3. Economy

The GDP of the Lake Constance region amounted to 229 billion euros or 8.2% of GDP of Switzerland in the year 2015. The GDP is divided into agriculture, industry, and services. The services sector is the largest contributor to the GDP, followed by industry and agriculture. The overall development of the economy in the region is shown in Figure 2. The figures demonstrate the strong economic performance in the Lake Constance region, with a steady growth in the GDP over the years.

More than 120,000 students are matriculated at the universities and other institutes of higher education in the Lake Constance region. The IBK includes 31 of these 35 institutes. The student population in the region is an attractive factor for young people looking for cultural and intellectual enrichment and a strong sense of community identity, as it is still in the center of European culture.

4. Tourism

Cross-border commuter flows in the Lake Constance region (2015)

The figures illustrate the number of cross-border commuters in the Lake Constance region. More than 250,000 people commute across borders daily. The largest numbers of commuters are between Austria and Switzerland. The number of commuters has increased significantly in recent years.

Development of overnight stays in the hotel industry in the Lake Constance region (2006-2016)

The figures show the development of overnight stays in the hotel industry in the Lake Constance region over the years. The number of overnight stays has increased significantly over the years, reaching a peak in 2016. The most important countries of origin of hotel guests in the Lake Constance region are shown in Table 1.

5. Education

The International Lake Constance Conference (IBK) is a joint platform for and by the administrations of the federal states of Baden-Württemberg, Switzerland, Austria, Thurgau, St. Gallen, Appenzell Innerrhoden, Zürich, Zug, Schaffhausen, and the canton of St. Gallen. The IBK is a network of universities, research institutes, and other organizations in the Lake Constance region. The IBK is committed to promoting and supporting the development of the region. The website of the IBK is www.statistik-bodensee.org.

Getting to Know the Lake Constance Region

The lake is a cross-border lake, with its shores stretching across Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. The lake is a popular destination for tourists, with a variety of activities available, including water sports, hiking, and cycling. The region around the lake is also rich in culture and history, with numerous museums and galleries to explore.