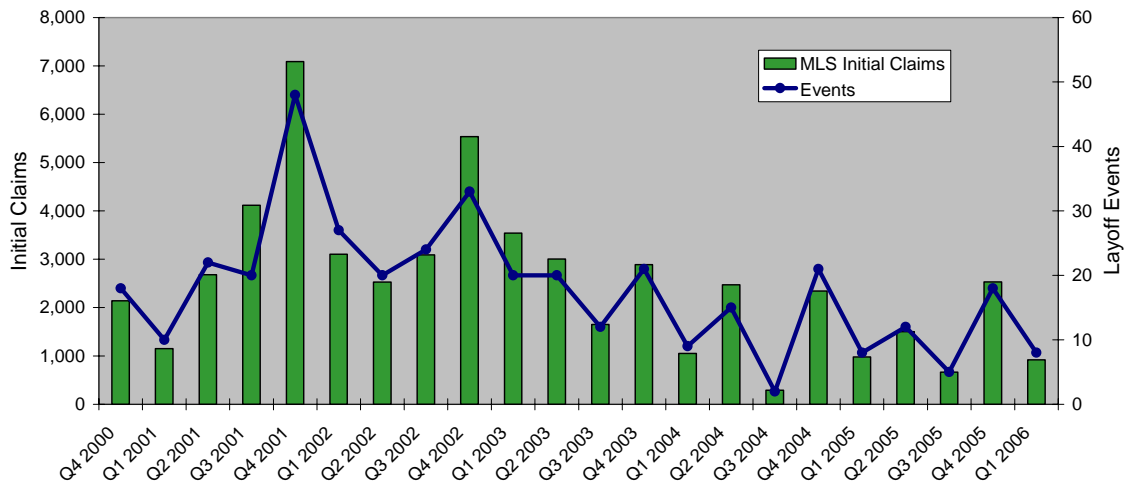


Mass Layoff Statistics First Quarter 2006 Summary

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

The first quarter of 2006 showed a decrease in the amount of mass layoff events and initial claims from the previous quarter but almost no change from one year ago. A total of 8 mass layoff events were recorded from January through March of this year, down from 18 events during the final quarter of 2005 and even with events from the first quarter of 2005. The first quarter's mass layoffs included 917 initial claims filed for unemployment insurance and a total of 2,369 total separations.

Colorado Mass Layoff Events and Initial Claims



The highest number of MLS claims and events this quarter came from retail trade with half of the total quarter's events. Manufacturing experienced two extended layoff events this quarter while construction and transportation and warehousing each had a single layoff event this quarter.

Nationally, 892 mass layoff events left 161,686 workers away from their jobs for at least thirty-one days. Layoff events and number of separations were at record lows for any first quarter since the data series began in 1995. Layoffs due to seasonal work completion accounted for 25 percent of events across the country with 37,772 separations due to seasonal reasons-also the lowest of any first quarter since the series began. Manufacturing industries accounted for 35 percent of layoffs during the first quarter.