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## **EXTENDED MASS LAYOFFS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2002 AND ANNUAL AVERAGES FOR 2002**

In the fourth quarter of 2002, 2,127 mass layoff actions were taken by employers that resulted in the separation of 416,941 workers from their jobs for at least 31 days, according to preliminary figures released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Both the total number of layoff events and the number of separations were lower than in October-December 2001. (See table A.) The decline from fourth quarter 2001 was most notable in administrative and support services, in transportation equipment manufacturing, and in computer and electronic products manufacturing.

The completion of seasonal work accounted for 46 percent of all events and 213,730 separations during the period. Layoffs due to internal company restructuring accounted for 16 percent of events, and resulted in 72,208 separations, lower than a year earlier. Permanent closure of worksites occurred in 11 percent of all events and affected 54,762 workers, down from 83,688 workers in October-December 2001 and the smallest for the fourth quarter since 1999. Fifty-eight percent of the employers with layoffs in the fourth quarter indicated that they anticipated some type of recall, higher than a year ago (49 percent).

For all of 2002, extended mass layoff events, at 7,163, and the number of worker separations, at 1,493,065, were lower than in 2001, when there were 8,350 mass layoff events and 1,751,527 separations. Additional information on the annual data is available starting on page 5 of this release.

### Industry Distribution of Extended Layoffs

Extended mass layoff separations occurred in 498 of the 1,197 detailed industries for which data are available. Manufacturing industries accounted for 32 percent of private-sector layoff events and 31 percent of separations during October-December 2002. The 123,722 worker separations were the third highest for a fourth quarter, trailing only those for 2001 and 2000. Layoff activity in this sector was concentrated in food manufacturing (30,142, largely in the highly seasonal fruit and vegetable canning industry), followed by computer and electronic products (13,867, mostly in semiconductors and related devices). A year earlier, manufacturing layoff activity was at a fourth-quarter peak, accounting for 36 percent of private-sector events and 35 percent of separations. (See table 1.)

### **Mass Layoff Statistics Program**

The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program was discontinued as of Dec. 31, 2002, due to a lack of funding. However, funds for the MLS resumption were contained in H.J. Res. 2, the Omnibus Appropriation Bill, signed into law on Feb. 20.

**Table A. Selected measures of extended mass layoff activity**

Period	Layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants
1998			
January-March .....	1,320	208,082	247,315
April-June .....	1,563	391,461	402,276
July-September .....	1,234	248,054	256,803
October-December ...	1,734	379,976	325,990
1999			
January-March .....	1,509	277,780	252,122
April-June .....	1,444	294,968	242,464
July-September .....	1,097	241,725	189,973
October-December ...	1,625	334,794	287,685
2000			
January-March .....	1,330	254,646	221,368
April-June .....	1,271	258,608	231,471
July-September .....	1,014	230,103	189,250
October-December ...	2,005	427,070	376,611
2001			
January-March .....	1,765	342,954	340,210
April-June .....	2,072	481,886	401,270
July-September .....	1,815	384,403	370,942
October-December <sup>r</sup> ...	2,698	542,284	502,662
2002			
January-March <sup>r</sup> .....	1,748	333,304	315,819
April-June <sup>r</sup> .....	1,905	432,889	352,183
July-September <sup>r</sup> .....	1,383	309,931	274,576
October-December <sup>p</sup> ...	2,127	416,941	305,208

p=preliminary.

r=revised.

Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting accounted for 14 percent of private-sector layoff events and 19 percent of separations, with the layoff activity concentrated in agriculture and forestry support activities. Layoffs in construction comprised 22 percent of events and 16 percent of separations, mostly in heavy and civil engineering construction. Separations in this sector have averaged nearly 65,000 for each of the last 3 years. Cutbacks in administrative and waste services accounted for an additional 8 percent of events and 7 percent of separations, mainly in temporary help services. Worker separations were sharply lower than a year earlier. Extended mass layoffs in retail trade accounted for an additional 4 percent of events and 6 percent of separations, primarily in general merchandise stores.

Layoffs in government establishments accounted for 2 percent of all events and 4 percent of separations, mostly in the administration of environmental programs.

#### Reasons for Extended Layoff

Layoffs due to the completion of seasonal work accounted for 46 percent of the extended layoff events and resulted in 213,730 separations in the fourth quarter. (See table 2.) Seasonal layoffs typically reach a yearly peak in the fourth quarter, and 2002 was no exception. Seasonal layoffs this quarter were most numerous among workers in agriculture and forestry support services (largely among farm labor contractors),

**Table B. Summary of employer expectations of a recall from extended layoff, fourth quarter 2001–fourth quarter 2002**

Nature of the recall	Percentage of events				
	IV 2001	I 2002	II 2002	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>
Anticipate a recall ....	49.1	35.3	52.8	36.4	57.6
<b>Timeframe</b>					
Within 6 months .....	80.8	77.3	82.0	77.5	78.8
Within 3 months.....	30.8	46.5	57.4	51.5	32.6
<b>Size</b>					
At least half.....	87.3	84.9	91.3	82.5	86.4
All workers.....	36.2	27.7	42.8	32.6	36.5

p=preliminary.

r=revised.

in heavy and civil engineering construction (mainly in highway, street, and bridge construction), and in crop production (mostly in grape vineyards).

Internal company restructuring (bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial difficulty, and reorganization) accounted for 16 percent of layoff events and resulted in 72,208 separations. These layoffs were mostly among workers in general merchandise stores and in computer and electronic products manufacturing.

Lack of demand for products and services (slack work) accounted for 14 percent of events and resulted in 46,099 separations during the fourth quarter, mostly in machinery manufacturing and in transportation equipment manufacturing.

#### Recall Expectations

Fifty-eight percent of employers reporting an extended layoff in the fourth quarter of 2002 indicated they anticipated some type of recall. This compares with 49 percent of the employers anticipating a recall a year earlier and 67 percent in fourth quarter 2000. (See table B.) Most of the employers not expecting a recall were in computer and electronic products manufacturing and in administrative and support services.

Among establishments expecting a recall, most employers expected to recall over one-half of the separated employees and to do so within 6 months. Thirty-six percent of the employers expected to extend the offer to all laid-off workers.

Excluding layoff events due to seasonal work and vacation period (in which 95 percent of the employers expected a recall), employers expected to recall laid-off workers in 26 percent of the events. In layoff events due to internal company restructuring, employers anticipated a recall in only 5 percent of the events.

**Table C. Distribution of extended layoff events by size of layoff, October-December 2002<sub>p</sub>**

Size	Layoff events		Separations	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	2,127	100.0	416,941	100.0
50-99.....	728	34.2	51,718	12.4
100-149.....	508	23.9	59,645	14.3
150-199.....	267	12.6	44,494	10.7
200-299.....	281	13.2	64,307	15.4
300-499.....	212	10.0	78,043	18.7
500-999.....	90	4.2	59,916	14.4
1,000 or more...	41	1.9	58,818	14.1

p=preliminary.

### Size of Extended Layoff

Layoff events during the fourth quarter continued to be concentrated at the lower end of the extended layoff-size spectrum, with 58 percent involving fewer than 150 workers. These events, however, accounted for only 27 percent of all separations. (See table C.) Separations involving 500 or more workers accounted for 28 percent of all separations, down slightly from 32 percent a year earlier. The average size of layoffs (as measured by separations per layoff event) differed widely by industry, ranging from a low of 55 separations in ambulatory health care services to a high of 616 in postal services.

### Initial Claimant Characteristics

A total of 305,208 initial claimants for unemployment insurance were associated with extended mass layoffs in the fourth quarter of 2002. Of these claimants, 11 percent were black, 35 percent were women, 23 percent were Hispanic, and 14 percent were 55 years of age or older. (See table 3.) Forty percent of claimants were 30 to 44 years of age. Among the civilian labor force for the same period, 11 percent were black, 47 percent were women, 13 percent were Hispanic, and 15 percent were 55 years of age or older. Thirty-seven percent of the civilian labor force were ages 30 to 44.

### Geographic Distribution

In the fourth quarter, the number of separations due to extended mass layoff events was highest in the West (165,218), followed by the Midwest (125,083), the Northeast (64,678), and the South (61,962). (See table 4.) Extended mass layoffs in the West were mainly in agricultural and forestry support activities.

All four regions reported over-the-year decreases in separations, with the largest decrease occurring in the Midwest (-44,332). Each of the nine geographic divisions reported over-the-year declines in laid-off workers, with the largest declines in the East North Central and South Atlantic divisions.

Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, the largest number of worker separations occurred in California (115,631), followed by Illinois (45,455). These two states accounted for 33 percent of total layoff events and 39 percent of the separations during the fourth quarter of 2002. They were followed by New York (23,525), Wisconsin (18,560), Washington (16,068), and Pennsylvania (15,122). (See table 5.) After

**Table D. Selected measures of mass layoff activity, 1996-2002**

Period	Layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants
1996.....	5,697	1,184,355	957,745
1997.....	5,683	1,146,115	1,041,907
1998.....	5,851	1,227,573	1,232,384
1999.....	5,675	1,149,267	972,244
2000 <sup>r</sup> .....	5,620	1,170,427	1,018,700
2001 <sup>r</sup> .....	8,350	1,751,527	1,615,084
2002 <sup>p</sup> .....	7,163	1,493,065	1,247,786

p-preliminary.

r=revised.

excluding the substantial impact of seasonal work, California still reported the most laid-off workers (30,838), largely due to layoffs in administrative and support services and in computer and electronic products manufacturing.

Over the year, Massachusetts reported the greatest decrease in laid-off workers (-12,100), followed by California (-10,954) and Illinois (-9,774). The largest increase occurred in South Carolina (+1,710).

#### Review of 2002

For all of 2002, employers reported 7,163 extended mass layoff actions, affecting 1,493,065 workers, the second highest totals since full-year data became available in 1996. These totals were down from 8,350 events and 1,751,527 separations in 2001. (See table D.) The annual average national unemployment rate increased from 4.7 percent in 2001 to 5.8 percent in 2002, while nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 0.9 percent, or 1,131,000 jobs.

In the private sector, manufacturing had the largest share of extended events and separations in 2002. Manufacturing accounted for 34 percent of all mass layoff events—the smallest share since 1999—and 31 percent of all separations—the lowest percentage since 1997. Within manufacturing, separations were most numerous in computer and electronic products (78,350, mainly in semiconductors and related devices), food processing (77,630, largely in fruit and vegetable canning), and transportation equipment (57,944 mostly in aircraft manufacturing). Compared with 2001, 18 of the 21 manufacturing subgroups had declines in the number of separations, with the largest reported among employers in computer and electronic products (-53,257), followed by those in transportation equipment (-28,459) and primary metals (-21,603). Food manufacturing had the largest increase (+5,551).

In 2002, seasonal work continued to be the most cited reason for layoff, accounting for 32 percent of all layoff events and 37 percent of all separations. These are the second lowest shares for seasonal layoffs since 1996. A year earlier, seasonal layoffs accounted for 27 percent of events and 28 percent of separations. The layoffs in 2002 occurred primarily in establishments engaged in agriculture and forestry support activities, crop production, and food manufacturing.

Layoff activity due to internal company restructuring occurred largely among general merchandise stores and was at levels exceeded only by those in 2001. Employers cited this reason in 1,654 events (23 percent of the total), resulting in the separation of 375,593 workers (25 percent of the total).

The West reported more laid-off workers in 2002 than any other region, 553,868. Layoffs in the West were mainly in food production (agriculture and forestry support activities, crop production, and food manufacturing) and were primarily attributed to seasonal factors. The Northeast region continued to report the lowest annual number of separations (248,624). Compared with 2001, each of the four geographic regions reported a decrease in laid-off workers, the first time that all four regions had an over-the-year decrease. The largest decline occurred in the Midwest (-151,463).

Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, California continued to report the largest number of separated workers (349,332), largely due to seasonal layoffs in agriculture. However, California accounted for its smallest share of events and its second smallest share of separations since 1996. After California were Illinois (154,424), Florida (97,229), New York (69,977), Texas (68,978), and Pennsylvania (62,456). These six states accounted for 51 percent of events and 54 percent of separations for the year. Michigan had the largest over-the-year decline in the number of separations (-77,285); Arizona recorded the largest over-the-year increase (+22,195).

#### Note

The quarterly series on extended mass layoffs cover layoffs of at least 31-days duration that involve 50 or more individuals from a single establishment filing initial claims for unemployment insurance during a consecutive 5-week period. Approximately 30 days after a mass layoff is triggered at an establishment, the employer is contacted for additional information. Data for the fourth quarter are preliminary and subject to revision. This release also includes revised data for previous quarters. Data are not seasonally adjusted, but survey data suggest that there is a seasonal pattern to layoffs. Thus, comparisons between consecutive quarters should not be used as an indicator of trend. For additional information about the program, see the Technical Note.

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The report on Mass Layoffs in March 2003 will be issued on Wednesday, April 30, 2003.

# Technical Note

The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program is a federal-state program which uses a standardized, automated approach to identifying, describing, and tracking the effects of major job cutbacks, using data from each state's unemployment insurance database. Establishments which have at least 50 initial claims filed against them during a consecutive 5-week period are contacted by the state agency to determine whether these separations are of at least 31 days duration, and, if so, information is obtained on the total number of persons separated and the reasons for these separations. Establishments are identified according to industry classification and location, and unemployment insurance claimants are identified by such demographic factors as age, race, sex, ethnic group, and place of residence. The program yields information on an individual's entire spell of unemployment, to the point when regular unemployment insurance benefits are exhausted.

The MLS program was resumed in April 1995; it had been terminated in November 1992 due to lack of funding. However, due to changes in concepts and definitions, data from the resumed program are not comparable to earlier data.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200 ; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

## Definitions

*Establishment.* A unit at a single physical location at which predominantly one type of economic activity is conducted.

*Extended layoff event.* Fifty or more initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits from an establishment during a 5-week period, with at least 50 workers separated for more than 30 days.

*Initial claimant.* A person who files any notice of unemployment to initiate a request either for a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation, or for a subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

*Layoff.* The separation of persons from an employer as part of a mass layoff event. (See below.) Such layoffs involve both persons subject to recall and those who are terminated by the establishment.

*Mass layoff.* Fifty or more initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits from an establishment beginning in a given month, regardless of duration.

*Worksite closure.* The full closure of either multi-unit or single-unit establishments or the partial closure of a multi-unit establishment where entire worksites affected by layoffs are closed or planned to be closed.

**Table 1. Industry distribution: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, selected quarters, 2001 and 2002**

Industry	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	2,698	1,383	2,127	542,284	309,931	416,941	502,662	274,576	305,208
Total, private .....	2,651	1,319	2,075	526,871	296,403	399,167	491,213	263,230	296,920
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting .....	278	132	281	66,941	41,568	75,647	34,985	18,022	34,193
Mining .....	34	10	22	5,591	1,517	2,873	5,750	1,451	2,266
Utilities .....	7	( <sup>2</sup> )	6	1,127	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,381	1,479	( <sup>2</sup> )	713
Construction .....	459	63	455	65,449	8,503	65,243	68,118	12,158	56,807
Manufacturing .....	959	499	672	185,209	106,339	123,722	204,706	104,083	109,854
Food .....	113	50	120	29,713	20,320	30,142	22,789	9,736	20,714
Beverage and tobacco products .....	14	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	2,052	( <sup>2</sup> )	428	1,555	( <sup>2</sup> )	313
Textile mills .....	25	18	17	5,715	3,001	2,800	5,710	6,692	3,554
Textile product mills .....	8	6	8	952	1,043	783	1,387	1,479	838
Apparel .....	53	36	23	9,653	7,487	4,283	8,455	6,706	3,518
Leather and allied products .....	10	6	8	1,713	484	857	1,580	486	854
Wood products .....	36	12	35	4,022	1,584	5,111	6,636	2,288	4,513
Paper .....	25	14	17	3,535	1,959	2,926	3,453	1,907	2,197
Printing and related support activities .....	18	9	8	2,333	1,267	1,435	2,199	1,039	747
Petroleum and coal products .....	15	( <sup>2</sup> )	17	2,405	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,742	2,248	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,654
Chemicals .....	15	10	11	2,338	2,515	1,552	1,752	1,312	1,012
Plastics and rubber products .....	35	16	16	5,912	2,434	2,456	7,631	2,086	2,411
Nonmetallic mineral products .....	42	11	40	8,796	1,623	6,913	9,061	1,675	5,000
Primary metals .....	56	30	38	16,812	4,943	6,521	20,305	6,268	7,158
Fabricated metal products .....	58	25	33	7,304	4,629	4,530	9,512	3,861	3,854
Machinery .....	78	38	54	10,968	6,755	11,680	18,296	9,030	10,186
Computer and electronic products .....	151	107	81	27,984	20,799	13,867	28,990	20,752	12,006
Electrical equipment and appliances .....	34	27	26	8,562	4,952	6,290	10,015	7,247	8,991
Transportation equipment .....	117	55	76	25,750	15,025	11,690	33,219	15,056	13,498
Furniture and related products .....	34	10	23	5,360	1,877	3,869	6,285	2,806	3,435
Miscellaneous manufacturing .....	22	13	17	3,330	2,897	2,847	3,628	3,080	2,401
Wholesale trade .....	43	35	33	4,650	5,542	6,681	4,655	4,601	3,744
Retail trade .....	112	62	84	38,694	18,177	23,561	30,618	17,747	14,177
Transportation and warehousing .....	100	84	57	26,594	25,097	17,554	21,757	22,046	11,798
Information .....	92	70	62	17,884	14,787	10,687	21,531	15,649	8,966
Finance and insurance .....	57	53	37	9,619	10,942	6,592	8,843	10,897	4,517
Real estate and rental and leasing .....	18	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	3,057	1,147	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,153	1,091	( <sup>2</sup> )
Professional and technical services .....	78	57	52	11,589	9,031	7,657	11,505	8,505	6,203
Management of companies and enterprises .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Administrative and waste services .....	199	124	164	45,892	33,379	28,568	41,590	32,442	25,009
Educational services .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	821	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	704	( <sup>2</sup> )
Health care and social assistance .....	21	39	29	5,344	4,448	4,749	3,513	4,122	3,949
Arts, entertainment, and recreation .....	43	26	32	9,869	7,541	7,807	6,522	3,485	3,845
Accommodation and food services .....	110	34	56	22,192	4,159	11,422	17,768	3,809	7,266
Other services, except public administration .....	16	12	18	2,479	1,929	2,708	2,187	1,430	1,979
Unclassified .....	18	—	5	3,505	—	613	2,722	—	472
Government .....	47	64	52	15,413	13,528	17,774	11,449	11,346	8,288
Federal .....	10	9	8	2,182	2,165	3,552	2,764	2,124	1,033
State .....	18	13	19	5,683	3,021	7,438	4,282	3,002	4,061
Local .....	19	42	25	7,548	8,342	6,784	4,403	6,220	3,194

<sup>1</sup> Data on layoffs were reported by employers in all states and the District of Columbia.

<sup>2</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

<sup>p</sup> = preliminary.

<sup>r</sup> = revised.

NOTE: Industry data reflect the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 2002. Dash represents zero.

**Table 2. Reason for separation: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, selected quarters, 2001 and 2002**

Reason for separation	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>
Total, all reasons <sup>1</sup> .....	2,698	1,383	2,127	542,284	309,931	416,941	502,662	274,576	305,208
Automation .....	3	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	343	406	( <sup>2</sup> )	889	273	( <sup>2</sup> )
Bankruptcy .....	74	59	43	26,505	23,812	14,649	20,326	19,519	8,896
Business ownership change .....	57	41	32	16,797	11,328	8,301	9,752	8,129	3,915
Contract cancellation .....	51	53	40	8,376	13,421	7,669	9,071	9,038	6,067
Contract completed .....	169	154	190	35,766	28,359	31,900	33,057	36,647	29,939
Domestic relocation .....	23	27	18	4,781	4,803	5,103	4,021	3,616	2,660
Energy-related .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	—
Environment-related .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	—
Financial difficulty .....	181	122	100	38,971	24,514	17,500	35,626	20,983	14,085
Import competition .....	41	17	15	7,394	3,010	2,786	7,568	2,616	2,216
Labor dispute .....	3	4	11	555	814	2,300	240	822	2,172
Material shortage .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	379	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	379
Model changeover .....	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Natural disaster .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	( <sup>2</sup> )
Non-natural disaster .....	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	1,336	( <sup>2</sup> )	—	514	( <sup>2</sup> )	—
Overseas relocation .....	24	18	18	4,568	4,603	2,834	3,764	3,345	1,726
Plant or machine repair .....	3	7	5	364	825	488	877	656	574
Product line discontinued .....	11	10	9	1,718	1,729	945	1,463	1,116	932
Reorganization within company .....	191	181	169	38,870	38,091	31,758	33,706	37,221	23,870
Seasonal work .....	991	306	976	207,287	86,968	213,730	154,954	48,477	129,542
Slack work .....	669	268	304	112,064	43,857	46,099	144,223	55,111	50,360
Vacation period .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	15	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	3,605	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,106	( <sup>2</sup> )
Weather-related .....	20	( <sup>2</sup> )	17	2,249	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,854	3,110	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,692
Other .....	111	42	58	20,304	7,268	10,549	24,105	8,262	9,302
Not reported .....	62	51	112	12,861	11,861	16,488	14,321	15,765	15,814

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 1.

<sup>2</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

<sup>p</sup> = preliminary.

<sup>r</sup> = revised.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

**Table 3. State and selected claimant characteristics: Extended mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, third and fourth quarters, 2002**

State	Layoff events		Total initial claimants		Percent of total							
	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	Black		Hispanic origin		Women		Persons age 55 and over	
					III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>						
Total <sup>1</sup>	1,383	2,127	274,576	305,208	14.9	10.6	17.9	23.2	43.7	34.7	15.1	14.0
Alabama	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	41.1	32.1	.5	3.8	23.2	73.2	33.0	18.2
Alaska	-	10	-	1,127	-	3.4	-	27.5	-	26.4	-	14.2
Arizona	35	21	5,627	2,558	5.8	6.5	37.0	27.0	37.8	41.9	13.5	16.3
Arkansas	( <sup>2</sup> )	7	( <sup>2</sup> )	3,637	24.3	12.5	7.5	1.1	53.3	37.3	12.1	11.5
California	302	480	50,514	58,954	5.6	3.8	46.6	67.1	43.3	39.3	13.7	12.6
Colorado	24	33	3,348	4,900	6.2	5.0	14.3	25.2	43.4	28.4	12.9	13.6
Connecticut	12	17	2,536	1,945	12.9	10.4	8.8	6.0	52.8	23.8	16.7	16.2
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	276	50.6	15.2	.2	18.1	59.3	44.9	15.3	14.1
Florida	110	102	19,037	12,115	22.9	20.4	14.4	23.9	48.1	47.0	18.5	15.8
Georgia	15	16	6,580	2,091	33.4	56.1	6.9	1.0	52.7	48.3	11.7	13.7
Hawaii	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,544	8.9	.5	9.5	48.6	18.8	68.1	9.8	11.7
Idaho	4	7	357	1,165	.6	1.2	26.3	7.9	37.8	26.6	19.9	13.0
Illinois	109	213	23,573	31,110	27.1	14.0	11.4	16.9	43.2	27.6	12.2	12.2
Indiana	26	74	5,910	13,497	7.1	7.3	2.2	2.6	31.9	29.8	15.1	13.4
Iowa	5	18	492	3,579	.8	1.1	.4	2.7	33.7	29.5	14.8	11.4
Kansas	15	10	6,433	1,685	11.9	18.5	2.8	6.1	34.3	40.5	17.3	13.8
Kentucky	21	28	2,684	3,342	3.7	6.6	.7	1.2	51.4	41.4	18.7	16.5
Louisiana	15	22	1,543	2,452	48.2	47.8	3.2	2.8	50.7	27.0	10.0	12.6
Maine	( <sup>2</sup> )	13	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,831	-	.2	-	.1	20.1	47.7	13.2	16.1
Maryland	6	7	947	1,137	35.1	26.5	1.6	1.1	32.8	47.1	24.9	32.3
Massachusetts	42	31	8,555	3,882	6.1	6.8	1.8	1.8	48.5	32.5	18.4	13.0
Michigan	12	54	2,636	6,240	22.5	13.0	1.9	15.0	49.2	36.6	13.9	12.0
Minnesota	22	93	3,800	11,100	3.6	2.5	2.6	8.5	42.3	19.9	14.6	14.5
Mississippi	6	14	766	1,240	75.3	54.3	.3	.4	50.9	49.1	11.6	16.0
Missouri	24	34	4,275	5,379	22.0	11.2	1.2	.4	57.6	40.0	16.2	21.0
Montana	-	11	-	1,474	-	.3	-	2.3	-	19.7	-	15.3
Nebraska	4	9	550	766	11.3	1.3	3.3	12.0	37.1	13.8	13.1	19.2
Nevada	10	7	1,081	2,151	7.4	8.8	22.0	15.2	26.5	41.2	21.5	21.2
New Hampshire	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	.3	-	3.0	-	44.6	-	16.1	-
New Jersey	56	55	8,167	7,639	21.5	16.7	14.9	18.9	53.2	43.2	19.9	20.4
New Mexico	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	326	.8	3.1	56.7	61.0	32.3	31.0	18.7	12.9
New York	122	121	25,929	16,641	15.9	9.9	8.3	8.0	46.0	38.7	14.5	17.2
North Carolina	30	29	6,090	4,403	29.8	36.2	1.6	5.3	48.2	47.9	15.7	13.2
North Dakota	-	8	-	1,140	-	.5	-	3.5	-	11.3	-	12.7
Ohio	50	106	8,964	14,002	14.4	12.4	1.6	3.8	30.2	19.1	17.6	11.5
Oklahoma	4	7	667	874	17.4	8.2	15.0	10.1	28.5	18.1	13.0	14.6
Oregon	25	41	3,406	6,579	2.8	2.2	8.5	16.8	40.5	36.6	14.7	14.1
Pennsylvania	59	77	19,989	19,725	6.3	6.2	3.5	2.5	40.1	35.3	19.0	15.3
Rhode Island	( <sup>2</sup> )	10	( <sup>2</sup> )	955	3.3	3.1	28.2	26.1	44.4	57.5	20.7	21.4
South Carolina	14	18	2,115	3,716	53.2	50.1	.1	.2	58.6	40.5	1.7	1.5
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee	19	15	1,798	1,785	28.3	21.2	-	.1	42.5	38.4	20.8	15.8
Texas	77	70	25,660	15,285	19.0	17.5	35.4	34.2	40.8	30.9	11.7	11.3
Utah	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	734	1.9	.3	9.3	8.4	28.9	24.9	25.3	12.4
Vermont	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	2.1	.3	1.1	-	25.1	66.1	14.2	22.5
Virginia	20	26	4,232	3,444	27.4	36.3	1.1	3.0	59.6	53.1	19.6	14.4
Washington	41	66	7,354	8,582	4.7	3.7	19.3	39.2	41.4	37.1	15.2	13.6
West Virginia	6	8	658	1,001	.2	.8	-	-	23.4	47.9	17.5	17.2
Wisconsin	18	115	4,717	16,536	3.9	3.8	4.0	13.5	43.9	26.9	15.6	16.1
Wyoming	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	1.0	-	1.0	-	40.4	-	26.9
Puerto Rico	12	3	3,191	463	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	50.6	49.0	7.0	17.1

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 1.

<sup>2</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

<sup>3</sup> Data are not available.

<sup>p</sup> = preliminary.

<sup>r</sup> = revised.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

**Table 4. Census region and division: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, selected quarters, 2001 and 2002**

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>
United States <sup>1</sup> .....	2,698	1,383	2,127	542,284	309,931	416,941	502,662	274,576	305,208
Northeast .....	401	300	326	82,297	60,674	64,678	83,553	66,668	52,969
New England .....	132	63	73	31,589	15,707	16,606	23,452	12,583	8,964
Middle Atlantic .....	269	237	253	50,708	44,967	48,072	60,101	54,085	44,005
South .....	542	350	373	102,445	69,958	61,962	103,947	73,601	57,007
South Atlantic .....	292	203	209	59,847	40,614	33,017	55,346	40,084	28,183
East South Central .....	103	48	58	19,216	8,204	11,076	18,495	5,433	6,576
West South Central .....	147	99	106	23,382	21,140	17,869	30,106	28,084	22,248
Midwest .....	897	285	734	169,415	66,696	125,083	172,773	61,350	105,034
East North Central .....	681	215	562	132,627	48,074	97,281	133,436	45,800	81,385
West North Central .....	216	70	172	36,788	18,622	27,802	39,337	15,550	23,649
West .....	858	448	694	188,127	112,603	165,218	142,389	72,957	90,198
Mountain .....	150	77	89	30,635	16,602	23,888	23,062	11,347	13,412
Pacific .....	708	371	605	157,492	96,001	141,330	119,327	61,610	76,786

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 1.

<sup>p</sup> = preliminary.

<sup>r</sup> = revised.

NOTE: The States (including the District of Columbia) that comprise the census divisions are: New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and

West Virginia; East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

**Table 5. State distribution: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, selected quarters, 2001 and 2002**

State	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2001 <sup>r</sup>	III 2002 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2002 <sup>p</sup>
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	2,698	1,383	2,127	542,284	309,931	416,941	502,662	274,576	305,208
Alabama .....	28	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	6,754	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	6,507	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Alaska .....	5	-	10	1,047	-	1,127	580	-	1,127
Arizona .....	25	35	21	3,747	9,757	5,263	4,300	5,627	2,558
Arkansas .....	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	7	1,758	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,525	714	( <sup>2</sup> )	3,637
California .....	586	302	480	126,585	79,487	115,631	95,713	50,514	58,954
Colorado .....	46	24	33	7,349	3,522	7,334	6,894	3,348	4,900
Connecticut .....	23	12	17	3,977	3,591	2,907	2,971	2,536	1,945
Delaware .....	3	-	-	359	-	-	359	-	-
District of Columbia .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	276	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	276
Florida .....	137	110	102	21,666	22,225	14,013	21,407	19,037	12,115
Georgia .....	21	15	16	10,998	3,372	2,367	4,545	6,580	2,091
Hawaii .....	17	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	2,165	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,925	2,372	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,544
Idaho .....	17	4	7	2,887	504	1,982	2,017	357	1,165
Illinois .....	254	109	213	55,229	29,186	45,455	44,684	23,573	31,110
Indiana .....	72	26	74	12,389	5,524	13,945	15,689	5,910	13,497
Iowa .....	50	5	18	6,327	556	2,602	9,224	492	3,579
Kansas .....	13	15	10	7,385	8,081	2,031	8,701	6,433	1,685
Kentucky .....	32	21	28	6,189	3,876	4,590	5,823	2,684	3,342
Louisiana .....	27	15	22	4,321	2,052	2,889	3,195	1,543	2,452
Maine .....	16	( <sup>2</sup> )	13	5,103	( <sup>2</sup> )	4,659	2,714	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,831
Maryland .....	19	6	7	3,840	1,495	1,316	2,812	947	1,137
Massachusetts .....	78	42	31	19,373	10,011	7,273	15,253	8,555	3,882
Michigan .....	108	12	54	14,550	3,993	5,092	22,100	2,636	6,240
Minnesota .....	98	22	93	14,693	4,336	14,863	13,717	3,800	11,100
Mississippi .....	18	6	14	2,386	1,057	2,211	2,045	766	1,240
Missouri .....	45	24	34	6,748	4,890	5,835	6,133	4,275	5,379
Montana .....	7	-	11	2,118	-	2,258	1,056	-	1,474
Nebraska .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	759	1,331	( <sup>2</sup> )	550	766
Nevada .....	27	10	7	7,177	1,106	3,923	3,884	1,081	2,151
New Hampshire .....	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	1,945	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	1,638	( <sup>2</sup> )	-
New Jersey .....	56	56	55	9,566	8,538	9,425	10,925	8,167	7,639
New Mexico .....	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	1,568	( <sup>2</sup> )	798	782	( <sup>2</sup> )	326
New York .....	118	122	121	22,140	24,390	23,525	18,007	25,929	16,641
North Carolina .....	63	30	29	14,362	7,541	6,483	12,390	6,090	4,403
North Dakota .....	9	-	8	1,546	-	1,140	1,473	-	1,140
Ohio .....	138	50	106	23,077	5,711	14,229	26,886	8,964	14,002
Oklahoma .....	11	4	7	2,145	793	902	3,371	667	874
Oregon .....	39	25	41	8,619	4,223	6,579	7,950	3,406	6,579
Pennsylvania .....	95	59	77	19,002	12,039	15,122	31,169	19,989	19,725
Rhode Island .....	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	10	870	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,026	555	( <sup>2</sup> )	955
South Carolina .....	16	14	18	1,551	1,760	3,261	5,876	2,115	3,716
South Dakota .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee .....	25	19	15	3,887	3,052	4,162	4,120	1,798	1,785
Texas .....	103	77	70	15,158	17,753	12,553	22,826	25,660	15,285
Utah .....	22	( <sup>2</sup> )	5	5,789	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,350	4,129	( <sup>2</sup> )	734
Vermont .....	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	321	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	321	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Virginia .....	30	20	26	6,758	2,926	3,989	7,644	4,232	3,444
Washington .....	61	41	66	19,076	11,955	16,068	12,712	7,354	8,582
West Virginia .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	6	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	870	1,312	( <sup>2</sup> )	658	1,001
Wisconsin .....	109	18	115	27,382	3,660	18,560	24,077	4,717	16,536
Wyoming .....	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )
Puerto Rico .....	23	12	3	4,691	2,616	769	4,484	3,191	463

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 1.

<sup>r</sup> = revised.

<sup>2</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

<sup>p</sup> = preliminary.