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MASS LAYOFFS IN APRIL 2009

Employers took 2,712 mass layoff actions in April that resulted in the separation of 271,226 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 April decreased by 221 from the prior month, and the number of associated initial claims decreased by 28,162. Compared to last year, the number of mass layoff events and associated initial claims more than doubled. In April, the manufacturing sector reported 1,111 mass layoff events, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 135,252 initial claims. Over the month, mass layoff events in manufacturing decreased by 148, and initial claims decreased by 20,657. (See table 1.)

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

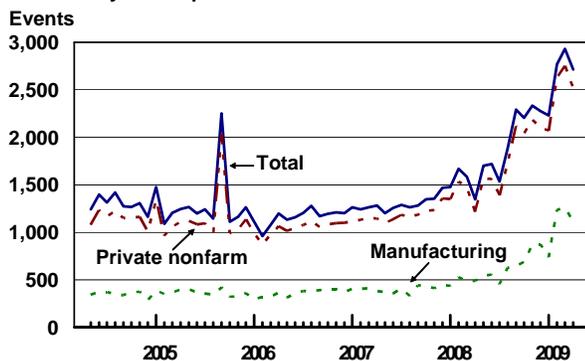
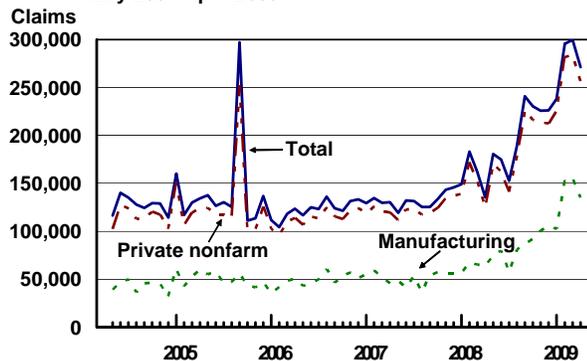


Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted,
May 2004-April 2009



During the 17 months from December 2007 to April 2009, the total number of mass layoff events (seasonally adjusted) was 34,126, and the number of initial claims (seasonally adjusted) was 3,498,427. (December 2007 was the start of a recession as designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research.)

The national unemployment rate was 8.9 percent in April 2009, seasonally adjusted, up from 8.5 percent the prior month and from 5.0 percent a year earlier. In April, total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 539,000 over the month and by 5,240,000 from a year earlier.

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

Industry	Initial claims	April peak	
		Year	Initial claims
School and employee bus transportation	22,324	2009	22,324
Temporary help services ¹	13,705	2001	17,507
Construction machinery manufacturing	6,901	2009	6,901
Food service contractors	5,430	2004	5,496
Tax preparation services	4,519	2009	4,519
Discount department stores	4,462	2009	4,462
Professional employer organizations ¹	4,372	2009	4,372
Hotels and motels, except casino hotels	4,064	2009	4,064
Motion picture and video production	3,595	1997	15,908
Farm labor contractors and crew leaders	3,594	1998	4,054

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

Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in April was 2,547 on a not seasonally adjusted basis; the number of associated initial claims was 256,930. (See table 2.) Over the year, increases were recorded in both the number of mass layoff events (+1,275) and initial claims (+126,120). This year, both average weekly events and initial claimants reached their highest April 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.) Twelve of the 19 major industry sectors reported program highs in terms of average weekly initial claimants for the month of April—mining; construction; manufacturing; wholesale trade; transportation and warehousing; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; professional and technical services; management of companies and enterprises; educational services; arts, entertainment, and recreation; and accommodation and food services.

The manufacturing sector accounted for 35 percent of all mass layoff events and 39 percent of initial claims filed in April 2009; a year earlier, manufacturing made up 31 percent of events and 37 percent of initial claims. This April, the number of manufacturing claimants was greatest in transportation equipment (19,246) and machinery (18,614). (See table 3.) The transportation and warehousing industry accounted for 9 percent of mass layoff events and 11 percent of associated initial claims during the month.

Of the 10 detailed industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims, 6 reached their April peak: school and employee bus transportation; construction machinery manufacturing; tax preparation services; discount department stores; professional employer organizations; and hotels and motels, except casino hotels. The industry with the largest number of initial claims was school and employee bus transportation (22,324). (See table A.)

Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Of the 4 census regions, the Midwest registered the highest number of initial claims in April due to mass layoffs (72,383), followed by the West (65,580) and the South (62,714). (See table 5.) Initial claims associated with mass layoffs increased over the year in all 4 regions, with the South (+35,415) and the Midwest (+35,214) experiencing the largest increases. In 2009, all regions except the West reported their highest April levels of average weekly initial claims in program history.

Of the 9 geographic divisions, the East North Central (60,241) had the highest number of initial claims due to mass layoffs in April, followed by the Pacific (53,587) and the Middle Atlantic (47,061). (See table 5.) All divisions experienced over-the-year increases in initial claims, led by the East North Central (+29,069) and the Middle Atlantic (+28,946). This year, 7 of the 9 divisions—all except the Pacific and West South Central—reached April program highs in terms of average weekly initial claims.

California recorded the highest number of initial claims filed due to mass layoff events in April with 43,675. The states with the next highest number of mass layoff initial claims were New York (24,349), Illinois (17,550), and Pennsylvania (15,378). (See table 6.) Forty-five states and the District of Columbia registered over-the-year increases in initial claims associated with mass layoffs, led by New York (+16,810), California (+15,503), and Illinois (+12,904). In 2009, 25 states reached program highs in average weekly initial claims for the month of April—Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, 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 report on Mass Layoffs in May 2009 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, June 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, May 2005 to April 2009, seasonally adjusted

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2005						
May	1,264	137,475	1,121	124,468	397	54,998
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

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

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2005						
May	986	101,358	891	93,332	249	30,424
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

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

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	April 2008	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009	April 2008	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009
Seasonally adjusted								
Total	1,344	2,769	2,933	2,712	135,352	295,477	299,388	271,226
Total, private nonfarm	1,215	2,628	2,751	2,519	125,074	281,500	283,989	256,111
Manufacturing	487	1,235	1,259	1,111	63,247	152,618	155,909	135,252
Not seasonally adjusted								
Total ¹	1,272	2,262	2,191	2,547	130,810	218,438	228,387	256,930
Total, private	1,234	2,215	2,140	2,464	127,631	213,548	223,981	250,548
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	62	42	33	79	6,006	2,793	2,584	7,227
Total, private nonfarm	1,172	2,173	2,107	2,385	121,625	210,755	221,397	243,321
Mining	(²)	35	31	39	(²)	3,379	3,751	3,267
Utilities	(²)	(²)	3	(²)	(²)	(²)	234	(²)
Construction	112	199	166	194	8,106	14,040	11,612	13,490
Manufacturing	394	945	940	887	48,188	103,588	114,747	100,872
Food	66	57	63	81	7,085	5,379	6,077	8,371
Beverage and tobacco products	4	8	9	(²)	422	606	1,305	(²)
Textile mills	10	19	29	16	1,065	1,833	3,108	2,409
Textile product mills	5	8	6	9	700	769	554	765
Apparel	10	16	9	19	872	1,545	883	1,610
Leather and allied products	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Wood products	33	57	62	39	3,973	5,348	5,799	3,437
Paper	7	34	27	26	419	3,129	2,749	2,584
Printing and related support activities	11	21	23	25	1,136	1,758	2,124	2,275
Petroleum and coal products	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Chemicals	8	20	21	21	621	1,806	1,746	1,453
Plastics and rubber products	28	48	60	51	2,522	4,878	6,151	6,393
Nonmetallic mineral products	14	40	46	34	1,251	2,788	4,095	3,192
Primary metals	14	59	71	70	1,386	6,523	8,681	8,636
Fabricated metal products	22	99	88	97	1,612	8,735	8,186	7,698
Machinery	19	106	110	100	2,393	14,921	18,081	18,614
Computer and electronic products	15	78	68	69	1,544	7,439	8,130	5,770
Electrical equipment and appliances	13	35	47	43	1,153	5,399	6,476	5,169
Transportation equipment	89	171	155	148	17,617	22,440	26,012	19,246
Furniture and related products	18	44	24	21	1,746	6,333	3,020	1,783
Miscellaneous manufacturing	3	20	19	14	395	1,607	1,354	1,118
Wholesale trade	26	62	59	55	2,649	4,243	4,696	4,343
Retail trade	95	193	178	153	7,933	17,538	19,491	16,211
Transportation and warehousing	108	80	91	231	12,228	7,864	8,809	28,962
Information	33	72	75	75	3,446	8,476	8,559	7,934
Finance and insurance	43	74	57	67	2,978	5,685	4,469	6,220
Real estate and rental and leasing	7	17	16	13	864	1,083	980	1,078
Professional and technical services	59	82	81	97	7,282	7,895	7,191	10,085
Management of companies and enterprises	(²)	14	10	10	(²)	990	923	854
Administrative and waste services	168	235	227	300	16,831	23,566	18,762	25,498
Educational services	5	(²)	8	(²)	464	(²)	467	(²)
Health care and social assistance	16	33	24	49	1,016	2,032	1,820	3,343
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	28	10	17	47	2,078	655	1,259	4,074
Accommodation and food services	68	95	115	134	6,743	8,080	13,090	13,168
Other services, except public administration	5	18	9	23	310	1,083	537	2,168
Unclassified	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	86
Government	38	47	51	83	3,179	4,890	4,406	6,382
Federal	7	7	5	6	490	533	470	461
State	10	17	11	20	748	1,804	1,066	1,631
Local	21	23	35	57	1,941	2,553	2,870	4,290

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, April 2007 to April 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								
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	^r 259,292	35.9	^r 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	^r 339,574	44.7	^r 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	^r 303,774	37.4	^r 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	^r 3,585	^r 762,737	^r 47.6	^r 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	^{2,p} 3,489	^{2,p} 542,023	^p 44.1	^p 67.1
April	2,547	256,930	2,385	243,321				

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.

^r = revised.

^p = preliminary.

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

Census region and division	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	April 2008	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009	April 2008	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009
United States ¹	1,272	2,262	2,191	2,547	130,810	218,438	228,387	256,930
Northeast	244	348	317	504	24,621	32,131	29,493	56,253
New England	59	78	68	88	6,506	7,744	7,021	9,192
Middle Atlantic	185	270	249	416	18,115	24,387	22,472	47,061
South	256	624	589	655	27,299	55,542	61,432	62,714
South Atlantic	139	295	276	368	11,989	23,842	27,819	33,338
East South Central	59	172	158	160	8,783	17,840	15,629	16,166
West South Central	58	157	155	127	6,527	13,860	17,984	13,210
Midwest	330	561	607	608	37,169	64,973	81,957	72,383
East North Central	267	434	466	482	31,172	52,690	64,595	60,241
West North Central	63	127	141	126	5,997	12,283	17,362	12,142
West	442	729	678	780	41,721	65,792	55,505	65,580
Mountain	67	128	109	125	7,701	11,381	10,991	11,993
Pacific	375	601	569	655	34,020	54,411	44,514	53,587

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			
	April 2008	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009	April 2008	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009
Total ¹	1,272	2,262	2,191	2,547	130,810	218,438	228,387	256,930
Alabama	21	33	45	27	2,789	4,690	4,985	2,745
Alaska	4	7	(²)	5	499	557	(²)	828
Arizona	30	23	22	41	4,424	2,185	2,483	4,985
Arkansas	3	6	10	12	330	1,156	806	1,057
California	321	515	498	567	28,172	45,557	38,130	43,675
Colorado	5	15	13	19	455	1,237	1,578	1,696
Connecticut	7	12	11	11	535	824	928	884
Delaware	3	4	4	11	920	484	509	988
District of Columbia	-	(²)	(²)	(²)	-	(²)	(²)	(²)
Florida	65	155	107	152	4,130	9,779	8,594	11,010
Georgia	29	45	46	50	2,606	3,830	4,152	6,006
Hawaii	5	15	5	10	1,583	1,211	376	934
Idaho	3	10	16	10	206	591	1,664	754
Illinois	47	115	109	105	4,646	19,469	18,096	17,550
Indiana	40	59	68	80	4,031	6,776	10,781	9,659
Iowa	13	33	38	30	1,474	4,374	6,140	2,636
Kansas	5	18	19	7	359	1,582	2,259	737
Kentucky	21	78	72	83	4,651	8,794	7,861	9,194
Louisiana	5	19	16	27	396	1,498	1,411	2,670
Maine	3	4	9	6	184	348	835	493
Maryland	6	11	8	12	531	800	531	1,115
Massachusetts	18	32	25	38	1,936	2,873	2,422	3,770
Michigan	65	79	87	74	11,156	7,392	11,121	7,139
Minnesota	15	24	30	35	1,148	1,777	3,665	3,103
Mississippi	9	8	12	15	773	458	745	1,350
Missouri	24	38	42	46	2,205	3,538	3,430	4,719
Montana	3	11	7	4	212	753	667	335
Nebraska	3	7	(²)	4	453	500	(²)	390
Nevada	16	43	27	26	1,558	3,881	2,351	2,123
New Hampshire	5	9	9	10	451	1,020	1,213	848
New Jersey	34	47	39	66	3,070	3,777	3,217	7,334
New Mexico	4	13	9	14	316	1,868	858	909
New York	64	82	70	182	7,539	8,927	6,974	24,349
North Carolina	6	34	44	28	555	3,833	6,277	2,582
North Dakota	(²)	3	4	(²)	(²)	207	1,259	(²)
Ohio	67	91	93	115	6,951	9,065	13,067	14,791
Oklahoma	(²)	19	17	14	(²)	1,437	1,483	2,464
Oregon	20	43	42	43	1,563	5,321	4,118	5,554
Pennsylvania	87	141	140	168	7,506	11,683	12,281	15,378
Rhode Island	11	9	9	8	1,641	1,291	889	1,649
South Carolina	22	33	48	60	2,563	3,471	6,157	6,482
South Dakota	(²)	4	5	(²)	(²)	305	323	(²)
Tennessee	8	53	29	35	570	3,898	2,038	2,877
Texas	48	113	112	74	5,594	9,769	14,284	7,019
Utah	5	11	14	10	464	753	1,313	1,055
Vermont	15	12	5	15	1,759	1,388	734	1,548
Virginia	6	8	14	42	494	786	1,229	4,052
Washington	25	21	23	30	2,203	1,765	1,833	2,596
West Virginia	(²)	3	4	12	(²)	681	301	1,028
Wisconsin	48	90	109	108	4,388	9,988	11,530	11,102
Wyoming	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Puerto Rico	17	28	22	13	1,437	2,282	2,035	1,321

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.