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Technical information: (202) 691-6392 • mlsinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/mls
Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

EXTENDED MASS LAYOFFS — THIRD QUARTER 2011

Employers in the private nonfarm sector initiated 1,226 mass layoff events in the third quarter of 2011 that resulted in the separation of 184,493 workers from their jobs for at least 31 days, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Total extended mass layoff events decreased over the year from 1,370 to 1,226, and associated worker separations fell from 222,357 to 184,493. Events and separations reached their lowest third quarter levels since 2007. Both events and separations have decreased over the year for eight consecutive quarters. (See table A.) Third quarter 2011 layoff data are preliminary and are subject to revision. (See the Technical Note.)

Both events and separations in the manufacturing sector declined to series' lows during the third quarter of 2011. Fifty percent of private nonfarm employers indicated they anticipated some type of recall, up from 45 percent a year earlier.

The national unemployment rate averaged 9.1 percent, not seasonally adjusted, in the third quarter of 2011, down from 9.5 percent a year earlier. Private nonfarm payroll employment, not seasonally adjusted, increased by 1.7 percent (1,826,000) over the year.

Industry Distribution of Extended Layoffs

Over the year ending in the third quarter of 2011, the number of extended mass layoff events declined in 13 of the 18 major private nonfarm industry sectors. The transportation and warehousing and the accommodation and food services sectors experienced the largest declines in the numbers of worker separations over the year. Eight of the 21 manufacturing subsectors experienced over-the-year decreases in the number of layoff events. (See table 1.)

Both events and separations in the manufacturing sector were at series' lows in the third quarter of 2011. Thirty-eight percent of manufacturing employers with an extended mass layoff event in the third quarter of 2011 anticipated recalling at least some of the displaced workers.

Administrative and waste service firms had 198 extended mass layoff events and 33,584 separations, primarily due to contract completion. This sector accounted for 16 percent of the layoff events and 18 percent of the related separations in the third quarter. In these events, 55 percent of the employers anticipated recalling at least some of the displaced workers.

Table A. Selected measures of extended mass layoff activity

Period	Layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants
2007			
January-March.....	1,110	225,600	199,250
April-June.....	1,421	278,719	259,234
July-September.....	1,018	160,024	173,077
October-December.....	1,814	301,592	347,151
2008			
January-March.....	1,340	230,098	259,292
April-June.....	1,756	354,713	339,630
July-September.....	1,581	290,453	304,340
October-December.....	3,582	641,714	766,780
2009			
January-March.....	3,979	705,141	835,551
April-June.....	3,395	651,318	731,049
July-September.....	2,034	345,531	406,823
October-December.....	2,416	406,212	468,577
2010			
January-March.....	1,870	314,512	368,664
April-June.....	2,008	381,622	396,441
July-September ^r	1,370	222,357	260,077
October-December ^r	1,999	338,643	390,575
2011			
January-March ^r	1,490	225,456	258,134
April-June ^r	1,810	317,422	341,245
July-September ^p	1,226	184,493	181,777

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

Reasons for Extended Layoffs

Business demand factors accounted for 47 percent of the events and related separations in the private nonfarm sector during the third quarter of 2011, primarily as a result of contract completion. Layoffs due to the completion of seasonal work accounted for 23 percent of extended mass layoff events and 21 percent of related separations during the quarter. Over the year, the largest decrease in worker separations occurred in layoffs attributed to seasonal factors. (See table 2 and the chart.)

Movement of Work

In the third quarter of 2011, 35 extended mass layoffs involved movement of work and were associated with 6,216 worker separations, a series low for both figures. Over the year, the number of such events decreased by 16, and the number of separations decreased by 1,337. Movement of work layoffs accounted for 4 percent of total nonseasonal events during the quarter. (See table 9.)

Table B. Metropolitan areas with the largest number of initial claimants associated with extended mass layoff events in the third quarter 2011, by residency of claimants

Metropolitan area	2010 III ^r		2011 III ^p	
	Initial claimants	Rank	Initial claimants	Rank
Total, 372 metropolitan areas	222,829	...	157,035	...
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif.	37,587	1	38,676	1
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa.	35,827	2	12,704	2
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, Calif.	10,865	3	8,645	3
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, Calif.	9,408	4	6,877	4
San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, Calif.	6,879	6	5,244	5
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.	7,010	5	4,985	6
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, Calif.	3,881	9	3,151	7
Sacramento--Arden-Arcade--Roseville, Calif.	4,346	7	2,546	8
Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, Calif.	1,887	18	2,300	9
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Pa. -N.J.-Del.-Md.	3,757	10	2,203	10

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: The geographic boundaries of the metropolitan areas shown in this table are defined in Office of Management and Budget Bulletin 10-02, December 1, 2009.

Fifty-seven percent of the events related to movement of work were from manufacturing industries. (See table 6.) Employers cited organizational changes as the economic reason for layoff in 31 percent of the events involving movement of work. (See table 7.) Among workers affected by the movement of work, the largest proportion was in the South. (See table 8.)

The 35 events with movement of work for the third quarter involved 49 identifiable relocations of work actions. (See table 9.) Employers were able to provide information on the specific number of worker separations for 28 of these actions. Among these actions, 93 percent were domestic reassignments, and 82 percent involved work moving within the same company. (See table 10.)

Recall Expectations

Fifty percent of the private nonfarm employers reporting an extended mass layoff in the third quarter of 2011 indicated they anticipated some type of recall, up from 45 percent a year earlier. Of those employers expecting to recall workers, 29 percent indicated the offer would be extended to all displaced employees, and 61 percent of employers anticipated extending the offer to at least half of the workers—both percentages reached third quarter series' lows. Among employers expecting to recall laid-off workers, a series low 58 percent intend to do so within 6 months. Excluding extended mass layoff events due to seasonal work and vacation period, in which 98 percent of the employers expected a recall, employers anticipated recalling laid-off workers in 36 percent of the events. (See table 11.)

Size of Extended Layoffs

The average size of a layoff (as measured by the number of separations per layoff event) was 150 workers during the third quarter of 2011. (See table 12.) Events were largely concentrated at the lower end of the extended layoff-size spectrum, with 73 percent involving fewer than 150 workers. Conversely, only 4 percent of layoff events involved 500 or more workers. (See table 13.)

Initial Claimant Characteristics

A total of 181,777 initial claimants for unemployment insurance were associated with extended mass layoffs in the third quarter. Of these claimants, 15 percent were black, 22 percent were Hispanic, 41 percent were women, and 19 percent were 55 years of age or older. (See table 3.) In the entire civilian labor force for the same period, 12 percent of all persons were black, 15 percent were Hispanic, 47 percent were women, and 20 percent were 55 years of age or older.

Geographic Distribution

Among the four census regions, the West recorded the highest number of separations due to extended mass layoff events in the third quarter of 2011. Among the nine census divisions, the highest numbers of displaced workers were in the Pacific. Three of the 4 regions and 8 of the 9 divisions registered fewer laid-off workers compared with the third quarter of 2010. (See table 4.)

California recorded the largest number of worker separations in the third quarter of 2011, followed by New York and Illinois. Over the year, 28 states reported decreased numbers of separated workers associated with extended mass layoff events during the third quarter, led by New York and Florida. New York accounted for 53 percent of the total over-the-year decline in worker separations. (See table 5.)

Eighty-six percent of the initial claimants for unemployment insurance associated with extended mass layoff events in the third quarter of 2011 resided within metropolitan areas. Among the 372 metropolitan areas, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif., reported the highest number of resident initial claimants. New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa., accounted for 35 percent of the total over-the-year decline in metropolitan area resident initial claims. Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, Calif., entered into the highest 10 metropolitan areas in terms of initial claims by residency of claimant during the quarter, replacing Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, Fla., from the previous year. (See table B.)

Note

The quarterly series on extended mass layoffs cover layoffs of at least 31-days duration that involve 50 or more individuals from a single employer filing initial claims for unemployment insurance during a consecutive 5-week period. Approximately 30 days after a mass layoff is triggered, the employer is contacted for additional information. Data for the current quarter are preliminary and subject to revision. This release also includes revised data for previous quarters. Data are not seasonally adjusted, but survey data suggest that there is a seasonal pattern to layoffs. Thus, comparisons between consecutive quarters should not be used as an indicator of trend. For additional information about the program, see the Technical Note.

The Mass Layoffs news release for October is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, November 22, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. (EST).

Technical Note

The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program is a federal-state program which identifies, describes, and tracks the effects of major job cutbacks, using data from each state's unemployment insurance database. Employers which have at least 50 initial claims filed against them during a consecutive 5-week period are contacted by the state agency to determine whether these separations are of at least 31 days duration, and, if so, information is obtained on the total number of persons separated and the reasons for these separations. Employers are identified according to industry classification and location, and unemployment insurance claimants are identified by such demographic factors as age, race, gender, ethnic group, and place of residence. The program yields information on an individual's entire spell of unemployment, to the point when regular unemployment insurance benefits are exhausted.

Definitions

Domestic relocation. A movement of work from an establishment within the U.S. to a location also inside the U.S., either within the same company or to a different company altogether (domestic outsourcing).

Employer. A firm covered by state unemployment insurance laws. Information on employers is obtained from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, which is administered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Extended mass layoff event. A layoff defined by the filing of 50 or more initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits from an employer during a 5-week period, with at least 50 workers separated for more than 30 days. Such layoffs involve both persons subject to recall and those who are terminated.

Initial claimant. A person who files any notice of unemployment to initiate a request either for a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation, or for a subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

Movement of work. The reassignment of work activities previously performed at the worksite by the company experiencing the layoff (1) to another worksite within the company; (2) to another company under formal contractual arrangements at the same worksite; or (3) to another company under formal contractual arrangements at another worksite either within or outside of the U.S.

Outsourcing. A movement of work that was formerly conducted in-house by employees paid directly by a company to a different company under a contractual arrangement.

Overseas relocation. A movement of work from an establishment within the U.S. to a location outside of the U.S. (offshoring), either within the same company or to a different company altogether (offshore outsourcing).

Relocation of work action. A movement-of-work action where the employer provides information on the new location of work and/or the number of workers affected by the movement. Events may involve more than one action per employer if work is moved to more than one location.

Separations. The number of individuals who have become displaced during an extended mass layoff event as provided by the employer, regardless of whether they file for unemployment insurance or not.

Worksite closure. The complete closure of an employer or the partial closure of an employer with multiple locations where entire worksites affected by layoffs are closed.

Revisions to preliminary data

The latest quarterly data in this news release are considered preliminary. After the initial publication of quarterly information, more data are collected as remaining employer interviews for the quarter are completed and additional initial claimant information associated with extended layoff events is received.

Movement of work concepts and questions

Beginning in 2004, the economic reasons "domestic relocation" and "overseas relocation" were replaced by the movement of work concept. The movement of work data are not collected in the same way as the relocation reasons in releases prior to 2004; therefore, the movement of work data are not comparable to the data for those discontinued reasons.

Questions on movement of work and location are asked for all layoff events when the reason for separation is other than "seasonal work" or "vacation period," as these are unlikely. Movement of work questions are asked after the analyst verifies that a layoff in fact occurred and lasted more than 30 days. If the reason for layoff is other than seasonal or vacation, the employer was asked the following:

(1) "Did this layoff include your company moving work from this location(s) to a different geographic location(s) within your company?"

(2) "Did this layoff include your company moving work that was performed in-house by your employees to a different company, through contractual arrangements?"

A "yes" response to either question is followed by: "Is

the location inside or outside of the U.S.?” and “How many of the layoffs were a result of this relocation?”

Layoff actions are classified as “domestic relocation” if the employer responds “yes” to questions 1 and/or 2 and indicates the location(s) was inside the U.S.; “overseas relocation” indicates that the location(s) was outside the U.S.

Reliability of the data

The identification of employers and layoff events in the MLS program and associated characteristics of claimants is based on administrative data on covered employers and unemployment insurance claims, and, therefore, is not subject to issues associated with sampling error. Nonsampling errors such as typographical errors may occur but are not likely to be significant. While the MLS employers and layoff events are not subject to sampling error, and all such employers are asked the interview questions, the employer responses are

subject to nonsampling error. Nonsampling error can occur for many reasons, including the inability to obtain information for all respondents, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data. For the third quarter of 2011, outright refusal to participate in the employer interview accounted for 3.6 percent of all private nonfarm events. Although included in the total number of instances involving the movement of work, employers in 21 relocations were unable to provide the number of separations specifically associated with the movement of work, 5 of which involved out-of-country moves.

Additional information

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Industry distribution: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Industry	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010 ^r	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,370	1,810	1,226	222,357	317,422	184,493	260,077	341,245	181,777
Mining	4	(²)	(²)	1,067	(²)	(²)	774	(²)	(²)
Utilities	4	(²)	—	535	(²)	—	649	(²)	—
Construction	210	237	188	21,251	29,631	21,275	31,957	37,768	20,477
Manufacturing	265	263	231	39,171	40,023	36,271	47,128	47,049	32,498
Food	63	66	63	9,692	9,804	10,990	13,206	11,255	8,282
Beverage and tobacco products	4	(²)	5	344	(²)	807	495	(²)	827
Textile mills	—	3	4	—	446	541	—	2,488	807
Textile product mills	(²)	3	3	(²)	201	368	(²)	380	383
Apparel	10	11	5	1,541	3,373	1,203	1,783	3,625	1,312
Leather and allied products	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood products	14	6	8	1,983	619	1,325	1,988	747	1,127
Paper	(²)	7	5	(²)	1,420	788	(²)	1,077	566
Printing and related support activities	6	9	10	500	637	868	1,426	913	1,070
Petroleum and coal products	(²)	(²)	—	(²)	(²)	—	(²)	(²)	—
Chemicals	17	9	5	2,007	915	438	2,388	892	478
Plastics and rubber products	8	12	8	613	1,230	2,487	772	1,284	991
Nonmetallic mineral products	13	5	6	1,435	412	801	1,583	584	664
Primary metals	12	6	4	2,490	991	722	2,609	812	412
Fabricated metal products	16	15	7	2,267	2,025	1,196	3,638	2,257	1,193
Machinery	15	16	15	2,661	4,005	1,609	3,850	3,629	1,643
Computer and electronic products	25	17	11	2,783	2,135	2,034	3,551	2,165	1,676
Electrical equipment and appliances	9	5	9	1,005	424	1,806	1,226	539	1,536
Transportation equipment	35	54	46	7,453	9,415	6,635	5,739	11,584	8,137
Furniture and related products	7	7	11	1,014	879	1,060	1,417	1,248	978
Miscellaneous manufacturing	6	9	6	959	842	593	858	1,326	416
Wholesale trade	33	35	24	3,901	4,243	2,684	3,829	4,637	2,313
Retail trade	79	90	55	21,209	15,725	13,624	22,919	18,730	10,553
Transportation and warehousing	159	160	94	24,188	37,832	12,044	28,229	41,037	11,387
Information	54	56	83	14,322	15,755	19,276	20,310	17,470	22,890
Finance and insurance	55	60	36	10,239	9,145	6,181	13,005	11,707	5,999
Real estate and rental and leasing	14	18	6	2,289	2,843	686	1,563	3,049	854
Professional and technical services	62	96	67	10,938	21,359	10,154	12,242	23,393	10,672
Management of companies and enterprises	4	9	(²)	347	1,031	(²)	373	879	(²)
Administrative and waste services	146	169	198	31,164	32,294	33,584	34,154	36,891	37,786
Educational services	34	37	18	3,972	4,920	2,274	4,926	5,932	2,175
Health care and social assistance	84	225	87	8,213	27,577	8,247	9,110	28,309	7,471
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	51	71	42	5,882	15,912	5,184	8,590	9,628	4,476
Accommodation and food services	87	202	71	20,545	48,790	10,580	16,941	43,623	9,247
Other services, except public administration	25	75	19	3,124	8,470	1,907	3,378	10,118	1,859
Unclassified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

¹ For the third quarter of 2011, data on layoffs were reported by employers in all states and the District of Columbia.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 2. Reason for layoff: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010 ^r	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,370	1,810	1,226	222,357	317,422	184,493	260,077	341,245	181,777
Business demand	487	517	573	76,408	74,273	86,495	97,617	97,331	94,186
Contract cancellation	32	30	34	4,366	3,617	4,886	4,273	3,743	4,595
Contract completion	241	317	378	41,565	49,032	60,737	52,652	67,133	68,946
Domestic competition	—	—	(²)	—	—	(²)	—	—	(²)
Excess inventory/saturated market	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Import competition	(²)	(²)	—	(²)	(²)	—	(²)	(²)	—
Slack work/insufficient demand/non-seasonal business slowdown	209	166	155	29,510	21,063	18,542	38,844	25,949	19,869
Organizational changes	83	70	65	16,963	16,501	10,168	14,485	12,548	8,710
Business-ownership change	17	17	18	8,485	8,755	2,453	2,863	2,305	1,365
Reorganization or restructuring of company	66	53	47	8,478	7,746	7,715	11,622	10,243	7,345
Financial issues	110	117	87	15,653	15,854	17,206	19,645	19,484	12,465
Bankruptcy	14	26	16	2,450	3,668	6,811	1,283	3,359	4,164
Cost control/cost cutting/increase profitability	63	61	41	8,290	7,084	6,328	13,116	11,060	5,104
Financial difficulty	33	30	30	4,913	5,102	4,067	5,246	5,065	3,197
Production specific	(²)	33	17	(²)	4,369	2,034	(²)	7,379	2,091
Automation/technological advances	(²)	3	3	(²)	513	253	(²)	674	273
Energy related	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Governmental regulations/intervention	6	5	(²)	727	690	(²)	726	1,890	(²)
Labor dispute/contract negotiations/strike	(²)	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	731	(²)	(²)	680
Material or supply shortage	—	17	(²)	—	2,034	(²)	—	3,132	(²)
Model changeover	—	(²)	4	—	(²)	467	—	(²)	551
Plant or machine repair/maintenance	5	3	(²)	411	439	(²)	502	358	(²)
Product line discontinued	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Disaster/safety	(²)	11	8	(²)	2,039	1,131	(²)	2,152	942
Hazardous work environment	—	(²)	(²)	—	(²)	(²)	—	(²)	(²)
Natural disaster (not weather related)	—	—	(²)	—	—	(²)	—	—	(²)
Non-natural disaster	(²)	(²)	—	(²)	(²)	—	(²)	(²)	—
Extreme weather-related event	—	7	(²)	—	1,244	(²)	—	1,529	(²)
Seasonal	372	773	282	52,613	151,716	38,763	67,305	148,934	35,158
Seasonal	212	468	164	33,122	95,525	25,828	43,056	87,414	21,879
Vacation period—school related or otherwise	160	305	118	19,491	56,191	12,935	24,249	61,520	13,279
Other/miscellaneous	300	289	194	58,946	52,670	28,696	59,035	53,417	28,225
Other	14	29	20	1,583	3,848	3,537	1,756	4,596	3,117
Data not provided: refusal	69	67	46	18,937	18,421	8,928	18,937	18,447	8,906
Data not provided: does not know	217	193	128	38,426	30,401	16,231	38,342	30,374	16,202

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 3. State and selected claimant characteristics: Extended mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, second and third quarters, 2011

State	Layoff events		Total initial claimants		Percent of total							
	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^P	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^P	Black		Hispanic origin		Women		Persons age 55 and over	
					II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^P	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^P	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^P	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^P
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,810	1,226	341,245	181,777	17.3	14.9	17.6	21.8	51.8	40.9	23.9	19.4
Alabama	21	6	3,868	1,062	55.7	31.3	2.7	1.3	64.6	32.2	18.8	18.5
Alaska	11	4	2,346	563	6.1	5.5	18.6	13.1	35.0	35.9	27.8	24.3
Arizona	31	9	5,164	1,178	8.4	7.6	45.0	32.5	55.9	57.8	19.9	18.2
Arkansas	25	7	5,214	580	31.7	22.9	8.0	12.2	58.6	47.2	18.7	15.3
California	388	461	82,319	82,294	9.3	8.5	37.1	33.9	46.4	39.0	18.2	16.1
Colorado	18	9	2,967	932	4.5	4.4	22.7	27.3	53.8	51.0	20.8	16.6
Connecticut	27	5	4,251	450	14.3	32.0	15.6	25.6	57.4	64.4	28.4	21.6
Delaware	10	3	1,177	739	43.5	40.5	8.4	10.3	58.4	35.5	22.3	12.2
District of Columbia	5	(²)	672	(²)	77.8	81.1	5.5	1.4	69.2	63.7	27.7	7.5
Florida	75	36	14,141	5,906	21.4	19.2	28.7	25.9	52.7	33.2	26.3	24.5
Georgia	48	26	9,705	3,052	45.6	52.2	4.4	3.2	57.6	47.3	22.4	19.2
Hawaii	4	-	503	-	.4	-	8.7	-	39.0	-	20.3	-
Idaho	12	4	1,516	361	.1	.3	11.2	15.5	41.3	44.9	21.4	16.3
Illinois	109	67	24,589	10,093	21.6	22.8	11.2	13.1	52.8	36.4	22.8	17.3
Indiana	35	14	6,869	4,028	10.2	6.1	1.5	3.9	40.5	26.8	20.6	19.6
Iowa	10	5	1,885	652	8.5	10.4	3.8	2.5	67.5	34.5	30.4	15.6
Kansas	17	7	2,093	794	18.5	17.6	2.2	4.3	63.6	53.1	23.7	26.6
Kentucky	30	17	3,598	2,041	13.3	19.7	.3	.1	43.9	45.1	17.3	16.5
Louisiana	40	16	5,540	1,731	60.3	43.7	3.1	5.3	65.1	39.7	26.3	25.9
Maine	12	(²)	1,730	(²)	.7	1.4	.5	-	38.4	58.3	29.5	36.0
Maryland	13	4	1,643	1,080	56.7	35.0	2.3	1.5	58.9	57.1	23.4	31.6
Massachusetts	17	16	2,368	1,656	12.4	12.7	1.8	.4	57.3	60.4	30.2	23.4
Michigan	50	26	7,791	3,768	19.0	13.0	3.4	1.7	64.8	40.6	24.6	17.3
Minnesota	24	14	3,920	1,399	7.2	6.3	4.2	2.1	32.4	26.7	22.0	24.2
Mississippi	6	11	1,146	1,118	80.0	75.3	1.2	3.0	64.5	45.6	16.9	14.4
Missouri	43	19	7,920	2,620	27.9	27.6	1.5	1.5	69.3	59.8	31.7	26.5
Montana	10	(²)	990	(²)	.4	1.0	3.7	1.9	56.4	9.7	28.8	16.5
Nebraska	8	4	1,104	358	12.0	12.8	3.8	7.3	46.8	51.4	36.1	29.6
Nevada	13	6	2,125	868	14.0	5.2	18.8	20.3	43.9	21.9	23.2	21.7
New Hampshire	4	3	1,111	220	.5	1.4	1.2	5.0	65.8	65.9	34.0	34.1
New Jersey	66	59	14,274	6,280	21.5	25.8	6.6	11.6	69.2	61.7	33.2	31.7
New Mexico	17	12	2,089	1,090	2.0	1.5	49.4	43.0	54.7	40.4	20.1	17.2
New York	97	116	22,128	14,284	17.9	14.7	13.7	16.7	50.1	48.6	27.0	22.0
North Carolina	17	24	4,160	3,121	34.5	33.3	12.4	8.8	47.6	34.8	24.3	21.2
North Dakota	(²)	-	(²)	-	.7	-	2.6	-	4.6	-	25.0	-
Ohio	80	36	13,296	3,722	14.0	10.8	3.0	3.1	42.8	24.8	23.9	20.9
Oklahoma	12	(²)	1,614	(²)	17.0	14.2	7.7	2.7	59.5	21.7	21.4	34.5
Oregon	37	14	7,789	1,997	3.7	1.6	18.4	23.4	51.6	61.7	22.1	26.0
Pennsylvania	121	52	22,865	6,343	12.3	9.9	5.1	4.6	54.5	42.2	35.9	27.1
Rhode Island	7	(²)	2,011	(²)	3.5	5.8	14.7	69.6	80.6	84.1	39.6	7.2
South Carolina	12	10	1,854	1,102	65.9	56.0	1.1	8.6	72.8	57.6	27.4	21.5
South Dakota	(²)	-	(²)	-	4.7	-	11.8	-	74.8	-	22.0	-
Tennessee	15	20	2,914	3,068	22.7	46.3	.1	.2	58.0	53.8	35.5	28.3
Texas	48	25	10,791	3,741	16.4	22.5	47.4	41.1	43.1	28.6	17.3	13.4
Utah	14	3	1,580	259	1.3	.8	8.7	6.9	41.6	51.0	14.5	13.1
Vermont	16	5	2,192	651	1.0	.8	.4	.3	45.8	45.9	25.9	26.3
Virginia	30	8	4,713	902	37.5	34.5	5.5	3.1	55.5	38.0	20.6	20.8
Washington	36	13	5,311	2,203	5.5	4.4	18.7	16.7	40.8	31.0	17.4	22.3
West Virginia	10	(²)	1,264	(²)	.1	-	-	-	10.5	4.1	14.1	21.2
Wisconsin	54	21	9,471	2,481	12.0	9.5	3.7	8.9	56.1	28.1	32.9	23.3
Wyoming	(²)	-	(²)	-	.8	-	6.2	-	19.7	-	9.4	-
Puerto Rico	13	12	2,774	2,998	.1	.1	99.4	99.4	60.9	54.6	13.2	7.0

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^f = revised.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^P = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 4. Census region and division: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010 ^r	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p
United States ¹	1,370	1,810	1,226	222,357	317,422	184,493	260,077	341,245	181,777
Northeast	386	367	259	54,204	61,707	28,857	65,696	72,930	30,092
New England	34	83	32	5,794	17,350	4,318	4,994	13,663	3,185
Middle Atlantic	352	284	227	48,410	44,357	24,539	60,702	59,267	26,907
South	255	417	218	46,561	66,613	33,688	49,052	74,014	29,922
South Atlantic	155	220	115	26,931	34,507	17,068	29,803	39,329	16,355
East South Central	51	72	54	11,614	10,212	9,598	10,559	11,526	7,289
West South Central	49	125	49	8,016	21,894	7,022	8,690	23,159	6,278
Midwest	184	432	213	30,381	75,635	34,701	31,278	79,217	29,915
East North Central	144	328	164	20,943	58,403	27,175	25,341	62,016	24,092
West North Central	40	104	49	9,438	17,232	7,526	5,937	17,201	5,823
West	545	594	536	91,211	113,467	87,247	114,051	115,084	91,848
Mountain	42	118	44	8,966	31,060	6,449	6,291	16,816	4,791
Pacific	503	476	492	82,245	82,407	80,798	107,760	98,268	87,057

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: The States (including the District of Columbia) that comprise the census divisions are: New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and

West Virginia; East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

Table 5. State distribution: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

State	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010 ^r	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,370	1,810	1,226	222,357	317,422	184,493	260,077	341,245	181,777
Alabama	11	21	6	2,618	3,683	1,063	2,995	3,868	1,062
Alaska	10	11	4	3,621	3,110	1,673	3,381	2,346	563
Arizona	9	31	9	1,841	5,519	765	1,671	5,164	1,178
Arkansas	5	25	7	643	2,982	728	957	5,214	580
California	442	388	461	71,620	66,846	75,420	95,616	82,319	82,294
Colorado	11	18	9	1,508	8,337	1,272	1,235	2,967	932
Connecticut	9	27	5	2,847	5,202	659	1,997	4,251	450
Delaware	(²)	10	3	(²)	1,289	399	(²)	1,177	739
District of Columbia	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	672	(²)	(²)	672	(²)
Florida	73	75	36	15,456	14,755	6,678	14,023	14,141	5,906
Georgia	12	48	26	1,406	4,693	2,595	2,396	9,705	3,052
Hawaii	5	4	-	710	413	-	567	503	-
Idaho	3	12	4	226	1,967	453	289	1,516	361
Illinois	68	109	67	10,397	25,506	12,571	12,527	24,589	10,093
Indiana	11	35	14	870	3,805	1,972	1,445	6,869	4,028
Iowa	4	10	5	662	1,422	725	535	1,885	652
Kansas	8	17	7	978	1,930	791	1,190	2,093	794
Kentucky	13	30	17	4,509	3,133	2,510	2,009	3,598	2,041
Louisiana	12	40	16	1,434	8,710	2,405	1,244	5,540	1,731
Maine	(²)	12	(²)	(²)	2,423	(²)	(²)	1,730	(²)
Maryland	20	13	4	4,707	2,602	1,275	3,633	1,643	1,080
Massachusetts	18	17	16	2,151	2,975	2,466	2,255	2,368	1,656
Michigan	13	50	26	966	6,605	4,309	1,547	7,791	3,768
Minnesota	9	24	14	965	4,240	1,980	1,099	3,920	1,399
Mississippi	14	6	11	2,268	1,312	1,352	1,527	1,146	1,118
Missouri	14	43	19	6,026	8,372	3,488	2,582	7,920	2,620
Montana	(²)	10	(²)	(²)	1,205	(²)	(²)	990	(²)
Nebraska	4	8	4	697	1,088	542	414	1,104	358
Nevada	6	13	6	775	3,527	1,484	1,035	2,125	868
New Hampshire	-	4	3	-	2,174	335	-	1,111	220
New Jersey	52	66	59	7,749	12,969	6,471	7,442	14,274	6,280
New Mexico	7	17	12	1,066	2,960	1,867	1,206	2,089	1,090
New York	230	97	116	32,885	12,986	12,732	41,037	22,128	14,284
North Carolina ³	20	17	24	1,464	1,341	3,241	5,639	4,160	3,121
North Dakota	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	-
Ohio	32	80	36	5,686	13,134	5,104	5,380	13,296	3,722
Oklahoma	3	12	(²)	927	1,717	(²)	513	1,614	(²)
Oregon	19	37	14	3,122	7,789	1,997	3,408	7,789	1,997
Pennsylvania	70	121	52	7,776	18,402	5,336	12,223	22,865	6,343
Rhode Island	3	7	(²)	274	1,995	(²)	258	2,011	(²)
South Carolina	15	12	10	1,978	3,167	1,212	2,043	1,854	1,102
South Dakota	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Tennessee	13	15	20	2,219	2,084	4,673	4,028	2,914	3,068
Texas	29	48	25	5,012	8,485	3,629	5,976	10,791	3,741
Utah	4	14	3	3,200	5,955	258	675	1,580	259
Vermont	(²)	16	5	(²)	2,581	650	(²)	2,192	651
Virginia	11	30	8	1,445	4,417	998	1,662	4,713	902
Washington	27	36	13	3,172	4,249	1,708	4,788	5,311	2,203
West Virginia	(²)	10	(²)	(²)	1,571	(²)	(²)	1,264	(²)
Wisconsin	20	54	21	3,024	9,353	3,219	4,442	9,471	2,481
Wyoming	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Puerto Rico	16	13	12	1,591	1,876	1,853	3,389	2,774	2,998

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^r = revised.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^p = preliminary.

³ Data starting in November 2010 may not be comparable to prior data

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

due to a change in MLS unemployment insurance input procedures.

Table 6. Industry distribution: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Industry	Layoff events			Separations		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	51	42	35	7,553	6,922	6,216
Mining	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	3	-	-	448	-
Manufacturing	29	19	20	3,462	3,717	4,247
Food	9	5	5	988	1,400	549
Beverage and tobacco products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile mills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile product mills	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Apparel	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Leather and allied products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood products	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Paper	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Printing and related support activities	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Petroleum and coal products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chemicals	3	(²)	-	564	(²)	-
Plastics and rubber products	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Nonmetallic mineral products	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Primary metals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fabricated metal products	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Machinery	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Computer and electronic products	5	3	(²)	402	577	(²)
Electrical equipment and appliances	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Transportation equipment	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	838	(²)
Furniture and related products	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Miscellaneous manufacturing	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Wholesale trade	3	3	(²)	500	288	(²)
Retail trade	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	708	(²)
Transportation and warehousing	4	(²)	(²)	509	(²)	(²)
Information	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Finance and insurance	(²)	7	(²)	(²)	845	(²)
Real estate and rental and leasing	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Professional and technical services	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Management of companies and enterprises	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Administrative and waste services	(²)	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	417
Educational services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health care and social assistance	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Accommodation and food services	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Other services, except public administration	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 7. Reason for layoff: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^P	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^P
Total, private nonfarm ¹	51	42	35	7,553	6,922	6,216
Business demand	(²)	(²)	10	(²)	(²)	3,036
Contract cancellation	(²)	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	712
Contract completion	(²)	5	-	(²)	894	-
Domestic competition	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Excess inventory/saturated market	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Import competition	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Slack work/insufficient demand/non-seasonal business slowdown	8	(²)	(²)	1,114	(²)	(²)
Organizational changes	23	17	11	3,229	1,985	1,233
Business-ownership change	3	(²)	-	490	(²)	-
Reorganization or restructuring of company	20	(²)	11	2,739	(²)	1,233
Financial issues	14	13	10	2,162	2,247	1,674
Bankruptcy	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost control/cost cutting/increase profitability	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Financial difficulty	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Production specific	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Automation/technological advances	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Energy related	-	-	-	-	-	-
Governmental regulations/intervention	-	-	-	-	-	-
Labor dispute/contract negotiations/strike	-	-	-	-	-	-
Material or supply shortage	-	-	-	-	-	-
Model changeover	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plant or machine repair/maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Product line discontinued	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Disaster/safety	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Hazardous work environment	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Natural disaster (not weather related)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-natural disaster	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extreme weather-related event	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Other/miscellaneous	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Other	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Data not provided: refusal	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Data not provided: does not know	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^r = revised.

^P = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 8. Census region and division: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^p
United States ¹	51	42	35	7,553	6,922	6,216
Northeast	12	5	11	1,940	893	1,543
New England	5	(²)	(²)	1,034	(²)	(²)
Middle Atlantic	7	(²)	(²)	906	(²)	(²)
South	18	9	12	2,230	1,422	3,401
South Atlantic	7	(²)	(²)	777	(²)	(²)
East South Central	6	(²)	6	614	(²)	2,282
West South Central	5	5	(²)	839	734	(²)
Midwest	9	10	7	1,368	1,163	873
East North Central	5	(²)	3	626	(²)	525
West North Central	4	(²)	4	742	(²)	348
West	12	18	5	2,015	3,444	399
Mountain	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	1,169	(²)
Pacific	(²)	13	(²)	(²)	2,275	(²)

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: The States (including the District of Columbia) that comprise the census divisions are: New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; South Atlantic: Delaware,

District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

Table 9. Extended mass layoff events and separations, selected measures, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Action	Layoff events			Separations		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^f	III 2011 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,370	1,810	1,226	222,357	317,422	184,493
Total, excluding seasonal and vacation events ²	998	1,037	944	169,744	165,706	145,730
Total, movement of work ³	51	42	35	7,553	6,922	6,216
Movement of work actions	75	50	49	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)
With separations reported	41	25	28	3,574	3,293	2,905
With separations unknown	34	25	21	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

² The questions on movement of work were not asked of employers when the reason for layoff was either seasonal work or vacation period.

³ Movement of work can involve more than one action.

⁴ Data are not available.

^f = revised.

^p = preliminary.

Table 10. Movement of work actions by type of separation where number of separations is known by employers, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Activities	Actions ¹			Separations		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p
With separations reported ²	41	25	28	3,574	3,293	2,905
By location						
Out-of-country relocations	8	6	2	1,198	916	110
Within company	4	4	—	340	733	—
Different company	4	2	2	858	183	110
Domestic relocations	33	19	26	2,376	2,377	2,795
Within company	28	17	23	1,824	2,119	2,498
Different company	5	2	3	552	258	297
Unable to assign place of relocation	—	—	—	—	—	—
By company						
Within company	32	21	23	2,164	2,852	2,498
Domestic	28	17	23	1,824	2,119	2,498
Out of country	4	4	—	340	733	—
Unable to assign	—	—	—	—	—	—
Different company	9	4	5	1,410	441	407
Domestic	5	2	3	552	258	297
Out of country	4	2	2	858	183	110
Unable to assign	—	—	—	—	—	—

¹ Only actions for which separations associated with the movement of work were reported are shown.

² See footnote 1, table 1.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

Note: Dash represents zero.

Table 11. Summary of employer expectations of a recall from extended mass layoffs, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Nature of recall	Percent of total layoff events ¹			Percent of layoff events due to seasonal work and vacation period			Percent of layoff events, excluding those due to seasonal and vacation period		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p
Anticipate a recall	45.3	60.1	50.0	92.5	96.2	97.9	27.7	33.2	35.7
Timeframe									
Within 6 months	65.0	78.5	57.9	85.8	91.1	85.5	39.1	51.2	35.3
Within 3 months	54.7	52.6	47.8	74.7	58.3	69.6	29.7	40.1	30.0
Size of recall									
At least half	68.1	81.9	61.0	91.6	95.0	89.5	38.8	53.5	37.7
All workers	39.0	45.2	29.4	61.0	57.0	46.4	11.6	19.8	15.4

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

Table 12. Average number of separations in extended mass layoff events by selected measures, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2010 and 2011

Measure	Average number of separations		
	III 2010	II 2011 ^r	III 2011 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	162	175	150
Industry			
Mining	267	285	50
Utilities	134	223	–
Construction	101	125	113
Manufacturing	148	152	157
Wholesale trade	118	121	112
Retail trade	268	175	248
Transportation and warehousing	152	236	128
Information	265	281	232
Finance and insurance	186	152	172
Real estate and rental and leasing	164	158	114
Professional and technical services	176	222	152
Management of companies and enterprises	87	115	79
Administrative and waste services	213	191	170
Educational services	117	133	126
Health care and social assistance	98	123	95
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	115	224	123
Accommodation and food services	236	242	149
Other services, except public administration	125	113	100
Unclassified establishments	–	–	–
Reason for layoff groupings			
Business demand	157	144	151
Organizational changes	204	236	156
Financial issues	142	136	198
Production specific	101	132	120
Disaster/Safety	60	185	141
Seasonal	141	196	137
Other/miscellaneous	196	182	148

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^p = preliminary.

^r = revised.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

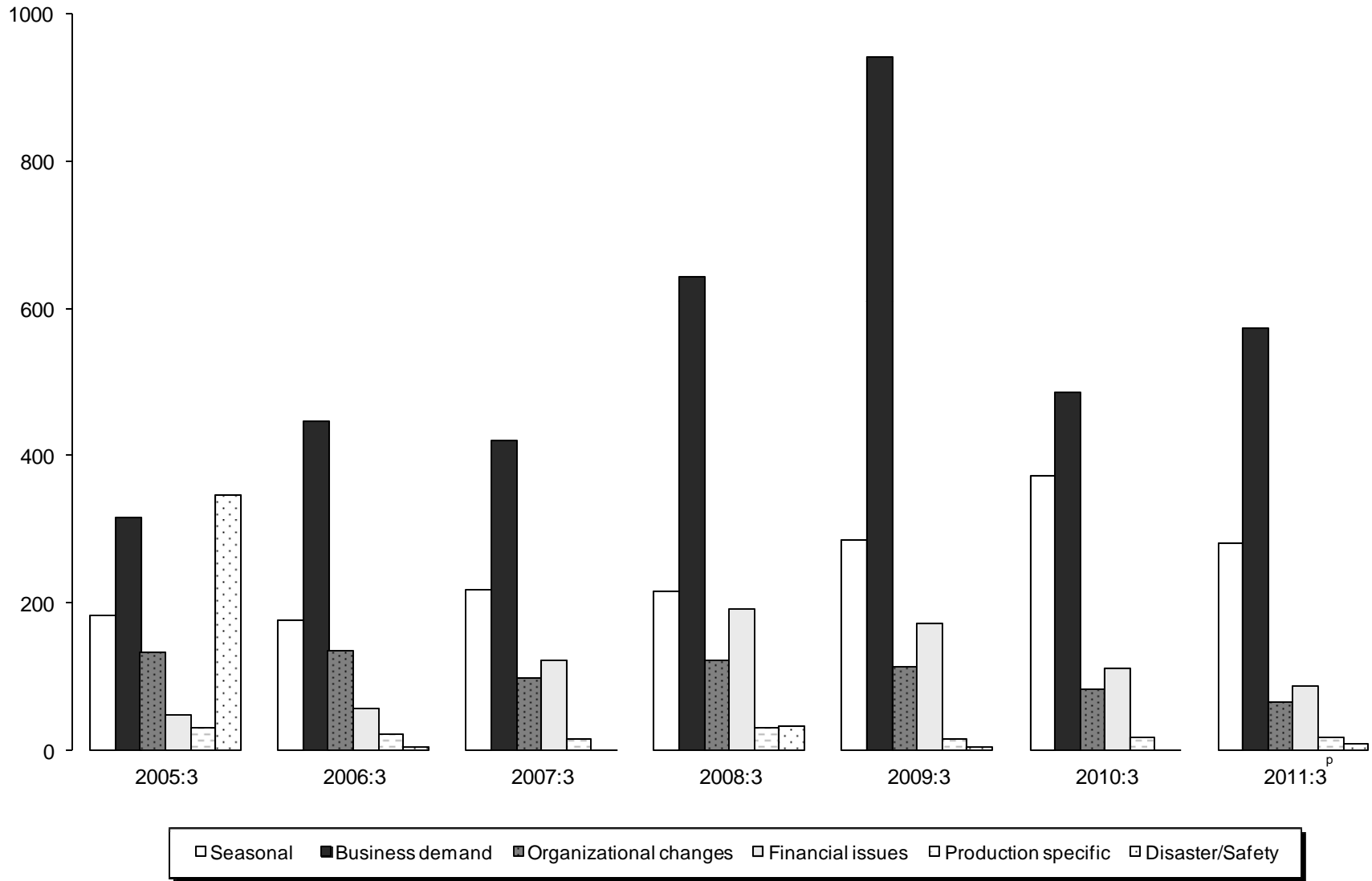
Table 13. Distribution of extended layoff events by size of layoff, private nonfarm sector, third quarter 2011^p

Size	Layoff events		Separations	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,226	100.0	184,493	100.0
50-99	661	53.9	45,681	24.8
100-149	231	18.8	26,932	14.6
150-199	114	9.3	19,210	10.4
200-299	104	8.5	24,413	13.2
300-499	66	5.4	23,524	12.8
500-999	35	2.9	22,192	12.0
1,000 or more	15	1.2	22,541	12.2

^p = preliminary.

Extended Mass Layoff Events by Reason Categories¹

Third quarters, 2005-11



¹ The chart excludes information on layoffs due to other/miscellaneous reasons.

^P = preliminary.