

Registrations for private-household short-term starts rose 9.5% while the Swiss total fell 2.8%

Official-data analysis conducted and published by Helpore | Evidence frozen 10 September 2026

Author: Gilberto de la Fuente, Director at Helpore

SECO recorded 1,890 registrations for short-term starts with Swiss employers in the private-household-services row in 2025—9.5% more than in 2024 and the highest level in the published series since at least 2005—while the equivalent total across all branches fell 2.8%. A separate SEM snapshot counted 5,828 valid G permits assigned to the administrative branch “domestic services” on 31 July 2026; 89.1% were recorded for women and 52.3% in Ticino. The two series measure different things and must not be added together.

Disclosure

This analysis was conducted and published by Helpore. Helpore operates in the Swiss household-services market and offers households support with employment, payroll, social-insurance, source-tax and related administrative workflows. It therefore has a direct commercial interest in the subject. The official-data headline, national comparison and permit analysis use data collected and published by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM) and the Federal Statistical Office (FSO), not by Helpore. A separately labelled platform snapshot uses de-identified, self-reported Helpore account records.

Review and corrections

This is an exploratory secondary analysis conducted and published by Helpore, not an academic peer-reviewed paper and not an endorsement by SECO, SEM or FSO. The official-data calculations and source files are published for independent reproduction; the platform snapshot is reported only in aggregate to protect account privacy. Questions, factual challenges and correction requests can be sent to hello@helpore.com.

+9.5%

**Private-
household
registrations**

1,726 → 1,890

-2.8%

All branches

171,819 → 166,955

12.3 percentage points apart

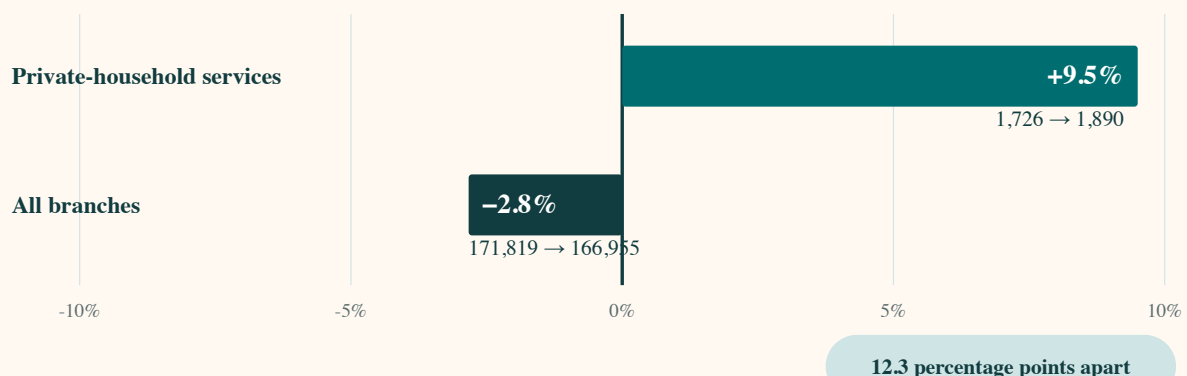
Same Swiss-employer channel, 2024–2025

WHAT WAS COUNTED?

Registrations for short-term starts with Swiss employers in SECO's notification statistics—not distinct workers, households, jobs or full-time equivalents.

Private-household registrations rose as the Swiss total fell

Year-on-year change in registrations for short-term starts with Swiss employers, 2024–2025



Records, not people or jobs. The 2025 move to EasyGov may affect reporting or classification; no resulting break is quantified. Source: SECO; Helpore calculations.

Figure 1. The counter-trend is a comparison of rates; the absolute counts remain visible.

A small branch moving against the national direction

Switzerland's short-stay notification statistics moved in opposite directions in private-household services and across all branches in 2025.

SECO recorded **1,890 registrations for short-term starts with Swiss employers in the private-household-services row** in 2025. The corresponding 2024 value was 1,726. That is an increase of 164, or **9.5%**.

SECO had described the 2024 value as a new high in a series beginning in 2005. Because the comparable 2025 count is higher, **1,890 is the highest level in that published series since at least 2005**. It should not be described as an all-time record because the cited series does not establish what happened before 2005.

The 9.5% figure was calculated in the analysis conducted and published by Helpore by matching the direct-employment component in SECO’s 2024 and 2025 annual evidence. SECO’s 2025 table prints the current component and the change in the combined branch total, but not this like-for-like change in starts with Swiss employers.

Across all branches, the same category fell from 171,819 registrations in 2024 to 166,955 in 2025—4,864 fewer, or **–2.8%**.

The result is a 12.3-percentage-point difference between the two year-on-year rates. Private-household services remained a small part of the national notification series: the branch accounted for about 1.13% of registrations for short-term starts with Swiss employers in 2025, compared with about 1.00% in 2024. What changed is not its size, but its direction.

Registrations for short-term starts with Swiss employers	2024	2025	Absolute change	Relative change
Private-household services	1,726	1,890	+164	+9.5%
All branches	171,819	166,955	–4,864	–2.8%

The official label matters. This is the part of the notification procedure covering short-term employment starts with Swiss employers. It is distinct from two other groups in SECO’s table: self-employed service providers and employees posted to Switzerland by foreign employers.

When all three groups are shown, SECO’s private-household-services row totals 2,181 in 2025: 1,890 registrations for starts with Swiss employers, 133 self-employed service providers and 158 posted employees. The combined branch total rose from 1,994 in 2024 to 2,181 in 2025, or 9.4%. Across all branches, the corresponding combined total fell 3.7%.

2,181 combined row total	1,890 registrations for starts with Swiss employers	133 self-employed providers	158 posted employees
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The combined 9.4% rise was the second-largest percentage increase among the 16 named branch rows in SECO’s table, behind public administration at 19.3%. This ranking concerns the combined notification total, not the direct-

employment component used for the headline.

This study leads with the 1,890 direct-employment component because it is the closest match to a household acting as employer. It does not treat self-employed providers or posted employees as household employees.

SEPARATE
DATASET

Stock at 31 July 2026 · valid permits, not active
workers

A second window: valid G permits in domestic services

A separate SEM dataset offers a more recent but fundamentally different view of cross-border work connected with Swiss homes.

SEM’s July 2026 workbook recorded **5,828 valid G permits** in the legacy administrative branch group “Häusliche Dienste”, or “domestic services”, on 31 July 2026. Of those permit records, 5,194 were recorded for women and 634 for men. Women therefore accounted for **89.121%** of this permit category.

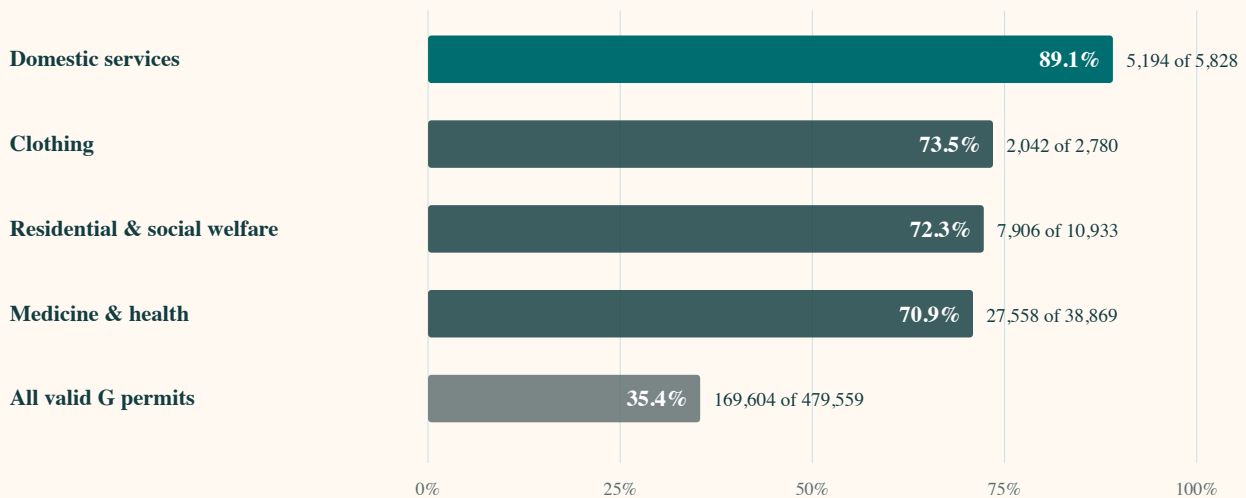
Across the full workbook, 169,604 of 479,559 valid G permits were recorded for women, a share of **35.3667%**. Domestic services’ female share was thus 53.8 percentage points above the all-branch G-permit share.

Among the workbook’s **57 named branch rows**, domestic services had the largest female share. That is a rank within this particular SEM administrative table; it is not a ranking of Swiss professions, the resident workforce or all domestic work.

SEM valid G-permit stock, 31 July 2026	Total permits	Recorded for women	Female share
Domestic services	5,828	5,194	89.1%
All branches	479,559	169,604	35.4%

Domestic services: the table's highest female share

Share of valid G-permit records recorded for women, selected branch rows and all permits



Valid permits, not active-worker counts. Rank among 57 named SEM branch rows; totals and residual rows excluded. Source: SEM, 31 July 2026; Helpore calculations.

Figure 2. The 89.1% is a current measurement inside a permit table, not the discovery that domestic work is female.

The permit count must not be relabelled as an active-worker count. The FSO explains that an active permit can remain in the migration register after a job has ended because termination is not systematically reported. Its separate Cross-border Commuters Statistics combine migration-register and social-insurance information to estimate people still working. That series estimated 4,710.5 active cross-border workers in the broader household-employer and own-use production division in the fourth quarter of 2025, of whom 4,193.3, or 89.0%, were women. The estimate supports the finding that the field is strongly female-dominated while also demonstrating why 5,828 must remain labelled **valid permits**.

More than half of the permit category was recorded in Ticino

More than half of the domestic-services permit stock was recorded in one canton. Ticino accounted for **3,050 of the 5,828 valid permits, or 52.3%**.

Geneva followed with 907, or 15.6%. Basel-Landschaft, Vaud, Basel-Stadt, Thurgau and Graubünden each recorded between 233 and 335. Together, the seven cantons in the table below accounted for 92.0% of the national domestic-services permit category.

Canton of work in the SEM workbook	Valid permits in “domestic services”	Share of Swiss category
Ticino	3,050	52.3%
Geneva	907	15.6%
Basel-Landschaft	335	5.7%
Vaud	310	5.3%
Basel-Stadt	280	4.8%
Thurgau	244	4.2%
Graubünden	233	4.0%
Remaining cantons	469	8.0%

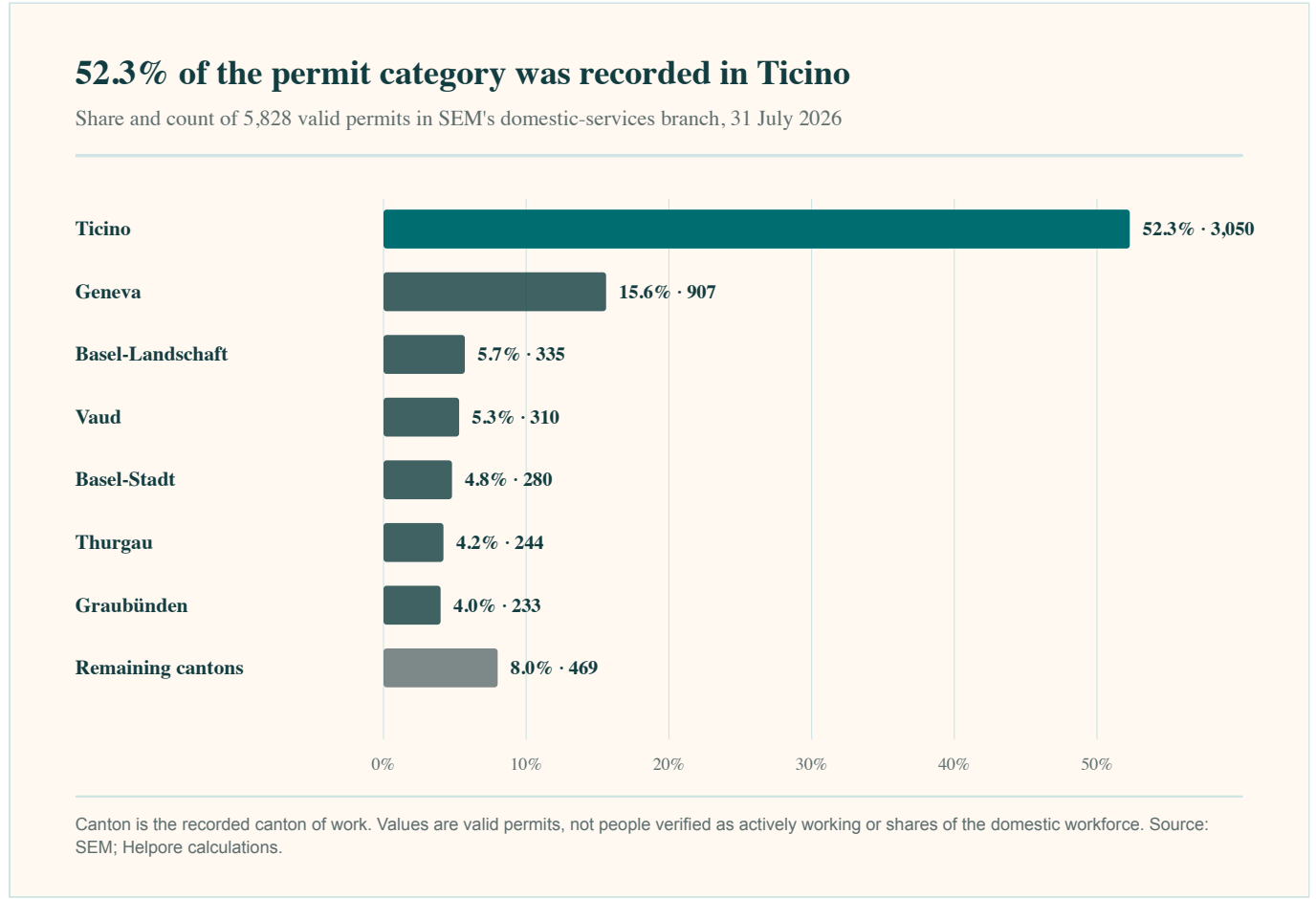


Figure 3. Administrative canton concentration; not a map of the full domestic workforce.

The SEM canton is the recorded canton of work, not a worker's place of residence. The workbook's nationality columns are not residence columns either. A low or zero canton count does not mean that the canton has no domestic employees, no cross-border workers or no lawful household employment. It means only that few or no valid G permits were assigned to this administrative branch group in that canton in this SEM snapshot.

What the two official series show

Taken separately, the datasets establish three facts.

First, the direct short-stay notification category in private-household services grew in 2025 even as its all-branch counterpart contracted. The comparison uses the same category and annual basis in SECO's 2024 and 2025 tables.

Second, the latest SEM permit stock shows that valid G permits assigned to domestic services are far more heavily recorded for women than the G-permit stock overall.

Third, that permit category is geographically concentrated, particularly in Ticino.

Together, the findings make work performed inside private homes more statistically visible. A private home can also be a workplace. In a part of the labour market that is easily discussed through anecdotes, the official records reveal a distinct, gendered and regionally concentrated cross-border component.

The two datasets do **not**, however, identify a single workforce total. The SECO figures are a flow during calendar year 2025 through the short-stay notification procedure. The SEM figure is a stock of valid permits on 31 July 2026. A person or employment relationship represented in one system is not necessarily represented in the other. Adding 1,890, 2,181 or any other notification count to 5,828 would produce a number with no valid statistical meaning.

What is new—and what is not

The study's contribution is the like-for-like comparison inside the newly released 2025 SECO data: registrations for short-term starts with Swiss employers in the private-household-services row rose from 1,726 to 1,890 while the equivalent national total fell. SECO publishes the underlying cells, but it does not print the household-specific **+9.5%**, the **12.3-percentage-point divergence**, or the editorial comparison used here.

Before publication, Helpore searched indexed German-, French-, Italian- and English-language results using the exact figures, translated branch labels and the official terminology for short-stay registrations and G permits. We found no matching public analysis of the 1,726→1,890 comparison. We therefore describe the result as a **previously unreported pattern in the latest official data**, rather than claiming that no one has ever examined it. Some professional, paywalled and offline archives are not publicly searchable.

The broader fact that paid domestic work is strongly female is not new. Older federal data and Swiss reporting have documented it, including a historical FSO result of 95.1% women in domestic services. The 89.1% figure in this study is therefore a current measurement inside a specific July 2026 permit table—not the discovery of a social phenomenon.

The broader subject of cross-border labour and household work is not new. This study's contribution is narrower: a transparent, reproducible comparison of newly released official cells that had not appeared together in the public material we could identify.

What the findings do not establish

The analysis does not show that:

- 1,890 unique workers, households, employers or contracts were recorded in 2025;
- 1,890 permanent or full-time jobs were created;
- the whole private-household-services workforce grew 9.5%;
- 5,828 people were actively working in domestic services on 31 July 2026;
- every holder of a valid G permit crossed the border daily;
- 89.1% of all domestic employees in Switzerland are women;
- Ticino employs 52.3% of Switzerland's domestic workforce;
- employers substituted the notification procedure for G permits, or vice versa;
- the figures measure a labour shortage, unmet household demand or displacement of resident workers;
- any reported activity was undeclared, underpaid, exploitative or otherwise unlawful; or
- Helpore caused, captured or represents any part of the measured change.

The official sources contain no direct information here on wages, hours, contract quality, job duration beyond the procedure's legal ceiling, household characteristics, worker preferences, service quality or platform use. They also do not identify cleaning, childcare, elder support, cooking and other household activities separately within every published total.

Helpore platform snapshot — separate from the official series

Through **10 September 2026**, Helpore recorded **587 active, email-confirmed, non-test Helper accounts**. Of them, 192 recorded a non-Swiss EU/EFTA nationality; 185 of those also had a recorded eligibility route. Within that final analytical cohort, **58 of 185 (31.4%)** selected the EU/EFTA short-stay route and supplied a Swiss entry date in the prior 90 days. The 185 is a filtered cohort, not Helpore's total number of public profiles.

This is an aggregate of **de-identified, self-reported Helpore platform records**. It is not a count of authority registrations, completed placements or people verified as working. It is not a national estimate. The records contain nationality and a Swiss entry date; they do not establish the person's previous country or country of departure. This platform snapshot is separate from, and non-additive to, the SECO notification flow and SEM permit stock.

The calculation is $58 / 185 \times 100 = 31.3514\%$, reported as **31.4%**.

Why the administrative route matters

Under the SEM rules, the electronic notification procedure can be used for an EU/EFTA national taking up employment in Switzerland for no more than three months. Longer employment requires a residence permit or, where the

conditions are met, a cross-border permit. Posted employees and self-employed EU/EFTA service providers operate under related but distinct notification rules, generally up to 90 effective working days per calendar year.

That legal distinction explains the study design. The 1,890 figure isolates starts with a Swiss employer rather than combining them with posted or self-employed service provision. The G-permit panel then describes a separate administrative stock associated with longer or otherwise permit-based cross-border employment.

The category boundary is equally important. The FSO's industry definition for household employers covers private households employing domestic personnel. Comparable work supplied by an independent business is classified under that provider's own service industry rather than under the household-employer division. Workers supplied through personnel-leasing businesses can also appear outside the private-household-services row. The study therefore measures official administrative categories, not the entire commercial market for services delivered in homes.

For households, this boundary is practical as well as statistical. When a household directly employs a cleaner, nanny, household helper or another person, it assumes an employer role with associated registration, payroll, social-insurance, insurance and tax processes. The exact obligations depend on the relationship and circumstances. These data do not adjudicate any individual case, but they show that the administrative categories measured here are neither gender-balanced nor geographically even.

Methods

1. Short-term employment-start counter-trend

The primary analysis uses table 1-3 of SECO's statistical appendices to the 2024 and 2025 reports on accompanying measures under the free movement of persons.

For the row "Erbringung von Dienstleistungen für private Haushalte" ("provision of services for private households"), the component "Kurzfristige Stellenantritte bei CH Arbeitgebenden" ("short-term employment starts with Swiss employers") was 1,726 in SECO's archived 2024 evidence and 1,890 in the 2025 appendix. The 2025 explanatory report on the standard employment contract for domestic work reproduces the 1,726 value and identifies it as the previous high.

The calculation used in the analysis conducted and published by Helpore is:

$$(1,890 / 1,726 - 1) \times 100 = 9.5017\% , \text{ reported as } +9.5\%.$$

The all-branch comparator is printed in table 1-1 of the 2025 appendix: 171,819 in 2024 and 166,955 in 2025. The corresponding calculation is:

$$(166,955 / 171,819 - 1) \times 100 = -2.8309\% , \text{ consistent with SECO's reported } -2.8\%.$$

The difference between the two rounded growth rates is 12.3 percentage points. The branch's share of the direct-employment-start total was calculated as $1,726 / 171,819 = 1.0045\%$ in 2024 and $1,890 / 166,955 = 1.1320\%$ in 2025.

As a secondary description, the study also reports SECO's complete private-household-services row for 2025: 1,890 registrations for starts with Swiss employers, 133 self-employed service providers and 158 posted employees, giving a combined row total of 2,181. SECO prints the combined year-on-year branch change as +9.4% and the all-branch change as -3.7%.

2. G-permit composition and branch ranking

The supporting analysis uses SEM workbook 5-20, "Valid cross-border commuter permits by industry and nationality", for 31 July 2026, released on 17 August 2026.

In the Switzerland sheet, the "Häusliche Dienste" row contains 5,828 valid permits. Female cells were summed across the workbook's five nationality groups: Germany 342, France 1,162, Italy 3,045, Austria 21 and other nationalities 624. The result is 5,194.

$$5,194 / 5,828 \times 100 = 89.1215\% , \text{ reported as } \mathbf{89.1\%}.$$

The same calculation for the workbook total is 169,604 female records divided by 479,559 valid permits:

$$169,604 / 479,559 \times 100 = 35.3667\% , \text{ reported as } \mathbf{35.4\%}.$$

For the branch ranking, the analysis retained the 57 named branch rows in the three economic-sector blocks. Sector totals, the overall total and the two residual rows "Ohne Angabe" and "Unbekannt" were excluded. Domestic services had the highest female share among those 57 rows.

For geography, the domestic-services row was extracted from each canton sheet. Twenty-two canton sheets contained a non-zero value, and those values sum to the Swiss total of 5,828. Ticino contained 3,050:

$$3,050 / 5,828 \times 100 = 52.3336\% , \text{ reported as } \mathbf{52.3\%}.$$

3. Active-worker sensitivity check

The FSO's Cross-border Commuters Statistics were consulted to test whether the strong female concentration is also visible in a series designed to estimate active workers. The comparison uses the fourth quarter of 2025 and the broader division covering household employers and household production for own use. It is a contextual sensitivity check, not a substitute for the July 2026 SEM stock and not part of the headline calculation.

4. Helpore platform snapshot

The platform snapshot was produced from Helpore Helper-account records through 10 September 2026. Starting from 587 active, email-confirmed, non-test Helper accounts, the analysis retained 192 accounts with a recorded non-Swiss EU/EFTA nationality and then 185 with a recorded eligibility route. The numerator contains 58 of those 185 accounts that selected the EU/EFTA short-stay route and supplied a Swiss entry date within the prior 90 days. Public-profile visibility was not an inclusion criterion.

The records are self-reported and were aggregated after de-identification. The snapshot does not verify an authority notification, a completed placement, current work or the person's country immediately before entering Switzerland. It

is a Helpore platform description, not a population estimate, and it is not combined with the SECO or SEM figures.

5. Precision and uncertainty

The calculations are simple transformations of published administrative cells rather than estimates from a sample survey, so sampling-error intervals are not applicable. That does not make the figures error-free. Administrative data depend on registration, coding, updating and the definitions of the underlying systems. Percentages in the narrative are rounded to one decimal place; unrounded values are shown in the methods so the calculations can be reproduced.

Limitations

1. **Notifications are not the whole labour market.** The SECO series covers the notification procedure and does not count all domestic employment, all cross-border arrangements or all work supplied through agencies.
2. **Registrations are not counts of unique workers, households, employers, contracts or full-time-equivalent jobs.** The published category cannot support those denominators.
3. **Valid permits are not active workers.** SEM's 5,828 is an administrative stock. The FSO's separate method exists precisely because not every active permit corresponds to current employment.
4. **The dates differ.** The notification result covers 2025; the permit panel is a snapshot on 31 July 2026. They describe separate periods and systems.
5. **The branch labels are administrative.** "Private-household services" in the SECO table and the legacy SEM label "domestic services" should not be assumed to capture identical populations.
6. **Industry coding can lag job changes.** The FSO notes that some job changes are not reported until permit renewal and that source coding is not always compulsory or plausibility-tested.
7. **The category is broader than any one occupation.** The data do not isolate cleaners, nannies, carers, tutors or other roles throughout the analysis.
8. **Canton is not residence.** The SEM sheets describe recorded cantons of work. Nationality is also not a proxy for residence or commuting origin.
9. **The reporting system changed during the comparison year.** The notification procedure moved to EasyGov in mid-March 2025 as part of a broader optimisation intended, among other things, to make industry assignment easier and more precise. The official sources do not quantify any resulting break, so the 2024–2025 change is descriptive and may partly reflect reporting or classification changes.
10. **No causal inference is possible.** The data do not explain why the notification series rose, why the permit stock is geographically concentrated or why the female share is high.
11. **The sponsor has a commercial interest.** Helpore's relevance to the topic is direct; readers should assess the analysis with that interest in view and can reproduce every central result from the official sources.
12. **The platform snapshot is not an official or national measure.** It is a de-identified aggregate of self-reported records from a filtered set of Helpore Helper accounts. It does not count authority registrations, completed placements or verified work, and it cannot be generalised to Switzerland.

Why this analysis was conducted and published by Helpore

Helpore works with the administrative processes that arise when a private household employs someone: registration, payroll, social insurance, source tax and, in some cases, migration formalities. That operational context is why Helpore is publishing this analysis.

The figures do not measure Helpore's activity or show that the administrative increase created demand for its services. They help make a hard-to-see part of household employment more understandable.

Source notes

1. State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), *Statistical appendix to the FlaM Report 2025*, tables 1-1 and 1-3, released 17 June 2026.
2. State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), *Statistical appendix to the FlaM Report 2024*, table 1-3.
3. State Secretariat for Migration (SEM), *Foreign population statistics, July 2026*, workbook 5-20, "Valid cross-border commuter permits by industry and nationality", released 17 August 2026.
4. State Secretariat for Migration (SEM), *Notification procedure for short-term work*, accessed 10 September 2026.
5. Federal Statistical Office (FSO), *Profile: Cross-border Commuters Statistics*, explaining the difference between valid permits and estimated active cross-border workers.
6. Federal Statistical Office (FSO), *Foreign cross-border commuters by canton of work, country of residence, economic division and sex*, fourth quarter 2025, accessed 10 September 2026.
7. Federal Statistical Office (FSO), *NOGA 2025: Activities of households as employers of domestic personnel*, accessed 10 September 2026.
8. State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), *Explanatory report on the standard employment contract for domestic work*, 2025, for context on the household-services notification series and the exclusion of personnel supplied through staff-leasing firms.
9. State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), *FlaM Report 2024*, section 3.2, and EasyGov, *Online notification procedure for short-term employment*, 3 April 2025, for the migration of the notification system and the industry-assignment optimisation.

What these figures measure

The two sources describe different administrative records. SECO counts annual registrations for short-term starts with Swiss employers; it does not count unique workers, households, jobs or contracts. The separate SEM table counts valid G permits in an administrative domestic-services category on one date; it does not establish how many permit holders were working that day.

The central result is the contrast within the SECO series: registrations in the private-household-services row rose 9.5% in 2025, while the comparable total across all branches fell 2.8%. The SEM permit snapshot adds context about the recorded sex and canton distribution, but it is not part of that annual total.

The separately labelled Helpore platform snapshot describes 185 filtered Helper accounts through 10 September 2026, of which 58 selected the EU/EFTA short-stay route and supplied a Swiss entry date in the prior 90 days. It is a de-identified aggregate of self-reported platform records and is not part of, or additive to, either official series.

Author

Gilberto de la Fuente

Director at Helpore

Through Helpore, we want to contribute by bringing the best quality household help to Switzerland; that's why it's an objective of ours to facilitate the registration process for those who have just arrived in Switzerland from the EU.

— Gilberto de la Fuente, Director at Helpore

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