

For release 10:00 a.m. (EDT) Thursday, October 22, 2009

USDL-09-1272

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

MASS LAYOFFS – SEPTEMBER 2009

Employers took 2,561 mass layoff actions in September that resulted in the separation of 248,006 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 September decreased by 129 from the prior month, and the number of associated initial claims decreased by 11,301. Over the year, the number of mass layoff events increased by 271, and associated initial claims increased by 7,285. Year-to-date mass layoff events (23,745) and initial claims (2,410,208) both recorded program highs. In September, 856 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 97,066 initial claims. Over the month, the number of manufacturing events decreased by 44, while associated initial claims increased by 3,174. (See table 1.)

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

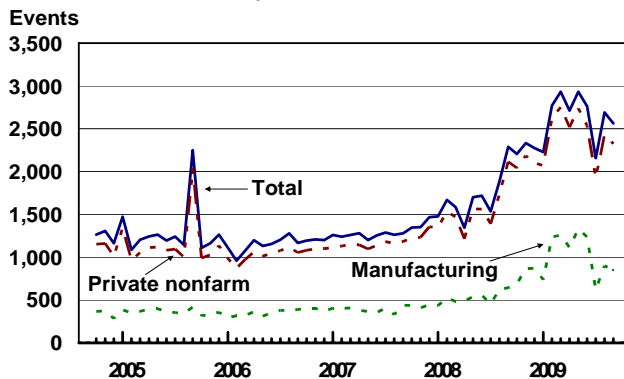
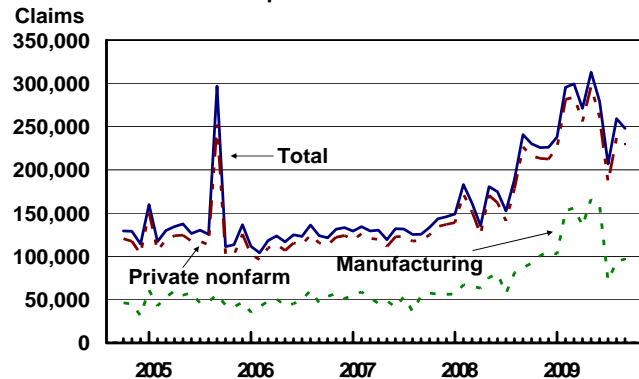


Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted, October 2004-September 2009



During the 22 months from December 2007 through September 2009, the total number of mass layoff events (seasonally adjusted) was 47,230, and the number of initial claims filed (seasonally adjusted) in those events was 4,804,642. (December 2007 was the start of a recession as designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research.)

The national unemployment rate was 9.8 percent in September 2009, seasonally adjusted, little changed from 9.7 percent the prior month and up from 6.2 percent a year earlier. In September, total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 263,000 over the month and by 5,785,000 from a year earlier.

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

Industry	Initial claims	September peak	
		Year	Initial claims
Temporary help services ¹	5,635	2001	12,752
Construction machinery manufacturing	3,452	2009	3,452
Discount department stores	3,446	2005	3,550
Farm machinery and equipment manufacturing	2,982	2009	2,982
Automobile manufacturing	2,646	2004	(²)
Professional employer organizations ¹	2,548	2008	4,520
Motion picture and video production	2,431	1997	11,176
Elementary and secondary schools	2,033	2005	15,815
Hotels and motels, except casino hotels	1,996	2001	10,886
Nonresidential electrical contractors	1,759	2009	1,759

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

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

Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in September was 1,371 on a not seasonally adjusted basis; the number of associated initial claims was 123,177. (See table 2.) Over the year, the number of mass layoff events increased by 79, while associated initial claims decreased by 6,409. Five of the 19 major industry sectors reported program highs in terms of average weekly initial claimants for the month of September: mining; utilities; wholesale trade; finance and insurance; and management of companies and enterprises. (Average weekly analysis mitigates the effect of differing lengths of months. See the Technical Note.)

The manufacturing sector accounted for 33 percent of all mass layoff events and 42 percent of initial claims filed in September 2009. A year earlier, manufacturing made up 28 percent of events and 36 percent of initial claims. Within manufacturing, the number of claimants in September was greatest in machinery (12,389) and transportation equipment (7,331). (See table 3.) The construction sector accounted for 12 percent of mass layoff events and 9 percent of initial claims.

Of the 10 detailed industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims, 3 reached a series high for September: nonresidential electrical contractors; farm machinery and equipment manufacturing; and construction machinery manufacturing. This September, the industry with the largest number of initial claims was temporary help services. (See table A.)

Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Among the 4 census regions, the Midwest registered the highest number of initial claims in September due to mass layoffs (38,137), followed by the West (37,480) and the South (28,943). (See table 5.) Initial claims associated with mass layoffs increased over the year in 2 of the 4 regions, with the Midwest experiencing the largest increase (+11,491). In 2009, the Midwest reported its highest September level of average weekly initial claims (9,534) in program history.

Of the 9 geographic divisions, the Pacific had the highest number of initial claims due to mass layoffs in September, followed by the East North Central and the Middle Atlantic. (See table 5.) Seven of the 9 divisions experienced over-the-year increases in initial claims, led by the East North Central (+7,217). This year, the East North Central division reached a program high for September in terms of average weekly initial claims.

California recorded the highest number of initial claims in September, with 28,797, even though it had an over-the-year decrease in initial claims (-5,787). The over-the-year decrease in California was largely due to a drop in claims from the administrative and support services industry. The states with the next highest number of mass layoff initial claims were Illinois (10,743), Pennsylvania (8,587), and Michigan (6,167). (See table 6.) Twenty-eight states experienced over-the-year increases in initial claims, led by Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Kansas. In 2009, six states reached program highs in average weekly initial claims for the month of September: Alaska, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and Wisconsin.

Louisiana registered the largest decrease in initial claims from September of 2008, when Hurricane Gustov contributed to higher layoff activity.

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.

Extended Mass Layoffs in the Third Quarter of 2009 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. (EST). Mass Layoffs in October 2009 is scheduled to be released on Friday, November 20, 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, October 2005 to September 2009, seasonally adjusted

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2005						
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
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

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

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2005						
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
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

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

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	September 2008	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009	September 2008	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009
Seasonally adjusted								
Total	2,290	2,157	2,690	2,561	240,721	206,791	259,307	248,006
Total, private nonfarm	2,114	1,928	2,428	2,324	226,492	185,718	237,302	229,371
Manufacturing	643	621	900	856	86,617	72,266	93,892	97,066
Not seasonally adjusted								
Total ¹	1,292	3,054	1,428	1,371	129,586	336,654	125,024	123,177
Total, private	1,227	2,752	1,356	1,285	124,096	304,108	118,920	116,813
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	25	93	22	27	1,591	7,519	1,727	1,672
Total, private nonfarm	1,202	2,659	1,334	1,258	122,505	296,589	117,193	115,141
Mining	6	22	9	10	728	1,816	603	918
Utilities	(²)	3	(²)	6	(²)	446	(²)	448
Construction	144	170	160	167	10,763	12,415	11,904	10,637
Manufacturing	361	1,133	436	448	46,391	154,208	41,151	51,126
Food	33	67	41	50	3,068	8,076	3,632	5,044
Beverage and tobacco products	7	8	5	5	648	624	937	306
Textile mills	13	21	(²)	12	1,422	2,424	(²)	1,197
Textile product mills	3	8	5	(²)	347	875	557	(²)
Apparel	7	26	15	7	688	2,926	1,317	572
Leather and allied products	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	(²)	306	(²)	(²)
Wood products	32	42	19	36	2,901	3,453	1,423	2,653
Paper	8	17	8	15	603	1,439	576	1,287
Printing and related support activities	5	16	9	10	341	1,950	714	828
Petroleum and coal products	-	6	-	-	-	373	-	-
Chemicals	8	19	10	9	527	1,722	843	540
Plastics and rubber products	16	74	17	13	1,224	9,776	1,532	1,195
Nonmetallic mineral products	12	29	18	12	861	3,044	1,147	763
Primary metals	13	89	31	30	1,582	9,850	2,742	3,330
Fabricated metal products	35	114	43	44	2,357	10,798	3,501	3,856
Machinery	28	132	74	63	4,058	29,528	6,608	12,389
Computer and electronic products	15	77	30	28	1,556	7,823	2,535	1,986
Electrical equipment and appliances	22	45	18	23	3,453	5,992	1,853	2,740
Transportation equipment	87	275	68	53	19,278	47,322	9,076	7,331
Furniture and related products	13	35	13	22	1,153	3,311	941	3,481
Miscellaneous manufacturing	(²)	29	6	11	(²)	2,596	577	1,117
Wholesale trade	20	78	34	32	1,642	6,201	2,714	2,422
Retail trade	112	161	111	139	10,345	17,388	10,173	13,094
Transportation and warehousing	54	131	101	47	4,383	11,279	9,131	4,807
Information	45	90	46	45	6,021	13,941	6,067	4,572
Finance and insurance	38	84	47	43	3,104	6,700	4,434	3,308
Real estate and rental and leasing	7	12	7	(²)	396	819	404	(²)
Professional and technical services	35	95	32	31	5,623	10,555	2,302	1,998
Management of companies and enterprises ...	(²)	14	(²)	5	(²)	2,289	(²)	495
Administrative and waste services	181	351	195	142	18,557	35,419	15,604	11,525
Educational services	5	31	13	7	346	2,540	1,796	371
Health care and social assistance	54	101	31	23	4,021	7,010	1,947	1,573
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	30	38	19	29	2,043	2,611	1,403	2,209
Accommodation and food services	99	124	74	73	7,552	9,651	6,034	4,981
Other services, except public administration ...	6	19	13	7	297	1,212	1,076	409
Unclassified	2	2	-	(²)	73	89	-	(²)
Government	65	302	72	86	5,490	32,546	6,104	6,364
Federal	9	10	14	8	764	845	1,381	603
State	12	39	19	28	922	3,297	1,717	2,082
Local	44	253	39	50	3,804	28,404	3,006	3,679

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, July 2007 to September 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								
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	339,629	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	304,316	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	765,019	47.5	99.0
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	830,028	50.3	102.8
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	^{2,p} 2,994	^{2,p} 506,533	^p 42.7	^p 69.1
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				

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.

^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			
	September 2008	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009	September 2008	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009
United States ¹	1,292	3,054	1,428	1,371	129,586	336,654	125,024	123,177
Northeast	142	511	279	233	11,646	45,526	26,444	18,617
New England	15	82	32	29	1,180	7,194	2,953	2,762
Middle Atlantic	127	429	247	204	10,466	38,332	23,491	15,855
South	475	725	342	334	43,772	71,648	29,486	28,943
South Atlantic	153	389	204	182	12,291	34,220	17,732	14,927
East South Central	54	213	57	71	4,788	25,153	4,820	6,844
West South Central	268	123	81	81	26,693	12,275	6,934	7,172
Midwest	225	805	350	309	26,646	117,188	32,197	38,137
East North Central	189	635	273	240	23,087	94,516	25,962	30,304
West North Central	36	170	77	69	3,559	22,672	6,235	7,833
West	450	1,013	457	495	47,522	102,292	36,897	37,480
Mountain	43	112	63	53	3,675	11,241	6,116	3,924
Pacific	407	901	394	442	43,847	91,051	30,781	33,556

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			
	September 2008	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009	September 2008	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009
Total ¹	1,292	3,054	1,428	1,371	129,586	336,654	125,024	123,177
Alabama	12	75	23	22	1,090	8,324	1,997	2,044
Alaska	3	(²)	4	7	241	(²)	295	849
Arizona	8	35	10	7	586	3,469	977	463
Arkansas	3	11	4	(²)	359	1,033	260	(²)
California	358	812	340	395	34,584	82,085	26,082	28,797
Colorado	3	15	5	14	196	1,536	374	1,036
Connecticut	6	15	4	4	402	1,056	334	323
Delaware	(²)	5	(²)	(²)	(²)	347	(²)	(²)
District of Columbia	-	-	(²)	-	-	-	(²)	-
Florida	96	192	104	91	5,988	14,929	7,795	5,975
Georgia	20	62	23	35	1,885	7,636	2,202	2,817
Hawaii	9	9	8	6	919	670	872	465
Idaho	4	8	9	4	324	759	1,305	306
Illinois	43	110	82	71	4,941	25,119	7,432	10,743
Indiana	34	87	30	21	4,314	10,131	3,182	2,895
Iowa	10	48	17	18	1,455	8,730	1,359	2,384
Kansas	6	22	14	15	478	2,088	945	2,880
Kentucky	24	97	22	32	2,351	14,128	2,006	3,394
Louisiana	163	21	18	10	14,929	1,768	1,698	887
Maine	(²)	4	(²)	3	(²)	256	(²)	268
Maryland	5	11	10	7	349	987	759	463
Massachusetts	4	31	13	12	310	2,972	1,357	985
Michigan	40	185	43	40	4,130	23,929	3,593	6,167
Minnesota	4	31	13	15	430	3,229	948	1,122
Mississippi	6	14	5	5	463	803	349	323
Missouri	16	61	28	16	1,196	7,647	2,549	1,018
Montana	(²)	5	3	3	(²)	481	258	227
Nebraska	-	4	(²)	3	-	418	(²)	210
Nevada	18	37	30	15	1,604	3,212	2,879	1,201
New Hampshire	(²)	17	6	(²)	(²)	1,564	454	(²)
New Jersey	17	101	27	31	1,663	8,366	2,162	2,844
New Mexico	4	5	4	7	440	252	191	487
New York	36	126	106	58	2,905	11,886	11,405	4,424
North Carolina	9	23	19	8	793	1,950	2,523	918
North Dakota	-	4	(²)	(²)	-	560	(²)	(²)
Ohio	32	138	58	47	5,912	19,704	5,941	4,745
Oklahoma	5	16	8	4	789	2,013	679	401
Oregon	21	49	21	15	2,942	5,492	1,691	1,402
Pennsylvania	74	202	114	115	5,898	18,080	9,924	8,587
Rhode Island	(²)	10	5	3	(²)	965	456	260
South Carolina	16	59	20	18	1,793	5,359	2,133	2,831
South Dakota	-	-	(²)	-	-	-	(²)	-
Tennessee	12	27	7	12	884	1,898	468	1,083
Texas	97	75	51	65	10,616	7,461	4,297	5,715
Utah	3	7	(²)	3	243	1,532	(²)	204
Vermont	(²)	5	(²)	5	(²)	381	(²)	507
Virginia	4	35	21	22	546	2,873	1,652	1,868
Washington	16	29	21	19	5,161	2,549	1,841	2,043
West Virginia	(²)	(²)	4	-	(²)	(²)	272	-
Wisconsin	40	115	60	61	3,790	15,633	5,814	5,754
Wyoming	(²)	-	-	-	(²)	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	18	22	15	17	1,715	1,826	1,326	1,563

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.