Sustainably
on the Road

North Pole

Basel
Switzerland

24,849

Bali
Indonesia

South Pole

Average mobility per Swiss citizen
per year in total: 24,849 km

Average mobility per Swiss citizen
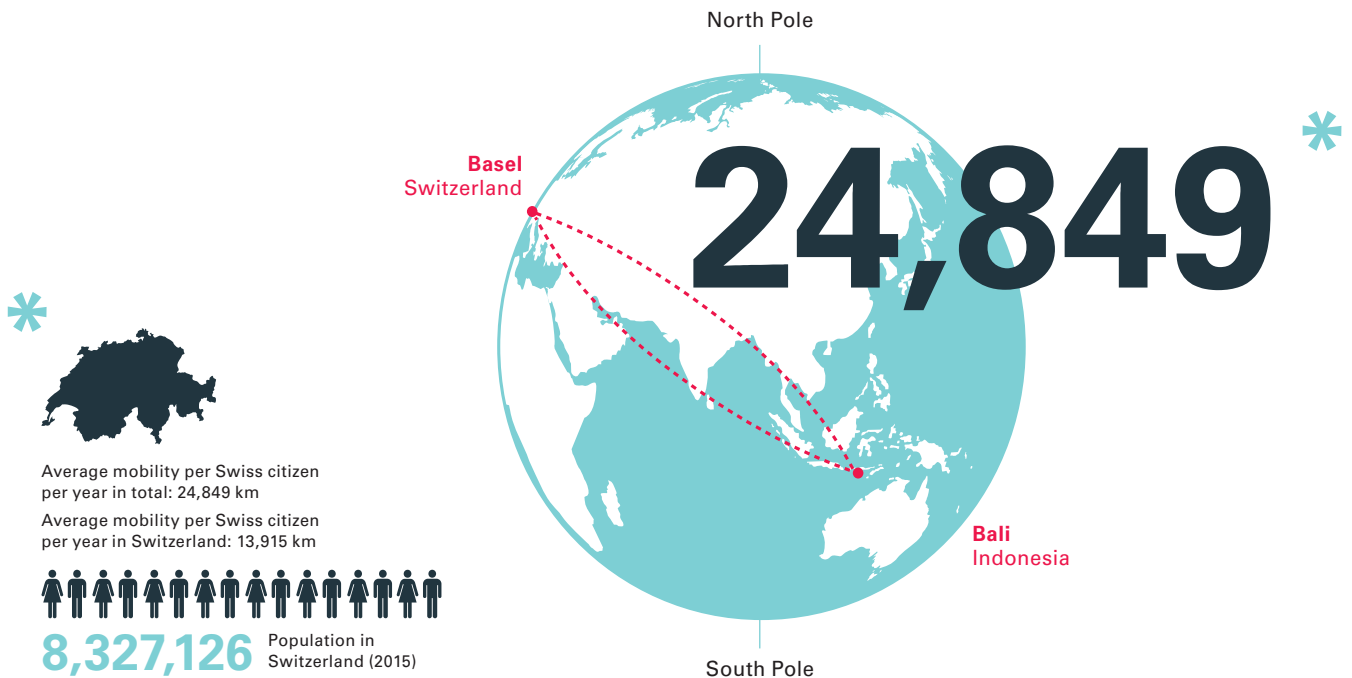per year in Switzerland: 13,915 km

8,327,126 Population in
Switzerland (2015)

24,849 kilometers each year: This is the average distance traveled by every inhabitant of Switzerland each year. Thereof, 13,915 km were traveled within Switzerland ([Federal Statistical Office, 2015](#)). Traffic is the most significant cause of noise and the main source of nitrogen oxide and greenhouse gases in Switzerland ([Swiss Federal Office of Energy, 2017](#)). Traffic routes seal the soil, cut through the landscape and interfere with the habitats of flora and fauna. The following tips will help you protect the environment while allowing you to remain mobile in day-to-day-life and in your leisure time.

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1. By bike or on foot
2. Use local public transport
3. Consider carpooling
4. Car sharing: Use a car rather than own one
5. Travel less thanks to Skype, telephone and video conferencing
6. Take the train for (business) travel whenever possible
7. Offset CO_2 impact from air travel
8. Leisure time

1. By bike or on foot

By bike, e-bike or on foot – that is not only the healthiest option but also the climate friendliest. With the digital cycle map on the Geo Viewer provided by the canton of Basel City, you will be able to find the quickest and most appealing route to the University and the best connections between various buildings. In case you do not have an own bike, you can easily rent one on renta-bike.ch or carvelo2go.ch. Otherwise, hundreds of used bikes are sold on ricardo.ch or tutti.ch.

2. Use local public transport

- With the U-Abo (pass for trams, trains and busses), you can use the entire network of Tarifverbund Nordwestschweiz with no restrictions.
- Quick timetable information can be obtained from SBB, BVB and Tarifverbund Nordwestschweiz TNW, or by app straight to your smartphone: "SBB Mobile" and "BVB Stadt & Regio"
- You can also buy train tickets by smartphone directly from SBB-Mobile (iPhone, Android, WP7).
- The calculator for commuters using SBB can be used to compare monthly costs for public transport and car.

3. Travel together, save double

By carpooling, you can share traveling expenses and protect the environment at the same time. Have a word with your colleagues or find a carpooling opportunity on an online platform such as e-carpooling.ch, karzoo.ch, mitfahrangebot.ch oder blablacar.de.

4. Car sharing: Use a car rather than own one

As a supplement to public transport, the use of a car sharing service lends itself as an inexpensive alternative.

- Use Mobility for example: For students and staff of the University of Basel there is an attractive special offer: free trial subscription for four months (usually CHF 70) and an annual subscription for CHF 70 (usually CHF 290).
- As an alternative, you can use Catch a Car. In Basel, there are 120 Catch-Cars available that can be located in real time using an app. Car sharing can also be organized privately or between neighbors and through internet platforms such as Cartribe.ch. The VCS guide will help you with questions on insurance and maintenance costs arising from private car sharing.

5. Travel less thanks to Skype, telephone and video conferencing

- Telephone or video conferencing and services like Skype: This low-cost option often lends itself as an alternative to business travel.
- IT-Services has put together various options (Adobe Connect, Skype, among others) for video conferencing at the University of Basel.

6. Take the train for (business) travel whenever possible

- Air travel in Europe causes 5 to 6 times more environmental impact per kilometer traveled than traveling by train. Take the train for travel no further than 5 hours by rail from your point of departure.
- At ecopassenger.org you can compare energy consumption and CO_2 and air pollutant emissions for your trip by plane, by car or by train.
- At the web platform routerank.ch you can determine the quickest, cheapest and most environmentally friendly route.

7. Offset CO_2 impact from air travel

It is not always possible to avoid flying. And so you can use various providers (e.g. Myclimate.ch) to calculate emissions impacting climate change and have them offset. For offsetting, give preference to those climate protection projects that have a Gold Standard seal of quality. Please note that there is no extra budget at the University for CO_2 offsetting which means that this has to be paid for from individual budgets.

8. Mobile in leisure time

There is a wide range of leisure time activities on offer. We have compiled a list of a few tips and suggestions here:

- The RailAway offers from SBB or the Tours into Nature by VCS are leisure time ideas where you can leave your car in the garage.
- At veloland.ch you can find the right cycle route for every level of experience.
- Are you planning a trip to the mouintains? Various websites provide help in the form of offers that supplement public transport and enable you to leave your car at home: AlpenTaxi.ch hosted by mountain wilderness, the platform Busalpin.ch and also the platform go-shred.com are only a few examples.

"Think further …" stands for sustainable thinking, planning and acting at the University of Basel. More information can be found at Sustainability at the University of Basel

DENK WEITER…
FÜR EINE NACHHALTIGE UNIVERSITÄT BASEL