued

108 spin-offs
UZH in Figures
International Networks

Strategic Partnerships

UZH is a top-level international research and education institution that actively networks with similar establishments. It has strategic partnerships with the Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Charles University Prague, the University of Geneva, the University of Kyoto and the University of Queensland.
UZH is a member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), a network of 23 research universities from 12 different European countries.

UZH is also a member of Universities 21 (U21), a global network of 27 research universities from around the world. The aim of U21 is to promote research collaboration and exchange of knowledge.
UZH in Figures
Income Statement 2020
(in CHF)

1,47 billion CHF total turnover

Income 2020 (in CHF)
- 625 million (43 %) Canton of Zurich
- 322 million (22 %) other basic financing and operational funds
- 318 million (22 %) project funding
- 195 million (13 %) services and other operational income
- 6 million (0 %) financial yield

Expenditure 2020 (in CHF)
- 932 million (63 %) staff costs
- 545 million (37 %) other operating expenses
- 2 million (0 %) financial expenditure
318 million
project contributions / third-party funds
(in CHF)

1 million
other

37 million
EU and other international research programs

114 million
private sector and individuals

166 million
from federal organizations in Switzerland
(e.g. Swiss National Science Foundation)

Development of income from project contributions
Leadership and Organizational Structure of the University of Zurich

February 2021

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Prof. Dr. Klaus Jonas (PhF)
Prof. Dr. Roland Sigel (MNF)
UZH Campuses

City Campus
Rämistrasse 71
8006 Zurich

Irchel Campus
Winterthurerstrasse 190
8057 Zurich

Oerlikon Campus
Affolternstrasse 56
Andreasstrasse 15
Binzmühlestrasse 14
8050 Zurich

Lengg Campus
Lengghalde 5
8008 Zurich

Schlieren Campus
Wagistrasse 12 and 14
8952 Schlieren
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Diego Geering, medical student at UZH
Photo: Diana Ulrich

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