

MOUNTAIN-PLAINS INFORMATION OFFICE  
Kansas City, Mo.

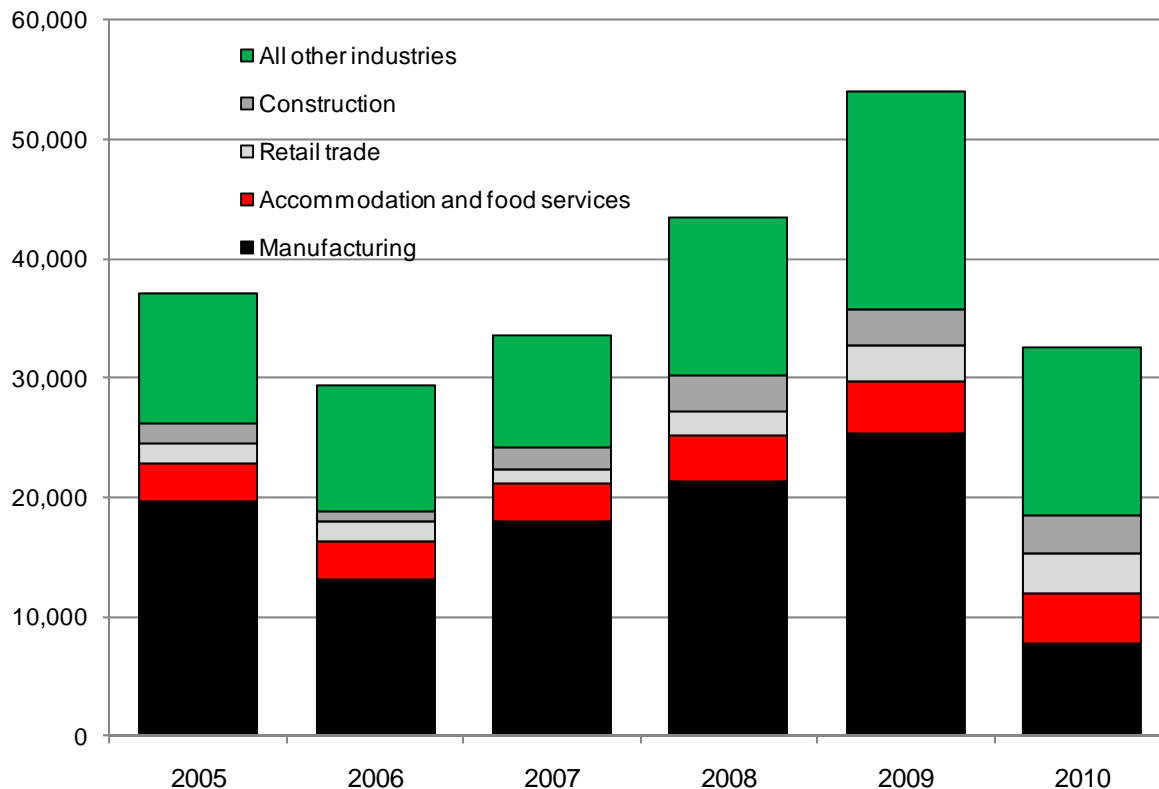
**For release: Wednesday, May 18, 2011**

Technical information : (816) 285-7000 • [BLSInfoKansasCity@bls.gov](mailto:BLSInfoKansasCity@bls.gov) • [www.bls.gov/ro7](http://www.bls.gov/ro7)  
Media contact : (816) 285-7000 • [BLSInfoKansasCity@bls.gov](mailto:BLSInfoKansasCity@bls.gov)

### MASS LAYOFFS IN MISSOURI – 2010 ANNUAL TOTALS

Employers in Missouri took 420 mass layoff actions in 2010 that resulted in the separation of 32,586 workers, as measured by new filings for unemployment insurance benefits during the year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See chart 1.) Each action involved at least 50 persons from a single employer. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that the number of claims in 2010 was the second-lowest recorded in the State since 1996 when annual data first became available. Only one year earlier, in 2009, initial claims had totaled 54,046, third highest count on record.

**Chart 1. Mass layoff initial claims, Missouri, annual totals, 2005-10**



## Industry distribution

Of all the industry sectors in Missouri, manufacturing experienced the most mass layoff events in 2010 with 95. (See table 1.) This sector also had the largest number of initial claimants at 7,817, accounting for 24.0 percent of the State's total. (See chart 1.) Even though manufacturing accounted for the largest number of Missouri's initial claimants in 2010, it was the lowest recorded for this industry since the inception of the series in 1996. Construction had the second-highest mass layoff count, 53, but the 3,150 associated claims for unemployment insurance ranked fourth in the State; even so, this industry reached a series high in claims in 2010. (See table A.) Accommodation and food services, with 45 events, ranked second in claims with 4,234, followed by retail trade with 3,262 claims.

**Table A. Sectors reaching series highs for mass layoff initial claimants in 2010, Missouri**

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Initial claimants for unemployment insurance</u>
Construction	3,150
Local government	1,250
State government	547

Manufacturing had the largest decrease in mass layoff-related claims from 2009 to 2010 with a decline of 17,597, followed by transportation and warehousing (-1,850), finance and insurance (-1,102), and administrative and waste services (-996). All four of these industries had posted increases from 2008 to 2009. (See table B.)

On a percentage basis, finance and insurance experienced the largest decrease in annual claims from 2009 to 2010, down 74.1 percent, followed by manufacturing, down 69.2 percent.

**Table B. Sectors with at least 500 fewer mass layoff initial claims in 2010, Missouri**

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Net change from</u> <u>2008 - 09</u>	<u>Net change from</u> <u>2009 - 10</u>
Manufacturing	4,059	-17,597
Transportation and warehousing	1,230	-1,850
Finance and insurance	933	-1,102
Administrative and waste services	1,270	-996
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	-12	-504

Nine industry sectors registered increases in the number of initial claims associated with mass layoff events in 2010. Two of these sectors, local government and state government, recorded the highest numbers of initial claims since publication began. Local government had 1,250 claims and the state government, 547. Two additional sectors—retail trade (3,262 claims) and information (834 claims)—reported the second-highest levels in the history of these series.

Among the states, California recorded the greatest number of initial claims during 2010 with 419,809, followed by New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Florida. Forty-eight states and the District of Columbia experienced over-the-year decreases in total initial claims for the year. The largest declines in claims occurred in California (-112,219) and Illinois (-102,218).

## Technical Note

The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program is a federal-state program that uses a standardized automated approach to identifying, describing, and tracking the effects of major job cutbacks, using data from each state's unemployment insurance database. Each month, states report on employers which have at least 50 initial claims filed against them during a consecutive 5-week period. These employers then are contacted by the state agency to determine whether these separations lasted 31 days or longer, and, if so, other information concerning the layoff is collected. States report on layoffs lasting more than 1 month on a quarterly basis.

A given month contains an aggregation of the weekly unemployment insurance claims filings for the Sunday through Saturday weeks in that month. All weeks are included for the particular month, except if the first day of the month falls on Saturday. In this case, the week is included in the prior month's tabulations. This means that some months will contain 4 weeks and others, 5 weeks. The number of weeks in a given month may be different from year to year, and the number of weeks in a year may vary. Therefore, analysis of over-the-month and over-the-year change in not seasonally adjusted series should take this calendar effect into consideration.

The MLS program resumed operations in April 1995 after it had been terminated in November 1992 due to lack of funding. Prior to April 1995, monthly layoff statistics were not available.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

### Definitions

*Employer.* Employers in the MLS program include those covered by state unemployment insurance laws. Information on employers is obtained from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, which is administered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

*Industry.* Employers are classified according to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For temporary help and professional employer organization industries, monthly MLS-related statistics generally reflect layoffs related to underlying client companies in other industries. An individual layoff action at a client company can be small, but when initial claimants associated with many such layoffs are assigned to a temporary help or professional employer organization firm, a mass layoff event may trigger.

*Initial claimant.* A person who files any notice of unemployment to initiate a request either for a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation, or for a subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

*Mass layoff event.* Fifty or more initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits filed against an employer during a 5-week period, regardless of duration.

### **Additional information**

For personal assistance or further information on the Mass Layoffs program, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Mountain-Plains Information Office at 816-285-7000 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT.

**Table 1. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, Missouri, selected sectors, annual totals**

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claims for unemployment insurance			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Total, all industries [1]</b>	329	433	551	420	33,557	43,451	54,046	32,586
<b>Total private</b>	315	415	528	389	32,208	41,909	51,989	30,173
<b>Total private nonfarm</b>	315	415	527	389	32,208	41,909	51,941	30,173
<b>Mining quarrying and oil and gas extraction</b>	[3]	3	5	5	[3]	310	470	289
Mining except oil and gas	[3]	[3]	[3]	5	[3]	[3]	[3]	289
Support activities for mining	-	[3]	3	-	-	[3]	213	-
<b>Construction</b>	31	47	50	53	1,944	2,900	3,136	3,150
Construction of buildings	6	10	14	10	325	624	971	676
Heavy and civil engineering construction	14	13	14	20	1,056	925	924	1,142
Specialty trade contractors	11	24	22	23	563	1,351	1,241	1,332
<b>Manufacturing</b>	132	162	221	95	18,028	21,355	25,414	7,817
Food	9	13	17	17	608	1,029	1,136	1,332
Beverage and tobacco products	[3]	5	3	[3]	[3]	273	238	[3]
Textile product mills [2]	-	-	3	[3]	-	-	347	[3]
Apparel [2]	3	4	6	4	220	194	290	270
Leather and allied products	5	3	3	3	545	236	261	196
Wood products	5	5	5	[3]	351	317	283	[3]
Printing and related support activities	[3]	[3]	3	-	[3]	[3]	175	-
Petroleum and coal products	[3]	[3]	[3]	3	[3]	[3]	[3]	206
Chemicals	7	5	9	5	372	339	1,044	605
Plastics and rubber products [2]	5	9	18	3	360	730	2,097	314
Nonmetallic mineral products	5	5	7	[3]	366	390	359	[3]
Primary metals	7	11	8	[3]	474	843	563	[3]
Fabricated metal products	7	11	18	7	816	952	1,528	580
Machinery [2]	12	11	26	11	1,943	870	3,275	1,096
Computer and electronic products	5	6	7	-	456	1,315	537	-
Electrical equipment and appliances	9	10	17	3	596	563	1,766	254
Transportation equipment [2]	41	53	55	21	9,862	12,460	10,339	1,541
Furniture and related products [2]	6	7	9	3	529	591	835	345
Miscellaneous manufacturing [2]	[3]	[3]	5	5	[3]	[3]	254	406
<b>Wholesale trade</b>	[3]	3	10	[3]	[3]	179	724	[3]
Merchant wholesalers durable goods	-	[3]	5	-	-	[3]	379	-
Merchant wholesalers nondurable goods	[3]	[3]	4	[3]	[3]	[3]	271	[3]
<b>Retail trade</b>	16	21	33	32	1,150	2,065	2,952	3,262
Building material and garden supply stores	[3]	3	6	6	[3]	176	364	367
Food and beverage stores	-	-	[3]	4	-	-	[3]	300
Gasoline stations	3	5	5	5	160	331	295	338
General merchandise stores	6	9	12	11	290	1,093	1,330	1,630
Nonstore retailers	4	[3]	5	4	555	[3]	677	531
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	28	34	38	31	2,666	3,499	4,729	2,879
Truck transportation	5	10	15	6	312	654	1,043	462
Transit and ground passenger transportation	21	21	20	20	2,177	2,612	3,517	2,017
<b>Information</b>	6	7	13	13	390	579	762	834
Publishing industries except Internet	5	5	7	6	345	371	404	446
Telecommunications	-	[3]	5	6	-	[3]	277	344
<b>Finance and insurance [2]</b>	5	8	13	8	339	555	1,488	386
Credit intermediation and related activities	[3]	6	8	4	[3]	373	1,185	181
Insurance carriers and related activities	3	-	3	3	227	-	203	159
<b>Real estate and rental and leasing [2]</b>	[3]	[3]	[3]	3	[3]	[3]	[3]	153
Rental and leasing services	[3]	[3]	[3]	3	[3]	[3]	[3]	153

**Table 1. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, Missouri, selected sectors, annual totals (continued)**

Industry	Mass layoff events				Initial claims for unemployment insurance			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Professional and technical services [2]</b>	[3]	5	8	7	[3]	322	646	592
<b>Management of companies and enterprises</b>	-	[3]	-	3	-	[3]	-	310
<b>Administrative and waste services [2]</b>	29	41	58	48	1,837	2,821	4,091	3,095
<b>Administrative and support services [2]</b>	29	41	58	48	1,837	2,821	4,091	3,095
<b>Educational services</b>	-	-	[3]	3	-	-	[3]	198
<b>Health care and social assistance</b>	14	16	18	22	1,075	1,338	1,458	1,588
<b>Hospitals</b>	-	-	4	7	-	-	242	439
<b>Social assistance</b>	13	15	13	14	1,020	1,281	1,152	1,107
<b>Arts entertainment and recreation</b>	8	17	13	12	623	1,288	1,276	772
<b>Performing arts and spectator sports</b>	6	10	5	5	352	529	304	313
<b>Amusements gambling and recreation</b>	[3]	7	8	7	[3]	759	972	459
<b>Accommodation and food services</b>	32	39	39	45	3,133	3,843	4,314	4,234
<b>Accommodations</b>	3	5	9	8	144	258	597	464
<b>Food services and drinking places</b>	29	34	30	37	2,989	3,585	3,717	3,770
<b>Other services except public administration</b>	7	7	6	8	513	501	374	523
<b>Membership associations and organizations</b>	6	7	6	8	448	501	374	523
<b>Government</b>	14	18	23	31	1,349	1,542	2,057	2,413
<b>Federal</b>	5	7	5	8	689	789	555	616
<b>State</b>	3	5	7	8	226	302	413	547
<b>Local</b>	6	6	11	15	434	451	1,089	1,250

Footnotes

[1] Total includes all industries including those not listed in the table.

[2] Data beginning in 2008 are not strictly comparable to prior years due to a change in NAICS versions.

[3] Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.