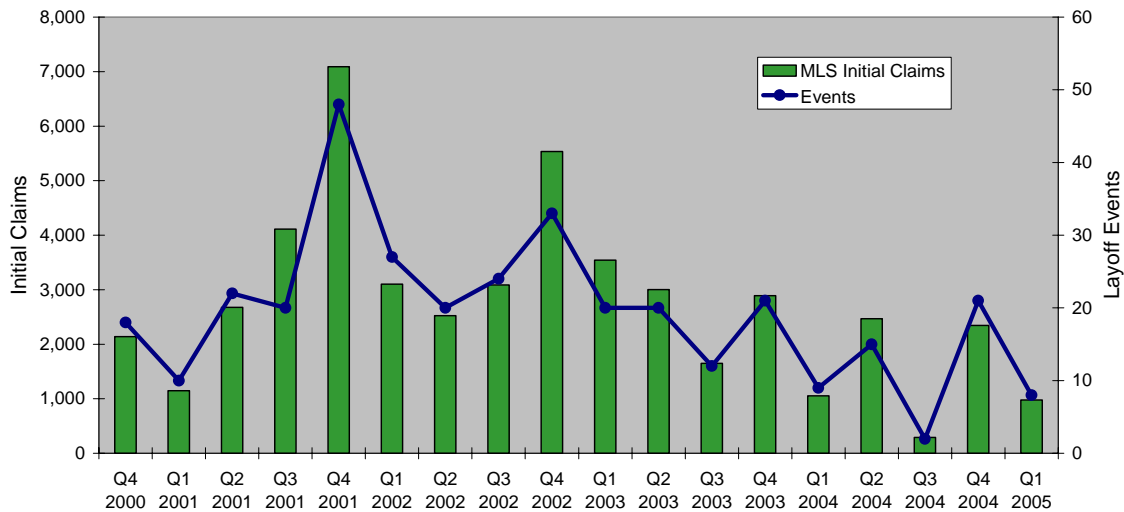


## Mass Layoff Statistics First Quarter 2005 Summary

The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program records and tracks layoff events occurring in Colorado through the use of unemployment insurance data. An extended mass layoff event occurs when at least fifty people in a firm have been separated from work for more than 30 days and file a first-time or initial claim for unemployment insurance during any consecutive five-week period.

Colorado began 2005 with a decline in extended mass layoffs with eight layoffs resulting in 1,844 jobs separated in the first quarter. This was a decrease from the previous quarter's 21 events and 2,345 separations. There was little over-the-year change in layoffs with the first quarter 2004 having fewer separations (1,053) but one more layoff event.

**Colorado Mass Layoff Events and Initial Claims**



The industry most affected by layoffs was retail trade. Following the busy holiday season, retail trade experienced three layoff events. The manufacturing industry had only one layoff but the highest level of separations with 800. Other industries that experienced a single layoff in the first quarter were construction, information, professional and technical services, and administrative and waste services.

Extended layoffs in Colorado this quarter occurred for a variety of reasons. Seasonal and slack work concerns prompted two layoff events each, while contract cancellation and financial difficulty each produced a single extended layoff event. One firm refused to provide the reason for layoff.

Nationally, 989 extended mass layoffs left 156,252 workers away from their jobs for at least 31 days during the first quarter of 2004. Of all layoffs, 64 events resulted in 14,054 separations involving some type of movement of work, with 19 events transferring work to another country.