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JOB OPENINGS AND LABOR TURNOVER – FEBRUARY 2013

There were 3.9 million job openings on the last business day of February, up from 3.6 million in January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The hires rate (3.3 percent) and separations rate (3.1 percent) were little changed in February. This release includes estimates of the number and rate of job openings, hires, and separations for the nonfarm sector by industry and by geographic region.

Chart 1. Job openings rate, seasonally adjusted, March 2010 - February 2013

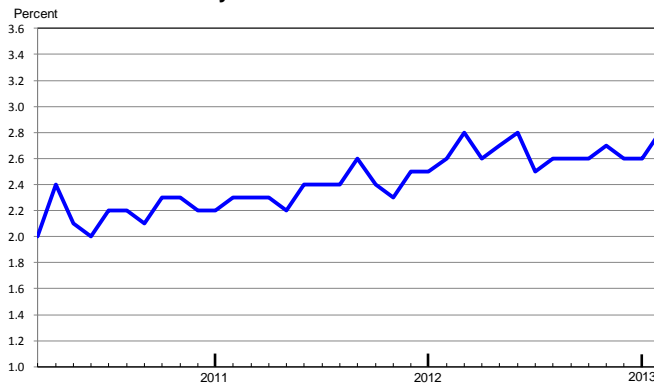
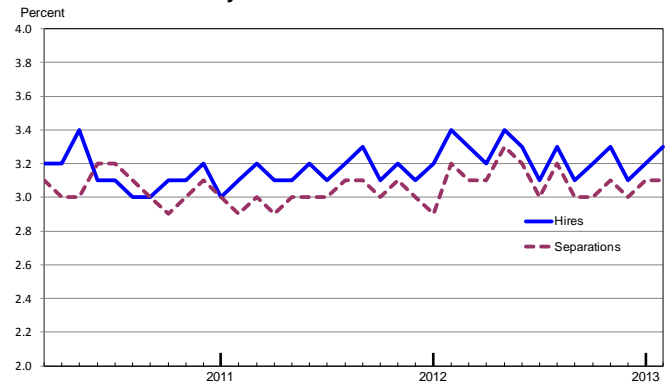


Chart 2. Hires and separations rates, seasonally adjusted, March 2010 - February 2013



Job Openings

The number of job openings in February was 3.9 million, up from January. (See table 1.) This was the highest number of job openings since May 2008. In February, the number of openings rose in health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, and state and local government. The number of job openings increased in the Midwest region.

The number of job openings in February (not seasonally adjusted) was up over the year for total nonfarm and total private, and was little changed for government. Job openings increased over the year for construction, finance and insurance, accommodation and food services, and state and local government. The West region experienced an increase in job openings over the year. (See table 7.)

Table A. Job openings, hires, and total separations by industry, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Job openings			Hires			Total separations		
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	2012	2013	2013 ^P	2012	2013	2013 ^P	2012	2013	2013 ^P
	Levels (in thousands)								
Total	3,526	3,611	3,925	4,489	4,298	4,418	4,202	4,173	4,202
Total private ¹	3,114	3,194	3,485	4,181	4,015	4,118	3,914	3,872	3,903
Construction.....	74	104	116	348	326	345	341	315	322
Manufacturing.....	259	253	259	258	219	228	237	215	223
Trade, transportation, and utilities ²	569	645	608	829	868	940	811	854	859
Retail trade.....	349	390	378	565	586	656	562	580	587
Professional and business services.....	668	690	722	985	878	855	906	845	798
Education and health services ³	659	579	673	539	507	483	471	486	475
Health care and social assistance.....	598	524	617	461	443	424	415	417	402
Leisure and hospitality	417	453	510	775	747	771	715	715	752
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	49	52	52	151	104	116	145	101	109
Accommodation and food services.....	368	401	458	624	643	655	570	614	643
Government ⁴	412	417	440	309	283	300	288	302	299
State and local.....	342	340	370	276	249	261	255	259	262
	Rates (percent)								
Total	2.6	2.6	2.8	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1
Total private ¹	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4
Construction.....	1.3	1.8	2.0	6.2	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.6
Manufacturing.....	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities ²	2.2	2.4	2.3	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.2	3.3	3.3
Retail trade.....	2.3	2.5	2.4	3.8	3.9	4.4	3.8	3.9	3.9
Professional and business services.....	3.6	3.7	3.8	5.5	4.8	4.7	5.1	4.7	4.4
Education and health services ³	3.2	2.7	3.2	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.3
Health care and social assistance.....	3.4	3.0	3.5	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	3.0	3.2	3.5	5.7	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.1	5.4
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	2.4	2.6	2.5	7.7	5.2	5.8	7.4	5.1	5.5
Accommodation and food services.....	3.1	3.2	3.7	5.3	5.4	5.5	4.9	5.1	5.4
Government ⁴	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4
State and local.....	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4

¹ Includes mining and logging, information, financial activities, and other services, not shown separately.

² Includes wholesale trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities, not shown separately.

³ Includes educational services, not shown separately.

⁴ Includes federal government, not shown separately.

^P Preliminary

Hires

In February, the hires rate was little changed at 3.3 percent. The hires rate also was little changed in all industries and in all regions over the month. (See table 2.)

Over the 12 months ending in February, the hires rate (not seasonally adjusted) was little changed for total nonfarm, total private, and government. The hires rate decreased in professional and business services. The hires rate was little changed in all four regions. (See table 8.)

Separations

Total separations includes quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations. Total separations also is referred to as turnover. Quits are generally voluntary separations initiated by the employee. Therefore, the quits rate can serve as a measure of workers' willingness or ability to leave jobs. Layoffs and discharges are involuntary separations initiated by the employer. Other separations include separations due to retirement, death, and disability, as well as transfers to other locations of the same firm.

In February, the quits rate was unchanged at 1.7 percent. The quits rate also was unchanged for total private and government. (See table 4.)

The number of quits (not seasonally adjusted) rose over the 12 months ending in February for total nonfarm and was essentially unchanged for total private and government. The quits level increased over the year in accommodation and food services and in the South. (See table 10.)

The layoffs and discharges component of total separations is seasonally adjusted at the total nonfarm, total private, and government levels and for the four regions. The layoffs and discharges rate was little changed in February at 1.2 percent. The rate also was little changed for total private, government, and all four regions. (See table 5.)

The layoffs and discharges level (not seasonally adjusted) was little changed for total nonfarm, total private, and government over the 12 months ending in February 2013. Over the year, the number of layoffs and discharges fell in professional and business services and rose in federal government. The number of layoffs was little changed in all four regions. (See table 11.)

In February, there were 326,000 other separations for total nonfarm, down from the previous month. The number of other separations for total private was little changed, while the number decreased in government. Over the 12 months ending in February, the number of other separations was essentially unchanged for total nonfarm, total private, and government. (See tables 6 and 12.)

Net Change in Employment

Large numbers of hires and separations occur every month throughout the business cycle. Net employment change results from the relationship between hires and separations. When the number of hires exceeds the number of separations, employment rises, even if the hires level is steady or declining. Conversely, when the number of hires is less than the number of separations, employment declines, even if the hires level is steady or rising. Over the 12 months ending in February 2013, hires totaled 52.0 million and separations totaled 50.1 million, yielding a net employment gain of 1.9 million. These figures include workers who may have been hired and separated more than once during the year.

The Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey results for March 2013 are scheduled to be released on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Technical Note

This news release presents statistics from the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS). The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) collects and compiles JOLTS data monthly from a sample of nonfarm establishments. A more detailed discussion of JOLTS concepts and methodology is available online at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch18.pdf.

Coverage and collection

The JOLTS program covers all private nonfarm establishments, as well as federal, state, and local government entities in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Data are collected for total employment, job openings, hires, quits, layoffs and discharges, other separations, and total separations.

Concepts

Industry classification. The industry classifications in this release are in accordance with the 2012 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Employment. Employment includes persons on the payroll who worked or received pay for the pay period that includes the 12th day of the reference month. Full-time, part-time, permanent, short-term, seasonal, salaried, and hourly employees are included, as are employees on paid vacations or other paid leave. Proprietors or partners of unincorporated businesses, unpaid family workers, or persons on leave without pay or on strike for the entire pay period, are not counted as employed. Employees of temporary help agencies, employee leasing companies, outside contractors, and consultants are counted by their employer of record, not by the establishment where they are working.

Job openings. Job openings information is collected for the last business day of the reference month. A job opening requires that: 1) a specific position exists and there is work available for that position, 2) work could start within 30 days whether or not the employer found a suitable candidate, and 3) the employer is actively recruiting from outside the establishment to fill the position. Included are full-time, part-time, permanent, short-term, and seasonal openings. Active recruiting means that the establishment is taking steps to fill a position by advertising in newspapers or on the Internet, posting help-wanted signs, accepting applications, or using other similar methods.

Jobs to be filled only by internal transfers, promotions, demotions, or recall from layoffs are excluded. Also excluded are jobs with start dates more than 30 days in the future, jobs for which employees have been hired but have not yet reported for work, and jobs to be filled by employees of temporary help agencies, employee leasing

companies, outside contractors, or consultants. The job openings rate is computed by dividing the number of job openings by the sum of employment and job openings and multiplying that quotient by 100.

Hires. The hires level is the total number of additions to the payroll occurring at any time during the reference month, including both new and rehired employees, full-time and part-time, permanent, short-term and seasonal employees, employees recalled to the location after a layoff lasting more than 7 days, on-call or intermittent employees who returned to work after having been formally separated, and transfers from other locations. The hires count does not include transfers or promotions within the reporting site, employees returning from strike, employees of temporary help agencies or employee leasing companies, outside contractors, or consultants. The hires rate is computed by dividing the number of hires by employment and multiplying that quotient by 100.

Separations. The separations level is the total number of employment terminations occurring at any time during the reference month, and is reported by type of separation—quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations. (Some respondents are only able to report total separations.) The quits count includes voluntary separations by employees (except for retirements, which are reported as other separations). The layoffs and discharges count is comprised of involuntary separations initiated by the employer and includes layoffs with no intent to rehire; formal layoffs lasting or expected to last more than 7 days; discharges resulting from mergers, downsizing, or closings; firings or other discharges for cause; terminations of permanent or short-term employees; and terminations of seasonal employees. The other separations count includes retirements, transfers to other locations, deaths, and separations due to disability. The separations count does not include transfers within the same location or employees on strike. The separations rate is computed by dividing the number of separations by employment and multiplying that quotient by 100. The quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations rates are computed similarly.

Annual estimates. Annual levels for hires, quits, layoffs and discharges, other separations, and total separations are the sum of the 12 published monthly levels. Annual rates are computed by dividing the annual level by the Current Employment Statistics (CES) annual average employment level, and multiplying that quotient by 100. This figure will be approximately equal to the sum of the 12 monthly rates. Consistent with BLS practice, annual estimates are published only for not seasonally adjusted data and are released with the January news release each year. Annual estimates are not calculated for job openings because job openings are a stock, or point-in-time, measurement for the last business day of each month.

Sample and estimation methodology

The JOLTS survey design is a stratified random sample of 16,400 nonfarm business and government establishments. The sample is stratified by ownership, region, industry sector, and establishment size class. The establishments are drawn from a universe of over 9.1 million establishments compiled by the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program which includes all employers subject to state unemployment insurance laws and federal agencies subject to the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees program.

JOLTS total employment estimates are benchmarked, or ratio adjusted, monthly to the strike-adjusted employment estimates of the CES survey. A ratio of CES to JOLTS employment is used to adjust the levels for all other JOLTS data elements.

JOLTS business birth/death model

As with any sample survey, the JOLTS sample can only be as current as its sampling frame. The time lag from the birth of an establishment until its appearance on the sampling frame is approximately one year. In addition, many of these new units may fail within the first year. Since these universe units cannot be reflected on the sampling frame immediately, the JOLTS sample cannot capture job openings, hires, and separations from these units during their early existence. To compensate for the inability to capture data from these establishments, BLS has developed a birth/death model that uses birth and death activity from previous years. The estimates of job openings, hires, and separations produced by the birth/death model are added to the sample-based estimates produced from the survey to arrive at the estimates for openings, hires, and separations.

Seasonal adjustment

BLS uses X-12 ARIMA to seasonally adjust several JOLTS series utilizing moving averages as seasonal filters. A concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology is used in which new seasonal adjustment factors are calculated each month, using all relevant data, up to and including current month data. JOLTS seasonal adjustment includes both additive and multiplicative models and REGARIMA (regression with auto-correlated errors) modeling to improve the seasonal adjustment factors at the beginning and end of the series and to detect and adjust for outliers in the series.

Alignment procedure

The JOLTS measures for hires minus separations can be used to derive a measure of net employment change. This change should be comparable to the net employment change from the much larger CES survey. However, definitional differences as well as sampling and non-

sampling errors between the two surveys historically caused JOLTS to diverge from CES over time. To limit the divergence, and improve the quality of the JOLTS hires and separations series, BLS implemented the Monthly Alignment Method.

This method applies the CES employment trends to the seasonally adjusted JOLTS implied employment trend (hires minus separations) forcing them to be approximately the same, while preserving the seasonality of the JOLTS data. First, the two series are seasonally adjusted and the difference between the JOLTS implied employment change and the CES net employment change is calculated. Next, the JOLTS implied employment change is adjusted to equal the CES net employment change through a proportional adjustment. This procedure adjusts the two components (hires, separations) proportionally to their contribution to the total churn (hires plus separations). The adjusted hires and separations are converted back to not seasonally adjusted data by reversing the application of the original seasonal factors. After the Monthly Alignment Method has been used to adjust the level estimates, rate estimates are computed from the adjusted levels.

Reliability of the estimates

JOLTS estimates are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample is surveyed rather than the entire population, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent. The exact difference, or sampling error, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. BLS analysis is generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence. That means that there is a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the "true" population value because of sampling error. Estimates of sampling errors are available upon request.

The JOLTS estimates also are affected by nonsampling error. Nonsampling error can occur for many reasons, including the failure to include a segment of the population, the inability to obtain data from all units in the sample, the inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide data on a timely basis, mistakes made by respondents, errors made in the collection or processing of the data, and errors from the employment benchmark data used in estimation.

Other 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. Job openings levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels ³ (in thousands)							Rates						
	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	3,526	3,603	3,646	3,789	3,612	3,611	3,925	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.8
INDUSTRY														
Total private ⁴	3,114	3,216	3,295	3,421	3,235	3,194	3,485	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.7	3.0
Construction.....	74	83	100	96	95	104	116	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.0
Manufacturing.....	259	242	265	271	242	253	259	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities ⁵	569	648	618	731	704	645	608	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.3
Retail trade.....	349	389	392	475	436	390	378	2.3	2.5	2.6	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.4
Professional and business services.....	668	609	661	649	575	690	722	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.7	3.8
Education and health services ⁶	659	712	667	691	670	579	673	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.2	2.7	3.2
Health care and social assistance.....	598	644	611	633	602	524	617	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.0	3.5
Leisure and hospitality	417	378	438	481	453	453	510	3.0	2.7	3.1	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.5
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	49	48	49	52	59	52	52	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.5
Accommodation and food services.....	368	329	389	428	394	401	458	3.1	2.7	3.2	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.7
Government ⁷	412	387	350	368	377	417	440	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.0
State and local.....	342	317	289	301	313	340	370	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.9
REGION ⁸														
Northeast	645	657	643	674	661	668	702	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.7
South	1,395	1,338	1,434	1,434	1,364	1,441	1,521	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.9	3.0
Midwest	793	833	829	912	838	723	827	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.6
West	693	776	740	769	749	778	875	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.9

¹ Job openings are the number of job openings on the last business day of the month.

² The job openings rate is the number of job openings on the last business day of the month as a percent of total employment plus job openings.

³ Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series and because not all series are shown.

⁴ Includes mining and logging, information, financial activities, and other services, not shown separately.

⁵ Includes wholesale trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities, not shown separately.

⁶ Includes educational services, not shown separately.

⁷ Includes federal government, not shown separately.

⁸ The States (including the District of Columbia) that comprise the regions are: Northeast: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont; South: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia; Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin; West: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

^p Preliminary

Table 2. Hires levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels ³ (in thousands)							Rates						
	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	4,489	4,217	4,287	4,420	4,195	4,298	4,418	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.3
INDUSTRY														
Total private ⁴	4,181	3,934	4,031	4,134	3,915	4,015	4,118	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.6
Construction.....	348	337	318	386	280	326	345	6.2	6.0	5.6	6.8	4.9	5.7	6.0
Manufacturing.....	258	227	234	234	236	219	228	2.2	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities ⁵	829	833	911	900	890	868	940	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6
Retail trade.....	565	560	617	597	600	586	656	3.8	3.8	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.4
Professional and business services.....	985	857	864	912	798	878	855	5.5	4.8	4.8	5.0	4.4	4.8	4.7
Education and health services ⁶	539	493	489	471	506	507	483	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.4
Health care and social assistance.....	461	413	420	421	431	443	424	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5
Leisure and hospitality	775	712	752	697	759	747	771	5.7	5.2	5.4	5.0	5.5	5.4	5.5
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	151	100	125	108	130	104	116	7.7	5.1	6.3	5.4	6.5	5.2	5.8
Accommodation and food services.....	624	612	627	589	629	643	655	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.0	5.3	5.4	5.5
Government ⁷	309	283	255	286	280	283	300	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4
State and local.....	276	251	225	256	246	249	261	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4
REGION ⁸														
Northeast	752	760	637	736	687	675	705	3.0	3.0	2.5	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.7
South	1,800	1,709	1,729	1,645	1,660	1,787	1,845	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.8
Midwest	981	913	931	1,013	924	906	847	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.0	3.0	2.8
West	956	835	990	1,026	924	930	1,021	3.3	2.8	3.4	3.5	3.1	3.1	3.4

¹ Hires are the number of hires during the entire month.

² The hires rate is the number of hires during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series and because not all series are shown.

⁴ Includes mining and logging, information, financial activities, and other services, not shown separately.

⁵ Includes wholesale trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities, not shown separately.

⁶ Includes educational services, not shown separately.

⁷ Includes federal government, not shown separately.

⁸ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

Table 3. Total separations levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels ³ (in thousands)							Rates						
	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	4,202	4,052	4,079	4,179	4,062	4,173	4,202	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.1
INDUSTRY														
Total private ⁴	3,914	3,806	3,751	3,885	3,772	3,872	3,903	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.4
Construction.....	341	336	288	359	263	315	322	6.0	6.0	5.1	6.3	4.6	5.5	5.6
Manufacturing.....	237	239	220	229	231	215	223	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities ⁵	811	821	828	774	840	854	859	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.3
Retail trade.....	562	559	551	512	595	580	587	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.4	4.0	3.9	3.9
Professional and business services.....	906	846	784	849	813	845	798	5.1	4.7	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.4
Education and health services ⁶	471	438	456	465	468	486	475	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3
Health care and social assistance.....	415	374	384	402	402	417	402	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	715	678	726	694	729	715	752	5.2	4.9	5.2	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.4
Arts, entertainment, and recreation..	145	105	113	109	125	101	109	7.4	5.3	5.7	5.5	6.3	5.1	5.5
Accommodation and food services..	570	573	613	584	604	614	643	4.9	4.8	5.2	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.4
Government ⁷	288	246	328	294	290	302	299	1.3	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4
State and local.....	255	213	291	255	251	259	262	1.3	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4
REGION ⁸														
Northeast.....	705	700	666	656	663	724	684	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7
South.....	1,661	1,651	1,628	1,585	1,609	1,587	1,709	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.5
Midwest.....	971	883	851	982	894	849	886	3.2	2.9	2.8	3.2	2.9	2.8	2.9
West.....	866	818	933	956	895	1,013	922	3.0	2.8	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.1

¹ Total separations are the number of total separations during the entire month.

² The total separations rate is the number of total separations during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series and because not all series are shown.

⁴ Includes mining and logging, information, financial activities, and other services, not shown separately.

⁵ Includes wholesale trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities, not shown separately.

⁶ Includes educational services, not shown separately.

⁷ Includes federal government, not shown separately.

⁸ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

Table 4. Quits levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels ³ (in thousands)							Rates						
	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	2,106	1,976	2,079	2,140	2,126	2,260	2,260	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
INDUSTRY														
Total private ⁴	1,986	1,870	1,929	2,010	1,999	2,128	2,128	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9
Construction.....	79	77	93	90	68	134	105	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.2	2.3	1.8
Manufacturing.....	104	107	96	106	116	98	100	.9	.9	.8	.9	1.0	.8	.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities ⁵	476	446	461	465	452	491	492	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9
Retail trade.....	353	328	318	344	328	362	355	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.4
Professional and business services.....	385	372	360	394	413	375	385	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.1
Education and health services ⁶	297	242	255	280	273	299	282	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.4
Health care and social assistance.....	266	206	226	247	248	264	245	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.4
Leisure and hospitality	424	396	437	442	451	472	500	3.1	2.9	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.6
Arts, entertainment, and recreation..	54	31	43	42	38	47	50	2.8	1.6	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.4	2.5
Accommodation and food services..	370	364	394	400	413	426	451	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.8
Government ⁷	119	106	150	130	127	132	132	.5	.5	.7	.6	.6	.6	.6
State and local.....	107	97	137	119	115	121	122	.6	.5	.7	.6	.6	.6	.6
REGION ⁸														
Northeast.....	326	293	290	292	315	352	312	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.2
South.....	864	860	875	883	892	908	1,018	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.1
Midwest.....	490	436	452	496	454	479	476	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6
West.....	426	388	462	469	465	522	454	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.5

¹ Quits are the number of quits during the entire month.

² The quits rate is the number of quits during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series and because not all series are shown.

⁴ Includes mining and logging, information, financial activities, and other services, not shown separately.

⁵ Includes wholesale trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities, not shown separately.

⁶ Includes educational services, not shown separately.

⁷ Includes federal government, not shown separately.

⁸ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

Table 5. Layoffs and discharges levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels ³ (in thousands)							Rates						
	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	1,762	1,732	1,672	1,705	1,569	1,520	1,615	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2
INDUSTRY														
Total private ⁴	1,652	1,648	1,559	1,611	1,479	1,430	1,516	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Construction.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manufacturing.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade, transportation, and utilities ⁵	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail trade.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional and business services.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education and health services ⁶	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health care and social assistance.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leisure and hospitality	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accommodation and food services.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government ⁷	110	83	113	94	89	90	100	.5	.4	.5	.4	.4	.4	.5
State and local.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REGION ⁸														
Northeast.....	309	337	320	310	284	284	295	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
South.....	674	658	621	582	557	532	578	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2
Midwest.....	410	364	332	397	357	298	338	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.1
West.....	369	373	398	416	370	406	405	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4

¹ Layoffs and discharges are the number of layoffs and discharges during the entire month.

² The layoffs and discharges rate is the number of layoffs and discharges during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series and because not all series are shown.

⁴ Includes mining and logging, information, financial activities, and other services, not shown separately.

⁵ Includes wholesale trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities, not shown separately.

⁶ Includes educational services, not shown separately.

⁷ Includes federal government, not shown separately.

⁸ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

- Data not available.

Table 6. Other separations levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels ³ (in thousands)							Rates						
	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Dec. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	334	344	328	334	367	393	326	.3	.3	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2
INDUSTRY														
Total private ⁴	276	287	263	264	293	314	259	.2	.3	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2
Construction.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manufacturing.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade, transportation, and utilities ⁵	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail trade.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional and business services.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education and health services ⁶	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health care and social assistance.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leisure and hospitality	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accommodation and food services.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government ⁷	59	56	65	70	74	79	67	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.4	.3
State and local.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REGION ⁸														
Northeast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midwest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Other separations are the number of other separations during the entire month.

² The other separations rate is the number of other separations during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series and because not all series are shown.

⁴ Includes mining and logging, information, financial activities, and other services, not shown separately.

⁵ Includes wholesale trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities, not shown separately.

⁶ Includes educational services, not shown separately.

⁷ Includes federal government, not shown separately.

⁸ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

- Data not available.

Table 7. Job openings levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels (in thousands)			Rates		
	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	3,319	3,752	3,730	2.5	2.8	2.7
INDUSTRY						
Total private.....	2,932	3,368	3,306	2.6	2.9	2.9
Mining and logging.....	22	20	25	2.5	2.3	2.9
Construction.....	66	100	108	1.2	1.8	2.0
Manufacturing.....	254	249	254	2.1	2.1	2.1
Durable goods.....	175	158	164	2.3	2.1	2.1
Nondurable goods.....	79	91	91	1.8	2.0	2.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	526	652	539	2.1	2.5	2.1
Wholesale trade.....	109	150	109	1.9	2.6	1.9
Retail trade.....	296	372	314	2.0	2.4	2.1
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities.....	121	130	116	2.4	2.5	2.3
Information.....	89	94	88	3.2	3.4	3.1
Financial activities.....	169	255	305	2.1	3.2	3.8
Finance and insurance.....	123	179	244	2.1	3.0	4.0
Real estate and rental and leasing.....	46	76	60	2.4	3.8	3.0
Professional and business services.....	640	800	708	3.5	4.3	3.8
Education and health services.....	631	620	653	3.0	3.0	3.1
Educational services.....	57	54	53	1.6	1.6	1.5
Health care and social assistance.....	573	566	600	3.3	3.2	3.4
Leisure and hospitality.....	391	392	496	2.9	2.9	3.6
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	50	43	53	2.8	2.4	2.9
Accommodation and food services.....	341	349	443	2.9	2.9	3.7
Other services.....	145	187	130	2.6	3.3	2.3
Government.....	387	384	424	1.7	1.7	1.9
Federal.....	71	67	72	2.5	2.3	2.5
State and local.....	315	317	352	1.6	1.6	1.8
REGION ³						
Northeast.....	589	688	647	2.3	2.7	2.5
South.....	1,339	1,546	1,473	2.7	3.1	2.9
Midwest.....	740	712	780	2.4	2.3	2.5
West.....	650	806	830	2.2	2.7	2.8

¹ Job openings are the number of job openings on the last business day of the month.

² The job openings rate is the number of job openings on the last business day of the month as a percent of total employment plus job openings.

³ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

Table 8. Hires levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels (in thousands)			Rates		
	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	3,683	4,128	3,632	2.8	3.1	2.7
INDUSTRY						
Total private.....	3,466	3,865	3,415	3.2	3.5	3.1
Mining and logging.....	29	39	24	3.5	4.6	2.8
Construction.....	288	273	290	5.5	5.1	5.4
Manufacturing.....	231	237	205	2.0	2.0	1.7
Durable goods.....	141	152	132	1.9	2.0	1.8
Nondurable goods.....	90	85	74	2.1	1.9	1.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	621	744	710	2.5	2.9	2.8
Wholesale trade.....	104	142	115	1.9	2.5	2.0
Retail trade.....	409	466	485	2.8	3.1	3.3
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities.....	109	135	110	2.2	2.7	2.2
Information.....	55	68	59	2.1	2.6	2.2
Financial activities.....	129	203	159	1.7	2.6	2.0
Finance and insurance.....	83	141	104	1.4	2.4	1.8
Real estate and rental and leasing.....	46	62	55	2.4	3.2	2.9
Professional and business services.....	906	968	782	5.2	5.4	4.3
Education and health services.....	457	518	404	2.2	2.5	2.0
Educational services.....	67	64	47	1.9	2.0	1.4
Health care and social assistance.....	390	454	357	2.3	2.6	2.1
Leisure and hospitality.....	620	617	628	4.8	4.7	4.7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	102	81	78	5.8	4.6	4.4
Accommodation and food services.....	518	536	549	4.6	4.7	4.7
Other services.....	130	200	153	2.4	3.7	2.8
Government.....	217	263	217	1.0	1.2	1.0
Federal.....	23	29	29	.8	1.1	1.0
State and local.....	195	233	188	1.0	1.2	1.0
REGION ³						
Northeast.....	547	624	512	2.2	2.5	2.0
South.....	1,547	1,816	1,598	3.2	3.8	3.3
Midwest.....	815	838	687	2.7	2.8	2.3
West.....	775	849	836	2.7	2.9	2.9

¹ Hires are the number of hires during the entire month.

² The hires rate is the number of hires during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

Table 9. Total separations levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels (in thousands)			Rates		
	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	3,349	4,638	3,364	2.5	3.5	2.5
INDUSTRY						
Total private.....	3,173	4,355	3,177	2.9	3.9	2.9
Mining and logging.....	24	36	22	2.9	4.2	2.6
Construction.....	286	366	272	5.5	6.9	5.1
Manufacturing.....	202	229	189	1.7	1.9	1.6
Durable goods.....	110	146	121	1.5	2.0	1.6
Nondurable goods.....	92	83	68	2.1	1.9	1.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	683	1,112	737	2.7	4.3	2.9
Wholesale trade.....	89	138	105	1.6	2.4	1.8
Retail trade.....	486	769	519	3.3	5.1	3.5
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities.....	108	206	112	2.2	4.1	2.3
Information.....	50	74	48	1.9	2.8	1.8
Financial activities.....	123	222	155	1.6	2.9	2.0
Finance and insurance.....	75	143	101	1.3	2.4	1.7
Real estate and rental and leasing.....	48	79	54	2.5	4.1	2.8
Professional and business services.....	785	939	683	4.5	5.3	3.8
Education and health services.....	393	495	384	1.9	2.4	1.9
Educational services.....	34	59	44	1.0	1.8	1.3
Health care and social assistance.....	359	436	341	2.1	2.5	2.0
Leisure and hospitality.....	489	690	530	3.8	5.2	4.0
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	80	77	60	4.6	4.4	3.4
Accommodation and food services.....	409	613	470	3.6	5.3	4.1
Other services.....	138	191	155	2.6	3.5	2.9
Government.....	176	283	187	.8	1.3	.8
Federal.....	24	61	28	.9	2.2	1.0
State and local.....	152	222	159	.8	1.2	.8
REGION ³						
Northeast.....	532	791	519	2.1	3.1	2.0
South.....	1,354	1,755	1,402	2.8	3.6	2.9
Midwest.....	759	946	699	2.5	3.1	2.3
West.....	705	1,145	743	2.4	3.9	2.5

¹ Total separations are the number of total separations during the entire month.

² The total separations rate is the number of total separations during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

Table 10. Quits levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels (in thousands)			Rates		
	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	1,676	2,209	1,822	1.3	1.7	1.4
INDUSTRY						
Total private.....	1,589	2,087	1,725	1.5	1.9	1.5
Mining and logging.....	12	13	10	1.5	1.5	1.2
Construction.....	61	118	84	1.2	2.2	1.6
Manufacturing.....	84	87	79	.7	.7	.7
Durable goods.....	43	54	48	.6	.7	.6
Nondurable goods.....	41	34	31	.9	.8	.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	392	514	413	1.6	2.0	1.6
Wholesale trade.....	42	60	52	.8	1.1	.9
Retail trade.....	294	382	303	2.0	2.6	2.0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities.....	55	72	58	1.1	1.5	1.2
Information.....	24	47	27	.9	1.8	1.0
Financial activities.....	64	98	74	.8	1.3	1.0
Finance and insurance.....	41	69	44	.7	1.2	.7
Real estate and rental and leasing.....	23	29	30	1.2	1.5	1.6
Professional and business services.....	333	358	335	1.9	2.0	1.9
Education and health services.....	246	301	231	1.2	1.5	1.1
Educational services.....	20	34	25	.6	1.0	.7
Health care and social assistance.....	225	268	206	1.3	1.6	1.2
Leisure and hospitality.....	307	433	374	2.4	3.3	2.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	32	32	32	1.9	1.8	1.8
Accommodation and food services.....	275	401	342	2.4	3.5	3.0
Other services.....	66	118	98	1.2	2.2	1.8
Government.....	87	122	97	.4	.6	.4
Federal.....	10	14	9	.4	.5	.3
State and local.....	77	108	88	.4	.6	.5
REGION ³						
Northeast.....	250	342	242	1.0	1.4	1.0
South.....	689	905	828	1.4	1.9	1.7
Midwest.....	387	452	386	1.3	1.5	1.3
West.....	351	510	367	1.2	1.8	1.3

¹ Quits are the number of quits during the entire month.

² The quits rate is the number of quits during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

Table 11. Layoffs and discharges levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels (in thousands)			Rates		
	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	1,388	1,905	1,261	1.1	1.4	0.9
INDUSTRY						
Total private.....	1,338	1,836	1,214	1.2	1.7	1.1
Mining and logging.....	11	19	11	1.4	2.2	1.3
Construction.....	211	235	182	4.0	4.4	3.4
Manufacturing.....	94	118	92	.8	1.0	.8
Durable goods.....	56	77	62	.8	1.0	.8
Nondurable goods.....	39	41	30	.9	.9	.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	230	494	244	.9	1.9	1.0
Wholesale trade.....	36	52	48	.6	.9	.8
Retail trade.....	160	332	157	1.1	2.2	1.1
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities.....	35	110	38	.7	2.2	.8
Information.....	25	18	19	.9	.7	.7
Financial activities.....	35	74	50	.5	.9	.6
Finance and insurance.....	19	35	35	.3	.6	.6
Real estate and rental and leasing.....	16	38	16	.8	2.0	.8
Professional and business services.....	413	464	309	2.4	2.6	1.7
Education and health services.....	98	144	124	.5	.7	.6
Educational services.....	10	19	16	.3	.6	.5
Health care and social assistance.....	87	126	108	.5	.7	.6
Leisure and hospitality.....	158	216	139	1.2	1.6	1.0
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	45	43	27	2.6	2.5	1.5
Accommodation and food services.....	113	173	112	1.0	1.5	1.0
Other services.....	62	53	44	1.2	1.0	.8
Government.....	50	69	47	.2	.3	.2
Federal.....	6	10	10	.2	.4	.4
State and local.....	44	59	37	.2	.3	.2
REGION ³						
Northeast.....	220	338	206	.9	1.3	.8
South.....	556	655	473	1.2	1.4	1.0
Midwest.....	315	383	257	1.1	1.3	.8
West.....	297	528	325	1.0	1.8	1.1

¹ Layoffs and discharges are the number of layoffs and discharges during the entire month.

² The layoffs and discharges rate is the number of layoffs and discharges during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary

Table 12. Other separations levels ¹ and rates ² by industry and region, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and region	Levels (in thousands)			Rates		
	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013 ^p
Total	286	524	281	0.2	0.4	0.2
INDUSTRY						
Total private.....	247	432	237	.2	.4	.2
Mining and logging.....	1	4	1	.1	.5	.1
Construction.....	15	13	6	.3	.2	.1
Manufacturing.....	24	24	18	.2	.2	.2
Durable goods.....	12	16	11	.2	.2	.2
Nondurable goods.....	12	9	7	.3	.2	.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	61	104	80	.2	.4	.3
Wholesale trade.....	11	26	4	.2	.4	.1
Retail trade.....	32	55	59	.2	.4	.4
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities.....	18	24	17	.4	.5	.3
Information.....	2	9	2	.1	.3	.1
Financial activities.....	24	50	31	.3	.6	.4
Finance and insurance.....	15	39	23	.3	.7	.4
Real estate and rental and leasing.....	9	11	8	.5	.6	.4
Professional and business services.....	39	117	39	.2	.7	.2
Education and health services.....	49	49	29	.2	.2	.1
Educational services.....	3	6	2	.1	.2	.1
Health care and social assistance.....	46	43	27	.3	.3	.2
Leisure and hospitality.....	24	41	18	.2	.3	.1
Arts, entertainment, and recreation.....	3	2	2	.2	.1	.1
Accommodation and food services.....	21	39	17	.2	.3	.1
Other services.....	10	20	13	.2	.4	.2
Government.....	39	92	44	.2	.4	.2
Federal.....	8	37	9	.3	1.3	.3
State and local.....	31	55	34	.2	.3	.2
REGION ³						
Northeast.....	62	111	71	.2	.4	.3
South.....	109	195	102	.2	.4	.2
Midwest.....	57	111	56	.2	.4	.2
West.....	57	106	51	.2	.4	.2

¹ Other separations are the number of other separations during the entire month.

² The other separations rate is the number of other separations during the entire month as a percent of total employment.

³ See footnote 8, table 1.

^p Preliminary