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## MASS LAYOFFS IN OCTOBER 2008

In October, employers took 2,140 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 232,468, on a seasonally adjusted basis. The number of mass layoff events this October decreased by 129 from the prior month, and the number of associated initial claims fell by 3,213 . Both layoff events and initial claims reached their highest October levels since 2001, a month that experienced continued layoff activity from the September 11 attacks. In October, 635 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 87,403 initial claims. Over the month, mass layoff events in manufacturing increased by 32 and initial claims increased by 5,989; the third consecutive over-the-month increase for both. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Mass layoff events, seasonally adjusted, November 2003-October 2008


Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted, November 2003-October 2008


From January through October 2008, the total number of events (seasonally adjusted), at 16,951, and initial claims (seasonally adjusted), at 1,742,914, were the highest for the January-October period since 2002.

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

| Industry | Initial claims | October peak |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Year | Initial claims |
| Temporary help services | 16,381 | 1998 | 18,760 |
| Automobile manufacturing | 10,508 | 2008 | 10,508 |
| Professional employer organizations .. | 7,242 | 2008 | 7,242 |
| Motion picture and video production . | 6,052 | 1997 | 7,692 |
| Light truck and utility vehicle manufacturing | 6,047 | 2001 | 8,763 |
| Farm labor contractors and crew leaders | 4,123 | 1998 | 9,617 |
| Heavy duty truck manufacturing | 3,983 | 2006 | 7,017 |
| Discount department stores ........ | 3,135 | 2002 | 4,959 |
| Fruit and vegetable canning .......... | 2,836 | 2002 | 4,500 |
| Travel trailer and camper manufacturing ... | 2,826 | 2008 | 2,826 |

The national unemployment rate was 6.5 percent in October, seasonally adjusted, up significantly from 6.1 percent the prior month and up from 4.8 percent a year earlier. In October, total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 240,000 over the month and by 1,078,000 from a year earlier.

## Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in October was 2,125 on a not seasonally adjusted basis; the number of associated initial claims was 221,784. (See table 2.) Average weekly layoff events rose from 271 in October 2007 to 425 in October 2008, while average weekly initial claimants increased from 27,114 to 44,357 . In 2008, both average weekly events and initial claimants reached their highest October levels since 2001. In 2008, two major sectors reported program highs in terms of average weekly initial claimants for the month of October-the construction sector and the arts, entertainment, and recreation sector (with data available back to 1995).

The manufacturing sector accounted for 32 percent of all mass layoff events and 45 percent of initial claims filed in October 2008; a year earlier, manufacturing made up 31 percent of events and 47 percent of initial claims. This October, the number of manufacturing claimants was greatest in transportation equipment manufacturing $(36,110)$, followed by food manufacturing $(11,144)$. (See table 3.) Administrative and waste services accounted for 16 percent of mass layoff events and 14 percent of associated initial claims during the month.

The six-digit NAICS industry with the largest number of initial claims was temporary help services $(16,381)$, followed by automobile manufacturing $(10,508)$. Among the 10 industries with the highest levels of initial claims, 3 of the 10-automobile manufacturing, travel trailer and camper manufacturing, and professional employer organizations-reached program highs in 2008 for the month of October (with data available back to 1995). (See table A.)

## Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Of the 4 census regions, the Midwest had the highest number of initial claims in October due to mass layoffs $(75,210)$, followed by the West $(69,542)$ and the South $(53,087)$. (See table 5.) Average
weekly initial claimants in mass layoffs increased over the year in all 4 regions with the West $(+5,341)$ and the Midwest $(+5,329)$ experiencing the largest increases.

Of the 9 divisions, the Pacific $(60,351)$ and the East North Central $(60,196)$ had the highest numbers of initial claims in October due to mass layoffs. (See table 5.) All 9 of the divisions experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims, led by the Pacific $(+4,229)$ and the East North Central $(+3,829)$. In 2008, the East South Central and Mountain divisions reached program highs in average weekly initial claims for the month of October.

California recorded the highest number of initial claims filed due to mass layoff events in October with 51,286 . The next highest states reporting mass layoff initial claims were Ohio $(17,764)$ and Michigan $(16,851)$. (See table 6.) Twelve states reached program highs in average weekly initial claims in 2008 for the month of October-Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Utah, and Wyoming. Forty-four states registered over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims associated with mass layoffs, led by California (+3,256), Michigan $(+2,073)$, and Florida $(+1,319)$.

The report on Mass Layoffs in November 2008 is scheduled to be released on Friday, December 19.

## Technical Note

The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program is a federalstate 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 unem-
ployment 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-12ARIMA 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-12ARIMA program and are permanently removed from the final seasonally adjusted series.

Table 1. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, November 2004 to October 2008, seasonally adjusted

| Date | Total |  | Private nonfarm |  | Manufacturing |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants |
| 2004 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November | 1,320 | 130,873 | 1,174 | 119,029 | 380 | 45,416 |
| December . | 1,148 | 111,060 | 991 | 99,784 | 287 | 31,935 |
| 2005 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 2006 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| April | 1,308 | 133,914 | 1,186 | 124,053 | 483 | 60,552 |
| May . | 1,626 | 171,387 | 1,496 | 161,912 | 528 | 72,058 |
| June . | 1,643 | 165,697 | 1,491 | 153,568 | 541 | 76,514 |
| July ... | 1,512 | 151,171 | 1,368 | 140,116 | 443 | 57,470 |
| August | 1,772 | 173,955 | 1,622 | 163,800 | 599 | 72,244 |
| September | 2,269 | 235,681 | 2,092 | 221,538 | 603 | 81,414 |
| October | 2,140 | 232,468 | 1,976 | 218,131 | 635 | 87,403 |

Table 2. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, November 2004 to October 2008, not seasonally adjusted

| Date | Total |  | Private nonfarm |  | Manufacturing |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants |
| 2004 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November | 1,399 | 130,423 | 1,201 | 115,549 | 412 | 44,243 |
| December | 1,614 | 161,271 | 1,487 | 152,092 | 436 | 50,726 |
| 2005 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 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 |

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

| Industry | Mass layoff events |  |  |  | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | October 2007 | August <br> 2008 | $\begin{gathered} \text { September } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { October } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | October 2007 | August <br> 2008 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { September } \\ & 2008 \end{aligned}$ | October 2008 |
| Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 1,347 | 1,772 | 2,269 | 2,140 | 136,124 | 173,955 | 235,681 | 232,468 |
| Total, private nonfarm | 1,224 | 1,622 | 2,092 | 1,976 | 127,163 | 163,800 | 221,538 | 218,131 |
| Manufacturing | 430 | 599 | 603 | 635 | 57,695 | 72,244 | 81,414 | 87,403 |
| Not seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ | 1,083 | 1,427 | 1,292 | 2,125 | 108,455 | 139,999 | 129,586 | 221,784 |
| Total, private | 1,033 | 1,373 | 1,227 | 2,034 | 103,897 | 134,871 | 124,096 | 213,602 |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting | 104 | 30 | 25 | 117 | 6,181 | 1,725 | 1,591 | 8,049 |
| Total, private nonfarm | 929 | 1,343 | 1,202 | 1,917 | 97,716 | 133,146 | 122,505 | 205,553 |
| Mining . | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 3 | 6 | 6 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 207 | 728 | 449 |
| Utilities | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Construction | 114 | 142 | 144 | 206 | 7,126 | 9,717 | 10,763 | 14,864 |
| Manufacturing | 338 | 414 | 361 | 689 | 50,918 | 51,912 | 46,391 | 100,457 |
| Food | 50 | 40 | 33 | 75 | 5,264 | 3,510 | 3,068 | 11,144 |
| Beverage and tobacco products .. | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 603 | 630 | 648 | 488 |
| Textile mills | 8 | 10 | 13 | 20 | 732 | 1,013 | 1,422 | 2,925 |
| Textile product mills ${ }^{3}$ | 4 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 232 | 487 | 347 | 792 |
| Apparel ${ }^{3}$. | 6 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 408 | 981 | 688 | 914 |
| Leather and allied products | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Wood products | 31 | 35 | 32 | 68 | 3,582 | 2,980 | 2,901 | 6,932 |
| Paper | 10 | 3 | 8 | 17 | 708 | 516 | 603 | 1,392 |
| Printing and related support activities | 7 | 10 | 5 | 10 | 434 | 938 | 341 | 1,042 |
| Petroleum and coal products ....... | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Chemicals | 6 | 5 | 8 | 13 | 907 | 268 | 527 | 1,394 |
| Plastics and rubber products ${ }^{3}$ | 11 | 30 | 16 | 47 | 1,133 | 3,625 | 1,224 | 4,903 |
| Nonmetallic mineral products | 8 | 8 | 12 | 21 | 440 | 1,161 | 861 | 1,755 |
| Primary metals ... | 16 | 19 | 13 | 48 | 1,579 | 1,709 | 1,582 | 6,038 |
| Fabricated metal products .. | 18 | 25 | 35 | 47 | 1,367 | 2,179 | 2,357 | 4,632 |
| Machinery ${ }^{3}$ | 18 | 30 | 28 | 43 | 5,459 | 4,887 | 4,058 | 7,897 |
| Computer and electronic products | 10 | 26 | 15 | 36 | 674 | 2,446 | 1,556 | 3,705 |
| Electrical equipment and appliances .. | 12 | 11 | 22 | 21 | 1,516 | 1,485 | 3,453 | 3,873 |
| Transportation equipment ${ }^{3}$. | 88 | 112 | 87 | 149 | 23,399 | 19,787 | 19,278 | 36,110 |
| Furniture and related products ${ }^{3}$ | 18 | 20 | 13 | 32 | 1,504 | 2,566 | 1,153 | 2,902 |
| Miscellaneous manufacturing ${ }^{3}$. | 5 | 5 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 13 | 538 | 520 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 1,210 |
| Wholesale trade | 13 | 27 | 20 | 38 | 1,571 | 1,765 | 1,642 | 2,573 |
| Retail trade | 66 | 142 | 112 | 161 | 5,881 | 12,674 | 10,345 | 15,328 |
| Transportation and warehousing ........ | 31 | 100 | 54 | 75 | 3,153 | 9,077 | 4,383 | 6,007 |
| Information | 33 | 48 | 45 | 49 | 3,645 | 6,640 | 6,021 | 7,820 |
| Finance and insurance ${ }^{3}$ | 60 | 45 | 38 | 63 | 4,640 | 3,192 | 3,104 | 5,025 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing ${ }^{3}$. | 8 | 13 | 7 | 15 | 616 | 742 | 396 | 1,014 |
| Professional and technical services ${ }^{3}$. | 26 | 45 | 35 | 46 | 1,968 | 4,458 | 5,623 | 3,022 |
| Management of companies and enterprises .. | 5 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 4 | 382 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 337 |
| Administrative and waste services ${ }^{3}$. | 140 | 214 | 181 | 334 | 10,778 | 19,682 | 18,557 | 30,945 |
| Educational services | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 9 | 5 | 5 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 1,462 | 346 | 292 |
| Health care and social assistance | 20 | 35 | 54 | 39 | 1,708 | 2,584 | 4,021 | 2,823 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation ............... | 21 | 18 | 30 | 42 | 1,521 | 1,320 | 2,043 | 3,106 |
| Accommodation and food services ............... | 47 | 74 | 99 | 125 | 3,346 | 6,221 | 7,552 | 10,278 |
| Other services, except public administration. | 3 | 9 | 6 | 16 | 175 | 1,185 | 297 | 962 |
| Unclassified ............................................ | 1 | - | 2 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 74 | - | 73 | ( ${ }^{2}$ ) |
| Government | 50 | 54 | 65 | 91 | 4,558 | 5,128 | 5,490 | 8,182 |
| Federal | 16 | 8 | 9 | 19 | 1,412 | 800 | 764 | 1,746 |
| State | 16 | 13 | 12 | 30 | 1,431 | 1,464 | 922 | 2,985 |
| Local ... | 18 | 33 | 44 | 42 | 1,715 | 2,864 | 3,804 | 3,451 |

[^0]due to a change in NAICS versions.
NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 4. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, October 2006 to October 2008, 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 |
| 2006 |  |  |  |  | 1,640 | 330,954 | 39.8 | 72.3 |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |
| 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 | 1,110 | 199,250 | 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 | 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 | ${ }^{\text {' }} 347,149$ | 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 | ${ }^{\text {r }} 258,767$ | 35.9 | ${ }^{\text {r }} 70.3$ |
| 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 | ${ }^{\text {r }} 1,756$ | ${ }^{\text {r }} 335,854$ | ' 44.7 | ' 81.3 |
| 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 | ${ }^{\text {2,p }} 1,330$ | 2,p 181,386 | ${ }^{\text {p }} 31.4$ | ${ }^{\mathrm{p}} 41.1$ |
| October | 2,125 | 221,784 | 1,917 | 205,553 |  |  |  |  |

[^1]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 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | October $2007$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { August } \\ & 2008 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { September } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { October } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | October $2007$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { August } \\ & 2008 \end{aligned}$ | September 2008 | $\begin{gathered} \text { October } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ |
| United States ${ }^{1}$ | 1,083 | 1,427 | 1,292 | 2,125 | 108,455 | 139,999 | 129,586 | 221,784 |
| Northeast | 141 | 226 | 142 | 270 | 12,152 | 22,736 | 11,646 | 23,945 |
| New England | 9 | 24 | 15 | 25 | 614 | 2,304 | 1,180 | 2,522 |
| Middle Atlantic | 132 | 202 | 127 | 245 | 11,538 | 20,432 | 10,466 | 21,423 |
| South | 230 | 362 | 475 | 538 | 23,180 | 38,188 | 43,772 | 53,087 |
| South Atlantic | 131 | 212 | 153 | 295 | 11,952 | 20,313 | 12,291 | 25,535 |
| East South Central | 51 | 90 | 54 | 111 | 6,791 | 11,179 | 4,788 | 15,162 |
| West South Central | 48 | 60 | 268 | 132 | 4,437 | 6,696 | 26,693 | 12,390 |
| Midwest | 261 | 307 | 225 | 511 | 38,853 | 33,238 | 26,646 | 75,210 |
| East North Central | 215 | 254 | 189 | 406 | 32,840 | 26,689 | 23,087 | 60,196 |
| West North Central | 46 | 53 | 36 | 105 | 6,013 | 6,549 | 3,559 | 15,014 |
| West. | 451 | 532 | 450 | 806 | 34,270 | 45,837 | 47,522 | 69,542 |
| Mountain . | 38 | 50 | 43 | 98 | 2,905 | 4,688 | 3,675 | 9,191 |
| Pacific | 413 | 482 | 407 | 708 | 31,365 | 41,149 | 43,847 | 60,351 |

${ }^{1}$ 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 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | October <br> 2007 | August $2008$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { September } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | October $2008$ | October <br> 2007 | $\begin{gathered} \text { August } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { September } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { October } \\ 2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ | 1,083 | 1,427 | 1,292 | 2,125 | 108,455 | 139,999 | 129,586 | 221,784 |
| Alabama . | 10 | 24 | 12 | 26 | 1,037 | 3,288 | 1,090 | 3,865 |
| Alaska . | - | - | 3 | 13 | - | - | 241 | 1,631 |
| Arizona | 7 | 7 | 8 | 13 | 610 | 488 | 586 | 979 |
| Arkansas | 10 | 8 | 3 | 18 | 1,486 | 613 | 359 | 1,877 |
| California | 380 | 439 | 358 | 621 | 28,004 | 36,120 | 34,584 | 51,286 |
| Colorado | 4 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 322 | 258 | 196 | 1,143 |
| Connecticut | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 4 | 6 | 4 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 368 | 402 | 540 |
| Delaware | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 3 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 694 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| District of Columbia | ( | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | - | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | - |
| Florida. | 79 | 126 | 96 | 176 | 5,082 | 9,849 | 5,988 | 12,946 |
| Georgia | 21 | 32 | 20 | 61 | 2,835 | 2,938 | 1,885 | 6,825 |
| Hawaii | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 4 | 9 | 9 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 408 | 919 | 910 |
| Idaho ... | 3 | 10 | 4 | 22 | 192 | 1,120 | 324 | 2,682 |
| Illinois | 39 | 55 | 43 | 64 | 7,710 | 6,164 | 4,941 | 7,842 |
| Indiana | 29 | 40 | 34 | 63 | 5,129 | 4,359 | 4,314 | 7,961 |
| lowa. | 15 | 18 | 10 | 23 | 1,662 | 3,727 | 1,455 | 3,818 |
| Kansas | 3 | 4 | 6 | 18 | 347 | 291 | 478 | 2,543 |
| Kentucky | 28 | 34 | 24 | 46 | 3,449 | 5,487 | 2,351 | 8,327 |
| Louisiana | 7 | 10 | 163 | 22 | 453 | 851 | 14,929 | 1,662 |
| Maine .. | - | 3 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | 217 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Maryland | 7 | 8 | 5 | 11 | 702 | 762 | 349 | 885 |
| Massachusetts | 4 | 6 | 4 | 11 | 234 | 495 | 310 | 980 |
| Michigan ... | 51 | 48 | 40 | 81 | 5,187 | 3,669 | 4,130 | 16,851 |
| Minnesota | 9 | 5 | 4 | 23 | 745 | 334 | 430 | 1,880 |
| Mississippi. | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 15 | 6 | 17 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 908 | 463 | 1,513 |
| Missouri ..... | 18 | 21 | 16 | 35 | 3,165 | 1,490 | 1,196 | 5,877 |
| Montana | 5 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 5 | 430 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 573 |
| Nebraska | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 3 | - | 5 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 271 | ${ }^{-}$ | 819 |
| Nevada | 14 | 23 | 18 | 29 | 1,027 | 1,912 | 1,604 | 2,421 |
| New Hampshire | - | 3 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 3 | - | 170 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 310 |
| New Jersey .. | 16 | 38 | 17 | 45 | 1,327 | 3,151 | 1,663 | 3,670 |
| New Mexico | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 5 | 4 | 5 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 728 | 440 | 396 |
| New York | 28 | 94 | 36 | 54 | 3,202 | 10,760 | 2,905 | 4,725 |
| North Carolina | 3 | 25 | 9 | 18 | 212 | 3,123 | 793 | 1,838 |
| North Dakota | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Ohio . | 53 | 62 | 32 | 118 | 10,896 | 7,994 | 5,912 | 17,764 |
| Oklahoma . | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 5 | 6 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 789 | 1,137 |
| Oregon .... | 17 | 28 | 21 | 36 | 2,106 | 3,741 | 2,942 | 3,883 |
| Pennsylvania ...... | 88 | 70 | 74 | 146 | 7,009 | 6,521 | 5,898 | 13,028 |
| Rhode Island | 3 | 5 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 3 | 249 | 390 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 325 |
| South Carolina | 13 | 12 | 16 | 23 | 2,504 | 2,232 | 1,793 | 2,268 |
| South Dakota | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tennessee | 11 | 17 | 12 | 22 | 2,122 | 1,496 | 884 | 1,457 |
| Texas | 30 | 40 | 97 | 86 | 2,414 | 5,124 | 10,616 | 7,714 |
| Utah .. | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 3 | 9 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 243 | 721 |
| Vermont | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 3 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 664 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Virginia ... | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 465 | 361 | 546 | 655 |
| Washington | 14 | 11 | 16 | 29 | 1,058 | 880 | 5,161 | 2,641 |
| West Virginia ... | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - |
| Wisconsin ........ | 43 | 49 | 40 | 80 | 3,918 | 4,503 | 3,790 | 9,778 |
| Wyoming | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 4 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 276 |
| Puerto Rico ........... | 11 | 18 | 18 | 13 | 894 | 1,958 | 1,715 | 1,117 |

[^2]
[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Data were reported by all states and the District of Columbia.
    ${ }^{2}$ Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.
    ${ }^{3}$ Data beginning in 2008 are not strictly comparable to prior years

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ 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

[^2]:    ${ }^{1}$ See footnote 1, table 3.
    ${ }^{2}$ Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

