



Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2020 Seasonal Retail Hiring October Update

RETAIL, WAREHOUSING JOBS SOAR IN OCTOBER

November 12, 2020 – Retailers and Transportation and Warehousing firms added the highest number of jobs in October on record, according to an analysis of non-seasonally adjusted data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics by global outplacement and business and executive coaching firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.

“While the year has been dominated by uncertainty, the surge in demand for online shopping necessitating the need for more shipping and transport jobs is fueling massive hiring gains in those industries right now,” said Andrew Challenger, Senior Vice President of Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.

“With COVID cases soaring and the potential for further shutdowns looming as we head into the winter months, demand for jobs in both of these sectors will likely increase. On top of that, with the positive vaccine news from Pfizer, consumers may be confident enough to spend. Much of this will depend on the job prospects for the millions who lost their jobs due to the pandemic shutdowns and deepening recession over the summer,” he added.

Retailers added 242,000 jobs in October, 55% higher than the 156,100 seasonal jobs added in the sector in October last year. While it is the highest total for October, it comes after falling by 75,000 jobs in September.

“Retail jobs have been a roller coaster since April, when the full impact of the shutdown orders was felt on the sector. Retailers have needed an elastic workforce to meet demand,” said Challenger.

Meanwhile, Transportation and Warehousing added 108,200 jobs in October, 198% higher than the 36,300 jobs added in October 2019.

Companies have also announced more seasonal hiring plans. Through October, Challenger has recorded 699,900 seasonal jobs announced by U.S.-based companies. This is up 24% from the 564,781 hiring plans announced at the same point in 2019. For the entire 2019 holiday season, companies announced 813,781 hiring plans.

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ICYMI

Challenger’s 35th Annual Career Help Hotline:

<http://www.challengergray.com/press/press-releases/national-career-help-hotline-2020-call-event-open-all>

What are companies planning for the holidays?

<http://www.challengergray.com/press/press-releases/2020-holiday-party-survey-report>

JOBS ADDED IN RETAIL TRADE

October, November, December 2005-October 2019

	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	% Change
2005	122,300	392,700	196,600	711,600	0.20%
2006	150,600	427,300	169,000	746,900	5.00%
2007	87,900	465,400	167,600	720,900	-3.50%
2008	38,600	213,600	72,700	324,900	-54.90%
2009	45,100	317,100	133,600	495,800	52.60%
2010	149,800	339,200	158,600	647,600	30.60%
2011	134,200	390,600	154,500	679,300	4.90%
2012	138,700	485,400	99,600	723,700	6.50%
2013	159,600	443,100	184,100	786,800	8.70%
2014	182,800	412,200	154,100	749,100	-4.80%
2015	183,300	399,300	125,700	708,800	-5.38%
2016	149,400	359,400	132,200	641,000	-9.57%
2017	146,400	462,700	59,300	668,400	4.27%
2018	115,900	494,800	14,900	625,600	-6.40%
2019	156,100	466,400	79,500	702,000	12.21%
2020	242,800				
Average*	137,719	404,613	126,800	662,160	
<i>*Since 2005</i>					

JOBS ADDED IN TRANSPORTATION & WAREHOUSING

October, November, December 2011-2018

	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	% Change
2011	11,200	25,900	62,200	99,300	-2.93%
2012	14,000	28,300	103,900	146,200	47.20%
2013	11,300	57,500	96,300	165,100	12.39%
2014	39,100	56,800	135,800	231,700	40.34%
2015	13,900	70,600	144,000	228,500	-1.38%
2016	28,000	85,500	152,800	266,300	16.54%
2017	41,400	88,600	135,200	265,200	-0.41%
2018	52,900	111,200	95,400	259,500	-2.15%
2019	36,300	119,400	139,300	295,000	13.68%
2020	108,200				
AVERAGE*	27,567	71,533	118,322	217,422	
<i>*Since 2011</i>					

Source: Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc., with non-seasonally adjusted data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Announced Holiday Hiring Plans

Company	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Amazon	50,000	70,000	80,000	100,000	120,000	120,000	100,000	200,000	100,000
Target	88,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	77,500	100,000	120,000	133,000	130,000
UPS	55,000	55,000	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000	100,000	95,000	100,000
Macy's	80,000	83,000	86,000	85,000	83,000	87,000	80,000	80,000	25,000
FedEx (Transportation)	20,000	20,000	50,000	55,000	50,000	50,000	55,000	55,000	70,000
JCPenney	40,000	35,000	35,000	30,000	40,000	40,000	39,000	37,000	1,700
DHL Supply Chain									7,000
Michaels						15,000	15,000	15,000	16,000
Kroger						14,000	10,000		20,000
Dollar Tree								25,000	25,000
Nordstrom				11,800	11,400	13,650			
Toys"R"Us	45,000	45,000	45,000	40,000		12,500			
Burlington Stores						12,000			
The Bon-Ton Stores					13,500	10,000			
1-800-FLOWERS.COM Inc.						8,000	8,000	8,000	10,000
McDonald's						3,179			
Williams-Sonoma						2,000			2,500
Fanatics						2,000			
Plow & Hearth						400			
Opryland					300	400			
Kohl's	52,700	53,000	76,970	79,160	69,000		90,000	90,000	
Walmart	50,000	55,000	60,000	60,000					20,000
GameStop	17,000	17,000	25,000	28,000					
DICK'S Sporting Goods									9,000
Sports Authority				3,500					
Best Buy	14,000								
Meijer	12,000	9,000	10,000						200
Radial					20,000	23,000	20,000	12,581	25,000
Party City					35,000			25,000	20,000
Gap			63,000				65,000	30,000	
Versant Supply Chain					2,000				
L Brands					4,000		4,000		4,000
XPO Logistics						6,000	8,000		
Hickory Farms (Food)	5,225	6,000							
Altar'd State								1,200	
Fresh Market									1,500
Office Depot									3,000
Shipt									100,000
Sheetz									3,000
Bass Pro Shops								7,000	7,000
Total	528,925	518,000	695,970	657,460	620,700	614,129	714,000	813,781	699,900

Source: Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.