

For release 10:00 a.m. (EST) Friday, November 20, 2009

USDL-09-1404

Technical information: (202) 691-6392 • mlsinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/mls
Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

MASS LAYOFFS – OCTOBER 2009

Employers took 2,127 mass layoff actions in October that resulted in the separation of 217,182 workers, seasonally adjusted, as measured by new filings for unemployment insurance benefits during the month, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Each action involved at least 50 persons from a single employer. The number of mass layoff events in October decreased by 434 from the prior month, and the number of associated initial claims decreased by 30,824. Over the year, the number of mass layoff events decreased by 77, and associated initial claims decreased by 13,148. Year-to-date mass layoff events (25,872) and initial claims (2,627,390) both recorded program highs. (Data begin in April 1995.) In October, 619 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 70,572 initial claims. Over the month, the number of manufacturing events decreased by 237, and associated initial claims decreased by 26,494. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Mass layoff events, seasonally adjusted, November 2004-October 2009

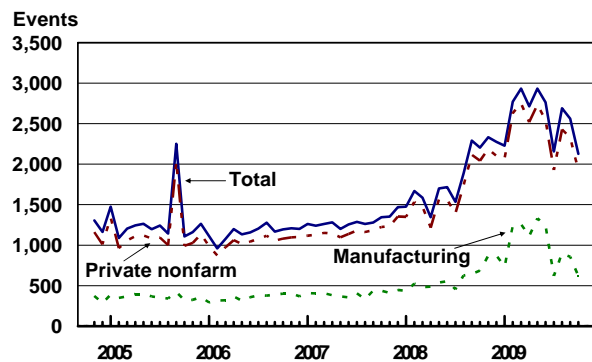
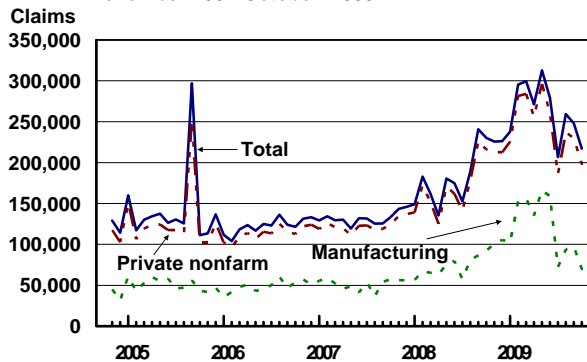


Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted, November 2004-October 2009



During the 23 months from December 2007 through October 2009, the total number of mass layoff events (seasonally adjusted) was 49,357, and the number of initial claims filed (seasonally adjusted) in those events was 5,021,824. (December 2007 was the start of a recession as designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research.)

The national unemployment rate was 10.2 percent in October 2009, seasonally adjusted, up from 9.8 percent the prior month and from 6.6 percent a year earlier. In October, total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 190,000 over the month and by 5,504,000 from a year earlier.

Table A. Industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims in October 2009, not seasonally adjusted

Industry	Initial claims	October peak	
		Year	Initial claims
Temporary help services ¹	14,056	1998	18,760
Motion picture and video production	6,566	1997	7,692
Professional employer organizations ¹	6,402	2008	7,242
Automobile manufacturing	5,041	2008	10,508
Construction machinery manufacturing	4,770	2009	4,770
Highway, street, and bridge construction	3,870	2009	3,870
Farm labor contractors and crew leaders	3,399	1998	9,617
Food service contractors	3,233	2009	3,233
Discount department stores	3,193	2002	4,959
Hotels and motels, except casino hotels	3,032	2001	5,795

¹ See the Technical Note for more information on these industries.

Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in October was 1,934 on a not seasonally adjusted basis; the number of associated initial claims was 193,904. (See table 2.) Over the year, the number of mass layoff events decreased by 191, and associated initial claims decreased by 27,880. Three of the 19 major industry sectors in the private economy reported program highs in terms of average weekly initial claimants for the month of October: construction; wholesale trade; and management of companies and enterprises. Both state and local government reached October highs in terms of average weekly claims. (Average weekly analysis mitigates the effect of differing lengths of months. See the Technical Note.)

The manufacturing sector accounted for 29 percent of all mass layoff events and 36 percent of initial claims filed in October 2009. A year earlier, manufacturing made up 32 percent of events and 45 percent of initial claims. Within manufacturing, the number of claimants in October was greatest in transportation equipment (17,069) and machinery (10,892). Transportation equipment had the largest over-the-year decrease in initial claims (-19,041), while machinery had the highest increase (+2,995) among all three-digit NAICS industries. (See table 3.)

The administrative and waste services sector accounted for 13 percent of both mass layoff events and initial claims, down slightly from 16 percent of events and 14 percent of initial claims in October 2008. The construction sector accounted for 11 percent of events and 8 percent of initial claims, about the same as a year earlier (10 percent and 7 percent, respectively).

The six-digit NAICS industry with the largest number of initial claims in October 2009 was temporary help services. Of the 10 detailed industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims, 3 reached a series high for any October: construction machinery manufacturing; highway, street, and bridge construction; and food service contractors. (See table A.)

Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Among the four census regions, the West registered the highest number of initial claims in October due to mass layoffs, followed by the Midwest and the South. (See table 5.) Initial claims associated with mass layoffs decreased over the year in all of the regions, with the Midwest experiencing the largest decrease (-14,418), mostly in transportation equipment manufacturing.

Of the nine geographic divisions, the Pacific had the highest number of initial claims due to mass layoffs in October, followed by the East North Central, the South Atlantic, and the Middle Atlantic. (See table 5.) Eight of the 9 divisions experienced over-the-year decreases in initial claims, led by the East North Central (-10,919).

California recorded the highest number of initial claims in October, followed by Illinois, Florida, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. (See table 6.) Twenty-six states experienced over-the-year decreases in initial claims, led by Michigan (-7,308), Ohio (-7,195), and Kentucky (-3,671); all three experienced the largest decreases in initial claims in transportation equipment manufacturing. In 2009, eight states reached program highs in average weekly initial claims for the month of October: Arizona, Iowa, Montana, New Mexico, New York, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Note

The monthly data series in this release cover mass layoffs of 50 or more workers beginning in a given month, regardless of the duration of the layoffs. For private nonfarm establishments, information on the length of the layoff is obtained later and issued in a quarterly release that reports on mass layoffs lasting more than 30 days (referred to as “extended mass layoffs”). The quarterly release provides more information on the industry classification and location of the establishment and on the demographics of the laid-off workers. Because monthly figures include short-term layoffs of 30 days or less, the sum of the figures for the 3 months in a quarter will be higher than the quarterly figure for mass layoffs of more than 30 days. (See table 4.) See the Technical Note for more detailed definitions.

Mass Layoffs in November is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, December 22, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. (EST).

Technical Note

The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program is a federal-state program that uses a standardized automated approach to identifying, describing, and tracking the effects of major job cutbacks, using data from each state's unemployment insurance database. Each month, states report on employers which have at least 50 initial claims filed against them during a consecutive 5-week period. These employers then are contacted by the state agency to determine whether these separations lasted 31 days or longer, and, if so, other information concerning the layoff is collected. States report on layoffs lasting more than 1 month on a quarterly basis.

A given month contains an aggregation of the weekly unemployment insurance claims filings for the Sunday through Saturday weeks in that month. All weeks are included for the particular month, except if the first day of the month falls on Saturday. In this case, the week is included in the prior month's tabulations. This means that some months will contain 4 weeks and others, 5 weeks. The number of weeks in a given month may be different from year to year, and the number of weeks in a year may vary. Therefore, analysis of over-the-month and over-the-year change in not seasonally adjusted series should take this calendar effect into consideration.

The MLS program resumed operations in April 1995 after it had been terminated in November 1992 due to lack of funding. Prior to April 1995, monthly layoff statistics were not available.

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

Definitions

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

Industry. Employers are classified according to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For temporary help and professional employer organization industries, monthly MLS-related statistics generally reflect layoffs related to underlying client companies in other industries. An individual layoff action at a client company can be small, but when initial claimants

associated with many such layoffs are assigned to a temporary help or professional employer organization firm, a mass layoff event may trigger.

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.

Mass layoff event. Fifty or more initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits filed against an employer during a 5-week period, regardless of duration.

Seasonal adjustment

Effective with the release of data for January 2005, BLS began publishing six seasonally adjusted monthly MLS series. The six series are the numbers of mass layoff events and mass layoff initial claims for the total, private nonfarm, and manufacturing sectors.

Seasonal adjustment is the process of estimating and removing the effect on time series data of regularly recurring seasonal events such as changes in the weather, holidays, and the beginning and ending of the school year. The use of seasonal adjustment makes it easier to observe fundamental changes in time series, particularly those associated with general economic expansions and contractions.

The MLS data are seasonally adjusted using the X-12-ARIMA seasonal adjustment method on a concurrent basis. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available monthly estimates, including those for the current month, in developing seasonal adjustment factors. Revisions to the most recent 5 years of seasonally adjusted data will be made once a year with the issuance of December data. Before the data are seasonally adjusted, prior adjustments are made to the original data to adjust them for differences in the number of weeks used to calculate the monthly data. Because weekly unemployment insurance claims are aggregated to form monthly data, a particular month's value could be calculated with 5 weeks of data in 1 year and 4 weeks in another. The effects of these differences could seriously distort the seasonal factors if they were ignored in the seasonal adjustment process. These effects are modeled in the X-12-ARIMA program and are permanently removed from the final seasonally adjusted series.

Table 1. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, November 2005 to October 2009, seasonally adjusted

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2005						
November	1,162	113,502	1,027	102,058	325	41,493
December	1,263	136,751	1,135	125,700	358	46,940
2006						
January	1,112	111,601	986	102,359	293	35,390
February	960	104,045	872	96,317	317	41,810
March	1,078	118,270	976	109,842	320	48,026
April	1,198	123,674	1,062	113,849	366	50,747
May	1,132	116,808	1,013	106,743	312	42,958
June	1,156	124,955	1,044	115,491	356	45,280
July	1,204	123,172	1,077	113,324	381	50,109
August	1,278	136,289	1,117	125,064	376	60,524
September	1,167	124,083	1,054	115,451	390	46,470
October	1,195	121,439	1,081	112,777	401	53,597
November	1,209	131,459	1,096	122,136	402	57,084
December	1,201	133,311	1,100	124,019	369	51,113
2007						
January	1,261	129,190	1,116	118,890	406	55,341
February	1,240	134,524	1,130	126,105	404	58,861
March	1,261	129,480	1,151	120,923	407	52,356
April	1,281	130,263	1,145	119,683	381	45,654
May	1,200	119,259	1,097	111,585	368	48,682
June	1,256	132,078	1,138	122,726	356	41,135
July	1,288	131,556	1,182	123,322	405	53,318
August	1,262	125,334	1,162	117,557	331	36,577
September	1,279	125,527	1,183	118,917	440	54,006
October	1,346	133,514	1,224	124,666	436	57,527
November	1,352	143,419	1,233	134,445	408	56,330
December	1,469	145,916	1,354	136,914	447	56,152
2008						
January	1,476	149,068	1,350	139,076	435	56,579
February	1,669	183,038	1,532	172,013	526	67,235
March	1,585	161,497	1,471	151,550	483	65,252
April	1,344	135,352	1,215	125,074	487	63,247
May	1,701	180,558	1,563	170,538	538	75,520
June	1,717	174,748	1,561	162,071	555	79,744
July	1,535	152,499	1,390	141,239	455	57,648
August	1,887	188,951	1,735	178,479	626	80,913
September	2,290	240,721	2,114	226,492	643	86,617
October	2,204	230,330	2,042	216,095	687	92,256
November	2,333	225,639	2,185	213,288	868	100,643
December	2,275	226,117	2,100	212,559	871	105,402
2009						
January	2,227	237,902	2,070	225,490	738	102,577
February	2,769	295,477	2,628	281,500	1,235	152,618
March	2,933	299,388	2,751	283,989	1,259	155,909
April	2,712	271,226	2,519	256,111	1,111	135,252
May	2,933	312,880	2,736	296,108	1,331	165,802
June	2,763	279,231	2,536	260,747	1,235	159,310
July	2,157	206,791	1,928	185,718	621	72,266
August	2,690	259,307	2,428	237,302	900	93,892
September	2,561	248,006	2,324	229,371	856	97,066
October	2,127	217,182	1,918	198,453	619	70,572

Table 2. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, November 2005 to October 2009, not seasonally adjusted

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2005						
November	1,254	116,127	1,079	102,182	363	41,442
December	2,323	254,258	2,168	242,753	706	96,382
2006						
January	1,245	117,946	1,123	108,701	331	35,097
February	719	66,555	658	62,208	210	24,892
March	921	111,838	856	106,177	285	44,688
April	1,140	121,589	1,038	112,964	296	39,538
May	872	84,809	794	78,663	192	23,570
June	1,489	164,761	1,224	140,687	319	41,095
July	1,511	166,857	1,335	154,342	648	96,152
August	708	72,844	656	69,054	203	28,494
September	865	87,699	785	81,274	296	39,076
October	964	98,804	820	88,133	311	46,737
November	1,315	136,186	1,172	125,009	455	58,473
December	2,249	254,503	2,126	244,783	735	105,462
2007						
January	1,407	134,984	1,263	124,475	456	53,615
February	935	86,696	861	82,097	273	36,170
March	1,082	123,974	1,015	118,431	367	49,886
April	1,219	127,444	1,115	118,040	309	35,229
May	923	85,816	856	81,153	224	26,527
June	1,599	172,810	1,318	148,669	313	36,571
July	1,599	175,419	1,450	164,939	684	101,390
August	963	93,458	908	88,345	220	23,361
September	717	67,385	667	64,026	246	29,381
October	1,083	108,455	929	97,716	338	50,918
November	1,799	198,220	1,593	181,184	514	75,413
December	2,167	224,214	2,071	216,898	699	91,754
2008						
January	1,647	154,503	1,520	144,191	488	54,418
February	1,269	119,508	1,178	113,587	361	42,527
March	1,089	114,541	1,039	110,147	333	43,740
April	1,272	130,810	1,172	121,625	394	48,188
May	1,552	159,471	1,438	150,462	388	51,698
June	1,622	166,742	1,315	140,916	309	42,097
July	1,891	200,382	1,687	186,018	760	108,733
August	1,427	139,999	1,343	133,146	414	51,912
September	1,292	129,586	1,202	122,505	361	46,391
October	2,125	221,784	1,917	205,553	689	100,457
November	2,574	241,589	2,389	226,657	997	107,620
December	3,377	351,305	3,232	340,220	1,378	172,529
2009						
January	3,806	388,813	3,633	375,293	1,461	172,757
February	2,262	218,438	2,173	210,755	945	103,588
March	2,191	228,387	2,107	221,397	940	114,747
April	2,547	256,930	2,385	243,321	887	100,872
May	2,738	289,628	2,572	274,047	1,005	123,683
June	2,519	256,357	2,051	216,063	674	85,726
July	3,054	336,654	2,659	296,589	1,133	154,208
August	1,428	125,024	1,334	117,193	436	41,151
September	1,371	123,177	1,258	115,141	448	51,126
October	1,934	193,904	1,678	172,883	566	69,655

Table 3. Industry distribution: Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	October 2008	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009	October 2008	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009
Seasonally adjusted								
Total	2,204	2,690	2,561	2,127	230,330	259,307	248,006	217,182
Total, private nonfarm	2,042	2,428	2,324	1,918	216,095	237,302	229,371	198,453
Manufacturing	687	900	856	619	92,256	93,892	97,066	70,572
Not seasonally adjusted								
Total ¹	2,125	1,428	1,371	1,934	221,784	125,024	123,177	193,904
Total, private	2,034	1,356	1,285	1,806	213,602	118,920	116,813	181,476
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	117	22	27	128	8,049	1,727	1,672	8,593
Total, private nonfarm	1,917	1,334	1,258	1,678	205,553	117,193	115,141	172,883
Mining	6	9	10	15	449	603	918	1,038
Utilities	(²)	(²)	6	6	(²)	(²)	448	550
Construction	206	160	167	205	14,864	11,904	10,637	15,258
Manufacturing	689	436	448	566	100,457	41,151	51,126	69,655
Food	75	41	50	91	11,144	3,632	5,044	8,999
Beverage and tobacco products	7	5	5	12	488	937	306	1,001
Textile mills	20	(²)	12	9	2,925	(²)	1,197	1,407
Textile product mills	10	5	(²)	3	792	557	(²)	419
Apparel	9	15	7	7	914	1,317	572	438
Leather and allied products	(²)	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	(²)	-
Wood products	68	19	36	41	6,932	1,423	2,653	4,326
Paper	17	8	15	14	1,392	576	1,287	1,216
Printing and related support activities	10	9	10	17	1,042	714	828	1,337
Petroleum and coal products	(²)	-	-	3	(²)	-	-	312
Chemicals	13	10	9	8	1,394	843	540	533
Plastics and rubber products	47	17	13	35	4,903	1,532	1,195	2,672
Nonmetallic mineral products	21	18	12	16	1,755	1,147	763	1,172
Primary metals	48	31	30	44	6,038	2,742	3,330	4,703
Fabricated metal products	47	43	44	49	4,632	3,501	3,856	4,702
Machinery	43	74	63	51	7,897	6,608	12,389	10,892
Computer and electronic products	36	30	28	29	3,705	2,535	1,986	2,169
Electrical equipment and appliances	21	18	23	29	3,873	1,853	2,740	3,394
Transportation equipment	149	68	53	72	36,110	9,076	7,331	17,069
Furniture and related products	32	13	22	22	2,902	941	3,481	1,865
Miscellaneous manufacturing	13	6	11	14	1,210	577	1,117	1,029
Wholesale trade	38	34	32	50	2,573	2,714	2,422	4,645
Retail trade	161	111	139	124	15,328	10,173	13,094	12,914
Transportation and warehousing	75	101	47	61	6,007	9,131	4,807	5,541
Information	49	46	45	57	7,820	6,067	4,572	9,567
Finance and insurance	63	47	43	49	5,025	4,434	3,308	3,716
Real estate and rental and leasing	15	7	(²)	13	1,014	404	(²)	870
Professional and technical services	46	32	31	57	3,022	2,302	1,998	5,974
Management of companies and enterprises ...	4	(²)	5	6	337	(²)	495	812
Administrative and waste services	334	195	142	260	30,945	15,604	11,525	25,694
Educational services	5	13	7	3	292	1,796	371	226
Health care and social assistance	39	31	23	37	2,823	1,947	1,573	2,165
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	42	19	29	34	3,106	1,403	2,209	2,435
Accommodation and food services	125	74	73	126	10,278	6,034	4,981	11,346
Other services, except public administration ...	16	13	7	9	962	1,076	409	477
Unclassified	(²)	-	(²)	-	(²)	-	(²)	-
Government	91	72	86	128	8,182	6,104	6,364	12,428
Federal	19	14	8	28	1,746	1,381	603	2,550
State	30	19	28	32	2,985	1,717	2,082	3,433
Local	42	39	50	68	3,451	3,006	3,679	6,445

¹ Data were reported by all states and the District of Columbia.

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 4. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, October 2007 to October 2009, not seasonally adjusted

Date	Total mass layoffs		Private nonfarm					
			Mass layoffs		Extended mass layoffs lasting more than 30 days		Realization rates ¹	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2007								
October	1,083	108,455	929	97,716				
November	1,799	198,220	1,593	181,184				
December	2,167	224,214	2,071	216,898				
Fourth Quarter	5,049	530,889	4,593	495,798	1,814	347,151	39.5	70.0
2008								
January	1,647	154,503	1,520	144,191				
February	1,269	119,508	1,178	113,587				
March	1,089	114,541	1,039	110,147				
First Quarter	4,005	388,552	3,737	367,925	1,340	259,292	35.9	70.5
April	1,272	130,810	1,172	121,625				
May	1,552	159,471	1,438	150,462				
June	1,622	166,742	1,315	140,916				
Second Quarter	4,446	457,023	3,925	413,003	1,756	† 339,630	44.7	82.2
July	1,891	200,382	1,687	186,018				
August	1,427	139,999	1,343	133,146				
September	1,292	129,586	1,202	122,505				
Third Quarter	4,610	469,967	4,232	441,669	† 1,581	† 304,340	37.4	68.9
October	2,125	221,784	1,917	205,553				
November	2,574	241,589	2,389	226,657				
December	3,377	351,305	3,232	340,220				
Fourth Quarter	8,076	814,678	7,538	772,430	3,582	† 766,592	47.5	† 99.2
2009								
January	3,806	388,813	3,633	375,293				
February	2,262	218,438	2,173	210,755				
March	2,191	228,387	2,107	221,397				
First Quarter	8,259	835,638	7,913	807,445	3,979	† 835,017	50.3	† 103.4
April	2,547	256,930	2,385	243,321				
May	2,738	289,628	2,572	274,047				
June	2,519	256,357	2,051	216,063				
Second Quarter	7,804	802,915	7,008	733,431	† 3,396	† 727,494	† 48.5	† 99.2
July	3,054	336,654	2,659	296,589				
August	1,428	125,024	1,334	117,193				
September	1,371	123,177	1,258	115,141				
Third Quarter	5,853	584,855	5,251	528,923	^{2,p} 1,776	^{2,p} 266,938	^p 33.8	^p 50.5
October	1,934	193,904	1,678	172,883				

¹ The event realization rate is the percentage of all private nonfarm mass layoff events lasting more than 30 days. The initial claimant realization rate is the percentage of all private nonfarm mass layoff initial claimants associated with layoffs lasting more than 30 days.

² These quarterly numbers are provisional and will be revised as more data on these layoffs become available. Experience suggests that the

number of extended mass layoff events is generally revised upwards by less than 10 percent and the number of initial claimants associated with such events increases by 25-40 percent.

† = revised.

^p = preliminary.

Table 5. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance by census region and division, not seasonally adjusted

Census region and division	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	October 2008	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009	October 2008	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009
United States ¹	2,125	1,428	1,371	1,934	221,784	125,024	123,177	193,904
Northeast	270	279	233	260	23,945	26,444	18,617	22,709
New England	25	32	29	30	2,522	2,953	2,762	2,134
Middle Atlantic	245	247	204	230	21,423	23,491	15,855	20,575
South	538	342	334	499	53,087	29,486	28,943	45,772
South Atlantic	295	204	182	279	25,535	17,732	14,927	23,144
East South Central	111	57	71	87	15,162	4,820	6,844	9,545
West South Central	132	81	81	133	12,390	6,934	7,172	13,083
Midwest	511	350	309	483	75,210	32,197	38,137	60,792
East North Central	406	273	240	375	60,196	25,962	30,304	49,277
West North Central	105	77	69	108	15,014	6,235	7,833	11,515
West	806	457	495	692	69,542	36,897	37,480	64,631
Mountain	98	63	53	103	9,191	6,116	3,924	9,020
Pacific	708	394	442	589	60,351	30,781	33,556	55,611

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

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 6. State distribution: Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, not seasonally adjusted

State	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	October 2008	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009	October 2008	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009
Total ¹	2,125	1,428	1,371	1,934	221,784	125,024	123,177	193,904
Alabama	26	23	22	27	3,865	1,997	2,044	3,179
Alaska	13	4	7	8	1,631	295	849	755
Arizona	13	10	7	20	979	977	463	1,666
Arkansas	18	4	(²)	17	1,877	260	(²)	1,954
California	621	340	395	514	51,286	26,082	28,797	48,169
Colorado	11	5	14	19	1,143	374	1,036	1,554
Connecticut	4	4	4	9	540	334	323	671
Delaware	(²)	(²)	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	(²)	251
District of Columbia	-	(²)	-	(²)	-	(²)	-	(²)
Florida	176	104	91	167	12,946	7,795	5,975	11,851
Georgia	61	23	35	39	6,825	2,202	2,817	3,880
Hawaii	9	8	6	7	910	872	465	630
Idaho	22	9	4	10	2,682	1,305	306	1,088
Illinois	64	82	71	93	7,842	7,432	10,743	12,917
Indiana	63	30	21	37	7,961	3,182	2,895	4,759
Iowa	23	17	18	35	3,818	1,359	2,384	4,732
Kansas	18	14	15	13	2,543	945	2,880	1,562
Kentucky	46	22	32	36	8,327	2,006	3,394	4,656
Louisiana	22	18	10	24	1,662	1,698	887	2,169
Maine	(²)	(²)	3	3	(²)	(²)	268	177
Maryland	11	10	7	6	885	759	463	479
Massachusetts	11	13	12	9	980	1,357	985	596
Michigan	81	43	40	70	16,851	3,593	6,167	9,543
Minnesota	23	13	15	24	1,880	948	1,122	1,985
Mississippi	17	5	5	10	1,513	349	323	602
Missouri	35	28	16	31	5,877	2,549	1,018	2,556
Montana	5	3	3	11	573	258	227	1,062
Nebraska	5	(²)	3	4	819	(²)	210	559
Nevada	29	30	15	19	2,421	2,879	1,201	1,361
New Hampshire	3	6	(²)	3	310	454	(²)	263
New Jersey	45	27	31	37	3,670	2,162	2,844	2,850
New Mexico	5	4	7	11	396	191	487	761
New York	54	106	58	68	4,725	11,405	4,424	6,961
North Carolina	18	19	8	19	1,838	2,523	918	1,672
North Dakota	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Ohio	118	58	47	75	17,764	5,941	4,745	10,569
Oklahoma	6	8	4	7	1,137	679	401	582
Oregon	36	21	15	35	3,883	1,691	1,402	3,936
Pennsylvania	146	114	115	125	13,028	9,924	8,587	10,764
Rhode Island	3	5	3	(²)	325	456	260	(²)
South Carolina	23	20	18	19	2,268	2,133	2,831	2,692
South Dakota	-	(²)	-	-	-	(²)	-	-
Tennessee	22	7	12	14	1,457	468	1,083	1,108
Texas	86	51	65	85	7,714	4,297	5,715	8,378
Utah	9	(²)	3	9	721	(²)	204	1,058
Vermont	(²)	(²)	5	3	(²)	(²)	507	254
Virginia	4	21	22	22	655	1,652	1,868	1,955
Washington	29	21	19	25	2,641	1,841	2,043	2,121
West Virginia	-	4	-	3	-	272	-	250
Wisconsin	80	60	61	100	9,778	5,814	5,754	11,489
Wyoming	4	-	-	4	276	-	-	470
Puerto Rico	13	15	17	12	1,117	1,326	1,563	1,079

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.