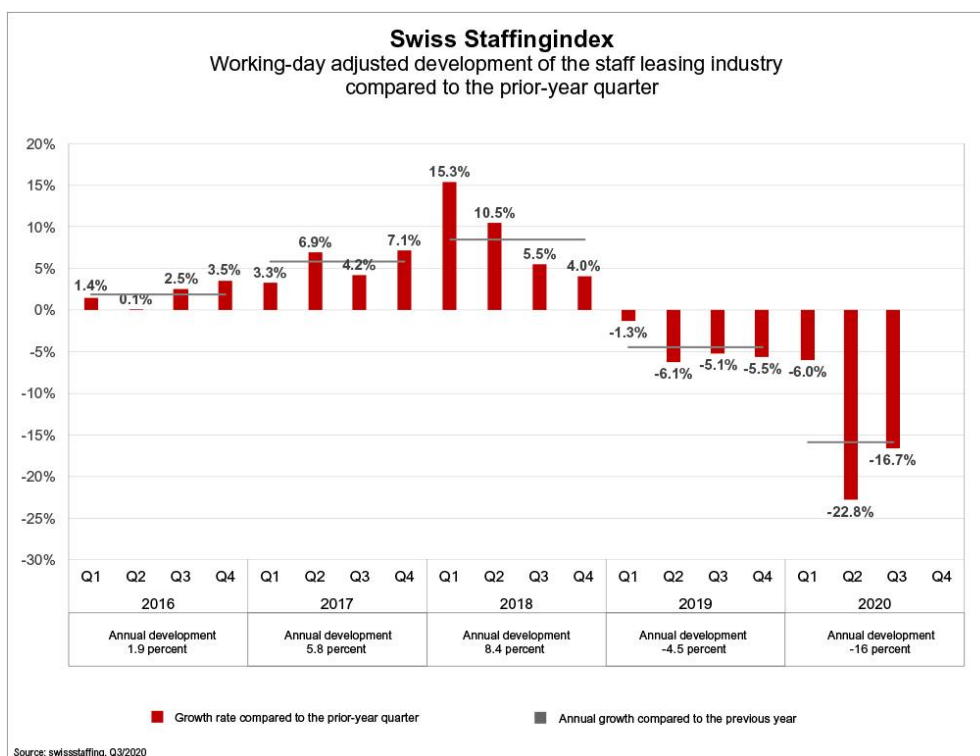


A Second Wave of Coronavirus Threatens the Swiss Labor Market

The staff leasing sector serves as a gauge for the Swiss economy as a whole. In the third quarter of 2020, the Swiss Staffingindex was down 16.7% on the previous year. This meant that the benchmark index for the sector only rose very slightly compared with the second quarter. Despite some easing of restrictions, the coronavirus crisis is driving staff leasing companies deep into the red. It is becoming increasingly difficult for job seekers to find employment. The acute second wave and the threat of new countermeasures mean that the fourth quarter is likely to see an even bigger slump in business than the one experienced during lockdown.



A second lockdown would be fatal for the Swiss labor market. In the spring, companies and employees were able to ride out the lean period together. Given the reserves expended to do so, any further setbacks are likely to result in a wave of redundancies. There is, however, a glimmer of hope for Swiss industry: low infection rates have enabled economies in Asia to recover quickly, creating opportunities for sales and jobs.

Flexible workers as support for cantons and health care

Contact tracing, public employment services, and health care are currently in urgent need of personnel. “Staffing service providers are helping hospitals and cantonal offices to recruit the staff they need”, explains Myra Fischer-Rosinger, Director of swissstaffing. “When it comes to recruitment, staff leasing companies are the second most important point of contact for job seekers after regional unemployment offices (RAVs). The sector is therefore making a key contribution to society.”

→Further Information:

The index’s key data and the development of the underlying index values can be seen below. Other statistics are available by clicking [this link](#).

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Swiss Staffing Index key data	
Staff leasing companies included	200 companies
Working hours recorded per year	76 million
Market coverage	42%
Frequency of publication	Quarterly
Data collection	Monthly
Next provisional publication date	28 January 2021

Source: swissstaffing, Q3/2020

Overview of the development of the Swiss Staffingindex, basis: Q1 2012

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Q1	100	104.1	114.3	110.9	112.4	116.1	133.9	132.2	124.2
Q2	136.3	144.3	148.9	143.0	143.1	153.0	169.1	158.8	122.6
Q3	153.8	159.9	160.9	154.4	158.3	165.0	174.0	165.1	137.6
Q4	138.2	147.5	145.7	139.6	144.5	154.7	160.9	152.1	

Source: swissstaffing, Q3/2020

swissstaffing is a service centre and centre of excellence for staff leasing companies in Switzerland. As an employers' association, swissstaffing represents the interests of its 400 members in matters of policy, the economy and society. swissstaffing is a social partner of the CBA on Staff Leasing, the agreement covering more employees in Switzerland than any other.

Studies on temporary workers and recruitment agencies in Switzerland

The market research institute gfs-Zürich completes regular surveys on behalf of swissstaffing. The current studies can be found by clicking on [this link](#).