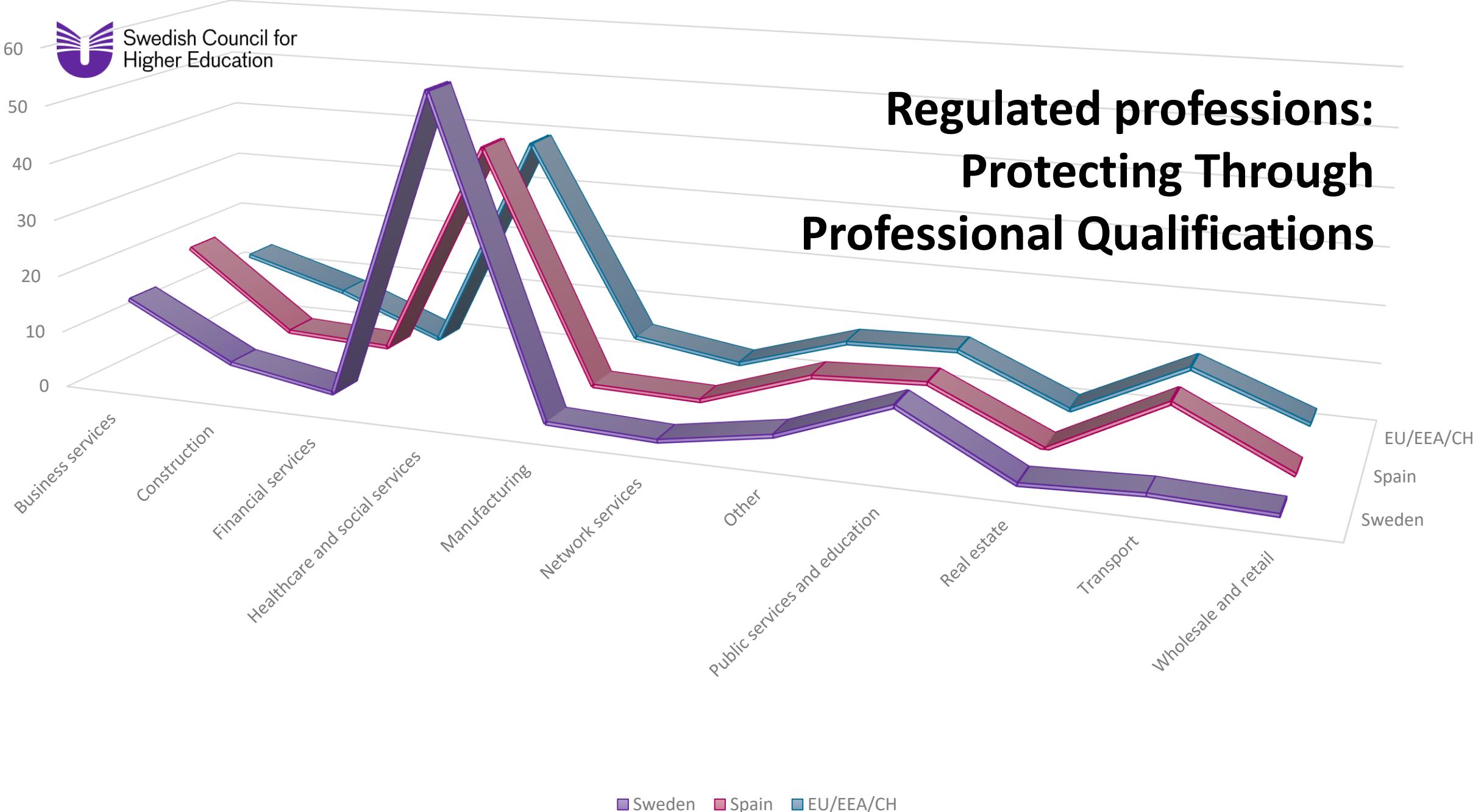




Sweden's Experience: Connecting Mobility and Skills in Europe via Recognition of Professional Qualifications

Congreso ACREDITA 2025, Zaragoza, 26 November 2025

Regulated professions: Protecting Through Professional Qualifications



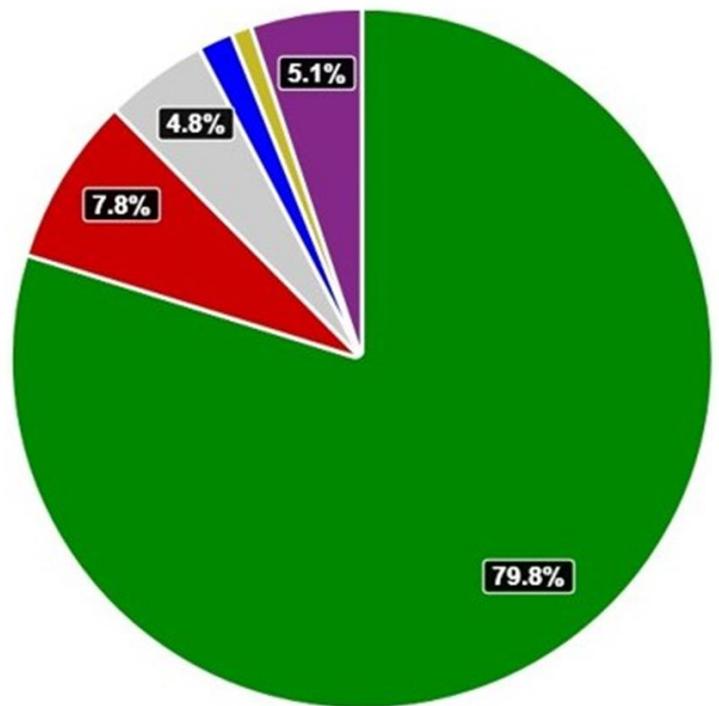


Regulated Professions in Sweden – Key Facts

- **Healthcare & Education** – Typically academic degrees
 - Exception: Assistant Nurse - upper secondary vocational education
- **Technical & Safety Roles** – Vocational + certification/license
 - Examples: Installation electrician, blasting foremen
- **Specialized Professions**, examples:
 - Patent Attorney – Higher education + professional exam
 - Mountain Guide – Specialized vocational training + certification
- **15 Competent Authorities** oversee regulated professions and recognition
- **National Coordination Office and Assistance Centre for Professional Qualifications**
 - Supports the implementation of the Professional Qualifications Directive (2005/36/EC) in Sweden
 - Acts as a central point for competent authorities and citizens – supporting professional recognition and mobility

Professional Mobility – Where Do Swedish Professionals Go?

● Norway [79.8%] ● Denmark [7.8%] ● Finland [4.8%]
● Spain [1.6%] ● Germany [0.9%]
● All Other Countries [5.1%]





Who Moves to Sweden from Europe?

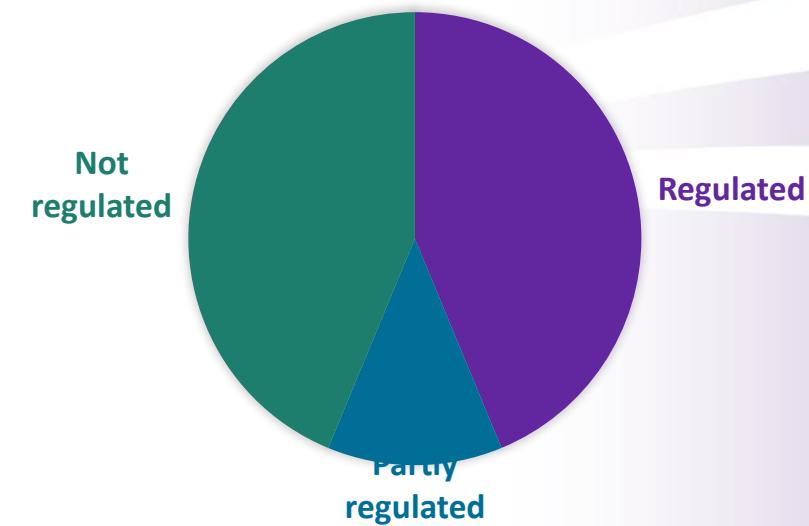
- Age Profile: mainly young and early-career (20–40 years)
- Education Level: high share of tertiary-educated movers
- Geographic Distribution: strong concentration in urban regions
- Challenges: language barrier, housing market
- Labour-Market Outcomes: tech, healthcare, academia, hospitality/service jobs



High Demand and Shortage Occupations in Sweden

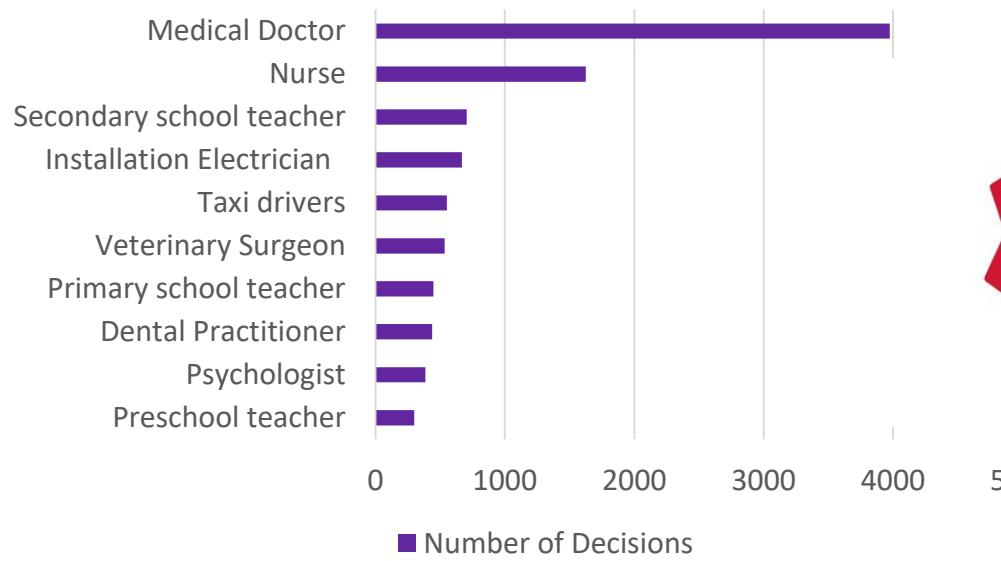
Shortage Occupations	Education Level	Regulated?
Assistant Nurse	☒ Vocational	🔒 Yes
Auditor	🎓 Higher	⚠️☐ Partly
Car Mechanic	☒ Vocational	✗ No
Cook	☒ Vocational	✗ No
Dental Practitioner	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Engineer	🎓 Higher	✗ No
Installation Electrician	☒ Vocational	🔒 Yes
Interpreter	🎓 Higher	⚠️☐ Partly
Machine Operator	☒ Vocational	✗ No
Nurse	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Preschool Teacher	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Software Developer	🎓 Higher	✗ No
Medical Doctor	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Truck Driver	☒ Vocational	✗ No
Vocational Subject Teacher	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Welder	☒ Vocational	✗ No

SHORTAGE OCCUPATIONS

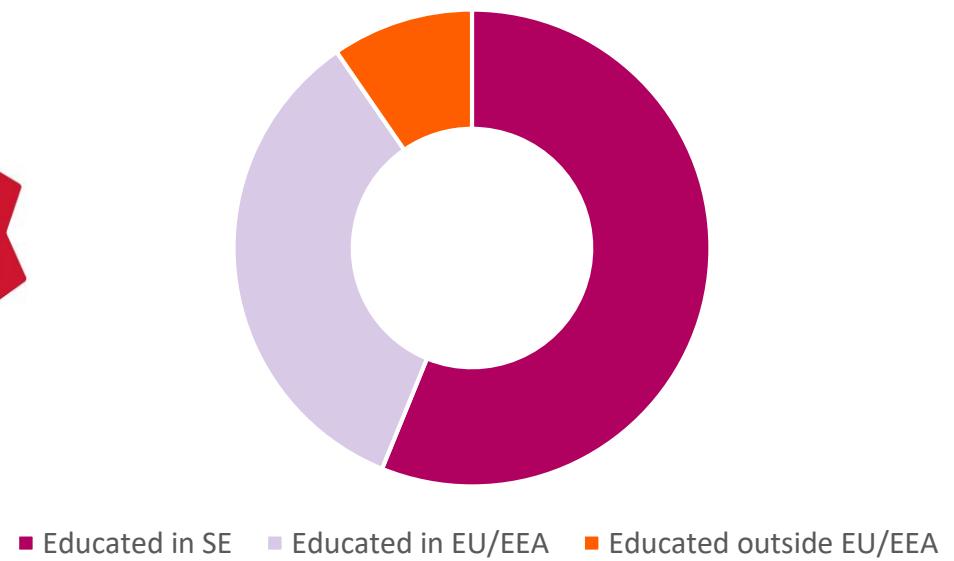


Sweden's Skills Needs Meet Cross-Border Mobility

Most Mobile Incoming Professions

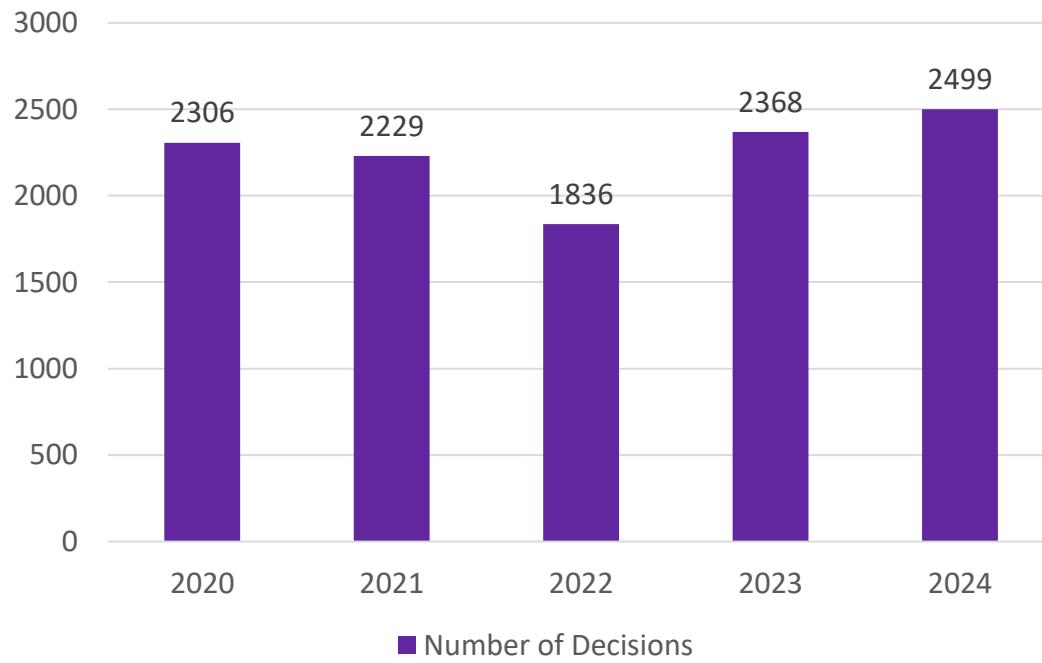


Medical doctors licensed in Sweden

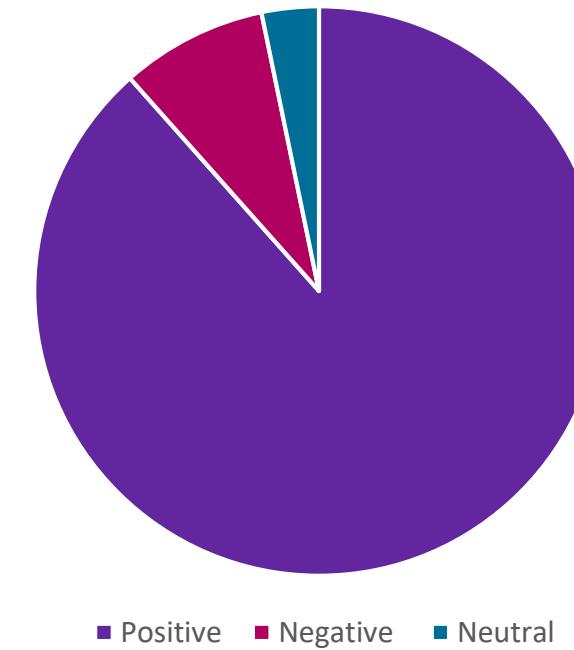


Professional Mobility Meets Recognition in Sweden

Number of Recognition Decisions



Type of Recognition decisions



Professional Recognition – Making Employment Without Borders a Reality

- Unlocks mobility
- Supports careers and work
- Essential for skills supply
- Efficient recognition of professional qualifications makes “Employment Without Borders” a reality
- Next step: Union of Skills with more automatic and digital recognition solutions





Opportunities in Sweden: Jobs, Business & Education

- [Work in Sweden | sweden.se](#)
- [Find your new job in Sweden - Swedish public employment service - Arbetsförmedlingen](#)
- [The place for your business - verksamt.se](#)
- [Validation of prior learning - Myndigheten för yrkeshögskolan](#)
- [Qualifications Assessment Tool - Swedish Council for Higher Education](#)
- [Studera.nu in English](#) for residents in Sweden needing study info in other languages
- [Study in Sweden - Live and learn the Swedish way](#) for international student planning to study in Sweden
- [Universityadmissions.se - Apply to Swedish universities](#)

Swedish Contacts & Resources under PQD 2005/36/EC

Swedish Coordination Office and Assistance Centre for Professional Qualifications (Professional Qualifications Directive 2005/36/EC)

E-mail: ykinfo@uhr.se

[Regulated professions list - Swedish Council for Higher Education](#)

[Assistance Centre for Professional Qualifications - Swedish Council for Higher Education](#)

PQD National Coordinators

- Natasha Österman natalia.osterman@uhr.se
- Lovisa Skeppholm lovisa.skeppholm@uhr.se



Thank you!