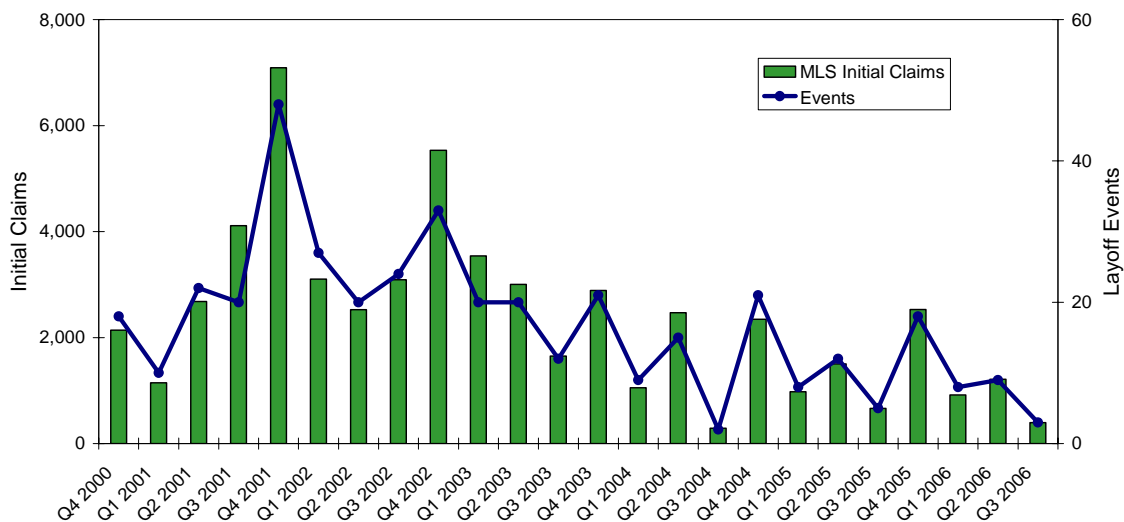


Mass Layoff Statistics Third Quarter 2006 Summary

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.

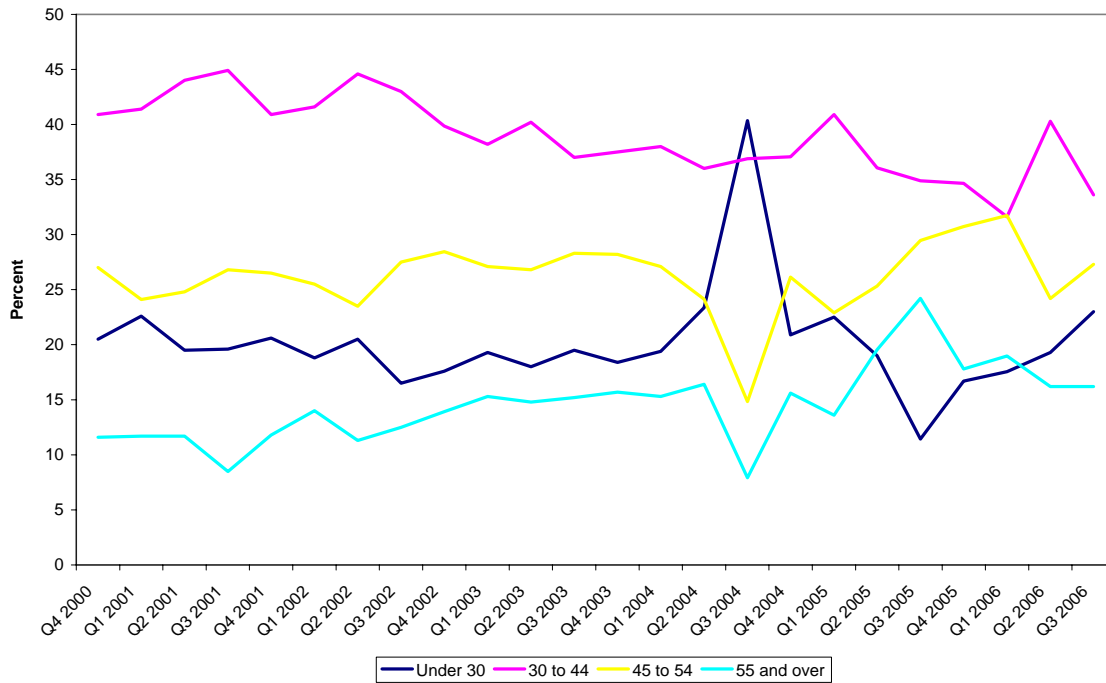
The third quarter of 2006 showed a decrease in the number of mass layoff events and initial claims from the previous quarter. A total of 3 mass layoff events were recorded from July through September of this year, down from 9 events during the second quarter of 2006 and down from the 5 events from the third quarter of 2005. The third quarter's mass layoffs included 396 initial claims filed for unemployment insurance and 451 total separations.

Colorado Mass Layoff Events and Initial Claims



Manufacturing, retail trade and arts, entertainment and recreation each experienced one layoff event this quarter. The reason for the layoffs was different for each event, with seasonality, slack work and business ownership change each accounting for one-third of events. In terms of demographics, Hispanics made up the smallest percentage of claimants (19.2) in the third quarter 2006 since the third quarter 2005 (13.2). Women constituted the majority for the third straight quarter. The under 30 age group had the highest percentage of claimants in two years, and the 30-44 age group dropped to one of their lowest levels.

Percentage of Initial Claims by Age Group



Nationally, 836 mass layoff events left 134,816 workers away from their jobs for at least thirty-one days. Layoff events and number of separations were dramatically lower than third quarter a year ago when the effects of Hurricane Katrina were related to 358 of the 1,136 layoff events and 57,551 of the 201,878 separated workers.

Layoffs due to the completion of contracts represented 29 percent of events across the country and caused 28,005 separations. Internal company restructuring (bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial difficulty and reorganization) accounted for 21 percent of events and 30 percent of separations.

Thirty-two percent of private non-farm layoffs in the United States during the third quarter took place in manufacturing industries, with most of the separations occurring in transportation equipment manufacturing and food manufacturing. Administrative and waste services constituted 12 percent of layoff events, mainly in temporary help services and professional employer organizations.