Gender Pay Gap in Switzerland across Industries and Regions

Tanja Bekic, Sakshi Sachin Chaudhari

University of Zurich

December 7, 2024

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Data and Methodology
- 3. Results
 - 3.1 Gender Pay Gap by Job Role
 - 3.2 Gender Pay Gap in Switzerland by Gross Regions
- 4. Conclusion

Introduction

- The Gender Pay Gap shows a persistent disparity in earnings between men and women
- Reflects systemic inequalities with implications economic efficiency
- Focus of this study: quantifying the gender pay gap across industries and regions in Switzerland
- Providing a data-driven overview
- Approach: Use of descriptive statistics to visualize the gender pay gap across job roles and gross regions

Data

- Data is provided by the Federal Statistical Office of Switzerland
- We used data from 2012 2022 on 3 themes:
 - Gross monthly wage (central value) by economic division, occupational status and gender on 7 gross regions
 - Gross monthly wage (central value) by degree of employment, occupational status and gender - private and public sector combined
 - Gross monthly wage (central value) by degree of employment, occupational status and gender - private and public sector combined

Methodology

- Data cleaning process: KNN Imputation
- Descriptive statistics
- Color blindness test

Absolute Gender Pay Gap by Job Role

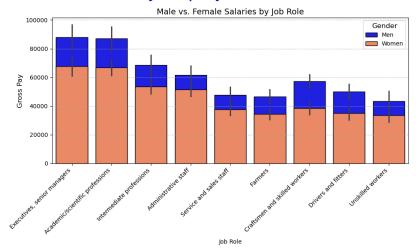


Figure: Gender Pay Gap by Job Role

- Craftsmen and skilled workers (34.59%)
- Academic/Scientific Professions(22.49%)

Relative Gender Pay Gap by Job Role

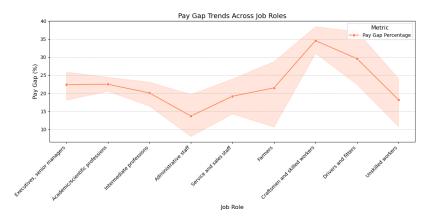


Figure: Relative Gender Pay Gap by Job Role

Gender Pay Gap by Job Role: Results

- Job roles with high variation aggregates very diverse specific job roles across various industries
- Executives and senior manager: often male-dominated and associated with traditional gender norms.
- Administrative staff: often more standardized pay structures (set salary scales, fixed hourly wages)
- Less occupational segregation compared to other categories
- Administrative positions may have fewer hierarchical levels
- Not control over full-time versus part-time employment

Trend of Gender Pay Gap over Time

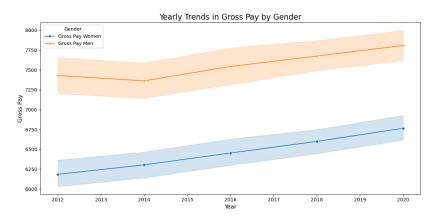


Figure: Trends in Gross Pay by Gender over Years

Trend of Gender Pay Gap over Time by Job Role

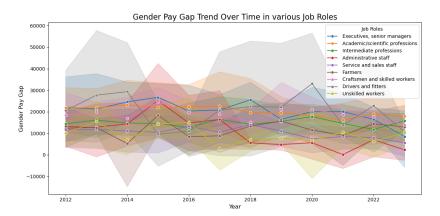


Figure: Trends in Gender Pay Gap by Job Roles over Years

Gender Pay Gap by Job Role: Results

- Job roles with high variation aggregates very diverse specific job roles across various industries
- Upward trend in wages for both men and women
- Consistently higher wages for men compared to women
- Gradual narrowing of the pay gap
- Overall trend remains consistent across all job roles
- None of the job roles stands out as experiencing a disproportionately large or small reduction in the gap progress toward wage equality is
- Generally occurring at a similar pace across the labor market.

Severity of Gender Pay Gap by Job Role and Work Type

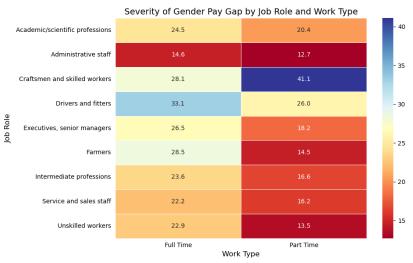


Figure: Relative Gender Pay Gap by Job Role and Work Type

Gender Pay Gap by Job Role: Results

- Small differences indicate standardized standardized salary scales
- Structural and cultural factors within group of craftsmen and skilled workers
- Part-time roles in skilled professions may often be lower-skilled or less senior positions
- Part-time workers may have limited access to bonuses or specialized training opportunities, widening the gap

Distribution of Gross Pay by Gender Across Job Roles

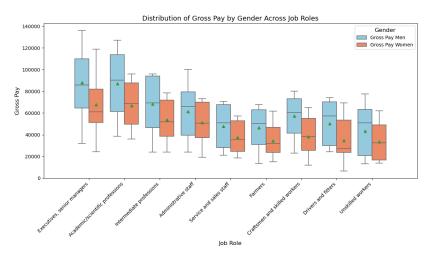


Figure: Distribution of Gender Pay Gap by Job Role and Work Type

Distribution of Gross Pay by Gender Across Job Roles: Results

- Largest variability between men and women in Executives and senior managers
- Men are more likely to occupy higher-paying senior positions and more variable roles within executive levels.
- Less variability in pay among female executives and senior managers
- Suggests a broader spread of salaries at the extremes within the female group.
- "Glass ceiling" effect

Gross Gender Pay Gap over Time Across Gross Regions in Switzerland

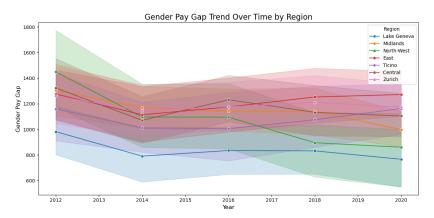


Figure: Gross Gender Pay Gap over Time Across Gross Regions in Switzerland

Gross Gender Pay Gap over Time Across Gross Regions in Switzerland: Results

- Downward trend in the gender pay gap across Switzerland's gross regions over time
 - Largest decline in the gender pay gap is found in the North-West region (Basel Aargau)
 - High concentration of multinational corporations in the pharmaceutical, finance and technology sectors.
 - Region may have seen a greater number of women entering high-paying sectors and leadership roles, contributing to the narrowing of the pay gap

Absolute Gender Pay Gap by Region

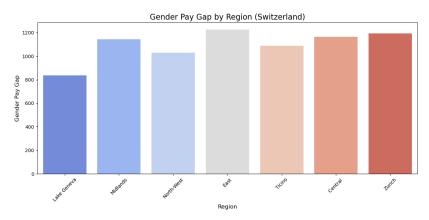


Figure: Gender Pay Gap by Region

Gross Gender Pay Ratio by Region

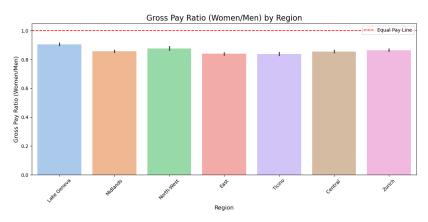


Figure: Ratio of Gross Wages by Region

Gender Pay Gap by Region

- Wage disparities between men and women are reltively consistent nationwide, no region displaying significantly higher or lower gaps
- Suggests that the gender pay gap is a pervasive issue across Switzerland
- Gender Pay Ratio across regions falls consistently between 0.8 and 0.9
 - Women earn approximately 80-90

Conclusion

- Confirms the existence of a persistent gender pay gap in Switzerland
- Significant differences are observed across industries
- Over the observed time frame, the gender pay gap has shown a gradual decrease
- Regional differences in the pay gap were identified, but the variations in absolute terms were found to be relatively minor
- Regional disparities are less pronounced than those seen across industries.