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## MASS LAYOFFS IN MAY 2009

Employers took 2,933 mass layoff actions in May that resulted in the separation of 312,880 workers, seasonally adjusted, as measured by new filings for unemployment insurance benefits during the month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Each action involved at least 50 persons from a single employer. The number of mass layoff events in May increased by 221 from the prior month, and the number of associated initial claims increased by 41,654. Over the year, the number of mass layoff events increased by 1,232 and associated initial claims increased by 132,322. Initial claims rose to its highest level on record, while events matched the peak level from March 2009, with data available back to 1995. In May, 1,331 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 165,802 initial claims. Over the year, manufacturing events and initial claims more than doubled. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Mass layoff events, seasonally adjusted, June 2004-May 2009

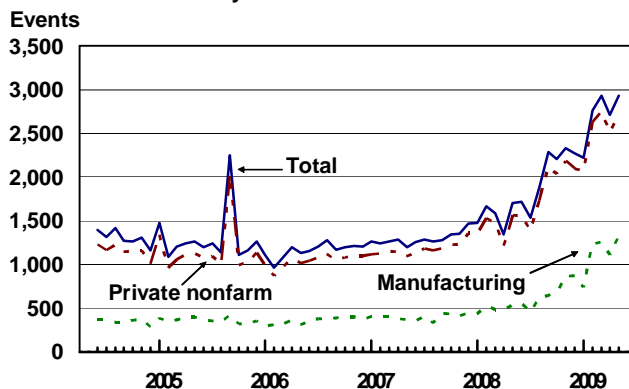
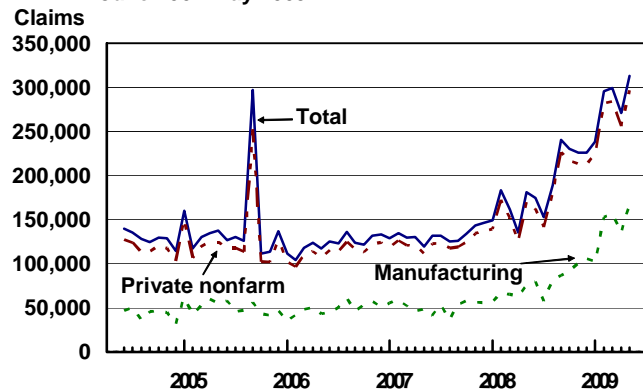


Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted, June 2004-May 2009



During the 18 months from December 2007 through May 2009, the total number of mass layoff events (seasonally adjusted) was 37,059, and the number of initial claims (seasonally adjusted) was 3,811,307. (December 2007 was the start of a recession as designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research.)

The national unemployment rate was 9.4 percent in May 2009, seasonally adjusted, up from 8.9 percent the prior month and from 5.5 percent a year earlier. In May, total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 345,000 over the month and by 5,366,000 from a year earlier.

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

Industry	Initial claims	May peak	
		Year	Initial claims
Temporary help services <sup>1</sup> .....	16,658	2002	16,992
Automobile manufacturing .....	14,004	2009	14,004
Food service contractors .....	11,216	2009	11,216
Professional employer organizations <sup>1</sup> .....	5,898	2009	5,898
Child day care services .....	4,396	2008	4,541
All other motor vehicle parts manufacturing .....	3,985	2009	3,985
Motor vehicle power train components mfg. ....	3,900	2009	3,900
Motion picture and video production .....	3,602	1999	8,985
Light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing .....	3,570	2009	3,570
Department stores, except discount .....	3,379	2009	3,379

<sup>1</sup> See the Technical Note for more information on these industries.

#### Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in May was 2,738, and the number of associated initial claims was 289,628. (See table 2.) Over the year, increases were recorded in both the number of mass layoff events (+1,186) and initial claims (+130,157). This year, both average weekly events and initial claimants reached their highest May levels in program history; data are available back to 1995. (Average weekly analysis mitigates the effect of differing lengths of months. See the Technical Note.) Eleven of the 19 major industry sectors reported program highs in terms of average weekly initial claimants for the month of May—mining; construction; manufacturing; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; management of companies and enterprises; administrative and waste services; health care and social assistance; and accommodation and food services. Government also reported a program high in terms of average weekly initial claimants for the month of May.

The manufacturing sector accounted for 37 percent of all mass layoff events and 43 percent of initial claims filed in May 2009; a year earlier, manufacturing made up 25 percent of events and 32 percent of initial claims. This May, the number of manufacturing claimants was greatest in transportation equipment (46,816) and machinery (12,472). (See table 3.) The administrative and waste services sector accounted for 11 percent of mass layoff events and associated initial claims during the month.

Of the 10 detailed industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims, 7 reached their May peak: automobile manufacturing; light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing; motor vehicle power train components manufacturing; all other motor vehicle parts manufacturing; department stores, except discount; professional employer organizations; and food service contractors. The industry with the largest number of initial claims was temporary help services (16,658). (See table A.)

### Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Of the 4 census regions, the Midwest registered the highest number of initial claims in May due to mass layoffs (105,264), followed by the South (72,375) and the West (70,576). (See table 5.) Initial claims associated with mass layoffs increased over the year in all 4 regions, with the Midwest (+59,802) and the South (+29,543) experiencing the largest increases. In 2009, all regions except the West reported their highest May levels of average weekly initial claims in program history.

Of the 9 geographic divisions, the East North Central (84,281) had the highest number of initial claims due to mass layoffs in May, followed by the Pacific (57,286) and the Middle Atlantic (35,548). (See table 5.) All divisions experienced over-the-year increases in initial claims, led by the East North Central (+47,949), the South Atlantic (+18,356), and the Pacific (+17,276). This year, 6 of the 9 divisions—all except New England, West South Central, and Pacific—reached May program highs in terms of average weekly initial claims.

California recorded the highest number of initial claims filed due to mass layoff events in May with 47,091. The states with the next highest number of mass layoff initial claims were Michigan (26,344), Pennsylvania (20,392), and Illinois (19,717). (See table 6.) Forty-four states and the District of Columbia registered over-the-year increases in initial claims associated with mass layoffs, led by Michigan (+18,205), California (+13,006), Illinois (+11,659), and Pennsylvania (+11,417). In 2009, 30 states reached program highs in average weekly initial claims for the month of May—Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, 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.

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The report on Mass Layoffs in June 2009 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, July 23.

# 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; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

## 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, June 2005 to May 2009, seasonally adjusted**

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2005						
June .....	1,196	126,416	1,082	117,568	367	58,003
July .....	1,241	130,331	1,094	117,510	354	46,056
August .....	1,143	125,536	1,000	113,465	342	47,255
September .....	2,250	296,913	2,035	252,291	420	55,974
October .....	1,109	111,202	991	102,111	320	43,387
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

**Table 2. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, June 2005 to May 2009, not seasonally adjusted**

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2005						
June .....	1,157	120,463	941	103,307	216	32,783
July .....	1,981	244,216	1,745	222,377	856	136,210
August .....	645	67,582	598	63,484	188	22,531
September .....	1,662	213,281	1,505	179,042	318	47,497
October .....	905	91,941	757	80,694	249	37,276
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

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

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	May 2008	March 2009	April 2009	May 2009	May 2008	March 2009	April 2009	May 2009
<b>Seasonally adjusted</b>								
Total .....	1,701	2,933	2,712	2,933	180,558	299,388	271,226	312,880
Total, private nonfarm .....	1,563	2,751	2,519	2,736	170,538	283,989	256,111	296,108
Manufacturing .....	538	1,259	1,111	1,331	75,520	155,909	135,252	165,802
<b>Not seasonally adjusted</b>								
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	1,552	2,191	2,547	2,738	159,471	228,387	256,930	289,628
Total, private .....	1,467	2,140	2,464	2,599	152,510	223,981	250,548	276,113
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting .....	29	33	79	27	2,048	2,584	7,227	2,066
Total, private nonfarm .....	1,438	2,107	2,385	2,572	150,462	221,397	243,321	274,047
Mining .....	5	31	39	32	458	3,751	3,267	3,057
Utilities .....	4	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	475	234	( <sup>2</sup> )	466
Construction .....	167	166	194	255	12,411	11,612	13,490	19,684
Manufacturing .....	388	940	887	1,005	51,698	114,747	100,872	123,683
Food .....	48	63	81	65	4,800	6,077	8,371	7,211
Beverage and tobacco products .....	5	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	7	273	1,305	( <sup>2</sup> )	607
Textile mills .....	6	29	16	13	520	3,108	2,409	1,059
Textile product mills .....	8	6	9	8	580	554	765	775
Apparel .....	14	9	19	17	1,171	883	1,610	1,360
Leather and allied products .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Wood products .....	24	62	39	43	2,455	5,799	3,437	4,219
Paper .....	11	27	26	30	1,091	2,749	2,584	3,854
Printing and related support activities .....	9	23	25	34	833	2,124	2,275	3,521
Petroleum and coal products .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Chemicals .....	9	21	21	23	696	1,746	1,453	2,146
Plastics and rubber products .....	21	60	51	52	1,793	6,151	6,393	5,187
Nonmetallic mineral products .....	14	46	34	35	1,175	4,095	3,192	2,388
Primary metals .....	9	71	70	77	1,217	8,681	8,636	8,785
Fabricated metal products .....	29	88	97	100	2,596	8,186	7,698	9,483
Machinery .....	25	110	100	118	3,758	18,081	18,614	12,472
Computer and electronic products .....	14	68	69	60	1,250	8,130	5,770	5,732
Electrical equipment and appliances .....	13	47	43	37	1,845	6,476	5,169	3,506
Transportation equipment .....	101	155	148	238	21,667	26,012	19,246	46,816
Furniture and related products .....	20	24	21	24	3,285	3,020	1,783	2,568
Miscellaneous manufacturing .....	5	19	14	17	445	1,354	1,118	1,402
Wholesale trade .....	21	59	55	64	1,513	4,696	4,343	6,022
Retail trade .....	109	178	153	202	10,090	19,491	16,211	18,360
Transportation and warehousing .....	99	91	231	89	11,176	8,809	28,962	7,835
Information .....	56	75	75	67	9,251	8,559	7,934	9,132
Finance and insurance .....	38	57	67	71	2,666	4,469	6,220	6,374
Real estate and rental and leasing .....	6	16	13	14	407	980	1,078	985
Professional and technical services .....	66	81	97	83	6,924	7,191	10,085	7,030
Management of companies and enterprises ...	4	10	10	12	383	923	854	1,329
Administrative and waste services .....	192	227	300	310	16,175	18,762	25,498	32,973
Educational services .....	6	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	10	383	467	( <sup>2</sup> )	758
Health care and social assistance .....	85	24	49	87	7,643	1,820	3,343	8,402
Arts, entertainment, and recreation .....	32	17	47	37	1,993	1,259	4,074	2,676
Accommodation and food services .....	122	115	134	189	13,212	13,090	13,168	21,484
Other services, except public administration ...	38	9	23	41	3,604	537	2,168	3,797
Unclassified .....	-	-	1	-	-	-	86	-
Government .....	85	51	83	139	6,961	4,406	6,382	13,515
Federal .....	16	5	6	37	1,656	470	461	4,585
State .....	14	11	20	25	867	1,066	1,631	2,185
Local .....	55	35	57	77	4,438	2,870	4,290	6,745

<sup>1</sup> Data were reported by all states and the District of Columbia.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

<sup>2</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

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

Date	Total mass layoffs		Private nonfarm					
			Mass layoffs		Extended mass layoffs lasting more than 30 days		Realization rates <sup>1</sup>	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2007								
April .....	1,219	127,444	1,115	118,040				
May .....	923	85,816	856	81,153				
June .....	1,599	172,810	1,318	148,669				
Second Quarter .....	3,741	386,070	3,289	347,862	1,421	259,234	43.2	74.5
July .....	1,599	175,419	1,450	164,939				
August .....	963	93,458	908	88,345				
September .....	717	67,385	667	64,026				
Third Quarter .....	3,279	336,262	3,025	317,310	1,018	173,077	33.7	54.5
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	339,574	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	1,582	303,774	37.4	68.8
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	3,585	762,737	47.6	98.7
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	<sup>2,p</sup> 3,489	<sup>2,p</sup> 542,023	<sup>p</sup> 44.1	<sup>p</sup> 67.1
April .....	2,547	256,930	2,385	243,321				
May .....	2,738	289,628	2,572	274,047				

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>p</sup> = 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			
	May 2008	March 2009	April 2009	May 2009	May 2008	March 2009	April 2009	May 2009
United States <sup>1</sup> .....	1,552	2,191	2,547	2,738	159,471	228,387	256,930	289,628
Northeast .....	266	317	504	451	25,619	29,493	56,253	41,413
New England .....	32	68	88	67	3,218	7,021	9,192	5,865
Middle Atlantic .....	234	249	416	384	22,401	22,472	47,061	35,548
South .....	402	589	655	742	42,832	61,432	62,714	72,375
South Atlantic .....	199	276	368	370	15,761	27,819	33,338	34,117
East South Central .....	116	158	160	171	16,810	15,629	16,166	18,081
West South Central .....	87	155	127	201	10,261	17,984	13,210	20,177
Midwest .....	390	607	608	826	45,462	81,957	72,383	105,264
East North Central .....	312	466	482	649	36,332	64,595	60,241	84,281
West North Central .....	78	141	126	177	9,130	17,362	12,142	20,983
West .....	494	678	780	719	45,558	55,505	65,580	70,576
Mountain .....	62	109	125	135	5,548	10,991	11,993	13,290
Pacific .....	432	569	655	584	40,010	44,514	53,587	57,286

<sup>1</sup> 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			
	May 2008	March 2009	April 2009	May 2009	May 2008	March 2009	April 2009	May 2009
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	1,552	2,191	2,547	2,738	159,471	228,387	256,930	289,628
Alabama .....	35	45	27	40	4,044	4,985	2,745	4,037
Alaska .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	12	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	828	1,230
Arizona .....	9	22	41	28	872	2,483	4,985	2,484
Arkansas .....	7	10	12	18	648	806	1,057	2,319
California .....	382	498	567	487	34,085	38,130	43,675	47,091
Colorado .....	8	13	19	15	930	1,578	1,696	1,762
Connecticut .....	11	11	11	17	924	928	884	1,389
Delaware .....	3	4	11	3	203	509	988	172
District of Columbia .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Florida .....	125	107	152	181	8,841	8,594	11,010	12,446
Georgia .....	32	46	50	56	3,170	4,152	6,006	5,187
Hawaii .....	11	5	10	8	1,118	376	934	900
Idaho .....	12	16	10	9	1,131	1,664	754	680
Illinois .....	59	109	105	135	8,058	18,096	17,550	19,717
Indiana .....	44	68	80	86	4,943	10,781	9,659	10,416
Iowa .....	12	38	30	31	3,033	6,140	2,636	4,379
Kansas .....	12	19	7	31	893	2,259	737	3,551
Kentucky .....	39	72	83	85	8,666	7,861	9,194	9,894
Louisiana .....	22	16	27	35	3,101	1,411	2,670	3,160
Maine .....	-	9	6	7	-	835	493	644
Maryland .....	4	8	12	10	318	531	1,115	1,201
Massachusetts .....	9	25	38	23	946	2,422	3,770	2,281
Michigan .....	85	87	74	180	8,139	11,121	7,139	26,344
Minnesota .....	10	30	35	38	1,075	3,665	3,103	4,224
Mississippi .....	18	12	15	9	1,682	745	1,350	726
Missouri .....	35	42	46	54	3,298	3,430	4,719	6,336
Montana .....	6	7	4	7	437	667	335	856
Nebraska .....	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	13	413	( <sup>2</sup> )	390	1,306
Nevada .....	14	27	26	52	1,057	2,351	2,123	5,297
New Hampshire .....	5	9	10	7	384	1,213	848	526
New Jersey .....	38	39	66	45	3,813	3,217	7,334	4,394
New Mexico .....	9	9	14	13	690	858	909	1,089
New York .....	95	70	182	112	9,613	6,974	24,349	10,762
North Carolina .....	9	44	28	33	1,163	6,277	2,582	5,351
North Dakota .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,259	( <sup>2</sup> )	869
Ohio .....	67	93	115	145	7,621	13,067	14,791	16,920
Oklahoma .....	3	17	14	13	624	1,483	2,464	1,772
Oregon .....	24	42	43	41	3,449	4,118	5,554	4,775
Pennsylvania .....	101	140	168	227	8,975	12,281	15,378	20,392
Rhode Island .....	3	9	8	7	243	889	1,649	563
South Carolina .....	11	48	60	31	809	6,157	6,482	3,021
South Dakota .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	323	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Tennessee .....	24	29	35	37	2,418	2,038	2,877	3,424
Texas .....	55	112	74	135	5,888	14,284	7,019	12,926
Utah .....	4	14	10	10	431	1,313	1,055	1,020
Vermont .....	4	5	15	6	721	734	1,548	462
Virginia .....	11	14	42	49	904	1,229	4,052	6,168
Washington .....	13	23	30	36	1,211	1,833	2,596	3,290
West Virginia .....	3	4	12	5	277	301	1,028	429
Wisconsin .....	57	109	108	103	7,571	11,530	11,102	10,884
Wyoming .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Puerto Rico .....	17	22	13	23	2,626	2,035	1,321	2,830

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 3.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

<sup>2</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.