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Mass Layoffs - February 2011

Employers took 1,421 mass layoff actions in February involving 130,818 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 mass layoff involved at least 50 workers from a single employer. The number of mass layoff events in February decreased by 113 from January, and the number of associated initial claims decreased by 18,981. In February, 291 mass layoff events were reported in the manufacturing sector, seasonally adjusted, resulting in 26,060 initial claims. Both figures decreased over the month, with manufacturing initial claims reaching its lowest level in program history (data begin in April 1995). (See table 1.)


The national unemployment rate was 8.9 percent in February, essentially unchanged from the prior month and down from 9.7 percent a year earlier. In February, total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 192,000 over the month and by 1,269,000 from a year earlier.

## Industry Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The number of mass layoff events in February was 1,024, not seasonally adjusted, resulting in 85,585 initial claims. (See table 2.) The number of mass layoff events was down by 159 from February 2010, and associated initial claims decreased by 17,233. Eleven of the 19 major industry sectors in the private economy reported over-the-year declines in initial claims, with manufacturing and construction having the largest decreases. The six-digit industry with the largest number of initial claims in February 2011 was temporary help services. (See table A. The table includes both publicly and privately owned entities.)

Table A. Industries with the largest number of mass layoff initial claims in February 2011, not seasonally adjusted

| Industry | Initial claims | February peak |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Year | Initial claims |
| Temporary help services ${ }^{1}$ | 8,334 | 2001 | 18,893 |
| Motion picture and video production | 6,260 | 2011 | 6,260 |
| School and employee bus transportation . | 2,935 | 2008 | 4,254 |
| Professional employer organizations ${ }^{1}$. | 2,286 | 2009 | 6,452 |
| Discount department stores | 2,214 | 2004 | 2,669 |
| Farm labor contractors and crew leaders | 1,642 | 2000 | 12,516 |
| Food service contractors . | 1,503 | 2009 | 2,580 |
| Fruit and vegetable canning ............................ | 1,281 | 2001 | 2,561 |
| Supermarkets and other grocery stores .............. | 1,273 | 2010 | 2,470 |
| Department stores, except discount ................... | 1,252 | 2001 | 2,994 |

${ }^{1}$ See the Technical Note for more information on these industries.
The manufacturing sector accounted for 22 percent of all mass layoff events and initial claims filed in February. A year earlier, manufacturing made up 24 percent of events and 30 percent of initial claims. Within manufacturing, the number of claimants in February was greatest in the food subsector. (See table 3.) Fourteen of the 21 manufacturing subsectors experienced over-the-year decreases in initial claims, with the largest declines in transportation equipment and in machinery.

## Geographic Distribution (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Three of the 4 regions and 8 of the 9 divisions experienced over-the-year decreases in initial claims due to mass layoffs in February. Among the census regions, the South registered the largest over-the-year decrease in initial claims. Of the geographic divisions, the East South Central had the largest over-theyear decline in initial claims. (See table 5.)

California recorded the highest number of initial claims in February, followed by Pennsylvania and Florida. Thirty-two states and the District of Columbia experienced over-the-year decreases in initial claims, led by Kentucky and Pennsylvania. (See table 6.)

## 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.

The Mass Layoffs news release for March is scheduled to be released on Friday, April 22, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

## Technical Note

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

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

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

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

## Seasonal adjustment

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

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

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

Table 1. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, March 2007 to February 2011, seasonally adjusted

| Date | Total |  | Private nonfarm |  | Manufacturing |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants |
| 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 1,202 | 124,521 | 1,092 | 115,835 | 384 | 47,658 |
| April | 1,238 | 126,334 | 1,102 | 115,271 | 358 | 42,989 |
| May | 1,159 | 113,578 | 1,064 | 106,573 | 347 | 44,637 |
| June | 1,207 | 127,776 | 1,097 | 119,007 | 342 | 37,552 |
| July | 1,295 | 136,168 | 1,193 | 128,208 | 401 | 55,906 |
| August | 1,217 | 122,450 | 1,126 | 115,305 | 312 | 34,877 |
| September | 1,233 | 121,998 | 1,140 | 115,675 | 430 | 51,731 |
| October | 1,330 | 133,063 | 1,210 | 124,455 | 439 | 56,970 |
| November | 1,397 | 145,339 | 1,269 | 135,651 | 408 | 56,985 |
| December | 1,553 | 154,275 | 1,435 | 144,785 | 463 | 59,445 |
| 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 1,437 | 146,900 | 1,302 | 135,622 | 431 | 55,562 |
| February | 1,604 | 175,128 | 1,441 | 163,475 | 471 | 59,118 |
| March | 1,500 | 150,502 | 1,388 | 140,424 | 435 | 56,156 |
| April | 1,292 | 128,901 | 1,162 | 118,016 | 449 | 58,402 |
| May | 1,582 | 161,944 | 1,444 | 152,230 | 468 | 62,452 |
| June | 1,631 | 164,508 | 1,488 | 153,014 | 491 | 68,198 |
| July | 1,581 | 164,497 | 1,443 | 153,720 | 463 | 62,425 |
| August | 1,791 | 181,107 | 1,653 | 171,705 | 583 | 77,874 |
| September | 2,192 | 233,034 | 2,024 | 219,532 | 635 | 82,471 |
| October | 2,221 | 229,254 | 2,062 | 215,787 | 697 | 92,408 |
| November | 2,415 | 228,107 | 2,256 | 214,631 | 900 | 102,284 |
| December | 2,443 | 245,661 | 2,264 | 231,138 | 927 | 114,280 |
| 2009 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 2,272 | 238,717 | 2,103 | 224,850 | 756 | 100,927 |
| February | 2,801 | 315,507 | 2,636 | 300,042 | 1,194 | 138,583 |
| March | 2,950 | 295,543 | 2,758 | 279,027 | 1,205 | 144,713 |
| April | 2,579 | 251,032 | 2,368 | 234,796 | 997 | 121,435 |
| May | 2,758 | 288,319 | 2,557 | 271,425 | 1,187 | 147,548 |
| June | 2,506 | 250,275 | 2,293 | 232,814 | 1,048 | 135,389 |
| July . | 2,192 | 223,697 | 1,977 | 203,365 | 620 | 72,932 |
| August | 2,419 | 220,262 | 2,177 | 201,951 | 778 | 83,837 |
| September | 2,305 | 219,924 | 2,095 | 204,596 | 799 | 91,665 |
| October | 1,975 | 195,347 | 1,780 | 177,977 | 570 | 63,646 |
| November | 1,754 | 154,223 | 1,585 | 141,439 | 464 | 51,891 |
| December | 1,725 | 156,274 | 1,545 | 141,649 | 420 | 43,584 |
| 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 1,716 | 171,633 | 1,541 | 157,597 | 494 | 60,059 |
| February | 1,492 | 149,369 | 1,318 | 135,490 | 351 | 40,564 |
| March | 1,635 | 146,901 | 1,436 | 131,953 | 347 | 37,273 |
| April | 1,675 | 159,358 | 1,498 | 143,814 | 371 | 48,646 |
| May | 1,665 | 155,352 | 1,405 | 133,913 | 314 | 30,967 |
| June | 1,729 | 153,937 | 1,504 | 134,837 | 326 | 32,646 |
| July .. | 1,528 | 138,581 | 1,316 | 121,378 | 296 | 30,752 |
| August | 1,658 | 163,325 | 1,453 | 141,489 | 409 | 47,668 |
| September | 1,541 | 137,941 | 1,331 | 119,654 | 336 | 34,641 |
| October | 1,649 | 147,204 | 1,445 | 130,264 | 353 | 37,394 |
| November | 1,579 | 148,800 | 1,397 | 133,845 | 350 | 39,072 |
| December | 1,483 | 137,992 | 1,272 | 122,688 | 319 | 35,977 |
| 2011 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 1,534 | 149,799 | 1,344 | 132,730 | 341 | 39,189 |
| February ............... | 1,421 | 130,818 | 1,220 | 116,190 | 291 | 26,060 |

Table 2. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, March 2007 to February 2011, not seasonally adjusted

| Date | Total |  | Private nonfarm |  | Manufacturing |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants |
| 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 1,082 | 123,974 | 1,015 | 118,431 | 367 | 49,886 |
| April | 1,219 | 127,444 | 1,115 | 118,040 | 309 | 35,229 |
| May | 923 | 85,816 | 856 | 81,153 | 224 | 26,527 |
| June | 1,599 | 172,810 | 1,318 | 148,669 | 313 | 36,571 |
| July | 1,599 | 175,419 | 1,450 | 164,939 | 684 | 101,390 |
| August | 963 | 93,458 | 908 | 88,345 | 220 | 23,361 |
| September | 717 | 67,385 | 667 | 64,026 | 246 | 29,381 |
| October | 1,083 | 108,455 | 929 | 97,716 | 338 | 50,918 |
| November | 1,799 | 198,220 | 1,593 | 181,184 | 514 | 75,413 |
| December | 2,167 | 224,214 | 2,071 | 216,898 | 699 | 91,754 |
| 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 1,647 | 154,503 | 1,520 | 144,191 | 488 | 54,418 |
| February | 1,269 | 119,508 | 1,178 | 113,587 | 361 | 42,527 |
| March | 1,089 | 114,541 | 1,039 | 110,147 | 333 | 43,740 |
| April | 1,272 | 130,810 | 1,172 | 121,625 | 394 | 48,188 |
| May | 1,552 | 159,471 | 1,438 | 150,462 | 388 | 51,698 |
| June | 1,622 | 166,742 | 1,315 | 140,916 | 309 | 42,097 |
| July . | 1,891 | 200,382 | 1,687 | 186,018 | 760 | 108,733 |
| August | 1,427 | 139,999 | 1,343 | 133,146 | 414 | 51,912 |
| September | 1,292 | 129,586 | 1,202 | 122,505 | 361 | 46,391 |
| October | 2,125 | 221,784 | 1,917 | 205,553 | 689 | 100,457 |
| 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 |
| 2009 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | 1,371 | 123,177 | 1,258 | 115,141 | 448 | 51,126 |
| October | 1,934 | 193,904 | 1,678 | 172,883 | 566 | 69,655 |
| November | 1,870 | 164,496 | 1,679 | 150,751 | 517 | 55,053 |
| December | 2,310 | 214,648 | 2,166 | 203,655 | 615 | 64,540 |
| 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 2,860 | 278,679 | 2,682 | 265,074 | 962 | 104,846 |
| February | 1,183 | 102,818 | 1,091 | 96,022 | 282 | 30,728 |
| March .... | 1,197 | 111,727 | 1,111 | 105,514 | 273 | 29,745 |
| April | 1,840 | 199,690 | 1,697 | 184,654 | 424 | 55,178 |
| May | 1,354 | 123,333 | 1,170 | 109,203 | 216 | 19,334 |
| June | 1,861 | 171,190 | 1,355 | 125,872 | 212 | 21,083 |
| July . | 2,124 | 206,254 | 1,732 | 172,248 | 532 | 64,200 |
| August | 976 | 92,435 | 897 | 83,021 | 230 | 23,088 |
| September | 920 | 77,654 | 806 | 67,987 | 187 | 19,403 |
| October | 1,642 | 148,638 | 1,373 | 127,865 | 351 | 40,861 |
| November | 1,676 | 158,048 | 1,477 | 142,591 | 389 | 41,383 |
| December | 1,931 | 184,130 | 1,763 | 172,881 | 465 | 52,816 |
| 2011 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 2,558 | 246,463 | 2,372 | 229,765 | 693 | 75,006 |
| February . | 1,024 | 85,585 | 919 | 78,718 | 222 | 18,471 |

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

| Industry | Mass layoff events |  |  |  | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | February $2010$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | January 2011 | February $2011$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { February } \\ & 2010 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | January $2011$ | February $2011$ |
| Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 1,492 | 1,483 | 1,534 | 1,421 | 149,369 | 137,992 | 149,799 | 130,818 |
| Total, private nonfarm | 1,318 | 1,272 | 1,344 | 1,220 | 135,490 | 122,688 | 132,730 | 116,190 |
| Manufacturing | 351 | 319 | 341 | 291 | 40,564 | 35,977 | 39,189 | 26,060 |
| Not seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ | 1,183 | 1,931 | 2,558 | 1,024 | 102,818 | 184,130 | 246,463 | 85,585 |
| Total, private | 1,128 | 1,830 | 2,438 | 976 | 98,241 | 176,405 | 234,708 | 82,230 |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting . | 37 | 67 | 66 | 57 | 2,219 | 3,524 | 4,943 | 3,512 |
| Total, private nonfarm . | 1,091 | 1,763 | 2,372 | 919 | 96,022 | 172,881 | 229,765 | 78,718 |
| Mining . | 5 | 29 | 15 | 4 | 761 | 2,439 | 1,188 | 322 |
| Utilities | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 5 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 390 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Construction | 166 | 379 | 325 | 104 | 12,200 | 29,458 | 23,906 | 7,003 |
| Manufacturing | 282 | 465 | 693 | 222 | 30,728 | 52,816 | 75,006 | 18,471 |
| Food .... | 45 | 52 | 94 | 58 | 4,031 | 6,590 | 9,313 | 5,115 |
| Beverage and tobacco products ...... | 6 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 407 | 856 | 752 | 287 |
| Textile mills | 5 | 21 | 31 | 5 | 431 | 2,239 | 4,455 | 468 |
| Textile product mills | 5 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 557 | 981 | 793 | 270 |
| Apparel ..... | 4 | 18 | 20 | 5 | 265 | 1,294 | 1,776 | 693 |
| Leather and allied products | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 3 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 850 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Wood products. | 27 | 39 | 43 | 22 | 1,850 | 3,623 | 4,930 | 1,872 |
| Paper ........... | 10 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 721 | 1,055 | 1,049 | 750 |
| Printing and related support activities ... | 12 | 13 | 12 | 6 | 960 | 934 | 983 | 679 |
| Petroleum and coal products. | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 10 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 892 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Chemicals | 9 | 8 | 18 | 7 | 872 | 561 | 1,612 | 759 |
| Plastics and rubber products.. | 10 | 25 | 51 | 5 | 1,014 | 2,392 | 4,569 | 262 |
| Nonmetallic mineral products ....... | 12 | 48 | 56 | 16 | 794 | 4,212 | 4,239 | 1,141 |
| Primary metals ......... | 9 | 21 | 23 | 8 | 981 | 1,919 | 3,046 | 794 |
| Fabricated metal products | 12 | 29 | 51 | 8 | 681 | 2,380 | 4,174 | 446 |
| Machinery . | 20 | 18 | 46 | 11 | 2,466 | 2,724 | 5,446 | 897 |
| Computer and electronic products ........ | 18 | 13 | 14 | 13 | 1,538 | 1,214 | 1,020 | 847 |
| Electrical equipment and appliances .... | 12 | 12 | 15 | 4 | 1,386 | 2,372 | 1,572 | 1,078 |
| Transportation equipment. | 45 | 78 | 128 | 19 | 10,104 | 12,534 | 19,478 | 1,275 |
| Furniture and related products ........... | 16 | 20 | 44 | 9 | 1,346 | 2,521 | 4,263 | 533 |
| Miscellaneous manufacturing ........ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 7 | 14 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 673 | 1,073 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Wholesale trade | 27 | 23 | 32 | 24 | 1,754 | 1,706 | 2,839 | 2,187 |
| Retail trade | 128 | 105 | 241 | 114 | 10,802 | 9,985 | 27,038 | 9,346 |
| Transportation and warehousing ........ | 51 | 114 | 212 | 49 | 5,372 | 13,341 | 22,440 | 5,630 |
| Information. | 40 | 25 | 53 | 58 | 3,753 | 2,818 | 7,915 | 8,959 |
| Finance and insurance ...... | 32 | 29 | 31 | 22 | 2,671 | 2,151 | 2,758 | 1,407 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing ..... | 9 | 13 | 17 | 7 | 622 | 1,408 | 1,150 | 369 |
| Professional and technical services ...... | 33 | 44 | 52 | 43 | 2,292 | 3,549 | 4,019 | 3,729 |
| Management of companies and enterprises ... | 6 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 6 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 1,990 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 439 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Administrative and waste services ............... | 191 | 225 | 381 | 166 | 13,594 | 17,203 | 34,996 | 13,894 |
| Educational services . | 4 | 9 | 19 | 8 | 242 | 958 | 2,672 | 474 |
| Health care and social assistance .. | 31 | 46 | 56 | 28 | 2,118 | 3,904 | 3,880 | 1,685 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation ........ | 16 | 24 | 55 | 11 | 1,419 | 1,843 | 5,494 | 629 |
| Accommodation and food services .......... | 61 | 208 | 158 | 50 | 5,044 | 27,239 | 12,107 | 4,088 |
| Other services, except public administration ... | 8 | 15 | 21 | 4 | 552 | 1,153 | 1,528 | 161 |
| Unclassified ...... | 1 | 1 | - | - | 108 | 92 | - | - |
| Government | 55 | 101 | 120 | 48 | 4,577 | 7,725 | 11,755 | 3,355 |
| Federal ... | 8 | 10 | 23 | 5 | 631 | 1,215 | 2,922 | 384 |
| State | 12 | 22 | 32 | 17 | 947 | 1,724 | 3,272 | 1,029 |
| Local ................................................... | 35 | 69 | 65 | 26 | 2,999 | 4,786 | 5,561 | 1,942 |

[^0]Table 4. Mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, January 2009 to February 2011, not seasonally adjusted

| Date | Total mass layoffs |  | Private nonfarm |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Mass layoffs |  | Extended mass layoffs lasting more than 30 days |  | Realization rates ${ }^{1}$ |  |
|  | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants | Events | Initial claimants |
| 2009 |  |  |  |  | 3,979 | 835,551 | 50.3 | 103.5 |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |
| 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 | 3,395 | 731,049 | 48.4 | 99.7 |
| July | 3,054 | 336,654 | 2,659 | 296,589 |  |  |  |  |
| August .. | 1,428 | 125,024 | 1,334 | 117,193 |  |  |  |  |
| September. | 1,371 | 123,177 | 1,258 | 115,141 |  |  |  |  |
| Third Quarter | 5,853 | 584,855 | 5,251 | 528,923 | 2,034 | 406,823 | 38.7 | 76.9 |
| October | 1,934 | 193,904 | 1,678 | 172,883 |  |  |  |  |
| November | 1,870 | 164,496 | 1,679 | 150,751 |  |  |  |  |
| December | 2,310 | 214,648 | 2,166 | 203,655 |  |  |  |  |
| Fourth Quarter | 6,114 | 573,048 | 5,523 | 527,289 | 2,416 | 468,577 | 43.7 | 88.9 |
| 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 2,860 | 278,679 | 2,682 | 265,074 |  |  |  |  |
| February | 1,183 | 102,818 | 1,091 | 96,022 |  |  |  |  |
| March . | 1,197 | 111,727 | 1,111 | 105,514 |  |  |  |  |
| First Quarter ... | 5,240 | 493,224 | 4,884 | 466,610 | 1,870 | 368,459 | 38.3 | 79.0 |
| April | 1,840 | 199,690 | 1,697 | 184,654 |  |  |  |  |
| May | 1,354 | 123,333 | 1,170 | 109,203 |  |  |  |  |
| June | 1,861 | 171,190 | 1,355 | 125,872 |  |  |  |  |
| Second Quarter | 5,055 | 494,213 | 4,222 | 419,729 | 2,008 | 395,224 | 47.6 | 94.2 |
| July . | 2,124 | 206,254 | 1,732 | 172,248 |  |  |  |  |
| August ..... | 976 | 92,435 | 897 | 83,021 |  |  |  |  |
| September | 920 | 77,654 | 806 | 67,987 |  |  |  |  |
| Third Quarter | 4,020 | 376,343 | 3,435 | 323,256 | 1,370 | 256,636 | 39.9 | 79.4 |
| October | 1,642 | 148,638 | 1,373 | 127,865 |  |  |  |  |
| November | 1,676 | 158,048 | 1,477 | 142,591 |  |  |  |  |
| December | 1,931 | 184,130 | 1,763 | 172,881 |  |  |  |  |
| Fourth Quarter | 5,249 | 490,816 | 4,613 | 443,337 | ${ }^{2, p} 1,910$ | 2,p 268,431 | ${ }^{\mathrm{p}} 41.4$ | ${ }^{\text {p }} 60.5$ |
| January .................February ........... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2,558 | 246,463 | 2,372 | 229,765 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1,024 | 85,585 | 919 | 78,718 |  |  |  |  |

[^1]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.
${ }^{\mathrm{p}}=$ preliminary.

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

| Census region and division | Mass layoff events |  |  |  | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { February } \\ & 2010 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ | January $2011$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { February } \\ 2011 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { February } \\ & 2010 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ | January $2011$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { February } \\ 2011 \end{gathered}$ |
| United States ${ }^{1}$ | 1,183 | 1,931 | 2,558 | 1,024 | 102,818 | 184,130 | 246,463 | 85,585 |
| Northeast. | 215 | 356 | 591 | 173 | 21,705 | 35,601 | 58,802 | 16,047 |
| New England | 39 | 50 | 81 | 32 | 4,682 | 5,278 | 7,047 | 4,259 |
| Middle Atlantic | 176 | 306 | 510 | 141 | 17,023 | 30,323 | 51,755 | 11,788 |
| South . | 319 | 493 | 687 | 260 | 29,681 | 51,554 | 66,552 | 19,998 |
| South Atlantic. | 178 | 287 | 431 | 166 | 13,052 | 27,744 | 40,880 | 11,371 |
| East South Central . | 69 | 110 | 156 | 44 | 9,917 | 12,784 | 16,508 | 4,343 |
| West South Central | 72 | 96 | 100 | 50 | 6,712 | 11,026 | 9,164 | 4,284 |
| Midwest | 221 | 565 | 613 | 180 | 21,128 | 58,560 | 63,468 | 15,075 |
| East North Central | 169 | 394 | 464 | 130 | 16,776 | 42,375 | 45,790 | 11,550 |
| West North Central . | 52 | 171 | 149 | 50 | 4,352 | 16,185 | 17,678 | 3,525 |
| West | 428 | 517 | 667 | 411 | 30,304 | 38,415 | 57,641 | 34,465 |
| Mountain | 58 | 90 | 66 | 35 | 4,276 | 7,274 | 6,046 | 2,440 |
| Pacific. | 370 | 427 | 601 | 376 | 26,028 | 31,141 | 51,595 | 32,025 |

${ }^{1}$ See footnote 1, table 3.
NOTE: The States (including the District of Columbia) that comprise the census divisions are: New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central: Alabama,

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

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

| State | Mass layoff events |  |  |  | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { February } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { December } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | January 2011 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { February } \\ 2011 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { February } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | January 2011 | $\begin{gathered} \text { February } \\ 2011 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ | 1,183 | 1,931 | 2,558 | 1,024 | 102,818 | 184,130 | 246,463 | 85,585 |
| Alabama | 17 | 34 | 70 | 12 | 1,758 | 3,758 | 7,730 | 1,583 |
| Alaska | 3 | 9 | 4 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 267 | 915 | 392 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Arizona .... | 8 | 9 | 13 | 12 | 700 | 940 | 1,075 | 838 |
| Arkansas | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 6 | 6 | 3 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 563 | 768 | 283 |
| California | 335 | 365 | 530 | 349 | 23,191 | 25,602 | 44,274 | 29,769 |
| Colorado | 10 | 14 | 11 | 4 | 706 | 964 | 1,126 | 383 |
| Connecticut ... | 10 | 7 | 11 | 4 | 847 | 576 | 1,048 | 331 |
| Delaware ... | 5 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 378 | 429 | 411 | 239 |
| District of Columbia | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 4 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 452 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Florida ..... | 87 | 92 | 128 | 85 | 5,523 | 7,554 | 9,464 | 5,071 |
| Georgia | 34 | 42 | 84 | 28 | 2,708 | 4,306 | 8,952 | 2,221 |
| Hawaii. | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | 6 | 3 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | 388 | 232 |
| Idaho ...... | 11 | 15 | 8 | 4 | 709 | 1,006 | 698 | 225 |
| Illinois | 40 | 110 | 86 | 35 | 4,311 | 13,672 | 7,516 | 3,508 |
| Indiana | 22 | 49 | 43 | 15 | 1,907 | 5,314 | 6,487 | 1,471 |
| lowa | 13 | 39 | 39 | 9 | 1,122 | 3,897 | 4,007 | 870 |
| Kansas ..... | - | 23 | 23 | 5 | - | 2,923 | 5,440 | 308 |
| Kentucky | 32 | 38 | 47 | 13 | 6,844 | 5,003 | 5,472 | 1,682 |
| Louisiana | 12 | 21 | 29 | 6 | 1,442 | 1,741 | 2,309 | 518 |
| Maine ...... | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 6 | 11 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | ( ${ }^{2}$ ) | 431 | 900 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Maryland | 7 | 9 | 25 | 4 | 724 | 611 | 1,888 | 306 |
| Massachusetts | 8 | 19 | 34 | 6 | 646 | 2,372 | 3,225 | 534 |
| Michigan ...... | 32 | 67 | 127 | 17 | 3,694 | 8,985 | 10,398 | 1,091 |
| Minnesota | 13 | 34 | 19 | 10 | 1,456 | 2,932 | 1,988 | 675 |
| Mississippi | 5 | 19 | 13 | 8 | 282 | 2,128 | 1,163 | 446 |
| Missouri .......... | 24 | 54 | 55 | 17 | 1,667 | 4,763 | 4,713 | 1,038 |
| Montana | 4 | 8 | 6 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 258 | 470 | 560 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ |
| Nebraska | (2) | 14 | 9 | 9 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 1,157 | 1,086 | 634 |
| Nevada . | 16 | 26 | 12 | 5 | 1,331 | 2,449 | 1,299 | 394 |
| New Hampshire | 7 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 1,095 | 326 | 722 | 537 |
| New Jersey ... | 16 | 49 | 109 | 19 | 1,408 | 6,036 | 9,853 | 2,243 |
| New Mexico | 6 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 391 | 640 | 467 | 164 |
| New York ........ | 52 | 115 | 207 | 45 | 6,833 | 12,383 | 24,950 | 4,161 |
| North Carolina ${ }^{3}$ | 5 | 80 | 100 | 27 | 451 | 8,876 | 9,865 | 1,984 |
| North Dakota | ( ${ }^{2}$ ) | 5 | 3 | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 375 | 390 | - |
| Ohio ....... | 35 | 87 | 93 | 30 | 3,790 | 7,826 | 9,241 | 2,473 |
| Oklahoma | 3 | 6 | 11 | 9 | 306 | 1,410 | 1,048 | 1,015 |
| Oregon .... | 19 | 25 | 36 | 9 | 1,571 | 2,234 | 4,390 | 896 |
| Pennsylvania | 108 | 142 | 194 | 77 | 8,782 | 11,904 | 16,952 | 5,384 |
| Rhode Island | 7 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 1,545 | 1,264 | 555 | 2,125 |
| South Carolina | 11 | 26 | 41 | 5 | 886 | 2,648 | 5,124 | 340 |
| South Dakota | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | - | $(2)^{2}$ | $(2)^{2}$ | - |
| Tennessee | 15 | 19 | 26 | 11 | 1,033 | 1,895 | 2,143 | 632 |
| Texas .. | 56 | 63 | 54 | 32 | 4,894 | 7,312 | 5,039 | 2,468 |
| Utah .... | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 10 | 7 | 6 | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | 805 | 720 | 370 |
| Vermont | 6 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 483 | 309 | 597 | 558 |
| Virginia . | 22 | 30 | 42 | 10 | 1,704 | 3,177 | 4,497 | 899 |
| Washington ...... | 11 | 28 | 25 | 13 | 769 | 2,390 | 2,151 | 955 |
| West Virginia ... | 5 | - | ( ${ }^{2}$ ) | 3 | 509 | - | ( ${ }^{1}$ ) | 216 |
| Wisconsin ......... | 40 | 81 | 115 | 33 | 3,074 | 6,578 | 12,148 | 3,007 |
| Wyoming ................ | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - | ( ${ }^{2}$ ) | - | $\left({ }^{2}\right)$ | - |
| Puerto Rico .. | 21 | 10 | 25 | 16 | 2,459 | 940 | 2,854 | 1,808 |

[^2]data due to a change in MLS unemployment insurance input procedures.
NOTE: Dash represents zero.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Data were reported by all states and the District of Columbia.
    ${ }^{2}$ Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ The event realization rate is the percentage of all private nonfarm mass layoff events lasting more than 30 days. The initial claimant realization rate is the percentage of all private nonfarm mass layoff initial claimants associated with layoffs lasting more than 30 days.
    ${ }^{2}$ These quarterly numbers are provisional and will be revised as more

[^2]:    ${ }^{1}$ See footnote 1, table 3.
    ${ }^{2}$ Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.
    ${ }^{3}$ Data starting in November 2010 may not be comparable to prior

