Facts & Figures
2022
“When it comes to technology, I think we’re on the right path to solving our climate issues. But we still have a way to go when it comes to people’s behavior. It’s essential that we raise people’s awareness of the issue.”

*Sara Engeli*
Eight semesters into her astrophysics studies

“Societal problems can’t simply be solved through legal means. That’s something I learned in my studies, to combine various perspectives.”

*Isaias Moser*
Five semesters into his law studies
Excellence in Diversity

University of Zurich

Academic Excellence

The University of Zurich (UZH) is a leading international research and educational institution offering outstanding research opportunities and state-of-the-art infrastructure. A member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), the Universitas 21 (U21) network and Una Europa, UZH is known as one of Europe’s most prestigious higher education institutions.

Twelve Nobel Prizes

UZH’s international standing is reflected in the many renowned academic distinctions conferred on our members over the years. We are proud to have produced 12 Nobel Prize winners, including Albert Einstein and Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen.

Top-Level Education

With seven faculties, over 150 departments and institutes and more than 200 study programs, UZH is the largest university in Switzerland and covers the greatest range of subjects. 28,000 students at Bachelor’s, Master’s and PhD level benefit from the inspiring environment that UZH has to offer.

Innovation and Knowledge Transfer

UZH is committed to academic freedom and independent research – and to making our findings available and accessible to all. We provide researchers with access to the latest technologies and support the transfer of knowledge from our innovative research and education to industry and the wider society.

Tradition and Democracy

The University of Zurich opened its doors in 1833 as the first university in Europe to be founded by a democratic state. In 1866, UZH became the second university in Europe after the Sorbonne in Paris to admit women.

Public Outreach

UZH makes its resources and knowledge available to the public in a variety of ways. We share new findings through our museums, libraries, Botanical Garden and numerous public lectures and events. In addition, we offer a wide range of continuing education programs for people from various walks of life.
Cutting-Edge Research

Setting the Bar High

UZH’s seven faculties and more than 150 departments and institutes are engaged in cutting-edge research. As a top research university, UZH sets international standards.

Thirteen University Research Priority Programs
UZH fosters interdisciplinary collaboration to find new approaches to the complex challenges of our time. The university’s 13 University Research Priority Programs aim to create interdisciplinary networks in socially relevant research fields and provide attractive collaborative working conditions for qualified junior researchers.

− **Artificial Photosynthesis**
  Converting solar light to chemical energy

− **Development and Learning**
  Adaptive brain circuits in development and learning

− **Digital Religion(s)**
  Communication, interaction and transformation in the digital society

− **Dynamics of Healthy Aging**
  Exploring the potential of an aging society

− **Evolution in Action**
  From genomes to ecosystems

− **Equality of Opportunity**
  Economic and social causes of inequality

− **Financial Market Regulation**
  Analyzing national and international regulatory proposals

− **Global Change**
  Global change and biodiversity: consequences of species extinction

− **Human Reproduction**
  Legal, medical and social requirements of parenthood

− **Language and Space**
  Dialectology, language typology, interactional linguistics

− **Rare Diseases**
  Innovative therapies in rare diseases

− **Social Networks**
  Influence of social networks on society

− **Translational Cancer Research**
  Between fundamental and clinical research

National Center of Competence in Research: Evolving Language
The University of Zurich serves as leading house for the National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) Evolving Language, which explores the past, present and future of language. UZH research groups are involved in 10 further NCCRs.
Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Inspiring Developments in Politics, Business and Society

Zurich is one of the most innovative regions in Europe, thanks to its high density of excellent educational and research institutions and well-established knowledge and technology transfer processes. Innovative findings and developments coming out of UZH serve to advance politics and society. Future-oriented industries such as biotech, medtech or ICT benefit from UZH innovations, and university research, in turn, benefits from the many opportunities for cooperation in this dynamic environment.

Active support
UZH provides researchers with hands-on support when it comes to translating scientific findings into products and services. We also assist researchers who want to establish their own start-up.

UZH Innovation Hub
The UZH Innovation Hub is a platform for innovation and entrepreneurship at the University of Zurich. It acts as a catalyst for the development of new inventions and ideas and strengthens the transfer of innovative research and teaching to the economy and society. Various funding instruments provide targeted support for researchers and students at all project phases – from idea to prototype, right through to testing and practical implementation. Support includes coaching or training in entrepreneurial skills at various levels, as well as early financial support through programs such as the UZH Entrepreneur Fellowships.

Innovation clusters
Four strategic clusters for innovation have been established at UZH: Life Sciences, Space and Aviation, Digitalization, and Healthy Longevity.

150 spin-offs
Spin-off companies are a key instrument when it comes to translating university research into business practice. From 1999 to 2022, more than 150 UZH spin-offs were founded. The UZH Startup Label was introduced in 2018 to support new startups and spin-offs.
Discover

Understanding and Tackling the Climate Crisis

Melting glaciers, sweltering cities and increasing zoonoses – UZH researchers from across the disciplines are analyzing the effects that climate change has on nature and our society. They are finding new ways of dealing with the crisis, including in the area of agriculture, finance and law.

→ Read more online
The University of Zurich carries out first-rate medical research and teaching in close cooperation with the four university hospitals and ETH Zurich. These six institutions combine to form a unique knowledge and health hub where research, teaching and healthcare provision converge.

Cooperating in precision medicine
Since 2018, the six institutions have been working together more closely as part of University Medicine Zurich (UMZH), a coordinating body led by UZH. One example of this cooperation is precision medicine in oncology. Three centers within UMZH – the Tumor Profiler Center, the Comprehensive Cancer Center Zurich and The LOOP Zurich – are advancing research together in this field.

Clinical Research Priority Programs
UZH funds 12 Clinical Research Priority Programs at the interface of biomedical basic research, applied research and clinical care.

Four university hospitals
— The clinics and departments at the University Hospital Zurich leverage their advanced scientific knowledge to provide highly specialized healthcare services that are at the vanguard of research.
— The University Children’s Hospital Zurich is the largest pediatric hospital in Switzerland and ranks among the leading pediatric medical centers in Europe.
— At the Balgrist Orthopedic University Hospital, internationally leading specialists treat damages and injuries to the musculoskeletal system and spinal cord.
— The holistic treatment approaches of the University Hospital of Psychiatry Zurich are based on internationally established scientific guidelines and take into account biological, psychological and social aspects in equal measure.
UZH in Figures

Finances

Revenue 2022
(in CHF)

- Canton of Zurich: 679 mn
- Other Basic Financing and Operational Funds: 318 mn
- Third-Party Project Funding: 366 mn
- Services and Other Operational Income: 208 mn
- Financial Yield: 7 mn

Expenses 2022
(in CHF)

- Staff Costs: 991 mn
- Other Operating Expenses: 580 mn
- Finance Expense: 4 mn

Development of Third-Party Project Contributions
(in CHF)

- 315 mn (2018)
- 323 mn (2019)
- 318 mn (2020)
- 345 mn (2021)
- 366 mn (2022)

- Federal Organizations in Switzerland
- Private Sector and Individuals
- EU and International Research Programs
- Other

Total Revenue (in CHF)
1,578 mn
1,504 mn (2021)

Third-Party Project Funding (in CHF)
366 mn
345 mn (2021)

Annual Result (in CHF)
3.5 mn
-5.5 mn (2021)
“I want to use chiropractic medicine to help improve patients’ quality of life.”

Noemi Vogel
Seven semesters into her chiropractic medicine studies

Tarek Alkameh
Seven semesters into his informatics studies

“I think many of our problems could be solved if we had more empathy for each other.”
Teaching and Learning

On the Pulse

UZH offers students an excellent environment full of opportunities and a level of diversity that is unprecedented in Switzerland. We are also developing our teaching on an ongoing basis. Teaching at UZH meets the changing demands of a society in flux – creatively, innovatively and on a wide variety of levels. The Future of Teaching at UZH initiative was launched in 2022 to further bolster this approach.

Quality standards in teaching development
UZH promotes innovative teaching ideas and fosters a lively teaching community. By introducing the UZH Curriculum in 2022, we established university-wide quality standards for developing attractive academic programs. According to these criteria, the future of teaching at UZH is research-based, goal-oriented, engaging, individualized, transdisciplinary and international.

An international environment
The UZH community is diverse and international. Almost half of our professors, 45 percent of employees and one-fifth of students are from abroad. Most of our foreign students come from Germany, China and Italy.

Student exchanges
UZH has agreements on student exchanges with over 250 partner universities around the world. We also offer various joint-degree and double-degree programs with selected partner universities and promote international short programs such as summer schools, winter schools and internships abroad. In 2022, 703 exchange students studied at UZH, while 344 UZH students went on a stay abroad.

Studying across disciplines
Established in 2021, the School for Transdisciplinary Studies offers interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary courses in forward-looking topics such as sustainability, digitalization and innovation to students across all faculties.
Discover

New Approaches to Learning

In traditional seminar and lecture formats, instructors explain a topic, while students present and discuss their ideas. But these formats are increasingly complemented by new, innovative approaches to learning, many of which are being developed right here at UZH. Read on to find out just how innovative and imaginative our approaches are.

Read more online
UZH in Figures

Students

27,895
Total Students
28,121 (2021)

6,135
Total Degrees
5,984 (2021)

- 299 Faculty of Theology
- 3,961 Faculty of Law
- 4,120 Faculty of Business, Economics and Informatics
- 4,048 Faculty of Medicine
- 770 Vetsuisse Faculty
- 9,829 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- 4,868 Faculty of Science

- 2,589 Bachelor
- 2,566 Master
- 232 Teaching Diploma
- 748 PhD
### Exchange Students

- **3,693** Europe
- **1,225** Asia
- **158** North America
- **87** South America
- **53** Africa
- **11** Australia/Oceania

### Percentage of Foreign Students

18.7% (2021)

### Students in Master of Advanced Studies Programs

891

962 (2021)

### Most Popular Subjects

- **3,961** Law
- **3,600** Human Medicine
- **2,404** Psychology
- **1,935** Biology
- **1,336** Business and Economics (interdisciplinary)
- **1,201** Informatics
- **1,099** Business Administration
- **876** Political Science
- **866** History
- **831** Natural Sciences (interdisciplinary)
Global Affairs

Part of a Worldwide Network

UZH is involved in a number of dynamic global networks. We have strategic partnerships with the Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Charles University Prague, Kyoto University, the University of Queensland and the University of Geneva. As a member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), Una Europa and Universitas 21 (U21), UZH ranks among Europe’s leading universities.
Staff

Staff by Employee Group

- 734 Professorships
- 5,813 Non-Professorial Academic Staff
- 3,471 Administrative and Technical Staff

9,953
Total Employees
9,896 (2021)

5,623
Total Teaching Staff
5,367 (2021)

39.9%
Percentage of Teaching Staff from Abroad
40.3% (2021)

Staff by Organization

- 127 Faculty of Theology
- 514 Faculty of Law
- 675 Faculty of Business, Economics and Informatics
- 2,636 Faculty of Medicine
- 800 Vetsuisse Faculty
- 1,909 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- 1,687 Faculty of Science
- 1,439 Central Services (incl. Internal Audit)
- 394 Strategic Programs
The image on the front page shows participants of the international research seminar “Sustainable Mountain Development”, a transnational course jointly offered by UZH and Tbilisi State University.