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**(NOTE: This release was reissued on Friday, September 25, 2009, to correct the number of initial claims for the temporary help services industry mentioned in the last paragraph of the "Industry Distribution" section from 11,533 to 6,721. This correction did not affect any tables in the release.)**

### MASS LAYOFFS – AUGUST 2009

Employers took 2,690 mass layoff actions in August that resulted in the separation of 259,307 workers, seasonally adjusted, as measured by new filings for unemployment insurance benefits during the month, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Each action involved at least 50 persons from a single employer. The number of mass layoff events in August increased by 533 from the prior month, and the number of associated initial claims increased by 52,516. Over the year, the number of mass layoff events increased by 803, and associated initial claims increased by 70,356. Year-to-date mass layoff events (21,184) and initial claims (2,162,202) both recorded program highs through August. In August, 900 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 93,892 initial claims. Over the month, the number of manufacturing events increased by 279, and associated initial claims increased by 21,626. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Mass layoff events, seasonally adjusted, September 2004-August 2009

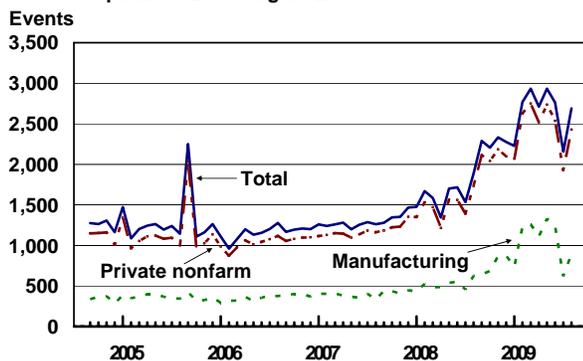
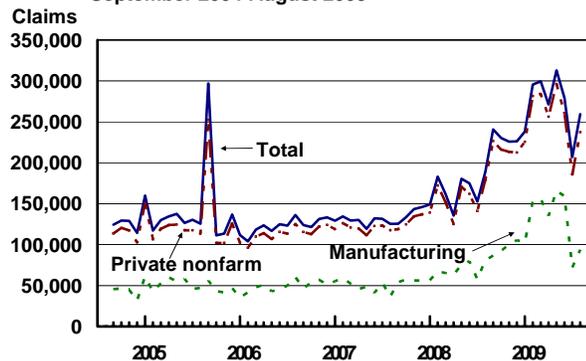


Chart 2. Mass layoff initial claims, seasonally adjusted, September 2004-August 2009



During the 21 months from December 2007 through August 2009, the total number of mass layoff events (seasonally adjusted) was 44,669, and the number of initial claims filed (seasonally adjusted) in those events was 4,556,636. (December 2007 was the start of a recession as designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research.)

**Table A. Industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims in August 2009**

| Industry   | Initial claims | August peak |                |
|--|----------------|-------------|----------------|
|  |                | Year        | Initial claims |
| Temporary help services .....                      | 6,721          | 1999        | 11,533         |
| School and employee bus transportation .....       | 5,850          | 2003        | 6,538          |
| Motion picture and video production .....          | 4,275          | 2003        | 6,812          |
| Professional employer organizations .....          | 3,692          | 2008        | 5,252          |
| Motorcycle, bicycle, and parts manufacturing ..... | 2,518          | 2009        | 2,518          |
| Supermarkets and other grocery stores .....        | 1,734          | 2001        | 2,357          |
| Warehouse clubs and supercenters .....             | 1,552          | 2009        | 1,552          |
| Discount department stores .....                   | 1,538          | 2007        | 2,953          |
| Casino hotels .....                                | 1,415          | 2009        | 1,415          |
| Commercial building construction .....             | 1,375          | 2008        | 1,579          |

The national unemployment rate was 9.7 percent in August 2009, seasonally adjusted, up from 9.4 percent the prior month and up from 6.2 percent a year earlier. In August, total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 216,000 over the month and by 5,830,000 from a year earlier.

#### **Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

The number of mass layoff events in August was 1,428 on a not seasonally adjusted basis; the number of associated initial claims was 125,024. (See table 2.) Average weekly layoff events rose from 285 in August 2008 to 357 in August 2009, and average weekly initial claims increased from 28,000 to 31,256. Seven of the 19 major industry sectors reported program highs in terms of average weekly initial claimants for the month of August: construction; wholesale trade; retail trade; management of companies and enterprises; educational services; arts, entertainment, and recreation; and accommodation and food services. (Average weekly analysis mitigates the effect of differing lengths of months. See the Technical Note.)

The manufacturing sector accounted for 31 percent of all mass layoff events and 33 percent of initial claims filed in August 2009. A year earlier, manufacturing made up 29 percent of events and 37 percent of initial claims. Within manufacturing, transportation equipment comprised the largest number of average weekly claims (2,269) despite experiencing the largest decrease in average weekly initial claims over the year (-1,688) among three-digit NAICS industries. (See table 3.) The administrative and waste services sector accounted for 14 percent of mass layoff events and 12 percent of initial claims, down from 15 and 14 percent, respectively, the previous August. Construction accounted for 11 percent of events and 10 percent of initial claims, an increase from 10 percent of events and 7 percent of claims in August 2008.

Of the 10 detailed industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims, 3 reached a series high for August: motorcycle, bicycle, and parts manufacturing; warehouse clubs and supercenters; and casino hotels. The industry with the largest number of initial claims was temporary help services (6,721). (See table A.)

## **Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

Among the 4 census regions, the West registered the highest number of initial claims in August due to mass layoffs (36,897), followed by the Midwest (32,197) and the South (29,486). (See table 5.) Average weekly initial claims associated with mass layoffs increased over the year in 3 of the 4 regions, with the Northeast experiencing the largest increase (+2,064). In 2009, the Northeast reported its highest August level of average weekly initial claims (6,611) in program history.

Of the 9 geographic divisions, the Pacific (30,781) had the highest number of initial claims due to mass layoffs in August, followed by the East North Central (25,962) and the Middle Atlantic (23,491). (See table 5.) Seven of the 9 divisions experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims, led by the Middle Atlantic (+1,786). This year, the Middle Atlantic, Mountain, and South Atlantic divisions reached program highs for August in terms of average weekly initial claims.

California recorded the highest number of average weekly initial claims in August, with 6,521, even though it had the largest over-the-year decrease in average weekly claims (-704). The over-the-year decrease was largely due to a drop in claims from the administrative and support services industry. The states with the next highest number of average weekly initial claims were New York (2,851), Pennsylvania (2,481), and Florida (1,949). Thirty states and the District of Columbia experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly initial claims, led by Pennsylvania, New York, and Illinois. In 2009, eight states reached program highs in average weekly initial claims for the month of August: Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Illinois, Nevada, New York, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin.

### **Note**

The monthly data series in this release cover mass layoffs of 50 or more workers beginning in a given month, regardless of the duration of the layoffs. For private nonfarm establishments, information on the length of the layoff is obtained later and issued in a quarterly release that reports on mass layoffs lasting more than 30 days (referred to as “extended mass layoffs”). The quarterly release provides more information on the industry classification and location of the establishment and on the demographics of the laid-off workers. Because monthly figures include short-term layoffs of 30 days or less, the sum of the figures for the 3 months in a quarter will be higher than the quarterly figure for mass layoffs of more than 30 days. (See table 4.) See the Technical Note for more detailed definitions.

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**Mass Layoffs in September 2009 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, October 22, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).**

# Technical Note

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

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

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

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

## Definitions

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

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

associated with many such layoffs are assigned to a temporary help or professional employer organization firm, a mass layoff event may trigger.

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

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

## Seasonal adjustment

Effective with the release of data for January 2005, BLS began publishing six seasonally adjusted monthly MLS series. The six series are the numbers of mass layoff events and mass layoff initial claims for the total, private nonfarm, and manufacturing sectors.

Seasonal adjustment is the process of estimating and removing the effect on time series data of regularly recurring seasonal events such as changes in the weather, holidays, and the beginning and ending of the school year. The use of seasonal adjustment makes it easier to observe fundamental changes in time series, particularly those associated with general economic expansions and contractions.

The MLS data are seasonally adjusted using the X-12-ARIMA seasonal adjustment method on a concurrent basis. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available monthly estimates, including those for the current month, in developing seasonal adjustment factors. Revisions to the most recent 5 years of seasonally adjusted data will be made once a year with the issuance of December data. Before the data are seasonally adjusted, prior adjustments are made to the original data to adjust them for differences in the number of weeks used to calculate the monthly data. Because weekly unemployment insurance claims are aggregated to form monthly data, a particular month's value could be calculated with 5 weeks of data in 1 year and 4 weeks in another. The effects of these differences could seriously distort the seasonal factors if they were ignored in the seasonal adjustment process. These effects are modeled in the X-12-ARIMA program and are permanently removed from the final seasonally adjusted series.

**Table 1. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, September 2005 to August 2009, seasonally adjusted**

| Date            | Total  |                   | Private nonfarm |                   | Manufacturing |                   |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
|                 | Events | Initial claimants | Events          | Initial claimants | Events        | Initial claimants |
| 2005            |        |                   |                 |                   |               |                   |
| September ..... | 2,250  | 296,913           | 2,035           | 252,291           | 420           | 55,974            |
| October .....   | 1,109  | 111,202           | 991             | 102,111           | 320           | 43,387            |
| November .....  | 1,162  | 113,502           | 1,027           | 102,058           | 325           | 41,493            |
| December .....  | 1,263  | 136,751           | 1,135           | 125,700           | 358           | 46,940            |
| 2006            |        |                   |                 |                   |               |                   |
| January .....   | 1,112  | 111,601           | 986             | 102,359           | 293           | 35,390            |
| February .....  | 960    | 104,045           | 872             | 96,317            | 317           | 41,810            |
| March .....     | 1,078  | 118,270           | 976             | 109,842           | 320           | 48,026            |
| April .....     | 1,198  | 123,674           | 1,062           | 113,849           | 366           | 50,747            |
| May .....       | 1,132  | 116,808           | 1,013           | 106,743           | 312           | 42,958            |
| June .....      | 1,156  | 124,955           | 1,044           | 115,491           | 356           | 45,280            |
| July .....      | 1,204  | 123,172           | 1,077           | 113,324           | 381           | 50,109            |
| August .....    | 1,278  | 136,289           | 1,117           | 125,064           | 376           | 60,524            |
| September ..... | 1,167  | 124,083           | 1,054           | 115,451           | 390           | 46,470            |
| October .....   | 1,195  | 121,439           | 1,081           | 112,777           | 401           | 53,597            |
| November .....  | 1,209  | 131,459           | 1,096           | 122,136           | 402           | 57,084            |
| December .....  | 1,201  | 133,311           | 1,100           | 124,019           | 369           | 51,113            |
| 2007            |        |                   |                 |                   |               |                   |
| January .....   | 1,261  | 129,190           | 1,116           | 118,890           | 406           | 55,341            |
| February .....  | 1,240  | 134,524           | 1,130           | 126,105           | 404           | 58,861            |
| March .....     | 1,261  | 129,480           | 1,151           | 120,923           | 407           | 52,356            |
| April .....     | 1,281  | 130,263           | 1,145           | 119,683           | 381           | 45,654            |
| May .....       | 1,200  | 119,259           | 1,097           | 111,585           | 368           | 48,682            |
| June .....      | 1,256  | 132,078           | 1,138           | 122,726           | 356           | 41,135            |
| July .....      | 1,288  | 131,556           | 1,182           | 123,322           | 405           | 53,318            |
| August .....    | 1,262  | 125,334           | 1,162           | 117,557           | 331           | 36,577            |
| September ..... | 1,279  | 125,527           | 1,183           | 118,917           | 440           | 54,006            |
| October .....   | 1,346  | 133,514           | 1,224           | 124,666           | 436           | 57,527            |
| November .....  | 1,352  | 143,419           | 1,233           | 134,445           | 408           | 56,330            |
| December .....  | 1,469  | 145,916           | 1,354           | 136,914           | 447           | 56,152            |
| 2008            |        |                   |                 |                   |               |                   |
| January .....   | 1,476  | 149,068           | 1,350           | 139,076           | 435           | 56,579            |
| February .....  | 1,669  | 183,038           | 1,532           | 172,013           | 526           | 67,235            |
| March .....     | 1,585  | 161,497           | 1,471           | 151,550           | 483           | 65,252            |
| April .....     | 1,344  | 135,352           | 1,215           | 125,074           | 487           | 63,247            |
| May .....       | 1,701  | 180,558           | 1,563           | 170,538           | 538           | 75,520            |
| June .....      | 1,717  | 174,748           | 1,561           | 162,071           | 555           | 79,744            |
| July .....      | 1,535  | 152,499           | 1,390           | 141,239           | 455           | 57,648            |
| August .....    | 1,887  | 188,951           | 1,735           | 178,479           | 626           | 80,913            |
| September ..... | 2,290  | 240,721           | 2,114           | 226,492           | 643           | 86,617            |
| October .....   | 2,204  | 230,330           | 2,042           | 216,095           | 687           | 92,256            |
| November .....  | 2,333  | 225,639           | 2,185           | 213,288           | 868           | 100,643           |
| December .....  | 2,275  | 226,117           | 2,100           | 212,559           | 871           | 105,402           |
| 2009            |        |                   |                 |                   |               |                   |
| January .....   | 2,227  | 237,902           | 2,070           | 225,490           | 738           | 102,577           |
| February .....  | 2,769  | 295,477           | 2,628           | 281,500           | 1,235         | 152,618           |
| March .....     | 2,933  | 299,388           | 2,751           | 283,989           | 1,259         | 155,909           |
| April .....     | 2,712  | 271,226           | 2,519           | 256,111           | 1,111         | 135,252           |
| May .....       | 2,933  | 312,880           | 2,736           | 296,108           | 1,331         | 165,802           |
| June .....      | 2,763  | 279,231           | 2,536           | 260,747           | 1,235         | 159,310           |
| July .....      | 2,157  | 206,791           | 1,928           | 185,718           | 621           | 72,266            |
| August .....    | 2,690  | 259,307           | 2,428           | 237,302           | 900           | 93,892            |

**Table 2. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, September 2005 to August 2009, not seasonally adjusted**

| Date            | Total  |                   | Private nonfarm |                   | Manufacturing |                   |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
|                 | Events | Initial claimants | Events          | Initial claimants | Events        | Initial claimants |
| <b>2005</b>     |        |                   |                 |                   |               |                   |
| 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            |
| April .....     | 1,272  | 130,810           | 1,172           | 121,625           | 394           | 48,188            |
| May .....       | 1,552  | 159,471           | 1,438           | 150,462           | 388           | 51,698            |
| June .....      | 1,622  | 166,742           | 1,315           | 140,916           | 309           | 42,097            |
| July .....      | 1,891  | 200,382           | 1,687           | 186,018           | 760           | 108,733           |
| August .....    | 1,427  | 139,999           | 1,343           | 133,146           | 414           | 51,912            |
| September ..... | 1,292  | 129,586           | 1,202           | 122,505           | 361           | 46,391            |
| October .....   | 2,125  | 221,784           | 1,917           | 205,553           | 689           | 100,457           |
| November .....  | 2,574  | 241,589           | 2,389           | 226,657           | 997           | 107,620           |
| December .....  | 3,377  | 351,305           | 3,232           | 340,220           | 1,378         | 172,529           |
| <b>2009</b>     |        |                   |                 |                   |               |                   |
| January .....   | 3,806  | 388,813           | 3,633           | 375,293           | 1,461         | 172,757           |
| February .....  | 2,262  | 218,438           | 2,173           | 210,755           | 945           | 103,588           |
| March .....     | 2,191  | 228,387           | 2,107           | 221,397           | 940           | 114,747           |
| April .....     | 2,547  | 256,930           | 2,385           | 243,321           | 887           | 100,872           |
| May .....       | 2,738  | 289,628           | 2,572           | 274,047           | 1,005         | 123,683           |
| June .....      | 2,519  | 256,357           | 2,051           | 216,063           | 674           | 85,726            |
| July .....      | 3,054  | 336,654           | 2,659           | 296,589           | 1,133         | 154,208           |
| August .....    | 1,428  | 125,024           | 1,334           | 117,193           | 436           | 41,151            |

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

| Industry   | Mass layoff events |                  |           |                  | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance |                  |           |                  |
|--|--------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|--|------------------|-----------|------------------|
|  | August 2008        | June 2009        | July 2009 | August 2009      | August 2008                                  | June 2009        | July 2009 | August 2009      |
| <b>Seasonally adjusted</b>                       |                    |                  |           |                  |  |                  |           |                  |
| Total .....                                      | 1,887              | 2,763            | 2,157     | 2,690            | 188,951                                      | 279,231          | 206,791   | 259,307          |
| Total, private nonfarm .....                     | 1,735              | 2,536            | 1,928     | 2,428            | 178,479                                      | 260,747          | 185,718   | 237,302          |
| Manufacturing .....                              | 626                | 1,235            | 621       | 900              | 80,913                                       | 159,310          | 72,266    | 93,892           |
| <b>Not seasonally adjusted</b>                   |                    |                  |           |                  |  |                  |           |                  |
| Total <sup>1</sup> .....                         | 1,427              | 2,519            | 3,054     | 1,428            | 139,999                                      | 256,357          | 336,654   | 125,024          |
| Total, private .....                             | 1,373              | 2,101            | 2,752     | 1,356            | 134,871                                      | 219,548          | 304,108   | 118,920          |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting ..... | 30                 | 50               | 93        | 22               | 1,725  | 3,485            | 7,519     | 1,727            |
| Total, private nonfarm .....                     | 1,343              | 2,051            | 2,659     | 1,334            | 133,146                                      | 216,063          | 296,589   | 117,193          |
| Mining .....                                     | 3                  | 15               | 22        | 9                | 207  | 1,147            | 1,816     | 603              |
| Utilities .....                                  | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | 4                | 3         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | 246              | 446       | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Construction .....                               | 142                | 136              | 170       | 160              | 9,717  | 9,343            | 12,415    | 11,904           |
| Manufacturing .....                              | 414                | 674              | 1,133     | 436              | 51,912                                       | 85,726           | 154,208   | 41,151           |
| Food .....                                       | 40                 | 48               | 67        | 41               | 3,510  | 4,395            | 8,076     | 3,632            |
| Beverage and tobacco products .....              | 8                  | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 8         | 5                | 630  | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 624       | 937              |
| Textile mills .....                              | 10                 | 11               | 21        | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 1,013  | 1,563            | 2,424     | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Textile product mills .....                      | 4                  | 4                | 8         | 5                | 487  | 214              | 875       | 557              |
| Apparel .....                                    | 10                 | 16               | 26        | 15               | 981  | 1,683            | 2,926     | 1,317            |
| Leather and allied products .....                | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 4         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 306       | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Wood products .....                              | 35                 | 29               | 42        | 19               | 2,980  | 2,435            | 3,453     | 1,423            |
| Paper .....                                      | 3                  | 13               | 17        | 8                | 516  | 968              | 1,439     | 576              |
| Printing and related support activities .....    | 10                 | 18               | 16        | 9                | 938  | 1,552            | 1,950     | 714              |
| Petroleum and coal products .....                | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 6         | -                | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 373       | -                |
| Chemicals .....                                  | 5                  | 13               | 19        | 10               | 268  | 1,013            | 1,722     | 843              |
| Plastics and rubber products .....               | 30                 | 35               | 74        | 17               | 3,625  | 3,697            | 9,776     | 1,532            |
| Nonmetallic mineral products .....               | 8                  | 25               | 29        | 18               | 1,161  | 1,645            | 3,044     | 1,147            |
| Primary metals .....                             | 19                 | 45               | 89        | 31               | 1,709  | 6,496            | 9,850     | 2,742            |
| Fabricated metal products .....                  | 25                 | 74               | 114       | 43               | 2,179  | 6,846            | 10,798    | 3,501            |
| Machinery .....                                  | 30                 | 74               | 132       | 74               | 4,887  | 14,644           | 29,528    | 6,608            |
| Computer and electronic products .....           | 26                 | 63               | 77        | 30               | 2,446  | 6,145            | 7,823     | 2,535            |
| Electrical equipment and appliances .....        | 11                 | 30               | 45        | 18               | 1,485  | 4,344            | 5,992     | 1,853            |
| Transportation equipment .....                   | 112                | 139              | 275       | 68               | 19,787                                       | 24,865           | 47,322    | 9,076            |
| Furniture and related products .....             | 20                 | 24               | 35        | 13               | 2,566  | 2,337            | 3,311     | 941              |
| Miscellaneous manufacturing .....                | 5                  | 9                | 29        | 6                | 520  | 644              | 2,596     | 577              |
| Wholesale trade .....                            | 27                 | 50               | 78        | 34               | 1,765  | 4,858            | 6,201     | 2,714            |
| Retail trade .....                               | 142                | 155              | 161       | 111              | 12,674                                       | 15,318           | 17,388    | 10,173           |
| Transportation and warehousing .....             | 100                | 184              | 131       | 101              | 9,077  | 23,792           | 11,279    | 9,131            |
| Information .....                                | 48                 | 53               | 90        | 46               | 6,640  | 6,018            | 13,941    | 6,067            |
| Finance and insurance .....                      | 45                 | 34               | 84        | 47               | 3,192  | 2,239            | 6,700     | 4,434            |
| Real estate and rental and leasing .....         | 13                 | 20               | 12        | 7                | 742  | 1,590            | 819       | 404              |
| Professional and technical services .....        | 45                 | 53               | 95        | 32               | 4,458  | 4,503            | 10,555    | 2,302            |
| Management of companies and enterprises ...      | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | 8                | 14        | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | 1,164            | 2,289     | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Administrative and waste services .....          | 214                | 239              | 351       | 195              | 19,682                                       | 19,150           | 35,419    | 15,604           |
| Educational services .....                       | 9                  | 28               | 31        | 13               | 1,462  | 2,295            | 2,540     | 1,796            |
| Health care and social assistance .....          | 35                 | 173              | 101       | 31               | 2,584  | 13,948           | 7,010     | 1,947            |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation .....        | 18                 | 45               | 38        | 19               | 1,320  | 2,671            | 2,611     | 1,403            |
| Accommodation and food services .....            | 74                 | 136              | 124       | 74               | 6,221  | 18,499           | 9,651     | 6,034            |
| Other services, except public administration ... | 9                  | 42               | 19        | 13               | 1,185  | 3,424            | 1,212     | 1,076            |
| Unclassified .....                               | -                  | 2                | 2         | -                | -  | 132              | 89        | -                |
| Government .....                                 | 54                 | 418              | 302       | 72               | 5,128  | 36,809           | 32,546    | 6,104            |
| Federal .....                                    | 8                  | 15               | 10        | 14               | 800  | 1,124            | 845       | 1,381            |
| State .....                                      | 13                 | 38               | 39        | 19               | 1,464  | 2,821            | 3,297     | 1,717            |
| Local .....                                      | 33                 | 365              | 253       | 39               | 2,864  | 32,864           | 28,404    | 3,006            |

<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.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

**Table 4. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, July 2007 to August 2009, 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 |
| 2007                 |                    |                   |                 |                   |   |                        |                                |                   |
| July .....           | 1,599              | 175,419           | 1,450           | 164,939           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| August .....         | 963                | 93,458            | 908             | 88,345            |   |                        |                                |                   |
| September .....      | 717                | 67,385            | 667             | 64,026            |   |                        |                                |                   |
| Third Quarter .....  | 3,279              | 336,262           | 3,025           | 317,310           | 1,018   | 173,077                | 33.7                           | 54.5              |
| October .....        | 1,083              | 108,455           | 929             | 97,716            |   |                        |                                |                   |
| November .....       | 1,799              | 198,220           | 1,593           | 181,184           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| December .....       | 2,167              | 224,214           | 2,071           | 216,898           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| Fourth Quarter ..... | 5,049              | 530,889           | 4,593           | 495,798           | 1,814   | 347,151                | 39.5                           | 70.0              |
| 2008                 |                    |                   |                 |                   |   |                        |                                |                   |
| January .....        | 1,647              | 154,503           | 1,520           | 144,191           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| February .....       | 1,269              | 119,508           | 1,178           | 113,587           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| March .....          | 1,089              | 114,541           | 1,039           | 110,147           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| First Quarter .....  | 4,005              | 388,552           | 3,737           | 367,925           | 1,340   | 259,292                | 35.9                           | 70.5              |
| April .....          | 1,272              | 130,810           | 1,172           | 121,625           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| May .....            | 1,552              | 159,471           | 1,438           | 150,462           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| June .....           | 1,622              | 166,742           | 1,315           | 140,916           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| Second Quarter ..... | 4,446              | 457,023           | 3,925           | 413,003           | 1,756   | 339,629                | 44.7                           | 82.2              |
| July .....           | 1,891              | 200,382           | 1,687           | 186,018           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| August .....         | 1,427              | 139,999           | 1,343           | 133,146           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| September .....      | 1,292              | 129,586           | 1,202           | 122,505           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| Third Quarter .....  | 4,610              | 469,967           | 4,232           | 441,669           | 1,582   | 304,316                | 37.4                           | 68.9              |
| October .....        | 2,125              | 221,784           | 1,917           | 205,553           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| November .....       | 2,574              | 241,589           | 2,389           | 226,657           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| December .....       | 3,377              | 351,305           | 3,232           | 340,220           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| Fourth Quarter ..... | 8,076              | 814,678           | 7,538           | 772,430           | 3,582   | 765,019                | 47.5                           | 99.0              |
| 2009                 |                    |                   |                 |                   |   |                        |                                |                   |
| January .....        | 3,806              | 388,813           | 3,633           | 375,293           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| February .....       | 2,262              | 218,438           | 2,173           | 210,755           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| March .....          | 2,191              | 228,387           | 2,107           | 221,397           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| First Quarter .....  | 8,259              | 835,638           | 7,913           | 807,445           | 3,979   | 830,028                | 50.3                           | 102.8             |
| April .....          | 2,547              | 256,930           | 2,385           | 243,321           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| May .....            | 2,738              | 289,628           | 2,572           | 274,047           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| June .....           | 2,519              | 256,357           | 2,051           | 216,063           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| Second Quarter ..... | 7,804              | 802,915           | 7,008           | 733,431           | <sup>2,p</sup> 2,994                            | <sup>2,p</sup> 506,533 | <sup>p</sup> 42.7              | <sup>p</sup> 69.1 |
| July .....           | 3,054              | 336,654           | 2,659           | 296,589           |   |                        |                                |                   |
| August .....         | 1,428              | 125,024           | 1,334           | 117,193           |   |                        |                                |                   |

<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 2008        | June 2009 | July 2009 | August 2009 | August 2008                                  | June 2009 | July 2009 | August 2009 |
| United States <sup>1</sup> ..... | 1,427              | 2,519     | 3,054     | 1,428       | 139,999                                      | 256,357   | 336,654   | 125,024     |
| Northeast .....                  | 226                | 428       | 511       | 279         | 22,736                                       | 46,593    | 45,526    | 26,444      |
| New England .....                | 24                 | 63        | 82        | 32          | 2,304  | 6,516     | 7,194     | 2,953       |
| Middle Atlantic .....            | 202                | 365       | 429       | 247         | 20,432                                       | 40,077    | 38,332    | 23,491      |
| South .....                      | 362                | 620       | 725       | 342         | 38,188                                       | 61,962    | 71,648    | 29,486      |
| South Atlantic .....             | 212                | 354       | 389       | 204         | 20,313                                       | 31,988    | 34,220    | 17,732      |
| East South Central .....         | 90                 | 128       | 213       | 57          | 11,179                                       | 16,589    | 25,153    | 4,820       |
| West South Central .....         | 60                 | 138       | 123       | 81          | 6,696  | 13,385    | 12,275    | 6,934       |
| Midwest .....                    | 307                | 592       | 805       | 350         | 33,238                                       | 76,301    | 117,188   | 32,197      |
| East North Central .....         | 254                | 469       | 635       | 273         | 26,689                                       | 59,347    | 94,516    | 25,962      |
| West North Central .....         | 53                 | 123       | 170       | 77          | 6,549  | 16,954    | 22,672    | 6,235       |
| West .....                       | 532                | 879       | 1,013     | 457         | 45,837                                       | 71,501    | 102,292   | 36,897      |
| Mountain .....                   | 50                 | 90        | 112       | 63          | 4,688  | 7,184     | 11,241    | 6,116       |
| Pacific .....                    | 482                | 789       | 901       | 394         | 41,149                                       | 64,317    | 91,051    | 30,781      |

<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 2008        | June 2009        | July 2009        | August 2009      | August 2008                                  | June 2009        | July 2009        | August 2009      |
| Total <sup>1</sup> .....   | 1,427              | 2,519            | 3,054            | 1,428            | 139,999                                      | 256,357          | 336,654          | 125,024          |
| Alabama .....              | 24                 | 49               | 75               | 23               | 3,288  | 7,837            | 8,324            | 1,997            |
| Alaska .....               | -                  | 6                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 4                | -  | 431              | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 295              |
| Arizona .....              | 7                  | 27               | 35               | 10               | 488  | 2,137            | 3,469            | 977              |
| Arkansas .....             | 8                  | 8                | 11               | 4                | 613  | 583              | 1,033            | 260              |
| California .....           | 439                | 714              | 812              | 340              | 36,120                                       | 56,138           | 82,085           | 26,082           |
| Colorado .....             | 3                  | 11               | 15               | 5                | 258  | 832              | 1,536            | 374              |
| Connecticut .....          | 4                  | 15               | 15               | 4                | 368  | 1,487            | 1,056            | 334              |
| Delaware .....             | 3                  | 8                | 5                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 694  | 882              | 347              | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| District of Columbia ..... | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | -                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | -                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Florida .....              | 126                | 182              | 192              | 104              | 9,849  | 15,785           | 14,929           | 7,795            |
| Georgia .....              | 32                 | 43               | 62               | 23               | 2,938  | 3,809            | 7,636            | 2,202            |
| Hawaii .....               | 4                  | 10               | 9                | 8                | 408  | 992              | 670              | 872              |
| Idaho .....                | 10                 | 5                | 8                | 9                | 1,120  | 342              | 759              | 1,305            |
| Illinois .....             | 55                 | 116              | 110              | 82               | 6,164  | 20,576           | 25,119           | 7,432            |
| Indiana .....              | 40                 | 45               | 87               | 30               | 4,359  | 4,643            | 10,131           | 3,182            |
| Iowa .....                 | 18                 | 33               | 48               | 17               | 3,727  | 3,765            | 8,730            | 1,359            |
| Kansas .....               | 4                  | 15               | 22               | 14               | 291  | 4,071            | 2,088            | 945              |
| Kentucky .....             | 34                 | 49               | 97               | 22               | 5,487  | 6,240            | 14,128           | 2,006            |
| Louisiana .....            | 10                 | 26               | 21               | 18               | 851  | 3,005            | 1,768            | 1,698            |
| Maine .....                | 3                  | 3                | 4                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 217  | 280              | 256              | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Maryland .....             | 8                  | 13               | 11               | 10               | 762  | 1,325            | 987              | 759              |
| Massachusetts .....        | 6                  | 20               | 31               | 13               | 495  | 1,777            | 2,972            | 1,357            |
| Michigan .....             | 48                 | 121              | 185              | 43               | 3,669  | 12,218           | 23,929           | 3,593            |
| Minnesota .....            | 5                  | 26               | 31               | 13               | 334  | 2,318            | 3,229            | 948              |
| Mississippi .....          | 15                 | 11               | 14               | 5                | 908  | 895              | 803              | 349              |
| Missouri .....             | 21                 | 39               | 61               | 28               | 1,490  | 5,446            | 7,647            | 2,549            |
| Montana .....              | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | 6                | 5                | 3                | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | 476              | 481              | 258              |
| Nebraska .....             | 3                  | 3                | 4                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 271  | 658              | 418              | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Nevada .....               | 23                 | 18               | 37               | 30               | 1,912  | 1,686            | 3,212            | 2,879            |
| New Hampshire .....        | 3                  | 5                | 17               | 6                | 170  | 630              | 1,564            | 454              |
| New Jersey .....           | 38                 | 88               | 101              | 27               | 3,151  | 14,033           | 8,366            | 2,162            |
| New Mexico .....           | 5                  | 15               | 5                | 4                | 728  | 1,013            | 252              | 191              |
| New York .....             | 94                 | 83               | 126              | 106              | 10,760                                       | 7,681            | 11,886           | 11,405           |
| North Carolina .....       | 25                 | 28               | 23               | 19               | 3,123  | 2,505            | 1,950            | 2,523            |
| North Dakota .....         | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | 6                | 4                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | 640              | 560              | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Ohio .....                 | 62                 | 94               | 138              | 58               | 7,994  | 10,818           | 19,704           | 5,941            |
| Oklahoma .....             | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | 11               | 16               | 8                | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | 1,052            | 2,013            | 679              |
| Oregon .....               | 28                 | 43               | 49               | 21               | 3,741  | 5,525            | 5,492            | 1,691            |
| Pennsylvania .....         | 70                 | 194              | 202              | 114              | 6,521  | 18,363           | 18,080           | 9,924            |
| Rhode Island .....         | 5                  | 10               | 10               | 5                | 390  | 1,377            | 965              | 456              |
| South Carolina .....       | 12                 | 38               | 59               | 20               | 2,232  | 4,087            | 5,359            | 2,133            |
| South Dakota .....         | -                  | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | -                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | -  | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | -                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Tennessee .....            | 17                 | 19               | 27               | 7                | 1,496  | 1,617            | 1,898            | 468              |
| Texas .....                | 40                 | 93               | 75               | 51               | 5,124  | 8,745            | 7,461            | 4,297            |
| Utah .....                 | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | 8                | 7                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | 698              | 1,532            | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Vermont .....              | 3                  | 10               | 5                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 664  | 965              | 381              | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Virginia .....             | 4                  | 31               | 35               | 21               | 361  | 2,817            | 2,873            | 1,652            |
| Washington .....           | 11                 | 16               | 29               | 21               | 880  | 1,231            | 2,549            | 1,841            |
| West Virginia .....        | ( <sup>2</sup> )   | 8                | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 4                | ( <sup>2</sup> )                             | 583              | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 272              |
| Wisconsin .....            | 49                 | 93               | 115              | 60               | 4,503  | 11,092           | 15,633           | 5,814            |
| Wyoming .....              | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -  | -                | -                | -                |
| Puerto Rico .....          | 18                 | 17               | 22               | 15               | 1,958  | 1,280            | 1,826            | 1,326            |

<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.