



World Health
Organization

Overview of the health workforce in Switzerland

**"Swiss Public Health Conference
Lausanne, 30 August 2012**

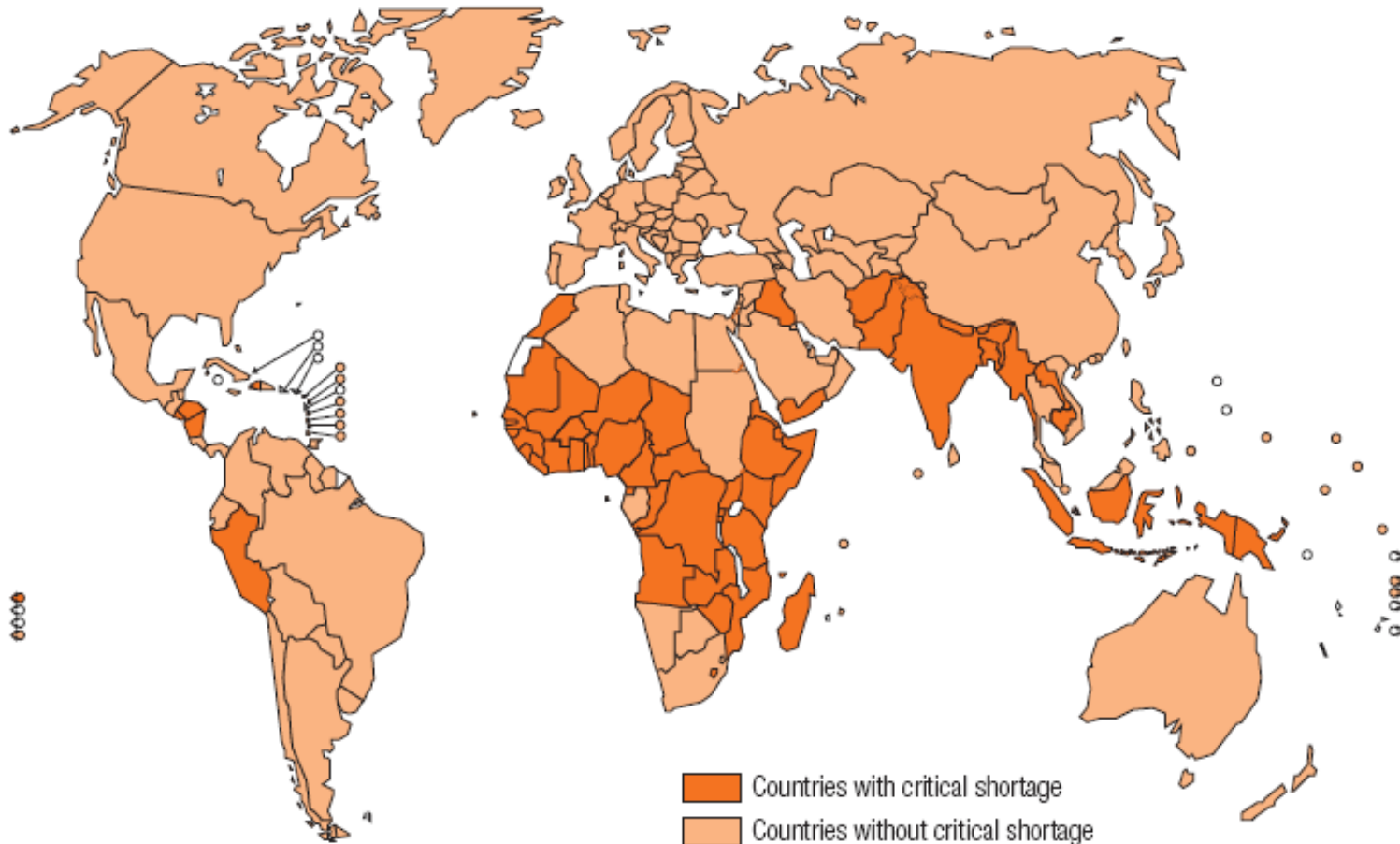
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Outline

- Global health workforce crisis
- Health workforce density in OECD and Switzerland
- Health workforce differences within Switzerland
- Global health workforce crisis "paradox"
- Health workforce trends in Switzerland
- Does Switzerland train enough health workers ?
- Conclusions

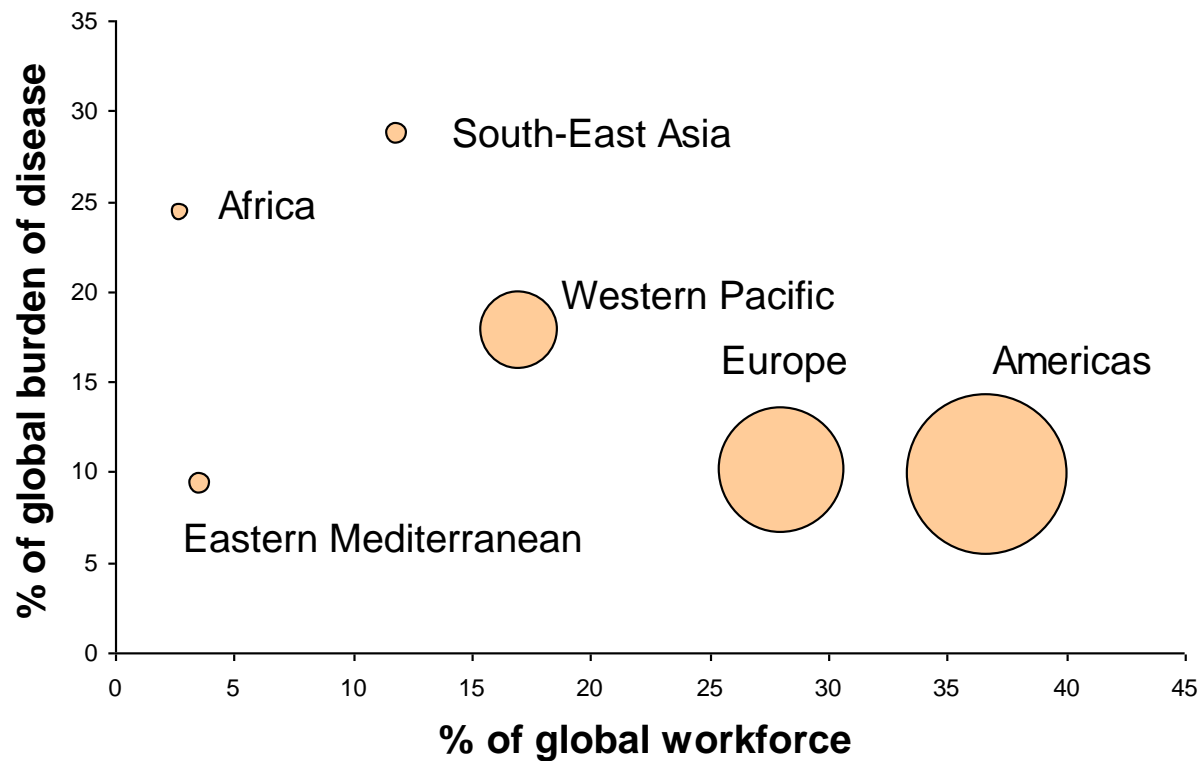
Global Health Workforce Crisis

Countries with a critical shortage of health service providers
(doctors, nurses and midwives)



Inequities in health workforce distribution

WHO regions

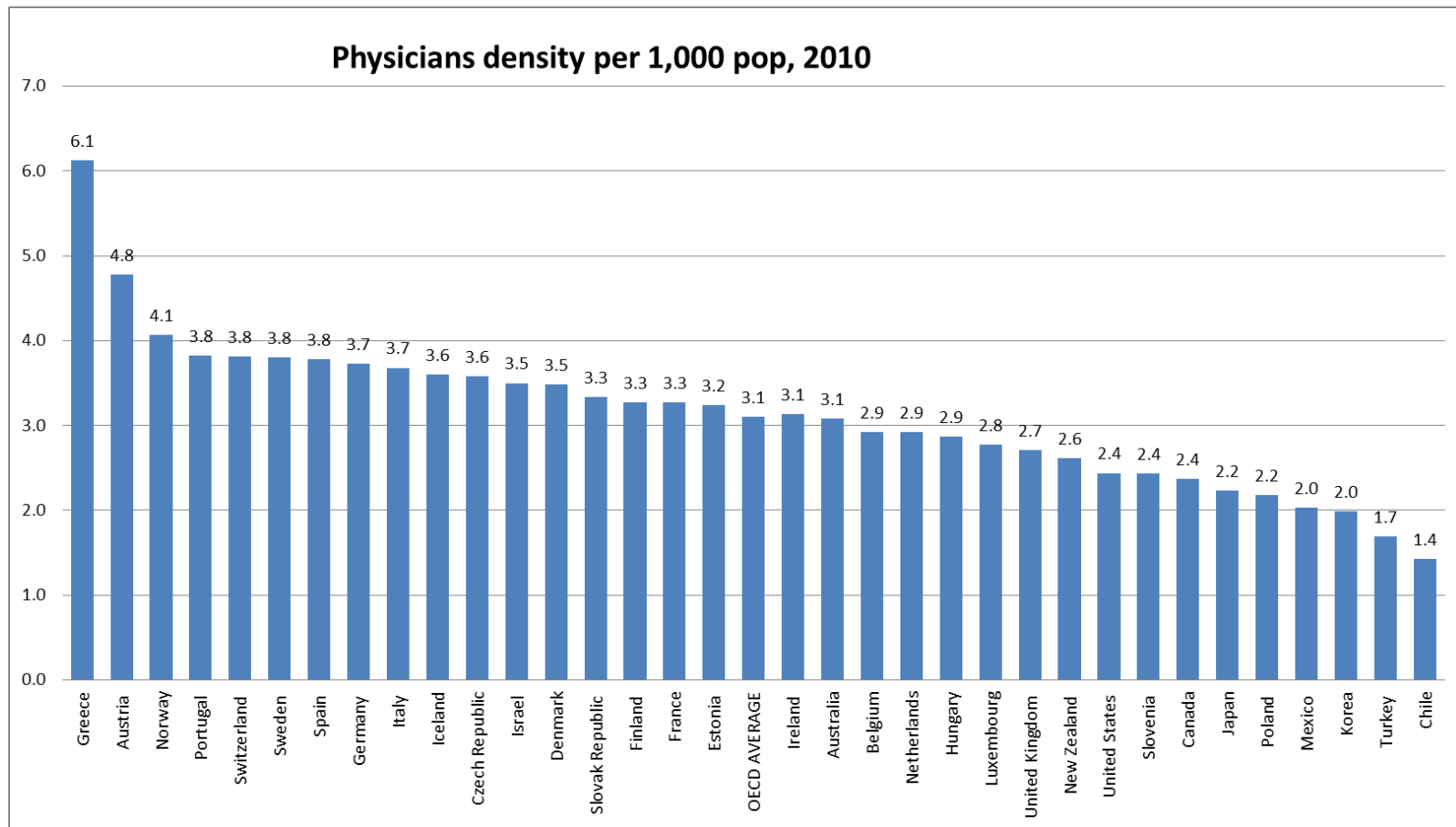


Source: WHO (2006). *The World Health Report 2006 – Working Together for Health*. Geneva, World Health Organization

Health workforce density in OECD and Switzerland

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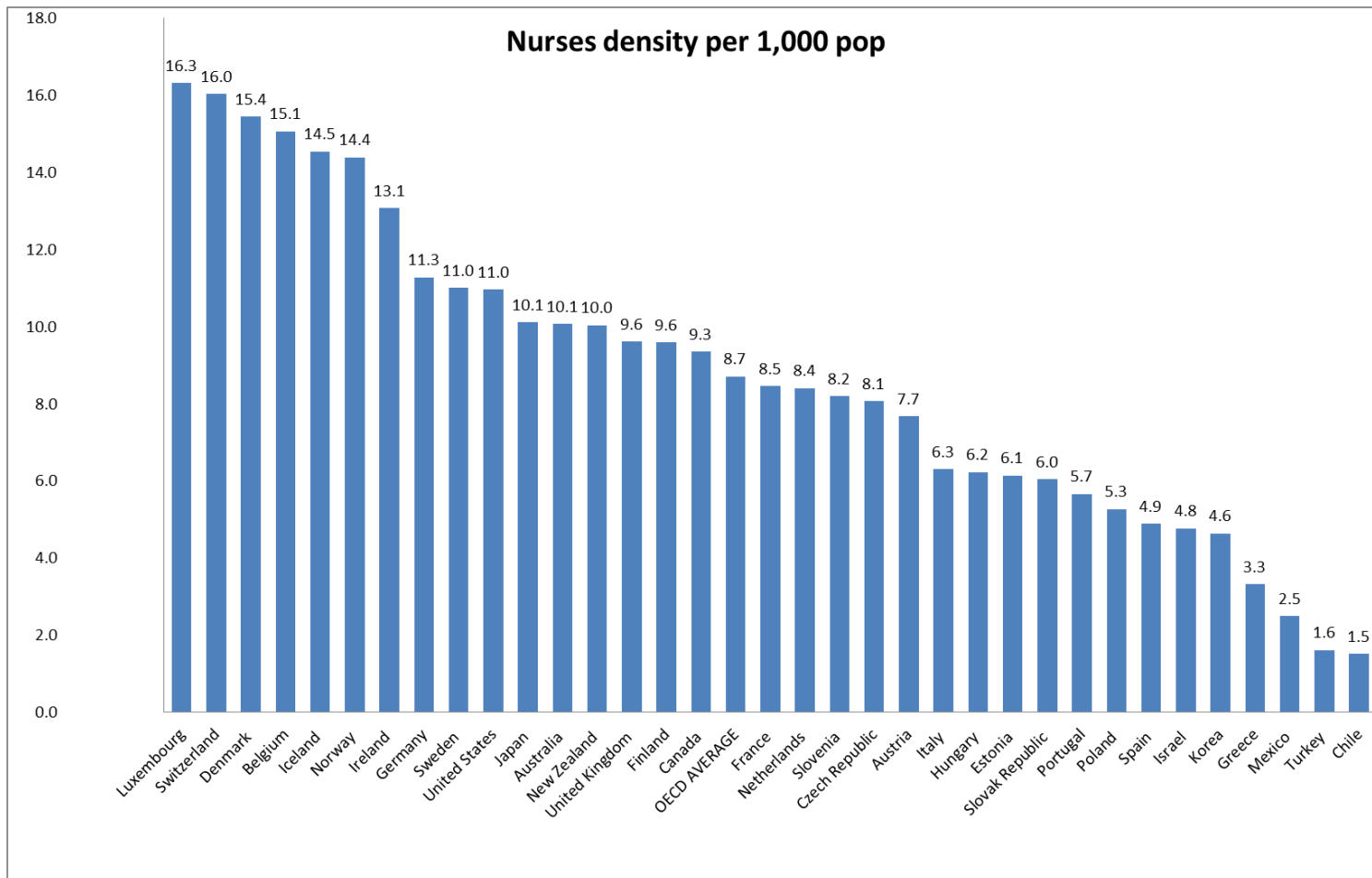
- A health workforce supply above OECD average



Health workforce density in OECD and Switzerland

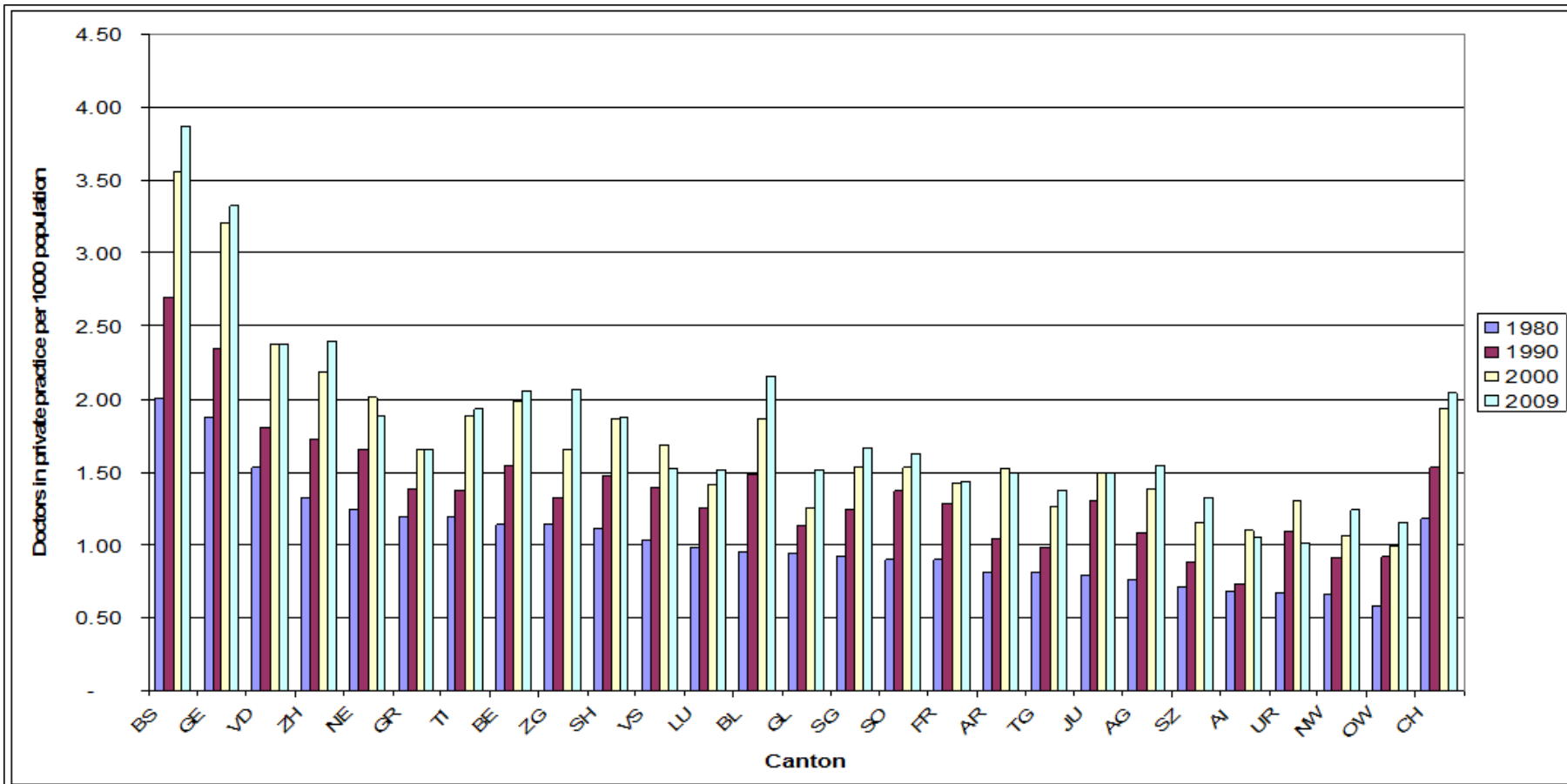
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- A health workforce supply above OECD average



Health workforce differences within Switzerland

- Variations across professions and in geographical distributions



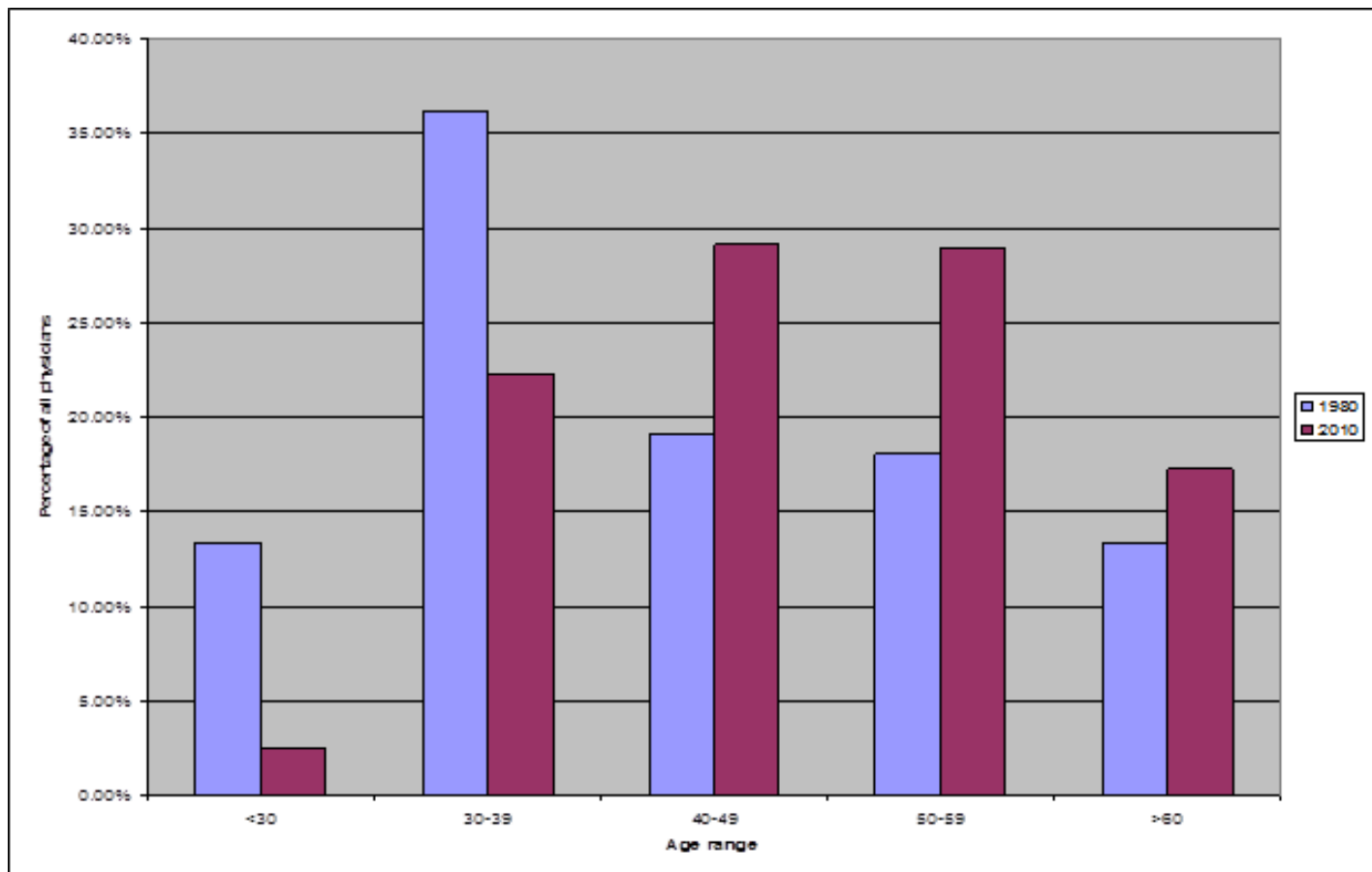
Global health workforce crisis "paradox"

Anticipated Shortages of Health Workers in Switzerland and other higher income countries

- Population and health workforce ageing
- New technologies
- New working patterns (part time, early retirement, feminisation of medical professions, etc.)

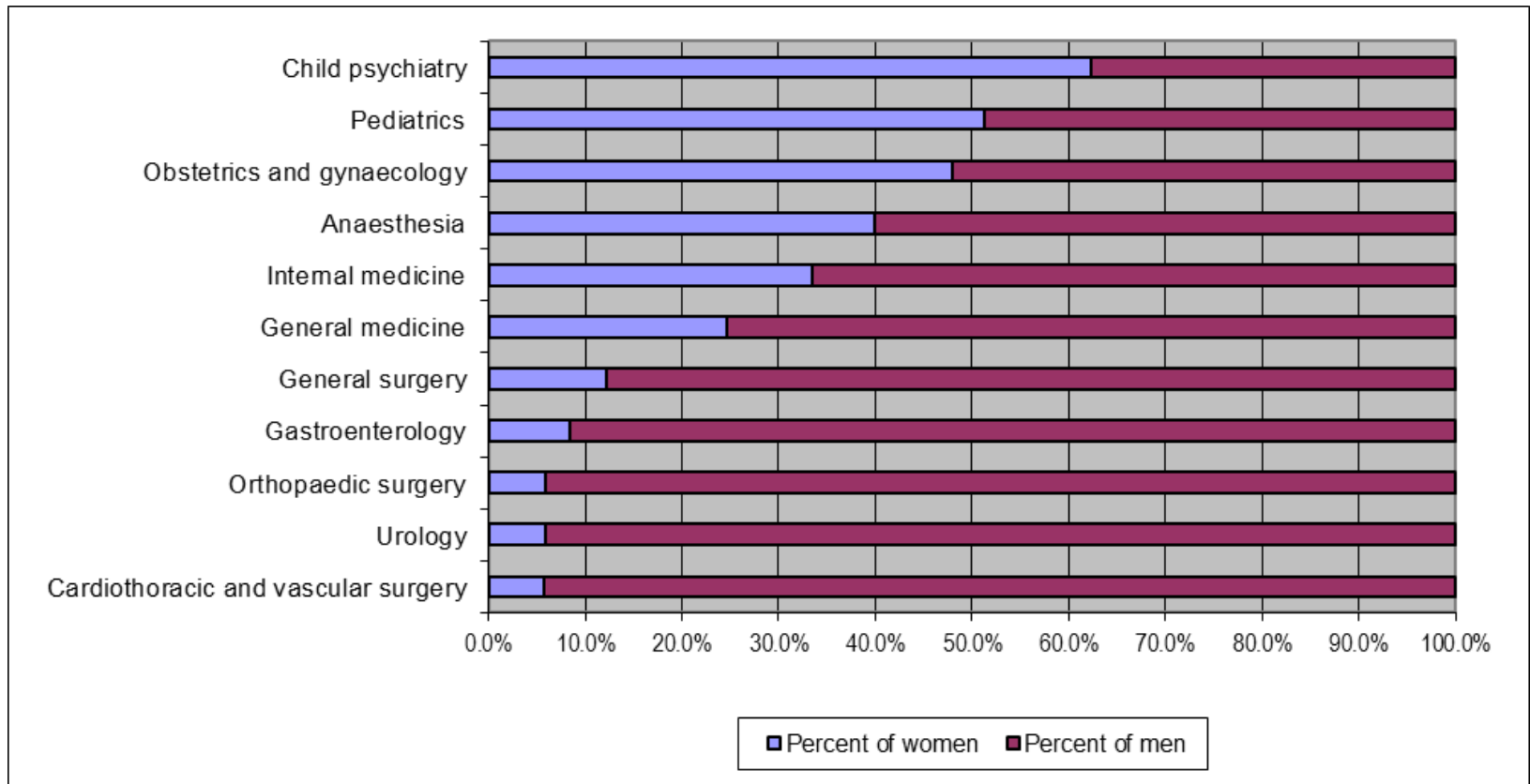
Health workforce trends in Switzerland 1/2

- Health workforce ageing



Health workforce trends in Switzerland 1/2

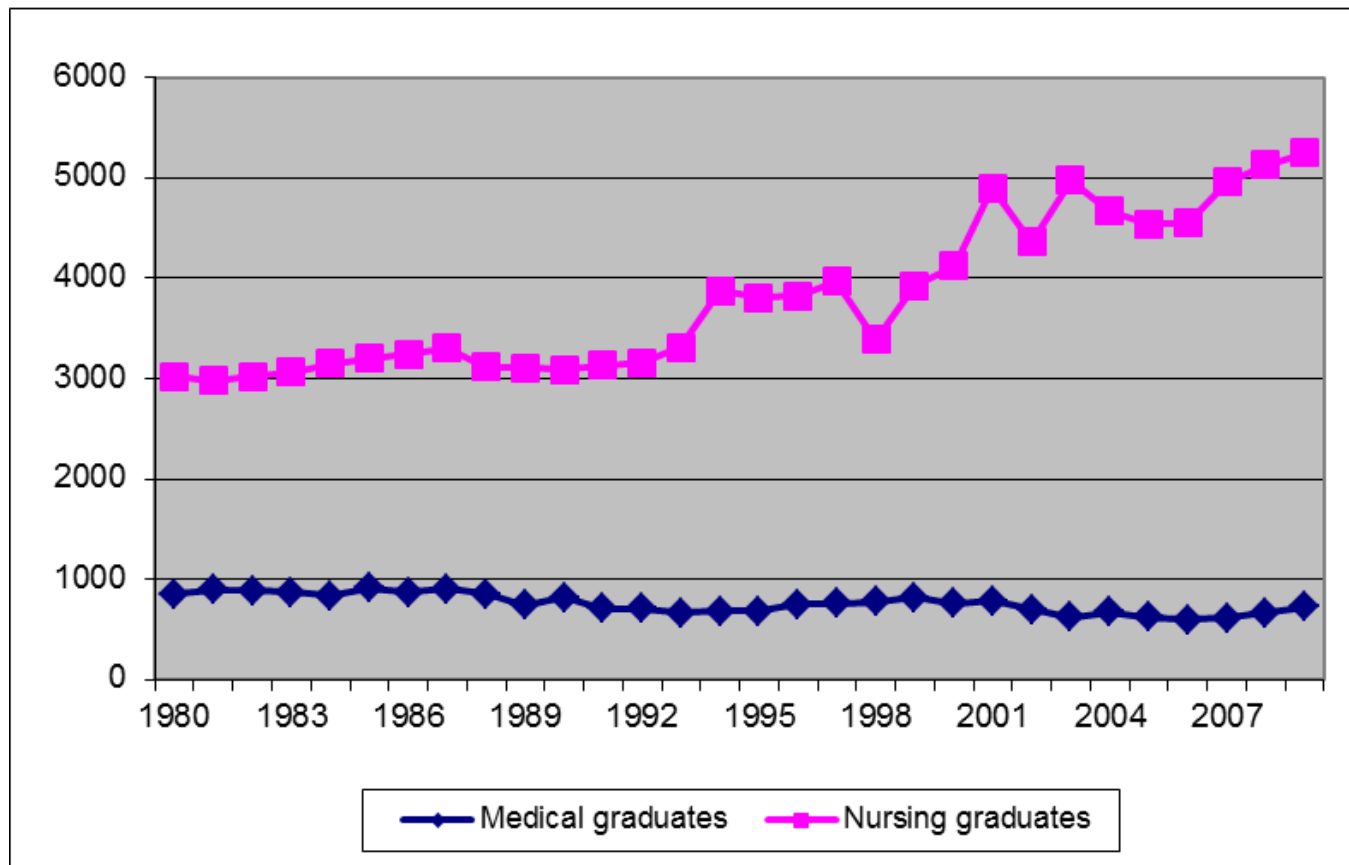
- Feminization of the medical profession but not all specialties



- No real "masculinization" of the nursing profession

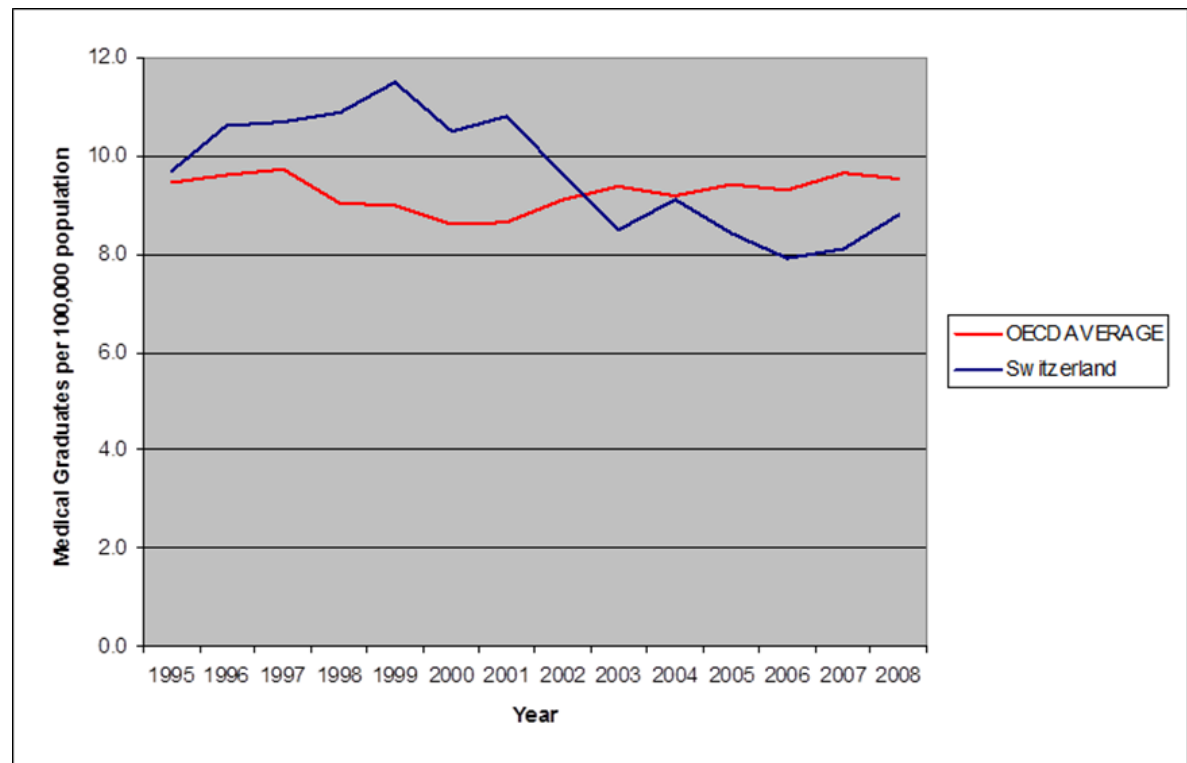
Does Switzerland train enough health workers ?

- Ongoing increase in the number of nursing graduates
- Stagnation in the number of medical graduates



Does Switzerland train enough health workers ?

- Switzerland below OECD average in number of medical graduates per 100,000 pop



Share of International Health Workers in OECD Countries

	<i>Nurses</i>	<i>Doctors</i>
New Zealand	23.2	46.9
Australia	24.8	42.9
Ireland	14.3	35.3
Canada	17.2	35.1
United Kingdom	15.2	33.7
Luxembourg	25.8	30.2
Switzerland	28.6	28.1
United States	11.9	24.4
Sweden	8.9	22.9
Portugal	13.9	19.7
OECD	10.7	18.2
France	5.5	16.9
Netherlands	6.9	16.7
Norway	6.1	16.6
Austria	14.5	14.6
Belgium	6.6	11.8
Germany	10.4	11.1
Hungary	3.1	11.0
Denmark	4.1	10.9
Greece	9.7	8.6
Spain	3.4	7.5
Turkey		6.2
Finland	0.8	4.0
Poland	0.4	3.2
Mexico	0.2	1.5

- Share of international health workers (foreign-born) is important in Switzerland

Conclusions

- Health workforce supply in Switzerland is higher than OECD average
- Switzerland is facing various challenges for its future health workforce
- Importance of developing a national and long term vision on health workforce issues