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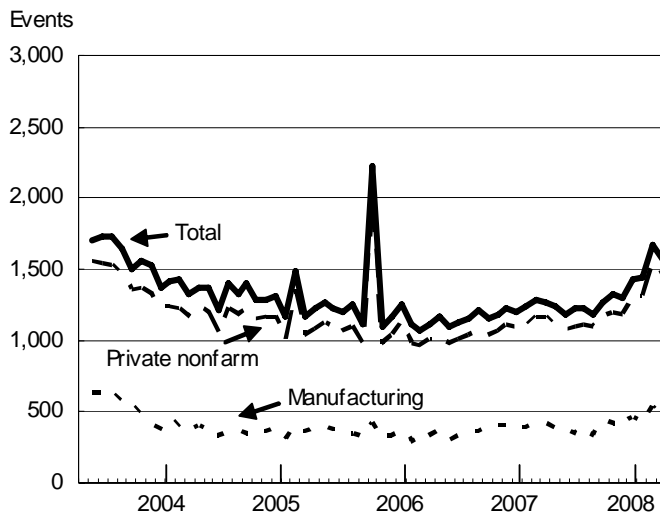
Media contact: (202) 691-5902

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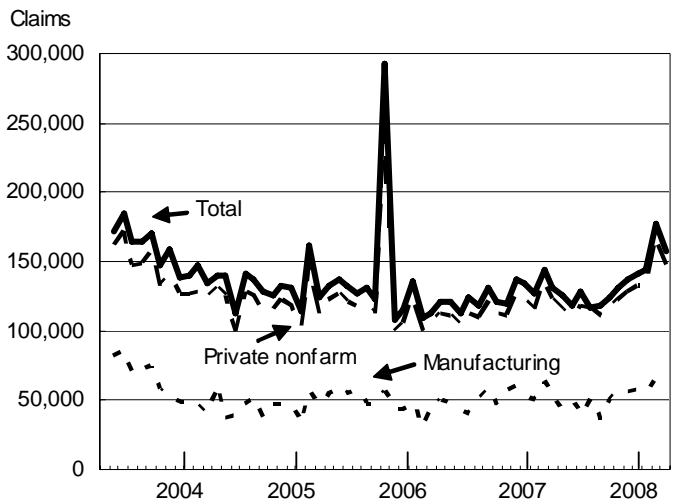
## MASS LAYOFFS IN MARCH 2008

In March, employers took 1,571 mass layoff actions, 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 workers involved totaled 157,156, on a seasonally adjusted basis. March layoff events and associated initial claimants were the highest for the month of March since 2003. The number of mass layoff events in March 2008 decreased by 101 from the prior month, while the number of associated initial claims decreased by 20,218. However, the seasonally adjusted figures for February 2008 mass layoff events and initial claims were inflated due to an unusual calendar effect. (See the box note on page 3 of this news release.) In March, 482 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 64,088 initial claims. Over the month, mass layoff activity in manufacturing decreased by 47 events, and initial claims decreased by 2,825. (See table 1.)

**Chart 1. Mass layoff events, seasonally adjusted, April 2003-March 2008**



**Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted, April 2003-March 2008**



The national unemployment rate was 5.1 percent in March, seasonally adjusted, up from 4.8 percent in the prior month and from 4.4 percent a year earlier. Total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 80,000 in March from the previous month, but increased by 536,000 from a year earlier.

### Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in March 2008 was 1,089 on a not seasonally adjusted basis; the number of associated initial claims was 114,541. (See table 2.) The average weekly number of events in

**Table A. Industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims in March 2008**

Industry	Initial claims	March peak	
		Year	Initial claims
School and employee bus transportation.....	8,073	2008	8,073
Food service contractors .....	6,504	2007	7,636
Temporary help services .....	5,056	2002	14,338
Motion picture and video production.....	3,324	2005	7,192
Light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing .....	3,068	2008	3,068
Discount department stores .....	2,711	2007	3,670
Heavy duty truck manufacturing.....	2,683	1996	2,781
Automobile manufacturing.....	2,599	1996	15,411
Professional employer organizations .....	2,464	2002	2,987
Household refrigerator and home freezer manufacturing .....	( <sup>1</sup> )	2001	2,279

<sup>1</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

March 2008 was 272 compared with 216 in March 2007. The average weekly initial claimants increased from 24,795 to 28,635. The weekly average number of events reached the highest level for the month of March since 2003, while the weekly average number of initial claims reached its highest level for the month since 2002. (The weekly averages of events and claims are calculated by dividing the total events and claims for the month by the number of weeks in the month—4 in March 2008 versus 5 in March 2007.)

The largest over-the-year increases in March 2008 average weekly initial claims associated with mass layoffs occurred in transit and ground passenger transportation (+1,275), food manufacturing (+709), and food services and drinking places (+350). The largest decreases occurred in administrative and support services (-502), transportation equipment manufacturing (-300), and computer and electronic products manufacturing (-283).

The manufacturing sector accounted for 31 percent of all mass layoff events and 38 percent of all related initial claims filed in March; a year earlier, manufacturing made up 34 percent of events and 40 percent of initial claims. In March 2008, the number of manufacturing claimants was highest in transportation equipment manufacturing (14,318, largely in light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing), followed by food manufacturing (7,705, mainly in frozen fruit and vegetable manufacturing). (See table 3.)

Transportation and warehousing accounted for 8 percent of mass layoff events and 9 percent of initial claims in March, primarily from school and employee bus transportation. Accommodation and food services comprised 8 percent of events and 9 percent of initial claims, primarily from food service contractors. Administrative and waste services made up 12 percent of all mass layoff events and 9 percent of associated initial claims, mainly from temporary help services.

The 10 industries reporting the highest numbers of mass layoff initial claims, not seasonally adjusted, accounted for 34 percent of all such claims in March. The industry with the highest number of initial claims was school and employee bus transportation with 8,073, followed by food service contractors (6,504), temporary help services (5,056), and motion picture and video production (3,324). (See table A.)

### Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Among the four census regions, the highest number of initial claims in March due to mass layoffs was in the Midwest, 34,885. Transportation equipment manufacturing accounted for 31 percent of all mass layoff initial claims in that region during the month. The West had the second largest number of initial claims among the regions, 30,357, followed by the South with 28,097 and the Northeast with 21,202. (See table 5.)

Three of the 4 regions experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims—the Northeast (+2,378), the Midwest (+2,039), and the South (+62). Six of the 9 divisions had over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims, led by the Middle Atlantic (+2,454).

California recorded the highest number of initial claims filed due to mass layoff events in March (21,812), followed by Pennsylvania (12,745), Wisconsin (7,067), Illinois (6,694), and Ohio (6,236). These five states accounted for 51 percent of all mass layoff events and 42 percent of all initial claims for unemployment insurance in March. (See table 6.)

Thirty states reported over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims associated with mass layoffs, led by Pennsylvania (+2,227), Ohio (+670), and Wisconsin (+650). For Pennsylvania, the largest increase in initial claims occurred in food manufacturing. States with the largest over-the-year decreases in average weekly claims were California (-1,181), Mississippi (-762), and North Carolina (-455).

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The report on Extended Mass Layoffs in the First Quarter of 2008 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, May 15. The report on Mass Layoffs in April 2008 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, May 22.

#### **Calendar Effect on Over-the-Month Change in Seasonally Adjusted Data**

The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) monthly data can encompass either 4 or 5 weeks of events and claims, based on where the first day of the month falls. During months with 5 weeks, more data are collected. The seasonal adjustment procedure typically adjusts the data for differences in the number of weeks in a month. This year, February was a 5-week month, an event that occurs once every 28 years, and the seasonal adjustment program did not account for this rare occurrence. Therefore, the seasonally adjusted data reflect an exaggerated downward movement from February to March in events and initial claims. See the Technical Note for more information on the seasonal adjustment of MLS data.

# 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).

*Initial claimant.* A person who files any notice of unemployment to initiate a request either for a determination

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 one 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, April 2004 to March 2008, seasonally adjusted**

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
<b>2004</b>						
April .....	1,360	139,185	1,193	124,432	351	37,760
May .....	1,224	114,810	1,059	100,854	339	39,045
June .....	1,400	141,168	1,231	128,245	371	47,243
July .....	1,329	137,805	1,178	126,301	376	50,799
August .....	1,426	128,759	1,233	113,809	343	36,539
September .....	1,285	127,833	1,154	116,843	336	45,690
October .....	1,283	132,766	1,169	123,471	363	47,046
November .....	1,320	130,873	1,174	119,029	380	45,416
December .....	1,148	111,060	991	99,784	287	31,935
<b>2005</b>						
January .....	1,475	160,725	1,346	151,028	382	61,324
February .....	1,146	121,455	1,020	110,480	353	43,568
March .....	1,207	131,271	1,066	120,945	372	53,673
April .....	1,252	136,752	1,125	126,550	401	60,681
May .....	1,248	136,420	1,104	123,495	398	54,999
June .....	1,196	127,084	1,078	118,012	368	58,300
July .....	1,250	132,445	1,103	119,566	357	46,602
August .....	1,144	125,686	1,000	113,762	341	47,598
September .....	2,248	297,544	2,028	251,185	417	55,304
October .....	1,101	110,035	982	100,934	321	43,230
November .....	1,176	114,965	1,042	103,535	332	42,071
December .....	1,261	134,461	1,132	123,418	360	46,863
<b>2006</b>						
January .....	1,107	110,800	988	101,494	283	34,037
February .....	1,031	109,798	940	101,828	322	43,147
March .....	1,084	119,049	983	110,668	323	48,119
April .....	1,171	121,580	1,043	112,175	368	49,568
May .....	1,124	117,115	1,005	107,181	314	43,087
June .....	1,146	123,827	1,030	114,080	352	44,869
July .....	1,179	121,017	1,051	111,336	372	48,534
August .....	1,270	135,400	1,107	124,427	377	60,906
September .....	1,173	123,767	1,056	114,677	385	45,767
October .....	1,191	121,827	1,076	113,123	399	53,601
November .....	1,232	133,803	1,121	124,559	414	58,385
December .....	1,194	131,062	1,092	121,796	374	51,408
<b>2007</b>						
January .....	1,254	128,223	1,118	117,824	391	52,858
February .....	1,352	143,837	1,238	135,066	416	61,749
March .....	1,277	130,981	1,169	122,488	412	52,606
April .....	1,243	126,977	1,116	116,926	382	43,930
May .....	1,199	120,587	1,096	113,069	370	48,910
June .....	1,238	129,858	1,116	120,165	351	40,670
July .....	1,247	127,687	1,140	119,614	392	51,333
August .....	1,228	121,886	1,128	114,628	335	36,518
September .....	1,307	128,487	1,204	121,294	430	53,432
October .....	1,347	136,124	1,224	127,163	430	57,695
November .....	1,329	139,671	1,215	131,390	414	56,965
December .....	1,433	141,750	1,315	133,024	462	58,108
<b>2008</b>						
January .....	1,438	144,111	1,317	134,347	427	55,488
February .....	1,672	177,374	1,539	166,782	529	66,913
March .....	1,571	157,156	1,460	147,537	482	64,088

**Table 2. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, April 2004 to March 2008, not seasonally adjusted**

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
<b>2004</b>						
April .....	1,458	157,314	1,316	142,657	343	36,172
May .....	988	87,501	878	78,786	219	22,141
June .....	1,379	134,588	1,077	110,804	222	27,307
July .....	2,094	253,929	1,860	234,877	885	145,895
August .....	809	69,033	745	63,876	194	17,698
September .....	708	68,972	637	63,102	189	25,808
October .....	1,242	127,918	1,101	117,375	372	48,265
November .....	1,399	130,423	1,201	115,549	412	44,243
December .....	1,614	161,271	1,487	152,092	436	50,726
<b>2005</b>						
January .....	2,564	263,952	2,421	253,409	823	108,985
February .....	810	74,644	722	68,372	230	24,931
March .....	806	88,937	733	83,793	246	33,030
April .....	1,373	158,582	1,263	148,133	395	59,129
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
<b>2006</b>						
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
<b>2007</b>						
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
<b>2008</b>						
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

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

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	March 2007	January 2008	February 2008	March 2008	March 2007	January 2008	February 2008	March 2008
<b>Seasonally adjusted</b>								
Total .....	1,277	1,438	1,672	1,571	130,981	144,111	177,374	157,156
Total, private nonfarm .....	1,169	1,317	1,539	1,460	122,488	134,347	166,782	147,537
Manufacturing .....	412	427	529	482	52,606	55,488	66,913	64,088
<b>Not seasonally adjusted</b>								
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	1,082	1,647	1,269	1,089	123,974	154,503	119,508	114,541
Total, private .....	1,046	1,592	1,232	1,063	120,544	148,901	116,852	111,984
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting .....	31	72	54	24	2,113	4,710	3,265	1,837
Total, private nonfarm .....	1,015	1,520	1,178	1,039	118,431	144,191	113,587	110,147
Mining .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	550	335	( <sup>2</sup> )
Utilities .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Construction .....	107	198	193	119	7,815	13,532	13,335	7,891
Manufacturing .....	367	488	361	333	49,886	54,418	42,527	43,740
Food .....	67	57	46	58	6,087	5,024	3,916	7,705
Beverage and tobacco products .....	7	7	9	6	778	531	795	540
Textile mills .....	16	13	10	14	1,882	1,258	1,373	2,745
Textile product mills <sup>3</sup> .....	4	8	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	350	950	615	( <sup>2</sup> )
Apparel <sup>3</sup> .....	15	17	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	1,355	1,630	( <sup>2</sup> )	544
Leather and allied products .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-
Wood products .....	30	46	50	30	2,674	4,780	5,576	2,419
Paper .....	10	6	7	9	779	469	711	827
Printing and related support activities .....	8	11	11	9	637	766	714	736
Petroleum and coal products .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Chemicals .....	5	10	6	3	310	898	368	140
Plastics and rubber products <sup>3</sup> .....	18	37	15	27	1,682	2,855	1,081	2,201
Nonmetallic mineral products .....	16	38	25	15	1,483	2,602	1,836	1,224
Primary metals .....	17	16	13	10	1,976	1,491	1,480	873
Fabricated metal products .....	14	40	17	20	1,567	3,144	1,155	1,878
Machinery <sup>3</sup> .....	11	23	15	15	2,013	2,901	1,129	2,447
Computer and electronic products .....	26	18	15	10	2,562	1,222	1,204	917
Electrical equipment and appliances .....	15	7	17	9	2,502	784	5,327	2,692
Transportation equipment <sup>3</sup> .....	68	86	66	72	19,397	17,920	12,189	14,318
Furniture and related products <sup>3</sup> .....	16	34	18	11	1,571	4,127	2,043	842
Miscellaneous manufacturing <sup>3</sup> .....	4	9	10	4	281	721	638	301
Wholesale trade .....	17	30	17	22	1,828	2,848	1,248	1,624
Retail trade .....	93	119	123	94	11,407	12,839	11,662	9,788
Transportation and warehousing .....	55	124	53	92	5,896	13,031	7,318	10,629
Information .....	30	43	28	35	4,843	4,668	4,229	4,316
Finance and insurance <sup>3</sup> .....	39	50	46	46	2,883	4,285	3,397	3,692
Real estate and rental and leasing <sup>3</sup> .....	7	8	5	5	400	462	261	552
Professional and technical services <sup>3</sup> .....	29	41	34	24	4,391	3,829	2,756	3,225
Management of companies and enterprises ...	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	324	( <sup>2</sup> )	181	( <sup>2</sup> )
Administrative and waste services <sup>3</sup> .....	140	232	197	130	15,153	20,639	17,799	10,076
Educational services .....	4	7	5	6	192	851	374	1,191
Health care and social assistance .....	16	27	19	20	1,160	1,767	1,407	1,347
Arts, entertainment, and recreation .....	10	38	6	8	680	2,445	330	492
Accommodation and food services .....	86	88	78	90	10,895	6,064	6,121	10,328
Other services, except public administration ...	6	13	( <sup>2</sup> )	10	364	1,381	( <sup>2</sup> )	906
Unclassified .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government .....	36	55	37	26	3,430	5,602	2,656	2,557
Federal .....	6	13	3	7	501	1,106	249	569
State .....	11	9	11	7	820	804	819	618
Local .....	19	33	23	12	2,109	3,692	1,588	1,370

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Data beginning in 2008 are not strictly comparable to prior years

due to a change in NAICS versions.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

**Table 4. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, January 2006 to March 2008, not seasonally adjusted**

Date	Total mass layoffs		Private nonfarm					
			Mass layoffs		Extended mass layoffs lasting more than 30 days		Realization rates <sup>1</sup>	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2006								
January .....	1,245	117,946	1,123	108,701				
February .....	719	66,555	658	62,208				
March .....	921	111,838	856	106,177				
First Quarter .....	2,885	296,339	2,637	277,086	963	193,510	36.5	69.8
April .....	1,140	121,589	1,038	112,964				
May .....	872	84,809	794	78,663				
June .....	1,489	164,761	1,224	140,687				
Second Quarter .....	3,501	371,159	3,056	332,314	1,353	264,927	44.3	79.7
July .....	1,511	166,857	1,335	154,342				
August .....	708	72,844	656	69,054				
September .....	865	87,699	785	81,274				
Third Quarter .....	3,084	327,400	2,776	304,670	929	161,764	33.5	53.1
October .....	964	98,804	820	88,133				
November .....	1,315	136,186	1,172	125,009				
December .....	2,249	254,503	2,126	244,783				
Fourth Quarter .....	4,528	489,493	4,118	457,925	1,640	330,901	39.8	72.3
2007								
January .....	1,407	134,984	1,263	124,475				
February .....	935	86,696	861	82,097				
March .....	1,082	123,974	1,015	118,431				
First Quarter .....	3,424	345,654	3,139	325,003	1,111	199,295	35.4	61.3
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	258,812	43.2	74.4
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	1,019	172,508	33.7	54.4
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	<sup>2,p</sup> 1,619	<sup>2,p</sup> 234,612	<sup>p</sup> 35.2	<sup>p</sup> 47.3
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				

<sup>1</sup> The event realization rate is the percentage of all private nonfarm mass layoff events lasting more than 30 days. The initial claimant realization rate is the percentage of all private nonfarm mass layoff initial claimants associated with layoffs lasting more than 30 days.

<sup>2</sup> These quarterly numbers are provisional and will be revised as more

data on these layoffs become available. Experience suggests that the number of extended mass layoff events is generally revised upwards by less than 10 percent and the number of initial claimants associated with such events increases by 25-40 percent.

<sup>p</sup> = preliminary.



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

Census region and division	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	March 2007	January 2008	February 2008	March 2008	March 2007	January 2008	February 2008	March 2008
United States <sup>1</sup> .....	1,082	1,647	1,269	1,089	123,974	154,503	119,508	114,541
Northeast .....	137	349	212	180	14,613	32,949	21,554	21,202
New England .....	17	30	35	14	1,650	2,056	3,999	1,014
Middle Atlantic .....	120	319	177	166	12,963	30,893	17,555	20,188
South .....	238	324	305	245	34,812	32,769	29,835	28,097
South Atlantic .....	115	157	176	139	13,072	15,997	13,912	14,166
East South Central .....	77	129	64	53	15,237	13,585	8,907	6,680
West South Central .....	46	38	65	53	6,503	3,187	7,016	7,251
Midwest .....	283	416	232	287	33,410	42,229	25,941	34,885
East North Central .....	225	324	184	224	27,218	33,964	21,916	27,847
West North Central .....	58	92	48	63	6,192	8,265	4,025	7,038
West .....	424	558	520	377	41,139	46,556	42,178	30,357
Mountain .....	41	44	47	43	3,200	3,757	3,754	4,001
Pacific .....	383	514	473	334	37,939	42,799	38,424	26,356

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

NOTE: The States (including the District of Columbia) that comprise the census divisions are: New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central: Alabama,

Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

**Table 6. State distribution: Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, not seasonally adjusted**

State	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	March 2007	January 2008	February 2008	March 2008	March 2007	January 2008	February 2008	March 2008
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	1,082	1,647	1,269	1,089	123,974	154,503	119,508	114,541
Alabama .....	26	82	17	11	3,373	10,160	2,549	927
Alaska .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )
Arizona .....	6	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	9	362	290	( <sup>2</sup> )	808
Arkansas .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	3	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	293	364	867
California .....	333	468	416	296	33,172	38,715	32,747	21,812
Colorado .....	4	7	4	6	458	654	326	533
Connecticut .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Delaware .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	298
District of Columbia .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-
Florida .....	51	70	102	63	4,562	5,366	6,572	5,145
Georgia .....	14	51	26	20	1,635	4,718	2,428	3,302
Hawaii .....	4	3	9	4	323	217	786	304
Idaho .....	8	7	7	12	537	496	497	1,187
Illinois .....	54	68	52	51	8,754	9,106	6,344	6,694
Indiana .....	19	34	24	27	1,927	2,955	3,709	3,870
Iowa .....	11	26	16	11	1,285	3,163	1,885	1,051
Kansas .....	4	8	3	8	930	490	192	1,069
Kentucky .....	32	28	24	26	6,623	2,304	4,219	4,555
Louisiana .....	5	7	13	6	446	739	2,640	411
Maine .....	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	-	233	( <sup>2</sup> )	245	-
Maryland .....	6	9	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	462	708	377	( <sup>2</sup> )
Massachusetts .....	4	11	9	5	268	791	698	433
Michigan .....	51	86	32	41	6,508	7,004	4,379	3,980
Minnesota .....	15	19	5	9	1,231	1,751	361	617
Mississippi .....	10	6	10	7	4,428	324	897	493
Missouri .....	22	37	19	28	2,347	2,664	1,127	3,799
Montana .....	4	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	319	579	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Nebraska .....	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	6	218	( <sup>2</sup> )	460	412
Nevada .....	11	15	23	7	842	1,151	1,909	522
New Hampshire .....	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	3	462	( <sup>2</sup> )	351	167
New Jersey .....	35	35	35	34	3,529	2,613	3,439	4,007
New Mexico .....	6	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	548	473	( <sup>2</sup> )	685
New York .....	40	152	42	29	4,636	18,636	5,912	3,436
North Carolina .....	22	3	21	16	3,986	350	2,121	1,367
North Dakota .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-
Ohio .....	43	71	42	52	4,444	9,352	4,387	6,236
Oklahoma .....	4	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	6	1,178	317	( <sup>2</sup> )	868
Oregon .....	30	28	29	21	3,272	2,769	3,125	3,275
Pennsylvania .....	45	132	100	103	4,798	9,644	8,204	12,745
Rhode Island .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	9	9	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	562	1,448	303
South Carolina .....	10	12	10	17	1,210	1,991	1,354	1,659
South Dakota .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )
Tennessee .....	9	13	13	9	813	797	1,242	705
Texas .....	35	23	47	36	4,762	1,838	3,870	5,105
Utah .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	7	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	525	( <sup>2</sup> )
Vermont .....	4	4	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	465	248	1,084	( <sup>2</sup> )
Virginia .....	10	8	8	14	1,091	1,027	742	1,808
Washington .....	16	14	19	12	1,172	1,047	1,766	913
West Virginia .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	428
Wisconsin .....	58	65	34	53	5,585	5,547	3,097	7,067
Wyoming .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-
Puerto Rico .....	15	10	23	4	1,355	1,120	2,113	344

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

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