

Real-Time Jobs Report



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Anchorage Economic
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Anchorage Economic Development Corporation

Real-Time Jobs Report

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Executive Summary

Anchorage's labor market entered summer 2026 with more postings but fewer employers doing the hiring. Total unique job postings reached 12,753 in the [second quarter](#), up ▲ 6% from a year earlier and ▲ 7% jobs from the previous quarter. At the same time, the number of distinct companies posting jobs fell ▼ 5.6% year-over-year, a steeper drop than the state saw overall ▼ (-1.6%) in job postings. Read together, these two trends point to the same underlying shift: hiring demand is not spreading across the employer base the way it used to. Instead, it is concentrating in a smaller group of larger organizations, most visibly in health care.

Wages have climbed substantially over the medium term, with the median advertised salary reaching \$68,500, up ▲ 34% since 2016. Postings stay open for a median of 21 days before being filled, in line with the regional average, suggesting employers are not yet facing runaway hiring delays despite the tighter employer base. Skills tied to operations (lifting ability, auditing, driving records, and project management) are the most frequently requested, while finance and auditing skills show the fastest projected growth, pointing to a widening gap between what employers want and what the current workforce offers.

Anchorage's ▲ 6% year-over-year growth trails in job postings to the State of Alaska's pace ▲ (+7.7%), but on a quarter-over-quarter basis Anchorage outperformed the state ▲(+3.6%), meaning the municipality is capturing a disproportionate share of Alaska's seasonal hiring swing. That's consistent with a summer tourism and construction bump layered on top of steadier baseline demand.

The employer count tells a different story. In Q2 2026, 2,183 companies posted jobs in Anchorage, down from 2,314 a year earlier, a ▼ 5.6% decline that was more than three times steeper than the statewide drop ▼(-1.6%) over the same period. The number of postings are rising while the number of employers doing the posting is falling, which means the same or a shrinking pool of employers is posting more listings, not that hiring is broadening across Anchorage's business community.



This report is sponsored by the University of Alaska Anchorage and KeyBank .

Job Postings Anchorage vs. State

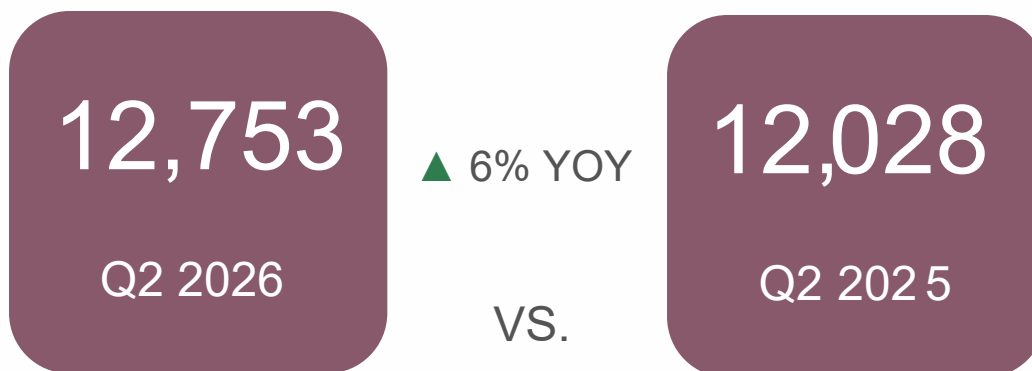
Job Postings Volume

Job postings have hit an upward trend in Anchorage. In Q2 2026, Anchorage recorded 12,753 unique job postings, up ▲ from 12,028 in Q2 2025, representing a ▲ 6% year- over- year growth for this period. This is also up from 11,891 in Q1 2026, showing a ▲ 7% rise quarter- over- quarter.

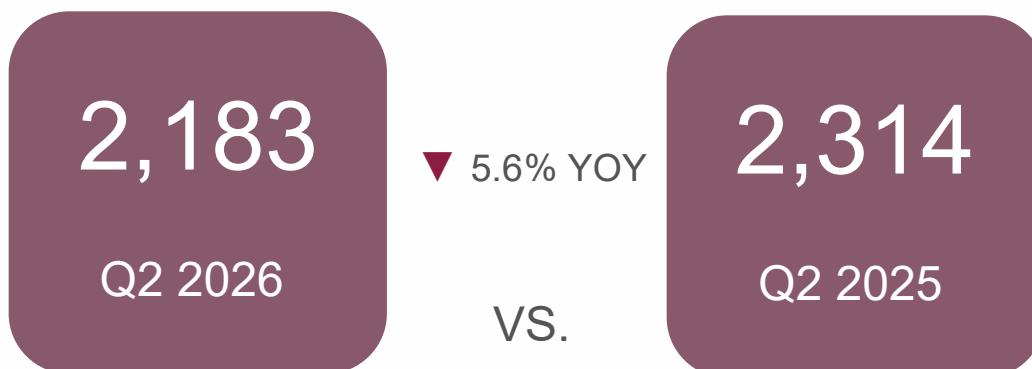
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Unique Job Postings



Employers Posting



This concentration matters for the trend story above: when postings grow but the employer base shrinks, a look at who is doing the posting shows it is dominated by a handful of large, resilient sectors rather than a broad cross -section of small and mid -size Anchorage businesses .

Job Postings Anchorage

Top Occupations Posted	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	Change - / +	Change %
Registered Nurses	888	766	-122	-13.70%
Retail Salesperson	307	308	+1	+0.3%
First-Line Retail Sales Supervisors	228	222	-6	-2.6%
Laborer and Material Movers	274	202	-72	-26.3%
Customer Service Representatives		180		
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers		176		
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants		160		
Medical & Health Service Managers		153		

TOP OCCUPATIONS

Health care and social assistance is Anchorage's largest source of job postings by a wide margin, and Registered Nurses top both the occupation and job-title rankings, by far the single most in-demand role in the market.

766

Registered Nurses
Jobs Posted
Q2 2026



Top Employers Posted

Providence

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

SouthCentral Foundation

State of Alaska

Anchorage School District

Municipality of Anchorage



Major health systems (Providence, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Southcentral Foundation) rank among the top employers alongside large public -sector employers (State of Alaska, Anchorage School District, Municipality of Anchorage).

Job Postings Anchorage

Wages and Posting Duration

The median advertised salary in Anchorage reached \$68,500 in Q2 2026, up ▲ 34.1% since 2016 and up ▲ 9.95% from Q1 2026. That long climb has been steady rather than sudden, and it has accelerated over the past two years alongside the tightening employer base, consistent with fewer, larger employers competing more aggressively for the same pool of workers. Despite that wage pressure, the median posting stays open 21 days before being filled, matching the regional average, so hiring friction has not worsened in step with the wage growth.

\$ 68,500

Median Advertised Wage
Q2 2026

▲ 34.1%*
*v. 2016

Skills Employers are Seeking

Skill Wanted	% of Postings	Growth	Change %
Lifting Ability	9%	Growing	+10.2%
Auditing	8%	Rapidly Growing	+20.8%
Good Driving Record	7%	Growing	+16.8%
Project Management	7%	Rapidly Growing	+19.4%
Workflow Management	6%	Growing	+16.4%
Finance	5%	Rapidly Growing	+22.4%

The most frequently requested skills across Anchorage postings skew operational: lifting ability, auditing, a good driving record, project management, and workflow management. Two of these, auditing ▲ (+20.8% projected growth) and finance ▲ (+22.4%), are also the fastest-growing skill categories relative to the rest of the market, but they show up in far fewer worker resumes than in job postings. That gap is the clearest sign of an emerging skills shortage in Anchorage: employers are asking for finance and auditing capability faster than the local workforce is acquiring it.

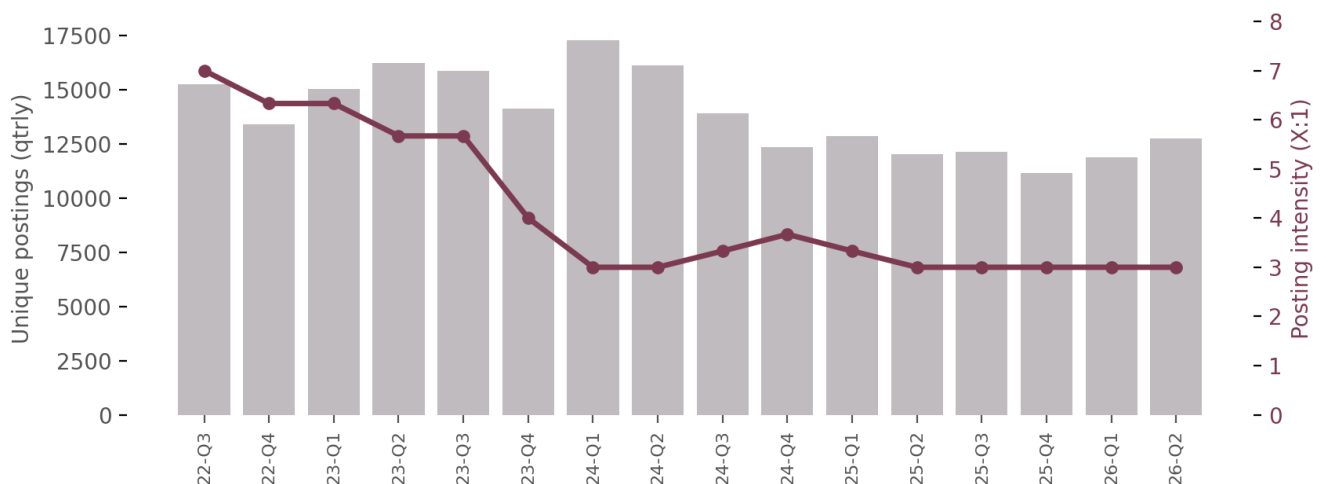


Job Postings Anchorage

Total job posting volume has cooled since its 2022 peak, but the ratio of job seekers to job openings, or 'posting intensity,' has fallen even faster, from roughly 6 - 7 candidates per opening in 2021 -2022 to under 3 by 2025 -2026. To be clear, job postings represented here and in the graph below does not indicate hire. The postings may be removed and reposted, or closed without a hire.

That combination, fewer postings but a much thinner applicant pool behind each one, is the single most important signal in this dataset for Anchorage, because it points to a supply -side labor constraint rather than a demand collapse.

Posting Intensity by Quarter, Q3 2022 - Q2 2026



Why this matters specifically for Anchorage

- Population is not growing to meet demand. Anchorage has experienced net outmigration in recent years, and Alaska has been one of the few states losing working age residents. A falling applicant to job ratio is a warning sign.
- Anchorage has a limited labor pool. Unlike Lower 48 cities that can draw workers from nearby communities, Anchorage has fewer places to pull workers from. The Mat Su Valley and a few nearby rail belt communities provide most of the available commuter workforce. When the local labor supply gets tight, there are fewer options to fill the gap.
- Employee retention is becoming more important. With about three candidates per opening and that number falling, replacing workers is becoming harder than it was three years ago. For Anchorage's largest employers, this means focusing more on retaining employees, helping workers advance, and addressing childcare and housing needs rather than simply competing for workers.

Data Sources: Lightcast, SOA, [AEDC Real Time Jobs Report Q1 2026](#)

Thank you Diamond Investors



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Thank you.

For more information on how to be a sponsor or investor, please contact development@aedcweb.com

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