



**Specialty Healthcare Services
M&A Update
Q2 2026**

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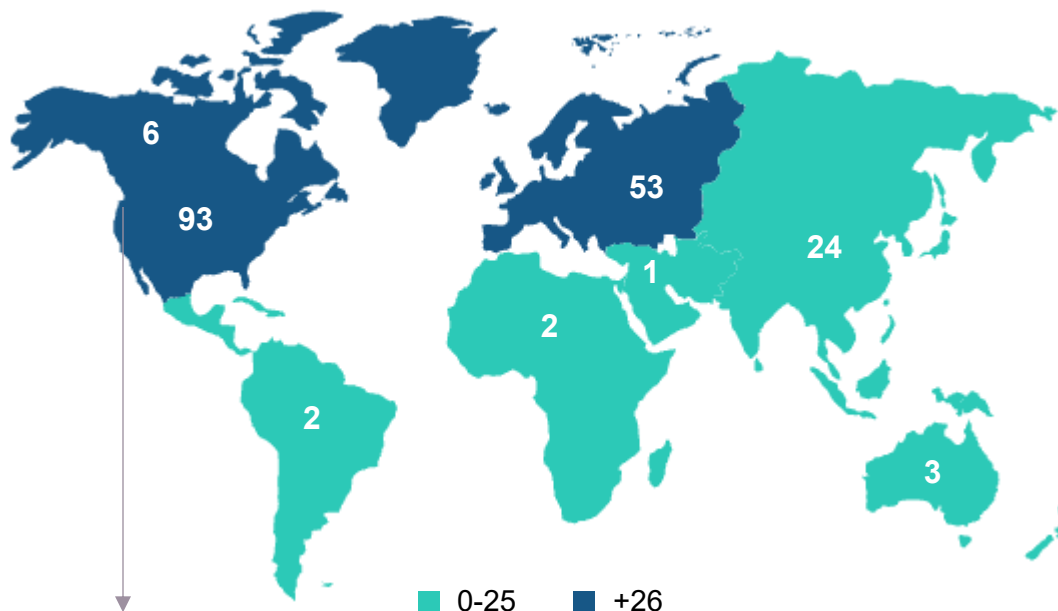
Specialty Healthcare Services M&A Update Q2 2026

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- In Q2 2026, the S&P Healthcare Services Select Industry Index increased by 7.4%, but was outperformed by the S&P 500 which saw a 14.0% increase over the same period.
- The median EV/EBITDA multiple for reported private equity deals in the Specialty Healthcare Services sector increased to 19.0x in 1H 2026 from 11.5x in 2025.
- M&A deal volume in the sector decreased 6.6% in Q2 to 184 deals from 197 deals in both Q1 and Q2 of the prior year.
- North America was the most active region in Q2 with 99 deals. Most notably in North America was Ascension's \$3.9 billion acquisition of AmSurg, a Nashville-based ambulatory surgery center, in June 2026.
- Total capital invested in M&A transactions increased 112.5% in Q2 to \$8.5B from \$4.0B in Q1, primarily due to multiple large-cap transactions including the AmSurg deal, mentioned above.



Of the 184 deals in the Specialty Healthcare Services sector in Q2, North America was the most active with 99. A notable North American deal in the quarter (in addition to the Ascension deal mentioned on the previous page) was Kinderhook Industries' \$1.2 billion buyout of Enhabit Home Health & Hospice, a Dallas, Texas-based provider of home nursing services. Europe was the second most active with 53 transactions and all other regions combined for a total of 32 deals.



Canada: 6

United States: 93

Southeast: 27

Mid Atlantic: 21

South: 14

West Coast: 13

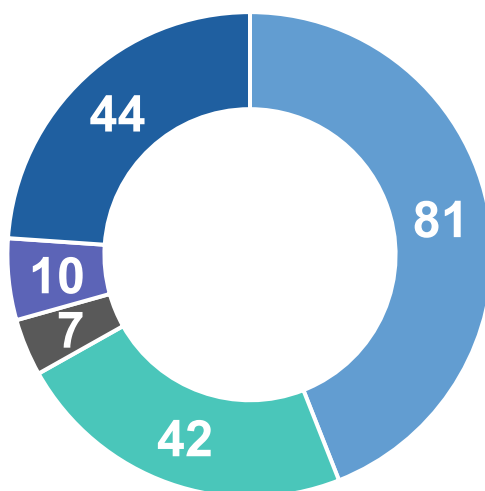
Others: 18

In the U.S., the Southeast region was the most active area with 27 deals. A notable deal in the Southeast region was the Infosys \$465.0 million acquisition of Optimum Healthcare IT, a Jacksonville-based healthcare digital transformation and consulting firm, in May 2026. The Mid Atlantic and South saw 21 and 14 closed transactions, respectively. The West Coast region had 13 closed transactions and all other U.S. regions combined for a total of 18 completed deals.

In Canada, 6 transactions closed in Q2, including Ace and Company's buyout of Humphrey & Belezny Cosmetic Dermatology for an undisclosed amount in May 2026.

Of the 184 Specialty Healthcare Services deals in Q2, 81 deals were in the Clinics & Outpatient Services subsector, making it the most active from an M&A volume standpoint. The Elderly/Disabled Care & Inpatient Services and Specialty Healthcare Distributors subsectors saw 42 and 10 closed transactions, respectively, while 7 deals closed in the Practice Management subsector. All other subsectors combined for a total of 44 deals during the quarter.

Specialty Healthcare Services M&A Volume by Subsector



 Clinics/
Outpatient Services

 Elderly/Disabled
Care

 Specialty Healthcare
Distributors

 Practice
Management

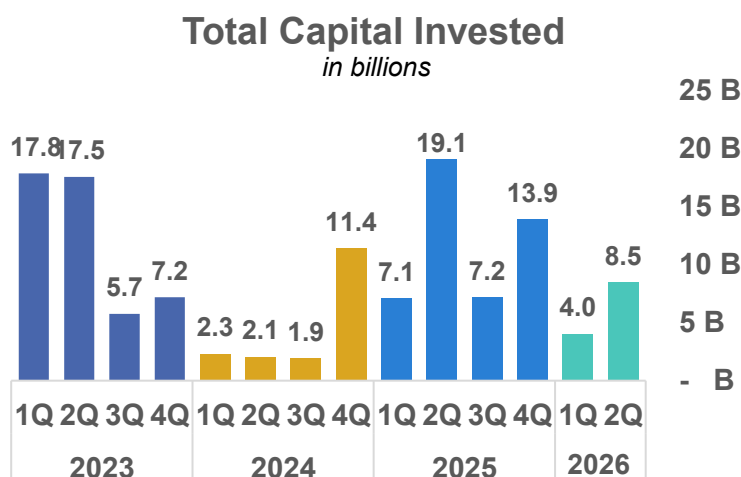
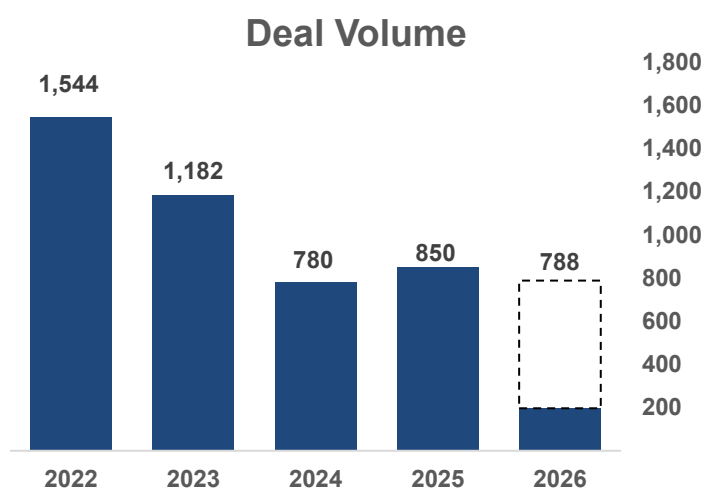
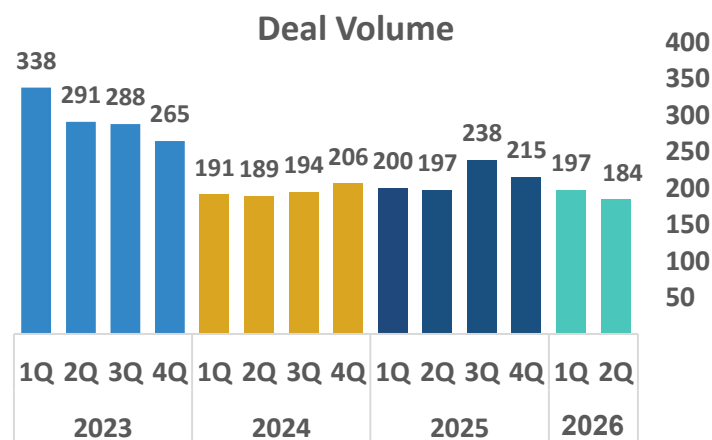
 Other Specialty
Providers



Deal volume in the Specialty Healthcare Services sector decreased 4.1% in Q2 to 184 deals from 197 deals in Q1, and decreased 4.1% from 197 deals in Q2 of the prior year. Q2 2026 marks the continuation of a trend of steady deal volume seen since Q1 2024. Although Q2 volume is down from 2023 levels, the volume is still illustrative of consistent buyer demand for companies in the specialty healthcare sector.

Annual deal volume is on pace to decrease 7.3% to 788 deals in 2026 from 850 in 2025. We attribute this decrease in expected deal volume to uncertain macroeconomic visibility including concerns for rising inflation and diminishing hope for interest rate cuts. We also note the geopolitical uncertainty as of this writing which could have a negative impact on deal volume as volatility in the energy markets could dampen investor enthusiasm.

Total capital invested in M&A deals in the Specialty Healthcare Services sector increased by 112.5% in Q2 to \$8.5B from \$4.0B in Q1, but decreased 55.5% from \$19.1B in Q2 of the prior year. The increase from Q1 was largely driven by multiple large-cap transactions, including the \$3.9B AmSurg deal mentioned previously. Comparatively, the largest deal in Q1 was GTCR's \$2.4B acquisition of Dentalcorp Health Services.

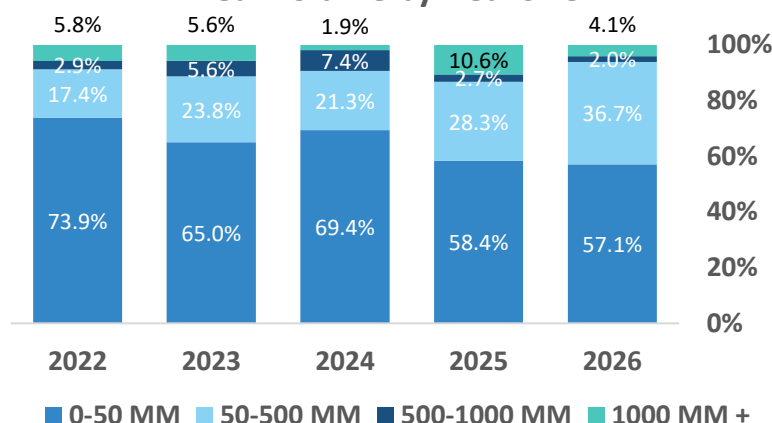


In 1H 2026, we generally saw a continued shift toward smaller-sized deals from the prior year, specifically in the middle (\$50-\$500 MM) tranche, which saw a sharp increase to 36.7% from 28.3% in the prior year. The lower middle (\$0-\$50 MM), upper middle (\$500-\$1,000 MM) and large cap (\$1,000 MM+) tranches of the market all saw decreases to 57.1%, 2.0% and 4.1% from 58.4%, 2.7% and 10.6%, respectively, in 2025.

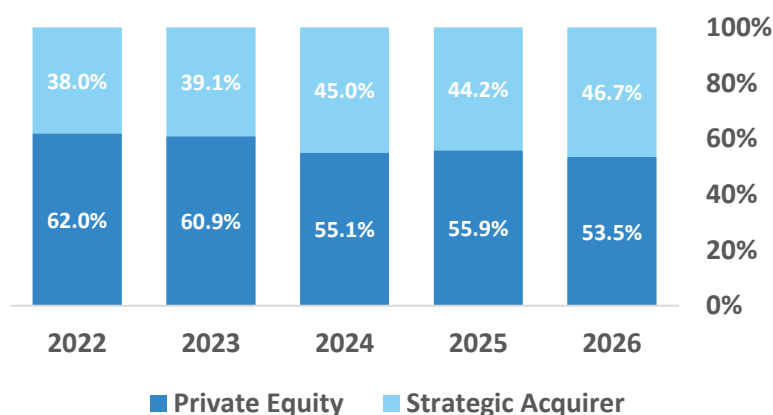
As a % of total deal volume, PE buyers trended lower in 1H 2026 relative to strategic buyers, representing 53.5% of deal volume in the sector compared to 55.9% in 2025. 1H marks a continuation of the trend of increasing strategic acquirer share of deal volume.

Despite deal volume trends, total capital invested by PE investors (as a % of overall capital invested) increased in 1H 2026 to 62.3% from 37.5% in 2025. The increase was primarily driven by a handful of large-scale PE acquisitions, including Kinderhook Industries' \$1.2 billion buyout of Enhabit Home Health & Hospice and GTCR's \$2.4 billion buyout of Dentalcorp Health Services in Q1.

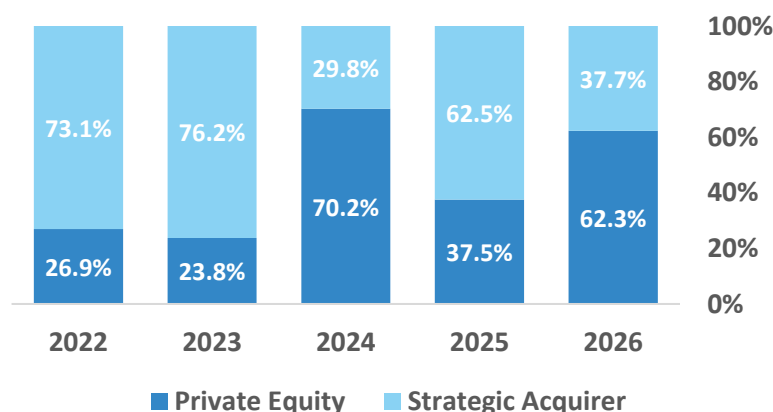
Deal Volume by Deal Size



Deal Volume by Acquirer



Total Capital Invested by Acquirer

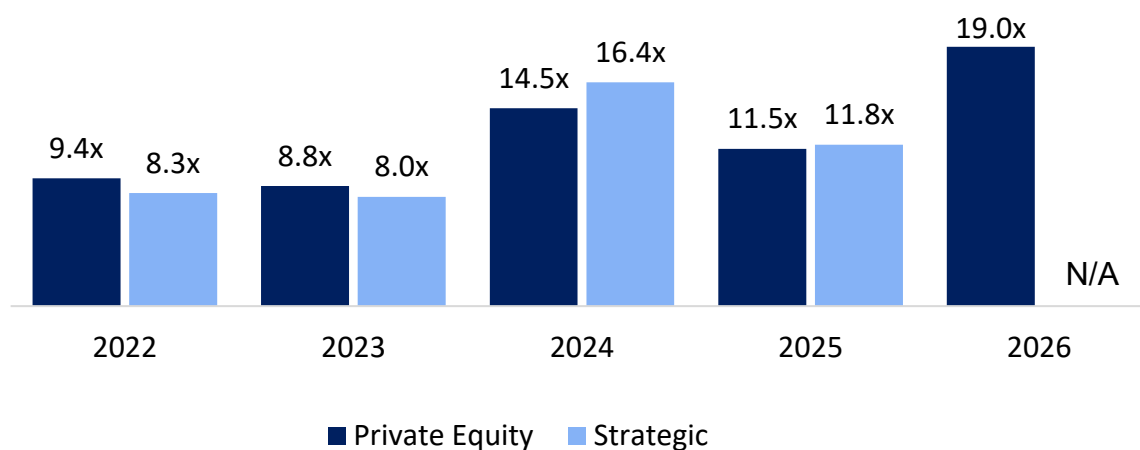


The median EV/EBITDA multiple for reported private equity deals in the Specialty Healthcare Services sector increased to 19.0x in 1H 2026 from 11.5x in 2025, while no EV/EBITDA multiples for strategic deals were reported during this period.

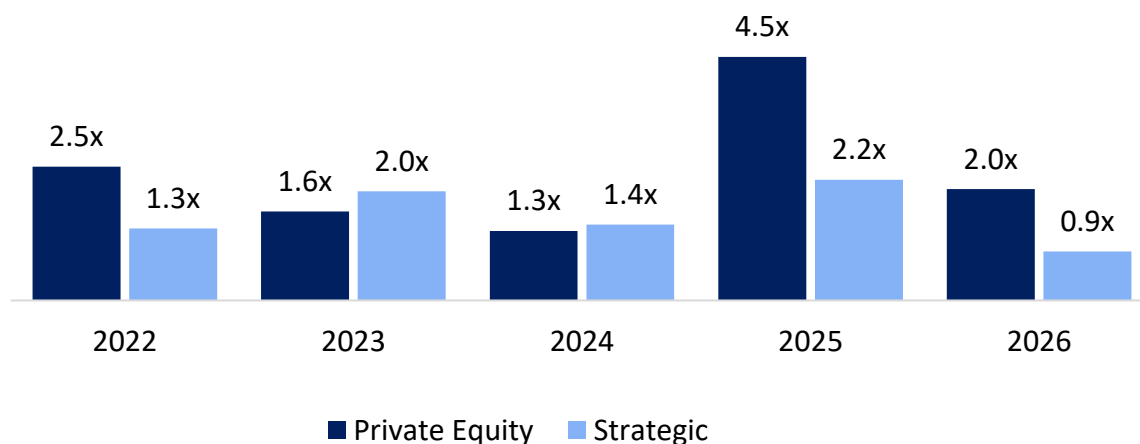
The median EV/Revenue multiple for reported private equity deals decreased to 2.0x in 1H 2026 from 4.5x in 2025 and decreased for strategic deals to 0.9x from 2.2x in the prior year.

1H 2026 marks the highest reported median EV/EBITDA multiple for PE buyers in the last 5 years.

Reported EV/EBITDA Multiples



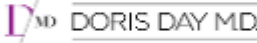
Reported EV/Revenue Multiples



Active Strategic Investors – Specialty Healthcare Services

Investor	2026 Investments	Select Targets
	4	   
	1	
	1	

Active Private Equity Investors – Specialty Healthcare Services

Investor	2026 Investments	Select Targets
	3	  
	3	  
	3	 

Largest Deals (Disclosed)

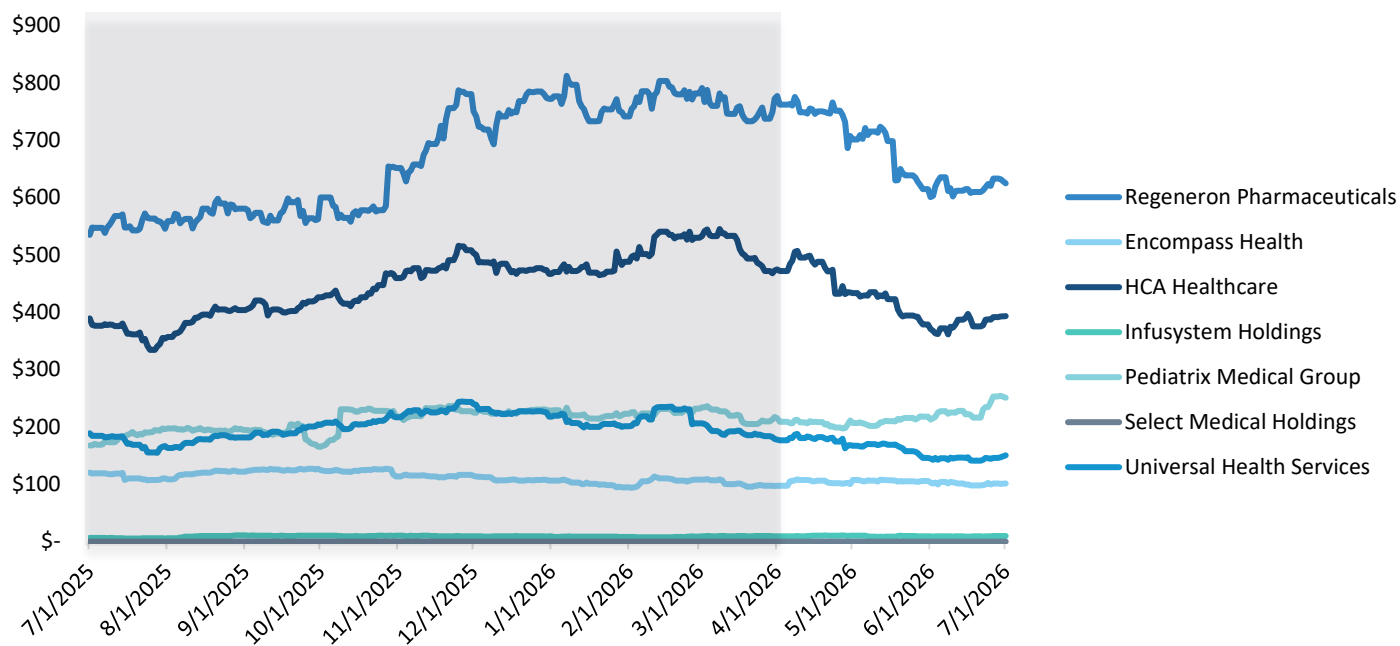
Deal Date	Company	Investor	Deal Type	Deal Size (\$mm)	EV		Target Business Description
					Revenue	EBITDA	
11-Jun-2026	Ann Arbor Dental Surgery	Q&M Dental Group	Merger/ Acquisition	\$ 0.3			Provider of dental care services offering general, cosmetic, orthodontic, and oral surgery treatments.
09-Jun-2026	InfoSolutions Sverige	Carasent	Merger/ Acquisition	13.7			Provider of healthcare information exchange and integration software supporting clinical workflow management and interoperability.
04-Jun-2026	AmSurg	Ascension	Merger/ Acquisition	3,900.0			Provider of ambulatory surgery center management services intended to empower organizations to deliver a patient-focused, physician-centric experience.
03-Jun-2026	Administrasi Medika	Fullerton Health	Buyout/ LBO	90.0			Provider of healthcare claims administration and analytics services supporting health insurance processing and risk management.
01-Jun-2026	Family First Homecare	Aveanna Healthcare Holdings	Merger/ Acquisition	175.5			Provider of pediatric home healthcare services for patients with complex medical conditions and chronic care needs.
01-Jun-2026	Northwest Medical Center	Freeman Health System	Merger/ Acquisition	110.0			Operator of an acute care hospital providing inpatient, outpatient, diagnostic, surgical, and emergency medical services.
21-May-2026	CaduceusHealth	Innovaccer	Merger/ Acquisition	66.0			Provider of revenue cycle management and practice support services for physicians and healthcare organizations.
19-May-2026	Dominion Aesthetic Technologies	BellaMia Technologies	Merger/ Acquisition	200.0			Developer of aesthetic medical laser devices serving cosmetic and dermatological treatment providers.
18-May-2026	Kalinga Hospital	Max Healthcare Institute	Merger/ Acquisition	31.7			Operator of a multispecialty healthcare provider offering hospital-based medical, surgical, and diagnostic services.
15-May-2026	Enhabit Home Health & Hospice	Kinderhook Industries	Buyout/ LBO	1,214.8	1.06x	22.57x	Provider of home health and hospice care services supporting patients with chronic, acute, and end-of-life care needs.
12-May-2026	Liyang Jinboli	Ruisheng Bio	Merger/ Acquisition	1.1	0.75x		Provider of outpatient dental services offering general, orthodontic, implant, and preventive oral healthcare.
12-May-2026	SCA Health	Undisclosed Investor	PE Growth/ Expansion	0.3			Provider of specialty physician practice management and care coordination services supporting surgical and ancillary care delivery.
06-May-2026	Brlit Dental Laboratory	Standard Dental Labs	Merger/ Acquisition	0.6	0.68x		Operator of a dental laboratory providing restorative, cosmetic, implant, and prosthetic dental products.
05-May-2026	Optimum Healthcare IT	Infosys	Merger/ Acquisition	465.0	1.69x		Provider of healthcare staffing, consulting, and workforce solutions for healthcare organizations.
04-May-2026	4BIO Medicamentos Especiais	Profarma Distribuição	Merger/ Acquisition	119.5			Retailer of specialty pharmaceuticals serving patients requiring complex and condition-specific medications.
04-May-2026	Dar Al-Shifa Hospital	A'ayan Leasing and Investment Company	Merger/ Acquisition	115.0			Operator of a multispecialty private hospital providing inpatient, outpatient, surgical, diagnostic, and emergency care services.
Mean				406.5	1.05x	22.57x	
Median				100.0	0.91x	22.57x	
High				3,900.0	1.69x	22.57x	
Low				0.3	0.68x	22.57x	

Leading M&A Deals (Completed)

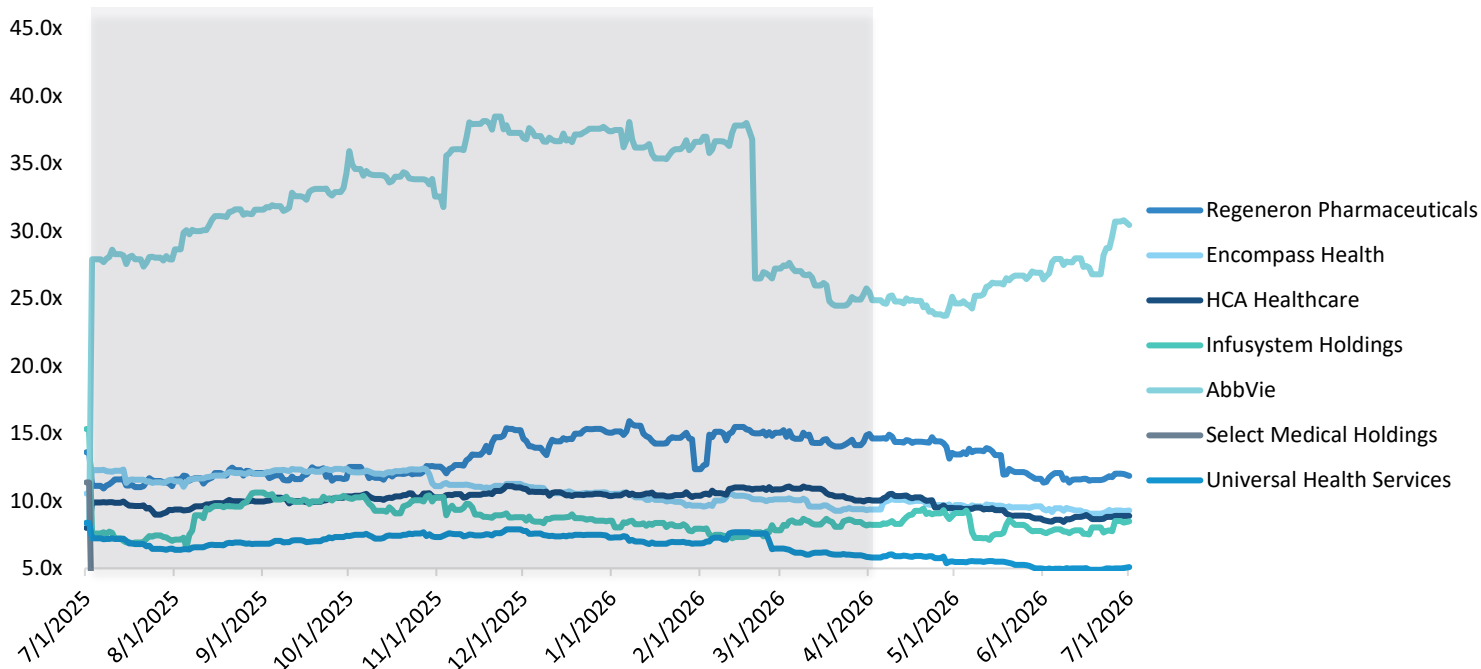


Target	Investor	Driver	Deal Synopsis
 		Merger/ Acquisition	Ascension acquired AmSurg, a Nashville-based operator of more than 250 ambulatory surgery centers across 34 states, for approximately \$3.9 billion in June 2026. The acquisition expands Ascension's ASC footprint from 58 to more than 300 centers, positioning the health system to lead the shift toward outpatient surgical care.
 		Buyout/LBO	Kinderhook Industries acquired Enhabit, a Dallas-based national home health and hospice provider, for approximately \$1.2 billion in May 2026. The transaction takes Enhabit private, giving the company long-term investment support and room to grow its clinical capabilities without the short-term pressures of the public markets.
 		Merger/ Acquisition	Infosys acquired Optimum Healthcare IT, a Jacksonville, Florida-based healthcare digital transformation and consulting firm, for up to \$465 million in May 2026. The acquisition significantly strengthens Infosys's presence in the healthcare provider segment and expands its AI-driven digital transformation and cloud offerings.
 		Merger/ Acquisition	Huntsville Hospital Health System acquired Crestwood Medical Center, a 180-bed acute care hospital in Huntsville, Alabama, from Community Health Systems for \$450 million in April 2026. The acquisition adds Crestwood as Huntsville's fifteenth hospital and supports continued investment in patient access and care coordination across the North Alabama market.

Stock Price

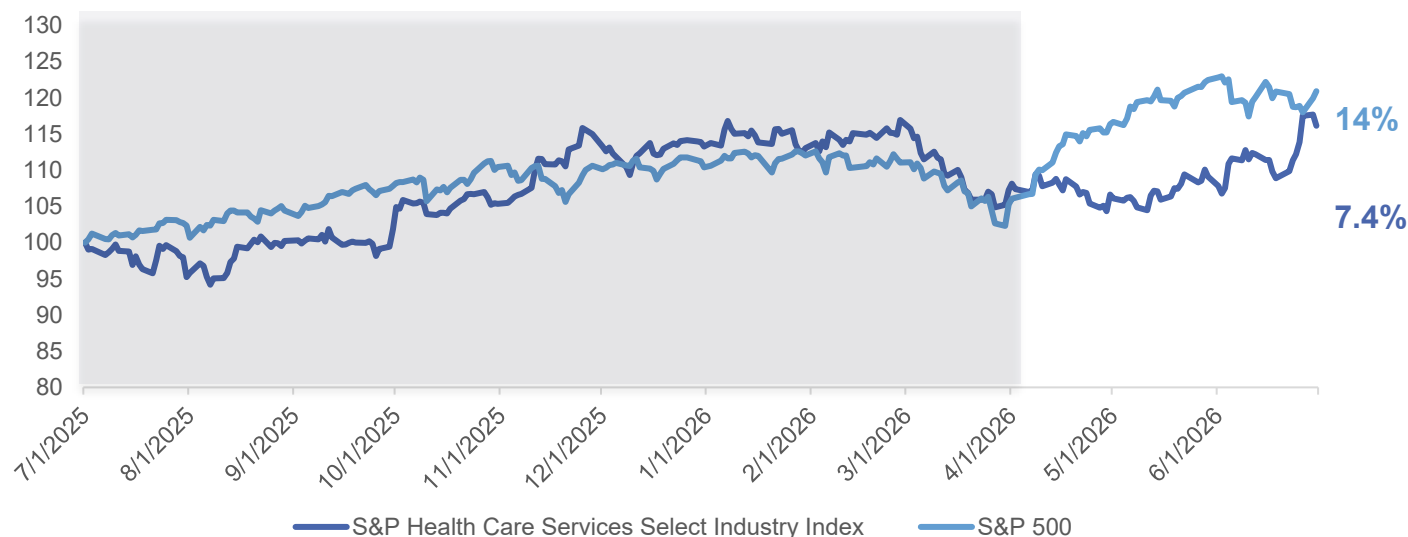


EV/EBITDA



Index Performance

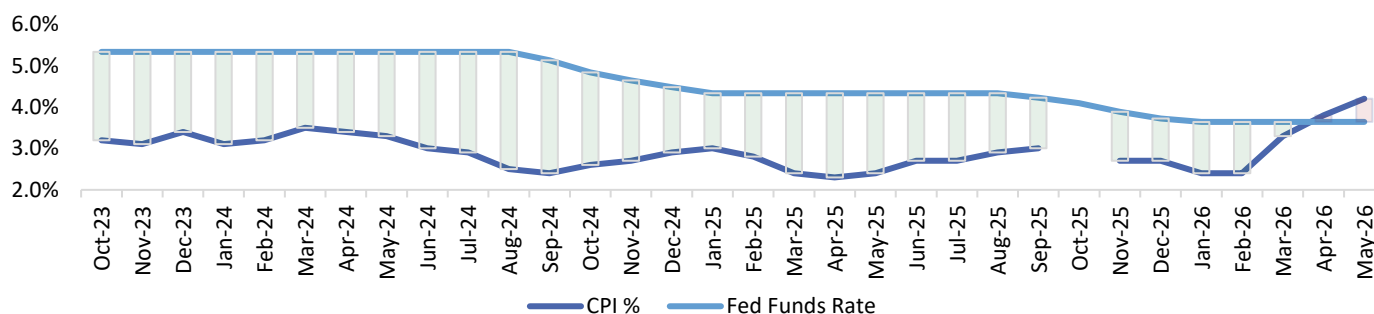
In Q2, the S&P Healthcare Services Select Industry Index increased by 7.4%, but was outperformed by the S&P 500 which saw a 14.0% increase over the same period.



Key External Drivers

The specialty healthcare sector's momentum this quarter rested on a narrow set of themes, with outpatient migration, physician- and provider-services roll-ups, and digital health platforms drawing steady strategic and PE interest. This is the structural story, as leadership in specialty healthcare M&A hinges on whether outpatient and tech-enabled models continue to outperform traditional inpatient economics.

The bigger story this quarter was the Fed itself. Kevin Warsh was sworn in as Chair on May 22, succeeding Jerome Powell, who is staying on the board in an unusual move for a former chair. Warsh's first meeting at the helm, on June 17, held rates steady at 3.50%–3.75% for a fourth straight meeting, but the tone turned hawkish: the committee erased its one remaining projected cut for the year and pushed easing out to 2027-2028, with several members now penciling in a hike instead. The catalyst was inflation: May CPI hit 4.2% year-over-year, a three-year high, driven largely by the energy and commodity disruption from the Iran war, which sent Brent crude above \$100/barrel at its peak before easing back by late June as hostilities cooled. The Strait of Hormuz remains a flashpoint given its role in roughly 27% of global seaborne oil trade, so renewed escalation is a real tail risk heading into Q3.



Note: The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics did not publish an official CPI reading for October 2025 due to the federal government shutdown, which disrupted data collection. As a result, no official year-over-year CPI figure is available for that month.

Emerging trends in the Specialty Healthcare Services sector



Mental Health Therapy Platform Consolidation

Rising demand pulls buyers into outpatient behavioral health

Sponsors and strategics continue to build multi-site outpatient mental health platforms as diagnosed anxiety, depression, and mood disorder volumes climb across all age cohorts. Buyers favor groups with credentialed clinician bases, measurement-based care protocols, and in-network payor contracts. Scarcity of scaled, well-run assets keeps competitive tension high on quality platforms.



Autism & Developmental Services Scale-Up

ABA and pediatric therapy remain a top acquisition target

Applied behavior analysis, speech, and occupational therapy providers draw sustained interest as autism diagnosis rates rise and state mandates broaden coverage. Acquirers prize clinician recruitment and retention capability, since staffing depth governs organic growth more than facility count. Regional roll-ups continue to add de novo centers alongside tuck-in acquisitions.



AI-Driven Diagnostics & Data Platforms

Data and automation reshape specialty diagnostic M&A

Strategic acquirers target AI-enabled diagnostic platforms, specialty labs, and clinical analytics providers that combine diagnostic capability with advanced data infrastructure. Abbott's acquisition of Exact Sciences exemplifies the premium for cancer screening and diagnostics with rich patient datasets. Buyers increasingly value companies that accelerate innovation cycles and improve outcomes through data-driven insights.



Substance Use Disorder Treatment Demand

Payors expand access to outpatient addiction care

Opioid and alcohol use disorder programs attract capital as commercial and Medicaid payors broaden coverage for medication-assisted and intensive outpatient treatment. Buyers underwrite platforms that document engagement and completion outcomes, since payor renewal increasingly depends on measurable results. Hybrid virtual and in-person delivery models command a premium for extending reach without added facility cost.



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About

R.L. Hulett is a middle-market investment bank based in St. Louis, Missouri, providing M&A and financial advisory services to middle-market companies. Since its founding in 1981, the firm has advised in over 300+ transactions in a variety of industries including Healthcare, Transportation & Logistics, Packaging, Food & Consumer, Industrials, Business Services, and Software/Tech-Enabled Services. The firm has an experienced team of M&A advisors consisting of former business owners, seasoned corporate executives, professional service firm partners, CPAs and MBAs. Our ability to deliver customized solutions to meet or exceed our clients' expectations is what sets us apart from our competitors.

Our Clients

\$10 - 250MM
Revenue

\$2 - 20MM
EBITDA

Middle Market
Privately
Owned

Industries Served



Healthcare



Tech-Enabled
Services



Plastics &
Packaging



Industrials



Transportation
& Logistics



Food &
Consumer



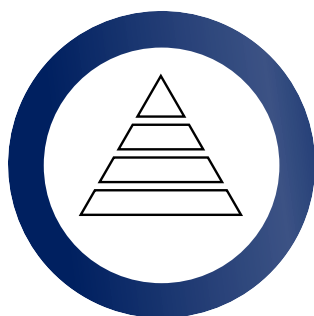
Sell-Side Advisory: Sell your business

Sell your business for the highest price and for the best terms. At R.L. Hulett, communicating the value of your business to targeted buyers and finding the best fit for your team is our forte. We strive to maintain your company's culture and heritage even as you transition out of your business.



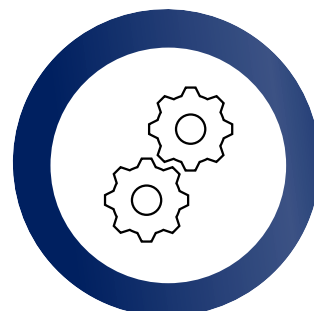
Buy-Side Advisory: Buy a business

Searching for acquisition targets can be a challenging and time-consuming task when trying to run your own business at the same time. Navigating the risks and pitfalls in negotiating valuation and deal structure can also be a daunting task for many business owners. Let our team help you minimize your risk and reduce time wasting efforts with our decades of experience in advising in both buy and sell-side M&A transactions. We utilize industry-leading M&A databases to scout for opportunities and pre-screen for "real" actionable targets so you can stay focused on what matters.



Capital Raise: Gain financial support

With over 45 years of experience in middle-market M&A advisory, we know how to package up your deal and put you in front of the right kind of investors who have the capital and the industry expertise you need to grow your business. Our team will develop a go-to-market strategy and advise on deal structure, valuation, due diligence and transition issues. Whether you are seeking capital for growth or trying to buy out other shareholders, we have the tools, expertise, and experience to execute a strategic process and find the optimal outcome to meet your objectives.



Restructuring: reorganization of your business

In today's uncertain economic times, more and more companies are finding themselves in unfamiliar, and unwanted, positions. Many business owners are hoping recovery is just around the corner; however, proactive measures are often required to maximize the remaining value of the business. Our team can aid banking institutions with workout situations by implementing internal controls over cash management and performing on-going cash flow modeling for their clients. We can also help business owners avoid having trouble making payments on their debts and avoid the cumbersome and low-value asset liquidation process.

Below are two recent transactions facilitated by R.L. Hulett, showcasing our expertise in the Healthcare Services sector. Each transaction exemplifies our commitment to delivering exceptional value and strategic growth for our clients.



Has been acquired by

Bain Capital *Ventures*



The Seller: The Corner Pharmacy operates retail pharmacies located in hospitals to provide a convenient resource for hospital in-patient and outpatient discharges, hospital-affiliated Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASCs), and clinical visits to hospital-affiliated physician offices located in Medical Office Buildings.

The Buyer: Bain Capital Ventures is the Boston-based venture capital affiliate of Bain Capital. Founded in 1984, Bain Capital Ventures has made investments in over 110 early and growth-stage companies. Bain Capital Ventures currently has \$2 billion under management and invests in business services, consumer, healthcare, internet & mobile, and software companies.

Transaction Rationale: The Corner Pharmacy will use the investment proceeds to fund the continued expansion of its business and for general corporate purposes.



Has been acquired by



The Seller: All-Staff Nursing, Inc. ("ASN"), located in the St. Louis metropolitan area, is a specialized provider of supplemental staffing services for long-term care facilities. Since its establishment in September 1990, All-Staff Nursing has been dedicated to addressing the temporary staffing needs of healthcare organizations, particularly nursing homes. Their primary focus is on supplying highly qualified healthcare professionals, including Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Certified Nurse Assistants.

The Buyer: Founded in 1986, Cooperative Home Care ("CHC") is a trusted provider of healthcare staffing and home care services in St. Louis, Missouri. The company provides nurse staffing and palliative home care services under Medicaid, Medicare and private pay programs.

Transaction Rationale: The acquisition of ASN expands CHC into the Illinois market.

Over the years, R.L. Hulett has completed hundreds of transactions in a variety of industries. Below are several representative transactions highlighting the firm's experience in the sector.



Has been acquired by



 R. L. Hulett



Has sold substantially all of
its assets to



 R. L. Hulett



Has been acquired by



 R. L. Hulett



Has sold substantially all of
its assets to



 R. L. Hulett



Has been acquired by

MONTIEL ENTERPRISES

 R. L. Hulett



Has been acquired by

Gateway Dental
Laboratory

 R. L. Hulett



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Mr. Hulett has led M&A transactions in a variety of industries including manufacturing/industrial, software development/IT, business services and value-added distribution for over 15 years. Prior to joining the firm, he held senior level accounting and financial management positions in both public accounting and large corporations. Mr. Hulett began his career as a Certified Public Accountant with MPP&W, a St. Louis-based public accounting firm specializing in middle market companies. He then held various management positions in internal audit and corporate accounting with a Fortune 1000 industrial manufacturing company and also spent nine years with Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company as a department manager in the Corporate Accounting group. Mr. Hulett holds his Series 62, 63 and 79 securities registration. Mr. Hulett earned a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from the University of Missouri, Columbia.



Jim Goebel
Director
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Mr. Goebel has spent most of his career as an owner/operator of several successful businesses in the technology and distribution space. He was the sole founder of a cloud software/VoIP company built from scratch, scaled, and eventually acquired by Private Equity. He has been on both sides of the M&A table, leading myriad acquisitions and drove and oversaw several successful exits. He has extensive experience working with banking, private equity, deal structure, corporate finance and capital structure, and post deal company assimilations. Mr. Goebel has served on several industry as well as community nonprofit boards in both financial and advisory capacities. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville, Indiana.



Christopher Riley
Senior Advisor
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Mr. Riley has owned, operated, and sold multiple businesses spanning five decades in the technology, fabrication, hospitality, real estate, social media, financial services, automotive, private equity and business services industries. He owns multiple companies, United Cutwater and Cutwater Advisory Partners, that focus on identifying, funding, growing, and exiting businesses at their Optimum Value. Prior to joining the firm, he worked in New York in the investment banking industry for 10 years. He began his career with American Express as an Estate and Tax Planning Specialist. With degrees in Finance and Philosophy and a Master's in Organizational Psychology, Chris was educated at Santa Clara University, the London School of Economics and the Harvard Business School. Chris is Series 79 and Series 63 licensed, has seven board certifications in cyber intelligence, and is a licensed forensic investigator.



Dax Kugelman
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Mr. Kugelman provides analytical support for senior-level deal managers and prepares confidential memorandums, financial models and industry research reports. He graduated from The University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from The Trulaske College of Business. Prior to joining the firm, Dax worked as a financial planning intern for Haribo of America, where he developed an automated sales report, utilized data to create an updated price costing model, and converted their outsourced payroll ledger to a more accurate format. During his time at the University of Missouri, Columbia, Dax was involved with the Financial Planning Association and the University of Missouri Investment Group.



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Mrs. Hulett leads the firm's marketing, administrative and communication efforts. She maintains the firm's proprietary CRM database, manages outbound firm communications and provides administrative support to senior deal managers. Prior to joining R.L. Hulett, Lynda spent the previous ten years in various marketing and administrative functions. Most recently, she worked as a client liaison providing administrative support for a CPA firm. Prior to that, she was employed by Moneta Group, a financial services advisory firm, where she provided marketing and administrative support to the client managers. Lynda graduated from the University of Missouri, Columbia, receiving her business degree with an emphasis in Marketing.



Robert L. Hulett
In Memoriam:
1943-2024

Mr. Hulett founded the firm in 1981 and has negotiated and completed more than 200 transactions throughout his career. He began his career as a Certified Public Accountant and practiced with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. in St. Louis as an Audit Manager and in New York as the Director of Training for Private Business. Mr. Hulett has also served as Chief Executive & Board Member for various middle market companies. As an educator, he was an adjunct professor at New York University and a tenured faculty member at Lindenwood University in St. Louis. He conducted training sessions for middle market CPA firms throughout the country for more than ten years. Mr. Hulett earned his BS/BA Cum Laude in Accounting from the University of Missouri, Columbia, and an MBA from Lindenwood University.



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Advocates.***

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