

SWITZERLAND



1909 - 1/2 FRANC BERNE MINT - OBVERSE

SWISS CONFEDERATION, HELVETIAN REPUBLIC
BERNE MINT

1/2 FRANC 18MM .835 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1875	1,000,000	CL503
1877	1,000,000	CL504
1878	1,000,000	CL505
1879	1,000,000	CL506
1881	1,000,000	CL507
1882	1,000,000	CL508
1896	28	CL510 rare
1898	1,600,000	CL511
1899	400,000	CL512
1900	400,000	CL513
1901	200,000	CL514
1903	800,000	CL515
1904	400,000	CL516
1905	600,000	CL517
1906	1,000,000	CL518
1907	1,200,000	CL519
1908	800,000	CL520
1909	1,000,000	CL521
1910	1,000,000	CL522
1913	800,000	CL523
1914	2,000,000	CL524
1916	800,000	CL525
1920	5,400,000	CL526
1921	6,000,000	CL527
1928	1,000,000	CL528
1929	2,000,000	CL529

Mintage continuing:

1931	1,000,000	CL530
1932	1,000,000	CL531
1934	2,000,000	CL532
1936	400,000	CL533
1937	1,000,000	CL534
1939	1,000,000	CL535
1940	2,002,000	CL536
1941	200,000	CL537
1942	2,969,000	CL538
1943	4,573,000	CL539
1944	7,455,000	CL540
1945	4,928,000	CL541
1946	6,817,000	CL542
1948	6,817,000	CL543
1950	7,148,000	CL544
1951	8,530,000	CL545
1952	14,022,800	CL546
1953	3,567,200	CL547
1955	1,320,000	CL548
1956	4,250,000	CL549
1957	12,084,800	CL550
1958	11,557,500	CL551
1959	12,581,000	CL552
1960	14,528,000	CL553
1961	6,906,000	CL554
1962	18,272,000	CL555
1963	27,640,000	CL556
1964	17,400,000	CL557
1965	23,240,000	CL558
1966	10,008,000	CL559
1967	16,096,000	CL560

^OV: Standing Helvetia, spear in right hand, shield with Swiss cross held by left hand, 22 stars around, A.BOVY left at rim, INCT. right at rim, HELVETIA below

^RV: 1/2 FR. / DATE within wreath of oak and honeysuckle tied with ribbon below / B (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: B = BERNE

ENGRAVER: A. Bovy = Antoine Bovy

MARK: INCT. = Inceptor (Originator)

REFERENCE: Y-30, KM-23

POPULATION: Switzerland - 1930 - 4,066,400

FOOTNOTE: The 1896 Swiss 1/2 franc issue was struck for the Geneva Exhibition and is extremely rare.

FOOTNOTE: Except for this first issue of 1850-51 and the second type dated 1894, which were produced by the Paris mint, all of the Swiss 1/2 Franc coinage were minted at the Federal Mint, Berne. Listings are in mint order and chronological. Currency of Switzerland - 100 rappen = 1 franc. Switzerland has the longest running series without changes in the design of its silver coinage and ending in 1967. The last of the circulation silver coins of this series was only superseded by two countries; Canada 1968 and Netherlands Antillies (the last one) 1970.

SWISS CONFEDERATION, HELVETIAN REPUBLIC PARIS MINT			
1/2 FRANC	18MM	.900 FINE	2.5 GRAMS

1850	1,875,474
1851	2,123,078

▲OV: Seated Helvetia pointing left, shield with Swiss cross held by left hand, Alps in background, HELVETIA above, A.BOVY left / (hand) (grayhound head) below.

▲RV: 1/2 FR. / DATE within wreath of oak and honeysuckle tied with ribbon below / A (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: A = PARIS

DESIGNER: F.Fisch

ENGRAVER: A. Bovy = Antoine Bovy

DIRECTOR: (hand) = C.L.J.Dierickx, Paris mint
Director

ENGRAVER: (grayhound head) = Jean- Jacques Barre
Chief Engraver, Paris mint

REFERENCE: Y-26, DT-308, CL509, KM-8

FOOTNOTE: Under the Swiss Confederation, individual Cantons provided for the minting of coins. The series listed here followed shortly after the Constitution of 1848 with the supremacy of the federal over the cantonal powers. National legislation was vested in a federal assembly of two houses: The Council of States, consists of two delegates from each Canton, much like the United States Senate, while the National Council is elected by the people on the basis of universal manhood suffrage. The National Executive is not a single person, but a committee of seven, called the Federal Council and elected by the Federal Assembly. Although one of the seven presides under the title of President of the Council, his authority is hardly greater than that of his colleagues. A very interesting feature developed by the Swiss democracy is the direct share in law-making secured to the people by means of two devices, the referendum and the popular initiative. By the referendum, laws passed by the legislature are referred for a final verdict to a popular vote. The popular initiative coincides the right to a certain number of voters to frame a bill which must be submitted to the people for adoption or rejection. Political discussion and responsibility so stirred the energies of the people that Switzerland developed a remarkable prosperity. An excellent public-school system stamped out illiteracy. German, French and Italian are all official languages with Romansch derived from Latin the language of the Canton Graubunden, a small area in the Alps.

FOOTNOTE: Helvetia, The old Latin name of Switzerland, The official name of the country is "Helvetian Republic", given to the republic by the French in 1798. The modern name Switzerland takes its name from the Canton of the Schwyz, one of the founder cantons of the Swiss Confederation.



1909 - 1/2 FRANC - REVERSE

SWISS CONFEDERATION, HELVETIAN REPUBLIC PARIS MINT			
1/2 FRANC	18MM	.835 FINE	2.5 GRAMS

1894	800,000
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▲OV: Standing Helvetia, spear in right hand, shield with Swiss cross held by left hand, 22 stars around, A.BOVY left at rim, INCT. right at rim, HELVETIA below

▲RV: 1/2 FR. / 1894 within wreath of oak and honeysuckle tied with ribbon below / A (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: A = PARIS

ENGRAVER: A. Bovy = Antoine Bovy

INCT. = Inceptor (Originator)

REFERENCE: Y-30, DT-309, KM-23

Die Munzen per Schweiz by Jean-Paul Divo and Edwin Tobler, Zurich 1969

HMZ Katalog, Hiltterfingen 1972

The Coinage of Switzerland by Robert L. Clarke, San Diego 1968

POPULATION: Switzerland - 1892 - 2,933,334 with capital Berne with 47,150 inhabitants.

FOOTNOTE: Between 1865 and 1926 Switzerland was a member of the Latin Monetary Union along with Belgium, France, Greece and Italy, with several other countries issuing at one time or another coinage to the same standards of the Latin Monetary Union.