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EXTENDED MASS LAYOFFS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2003

In the first quarter of 2003, 1,508 mass layoff actions were taken by employers that resulted in the separation of 272,133 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 January-March 2002 and were the lowest for the first quarter since 2000. (See table A.) The decline from first quarter 2002 was most notable in administrative and support services, general merchandise stores, and computer and electronic products manufacturing.

The completion of seasonal work accounted for 26 percent of all events and 76,203 separations during the period. Layoffs due to internal company restructuring accounted for 23 percent of events and resulted in 77,977 separations, both lower than a year earlier. Permanent closure of worksites occurred in 14 percent of all events and affected 50,894 workers. A year earlier, such closures occurred in 20 percent of all events and affected 92,795 workers. Forty-one percent of the employers with layoffs in the first quarter indicated that they anticipated some type of recall, higher than a year ago (35 percent).

Industry Distribution of Extended Layoffs

Extended mass layoff separations occurred in 468 of the 1,197 detailed industries for which data are available. Manufacturing industries accounted for 36 percent of private-sector layoff events and 32 percent of separations during January-March 2003. The 84,296 worker separations were the lowest for a first quarter since 1998. Separations in this sector were concentrated in computer and electronic products (15,634, mostly in semiconductors and related devices), followed by transportation equipment (11,262, mainly in automobiles and aircraft) and food manufacturing (11,245, largely in the highly seasonal fruit and vegetable canning industry). (See table 1.) The level and proportion of first-quarter layoff events and separations in manufacturing have declined substantially since the 2001 peak for the January-March period.

Retail trade accounted for 9 percent of private-sector layoff events and 14 percent of separations, with the layoff activity concentrated in general merchandise stores. Layoffs in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting comprised 9 percent of events and 12 percent of separations, mostly among farm labor contractors. Layoffs in construction accounted for 14 percent of events and 10 percent of separations, mainly among specialty trade contractors. The administrative and waste services sector accounted for an additional 10 percent of events and 9 percent of separations during the quarter, primarily from temporary help services.

Layoffs in government establishments accounted for 3 percent of all events and separations, mostly from executive, legislative, and general government agencies and the postal service.

Table A. Selected measures of extended mass layoff activity

| Period | Layoff events | Separations | Initial claimants |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 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 ^r ... | 2,698 | 542,284 | 502,724 |
| 2002 | | | |
| January-March ^r | 1,747 | 333,097 | 315,781 |
| April-June ^r | 1,905 | 432,914 | 352,807 |
| July-September ^r | 1,382 | 310,347 | 278,483 |
| October-December ^r ... | 2,259 | 468,982 | 421,669 |
| 2003 | | | |
| January-March ^p | 1,508 | 272,133 | 210,674 |

p=preliminary.

r=revised.

Reasons for Extended Layoff

Layoffs due to the completion of seasonal work accounted for 26 percent of the extended layoff events and resulted in 76,203 separations in the first quarter. (See table 2.) Seasonal layoffs were most numerous among workers in agriculture and forestry support services (largely among farm labor contractors) and crop production (mostly in grape vineyards).

Internal company restructuring (bankruptcy, business ownership change, financial difficulty, and reorganization) accounted for 23 percent of layoff events and resulted in 77,997 separations. These layoffs were mostly among workers in general merchandise stores.

Lack of demand for products and services (slack work) accounted for 17 percent of events and resulted in 35,107 separations during the first quarter, mostly in computer and electronic products manufacturing and in transportation equipment manufacturing.

Recall Expectations

Forty-one percent of employers reporting an extended layoff in the first quarter of 2003 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 general merchandise stores, computer and electronic products manufacturing, and administrative and support services.

Table B. Summary of employer expectations of a recall from extended layoff, first quarter 2002–first quarter 2003

| Nature of the recall | Percentage of events | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | I 2002 | II 2002 | III 2002 | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p |
| Anticipate a recall | 35.3 | 52.8 | 36.4 | 55.7 | 41.2 |
| Timeframe | | | | | |
| Within 6 months | 77.3 | 82.0 | 77.5 | 78.8 | 74.2 |
| Within 3 months..... | 46.5 | 57.4 | 51.5 | 32.6 | 46.3 |
| Size | | | | | |
| At least half..... | 84.9 | 91.3 | 82.5 | 86.7 | 79.7 |
| All workers..... | 27.7 | 42.8 | 32.6 | 37.4 | 29.3 |

p=preliminary.

r=revised.

Among establishments expecting a recall, most employers expected to recall over one-half of the separated employees and to do so within 6 months. Twenty-nine 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 88 percent of the employers expected a recall), employers expected to recall laid-off workers in 25 percent of the events. 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 64 percent involving fewer than 150 workers. These events, however, accounted for only 31 percent of all separations. (See table C.) Separations involving 500 or more workers accounted for 29 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 71 separations in miscellaneous store retailers to a high of 527 in warehousing and storage.

Initial Claimant Characteristics

A total of 210,674 initial claimants for unemployment insurance were associated with extended mass layoffs in the first quarter of 2003. Of these claimants, 13 percent were black, 38 percent were women, 19 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.

Table C. Distribution of extended layoff events by size of layoff, January-March 2003_p

| Size | Layoff events | | Separations | |
|------------------|---------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Total..... | 1,508 | 100.0 | 272,133 | 100.0 |
| 50-99..... | 634 | 42.0 | 44,812 | 16.5 |
| 100-149..... | 333 | 22.1 | 38,449 | 14.1 |
| 150-199..... | 176 | 11.7 | 29,677 | 10.9 |
| 200-299..... | 174 | 11.5 | 40,550 | 14.9 |
| 300-499..... | 110 | 7.3 | 39,436 | 14.5 |
| 500-999..... | 50 | 3.3 | 31,401 | 11.5 |
| 1,000 or more... | 31 | 2.1 | 47,808 | 17.6 |

p=preliminary.

Geographic Distribution

In the first quarter, the number of separations due to extended mass layoff events was highest in the West (98,030), followed by the Midwest (68,658), the South (64,754), and the Northeast (40,691). (See table 4.) Extended mass layoffs in the West were mainly agriculture related.

All four regions reported over-the-year decreases in separations, with the largest decrease occurring in the South (-23,923), closely followed by the West (-20,857). Six of the nine geographic divisions reported over-the-year declines in laid-off workers, with the largest decline in the South Atlantic division. This was followed closely by declines in the Mountain, East South Central, and Middle Atlantic divisions.

Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, the largest number of worker separations occurred in California (67,087), followed by Illinois (29,995). These two states accounted for 31 percent of total layoff events and 36 percent of the separations during the first quarter of 2003. They were followed by Texas (18,236), New York (14,203), Florida (11,487), North Carolina (11,050), and Washington (10,579). (See table 5.) After excluding the substantial impact of seasonal work, California still reported the most laid-off workers (35,777), largely due to layoffs in computer and electronic products manufacturing, general merchandise stores, and administrative and support services.

Over the year, Florida reported the greatest decrease in laid-off workers (-12,206), followed by Pennsylvania (-9,698) and Alabama (-8,406). The largest increase occurred in New York (+4,366).

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

The report on Mass Layoffs in May 2003 will be issued on Thursday, June 26, 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, 2002 and 2003

| Industry | Layoff events | | | Separations | | | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| | I 2002 ^f | IV 2002 ^f | I 2003 ^p | I 2002 ^f | IV 2002 ^f | I 2003 ^p | I 2002 ^f | IV 2002 ^f | I 2003 ^p |
| Total ¹ | 1,747 | 2,259 | 1,508 | 333,097 | 468,982 | 272,133 | 315,781 | 421,669 | 210,674 |
| Total, private | 1,712 | 2,204 | 1,458 | 324,272 | 450,141 | 265,208 | 308,319 | 409,983 | 204,494 |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting | 103 | 285 | 128 | 25,535 | 77,538 | 31,954 | 15,951 | 40,510 | 15,767 |
| Mining | 29 | 24 | 17 | 4,217 | 3,054 | 2,255 | 4,061 | 2,960 | 2,530 |
| Utilities | (²) | 7 | 6 | (²) | 1,539 | 808 | (²) | 950 | 533 |
| Construction | 195 | 463 | 211 | 21,739 | 68,259 | 26,098 | 27,552 | 72,875 | 24,229 |
| Manufacturing | 660 | 736 | 525 | 116,996 | 142,034 | 84,296 | 117,412 | 150,803 | 73,142 |
| Food | 69 | 124 | 69 | 12,363 | 31,738 | 11,245 | 12,371 | 25,350 | 9,777 |
| Beverage and tobacco products | 6 | 6 | 8 | 1,108 | 941 | 922 | 749 | 1,228 | 658 |
| Textile mills | 21 | 24 | 9 | 3,397 | 4,121 | 1,697 | 3,400 | 5,118 | 1,402 |
| Textile product mills | 4 | 11 | 5 | 410 | 3,479 | 459 | 385 | 3,675 | 503 |
| Apparel | 45 | 32 | 20 | 10,594 | 5,395 | 4,342 | 9,914 | 5,021 | 2,770 |
| Leather and allied products | 4 | 8 | - | 322 | 860 | - | 392 | 1,006 | - |
| Wood products | 18 | 38 | 30 | 2,079 | 5,760 | 3,870 | 3,512 | 5,960 | 3,552 |
| Paper | 15 | 19 | 12 | 2,135 | 3,133 | 2,474 | 1,891 | 2,721 | 2,335 |
| Printing and related support activities | 22 | 8 | 11 | 3,835 | 1,441 | 1,134 | 3,239 | 1,107 | 965 |
| Petroleum and coal products | 3 | 18 | 3 | 249 | 2,942 | 238 | 247 | 3,150 | 251 |
| Chemicals | 22 | 12 | 9 | 3,473 | 1,802 | 1,633 | 2,618 | 1,345 | 1,281 |
| Plastics and rubber products | 21 | 20 | 15 | 2,087 | 2,858 | 1,816 | 1,912 | 3,118 | 1,498 |
| Nonmetallic mineral products | 26 | 42 | 31 | 3,522 | 7,347 | 4,819 | 2,986 | 6,494 | 4,287 |
| Primary metals | 29 | 38 | 29 | 6,440 | 7,065 | 4,658 | 8,061 | 8,890 | 3,876 |
| Fabricated metal products | 52 | 35 | 28 | 5,733 | 5,221 | 3,375 | 6,290 | 5,145 | 2,972 |
| Machinery | 43 | 55 | 42 | 4,720 | 12,156 | 6,359 | 5,218 | 13,320 | 6,898 |
| Computer and electronic products | 121 | 93 | 86 | 27,692 | 17,080 | 15,634 | 27,118 | 19,274 | 12,809 |
| Electrical equipment and appliances | 24 | 28 | 23 | 4,120 | 7,802 | 3,399 | 5,032 | 12,722 | 2,788 |
| Transportation equipment | 71 | 80 | 54 | 16,293 | 13,392 | 11,262 | 16,354 | 18,315 | 9,757 |
| Furniture and related products | 27 | 24 | 18 | 3,262 | 4,293 | 1,925 | 3,693 | 4,882 | 2,579 |
| Miscellaneous manufacturing | 17 | 21 | 23 | 3,162 | 3,208 | 3,035 | 2,030 | 2,962 | 2,184 |
| Wholesale trade | 38 | 35 | 32 | 5,096 | 7,402 | 4,344 | 4,098 | 5,221 | 3,325 |
| Retail trade | 157 | 89 | 124 | 50,115 | 28,664 | 37,048 | 36,929 | 24,149 | 22,321 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 62 | 61 | 62 | 11,461 | 19,770 | 16,762 | 11,313 | 17,120 | 13,276 |
| Information | 70 | 64 | 63 | 9,928 | 14,925 | 12,715 | 11,216 | 14,892 | 10,141 |
| Finance and insurance | 55 | 47 | 39 | 9,819 | 9,217 | 8,332 | 9,067 | 8,978 | 5,743 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | (²) | (²) | 4 | (²) | (²) | 411 | (²) | (²) | 319 |
| Professional and technical services | 62 | 56 | 36 | 7,486 | 11,692 | 6,297 | 7,847 | 11,205 | 4,306 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 7 | (²) | (²) | 1,608 | (²) | (²) | 1,506 | (²) | (²) |
| Administrative and waste services | 163 | 176 | 142 | 39,139 | 34,383 | 24,724 | 42,869 | 35,562 | 21,535 |
| Educational services | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) |
| Health care and social assistance | 20 | 33 | 18 | 3,390 | 5,507 | 1,746 | 2,047 | 4,926 | 1,713 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 16 | 33 | 12 | 5,710 | 7,946 | 2,798 | 2,003 | 4,622 | 1,350 |
| Accommodation and food services | 51 | 64 | 29 | 8,388 | 12,987 | 3,621 | 10,722 | 10,185 | 3,513 |
| Other services, except public administration | 7 | 18 | 7 | 1,642 | 2,712 | 623 | 1,688 | 2,355 | 523 |
| Unclassified | 7 | 3 | - | 1,082 | 629 | - | 929 | 563 | - |
| Government | 35 | 55 | 50 | 8,825 | 18,841 | 6,925 | 7,462 | 11,686 | 6,180 |
| Federal | 16 | 10 | 11 | 4,339 | 4,104 | 1,487 | 3,568 | 2,334 | 1,353 |
| State | 11 | 19 | 18 | 2,720 | 7,613 | 2,499 | 2,516 | 5,229 | 2,375 |
| Local | 8 | 26 | 21 | 1,766 | 7,124 | 2,939 | 1,378 | 4,123 | 2,452 |

¹ For the first quarter of 2003, data on layoffs were reported by employers in all states and the District of Columbia, except Wyoming.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^p = preliminary.

^f = 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, 2002 and 2003

| Reason for separation | Layoff events | | | Separations | | | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p |
| Total, all reasons ¹ | 1,747 | 2,259 | 1,508 | 333,097 | 468,982 | 272,133 | 315,781 | 421,669 | 210,674 |
| Automation | (²) | (²) | 3 | (²) | (²) | 500 | (²) | (²) | 459 |
| Bankruptcy | 59 | 46 | 41 | 22,294 | 15,539 | 17,826 | 15,003 | 11,174 | 9,473 |
| Business ownership change | 72 | 33 | 29 | 15,837 | 8,503 | 4,992 | 9,408 | 5,870 | 3,239 |
| Contract cancellation | 48 | 44 | 31 | 7,827 | 8,423 | 5,717 | 6,790 | 7,194 | 3,245 |
| Contract completed | 184 | 194 | 202 | 32,643 | 35,813 | 32,172 | 44,042 | 41,350 | 30,160 |
| Domestic relocation | 33 | 18 | 21 | 4,822 | 5,053 | 2,685 | 4,603 | 3,982 | 2,159 |
| Energy-related | (²) | - | - | (²) | - | - | (²) | - | - |
| Environment-related | 3 | - | - | 718 | - | - | 597 | - | - |
| Financial difficulty | 127 | 111 | 110 | 22,859 | 21,692 | 19,580 | 22,913 | 20,545 | 15,878 |
| Import competition | 22 | 19 | 22 | 4,620 | 3,293 | 6,028 | 3,744 | 3,020 | 4,275 |
| Labor dispute | (²) | 11 | (²) | (²) | 2,300 | (²) | (²) | 2,245 | (²) |
| Material shortage | (²) | 4 | (²) | (²) | 379 | (²) | (²) | 509 | (²) |
| Model changeover | (²) | (²) | 4 | (²) | (²) | 2,891 | (²) | (²) | 2,108 |
| Natural disaster | - | (²) | - | - | (²) | - | - | (²) | - |
| Non-natural disaster | (²) | - | - | (²) | - | - | (²) | - | - |
| Overseas relocation | 16 | 21 | 19 | 4,853 | 3,407 | 3,965 | 4,245 | 3,021 | 2,303 |
| Plant or machine repair | 5 | 5 | 6 | 543 | 877 | 725 | 454 | 981 | 660 |
| Product line discontinued | 13 | 9 | 13 | 1,494 | 1,025 | 2,532 | 1,359 | 1,060 | 2,202 |
| Reorganization within company | 240 | 186 | 163 | 50,822 | 36,752 | 35,599 | 43,053 | 37,953 | 22,900 |
| Seasonal work | 357 | 1,016 | 388 | 69,630 | 226,530 | 76,203 | 55,253 | 169,547 | 51,982 |
| Slack work | 438 | 319 | 261 | 67,215 | 51,407 | 35,107 | 79,544 | 66,363 | 33,272 |
| Vacation period | - | (²) | 5 | - | (²) | 485 | - | (²) | 647 |
| Weather-related | 9 | 19 | 15 | 1,253 | 2,211 | 1,447 | 1,766 | 2,597 | 1,523 |
| Other | 47 | 59 | 44 | 6,029 | 11,615 | 6,758 | 8,760 | 11,138 | 8,291 |
| Not reported | 65 | 139 | 127 | 17,177 | 32,521 | 15,891 | 12,239 | 31,947 | 14,983 |

¹See footnote 1, table 1.

²Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

^p = preliminary.

^r = revised.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 3. State and selected claimant characteristics: Extended mass layoff events and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, fourth quarter, 2002 and first quarter, 2003

| State | Layoff events | | Total initial claimants | | Percent of total | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | Black | | Hispanic origin | | Women | | Persons age 55 and over | |
| | | | | | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p |
| Total ¹ | 2,259 | 1,508 | 421,669 | 210,674 | 11.4 | 13.1 | 21.0 | 19.0 | 35.5 | 37.9 | 14.2 | 14.4 |
| Alabama | 8 | 3 | 1,418 | 944 | 24.8 | 20.0 | 3.9 | 1.6 | 69.0 | 26.7 | 17.7 | 21.3 |
| Alaska | 10 | 8 | 1,146 | 722 | 3.3 | 2.9 | 27.4 | 5.8 | 26.4 | 28.3 | 14.3 | 15.8 |
| Arizona | 21 | 13 | 3,189 | 1,751 | 6.7 | 2.0 | 24.8 | 40.6 | 40.4 | 26.7 | 16.6 | 13.6 |
| Arkansas | 7 | 6 | 4,147 | 649 | 13.2 | 22.0 | 1.2 | 4.2 | 36.9 | 28.7 | 12.1 | 16.3 |
| California | 488 | 339 | 78,618 | 43,214 | 4.2 | 6.0 | 61.2 | 50.1 | 39.8 | 40.6 | 12.5 | 12.9 |
| Colorado | 33 | 21 | 5,612 | 3,274 | 5.8 | 6.7 | 23.9 | 18.3 | 29.7 | 37.6 | 13.9 | 14.8 |
| Connecticut | 17 | 16 | 2,866 | 1,931 | 10.5 | 17.1 | 5.9 | 9.9 | 23.0 | 55.2 | 16.5 | 14.0 |
| Delaware | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| District of Columbia | 3 | 4 | 409 | 485 | 19.6 | 32.6 | 22.2 | 1.6 | 33.0 | 55.5 | 14.7 | 11.1 |
| Florida | 105 | 74 | 16,191 | 9,125 | 21.4 | 20.8 | 24.3 | 25.2 | 46.7 | 45.2 | 16.8 | 18.2 |
| Georgia | 28 | 24 | 7,120 | 2,902 | 39.6 | 56.5 | 5.9 | 5.4 | 47.2 | 50.1 | 14.0 | 15.9 |
| Hawaii | 10 | 6 | 1,901 | 773 | .7 | .6 | 49.9 | 28.8 | 67.4 | 52.4 | 14.2 | 20.7 |
| Idaho | 7 | 8 | 1,256 | 1,781 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 7.3 | 6.0 | 27.5 | 35.5 | 13.3 | 13.3 |
| Illinois | 213 | 134 | 38,981 | 19,404 | 15.5 | 18.3 | 17.0 | 12.8 | 29.0 | 38.2 | 12.5 | 13.2 |
| Indiana | 74 | 43 | 17,064 | 6,274 | 7.6 | 7.4 | 2.8 | 4.2 | 29.7 | 30.7 | 13.5 | 16.5 |
| Iowa | 22 | 15 | 4,322 | 1,855 | .9 | 1.8 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 25.9 | 50.2 | 12.4 | 17.7 |
| Kansas | 13 | 12 | 2,722 | 2,762 | 16.1 | 14.0 | 7.0 | 3.2 | 38.5 | 32.5 | 13.3 | 21.7 |
| Kentucky | 28 | 19 | 3,584 | 2,436 | 6.3 | 7.8 | 1.1 | .2 | 39.6 | 39.3 | 16.6 | 14.8 |
| Louisiana | 22 | 17 | 2,761 | 1,278 | 47.5 | 47.7 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 26.3 | 20.4 | 12.7 | 11.0 |
| Maine | 13 | 11 | 2,759 | 1,649 | .2 | .2 | .1 | .2 | 49.8 | 25.2 | 17.5 | 17.6 |
| Maryland | 7 | 3 | 1,207 | 187 | 25.0 | 11.8 | 1.0 | 5.3 | 45.6 | 41.2 | 30.6 | 41.2 |
| Massachusetts | 65 | 45 | 10,975 | 5,171 | 5.9 | 7.5 | 2.4 | 1.0 | 39.4 | 41.0 | 15.1 | 13.7 |
| Michigan | 54 | 34 | 8,526 | 4,079 | 15.9 | 17.1 | 12.5 | 3.7 | 36.4 | 38.8 | 12.7 | 11.3 |
| Minnesota | 93 | 33 | 13,387 | 3,815 | 2.4 | 5.3 | 8.0 | 3.4 | 21.2 | 30.5 | 14.6 | 13.9 |
| Mississippi | 14 | 5 | 1,347 | 544 | 54.2 | 88.8 | .5 | .2 | 48.3 | 69.1 | 16.3 | 11.0 |
| Missouri | 43 | 11 | 8,451 | 1,525 | 10.5 | 7.8 | .5 | .2 | 40.9 | 56.3 | 20.6 | 20.1 |
| Montana | 11 | (²) | 1,723 | (²) | .4 | .7 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 17.3 | 19.6 | 15.8 | 15.2 |
| Nebraska | 9 | 4 | 930 | 384 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 11.1 | 9.1 | 13.3 | 21.4 | 20.2 | 15.9 |
| Nevada | 7 | (²) | 2,214 | (²) | 8.7 | 9.0 | 15.0 | 25.9 | 41.1 | 35.6 | 21.4 | 15.8 |
| New Hampshire | 8 | 4 | 1,066 | 473 | .8 | 1.9 | 4.5 | 2.1 | 41.1 | 46.5 | 22.2 | 16.9 |
| New Jersey | 68 | 34 | 11,736 | 3,531 | 16.0 | 20.1 | 17.4 | 9.8 | 43.5 | 46.6 | 19.4 | 20.4 |
| New Mexico | 4 | 4 | 458 | 289 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 66.8 | 71.6 | 32.8 | 27.3 | 15.9 | 15.6 |
| New York | 145 | 92 | 32,783 | 11,202 | 12.1 | 12.6 | 8.1 | 8.3 | 37.8 | 35.8 | 15.3 | 12.0 |
| North Carolina | 29 | 36 | 6,239 | 5,720 | 36.6 | 40.9 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 47.1 | 46.8 | 13.8 | 13.0 |
| North Dakota | 8 | 3 | 1,427 | 306 | .6 | .3 | 3.4 | 1.6 | 13.9 | 43.5 | 14.2 | 18.0 |
| Ohio | 106 | 63 | 18,908 | 7,651 | 13.6 | 12.3 | 3.4 | 2.0 | 20.0 | 27.5 | 12.1 | 13.6 |
| Oklahoma | 7 | 9 | 1,105 | 1,240 | 8.9 | 12.7 | 9.1 | 3.5 | 19.8 | 27.9 | 15.0 | 16.9 |
| Oregon | 42 | 40 | 7,998 | 6,169 | 2.2 | 1.2 | 14.9 | 12.3 | 35.4 | 40.5 | 14.5 | 17.6 |
| Pennsylvania | 78 | 68 | 25,440 | 12,146 | 6.3 | 9.2 | 2.6 | 3.3 | 34.9 | 33.6 | 15.8 | 18.2 |
| Rhode Island | 10 | - | 1,211 | - | 3.1 | - | 28.1 | - | 56.0 | - | 21.6 | - |
| South Carolina | 20 | 11 | 5,217 | 910 | 49.7 | 58.2 | .2 | .5 | 39.6 | 50.9 | 2.3 | 5.2 |
| South Dakota | - | (²) | - | (²) | - | - | - | 3.4 | - | 49.7 | - | 25.9 |
| Tennessee | 15 | 15 | 3,385 | 1,458 | 20.9 | 19.5 | .1 | - | 36.0 | 43.3 | 16.9 | 18.1 |
| Texas | 70 | 90 | 19,957 | 20,536 | 18.5 | 16.6 | 34.0 | 29.7 | 31.4 | 30.9 | 11.2 | 10.7 |
| Utah | 5 | (²) | 744 | (²) | .3 | 1.8 | 8.3 | 5.5 | 24.9 | - | 12.5 | 21.8 |
| Vermont | (²) | - | (²) | - | .3 | - | - | - | 65.0 | - | 22.0 | - |
| Virginia | 27 | 20 | 4,498 | 2,880 | 41.2 | 48.1 | 3.1 | .9 | 53.0 | 59.4 | 14.4 | 15.4 |
| Washington | 66 | 49 | 10,713 | 7,308 | 3.8 | 4.6 | 35.6 | 12.4 | 36.3 | 37.4 | 13.3 | 19.0 |
| West Virginia | 8 | 6 | 1,189 | 708 | .8 | .1 | - | - | 49.3 | 23.2 | 17.2 | 14.1 |
| Wisconsin | 115 | 49 | 22,302 | 8,483 | 4.1 | 6.7 | 12.5 | 4.8 | 29.3 | 34.6 | 16.8 | 13.5 |
| Wyoming | (²) | (¹) | (²) | (¹) | 1.0 | (¹) | 1.0 | (¹) | 40.4 | (¹) | 26.9 | (¹) |
| Puerto Rico | 3 | 12 | 664 | 1,343 | (³) | (³) | (³) | (³) | 49.8 | 38.6 | 12.8 | 10.6 |

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

³ Data are not available.

^p = preliminary.

^r = revised.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

Table 4. Census region and division: Extended mass layoff events, separations, and initial claimants for unemployment insurance, selected quarters, 2002 and 2003

| Census region and division | Layoff events | | | Separations | | | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p |
| United States ¹ | 1,747 | 2,259 | 1,508 | 333,097 | 468,982 | 272,133 | 315,781 | 421,669 | 210,674 |
| Northeast | 259 | 406 | 270 | 51,777 | 86,272 | 40,691 | 52,165 | 89,199 | 36,103 |
| New England | 77 | 115 | 76 | 14,832 | 24,725 | 14,870 | 12,695 | 19,240 | 9,224 |
| Middle Atlantic | 182 | 291 | 194 | 36,945 | 61,547 | 25,821 | 39,470 | 69,959 | 26,879 |
| South | 485 | 398 | 342 | 88,677 | 71,871 | 64,754 | 94,602 | 79,774 | 52,002 |
| South Atlantic | 252 | 227 | 178 | 46,859 | 41,778 | 33,273 | 42,445 | 42,070 | 22,917 |
| East South Central | 104 | 65 | 42 | 19,507 | 12,082 | 8,020 | 17,695 | 9,734 | 5,382 |
| West South Central | 129 | 106 | 122 | 22,311 | 18,011 | 23,461 | 34,462 | 27,970 | 23,703 |
| Midwest | 441 | 750 | 403 | 73,756 | 135,113 | 68,658 | 72,444 | 137,020 | 56,685 |
| East North Central | 345 | 562 | 323 | 59,878 | 102,818 | 53,344 | 59,183 | 105,781 | 45,891 |
| West North Central | 96 | 188 | 80 | 13,878 | 32,295 | 15,314 | 13,261 | 31,239 | 10,794 |
| West ¹ | 562 | 705 | 493 | 118,887 | 175,726 | 98,030 | 96,570 | 115,676 | 65,884 |
| Mountain ¹ | 109 | 89 | 51 | 24,094 | 24,346 | 12,244 | 16,197 | 15,300 | 7,698 |
| Pacific | 453 | 616 | 442 | 94,793 | 151,380 | 85,786 | 80,373 | 100,376 | 58,186 |

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^p = preliminary.

^r = 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, 2002 and 2003

| State | Layoff events | | | Separations | | | Initial claimants for unemployment insurance | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p | I 2002 ^r | IV 2002 ^r | I 2003 ^p |
| Total ¹ | 1,747 | 2,259 | 1,508 | 333,097 | 468,982 | 272,133 | 315,781 | 421,669 | 210,674 |
| Alabama | 36 | 8 | 3 | 9,359 | 790 | 953 | 9,884 | 1,418 | 944 |
| Alaska | 4 | 10 | 8 | 303 | 1,146 | 722 | 303 | 1,146 | 722 |
| Arizona | 26 | 21 | 13 | 5,125 | 5,263 | 3,472 | 4,825 | 3,189 | 1,751 |
| Arkansas | 4 | 7 | 6 | 899 | 1,525 | 2,203 | 823 | 4,147 | 649 |
| California | 362 | 488 | 339 | 73,196 | 123,700 | 67,087 | 61,057 | 78,618 | 43,214 |
| Colorado | 23 | 33 | 21 | 5,046 | 7,755 | 5,991 | 3,017 | 5,612 | 3,274 |
| Connecticut | 10 | 17 | 16 | 2,340 | 2,963 | 2,948 | 2,701 | 2,866 | 1,931 |
| Delaware | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| District of Columbia | 3 | 3 | 4 | 404 | 409 | 485 | 404 | 409 | 485 |
| Florida | 113 | 105 | 74 | 23,693 | 17,066 | 11,487 | 20,709 | 16,191 | 9,125 |
| Georgia | 20 | 28 | 24 | 4,291 | 6,515 | 2,480 | 3,033 | 7,120 | 2,902 |
| Hawaii | 10 | 10 | 6 | 904 | 2,468 | 1,125 | 1,612 | 1,901 | 773 |
| Idaho | 8 | 7 | 8 | 905 | 1,982 | 1,750 | 557 | 1,256 | 1,781 |
| Illinois | 157 | 213 | 134 | 33,892 | 45,739 | 29,995 | 27,342 | 38,981 | 19,404 |
| Indiana | 29 | 74 | 43 | 3,490 | 13,945 | 5,935 | 3,433 | 17,064 | 6,274 |
| Iowa | 9 | 22 | 15 | 1,399 | 2,881 | 2,107 | 1,718 | 4,322 | 1,855 |
| Kansas | 9 | 13 | 12 | 1,257 | 2,966 | 3,815 | 1,032 | 2,722 | 2,762 |
| Kentucky | 24 | 28 | 19 | 2,673 | 4,682 | 3,281 | 2,226 | 3,584 | 2,436 |
| Louisiana | 22 | 22 | 17 | 4,574 | 2,983 | 1,803 | 3,188 | 2,761 | 1,278 |
| Maine | 8 | 13 | 11 | 1,930 | 4,659 | 2,593 | 1,317 | 2,759 | 1,649 |
| Maryland | 17 | 7 | 3 | 2,703 | 1,316 | 219 | 2,092 | 1,207 | 187 |
| Massachusetts | 41 | 65 | 45 | 8,299 | 14,127 | 8,869 | 6,441 | 10,975 | 5,171 |
| Michigan | 41 | 54 | 34 | 4,414 | 6,016 | 3,090 | 8,012 | 8,526 | 4,079 |
| Minnesota | 41 | 93 | 33 | 6,085 | 14,813 | 5,647 | 6,381 | 13,387 | 3,815 |
| Mississippi | 17 | 14 | 5 | 3,118 | 2,211 | 1,041 | 2,010 | 1,347 | 544 |
| Missouri | 26 | 43 | 11 | 3,408 | 8,841 | 2,492 | 2,684 | 8,451 | 1,525 |
| Montana | 6 | 11 | (²) | 826 | 2,259 | (²) | 610 | 1,723 | (²) |
| Nebraska | 8 | 9 | 4 | 1,234 | 1,367 | 769 | 1,093 | 930 | 384 |
| Nevada | 26 | 7 | (²) | 4,557 | 3,955 | (²) | 4,300 | 2,214 | (²) |
| New Hampshire | 5 | 8 | 4 | 675 | 1,074 | 460 | 854 | 1,066 | 473 |
| New Jersey | 54 | 68 | 34 | 9,304 | 11,767 | 3,512 | 9,178 | 11,736 | 3,531 |
| New Mexico | 6 | 4 | 4 | 1,224 | 802 | 289 | 916 | 458 | 289 |
| New York | 53 | 145 | 92 | 9,837 | 34,419 | 14,203 | 10,283 | 32,783 | 11,202 |
| North Carolina | 49 | 29 | 36 | 9,577 | 6,483 | 11,050 | 8,066 | 6,239 | 5,720 |
| North Dakota | (²) | 8 | 3 | (²) | 1,427 | 351 | (²) | 1,427 | 306 |
| Ohio | 84 | 106 | 63 | 12,323 | 14,229 | 6,339 | 13,450 | 18,908 | 7,651 |
| Oklahoma | 8 | 7 | 9 | 1,315 | 902 | 1,219 | 1,620 | 1,105 | 1,240 |
| Oregon | 26 | 42 | 40 | 5,459 | 7,998 | 6,273 | 5,121 | 7,998 | 6,169 |
| Pennsylvania | 75 | 78 | 68 | 17,804 | 15,361 | 8,106 | 20,009 | 25,440 | 12,146 |
| Rhode Island | 8 | 10 | - | 752 | 1,152 | - | 752 | 1,211 | - |
| South Carolina | 12 | 20 | 11 | 928 | 4,171 | 1,331 | 2,383 | 5,217 | 910 |
| South Dakota | (²) | - | (²) | (²) | - | (²) | (²) | - | (²) |
| Tennessee | 27 | 15 | 15 | 4,357 | 4,399 | 2,745 | 3,575 | 3,385 | 1,458 |
| Texas | 95 | 70 | 90 | 15,523 | 12,601 | 18,236 | 28,831 | 19,957 | 20,536 |
| Utah | 13 | 5 | (²) | 6,305 | 1,350 | (²) | 1,866 | 744 | (²) |
| Vermont | 5 | (²) | - | 836 | (²) | - | 630 | (²) | - |
| Virginia | 28 | 27 | 20 | 4,327 | 4,329 | 5,193 | 4,811 | 4,498 | 2,880 |
| Washington | 51 | 66 | 49 | 14,931 | 16,068 | 10,579 | 12,280 | 10,713 | 7,308 |
| West Virginia | 10 | 8 | 6 | 936 | 1,489 | 1,028 | 947 | 1,189 | 708 |
| Wisconsin | 34 | 115 | 49 | 5,759 | 22,889 | 7,985 | 6,946 | 22,302 | 8,483 |
| Wyoming | (²) | (²) | (¹) | (²) | (²) | (¹) | (²) | (²) | (¹) |
| Puerto Rico | 15 | 3 | 12 | 2,089 | 769 | 2,091 | 2,670 | 664 | 1,343 |

¹ See footnote 1, table 1.

^r = revised.

² Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

NOTE: Dash represents zero.

^p = preliminary.