

SWITZERLAND

VOICELESS ANIMAL CRUELTY INDEX 2017

Overall Rank 5

Switzerland was a *good* performer under the Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI) 2017 (on par with Nigeria), due to its strict animal welfare laws and its low meat production.

Producing Cruelty

Rank 8

Switzerland slaughters around 8.5 land-based animals per person / year, which is the lowest amongst the European countries surveyed and lower than the global average of 9.7. The country's dependency on farmed animals is the second lowest of the European countries surveyed (second only to Sweden), with around 1.8 farmed animals per person (compared with a global average of around 4). Factory farming is prevalent in pig and poultry production, although the country has prohibited the use of sow stalls, farrowing crates and battery cages.

Consuming Cruelty

Rank 31

The Swiss diet contains a relatively high proportion of animal products, with around 62.4% of the average person's diet being made up of land-based animal protein (compared with a global average of 35.2%). This is the fifth highest level of consumption amongst the countries surveyed, and equates to each person consuming around 62.5g of land-based animal protein per day (compared with a global average of 26.7g). As at 2015, it was estimated [<http://www.thelocal.ch/20150615/veggie-lovers-challenge-swiss-eating-habits>] that around 3% of the population identified as vegetarian.

Sanctioning Cruelty

Rank 2

Switzerland was given an "A" under the Animal Protection Index (API) 2014, and was also a good performer under the Sanctioning Cruelty category. The API noted that Switzerland had strong animal protection laws that are rigorously enforced at a Federal level. Learn more about the quality of Switzerland's legislative protections on the API here [http://api.worldanimalprotection.org/sites/default/files/api_switzerland_report.pdf].



Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index

This country profile is from the 2017 Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI). The VACI tracks the animal welfare performance of 50 countries selected among the largest producers of farmed animal products in the world. The VACI was first published in 2017, and updated in 2020. Please read the VACI Terms of Use (<https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/terms-of-use/>) and Voiceless Website Terms of Use ([Website Terms and Conditions | Voiceless](#)) for further information. Voiceless does not guarantee the accuracy, reliability or currency of the information. Questions about the VACI can be directed to: info@voiceless.org.au

The 2020 VACI can be accessed here: <https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/>