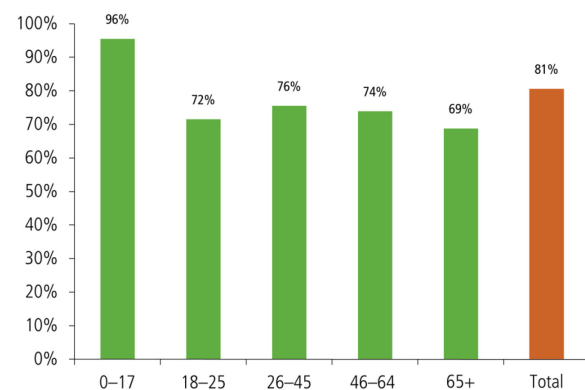


# bfu-survey 2011

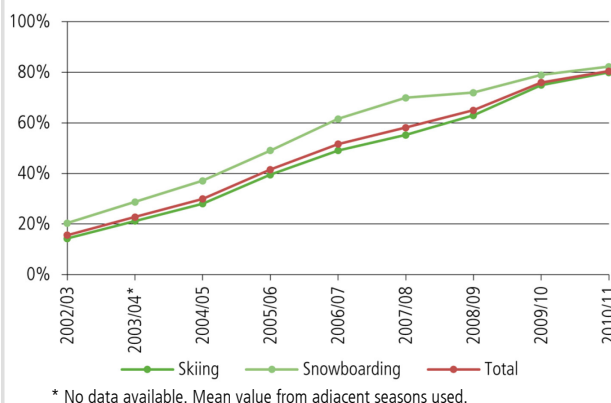
## Use of protective equipment in skiing and snowboarding

**Figure 1**  
Rate of helmet use amongst skiers and snowboarders according to age group, 2010/11



81 % of skiers and snowboarders wore a snow-sport helmet in winter season 2010/11. This is an increase of 5 percentage points in comparison to the previous year. It is the same for both genders although more women (83 %) wore a helmet than men (79 %). However, for the 18 to 25 age group a decrease of 4 percentage points was observed. For Swiss residents, the rate of helmet use went up in comparison to the previous year by only 2 percentage points to 84 %, while for foreign guests on Swiss slopes it increased by 11 percentage points to 72 %.

**Figure 2**  
Rate of helmet use amongst skiers and snowboarders according to winter season, 2002/03–2010/11



The difference in the rate of use of helmets between the two sport types is declining. The rate of use for skiers increased by 5 percentage points to 80 %, while for snowboarders it went up by 3 percentage points to 82 %. The difference in the rate of helmet use between German-speaking Switzerland (85 %) and French-speaking Switzerland (67 %) also declined. The rate of use in the latter has gone up by 11 percentage points since the previous winter season, while in the former there was an increase of only 4 percentage points. The use of back protectors decreased for both skiers (-1 percentage point) and snowboarders (-9 percentage points).

**Method:** bfu – Swiss Council for Accident Prevention monitors the rate of use of protective equipment in skiing and snowboarding with the support of cableway companies in 20 Swiss snow-sport regions. The survey was first conducted in the 2002/03 winter season and has been carried out at yearly intervals since the 2004/05 season. Since winter 2009/10, questions have been asked so as to allow for a comparison of rates of helmet use for foreign visitors and that of residents of Switzerland.

### Helmet use in per cent according to type of sport and winter season

Type of sport	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Skiing	14	28	40	49	55	63	75	80
Snowboarding	20	37	49	62	70	71	79	82
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>81</b>

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### Helmet use in per cent according to age group and winter season

Age	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
0–17 years	44	62	73	79	87	90	95	96
18–25 years	14	25	39	45	57	60	76	72
26–45 years	6	16	29	39	49	57	67	76
46–64 years	1	11	19	31	44	54	69	74
65+ years	0	11	15	27	31	53	66	69
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>81</b>

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### Helmet use in per cent according to gender and winter season

Gender	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Male	17	32	43	52	58	63	74	79
Female	14	27	40	51	59	68	78	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>81</b>

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### Helmet use in per cent according to language region and winter season

Region	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
German-speaking Switzerland	17	32	42	55	63	72	81	85
French-speaking Switzerland	13	24	40	40	45	46	56	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>81</b>

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### Helmet use in per cent according to country of residence and winter season

Region	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Swiss residents	...	...	...	...	...	...	82	84
Foreign guests	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>81</b>

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### Use of protective equipment (excl. helmet) in snow sports in per cent according to type of sport and winter season

Skiing	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Goggles	...	95	...	96	93	97	97	...
Back protector	2	3	...	7	6	13	13	12
Bindings tested / set by specialists	52	47	...	50	47	...	59	...
Snowboarders	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Goggles	...	93	...	90	90	98	99	...
Back protector	7	21	...	38	41	38	49	40
Wrist protector	37	40	...	42	39	36	27	...

... Objects not surveyed

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### Number of persons recorded

Observed	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10*	2010/11*
Skiers	2729	4631	6379	7363	4096	4423	4407	3887
Snowboarders	749	1249	1696	1792	1003	1063	1125	1127
Questioned	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10*	2010/11*
Skiers	927	1001	...	1028	861	955	935	...
Snowboarders	662	622	...	456	730	595	762	...

\* Short survey

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