

Table 620. Private Nonfarm Extended Mass Layoff Activity by Industry and Reason: 2000 to 2008

[The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program is a federal-state program which collects reports on mass layoff actions that result in workers being separated from their jobs using data from each state's unemployment insurance (UI) 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 demographic factors. The program yields information on an individual's entire spell of unemployment, to the point when regular unemployment insurance benefits are exhausted]

Industry	2007 NAICS code ¹	Extended mass layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants ²
Total, 2000	(X)	4,591	915,962	846,267
Total, 2005	(X)	4,881	884,661	834,533
Total, 2006	(X)	4,885	935,969	951,155
Total, 2007	(X)	5,363	965,935	978,712
Total, 2008	(X)	8,263	1,517,857	1,665,377
Mining, quarrying, and gas extraction	21	55	9,128	9,756
Utilities	22	11	2,032	2,122
Construction	23	1,724	205,327	256,109
Manufacturing	31–33	2,589	484,187	638,346
Wholesale trade	42	190	25,247	25,057
Retail trade	44,45	482	121,385	126,326
Transportation and warehousing	48,49	489	102,087	97,906
Information	51	204	37,988	39,258
Finance and Insurance	52	405	92,782	86,609
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	51	6,385	6,970
Professional and technical services	54	257	67,400	51,071
Management of companies and enterprises	55	30	4,611	4,799
Administrative and waste services	56	671	141,034	150,870
Educational services	61	43	5,504	5,623
Health care and social assistance	62	319	44,229	36,249
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	71	179	52,643	22,081
Accommodation and food services	72	458	102,325	92,605
Other services	81	102	12,722	13,123
Unclassified	(X)	4	841	497
Reasons for layoff:				
Business demand	(X)	3,389	516,922	731,804
Disaster/safety	(X)	58	9,165	8,442
Financial issues	(X)	764	165,652	145,769
Organizational changes	(X)	517	123,349	119,929
Production specific	(X)	107	27,181	25,512
Seasonal	(X)	1,982	393,109	348,835
Other/miscellaneous	(X)	1,446	282,479	285,086

X Not applicable. ¹Based on the North American Industry Classification System, 2007. See text, Section 15. ²A 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.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Extended Mass Layoffs in the First Quarter of 2009, USDL 09-0506, May 12, 2009. See also <<http://www.bls.gov/mls/home.htm>>.