

Sample text: Summary of the article by Heidi Stutz:

«Inheriting in Switzerland – a family matter with economic consequences».

In Switzerland inheritance is of great economic importance. Swiss households inherit more than they themselves save. The total value of inheritance in Switzerland amounted to roughly 28.5 billion Swiss francs in the year 2000. Additionally, lifetime gifts can be estimated at another quarter or third of the total value of inheritance. But people's chances of inheriting are very unequally distributed. One third of the population does not enjoy any inheritance. At the same time 90% of the total value of inheritance is kept in the family. As life expectancy increases, so does the age of the heirs. Two thirds are more than 50 years old. Inheritances are used less and less often as a means of furthering one's own career or to finance starting a family but lead instead to a concentration of wealth in the retired generation.