

For release 10:00 a.m. (EDT) Wednesday, May 16, 2012

USDL-12-0955

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EXTENDED MASS LAYOFFS — FIRST QUARTER 2012

Employers in the private nonfarm sector initiated 1,077 mass layoff events in the first quarter of 2012 that resulted in the separation of 182,101 workers from their jobs for at least 31 days, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Over the year, total extended mass layoff events and associated worker separations were down from 1,490 and 225,456, respectively. (See table A.) Total events reached their lowest first quarter levels since 2006, while manufacturing sector events and separations declined to their lowest levels in program history (with data available back to 1995.) First quarter 2012 layoff data are preliminary and are subject to revision. (See the Technical Note.)

Industry Distribution of Extended Layoffs

Over the year ending in the first quarter of 2012, the number of private nonfarm extended mass layoff events declined in 16 of the 18 major industry sectors. The manufacturing and the construction sectors experienced the largest declines in the numbers of worker separations over the year. Fourteen of the 21 manufacturing subsectors experienced over-the-year decreases in the number of layoff events. (See table 1.)

Events and separations in the manufacturing sector declined to their lowest levels in program history (210 and 28,393, respectively). Thirty-six percent of manufacturing employers with an extended mass layoff event in the first quarter of 2012 anticipated recalling at least some of the displaced workers. The construction sector had 225 extended mass layoff events and 26,795 separations, primarily due to contract completion. This sector accounted for 21 percent of the layoff events and 15 percent of the related separations during the first quarter of 2012.

Reasons for Extended Layoffs

Business demand factors, primarily contract completion, accounted for 39 percent of the events and 44 percent of related separations in the private nonfarm sector during the first quarter of 2012. Layoffs due to the completion of seasonal work accounted for 28 percent of extended mass layoff events and 24 percent of related separations during the quarter. (See table 2 and the chart.)

Movement of Work

In the first quarter of 2012, 29 extended mass layoffs involved movement of work and were associated with 3,726 worker separations, a program low for both figures. Sixty-two percent of the events related to movement of work were from manufacturing industries. Employers cited organizational changes as the

Table A. Selected measures of extended mass layoff activity

Period	Layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants
2008			
January-March.....	1,340	230,098	259,292
April-June.....	1,756	354,713	339,630
July-September.....	1,581	290,453	304,340
October-December.....	3,582	641,714	766,780
2009			
January-March.....	3,979	705,141	835,551
April-June.....	3,395	651,318	731,049
July-September.....	2,034	345,531	406,823
October-December.....	2,416	406,212	468,577
2010			
January-March.....	1,870	314,512	368,664
April-June.....	2,008	381,622	396,441
July-September.....	1,370	222,357	260,077
October-December.....	1,999	338,643	390,584
2011			
January-March.....	1,490	225,456	258,220
April-June ^r	1,810	317,546	342,530
July-September ^r	1,393	235,325	290,898
October-December ^r	1,904	334,843	401,942
2012			
January-March ^p	1,077	182,101	150,990

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

economic reason for layoff in 52 percent of the events involving movement of work. Among workers affected by the movement of work, the largest proportions were in the West. (See tables 6-8.)

The 29 events with movement of work for the first quarter involved 41 identifiable relocations of work actions. (See table 9.) Employers were able to provide information on the specific number of worker separations for 33 of these actions. Among these actions, most were domestic reassignments and involved work moving within the same company. (See table 10.)

Recall Expectations

Forty-nine percent of the private nonfarm employers reporting an extended mass layoff in the first quarter of 2012 indicated they anticipated some type of recall. Of those employers expecting to recall workers, 22 percent indicated the offer would be extended to all displaced employees and 64 percent anticipated extending the offer to at least half of the workers. Among employers expecting to recall laid-off workers, 57 percent intend to do so within six months. Excluding extended mass layoff events due to seasonal work and vacation period, in which 86 percent of the employers expected a recall, employers anticipated recalling laid-off workers in 35 percent of the events. (See table 11.)

Table B. Metropolitan areas with the largest number of initial claimants associated with extended mass layoff events in the first quarter 2012, by residency of claimants

Metropolitan area	2011 I ^r		2012 I ^p	
	Initial claimants	Rank	Initial claimants	Rank
Total, 372 metropolitan areas	210,444	...	126,315	...
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif. ...	29,144	1	24,286	1
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa.	17,904	2	11,025	2
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.	10,574	3	6,120	3
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, Calif.	7,893	5	6,015	4
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, Calif.	8,299	4	4,960	5
San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, Calif.	6,865	6	3,485	6
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Pa. -N.J.-Del.-Md.	3,704	9	2,396	7
Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Mich.	1,133	37	2,267	8
Sacramento--Arden-Arcade--Roseville, Calif.	3,913	8	2,259	9
Las Vegas-Paradise, Nev.	566	64	2,139	10

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

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

Size of Extended Layoffs

The average size of a layoff (as measured by the number of separations per layoff event) was 169 workers during the first quarter of 2012. (See table 12.) Events were largely concentrated at the lower end of the extended layoff-size spectrum, with 69 percent involving fewer than 150 workers. Conversely, only 5 percent of layoff events involved 500 or more workers. (See table 13.)

Initial Claimant Characteristics

A total of 150,990 initial claimants for unemployment insurance were associated with extended mass layoffs in the first quarter. Of these claimants, 13 percent were black, 20 percent were Hispanic, 38 percent were women, and 21 percent were 55 years of age or older. (See table 3.) In the entire civilian labor force for the same period, 12 percent of all persons were black, 16 percent were Hispanic, 47 percent were women, and 21 percent were 55 years of age or older.

Geographic Distribution

Among the four census regions, the West recorded the highest number of extended mass layoff events in the first quarter of 2012. Among the nine census divisions, the highest number of mass layoff events was in the Pacific. All regions and 8 of the 9 divisions registered fewer extended mass layoff events compared with the first quarter of 2011. (See table 4.)

California recorded the largest number of extended mass layoff events in the first quarter of 2012, followed by New York, Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Over the year, 33 states reported decreased numbers of extended mass layoff events for the first quarter. The largest declines were in California, Florida, and Pennsylvania. (See table 5.)

Eighty-four percent of the initial claimants for unemployment insurance associated with extended mass layoff events in the first quarter of 2012 resided within metropolitan areas. Among the 372 metropolitan areas, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif., reported the highest number of resident initial claimants. (See table B.)

Note

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

The Mass Layoffs news release for April is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, May 22, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Technical Note

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

Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Revisions to preliminary data

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

Movement of work concepts and questions

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

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

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

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

A “yes” response to either question is followed by: “Is the location inside or outside of the U.S.?” and “How many of the layoffs were a result of this relocation?”

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

Reliability of the data

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

With one exception, all employers in the private nonfarm sector identified as having a mass layoff based on administrative data are asked the interview questions. These employer responses are also subject to nonsampling error. Nonsampling errors 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.

Beginning with first quarter 2012 data, employers in California identified as having mass layoff events from the administrative and support services (NAICS 561) industry subsector are randomly selected to participate in the employer interview. Sampling weights are applied to data collected from these employer interviews, which represent responses for those employers not selected for employer contact. These data are subject to sampling errors which can result from the variation that occurs by chance because a sample is surveyed rather than the entire universe of NAICS 561 employers in California identified as having layoff events.

For the first quarter of 2012, outright refusal to participate in the employer interview accounted for 5.4 percent of all private nonfarm extended mass layoff events. Although included in the total number of instances involving the movement of work, employers in eight relocations were unable to provide the number of separations specifically associated with the movement of work.

Additional information

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

Table 1. Industry distribution: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Industry	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,490	1,904	1,077	225,456	334,843	182,101	258,220	401,942	150,990
Mining	11	26	13	952	3,358	1,404	1,229	3,824	1,126
Utilities	5	(²)	3	502	(²)	416	555	(²)	577
Construction	348	576	225	38,478	74,008	26,795	49,436	88,232	25,662
Manufacturing	305	366	210	45,511	67,531	28,393	50,609	71,039	25,309
Food	72	94	46	13,585	19,028	6,591	13,307	18,497	6,626
Beverage and tobacco products	7	11	3	950	1,829	485	1,195	2,633	189
Textile mills	3	8	4	248	4,413	380	1,509	4,450	363
Textile product mills	(²)	4	3	(²)	1,174	435	(²)	1,562	400
Apparel	4	6	6	1,911	989	1,330	1,953	1,496	1,273
Leather and allied products	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Wood products	14	14	12	1,771	2,561	1,626	2,357	3,307	1,160
Paper	13	14	7	1,541	3,039	765	1,357	2,317	648
Printing and related support activities	10	11	6	1,520	1,406	1,019	1,593	1,919	892
Petroleum and coal products	4	15	4	418	1,868	810	450	2,331	314
Chemicals	17	8	8	2,527	1,788	1,046	2,424	1,839	886
Plastics and rubber products	9	13	9	924	2,409	905	904	2,341	648
Nonmetallic mineral products	35	41	19	3,248	5,549	1,904	4,125	6,025	1,925
Primary metals	10	13	(²)	988	2,090	(²)	933	2,658	(²)
Fabricated metal products	16	18	11	1,864	2,064	978	2,245	2,297	862
Machinery	17	16	10	2,054	3,639	782	2,037	4,025	1,342
Computer and electronic products	13	29	16	1,966	5,255	1,546	2,110	3,672	1,231
Electrical equipment and appliances	4	(²)	(²)	1,037	(²)	(²)	1,088	(²)	(²)
Transportation equipment	36	28	25	6,423	5,837	5,107	8,222	6,526	4,433
Furniture and related products	8	10	8	1,081	905	928	907	1,094	845
Miscellaneous manufacturing	9	9	8	1,183	1,065	1,156	1,004	1,090	871
Wholesale trade	36	25	22	4,592	3,742	2,391	4,457	3,204	1,933
Retail trade	153	96	112	29,382	24,237	25,530	35,430	29,866	22,882
Transportation and warehousing	69	37	43	15,530	5,529	7,357	14,187	5,522	4,910
Information	58	74	51	12,053	24,160	15,617	20,181	44,157	13,505
Finance and insurance	39	40	28	4,543	7,687	5,667	8,489	8,655	3,876
Real estate and rental and leasing	18	15	3	1,661	2,862	2,974	2,242	2,788	1,016
Professional and technical services	63	95	46	8,772	18,663	8,963	10,989	25,239	6,702
Management of companies and enterprises	6	6	9	713	991	1,320	585	1,194	905
Administrative and waste services	183	275	151	36,733	50,939	34,564	32,182	69,715	24,063
Educational services	8	13	4	905	1,425	304	1,101	1,933	288
Health care and social assistance	39	38	25	4,460	6,421	3,543	5,035	5,808	2,742
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	53	69	40	6,241	11,944	4,912	7,110	11,186	4,667
Accommodation and food services	83	133	77	12,853	28,046	10,417	12,739	26,050	9,340
Other services, except public administration	13	17	10	1,575	2,705	1,121	1,664	2,898	1,096
Unclassified	-	(²)	5	-	(²)	413	-	(²)	391

¹ For the first quarter of 2012, data on layoffs were reported by employers in all states and the District of Columbia.

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

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 2. Reason for layoff: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,490	1,904	1,077	225,456	334,843	182,101	258,220	401,942	150,990
Business demand	564	634	423	77,265	111,350	79,615	102,028	171,283	64,975
Contract cancellation	30	22	17	5,591	3,598	3,502	5,916	4,984	2,167
Contract completion	271	428	273	43,563	80,896	57,682	58,530	132,960	45,717
Domestic competition	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Excess inventory/saturated market	4	(²)	(²)	434	(²)	(²)	329	(²)	(²)
Import competition	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Slack work/insufficient demand/non-seasonal business slowdown	256	181	129	26,926	26,419	16,831	36,544	32,956	15,924
Organizational changes	94	73	62	13,280	14,462	12,584	15,323	13,401	8,368
Business-ownership change	22	18	14	2,679	3,806	3,780	2,015	2,995	1,218
Reorganization or restructuring of company	72	55	48	10,601	10,656	8,804	13,308	10,406	7,150
Financial issues	120	76	98	27,618	13,631	18,433	23,825	15,760	12,464
Bankruptcy	14	15	12	4,114	3,975	1,626	2,120	2,199	1,072
Cost control/cost cutting/increase profitability	73	33	46	11,217	5,630	8,864	15,719	6,733	6,630
Financial difficulty	33	28	40	12,287	4,026	7,943	5,986	6,828	4,762
Production specific	24	(²)	14	3,517	(²)	2,097	3,758	(²)	1,873
Automation/technological advances	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Energy related	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Governmental regulations/intervention	6	(²)	3	429	(²)	528	538	(²)	388
Labor dispute/contract negotiations/strike	4	(²)	(²)	761	(²)	(²)	608	(²)	(²)
Material or supply shortage	4	(²)	(²)	603	(²)	(²)	470	(²)	(²)
Model changeover	3	4	(²)	990	820	(²)	1,319	696	(²)
Plant or machine repair/maintenance	4	4	3	400	2,054	265	523	1,408	329
Product line discontinued	(²)	6	(²)	(²)	1,749	(²)	(²)	1,408	(²)
Disaster/safety	7	(²)	3	1,056	(²)	518	1,107	(²)	431
Hazardous work environment	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Natural disaster (not weather related)	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Non-natural disaster	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Extreme weather-related event	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Seasonal	391	818	297	55,465	135,811	44,102	65,101	142,458	39,367
Seasonal	387	811	297	55,201	134,900	44,102	64,587	140,678	39,367
Vacation period-school related or otherwise	4	7	-	264	911	-	514	1,780	-
Other/miscellaneous	290	279	180	47,255	52,669	24,752	47,078	53,288	23,512
Other	29	22	18	3,315	2,816	4,064	3,264	3,545	3,281
Data not provided: refusal	72	75	59	12,829	17,887	7,550	12,829	17,806	7,546
Data not provided: does not know	189	182	103	31,111	31,966	13,138	30,985	31,937	12,685

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

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

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 3. State and selected claimant characteristics: Extended mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, fourth quarter, 2011 and first quarter, 2012

State	Layoff events		Total initial claimants		Percent of total							
	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^P	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^P	Black		Hispanic origin		Women		Persons age 55 and over	
					IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^P						
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,904	1,077	401,942	150,990	11.6	13.0	21.0	19.6	32.3	37.6	18.5	20.5
Alabama	4	(²)	1,975	(²)	41.0	38.2	1.4	8.4	44.9	52.8	15.1	22.1
Alaska	14	3	2,627	258	4.9	8.1	11.2	4.3	22.3	40.7	20.3	12.0
Arizona	15	12	3,159	1,108	11.4	7.6	32.2	37.9	45.6	41.2	13.9	18.0
Arkansas	13	4	2,227	1,168	35.4	17.7	7.5	2.6	43.6	41.2	16.1	26.6
California	512	308	145,633	55,085	7.1	7.8	34.5	33.5	37.3	39.6	16.2	18.1
Colorado	19	8	2,326	1,158	4.1	5.9	42.5	47.5	18.0	24.3	21.5	25.3
Connecticut	6	7	689	666	15.5	11.4	19.4	8.3	48.8	31.5	28.0	35.0
Delaware	4	3	572	339	30.8	36.0	7.0	4.1	39.5	65.2	26.4	25.1
District of Columbia	3	3	543	234	64.1	72.6	11.6	7.3	42.5	61.5	18.0	25.2
Florida	35	18	4,640	2,199	22.9	24.4	25.8	28.1	42.8	45.2	23.7	25.4
Georgia	33	17	9,126	2,292	34.5	52.4	8.6	.5	36.8	31.7	19.6	17.8
Hawaii	4	(²)	842	(²)	1.2	.9	10.1	19.6	49.6	3.4	21.0	7.2
Idaho	18	5	2,602	501	.2	.2	9.9	13.4	25.7	37.9	19.9	24.4
Illinois	156	75	25,674	9,632	12.9	20.6	22.1	14.7	24.5	36.0	16.2	17.8
Indiana	29	18	5,695	2,063	6.9	9.0	4.6	2.6	17.6	30.7	17.2	19.6
Iowa	12	-	3,313	-	3.4	-	6.4	-	21.8	-	24.0	-
Kansas	5	5	660	486	3.3	14.8	14.1	1.2	29.7	46.3	23.8	12.1
Kentucky	31	28	3,326	3,057	6.9	17.4	.1	.1	19.0	35.8	18.5	14.6
Louisiana	22	10	3,330	1,460	42.0	43.4	5.3	6.2	22.2	42.6	24.4	27.4
Maine	10	6	1,310	737	.6	5.0	.3	.5	29.7	42.2	25.3	26.5
Maryland	15	4	2,229	391	41.9	35.8	1.7	2.3	28.9	2.6	30.0	30.4
Massachusetts	17	19	2,201	2,346	11.1	12.2	1.5	.9	42.9	37.7	25.2	18.0
Michigan	55	29	8,794	4,609	9.2	17.4	9.5	2.5	22.3	38.6	16.0	25.2
Minnesota	68	18	10,397	1,897	4.4	2.5	8.1	3.7	15.6	28.4	19.1	21.8
Mississippi	9	8	857	787	55.9	61.5	4.0	2.9	28.0	46.0	16.3	29.1
Missouri	34	21	5,508	1,588	10.9	12.5	1.6	3.0	35.2	39.1	25.9	20.8
Montana	13	(²)	1,350	(²)	.2	-	3.9	4.1	13.6	6.5	21.7	37.4
Nebraska	7	(²)	805	(²)	4.2	9.2	16.1	18.4	17.0	42.1	26.1	19.7
Nevada	34	20	7,389	2,653	9.4	9.9	32.3	29.2	45.7	41.7	21.0	21.2
New Hampshire	(²)	7	(²)	544	.7	1.1	1.7	13.6	6.6	20.6	28.7	27.2
New Jersey	54	37	9,838	4,964	16.8	21.3	11.1	4.3	41.0	44.3	22.8	21.7
New Mexico	10	6	1,154	550	1.5	.5	59.7	55.3	28.4	20.7	17.8	17.8
New York	133	86	27,228	11,941	11.2	15.0	13.9	19.1	32.9	37.4	21.2	25.0
North Carolina	28	15	5,444	1,406	45.7	22.9	7.0	8.3	36.5	30.1	21.3	23.9
North Dakota	10	(²)	1,384	(²)	.7	-	4.0	1.0	7.4	12.9	22.9	33.7
Ohio	94	62	16,179	7,036	11.0	13.9	4.5	2.9	22.3	31.1	17.4	21.4
Oklahoma	9	4	995	309	13.3	4.9	6.1	8.7	34.5	33.3	18.2	24.6
Oregon	33	20	9,257	3,378	1.5	2.5	26.6	16.2	40.3	46.9	19.4	19.4
Pennsylvania	81	60	15,908	6,864	8.6	7.3	3.6	4.3	20.0	31.8	21.2	28.2
Rhode Island	4	-	307	-	3.3	-	11.1	-	29.6	-	25.4	-
South Carolina	8	8	1,988	792	64.7	48.1	4.7	1.8	43.1	51.4	11.6	16.7
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee	24	12	3,486	1,603	12.0	16.0	.1	.1	30.1	51.7	27.6	21.5
Texas	35	26	9,662	4,003	16.8	15.0	39.2	45.4	32.5	23.9	19.4	17.4
Utah	12	5	2,019	479	1.1	2.1	14.3	14.8	10.5	15.4	16.2	10.2
Vermont	3	(²)	840	(²)	1.4	.7	.7	-	49.2	4.1	24.2	26.2
Virginia	31	15	8,055	1,678	49.0	38.6	4.7	4.1	45.7	49.8	18.2	26.5
Washington	48	23	9,510	2,857	4.2	5.1	25.9	7.7	30.8	42.5	18.8	19.2
West Virginia	4	4	710	554	.3	.2	-	-	6.3	17.7	10.6	25.5
Wisconsin	81	28	17,154	4,148	6.7	4.8	7.0	9.8	22.2	36.2	18.7	20.4
Wyoming	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	1.6	3.2	3.6	20.6	42.6	23.2	29.2	16.1
Puerto Rico	12	12	5,156	3,381	.1	.1	99.3	99.6	59.4	60.2	8.0	8.8

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 4. Census region and division: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
United States ¹	1,490	1,904	1,077	225,456	334,843	182,101	258,220	401,942	150,990
Northeast	341	311	224	46,608	38,569	30,283	56,934	58,729	28,207
New England	53	43	41	10,831	6,209	5,749	7,343	5,755	4,438
Middle Atlantic	288	268	183	35,777	32,360	24,534	49,591	52,974	23,769
South	304	308	181	46,057	53,842	29,918	51,648	59,165	22,607
South Atlantic	181	161	87	25,162	29,135	10,683	30,163	33,307	9,885
East South Central	65	68	50	10,997	10,089	10,269	10,137	9,644	5,782
West South Central	58	79	44	9,898	14,618	8,966	11,348	16,214	6,940
Midwest	323	551	258	48,474	94,348	35,889	50,187	95,563	31,636
East North Central	252	415	212	37,567	70,961	30,848	41,330	73,496	27,488
West North Central	71	136	46	10,907	23,387	5,041	8,857	22,067	4,148
West	522	734	414	84,317	148,084	86,011	99,451	188,485	68,540
Mountain	40	123	59	7,601	24,305	8,254	6,644	20,616	6,727
Pacific	482	611	355	76,716	123,779	77,757	92,807	167,869	61,813

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, 2011 and 2012

State	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,490	1,904	1,077	225,456	334,843	182,101	258,220	401,942	150,990
Alabama	10	4	(²)	2,590	1,763	(²)	2,901	1,975	(²)
Alaska	4	14	3	2,812	4,774	432	1,478	2,627	258
Arizona	12	15	12	2,291	2,823	1,684	2,783	3,159	1,108
Arkansas	3	13	4	1,442	1,856	670	392	2,227	1,168
California	420	512	308	66,824	101,452	70,778	79,215	145,633	55,085
Colorado	3	19	8	380	2,935	1,419	366	2,326	1,158
Connecticut	10	6	7	3,544	689	666	1,341	689	666
Delaware	3	4	3	493	398	200	763	572	339
District of Columbia	3	3	3	302	471	234	293	543	234
Florida	65	35	18	9,834	5,053	2,777	10,029	4,640	2,199
Georgia	22	33	17	1,770	8,538	2,292	4,129	9,126	2,292
Hawaii	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	975	(²)	(²)	842	(²)
Idaho	5	18	5	548	3,570	529	621	2,602	501
Illinois	99	156	75	15,821	24,908	11,850	15,334	25,674	9,632
Indiana	26	29	18	2,607	3,344	2,201	3,822	5,695	2,063
Iowa	7	12	-	1,421	1,071	-	1,296	3,313	-
Kansas	12	5	5	2,202	662	627	1,607	660	486
Kentucky	20	31	28	4,063	4,037	6,685	2,651	3,326	3,057
Louisiana	16	22	10	2,681	4,802	2,314	2,956	3,330	1,460
Maine	5	10	6	1,528	1,271	1,655	751	1,310	737
Maryland	26	15	4	3,182	1,728	410	2,829	2,229	391
Massachusetts	25	17	19	4,431	2,844	2,477	4,200	2,201	2,346
Michigan	29	55	29	3,351	7,415	4,779	3,916	8,794	4,609
Minnesota	21	68	18	3,105	13,023	2,495	2,844	10,397	1,897
Mississippi	13	9	8	1,569	1,015	1,189	1,735	857	787
Missouri	23	34	21	3,322	6,044	1,773	2,202	5,508	1,588
Montana	(²)	13	(²)	(²)	1,674	(²)	(²)	1,350	(²)
Nebraska	6	7	(²)	587	1,628	(²)	628	805	(²)
Nevada	5	34	20	1,650	6,546	2,641	876	7,389	2,653
New Hampshire	4	(²)	7	382	(²)	807	322	(²)	544
New Jersey	64	54	37	10,283	9,819	6,474	10,058	9,838	4,964
New Mexico	5	10	6	740	2,461	1,165	729	1,154	550
New York	122	133	86	14,498	13,400	12,008	21,178	27,228	11,941
North Carolina	22	28	15	2,509	3,062	1,253	4,958	5,444	1,406
North Dakota	(²)	10	(²)	(²)	959	(²)	(²)	1,384	(²)
Ohio	66	94	62	10,086	17,100	7,949	12,151	16,179	7,036
Oklahoma	3	9	4	359	1,247	553	273	995	309
Oregon	19	33	20	3,754	9,257	4,070	4,932	9,257	3,378
Pennsylvania	102	81	60	10,996	9,141	6,052	18,355	15,908	6,864
Rhode Island	6	4	-	555	306	-	504	307	-
South Carolina	6	8	8	1,056	2,902	876	1,018	1,988	792
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee	22	24	12	2,775	3,274	1,955	2,850	3,486	1,603
Texas	36	35	26	5,416	6,713	5,429	7,727	9,662	4,003
Utah	8	12	5	1,311	1,876	487	1,095	2,019	479
Vermont	3	3	(²)	391	804	(²)	225	840	(²)
Virginia	27	31	15	4,987	6,193	1,782	5,117	8,055	1,678
Washington	37	48	23	3,015	7,321	2,422	6,888	9,510	2,857
West Virginia	7	4	4	1,029	790	859	1,027	710	554
Wisconsin	32	81	28	5,702	18,194	4,069	6,107	17,154	4,148
Wyoming	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Puerto Rico	10	12	12	1,395	2,370	1,953	4,194	5,156	3,381

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. Industry distribution: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Industry	Layoff events			Separations		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	50	36	29	10,789	6,513	3,726
Mining	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Manufacturing	29	23	18	6,334	4,187	2,476
Food	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	431	(²)
Beverage and tobacco products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile mills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile product mills	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Apparel	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Leather and allied products	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Wood products	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Paper	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Printing and related support activities	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Petroleum and coal products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chemicals	4	-	(²)	345	-	(²)
Plastics and rubber products	(²)	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	529
Nonmetallic mineral products	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Primary metals	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)
Fabricated metal products	(²)	3	-	(²)	487	-
Machinery	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Computer and electronic products	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	610	(²)
Electrical equipment and appliances	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Transportation equipment	5	(²)	3	1,653	(²)	607
Furniture and related products	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Miscellaneous manufacturing	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Wholesale trade	3	(²)	(²)	1,422	(²)	(²)
Retail trade	6	(²)	(²)	1,327	(²)	(²)
Transportation and warehousing	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Information	3	3	(²)	510	613	(²)
Finance and insurance	-	(²)	5	-	(²)	593
Real estate and rental and leasing	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Professional and technical services	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Management of companies and enterprises	-	-	-	-	-	-
Administrative and waste services	4	3	-	447	198	-
Educational services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health care and social assistance	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accommodation and food services	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
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.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 7. Reason for layoff: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	50	36	29	10,789	6,513	3,726
Business demand	10	(²)	(²)	3,654	(²)	(²)
Contract cancellation	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Contract completion	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Domestic competition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Excess inventory/saturated market	-	-	-	-	-	-
Import competition	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Slack work/insufficient demand/non-seasonal business slowdown	5	(²)	(²)	1,341	(²)	(²)
Organizational changes	21	18	15	3,112	3,940	1,973
Business-ownership change	3	3	3	250	998	388
Reorganization or restructuring of company	18	15	12	2,862	2,942	1,585
Financial issues	12	8	9	2,890	952	1,279
Bankruptcy	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
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)	(²)	(²)
Automation/technological advances	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Energy related	-	-	-	-	-	-
Governmental regulations/intervention	-	-	-	-	-	-
Labor dispute/contract negotiations/strike	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Material or supply shortage	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Model changeover	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plant or machine repair/maintenance	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Product line discontinued	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Disaster/safety	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hazardous work environment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natural disaster (not weather related)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-natural disaster	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extreme weather-related event	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/miscellaneous	(²)	5	-	(²)	801	-
Other	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Data not provided: refusal	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Data not provided: does not know	(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: Dash represents zero.

Table 8. Census region and division: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
United States ¹	50	36	29	10,789	6,513	3,726
Northeast	15	6	7	4,332	830	764
New England	7	(²)	—	2,421	(²)	—
Middle Atlantic	8	(²)	7	1,911	(²)	764
South	14	8	7	1,610	1,207	750
South Atlantic	8	(²)	(²)	1,046	(²)	(²)
East South Central	(²)	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	433
West South Central	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	706	(²)
Midwest	13	11	6	3,022	2,201	829
East North Central	9	8	(²)	1,782	1,876	(²)
West North Central	4	3	(²)	1,240	325	(²)
West	8	11	9	1,825	2,275	1,383
Mountain	(²)	—	3	(²)	—	479
Pacific	(²)	11	6	(²)	2,275	904

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

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

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

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

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

Table 9. Extended mass layoff events and separations, selected measures, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Action	Layoff events			Separations		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,490	1,904	1,077	225,456	334,843	182,101
Total, excluding seasonal and vacation events ²	1,099	1,086	780	169,991	199,032	137,999
Total, movement of work ³	50	36	29	10,789	6,513	3,726
Movement of work actions	74	56	41	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)
With separations reported	34	26	33	5,951	2,183	2,219
With separations unknown	40	30	8	(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 10. Movement of work actions by type of separation where number of separations is known by employers, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Activities	Actions ¹			Separations		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
With separations reported ²	34	26	33	5,951	2,183	2,219
By location						
Out-of-country relocations	11	5	2	2,409	316	147
Within company	10	5	2	2,309	316	147
Different company	1	—	—	100	—	—
Domestic relocations	22	21	31	3,395	1,867	2,072
Within company	17	16	29	3,186	896	1,872
Different company	5	5	2	209	971	200
Unable to assign place of relocation	1	—	—	147	—	—
By company						
Within company	28	21	31	5,642	1,212	2,019
Domestic	17	16	29	3,186	896	1,872
Out of country	10	5	2	2,309	316	147
Unable to assign	1	—	—	147	—	—
Different company	6	5	2	309	971	200
Domestic	5	5	2	209	971	200
Out of country	1	—	—	100	—	—
Unable to assign	—	—	—	—	—	—

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

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

² See footnote 1, table 1.

Note: Dash represents zero.

Table 11. Summary of employer expectations of a recall from extended mass layoffs, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Nature of recall	Percent of total layoff events ¹			Percent of layoff events due to seasonal work and vacation period			Percent of layoff events, excluding those due to seasonal and vacation		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^p
Anticipate a recall	46.6	62.3	49.0	90.0	93.9	85.9	31.1	38.6	35.0
Timeframe									
Within 6 months	60.1	71.3	57.0	81.3	87.6	76.1	38.3	41.3	39.2
Within 3 months	42.1	30.0	40.7	52.3	29.0	49.0	31.6	31.7	33.0
Size of recall									
At least half	63.1	75.3	63.6	88.4	92.8	89.4	37.1	43.2	39.6
All workers	24.8	31.7	21.8	37.8	42.7	36.1	11.4	11.5	8.4

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

Table 12. Average number of separations in extended mass layoff events by selected measures, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2011 and 2012

Measure	Average number of separations		
	I 2011	IV 2011 ^r	I 2012 ^P
Total, private nonfarm ¹	151	176	169
Industry			
Mining	87	129	108
Utilities	100	263	139
Construction	111	128	119
Manufacturing	149	185	135
Wholesale trade	128	150	109
Retail trade	192	252	228
Transportation and warehousing	225	149	171
Information	208	326	306
Finance and insurance	116	192	202
Real estate and rental and leasing	92	191	991
Professional and technical services	139	196	195
Management of companies and enterprises	119	165	147
Administrative and waste services	201	185	229
Educational services	113	110	76
Health care and social assistance	114	169	142
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	118	173	123
Accommodation and food services	155	211	135
Other services, except public administration	121	159	112
Unclassified establishments	–	70	83
Reason for layoff groupings			
Business demand	137	176	188
Organizational changes	141	198	203
Financial issues	230	179	188
Production specific	147	311	150
Disaster/Safety	151	175	173
Seasonal	142	166	148
Other/miscellaneous	163	189	138

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^P = preliminary.

^r = revised.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

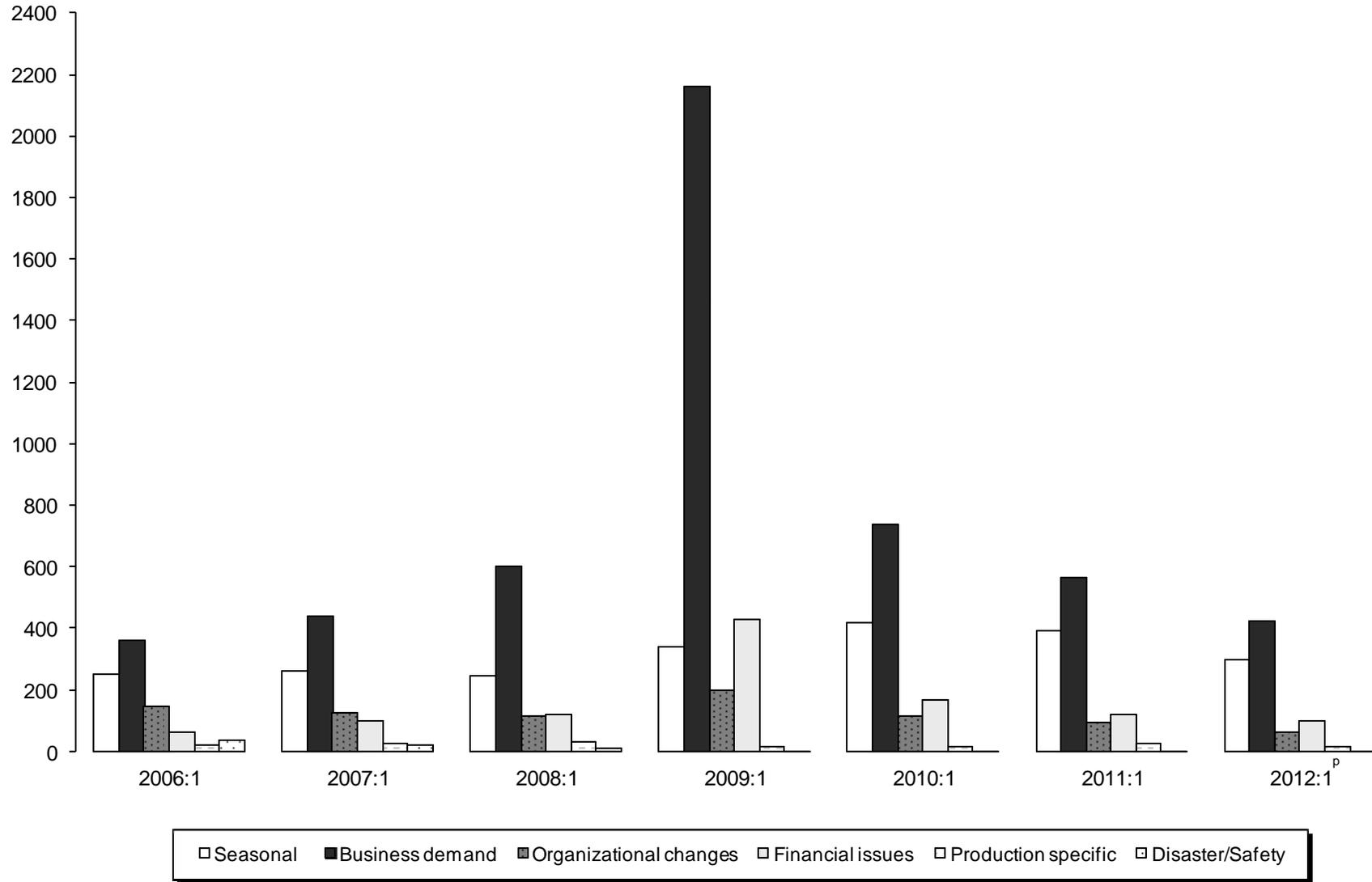
Table 13. Distribution of extended layoff events by size of layoff, private nonfarm sector, first quarter 2012^P

Size	Layoff events		Separations	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,077	100.0	182,101	100.0
50-99	481	44.7	34,426	18.9
100-149	265	24.6	31,011	17.0
150-199	117	10.9	19,574	10.7
200-299	107	9.9	25,142	13.8
300-499	51	4.7	18,924	10.4
500-999	39	3.6	24,682	13.6
1,000 or more	17	1.6	28,342	15.6

^P = preliminary.

Extended Mass Layoff Events by Reason Categories¹

First quarters, 2006-12



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

^p = preliminary.