



Technical information:  
<http://www.bls.gov/mls/>

(202) 691-6392

USDL 04-895

Media contact:

691-5902

For release: 10:00 A.M. EDT  
Tuesday, May 18, 2004

## **EXTENDED MASS LAYOFFS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2004**

In the first quarter of 2004, 1,204 mass layoff actions were taken by employers in the private nonfarm economy that resulted in the separation of 239,361 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 sharply lower than in January-March 2003 and were the lowest for a first quarter since 2000. (See table A.) The decline over the year was most notable in general merchandise stores, administrative and support services, computer and electronic product manufacturing, and air transportation. In the first quarter of 2004, the national unemployment rate was 6.1 percent, not seasonally adjusted; a year earlier it was 6.3 percent. Nonfarm payroll employment, not seasonally adjusted, increased by 0.2 percent or 247,000 jobs from January-March 2003 to January-March 2004.

The completion of seasonal work accounted for 28 percent of all events and 56,478 separations during the period—the highest level for a first quarter since 2000. Layoffs due to internal company restructuring represented 25 percent of events and resulted in 55,376 separations. Permanent closure of worksites occurred in 17 percent of all events and affected 42,814 workers, the lowest first-quarter level since 1998. Thirty-five percent of the employers anticipating a recall expected to extend the offer to all laid-off workers, the highest proportion for a first quarter since 2001.

### Industry Distribution of Extended Layoffs

Extended mass layoff separations occurred in 382 of the 1,197 detailed industries for which data are available. This is the fewest number of industries to have at least one extended mass layoff event in the first quarter since 1998.

NOTE: Beginning with data for the first quarter of 2004, the scope of extended mass layoffs and plant closings has been redefined to cover only the private nonfarm economy due to budget constraints. Quarterly information on layoff events in agriculture and government are no longer collected. However, the monthly reporting of *Mass Layoffs*, which is based only on administrative data, will be unaffected and will continue to cover the total economy.

Also beginning with first quarter 2004, the reasons for layoff presented in table 2 of this release have been revised. "Domestic relocation" and "overseas relocation" will no longer be reported. Additional information on domestic and out-of-country moves will be reported at a later date.

**Table A. Selected measures of extended mass layoff activity, private nonfarm sector**

Period	Layoff events	Separations	Initial claimants
2000			
January-March .....	1,081	202,500	180,205
April-June .....	1,055	205,861	186,759
July-September .....	817	174,628	158,394
October-December ....	1,638	332,973	320,909
2001			
January-March .....	1,546	304,171	306,535
April-June .....	1,828	430,499	358,611
July-September .....	1,629	330,391	336,298
October-December ....	2,372	459,771	456,068
2002			
January-March .....	1,611	299,266	292,998
April-June .....	1,624	344,606	299,598
July-September .....	1,186	255,152	254,955
October-December ....	1,916	373,307	370,592
2003			
January-March <sup>r</sup> .....	1,502	286,947	297,607
April-June <sup>r</sup> .....	1,799	368,273	348,890
July-September <sup>r</sup> .....	1,190	236,121	227,568
October-December <sup>r</sup> ....	1,690	325,093	325,765
2004			
January-March <sup>p</sup> .....	1,204	239,361	165,272

p=preliminary.

r=revised.

Retail trade accounted for 11 percent of private-nonfarm layoff events and 36 percent of separations during January-March 2004. (See table 1.) This marked the first time since the program began in 1995 that a sector other than manufacturing reported the greatest share of separations. In addition, the 86,884 worker separations in retail trade were the highest for that sector for any quarter since 1995. Layoff activity in this sector was concentrated in food and beverage stores (54,969, largely in supermarkets and other grocery stores).

Manufacturing industries accounted for 32 percent of private nonfarm layoff events and 24 percent of separations. Layoff activity in this sector was concentrated in food manufacturing (11,005), followed by transportation equipment manufacturing (8,874) and computer and electronic product manufacturing (3,912). Layoffs in construction comprised 19 percent of events and 10 percent of separations, mostly among specialty trade contractors. Cutbacks in administrative and waste services accounted for 11 percent of events and 9 percent of separations, mainly in temporary help services. The accommodation and food services sector accounted for an additional 4 percent of events and separations during the quarter, primarily in hotels and motels, except casino hotels.

Information technology-producing industries (communication equipment, communications services, computer hardware, and software and computer services) accounted for 6 percent of layoff events and 10,556 worker separations in the first quarter, down from 11 percent of layoff events and 28,582

**Table B. Summary of employer expectations of a recall from extended layoff, private nonfarm sector, first quarter 2003–first quarter 2004**

Nature of the recall	Percentage of events				
	I 2003	II 2003	III 2003	IV 2003	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>
Anticipate a recall ....	35.4	43.2	32.0	58.2	39.9
<b>Timeframe</b>					
Within 6 months .....	72.5	84.3	84.5	85.5	83.3
Within 3 months.....	46.0	55.1	58.3	37.3	49.0
<b>Size</b>					
At least half.....	80.2	87.6	86.9	91.7	87.5
All workers.....	33.0	49.2	44.1	45.0	35.2

p=preliminary.

separations a year earlier. (See table 8.) This also marked the lowest number of separations in the industry grouping since the first quarter of 2000. Layoffs in the information technology-producing industries were most numerous in communications services, 3,816 separations, followed by those in computer hardware.

#### Reasons for Extended Layoff

Layoffs due to the completion of seasonal work accounted for 28 percent of the extended layoff events and resulted in 56,478 separations in the first quarter. (See table 2.) Seasonal layoffs were most numerous among workers in general merchandise stores and specialty trade contractors.

Contract completion accounted for 14 percent of events and resulted in 51,795 separations during the first quarter. These layoffs were primarily in food and beverage stores and in administrative and support services.

Internal company restructuring (bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial difficulty, and reorganization) accounted for 25 percent of layoff events and resulted in 55,376 separations. The number of such separations was the lowest for a first quarter since 1998. These layoffs were mostly among workers in food manufacturing, in general merchandise stores, in accommodation, and in hospitals. In the first quarter of 2003, layoff events for these reasons represented 24 percent of events and involved 94,707 workers.

#### Recall Expectations

Forty percent of employers reporting an extended layoff in the first quarter of 2004 indicated they anticipated some type of recall. This compares with 35 percent of the employers anticipating a recall a year earlier. (See table B.) Most of the employers not expecting a recall were in administrative and support services, food manufacturing, and computer and electronic product manufacturing.

**Table C. Distribution of extended layoff events by size of layoff, private nonfarm sector, January-March 2004<sup>P</sup>**

Size	Layoff events		Separations	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	1,204	100.0	239,361	100.0
50-99.....	578	48.0	40,846	17.1
100-149.....	256	21.3	30,287	12.7
150-199.....	112	9.3	19,055	8.0
200-299.....	152	12.6	35,674	14.9
300-499.....	57	4.7	20,507	8.7
500-999.....	34	2.8	22,291	9.3
1,000 or more...	15	1.2	70,701	29.5

p=preliminary.

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-five percent of the employers expected to extend the offer to all laid-off workers, the highest proportion for a first quarter since 2001.

Excluding layoff events due to seasonal work and vacation period (in which 88 percent of the employers expected a recall), employers expected to recall laid-off workers in 21 percent of the events, slightly lower than a year earlier when 23 percent of employers expected a recall. In layoff events due to internal company restructuring, employers anticipated a recall in only 6 percent of the events.

#### Size of Extended Layoff

Layoff events during the first quarter continued to be concentrated at the lower end of the extended layoff-size spectrum, with 69 percent involving fewer than 150 workers. These events, however, accounted for only 30 percent of all separations. (See table C.) Separations involving 500 or more workers accounted for 39 percent of all separations, up significantly from 31 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 60 separations in amusements, gambling, and recreation to a high of 1,832 in food and beverage stores.

#### Initial Claimant Characteristics

A total of 165,272 initial claimants for unemployment insurance were associated with extended mass lay offs in the first quarter of 2004. Of these claimants, 14 percent were black, 15 percent were Hispanic, 40 percent were women, and 15 percent were 55 years of age or older. (See table 3.) Thirty-seven percent of claimants were 30 to 44 years of age. Among the civilian labor force for the same period, 11 percent were black, 13 percent were Hispanic, 47 percent were women, and 16 percent were 55 years of age or older. Thirty-six percent of the civilian labor force were ages 30 to 44.

#### Geographic Distribution

In the first quarter, the number of separations due to extended mass layoff events was highest in the West (103,337), followed by the Midwest (68,214), the South (38,832), and the Northeast (28,978). (See table 4.) Extended mass layoffs in the West were mainly in food and beverage stores.

**Table D. Mass layoff events and separations, private nonfarm sector, selected metropolitan areas**

Metropolitan area	Events		Separations	
	I 2003	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>
Total, nonmetropolitan areas .....	194	147	31,142	23,356
Total, 331 metropolitan areas .....	834	612	140,862	93,376
Chicago, Ill. ....	61	57	14,608	10,859
Medford-Ashland, Ore. ....	-	3	-	3,360
Los Angeles-Long Beach, Calif. ....	40	26	12,345	3,161
New York, N.Y. ....	33	19	6,057	2,592
Detroit, Mich. ....	8	19	1,009	2,428
Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland, Mich. ...	(1)	11	(1)	1,924
Columbus, Ohio .....	(1)	6	(1)	1,923
Las Vegas, Nev.-Ariz. ....	(1)	4	(1)	1,914
Portland-Vancouver, Ore.-Wash. ....	18	8	2,669	1,910
San. Jose, Calif. ....	25	15	4,105	1,831

<sup>1</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

p=preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Three of the four regions reported over-the-year decreases in separations, with the largest decrease occurring in the South (-38,825), followed by the Northeast (-22,919). The West had the only over-the-year increase (+21,566). Seven of the nine geographic divisions reported over-the-year declines in laid-off workers, with the largest declines in the South Atlantic (-22,802), Middle Atlantic (-17,109), and West South Central (-11,611) divisions. The largest increase in separations occurred in the Pacific division (+26,784).

Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, the largest number of worker separations occurred in California (86,839), followed by Illinois (24,332). These two states accounted for 28 percent of all layoff events and 46 percent of the separations during the first quarter of 2004. They were followed by Florida (11,719), Ohio (11,192), and Michigan (10,291). (See table 5.) After excluding the substantial impact of seasonal work, California still reported the most laid-off workers (73,827), largely due to layoffs in food and beverage stores, credit intermediation and related activities, and sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores.

Over the year, New York reported the greatest decrease in laid-off workers (-14,804), followed by Florida (-14,057) and Texas (-11,495). The largest increase occurred in California (+32,462).

Fifty-one percent of events and 39 percent of separations occurred in metropolitan areas in the first quarter of 2004, a decrease from 56 percent of events and 49 percent of separations during the first quarter of 2003. Among the 331 metropolitan areas, Chicago, Ill., reported the highest number of separations, 10,859, mainly in specialty trade contractors. Next were Medford-Ashland, Ore., with 3,360 separations and Los Angeles-Long Beach, Calif., with 3,161. (See table D.) Employers located in nonmetropolitan areas separated 23,356 workers in mass layoffs, down from 31,142 workers in the first quarter of 2003.

**Table E. Index of mass layoff activity, private nonfarm sector, first quarter 2003 and first quarter 2004**

Region	First quarter 2003	First quarter 2004 <sup>p</sup>	Over-the-year change <sup>p</sup>
Northeast .....	92.6	62.1	-30.5
South .....	78.1	46.9	-31.2
Midwest .....	104.6	113.1	8.5
West .....	138.2	208.3	70.1

p=preliminary.

### Relative Impacts of Mass Layoffs

The index of mass layoff activity describes a geographic area's share of national mass layoffs relative to its share of national employment in establishments with at least 50 workers. This allows for geographic comparisons that account for differences in each area's share of employment. (See note and table 6.) A separate index is calculated that excludes the impact of seasonal work and vacation periods from the separations data. (See table 7.)

Among the four regions, the West, with an index of 208.3 in the first quarter, recorded the highest concentration of mass layoffs relative to the region's employment followed by the Midwest, 113.1. (See table E.) The Northeast, 62.1, and the South, 46.9, reported indexes well below 100.0, indicating the relative infrequency of layoffs in those regions.

Over the year, the indexes for the South and Northeast regions recorded declines of 31.2 and 30.5 points, respectively, while those for the West and Midwest posted increases of 70.1 and 8.5 points, respectively.

Among the nine geographic divisions, the Pacific posted the highest index for the first quarter, 280.3, primarily due to layoff activity in food and beverage stores, general merchandise stores, and nonstore retailers. The next highest indexes were reported in the East North Central, 133.9, and Middle Atlantic, 63.6. The East South Central division had the lowest index, 28.5, followed by the Mountain, 38.5, and the West South Central divisions, 39.5.

Among the 49 states that reported private nonfarm extended mass layoffs during the first quarter of 2004, 39 states reported indexes below 100.0, indicating a relatively small share of layoffs. (See table 6.) Of the 10 States with indexes above 100.0, California had the highest index of 325.0—due to the high concentrations of layoff activity in food and beverage stores and in general merchandise stores. (See chart 1.) Relative concentrations of layoffs also were high in Oregon (266.4), Illinois (199.6), and Maine (198.8). Maryland, at 2.5, had the lowest relative concentration of mass layoffs followed by Arizona (6.5), New Mexico (8.0), and Alabama (12.8).

After the exclusion of layoffs due to seasonal work and vacation, the Pacific division recorded the highest index, 295.4, reflecting a high concentration of layoffs in food and beverage stores. (See chart 2.)

At the state level, California reported the highest index, excluding seasonal and vacation period events, (362.5) for first quarter 2004, followed by Maine (192.4) and Illinois (184.0). The lowest indexes occurred in Arizona (2.9), Maryland (3.2), New Mexico (10.4), and Idaho (11.5). (See table 7 and chart 2.)

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 first 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.

The index of mass layoff activity is calculated as the area's share, or ratio, of the total number of private nonfarm separations in the U.S. divided by the same area's share of U.S. total private nonfarm employment in establishments that employ at least 50 workers. It facilitates relative area-to-area comparisons by discounting the absolute size of the area. An index at or near 100.0 indicates the area's share of mass layoffs is in line with its share of employment. An index below 100.0 indicates the area has relatively few layoffs, and, conversely, an index over 100.0 indicates an area with a relatively high level of layoffs.

For additional information about the program, see the Technical Note.

---

The report on Mass Layoffs in April 2004 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, May 26, 2004.

# 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, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2003 and 2004**

Industry	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	I 2003 <sup>f</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>f</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003	IV 2003	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003 <sup>f</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>f</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>
Total, private nonfarm <sup>1</sup> .....	1,502	1,690	1,204	286,947	325,093	239,361	297,607	325,765	165,272
Mining .....	17	20	14	2,255	2,479	1,421	2,716	2,893	1,638
Utilities .....	7	5	5	958	859	557	797	861	462
Construction .....	221	473	229	28,313	69,121	24,549	32,891	74,899	24,636
Manufacturing .....	567	532	386	93,440	100,035	57,616	104,010	107,009	48,419
Food .....	74	121	70	12,635	28,313	11,005	13,396	22,678	9,129
Beverage and tobacco products .....	9	16	10	1,318	2,332	1,694	1,517	2,227	1,400
Textile mills .....	11	18	14	1,916	3,230	2,022	1,990	3,291	1,914
Textile product mills .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	7	( <sup>2</sup> )	931	1,045	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,135	740
Apparel .....	22	27	16	4,532	4,426	2,251	4,643	3,641	1,774
Leather and allied products .....	-	3	4	-	423	653	-	306	573
Wood products .....	31	23	14	3,793	2,906	1,661	3,674	3,887	1,669
Paper .....	13	10	11	2,505	1,039	1,599	2,688	1,026	1,370
Printing and related support activities .....	13	9	13	1,307	1,473	1,732	1,400	1,991	1,062
Petroleum and coal products .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	14	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,280	392	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,299	433
Chemicals .....	11	12	14	1,923	1,762	2,055	1,606	1,578	1,479
Plastics and rubber products .....	16	23	18	1,941	2,746	2,452	1,783	3,168	1,631
Nonmetallic mineral products .....	31	52	21	4,883	7,722	2,686	4,901	9,102	2,211
Primary metals .....	32	24	13	5,544	4,578	2,215	5,139	6,120	1,922
Fabricated metal products .....	32	31	20	3,588	3,794	2,158	4,041	3,912	1,956
Machinery .....	42	23	20	6,677	4,544	2,135	8,234	5,627	1,826
Computer and electronic products .....	94	32	32	17,380	5,922	3,912	19,312	5,379	3,581
Electrical equipment and appliances .....	28	12	13	4,205	3,067	2,312	4,319	2,745	1,719
Transportation equipment .....	57	48	39	12,471	14,034	8,874	13,666	22,751	7,575
Furniture and related products .....	20	13	19	2,196	2,201	2,965	7,489	1,928	3,031
Miscellaneous manufacturing .....	23	13	13	3,042	2,312	1,798	2,573	2,218	1,424
Wholesale trade .....	36	41	28	6,393	9,731	3,579	5,742	6,551	2,567
Retail trade .....	142	85	132	48,044	32,044	86,884	44,622	33,896	31,324
Transportation and warehousing .....	70	45	34	21,416	9,546	6,189	21,707	9,608	5,171
Information .....	81	50	44	16,767	14,588	7,837	16,063	15,937	6,541
Finance and insurance .....	54	47	46	12,159	7,319	7,207	11,537	8,388	6,608
Real estate and rental and leasing .....	5	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	547	903	( <sup>2</sup> )	479	422	( <sup>2</sup> )
Professional and technical services .....	40	42	31	6,889	8,369	3,363	5,979	7,225	3,533
Management of companies and enterprises .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	6	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,384	492	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,309	414
Administrative and waste services .....	173	192	131	36,901	37,051	21,067	38,552	34,487	19,320
Educational services .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )
Health care and social assistance .....	18	33	29	1,802	4,039	4,175	2,062	4,049	3,285
Arts, entertainment, and recreation .....	17	35	14	4,003	11,377	1,238	2,582	4,793	1,106
Accommodation and food services .....	38	62	53	5,300	13,441	9,110	6,277	11,101	8,023
Other services, except public administration .....	11	16	15	1,174	2,562	2,955	994	2,260	1,256
Unclassified .....	1	1	2	55	245	229	86	77	281

<sup>1</sup> For the first quarter of 2004, data on layoffs were reported by employers in all states and the District of Columbia. Beginning with data for the first quarter of 2004, the scope of extended mass layoffs and plant closings has been redefined to cover only the private nonfarm economy due to budget constraints. Quarterly information on layoff events in agriculture and government are no longer collected. However, the monthly reporting of *Mass Layoffs*, which is based only on administrative

data, will be unaffected and will continue to cover the total economy.

<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 2. Reason for layoff: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2003 and 2004**

Reason for layoff	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	I 2003 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003	IV 2003	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>
Total, private nonfarm <sup>1</sup> .....	1,502	1,690	1,204	286,947	325,093	239,361	297,607	325,765	165,272
Automation .....	( <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> )
Bankruptcy .....	44	26	28	23,257	4,347	8,422	19,117	2,856	5,294
Business ownership change .....	33	25	31	9,980	6,346	4,217	6,003	3,325	2,968
Contract cancellation .....	33	23	29	6,086	4,211	4,238	4,554	2,169	2,752
Contract completed .....	227	207	170	37,736	38,782	51,795	49,372	44,500	25,025
Domestic relocation .....	26	18	( <sup>3</sup> )	3,923	3,003	( <sup>3</sup> )	3,170	4,640	( <sup>3</sup> )
Environment-related .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-
Financial difficulty .....	104	56	84	21,756	12,768	15,755	24,371	9,792	11,959
Import competition .....	22	28	14	6,083	4,910	1,182	4,625	5,507	1,468
Labor dispute .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	7	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	10,568	21,293	( <sup>2</sup> )	8,524	637
Material shortage .....	( <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> )
Model changeover .....	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,891	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,332	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Natural disaster .....	-	3	-	-	741	-	-	603	-
Overseas relocation .....	21	9	( <sup>3</sup> )	4,389	901	( <sup>3</sup> )	3,219	956	( <sup>3</sup> )
Plant or machine repair .....	6	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	725	815	( <sup>2</sup> )	864	689	( <sup>2</sup> )
Product line discontinued .....	14	5	8	2,894	507	1,675	3,535	600	705
Reorganization within company .....	185	161	162	39,714	34,662	26,982	38,926	37,851	23,601
Seasonal work .....	279	726	332	47,686	138,510	56,478	44,350	122,986	46,600
Slack work .....	282	190	146	39,000	25,900	16,999	50,468	40,638	18,587
Vacation period .....	4	7	3	385	1,293	427	505	1,576	512
Weather-related .....	15	28	15	1,447	3,508	1,382	1,750	4,311	1,465
Other .....	40	35	56	6,876	4,755	11,004	9,244	6,488	6,567
Not reported .....	156	124	115	30,267	27,943	15,656	29,404	27,248	15,542

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Beginning with data for 2004, these reasons for layoff are no longer used.

<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, private nonfarm sector, fourth quarter, 2003 and first quarter, 2004**

State	Layoff events		Total initial claimants		Percent of total							
	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	Black		Hispanic origin		Women		Persons age 55 and over	
					IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>
Total, private nonfarm <sup>1</sup> .....	1,690	1,204	325,765	165,272	11.2	14.0	15.7	15.4	34.7	40.2	15.1	15.2
Alabama .....	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	498	( <sup>2</sup> )	38.8	58.6	1.6	10.4	35.1	50.1	26.7	8.4
Alaska .....	10	5	1,419	426	3.5	2.6	22.5	10.8	27.2	27.9	12.8	10.8
Arizona .....	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,278	( <sup>2</sup> )	6.1	9.1	29.0	26.2	42.9	47.4	13.1	9.8
Arkansas .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	41.7	39.9	6.1	1.1	34.8	79.5	7.2	15.1
California .....	251	224	53,969	31,953	8.7	9.9	36.5	31.2	50.2	47.9	11.9	11.5
Colorado .....	21	9	3,092	1,013	3.9	4.5	32.9	35.0	25.4	25.0	15.7	15.6
Connecticut .....	16	13	2,098	1,426	11.1	19.4	5.3	18.3	25.6	52.5	16.4	18.9
Delaware .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	4.3	-	1.0	-	13.8	-	10.8
District of Columbia .....	4	-	486	-	21.0	-	20.4	-	40.5	-	14.4	-
Florida .....	107	89	17,862	10,065	17.0	15.2	27.6	34.7	45.8	47.1	16.2	18.2
Georgia .....	21	27	3,909	5,022	54.6	45.2	1.5	2.8	49.9	37.2	12.8	21.8
Hawaii .....	6	5	670	571	1.0	1.4	28.5	27.0	36.0	10.7	11.5	10.9
Idaho .....	11	5	3,093	445	.3	1.1	26.5	4.3	47.8	18.7	20.1	15.5
Illinois .....	184	118	33,035	15,718	14.6	20.0	16.9	16.4	27.5	39.9	12.4	14.3
Indiana .....	49	28	13,170	3,798	11.6	7.5	3.0	3.4	23.1	34.7	13.5	14.6
Iowa .....	28	12	4,019	1,184	1.4	2.0	3.9	3.4	17.2	40.8	15.3	15.9
Kansas .....	10	9	2,119	731	6.9	12.7	7.5	4.9	22.2	48.2	14.5	17.0
Kentucky .....	9	13	1,024	1,595	6.3	23.6	.3	.1	57.0	52.7	11.7	12.2
Louisiana .....	15	8	1,502	684	55.0	44.4	2.1	4.1	34.8	24.1	15.9	13.0
Maine .....	12	11	2,108	1,582	2.1	.6	.9	.1	35.3	26.2	16.1	19.4
Maryland .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	50.0	8.1	1.7	-	8.3	49.6	50.0	14.1
Massachusetts .....	19	23	4,168	2,652	5.8	7.8	2.2	3.0	33.9	43.9	18.9	14.1
Michigan .....	97	78	26,993	13,039	14.3	11.8	6.1	3.8	31.9	40.4	15.4	14.3
Minnesota .....	89	23	11,508	2,533	1.6	4.1	10.2	3.8	15.3	39.2	14.7	14.7
Mississippi .....	4	3	266	244	76.7	87.3	.4	.4	45.1	48.4	21.4	16.8
Missouri .....	25	16	4,084	1,382	6.2	9.3	.5	1.0	36.6	24.4	24.2	13.9
Montana .....	7	4	1,163	339	.3	-	2.8	1.2	12.1	9.1	14.9	18.0
Nebraska .....	8	6	1,187	449	1.3	19.4	11.1	7.3	15.2	27.4	18.0	14.3
Nevada .....	4	6	900	2,053	7.1	11.3	20.6	17.0	26.3	40.8	23.2	28.9
New Hampshire .....	5	-	513	-	.6	-	1.0	-	23.2	-	22.8	-
New Jersey .....	62	43	12,066	6,070	15.1	24.3	13.3	11.2	41.1	43.8	23.5	25.1
New Mexico .....	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	172	( <sup>2</sup> )	.6	1.1	83.1	25.8	50.0	13.5	7.6	5.6
New York .....	93	56	16,422	8,350	7.3	9.5	6.4	5.9	30.1	31.5	16.3	14.1
North Carolina .....	34	16	4,910	1,922	53.9	47.1	5.6	4.4	56.5	48.4	17.4	23.8
North Dakota .....	6	3	1,100	360	1.0	.3	3.6	.3	12.9	11.7	16.0	20.8
Ohio .....	114	80	20,962	9,124	9.3	13.3	1.7	1.7	22.8	28.6	12.7	13.2
Oklahoma .....	5	9	602	1,118	9.1	4.7	4.2	9.8	37.2	33.7	28.7	19.3
Oregon .....	26	23	5,392	3,822	1.1	1.9	24.9	19.3	42.0	54.4	16.2	17.5
Pennsylvania .....	80	60	18,225	9,726	7.3	8.1	1.9	1.6	37.1	34.2	21.1	18.2
Rhode Island .....	8	6	846	458	2.8	1.7	22.5	13.3	34.3	54.1	21.9	31.7
South Carolina .....	4	7	564	822	36.9	61.9	-	1.5	56.4	61.3	.5	1.7
South Dakota .....	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	1.2	-	2.3	-	28.7	-	11.7
Tennessee .....	5	11	513	1,229	17.2	18.1	-	-	49.1	51.9	34.9	20.7
Texas .....	37	44	9,083	8,665	16.8	16.7	40.7	41.1	26.4	36.5	11.2	11.6
Utah .....	4	5	630	589	.8	.8	9.4	10.4	16.7	34.1	11.1	11.7
Vermont .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	167	1.0	-	-	1.2	9.7	25.7	12.6	12.6
Virginia .....	25	11	5,141	1,701	27.0	45.0	2.2	1.7	44.9	55.4	16.2	22.5
Washington .....	45	23	9,150	3,050	3.3	3.9	23.1	16.0	36.6	40.8	16.7	15.6
West Virginia .....	6	3	1,206	405	1.4	-	-	-	23.8	44.9	13.9	11.9
Wisconsin .....	103	55	21,998	6,250	3.5	4.7	10.9	5.6	27.2	28.0	15.4	13.8
Wyoming .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	1.4	2.9	-	4.9	39.4	74.5	39.4	15.7
Puerto Rico .....	6	8	1,361	1,080	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	44.4	64.2	6.4	13.7

<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, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2003 and 2004**

Census region and division	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	I 2003 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003	IV 2003	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>
United States <sup>1</sup> .....	1,502	1,690	1,204	286,947	325,093	239,361	297,607	325,765	165,272
Northeast .....	301	296	215	51,897	49,114	28,978	56,458	56,549	30,431
New England .....	63	61	56	13,165	10,188	7,355	9,949	9,836	6,285
Middle Atlantic .....	238	235	159	38,732	38,926	21,623	46,509	46,713	24,146
South .....	394	283	246	77,657	50,571	38,832	83,813	47,971	35,222
South Atlantic .....	233	202	155	48,069	39,473	25,267	41,431	34,138	21,006
East South Central .....	44	22	28	8,301	3,032	3,889	6,362	2,301	3,471
West South Central .....	117	59	63	21,287	8,066	9,676	36,020	11,532	10,745
Midwest .....	423	713	430	75,622	130,985	68,214	84,384	140,175	54,739
East North Central .....	329	547	359	56,970	103,942	57,697	68,332	116,158	47,929
West North Central .....	94	166	71	18,652	27,043	10,517	16,052	24,017	6,810
West .....	384	398	313	81,771	94,423	103,337	72,952	81,070	44,880
Mountain .....	49	60	33	10,912	12,697	5,694	8,758	10,470	5,058
Pacific .....	335	338	280	70,859	81,726	97,643	64,194	70,600	39,822

<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, private nonfarm sector, selected quarters, 2003 and 2004**

State	Layoff events			Separations			Initial claimants for unemployment insurance		
	I 2003 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003	IV 2003	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>	I 2003 <sup>r</sup>	IV 2003 <sup>r</sup>	I 2004 <sup>p</sup>
Total, private nonfarm <sup>1</sup>	1,502	1,690	1,204	286,947	325,093	239,361	297,607	325,765	165,272
Alabama	3	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	989	513	( <sup>2</sup> )	981	498	( <sup>2</sup> )
Alaska	7	10	5	870	1,419	426	870	1,419	426
Arizona	15	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,214	1,232	( <sup>2</sup> )	2,528	1,278	( <sup>2</sup> )
Arkansas	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	413	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	315	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
California	247	251	224	54,377	64,354	86,839	49,082	53,969	31,953
Colorado	18	21	9	5,749	4,526	894	3,364	3,092	1,013
Connecticut	6	16	13	1,812	2,938	2,312	1,455	2,098	1,426
Delaware	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )
District of Columbia	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	486	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	486	-
Florida	131	107	89	25,776	21,341	11,719	22,656	17,862	10,065
Georgia	24	21	27	3,304	4,193	6,980	4,087	3,909	5,022
Hawaii	5	6	5	994	776	616	663	670	571
Idaho	8	11	5	1,798	2,104	672	1,868	3,093	445
Illinois	130	184	118	28,720	38,846	24,332	24,997	33,035	15,718
Indiana	42	49	28	5,785	6,187	5,160	7,716	13,170	3,798
Iowa	17	28	12	2,574	4,120	2,142	2,603	4,019	1,184
Kansas	12	10	9	3,836	2,231	1,688	3,326	2,119	731
Kentucky	19	9	13	3,282	1,554	1,893	2,642	1,024	1,595
Louisiana	16	15	8	1,744	1,966	1,233	1,251	1,502	684
Maine	11	12	11	2,593	2,263	1,849	1,809	2,108	1,582
Maryland	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	332	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	308	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Massachusetts	42	19	23	8,306	3,634	2,552	6,216	4,168	2,652
Michigan	33	97	78	4,019	19,639	10,291	11,621	26,993	13,039
Minnesota	32	89	23	5,397	12,600	3,339	4,674	11,508	2,533
Mississippi	7	4	3	1,285	374	369	831	266	244
Missouri	24	25	16	5,592	5,658	2,030	4,575	4,084	1,382
Montana	3	7	4	500	1,615	335	421	1,163	339
Nebraska	4	8	6	769	1,315	833	411	1,187	449
Nevada	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,058	2,264	( <sup>2</sup> )	900	2,053
New Hampshire	3	5	-	380	513	-	395	513	-
New Jersey	45	62	43	5,531	11,677	6,513	6,181	12,066	6,070
New Mexico	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	172	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	172	( <sup>2</sup> )
New York	113	93	56	22,953	17,522	8,149	19,660	16,422	8,350
North Carolina	34	34	16	10,874	5,735	2,457	8,384	4,910	1,922
North Dakota	3	6	3	351	1,119	350	316	1,100	360
Ohio	60	114	80	6,141	18,094	11,192	10,045	20,962	9,124
Oklahoma	8	5	9	1,094	435	1,072	1,187	602	1,118
Oregon	32	26	23	5,039	4,027	6,625	5,487	5,392	3,822
Pennsylvania	80	80	60	10,248	9,727	6,961	20,668	18,225	9,726
Rhode Island	( <sup>2</sup> )	8	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	737	452	( <sup>2</sup> )	846	458
South Carolina	11	4	7	1,360	512	799	951	564	822
South Dakota	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-	( <sup>2</sup> )
Tennessee	15	5	11	2,745	591	1,224	1,908	513	1,229
Texas	89	37	44	18,036	5,040	6,541	33,267	9,083	8,665
Utah	( <sup>2</sup> )	4	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,190	900	( <sup>2</sup> )	630	589
Vermont	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	190	-	( <sup>2</sup> )	167
Virginia	20	25	11	5,202	5,945	1,631	4,132	5,141	1,701
Washington	44	45	23	9,579	11,150	3,137	8,092	9,150	3,050
West Virginia	6	6	3	1,050	1,137	639	742	1,206	405
Wisconsin	64	103	55	12,305	21,176	6,722	13,953	21,998	6,250
Wyoming	( <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> )
Puerto Rico	12	6	8	2,091	516	1,239	1,932	1,361	1,080

<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.

**Table 6. State distribution: Index of mass-layoff separations, private nonfarm sector, first quarter 2003 and 2004**

State	Share of separations <sup>1</sup>		Share of establishment employment <sup>2</sup>		Index of mass-layoff separations <sup>3</sup>	
	I 2003	I 2004 <sup>P</sup>	IV 2001	IV 2002	I 2003	I 2004 <sup>P</sup>
Total, private nonfarm <sup>4</sup>	1.00000	1.00000	1.00000	1.00000	100.0	100.0
Alabama	.34466	.16836	1.31841	1.31701	26.1	12.8
Alaska	.30319	.17797	.15920	.15909	190.4	111.9
Arizona	.77157	.12533	1.89576	1.92258	40.7	6.5
Arkansas	.14393	.34676	.80917	.81912	17.8	42.3
California	18.95019	36.27951	11.08415	11.16122	171.0	325.0
Colorado	2.00351	.37349	1.51744	1.48043	132.0	25.2
Connecticut	.63148	.96591	1.30845	1.30016	48.3	74.3
Delaware	.03171	.39021	.35404	.35100	9.0	111.2
District of Columbia	.02788	—	.44279	.46122	6.3	—
Florida	8.98284	4.89595	5.83354	5.87120	154.0	83.4
Georgia	1.15143	2.91610	3.03225	3.00849	38.0	96.9
Hawaii	.34641	.25735	.36879	.38753	93.9	66.4
Idaho	.62660	.28075	.32591	.33235	192.3	84.5
Illinois	10.00882	10.16540	5.12927	5.09340	195.1	199.6
Indiana	2.01605	2.15574	2.37958	2.40849	84.7	89.5
Iowa	.89703	.89488	1.01966	1.02813	88.0	87.0
Kansas	1.33683	.70521	.96610	.95059	138.4	74.2
Kentucky	1.14377	.79086	1.30421	1.30519	87.7	60.6
Louisiana	.60778	.51512	1.26456	1.25564	48.1	41.0
Maine	.90365	.77247	.39122	.38848	231.0	198.8
Maryland	.11570	.04512	1.83639	1.83694	6.3	2.5
Massachusetts	2.89461	1.06617	2.68328	2.64934	107.9	40.2
Michigan	1.40061	4.29936	3.77703	3.78138	37.1	113.7
Minnesota	1.88084	1.39496	2.10591	2.11175	89.3	66.1
Mississippi	.44782	.15416	.78610	.78186	57.0	19.7
Missouri	1.94879	.84809	2.01919	2.03513	96.5	41.7
Montana	.17425	.13996	.19033	.19145	91.5	73.1
Nebraska	.26799	.34801	.65628	.64685	40.8	53.8
Nevada	.13382	.94585	.91549	.94444	14.6	100.1
New Hampshire	.13243	—	.41105	.41161	32.2	—
New Jersey	1.92753	2.72099	3.07105	3.07490	62.8	88.5
New Mexico	.01986	.03718	.45824	.46748	4.3	8.0
New York	7.99904	3.40448	6.51802	6.51292	122.7	52.3
North Carolina	3.78955	1.02648	2.84705	2.82846	133.1	36.3
North Dakota	.12232	.14622	.19064	.19327	64.2	75.7
Ohio	2.14012	4.67578	4.50435	4.48633	47.5	104.2
Oklahoma	.38126	.44786	1.02064	.99450	37.4	45.0
Oregon	1.75607	2.76779	1.03989	1.03894	168.9	266.4
Pennsylvania	3.57139	2.90816	4.62477	4.62711	77.2	62.9
Rhode Island	.02579	.18884	.35017	.34991	7.4	54.0
South Carolina	.47396	.33381	1.32626	1.32376	35.7	25.2
South Dakota	.04635	.05640	.22062	.22232	21.0	25.4
Tennessee	.95662	.51136	2.27960	2.30159	42.0	22.2
Texas	6.28548	2.73269	7.21269	7.16884	87.1	38.1
Utah	.03241	.37600	.72829	.72948	4.5	51.5
Vermont	—	.07938	.17702	.17531	—	45.3
Virginia	1.81288	.68140	2.55478	2.54284	71.0	26.8
Washington	3.33825	1.31057	1.82537	1.80444	182.9	72.6
West Virginia	.36592	.26696	.43277	.42626	84.6	62.6
Wisconsin	4.28825	2.80831	2.22624	2.23393	192.6	125.7
Wyoming	.04077	.10027	.10600	.10529	38.5	95.2

<sup>1</sup> The share of separations is the proportion of each State's private nonfarm separations to the total number of private nonfarm separations in the U.S. for the period.

<sup>2</sup> The share of establishment employment is the proportion of each State's private nonfarm covered employment in establishments of 50 workers or more to the comparable U.S. total. Covered employment refers to workers who are

covered by State unemployment insurance laws.

<sup>3</sup> The index is the ratio of the share of separations to the share of establishment employment, multiplied by 100.

<sup>4</sup> See footnote 1, table 1.

<sup>P</sup> = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

**Table 7. State distribution: Index of mass-layoff separations (excluding seasonal work and vacation periods), private nonfarm sector, first quarter 2003 and 2004**

State	Share of separations <sup>1</sup>		Share of establishment employment <sup>2</sup>		Index of mass-layoff separations <sup>3</sup>	
	I 2003	I 2004 <sup>P</sup>	IV 2001	IV 2002	I 2003	I 2004 <sup>P</sup>
Total, private nonfarm <sup>4</sup>	1.00000	1.00000	1.00000	1.00000	100.0	100.0
Alabama	.41402	—	1.31841	1.31701	31.4	—
Alaska	.12768	.04713	.15920	.15909	80.2	29.6
Arizona	.69660	.05481	1.89576	1.92258	36.7	2.9
Arkansas	.17289	.45490	.80917	.81912	21.4	55.5
California	20.86020	40.46291	11.08415	11.16122	188.2	362.5
Colorado	1.77247	.18635	1.51744	1.48043	116.8	12.6
Connecticut	.67483	1.19042	1.30845	1.30016	51.6	91.6
Delaware	.03810	.51190	.35404	.35100	10.8	145.8
District of Columbia	—	—	.44279	.46122	—	—
Florida	10.34763	6.16039	5.83354	5.87120	177.4	104.9
Georgia	1.38314	3.72967	3.03225	3.00849	45.6	124.0
Hawaii	.41612	.33762	.36879	.38753	112.8	87.1
Idaho	.55301	.03837	.32591	.33235	169.7	11.5
Illinois	8.77150	9.36938	5.12927	5.09340	171.0	184.0
Indiana	1.97383	2.36989	2.37958	2.40849	82.9	98.4
Iowa	.87828	.85445	1.01966	1.02813	86.1	83.1
Kansas	1.60585	.62371	.96610	.95059	166.2	65.6
Kentucky	1.15709	.82814	1.30421	1.30519	88.7	63.5
Louisiana	.60827	.44559	1.26456	1.25564	48.1	35.5
Maine	.77948	.74758	.39122	.38848	199.2	192.4
Maryland	.13898	.05919	1.83639	1.83694	7.6	3.2
Massachusetts	2.90862	.98106	2.68328	2.64934	108.4	37.0
Michigan	1.37142	4.28268	3.77703	3.78138	36.3	113.3
Minnesota	.97415	.70373	2.10591	2.11175	46.3	33.3
Mississippi	.53794	.20224	.78610	.78186	68.4	25.9
Missouri	1.76703	.41161	2.01919	2.03513	87.5	20.2
Montana	.15908	—	.19033	.19145	83.6	—
Nebraska	.29346	.30692	.65628	.64685	44.7	47.4
Nevada	.16075	1.12740	.91549	.94444	17.6	119.4
New Hampshire	.13605	—	.41105	.41161	33.1	—
New Jersey	2.02867	2.96455	3.07105	3.07490	66.1	96.4
New Mexico	.02386	.04878	.45824	.46748	5.2	10.4
New York	7.56501	2.52390	6.51802	6.51292	116.1	38.8
North Carolina	4.18669	.84897	2.84705	2.82846	147.1	30.0
North Dakota	.14694	.07235	.19064	.19327	77.1	37.4
Ohio	2.04332	3.07088	4.50435	4.48633	45.4	68.4
Oklahoma	.45798	.58754	1.02064	.99450	44.9	59.1
Oregon	1.76828	.81115	1.03989	1.03894	170.0	78.1
Pennsylvania	3.56042	3.42439	4.62477	4.62711	77.0	74.0
Rhode Island	.03098	.21265	.35017	.34991	8.8	60.8
South Carolina	.54798	.43791	1.32626	1.32376	41.3	33.1
South Dakota	.02847	.02740	.22062	.22232	12.9	12.3
Tennessee	1.12820	.67085	2.27960	2.30159	49.5	29.1
Texas	7.55036	3.58497	7.21269	7.16884	104.7	50.0
Utah	.03893	.10962	.72829	.72948	5.3	15.0
Vermont	—	.07509	.17702	.17531	—	42.8
Virginia	.91805	.33104	2.55478	2.54284	35.9	13.0
Washington	3.05598	1.32744	1.82537	1.80444	167.4	73.6
West Virginia	.40900	.30254	.43277	.42626	94.5	71.0
Wisconsin	2.78345	1.94841	2.22624	2.23393	125.0	87.2
Wyoming	.04898	.13154	.10600	.10529	46.2	124.9

<sup>1</sup> The share of separations is the proportion of each State's private nonfarm separations to the total number of private nonfarm separations in the U.S. for the period. Seasonal work and vacation periods as reasons for layoff are excluded from these calculations.

<sup>2</sup> The share of establishment employment is the proportion of each State's private nonfarm covered employment in establishments of 50 workers or more to the comparable U.S. total. Covered employment refers to workers who are

covered by State unemployment insurance laws.

<sup>3</sup> The index is the ratio of the share of separations (excluding seasonal work and vacation periods) to the share of establishment employment, multiplied by 100.

<sup>4</sup> See footnote 1, table 1.

<sup>P</sup> = preliminary.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

**Table 8. Information technology-producing industries: Extended mass layoff events and separations, private nonfarm sector, 1996-2004**

Year	Total extended mass layoffs		Information technology-producing industries <sup>1</sup>							
			Computer hardware <sup>2</sup>		Software and computer services <sup>3</sup>		Communications equipment <sup>4</sup>		Communications services <sup>5</sup>	
	Layoff events	Separations	Layoff events	Separations	Layoff events	Separations	Layoff events	Separations	Layoff events	Separations
1996										
First quarter	1,263	246,820	27	6,377	11	9,008	6	900	15	3,541
Second quarter	1,130	209,688	23	4,475	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	10	1,359	4	615
Third quarter	847	181,569	28	3,818	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	8	1,710	5	1,290
Fourth quarter	1,520	310,045	22	3,214	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	8	1,354	9	1,166
Total	4,760	948,122	100	17,884	20	10,724	32	5,323	33	6,612
1997										
First quarter	1,141	226,735	15	2,644	7	899	7	504	9	1,602
Second quarter	1,303	280,255	16	2,532	8	863	4	553	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )
Third quarter	851	172,392	15	3,091	6	682	6	983	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )
Fourth quarter	1,376	268,461	18	3,667	4	762	6	475	4	819
Total	4,671	947,843	64	11,934	25	3,206	23	2,515	18	3,237
1998										
First quarter	1,115	178,251	29	5,212	8	1,550	7	725	9	1,685
Second quarter	1,333	336,536	37	8,455	5	357	7	1,317	5	650
Third quarter	1,028	201,186	63	11,066	5	1,175	12	3,031	5	1,051
Fourth quarter	1,383	275,272	37	11,336	5	974	7	1,898	6	764
Total	4,859	991,245	166	36,069	23	4,056	33	6,971	25	4,150
1999										
First quarter	1,262	230,711	35	4,363	10	1,796	10	1,600	6	1,002
Second quarter	1,194	246,251	28	3,891	7	1,731	8	1,097	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )
Third quarter	898	184,429	22	11,546	7	1,141	5	840	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )
Fourth quarter	1,202	240,060	18	2,757	5	526	4	807	6	1,430
Total	4,556	901,451	103	22,557	29	5,194	27	4,344	18	3,930
2000										
First quarter	1,081	202,500	22	5,195	14	2,717	9	1,402	4	771
Second quarter	1,055	205,861	18	8,862	22	9,114	7	805	7	977
Third quarter	817	174,628	10	1,678	12	1,422	4	1,465	6	1,280
Fourth quarter	1,638	332,973	16	3,070	22	3,521	5	946	7	1,020
Total	4,591	915,962	66	18,805	70	16,774	25	4,618	24	4,048
2001										
First quarter	1,546	304,171	91	20,991	44	7,963	22	4,441	24	5,312
Second quarter	1,828	430,499	161	38,986	87	12,943	36	12,109	28	6,386
Third quarter	1,629	330,391	142	24,813	55	6,820	39	8,200	36	7,134
Fourth quarter	2,372	459,771	109	17,797	56	8,290	43	10,124	48	11,252
Total	7,375	1,524,832	503	102,587	242	36,016	140	34,874	136	30,084
2002										
First quarter	1,611	299,266	84	18,574	39	4,442	32	8,192	42	6,664
Second quarter	1,624	344,606	69	11,764	49	5,454	27	4,870	53	8,538
Third quarter	1,186	255,152	76	15,017	42	5,415	34	6,529	42	7,945
Fourth quarter	1,916	373,307	74	14,298	32	7,071	19	3,645	39	8,987
Total	6,337	1,272,331	303	59,653	162	22,382	112	23,236	176	32,134
2003										
First quarter	<sup>1</sup> 1,502	286,947	71	11,900	33	5,689	23	4,402	41	6,591
Second quarter	<sup>1</sup> 1,799	368,273	54	9,221	27	4,124	21	3,098	29	5,891
Third quarter	<sup>1</sup> 1,190	236,121	46	6,488	26	4,433	9	1,289	15	2,393
Fourth quarter	<sup>1</sup> 1,690	325,093	25	5,080	14	1,984	9	1,619	28	6,635
Total	6,181	1,216,434	196	32,689	100	16,230	62	10,408	113	21,510
2004										
First quarter <sup>p</sup>	1,204	239,361	28	3,176	15	2,784	7	780	22	3,816

<sup>1</sup> Information technology-producing industries are defined in *Digital Economy 2003*, Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

<sup>2</sup> The industries included in this grouping, based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), are: semiconductor machinery manufacturing; office machinery manufacturing; electronic computer manufacturing; computer storage device manufacturing; computer terminal manufacturing; other computer peripheral equipment mfg.; electron tube manufacturing; bare printed circuit board manufacturing; semiconductors and related device mfg.; electronic capacitor manufacturing; electronic resistor manufacturing; electronic coils, transformers, and inductors; electronic connector manufacturing; printed circuit assembly manufacturing; other electronic component manufacturing; industrial process variable instruments; electricity and signal testing instruments; analytical laboratory instrument mfg.; computer and software merchant wholesalers; and computer and software stores.

<sup>3</sup> The industries included in this grouping, based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), are: software publishers; internet service providers; web search portals; data processing and related services; computer and software merchant wholesalers; computer and software stores; custom computer programming

services; computer systems design services; computer facilities management services; other computer related services; office equipment rental and leasing; and computer and office machine repair.

<sup>4</sup> The industries included in this grouping, based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), are: telephone apparatus manufacturing; audio and video equipment manufacturing; broadcast and wireless communications equip.; fiber optic cable manufacturing; software reproducing; and magnetic and optical recording media mfg.

<sup>5</sup> The industries included in this grouping, based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), are: wired telecommunications carriers; cellular and other wireless carriers; telecommunications resellers; cable and other program distribution; satellite telecommunications; other telecommunications; and communication equipment repair.

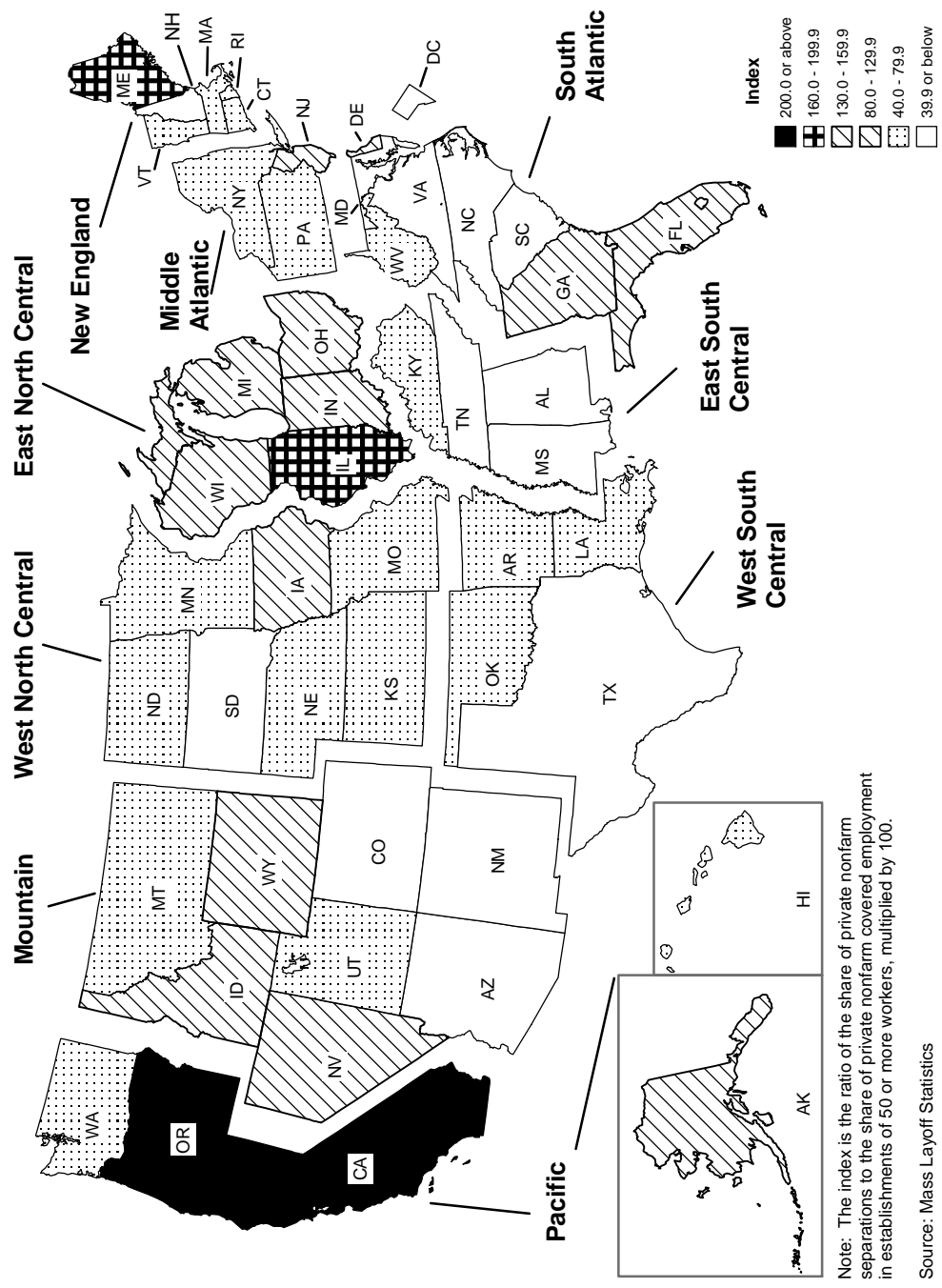
<sup>6</sup> Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

<sup>p</sup> = preliminary.

<sup>r</sup> = revised.



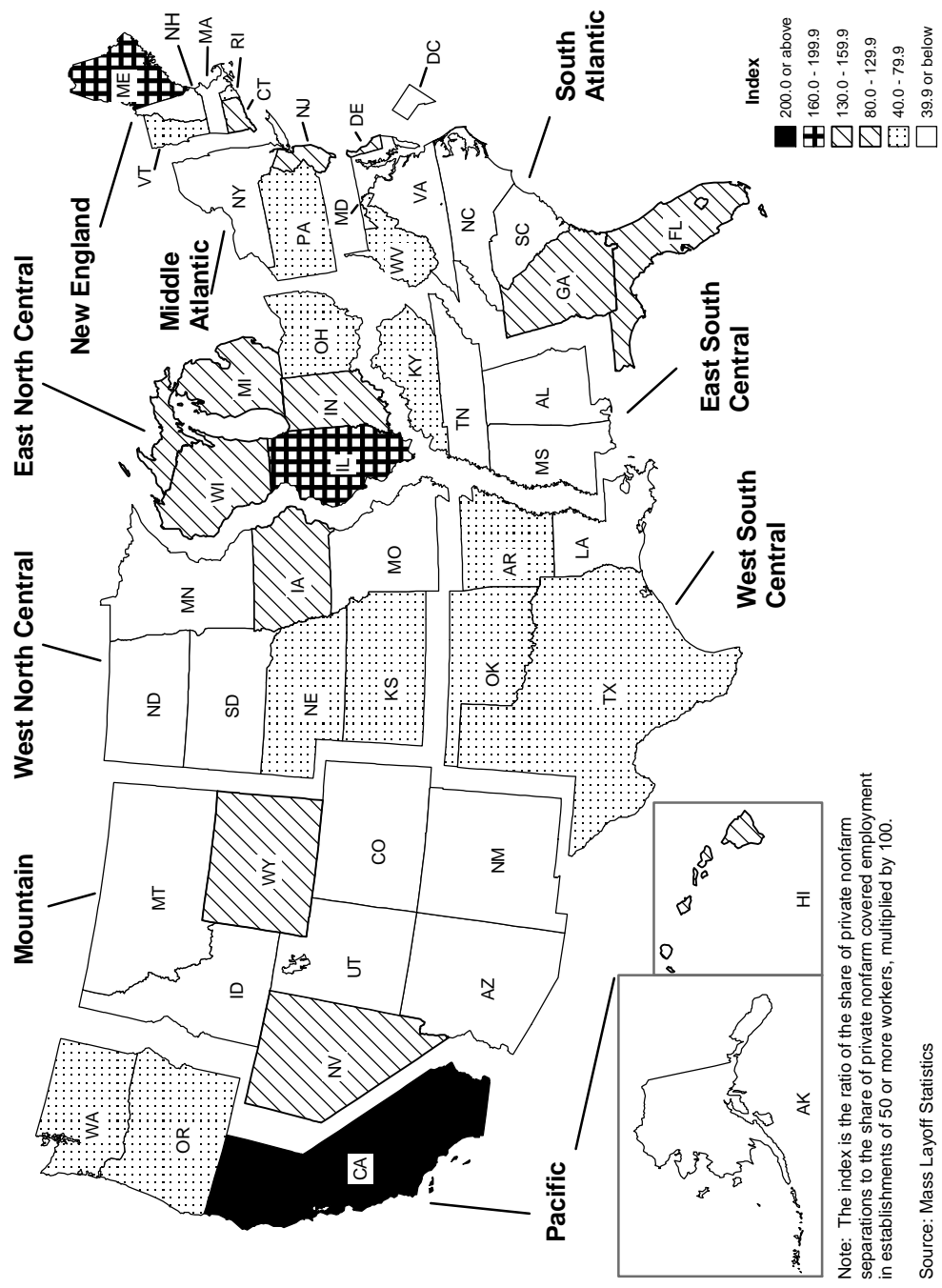
# Chart 1. Index of private nonfarm mass-layoff separations, first quarter 2004



Note: The index is the ratio of the share of private nonfarm separations to the share of private nonfarm covered employment in establishments of 50 or more workers, multiplied by 100.

Source: Mass Layoff Statistics

**Chart 2. Index of private nonfarm mass-layoff separations  
(excluding seasonal work and vacation period),  
first quarter 2004**



Note: The index is the ratio of the share of private nonfarm separations to the share of private nonfarm covered employment in establishments of 50 or more workers, multiplied by 100.

Source: Mass Layoff Statistics