

***About The Program...***

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The MLS (Mass Layoff Statistics) Program is a cooperative effort of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the S.C. Employment Security Commission. Standard definitions and a standard operating system are used in identifying, describing, and tracking major job cutbacks using South Carolina's unemployment insurance databases. Extended layoff events are those in which at least 50 workers are separated for at least 31 days. Separations are the counts of individuals actually laid off from the establishment as obtained by contacting the employer directly. An initial claim is any notice of unemployment filed to request a (1) determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation or (2) a subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

***Separations Decline While Initial Claims Rise in Second Quarter***

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Separations continued to decline while initial claims increased during the second quarter of 1997. Separations declined by 4.6 percent to 1,873 from the first quarter total of 1,963. Initial claims rose by 47.7 percent to 2,437 from the 1,650 filed in the first quarter. The number of extended layoff events increased to 18 from the 13 sited in the previous quarter.

Nonmanufacturing separations were almost four times that of the previous quarter. Comprising 67.6 percent of the quarter's separations, a total of 1,267 were posted in the second quarter. "Seasonal work" in nonmanufacturing was sited as the primary reason for 89.2 percent of these separations. Services led nonmanufacturing separations with 864, or 68.1 percent.

Manufacturing separations decreased to 606 from the first quarter total of 1,637. Key to the downward move is the absence of durable separations in the second quarter. Apparel and other textiles made up 63.4 percent of manufacturing separations. The primary reason given for manufacturing separations was "company reorganization", given by 36.6 percent of manufacturing firms.

About 58.9 percent of those filing initial claims resulting from an extended mass layoff event in the second quarter of 1997 were black. More than 78.4 percent of the initial claimants were female while 21.2 percent were male.

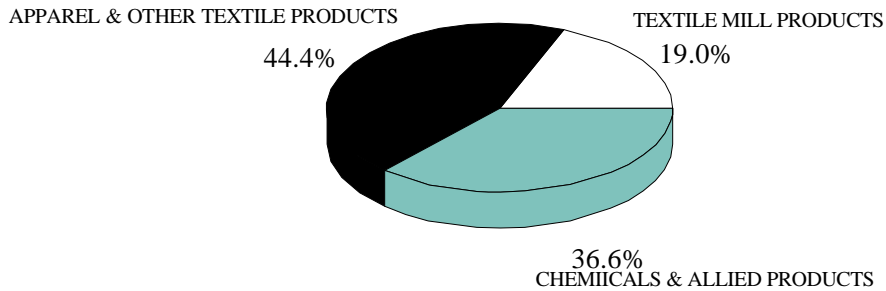
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## **LAYOFF EVENT SIZE**

Although the number of extended mass layoff events increased by 5, the proportional size of the events decreased. More than half of these events, 61.1 percent, involved less than 100 workers per event. In the previous quarter, 46.2 percent of the extended mass layoff events involved less than 100 workers per event.

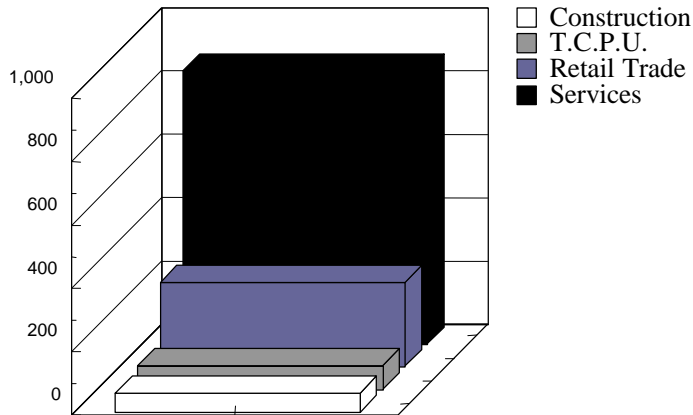
	Layoff Events		Separations	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	18	100.0	1,873	100.0
50-99	11	61.1	755	40.3
100-149	3	16.7	340	18.2
150-199	2	11.1	349	18.6
200-299	2	11.1	429	22.9
300-499	0	0.0	0	0.0

## **MANUFACTURING SEPARATIONS**



Nondurables made up all of the quarter's manufacturing separations. Apparel led nondurables with 269 separations. Chemicals & allied products posted 222 separations.

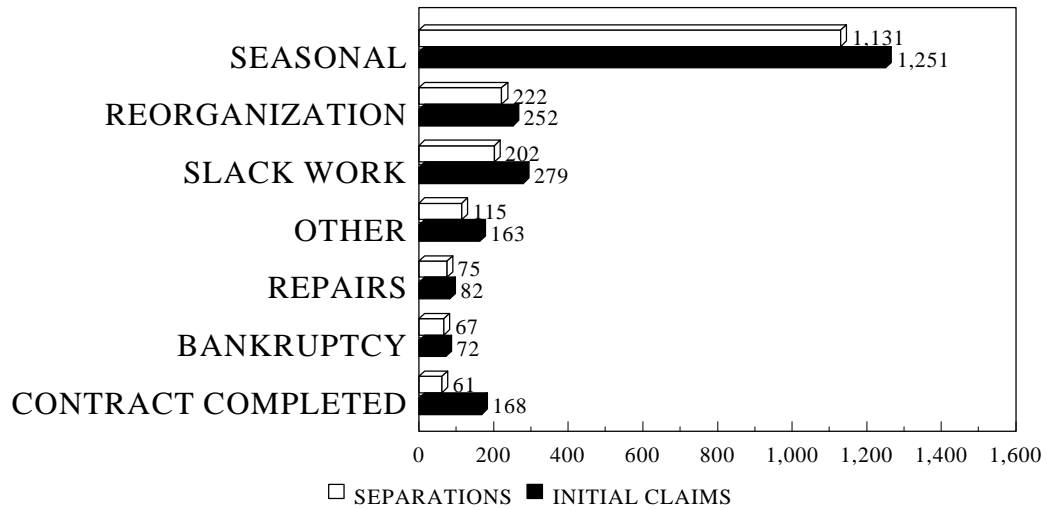
## **NONMANUFACTURING SEPARATIONS**



T.C.P.U. = Transportation & Public

Nonmanufacturing separations rose sharply from the first quarter of 1997. Services led nonmanufacturing with 864 separations, or 68.1 percent. Retail trade posted 267 separations, or 21.1 percent. About 6 percent, 75, of nonmanufacturing separations were in transportation & public utilities.

### **REASONS FOR SEPARATIONS**



About 60.4 percent of first quarter 1997 extended mass layoff separations were due to "seasonal work" in the affected industries. Layoffs due to "company reorganization" made up 11.6 percent of the quarter's separations. The previous quarter's most cited reason, "slack work", was only cited by about 10.8 percent of firms as the primary reason for layoffs.

### **GEOGRAPHY OF SEPARATIONS**



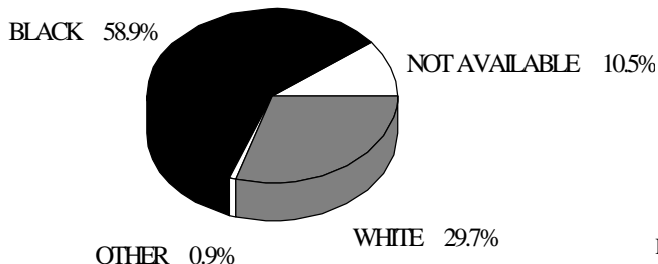
Rank	Service Delivery Area	Separations	%
1	Pee Dee	289	15.4
2	CSU	283	15.1
3	Trident	247	13.2
4	Midlands	238	12.7
5	Upper Savannah	229	12.2
6	Waccammaw	188	10.0
7	Lower Savannah	134	7.2
8	Santee Lynches	122	6.5
9	Catawba	90	4.8
10	Greenville	53	2.8
11	Pendleton	0	0.0
12	Balance of State	0	0.0



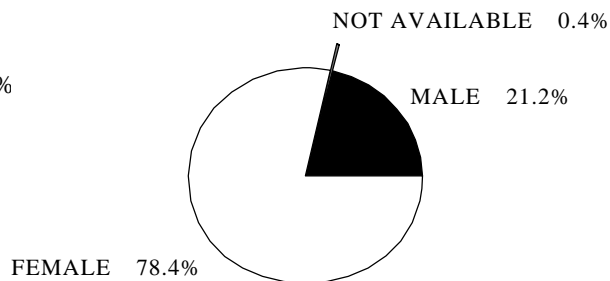
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**INITIAL CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS**

**ETHNIC BACKGROUND**



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**REASONS FOR SEPARATIONS**

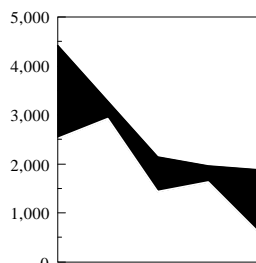
	SEPARATIONS		INITIAL CLAIMS	
	97/2*	97/1**	97/2*	97/1**
TOTAL	1,873	1,963	2,437	1,650
SEASONAL	1,131	356	252	199
REORGANIZATION	222	0	279	0
SLACK WORK	202	1,049	163	1,065
OTHER	115	0	82	0
REPAIRS	75	0	72	0
BANKRUPTCY	67	0	168	0
CONTRACT COMPLETED	61	200	0	146
OWNERSHIP CHANGE	0	70	0	73
DOMESTIC RELOCATION	0	66	0	81
IMPORT COMPETITION	0	222	0	86

\* 97/2=Second Quarter of 1997

\*\* 97/1=First Quarter of 1997

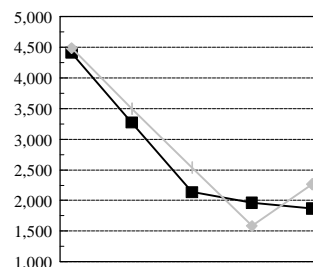
**INITIAL CLAIMS / SEPARATIONS**

**SEPARATIONS**



	96/2	96/3	96/4	97/1	97/2
MANUFACTURING	2,515	2,928	1,440	1,637	606
NONMANUFACTURING	1,895	344	698	326	1,267

**INITIAL CLAIMS / SEPARATIONS**



	96/2	96/3	96/4	97/1	97/2
SEPARATIONS	4,410	3,272	2,138	1,963	1,873
INITIAL CLAIMS	4,485	3,499	2,540	1,584	2,267

