

July 2026

## Albuquerque-area employers added 146 jobs in July, a 0.6% gain down from 1.8% in June, marking the panel's fourth consecutive month of net job growth

**Albuquerque, N.M., August 1, 2026** – Albuquerque-area employers continued to add jobs in July, though at the slowest pace of the year so far, as sharp separations in ambulatory health care weighed on the panel's overall net, according to the Payday HCM Albuquerque Jobs Report. Across a representative panel of 576 local businesses, the report recorded 935 new hires against 789 separations, a net gain of 146 positions, down from a net gain of 442 in June. Hospitality continued to lead the panel's growth for a third consecutive month.

### Month-Over-Month Comparison

|           | Growth Rate | Net Change | New Hires | Separations | Turnover | % Expanding |
|-----------|-------------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| July 2026 | +0.6%       | +146       | 935       | 789         | 3.19%    | 34.6%       |
| June 2026 | +1.8%       | +442       | 1,095     | 653         | 2.65%    | 39.9%       |

### Key Insights

- **Ambulatory health care drove the panel's slowdown.** Ambulatory health care posted a net loss of 127 positions across 60 businesses in July, driven by 242 separations against 115 hires. The reversal, following a net gain of 85 positions in June, was the largest single-sector swing of the year so far and accounted for nearly all of the panel-wide slowdown in net growth.
- **Hospitality continued to carry the panel.** Food services and drinking places added a net 140 positions across 66 businesses, and accommodation added a net 53 across 40 businesses. Together the two sectors contributed a combined net 193 positions, more than the panel's overall net gain of 146. Without hospitality, the rest of the panel would have posted a net decline in July.
- **Educational services recovered sharply from June's seasonal decline.** The sector posted a net loss of 14 positions across 14 businesses in July, a dramatic improvement from the -219 net recorded in June. The trajectory is consistent with the typical New Mexico pattern of end-of-academic-year separations easing through the summer before new-academic-year hiring begins in August and September.

### Top Growing Sectors, July 2026

| Sector                          | Businesses | Net Change | Hires / Separations |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|
| Food Services & Drinking Places | 66         | +140       | +272 / -132         |
| Accommodation (Hotels)          | 40         | +53        | +101 / -48          |
| Social Assistance               | 23         | +21        | +42 / -21           |
| Credit Intermediation           | 9          | +17        | +25 / -8            |
| Administrative Support Services | 18         | +14        | +17 / -3            |

**Notable declines within the panel:** Ambulatory health care posted the largest contraction at -127, driven by 242 separations against 115 hires across 60 businesses. Performing arts (-40), professional, scientific and technical services (-20), and educational services (-14) followed, though education's reading was a dramatic improvement from June's -219. Seventeen sectors posted any decline in July, up from eight in June, reflecting the broader softening in the month's hiring pace.

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*“July was our slowest month for net growth this year, though still net positive, making four straight months of gains for the panel. The main story was ambulatory health care, which swung to a net loss of 127 positions after a strong June. Education came back from its June seasonal drop almost entirely, matching the pattern I expected. Hospitality continued to carry a lot of the weight. Without food services and accommodation, the rest of the panel would have posted a small decline.”*

**– Andy Siegel, Founder and CEO, Payday HCM**

## About this report:

The Payday HCM Albuquerque Jobs Report is a monthly analysis of anonymized payroll data from a representative panel of Albuquerque-area businesses with five or more employees. The panel currently includes 571 employers representing approximately ten percent of qualifying businesses in the region. The report identifies local employment trends based on this cross-section and should not be interpreted as a count of all jobs in the Albuquerque metro area. Full methodology is available [here](#). For questions or to schedule an interview with Andy Siegel, contact [reports@paydayhcm.com](mailto:reports@paydayhcm.com).