

Additional material to the media release, 28 February 2019

The seven SMST¹ types:

The names of the various town types are derived from their dominant economic characteristics:

- **Residential economy towns:**
 The economy of these towns primarily serves local, residential needs. This type of SMST experiences below-average growth rates in terms of inhabitants and FTEs.
Examples: Bellinzona TI, Brig-Glis VS, Payerne VD, Thun BE
- **Prospering residential economy towns:**
 These towns have the highest growth rates in either population or FTEs.
Examples: Aigle VD, Bassersdorf ZH, Bulle FR, Ittigen BE
- **Business hub towns:**
 These towns stand out due to their comparatively high number of headquarters of top firms.
Examples: Chiasso TI, Chur GR, Kloten ZH, Montreux VD
- **Knowledge intensive towns:**
 These towns feature many companies from the knowledge intensive service sector, as well as many inhabitants with a tertiary education degree.
Examples: Chêne-Bougeries GE, Küsnacht ZH, Muri bei Bern, Nyon VD
- **High tech towns:**
 These towns are characterised by specialised high tech industries, and their growth rates in terms of population and employment are comparatively low.
Examples: Arbon TG, Ebikon LU, La Chaux-de-Fonds NE, Visp VS
- **Low tech towns:**
 These towns are characterised by many jobs in low tech enterprises and a small share of the population with a tertiary education degree.
Examples: Einsiedeln SZ, Mendrisio TI, Rüti ZH, Wil SG
- **Alpine tourism towns:**
 This category contains all the well-known major tourist spots in the mountains. Their economy relies heavily on numbers of overnight stays and visitors.
Examples: Davos GR, Interlaken BE, St. Moritz GR, Zermatt VS

¹ Small and medium-sized towns (SMST)

- **Outliers:**

Four towns were excluded from the seven types because they would have distorted the cluster analysis. The three towns located in Zug are tax-friendly, have a high number of top firms and are globally connected. In contrast, Plan-les-Ouates, which is very near the French border, has the highest population and employment growth in Switzerland.

Examples: Cham ZG, Risch ZG, Zug, Plan-les-Ouates GE