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

MASS LAYOFFS – DECEMBER 2009
ANNUAL TOTALS – 2009

Employers took 1,726 mass layoff actions in December that resulted in the separation of 153,127 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 December decreased by 87 from the prior month, and the number of associated initial claims decreased by 10,696. Both figures reached their lowest level since July 2008. In December, 433 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 44,072 initial claims. Both figures decreased over the month to their lowest levels since November and August 2007, respectively. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Mass layoff events, seasonally adjusted, January 2005-December 2009

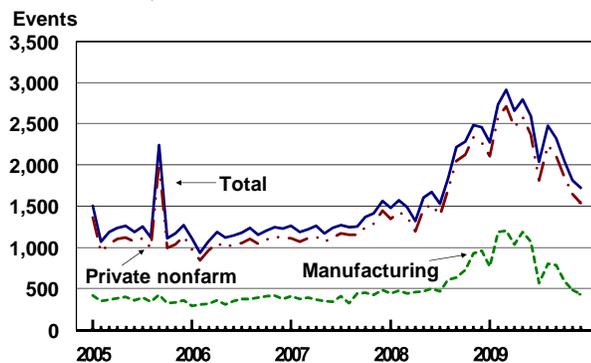
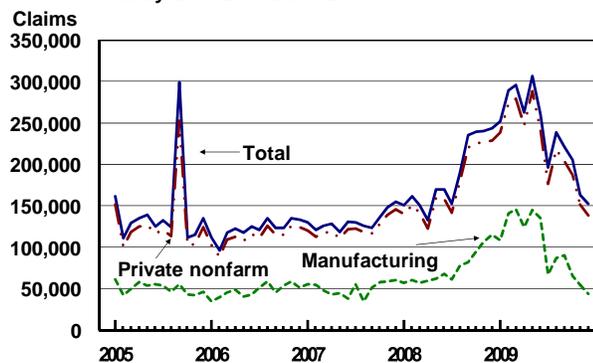


Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted, January 2005-December 2009



Revision of Seasonally Adjusted Mass Layoff Data

Seasonally adjusted mass layoff data have been revised using updated seasonal adjustment factors that incorporate 2009 data. Seasonally adjusted estimates back to January 2005 were subject to revision. Revised seasonally adjusted data from January 2006 forward are shown in table 1. The originally published and revised figures for January 2006-November 2009 are available at www.bls.gov/mls/mlssarevision.htm, along with additional information about the revisions.

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

Industry	Initial claims	December peak	
		Year	Initial claims
Food service contractors	14,565	2009	14,565
Highway, street, and bridge construction	13,893	2005	20,088
School and employee bus transportation	13,206	2006	14,747
Temporary help services ¹	10,339	2005	16,656
Motion picture and video production	4,439	1998	16,192
Professional employer organizations ¹	3,630	2008	6,101
Hotels and motels, except casino hotels	3,460	2008	3,528
Commercial building construction	3,120	2009	3,120
Discount department stores	2,720	2006	3,255
Ready-mix concrete manufacturing	2,683	2005	3,232

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

During the 25 months from December 2007 through December 2009, the total number of mass layoff events (seasonally adjusted) was 51,978, and the associated number of initial claims was 5,242,840. (December 2007 was the start of a recession as designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research.)

In 2009, on a not seasonally adjusted basis, the total numbers of mass layoff events, at 28,030, and initial claims, at 2,796,456, reached their highest annual levels on record. (Annual data began in 1996. See table B.) Among the 19 major industry sectors in the private economy, 12 registered annual program highs for both mass layoff events and initial claims. All 4 regions, all 9 divisions, and 43 states and the District of Columbia experienced increases in total annual initial claims from 2008 to 2009. In addition, 3 of the 4 regions, 6 of the 9 divisions, and 26 states recorded program highs in terms of initial claims activity in 2009.

The national unemployment rate was 10.0 percent in December 2009, seasonally adjusted, unchanged from the prior month but up from 7.4 percent a year earlier. In December, nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 85,000 over the month and by 4,164,000 from a year earlier.

Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in December was 2,310 on a not seasonally adjusted basis; the number of associated initial claims was 214,648. Over the year, the number of mass layoff events decreased by 1,067, and associated initial claims decreased by 136,657. (See table 2.) Thirteen of the 19 major industry sectors in the private economy reported over-the-year decreases in initial claimants, led by manufacturing (-107,989). (See table 3.) Three sectors reported December program highs in terms of average weekly initial claimants: retail trade; educational services; and accommodation and food services. (Average weekly analysis mitigates the effect of differing lengths of months. See the Technical Note.)

Table B. Number of mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, 1996-2009, 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

The manufacturing sector accounted for 27 percent of all mass layoff events and 30 percent of initial claims filed in December 2009. A year earlier, manufacturing made up 41 percent of events and 49 percent of initial claims. Within manufacturing, the number of claimants in December was greatest in transportation equipment, machinery, and food. All 21 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) manufacturing subsectors experienced over-the-year decreases in initial claims, led by transportation equipment (-50,799) and plastics and rubber products (-10,728). (See table 3.)

The six-digit NAICS industry with the largest number of initial claims in December 2009 was food service contractors. Of the 10 six-digit industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims, food service contractors and commercial building construction reached program highs for the month of December. (See table A.)

Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Among the four census regions, the Midwest registered the highest number of initial claims in December due to mass layoffs, followed by the South and the West. Initial claims decreased over the year in all of the regions, with the Midwest (-69,329) and the South (-46,059) experiencing the largest decreases. Of the nine geographic divisions, the East North Central had the highest number of initial claims due to mass layoffs in December, followed by the Pacific and Middle Atlantic. All 9 divisions experienced over-the-year decreases in initial claims, led by the East North Central (-56,114). (See table 5.)

California recorded the highest number of initial claims in December, followed by Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, and Michigan. Thirty-nine states and the District of Columbia experienced over-the-year decreases in initial claims, led by Ohio (-18,948) and Kentucky (-16,557). (See table 6.) In 2009,

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

Industry	2009		2008	
	Initial claims	Rank	Initial claims	Rank
Temporary help services ¹	151,957	1	134,699	1
School and employee bus transportation	92,324	2	79,083	2
Food service contractors	68,888	3	54,677	3
Professional employer organizations ¹	65,280	4	54,016	4
Elementary and secondary schools	62,774	5	28,996	10
Construction machinery manufacturing	55,334	6	4,496	102
Motion picture and video production	53,275	7	45,394	6
Automobile manufacturing	46,306	8	51,804	5
Light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing	40,422	9	38,450	8
Highway, street, and bridge construction	40,186	10	39,467	7

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

three states reached December program highs for average weekly initial claims: Florida, New York, and Utah.

Review of 2009

For all of 2009, on a not seasonally adjusted basis, the total numbers of mass layoff events, at 28,030, and initial claims, at 2,796,456, reached their highest annual levels on record. (See table B.) Among the 19 major industry sectors in the private economy, manufacturing had the most initial claims in 2009 (1,137,106), followed by administrative and waste services (294,709) and construction (205,765). Manufacturing also had the largest over-the-year increase in total annual initial claims (+266,796), with retail trade (+57,283) and administrative and waste services (+48,039) experiencing the next largest increases. Among the major industry sectors, 12 registered series highs for both mass layoff events and initial claims in 2009: mining; construction; wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation and warehousing; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; management of companies and enterprises; administrative and waste services; health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment, and recreation; and accommodation and food services.

The manufacturing sector accounted for 36 percent of all mass layoff events and 43 percent of initial claims filed in the private economy in 2009; in 2008, manufacturing made up 34 percent of events and 43 percent of initial claims. The number of manufacturing claimants in 2009 was highest in transportation equipment (304,693), followed by machinery (164,176) and fabricated metal products (84,702). Total initial claims for 18 of the 21 manufacturing subsectors increased from 2008 to 2009, with machinery experiencing the largest change (+110,503). Transportation equipment recorded the largest over-the-year decrease (-18,929).

The six-digit NAICS industries with the largest total number of initial claims in 2009 were temporary help services, school and employee bus transportation, and food service contractors. Construction machinery manufacturing entered the top 10 in terms of initial claims, displacing heavy duty truck manufacturing. (See table C.) Of the top 10 industries, 6 reached program highs in 2009: construction machinery manufacturing; light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing; school and employee bus

transportation; professional employer organizations; elementary and secondary schools; and food service contractors.

Among the 4 census regions, the Midwest reported the highest number of mass layoff initial claims filed during 2009 (892,202), followed by the West and the South. All 4 regions experienced over-the-year annual increases, with the largest increases taking place in the Midwest (+215,611). The Midwest, Northeast, and South also reached program highs for total initial claims in 2009. All 9 geographic divisions also experienced higher claimant activity in 2009 when compared with 2008, with the largest increases occurring in the East North Central (+167,804)—which also had the largest number of claims in 2009, the Middle Atlantic (+119,644), and the South Atlantic (+118,688). Six of the 9 divisions reached program highs for total annual claims in 2009: East North Central, East South Central, Middle Atlantic, Mountain, South Atlantic, and West North Central.

California recorded the largest number of initial claims during 2009 followed by Illinois, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Ohio. Forty-three states and the District of Columbia experienced over-the-year annual increases in initial claims; Illinois reported the largest over-the-year increase in 2009 (+89,810), followed by California (+85,548) and Pennsylvania (+54,483). Of the 7 states with over-the-year decreases in initial claims in 2009, the largest were reported in Louisiana (-5,566), Mississippi (-3,702), and Kentucky (-2,632). Twenty-six states recorded series highs in mass layoff claimant activity in 2009: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, 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.

The Extended Mass Layoffs in the Fourth Quarter 2009 news release is scheduled to be released on Friday, February 12, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. (EST). The Mass Layoffs in January news release is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, 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, January 2006 to December 2009, seasonally adjusted

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2006						
January	1,110	112,550	979	102,802	289	34,737
February	938	96,542	846	88,629	304	40,029
March	1,069	117,725	965	109,241	312	45,687
April	1,189	123,056	1,055	112,922	352	48,731
May	1,121	117,834	1,003	107,929	302	40,703
June	1,150	125,318	1,039	115,883	349	43,476
July	1,182	121,056	1,056	111,432	373	51,691
August	1,238	135,707	1,104	125,704	372	58,962
September	1,154	124,200	1,043	115,261	393	45,972
October	1,208	123,691	1,094	115,102	409	53,957
November	1,244	135,465	1,128	125,976	413	58,509
December	1,227	134,176	1,123	124,570	376	51,403
2007						
January	1,264	130,834	1,113	119,874	404	55,217
February	1,191	121,289	1,075	112,607	374	54,581
March	1,225	126,391	1,113	117,760	386	48,298
April	1,268	129,098	1,135	118,175	362	43,205
May	1,172	118,648	1,070	111,103	345	44,391
June	1,241	131,394	1,125	122,123	338	37,931
July	1,274	130,331	1,169	122,381	403	55,973
August	1,247	126,108	1,158	118,575	323	34,902
September	1,255	123,632	1,160	116,744	436	51,814
October	1,370	137,108	1,248	128,387	449	58,360
November	1,415	148,952	1,289	139,665	424	58,543
December	1,569	155,095	1,448	145,666	483	60,368
2008						
January	1,481	151,269	1,348	140,570	436	57,147
February	1,578	162,152	1,432	150,712	470	60,276
March	1,487	151,539	1,372	141,574	436	56,919
April	1,327	133,318	1,201	122,651	460	59,377
May	1,604	170,619	1,465	160,529	468	62,345
June	1,674	170,329	1,523	158,084	501	68,403
July	1,531	152,447	1,389	141,707	461	61,417
August	1,845	189,798	1,711	179,737	607	78,172
September	2,222	235,755	2,049	220,832	634	81,989
October	2,287	239,768	2,125	226,098	721	95,301
November	2,489	240,181	2,334	227,368	929	107,072
December	2,461	243,505	2,277	229,171	962	115,961
2009						
January	2,279	251,807	2,115	238,990	764	109,124
February	2,737	289,162	2,592	274,040	1,186	141,264
March	2,913	295,970	2,715	279,671	1,202	146,381
April	2,663	263,162	2,461	247,329	1,033	125,093
May	2,794	306,788	2,589	289,012	1,183	145,166
June	2,598	260,596	2,371	241,864	1,072	135,844
July	2,039	196,578	1,818	176,542	565	66,918
August	2,480	238,911	2,244	218,425	798	87,201
September	2,326	221,639	2,109	204,462	783	90,440
October	2,055	205,502	1,856	187,880	594	65,801
November	1,813	163,823	1,650	151,810	485	54,858
December	1,726	153,127	1,542	138,747	433	44,072

Table 2. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, January 2006 to December 2009, not seasonally adjusted

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
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
November	1,870	164,496	1,679	150,751	517	55,053
December	2,310	214,648	2,166	203,655	615	64,540

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

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	December 2008	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009	December 2008	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009
Seasonally adjusted								
Total	2,461	2,055	1,813	1,726	243,505	205,502	163,823	153,127
Total, private nonfarm	2,277	1,856	1,650	1,542	229,171	187,880	151,810	138,747
Manufacturing	962	594	485	433	115,961	65,801	54,858	44,072
Not seasonally adjusted								
Total ¹	3,377	1,934	1,870	2,310	351,305	193,904	164,496	214,648
Total, private	3,278	1,806	1,791	2,219	343,963	181,476	158,146	206,930
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	46	128	112	53	3,743	8,593	7,395	3,275
Total, private nonfarm	3,232	1,678	1,679	2,166	340,220	172,883	150,751	203,655
Mining	43	15	22	34	4,191	1,038	1,551	2,807
Utilities	6	6	3	6	355	550	206	444
Construction	544	205	308	485	40,579	15,258	23,902	35,718
Manufacturing	1,378	566	517	615	172,529	69,655	55,053	64,540
Food	77	91	61	63	7,797	8,999	6,631	6,447
Beverage and tobacco products	12	12	9	5	1,222	1,001	682	396
Textile mills	44	9	12	14	4,725	1,407	1,337	2,242
Textile product mills	7	3	-	3	672	419	-	300
Apparel	22	7	17	19	2,479	438	1,361	1,661
Leather and allied products	4	-	(²)	5	800	-	(²)	324
Wood products	86	41	40	40	8,465	4,326	3,505	3,218
Paper	34	14	(²)	12	4,384	1,216	(²)	850
Printing and related support activities	20	17	10	14	1,904	1,337	888	1,659
Petroleum and coal products	12	3	11	10	1,124	312	852	866
Chemicals	23	8	13	10	2,046	533	1,239	768
Plastics and rubber products	136	35	29	35	14,215	2,672	2,802	3,487
Nonmetallic mineral products	89	16	30	59	9,104	1,172	2,514	4,990
Primary metals	83	44	38	34	8,558	4,703	3,426	3,456
Fabricated metal products	145	49	36	54	12,576	4,702	2,764	4,387
Machinery	75	51	44	53	7,531	10,892	5,080	6,827
Computer and electronic products	53	29	25	23	5,245	2,169	2,788	1,429
Electrical equipment and appliances	51	29	18	19	9,049	3,394	1,379	2,191
Transportation equipment	352	72	86	106	64,336	17,069	13,806	13,537
Furniture and related products	37	22	19	28	4,764	1,865	2,407	4,617
Miscellaneous manufacturing	16	14	11	9	1,533	1,029	931	888
Wholesale trade	60	50	33	50	5,374	4,645	2,389	3,858
Retail trade	142	124	99	121	12,104	12,914	7,083	12,300
Transportation and warehousing	196	61	83	157	22,751	5,541	6,651	17,909
Information	71	57	52	51	9,138	9,567	5,414	7,042
Finance and insurance	40	49	33	30	2,998	3,716	2,691	2,357
Real estate and rental and leasing	16	13	13	12	1,382	870	963	763
Professional and technical services	76	57	55	47	6,280	5,974	4,651	3,746
Management of companies and enterprises	17	6	3	5	2,433	812	290	545
Administrative and waste services	348	260	220	253	31,069	25,694	18,219	21,653
Educational services	11	3	6	12	634	226	453	755
Health care and social assistance	36	37	38	38	2,626	2,165	2,886	2,653
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	23	34	45	19	1,503	2,435	3,705	1,734
Accommodation and food services	199	126	129	214	22,312	11,346	13,264	23,507
Other services, except public administration	24	9	20	16	1,821	477	1,380	1,171
Unclassified	2	-	-	1	141	-	-	153
Government	99	128	79	91	7,342	12,428	6,350	7,718
Federal	10	28	12	11	1,011	2,550	1,155	921
State	19	32	25	26	1,296	3,433	2,213	2,560
Local	70	68	42	54	5,035	6,445	2,982	4,237

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

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

Table 4. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, October 2007 to December 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				
November	1,870	164,496	1,679	150,751				
December	2,310	214,648	2,166	203,655				
Fourth Quarter	6,114	573,048	5,523	527,289				

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			
	December 2008	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009	December 2008	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009
United States ¹	3,377	1,934	1,870	2,310	351,305	193,904	164,496	214,648
Northeast	491	260	285	461	44,901	22,709	26,974	41,913
New England	70	30	40	71	7,024	2,134	3,750	6,743
Middle Atlantic	421	230	245	390	37,877	20,575	23,224	35,170
South	815	499	413	494	94,307	45,772	37,708	48,248
South Atlantic	362	279	207	284	33,456	23,144	19,029	25,236
East South Central	296	87	83	115	42,388	9,545	6,656	13,749
West South Central	157	133	123	95	18,463	13,083	12,023	9,263
Midwest	1,278	483	530	739	146,155	60,792	51,989	76,826
East North Central	961	375	382	508	108,017	49,277	39,265	51,903
West North Central	317	108	148	231	38,138	11,515	12,724	24,923
West	793	692	642	616	65,942	64,631	47,825	47,661
Mountain	139	103	98	126	12,780	9,020	9,393	10,700
Pacific	654	589	544	490	53,162	55,611	38,432	36,961

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			
	December 2008	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009	December 2008	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009
Total ¹	3,377	1,934	1,870	2,310	351,305	193,904	164,496	214,648
Alabama	88	27	16	36	14,160	3,179	1,266	4,592
Alaska	(²)	8	3	7	(²)	755	361	650
Arizona	13	20	9	9	1,213	1,666	709	817
Arkansas	25	17	9	7	2,517	1,954	973	581
California	546	514	472	412	43,265	48,169	31,922	30,229
Colorado	24	19	14	24	2,023	1,554	1,064	1,941
Connecticut	10	9	5	8	799	671	424	890
Delaware	8	3	6	5	817	251	347	266
District of Columbia	(²)	(²)	(²)	4	(²)	(²)	(²)	301
Florida	104	167	86	96	6,931	11,851	6,010	7,715
Georgia	83	39	26	56	8,508	3,880	3,225	5,244
Hawaii	15	7	7	7	1,650	630	488	637
Idaho	25	10	19	16	2,347	1,088	2,071	1,099
Illinois	202	93	101	142	25,885	12,917	10,794	17,639
Indiana	156	37	43	57	16,762	4,759	4,323	6,256
Iowa	82	35	25	51	10,005	4,732	2,648	6,087
Kansas	38	13	8	28	7,949	1,562	741	4,878
Kentucky	131	36	41	44	21,570	4,656	3,649	5,013
Louisiana	17	24	35	22	2,430	2,169	2,795	1,641
Maine	7	3	6	3	530	177	674	204
Maryland	15	6	6	16	1,002	479	486	1,251
Massachusetts	38	9	11	28	4,289	596	803	2,990
Michigan	248	70	78	119	24,508	9,543	8,549	10,913
Minnesota	67	24	55	45	7,374	1,985	4,905	3,690
Mississippi	27	10	9	12	2,399	602	512	1,000
Missouri	107	31	48	86	10,625	2,556	3,195	8,373
Montana	8	11	10	12	630	1,062	758	896
Nebraska	12	4	6	12	1,334	559	611	1,166
Nevada	41	19	33	36	4,303	1,361	3,891	3,677
New Hampshire	4	3	4	11	255	263	279	867
New Jersey	80	37	52	67	6,910	2,850	5,277	6,716
New Mexico	16	11	7	12	1,170	761	476	954
New York	111	68	75	126	10,511	6,961	6,281	12,704
North Carolina	33	19	30	18	3,314	1,672	4,273	1,455
North Dakota	8	(²)	5	7	666	(²)	557	595
Ohio	224	75	59	91	27,836	10,569	5,233	8,888
Oklahoma	20	7	10	10	3,210	582	1,438	893
Oregon	51	35	35	29	4,413	3,936	3,464	2,617
Pennsylvania	230	125	118	197	20,456	10,764	11,666	15,750
Rhode Island	7	(²)	3	6	820	(²)	297	713
South Carolina	84	19	20	45	9,381	2,692	1,456	4,780
South Dakota	3	-	(²)	(²)	185	-	(²)	(²)
Tennessee	50	14	17	23	4,259	1,108	1,229	3,144
Texas	95	85	69	56	10,306	8,378	6,817	6,148
Utah	12	9	4	16	1,094	1,058	256	1,256
Vermont	4	3	11	15	331	254	1,273	1,079
Virginia	27	22	31	40	2,782	1,955	3,021	3,903
Washington	40	25	27	35	3,663	2,121	2,197	2,828
West Virginia	6	3	(²)	4	416	250	(²)	321
Wisconsin	131	100	101	99	13,026	11,489	10,366	8,207
Wyoming	-	4	(²)	(²)	-	470	(²)	(²)
Puerto Rico	16	12	22	11	1,285	1,079	2,177	1,093

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

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