

The AI Startup Boom: What It Means for Swiss SMEs

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY & CORE TAKEAWAY

Since ChatGPT's launch, new business formation in knowledge-intensive US sectors has grown 45%. Switzerland set its own record in 2025 with 55,654 new companies. The common thread: AI has pushed the barrier to entrepreneurship to a historic low — and those who don't act will stay stuck in linear growth.

CONTEXT & EXECUTIVE RELEVANCE

29,700 new businesses per month, a 17% increase year over year, and in knowledge-intensive professional, scientific and technical services specifically, a 45% jump since November 2022 — the month ChatGPT launched. These are not speculative figures; they come from the US Census Bureau's own projections. And they answer a question few Swiss decision-makers have asked themselves yet: what if the biggest lever for entrepreneurial growth is no longer capital, but access to AI?

The US Census Bureau projects overall business formation growth of 20% — solid, but not remarkable on its own. What is remarkable is the sector breakdown: professional, scientific and technical services are up 45% since the ChatGPT launch, equivalent to roughly 5,000 new firms per month, or +24% year over year. By comparison, construction — a classically capital- and labour-intensive sector — grew by just 10%. That gap is not a coincidence. It shows precisely where AI acts as a productivity lever, and where it does not.

SWISS COMPLIANCE & ARCHITECTURE GUIDELINES

- ☑ Full compliance with revised Swiss Data Protection Act (revDSG).
- ☑ Zero vendor lock-in on closed proprietary models.
- ☑ Seamless integration into Abacus, Bexio and M365 ecosystems.

Non-Binding Process Analysis

Let us review in 20 minutes where AI agents create immediate measurable efficiency in your workflows.

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