

# Audit of the collection of unemployment insurance contributions

## Unemployment Insurance Fund

### Key facts

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The old-age and survivors' insurance (OASI) compensation offices collect more than CHF 7 billion each year in unemployment insurance contributions. The costs of levying these contributions amounted to CHF 21 million in 2019, i.e. 0.3% of contribution receipts. The liquidity generated from collection is processed on a consolidated basis with the other first-pillar contributions by the implementation agencies, such as the regional compensation offices, the Central Compensation Office (CCO) and compenswiss. It is temporarily channelled through the OASI compensation fund, which is managed by compenswiss, before being transferred to the unemployment insurance compensation fund on a regular basis.

The Swiss Federal Audit Office (SFAO) examined whether the contribution collection process is implemented in accordance with the legal basis and whether there is a risk of cross-subsidisation between social security funds. The results of this audit were generally good.

#### **Future cross-subsidisation should be avoided**

The SFAO concluded that the mechanisms for collecting and re-invoicing the associated costs are justified and legal as far as the OASI compensation offices and the CCO are concerned. However, there is no agreement between the parties on the allocation of the proceeds or the cost of temporarily investing the unemployment insurance fund's liquid assets in the OASI compensation fund.

From 1984 to date, the revenue generated by the temporary investment of unemployment insurance contributions with compenswiss has always been allocated to the first pillar. The latter has also borne the management costs. The financial impact on the performance results of the OASI and unemployment insurance compensation funds cannot be accurately determined retroactively. Since 2015, however, in the context of negative interest rates, it is considered to be low, especially since the deposit duration at compenswiss has been very short since that date.

A recommendation was made to conclude an agreement between the parties to clarify the allocation of the proceeds and the cost of investing the liquidity.

**Original text in French**