

Historical Background

The history of the foreign banks in Switzerland is probably the most varied history of all sub-sectors in the Swiss financial center. The first banks were established in the 19th century. Then and in the early decades of the last century, foreign banks opened a subsidiary or a branch in Switzerland mainly to serve corporate clients. But with the strong growth in the offering of wealth management services starting in the 60's, Switzerland became increasingly attractive to foreign banks. In the course of the decades, many banks entered, and in 2009 156 foreign banks were established. The financial crisis asked its toll – the number decreased over the years.

We compile articles, which describe the ascent of the foreign banks in Switzerland.

[Strukturwandel \(Max Schäfer 1995\)](#)