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(Separations figure in table G for 1999 was corrected on Friday, February 16, 2007.)

EXTENDED MASS LAYOFFS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2006 AND ANNUAL TOTALS FOR 2006

In the fourth quarter of 2006, there were 1,444 mass layoff events that resulted in the separation of 255,886 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. Both the total number of layoff events and the number of separations were higher than during the October-December 2005 time period. (See table A.) The over-the-year increases in layoffs were most notable in transportation equipment manufacturing, insurance carriers and related activities, and food and beverage stores. Fifty-seven percent of all employers reporting an extended layoff in the fourth quarter of 2006 indicated they would recall some number of workers. This was the lowest proportion of employers expecting to recall workers for any fourth quarter since 2002. Extended mass layoffs that involve the movement of work within the same company or to a different company, either domestically or outside the U.S., occurred in 7 percent of the nonseasonal layoff events, accounting for 10 percent of worker separations related to nonseasonal events. (See table B.)

The completion of seasonal work accounted for 42 percent of all events and resulted in 114,978 separations during the period—the lowest level of private nonfarm seasonal separations for any fourth quarter since 1999. Layoffs due to internal company restructuring (bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial

Upcoming Changes to Mass Layoff Data

Beginning with data published for the first quarter of 2007, the collection and presentation of data on economic reasons for extended mass layoffs will be improved. Clearer definitions and titles for many of the current reasons will be introduced, and four new reasons will be added. Moreover, seven higher-level categories—business demand, disaster/safety, financial, organizational, production, seasonal, and other/miscellaneous—will be used to aggregate and report the detailed economic reasons for layoff.

For additional information on the changes to the MLS reasons, including detailed definitions of each reason and a crosswalk of the old to the new reasons, please see <http://www.bls.gov/mls/home.htm> or call (202) 691-6392.

Table A. Selected measures of extended mass layoff activity

Period	Layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants
2002			
January-March	1,611	299,266	292,998
April-June	1,624	344,606	299,598
July-September	1,186	255,152	254,955
October-December	1,916	373,307	370,592
2003			
January-March	1,502	286,947	297,608
April-June	1,799	368,273	348,966
July-September	1,190	236,333	227,909
October-December	1,690	325,333	326,328
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 ^r ...	1,400	250,178	246,188
2006			
January-March ^r	963	183,089	193,102
April-June ^r	1,353	295,623	264,494
July-September ^r	929	160,141	160,813
October-December ^p ...	1,444	255,886	217,742

r = revised.

p = preliminary.

difficulty, and reorganization) represented 13 percent of events and resulted in 45,954 separations; a year earlier, separations totaled 33,251. Permanent closure of worksites occurred in 10 percent of all events and affected 40,391 workers, the highest number of separations due to permanent closures for any fourth quarter since 2002.

In the fourth quarter of 2006, the national unemployment rate was 4.2 percent, not seasonally adjusted; a year earlier it was 4.7 percent. Private nonfarm payroll employment, not seasonally adjusted, increased by 1.8 percent, or about 2 million jobs, from the October-December 2005 period to the October-December 2006 period.

For all of 2006, the total number of extended mass layoff events was 4,689, and the total number of worker separations was 894,739. While the annual total of layoff events was lower in 2006 than in 2005, the number of separations was slightly higher. Additional information on the annual data is available starting on page 9 of this release.

Table B. Extended mass layoff events and separations, selected measures, fourth quarter 2006^p

Action	Layoff events	Separations
Total, private nonfarm	1,444	255,886
Total, excluding seasonal and vacation events ¹	827	140,096
Total events with movement of work ²	59	14,197
Movement of work actions	79	(³)
With separations reported	61	9,692
With separations unknown.....	18	(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.

Industry Distribution of Extended Layoffs

In the fourth quarter of 2006, extended mass layoff separations occurred in 351 of the 1,105 detailed industries for which data are available. Manufacturing industries accounted for 29 percent of private nonfarm layoff events and 32 percent of separations during October-December 2006. (See table 1.) The proportion of manufacturing events and separations were slightly higher when compared with fourth quarter 2005. In the fourth quarter of 2006, the highest number of separations in the manufacturing sector was in transportation equipment manufacturing (22,040, mostly associated with motor vehicles). The next highest number of separations was in food manufacturing (16,827).

The construction sector had 36 percent of the extended layoff events and 25 percent of the separations, mostly in heavy and civil engineering construction and in specialty trade contractors. Layoffs in the administrative and waste services sector comprised 10 percent of events and 9 percent of separations, mostly in landscaping services and in temporary help services. Retail trade accounted for 5 percent of private nonfarm layoff events and 9 percent of separations, primarily in nonstore retailers. Cutbacks in the accommodation and food services industry accounted for 4 percent of events and 7 percent of separations and were concentrated in hotels and motels, except casino hotels.

Information technology-producing industries (communications equipment, communications services, computer hardware, and software and computer services) accounted for 2 percent of layoff events and 6,437 worker separations in the fourth quarter of 2006. (See table 6.) A year earlier, these industries accounted for 3 percent of layoff events and 7,222 separations. Layoffs in the information technology-producing industries in the fourth quarter of 2006 were most numerous in computer hardware, with 3,703 separations, followed by communications equipment, with 1,467 separations.

Table C. Movement of work actions by type of separation where the number of separations is known by employers, fourth quarter 2006^P

Activities	Actions ¹	Separations
With separations reported	61	9,692
By location		
Out-of-country relocations	25	5,281
Within company	22	5,126
Different company	3	155
Domestic relocations	36	4,411
Within company	32	4,024
Different company	4	387
By company		
Within company	54	9,150
Domestic	32	4,024
Out of country	22	5,126
Different company	7	542
Domestic	4	387
Out of country	3	155

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

^P = preliminary.

Reasons for Extended Layoff

Layoffs due to the completion of seasonal work accounted for 42 percent of the extended layoff events and resulted in 114,978 separations in the fourth quarter of 2006. (See table 2.) Seasonal layoffs were most numerous among workers in heavy and civil engineering construction (highway, street, and bridge construction) and in food manufacturing (fruit and vegetable canning).

Contract completion accounted for 20 percent of events and resulted in 34,880 separations during the fourth quarter. These layoffs were primarily in administrative and support services, followed by specialty trade contractors.

Internal company restructuring (due to bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial difficulty, and reorganization) accounted for 13 percent of layoff events and resulted in 45,954 separations. These layoffs were mostly among workers in food and beverage stores, transportation equipment manufacturing, and insurance carriers and related activities. Over half of both the internal company restructuring layoff events and separations were due to reorganization within the company.

Table D. Summary of employer expectations of a recall from extended layoff, fourth quarter 2005-fourth quarter 2006

Nature of the recall	Percentage of events				
	IV 2005	I 2006	II 2006	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
Anticipate a recall	68.9	43.1	59.6	42.4	56.7
Timeframe					
Within 6 months	90.0	83.9	90.1	88.3	89.3
Within 3 months	37.1	55.2	62.0	68.8	36.8
Size					
At least half	92.6	88.0	93.7	90.6	93.4
All workers	50.5	38.1	52.2	45.7	53.1

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

Movement of Work

Between October and December of 2006, 59 extended mass layoff events involved the movement of work; this was about 7 percent of total extended mass layoff events, excluding those for seasonal and vacation reasons. (See table B.) These movements of work were to other U.S. locations or to locations outside of the U.S., and they occurred either within the same company or to other companies. The extended mass layoff events involving movement of work were associated with the separation of 14,197 workers, about 10 percent of all separations resulting from nonseasonal/nonvacation mass layoff events. A year earlier, there were 65 layoff events and 12,051 separations associated with the movement of work. (See table 10.)

Among the 59 extended mass layoff events with reported relocation of work, just over two-thirds (68 percent) were permanent closures of worksites, which affected 10,029 workers. In comparison, 10 percent of the total extended mass layoff events reported for the fourth quarter of 2006 involved the permanent closure of worksites.

Of the layoffs involving the movement of work, 71 percent of the events and 81 percent of the laid-off workers were from manufacturing industries during the fourth quarter. (See table 7.) Among all private nonfarm extended layoffs, manufacturing accounted for 29 percent of the events and 32 percent of separations.

Internal company restructuring (bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial difficulty, and reorganization) accounted for 73 percent of layoff events associated with work relocation and resulted in 8,759 separations during the fourth quarter. (See table 8.) Most of these were due to reorganization within the company. Thirteen percent of the extended mass layoff events in the total private nonfarm economy were due to internal company restructuring.

Table E. Distribution of extended layoff events by size of layoff, October-December 2006^p

Size	Layoff events		Separations	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,444	100.0	255,886	100.0
50-99	614	42.5	43,022	16.8
100-149	340	23.5	39,961	15.6
150-199	158	10.9	26,022	10.2
200-299	193	13.4	44,162	17.3
300-499	80	5.5	28,872	11.3
500-999	33	2.3	22,826	8.9
1,000 or more..	26	1.8	51,021	19.9

p = preliminary.

Among the regions, the Midwest accounted for the largest proportion of workers affected by extended mass layoffs associated with the movement of work (37 percent), followed by the South (35 percent), the West (18 percent), and the Northeast (10 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 establishment 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 59 extended layoff events with movement of work for the fourth quarter of 2006 involved 79 identifiable relocations of work. (See table B.) 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 79 relocations, employers were able to provide information on the specific number of separations associated with the movement of work component of the layoff in 61 actions involving 9,692 workers. Thus, a range of 9,692 (separations in movement of work actions where the employer was able to provide specific detail) to 14,197 (total separations in all layoff events that included movement of work) is established for separations due to the movement of work in the fourth quarter. (See table 10.)

In the 61 actions where employers were able to provide more complete separations information, 89 percent of relocations (54 out of 61) occurred among establishments within the same company. (See table C.) In 59 percent of these relocations (32 out of 54), the work activities were reassigned to places elsewhere in the U.S.

Forty-one percent of the movement-of-work relocations involved out-of-country moves (25 out of 61). The separation of 5,281 workers was associated with out-of-country relocations, 4 percent of all nonseasonal/nonvacation extended mass layoff separations. Domestic relocation of work—both within the company and to other companies—affected 4,411 workers. (See table 11.)

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

Metropolitan area	Events		Separations	
	IV 2005 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
Total, nonmetropolitan areas	223	215	35,066	30,654
Total, 367 metropolitan areas	803	796	135,460	144,849
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.	86	91	16,034	14,916
Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Mich.	44	45	5,850	12,224
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif. ..	6	71	883	10,498
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, Minn.-Wis.	42	41	6,099	6,565
St. Louis, Mo.-Ill.	14	13	5,514	4,964
Sandusky, Ohio	3	(¹)	1,385	(¹)
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa.	78	34	10,571	3,946
Medford, Ore.	(¹)	3	(¹)	3,680
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, Calif.	(¹)	14	(¹)	3,282
Sacramento—Arden-Arcade—Roseville, Calif.	4	15	467	3,068

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 06-01, December 5, 2005.

Recall Expectations

Fifty-seven percent of employers reporting an extended layoff in the fourth quarter of 2006 indicated they anticipated some type of recall. This compares with 69 percent of the employers anticipating a recall a year earlier and is the lowest such proportion for the fourth quarter since 2002. (See table D.) The fourth quarter typically has the highest recall expectations for any quarter of the year.

Among establishments expecting a recall, most employers expected to recall over one-half of the separated employees and to do so within 6 months. Fifty-three percent of the employers expected to extend the offer to all laid-off workers.

Excluding layoff events due to seasonal work and vacation period (in which 96 percent of the employers expected a recall), employers expected to recall laid-off workers in 27 percent of the events. A year earlier, 34 percent of employers expected a recall in nonseasonal and nonvacation events. In layoff events due to internal company restructuring, employers anticipated a recall in only 4 percent of the events.

Size of Extended Layoff

Layoff events during the fourth quarter continued to be concentrated at the lower end of the extended layoff-size spectrum, with 66 percent involving fewer than 150 workers. These events, however, accounted

Table G. Selected measures of mass layoff activity, 1996-2006

Period	Layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants
1996	4,760	948,122	805,810
1997	4,671	947,843	879,831
1998	4,859	991,245	1,056,462
1999	4,556	901,451	796,917
2000	4,591	915,962	846,267
2001	7,375	1,524,832	1,457,512
2002	6,337	1,272,331	1,218,143
2003	6,181	1,216,886	1,200,811
2004	5,010	993,909	903,079
2005 ^r	4,881	884,661	834,533
2006 ^p	4,689	894,739	836,151

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

for only 32 percent of all separations. (See table E.) Separations involving 500 or more workers, while comprising 4 percent of the events, accounted for 29 percent of all separations, up from 22 percent in October-December 2005. The average size of layoffs (as measured by separations per layoff event) differed widely by industry, ranging from a low of 63 separations in motion picture and sound recordings industries to a high of 687 in nonstore retailers.

Initial Claimant Characteristics

A total of 217,742 initial claimants for unemployment insurance were associated with extended mass layoffs in the fourth quarter of 2006. Of these claimants, 13 percent were black, 16 percent were Hispanic, 29 percent were women, 37 percent were 30 to 44 years of age, and 16 percent were 55 years of age or older. (See table 3.) Among persons in the civilian labor force for the same period, 11 percent were black, 14 percent were Hispanic, 46 percent were women, 34 percent were age 30 to 44, and 17 percent were 55 years of age or older.

Geographic Distribution

In the fourth quarter, the number of separations due to extended mass layoff events was highest in the Midwest (123,454), followed by the West (64,929), the South (34,288), and the Northeast (33,215). (See table 4.) Extended mass layoffs in the Midwest were mainly in heavy and civil engineering construction and in transportation equipment manufacturing.

Two of the four regions reported over-the-year increases in separations, with the largest increase occurring in the West (+24,371), followed by the Midwest (+2,782). The South had the largest over-the-year decline (-13,610) in worker separations. Three of the nine geographic divisions reported over-the-year increases in laid-off workers, with the largest increases occurring in the Pacific (+24,244) and East North Central (+12,434) divisions. The West North Central division reported the largest decrease in separations (-9,652).

Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, the largest number of worker separations occurred in California (38,938), followed by Illinois (33,328), Michigan (24,403), and Ohio (22,529). These four states

accounted for 46 percent of total layoff events and 47 percent of separations during the fourth quarter of 2006. Other states with high numbers of separations were Wisconsin (13,715), Minnesota (12,921), Florida (9,791), and New York (9,298). (See table 5.) After excluding the substantial impact of seasonal work, California reported the most laid-off workers (32,774), largely due to layoffs in insurance carriers and related activities and in specialty trade contractors.

Over the year, California reported the greatest increase in workers laid off for all reasons during the fourth quarter (+24,658), followed by Michigan (+9,042) and Maryland (+2,180). The largest decreases occurred in New York (-8,245), Florida (-7,468), and Louisiana (-6,755).

Fifty-five percent of events and 57 percent of separations (144,849) occurred in metropolitan areas in the fourth quarter of 2006, compared with 57 percent of events and 54 percent of separations (135,460) during the fourth quarter of 2005. Among the 367 metropolitan areas, Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Ill.-Ind.-Wis., reported the highest number of separations, 14,916, in the fourth quarter of 2006. Next was Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Mich., with 12,224 separations, and Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif., with 10,498 separations. (See table F.) Employers located in nonmetropolitan areas separated 30,654 workers in mass layoffs, down from 35,066 workers in the fourth quarter of 2005.

Review of 2006

For all of 2006, employers reported 4,689 extended mass layoff actions, affecting 894,739 workers. Compared to 2005, the number of events was down from 4,881, but the number of separations was up from 884,661. (See table G.) The annual average national unemployment rate decreased from 5.1 percent in 2005 to 4.6 percent in 2006, while private nonfarm payroll employment increased by 2 percent, or 2,282,000 jobs.

Thirteen percent of extended events in 2006 were permanent closures, accounting for 150,951 worker separations. When compared with 2005, the share of separations due to permanent closures that were associated with extended mass layoffs rose by 5 percentage points. During 2006, permanent closures were most numerous in the manufacturing sector, primarily in transportation equipment manufacturing and in food production. Reorganization within the company was most often cited as the reason for closures in manufacturing during 2006, accounting for 37 percent of the total closures in manufacturing.

In 2006, employers expected a recall in 52 percent of the mass layoff events, down from 56 percent of events in 2005. Employers in arts, entertainment, and recreation; health care and social assistance; and other services, except public administration were more likely to expect some type of recall than were those in other industries. The finance and insurance sector had the lowest percentage of employers with an expectation of recall (5 percent).

Of the layoff events where employers did not expect to recall laid-off workers, 33 percent were in the manufacturing sector. These occurred primarily in transportation equipment manufacturing and in computer and electronic products manufacturing.

Industry. Manufacturing had the largest share of extended events and separations in 2006. Manufacturing accounted for 28 percent of all mass layoff events and 29 percent of all separations. Separations were most numerous in transportation equipment manufacturing (77,256, mainly in motor vehicle manufacturing) and in food manufacturing (48,654, largely fresh and frozen seafood processing and fruit and vegetable canning). Compared to 2005, 11 of the 21 manufacturing subgroups had increases in the number of separations, with the largest increases occurring in transportation equipment manufacturing (+34,285) and textile

mills (+3,827). Fabricated metal product manufacturing had the largest decrease (-3,309), followed by chemical manufacturing (-2,361).

Reason. In 2006, seasonal work continued to be the most-cited reason for layoff, accounting for 33 percent of all layoff events and 36 percent of all separations. A year earlier, seasonal layoffs accounted for 37 percent of events and 40 percent of separations. The seasonal layoffs in 2006 occurred primarily in transit and ground passenger transportation, heavy and civil engineering construction, and food services and drinking places.

Layoff activity due to internal company restructuring occurred largely among transportation equipment manufacturing, general merchandise stores, food and beverage stores, and credit intermediation and related services. Internal company restructuring was reported in 795 events (17 percent of the total), resulting in the separation of 195,745 workers (22 percent of the total).

Movement of work. In 2006, there were 242 extended mass layoff events that involved work moving within the same company or to a different company, domestically or out of the U.S. The events involving movement of work were associated with the separation of 54,166 workers, about 10 percent of all separations resulting from nonseasonal/nonvacation mass layoff events. Sixty-six percent of events with movement of work involved the permanent closure of a worksite, affecting 38,827 workers. More than two-thirds of the events and separations with movement of work were in manufacturing industries, mostly in transportation equipment manufacturing and in electrical equipment and appliance manufacturing. Employers citing internal company restructuring reasons (bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial difficulty, and reorganization) accounted for over seventy percent of the movement-of-work events and separations. Among the regions, the South accounted for the largest proportion of laid-off workers associated with the movement of work (34 percent), followed by the Midwest (31 percent), the West (19 percent), and the Northeast (15 percent).

As part of the 242 layoff events, 334 identifiable movement-of-work actions were taken by employers. Employers were able to provide information on specific separations associated with the movement of work component of the layoff in 227 actions (out of the 334), which totaled 33,266 laid-off workers. Thus for 2006, the number of separations due to the movement of work ranged between 33,266 (separations in movement-of-work actions where the employer was able to provide specific detail) to 54,166 (total separations in all layoff events that included movement of work).

Of the 227 movement-of-work actions for which complete information is available, more than 6 in 10 relocations were to other locations within the U.S., and 84 percent involved moving work within the company. The separation of 13,067 workers was associated with out-of-country relocations, which accounts for 39 percent of the separations related to the movement of work and 2 percent of all separations in nonseasonal/nonvacation extended mass layoff events. In out-of-country relocations, Mexico and China were cited 62 percent of the time as the destination to which work moved. Domestic relocation of work—both within the company and to other companies—affected 20,199 workers.

Geographic distribution. The Midwest reported more workers affected by extended mass layoffs in 2006 than any other region, 303,937. In the Midwest, transportation equipment manufacturing had the largest number of separations, with 51,157, followed by heavy and civil engineering construction, and administrative and support services. The Northeast region continued to report the lowest annual number of separations (164,804). Compared to 2005, three of the four geographic regions reported a decrease in laid-off workers, with the largest decline in the South (-46,629). The West had the only over-the-year increase (+65,393).

Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, California reported the largest number of separated workers in 2006 (159,306). After California were Illinois (86,832), Florida (71,096), Michigan (66,062), Ohio (59,252), and New York (51,181). These six states accounted for 55 percent of events and separations in 2006. California recorded the largest over-the-year increase in separations (+78,624); Louisiana had the largest over-the-year decline in the number of separations (-48,863). In 2005, layoffs related to Hurricane Katrina contributed to the large number of separations in Louisiana.

Fifty-six percent of layoff events and 49 percent of separations occurred in metropolitan areas in 2006, compared to 60 percent of events and 53 percent of separations in 2005. Among the 367 metropolitan areas, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif., reported the highest number of separations, 39,547. The next highest numbers of separations were in Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Ill.-Ind.-Wis., with 35,757, and New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa., with 32,125. Employers located in nonmetropolitan areas separated 96,277 workers in mass layoffs during 2006, down from 109,757 workers in 2005.

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 establishment filing initial claims for unemployment insurance during a consecutive 5-week period. Approximately 30 days after a mass layoff is triggered at an establishment, the employer is contacted for additional information. Data for the fourth 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 Mass Layoff Statistics program, see the Technical Note.

The report on Mass Layoffs in January 2007 is scheduled to be released on Friday, February 23.

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. Establishments 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. Establishments 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

Establishment. A unit at a single physical location at which predominantly one type of economic activity is conducted.

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

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

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 establishments and layoff events in the MLS program and associated characteristics of claimants is

based on administrative data on covered establishments 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 establishments and layoff events are not subject to sampling error, and all such employers are asked the employer 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 fourth quarter

of 2006, outright refusal to participate in the employer interview accounted for 3.0 percent of all private nonfarm events. Although included in the total number of instances involving the movement of work, for the fourth quarter, employers in 18 relocations were unable to provide the number of separations specifically associated with the movement of work, 6 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, 2005 and 2006

Industry	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,400	929	1,444	250,178	160,141	255,886	246,188	160,813	217,742
Mining	28	4	24	3,456	1,296	3,541	3,361	607	3,056
Utilities	(²)	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	454	(²)	(²)	375
Construction	485	155	513	66,909	16,118	64,611	70,040	23,047	61,873
Manufacturing	397	302	414	71,710	56,823	81,826	82,527	59,539	83,243
Food	91	42	69	18,041	7,261	16,827	19,010	7,182	14,511
Beverage and tobacco products	5	3	9	824	720	798	685	453	797
Textile mills	15	16	13	1,658	2,571	2,504	3,299	3,514	2,730
Textile product mills	(²)	6	5	(²)	613	523	(²)	801	653
Apparel	10	17	7	2,296	2,791	680	1,283	2,065	524
Leather and allied products	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Wood products	15	21	41	1,992	2,896	4,876	2,337	3,048	6,521
Paper	8	9	5	1,143	1,070	519	892	992	473
Printing and related support activities	8	6	5	1,112	1,057	661	1,427	760	340
Petroleum and coal products	16	(²)	14	2,285	(²)	2,244	2,647	(²)	2,071
Chemicals	11	7	(²)	1,723	1,160	(²)	1,626	781	(²)
Plastics and rubber products	26	16	22	3,045	2,178	3,933	3,582	2,796	3,440
Nonmetallic mineral products	37	6	35	6,472	919	5,546	7,173	979	4,868
Primary metals	10	9	11	2,292	1,454	1,178	1,289	1,408	1,352
Fabricated metal products	14	12	26	1,928	1,309	3,262	2,021	1,809	3,520
Machinery	10	17	15	1,746	3,002	1,990	1,598	3,033	2,813
Computer and electronic products	20	21	17	4,401	4,504	5,417	3,489	3,299	2,031
Electrical equipment and appliances	5	9	13	2,020	1,762	4,373	1,739	1,482	4,302
Transportation equipment	64	62	79	14,312	17,850	22,040	23,205	21,226	28,991
Furniture and related products	17	14	18	2,303	2,435	2,757	2,613	2,506	2,236
Miscellaneous manufacturing	10	6	6	1,298	1,076	1,189	1,313	951	769
Wholesale trade	21	23	26	2,699	4,157	3,005	3,654	2,935	2,733
Retail trade	68	52	66	20,926	12,992	23,829	17,869	12,530	13,018
Transportation and warehousing	32	72	29	6,384	11,098	3,884	5,597	9,639	3,073
Information	20	29	15	4,023	6,224	1,781	3,932	3,916	2,669
Finance and insurance	15	33	47	2,340	6,924	10,087	2,505	7,205	5,130
Real estate and rental and leasing	(²)	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	422	(²)	(²)	349
Professional and technical services	33	37	29	5,285	5,712	3,951	6,515	6,489	4,114
Management of companies and enterprises	4	(²)	4	714	(²)	913	770	(²)	792
Administrative and waste services	154	107	142	27,495	20,057	23,105	27,178	19,716	20,479
Educational services	(²)	5	3	(²)	453	266	(²)	522	308
Health care and social assistance	22	40	19	5,031	5,164	3,146	3,276	3,858	2,013
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	45	21	35	13,800	4,505	12,489	6,330	2,464	3,487
Accommodation and food services	59	33	60	14,294	6,735	17,339	9,730	6,369	10,105
Other services, except public administration	10	8	10	1,728	974	1,237	1,448	985	925
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ For the fourth quarter of 2006, 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, 2005 and 2006

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,400	929	1,444	250,178	160,141	255,886	246,188	160,813	217,742
Automation	–	(²)	3	–	(²)	271	–	(²)	333
Bankruptcy	26	15	13	5,150	5,304	2,083	4,333	1,723	1,700
Business ownership change	16	29	22	2,475	9,329	10,792	2,410	5,810	3,992
Contract cancellation	17	19	17	2,639	3,614	1,794	1,996	2,914	1,642
Contract completed	158	255	290	28,048	34,151	34,880	31,702	42,115	38,136
Energy-related	(²)	–	(²)	(²)	–	(²)	(²)	–	(²)
Environment-related	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Financial difficulty	32	42	40	7,508	6,121	9,420	6,867	4,885	5,864
Import competition	19	17	17	3,587	3,546	2,490	3,918	3,920	2,356
Labor dispute	3	4	(²)	309	1,230	(²)	401	827	(²)
Material shortage	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	204	(²)	(²)	714	(²)
Model changeover	3	4	(²)	767	2,568	(²)	491	2,040	(²)
Natural disaster	–	(²)	–	–	(²)	–	–	(²)	–
Plant or machine repair	3	(²)	6	269	(²)	1,489	691	(²)	719
Product line discontinued	14	7	10	2,366	1,494	4,209	2,033	1,074	1,562
Reorganization within company	101	106	109	18,118	26,678	23,659	21,478	27,680	17,069
Seasonal work	778	166	612	137,885	26,693	114,978	122,922	25,260	81,326
Slack work	136	155	178	18,913	18,312	29,267	28,321	25,004	43,451
Vacation period	3	11	5	475	998	812	337	957	479
Weather-related	24	–	6	7,705	–	486	4,033	–	604
Other	19	32	14	2,749	8,283	2,935	3,301	4,581	3,540
Not reported	44	57	94	10,245	10,530	13,300	10,245	10,630	13,111

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, third and fourth quarters, 2006

State	Layoff events		Total initial claimants		Percent of total							
					Black		Hispanic origin		Women		Persons age 55 and over	
	III 2006 ^f	IV 2006 ^p	III 2006 ^f	IV 2006 ^p	III 2006 ^f	IV 2006 ^p	III 2006 ^f	IV 2006 ^p	III 2006 ^f	IV 2006 ^p	III 2006 ^f	IV 2006 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	929	1,444	160,813	217,742	17.0	12.6	16.7	15.9	40.3	29.5	17.5	16.3
Alabama	14	12	2,188	2,007	39.9	46.4	2.7	2.9	42.0	43.9	19.1	16.0
Alaska	4	10	731	1,593	3.1	4.0	22.4	18.6	31.9	23.5	25.7	17.8
Arizona	4	(²)	445	(²)	6.1	7.3	40.7	37.7	56.9	48.0	7.9	9.9
Arkansas	5	5	1,164	1,218	34.5	26.3	4.3	1.6	37.5	42.6	13.8	22.4
California	214	286	35,346	34,891	9.0	6.6	35.5	40.0	36.8	33.7	14.2	13.7
Colorado	3	17	413	1,894	4.1	3.3	18.9	39.9	53.5	22.9	16.2	23.0
Connecticut	9	7	1,288	876	14.8	7.1	17.1	2.4	41.7	30.3	17.8	24.0
Delaware	(²)	-	(²)	-	14.4	-	.9	-	15.9	-	15.4	-
District of Columbia	-	(²)	-	(²)	-	39.6	-	14.9	-	70.9	-	15.7
Florida	106	64	17,524	8,434	18.8	14.0	31.4	30.2	44.0	39.5	16.8	13.9
Georgia	16	22	3,905	3,029	59.0	60.6	1.0	1.1	39.1	40.6	15.2	15.3
Hawaii	3	5	541	603	6.7	5.1	25.0	25.4	13.3	20.1	5.5	8.5
Idaho	4	13	375	1,622	.3	.2	37.9	9.4	54.4	18.9	24.8	17.4
Illinois	60	181	11,303	23,139	25.2	13.2	12.5	22.2	38.8	23.7	16.2	13.6
Indiana	13	45	2,158	6,924	11.6	7.8	5.7	4.2	30.3	25.7	12.2	14.1
Iowa	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	2.0	-	.9	-	59.4	14.0	12.0	31.6
Kansas	4	5	523	467	15.9	6.4	5.0	5.1	50.3	9.4	17.2	15.2
Kentucky	13	(²)	1,581	(²)	7.7	-	.3	-	41.2	6.2	14.6	3.1
Louisiana	11	8	2,594	797	41.8	63.7	3.0	1.9	30.2	31.7	21.7	12.8
Maine	(²)	8	(²)	936	-	.4	.7	.3	8.1	22.3	16.1	17.2
Maryland	14	20	1,613	2,637	58.0	35.5	.2	1.2	59.3	39.8	18.2	19.7
Massachusetts	12	19	1,870	2,385	10.4	8.9	9.7	2.8	45.5	31.7	22.3	19.7
Michigan	41	105	7,691	29,985	16.1	23.7	3.4	5.5	38.1	26.7	13.3	16.5
Minnesota	13	83	1,559	11,364	3.6	2.9	1.0	8.9	28.4	15.2	19.9	16.3
Mississippi	(²)	3	(²)	400	26.0	82.5	2.2	-	59.5	22.3	15.4	19.5
Missouri	10	25	3,462	4,018	20.5	10.4	1.2	.3	30.7	38.6	13.0	21.9
Montana	(²)	9	(²)	1,480	-	.2	2.5	2.0	2.5	10.7	15.2	18.0
Nebraska	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	22.1	.6	6.9	9.1	32.0	6.3	8.7	22.2
Nevada	(²)	3	(²)	1,080	7.0	15.8	26.3	24.4	30.3	51.4	25.8	33.6
New Hampshire	(²)	4	(²)	402	13.9	1.5	14.6	.7	56.2	12.4	33.6	27.4
New Jersey	26	31	3,517	4,507	24.6	14.9	10.5	15.1	60.4	44.8	25.0	21.4
New Mexico	4	8	323	1,260	.9	4.6	44.9	53.1	29.4	44.4	12.4	14.1
New York	93	80	14,556	11,339	13.8	8.1	11.2	7.4	45.7	26.8	20.5	21.1
North Carolina	14	10	2,826	1,014	32.4	36.4	6.9	4.4	48.6	49.4	24.9	23.5
North Dakota	-	4	-	736	-	-	-	2.7	-	6.1	-	20.1
Ohio	37	96	9,736	13,318	14.8	9.6	2.7	3.5	27.6	23.9	23.5	14.1
Oklahoma	4	4	725	684	13.1	21.8	6.2	5.1	40.3	28.5	18.2	9.6
Oregon	11	19	1,921	4,838	2.8	.4	18.3	27.8	42.5	36.8	14.0	18.0
Pennsylvania	66	65	11,851	14,762	9.6	6.7	2.7	1.7	42.7	35.2	21.7	19.6
Rhode Island	(²)	-	(²)	-	1.9	-	5.7	-	98.1	-	34.0	-
South Carolina	16	7	2,344	737	59.4	62.3	.5	.4	55.8	58.9	2.1	2.7
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee	12	12	1,606	897	15.6	13.5	-	-	41.2	50.7	33.1	27.8
Texas	15	34	2,649	5,733	14.9	20.6	44.1	40.0	49.5	32.3	16.0	12.4
Utah	-	8	-	882	-	.8	-	11.8	-	18.6	-	13.2
Vermont	(²)	4	(²)	435	-	.2	-	-	54.2	16.8	20.5	24.4
Virginia	12	9	1,654	856	26.4	41.9	2.3	3.4	61.6	59.7	23.3	18.6
Washington	13	5	2,180	566	4.4	4.1	19.2	21.9	45.9	20.1	17.1	14.3
West Virginia	5	5	409	620	.2	1.0	-	-	43.3	11.0	13.2	17.3
Wisconsin	14	74	2,513	11,461	2.2	2.7	17.4	9.2	39.2	23.8	22.8	15.8
Wyoming	-	(²)	-	(²)	-	.5	-	.5	-	45.5	-	48.8
Puerto Rico	16	7	5,375	968	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	63.0	45.7	8.0	7.7

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

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

³ Data are not available.

^f = 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, 2005 and 2006

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
United States ¹	1,400	929	1,444	250,178	160,141	255,886	246,188	160,813	217,742
Northeast	278	211	218	41,050	29,710	33,215	49,125	33,504	35,642
New England	47	26	42	9,229	5,838	8,414	8,218	3,580	5,034
Middle Atlantic	231	185	176	31,821	23,872	24,801	40,907	29,924	30,608
South	248	259	218	47,898	51,299	34,288	42,413	44,511	29,262
South Atlantic	158	184	139	28,412	36,137	20,514	27,653	31,777	17,461
East South Central	44	40	28	6,904	7,141	4,851	5,974	5,602	3,369
West South Central	46	35	51	12,582	8,021	8,923	8,786	7,132	8,432
Midwest	671	196	621	120,672	37,938	123,454	118,459	39,969	101,645
East North Central	495	165	501	89,433	33,135	101,867	89,593	33,401	84,827
West North Central	176	31	120	31,239	4,803	21,587	28,866	6,568	16,818
West	203	263	387	40,558	41,194	64,929	36,191	42,829	51,193
Mountain	69	18	62	13,086	2,578	13,213	9,225	2,110	8,702
Pacific	134	245	325	27,472	38,616	51,716	26,966	40,719	42,491

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, 2005 and 2006

State	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,400	929	1,444	250,178	160,141	255,886	246,188	160,813	217,742
Alabama	7	14	12	903	2,652	2,601	1,227	2,188	2,007
Alaska	8	4	10	2,217	2,114	4,146	1,413	731	1,593
Arizona	3	4	(²)	407	855	(²)	411	445	(²)
Arkansas	(²)	5	5	(²)	662	2,294	(²)	1,164	1,218
California	77	214	286	14,280	31,944	38,938	15,156	35,346	34,891
Colorado	18	3	17	3,431	451	2,986	2,595	413	1,894
Connecticut	8	9	7	1,780	3,187	1,904	1,579	1,288	876
Delaware	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
District of Columbia	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Florida	83	106	64	17,259	25,305	9,791	14,402	17,524	8,434
Georgia	15	16	22	1,893	2,423	2,659	2,164	3,905	3,029
Hawaii	3	3	5	308	541	647	350	541	603
Idaho	18	4	13	2,645	395	1,800	2,616	375	1,622
Illinois	164	60	181	32,967	12,752	33,328	27,662	11,303	23,139
Indiana	44	13	45	6,525	2,158	7,892	7,709	2,158	6,924
Iowa	37	(²)	(²)	6,335	(²)	(²)	6,588	(²)	(²)
Kansas	4	4	5	875	571	470	686	523	467
Kentucky	24	13	(²)	4,063	1,107	(²)	2,700	1,581	(²)
Louisiana	19	11	8	8,385	3,488	1,630	3,327	2,594	797
Maine	5	(²)	8	2,762	(²)	1,510	1,092	(²)	936
Maryland	(²)	14	20	(²)	1,683	2,280	(²)	1,613	2,637
Massachusetts	16	12	19	2,077	2,228	4,153	3,035	1,870	2,385
Michigan	108	41	105	15,361	6,613	24,403	23,952	7,691	29,985
Minnesota	84	13	83	12,646	1,571	12,921	12,290	1,559	11,364
Mississippi	(²)	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	494	(²)	(²)	400
Missouri	32	10	25	9,246	1,143	6,868	7,191	3,462	4,018
Montana	12	(²)	9	1,256	(²)	1,427	1,106	(²)	1,480
Nebraska	11	(²)	(²)	1,086	(²)	(²)	1,064	(²)	(²)
Nevada	5	(²)	3	624	(²)	972	578	(²)	1,080
New Hampshire	5	(²)	4	981	(²)	412	1,008	(²)	402
New Jersey	40	26	31	5,330	5,132	7,355	5,133	3,517	4,507
New Mexico	(²)	4	8	(²)	323	1,268	(²)	323	1,260
New York	118	93	80	17,543	10,936	9,298	20,080	14,556	11,339
North Carolina	25	14	10	2,932	1,812	926	4,293	2,826	1,014
North Dakota	6	-	4	926	-	973	926	-	736
Ohio	105	37	96	21,402	10,174	22,529	16,936	9,736	13,318
Oklahoma	3	4	4	361	723	793	678	725	684
Oregon	10	11	19	5,785	2,035	7,467	3,951	1,921	4,838
Pennsylvania	73	66	65	8,948	7,804	8,148	15,694	11,851	14,762
Rhode Island	8	(²)	-	1,143	(²)	-	1,018	(²)	-
South Carolina	11	16	7	2,405	2,231	902	2,543	2,344	737
South Dakota	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Tennessee	11	12	12	1,763	3,004	1,656	1,879	1,606	897
Texas	22	15	34	3,310	3,148	4,206	4,337	2,649	5,733
Utah	9	-	8	1,638	-	1,412	1,301	-	882
Vermont	5	(²)	4	486	(²)	435	486	(²)	435
Virginia	21	12	9	3,493	1,848	3,090	3,854	1,654	856
Washington	36	13	5	4,882	1,982	518	6,096	2,180	566
West Virginia	(²)	5	5	(²)	763	732	(²)	409	620
Wisconsin	74	14	74	13,178	1,438	13,715	13,334	2,513	11,461
Wyoming	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Puerto Rico	11	16	7	1,411	2,368	782	1,964	5,375	968

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, 1999-2006

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
1999										
First quarter	1,262	230,711	35	4,363	10	1,796	10	1,600	6	1,002
Second quarter	1,194	246,251	28	3,891	7	1,731	8	1,097	(⁶)	(⁶)
Third quarter	898	184,429	22	11,546	7	1,141	5	840	(⁶)	(⁶)
Fourth quarter	1,202	240,060	18	2,757	5	526	4	807	6	1,430
Total	4,556	901,451	103	22,557	29	5,194	27	4,344	18	3,930
2000										
First quarter	1,081	202,500	22	5,195	14	2,717	9	1,402	4	771
Second quarter	1,055	205,861	18	8,862	22	9,114	7	805	7	977
Third quarter	817	174,628	10	1,678	12	1,422	4	1,465	6	1,280
Fourth quarter	1,638	332,973	16	3,070	22	3,521	5	946	7	1,020
Total	4,591	915,962	66	18,805	70	16,774	25	4,618	24	4,048
2001										
First quarter	1,546	304,171	91	20,991	44	7,963	22	4,441	24	5,312
Second quarter	1,828	430,499	161	38,986	87	12,943	36	12,109	28	6,386
Third quarter	1,629	330,391	142	24,813	55	6,820	39	8,200	36	7,134
Fourth quarter	2,372	459,771	109	17,797	56	8,290	43	10,124	48	11,252
Total	7,375	1,524,832	503	102,587	242	36,016	140	34,874	136	30,084
2002										
First quarter	1,611	299,266	84	18,574	39	4,442	32	8,192	42	6,664
Second quarter	1,624	344,606	69	11,764	49	5,454	27	4,870	53	8,538
Third quarter	1,186	255,152	76	15,017	42	5,415	34	6,529	42	7,945
Fourth quarter	1,916	373,307	74	14,298	32	7,071	19	3,645	39	8,987
Total	6,337	1,272,331	303	59,653	162	22,382	112	23,236	176	32,134
2003										
First quarter	1,502	286,947	71	11,900	33	5,689	23	4,402	41	6,591
Second quarter	1,799	368,273	54	9,221	27	4,124	21	3,098	29	5,891
Third quarter	1,190	236,333	46	6,488	26	4,433	9	1,289	15	2,604
Fourth quarter	1,690	325,333	25	5,080	14	1,984	9	1,619	28	6,635
Total	6,181	1,216,886	196	32,689	100	16,230	62	10,408	113	21,721
2004										
First quarter	1,339	276,503	27	3,222	16	2,992	8	894	23	4,197
Second quarter	1,358	278,831	18	2,959	21	3,576	-	-	22	5,295
Third quarter	886	164,608	13	2,288	15	1,617	4	430	13	4,317
Fourth quarter	1,427	273,967	18	3,055	10	1,547	4	563	23	3,457
Total	5,010	993,909	76	11,524	62	9,732	16	1,887	81	17,266
2005										
First quarter	1,142	186,506	13	1,526	13	2,679	4	439	17	3,569
Second quarter	1,203	246,099	20	2,973	17	2,106	4	842	11	1,904
Third quarter	1,136	201,878	23	3,307	12	1,742	(⁶)	(⁶)	11	1,127
Fourth quarter	1,400	250,178	19	4,122	7	1,331	(⁶)	(⁶)	8	1,125
Total	4,881	884,661	75	11,928	49	7,858	13	3,000	47	7,725
2006										
First quarter	963	^r 183,089	12	1,159	6	744	(⁶)	(⁶)	7	833
Second quarter	1,353	^r 295,623	10	3,294	9	1,723	8	988	7	1,252
Third quarter ^r	929	160,141	14	3,544	9	699	(⁶)	(⁶)	11	1,831
Fourth quarter ^p	1,444	255,886	10	3,703	5	706	5	1,467	4	561
Total ^p	4,689	894,739	46	11,700	29	3,872	19	3,738	29	4,477

¹ Information technology-producing industries are defined in *Digital Economy 2003*, Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

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; computer and software merchant wholesalers; computer and software stores; 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.

^r = 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, 2005 and 2006

Industry	Layoff events			Separations		
	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	65	58	59	12,051	12,840	14,197
Mining	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manufacturing	47	36	42	9,549	7,311	11,431
Food	5	3	3	918	421	559
Beverage and tobacco products	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Textile mills	4	(²)	4	442	(²)	1,120
Textile product mills	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Apparel	4	5	(²)	647	1,250	(²)
Leather and allied products	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Wood products	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Paper	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing and related support activities	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Petroleum and coal products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chemicals	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Plastics and rubber products	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Nonmetallic mineral products	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-	(²)
Primary metals	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Fabricated metal products	(²)	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	525
Machinery	4	3	4	1,112	662	515
Computer and electronic products	7	(²)	(²)	1,478	(²)	(²)
Electrical equipment and appliances	(²)	4	6	(²)	805	3,148
Transportation equipment	6	6	8	2,028	1,365	1,414
Furniture and related products	5	3	(²)	637	828	(²)
Miscellaneous manufacturing	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Wholesale trade	(²)	7	(²)	(²)	2,069	(²)
Retail trade	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Transportation and warehousing	-	3	3	-	1,616	754
Information	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Finance and insurance	4	(²)	6	746	(²)	958
Real estate and rental and leasing	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Professional and technical services	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Management of companies and enterprises	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Administrative and waste services	4	(²)	3	440	(²)	427
Educational services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health care and social assistance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Accommodation and food services	(²)	-	-	(²)	-	-
Other services, except public administration	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-

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 8. Reason for layoff: Extended mass layoff events and separations associated with the movement of work, selected quarters, 2005 and 2006

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations		
	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	65	58	59	12,051	12,840	14,197
Automation	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Bankruptcy	-	(²)	-	-	(²)	-
Business ownership change	(²)	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	920
Contract cancellation	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	-
Contract completed	-	-	(²)	-	-	(²)
Energy-related	-	-	-	-	-	-
Environment-related	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial difficulty	(²)	5	3	(²)	913	789
Import competition	11	6	4	1,828	1,095	939
Labor dispute	-	-	-	-	-	-
Material shortage	-	-	-	-	-	-
Model changeover	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natural disaster	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-natural disaster	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plant or machine repair	-	-	-	-	-	-
Product line discontinued	-	(²)	8	-	(²)	4,016
Reorganization within company	43	30	36	8,679	7,487	7,050
Seasonal work	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Slack work	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Vacation period	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Weather-related	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	6	5	(²)	848	426	(²)
Not reported	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

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

³ The questions on movement of work were not asked of employers when the reason for layoff was either seasonal work or vacation period.

^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, 2005 and 2006

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations		
	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
United States ¹	65	58	59	12,051	12,840	14,197
Northeast	15	14	8	2,927	2,580	1,416
New England	3	4	(²)	610	1,156	(²)
Middle Atlantic	12	10	(²)	2,317	1,424	(²)
South	23	24	16	3,738	5,123	4,954
South Atlantic	17	16	8	2,393	3,017	1,941
East South Central	3	(²)	5	282	(²)	1,013
West South Central	3	(²)	3	1,063	(²)	2,000
Midwest	15	13	24	3,594	3,260	5,276
East North Central	12	9	19	2,651	2,593	4,283
West North Central	3	4	5	943	667	993
West	12	7	11	1,792	1,877	2,551
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, 2005 and 2006

Action	Layoff events			Separations		
	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005 ^r	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
Total, private nonfarm ¹	1,400	929	1,444	250,178	160,141	255,886
Total, excluding seasonal and vacation events ²	619	752	827	111,818	132,450	140,096
Total, movement of work ³	65	58	59	12,051	12,840	14,197
Movement of work actions	92	72	79	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)
With separations reported	57	49	61	7,210	6,820	9,692
With separations unknown	35	23	18	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

² The question 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, 2005 and 2006

Activities	Actions ¹			Separations		
	IV 2005	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p	IV 2005	III 2006 ^r	IV 2006 ^p
With separations reported ²	57	49	61	7,210	6,820	9,692
By location						
Out-of-country relocations	22	12	25	2,702	2,071	5,281
Within company	17	9	22	2,010	1,030	5,126
Different company	5	3	3	692	1,041	155
Domestic relocations	35	37	36	4,508	4,749	4,411
Within company	28	31	32	4,104	4,020	4,024
Different company	7	6	4	404	729	387
By company						
Within company	45	40	54	6,114	5,050	9,150
Domestic	28	31	32	4,104	4,020	4,024
Out of country	17	9	22	2,010	1,030	5,126
Different company	12	9	7	1,096	1,770	542
Domestic	7	6	4	404	729	387
Out of country	5	3	3	692	1,041	155

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.