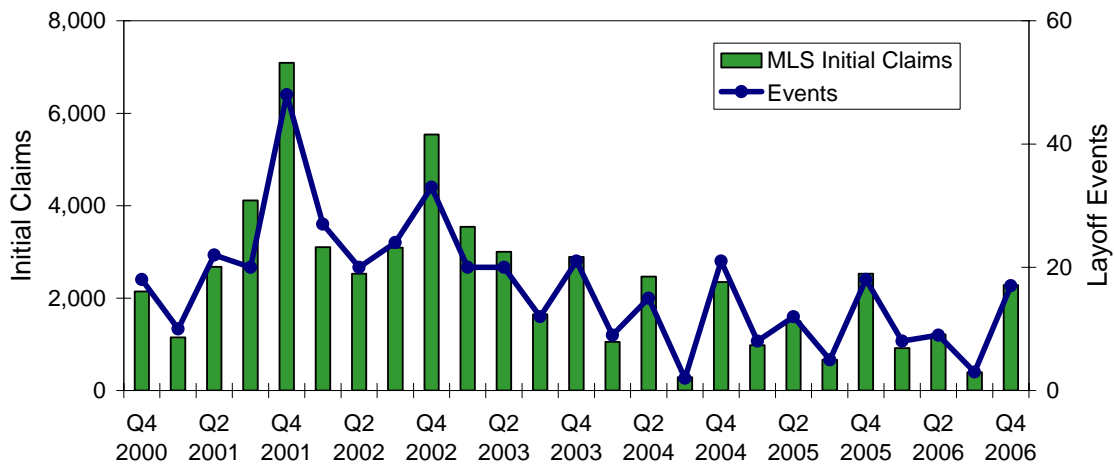


## Mass Layoff Statistics Fourth Quarter 2006 Summary

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 50 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 fourth quarter of 2006 showed an increase in the number of mass layoff events and initial claims from the previous quarter. A total of 17 mass layoff events were recorded from October through December 2006, up from three events during the third quarter but down slightly from the 18 events from the fourth quarter of 2005. The fourth quarter's mass layoffs included 2,280 initial claims filed for unemployment insurance and 3,063 total separations.

### Colorado Mass Layoff Events and Initial Claims



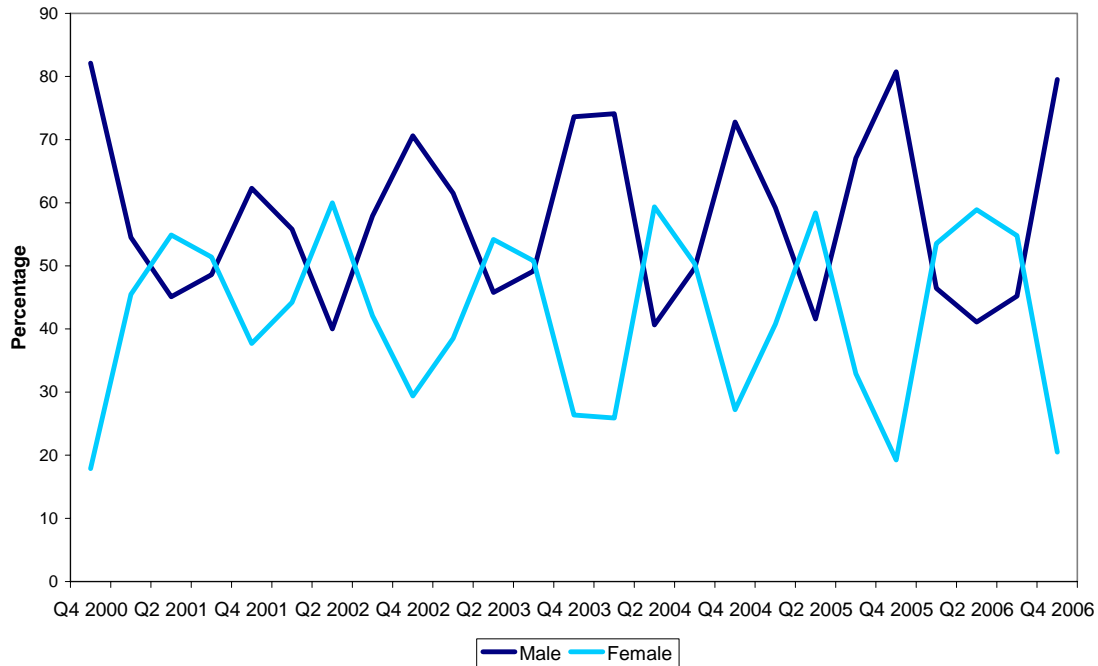
As usual for the winter season, construction led all industries in the number of layoffs this quarter with seven. This is mostly due to the seasonal constraints of the work. Manufacturing accounted for another five layoffs, while mining, wholesale trade, finance and insurance, health care and social assistance and accommodation and food services each experienced one layoff event this quarter.

More than half of the layoffs were caused by seasonality. Reorganization within the company induced four layoffs, and contract completion and slack work each accounted for one layoff. Data regarding the cause was not provided for two of the 17 layoff events.

In terms of demographics, Hispanics made up the largest percentage of claimants (40.3) on record. The percentage of claims filed by younger workers (under 30) fell compared to last quarter, while that percentage increased for older workers (55 and over). The percentage of claims filed by women fell below that of men for the first time in a year.

This is likely due to the numerous layoffs occurring in construction, an industry largely dominated by men.

**Mass Layoff Claimant Percentage by Gender**



Nationally, 1,444 mass layoff events left 255,886 workers away from their jobs for at least thirty-one days. Layoff events and number of separations were higher than fourth quarter a year ago.

The largest percentage of layoff events (42) was due to the completion of seasonal work. Seasonal layoffs resulted in 114,978 separated workers, the lowest level of seasonal separations for a fourth quarter since 1999. Internal company restructuring (bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial difficulty and reorganization) accounted for 13 percent of events and 18 percent of separations.

Twenty-nine percent of layoffs and 32 percent of separations in the United States during the fourth quarter took place in manufacturing industries. The majority of these separations occurred in transportation equipment manufacturing, mostly associated with motor vehicles. Construction had 36 percent of layoff events and 25 percent of separations, mainly in heavy and civil engineering construction and in specialty trade contractors.