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EXTENDED MASS LAYOFFS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2008

In the third quarter of 2008, employers initiated 1,330 mass layoff events that resulted in the separation of 218,158 workers from their jobs for at least 31 days, according to preliminary figures released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Layoff events reached their highest level for the third quarter since 2001, while separations reached their highest level since 2003. The total number of layoff events was 312 higher in the third quarter 2008 than the same period a year earlier, and the number of associated separations increased by 58,134. (See table A.) Third quarter 2008 layoff data are preliminary and are subject to revision. (See the Technical Note.)

Both events and separations in the construction industry reached third quarter program highs in 2008. The number of separations in manufacturing rose sharply (+32,175) over the year, largely due to increased layoff activity in the transportation equipment sector (+12,930).

Among the 7 categories of economic reasons for layoff, business demand accounted for the highest share of events (43 percent) and number of separations (76,979) in July-September 2008. (See table B.) The largest over-the-year increases in the number of separations occurred in layoffs attributed to business demand factors (+27,711) and organizational changes (+10,533). Within business demand, the number of separations due to slack work nearly doubled to 41,116, while in organizational changes, layoffs attributed to business-ownership changes more than doubled to 11,692. Within financial issues, the number of workers terminated because of bankruptcies nearly doubled over the year to 12,156.

Permanent closure of worksites occurred in 15 percent of all extended mass layoff events and affected 50,025 workers during the third quarter of 2008. Thirty-one percent of employers reporting a layoff indicated they anticipate some type of recall, down from 38 percent a year earlier and the lowest third quarter proportion since 2002. Excluding seasonal events, employers anticipated recalling workers in 20 percent of the layoffs, matching third quarter 2002 as the lowest proportion for any quarter since data collection began in 1995.

The national unemployment rate averaged 6.0 percent, not seasonally adjusted, in the third quarter of 2008, up from 4.7 percent a year earlier. Private nonfarm payroll employment, not seasonally adjusted, decreased by 0.6 percent (-672,000) over the year.

Table A. Selected measures of extended mass layoff activity

Period	Layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants
2004			
January-March	1,339	276,503	238,392
April-June	1,358	278,831	254,063
July-September	886	164,608	148,575
October-December	1,427	273,967	262,049
2005			
January-March	1,142	186,506	185,486
April-June	1,203	246,099	212,673
July-September	1,136	201,878	190,186
October-December	1,400	250,178	246,188
2006			
January-March	963	183,089	193,510
April-June	1,353	295,964	264,927
July-September	929	160,254	161,764
October-December	1,640	296,662	330,954
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 ^r	1,814	301,592	347,149
2008			
January-March ^r	1,340	229,858	258,767
April-June ^r	1,756	354,361	335,854
July-September ^p	1,330	218,158	181,386

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

Industry Distribution of Extended Layoffs

Manufacturing industries were responsible for 32 percent of private nonfarm extended layoff events and 35 percent of related separations in the third quarter of 2008; a year earlier, manufacturing made up 26 percent of events and 27 percent of separations. (See table 1.) Manufacturing had 430 extended mass layoff events and 75,511 separations, the highest third quarter levels for the industry since 2003. The largest numbers of separations were in transportation equipment manufacturing (21,630, mostly associated with light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing) and food manufacturing (10,975).

The construction sector accounted for 16 percent of events and 10 percent of separations, the highest third quarter percentages recorded in the program. These job cuts were largely in specialty trade contracting. Layoffs in administrative and waste services accounted for 9 percent of all events and separations and were concentrated in temporary help services.

Table B. Distribution of extended layoff events and separations by economic reason categories, July-September 2008^P

Category	Layoff events		Separations	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,330	100.0	218,158	100.0
Business demand	577	43.4	76,979	35.3
Organizational changes	107	8.0	28,256	13.0
Financial issues	174	13.1	32,812	15.0
Production specific	23	1.7	3,527	1.6
Disaster/safety	5	0.4	1,362	0.6
Seasonal	198	14.9	38,742	17.8
Other/miscellaneous	246	18.5	36,480	16.7

^P = preliminary.

Reasons for Extended Layoffs

Among the seven categories of economic reasons for extended mass layoffs, events related to business demand factors (contract cancellation, contract completion, domestic competition, excess inventory, import competition, and slack work) accounted for 43 percent of the extended layoffs and 35 percent of separations during the third quarter of 2008. (See table 2.) Separations in this category registered the largest over-the-year increase (+27,711), with those related to slack work/insufficient demand/nonseasonal business slowdown nearly doubling. The numbers of workers terminated because of business demand reasons were highest in temporary help services, light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing, and professional employer organizations.

Seasonal factors (seasonal and vacation period) made up 15 percent of the extended layoff events and resulted in 38,742 separations, primarily in school and employee bus transportation and in food service contracting.

Job losses related to financial issues (bankruptcy, cost control, and financial difficulty) accounted for 13 percent of events and resulted in 32,812 separations during the third quarter of 2008, compared with 28,461 separations a year earlier. This increase was largely due to bankruptcies in full service restaurants.

Movement of Work

In the third quarter of 2008, 82 extended mass layoffs involved the movement of work and were associated with 14,613 separated workers. (See table C.) These movements of work were to other domestic locations or to locations outside of the U.S., and they occurred either within the same company or to other companies. Movement of work layoffs accounted for 7 percent of nonseasonal layoff events in the third quarter of 2008. A year earlier, there were 63 layoff events and 12,367 separations associated with the movement of work. (See table 10.)

Table C. Extended mass layoff events and separations, selected measures, third quarter 2008^P

Action	Layoff events	Separations
Total, private nonfarm	1,330	218,158
Total, excluding seasonal and vacation events ¹	1,132	179,416
Total events with movement of work ²	82	14,613
Movement of work actions	104	(³)
With separations reported	76	9,265
With separations unknown	28	(³)

¹ The questions on movement of work were not asked of employers when the reason for layoff was either seasonal work or vacation period.

² A layoff event can involve more than one movement of work action.

³ Data are not available.

^P = preliminary.

Among the 82 extended mass layoff events with reported relocation of work in the third quarter of 2008, 55 percent were permanent closures of worksites, which affected 9,873 workers. In comparison, 15 percent of the total extended mass layoff events reported for the quarter involved the permanent closure of worksites affecting 50,025 workers.

Of the layoffs involving the movement of work, 67 percent of the events and 75 percent of the laid-off workers were from manufacturing industries during the third quarter. (See table 7.) Among all private nonfarm extended layoffs, manufacturing accounted for 32 percent of the events and 35 percent of separations.

While only 8 percent of the extended mass layoff events in the total private nonfarm economy were because of organizational change, such reasons accounted for 56 percent of layoff events associated with work relocation and resulted in 8,276 separations during the third quarter. (See table 8.)

Among the regions, the Midwest accounted for the largest proportion of workers affected by extended mass layoffs associated with the movement of work (56 percent), followed by the Northeast and the West (15 percent each), and the South (13 percent). (See table 9.)

Some extended mass layoff events involve more than one relocation of work action. For example, an extended mass layoff event at an employer may involve job loss due to movement of work to both another domestic location of the company and a location out of the country. This would be counted as two movement of work actions. The 82 extended layoff events with movement of work for the third

Table D. Movement of work actions by type of separation where the number of separations is known by employers, third quarter 2008^P

Activities	Actions ¹	Separations
With separations reported	76	9,265
By location		
Out-of-country relocations	19	2,211
Within company	17	2,034
Different company	2	177
Domestic relocations	57	7,054
Within company	48	6,257
Different company	9	797
By company		
Within company	65	8,291
Domestic	48	6,257
Out of country	17	2,034
Different company	11	974
Domestic	9	797
Out of country	2	177

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

^P = preliminary.

quarter of 2008 involved 104 identifiable relocations of work. (See table C.) An identifiable relocation of work occurs when the employer provides sufficient information on the new location of work and/or the number of workers affected by the movement. Of the 104 relocations, employers were able to provide information on the specific number of separations associated with the movement of work component of the layoff in 76 actions involving 9,265 workers. (See table 10.)

In the 76 actions where employers were able to provide more complete separations information, 86 percent of relocations (65 out of 76) occurred within the same company. (See table D.) Seventy-five percent of relocations (57 out of 76) were domestic reassignments, while 25 percent (19 out of 76) involved out-of-country moves. Domestic relocation of work—both within the company and to other companies—affected 7,054 workers. Out-of-country relocations were associated with the separation of 2,211 workers, 1 percent of all nonseasonal and nonvacation extended mass layoff separations. (See table 11.)

Recall Expectations

Thirty-one percent of employers reporting an extended layoff in the third quarter of 2008 indicated they anticipated some type of recall, down from 38 percent a year earlier and the lowest third quarter proportion since 2002. (See table E.) Of those employers expecting to recall workers, 38 percent

Table E. Summary of employer expectations of a recall from extended layoff third quarter 2007 - third quarter 2008

Nature of the recall	Percentage of events				
	III 2007	IV 2007	I 2008	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p
Anticipate a recall	37.9	55.8	40.1	51.1	30.5
Timeframe					
Within 6 months.....	83.9	87.9	69.8	84.5	71.9
Within 3 months ..	62.7	34.2	45.4	59.1	54.9
Size					
At least half	86.0	90.5	73.2	88.3	79.1
All workers	45.6	50.5	28.5	51.7	37.9

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

indicated that the offer would be extended to all displaced employees, and 79 percent of employers anticipated extending the offer to at least half of the workers. Seventy-two percent of employers expecting to recall laid-off employees intend to do so within 6 months.

Excluding layoff events due to seasonal work and vacation period (in which 93 percent of the employers expected a recall), employers anticipated recalling laid-off workers in 20 percent of the events, matching third quarter 2002 as the lowest proportion since the program began in 1995.

Size of Extended Layoffs

The average size of a layoff (as measured by separations per layoff event) in the third quarter of 2008 was 164, compared to 157 per layoff in third quarter 2007. Layoff events continued to be concentrated at the lower end of the extended layoff-size spectrum, with 48 percent of events involving between 50 and 99 workers and 71 percent of events with less than 150 workers.

Layoffs involving less than 150 workers accounted for 37 percent of all separations during the period, about the same percentage recorded a year earlier (38 percent). Separations involving 500 or more workers, while comprising only 4 percent of the events, accounted for 28 percent of all separations in the third quarter of 2008, up from 24 percent a year earlier. (See table F.)

Initial Claimant Characteristics

A total of 181,386 initial claimants for unemployment insurance were associated with extended mass layoffs in the third quarter of 2008. Of these claimants, 16 percent were black, 18 percent were Hispanic, 40 percent were women, 34 percent were 30 to 44 years of age, and 18 percent were 55 years of age or older. (See table 3.) Among persons in the civilian labor force for the same period, 12 percent

Table F. Distribution of extended layoff events by size of layoff, third quarter 2008^P

Size	Layoff events		Separations	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,330	100.0	218,158	100.0
50-99	639	48.0	44,934	20.6
100-149	311	23.4	36,314	16.6
150-199	122	9.2	20,675	9.5
200-299	124	9.3	28,034	12.9
300-499	76	5.7	27,640	12.7
500-999	38	2.9	24,955	11.4
1,000 or more	20	1.5	35,606	16.3

^P = preliminary.

were black, 14 percent were Hispanic, 46 percent were women, 33 percent were age 30 to 44, and 18 percent were 55 years of age or older.

Geographic Distribution

Among the 4 census regions, the West recorded the highest number of separations (78,277) due to extended mass layoff events in the third quarter of 2008, followed by the Midwest, with 53,265. (See table 4.) Separations in the West occurred largely in specialty trade contracting and in food manufacturing. The West accounted for 36 percent of all separations, up from 33 percent in the same period last year.

Among the 9 census divisions, the highest number of separations during the third quarter of 2008 was in the Pacific division (70,079). The East North Central division had the next-highest level of separations, with 44,284. (See table 4.)

California recorded the largest number of worker separations (61,375), followed by Florida (20,261), Illinois (17,552), and New York (14,310). (See table 5.) After excluding the impact of seasonal reasons, California still reported the highest number of job cuts (57,116).

California accounted for 28 percent of all separations due to extended mass layoffs in the third quarter 2008, up from 26 percent in 2007. Florida accounted for 9 percent of the separations, up from 5 percent last year. In 2008, four states reported third quarter program highs in terms of numbers of separations—Indiana, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Wyoming.

Fifty percent of extended mass layoff events and 46 percent of separations (101,362) occurred in metropolitan areas in the third quarter of 2008, compared with 51 percent of events and 49 percent of separations (78,211) during the third quarter of 2007. Among the 369 metropolitan areas, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif., reported the highest number of separations (11,187) in the third quarter of 2008. Next were New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa., with 11,140 separations and Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Ill.-Ind.-Wis., with 8,923 separations. (See table G.) Employers located in nonmetropolitan areas separated 17,564 workers in extended mass layoffs.

Table G. Mass layoff events and separations, selected metropolitan areas

Metropolitan area	Events		Separations	
	III 2007 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	III 2008 ^p
Total, nonmetropolitan areas	109	127	15,319	17,564
Total, 369 metropolitan areas	524	670	78,211	101,362
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif.	81	87	10,304	11,187
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa.	61	49	14,397	11,140
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.	28	46	4,849	8,923
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, Calif.	11	26	1,106	3,700
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, Calif.	20	29	1,913	3,536
Las Vegas-Paradise, Nev.	(¹)	20	(¹)	3,101
Elkhart-Goshen, Ind.	3	11	243	2,434
San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, Calif.	23	19	2,753	2,234
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, Fla.	5	12	492	2,022
Modesto, Calif.	5	5	436	2,017

¹ Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^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 08-01, November 20, 2007.

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 third 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 report on Mass Layoffs in October 2008 is scheduled to be released on Friday, November 21.

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

Employer. Employers in the MLS program include those 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 layoff event. Fifty 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.

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.

Layoff. The separation of persons from an employer as part of a mass layoff event. (See below.) Such layoffs involve both persons subject to recall and those who are terminated by the establishment.

Mass layoff. Fifty or more initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits from an employer beginning in a given month, regardless of duration.

Worksite closure. The complete closure of either multi-unit or single-unit employers or the partial closure of a multi-unit employer where entire worksites affected by layoffs are closed or planned to be 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

Because of the employer interview component, the BLS decided to use the MLS program as a vehicle for collecting additional information on offshoring and outsourcing

associated with job loss, by adding questions that address movement of work. The term "moving work" means that the company experiencing the layoff has reassigned work activities that were performed at a worksite by the company's employees (1) to another worksite within the company; (2) to another company under formal arrangements at the same worksite; or (3) to another company under formal arrangements at another worksite. The type of work activities subject to movement can include accounting, customer service, cleaning, warehousing, etc.

"Overseas relocation" is the movement of work from within the U.S. to locations outside of the U.S. "Overseas relocation" can occur within the same company and involve movement of work to a different location of that company outside of the U.S., or to a different company altogether.

"Domestic relocation" is the movement of work to other locations inside the U.S., either within the same company or to a different company.

"Overseas relocation" and "domestic relocation" are no longer used in the same way as they were in earlier extended mass layoff news releases. Therefore, the data presented in this news release are not comparable to those that were presented in earlier news releases.

Questions on movement of work and location are asked for all identified layoff events when the reason for separation is other than "seasonal work" or "vacation period." Seasonal and vacation layoff events were excluded because movement of work appears unlikely.

Questions on movement of work are asked after the analyst verifies that a layoff in fact occurred and lasted more than 30 days, and obtained the total number of workers separated from jobs, the date the layoff began, and the economic reason for the layoff. 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 "overseas relocation" if the employer responds "yes" to questions 1 and/or 2, and indicates that the location(s) was outside of the U.S. Domestic relocation is determined if the employer responds "yes" to questions 1 and/or 2 and indicates that the location(s) was within the U.S.

After asking the movement of work questions, the

employer interview continues and responses are obtained for questions on recall expectations and open/closed status of the worksite.

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 2008, outright refusal to participate in the employer interview accounted for 3.4 percent of all private nonfarm events. Although included in the total number of instances involving the movement of work, for the third quarter, employers in 28 relocations were unable to provide the number of separations specifically associated with the movement of work, 4 of which involved out-of-country moves.

Other information

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200 TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

Table 1. Industry distribution: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2007 and 2008

Industry	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	III 2007 ^f	II 2008 ^f	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^f	II 2008 ^f	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^f	II 2008 ^f	III 2008 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,018	1,756	1,330	160,024	354,361	218,158	173,077	335,854	181,386
Mining	4	3	(²)	677	627	(²)	530	357	(²)
Utilities	-	4	(²)	-	758	(²)	-	738	(²)
Construction	187	243	208	17,315	27,477	21,099	28,059	35,327	21,727
Manufacturing	269	382	430	43,336	64,998	75,511	54,116	85,757	67,141
Food	30	61	41	5,834	11,597	10,975	6,976	8,986	4,327
Beverage and tobacco products	(²)	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	520	(²)	(²)	497
Textile mills	9	(²)	8	2,730	(²)	1,839	4,552	(²)	2,388
Textile product mills ³	3	6	(²)	908	728	(²)	918	805	(²)
Apparel ³	16	11	12	1,706	1,589	1,618	1,836	1,399	1,474
Leather and allied products	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Wood products	21	37	31	2,756	5,003	4,636	3,496	5,518	3,448
Paper	5	12	10	893	1,426	2,154	882	1,284	1,932
Printing and related support activities	(²)	12	10	(²)	1,548	1,260	(²)	1,953	836
Petroleum and coal products	-	3	(²)	-	378	(²)	-	218	(²)
Chemicals	6	13	11	463	1,598	931	583	1,352	905
Plastics and rubber products ³	11	20	20	1,213	3,272	3,202	1,703	3,259	2,896
Nonmetallic mineral products	8	13	15	919	1,846	1,850	1,074	1,499	1,630
Primary metals	9	8	12	1,486	728	1,178	2,331	1,360	1,027
Fabricated metal products	21	19	26	3,093	2,178	2,721	3,575	3,294	2,401
Machinery ³	18	25	29	3,608	4,354	6,630	3,546	5,967	7,292
Computer and electronic products	27	20	43	5,957	2,783	7,335	4,974	2,692	5,433
Electrical equipment and appliances	5	9	11	328	1,739	2,000	441	1,477	1,366
Transportation equipment ³	54	84	110	8,700	19,307	21,630	14,641	38,882	24,960
Furniture and related products ³	14	17	20	1,411	3,366	3,154	1,127	4,021	2,675
Miscellaneous manufacturing ³	7	8	10	791	895	1,185	1,014	1,084	1,079
Wholesale trade	19	32	25	2,336	5,047	3,214	1,838	4,034	2,143
Retail trade	59	81	76	10,095	15,043	17,199	11,486	19,692	13,669
Transportation and warehousing	84	191	107	15,251	44,637	18,438	14,498	43,948	14,552
Information	18	50	46	2,415	9,815	8,758	2,713	10,373	6,896
Finance and insurance ³	133	89	80	24,757	31,417	13,594	24,199	19,868	10,608
Real estate and rental and leasing ³	8	8	10	1,194	723	1,153	1,354	883	1,138
Professional and technical services ³	35	80	41	5,144	38,365	6,289	5,728	21,369	5,535
Management of companies and enterprises	8	6	(²)	782	658	(²)	1,100	529	(²)
Administrative and waste services ³	60	114	116	8,225	21,408	18,555	9,349	23,486	16,927
Educational services	9	16	14	1,323	1,644	1,516	1,726	1,985	1,302
Health care and social assistance	49	186	62	9,724	23,798	6,846	5,017	21,605	5,183
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	22	57	34	6,118	23,768	7,519	2,734	5,830	2,797
Accommodation and food services	40	158	65	8,622	36,841	16,444	6,985	32,966	10,000
Other services, except public administration	13	54	11	2,560	6,819	1,335	1,572	6,816	1,291
Unclassified	1	2	-	150	518	-	73	291	-

¹ For the third quarter of 2008, 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.

³ Data beginning in 2008 are not strictly comparable to prior years

due to a change in NAICS versions.

^f = 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, 2007 and 2008

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,018	1,756	1,330	160,024	354,361	218,158	173,077	335,854	181,386
Business demand	421	566	577	49,268	79,925	76,979	73,378	106,297	78,420
Contract cancellation	15	22	42	2,320	2,854	6,468	1,809	3,236	5,306
Contract completion	201	211	179	20,331	27,716	24,964	31,636	35,481	24,845
Domestic competition	3	(²)	(²)	254	(²)	(²)	208	(²)	(²)
Excess inventory/saturated market	6	(²)	(²)	1,551	(²)	(²)	1,641	(²)	(²)
Import competition	16	13	12	3,273	1,831	3,197	3,645	1,624	2,489
Slack work/insufficient demand/non-seasonal business slowdown	180	311	336	21,539	46,145	41,116	34,439	64,595	44,466
Organizational changes	99	122	107	17,723	37,097	28,256	17,299	32,654	15,354
Business-ownership change	27	20	16	4,990	17,922	11,692	3,475	3,545	2,535
Reorganization or restructuring of company	72	102	91	12,733	19,175	16,564	13,824	29,109	12,819
Financial issues	122	120	174	28,461	27,778	32,812	23,770	21,095	21,090
Bankruptcy	21	23	40	6,819	9,011	12,156	2,904	5,246	6,324
Cost control/cost cutting/increase profitability	36	55	82	6,130	10,046	10,458	8,031	7,906	8,483
Financial difficulty	65	42	52	15,512	8,721	10,198	12,835	7,943	6,283
Production specific	(²)	(²)	23	(²)	(²)	3,527	(²)	(²)	4,018
Automation/technological advances	4	3	4	1,468	264	707	1,293	545	640
Energy related	-	(²)	6	-	(²)	720	-	(²)	1,866
Governmental regulations/intervention	4	4	3	997	1,067	290	605	436	224
Labor dispute/contract negotiations/strike	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	1,430	(²)	(²)	1,369	(²)
Material or supply shortage	-	5	4	-	624	466	-	614	309
Model changeover	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Plant or machine repair/maintenance	4	3	(²)	865	802	(²)	579	732	(²)
Product line discontinued	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Disaster/safety	(²)	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	1,362	(²)	(²)	860
Hazardous work environment	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Natural disaster (not weather related)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Non-natural disaster	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Extreme weather-related event	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Seasonal	218	651	198	40,361	156,308	38,742	34,840	121,904	26,150
Seasonal	123	364	105	23,314	107,469	22,185	20,441	70,175	12,146
Vacation period-school related or otherwise	95	287	93	17,047	48,839	16,557	14,399	51,729	14,004
Other/miscellaneous	140	267	246	19,641	47,685	36,480	20,424	47,202	35,494
Other	9	18	20	1,363	3,176	3,274	2,050	3,031	3,449
Data not provided: refusal	43	54	46	6,019	12,666	8,763	6,016	12,434	8,733
Data not provided: does not know	88	195	180	12,259	31,843	24,443	12,358	31,737	23,312

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^p = preliminary.

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

^r =revised.

Table 3. State and selected claimant characteristics: Extended mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, second and third quarters, 2008

State	Layoff events		Total initial claimants		Percent of total							
	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	Black		Hispanic origin		Women		Persons age 55 and over	
					II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p						
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,756	1,330	335,854	181,386	16.6	16.1	16.8	17.7	49.9	40.4	21.5	18.4
Alabama	21	9	3,694	2,461	57.4	46.6	2.8	3.3	58.3	53.4	20.5	13.9
Alaska	6	3	1,207	241	4.9	2.1	16.2	27.8	45.7	28.2	27.8	26.1
Arizona	20	9	2,741	860	3.1	7.2	57.8	29.1	57.4	48.5	18.8	15.5
Arkansas	11	(²)	1,263	(²)	42.8	38.4	6.5	-	76.6	72.6	18.8	23.3
California	464	446	81,944	52,748	10.3	10.3	37.0	33.2	42.9	38.5	15.9	15.5
Colorado	12	7	1,576	525	6.5	8.4	30.6	26.1	63.8	40.4	22.8	19.8
Connecticut	22	11	3,877	1,026	15.0	17.2	12.7	18.3	60.5	53.4	26.9	19.1
Delaware	(²)	-	(²)	-	43.2	-	8.6	-	83.3	-	31.8	-
District of Columbia	4	-	566	-	89.6	-	4.8	-	70.8	-	13.4	-
Florida	113	97	20,439	13,744	17.3	17.5	31.2	26.2	45.4	44.1	22.6	20.2
Georgia	14	20	1,612	2,437	48.9	58.1	2.7	2.9	44.0	48.5	18.2	16.0
Hawaii	9	6	2,522	867	3.1	4.3	7.4	15.6	41.9	34.3	18.1	16.7
Idaho	20	6	2,135	623	.5	.8	6.6	12.4	44.8	38.4	24.5	16.4
Illinois	110	97	26,194	12,094	24.2	26.9	10.1	16.3	57.3	45.5	20.9	17.1
Indiana	52	47	13,384	8,699	7.4	8.0	4.8	4.0	38.8	34.4	18.8	14.1
Iowa	14	8	2,280	2,904	11.4	1.3	2.5	2.0	59.2	35.3	23.6	21.8
Kansas	15	8	1,577	586	15.5	11.6	1.7	5.1	61.9	40.6	23.7	20.6
Kentucky	20	18	1,979	1,775	4.7	7.3	-	.4	23.0	19.3	22.4	18.0
Louisiana	26	15	3,300	2,662	73.2	45.5	1.5	3.1	74.4	32.6	20.9	21.6
Maine	5	(²)	788	(²)	1.9	2.2	.1	-	43.8	40.0	27.9	22.2
Maryland	10	(²)	1,404	(²)	56.6	21.4	1.1	1.4	62.3	71.4	21.2	38.6
Massachusetts	25	21	4,315	2,499	13.8	11.1	2.0	4.2	59.4	51.9	27.7	26.9
Michigan	75	41	27,887	6,170	19.7	9.0	2.7	6.0	42.1	39.6	17.9	16.4
Minnesota	22	11	2,803	1,493	9.4	7.2	6.2	2.1	46.0	26.9	22.5	15.1
Mississippi	12	14	1,548	1,556	57.8	73.5	2.5	1.9	47.9	36.6	15.2	14.3
Missouri	43	31	8,252	3,409	22.6	20.9	.3	.4	69.2	45.8	26.2	20.6
Montana	9	4	683	250	-	.4	3.7	2.0	56.1	28.0	31.3	24.4
Nebraska	5	(²)	715	(²)	10.9	13.0	6.4	2.3	33.6	16.8	32.3	20.6
Nevada	15	22	2,550	2,904	12.9	9.7	27.7	27.8	47.5	29.9	21.2	16.3
New Hampshire	7	(²)	897	(²)	.2	6.7	.4	11.2	64.7	27.0	32.0	14.6
New Jersey	77	43	17,427	4,139	20.6	26.6	7.1	8.4	66.2	61.6	35.1	25.7
New Mexico	8	8	853	1,189	3.9	2.7	37.7	42.0	27.7	33.9	19.1	13.1
New York	70	62	12,901	9,848	13.2	17.0	9.8	15.1	48.5	56.9	24.4	31.5
North Carolina	10	14	2,697	1,638	35.6	27.5	2.9	6.9	31.6	55.9	15.4	25.3
North Dakota	-	(²)	-	(²)	-	-	-	-	-	23.1	-	9.3
Ohio	83	49	15,110	9,299	14.8	16.3	3.0	3.5	50.3	29.1	20.2	19.2
Oklahoma	5	5	786	846	14.5	10.2	2.0	3.5	48.3	29.7	13.4	20.1
Oregon	27	19	6,775	4,179	1.5	.7	12.9	13.6	54.8	33.3	27.2	17.3
Pennsylvania	97	60	20,964	9,392	9.5	4.0	3.5	2.0	52.3	38.5	31.4	24.6
Rhode Island	9	(²)	1,274	(²)	5.0	6.7	19.3	24.2	80.5	52.6	36.7	25.8
South Carolina	16	11	3,678	3,440	75.4	69.2	.4	.2	59.8	51.5	6.6	2.5
South Dakota	(²)	-	(²)	-	-	-	1.0	-	86.0	-	47.0	-
Tennessee	20	31	3,412	3,152	30.5	24.1	-	.1	58.8	49.6	35.6	20.7
Texas	51	30	10,166	5,037	16.0	19.5	48.0	42.7	44.2	35.0	15.4	10.8
Utah	9	(²)	1,801	(²)	1.7	2.4	18.0	16.3	45.7	63.9	10.2	12.3
Vermont	5	(²)	731	(²)	1.0	.7	.3	.7	37.2	22.8	18.7	22.8
Virginia	14	7	1,860	858	51.6	36.9	5.2	3.7	73.8	21.6	21.1	30.4
Washington	26	13	3,797	1,401	4.3	4.9	10.8	17.5	57.0	27.6	27.4	17.1
West Virginia	7	(²)	763	(²)	.7	-	-	-	34.3	31.4	12.8	-
Wisconsin	35	13	6,194	3,148	11.5	3.9	3.2	1.8	59.5	25.1	32.6	29.0
Wyoming	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	-	-	-	-	27.0	14.9	2.7	12.2
Puerto Rico	13	8	3,468	1,568	.1	.1	98.2	98.9	59.6	64.0	8.7	8.7

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

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

³ Data are not available.

^r = revised.

^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, 2007 and 2008

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p
United States ¹	1,018	1,756	1,330	160,024	354,361	218,158	173,077	335,854	181,386
Northeast	271	317	202	46,902	61,910	35,433	47,396	63,174	27,413
New England	34	73	37	8,696	15,478	4,655	5,815	11,882	4,034
Middle Atlantic	237	244	165	38,206	46,432	30,778	41,581	51,292	23,379
South	182	358	274	27,005	62,931	51,183	27,375	59,526	39,819
South Atlantic	108	192	151	15,451	35,723	29,575	15,312	33,378	22,257
East South Central	35	73	72	5,493	10,748	10,086	4,636	10,633	8,944
West South Central	39	93	51	6,061	16,460	11,522	7,427	15,515	8,618
Midwest	191	455	308	32,557	92,768	53,265	37,620	104,496	48,041
East North Central	152	355	247	26,161	75,631	44,284	32,640	88,769	39,410
West North Central	39	100	61	6,396	17,137	8,981	4,980	15,727	8,631
West	374	626	546	53,560	136,752	78,277	60,686	108,658	66,113
Mountain	26	94	59	6,237	30,318	8,198	5,264	12,413	6,677
Pacific	348	532	487	47,323	106,434	70,079	55,422	96,245	59,436

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, 2007 and 2008

State	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^f	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^f	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^f	III 2008 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,018	1,756	1,330	160,024	354,361	218,158	173,077	335,854	181,386
Alabama	8	21	9	1,714	3,191	2,542	1,411	3,694	2,461
Alaska	(²)	6	3	(²)	3,707	3,460	(²)	1,207	241
Arizona	8	20	9	2,014	3,484	955	1,578	2,741	860
Arkansas	7	11	(²)	1,084	1,366	(²)	1,109	1,263	(²)
California	316	464	446	41,235	88,740	61,375	50,591	81,944	52,748
Colorado	(²)	12	7	(²)	14,369	1,229	(²)	1,576	525
Connecticut	(²)	22	11	(²)	5,254	1,516	(²)	3,877	1,026
Delaware	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
District of Columbia	(²)	4	-	(²)	566	-	(²)	566	-
Florida	50	113	97	8,199	21,648	20,261	5,986	20,439	13,744
Georgia	21	14	20	2,285	1,384	3,228	4,594	1,612	2,437
Hawaii	3	9	6	503	4,333	504	344	2,522	867
Idaho	3	20	6	1,280	2,219	669	1,200	2,135	623
Illinois	70	110	97	13,488	26,735	17,552	12,865	26,194	12,094
Indiana	14	52	47	2,211	9,504	8,824	3,372	13,384	8,699
Iowa	4	14	8	491	1,702	1,071	614	2,280	2,904
Kansas	3	15	8	333	2,086	700	476	1,577	586
Kentucky	13	20	18	1,975	2,320	2,332	1,433	1,979	1,775
Louisiana	4	26	15	813	4,022	3,027	738	3,300	2,662
Maine	4	5	(²)	341	1,953	(²)	310	788	(²)
Maryland	12	10	(²)	1,378	1,444	(²)	1,395	1,404	(²)
Massachusetts	22	25	21	7,348	5,123	2,550	4,697	4,315	2,499
Michigan	29	75	41	5,166	13,357	5,664	8,039	27,887	6,170
Minnesota	8	22	11	1,163	3,399	2,184	1,159	2,803	1,493
Mississippi	5	12	14	796	1,296	2,302	588	1,548	1,556
Missouri	21	43	31	4,174	8,992	4,508	2,526	8,252	3,409
Montana	-	9	4	-	671	292	-	683	250
Nebraska	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	750	(²)	(²)	715	(²)
Nevada	(²)	15	22	(²)	3,359	3,324	(²)	2,550	2,904
New Hampshire	(²)	7	(²)	(²)	1,172	(²)	(²)	897	(²)
New Jersey	30	77	43	6,927	21,327	7,480	4,234	17,427	4,139
New Mexico	6	8	8	1,156	853	1,203	1,156	853	1,189
New York	135	70	62	24,583	14,492	14,310	23,233	12,901	9,848
North Carolina	6	10	14	761	4,384	1,373	1,049	2,697	1,638
North Dakota	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Ohio	28	83	49	3,882	20,134	10,121	5,577	15,110	9,299
Oklahoma	4	5	5	413	1,134	2,224	363	786	846
Oregon	12	27	19	1,813	6,541	3,317	1,695	6,775	4,179
Pennsylvania	72	97	60	6,696	10,613	8,988	14,114	20,964	9,392
Rhode Island	4	9	(²)	464	1,239	(²)	411	1,274	(²)
South Carolina	6	16	11	1,493	3,077	3,571	1,134	3,678	3,440
South Dakota	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Tennessee	9	20	31	1,008	3,941	2,910	1,204	3,412	3,152
Texas	24	51	30	3,751	9,938	6,198	5,217	10,166	5,037
Utah	5	9	(²)	604	4,563	(²)	570	1,801	(²)
Vermont	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	737	(²)	(²)	731	(²)
Virginia	10	14	7	963	1,997	956	887	1,860	858
Washington	15	26	13	1,387	3,113	1,423	1,979	3,797	1,401
West Virginia	(²)	7	(²)	(²)	894	(²)	(²)	763	(²)
Wisconsin	11	35	13	1,414	5,901	2,123	2,787	6,194	3,148
Wyoming	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Puerto Rico	11	13	8	938	1,310	657	2,647	3,468	1,568

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^p = preliminary.

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

^r = revised.

Table 6. Information technology-producing industries: Extended mass layoff events and separations, private nonfarm sector, 2001-2008

Year	Total extended mass layoffs		Information technology-producing industries ¹							
			Computer hardware ²		Software and computer services ³		Communications equipment ⁴		Communications services ⁵	
	Layoff events	Separations	Layoff events	Separations	Layoff events	Separations	Layoff events	Separations	Layoff events	Separations
2001										
First quarter	1,546	304,171	91	20,991	32	5,558	22	4,441	13	3,317
Second quarter	1,828	430,499	161	38,986	69	9,563	36	12,109	15	3,519
Third quarter	1,629	330,391	142	24,813	45	5,724	39	8,200	21	5,350
Fourth quarter	2,372	459,771	109	17,797	50	7,667	43	10,124	38	9,889
Total	7,375	1,524,832	503	102,587	196	28,512	140	34,874	87	22,075
2002										
First quarter	1,611	299,266	84	18,574	34	3,770	32	8,192	28	4,346
Second quarter	1,624	344,606	69	11,764	39	4,326	27	4,870	34	5,643
Third quarter	1,186	255,152	76	15,017	36	4,359	34	6,529	33	5,496
Fourth quarter	1,916	373,307	74	14,298	26	5,709	19	3,645	31	7,643
Total	6,337	1,272,331	303	59,653	135	18,164	112	23,236	126	23,128
2003										
First quarter	1,502	286,947	71	11,900	27	5,097	23	4,402	26	4,513
Second quarter	1,799	368,273	54	9,221	19	2,741	21	3,098	22	4,169
Third quarter	1,190	236,333	46	6,488	24	4,189	9	1,289	8	842
Fourth quarter	1,690	325,333	25	5,080	8	1,167	9	1,619	23	5,774
Total	6,181	1,216,886	196	32,689	78	13,194	62	10,408	79	15,298
2004										
First quarter	1,339	276,503	27	3,222	13	2,786	8	894	14	2,832
Second quarter	1,358	278,831	18	2,959	15	2,775	-	-	15	3,250
Third quarter	886	164,608	13	2,288	14	1,467	4	430	11	3,792
Fourth quarter	1,427	273,967	18	3,055	10	1,547	4	563	20	3,143
Total	5,010	993,909	76	11,524	52	8,575	16	1,887	60	13,017
2005										
First quarter	1,142	186,506	13	1,526	9	2,355	4	439	12	2,400
Second quarter	1,203	246,099	20	2,973	13	1,558	4	842	7	1,331
Third quarter	1,136	201,878	23	3,307	7	1,034	(⁶)	(⁶)	3	304
Fourth quarter	1,400	250,178	19	4,122	3	720	(⁶)	(⁶)	5	845
Total	4,881	884,661	75	11,928	32	5,667	13	3,000	27	4,880
2006										
First quarter	963	183,089	12	1,159	6	744	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Second quarter	1,353	295,964	10	3,294	7	1,564	8	988	(⁶)	(⁶)
Third quarter	929	160,254	14	3,544	6	487	(⁶)	(⁶)	8	1,222
Fourth quarter	1,640	296,662	12	4,039	4	708	5	1,482	8	947
Total	4,885	935,969	48	12,036	23	3,503	19	3,753	23	3,406
2007										
First quarter	1,110	225,600	19	3,007	5	875	3	415	5	885
Second quarter	1,421	278,719	22	3,634	4	413	5	433	3	315
Third quarter	1,018	160,024	22	5,279	6	1,030	4	403	3	276
Fourth quarter	1,814	301,592	9	1,459	4	473	3	381	7	870
Total	5,363	965,935	72	13,379	19	2,791	15	1,632	18	2,346
2008										
First quarter ^f	1,340	229,858	19	3,040	9	987	3	330	3	329
Second quarter ^f	1,756	354,361	25	4,018	7	969	(⁶)	(⁶)	16	2,545
Third quarter ^p	1,330	218,158	33	5,818	19	2,835	6	1,331	8	924

¹ Information technology-producing industries are defined in *Digital Economy 2003*, (U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, 2003). In the MLS program, however, computer and software merchant wholesalers and computer and software stores are only included in the computer hardware industry.

² The industries included in this grouping, based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), are: semiconductor machinery manufacturing; office machinery manufacturing; electronic computer manufacturing; computer storage device manufacturing; computer terminal manufacturing; other computer peripheral equipment mfg.; electron tube manufacturing; bare printed circuit board manufacturing; semiconductors and related device mfg.; electronic capacitor manufacturing; electronic resistor manufacturing; electronic coils, transformers, and inductors; electronic connector manufacturing; printed circuit assembly manufacturing; other electronic component manufacturing; industrial process variable instruments; electricity and signal testing instruments; analytical laboratory instrument mfg.; computer and software merchant wholesalers; and computer and software stores.

³ The industries included in this grouping, based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), are: software publishers; internet service providers; web search portals; data processing and related services; custom computer programming

services; computer systems design services; computer facilities management services; other computer related services; office equipment rental and leasing; and computer and office machine repair.

⁴ The industries included in this grouping, based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), are: telephone apparatus manufacturing; audio and video equipment manufacturing; broadcast and wireless communications equip.; fiber optic cable manufacturing; software reproducing; and magnetic and optical recording media mfg.

⁵ The industries included in this grouping, based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), are: wired telecommunications carriers; cellular and other wireless carriers; telecommunications resellers; cable and other program distribution; satellite telecommunications; other telecommunications; and communication equipment repair.

⁶ Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^f = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 7. Industry distribution: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2007 and 2008

Industry	Layoff events			Separations		
	III 2007	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	63	71	82	12,367	12,315	14,613
Mining	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Manufacturing	45	49	55	8,955	7,697	10,983
Food	(²)	5	4	(²)	1,025	1,302
Beverage and tobacco products	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Textile mills	5	-	3	1,505	-	314
Textile product mills ³	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Apparel ³	5	3	(²)	660	599	(²)
Leather and allied products	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Wood products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper	-	3	3	-	256	391
Printing and related support activities	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Petroleum and coal products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chemicals	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Plastics and rubber products ³	5	(²)	3	595	(²)	292
Nonmetallic mineral products	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Primary metals	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Fabricated metal products	3	3	(²)	462	338	(²)
Machinery ³	3	4	4	565	539	776
Computer and electronic products	3	4	9	1,924	408	1,527
Electrical equipment and appliances	(²)	5	6	(²)	1,432	1,282
Transportation equipment ³	6	9	12	1,065	1,125	3,268
Furniture and related products ³	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Miscellaneous manufacturing ³	3	(²)	(²)	188	(²)	(²)
Wholesale trade	5	4	(²)	678	578	(²)
Retail trade	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	454	(²)
Transportation and warehousing	(²)	3	4	(²)	1,589	684
Information	-	(²)	4	-	(²)	557
Finance and insurance ³	7	(²)	8	1,612	(²)	938
Real estate and rental and leasing ³	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional and technical services ³	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Management of companies and enterprises	-	-	-	-	-	-
Administrative and waste services ³	-	5	3	-	1,206	479
Educational services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health care and social assistance	-	-	3	-	-	431
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Accommodation and food services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other services, except public administration	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

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

³ Data beginning in 2008 are not strictly comparable to prior years

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

due to a change in NAICS versions.

Table 8. Reason for layoff: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2007 and 2008

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations		
	III 2007	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	63	71	82	12,367	12,315	14,613
Business demand	17	19	(²)	3,303	4,560	(²)
Contract cancellation	(²)	–	(²)	(²)	–	(²)
Contract completion	(²)	–	–	(²)	–	–
Domestic competition	–	(²)	–	–	(²)	–
Excess inventory/saturated market	(²)	(²)	–	(²)	(²)	–
Import competition	10	(²)	(²)	2,269	(²)	(²)
Slack work/insufficient demand/non-seasonal business slowdown	(²)	9	12	(²)	2,810	3,134
Organizational changes	23	34	46	4,729	5,154	8,276
Business-ownership change	4	3	6	903	634	1,628
Reorganization or restructuring of company	19	31	40	3,826	4,520	6,648
Financial issues	18	12	18	3,763	1,689	2,509
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)	–
Hazardous work environment	–	–	–	–	–	–
Natural disaster (not weather related)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Non-natural disaster	–	–	–	–	–	–
Extreme weather-related event	–	(²)	–	–	(²)	–
Other/miscellaneous	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Other	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Data not provided: refusal	–	(²)	–	–	(²)	–
Data not provided: does not know	(²)	–	–	(²)	–	–

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 9. Census region and division: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2007 and 2008

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations		
	III 2007	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p
United States ¹	63	71	82	12,367	12,315	14,613
Northeast	9	15	14	1,400	1,839	2,236
New England	3	(²)	(²)	514	(²)	(²)
Middle Atlantic	6	(²)	(²)	886	(²)	(²)
South	29	20	11	5,298	3,404	1,968
South Atlantic	14	12	4	2,321	1,899	544
East South Central	(²)	5	3	(²)	734	362
West South Central	(²)	3	4	(²)	771	1,062
Midwest	15	22	42	2,706	3,569	8,177
East North Central	8	17	32	1,355	2,959	6,179
West North Central	7	5	10	1,351	610	1,998
West	10	14	15	2,963	3,503	2,232
Mountain	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Pacific	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(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 10. Extended mass layoff events and separations, selected measures, selected quarters, 2007 and 2008

Action	Layoff events			Separations		
	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007 ^r	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,018	1,756	1,330	160,024	354,361	218,158
Total, excluding seasonal and vacation events ²	800	1,105	1,132	119,663	198,053	179,416
Total, movement of work ³	63	71	82	12,367	12,315	14,613
Movement of work actions	87	100	104	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)
With separations reported	60	78	76	7,159	7,346	9,265
With separations unknown	27	22	28	(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.^r = revised.^p = preliminary.

Table 11. Movement of work actions by type of separation where number of separations is known by employers, selected quarters, 2007 and 2008

Activities	Actions ¹			Separations		
	III 2007	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p	III 2007	II 2008 ^r	III 2008 ^p
With separations reported ²	60	78	76	7,159	7,346	9,265
By location						
Out-of-country relocations	21	25	19	3,187	3,159	2,211
Within company	11	23	17	1,504	2,935	2,034
Different company	10	2	2	1,683	224	177
Domestic relocations	38	52	57	3,793	3,912	7,054
Within company	34	47	48	3,396	3,694	6,257
Different company	4	5	9	397	218	797
Unable to assign place of relocation	1	1	–	179	275	–
By company						
Within company	46	70	65	5,079	6,629	8,291
Domestic	34	47	48	3,396	3,694	6,257
Out of country	11	23	17	1,504	2,935	2,034
Unable to assign	1	–	–	179	–	–
Different company	14	8	11	2,080	717	974
Domestic	4	5	9	397	218	797
Out of country	10	2	2	1,683	224	177
Unable to assign	–	1	–	–	275	–

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

² See footnote 1, table 1.

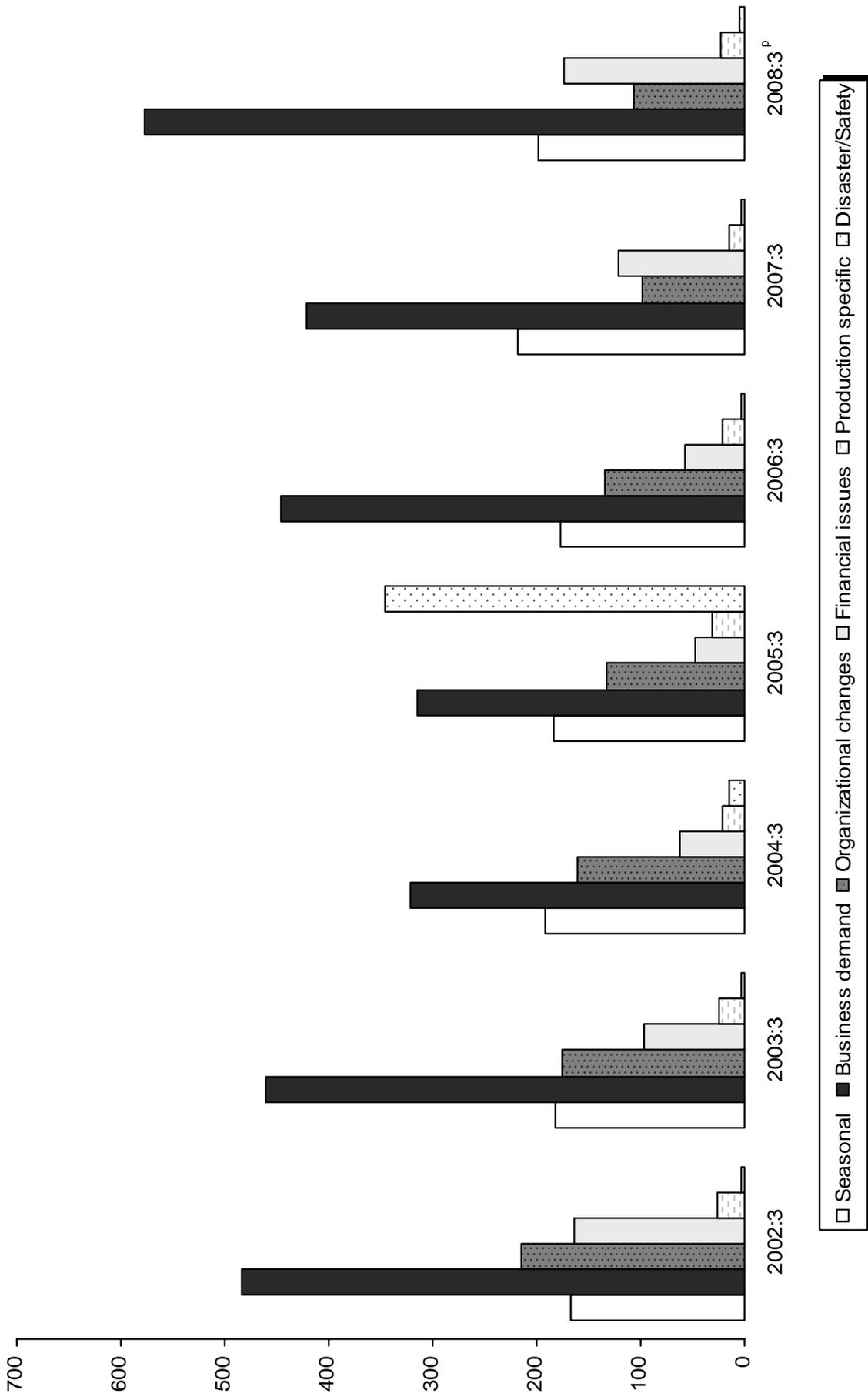
^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Extended Mass Layoff Events by Reason Categories¹

Third quarters, 2002-08



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

P = preliminary.