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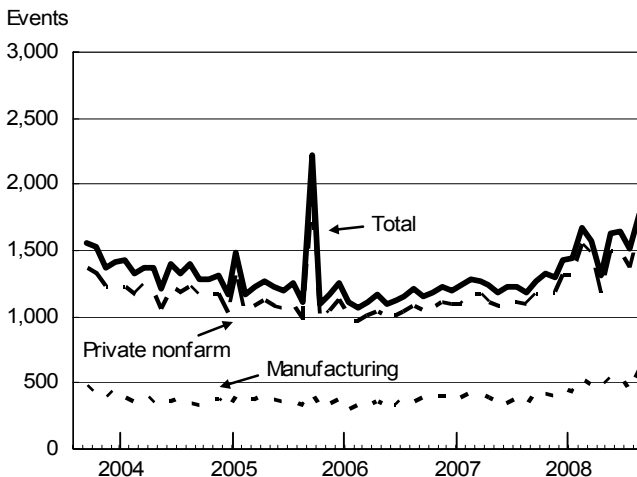
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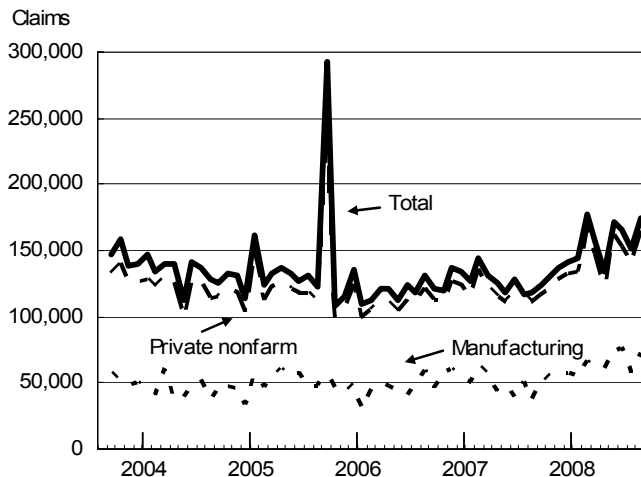
## MASS LAYOFFS IN AUGUST 2008

In August, employers took 1,772 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 173,955, on a seasonally adjusted basis. Layoff events reached a program high for the month of August (with data available back to 1995), and associated initial claimants reached its highest level for the month since 2001. The number of mass layoff events this August increased by 260 from the prior month, while the number of associated initial claims rose by 22,784. In August, 599 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 72,244 initial claims. Over the month, mass layoff events in manufacturing increased by 156, and initial claims increased by 14,774. (See table 1.)

**Chart 1. Mass layoff events, seasonally adjusted, September 2003-August 2008**



**Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted, September 2003-August 2008**



From January through August 2008, the total number of mass layoff events (seasonally adjusted), at 12,542, and initial claims (seasonally adjusted), at 1,274,765, were the highest for the January-August period since 2003.

The national unemployment rate was 6.1 percent in August, seasonally adjusted, up from 5.7 percent in the prior month and from 4.7 percent a year earlier. In August, total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 84,000 over the month and by 283,000 from a year earlier.

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

Industry	Initial claims	August peak	
		Year	Initial claims
Temporary help services .....	10,585	1999	11,533
School and employee bus transportation .....	6,455	2003	6,538
Professional employer organizations .....	5,252	2008	5,252
Motion picture and video production .....	4,516	2003	6,812
Automobile manufacturing .....	3,856	2001	8,166
Heavy duty truck manufacturing .....	3,214	2006	4,896
Motor home manufacturing .....	2,579	2008	2,579
Full-service restaurants .....	2,275	2008	2,275
All other motor vehicle parts manufacturing .....	2,135	2008	2,135
Discount department stores .....	2,045	2007	2,953

#### Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in August was 1,427 on a not seasonally adjusted basis; the number of associated initial claims was 139,999. (See table 2.) Over the year, increases were recorded in both the number of layoff events (+464) and initial claims (+46,541). The largest over-the-year increases in initial claims occurred in transportation equipment manufacturing (+14,191) and in administrative and waste services (+4,524). The largest decrease in initial claims occurred in credit intermediation and related activities (-6,363).

The manufacturing sector accounted for 29 percent of all mass layoff events and 37 percent of initial claims filed in August; a year earlier, manufacturing made up 23 percent of events and 25 percent of initial claims. In August 2008, the number of manufacturing claimants was greatest in transportation equipment manufacturing (19,787), followed by machinery manufacturing (4,887). (See table 3.) Administrative and waste services accounted for 15 percent of mass layoff events and 14 percent of associated initial claims, primarily from temporary help services.

The six-digit NAICS industry with the largest number of initial claims was temporary help services (10,585), followed by school and employee bus transportation (6,455). Among the 10 industries with the highest levels of initial claims, 4 of the 10—professional employer organizations, motor home manufacturing, full-service restaurants, and all other motor vehicle parts manufacturing—reached program highs in 2008 for the month of August (with data available back to 1995). (See table A.)

#### Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Of the 4 census regions, the West had the highest number of initial claims in August due to mass layoffs (45,837). The South had the second largest count of initial claims among the regions (38,188), followed by the Midwest with 33,238 and the Northeast with 22,736. (See table 5.)

Initial claimants in mass layoffs increased over the year in all 4 regions—the South (+16,736), the Midwest (+14,919), the West (+8,546), and the Northeast (+6,340). All 9 divisions experienced over-the-year increases in initial claims, led by the East North Central (+11,105) and the South Atlantic (+9,681).

California recorded the highest number of initial claims filed due to mass layoff events in August with 36,120, largely due to layoffs in administrative and support services and in motion picture and sound recording industries. The states with the next highest numbers of mass layoff initial claims were New York (10,760), Florida (9,849), and Ohio (7,994). (See table 6.)

Thirty-six states and the District of Columbia registered over-the-year increases in initial claims associated with mass layoffs, led by California (+5,054), Ohio (+4,930), and Florida (+4,674). States with the largest over-the-year decreases in claims were Arizona (-704) and Washington (-461).

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The report on Mass Layoffs in September 2008 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, October 22.

# 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 un-

employment 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, September 2004 to August 2008, seasonally adjusted**

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2004						
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
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

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

Date	Total		Private nonfarm		Manufacturing	
	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants	Events	Initial claimants
2004						
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
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

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

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claimants for unemployment insurance			
	August 2007	June 2008	July 2008	August 2008	August 2007	June 2008	July 2008	August 2008
<b>Seasonally adjusted</b>								
Total .....	1,228	1,643	1,512	1,772	121,886	165,697	151,171	173,955
Total, private nonfarm .....	1,128	1,491	1,368	1,622	114,628	153,568	140,116	163,800
Manufacturing .....	335	541	443	599	36,518	76,514	57,470	72,244
<b>Not seasonally adjusted</b>								
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	963	1,622	1,891	1,427	93,458	166,742	200,382	139,999
Total, private .....	927	1,363	1,765	1,373	89,793	144,732	191,309	134,871
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting .....	19	48	78	30	1,448	3,816	5,291	1,725
Total, private nonfarm .....	908	1,315	1,687	1,343	88,345	140,916	186,018	133,146
Mining .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	207
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 .....	106	114	72	142	7,282	7,713	4,941	9,717
Manufacturing .....	220	309	760	414	23,361	42,097	108,733	51,912
Food .....	27	58	49	40	2,912	6,065	4,844	3,510
Beverage and tobacco products .....	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	243	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	630
Textile mills .....	7	5	15	10	805	730	1,286	1,013
Textile product mills <sup>3</sup> .....	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	4	376	( <sup>2</sup> )	560	487
Apparel <sup>3</sup> .....	10	7	24	10	1,362	534	2,048	981
Leather and allied products .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	862	184	( <sup>2</sup> )
Wood products .....	19	22	38	35	1,562	2,314	4,044	2,980
Paper .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	6	10	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	411	1,239	516
Printing and related support activities .....	6	10	12	10	389	1,116	947	938
Petroleum and coal products .....	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Chemicals .....	4	4	13	5	228	228	999	268
Plastics and rubber products <sup>3</sup> .....	11	8	62	30	898	960	6,804	3,625
Nonmetallic mineral products .....	5	9	16	8	309	516	1,412	1,161
Primary metals .....	11	12	41	19	1,399	1,012	4,606	1,709
Fabricated metal products .....	10	19	71	25	689	1,716	7,007	2,179
Machinery <sup>3</sup> .....	16	22	45	30	1,846	2,611	5,042	4,887
Computer and electronic products .....	16	13	30	26	1,252	1,091	2,498	2,446
Electrical equipment and appliances .....	10	8	21	11	1,238	2,128	3,052	1,485
Transportation equipment <sup>3</sup> .....	39	74	269	112	5,596	17,597	57,761	19,787
Furniture and related products <sup>3</sup> .....	12	12	18	20	855	1,076	2,397	2,566
Miscellaneous manufacturing <sup>3</sup> .....	6	13	15	5	745	909	1,751	520
Wholesale trade .....	16	15	22	27	1,247	908	1,926	1,765
Retail trade .....	101	89	116	142	10,680	10,567	9,450	12,674
Transportation and warehousing .....	63	160	107	100	5,968	20,647	11,182	9,077
Information .....	19	47	42	48	3,432	5,078	4,069	6,640
Finance and insurance <sup>3</sup> .....	93	40	55	45	9,631	2,968	4,256	3,192
Real estate and rental and leasing <sup>3</sup> .....	6	7	11	13	625	798	792	742
Professional and technical services <sup>3</sup> .....	25	32	40	45	3,037	3,903	3,147	4,458
Management of companies and enterprises .....	5	4	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	390	257	313	( <sup>2</sup> )
Administrative and waste services <sup>3</sup> .....	153	164	259	214	15,114	15,635	22,921	19,682
Educational services .....	7	18	18	9	579	1,275	1,388	1,462
Health care and social assistance .....	15	151	65	35	914	11,867	4,263	2,584
Arts, entertainment, and recreation .....	16	26	27	18	1,218	1,462	2,136	1,320
Accommodation and food services .....	46	102	78	74	3,346	12,931	5,803	6,221
Other services, except public administration .....	12	33	7	9	1,064	2,507	419	1,185
Unclassified .....	1	1	-	-	78	57	-	-
Government .....	36	259	126	54	3,665	22,010	9,073	5,128
Federal .....	15	11	4	8	1,642	928	306	800
State .....	3	12	26	13	248	953	2,179	1,464
Local .....	18	236	96	33	1,775	20,129	6,588	2,864

<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, July 2006 to August 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								
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	330,954	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	1,110	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	347,146	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	256,697	35.9	69.8
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	<sup>2,p</sup> 1,534	<sup>2,p</sup> 215,808	<sup>p</sup> 39.1	<sup>p</sup> 52.3
July .....	1,891	200,382	1,687	186,018				
August .....	1,427	139,999	1,343	133,146				

<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			
	August 2007	June 2008	July 2008	August 2008	August 2007	June 2008	July 2008	August 2008
United States <sup>1</sup> .....	963	1,622	1,891	1,427	93,458	166,742	200,382	139,999
Northeast .....	173	282	281	226	16,396	32,721	25,506	22,736
New England .....	15	49	34	24	1,128	4,929	2,658	2,304
Middle Atlantic .....	158	233	247	202	15,268	27,792	22,848	20,432
South .....	227	365	450	362	21,452	38,453	48,440	38,188
South Atlantic .....	128	207	218	212	10,632	18,972	17,556	20,313
East South Central .....	54	63	161	90	6,426	10,974	21,721	11,179
West South Central .....	45	95	71	60	4,394	8,507	9,163	6,696
Midwest .....	181	345	606	307	18,319	39,391	84,535	33,238
East North Central .....	149	257	528	254	15,584	28,549	75,373	26,689
West North Central .....	32	88	78	53	2,735	10,842	9,162	6,549
West .....	382	630	554	532	37,291	56,177	41,901	45,837
Mountain .....	29	63	49	50	3,162	4,903	4,519	4,688
Pacific .....	353	567	505	482	34,129	51,274	37,382	41,149

<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			
	August 2007	June 2008	July 2008	August 2008	August 2007	June 2008	July 2008	August 2008
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	963	1,622	1,891	1,427	93,458	166,742	200,382	139,999
Alabama .....	16	13	67	24	2,433	2,091	7,072	3,288
Alaska .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	-
Arizona .....	8	17	15	7	1,192	1,520	1,422	488
Arkansas .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	6	13	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	414	1,606	613
California .....	320	516	460	439	31,066	44,754	33,250	36,120
Colorado .....	3	3	4	3	220	177	343	258
Connecticut .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	9	6	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	758	579	368
Delaware .....	-	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	-	159	( <sup>2</sup> )	694
District of Columbia .....	-	3	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	236	-	( <sup>2</sup> )
Florida .....	70	132	123	126	5,175	10,751	7,555	9,849
Georgia .....	25	32	39	32	2,493	3,304	3,949	2,938
Hawaii .....	3	6	4	4	169	783	271	408
Idaho .....	5	9	7	10	393	684	619	1,120
Illinois .....	35	48	56	55	3,702	4,767	7,674	6,164
Indiana .....	18	40	67	40	1,911	4,916	8,787	4,359
Iowa .....	5	27	16	18	526	3,682	2,068	3,727
Kansas .....	3	12	8	4	538	927	731	291
Kentucky .....	23	26	63	34	3,048	6,706	11,907	5,487
Louisiana .....	5	23	10	10	902	1,767	1,645	851
Maine .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	3	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	359	217
Maryland .....	10	8	5	8	828	754	443	762
Massachusetts .....	8	17	16	6	569	1,467	1,107	495
Michigan .....	28	61	212	48	2,693	6,323	27,672	3,669
Minnesota .....	8	16	12	5	553	1,506	1,452	334
Mississippi .....	6	5	13	15	371	300	1,330	908
Missouri .....	13	28	39	21	941	4,320	3,763	1,490
Montana .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	299	234	( <sup>2</sup> )
Nebraska .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	271
Nevada .....	7	17	15	23	819	1,323	1,637	1,912
New Hampshire .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	4	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	657	426	170
New Jersey .....	32	60	56	38	2,398	9,512	4,110	3,151
New Mexico .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	465	( <sup>2</sup> )	728
New York .....	74	38	103	94	8,776	3,445	10,764	10,760
North Carolina .....	6	10	12	25	636	1,875	1,128	3,123
North Dakota .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	248	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Ohio .....	29	55	117	62	3,064	6,678	19,402	7,994
Oklahoma .....	3	6	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	300	502	575	( <sup>2</sup> )
Oregon .....	13	24	25	28	1,502	3,863	2,498	3,741
Pennsylvania .....	52	135	88	70	4,094	14,835	7,974	6,521
Rhode Island .....	3	11	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	337	1,141	( <sup>2</sup> )	390
South Carolina .....	10	12	29	12	940	1,139	2,958	2,232
South Dakota .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	-
Tennessee .....	9	19	18	17	574	1,877	1,412	1,496
Texas .....	36	60	43	40	3,085	5,824	5,337	5,124
Utah .....	3	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	327	435	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Vermont .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	683	( <sup>2</sup> )	664
Virginia .....	7	5	9	4	560	628	1,475	361
Washington .....	16	21	16	11	1,341	1,874	1,363	880
West Virginia .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )
Wisconsin .....	39	53	76	49	4,214	5,865	11,838	4,503
Wyoming .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico .....	15	13	12	18	1,751	1,265	1,227	1,958

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

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

NOTE: Dash represents zero.