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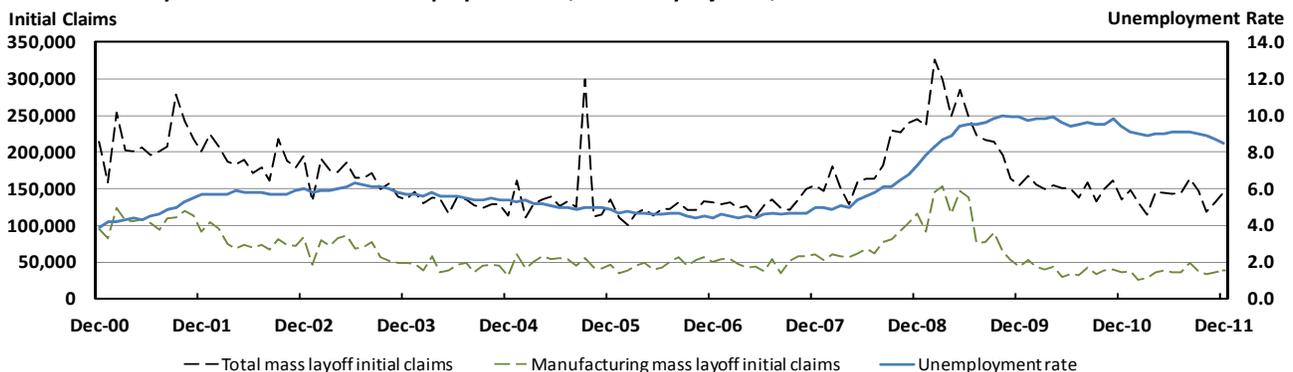
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Technical information: (202) 691-6392 • [mlsinfo@bls.gov](mailto:mlsinfo@bls.gov) • [www.bls.gov/mls](http://www.bls.gov/mls)  
Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • [PressOffice@bls.gov](mailto:PressOffice@bls.gov)

## MASS LAYOFFS – DECEMBER 2011 ANNUAL TOTALS – 2011

Employers took 1,384 mass layoff actions in December involving 145,648 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 mass layoff involved at least 50 workers from a single employer. Mass layoff events in December increased by 52 from November, and associated initial claims increased by 14,021. In December, 351 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 39,081 initial claims. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Mass layoff initial claims and unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, December 2000-December 2011



### Revision of Seasonally Adjusted Mass Layoff Data

Seasonally adjusted mass layoff data have been revised using updated seasonal adjustment factors that incorporate 2011 data. Seasonally adjusted estimates back to January 2007 were subject to revision. Revised seasonally adjusted data from January 2008 forward are shown in table 1. The originally published and revised figures for January 2007-November 2011 will be available at [www.bls.gov/mls/mlssarevision.htm](http://www.bls.gov/mls/mlssarevision.htm), along with additional information about the revisions.

**Table A. Six-digit NAICS industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims in December 2011, private nonfarm, not seasonally adjusted**

Industry	Initial Claims	December peak	
		Year	Initial claims
Temporary help services <sup>1</sup> .....	19,987	2011	19,987
Food service contractors .....	19,639	2011	19,639
Highway, street, and bridge construction .....	15,919	2005	20,030
School and employee bus transportation .....	15,849	2011	15,849
Motion picture and video production .....	11,109	1998	16,192
Payroll services .....	4,588	2000	6,268
Landscaping services .....	3,146	2011	3,146
Hotels and motels, except casino hotels .....	3,045	2008	3,528
Casino hotels .....	2,831	2011	2,831
Professional employer organizations <sup>1</sup> .....	2,668	2008	6,101

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

The national unemployment rate was 8.5 percent in December, down from 8.7 percent the prior month and from 9.4 percent a year earlier. Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 200,000 over the month and by 1,640,000 over the year.

### **Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

The number of mass layoff events in December was 2,433, not seasonally adjusted, resulting in 263,665 initial claims for unemployment insurance. (See table 2.) Over the year, average weekly mass layoff events increased by 4 to 487, and associated average weekly initial claims increased by 6,700 to 52,733. Ten of the 19 major industry sectors in the private economy reported over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims, with the largest increases occurring in information, administrative and waste services, and manufacturing. (See table 3.) The six-digit industry with the largest number of private nonfarm initial claims in December 2011 was temporary help services. (See table A.)

In December, the manufacturing sector accounted for 28 percent of mass layoff events and 30 percent of associated initial claims in the private economy. A year earlier, manufacturing made up 25 percent of events and 30 percent of initial claims. Within manufacturing, the numbers of mass layoff claimants in December 2011 were greatest in transportation equipment, food, and textile mills. Twelve of the 21 manufacturing subsectors experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims, with the largest increases occurring in food and in textile mills. (See table 3.)

**Table B. Number of mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, 1996-2011, not seasonally adjusted**

Year	Layoff events	Initial claimants for unemployment insurance
1996 .....	14,111	1,437,628
1997 .....	14,960	1,542,543
1998 .....	15,904	1,771,069
1999 .....	14,909	1,572,399
2000 .....	15,738	1,835,592
2001 .....	21,467	2,514,862
2002 .....	20,277	2,245,051
2003 .....	18,963	1,888,926
2004 .....	15,980	1,607,158
2005 .....	16,466	1,795,341
2006 .....	13,998	1,484,391
2007 .....	15,493	1,598,875
2008 .....	21,137	2,130,220
2009 .....	28,030	2,796,456
2010 .....	19,564	1,854,596
2011 .....	18,521	1,808,451

**Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

Among the census regions, the Midwest registered the greatest number of initial claims in December. All four regions experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims, with the largest increase occurring in the West. (See table 4.)

Among the states, California recorded the highest number of mass layoff initial claims in December, followed by Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and New York. Twenty-nine states experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims, led by California and Pennsylvania. (See table 4.)

**Review of 2011**

For all of 2011, the total numbers of mass layoff events, at 18,521, and initial claims, at 1,808,451, declined to their lowest levels since 2007. (See table B.) Twelve of the 19 major industry sectors in the private economy reported over-the-year decreases in initial claims, led by manufacturing, construction, and retail trade. In 2011, total initial claims in the manufacturing sector declined to a series low 481,702.

The manufacturing sector accounted for 26 percent of mass layoff events and 29 percent of associated initial claims in the private economy in 2011, about the same percentages as in 2010. The number of manufacturing claimants in 2011 was highest in transportation equipment and in food. Total initial

**Table C. Six-digit NAICS industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims in 2011, private nonfarm, not seasonally adjusted**

Industry	2010		2011	
	Initial claims	Rank	Initial claims	Rank
Temporary help services <sup>1</sup> .....	117,391	1	143,938	1
School and employee bus transportation .....	90,887	2	95,287	2
Food service contractors .....	74,873	3	75,006	3
Motion picture and video production .....	45,856	4	47,988	4
Highway, street, and bridge construction .....	41,662	5	40,349	5
Professional employer organizations <sup>1</sup> .....	40,396	6	31,916	6
Discount department stores .....	29,986	8	29,807	7
Child day care services .....	19,141	12	23,237	8
Supermarkets and other grocery stores .....	24,534	9	19,781	9
Wired telecommunications carriers .....	8,236	37	19,116	10

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

claims in 14 of the 21 manufacturing subsectors decreased between 2010 and 2011, with transportation equipment and machinery experiencing the largest declines.

The six-digit industry in the private nonfarm sector with the greatest number of initial claims in 2011 was temporary help services. Child day care services and wired telecommunications carriers entered the list of 10 industries with the highest initial claims for the entire year. (See table C.) Four industries among these 10 reached program highs in 2011—school and employee bus transportation, food service contractors, child day care centers, and wired telecommunications carriers. (Annual data began in 1996.)

Two of the 4 census regions reported over-the-year decreases in initial claims from 2010 to 2011, with the largest decline occurring in the West. Among the states, California recorded the highest number of mass layoff initial claims in 2011, followed by Pennsylvania, New York, Florida, and Wisconsin. Twenty-nine states experienced over-the-year decreases in total initial claims for the year, led by California, Illinois, and Florida.

#### 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. The monthly data series in this release are subjected to average weekly analysis, which mitigates the effect of differing lengths of months. See the Technical Note for more detailed definitions and for a description of average weekly analysis.

**The Extended Mass Layoffs news release for the Fourth Quarter 2011 and Annual Totals for 2011 is scheduled to be released on Friday, February 10, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. (EST).**

**The Mass Layoffs news release for January 2012 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, February 23, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. (EST).**

### **Upcoming Changes to Mass Layoff Data**

With the release of January 2012 data on February 23, 2012, the Mass Layoff Statistics program will update the basis for industry classification from the 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) to the 2012 NAICS. The new conversion reflects definitional changes within the utilities, construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, and retail trade sectors. Several industry titles and descriptions will also be updated. For more information on the 2012 NAICS update, visit [www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html](http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html).

# 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, data users who intend to perform analysis of over-the-year change in the not seasonally adjusted series should use the average weekly mass layoff figures displayed in tables 3 and 4 of this release. The average weekly adjustment process produces a consistent series for each month across all years, permitting over-the-year analysis to be performed using strictly comparable data.

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

*Average weekly mass layoff events and initial claimants.* The number of events and initial claimants in a given month divided by the number of weeks contained within that month.

*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 temporary 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, January 2008 to December 2011, seasonally adjusted**

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
<b>2008</b>						
January .....	1,439	146,850	1,300	135,422	421	53,254
February .....	1,724	179,955	1,567	168,003	485	60,752
March .....	1,515	151,628	1,400	141,316	441	58,254
April .....	1,290	128,643	1,157	117,639	453	57,044
May .....	1,567	160,475	1,432	150,893	470	62,776
June .....	1,612	163,425	1,471	152,133	491	68,862
July .....	1,589	163,572	1,452	153,060	465	62,210
August .....	1,763	181,853	1,632	172,147	578	77,464
September .....	2,159	229,180	1,990	215,749	629	82,011
October .....	2,201	226,853	2,043	213,454	698	93,252
November .....	2,406	239,239	2,247	225,404	907	103,836
December .....	2,437	244,889	2,261	230,621	935	116,181
<b>2009</b>						
January .....	2,254	235,371	2,083	221,653	726	92,293
February .....	3,059	326,392	2,901	310,378	1,251	145,839
March .....	2,999	299,322	2,800	282,414	1,230	154,168
April .....	2,566	249,129	2,349	232,632	1,007	116,051
May .....	2,710	284,468	2,516	267,869	1,181	147,184
June .....	2,466	247,597	2,257	230,502	1,048	137,649
July .....	2,186	222,941	1,979	203,911	636	75,728
August .....	2,340	216,047	2,115	197,172	751	77,894
September .....	2,261	214,018	2,048	198,761	786	91,125
October .....	1,969	195,752	1,772	178,172	571	65,217
November .....	1,757	164,454	1,588	151,172	472	52,855
December .....	1,719	155,056	1,543	140,835	424	44,096
<b>2010</b>						
January .....	1,707	168,044	1,529	154,187	471	53,817
February .....	1,631	156,292	1,465	141,831	374	43,620
March .....	1,676	149,816	1,469	134,518	356	40,705
April .....	1,637	154,558	1,452	138,503	368	44,506
May .....	1,608	150,996	1,357	130,273	302	29,932
June .....	1,695	151,435	1,475	132,742	325	33,298
July .....	1,519	138,091	1,316	122,162	304	32,253
August .....	1,588	159,329	1,399	136,697	390	43,154
September .....	1,510	133,576	1,295	115,349	328	34,333
October .....	1,654	149,589	1,446	132,146	354	38,937
November .....	1,592	161,145	1,410	145,494	360	39,977
December .....	1,477	135,849	1,271	121,171	322	36,267
<b>2011</b>						
January .....	1,536	148,952	1,348	131,869	337	37,477
February .....	1,434	131,569	1,242	116,745	297	26,696
March .....	1,275	115,391	1,118	102,722	251	28,988
April .....	1,548	145,836	1,383	131,317	341	37,053
May .....	1,600	144,412	1,404	127,793	374	39,180
June .....	1,513	143,384	1,334	128,410	344	36,265
July .....	1,562	145,078	1,348	125,285	346	36,312
August .....	1,551	164,275	1,347	149,874	382	49,194
September .....	1,447	147,353	1,306	134,038	364	38,026
October .....	1,335	118,924	1,205	107,330	341	33,926
November .....	1,332	131,627	1,192	120,760	324	36,563
December .....	1,384	145,648	1,238	130,583	351	39,081

**Table 2. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, January 2008 to December 2011, not seasonally adjusted**

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
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
November .....	1,870	164,496	1,679	150,751	517	55,053
December .....	2,310	214,648	2,166	203,655	615	64,540
2010						
January .....	2,860	278,679	2,682	265,074	962	104,846
February .....	1,183	102,818	1,091	96,022	282	30,728
March .....	1,197	111,727	1,111	105,514	273	29,745
April .....	1,840	199,690	1,697	184,654	424	55,178
May .....	1,354	123,333	1,170	109,203	216	19,334
June .....	1,861	171,190	1,355	125,872	212	21,083
July .....	2,124	206,254	1,732	172,248	532	64,200
August .....	976	92,435	897	83,021	230	23,088
September .....	920	77,654	806	67,987	187	19,403
October .....	1,642	148,638	1,373	127,865	351	40,861
November .....	1,676	158,048	1,477	142,591	389	41,383
December .....	1,931	184,130	1,763	172,881	465	52,816
2011						
January .....	2,558	246,463	2,372	229,765	693	75,006
February .....	1,024	85,585	919	78,718	222	18,471
March .....	908	85,095	844	80,014	191	20,869
April .....	1,750	189,919	1,625	176,478	397	47,104
May .....	1,367	119,911	1,221	108,531	270	25,199
June .....	1,661	159,930	1,238	122,821	226	22,986
July .....	2,176	216,774	1,759	174,078	602	71,814
August .....	961	99,213	875	93,159	228	26,916
September .....	1,189	117,232	1,095	107,300	296	32,058
October .....	1,101	96,914	950	83,748	265	28,447
November .....	1,393	127,750	1,245	117,474	349	37,799
December .....	2,433	263,665	2,258	247,916	658	75,033

**Table 3. Industry distribution: Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, not seasonally adjusted**

Industry	Mass layoff totals				Average weekly mass layoffs <sup>1</sup>			
	Events		Initial claimants		Events		Initial claimants	
	December 2010	December 2011	December 2010	December 2011	December 2010	December 2011	December 2010	December 2011
Total <sup>2</sup> .....	1,931	2,433	184,130	263,665	483	487	46,033	52,733
Total, private .....	1,830	2,322	176,405	252,259	458	464	44,101	50,452
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting .....	67	64	3,524	4,343	17	13	881	869
Total, private nonfarm .....	1,763	2,258	172,881	247,916	441	452	43,220	49,583
Mining .....	29	26	2,439	2,404	7	5	610	481
Utilities .....	( <sup>3</sup> ) 5	( <sup>3</sup> ) 5	( <sup>3</sup> ) 476	( <sup>3</sup> ) 476	( <sup>3</sup> ) 1	( <sup>3</sup> ) 1	( <sup>3</sup> ) 95	( <sup>3</sup> ) 95
Construction .....	379	402	29,458	32,402	95	80	7,365	6,480
Construction of buildings .....	42	38	3,379	3,075	11	8	845	615
Heavy and civil engineering construction .....	211	252	16,878	21,638	53	50	4,220	4,328
Specialty trade contractors .....	126	112	9,201	7,689	32	22	2,300	1,538
Manufacturing .....	465	658	52,816	75,033	116	132	13,204	15,007
Food .....	52	99	6,590	12,340	13	20	1,648	2,468
Beverage and tobacco products .....	8	10	856	1,225	2	2	214	245
Textile mills .....	21	44	2,239	6,237	5	9	560	1,247
Textile product mills .....	8	8	981	1,312	2	2	245	262
Apparel .....	18	17	1,294	1,586	5	3	324	317
Leather and allied products .....	3	5	850	433	1	1	213	87
Wood products .....	39	49	3,623	4,583	10	10	906	917
Paper .....	14	10	1,055	1,180	4	2	264	236
Printing and related support activities .....	13	11	934	786	3	2	234	157
Petroleum and coal products .....	10	14	892	1,298	3	3	223	260
Chemicals .....	8	12	561	1,131	2	2	140	226
Plastics and rubber products .....	25	44	2,392	4,720	6	9	598	944
Nonmetallic mineral products .....	48	47	4,212	4,666	12	9	1,053	933
Primary metals .....	21	28	1,919	3,104	5	6	480	621
Fabricated metal products .....	29	41	2,380	4,047	7	8	595	809
Machinery .....	18	38	2,724	5,472	5	8	681	1,094
Computer and electronic products .....	13	27	1,214	2,223	3	5	304	445
Electrical equipment and appliances .....	12	16	2,372	2,759	3	3	593	552
Transportation equipment .....	78	107	12,534	12,458	20	21	3,134	2,492
Furniture and related products .....	20	22	2,521	2,712	5	4	630	542
Miscellaneous manufacturing .....	7	9	673	761	2	2	168	152
Wholesale trade .....	23	29	1,706	2,411	6	6	427	482
Retail trade <sup>4</sup> .....	105	135	9,985	14,295	26	27	2,496	2,859
Building material and garden supply stores .....	8	15	779	1,797	2	3	195	359
Food and beverage stores .....	27	20	2,394	1,580	7	4	599	316
Clothing and clothing accessories stores .....	4	12	289	958	1	2	72	192
General merchandise stores .....	33	41	3,735	5,876	8	8	934	1,175
Transportation and warehousing <sup>4</sup> .....	114	161	13,341	21,508	29	32	3,335	4,302
Truck transportation .....	14	8	879	572	4	2	220	114
Transit and ground passenger transportation .....	90	128	11,354	18,520	23	26	2,839	3,704
Support activities for transportation .....	( <sup>3</sup> ) 8	( <sup>3</sup> ) 8	( <sup>3</sup> ) 819	( <sup>3</sup> ) 819	( <sup>3</sup> ) 2	( <sup>3</sup> ) 2	( <sup>3</sup> ) 164	( <sup>3</sup> ) 164
Information .....	25	54	2,818	14,865	6	11	705	2,973
Finance and insurance .....	29	24	2,151	1,843	7	5	538	369
Real estate and rental and leasing .....	13	8	1,408	495	3	2	352	99
Professional and technical services .....	44	67	3,549	9,581	11	13	887	1,916
Management of companies and enterprises .....	( <sup>3</sup> ) 4	( <sup>3</sup> ) 4	( <sup>3</sup> ) 374	( <sup>3</sup> ) 374	( <sup>3</sup> ) 1	( <sup>3</sup> ) 1	( <sup>3</sup> ) 75	( <sup>3</sup> ) 75
Administrative and waste services .....	225	338	17,203	32,076	56	68	4,301	6,415
Educational services .....	9	11	958	860	2	2	240	172
Health care and social assistance .....	46	56	3,904	4,900	12	11	976	980
Arts, entertainment, and recreation .....	24	28	1,843	2,022	6	6	461	404
Accommodation and food services .....	208	232	27,239	30,635	52	46	6,810	6,127
Accommodation .....	45	67	3,729	5,876	11	13	932	1,175
Food services and drinking places .....	163	165	23,510	24,759	41	33	5,878	4,952
Other services, except public administration .....	15	19	1,153	1,681	4	4	288	336
Unclassified .....	1	1	92	55	-	-	23	11
Government .....	101	111	7,725	11,406	25	22	1,931	2,281
Federal .....	10	9	1,215	755	3	2	304	151
State .....	22	25	1,724	2,580	6	5	431	516
State government education .....	8	15	583	1,868	2	3	146	374
Local .....	69	77	4,786	8,071	17	15	1,197	1,614
Local government education .....	39	46	2,436	5,123	10	9	609	1,025

<sup>1</sup> Average weekly analysis mitigates the effect of differing lengths of months. There were 4 weeks in December 2010 and 5 weeks in December 2011. Average weekly events and initial claimants may not sum to subtotals and totals due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Data were reported by all states and the District of Columbia.

<sup>3</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

<sup>4</sup> Includes other industries not shown.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

**Table 4. Region and state distribution: Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, not seasonally adjusted**

Census region and state	Mass layoff totals				Average weekly mass layoffs <sup>1</sup>			
	Events		Initial Claimants		Events		Initial Claimants	
	December 2010	December 2011	December 2010	December 2011	December 2010	December 2011	December 2010	December 2011
Total <sup>2</sup> .....	1,931	2,433	184,130	263,665	483	487	46,033	52,733
Northeast .....	356	450	35,601	47,617	89	90	8,900	9,523
Connecticut .....	7	5	576	578	2	1	144	116
Maine .....	6	10	431	771	2	2	108	154
Massachusetts .....	19	19	2,372	1,946	5	4	593	389
New Hampshire .....	3	6	326	951	1	1	82	190
New Jersey .....	49	88	6,036	8,098	12	18	1,509	1,620
New York .....	115	117	12,383	11,498	29	23	3,096	2,300
Pennsylvania .....	142	186	11,904	20,719	36	37	2,976	4,144
Rhode Island .....	10	13	1,264	2,571	3	3	316	514
Vermont .....	5	6	309	485	1	1	77	97
South .....	493	602	51,554	67,741	123	120	12,889	13,548
Alabama .....	34	46	3,758	5,134	9	9	940	1,027
Arkansas .....	6	24	563	2,759	2	5	141	552
Delaware .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	9	( <sup>3</sup> )	820	( <sup>3</sup> )	2	( <sup>3</sup> )	164
District of Columbia .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Florida .....	92	70	7,554	6,239	23	14	1,889	1,248
Georgia .....	42	60	4,306	7,507	11	12	1,077	1,501
Kentucky .....	38	67	5,003	8,047	10	13	1,251	1,609
Louisiana .....	21	20	1,741	1,923	5	4	435	385
Maryland .....	9	18	611	1,959	2	4	153	392
Mississippi .....	19	21	2,128	1,812	5	4	532	362
North Carolina .....	80	82	8,876	11,050	20	16	2,219	2,210
Oklahoma .....	6	10	1,410	981	2	2	353	196
South Carolina .....	26	32	2,648	4,612	7	6	662	922
Tennessee .....	19	24	1,895	2,157	5	5	474	431
Texas .....	63	52	7,312	5,033	16	10	1,828	1,007
Virginia .....	30	64	3,177	7,450	8	13	794	1,490
West Virginia .....	-	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	( <sup>3</sup> )
Midwest .....	565	743	58,560	78,074	141	149	14,640	15,615
Illinois .....	110	118	13,672	13,449	28	24	3,418	2,690
Indiana .....	49	49	5,314	5,758	12	10	1,329	1,152
Iowa .....	39	58	3,897	6,797	10	12	974	1,359
Kansas .....	23	23	2,923	2,952	6	5	731	590
Michigan .....	67	135	8,985	12,542	17	27	2,246	2,508
Minnesota .....	34	49	2,932	5,073	9	10	733	1,015
Missouri .....	54	67	4,763	6,586	14	13	1,191	1,317
Nebraska .....	14	15	1,157	2,252	4	3	289	450
North Dakota .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Ohio .....	87	107	7,826	11,550	22	21	1,957	2,310
South Dakota .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Wisconsin .....	81	111	6,578	10,117	20	22	1,645	2,023
West .....	517	638	38,415	70,233	129	128	9,604	14,047
Alaska .....	9	3	915	447	2	1	229	89
Arizona .....	9	8	940	750	2	2	235	150
California .....	365	458	25,602	53,031	91	92	6,401	10,606
Colorado .....	14	13	964	1,179	4	3	241	236
Hawaii .....	-	4	-	388	-	1	-	78
Idaho .....	15	20	1,006	1,584	4	4	252	317
Montana .....	8	11	470	895	2	2	118	179
Nevada .....	26	31	2,449	3,127	7	6	612	625
New Mexico .....	8	8	640	590	2	2	160	118
Oregon .....	25	49	2,234	4,705	6	10	559	941
Utah .....	10	10	805	693	3	2	201	139
Washington .....	28	23	2,390	2,844	7	5	598	569
Wyoming .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico .....	10	14	940	1,729	3	3	235	346

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

<sup>3</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 2, table 3.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.